...ndercover Aides ...United States, ...Soviet Envoy Says

...Alexander Kirsch has a dazzling plan for ... and secret police, linked ... are at work in all ... of the world. Hub of ... espionage ring ... Soviet ... in Mexico City declared ... a press conference here.

... believed ... in this country ... a servant of the United ... to replace "Donnelly, ..."

... agents in this country, ... charges, are actively ... in Canada as all ma... that vital to the Soviet, including ... atomic bomb. He said that to ... knowledge, Russia does not ... an atom bomb, but is "working feverishly" to perfect one.

The pleasant faced Russian, who was accompanied by his wife and their children, Victoria, 11, and Vladimir, 9, agreed to be ... how sprawling some ... plot to him, about ... (the Soviet secret police) ... Mexico here and in Mexico ... Alexander Kirsch is my first press ... in a democratic at... and I am particularly ... prepared to talk about it."

Aides with NKVD

Alexander asserted that Prof. Samuel P. Alexandrov, Soviet representative on atomic bomb matters before the United Nations, was at one time an official of the GULAG (Department of Concentration Camps) in Russia. A friend of the secret police, he declared, he believed that the former professor of the Moscow Metallurgical Institute had been forced into the job, saying: "Nobody in his right mind would join the NKVD. But in Russia, you have no choice."

On the grounds that "it is a diplomatic matter," Mr. Alexander declined to discuss the state of religion in the Soviet Union. Asked directly whether the average Russian child of the same age of his own had ever been taught of God, he answered: "They never heard the word God unless they have had a grandmother or some relative of that generation."

He expressed the hope that this interview would help the people of the United States to understand the people of Russia, ... "We ask you not to believe that the Russians are satisfied with ... conditions and are ... freedom," he ... "Russian women want don't ... democratic ideas but ... a better and freer life. ... who is honest and ... hates the freedom of demo... Russia would like to be anywhere ... there is freedom. If the Russian people could know what I am saying today, they would sympathize with me."

Mr. Alexander spoke through an interpreter, Saul Levitas, editor of The New Leader.

The conference was held at the office of his attorney, Martin Wagenheim. The 37-year-old graduate engineer and former diplomat denied charges that he had embezzled a quantity of diamonds sent by the Soviet Government for sale in Mexico. Diamonds, he said, were never handled by him, but were shipped directly by the State Bank of the Soviet Union to the State Bank of Mexico. His part in the transaction, he explained, was limited to doing the paper work. He stated that the Soviet-Mexican business in diamonds totaled only $250,000 last year and that most of the stones were of indifferent quality.

Answering a question about the source of the supply of Russian diamonds, he replied: "Russia mines diamonds and also has ways of laying hands on precious stones that I don't care to discuss just now."

Witness Says Msgr. Tiso Got Him Out of Jail

Bratislava — (NC) — The prosecution at the trial of Msgr. Josef Tiso, former president of Slovakia, was keenly disappointed when Jan Kvetko, the former governor of the Slovak National Bank, who took the witness stand, spoke not a single word of accusation against Dr. Tiso.

The fascist President of Slovakia is being tried before the Slovak National Court together with several members of his wartime cabinet on 113 separate charges each of which carries the death penalty.

Mr. Kvetko was under indictment himself a few months ago as a collaborator with Dr. Tiso, but he was acquitted because he proved that during the war he had secret contacts abroad and had dealt with the partisans and was arrested and later deported as a spy by the Germans.

The former head of the Slovak bank testified under oath that Dr. Tiso had intervened with German authorities to obtain his release from prison after his first arrest and had also made efforts to free him a second time but, without success. He declared that Msgr. Tiso gave his "economic Minister" a free hand in running the country's economic affairs and acceded only to those German demands which did not seriously disrupt Slovakia's economy.

Other Witnesses

A number of other witnesses have been called to the stand, and the testimony of two of these was regarded as highly important. They are Gen. Ferdinand Catlos, commander of the Slovak Army during the war, and Jan Ursiny, the present Assistant Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia.

General Catlos, who had been held by the Soviets since the end of the war, was turned over during the week to the Slovak authorities for the trial. The Soviets also handed over General Turmner and Dr. Martine Rokol, the head of the Parliament under Dr. Tiso, to testify in the court; while the American military authorities in Germany put at the disposal of the court the former police officers, Messrs. Wurgas and Lulmansky.

The testimony of General Catlos, who acquaintances say has aged 20 years under the Russians, gave the trial an entirely new turn. At his hearing, which lasted two days, he made declarations which are diametrically opposed to the statements made by Dr. Tiso. He affirmed that Msgr. Tiso was fully informed about all the activities of the Slovak armed forces and as commander-in-chief accepted full responsibility for all the army's campaigns.

