

Vatican Studies Yugoslav Outbreak

Vatican City — (NC) — The Vatican still awaits an official report on the mob violence near Trieste that resulted in the death of a priest and serious injury to another. Meanwhile, the following chronology of events before and after appeared from press reports reaching here:

1. After a mob attack on Bishop Antonio Santin of Trieste and Capodistria last June, the Holy See at Bishop Santin's request granted Mgr. Jakob Ukmir, a Yugoslav prelate, faculty to administer Confirmation in the Yugoslav zone of Venezia Giulia.

2. Monsignor Ukmir went to Istria August 17 to undertake his charge, confirming first at Pleso and then at two or three parishes daily for almost a week. The first anti-religious outbreak was at Antignana, where communist groups congregated with red flags at the church entrance and prevented the ceremony.

Trieste Chancery Bares Plot

(Continued from page 1)

3. At Pinguente on August 23, the situation was worse. While Monsignor Ukmir was preparing for Mass, communist fanatics broke into the crowded church and yelling "Out with fascists!" began a "hula" dance with loud derisive laughter and rhythmic handclapping, and threw tomatoes and rotten eggs at the main altar. Amid this hoodlumism, the faithful, seeking to bring an end to the disgraceful scene, left the church.

4. The pastor at Pinguente, Father Stefanich, intervened unavailingly with the commander of the guards stationed in the square before the church. He was told "Our orders forbid us to enter the church." Outside the church the reaction of the people was immediate and there was fighting and stone-throwing as the demonstrators left to return home. One Isidoro Jurinel, described as a well known member of disorder, was among several members of the sacrilegious band who were definitely identified.

5. The barbarian already witnessed did not discourage the prelate from completing his mission and in the early morning hours of August 24 he went with Father Stanich to Lantisch, where the final outrage left Monsignor Ukmir hospitalized with concussion and wounds and his priest companion dead.

6. Hospital authorities at Fiume, where Yugoslav authorities insisted the prelate be taken, gave out a report that an anonymous priest, visiting Monsignor Ukmir, was told by him in a "loud interval" that the attackers were not communists and were not armed with sticks or knives but with sticks.

7. Observers Roman comments that (1) all reports from the scene are to the contrary, and (2) the reason for the hurried segregation of the prelate at Fiume instead of Trieste is now evident.

8. With 300 wounded as a result of the melee, and with an eyewitness describing the armed attack and naming the assassins, arrests were made not of the assailants but of those defending the church, including children. President Bakarich "explained" why Monsignor Ukmir was not permitted to be taken in an ambulance to Trieste by announcing he had been "arrested with the other participants and organizers" of the violence.

9. What is true, on the other hand, is that in a meeting of "Activists" it was decided not to permit the administration of the Sacrament of Confirmation. This decision was carried out in the churches at Antignana and Pinguente, where scenes of unqualified violence and sacrilege were carried out and where the requested intervention of the police was not forthcoming.

10. When, therefore, at Lantisch, groups of "Activists" began to approach the church, the faithful, already aware of what had happened at Antignana and Pinguente, decided to defend their church and their children who were about to be confirmed. They closed the church doors and placed themselves in an attitude of defense before the doors. The aggressors began first to throw stones and to strike with sticks. Among the defenders, about 20 were wounded.

11. When the police arrived, the commander ordered those present to go home immediately. The defenders complied with the order, but the "Activists" were able to gather and to consummate their crime.

12. "Now instead of arresting the assassins, priests and people who were victims have been arrested. This is the tragic truth, known by all people, and no declaration by Mr. Bakarich will ever change it."

13. Regarding the selection of Monsignor Ukmir as prelate for the administration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, the chancery statement said: "Since, for several years, the Sacrament of Confirmation had not been administered, it was proposed to the Holy Father that the faculty to administer the Sacrament be granted to a Slovene prelate, who was of a gentle nature, esteemed by the Yugoslav population and who had suffered under fascism. These qualities gave assurance of the peaceful fulfillment of the pastoral ministry in question, namely the administration of a Sacrament."

14. The Trieste Area Council declared in its resolution that the happenings at Lantisch had made manifest the lack of respect for fundamental civil, moral and religious liberties in Zone B and the incapacity of the (Yugoslav) administrative authorities in that zone to maintain public order and to protect those basic liberties.

15. "Above all ideological differences," the Council declared, "the corpse of Father Bulesich and the butchered body of Monsignor Ukmir bear testimony to the blind intolerance of their persecutors and to the grave responsibility of those who were not capable of preventing this crime. The Council said this inability."

