

Looting of Czech Monasteries, Churches by Reds Continues

Prague, Jan. 22 (AP)—The looting of Czech monasteries and churches by the Communists continues to be reported here.

Special "looting parties" of Communists have been at work in churches from which monks were deported. During the forced evacuation of monks to "concentration camps" by the Communists, monks were looting the churches, taking jewelry, silver, and other valuables, such as objects of gold, silver, and other metals.

In Prague the Communists of Loretto have taken a treasury of gold, silver, and other valuables and treasures. Visitors at the shrine can view what is still left of the Loretto treasures, but Catholics who have seen these treasures before say that only a fraction of the treasure is on show now in place of the Patriarch's visitors must now pay a fee to the government to view the treasure.

Communists' economic policy has also had a good effect on the Loretto shrine. The shrine is now a museum. During World War II the shrine was used as a hospital and the shrine of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist, at the shrine called the shrine of St. John the Baptist.

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"seminaries" in Prague and Bratislava. These have been forced into special squads in army uniforms and work on the construction of bridges, canals and sewage facilities. They have also been seen at work unloading freight trains at various railway stations.

THE CHURCH and Slovak Catholics who have been taken to concentration camps are reported to be suffering severely from cold. Day in and day out the monks are put at outdoor work in winter weather, and

BOYS TOWN BLOODMOBILE



Staff members who contributed blood to the American Red Cross Bloodmobile when it visited the famous Boys Town, a city for troubled children, are shown here. The bloodmobile is seen in the foreground.

More American Maryknollers Seized In China

Maryknoll, N. Y. —(AP)—The Chinese Reds have arrested six more Maryknoll nuns, but released four of them almost immediately, according to word received at Maryknoll headquarters here.

Only a week earlier the Reds seized Bishop Frederick A. Donaghy, M.M., of Wuchow, and two other U.S. Maryknollers.

THE LATEST priests to have been arrested are: the Rev. Frederick J. Becka, M.M., of Cleveland; James V. Buttino, M.H., of Cortland, N.Y.; Thomas S. Langley, M.M., of Framingham, Mass.; Edward J. Moffatt, M.M., of Newark, N.J.; William J. Morrissey, M.M., of Brooklyn; and Russell R. Springie, M.M., of Middletown, Ohio.

The four priests released immediately afterwards are Fathers Becka, Buttino, Langley and Morrissey. No reason was known for the arrest of the six priests, or the prompt release of four of them.

This brings to 17 the number of Maryknoll priests, Brothers and Sisters now held in prison by the Reds in China. An undisclosed number of Maryknollers are detained in their houses.

'Discrediting' Hits U. S. Missionaries

Maryknoll, N. Y. —(AP)—Any hope that American Catholic missionaries would be left free to carry on their extensive works of religion, charity and education in China has been dispelled by the wave of arrests and persecution now taking place.

So said a statement issued by the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America (Maryknoll Fathers) at their headquarters here.

"THE ARRESTS of American missionaries, both Catholic and Protestant, are following a definite pattern that reveals a systematic attempt to discredit all religion and show that it is an enemy of the Chinese people," the statement said. "Religious leaders are first chosen for arrest, often on no evidence, but usually on manufactured and planted evidence. The charges are invariably on of the following: being an agent of American imperialism and reaction (concealing weapons, shells, radio transmitters; bribing Chinese citizens to act as spies), or being an oppressor of the people (degrading workmen, selling opium, selling relief supplies)."

Pakistan's First Lady At Hospital



Begum Linaqat Ali Khan, wife of the Prime Minister of Pakistan, is welcomed by the Medical Mission Sisters (of Fox Chase, Philadelphia) stationed at Holy Family Hospital, Karachi, Pakistan, when the Begum and members of the All Pakistan Women's Association recently paid an official visit to the hospital, to present a radio. The Begum (center) holds the bouquet presented her by the hospital staff. To her right is Mrs. Fane Saunders, member of the Association and Sister M. Dolores of St. Louis, Mo., in charge of the hospital. To the left of Lady Linaqat stand Sister M. Regina of Council Bluffs, Ia., Sister M. Christopher of Baltimore, Md., and two Sisters from Holland. (AP Photos)

Jailed Cardinal Foe Of Reds Even In Youth

Vienne —(AP)—A new book about His Eminence Josef Cardinal Mindszenty shows that as a youth the future Cardinal had no more fear of prison walls than he did years later as Primate of Hungary.

