

Confirmation on Guam

Tokyo Ordered Manila Massacre, Records Show; Priests, Nuns Victims



In a native chapel close to the ruined Cathedral on Guam, Bishop Thomas Wade, S. M., Catholic Military Vicar of the Western Pacific, administers the Sacrament of Confirmation to 100 American soldiers, sailors and Marines, many of whom are recent converts. Bishop Wade, from Providence, R. I., has been a missionary since 1922 and for more than a year was forced to hide in the jungle of Saugayville from the Japanese until rescued by Allied troops. Official Marine Corps photo (NCWC)

Manila—(INS)—Documentary evidence showing that the slaughter of thousands of innocent men, women and children in Manila was carried out in direct orders from the Japanese high command is now in the hands of American officials.

A 200-page report based on affidavits by competent political, civilian and military witnesses, interrogation of prisoners and captured documents confirms the brutal, cold-blooded rape of Manila, the sickening pictures of bayoneted babies, mothers with slashed breasts and piles of bound and burned corpses.

Prisoners' testimony concerning the enemy's coldly planned brutality is only a fragment of the mounting volume of available evidence the report states.

It reveals that Jap General Tomoyuki Yamashita was down in Tokyo Dec. 10 to be informed of the death sentence for Manila returned on Dec. 20, and the following day left with Philippine puppet president Jose Laurel for Baguio in the mountains of Northern Luzon.

Captured Japanese diaries recorded the awful crime ordered in Tokyo. A member of the Aikawa force wrote "Feb. 7, 150 guerrillas slumped and killed 1 personally stabbed and killed 1 on Feb. 9. Burned guerrillas to death 10-night."

Children Overrun

The Japs regarded guerrillas as a guerrilla, even children. A Kobayashi group order dated Feb. 13 said "All people on the battlefield (meaning Manila City) will be put to death."

The report discloses that the Japs murdered 23 Catholic priests and one Catholic nun, and destroyed the national cathedral, university of Santa Tomas, cathedral in Manila, six churches, five convents, five refectories, three hospitals and two colleges.

The neutral Spanish as a group suffered more than any other and ninety per cent of Spanish cultural holdings were wiped out. One hundred and seventy-two Spanish civilians and 64 members of Spanish religious orders are known to have been murdered and 300 seriously wounded by bayoneting or gunfire.

Father Quigley, a Holiston Superior, returned that February 12, seventy people including thirty women and children at La Salle High School in La Salle College were attacked by a Jap officer and twenty men with automatic weapons, knives and bayonets. Six killed.

At least 400 civilians, and probably many more, were crowded into Fort Santiago to be murdered in one small room, 12 by 18 feet, the shot stabbed and started bodies of 25 people were found.

In another windowless room about 25 feet square there were about 25 people in such a bad state of decomposition that it was impossible to tell their race, nationality or the cause of their death," the report stated.

Moderate Parolan, acting manager of the Philippine Red Cross, testified that the Japs entered the Red Cross building on Feb. 10 and shot and bayoneted everyone they could find including bed-ridden patients.

Page after page of the report tells the same story of horror and wanton killing.

Women Spiritual Power, Says Pope

Rome—(RNS)—Representative Clara Mauborgue Luce (D-Conn.) was received in private audience by Pope Pius XII, who asked her to convey special greetings to the women of America.

Mrs. Luce who has been touring the Italian battle-front, later attended Holy Thursday High Mass in the Mater Chapel at which the Pontiff was also present.

In a 20-minute interview, the Holy Father assured Mrs. Luce of his conviction that American womanhood will be a great stabilizing force in the world peace and in rehabilitating war-torn communities.

"The work needs the spiritual power of American women even more than their material power," the Pontiff said.

The Pope told the American visitor he was much impressed by the splendid conduct and appearance of the Allied troops in Rome, and said he had many friends among Americans whose names found in the United States he had visited when he was Papal Secretary of State.

