

Power Can Avert Red War—Dr. Walsh

Washington (NC) — One of the greatest opportunities for the Christian religion since the time of Constantine exists now in Japan, declared the Rev. Dr. Edmund A. Walsh, S. J., on his return from a five-month survey of religious and educational institutions in that country.

The Georgetown University vice president reiterated the conclusion arrived at by other American churchmen who have visited Japan since the war: that the Japanese people lost in the recent conflict not only their empire but also their confidence in Buddhism and Shintolism, and are ready now to follow Christ, if someone will show them the way.

Father Walsh returned from the Far East by way of Europe and was in Italy during the election period. He termed the election "the greatest debate of modern times held in a forum where so much history has been decided," and said the basic issue was "America versus Soviet Russia, the Marshall Plan or surrender to the totalitarianism and atheism of Moscow."

He said that the Christian Democratic victory was "proof of what can be done by taking the initiative and meeting the communists on their own ground." But he warned that Soviet pressure "will undoubtedly be continued, not necessarily by exercise of outright military power but by the economic maneuvers which succeeded so smoothly in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria."

"I do not believe their objective is immediate war," he said, "as Moscow is too realistic to court open armed conflict with the power of America until the Soviet Union is in possession of a supply of atomic bombs — or something worse. The risk involved in a premature attack would be enormous and a miscalculation could be fatal."

Father Walsh said "I believe war can be averted by a restrained and reasonable use of the one argument Soviet Russia respects — power." But he added that he feels the two systems dominant in the world today, capitalism and communism are "irreconcilable" and that the best condition to be expected in the world in the foreseeable future is an armed truce.

He criticized those who call for "more conferences with Stalin" as showing an "amazing lack of realism."

THE GEORGETOWN official, founder and regent of the university's School of Foreign Service, said that recent events have convinced him that Russia is making use of some of the Haushofer-trained, Nazi geopoliticians who developed Hitler's plans for expansion. He declared also Russia will probably use a force of 225,000 Nazi SS troops, swallowed into the Soviet land after Stalingrad, as an "invincible" army in Germany.

In analyzing the Italian election, Father Walsh emphasized that it was American intervention which was the overall reason for the outcome, but pointed to three immediate factors which helped turn the tide:

- 1) The "brilliant political stroke" of the offer of the return of Trieste;
- 2) The attitude of the Pope, who did not attempt to dictate the vote but stressed the duty of all to vote according to the dictates of conscience;
- 3) The "revival of a virile and practical Christian consciousness among the people of northern

Federal Aid Ban to Private Schools Hit

Washington (NC) — Gradual weakening and finally the extinction of most of the privately controlled institutions of higher learning in the United States, if federal aid is granted to publicly controlled education and withheld from privately controlled colleges and universities, is foreseen in a report of a special committee of the Commission of Christian Higher Education of the Association of American Colleges.

Presented by the Rev. William J. Miller, S. J., president of the University of Detroit, as chairman of the committee, the report deals with proposals of the President's Commission on Higher Education. It views with "deep concern" the proposal to exclude privately controlled institutions of higher learning from federal benefits, declaring that the result of this would be "complete secularization and federal control of American higher education."

THE ASSOCIATION of American Colleges has a membership of 635 institutions of higher education in the United States, all of which participate in the program of the Commission on Christian Higher Education, as well as 88 church-related colleges which are not members of the Association.

Father Miller states that the committee "is in entire agreement with the 'Statement of Dissent' of two members of the President's Commission which contends that 'Service to the Public' rather than public control should be the principal criterion of a school's eligibility to receive public funds."

This is a reference to the statement by Magr. Frederick G. Hochwalt, director of the N. C. W. C. Department of Education, and Dr. Martin R. P. McGuire of the Catholic University of America, members of the President's Commission, who dissented from the proposal to exclude private institutions of higher learning from the Commission's recommendation for federal aid.

IN STRIFE-TORN HOLY LAND



The May Encyclical of Pope Plus XII urges the faithful throughout the world to pray for peace, and particularly for an end to the strife in the Holy Land. In these pictures from Jerusalem, the Papal Nuncio is escorted by an unofficial escort of Armed Arab soldiers who have taken over the escort-of-honor duties from the British. They are present at all processions, along with "Kawasses" of the various Consuls. (NC Photos)

Famed Shrines Imperiled By Jewish-Arab Conflict

Washington (NC) — The most sacred ground in Christendom — Christ's birthplace, the site of the Sermon on the Mount, the place of the Last Supper and the Pentecostal appearance, the route along which the Savior bore His Cross, the hill of Calvary on which He died, the site of the Ascension — will be particularly vulnerable to the bombs, shells and rifle fire of Jews and Arabs when the British remove their restraining hand in seething Palestine on May 15.