POPE LIGHTS AID TO MARINERS



At his summer residence at Castelgandolfo, south of Rome, His Holiness Pope Pius XII threw a switch which lighted up a beacon atop a 200-foot column at the entrance to the port of Messina, Sicily. The beacon is attached to a statue of the Blessed Virgin, which stands atop a six-foot globe, which surmounts the tall column. The light is a guide to sailors navigating the turbulent waters of the Straits of Messina, whose shipwrecks and rock are the Scylla and Charybdis of antiquity. (International News Photo)

Court Gets New Bus Case

Washington — The Supreme Court has been asked to rule that a public school board may pay for transportation of pupils to Catholic parochial schools.

The Court decided last February that public funds raised by taxation may be used for that purpose. But it did not rule whether a school board could refuse legally to approve such expenditures.

Now the tribunal is asked to do so in an appeal by Paul Connell, whose 10-year-old daughter attends St. Patrick's School in Kennett Square, Pa., near Philadelphia. Mr. Connell said the township school board provides free bus service for pupils attending parochial schools, but refused to transport his daughter to the parochial school.

The board contended that using public funds for that purpose would violate the Pennsylvania constitutional provision that "no money raised for support of the public schools shall be used for support for any sectarian school."

The Supreme Court in the Key State upheld the school board. In appealing to the United States Supreme Court, Mr. Connell said rights guaranteed by the Federal Constitution, including the right of freedom of religion and the right to equal protection of law, were denied to him.

The high court's ruling last February threw out objections by a New Jersey taxpayer to payments by Ewing Township for transporting children to parochial schools in Trenton. Such payments were authorized by a 1941 act of the New Jersey Legislature.

Yugoslav authorities to preserve public order was admitted by Croatian President Bakarich who said in an interview that (Yugoslav) authorities in Istria "were not able to anticipate in time what was about to happen."

The Council also protested against the "abusive act" of not permitting an Italian Red Cross ambulance to transport the seriously wounded Monsignor Ukmir to Trieste.

The resolution concluded by paying a moving tribute to the memory of a priest "who had fallen victim to blind, uncivilized fury" and expressing hope for the recovery of Monsignor Ukmir. The Council declared it is its duty to call to the attention of the American Military Government that it inform the United Nations of the incapacity of Yugoslav authorities to maintain order in Zone B of Venezia Giulia.

Yugoslavian Whitewash Hit

Milwaukee, Wis. — (RNS) — The Living Church, Protestant Episcopal weekly published here, described the report made by seven ministers who recently investigated religious conditions in Yugoslavia as "paraphernalia and superficial" and a "disappointment."

In an editorial, the publication asserted that the clergyman headed by Dr. Guy Emery Shipley, editor of The Churchman, law in Yugoslavia "only they themselves wanted to see."

"Many Americans still wonder," the editorial added, "whether Archbishop Stepinac was really guilty of collaboration with the Nazis or not. The enthusiastic whitewash of Tito and all his works provided by the seven travelers disqualifies them as impartial judges of this, as well as other questions on which they speak with assurance after only two weeks in a strange country."

"Did the seven Americans penetrate the geographical iron curtain only to be blocked by another iron curtain in their own minds?" The Living Church asked.

British Launch Goes To Nigeria Missions

Belfast. — (RNS) — Originally a Royal Air Force rescue launch and now renovated and adapted for service in Africa, a river vessel has been shipped from here to Nigeria for use by the Society of the African Missions, a Roman Catholic missionary order.

Purchased by the Very Rev. John J. Healy, R.M.A., the vessel was overhauled by the famous shipbuilding firm of Harland and Wolff. New engines were installed and the hull treated with muntz metal to withstand the notorious Toledo worm of the River Niger.

"For many years," Father Healy declared, "we have talked of such a vessel as this to help us in our work on the Niger, and now at last our dream has been realized. Now we shall have a vessel that will enable us to spread the faith in dark Nigeria, unhampered by the obstacles which have faced us for so long in the creeks of the Niger delta because only native craft was available."

Protestant Book Tells Of Persecution by Tito

New York — (NC) — Religious persecutions in Yugoslavia, the close political association of the Russian Orthodox Church with the Soviet Government, the movement among Protestant churches for world cooperation, and the present status of Protestant Christians generally are topics discussed in "Christianity Today: A Survey of the State of the Church," recently published under the auspices of the American Committee for the World Council of Churches.

Dr. Walter M. Horton, Fairchild professor of theology at the Oberlin Graduate School of Theology, like other contributors, sees the rising tide of secularism in the United States as the great danger confronting Christian life.