Nazi Remove Books

Rome—(RNS)—Three priestly German book collections were removed from Rome by the Nazis late in 1943 despite persistent pleas by Pope Pius XII and offers by the Vatican Library to safeguard them, it was revealed here.

UNRRA AIDE



Genevieve Gabower, of Towson, Md., member of the faculty of the National Catholic School of Social Service, Washington, D. C., who has been appointed Welfare Specialist in the Italian Women of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, in Rome. Miss Gabower is a graduate of the College of Saint Teresa, Winona, Minn., and has served as a Consultant in the U. S. Children's Bureau (NCWC).

Iwo Jima Photog To Be Honored

Catholic Convert Will Receive a Plaque

New York—(RNS)—An Honorary convert to the Faith and war photographer for the Associated Press, whose picture of the U. S. Marines planting the Stars and Stripes on Mt. Suribachi on Iwo Jima has been hailed as one of the war's finest, will be awarded a plaque in recognition of his achievement at the annual communion breakfast of the Catholic Institute of the Press here on April 8.

Mr. Rosenthal was led to take instructions in the Catholic Faith after reading a number of books on the life of Christ. He was baptized in 1943. It is reported that his American Iwo Jima shot may be used as a postage stamp.

'No Atheists in Foxholes' Author Believed Dead

San Francisco—(SFP)—There is a strong possibility that Father William Cummings, heroic chaplain of Batan, is dead. Of all the Maryknoll priests and Sisters in the Philippine Islands, he is the only one who has not been located.

It was Father Cummings, it is said, who in one of his field sermons on Batan first uttered that famous phrase: "There are no atheists in foxholes."

Major Albert Talbot, military chaplain who had just arrived here after being released from a Japanese prison camp in the Philippines, has told Faith or Cummings' sister, Miss Edith Cummings, that her brother was aboard a Japanese prison ship which was sunk by an American submarine on December 15, 1944.

Major Talbot, who had been talking to Father Cummings on the previous day, said that he had endeavored to discover whether the Maryknoller was among the missing but that he had not been able to find his name listed. This leaves some hope that Father Cummings may still be alive.

He held various administrative posts in the Maryknoll Society before being assigned to the Philippine Islands in 1940. Immediately after Pearl Harbor he received permission to apply for admission to the Chaplains Corps. At first his offer was refused because of an old back injury but he was accepted later.

Some of his exploits have been recorded in the American press and radio. On one occasion, when a hospital on Batan was under bombardment, Father Cummings rushed into the ward to stop the men from crawling outside, where they were being machine-gunned.

He picked up on a chair and held out to the wounded soldiers. He was shot in the back, but he refused to be taken to the hospital. He died on the spot.

Holy Cross Grid Star Reported Missing

Bernton, Pa.—(INS)—Capt. Edward J. O'Melia, Jr., 29, who was an all-American end and captain of the Holy Cross football team in 1938 has been missing in action in Germany since March 18, his wife, Jayne, has been informed by the War Department. She lives in nearby Joppatowne.

O'Melia, who was graduated from Keith Academy, Lowell, Mass., and received his Master's Degree from Boston University, entered the Army in 1941 and went overseas with the Infantry last October. His father, Edward O'Melia, lives at Winchester, Mass.

War Destroys 5,000 Churches in France

Paris—(RNS)—Nearly 5,000 churches were destroyed in France between 1939 and 1945, according to reports here. The district of Aveyron is the only area where church property escaped damage.

Damage from all parts of France and from the United States, but the amount collected is said to represent only a fraction of what is needed. In the diocese of Carthage and Thule alone, church losses are estimated at nearly a billion francs.

General Cato... (text partially obscured)

Advertisement for B. Forman Co. featuring a woman in a black dress and the text: 'LOVELY slim black sheer with exquisite eyelid lingerie bow at neckline, pencil line skirt, woman's half size, 22.95. Dress Shop, Second Floor.'