

Spain Brands UN Indictment 'Hollow Mockery'

Washington — (NC) — Signed by the delegate "to whose country not even the heroic soldiers who fought for their fatherland dare return for fear of torture or death," demands for political amnesty and a free society in Spain contained in the United Nations sub-committee report on Spain, "can only sound as a hollow mockery, a deliberate insult to the conscience of mankind," the Spanish Embassy here said in commenting on the report.

These demands "have long since been realized in Spain," the embassy added. The sub-committee's report is characterized as contradictory in accusing Spain of being "a cause of international friction," while at the same time admitting that "no breach of peace has yet occurred, no act of aggression has been proved, no threat to peace has been established."

Taking further exception to the report, the embassy charges it has been maneuvered from an investigation into a political indictment of the Spanish régime, and says the report "constitutes an obvious intervention in the internal affairs of a country and violates the principles embodied in the Atlantic Charter, in the Dumbarton Oaks agreements, in those of the San Francisco Conference and in the United Nations own charter, which prohibit intervention in the internal affairs of any state."

Fascism Denied. The Embassy statement also points out that the whole affair is a "travesty of legal procedure" because the U.N. delegates convicted the "accused without giving him a chance to defend himself," adding that "all documentary evidence disproving the trumped-up charges against Spain has been omitted from the report-indictment."

Blind Bridal



A Seeing-Eye Dog, "Joy," smiles at the altar of St. Andrew's Catholic Church, Chicago, as his owner, Samantha Ingham, 23, was married to a high school classmate, James Riley, 19, both sightless. Two of the bridesmaids were blind. The bride, an accomplished seamstress, made her own trousseau.

Catholic Daughters Urge 'Firm Hand' Toward Soviet Russia

St. Louis — (NC) — Resolutions reflecting the interest of the Catholic Daughters of America in religion, education, social welfare, and world affairs, were adopted here by the closing sessions of the 21st biennial national convention, attended by delegates from 45 states and Puerto Rico and Alaska.

All officers headed by Miss Mary C. Duffy, South Orange, N. J., were re-elected, and five new directors were named to the board.

President Harry S. Truman and Secretary of State James F. Byrnes, according to a resolution adopted, are to be asked "to take a firm hand in dealing with Russia in the U.N. Council because of its dictatorial attitude, which is contrary to efforts for peace."

Another recommendation directed that officials of the Department of State and other government agencies desist from their attacks on the government of Spain, and that Spain be allowed to work out its own internal problems, without interference.

The President and the Secretary of State are also to be asked to give consideration to the approximately 1,000 Polish refugees now at Colonia Santa Rosa, Leon, Mexico, who are stated to be unable to meet all legal requirements for entry into the United States but are unable to receive visas.

Housing Bill Approved. A resolution requesting that extra prayers be said at each Society meeting for the convulsion of Russia and another commending and pledging the support of the membership in the Maryville College plan of organizing millions of petitions to the President of the United States urging him to adopt a prayer to be recited before each session of the U.N.

The delegates approved the Wagner-Edwards-Taft Housing Bill, opposed the Murray-Wagner-Dingell public health bill, opposed also the Equal Rights Amendment; deplored the lady-doctorism of some citizens who make no attempt to have their views heard in Washington in contrast with the highly vocal efforts of Leftist groups.

Another resolution directed to the President of the United States with the request that copies be sent to the Secretary of State and the British ambassador, made reference to the more than 1,000,000 displaced persons now in Italy, Austria and Germany, who decline to return to the countries of their origin for reasons of race, religion or political beliefs, and who are being denied rights of asylum and rights of freedom of choice.

Representatives of Congress were asked by another resolution to use whatever legislative powers may be required to secure from the President of the United States a proclamation setting aside Good Friday of every year as a national holiday.

Other resolutions condemned racism and anti-Semitism, and urged furtherance of fair and just treatment of the Negro.

Included in donations voted by the convention was an allotment of \$2,000 towards rebuilding of the Home of the Good Shepherd in Manila; \$2,000 for the Catholic Church Extension Society; \$1,000 each for the Oklahoma and North Carolina missions; \$200 each for the Rosary Hill Hawthorne Home for incurable cancer, for the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity and for Minnesota Vacation schools; \$500 each for the repository for the records of Blessed Katherine Tekakawitha, the chapel fund of the University of North Dakota campus, and the Sacred Heart Radio hour; and another \$1,000 towards the promotion of the proposed nationwide radio program of the Family Rosary.



"World Unity Through Christ" was the theme of the 21st biennial convention of the Catholic Daughters of America, held in St. Louis, Missouri, on that occasion. Left, right: Miss Mary C. Duffy, Regent; Bishop George J. Donohoe, Auxiliary and Administrator of the Archdiocese of St. Louis; Miss Frances M. Maher, Kate, Pa., Supreme Vice-Regent; standing, Bishop Vincent G. Waters, Raleigh; Miss Aileen Egan, Vice-Regent; and N. C. W. C., principal speaker. (NC Photos.)

France Decorates 6 Priests, 2 Nuns for War Heroism

Paris — (NC) — Six French priests and two Nuns have received citations from the French Government for their roles during the war.