CONFIRMED IN HOSPITAL

Little Antoinette Rokol, 8, of Chicago and George Brady, 8, Harvard, Ill., both victims of rheumatic fever, receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, in Chicago's Mercy Hospital, administered to them by Auxiliary Bishop William D. O'Brien, himself a patient in the hospital at the time, but since recovered. Antoinette, wearing the little white dress and veil she wore on New Year's Day when she received her First Holy Communion, was wheeled into young Brady's room for the Confirmation service. (NC Photos)

Italian Constitutional Committee Bans Divorce

Rome — (RNS) — Divorce will not be permitted under Italy's new constitution if the Constituent Assembly endorses an article approved by the constitutional committee.

The committee voted 20 to 36 to recommend an article setting forth that matrimony is "based on the moral and juridical parity of consorts," and its conditions are regulated by law "for the purpose of guaranteeing the indissolubility of marriage and the unity of the family."

Supporting the article were members of the Christian Democratic, Liberal and Qualunque (Common Man) parties, while voting against it were Communists, Socialists, and Action Party Republicans. Left wing committee members had previously proposed that the matter of divorce be excluded from the constitution and dealt with solely on the basis of common law, but this recommendation was rejected, also by a 29 to 26 vote.

The issue of divorce now rests with the Constituent Assembly, where the outcome is generally expected to be favorable to the article, especially since traditional Italian aversion to divorce may cause left-wing members at the last moment to line up with Christian Democrats and right wing groups for its adoption.

It is believed, however, that one likely result of the anticipated rightist victory on the divorce question will be to create a more violent leftist opposition when the Vatican-Italy concordat signed in 1929 during the Mussolini regime comes up for consideration by the Assembly.

World Premiere Slated For Mother Cabrini Film

New York — (RNS) — World premiere of "Citizen Saint," a dramatized film biography of Mother Cabrini, first American citizen to be canonized, will take place in February, according to Clyde Elliot, producer. The film was made at the RKO Pathe Studio here.

Carla Dare, 22-year-old actress, whose grandmother, Consiglia Bartolomei, was a co-worker of Mother Cabrini in the founding of Columbus Hospital, Chicago, plays the title role.

Report Yugoslavs Raided Monastery

Rome — (RNS) — Yugoslav armed guards operating near Glitanova, in Istria province, raided and plundered a nearby Benedictine monastery, according to a report here. During the raid, the monastery was surrounded and patrols sailed up and down an adjoining lake in motor boats to prevent monks from escaping.

The intruders demanded a large sum of money they claimed was hidden in the monastery and when told there was no such fund, they loaded trucks with furniture and other valuable objects from the monastery chapel and sacristy.

In the course of the raid, several monks were reportedly beaten and their identification papers seized.

Quebec Cardinal Rites Scheduled For Tomorrow

Los Angeles — (NC) — Victim of a heart attack, His Eminence Rodrigue Cardinal Villeneuve, O.M.I., 63-year-old Archbishop of Quebec, died at Ramona Archdiocese in neighboring Alhambra.

Although the Cardinal had been ill for several months and arrived here just four days ago from New York for a period of recuperation and rest, his death was sudden and came as a profound shock.

Cardinal Villeneuve appeared to be in fair health after he arose last Friday morning and moved about the Academy. He was stricken with the heart attack at 7 a. m. and died an hour later. With him at his bedside were Msgr. Paul Nicole, his secretary; Dr. Lawrence Quillin, a physician, and a Sister-nurse of the Ramona Convent. A few moments after the Cardinal was stricken, Monsignor Nicole anointed him and administered the Last Rites of the Church.

Less than an hour after the Cardinal's death, Monsignor Nicole offered a Solemn Mass of Requiem for the repose of his soul. More than 350 elementary and high school students of Ramona Academy assisted at the Mass and afterwards recited the Rosary.

Flown to Quebec

The body of Cardinal Villeneuve was flown to Quebec for funeral services tomorrow. Arrangements for this last journey recall that in the closing years of his life, the Cardinal became an aviation enthusiast. His interest in flying was heightened when he made his first transocean flight in 1944 to visit Canadian troops in Britain, France and Italy. On this occasion, he made a number of visits to the front lines.