"Not the threat from our Protestant liberties from Catholicism or Communism, whose hostility to our principles is real enough," he writes, "but the threat from a gradually secularized culture, which we have opposed under our dominating influence, which instead was steadily moving toward the point where it would begin to serve other gods and defy the God of our fathers—that was and is the great danger."

"No Church Immune"

Of Yugoslavia under the Tito regime, Dr. J. Shokolevich, dean of the Serbian Orthodox Church of St. Sava, New York, notes that while some of the churches have come out of the chaos intact and are today open to the faithful, who flock to them in great numbers, still religion is persecuted on every hand, the intention of the authorities being evidently "to eradicate religion among the Serbian people."

"No church is immune to attacks from within," he writes. "No peace is assured even during the services. For on many occasions and in many places these irresponsible persons evidently protected by the authorities, come into churches during the hour of worship and create most unbecoming scenes, yelling 'Down with religion. Down with human opium. Long live Tito! Death to Fascism!'"

Children are denied any and all religious training, the author writes, and "are very carefully and very efficiently indoctrinated with most loathsome ideas of communist atheism."

A similar situation exists in Albania, the author writes, every obstacle being placed in the way even of attendance at church services. In Romania, on the other hand, the author finds that "the Russians do not interfere in religious matters."

Religion Under Censorship

The Christian churches in the Baltic countries annexed by Soviet Russia are discussed by Sven Danell, director of Ersta Deaconess House in Stockholm, who writes that while the earlier persecutions resulting in many deaths and deportations do not seem to have been resumed, yet religion is subject to rigorous censorship and limitations.

"The work of the Roman Catholic Church among its members of Baltic nationality is of a more purposeful nature," he writes. "Its clergy are to be found, to a considerable number, among the Lithuanians as well as the Latvians. As soon as the first Lithuanian refugees had arrived in Sweden, a Lithuanian Roman Catholic priest was given opportunity to devote himself entirely to clerical work among them. The Vatican, having consistently refused to approve the annexation by Soviet Russia of the Baltic states, has appointed a legate, Professor P. Surin, for Estonians and Latvians living as exiles in Austria and Germany."

N. S. Timasheff, professor at Fordham University, writing on the situation in Russia, notes the

IN ROBES OF OFFICE



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Police in Hungary Ban Use of Cross

Budapest. — (NC) — The Communist government of Hungary has ordered the ban of the use of the cross in all public places, including churches, and the use of the cross in the home is also forbidden.

Another victim of the campaign of anti-religious violence along the Italian-Yugoslav border was a father, Kristian, in the parish of Gellase in the Trieste diocese, whose mutilated body was found in a woods after he had been missing for about a week. The police were believed to have been looking for him since he had been reported missing in an earlier report of his death.

In discussing the Lantisch attack, Communist Rome observes that not even the controlling of the administration of the Sacrament to Yugoslav priests, "a practice prohibited by Church authorities, was necessary by means of light and sound," was mentioned in protesting "what offense is so much a right and so fundamental a liberty."

"Therefore, not political motives nor party divisions, but a genuine desire to protect religious and the Catholic Church against the violence of the Yugoslav State."

The Vatican again noted that the Lantisch incident was a gift and a huge scandal to the Holy See. Archbishop Stepinac, writing at it did almost at the same time he had been in the world the outcome of religious liberty in Yugoslavia.

Marriage: Berlin Fined

Chicago. — (NC) — The local court has fined a man a \$100 fine for "obscene" behavior, "It Was Mary," by Hermann Arnold Mack, and one for "obscene" behavior, "I'll Not Wait for the Married," by Dorothy Frances Grant, are separate editions of the Thomas Mearns Book Co.

Spiritual View on Russia Urged by Msgr. Sheen

Denver. — (RNS) — Russia must be thought of in terms of "God, morality, and clarity," and as a warning to Western nations which have forgotten God, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen, of the Catholic University of America, declared here. He spoke at a public meeting sponsored by the Catholic Biblical Association of America as a feature of its two-day annual convention.

"We have enemies to fear from without, but the greatest enemies are within, especially forgetfulness of God and His moral law," the noted Catholic orator told an audience of 7,000 persons.

Commented from West

"If God could use Assyria as the rod and staff of His anger to punish His Chosen People who had forgotten Him, could not Russia today be the rod and staff of His anger to punish the Western Nations who have forgotten Him?" He asked, asserting that "every single idea that enters into Communism was born in the Western

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