Abbe Fernand-Jules-Auguste Gagnol, pastor of Vassieux-Vercors, was made a chevalier of the Legion of Honor. The citation speaks of him as a "priest of outstanding courage and devotion," who showed "during the long years of the war an exemplary patriotism."

Abbe Raul Vuillemin of the Diocese of Bayeux has been named chevalier of the Legion of Honor. The citation states that he was the soul of the French Resistance in the valley of the Mayenne during four years of "ardent and submitted to the worst violence, he magnificently underwent cruel trials with the elevation of soul of a patriot and escape from Germany of hundreds of prisoners."

Sister Marie des Saints-Servants of the Congregation of Our Lady of the Seven Sorrows, has been made a chevalier of the Order of Public Health. Sister Pauline, of the orphanage in the Rue de Dogneville here, has been made a chevalier of the Legion of Honor and has received the Croix de Guerre and the Bronze Medal of the Reconnaissance française.

Sister Marie des Saints-Servants cooperated in the organization of a center of Allied information, undertook many perilous missions and aided members of the Resistance.

The Officer Roseette of the Legion of Honor was bestowed upon Mgr. Daguzan, Vicar General of the Diocese of Bayonne. Monsignor Daguzan was one of the most audacious and courageous organizers of the clandestine Resistance against the oppressors in the Pau region. He was sent to Dachau camp where, by his personal courage and the warmth of his words, he kept up the morale of the unfortunate men who were held there under truly inhuman conditions.

Father Godard, O.M.I., air force chaplain, received the Resistance Medal with the Rosette. Father Pansard, director of an orphan-asylum received the Bronze Medal of the Reconnaissance française.

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Pope Defines Press Freedom To U. S. Editors

Vatican City — (INS) — An encouraging message of hope for the future of Europe and the world, coupled with a new reminder of the vital role of the American press and radio in behalf of truth, justice and charity, was delivered by Pope Pius XII.

The Supreme Pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church, made his remarks to a dozen visiting American editors and publishers in a cordial, informal talk in his private study.

He indicated clearly that he was buoyed by a feeling of hope, that the common tenets of decency in human and international relationships will triumph over evil-doers.

The Pope referred several times to his visits to America before his elevation as titular head of the church, and expressed deepest appreciation for what he termed "American love and generosity" in assisting Europe's postwar recovery.

Despite European press reports hinting that the Pope's health reflects the enormous strain of his fighting battle against evil, the Pontiff seemed to be in the best possible condition, alert and vigorous.

His face frequently became wreathed in an infectious smile during the casual exchanges.

He was delighted to hear that Cardinal Mooney of Detroit had recovered from his recent illness and indicated deep satisfaction that the Detroit Archdiocese had prevailed finally upon the beloved primato to take a much-needed rest.

President Truman's special Ambassador to the Vatican, Myron C. Taylor, escorted the editors and publishers to the audience chamber.

Taylor disclosed that the Pope already had received up to a million American soldiers for his blessing.

Prior to the informal conversation, the Pope read a specially prepared statement paying tribute to American newspapers for their "past performances in behalf of justice and imploring continuance of these same lines in the future."

Free Press Necessary. The Pontiff's statement said: "You are very welcome indeed to our Vatican City and state, American publishers homeward bound from a visit to various countries."

"Soon you will be back again in your native land and it will be your endeavor to make known to your large reading audience what you have seen and learned, to evaluate the principles and aims of the men shaping these events and to forecast as far as possible the consequent of the same."

"To do this rightly, a free press is necessary. Freedom may easily become a catchword for the untutored and superficially for the serious-minded and conscientious man, it is a condition fraught with impressive responsibility."

"The few minutes at my disposal do not permit me to attempt to analyze its content; yet it is obviously fundamental to observe that man, endowed by his creator with the freedom of choice between good and evil, is not thereby given the right to choose evil but he is privileged freely to choose the good which

POPE GREETS CYCLISTS



The usual rule for conservative or formal attire for visitors received by the Pope was waived when a group of Italian cyclists, created by Pope Pius XII. The occasion was the 29th (1948) Milan (Round Italy) bicycle race. The Holy Father, in addressing the contestants, reminded them of the race toward eternal life. (AP Photo.)

is his duty, and thus merit the reward eternal which is reserved for him by God.

"Freedom of the press, like any other freedom, whether action, speech or thought, is limited; it does not allow man to print what is wrong, what is known to be false or what is calculated to undermine and destroy the religious life of individuals and the peace and harmony of nations."

"It should guarantee a man against being shackled by material or selfish interests when the pursuit of a laudable purpose of exposing the truth, and vindicating right and justice. Certainly a first postulate of such freedom is to have access to truth."

"How often experience has proved that in the long run good is never served by distortion of the facts. The world will

not be lifted out of the quagmire of inhuman suffering and violence in which it is agonizing so long as suspicion, distrust and shameful ambitions conceal the truth from those who are entitled to know it for the common good of all."

"And the common people have their rights in this matter. The significance of the press, both the honorable vocation of vital importance to society."

"Living up to the duty and exacting demands you are in a position to exercise an influence not fully appreciated by all in the solution of the world's intractable and tragic problems."

"Our sincere earnest wish is that you measure up always in this vocation and with this we pray that the Lord God bless you with all and on your own dear one at home."

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