

### Stoning U. S. Evangelists Blamed On 'Resentment'

Continued from Page 13  
In police files, the town's population of 5,000 are all Catholic except for four families. These four lost their homes during air raids, now shelter themselves in an abandoned building, and recently joined the Protestant sect.

THE POLICE chief's version of the December 15 stoning is as follows: A large group of resentful townspeople gathered that morning in the public square awaiting the scheduled arrival of the Protestant missionaries. The people comprised all shades of political opinion, including several communists who nevertheless consider themselves Catholics.

Noticing the mood of the crowd, police officials went to the edge of the town to warn the missionaries. However, as police were carrying on discussions with the evangelists some 200 persons left the square and came to where the police had halted the missionaries.

Suddenly the mob broke into action and began throwing stones and sticks. The police assisted the evangelists to escape in their jeeps. The mob hurled stones at the evangelists for some distance along the road. There were no casualties.

The strongest appeal of the "Church of Christ," according to ecclesiastical officials is to those with communist leanings. Those who are bitter about the Vatican's decree excommunicating communists are most easily attracted by the thought of material help and of social recognition, these authorities point out.

SIMILAR PROTESTANT enterprises in the past, Catholic officials say, have made an appeal to the people for a while but not permanently. The Frascati authorities noted that the evangelists had taken at least three communist agents in to their church, oriented them and now use them as catechists or "pastors."

It is the belief of Catholic authorities that the relief goods distributed by the non-Catholic group were used to attract prospective converts. However, this is emphatically denied by Cline R. Paden of Grenville, Tex., head of the "Church of Christ" mission.

He told an N.C.W.C. News Service representative that relief goods were distributed merely because it is a dictate of Christianity. If it is discovered that persons join the sect just to receive gifts, Mr. Paden said, their membership is discouraged. Mr. Paden also disclaimed any connection with or interest in, communism or any other form of politics.

### Red Regime Fills Churches

(N.C.W.C. News Service)  
The following story is being told in Poland to illustrate how the communist regime in trying to win the faithful from the church is actually strengthening their religious fervor.

His Eminence Adam Cardinal Sapieha, Archbishop of Cracow, it is related, was refused a passport to go abroad by a government official on the grounds that he "might picture the present government in a bad light."

### Archbishop Assails Immoral Literature

Vienna — (RNS) — Roman Catholic Archbishop Andrew Rohrer of Salzburg has sent an open letter to the Austrian government demanding legislation against "filth and trash" in magazines, films and the radio.

The prelate denounced as "most objectionable" the complacent attitude of authorities toward "the poisoning of the souls of youth" by the unrestricted distribution of pornographic literature and the exhibition of certain types of films.

He declared that some films could be considered "schools for criminals."

### War-Prisoners' Madonna 'Escapes' Iron Curtain

London — (NC) — After traveling thousands of miles through Russia, Europe and the Middle East, a picture of Our Lady, painted in a Russian prison camp early in the war, now hangs in a chapel in Brompton Oratory, in London's West End.

The story of the picture begins in 1940 in the Kotelsk prison camp near Smolensk, one of several for large numbers of Polish officers. A group at this camp formed a religious guild and decided to make a picture of Our Lady, defying the communist ban on all manifestations of religion.

In a desecrated Orthodox church inside the camp boundaries they found some large boards suitable for the purpose. With some difficulty they obtained painting materials and an artist among them painted a copy of a picture widely known in eastern Poland.

THE PICTURE was carefully guarded by the prisoners, but finally they were dispersed. Some went off to forced labor. Others were moved to other prison camps and some eventually became victims of the Katyn massacre of Polish war prisoners.

Hidden in a valise, the painting was taken to a forest camp in the Kola Peninsula, near the Arctic Ocean. From there it was carried to Susdal. At last after freeing of Polish prisoners, it came to a Polish army camp where it no longer had to be only one bishopric.

### Three New Dioceses Created In Spain

Madrid — (RNS) — Three new Roman Catholic dioceses have been established in Spain — those of Bilbao, San Sebastian and Alabaete. This brings the total number of Spanish dioceses to 63.

The new dioceses of Bilbao and San Sebastian were formerly part of the Victoria See, while Alabaete was previously incorporated in the diocese of Cartagena. The Bilbao and San Sebastian sees are in the Basque province, which until now had only one bishopric.

Paraguay Embassy the Holy See to the rank of American country recently to Vatican City — (NC) — Para-embassy, it was announced here take this step. Haiti, Cuba and guay is raising her Legation to This makes the fourth Latin Venezuela are the others.

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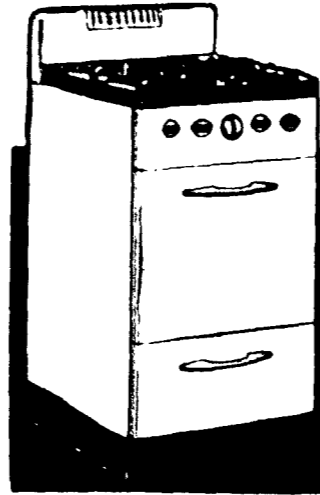
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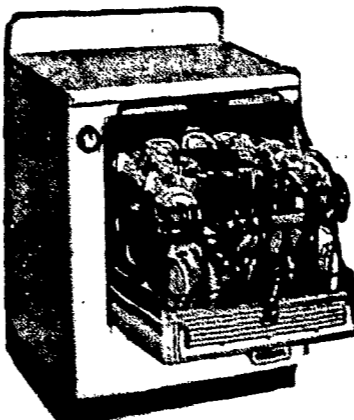
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