

Church Fears Red Drive In Indonesia

Indonesia has been much in the news as a critical point in the southward surge of communism in Asia. The virtual communist conquest in recent days of the great island of Hainan, south of China, which is comparatively close to Indonesia, focuses attention on the affairs of the great Indonesian Archipelago. The author of the following story on mission prospects in the United States of Indonesia has spent the last 13 years as a Jesuit college dean at Jakarta, Indonesia.

By REV HENRY T. BASTIAANSE, S. J.
(Written for N. Y. C. News Service)

Is Indonesia to be one of the strongholds of Christianity in the Far East? Or is communism to move farther south, reaching down from the North Pole all along the western coasts of the Pacific on to Australia?

The Independent Republic of Indonesia will not welcome communism. Its culture is its tradition and its bent of mind are strongly against it. There is moreover, a strong and growing movement toward Indonesian Catholicism. Its character and its bent of mind are strongly against it. There is moreover, a strong and growing movement toward Indonesian Catholicism. Its character and its bent of mind are strongly against it.

HOWEVER, THERE are promoters of communism as well. There is the official communist party not very strong numerically, judging from appearances. Their activity is chiefly underground. They are lying low waiting for the moment to move into the open when they can contact their powerful Russian friends.

There is another promoter of communism — pauperism. It is a growing and alarming feature of over-populated Java, one of the Major Sunda Islands with Sumatra.

The spirit of dissatisfaction is beginning to be noticeable. Millions of people have been waiting for long years for the end of war misery, insecurity, lack of food and clothing and of the little comfort they had been used to in pre-war times.

Independence was met with blazing enthusiasm. Prosperity was expected. Can the masses be blamed for their feeling that independence should include a decent living for an able man and his family?

There is a rash toward education all over the country. Who is to build the needed schools? Who is to supply the equipment, the funds and train the teachers?

INDONESIA IS more than a little piece of a map. Its 1,450 square miles feed a population of about 70,000,000 inhabitants. Indonesia also is one of the most volcanic areas of the world with

Spain Rebuilds Church Life Hit By Civil War

Madrid, Spain (NC) — Although the rebuilding of the Catholic Church in Spain in the years following the civil war against communism has been notable, the Church is far from fully recovered from the losses suffered.

The record reveals that in 1930 there was a priest for every 732 of the faithful. In 1944, there was one priest for every 1,050.

During the civil war, the communists killed seven bishops, 4,266 priests, 2,489 men in religious life, 257 nuns and 249 seminarians. The destruction included 6,000 churches, monasteries, convents and seminaries.

Aided by the government, the task of rebuilding has gone on slowly and the erection of some new churches has been started. Seats left vacant or affected otherwise by the civil war have been filled by 48 new bishops appointed by the Holy See during the period from 1941 to 1949. Four new dioceses have been recently established.

A HEALTHY sign of the renewal of Catholic activity in Spain is indicated in the 25 Eucharistic Congresses, five Marian congresses, 50 regional spiritual missions and two catechetical congresses held since 1949.

Catholic Action in Spain has contributed much toward this spiritual revival through its 500,000 members in four different branches, the women's branch with 140,000 members in 2,273 centers, the young women's branch with 200,000 members, the young men's branch with over 100,000 members, the men's branch, 50,000. The women's branch is preparing 10,000 children for the apostolate.

The Catholic Action of Spain dates back to 1876 at which time the "Union de los Catolicos de Espana" (Union of Spanish Catholics) was established. This movement created in turn the "Catholic Congresses" which were a forerunner of Catholic Action.

Seek Moral Law Munich (RNS) — Bavaria's Roman Catholic bishops have issued a joint appeal to the Bavarian government for early enactment of "an efficient law for the protection of youth and public morals against immoral and obscene publications."

They Greet 'Little Bit Of Heaven'



Already parents of three children, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Conside were blessed with a fourth when a TWA strliner brought one right out of the sky at LaGuardia Field, N. Y. Adopted in Ireland by the Considess, the baby is two-year-old Deborah. The head of the family, a

newspaper columnist, and his entire family turned out to welcome the "Little Bit of Heaven" on arrival. Left to right: Michael, 1 1/2; Barry, 7 1/2; and Debra, 2, who is holding his personal gift to his new sister, sold by Mrs. Conside, INF. (NO Photo)

St. Bona's Plan \$8,700,000 Drive For New Buildings

St. Bonaventure, N. Y. (NC) — An \$8,700,000 building and expansion program and a fund-raising campaign have been announced by St. Bonaventure's College, here.

