

# Jewish Action in Holy City Scored

Textual excerpts from a statement issued by the Christian Union in Palestine, charging Jewish forces with using Christian institutions in Jerusalem as military bases, have been received by the New York Times.

Jerusalem, June 10 (By Cable, NC) — The statement issued by the Christian Union in Palestine on the fighting in Jerusalem states in part:

"The Security Council of the United Nations and the consular Armistice Committee have given us hope that the Holy City and its historical landmarks would be spared the horrors of war and its consequences of destruction and ruin both religious and political. We have signed before the consular Armistice Committee and the representative of the International Red Cross an undertaking to cease fire for the duration of eight days from 8 p. m. on May 14, 1948.

"In compliance with this undertaking, the Arab command issued formal orders through loudspeakers to cease fire and complete peace prevailed in all Arab sectors. But the Jews took advantage of this opportunity and immediately occupied the main strategic points from which they tried to attack the Arabs and to launch their attack on the Holy City.

"We immediately informed the consular Armistice Committee and the representatives of the International Red Cross of this infringement of the agreement by the Jews.

"The reply received was that the Jewish Agency declared that the Stern gang, which is working separately, broke the cease-fire agreement and that the Jewish Agency had no control over this group.

"We then realized that the terrorists are controlling the Jewish movement. In consequence of which the International Red Cross and the Armistice Committee declared that it was beyond their power to enforce respect for the undertaking.

"In this way, the Holy City was turned into a battle field where severe fighting is taking place accompanied by destruction of its historic buildings. In consequence of this, religious and charitable institutions have become the target of mortar shells and bullets.

"Some of these buildings were destroyed and set on fire and many of the innocent civilians, comprising women, children, priests and nuns, were injured by the explosion of bombs.

# Cardinal Lauds Far East Work Of Missionaries

New York, June 14 (NC) — Brimming over with praise for the accomplishments and sacrifices of missionaries in the Far East, His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, arrived home Sunday night after a 41,000-mile, 50-day air voyage which took him to Australia, the Philippines, China and Japan.

The Cardinal told newsmen upon his arrival at La Guardia Field that "I was tired and fatigued when I went away," but that now "I feel fine."

Included in the party which arrived with the Cardinal were Magr. Thomas J. McMahon, national secretary of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association; Magr. Fulton J. Sheen of the Catholic University of America; Magr. Francis X. Shea of this city and the Rev. Lawrence Killian of Boston.

THE CARDINAL said he found Japan peaceful and orderly. He added "the men in charge are pleased with the low crime rate as compared with that of other places." He disclosed that during his stay in Japan, he had been the guest of Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

There is an increased interest in religion in the Orient, the Cardinal said, which "can be measured by the devotion of the missionaries and their sacrifices for their fellowman," he added: "I saw that all over."

"Every missionary is a hero in my opinion," the Cardinal continued. "Any man or woman who gives up what the United States offers its humblest citizens for the service of God is a hero. Soldiers give up much but it is only for the period of their enlistment. The missionaries give it up forever."

When asked whether he had observed evidence of religious persecution by communists in China, the Cardinal responded: "I saw refugees from communist trouble in China. I saw many priests who had been expelled from their missions and their missions burned. Poling was thronged with them when I was there a week ago."

The Cardinal said he believed the good example given by the United States soldiers had a definite influence in the Orient.

# Christ Statue Set For NCWC



This is the model for the statue which is to stand in front of the headquarters building of the National Catholic Welfare Conference in Washington, D. C. It is to be cast into a 17-foot bronze image, which is expected to be ready to be set in place early this fall, according to Bishop John F. Noll of Fort Wayne, chairman of a special committee of Bishops named to arrange for the statue. The white stone facade of the N.C.W.C. building rises 90 feet unbroken by a window. In the center, 20 feet across and rising the full height of the building, is a fluted niche in which the statue will be placed on a huge stone block. The niche and the whole building front blend with the statue to form a monument in the National Capital to "Christ, the Light of the World." (NC Photon.)

