

Manila Cathedral, Filled With Men, Blown up by Japs

Home, Thanks to the Rangers



During the day of Archbishop Francis J. Spellman in Army Chaplain Hugh F. Kennedy, S.J., of New York, recently returned from the Philippines where he was a prisoner of the Japanese for three years and rescued by the U. S. Rangers. Some was on the steps of St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York, during the annual St. Patrick's Day parade. Auxiliary Bishop J. Francis A. Mahoney in background. (NCWC)

Washington — (NC) — A sickening story of almost unbelievable cruelties perpetrated by the Japanese in the Philippines, now swiftly slipping from their grasp, was recounted by Brig. Gen. Carlos P. Romulo, Philippine Resident Commissioner here.

General Romulo, who returned to this country a week ago, disclosed how the Japanese, in the virtual complete extermination of the male population of the walled city of Manila, had blown up the Manila Cathedral.

He told of the massacre of 39 Christian Brothers and two more refuge priests in the De La Salle College in the city. He said that churches, Government buildings, the gas works, telephone building, other utilities and virtually the entire business section of the Philippine capital had been destroyed. And he spoke of individual cases of inhuman atrocities, "which even now it is hard for me to believe and I have won the evidence of these things."

When Congress resumes deliberations following the Easter recess, General Romulo said, he will take the case of the House of Representatives "and indict Japan for the atrocities committed in Manila." He disclosed that he has affidavits from eye-witnesses, photographs, motion pictures and other evidences to support the charge as he will make.

Drawing a distinction between the "rage of Nanking" where it was the primal instinct of the Japanese soldier going berserk over his victory and the atrocities of Manila, General Romulo said:

"Manila was a studied, premeditated, deliberate plan not only to destroy the city but to kill as many Filipinos as possible. There were 17,000 Japanese Marines left in Manila with orders to do this. They had been left behind to do this and to die. We found the orders from Tokyo on the body of an officer of these Marines."

"The reason that they wanted to do these things was to make the Filipinos an example for the peoples of the Far East for standing by the white nation of the United States. The price of loyalty to America is what happened in Manila."

An liberation drew close in Manila, General Romulo said the entire male population of the walled section of Manila was rounded up by the Imperial Marines. Many were herded into the Manila Cathedral and the building was blown up, killing all within it.

Many others, he continued, were herded into historic Fort Santiago and locked in cells. The Japanese then speared these prisoners throughout the fort and set it afire.

Christian Brothers slain

"All within were burned to death except two Filipinos and a Spaniard," Gen. Romulo said. "The Filipinos were killed trying to escape from the fort. The Spaniard broke his back jumping from the building but he was rescued and brought to a hospital. I have an affidavit of this survivor telling how these men were burned to death in the fort, and I saw the bodies in the fort."

"At De La Salle College," General Romulo said, "31 Christian Brothers were put to death. Five of them were bayoneted to death right at the altar of the college chapel."

In addition to the Brothers, who were Irish, German and Filipino, General Romulo said there were about 100 male refuge priests also killed at the college.

Body Translated



Pope Pius XI, whose body has been translated from the crypt of St. Peter's Basilica to a specially prepared niche in the Basilica's Presentation Chapel (the Chapel of St. Ann) pending extensive remodeling work in the crypt of St. Peter's. A service of prayer for his beatification is being promoted by the Confraternity of Christian Workers in the United States. (NCWC)

FRENCH PRELATES FOUGHT NAZIS ON JEW PERSECUTIONS

Paris — (NC) — As the final extent and the cruelty of the measures of persecution directed against the Jews during the German occupation of France became known to the outside world, it is equally important that the resistance and protests of spiritual authorities, particularly Catholic authorities, be on record.

On the basis of what news may have reached other countries at the time, it may be assumed that public opinion might have been justified in concluding that protests were few, rare, too limited and too timid. Actually, such protests were not only numerous but unanimous.

Certainly the most important protest made is the message from the Assembly of the Cardinals and Archbishops of France, addressed to Marshal Petain, July 22, 1941.

"Profoundly disturbed by reports of mass arrests of Israelites made last week and the harsh treatment inflicted upon them, we cannot stifle the cry of our conscience, in the name of humanity and Christian principles our voice is raised in protest in behalf of the imprescriptible rights of the human person. Therefore, this is an anguished appeal for pity upon these immense sufferings, particularly since they strike so many mothers and children. We urge you, Monsieur le Maréchal, to take care that the demands of justice and the rights of charity be respected."

