

Church Persecution Said To Betray Soviet Desperation

President R. L. (NC) — The "manipulated outrage" against the Eminence Joseph Cardinal Mindszenty, "which has been properly condemned not only by the Pope, but by President Truman and Secretary of State Acheson is part of the present international movement of world communists," the Rev. Dr. Edmund A. Walsh, vice president of Georgetown University, told a meeting of the university alumni here.

The communists are fully aware, Father Walsh said, that the Marshall Plan succeeding that western Europe is being established and united, and that the Church is the last domestic obstacle to total domination in the satellite states. As a result, he said, "Moscow is reacting swiftly and ruthlessly within an organized pattern."

INDICATIONS POINT to the extent in the near future of the leading Catholic ecclesiastic in Czechoslovakia, the Archbishop of Prague, Father Vojtech, said, "It is not clear whether the Archbishop's flight from Prague will come next."

It is known that 100 prisoners have had to sit for 105 hours upright and sleepless on a stool, subjected to blinding electric lights and "hypnotical suggestion." It also is known, he said, that drugs have been used which have the effect of so debilitating the nervous system that the victim is reduced to such a state that he is unable to resist suggestions made to him.

Ireland Rejects Atlantic Pact

Dublin — (NC) — Partition, Ireland's major national problem, has now come definitely into the limelight of international politics, with the Irish Government making it clear that it cannot become part of the proposed North Atlantic Pact as long as six counties of Northern Ireland remain a part of Britain.

A STATEMENT issued here and in foreign capitals pointed out that the continuance of partition of Ireland "is naturally and bitterly resented by the Irish people as a violation of Ireland's territorial integrity and as a denial in her case of the elementary democratic right of national self-determination."

While Ireland wishes to be able to play its full part in protecting and preserving Christian and democratic principles and ideals, the statement said, "any military alliance, or commitment involving joint military action, with the State which was responsible for the partition of Ireland, which continues to occupy a portion of the country with its armed forces, and which supports the undemocratic practices of the Stormont (Belfast) regime, must be quite out of the question so far as Ireland is concerned."

THE STATEMENT emphasizing Ireland's stand on the partition question was issued a few days after the general election in Northern Ireland, which resulted, as everyone expected, in a clear majority for the (pro-partition) Unionists, who returned to power with no change in their total membership of 36, of whom 14 were returned unopposed.

POPE OPENS CONSISTORY



In this radiophoto from Rome, His Holiness Pope Pius XII is shown as he leads 18 members of the Sacred College of Cardinals into the hall for the Secret Consistory, where in his allocution he declared the "facts" of the trial of Hungary's Cardinal Mindszenty were not reliably reported and denounced the prelate's imprisonment as "a most serious outrage." (AP Photos)

More Catholic Schools Needed in Belgian Congo

New York — (NC) — The urgent need for an increase of Catholic educational facilities in the Belgian Congo was emphasized by Bishop Thomas J. McDonnell, Auxiliary of New York and national director of The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, in a comment on the February mission intention of His Holiness Pope Pius XII — "The Church in the Belgian Congo."

BISHOP McDONNELL said that missions in the Congo have been active for more than 50 years and out of a total population of 14,000,000 there now are 4,000,000 colored Catholics. He said the annual increase of Catholics is 200,000. He added that since the war, some difficulties have arisen which might tend to lessen the increase — such as the missionaries being obliged to give nearly all their time to care of Catholics and being unable to work in making new converts.

U. S. Envoy Tells Secrets Of Hungary Conviction

(Continued from Page 1) sith on him so that some of it is bound to stick." He stated that he did not know how the Communist-dominated government of Hungary had wrung a partial "confession" from the Cardinal, but said that he was certain "all kinds of pressure were used."

The general conditions in the country were summarized as follows by U. S. Minister Chapin: "No one today, except the blind and the twisted, can fail to see that the Hungarian people are under the complete, total domination of a group of Moscow-trained communists, whose sole allegiance is to the Kremlin."

Mr. Chapin, who returned this week to the United States for consultations after the Budapest regime had demanded his recall, said that the job of an American diplomat behind the Iron Curtain "is not a bed of roses." He said that the efforts of the communist regime to get rid of him were the culmination of a long process aimed at isolating American and other western diplomats stationed in the Hungarian capital.

DURING A STOPOVER in Vienna en route to the United States, Mr. Chapin was able to speak frankly about Cardinal Mindszenty for the first time since the trial. He said: "The Hungarians are wise enough to know that even if a man is innocent, they can throw enough

LATINS PLAN CHURCH ACTION

Havana, Cuba — (NC) — Lack of priestly vocations — one of the biggest problems for the Church in Latin America — is blamed on the religious ignorance of Catholics, the influence of secularism, and the neglect of Catholic educators to provide for the complete formation of youth, principally preparation for Christian marriage.

Statistics released by the Catholic Action Inter-American secretariat show that in Colombia there is only one priest for every 1,397 nominal Catholics; in Costa Rica and Venezuela one for every 5,000; in Peru one for every 6,000; and in Panama one for every 10,000.

Proposals made call for a wider diffusion of Catholic doctrine among the faithful through the establishment of a parochial school system and the spread of catechetical work. The Church in Latin America has at present virtually no parochial school system.

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