Washington (NC) — Work is well advanced on the statue of "Christ, the Light of the World" which is to adorn the pedestal in front of the headquarters building of the National Catholic Welfare Conference here, and the completed figure should be installed early this fall.

This announcement has been made by Bishop John F. Noll of Fort Wayne, chairman of a special committee of Bishops named to prosecute the work.

When the statue is fixed in place it will complete the facade of the monumental structure whose cornerstone was laid on August 18, 1941.

BISHOP NOLL reports that Eugene Kormendi, in charge of the School of Sculpture at the University of Notre Dame, who was authorized to complete the statue of "Christ, the Light of the World," has prepared a five-foot plaster of Paris model which is presently being enlarged to a 17-foot model by experts. From this larger model the permanent statue will be cast by a bronze works.

Erection in the National Capital of this imposing monument to Christ, the Light of the World, is the outcome of a campaign inaugurated in October 1936 by Our Sunday Visitor, national Catholic weekly of which Bishop Noll is founder and editor. At that time money was collected through the paper for this project.

The site preferred for the statue was found to be privately owned, and the price asked was virtually equal to all the money that had been gathered. Meanwhile, the need for a new headquarters for the National Catholic Welfare Conference had been recognized for some time and plans were set on foot for the erection of a new building on Massachusetts Avenue here.

SPONSORS OF the projected monument to Christ thereupon proposed to cooperate with the Bishops planning the new N.C.W.C. building. The two plans were thus coordinated, with the facade of the new building serving as a monumental background for the statue of "Christ, the Light of the World." In this way, the monument has been assured of a prominent site in the Nation's Capital.

# Bishop Alerts HNS On 'Cleavage' Plan

Warning that "insidious and well-directed attempts are being made in this country to create a cleavage between the hierarchy and the rank and file of the Catholic Church," His Excellency, Bishop Kearney, in an address in Buffalo Sunday called upon Holy Name Society members for "a vigilant and militant defense" of Church and country.

Characterizing current attacks on the radio and in the press and magazines as a "softening-up process" intended to make many Americans critical of the Catholic Church, Bishop Kearney told 500 members of the Buffalo Diocesan Union of Holy Name Societies at a banquet in Hotel Statler.

"THOSE RESPONSIBLE for these insidious attacks say you are like a lot of sheep who have a whole program handed to you by a Hierarchy with which you have no sympathy. But who are your bishops, your spiritual leaders? They are the very sons of these rank and file Catholic families, who are simply directing the Christian principles of the Gospel."

Referring to attacks against the Catholic educational program and Catholic insistence on religious education, His Excellency said it is consoling to the Hierarchy to know that there are so many thousands of Catholic men, members of the Holy Name Society, "the greatest Society in the Church, the society representing its manpower, the heads of Christian families and homes, who have dedicated themselves to the preservation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ represented by His Holy Name."

It is "a special vocation of the Holy Name Society at the present time," he continued, "to support the very Church of which it is the right arm."

RECALLING the assassination of President McKinley by a fanatic who disguised the gun by covering his hand with a handkerchief, the Bishop concluded: "Today our Church and country are not so much in danger of those whose arms are above board as they are from those who cover their malice with the claim they are presenting the picture 'in all fairness' if their responsibility for truth in the future is what it has been in the past, we will not be surprised to see them ferret out so-called ev 'which are mere conjurations'."

"It is time to tear off this handkerchief of deceit, and there is no more logical group of men to do this than the men of the Holy Name Society, because they do it in the name of Jesus Christ, the founder of Christianity."

# Buddhist Nun For 30 Years Enters Convent

Toledo (NC) — For 30 years Miss Yoshikawa served faithfully in the Buddhist nunnery she had entered at the age of 15. For 30 years she recited the prayers prescribed for the Buddhist ascetic and performed the ritual of the monastery. Yet the influence of a good Catholic friend led her to abandon Buddhism. Today Miss Yoshikawa is a novice in a Catholic convent and has chosen the name Sister Martha because, as she sees it, by working in the seminary kitchen she is serving Christ in the person of each seminarian.

Sister Martha's baptism was an event which those who witnessed it are not likely to forget. She had come to church robed in the vestments she had worn in the Buddhist nunnery.

