Robot Bombing Draws Protest

NEW YORK — Twenty-eight prominent Protestant clergymen and other leaders, who last March criticized the obliteration bombing policy of the British and American governments, have issued another manifesto to protest Germany's robot bombing of London and other English cities.

"We are now moved," said the statement made public here by the Fellowship of Reconciliation, "to appeal to the German people and their government not to engage in the wanton cruelty of robot bombing, or other methods of civilian bombing."

Both appeals, it added, were made "from the standpoint of that humanity and religion which is above all nations and which calls upon men everywhere to stay the processes of death and return to the ways of life in humble endeavor to build a united world."

Calling upon all governments to adopted "measures that would lessen the mass slaughter of women, children, and youth," the statement draws attention to the Pope's reference "to the sad and inexorable race between actions and reprisals, which happens to the detriment, not of certain particular peoples, but of the whole community of nations."

The declaration concludes with the plea that "the hope of future peace" may not be dimmed "by deeds in the closing period of the war that will add to the load of hatred that our generation carries."

Signers include Dr. George A. Buttrick, Dr. Allan Knight Chalmers, Dr. J. Henry Carpenter, Dr. Phillips P. Elliott, Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick, Dr. John Haynes Holmes, the Rev. John Paul Jones, Dr. John H. Lathrop, Dr. Elmore McKee, Dr. Ralph Sockman and Dr. Paul Scherer, all of New York.

Also, Dr. Henry H. Crane, Detroit, Mich.; Dr. Albert E. Day, Pasadena, Calif.; Dr. Georgia Harkness, professor of religion at Garrett Biblical Institute; Dr. Allan A. Hunter, Los Angeles, Calif.; Dr. E. Stanley Jones, lecturer and former Methodist missionary to India; Dr. Rufus Jones, professor emeritus, Haverford College; Dr. Kenneth Scott Latourette, New Haven, Conn.

The Rt. Rev. W. Appleton Lawrence, Episcopal bishop of Western Massachusetts; the Rt. Rev. Walter Mitchell, Episcopal bishop of Arizona; Dr. Kirby Page, La Habra, Calif.; the Rev. Clarence E. Pickett, executive secretary of the American Friends Service Committee, Philadelphia; Dr. Edwin McNeill Poteat, president, Colgate-Rochester Divinity School; Dr. Richard Roberts, former moderator, United Church of Canada; Dr. Ernest F. Tittle, Evanston, Ill., and Miss Winifred Wygal, national religious resources secretary, Y. W. C. A.

VATICAN PAPER HOPES FOR PISA

VATICAN CITY — Osservatore Romano, commenting on an article in the Stars and Stripes, official U. S. Army publication, on Pisa as a military objective, expresses the hope that both belligerents will seriously reflect on the moral consequences in the world of religion, art and culture that would result from a deliberate destruction of the Pisan monuments, thereby creating another Monte Cassino, as mentioned in the Stars and Stripes.

Mexican Teachers Hit Government's Socialist Policy

MEXICO CITY — The autonomous and independent teachers' organization known as the S.M.T.E., Mexican Syndicate of Education Workers, is advocating amendment of Article 3 of the Federal Constitution which makes "socialist" education obligatory in both public and private schools.

The Executive Committee of the S.M.T.E. has published a severe criticism of a Constitutional requirement imposing on education a social philosophy that is not in keeping with the feelings and beliefs of the majority of Mexicans. Article 3, the Committee holds, should be amended in order to avoid imposition of the present official political opinion upon the consciousness of future generations.

WAR SECRETARY PAYS VISIT TO HOLY FATHER AT THE VATICAN

Touring the Italian theater of operations, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, left, and Myron C. Taylor, President Roosevelt's personal representative at the Vatican, are pictured following an audience with Pope Pius XII. They were escorted by Monsignor Walter C. Carroll, right, American priest attached to the Vatican. INP photo. (N.C.W.C.

