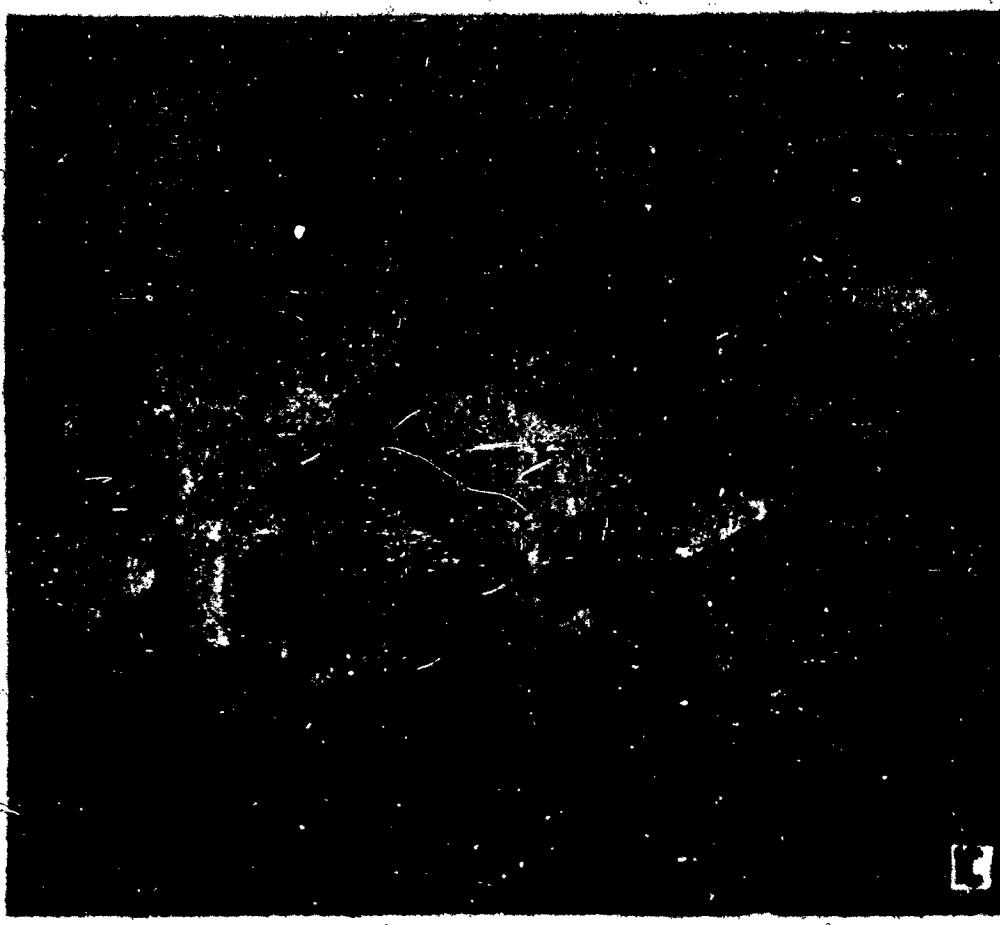


NEW SOLDIERS OF CHRIST



In the Post Chapel at Fort Devens, Mass., Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston confirmed 32 soldiers, WACs and wives and children of enlisted men. Speaker was Lt. Col. Harvey Foss, of Dayton, Commanding officer of the Special Training Unit on the Post. Official Signal Corps photo. (NC Photo)

Reds Pressure Ruthenian Catholics to Desert Rome

Paris — The spurious character of the religious "tolerance" promised by the Russians to inhabitants of newly acquired territories is exposed in reports which have come here from Czestochowa, that easternmost section of Czechoslovakia which was recently ceded to the Soviets.

