

China Priest's Name Forged To Manifesto

Tokyo — (NC) — The Rev. Wang Liang Tao, Chinese priest harassed by the Red regime as the "insurgator" of an "independent Catholic Church" launched the movement, it has now been reliably learned here.

Bishop-Klees



The priest's name was affixed to a Red-written manifesto by his cousin, Father Wang, who was not consulted by the catalyst. It was learned Father Wang, ordained three years ago, is pastor of about 800 Catholics in Kwangyuan near the Szechuan border.

IN ADDITION to being widely "credited" by the Red press and radio as promoter of the independent Church campaign among Catholics, the priest was cited as such in an official report to the Red Cabinet on December 29, and later was named as the movement's promoter by Premier Chou Enlai when the latter addressed a group of Catholic priests and bishops in Peking.

At the same time another case of communist duplicity has been learned here. "Invited" by the Red authorities to a "discussion meeting" on the future of religious groups in China, an unidentified priest made a strong defense of the Catholic faith before the group. He was the only priest at the meeting. Others included Protestant and Buddhist spokesmen.

THE PRIEST was denounced at the meeting for "speaking against the Protestant movement for an independent church, which all progressive elements in China are sponsoring as right and true." However, the following day the newspapers stated that he had declared his willingness to sponsor the campaign for an independent religion.

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A CITATION FROM POPE



Col. Jeanette Blech, Chief Nurse at the 98th General Hospital in Munich, Germany, receives from Chaplain (Lt. Col.) John F. Rafferty, Catholic Chaplain there, a personal citation from His Holiness Pope Pius XII for her assistance in sending the Sisters of the German Vincentian Order to Rome for a Holy Year visit. The Sisters all are nurses at the Army hospital which formerly was run by them when it was the Schwabinger Krankenhaus. Col. Blech, who is Jewish, comes from Springfield, Mass., and formerly was Chief Nurse at Halloran General Hospital, Staten Island, N. Y. U. S. Army photograph. (NC Photos)

Pope Cites Jewish U. S. Army Nurse Aid To Nuns

Munich — (NC) — His Eminence Michael Cardinal von Faulhaber, Archbishop of this See, returned from Rome, carrying with him a rare gift for an American Army nurse — a personal citation from His Holiness Pope Pius XII, accompanied by his portrait.

THE GIFT was for Lieut. Col. Jeanette Blech, who for 32 the Army Nurse Corps and is years has been a member of now chief nurse of the 98th General Hospital here. Colonel Blech, who is Jewish, has won the Commendation Ribbon of the Army with Oak Leaf Cluster, and theater ribbons for service in Europe, China and the Philippines.

The papal citation was delivered to her by the Rev. (Lieut. Col.) John F. Rafferty.

His Store Rule Cologne — (NC) — "Peace under the slave rule of communism is no peace." His Eminence Josef Cardinal Frings, Archbishop of this See, stated in his Lenten Pastoral.

Polish Bishops Protest Red Interference

London — (NC) — His Eminence Adam Cardinal Sapieha, Archbishop of Cracow, and Archbishop Stefan Wyszyński, Primate of Poland, lodged a protest with the communist regime for its interference in church jurisdiction in the western territories.

THE PROTEST was sent on behalf of all the Polish Bishops. When it went unanswered Archbishop Wyszyński personally visited President Bohdan Bierski to lodge a protest and obtain a clarification on the present relations between Church and state.

The exact wording of the hierarchy's protest or the points of the discussion between President Bierut and Archbishop Wyszyński were not known here. However, it was pointed out that by "removing" the Vatican-appointed apostolic administrators in the former German territories and appointing "secular" administrators, the regime violated point five of the Church-state agreement concluded last year.

THIS POINT stipulates: "The principle that the Pope is the competent and supreme authority of the Church refers to matters of faith, morals and Church jurisdiction." By its action, observers here state, the regime has attempted to set itself up as the "supreme authority" in church jurisdiction.

Meanwhile, the communists are continuing their "popular" meetings endorsing the regime's action. Numerous priests reportedly have been forced to attend these gatherings. They are informed that the meetings are government "briefings" for the clergy. "Unanimous" resolutions approving the regime's action are later published.

