Cheers for Pope Heard in Rome's Jewish Synagogue

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Pontifical Mass Attracts 16,000 Navy Men

On Guard!

By Rev. Patrick J. Flynn

Would that more of our American political commentators had some of the professional courage of William Henry Chamberlain. He is one of the few secular writers in this country who is enough of an American to tell the truth about Soviet Russia. Even though it is not so, most American writers and commentators follow the current fashions in propaganda and represent Soviet Russia as a land of political democracy and spiritual liberty. Even though it is not fashionable, Mr. Chamberlain, who is no "reed shaken in the wind," has consistently exposed the Stalin regime as a dictatorial and tyrannical rule.

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Mr. Chamberlain is too good a journalist to be blind to the facts, and he is enough of a moralist to have the courage to tell the facts, even when the majority of his fellow journalists are refusing to face the facts. Mr. Chamberlain has not only the courage to tell the truth about Mr. Stalin in Moscow but at this particular moment he is courageous enough to tell the truth about Mr. Stalin and Finland.

* * *

Writing in the current issue of **The American Mercury**, Mr. Chamberlain states: "The prospective fate of Finland is one of the great moral tragedies of the Second World War." Americans generally have been unhappy about the official sternness recently shown by England and the United States to their erstwhile friend, Finland. On last Friday the United States broke off relations with Finland. Secretary Cordell Hull charged the recent infiltration of German troops into Finland "with the consent of the Finnish government and German infiltration into the councils of the Finnish government deprived Finland of liberty of action and reduced the government of Finland to the condition of a puppet of Nazi Germany."

* * *

The Berlin influence in Finland may, as Mr. Hull claims, be true, but as Mr. Chamberlain also points out, "the crushing of a democratic outpost in Northern Europe has become almost an official American war aim." It was the unjust aggression of Soviet Russia—our alleged "democratic" ally — against Finland that forced the little Republic into the present embarrassing dependence on Nazi Germany. Twice, in fact, within three years, the Soviet armies invaded Finnish territory. The first Soviet attack on Finland began in November, 1939. The Finns put up a brave resistance, but were finally overpowered and forced to sign the harsh terms of the Moscow Treaty by which they lost 10 per cent of their land to Russia. After this war, as Mr. Chamberlain notes, Finland's position was precarious. Moscow carried on a policy of bullying and arrogant interference against the weakened little democracy of Finland. At this time the national existence of Finland was in mortal peril and she was suffering under the tyrannous domination of the imperialistic Mr. Stalin.

* * *

Then came the second Soviet-Finnish War, and as in the first, the army of the self-professed liberty-loving Mr. Stalin was the aggressor. During each of the first four days of the German-Soviet war which began on June 22, 1941, the Soviet air force raided and attacked Finnish territory. All attempts of Finland to obtain from Moscow some explanation of these hostile attacks were met with silence. In self-defense, therefore, Finland took up arms against the

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Official U. S. Navy Photos

Colorful Ceremony marked Independence Day Solemn Pontifical Mass at Sampson Naval Training Center Sunday. Principals in religious and military ceremony were (upper photo from left) Captain Wade DeWeese, Bishop McCarty, Military Delegate; Bishop Kearney and Captain Harry A. Badt, Center Commander. An air view of the vast assemblage of sailors in white lined up in front of the altar is shown in lower photo.

Hear Bishop's Warning on Pagan Ideology

SAMPSON NAVAL TRAINING CENTER—With the Church Pennant flying above the Stars and Stripes, 16,000 Navy men of Catholic Faith assisted at a Pontifical Field Mass here on Sunday morning and heard His Excellency Bishop James E. Kearney of Rochester hail July Fourth, 1944 as the day which "proclaimed forever to a despot-ridden world the divine right not of kings, but of man!"

Celebrant of this second annual Military Field Mass, which marked Independence Day rites at Sampson, was the Most Rev. William T. McCarty, C.S.S.R., Military Delegate to the Armed Forces and representative of the Most Rev. Francis J. Spellman, Archbishop of New York.

The hosts of white clad Navy trainees and officers stood in military formation throughout the service which was held on the spacious green slopes of Farragut Drill Field at Sampson. It was one of the largest and most impressive affairs of its kind ever held in the Navy.

Bishop Kearney In Sermon

Bishop Kearney, who preached the sermon at the Mass, told his vast audience that the day on which the Declaration of Independence was signed marked "the greatest day in the history of our country."

Praising the Declaration of Independence for its recog[illegible] the inalienable rights of [illegible] Bishop explained that the [illegible] of human liberty contained [illegible] American document was [illegible] spired by Christ and is embodied in the writings of the great Doctor of the Catholic Church, St. Thomas Aquinas.

