New Hungarian Primate Scores One-Man Rule

Budapest — (NC) — "I have raised my voice against injustices committed by the Nazis, therefore I must also raise my voice against injustices now, and must make myself the spokesman of the faithful who are otherwise deprived of freedom of expression."

Thus Archbishop Joseph Mindszenty of Strigonia, who recently became Primate of Hungary as successor to the late Cardinal Seredi, explained in an interview his motives for issuing a Pastoral on the eve of Hungary's national elections on November 4.

"It is not democracy if the absolute rule of one person is replaced by the absolute rule of another person," the Primate said in his Pastoral, referring to some recent measures of the Hungarian Provisional Government.

Archbishop Mindszenty severely critized the new marriage code, which, he wrote, "seriously impairs the sanctity of marriage" and has eased divorce proceedings to such an extent that couples can part almost at will.

The government decree on splitting up large estates aims "at the economic destruction of certain classes of society," the Prelate wrote, and the wanton arrest of persons who are politically suspect appears as an "unfortunate abuse," which the Archbishop denounced on behalf of all members of the Hungarian Hierarchy.

In his interview the Archbishop revealed that as Bishop of his previous diocese of Veszprimia he had been jailed, together with 26 members of his clergy, for four months, because they had refused to give in to the demands of Hungary's former Nazi-sponsored Premier Frederic Szalasi.

The Hungarian national elections resulted in a victory for the moderate Small Landholders party, which, according to Budapest dispatches, won about 58 per cent of the more than 4,000,000 votes cast. The Social Democrats were running second with about 22 per cent, while the Communists had 14 per cent.

According to press reports, the provisional government, headed by Gen. Bela Miklos, is expected to resign. It is stated that Baron Zoltnan Tildy, a Calvinist clergyman who succeeded Tibor Eckhardt as leader of the Small Landholders party, will probably be the next Prime Minister of Hungary. The party is said to derive its main strength from small shopkeepers, small landowners and professional men.

Priest's Prisoner Refuses to Talk

[illegible]

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The degree Doctor Honoris Causa de la Faculte des Sciences of the Ancient University of Louvain, Belgium, was conferred on General Dwight Eisenhower, at his headquarters in Frankfurt, Germany. He is shown shaking hands with Monsignor Van Waeyenberg, director of the University, who presented the degree to him. (INP-NC Photo)

Hungary Pastoral Attack Answered

Washington — (NC) — Charges made by political parties in Hungary that the Pastoral issued by Archbishop Joseph Mindszenty, Primate of Hungary, had the character of an open attack against democracy are "exaggerated and unjust," according to a declaration by "competent ecclesiastical authorities" to the Hungarian public, broadcast by the Budapest radio.

The declaration, as quoted by the Federal Communications Commission pointed out that the Hungarian Episcopate acted true to its traditions and obligations in discussing questions affecting Hungary's public life and only raised its voice with the intention of helping or seeking a remedy.

There was no intention in the Pastoral "of uncalled-for interference in day-to-day politics or the course of the elections," the declaration is quoted as saying. "To attribute to the Pastoral the character of an open attack against democracy is exaggerated and unjust.

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