These reports indicate that the Soviets are making strenuous efforts to alienate the inhabitants, most of whom are Catholics of the Byzantine Rite (Ruthenians), from the Holy See, to destroy their ecclesiastical organization, and to force them into union with the Soviet-dominated Orthodox Church. The Diocese of Mu-

kovice (Munkacs), which embraces the ceded territory, is to be completely liquidated, the reports indicate, and all the Catholic clergy have been "invited" to break relations with the Holy See, and the "invitation" is backed up by the threats of internment in concentration camps.

The provisional government, said to be composed of irreconcilable elements installed by the Russians, has issued a decree under which the tide of one-third of the population of any locality is sufficient to bring about the change-over of the parish from spiritual union with Rome to affiliation with the Orthodox Church of Moscow.

Under this decree, at least 70 churches of Eastern Rite Catholics have already been seized and assigned, with all their properties, to the Orthodox Church.

Matters of religious cult have been placed in charge of a Professor Liskar, who is known to be an atheist and a communist.

Fr. Garrison Cites Broken Homes Cause

New York — (NC) — "Broken homes and warped lives are nothing new in history," the Rev. Robert E. Garrison, S.J., president of Fordham University, declared Sunday evening on the Catholic Hour radio program.

"They always exist in abundance when public opinion is easy on divorce — in other words, when society forgets the primary end of marriage and its own end; when man gets wed to a pagan atmosphere where libido is the first law and God is the last."

Pope Concludes Retreat Week

Vatican City — (NC) — The annual retreat at the Apostolic Palace, during which the Holy Father leads the members of the Curia in a week of intense prayer and meditation, came to a close on December 8 when His Holiness Pope Pius XII addressed a brief word of greeting and adieu to all participants.

During the retreat week all the normal activities of the Vatican came to a temporary halt. No public audiences were held and a breath of silence fell over the palace.

Arrangements were such that the Holy Father was shielded from view of others and could be seen only by the preacher, the Benedictine Father Marie-Vincent.

The number of retreatants at the palace was increased by Pope Pius XII to 500, the increase being held every third year; additional students were incorporated into the group.

Roman Altar-Rite Marking Front Jubilee

Vatican City — (NC) — Roman Altar-Rite priests have celebrated a golden jubilee at the Roman Seminary.

The seminary, founded in 1911, has 150 students, mostly from the United States, Canada, and Australia.

The seminary is located in the heart of the city, just across the Tiber River from St. Peter's Basilica.

The seminary is run by the Society of Jesus and is under the direction of Fr. Giacomo Giammarinaro, S.J., Superior General.

'Hands Off' Policy On Reich Religious Study Set by Allies

By DR. MAX JORDAN

Frankfurt am Main — (NC) — The Allied Religious Affairs Committee has decided that "no school drawing on public funds is to refuse to children the possibility of receiving religious instruction, and no school drawing on public funds is to make it compulsory for a child to attend classes for religious instruction."

This ruling is taken here as a clear indication that the Allied occupation authorities desire to maintain a hands-off policy with regard to denominational schools and to refrain from establishing a prejudice such as was recently done by Russian authorities in Berlin with reference to Catholic parochial schools.

Pending a final determination of policy on religious education by the freely established wishes of the German people, the various Allied military governments will issue provisional regulations which are to be in keeping with local traditions and the preferences of the people. Previously adopted measures, which were liable to interfere with parochial schools, have thereby been rescinded.

An incident showed that Sister Gertrude had a cancer of the pancreas—an inoperable one. Soon after prayer to Mother Seton was begun, Sister Gertrude improved and in a remarkably short time was able to resume her duties at DePaul Sanitarium. After her death of a wholly unrelated malady, a post mortem examination showed the pancreas in a perfectly healthy condition.

Released Time Upheld By California Court

Los Angeles — (RNS) — The California State law permitting schools to release students for one hour each week for religious instruction was declared to be constitutional, in a ruling by Superior Court Judge Charles Burzell of this city.

"The Federal Constitution merely guarantees freedom of worship," Judge Burzell opined. "That certainly has not been violated. Released time does not put the State of California in the position of supporting any religious organization, as prohibited by our State Constitution."