Yank and Priress Rescue Sacred Hosts When Robot Hits Convent

LONDON—An American soldier passing by was one of the first to rush to the rescue after a flying bomb had smashed into a convent in the South of England. He carried the Mother Prioress over the debris and through the dust to the remains of the chapel to rescue the Sacred Hosts. An American chaplain was on the scene shortly afterwards and within an hour of the explosion the members of the community were kneeling among the ruins to receive the Hosts in Holy Communion.

None of the nuns was killed, but three were wounded, and one, it is feared, will lose the sight of an eye through flying glass.

"A truly miraculous escape," was the comment of the Most Rev. Bernard Griffin, Archbishop of Westminster, when he visited the ruins to offer his sympathy and help. "I cannot imagine how any of you got out of the building alive."

When the bomb struck one nun was kneeling before the Blessed Sacrament exposed in the chapel, but though knocked unconscious she was otherwise unharmed. Others in their rooms were unhurt. The three who rushed out as they heard the bomb approach were the ones who were injured.

After trying to staunch the wounds of the injured Sisters, the Mother Prioress turned to the chapel, thinking of the Blessed Sacrament. It was then she realized they were trapped. The stairs, piled up with wooden partitions, plaster and masonry, was impassable. Crawling to the front of the house she called to the wardens in the street below: "We are trapped. Can you send someone up for a Sister who is injured?" Wardens, police and American soldiers rushed in, climbing somehow up into the house, though the steep flight of stairs and half the front was gone. In an incredibly short time they had cleared a way down and were helping the Sisters out.

As soon as the way was clear the Mother Prioress went into the chapel. An American soldier was standing there. He said he was Catholic, and she asked him to help her rescue the Blessed Sacrament. Debris was piled up against the altar. The soldier picked up the little nun and carried her over. Round her neck hung the key of the tabernacle, as it has always been since the war began, but the key was not needed. The tabernacle burst open and the Hosts, though all in place, were covered with glass and dust. The nun cleansed them, placed them back and shut the door. She then returned to her little flock.

Returning to the chapel the Prioress found an American officer waiting. "Can I help?" he asked. "I am a Catholic chaplain." Together they crawled back through the debris. Then other Sisters came and kneeling there in the rubble they all received Holy Communion. A warden who had been at work knelt too.

"SUFFER THE LITTLE ONES TO COME UNTO ME"

Most Rev. John A. Duffy, Bishop of Buffalo, founder of the Bishops Committee for Christian Home and Family, blesses the little tots brought to the church by their proud parents. Now carried on in all parishes of his diocese, the work of the Committee, composed of Catholic mothers, begins when the child is born, and fosters a more neighborly spirit between the individual parishioner and his Bishop, and brings about the early education of children in Christian principles. (N.C.W.C.)

Heed Warnings of Pope On Peace Terms Urges Protestant Newspaper

CHICAGO — Peoples of the United Nations are urged to respect the moral leadership of Pope Pius XII and to heed his warnings against a "revenge-breeding peace," by an editorial appearing in the July 19 issue of The Christian Century, a Protestant religious weekly journal.

If the "revenge-breeding peace" which His Holiness Pope Pius XII fears, should be imposed on Europe by the victors, the editorial states, "we predict that a decade or two decades hence, when the folly of that course will have become clear to the peoples of the Allied nations and they arise in bitterness their disillusion over another short-sighted peace, they will remember the moral leadership which the Pope tried to provide in these days of great decision.

"And the recollection, while it will come too late to save them from the consequences of their governments' course, will give to the Pope a taller stature as a world leader than Roman pontiffs have held heretofore in the modern world."

The editorial, entitled "Pressure on the Pope," purports to see in recent news dispatches from Rome evidence of efforts on the part of U. S. Government officials to dissuade the Holy Father from further peace utterances such as those made to the College of Cardinals on June 2.

