

Relate Views Trial as Attempt To Smead Church

Boston — (NC) — The trial of Archbishop Aloysius Stepinac of Zagreb, who is charged by the Tito regime with "crimes against the people," is nothing but "the crudest kind of political propaganda," and "a campaign to discredit the Church."

These declarations were made by Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston speaking at a Mass in the Cathedral of Holy Cross here on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

Recalling the efforts of St. Francis of Assisi to reform the entire world by bringing the lives of all people in harmony with the Gospel of Christ, Archbishop Cushing stated that the spirit of St. Francis would today be found in Archbishop Stepinac.

The "crimes" against the Church, the Archbishop said, are the "crimes" of being an Archbishop of the Catholic Church.

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AN AIR-MINDED STUDENT



Miss Marie Ferreri, 17-year-old freshman at Mount St. Scholastica College, Ashland, Ohio, expects to spend part of each weekend in the air. She will rent a Cub plane at the local airport in order to keep in practice as a pilot. Miss Ferreri, who is from Fort Smith, Ark., made her solo flight June 21, 1945, took her FAA flight test and received her license certificate this July. Her high school graduation present from Mother and Dad was a new '46 Excelsior. (NC Photos)

Richard Reid Awarded Interracial Justice Medal

New York — (NC) — Charles L. Ravellings, president of the Catholic Interracial Council of Detroit, and Richard Reid, editor of the Catholic News of New York, have been named to receive the 1946 James J. Hood Award for Interracial Justice.

The award, established in 1944 by the family of the late James J. Hood, one of the organizers and first president of the Catholic Interracial Council, consists of two silver medals conferred each year on the Feast of Christ the King upon a white and a Negro layman who in the judgment of the committee have made the most outstanding contributions to the cause of interracial justice during the year.

Richard Reid is a leading Catholic layman. He has played an active role in the Catholic Interracial Movement both as editor of the Catholic News and in his participation as speaker at events sponsored by the Catholic Interracial Council.

Charles L. Ravellings is a prominent Catholic Negro layman of Detroit. He has been active in the Catholic Interracial Movement during the last decade or more and was one of the organizers and a charter member of the Catholic Interracial Council of Detroit, of which he is now president.

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Yugoslav Hierarchy Sought Return of Christian Education

Rome — (NC) — A joint pastoral by the Hierarchy of Yugoslavia—significantly followed within a few days after its publication by the arrest and trial of Archbishop Aloysius Stepinac of Zagreb—calmly appeals to the civil authorities to give a "practical meaning" to the constitutional guarantee of freedom of conscience and religion by making it possible to educate youth "in the Christian spirit, in honesty and the fear of God."

The Bishops "solemnly declare" that they have no desire to quarrel with the civil authorities, but seek to state "in restraint and clarity" their anxieties, "as our pastoral duty requires."

"They voice a prayer to God that He enlighten those who wield authority in our land, that they may understand that our State will flourish best when its citizens are happy—as they will be happy if they see esteemed that which is most precious to them, their Faith."

The Bishops also appeal to their flock to "avoid all hatred and vindictiveness," to pray constantly for all men, "particularly for those who exercise responsible office in our social and civil life," and to remain true to the Faith, "even though the difficulties and anxieties of daily life weigh heavily upon you."

They then list the difficulties facing the Church in Yugoslavia because of the destruction of churches, the lack of priests, the impossibility of publishing Catholic newspapers and the restrictions placed on the right of the Church to private ownership and on her charitable efforts.

The Bishops reject as "unjust and unfounded" the accusation hurled against priests that they do not love their own land and their own nation.

The Bishops also the following facts to illustrate the obstacles placed in the way of Christian education: (1) school prayers have been abolished, (2) crucifixes have been removed from schools, (3) collective students' Masses, collective recitation of the Sacraments and Lenten retreats have been discontinued, (4) where religion classes are tolerated, they have been given inferior places in the curriculum, (5) difficulties are made for priests who seek to give religious instruction to children in the churches, (6) Catholic teachers are required, in violation of their conscience, to read books dangerous to religion.

Speaking as "custodians of the flock of Christ" and raising their voice in the name "of those great numbers of faithful who remain devoted to Holy Mother Church," the Bishops make this appeal to those in power:

"Give to our Catholic students that kind of instruction which the doctrines of the Church and the conscience of Christians imperatively demand."

