

Facts Revealed In Murder Of Chinese Priest

St. Louis, Mo., (AP) — Complete details of the murder of the Rev. Alois Liang, a Chinese priest, have been revealed in a new book, "The Murder of a Priest," by the author, Father Liang, after being released in various editions and killed by the Reds on April 24 at Shanghai, a little village in the Yangtze valley.

The young Chinese priest, who was only 29 at the time of his death, had ministered to the Chinese in the Red-occupied territory a little less than a year at the time of his tragic end. He accepted the persecution of the Chinese authorities and the Chinese Red in May 1946 to enter the then communist capital.

From the time of his arrival the priest was under constant surveillance. The Catholic community had dwindled to a small group and the Church was being used as a granary and other buildings belonging to the mission had been converted into schools for children. Father Liang was allowed to have two rooms. He lived in one of them and made the other into a meeting place for Christians. Soon this community took over the little bit of land upon which he lived and he found himself without material means.

During the time a criminal he was known before a "people's court" and ordered to give the land that the mission still claimed to the "poor." Father Liang remained that his only hope was that the judges would also die equally among the poor like the other property taken from the mission. For this reason he was so ill treated that he almost died.

Several months later the communists claimed that they had information that the missionaries were their departure from the mission two years ago had hidden some arms and Father Liang was again summoned before the court to "confess" where the arms were hidden. Though defended by Catholics and non-Catholics, he was subjected to other physical violence to make him "confess."

His execution was brought about by a "people's court" a third time and occurred on the "eve" of October 24, the day of the Chinese Government troops were approaching the town the priest was questioned once more and ordered to "confess" the location of the arms. He replied: "Not only am I a Catholic, but I am also a priest. Even if you cut off my head I shall always be a Catholic and a priest." The day he was beheaded with a knife.

When the progress of government troops toward the communists in the Yangtze valley was slow, the communists were afraid of the revenge that might be wrought on the Christians. While returning his captives placed the priest, who was burning with fever, in a hut in Shanghai. He was unable to continue the search. Later they returned to the priest and killed him, the priest was with him with him as a member of the Nationalist party.

St. Louis, Mo., (AP) — The author of three books and two more, F. E. Schaeffer, who has been a resident of this city for 25 years and who has given himself to religious and spiritual writing, has been honored by the National Book Club with the award of the National Book Award.

The award was presented upon him at his home by the National Book Club of Rochester in the presence of his wife and daughter who are in religious life.

Woody Herman Wed by Priest

Los Angeles, (AP) — When Woody Herman, 37, was newly married, Father Daniel Moran, 60, of Milwaukee, was in his way to Los Angeles to see his son, who was in the U. S. Navy. He was in the U. S. Navy. He was in the U. S. Navy.

Woody and Father Moran were, beyond pale, back in Milwaukee. The two had a long talk and engaged in another friendly. Then Father Moran decided to enter the priesthood and Woody Herman went on to become one of the nation's top band leaders.

Two years ago Woody married Carol Lee, a talented radio star. Miss Lee was not a Catholic and the ceremony was performed by a justice of the peace.

On his way to China, Father Herman stopped off in Hollywood to see his boyhood friend. Then, under a suggestion from the Archbishop of Los Angeles, Father Herman remarried the couple in a Catholic wedding ceremony. Father Moran performed.