Nun Is 'Woman of Year' DuBois, Pa. (NC) — Sister Mary Carmella of the Sisters of Mercy, superintendent of the Du Bois Hospital, has been given the "Woman of the Year" award by the Du Bois Business and Professional Women's Club.

# Holy Sepulchre Church Shelled

Jerusalem — NC — Via Amman — June 8 — Radio, delayed — A mortar bomb struck the main dome of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre directly over the tomb of Christ, piercing the outer wall of the church but causing only minor damage to the interior. The church is administered jointly by representatives of the Catholic and the Orthodox Churches.

A mortar bomb also struck the Franciscan Chapel of the Condemnation, marking the place where Christ was condemned by Pilate, and another struck near the Ecce Homo Chapel built on the spot where Our Lord stood when Pilate uttered those words. The explosion smashed the stained-glass windows but did no other damage because of the massive stone construction of the chapels. Both chapels are located on the grounds of the Franciscan Biblical School along the Via Dolorosa.

Other mortar shells hit St. Saviour's Monastery again, the motherhouse of the Franciscans of the Holy Land, and also refuge-filled Casa Nova, a pilgrim house conducted by the Franciscans near the monastery.

It is our solemn duty to raise our voice in protest against the violation of the sanctity of our churches, convents and institutions.

The statement then enumerated nine Catholic and Orthodox institutions that were occupied by the Jews and listed 14 institutions that were damaged by Jews and five religious that were killed or wounded in the course of the fighting. The statement then went on:

"We, therefore, appeal to all those in power and to the civilized world to compel the Jews to respect the Holy places and religious institutions and to desist from making them military bases and targets."

# Blackfoot Indian Ordained Priest

Missoula, Mont. (NC) — The mural-lined walls of historic St. Ignace Mission, founded here 100 years ago by the renowned Jesuit missionary, Father Felix DeSmet, was part of the setting for the ordination of the Rev. John J. Brown, S.J., first Blackfoot Indian to be raised to the priesthood. A congregation of Indians resplendent in feathered headdress and doe-skin garments with bead and quill decorations added to the color and significance of the ceremony.

"It is entirely fitting," said Bishop Joseph M. Gilmore of Helena, "that Father Brown be ordained in this historic mission because his elevation to priesthood marks the growth to spiritual maturity of the Indian nation to which he belongs. He is a symbol that the labors of the Blackrobes, beginning in Montana with Father DeSmet, have not been in vain."

Father Brown, 31-year-old graduate of Loyola University, Chicago, and former prefect of boys at an Indian mission in Idaho, left for St. Anne's Church, Heart Butte, Mont., deep in the Blackfoot country, where on June 20 he is scheduled to offer his first Solemn Mass among his own people.

# Cardinal Denies 5-Year Rumor

New York, June 14 (NC) — Upon his arrival home after his trip to Australia and the Far East, His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, was asked by newsmen to comment on rumors that he was being mentioned for the post of Papal Secretary of State. He replied: "That rumor has been going on for five years and I've denied it. I deny it again and put it on file so that you can automatically deny it anytime it comes up."

# ALASKA GREET'S THIRD BISHOP

Juneau, Alaska (NC) — Alaska's third Bishop, the Most Rev. Francis D. Gleeson, S.J., has taken over his duties of administering the 590,000 square mile Vicariate, which embraces the Aleutian Islands.

The population of the Vicariate is slightly more than 50,000 and includes some 13,000 Catholics. The history of the Church in this Far North territory dates back to 1779. Alaska was raised to the rank of a Prefecture Apostolic in 1894 and was elevated to a Vicariate Apostolic in 1916.

Bishop Gleeson, who conducted an obscure Indian mission in Omak, Wash. before he was named by His Holiness Pope Pius XII to succeed the late Bishop Walter J. Fitzgerald, S.J., as Alaska's Vicar Apostolic was installed at impressive ceremonies here by Bishop Jean Louis (Conde), O.M.I., Vicar Apostolic of Whitehorse, Yukon Territory.

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