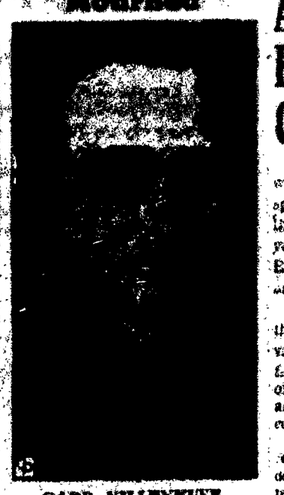
The prelate, who was the fourth Cardinal in Canada's history, was a close friend of both Pope Pius XI and Pope Pius XII. He also was a warm friend of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt and of Britain's wartime Prime Minister, Winston Churchill.

Two days before his death, the Cardinal was visited at the Academy by Archbishop John J. Cantwell of Los Angeles, and Bishop Timothy Manning, Auxiliary of Los Angeles.

Canada Mourns Cardinal's Death

Ottawa — (NC) — From all parts of Canada, from all creeds and from all walks of life expressions of sorrow and tributes

Mourned



CARD. VILLENEUVE

to his greatness as a noted leader and warm friend followed the announcement of the death of His Eminence Rodrigue Cardinal Villeneuve, Archbishop of Quebec.

Word of the death of the Cardinal flashed across the continent Friday morning, came as a distinct shock to his legion of friends and admirers.

His Eminence James Cardinal McGuigan, Archbishop of Toronto, now Canada's only member of the Sacred College of Cardinals, issued the following statement at Toronto:

"By the death of Cardinal Villeneuve we have lost a great Canadian, and I have lost a dear friend.

"He was a man of brilliant intellectual gifts of great personal charm and of the most profound religious character. His varied experience as well as his personal qualities fitted him for his position as Archbishop of Quebec and Cardinal of the Holy Roman Church.

"I extend my most profound sympathy to the clergy and faithful of our whole country, but in a most special way to those of the venerable See of Quebec, who loved him so dearly as their chief shepherd and spiritual father.

"Cardinal Villeneuve has left a name to be ever venerated in the history of Canada."

Prime Minister's Comment

W. L. Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada, issued the following tribute at Ottawa:

"I am deeply sorry to learn of the death of His Eminence Cardinal Villeneuve. His passing brought to mind the very helpful cooperation which he gave to the government during the war in meeting the many problems which arose at that time.

Anti-Clericism Faces Belgium Cardinal Warns

Brussels — (NC) — A stern warning against the increased spread of anti-clericalism throughout Belgium has been voiced by His Eminence Joseph Ernest Cardinal Van Roey, Archbishop of Malines.

The Cardinal made it clear that the anti-clerical feeling now prevails in many sections of the nation and emphasized the danger of its spreading unless the clergy and faithful find a remedy to cope with the threatening evil.

The occasion was an annual reception at the Cardinal's residence for the metropolitan chapter of parish priests and the delegates of religious communities in the Archdiocese.

The Cardinal's warning echoed admonitions uttered by His Holiness Pope Pius XII in his last Christmas message to the world. It was pointed out by the Gazet van Antwerpen, Catholic publication.

Too Much Indifference

"Never were the attacks of the red press so inimical as now," the Gazet observes. "The school war is raging in all branches of education and the spread of brutal immorality is increasing daily.

"Too many Catholics witness all this with too much indifference and do not take into account the gravity of the times. Aren't we Catholics guilty of the anti-religious sectarianism that the Holy Father denounces? Aren't we too afraid of this sectarianism? And does not this timidity constitute an encouragement to our adversaries? If in our so religious country, hatred and measures against religion have so extended, it is because too many Catholics keep away from active fighting movements and imagine they do their duty by keeping their personal faith. Very few concern themselves with defending the sacred values of the Church; too many have taken over the slogan of the enemy: 'Religion is a private affair.' A belief which is not bent upon conquering, turns out to be a sleeping, a dead belief."

Vatican Relief Totaling 174 Tons Gets to Vienna

Vienna — (NC) — A Vatican relief shipment, of twelve freight cars loaded with 348,000 pounds of food, clothing and medicine, has arrived here. It was consigned to Theodore Cardinal Innitzer, Archbishop of Vienna, in response to urgent appeals to Pope Pius XII for starving war victims in the Vienna archdiocese.

Coptic Diocese Has 11 Parish, 24 Schools

Rome — (NC) — News received here from Cairo of the death of Bishop George Baraka calls attention to the unusual Coptic Rite Diocese of Minieh in Upper Egypt which the Bishop headed. Although this diocese has only eleven parishes it contains 24 schools and colleges.

There are about 10,000 Coptic Catholics in the Minieh diocese, acting under the jurisdiction of the Rite Patriarch of

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