

SERVICE STATION

THE ROSARY

Priests Bare Terror in Lithuania; Red Rulers Cut Vatican Ties

Special to COURIER-JOURNAL. New York — A priest who fled the Red Terror in Lithuania, lifted a corner of the Iron Curtain today to reveal a glimpse of the horror that is daily life under Soviet domination.

The priest is the Rev. Father Walter Karalevicius, who has been appointed curate of St. Michael's Church in his native Bayonne, N. J. He has seen 40,000 people jammed into freight cars for the great journey to Siberia, priests with their eyes gouged out and their ears cut off, men and women forced to dig their own graves.

He has heard the roar of machines being run by the NKVD, the Russian secret police, to drown out the screams of people being tortured and murdered in the woods. He has faced the inquisition of the dread NKVD himself.

But there is, at the same time, the most ruthless suppression of any form of Catholic activity in the social and welfare field. There is no religious education in the schools. The Catholic press has been stamped out. Training of future priests is made impossible. Even children's social clubs are forbidden.

Monasteries were closed, nuns were chased into the streets and ordered to wear only civilian clothing. Priests were forbidden to carry on their work outside of their churches, and even their sermons were checked by NKVD spies who took copious notes.

Threatened with 20 Years in Siberia. "I was called before the NKVD because I had taught religion to children in the sacristy and because some of the children of the parish took Good Friday off from school.

But that was only the beginning. The fruit of all the spying developed in the four days from June 13 to 17, 1941, when 45,000 persons were seized by the Soviet and shipped off to Siberia.

Three other bishops — Archbishop Joseph Sivicinskas of Kaunas; Ms. Auxiliary, Bishop Vincent Brizgys; and Bishop Vincent Padolakis Auxiliary of Vilkauskis — who had been deported by the Nazis in 1941, are now in the American zone of occupation in Germany and Austria.

Drama Award

Wallace A. Bacon, instructor in the Department of English Language and Literature at the University of Michigan, whose play "ONAROLA" was judged the best of new plays submitted for the 1946 Bishop Shell Drama Award, sponsored by the National Catholic Theatre Conference.

POPE URGES LAITY TO ACTION ROLE

Vatican City — (Radio) — A Pope who has urged the laity to play a more active role in the Church's life, has issued a papal letter approving the new constitution of Italian Catholic Action.

The Holy Father expressed his joy over the coming social week of Catholics in Italy and his approval of the new constitution, which he said is based on long experience of lay cooperation with the clergy.

The Pope called on bishops, clergy and faithful to share in the work for spiritual perfection and social activity which make up Catholic Action, pointing out that adhesion of new Catholic organizations and their fraternal collaboration with older groups is a sign of vitality which is proper to movements born of Christ's charity and developing in His Church.

In giving his approval to the new constitution, the Holy Father extended encouragement and an invitation to all good Catholics to share in the work of the Hierarchy. Through such a profession of their faith and active militant spirit, especially during the stress of modern times and the scarcity of priests, the laity will set the clergy free to perform their duty in the founding of an organization of Catholic Action.

N. D. Head Urges Bigger Bombs for Lawless Nations



Oklahoma City — (FNC) — If the United States must deal with nations who repudiate the moral law, "we had better pile up our armaments sky-high and make bigger and better bombs."

This terse warning was issued by the Very Rev. John J. Cavanaugh, C.S.C., president of the University of Notre Dame, speaking at the dinner meeting of the National Aviation Clinic here.

"The only language such nations can understand is force; the only argument that can convince them is power," the priest continued.

"That was the language of Germany and we spoke it with cannon and bombs from the air. It was the language Japan knew best and we answered them at Hiroshima."

Declaring "God forbid that in this atomic era we shall ever have to fight another nation with force," Father Cavanaugh advanced three principles which alone will enable men to live together in order and peace on this earth.

Three Principles. The principles, he said, were offered not as a priest but as an American as anxious as you are to find a formula for order and harmony in the world.

The first principle is the "acknowledgment of the existence of God as the creator of man. Without this acknowledgment there can be no basis for true objective morality. And if there is no objective morality we are left with the law of the jungle — force, cunning, deception, dog eat dog."

German Cardinal Asks Return of PWs from Britain

London — (AP) — Promoting the Nazi penetration of the Church in Germany, Cardinal Schuster of Westminster City, England, has asked the British Government to return to Germany the 10,000 British prisoners of war who are being held in the United States.

The German Cardinal, speaking at the annual meeting of the National Council of Catholic Bishops in London, said that the return of the prisoners would be a "great step towards the reconciliation of the two peoples."

The Cardinal also expressed his hope that the British Government would consider the return of the prisoners as a "gesture of goodwill towards the German people."

Los Angeles Auxiliary Granted at 26

Los Angeles — (AP) — The Los Angeles Auxiliary of the National Catholic Welfare Conference was granted its charter at a meeting of the National Council of Catholic Bishops in London.

The Auxiliary will be headed by Rev. John J. Cavanaugh, C.S.C., president of the University of Notre Dame, who is currently in London.

Reds Seen Barring Poles from Mines

London — (AP) — Communist leaders in the British trade unions are trying to keep Poles out of the coal mines, because they are afraid of the influence the Poles might have inside and outside the pits.

It was seen after that, June 22, 1941, that war broke out between Russia and Germany. "When the Russians retreated they indulged in an orgy of killing," Father Karalevicius related.

Winter Brings Misery! YOU CAN STOP IT! With the approach of winter in Germany, thousands of guiltless children, old and ill persons who have already suffered as much as they can physically endure, are threatened anew with death from cold, disease and malnutrition. And there is nothing they themselves can do to stop it. GIVE NOW By giving now, before it is too late, YOU can save some cold and hungry child from death which will surely come without your help. You can ease the suffering of the old, the ill and the helpless. Even a small donation sent to War Relief Services-National Catholic Welfare Conference today may mean hope instead of despair, life instead of death for some suffering human being. HELP THEM TO LIVE Since March 21, 1946 War Relief Services-National Catholic Welfare Conference has made 16 shipments of relief goods to Germany totaling 6,025,427 pounds. (Contributions to War Relief Services-N.C.W.C. are deductible for income tax purposes.) War Relief Services-National Catholic Welfare Conference, German Relief Committee, 334 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, N. Y. Enclosed is contribution of \$_____ for relief of needy civilians in Germany. NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____

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