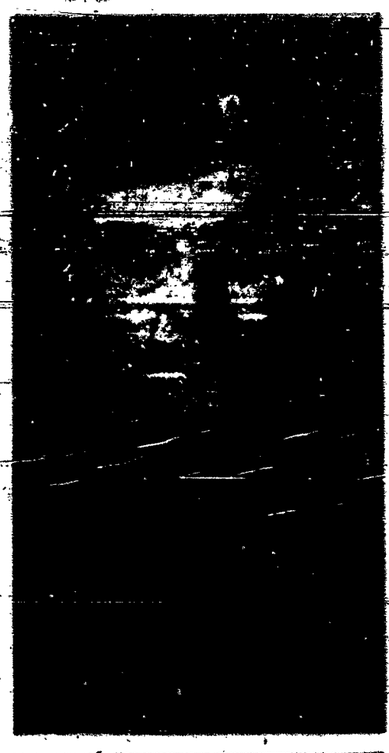
After discussing dispatches from Rome in which the author sees evidence of these purported efforts to dissuade the Pontiff from further peace utterance of this kind, the editorial continues:

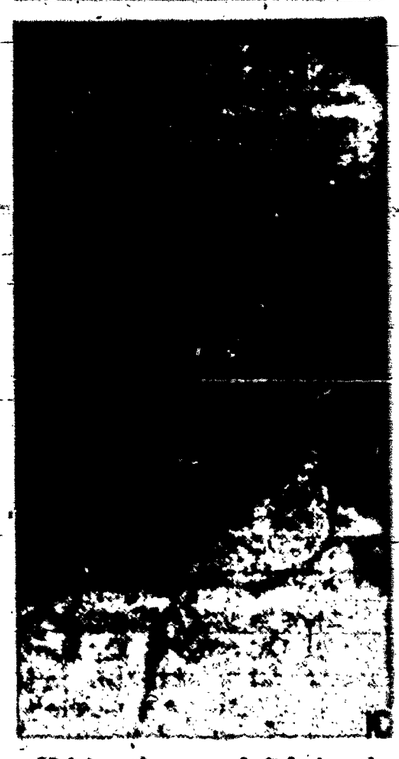
"The five basic points which he (the Pope) has proposed as a basis for negotiations do have in them the prospect of a lasting peace—or at the very least something better than another long armistice. When the head of a great church is talking in this fashion, a terrible weight of moral responsibility is assumed by any State which commands him to be still.

"To those who recall the moral and political havoc caused from the times of Israel's earliest prophets by the intervention of secular authorities to close the mouths of the champions of moral law, this effort by the United States government to put pressure on the Pope will bring deep misgiving.

"For as history makes plain, the reason why such secular interventions have generally led to tragic results has been that the secular power was exerted in behalf of short-term and narrowly partisan interests which would grant no importance to the long-term, universal views of the spokesman for religion. Is that about to happen again? And is the United States to be the principal agent, in this hour of world crisis, in padlocking the lips of the Pope as he attempts to speak with the voice of moral authority?"

Saipan Heroes





Helping the wounded during the bloody battle of Saipan were these brave Catholic Chaplains, Father Paul C. Brunet, (above) Army Chaplain from Ogdensburg, and Father Thomas V. Brady (lower photo), Navy Chaplain from Chicago, now serving with the Marines. Father Brunet was wounded by a sniper's bullet. (NCWC)

Vatican Paper Calls For Nations' Assembly

LONDON.—Osservatore Romano, semi-official organ of the Vatican, has called for creation of a constituent international assembly to meet wishes "not only of individual nations, but of the whole world."

"Such an assembly," Osservatore says, "will be far more than an assembly of single nations discussing the future of the world, but will have the task of fixing the highest principles for agreement on supreme laws and proclaiming the superiority of the spiritual values of justice and cooperation among peoples.

"The spiritual sources of life would not be estranged from this assembly, but would be considered as necessary and absolute in order to permit a choice between the light of religion and darkness, between the universal monarchy of God and the tyranny of men."

Abuses Trust

Whoever disturbs the pupil's faith in any way does him grave wrong, inasmuch as he abuses the trust which children place in their teachers, and takes unfair advantage of their inexperience and of their natural craving for unrestrained liberty, at once illusory and false.—Pope Pius XI.

BUY U. S. WAR BONDS