

# U. S. Medical Expedition Wins Good Will in Sudan

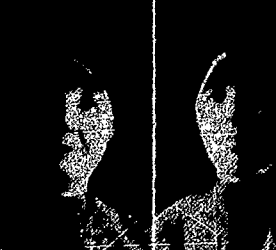
By THE REV. GORDON FOURNIER, M.D.  
 Khartoum, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan. — (AP) — After a trying month's journey from Cairo through the Libyan and Sudan deserts the American scientific expedition has safely arrived at Khartoum, capital of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan.

The medical expedition, the first of its kind from the United States to create good will toward America wherever it goes, has been successful in its mission to stop extensive malaria work was done at Wadi Halfa, on the Egyptian-Sudanese border, and at Abu-Hamed, through medical care of the native Moslems.

Malaria, which is a serious disease in the Sudan, is the most common disease treated by the American medical men.

At Wadi Halfa, I came across a Syrian Christian community of 50, a tiny minority lost in a huge population of Moslems. They had not had Mass for ten months. Members of the expedition, headed by Commander Ambrosio, a Southern who leads the medical party, joined the Syrian Christians when I offered Mass for them.

## 2 Nuns Home



Visiting their families in the Rochester Diocese are these two Maryknoll Sisters who will sail for Pacific Island missions May 21. Sister Maria Nikolai Whalen (left), now visiting her sister, Miss Mary F. Whalen, 481 Lexington, Rochester, has been assigned to Hawaii where her order has charge of Catholic Social Service work. Sister Camille Marie Black (right), now at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Duncan Black, 22 Pine St., Denerville, is bound for the Philippines where she will be one of a group of Maryknoll Sisters to open a new hospital in Manila, Occidental Negros. Both Sisters are trained nurses.

## Prelate Hits UMT Proposal

Trenton, N. J. — (NC) — The "common sense of the American people" is "unalterably opposed to universal military training" and has prevented its enactment into law, Bishop William A. Griffin of Trenton stated in a message to the 700 delegates at the annual Trenton Diocesan Union of Holy Name Societies convention here in Cathedral Auditorium.

The Bishop was unable to attend the convention and his message was read by John A. Rafferty of New Brunswick, N.J. The Bishop asserted that 1948 already has proven a "year of decision." He asserted that "so-called statesmen, including our own American representatives," cannot absolve themselves "from the grievous guilt in the betrayal of Quoniam at Teheran, Yalta and Potsdam."

In opposing universal military training, Bishop Griffin said, "the American people know that they are following the course of wisdom, of peace and of liberty; they want no part in the mediocrity of a discredited European militarism."

## Marks 50th Year of Cuban Freedom



Very Rev. Ignatius Smith, O.P., dean of the School of Philosophy at Catholic University of America pronounces the Benediction at a joint session of the United States Congress, held to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Cuba from Spain. President Harry S. Truman (center) addresses the gathering and Ambassador of Cuba, Guillermo Bell (left) responded. In the background are Speaker of the House Joseph W. Martin and President Pro Tempore of the Senate Arthur Vandenberg. Photo by Ben. (NC Photos).

## EMPLOYERS GROUP URGED

London — (RNS) — Bernard Cardinal Griffin, Archbishop of Westminster, has proposed the formation of an Association of Catholic Employers, to be modeled after the Associations of Catholic Trade Unionists now functioning in England, Scotland and Wales.

The cardinal's proposal was contained in a letter sent to the clergy of the Westminster archdiocese instructing them to call meeting of Catholic employers in their parishes.

Each of the parish meetings, according to Cardinal Griffin's proposal, will appoint an official delegate to a conference in Westminster Cathedral Hall on June 10 to consider launching of the employers' association.

## Prelate Denies Political 'Orders'

Prague — (RNS) — The Catholic Archbishop Joseph Beran of Prague officially denied reports in the Czech press that he has given instructions to priests under his jurisdiction to join certain political parties.

"I have given instructions to no one," he said, "about priests joining any political party whatsoever. We have enough to do in providing religious instruction for the people. We are not strong in numbers, and it is in this domain that we can be most useful and best serve the State and the people."