The Bishop called attention to the fact that in framing the Declaration of Independence, "the founding fathers rooted all our liberties which they sought to protect on the spiritual or religious basis. They started with the assumption of the place of [illegible] the fabric of the Republic.

Basis For Defense

Only on a religious basis, the dignity and rights of citizens be reasonably defended, the Bishop declared.

"Only because I am under a divine obligation," he explained, "to worship God, can I have a natural right to freedom of conscience or liberty in the practice thereof.

"Only because the parent is under a divine command to educate the child, can the parent have any natural right against the state or

(Continued on Page 4)

Papal Audiences for Military Contrasted

LONDON.—(RNS)—The "sharp contrast" between numerous military audiences now being granted by Pope Pius XII to Allied troops and the absence of any such audiences when the Germans occupied Rome last September is commented upon by the Tablet, Roman Catholic weekly published here.

The Italian Fascist propagandist, Roberto Farinacci, the Tablet says, has been quick to notice the reception of tens of thousands of Allied soldiers and the individual audiences granted to Allied commanders, and has violently condemned the Vatican for its attitude.

War Aid 'Magnificent'

MILWAUKEE.—"Poland's contribution to the winning of the war is magnificent," Joseph Stankiewicz, vice-consul of the Polish consulate general in Chicago, told delegates and guests at the opening of the 22nd quadrennial convention of the Polish Alma Mater in America.

The Missions cannot cease in difficult times or in times of War.

Vacation Address

Subscribers to the CATHOLIC COURIER who go away for vacation and desire their paper forwarded are asked to send the vacation change of address to the COURIER office, or phone Stone 1186.

Tears Come When U. S. Chaplain Hears Holy Father Mention Benedictine Order

ERIE (NC)—The thrilling experience of being twice received in private audience by His Holiness Pope Pius XII was related by the Rev. Rupert Stadtmiller, O.S.B., formerly of St. Vincent's Abbey, Latrobe, Pa., and now an Army Chaplain, in a letter to his mother, Mrs. A. Stadtmiller, a parishioner of St. Mary's Church, here.

On the first occasion, Father Stadtmiller, who entered Rome with the victorious U. S. Fifth Army, stated that tears came to his eyes when the Pope said to him: "You must be very happy to represent the Benedictine Order on the front line."

Father Stadtmiller said when the Pontiff noticed his tears, he said: "I know that many of your men are no longer living and that is the reason you are crying, but you, as a little Benedictine, are doing more for your Order than you could ever do in a lifetime in your monastery. We now bless you and your fighting men." The Pope, Father Stadtmiller recounted, then made the Sign of the Cross on the back of the priest's hand.

The next day, Father Stadtmiller continued, he took a group of non-Catholic officers with him for the second audience. Father Stadtmiller carried with him 1,000 Rosaries and 5,000 Benedictine medals.

When the Pope asked him if they were for his company, Father Stadtmiller said he replied they were for the entire division and the Pope said to him:

"It is an honor for Us to meet one of the American Catholic chaplains of front line troops. We have heard so much about you, and the work you are doing has never been equaled in the history of the Church. The world will some day know the history of the unselfishness of you chaplains. We bow Our head in acknowledgment of the work you are doing as military chaplains."

Noted Dominican to Speak On Blessed Martin

Catholics of Elmira have a rare treat in store for them on Sunday, July 10, when the Rev. Norbert Georges, O.P., Director of the Blessed Martin Guild, will speak at the Dunn Memorial. Father Georges has worked untiringly for several years in furthering Blessed Martin's cause for Canonization and he has been instrumental in forming guilds in all parts of the Country.

The Blessed Martin Guild in Elmira is one of the largest in the state and the activities of its members in placing the Blessed Martin Shrine in the Hospital and in promoting devotion to him have been commended by Father Georges many times.

Father Georges' lecture will be on the Life of Blessed Martin and he will show slides of Lima, Peru, where Blessed Martin was born.

The program is open to the public, starting at 8:30 P. M., and all members of the Guild and their friends are urged to attend.

Mrs. Charles Williams and the Misses Mary Newsome, Mary Fitzgerald and Margaret Kennedy are in charge of arrangements for the lecture, which is being sponsored by the Blessed Martin Guild members of the National Council of Catholic Women.

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St. Ladislaus ruled as King of Hungary, which he enlarged by the conquest of Croatia and Dalmatia; expelled the Huns and Tatars and made Christianity the national religion. He was canonized in 1192 and his feast is June 27.