This was made clear here by two men whose views on the relation of the Holy Land shrines to possible points of military conflict deserve respect: The Rev. Francis W. Anderson, S. J., veteran of a dozen years at Vatican diplomatic posts in Jerusalem, Transjordan and Cairo, and Brother Benedict Simon, O.F.M., who has served a quarter century in Palestine and left Tiberias less than two months ago.

Father Anderson is now stationed at Georgetown University. Brother Benedict is at the Franciscan Commissariat of the Holy Land.

They listed the following holy places which stand in jeopardy if major military action ensues. Some have already suffered in the pre-deadline warfare.

- (1) MT. CALVARY, on which stands the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. This edifice, shared by Catholics and Greek and Armenian Orthodox Christians, also encompasses the Tomb of Christ, scene of the Resurrection.
- (2) THE VIA DOLOROSA, the original Way of the Cross. The route from Gethsemane to Calvary lies within the Walled City and is dotted with wayside chapels to mark the various stages of Christ's last journey.
- (3) MOUNT SION, scene of the Last Supper, the institution of the

Reds in Europe On the Run Official Says

New Orleans (NC) — Communism is on the decline in Europe, according to Dr. Richard Pattee, director of the Inter-American Bureau of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, who recently returned from an extended visit to that continent. He spoke here to students of Xavier University and Ursuline College.

Doctor Pattee said that European nations are making "a comeback little short of miraculous." He praised the Catholic party in power in the Netherlands and in Belgium, in which strides toward recovery are greatest. France, he said, is still having a difficult time because of a lack of economic balance, but there is an abundance of food for those who can afford it.

Communists in France, he said, have received a severe setback through their inability to paralyze the nation by strikes a few months ago, and membership in the Communist party dropped off, with many going over to Christian trade unions.

THE COMMUNISTS operate two papers in France, one for the workers and the other for the farmers. They tell the workers they must work hard to bring prices down; they tell the farmers they must keep prices up.

In Italy, Doctor Pattee told his audience, Communists circumvent the Church by stating that they have no quarrel with religion and urge people to attend religious services regularly.

At the Ursuline Forum he branded as "sheer nonsense" the contention that the regime in Spain is comparable to Germany under Hitler and Italy under Mussolini.

"There is no one in Spain, from Franco on down," he said, who even pretends that the present government is anything but a transitory force. He said that 1000 years from now, you don't hear of any scheme for succession. It is a misnomer to call the government totalitarian. We are extremely careless about these terms. Why, it is getting so that 'fascist' has become an epithet you apply to anyone you don't like."

72 Missioners Slain By Chinese Reds

Peiping (NC) — At least 72 priests and Religious have died at the hands of Chinese communists since July, 1946, according to a casualty list drawn up here from various sources.

While difficulties of communication in this war-torn country make it impossible to say with certainty that the list includes all missionaries killed by the Reds, it is believed to be fairly complete.

News of the deaths of the last of these victims of communist tyranny has just reached Peiping.

THE COMPILATION drawn up here lists four other priests as probably having died at the hands of the Reds, and shows that five more priests died in communist-held territory as the result of maltreatment, though responsibility cannot be traced directly to the communists.

Most of the priests and Religious killed by the Reds were Chinese. Other nationalities are five Frenchmen, three Germans, two Americans, two Austrians, two Belgians, two Dutchmen, and one Canadian. The American citizens killed were the Rev. James L. Devine, O. P., a native of Pittsburgh, and Brother Benedict Jensen, a Franciscan of the Santa Barbara, Calif., province.

A breakdown according to religious communities shows that the Trappists suffered most with a loss of 25 members from their now wrecked monastery at Yang Klaping. Franciscans lost three members, Immaculate Heart of Mary (Scheut) Fathers, three; Jesuits two, and the Society of the Divine Word and the Dominicans each lost one member.

