

British Prelate Meets With Bishops in France

Paris — (RNS) — The Most Rev. Bernard W. Griffin, Archbishop of Westminster, left here for Germany to confer with leading members of the German Catholic hierarchy. During his stay in France, the British prelate met with several members of the French episcopate. The Archbishop will travel via Belgium, where he will also establish contacts with Catholic leaders, including Ernest Cardinal van Roey, Archbishop of Malines and Primate of Belgium.

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"PLEASE GET THIS TO MY DADDY"



Three-year-old Kathleen Beck, daughter of Major and Mrs. Donald C. Beck of Arlington, Va., was one of the first to patronize the Overseas Mailing Booth at a USO Club, conducted by the National Catholic Charismatic Service, in Washington. James S. Mitchell, Executive Director of NCCS, assures Kathleen that her GI won't be forgotten by Santa. Christmas mailing booths have been set up in more than 400 USO clubs operated by NCCS, to assist in mailing gifts early (before October 15) and wrapped according to Post Office regulations. Last year USO-NCCS clubs wrapped more than 200,000 overseas gifts. (NC Photos)

Croat Bishops Urge War Trials To Thwart Reds

Chicago — (NC) — A courageous pastoral issued by the Bishops of Croatia describes bitter persecution of the Church in Yugoslavia under the Tito regime and recommends that representatives of other nations be named on an international commission to conduct trials of persons accused as "war criminals" in order that the wave of summary executions and other excesses may be brought to an end.

"The enemies of the Catholic Church," the pastoral states, "being also the followers of materialistic communism, which the entire Croatian nation with one assent rejects, have in our Croatia exterminated with fire and sword priests and the more eminent of the faithful."

"Judging by their ferocious manner, it is readily apparent why they accuse all Bishops, priests and religious as war criminals; why they wish to foist totally false accusations of crime upon them."

"In the civilized world, however, not a single person will be found approving such heinous and arbitrary accusations, or believing that Bishops, priests and religious Orders of men and women known the world over, are war criminals and worthy of capital punishment; or that they are perpetrators of massacres. Perpetually shall the blood of these heroic martyrs cry out in heaven."

2,000 Attend Requiem For John McCormack

Even Mass for Requiem for John McCormack, Irish singer who died on September 16 at his home in County Dublin, was celebrated in St. Patrick's Cathedral here by the Rev. Timothy J. Shanley, rector of St. Matthew's Church and a friend of the singer for more than 40 years. More than 2,000 persons were present.

The Rt. Rev. Hugh Joseph F. Flinnally, Administrator of the Cathedral, presided at the requiem. The Rev. John J. McLaughlin, pastor of St. Vincent's Church, officiated at the Mass.

accusation against those who grasp murder as a means of power.

"The Catholic Bishops of Croatia are prepared and ready to have each individual case investigated by representatives of other nations and by an international commission. In this way the charge of war criminality will be proved a lie and simply a means of exterminating those who oppose and want no part of communism."

"Wherefore the gathered Croatian Bishops recommend that a committee be set up to examine all cases, to gather facts which shall be readily presented to an international commission. A copy of the pastoral, issued some months ago, was recently received in this country."

Churches Protect People in Hurricane

St. Augustine — (NC) — The giant hurricane that swirled through Florida recently failed to inflict notable damage on well-prepared Church facilities throughout the State. As the storm swirled towards Miami parishes of the city, launched preparations to meet the gale and were for any emergency.

Two days before the hurricane struck, pastors of six Miami parishes, Corpus Christi, Gesù, St. Mary's and St. Peter and Paul; St. Patrick's, Miami Beach, and the Little Flower, Coral Gables, announced that parish buildings, schools, churches and halls would be available to those whose homes were considered unsafe. Parish organizations had previously notified the Federal Civil Defense Administration of the facilities available.

When the fury of the hurricane struck, the St. Augustine people streamed into parish facilities by thousands. Priests, Sisters and members of the parishes attended the victims and provided them with food and shelter.

10 Ex-Servicemen Enter Maryknoll

New York — (INC) — Three hundred and twenty-five students have been accepted for Maryknoll seminaries this fall, the highest single year's increase in the history of the Society. The new students represent 21 different states.

Among applicants accepted to begin preparing for the foreign mission priesthood are ten former servicemen, from the Army, Navy and Marines. Two hundred and fifty more servicemen have applications on file at Maryknoll and are only awaiting their discharge before entering. Meantime, most of these young men are taking correspondence courses in Latin to shorten their years of study after the war.

Vocations to the foreign missions have been showing a marked increase each year. Last year at this time 83 young men had been accepted for Maryknoll seminaries, 242 less than this year.

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