"Let there be given a practical meaning—to those beautiful words about freedom of conscience and freedom of religion."

"If, on the one hand, it is permitted to diffuse materialism and atheism, let us be given complete liberty in the preaching of those truths which have come from God and which lead us to God."

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\$10,000 FOR RELIEF



His Excellency Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, accepts a check for \$10,000 to aid the relief work of the Holy Father. The gesture was received by the Daughters of Isabella at their recent convention in Milwaukee. Rev. Henry J. Coleman, of Bridgeport, Conn., national chaplain, is pictured presenting the check at the Apostolic Delegation in Washington. (NC Photos)

Plane Drones Requiem Over 26 Crash Victims

(The author of the following story is a student for the China missions at Sonoma State, Cal. He is on a year's leave of absence from the seminary because of the illness of his father. He was aboard the Army transport from which the three clergymen conducted the burial service which he describes.)

By THOMAS MOAKLER  
(Written for N.C.W.C. News Service)

Gander, Newfoundland.—A unique burial service was staged aboard a U.S. Army transport plane, which circled the cemetery in the wilderness, in heavy timberland 22 miles from the Gander Airport, where 26 gleaming white crosses mark the graves of as many victims of the Belgian Sabena Airline plane crash.

A Catholic priest, a Jewish Rabbi and an United Church clergyman were aboard the transport and read prayers for the dead according to their respective rituals. The Catholic priest was Father P. J. McCarthy, of Gander.

Before the transport bearing the clergymen took off for the burial service, another plane circled the burial spot in the woods and "dive-bombed" wreaths to the graves. One of the survivors of the crash, Seward Jeanne Rook, sent a Rabak along to be dropped with the flowers.

The air burial ceremony had been concluded, Father McCarthy presented the Holy Water sprinkler he had used to Gilbert Perrier, president of the Sabena Airline. Other rites were held earlier for the crash victims when a Solemn Mass of Requiem was offered in Gander's parish church, which is dedicated to the patron of St. Joseph. Mr. Perrier attended the service. His daughter was killed in the crash, but a son, another daughter and a nephew were among survivors.

The tragedy occurred when the Sismaster enroute to New York, overshoot the Gander airport in bad weather and disappeared. For five days a search was conducted for the plane and the wreckage was spotted deep in the almost impassable timbered country.

The 18 survivors, 14 of whom were too weak to be moved, joined in fervent prayer as efforts were made by U. S. Coast Guardsmen and other rescuers to reach them. At length, they were saved when a helicopter made the perilous journey into the deep woodland and brought them out. The airline officials decided it would be too hazardous to risk lives in bringing out the bodies of the dead, who were buried beneath white crosses in the woodland.

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UNESCO Seen Peace Hope by Msgr. Hochwalt

Washington — (NC) — The men and women of the United States National Commission for UNESCO are convinced that the commission's international parent body, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, can play a powerful role in building peace through understanding.

Msgr. Frederick G. Hochwalt declared after attending the meetings of the body here.

Msgr. Hochwalt, director of the Education Department, National Catholic Welfare Conference, is one of the two representatives of Catholic groups, on the 100-man commission formed to advise the United States delegation to UNESCO. The Very Rev. Edward V. Stanford, O.S.A., of the National Catholic Educational Association, is the other Catholic representative.

Msgr. Hochwalt explained that the National Commission had been called in to give a representative character to the "many important and perhaps controversial decisions" the U. S. delegation will have to make when it meets with people from all over the world at the first UNESCO meeting in Paris on November 19.

Vital Peace Factor

The N.C.W.C. official indicated that the Commission approached its task "with an earnestness rarely equalled at educational conferences" and said of the conferees that "it was their belief that education can prove a vital factor in making wars impossible."

"It was emphasized that any educational, scientific or cultural activity which will contribute effectively, promptly and powerfully to peace and security is proper for UNESCO," he stated. "Any other activity, no matter how worthy in itself, is irrelevant and, to the extent that it takes money, time or energy, constitutes a misuse of UNESCO machinery."

Thus, he explained, it was agreed by the panel on education that UNESCO does not exist primarily — he emphasized the word "primarily" — to improve education in general, to teach more people how to read and write, to sponsor international broadcasts, to draft reports, to call conferences, to exchange teachers, to promote scientific discovery or to enrich the cultural life of the common man.

UNESCO will doubtless do these things, he said, but the test for their justification will be whether they contribute to peace and security.



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