All Dorothy Grinstead

Pittsburgh — (NC) — At a rally here in thanksgiving for victory, sponsored by the 50 courts of the Catholic Daughters of America in the Pittsburgh diocese, a gift of \$1,000 for the furtherance of the Family Rosary Crusade was made to the Rev. Patrick Flynn, C.S.C., director of the movement.

Sergeant Tells of a Priest-Hero

San Francisco — (NC) — After undergoing months of hellish torture, suffered and borne in the infamous Japanese prison camp at Cabanatuan, and later in the Philippines, Sgt. John J. Shanahan, U.S. Army, U.S. Cavalry, told his story to the press.

Shanahan, a native of the Bronx, New York, was captured in December, 1941, and remained a prisoner of war for 18 months.

He was tortured and beaten by the Japanese, who were trying to get him to reveal the location of American prisoners.

Shanahan, who was captured with Capt. Edward J. Murphy, U.S. Cavalry, and Capt. John J. O'Brien, U.S. Cavalry, was captured with Capt. Edward J. Murphy, U.S. Cavalry, and Capt. John J. O'Brien, U.S. Cavalry,

priest, who had been captured and became a害人者. He was beaten so other weapons were not available, continued his heroic ministrations.

One of the prisoners was beat up so badly by his factory supervisor that he went insane and strayed back. He was sent to the camp hospital, given bread or water, and no efforts to protect himself from the severe cold. After three days of this, Sergeant Shanahan, with the priest went to the hospital commanding officer to intercede for the boy, but was refused.

Shanahan then went back again the next day to be stopped and told that he must stay there.

Many of the men who were captured and held in Japanese prison camps were tortured and beaten down by the Japanese.

Crucifixion Marks Drafted

Paris — (NC) — In an interview in La Vie Catholique, the Rev. de Vaux, O.F., secretary of the French Biblical and Archaeological School of Jerusalem and director of the Revue Biblique, expressed doubt concerning the alleged discovery of inscriptions on pottery relating to the crucifixion of Christ in a tomb near Jerusalem.

He added that the Biblical School in Jerusalem is working to reconstruct the evangelized picture of the life of Christ step by step in order that Our Lord may be better known and loved.

Aids Asked For Migrant Farm Workers

New York — (NC) — Inclusion of agricultural migrants in the legal guarantees of the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Social Security Act is urged in a joint statement issued here by Catholic, Protestant and Jewish leaders in the social welfare and rural life fields.

Expressing concern over "the spiritual and material welfare of migratory workers engaged in commercial agriculture," the twelve signatories review the conditions under which migrant workers, including those imported during the war from Mexico, Jamaica and the Bahamas, live and work, and assert that they are "the most depressed labor group in the United States."

The Catholic signers of the statement are Msgr. Luigi G. Ligutti, executive secretary of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference; Msgr. John O'Grady, secretary of the National Conference of Catholic Charities; the Rev. William J. Gibbons, S.J., associate editor of America, and the Rev. Charles Philippe, chairman of National Catholic Rural Life Activities for the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

The statement charges:

"There is a lack of decent housing for most of the workers employed in commercial agriculture," the statement asserts. "In many areas there is still an absence of health and educational facilities. Farm groups tell us about high hourly and daily rates of pay here and there, but more important . . . is continuity of employment."

Colonial Days Return

Montgomery City — (NC) — A valuable missionary relic of colonial days has been discovered in Casa Miguel, Guatemala, by the Rev. George White, Maryknoll Missioner. The relic is a wood Indian arrow, as old as the Constitution of the United States, which was brought to Guatemala by Spanish priests.

Father White went to San Miguel to perform a number of baptisms. He discovered that he had forgotten to include his own name. In his baptismal White he put the Indian name that he could not remember. The old man replied, "It is all right, you are safe."

White then asked the old man if he wanted to give him the arrow. The old man said, "Yes, I want it." White gave him the arrow and the old man said, "I will keep it safe."

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