Deny Vatican Treasures Being Removed To Place Of Safety

VATICAN CITY (NC-Radio)—Reports that, guarding against the possibility of air attacks on Rome, the art treasures of the Vatican museum are being removed to a place of safety are declared here to be without foundation.

At the same time Osservatore Romano has carried an official denial of the secular newspaper reported printed abroad that changes are being considered in the structure of the cupola of St Peter's Basilica

Meanwhile the enlarged and renovated quarters of the Papal Secretariat of State have just been inaugurated following months of work The beautiful salon of these quarters has a frieze inscription which notes that the Papal Secretariat of State treats, through Papal Nuncios with kings and the heads of nations on the most important questions of the day and gives directives to the Bishops throughout the world

HOLY FATHER'S ANSWER

In attaching the report that Vatican treasures are being hidden away for fear of damage by an air bombardment officials here draw attention to His Holiness Pope Pius XII's answer to such suggestions made at the time of Italy's entrance into the present war His Holiness said he entrusted the protection of the Vatican to Divine Providence

The treasures of the Vatican Library, including precious codices are just as accessible to scholars today as they ever were

HOLY FATHER SENDS HIS BLESSING

Personally signed by His Holiness Pope Pius XII, the above picture and message was sent as an expression of appreciation on the part of the Holy Father to the faithful in America for their prayers and generosity in behalf of the efforts of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith for the missions of the Catholic Church Reproduced through the courtesy of the Rt Rev Msgr Thomas J McDonnell National Director the translation of the wording at the bottom of the picture follows: With the greatest esteem and a special love both for our dear missionaries, who in spite of the present upheaval, strive to spread the Kingdom of Christ and for the faithful, who with most praiseworthy generosity and unflagging zeal help the missions, we beg God to bless their labors and to fill them with peace and joy. With all our heart we bless them.

Pius PP XII

Pontiff Grants Indulgences For New Peace Prayer

VATICAN CITY (NC)—His Holiness Pope Pius XII has granted indulgences for the recitation of the prayer which he himself gave during his radio broadcast to Portugal, when he consecrated the Church and the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

The official English translation of the prayer has just made its appearance and contains some revisions from the form in which it was originally translated.

It is also revealed that Osservatore Romano has completed the twentieth reprinting of the complete prayer

The Holy Father has granted a partial indulgence of three years to the Faithful for each devout recitation of the prayer, and a plenary indulgence obtainable once a month, under the usual conditions of Confession and Communion, for the daily recitation of the prayer.

(The official English translation of the indulgenced prayer, as revised, appears in the next column, this page.)

Indulgenced Prayer

Of Pope To Mary's Immaculate Heart

The official English translation of the indulgenced prayer, as revised, is as follows:

Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, Refuge of the Human Race, Victress in all God's battles, we humbly prostrate ourselves before thy throne, confident that we shall receive mercy, grace and bountiful assistance and protection in the present calamity, not through our own inadequate merits, but solely through the great goodness of thy Maternal Heart.

To thee, to thy Immaculate Heart in this humanity's tragic hour we consign and consecrate ourselves in union not only with the Mystical Body of thy Son Holy Mother Church, now in such suffering and agony in so many places and sorely tried in so many ways, but also with the entire world torn by fierce strife consumed in a fire of hate victim of its own wickedness

May the sight of the widespread material and moral destruction of the sorrows and anguish of countless fathers and mothers, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters and innocent children of the great number of lives cut off in the flower of youth of the bodies mangled in horrible slaughter and of the tortured and agonized souls in danger of being lost eternally move Thee to compassion.

O Mother of Mercy obtain peace for us from God and above all pray for us those graces which prepare, establish and assure the peace.

Queen of Peace pray for us and give to the world now at war the peace for which all peoples are longing peace in the fruit of justice and charity of Christ Give peace to the warring nations and to the souls of men that in the tranquility of order the Kingdom of God may prevail

Extend thy protection to the infidels and to all those still in the shadow of death give them peace and grant that on them too may shine the sun of truth that they may unite with us in proclaiming before the one and only Saviour of the world Glory to God in the highest and peace to men of good will

Give peace to the peoples separated by error or by discord and especially to those who profess such singular devotion to thee and in whose homes an honored place was ever accorded thy venerated icon today perhaps often kept hidden to await better days bring them back to the one fold of Christ under the one true shepherd

Obtain peace and complete freedom for the Holy Church of God stay the spreading flood of modern paganism enkindle in the faithful the love of purity the practice of the Christian life and an apostolic zeal so that the servants of God may increase in merit and in number

Lastly as the Church and the entire human race were consecrated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus so that in reposing all hope in Him He might become for them the sign and pledge of victory and salvation so we in like manner consecrate ourselves forever also to thee and to thy Immaculate Heart Our Mother and Queen that thy love and patronage may hasten the triumph of the Kingdom of God and that all nations, at peace with one another and with God, may proclaim thee blessed and with thee may raise their voices to resound from pole to pole in the chant of the everlasting Magnificat of glory love and gratitude to the Heart of Jesus, where alone they can find truth and peace."

Cardinal Faulhaber Arranges Absolution For Air Raid Victims

LONDON (NC)—Urging his people to be prepared for death, His Eminence Michael Cardinal Faulhaber Archbishop of Munich, had told his people that ten minutes after an air-raid warning he and his clergy will give a general absolution to "all who have prepared their soul by an act of penitence"

Vatican Radio gave this news to the people of Germany in a broadcast which was heard here It says that the authorities have given permission for one priest in each parish to visit bombed districts after the "all clear" to minister to the injured and to those buried under debris These priests will wear a green armlet and carry a special pass

Protests Mass Burial

In his message to the people of the Munich Archdiocese Cardinal Faulhaber refers to the night of horror on Sept 29 when the Royal Air Force visited the city, and he criticizes the arrangements for the mass burial of the victims.