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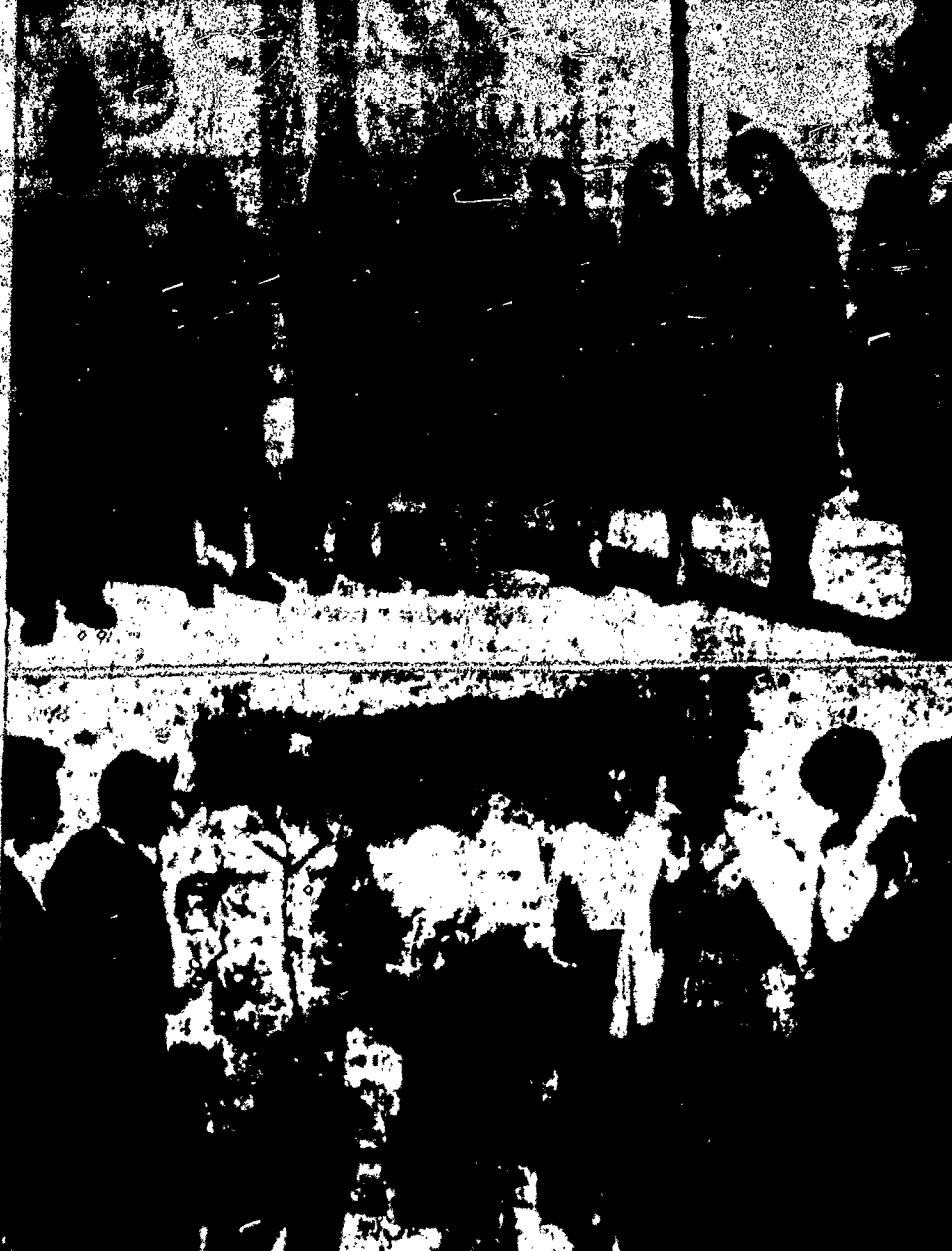
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Papal Audience for NCCW Leaders



Delegates from the United States to the International Union of Catholic Women's Leagues Congress in Rome are pictured (upper photo) with the Vatican Guard following their reception by Pope Pius XII. Left to right are Mrs. Thomas J. Smith, Newark; Mrs. P. J. Currier, Detroit; Mrs. Henry Mann, Brooklyn, president; Mrs. Joseph Bolfin, Clarksville, Tenn.; Miss Margaret Hughes, Springfield, Ill.; Miss Ruth Craven, executive secretary, all officers of the National Council of Catholic Women. Also pictured (lower photo) at the ruins of the bombed Monte Cassino Abbey, they are shown with Sign. Andrew Land, Brooklyn (third from left), delegate in Italy for War Relief Services (NCCW); Miss Ellen Egan, of WWS; Mrs. Bolfin; Princess Gabriella Pacelli, Miss Craven and Mrs. Smith. (NY Photos)

Relief Aide Finds France Facing Winter of Famine

The author of the following story is project supervisor of War Relief Services—National Catholic Welfare Conference. She went to Europe to attend sessions of the International Union of Catholic Women's Leagues in Rome and was received by the Holy Father. She stopped off in France on her way to Italy and here-with records her impressions.

Paris, (NY) — Blackest, pestilential is the order of the day in France. The anticipated privations of the coming winter strike terror in the heart of every Frenchman. Even Premier Paul Bonal anticipates a famine for France this winter. Greatest heart-crusher for the nation has been the drought of the last six months. There is not enough feed to keep heads of cattle alive and farmers are selling their cattle before they die of starvation. The drought has dried up the wheat and destroyed chances for a sufficient bread supply for the coming winter. The government of France is almost bankrupt and can't get together enough money to buy the necessary wheat.

Ration coupons for various basic foodstuffs often are meaningless. Folks have the coupons but the articles they call for just can't be found. A Parisian is lucky if he has meat once a week. The price system in France is completely disorganized. All ra-

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Benedictines Elect New Abbot General

Rome — (RNS) — The St. Benedictine Order, Roman Catholic religious congregation founded more than 14 centuries ago, at a meeting of the General Chapter held at the Benedictine Abbey of Monte Cassino, elected a new abbot general from all parts of the world.

Exceptional interest centered in the election because of the role which the order, founded by St. Benedict, is expected to play in the conversion of Russia to Roman Catholicism as well as its own work in the United States.