Volunteers Asked For Religious Life

Spokane, Wash. — (NC) — Appealing for a generous response, Bishop Charles D. White of Spokane, has directed a pastoral letter to girls and young women of his diocese, calling for volunteers to the religious life.

The Bishop cautioned girls against expecting to hear "the Lord whispering to their inmost soul" and also admonished parents against trying to dissuade their children from entering religious life.

Hindu Bid To Copy Xavier Miracle Fails

Followers Of Hindu 'Holy Man' Forced To Bury Leader

Gen. Portuguese India — (NC) — As Catholic India prepares for the public veneration of the exposed remains of St. Francis Xavier, next year, the centuries-old, keen interest of non-Catholic India in the remarkable preservation of the Saint's body is reaching new heights.

In the hope of having a miraculously preserved "Francis Xavier" of their own, devout Hindus recently proposed to enclose the body of a Hindu rishi (holy sage) in an airtight glass case and venerate his remains "as in the case of the body of St. Francis Xavier, Goa."

THE HINDU rishi was Sri (Reverend) Aurobindo Ghosh of Pondicherry French India, who died last December 6 at the age of 78. The proposal to place his remains in the glass case when the rishi's body at first failed to show any signs of change after death. But his followers were deeply disappointed when decomposition did not set in, and the rishi was buried in the ordinary manner 111 hours after death.

Sri Aurobindo, whose disciples went so far as to claim supernatural powers for him, was born in Calcutta in 1872. At the age of seven he went to England, remained there until 1893 and received a thorough classical training at Cambridge University. After several arrests as a revolutionary in Bengal, he founded

convent in Pondicherry, of which a Madame Richard, a Jewish disciple, became the "mother."

A PILGRIM house is being built near Bonn Jesus Basilica here in anticipation of the huge crowds expected next year from all over India and elsewhere in the commemoration of the fourth centenary of the death of St. Francis Xavier (1506-52). The ex- veneration in 1952 will be the position of his remains here for eighth since 1782, according to historical records.

St. Francis Xavier, Apostle of the Indies and Japan, reached Goa in 1542, and died on Sancian Island, off China, in 1552, on his way to evangelize China.

For four months he had been distributing a powder from the bark of a tree as a medicine for all diseases, not far from Cuttack, capital of Orissa, a neighboring state. Thousands upon thousands of persons, many from hundreds of miles away, streamed to get the cure-all from Nepal Baba in his pastoral "dispensary."

Investigating authorities examined 1,500 supposed cures, but found them to be only of slight ailments, although newspapers spread fantastic stories of the blind seeing again, the deaf hearing once more and the lame recovering the use of their limbs.

The authorities warned the public of a hoax engineered by profiteers who operated buses, autos and shops, charging 15 to 20 times the normal prices. But still huge throngs came to Baba for the cure-all.

Finally sanitary arrangements broke down and cholera broke out, with the result that 1,000 persons were stricken in ten days.

Corpses were found along roads, on railway platforms and in trains. This more than any government order reduced the rash of people to Orissa before strict orders were issued closing off the area for two months.

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Hindu Official Lauds Catholic Church

Hyderabad, India — (NC) — The Chief Minister of the government here, M. K. Veluri, a Hindu, presided at a celebration held at St. Anne's school.

He said that the Catholic Church has more devoted adherents than any other Christian Church in India. This must be due, the government leader said, to the great selfless work done over the generations by the Catholic priests and nuns in India. He paid special tribute to the Sister Superior.

University Announces Graduate Grants

Washington — (NC) — Seventeen fellowships and thirty-three scholarships for graduate studies have been announced by the Catholic University of America here for the 1951-52 academic year.

Applicants for these grants must submit transcripts of scores in the Aptitude Test of the Graduate Record Examination, April.

Southern Catholics Against Segregation

Columbia, S.C. — (RNS) — An anti-segregation resolution which urged "the ultimate integration of all members of the Roman Catholic Church" was approved by the Catholic Committee of the South at its mid-century convention here.