THE LIST shows that 24 of the missionaries died in prison, 21 were shot, six were stoned; other deaths by being beaten, dragged, bayoneted or subjected to other tortures.

Two of the five latest victims are Sisters Anne Chang, 50, and Theresa Chao, 37, who conducted an orphanage for girls at Pailiantze. The Reds are said to have dragged the two Sisters over rough ground before killing them. The third nun, Sister Maria Liou, 38, died at Niutoukoumen, southwest of Chihfeng. The priests were the Rev. Paul Lu, 41, imprisoned for more than a year at Tuchuan, and Anthony Kao, who had been saying Mass and conferring the Sacraments at great risk in western Shansi province for the past two years. Details of their deaths are not fully known.

Churches Closed Movies Open

Frankfurt (NC) — Communist authorities of Erfurt, Thuringia, in the Soviet zone of occupation, insist that all divine services in that city remain suspended indefinitely, according to reports in the German press.

The ban had been originally imposed because of an epidemic of typhoid fever. However, this danger has now been eliminated and motion picture houses and night clubs were permitted to open again, but for churches the ban is being maintained.

"Maybe, the communists are afraid that religion is more contagious than typhoid fever," comments a local newspaper.

3 Priests Died In Bogota Riot

Bogota (NC) — At least three priests lost their lives, others were attacked and wounded by the mobs, and a number of nuns perished when their convents were destroyed by fire during the recent rioting that swept Bogota and other Colombian communities.

The priests killed were the Rev. Pedro Maria Ramirez, pastor of Armenia, the Rev. Miguel de Jesus Alzania, pastor of San Felipe, and an unidentified priest who lost his life at the hands of the mob in Alvarado.

A story of the heroic rescue of 32 nuns from the Convent of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception here is related by El Catolicismo, Catholic weekly.

The convent had been set on fire. The mob milled about and the Sisters had resigned themselves to die in the flames.

Dr. Jorge E. Rodriguez, who lived in the neighborhood, simulating drunkenness and brandishing a revolver, worked his way through the mob to the convent door burst it open and ordered the nuns out, acting as their protector as he escorted them through the mob to his own house.

In the fire at the La Salle Institute one of the students was burned to death.

Youth Rosary Start Told

Worcester, Mass (NC) — The Children's Rosary, whose directors, the Assumptionist Fathers in France, have asked the children in the United States to join French children during May in saying the Rosary for world peace, was founded provisionally in the village of Misery some 30 years ago by a young lay woman, Mile. de Latain Chomeil.

When Mademoiselle Chomeil, while praying before the Blessed Sacrament in the village church, observed a number of children who had stopped at the open doors of the church on their way home from school, she invited them in to say a Hail Mary. The response was such that she started the custom of having them come in each day after school to pray with her in the church.

Boston Archbishop Will 'Lend-Lease' Surplus Clergy

Boston (NC) — Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston, described in an address here to a "Lend-Lease" program through which he proposes to help supply understaffed areas of the nation with priests, from the surplus of young men in his archdiocese who are gifted with vocations to the priesthood.

He said that within a few weeks, more than 100 young men will seek to enroll in the seminary, but added that each year it takes but 30 newly ordained priests to supply the archdiocese, filling the places of priests who have died or become incapacitated.

"Can I say to these 100 or more boys," the Archbishop continued, "I only need 30 of you. It is too bad but there is no place for the rest of you. I would almost call that answer 'ecclesiastical birth control.' These boys of God must not be killed off if they have a vocation and a call. I will say to these boys: Come along, I am glad to have you. You have just as much right to wish to become a priest as I had to become a priest. The true picture is this, only about 30 of you fill the ranks here. All the others I will take on one condition — that they wish to be identified with my lend-lease program."

The plan will send out priests to the middle and far west and to the far south, for any part of the country where there is a shortage of priests. These newly ordained priests may go into any diocese where they are needed for three years, five years, or they may stay as long as they wish. But they will be priests in need of diocese. Anytime they are in need, if they will call on me I'll see their needs are supplied."

The Archbishop said he was seeking a site for the building of a large new preparatory seminary with accommodations for 300 students for the priesthood.

Redemptorists to Japan
Toronto, Ont. (NC) — Three members of the English province of the Redemptorist Order were feted a dedication and farewell ceremony held at St. Patrick's Church here on their pending departure for Japan, where they will found a new mission.

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