Both Pope Pius XI and Pope Pius XII have designated the Benedictines as highly suitable for this work because of the affinity between the Benedictine spirit and the Russian communist plative temperament.

ABBOT GENERAL Kohn, 66, was elected Dom Fidelius von Stollberg, who died last January. He entered the Benedictine order in 1909, was ordained in 1912, and in 1945 was elected abbot of the Benedictine monastery of Marienberg, on the outskirts of Bolzano, in the South Tyrol.

The office of abbot general was established in 1593, the first holder being Dom Hilbrand of Hampten, and the second, Dom Fidelius, who was elected in 1913 and re-elected in 1925 and 1937.

Seventy years ago, the Benedictine order counted only about 2,000 so-called Black Benedictines, the latter divided among the Olivetans, Trappists and others.

FOLLOWING HIS election, Abbot General Kohn assisted at a solemn Mass in St. Paul's Basilica celebrated by Monsignor Cardinal Schuster, Benedictine Archbishop of Milan, during which a sermon was preached in Latin stressing the special duties and responsibilities of the order.

These obligations, the preacher declared, include the conversion of the peoples of Eastern Europe and of the Oriental countries, and the preservation of the Benedictine monasteries special character as "fortresses cut off from the rest of the world, which will once again, as in medieval times, be an oasis for war-torn peoples."

Liverpool Archbishop Bishop of Liverpool, who was formerly its president.

IN GIVING his impression of the Church in the U. S., Cardinal Guevara said that it was particularly noteworthy to him that despite the fact that the Church is a minority it is gaining prestige and respect and is re-

Vigor of U.S. Church Strikes Cardinals

Buffalo — (NY) — The dominant impression of three foreign Princes of the Church on their first visit to the United States is one of the grandeur of the nation and of the vigor and vitality of the Church.

The visiting prelates, Their Eminences Carlo Carmelo Cardinal de Vasconcellos Motta, Archbishop of Sao Paulo, Brazil; Norman Cardinal Gilroy, Archbishop of Sydney, Australia; and Juan Guiberto Cardinal Guvava, Archbishop of Lima, Peru, spoke of these impressions in later views here during the Buffalo Centennial Congress in which they participated.

In separate interviews Cardinals Motta and Guvava used the identical word to describe their impression of the United States "grandeur." Both Cardinals also declared that the greatest problem for the Church in their respective countries is a dire lack of priests. Cardinal Gilroy considered the threads of Communism the Church's foremost problem in Australia.

ENLARGING on what he termed "the spiritual grandeur" of the Church in the United States, Cardinal Motta said that it was especially evident in the great number and excellent training of the U. S. clergy and seminarians.

Another favorable impression of the Church in the U. S., he said, is the fact that so many of its laity have a sound university education.

In pointing out the serious lack of priests in Brazil, as demonstrated by the fact that for a population of 44,000,000 as Catholics there are only 4,000 native clergy, Cardinal Motta expressed the hope that the U. S. might supply additional priests until his country had had an opportunity to build up a more adequate number.

Cardinal Motta, who has a special interest in providing facilities for higher Catholic education among the laity, recently established the Catholic University of Sao Paulo, which has been accredited by the Government and recognized as a pontifical institute by the Holy See. With a view to studying U. S. educational methods and administration he will visit the Catholic University of America and the University of Notre Dame.

The latter in the company of Bishop O'Hara, who was formerly its president.

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Ex-Cop Becomes Police Chaplain

Jefferson, Mass. — (RNS) — When the chaplain of the Massachusetts Police Association asks a blessing upon his associates who pound the beats, he does so with a significant feeling—for the priest who holds that office himself walked a beat and challenged gunmen.

For 10 years the Rev. Michael J. Ryan, curate of St. Mary's church here, and chaplain of the state body of policemen, was a member of the Worcester Police Department.

Cardinal Guevara said that it is a consolation for a visitor from abroad to see the vigor of the Church in the United States, and the close cooperation between its Bishops, priests and clergy.

A great number of Australian Catholics enter into the field of politics and are notably prominent in the Labor Party now in power. His Eminence said, explaining that they enter politics because they have difficulty in getting into the fields of finance, insurance, or commerce.

Questioned on his Government's policy of urging ex-GIs to immigrate to Australia, he stated that there are great opportunities for those who wish to do farming, but added that the cities are overcrowded.

Holy Name Broadcast Boston — (NY) — An address broadcast nationally on the Columbia Broadcasting System's "Church of the Air" program by Bishop Leo Binz, Coadjutor of Winona, Minn., will be a part of the Holy Name Society's fourth national convention. The broadcast will be heard at 10:30 a. m. E.S.T. on Sunday, October 5.

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