## Martyrdom of China Missionary Parallels Passion of Christ

Feiping — (NC) — The story of the trial and death of the Rev. Leonides Bruns, O.F.M., 35-year-old Dutch Franciscan missionary who was killed by Chinese Communists, suggests a remarkable parallel with the Gospel narrative of Christ's passion.

Father Bruns was put to death by the Communists at Henshulchen, in southeastern Shanai province, on October 25, 1947.

The stages of the priest's martyrdom, who took all blame for his house boy, cheerfully ate breakfast knowing he was to die, answered accusations by telling the Reds to ask the people among whom he had worked, was struck by Reds in return, was stripped of his garments, commended his soul to God as he fell from blows and was buried wrapped in a blanket, could be described in texts from Scripture:

"Let these go their way . . . the Last Supper . . . I have spoken openly . . . A servant struck him . . . They divided his garments . . . Into thy hands commend my spirit . . . and they wrapped him in a linen cloth."

FATHER BRUNS, arrested on October 14, pleaded with success for the release of his houseboy, taken prisoner at the same time. "If you have anything against the mission, I should like to blame," he said. "This boy is not responsible, and should be set free."

Released, the boy was allowed for the next ten days to bring Father Bruns two meals daily. On the morning of October 25, Father Bruns remarked with a smile that he hoped the meal would be a good one. "This will be the last time," he said. "After this I'll have no more meals in this world." Accustomed to the priest's good humor, the boy thought he was jesting, and asked: "What do you mean?" "I'm not joking," replied the

young Franciscan. "Last night the officials held a meeting. Through the thin walls I could hear all they said. They decided to kill me today." Father Bruns then ate his breakfast, cheerfully and heartily.

TOWARD NOON the Communists summoned the people of the suburb to the market place. The Red leaders placed Father Bruns on a platform and asked: "Why did you come here?" He replied that he had come to teach the true religion to the people, so that they might know the true God and learn to live better lives.

Accused of having come for a sinister purpose, Father Bruns denied the charge: "Ask the people what I have said and done. I have been here all year long."

Resolutely refusing to confess any offense against the people, Father Bruns was knocked from the platform. Red officials stripped him of his religious habit. Father Bruns began to take off his shoes and socks. "That is not necessary," said the Reds. "Yes, I want them off," the priest replied. "I want to die just as poor as my Lord was in His death."

The Communists called on bystanders to beat the priest with sticks. He knelt upright under the first rain of blows on his head. The second series knocked him unconscious. Just before he fell, he called out, "My Lord, quickly, quickly take my soul to You."

The Communists thought that he was dead or dying, so they turned to the "trial" of six other prisoners. After these were disposed of, it was found that the prostrate priest still breathed. He was then killed with a bayonet, and his head was cut off.

That same evening Father Bruns' houseboy undertook to bury the missionary. Few even of Father Bruns' friends, dared to help him. The boy went to

## Pope Voices Concern Over Greek Children

Rome — (RNS) — Concerning the fate of Greek children reportedly being evacuated from their homes to Communist indoctrination centers in Yugoslavia, Pope Pius XII at a special audience to a party of Greek editors and journalists.

Pope gave his blessing to their families. He praised the heroism being shown by the Greek people "despite the suffering and pain they have endured since 1940."

## Taylor Sees Pope

Rome — (RNS) — Myron C. Taylor, President Truman's personal envoy at the Vatican, had his third audience with Pope Pius XII since his recent arrival in Rome. Itals believed the American representative discussed the results of the Italian election.

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Arabian Catholics Pray for Jerusalem  
 Jerusalem. — (NC) — During the Solemn Tridium for peace in the Holy Land, the large St. Saviour's parish church was crowded with Arab Catholics who had come to pray for "Jerusalem and the things that are for her peace." To one accustomed to services in America or Europe, the sermon in Arabic and the various prayers and hymns in that language sounded a strange note, but there were the same Tantum Ergo and the same Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at which Catholics bow their heads the world over.

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