The Cardinal says that pictures of the memorial ceremony show no Christian cross

"Yet most of those dead," he says, were Christians Had they died a natural death most of them would have been buried in a purely religious ceremony under the Cross of Christ Could they still speak those dead would proclaim a burning protest We were Christians not Jews or pagans We want to be buried under the Sign of the Cross

Declaring that nobody knows when he might be overtaken by a similar cruel death, Cardinal Faulhaber told his people that in one way or another they should claim their right to Christian burial

His Eminence announced that the Our Father will be said in all churches after every Mass and after the evening service with a three-fold plea to God "Let us pray for our soldiers in the field, let us pray for the victims of the war in the field or at home let us pray for an early peace"

Clamp Down On Hasty Marriages By Soldiers In Canadian Army

OTTAWA (NC) In order to protect soldiers from hasty marriages the Canadian Army has issued strict orders regarding marriage

Officers below the rank of captain and all warrant officers under the age of 30 must obtain written permission of their commanding officer before marrying

Commanding officers may grant permission to non-commissioned officers and men if the soldier is free from debt and realizes the financial responsibilities and the moral character and disposition of the intended wife are such that it would in no way be undesirable for her to occupy public quarters

If a soldier is under the age of 18 years he must produce the written permission of his parents or guardian, and if the intended wife be under 18 she must have similar written permission

If he considers such a course desirable the commanding officer may interview the intended wife or consult her parents or guardian.

Protects Dependents

The commanding officer is obliged to ascertain whether any hardship will result to the next of kin receiving the dependents allowance before he grants permission for the marriage and a consequent change of the recipient of the dependents' allowance

The commanding officer must also check the soldier's documents to ascertain whether he was married or separated or divorced from his wife at the time of enlistment

Once the permission has been granted for a marriage it must be published in camp orders or wherever the soldier may be setting forth the name of the intended bride

While a period of two months is normally required to elapse between the granting of permission and the actual marriage commanding officers have the right to waive this requirement

Where soldiers marry without obtaining permission, they are not eligible for dependents allowance except under very specific conditions. When the allowance is granted it will date from the time permission was granted and not from the date of the marriage.

Workshop for Mothers

QUITO, Ecuador — Under the auspices of Catholic Action, a shop has been opened here for the sale of objects made at the workship conducted by the Young Women's Branch of Catholic Action. The purpose of the workshop is to afford work for needy mothers and it is supported principally with the proceeds of a collection made an-

School Rights Upheld By British Hierarchy

LONDON (NC) A joint statement by the Hierarchy of England and Wales on Catholic demands in the schools question has been issued here as a letter to the Times. Importance is attached to the statement because it is known that the Government is planning a new education bill because the Trades Union Congress has voted for the standardization of religious education in the schools and because other interests have shown a disposition to work for legislation which would rob Catholic schools of their distinctive character

This is what the letter signed by His Eminence Arthur Cardinal Hinsley on behalf of the Bishops says

The air is full of discussion on reform of education On this great question of the reconstruction of the national system of education there are three points which we Catholics desire should be kept in mind

Freedom of Consciences

"(1) The freedom of consciences of all must be respected Mr Roosevelt has made it clear that this is one of the four great liberties for which we are fighting.

"(2) Next we stoutly maintain that in the past we have proved our determination to promote the progress of education and, while we cling to our principles, we are confident that justice done to us will not obstruct the advancement we all desire in the future.

"(3) The Catholic body in this country comes mostly from the workers and from the poorer section of the community We are a minority Therefore our Catholic parents have a special claim for fair play especially from any and every party or group that professes to uphold the just claims of the workers and the rights of minorities

"The future of our Catholic schools is of vital concern to us. We do not yet know what changes may take place in the administration of the national system since no official proposals have been made public by the Government

Must Remain Catholic

But clearly and decisively our elementary schools numbering 7,250 and containing before the war some 400,000 children must and will remain Catholic

They were built by us out of the poverty of our people who at the same time also paid their rates and taxes like other people

While continuing within the national system our schools should receive equal treatment with other schools since the general demand now is that there be equal opportunity for all

No equal opportunity will exist for a minority who are saddled with extra and crushing financial burdens because of their definite religious convictions and because they cannot accept a syllabus of religious instruction agreeable to the many

Oppose Undue Control

"Furthermore our schools for higher education built by Catholics, whether they receive grants in-aid or are entirely independent because built by and maintained by their founders shall not be subjected to the undue control of the State or be the victims of expropriation of any sort

"We adhere unswervedly to the principles repeatedly stated by the Catholic Hierarchy of this country on the Christian education of youth, principles authoritatively expounded by Pius XI in the Encyclical, Divini Illius Magistri

"We emphatically repeat that we are convinced that no political party will seek to or be able to set at naught the respect of British people for the rights of minorities"

HONORARY DEGREE

Kingston Ont. — His Eminence Rodrigue Cardinal Villeneuve, Archbishop of Quebec, was awarded the honorary degree Doctors of Laws at the autumn convocation of Queen's University here.

English Catholics Attend Sunday Evening Services 80 Feet Below Ground

LONDON Eighty feet below ground 300 Catholics attend evening service each Sunday in an air-raid shelter on Tyneside in the north of this country The Rev George M Brearty, who visits the shelter recites the rosary and gives a sermon to the people who spend all their nights in the shelter

Anglican and Free Church clergymen also hold services in the shelter for their own people.

Named For Priest

MEXICO CITY A street in Cordoba Vera Cruz, is to bear the name of the late Rev Francis J. Krill, an American-born priest who was highly regarded at Cordoba because of his many social welfare activities.