It is the story of his life as told by fellow students who shared it at the theological seminary, by those who met him during his parish work, by co-workers after he had risen to episcopal rank and by fellow prisoners in Hungarian and Nazi jails. These testimonials and eyewitness stories were smuggled into Austria, a hazardous operation which cost the life of one messenger.

THE BOOK, which includes an introduction written by Archbishop Andreas Rohrer of Salzburg, has now been published by Messrs. Salzer, of Sarrelouis, in the Saar district of West Germany. The title is "Die Stimme des Rufenden" ("The Voice of One Crying").

Ordained in 1915, Cardinal Mindszenty was not yet 27 years old when, at the end of World War I, revolution broke out in Hungary and the near-Communist Count Karoly formed a government, which prepared the ground for the horrors of the communist regime under the notorious Bela Kun. The young priest, at that time a teacher of divinity at a college at Zalaegerszeg and editor of a small Catholic paper, had not a moment's hesitation as to the stand he was to take.

DISREGARDING THE warnings of older priests, who advised him to be more cautious, he vigorously attacked the men who had overthrown the monarchy in order to set up their regime of lawlessness, cruelty and of militant atheism, and continued to do so until he was arrested. Later he was released on the condition, which he rejected, that he would not return to his post at Zalaegerszeg. He returned there the very next day. He was re-arrested and again released, with the same warning, and again he went back to resume his duties. Taken to prison for the third time, he would, no doubt, have remained there had it not been for the entry of foreign troops which put an end for the time to all school children.

The same indomitable courage characterized Bishop Mindszenty, whom the Hungarian Nazis imprisoned towards the end of the second world war, and again the Cardinal, who so heroically braved the terrible fate which he knew to be in store for him.

Plight of Spain Converts Told By Seville Cardinal

Madrid —(AP)—Pedro Cardinal Segura y Saenz, Archbishop of Seville, issued a pastoral letter calling the attention of Spanish Catholics to the "mad economic plight" of cloistered convents throughout the country.

In his letter, the Cardinal urged support of "The Holy House of Nazareth," and other projects recently set up to aid the contemplative communities.

"WE WISH TO call attention," Cardinal Segura wrote, "to a grave and urgent plight of cloistered nuns, which deserves the compassion of the faithful. This need is growing day by day, not only in our archdiocese, but in all Spain.

"The people cannot imagine the incredible hardships the nuns are forced to undergo. They have not sufficient food, even for one meal a day. There is a scarcity of milk, meat and eggs for the sick. There is also a lack of medicine. The nuns are badly off for clothing. They cannot pay for even the small cost of religious worship. Their convents are crumbling, and they cannot afford to make repairs."

IN ONE REGION alone, the Cardinal said, there are ten communities with 205 nuns, 92 of whom are ill, while many of the younger religious are suffering from anemia induced by malnutrition.

Pope's Delegate In Mexico Lauds Present Regime

Mexico City —(AP)—In a New Year message here, Archbishop Guillermo Plani, Roman Catholic Apostolic Delegate to Mexico, praised the present Mexican government for its tolerant attitude toward the Catholic Church and urged all citizens to give it "respect and obedience."

"The present Mexican regime," Archbishop Plani said, "is a legitimate one and as such merits the respect and obedience of all its citizens. But besides being legitimate, it is good, and thus merits something more: the cooperation of all in order that it may achieve its worthy ambitions of national prosperity and well-being."

Referring to previous regimes which were hostile to the Catholic Church and which expelled three Apostolic Delegates from the country, Archbishop Plani declared:

"If the resistance of the Catholics is explained for those days, today there is no explanation for a systematic opposition to a meritorious regime which has surrounded the Church with attention and considerations."

Youngest General Notre Dame Man

Notre Dame, Ind. —(AP)—A 33-year-old Notre Dame man is the Air Force's youngest brigadier general, according to the Notre Dame Alumni magazine.

He is Brig. Gen. John (Jack) Hembry, commander of the 437th Troop Carrier Wing which is operating with United Nations forces in Korea. General Hembry was in the University of Notre Dame class of '40, and during World War II flew 150 combat sorties with the Air Force.

Children Receive Pontiff's Packages

Rome —(AP)—Food packages were distributed to more than 8,000 children from the poorer neighborhoods of Rome as one of the Christmas charities of His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

The distribution was handled by the Pontifical Relief Commission in two large theatres in the vicinity of the Vatican and was part of an overall entertainment program for children.

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