This is the culmination of many decades of planning for a larger and greater St. Bonaventure. After these buildings are completed, Father Lator said it is planned to erect a \$1,200,000 dormitory, a \$2,000,000 faculty house and chapel, and a \$800,000 administration and business school building.

THE PROJECT, to be carried out over several years, will include the erection of a new science building, a student union building, a dormitory, faculty house, administration and business school building and completion of Christ the King Seminary now under construction.

Father Lator said the first three objectives of the program are the science building, to cost \$1,500,000 and the student union building to cost \$1,000,000. Cost of construction of the seminary

Funeral Mass On Television

Cincinnati (NC) — For the first time in this city and for what is believed to be the first time anywhere in the country a funeral service was televised when a local and two nearby TV stations presented the two-hour solemn funeral Requiem Mass, here, for the late Archbishop John T. McNicholas, O.F., of Cincinnati, who died here Apr. 22. The Mass was televised by the Crosley Broadcasting Corporation.

A spokesman for the corporation said it put on this unusual television program because so few of those who wanted to witness the solemn rite were able to be accommodated at the cathedral.

Torch-Light Parade Frankfurt, Germany (NC) — A torch lighted from the volute lights at the shrine of the Blessed Mother of Albenberg will be carried in procession across Western Germany during May as a special tribute to Our Lady.

Rome Reporter Says:

Church-State Pact Settled In Poland

By G. B. MURPHY
(Correspondent, N. Y. C. News Service)

Warsaw (City) (NC) — Many phases of recent developments in the Polish Church-State relations still remain obscure and puzzling, but, on the basis of the latest information obtained, three facts seem definitely established.

1. A far-reaching agreement between the representatives of the Polish hierarchy and the Warsaw government was signed on April 14.

2. There is no reason to doubt the substantial authenticity of the text of the agreement as published by the government-controlled Polish Press Agency. However, it is still not known with certainty whether the published text is complete.

3. The three Polish bishops who signed the document acted with the full authority of the entire Polish hierarchy. Consequently, rumors and speculations about a possible split within the Polish hierarchy utterly lack foundation.

WHILE THE authenticity of the foregoing information should not be doubted it should be noted that, up to now, neither the Holy See nor His Eminence Albin Cardinal Sapieha, Archbishop of Cracow, who is at present in Rome, has in any way commented on the agreement.

Conservatore Romano, Vatican City daily, has not made any reference to the Polish agreement. The Rome Catholic Action daily, Il Quotidiano, whose columns generally reflect Catholic thinking on current problems, has also been silent.

Thus, the full background story of the Church-State agreement remains to be written. However, enough has been learned from other sources—whose views are based on a thorough knowledge of the situation and the persons involved and therefore deserve respect—to throw some light on the developments and present some misconceptions.

VERVEX AND hypothesis offered by these persons may be summarized as follows: 1. The recent strong utterances by the Polish bishops have strengthened the will to resist among the staunchly Catholic Polish people against continued persecution of the Church to such an extent that the regime felt the need of reaching some kind of agreement in order to handle the situation. 2. The agreement in its published form would entail conces-

Parents' Rights Studied By UN

Geneva (City) (NC) — Acknowledging the principle that parents have the right to determine the religious upbringing of their children, members of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights decided not to mention it explicitly in the Draft Covenant on Human Rights they are preparing.

Dr. Charles Malik, delegate of Lebanon, proposed inclusion of the article on the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. "Parental supervision has the right to prevent from interference in determining the religious education of their children."

Mrs. HANAYO HANAYO, speaking for the United States, felt that a specific formulation adequately respecting the rights of both parents and children was difficult to draft. The principle was already covered implicitly in the first paragraph, she said, so any further reference was unnecessary.

This was, in general, the view expressed also by the delegates of Great Britain, Chile, Belgium and India.

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