Card. Gerlier's Protest

Similar steps were taken in the unoccupied zone when on Sunday, September 6, 1942, His Eminence Pierre Cardinal Gerlier, Archbishop of Lyon, declared from the pulpit of his Cathedral:

"The execution of deportation measures now being carried out against the Jews has given rise throughout the territory to serious and grievous that we have the imperious and sad duty of raising the protest of our conscience. We are witnessing a cruel dispersion of families that spares nothing, neither age, fortune nor illness."

It was at that same time that the Jesuit, Father Chaillet, was arrested at Lyon for having sheltered 30 Jewish children.

In central France a refugee, the Rev. Fr. Magr. Charles Kohl, P.A., Vicar General of Strasbourg sent a protest to the Prefect of Clermont-Ferrand emphasizing the deplorable consequences of the steps taken against Jews in that region, most of whom are refugees from Alsace and Lorraine. He also cited that his protest had the full endorsement of his Bishop, the Most Rev. Charles Ruch, who had been driven out of his See by the Germans.

LUBLIN REFUSES OUTSIDE FIGURES

Washington — (INN) — Official sources have disclosed here that efforts to establish a new government in Poland, according to the Yalta Formula, have been obstructed by the unwillingness of the Lublin group to admit strong figures from the outside.

The Big Three Commission Meeting in Moscow has proposed a number of Polish leaders not now in the provisional government, in an attempt to carry out the Yalta provision that the government should be "recognized" as a broader Democratic basis with the inclusion of Democratic leaders from Poland itself and from Poland abroad.

But Washington officials admitted that the Lublin group now in power is opposing the admission of strong figures lest its power be lost.

Bishop Yu Pin Brings Funds to Burma for Allies

Washington — A relief committee headed by the Most Rev. Paul Yu Pin, Vicar Apostolic of Nanking, has taken a fund of 1,000,000 Chinese dollars (equivalent to \$200,000 in U. S. currency) to the Burma front to be used in aiding Chinese and allied troops in Kunming and Burma, according to advice received here by the Institute of Chinese Culture.

His Grace Yu Pin, a special envoy of the Chinese Government, has been in Nanking, China, for a long time and has been working for the relief of Chinese people. His work has been very successful and has helped many people.

Nazis Planned Cologne Cathedral as Party Shrine

Paris — (RNS) — German authorities planned to convert Cologne Cathedral into a national Nazi monument, it was disclosed by the Most Rev. William Stockums, senior Auxiliary Bishop of the Cologne Archdiocese.

Yalta Polish Pledge Must Be Redeemed Warns Abp. Mooney

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the great powers to the aid fate of these brave, freedom-loving, Catholic Christian nations.

"The case of Poland grips the imagination as well as the conscience of the world," the Archbishop continued. "Poland, locked by the clutches of Britain and France, was the first to withstand perfidious aggression. Poland overcame and devastated by the superior forces of a ruthless conqueror, reassembled her scattered armies to carry on a gallant fight on every inch of the Western and Eastern frontiers of war—and to be a major factor in the defeat of Hitler in her eastern front."

Poland has suffered out of all proportion to the other nations in the world. The only nation which has suffered out of all proportion to the other nations in the world is Poland. The only nation which has suffered out of all proportion to the other nations in the world is Poland.

The Yalta pledge is the only pledge that has not been redeemed. The Yalta pledge is the only pledge that has not been redeemed. The Yalta pledge is the only pledge that has not been redeemed.

Bishop Stockums made the revelation after returning to the Cathedral from a home for the aged where he was in hiding to escape arrest by the Gestapo. He said both he and Archbishop Joseph Frings of Cologne had been forced to flee Cologne agents during the Allied advance toward Cologne, because the aged Archbishop had denounced the party plan to convert the cathedral into a Nazi shrine.

Bishop Stockums was discovered in hiding by Captain Felix Winter, Gestapo sergeant from Detmold.

Archbishop Frings was arrested by the Nazis and thrown out of Cologne across the Rhine, the Bishop stated.

Eighty Percent of Italy Has No Political Party

Yokohama City — (JWC) — Eighty per cent of the Italian people take no part in the political life of their country, and 87 per cent do not vote before national elections, it is reported in a report by the National Bureau of Economic Research.

The report is based on a survey of 100,000 Italian households. It shows that only 13 per cent of the population are members of political parties.

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'Mother Will be Proud' Says Soldier Liberating Religious Near Manila

A soldier liberating religious near Manila says his mother will be proud of him. The soldier is a member of the U.S. Army and is currently serving in the Philippines. He is a devout Catholic and is proud of his faith.

completely from outside supplies. In February it was begun a serious epidemic. Our situation was desperate.

The Day of Education

February 22 was the day of our liberation. Finally at 11 a. m. the time of the morning roll-call, planes came over our camp and a loud announcement in the space of a few seconds about 120 parachutes were seen open against the pastel sky of the early tropical morning.

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