The resolution deplored segregation for its "consequent effects of humiliation and discouragement, its lack of human charity, and its departure from the Gospel ideal of the brotherhood of man."

It quoted at length from an encyclical letter of Pope Pius XII on "The Unity of Human Society." The resolution drew special attention to that part of the encyclical in which Pope Pius said, "We feel a special paternal affection, which is certainly inspired of heaven, for the Negro people dwelling among you; for in the field of religion and education, we knew they need special care and comfort, and are deserving of it."

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Francis Cardinal Spellman, President

Magr. Thomas J. McMahon, Nat'l Sec'y

Magr. Joseph P. Connolly

Rev. Wm. Keller Dunn

Rev. Andrew H. Regash

SACRILEGE!!

Profanation of their poor little chapel has been seditiously done by Catholics of a village called Orate in the rural Sultano El Atrache section of the Hauran Diocese, Syria. Only one in five in a population of fierce Druse tribesmen, they have had Mass interrupted by the rowdies of pagan boys. Doors and windows have been smashed and the chapel littered with filth. Fighting back would be useless.

Root of the problem is the chapel's unfortunate location in the Druse part of Orate. To solve it, Bishop Chamli would build a new one in the Catholic quarter, where the rowdies would not dare to venture. We ask help for these troubled people, who want the Blessed Sacrament honored, not insulted, in their midst.

\$2000 would raise the walls and roof. Inside, the main altar would cost 200, side altars \$75, Vestments, or Confessionals \$50, Stations of the Cross \$25.

"I WAS ORDAINED DECEMBER 20!"

"I AM NOW A PRIEST!" I owe this outstanding gift to God and to you, my dear and esteemed benefactress. I am overjoyed to be able to express my appreciation by the offering of the Holy Mass for you.

Recently these words delighted the heart of an American lady. Would you have an adopted son at the Altar? It means a great ordination this year at St. Francis Xavier Seminary in Beirut. Select one and offer the \$100 outstanding on his tuition this final year. Andrew, John (2), Aemilius, George, Peter, Salomon, Alexis, Michael, Anthony, Augustine, Clement, Nemettallah and Joseph.

GRIM REMINDER

LEPERS CANNOT FORGET THEIR SORES. We cannot forget our lepers. 31 a month in the DAMIEN LEPER FUND will soothe their savage pain.

ACRE—BATTLEGROUND OF CENTURIES

THIS MEDITERRANEAN SEACOAST TOWN has been conquered and reconquered by Roman, Moslem and Crusader. Today it is a spiritual battleground where devoted nuns, the "Ladies of Nazareth," struggle with sin and ignorance for the souls of little children. Please send us \$10 to support the work.

"TIME'S A WASTIN'"

SO THE AMERICAN IDIOM would have phrased the mind of St. Gabriel of the 7 Sorrow as he forsook a gay life to become a Franciscan. Named in his honor, Sister Gabrielle Maramba has become a bride's feast, Feb. 27, we ask adoption for her. \$100 over a 3-year period, and she will waste no time resting to the service of the Lord.

GRIEF, INC.

"THE MOST MISERABLY UNHAPPY SPECIMENS OF HUMANITY I have ever encountered. . . has produced a mass psychosis of despair and hate." Thus newspaperman Kenneth Bilby describes the Palestinian refugees who lost all in the war. Monsignors McMahon and Connolly are on full time in the Middle East, directing the Holy Father's Relief Mission. What donation will you make as a gesture of support?

IS YOUR BOY IN THE SERVICE?

PRAY HIM TO SAFETY AND VICTORY with the greatest of prayers — the Mass. Let a missionary offer the Holy Sacrifice for him in March.

"IT'S THE MASS THAT MATTERS"

HEARTBEAT OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH is the Sacrifice of the Altar. The Mass is the center of worship, peak of devotion and the greatest source of blessings for men. Such thoughts prompt Bishop Nousseir of the Egyptian Diocese of Minieh to plead for sacred ornaments. Give him: a Chalice or Ciborium, \$40; Tabernacle, or Mass Book, \$35; Candel Supply, \$20; Sanc. Lamp or Linens, \$15; Sanc. Bell, \$5.

HAS YOUR SCHOOL