

THE CHINA WAVE OF CHURCH

Two More Bishops Jailed By Chinese

Two more bishops have been arrested in China, as the vicious campaign waged by the communist regime against the Church and her leaders is bearing down with the current "surge" of savagery and the reign of terror on the Chinese mainland.

The two arrested prelates are Archbishop Gerardo Polla of Kailong, and one Frenchman, Bishop Romano Bolognini of Weifu. Although charged with such crimes as espionage, counter-revolutionary acts and "imperialism," their only true "crime" is the exercise of their missionary vocation to go to the whole world and preach the Gospel to all men.

According to other reports reaching here two more bishops are held under house arrest. They are the German-born Bishop Charles Weber of Ichow in Shantung province, who is a Divine Word Father, and the American-born Bishop Ambrose Finger of Chowtau also in Shantung province, who is a Franciscan.

Also reported under arrest is the American Franciscan Father Fulgence Gross, the Divine Word Father Theodore Kray and Joseph Isigler, and Brother Agnelus of the Society of the Divine Word.

At least 55 foreign-born priests and 15 Sisters, and 70 Chinese priests, Brothers and Sisters have been reported arrested and imprisoned. Two Chinese priests recently died in jail following six months imprisonment.

Writes On Soviet Russia



Milwaukee — (NC) — A noted geopolitician and authority on Russia—the Rev. Edmund A. Walsh, S.J.—will publish a new book on that country, "Total Empire," on June 15, according to the Bruce Publishing Company here.

Communists Lure Youth In Hungary

London — (NC) — The Hungarian communist regime is exploiting immorality to lure youth away from the Church.

This is evident in a letter received here from a former journalist in Budapest. The regime has organized "wild" camps for boys and girls of 15 and 16 years of age, the letter states, adding that these camps have proved very popular especially among young people who have not received strong Christian training at home.

The letter also points out that the regime is making it increasingly difficult for religious instruction to be given in schools, despite the fact that over 90 per cent of Hungary's parents have expressed their desire for religious instruction in schools.

According to the letter, the regime has done a successful job of indoctrinating the young men in the armed services, many of whom join at the age of 16. The letter says that many churches have been closed on the pretext that there was no priest available to look after them. However, the churches still open are crowded.

Azores Church Lisbon — (NC) — The Church of St. Francisco in Angra do Heroismo in the Azores, has been closed for services, since the latest earth tremors in the islands have made the building unsafe.

Maria Goretti's Mother Writes To Gold Coast



Assunta Goretti praying before picture of her famous daughter, St. Maria Goretti.

Saint's Mother Appeals To Girls 'To Be Good'

Accra, Gold Coast, Africa — (NC) — It is now revealed that the mother of a Saint regrettably declined an invitation to the recent First National Gold Coast Eucharistic Congress at Kumasi, writing the sponsors that she was too old and infirm to go.

She is Assunta Goretti, of Corinaldo, Italy, the mother of St. Maria Goretti, who died in defense of her chastity. Joseph K. DesBordes, secretary general of Catholic Action in the Accra diocese, had written her an invitation to attend the congress. Mrs. Goretti's reply, written in English, follows:

"Dear Joseph K. DesBordes: "I have received your kindly and lovely letter and I thank you very much. "It is not possible for me to come to the Gold Coast for the Eucharistic Congress because I am very old and infirm. I am very sorry about it. However, I shall be with you in spirit and I'll pray before and during the week of the congress. "I'll ask my daughter to intercede with our Lord and our Blessed Mother for their protection for you all.

China Clergy, Laity Risking Martyrdom

New York — (NC) — The extraordinary loyalty of the Chinese priests and people and of the foreign missionaries in China is the biggest news story today, Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen, national director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, stated here.

It is a news story which can be read only between the headlines, he declared, adding "Reports coming from every section of China tell the same glowing tale of heroism under what is now a full-fledged persecution of the Church. The account of the Church in China this year reads like the Acts of the Apostles. It is another 'moral miracle,' a miracle of 'Grace.'"

MONSIGNOR SHEEN told of two nuns, in widely separated towns of China, who were lately put on trial by communist courts. Both of them, with no possible way of communicating their ideas to one another said to the court: "Jail me, if you must; but do not ask me to leave China."

This determination to stay in China, at all costs, is the mark of Catholic missionaries, Monsignor Sheen declared. "An occasional foreign priest is ordered out by his Bishop because local conditions have made it impossible for him to minister to the people," he said. "But in all other cases—in the vast majority of cases—the missionaries are remaining at their posts, even at the risk of martyrdom."

"In many areas missionaries are interrogated by the police two or three times a week," Monsignor Sheen pointed out. "They are awakened at night to have their desks rifled, their books ransacked for 'evidence of conspiracy.' They are forced to give an inventory of all that they possess. A single nail in a closet door or pin in back of the drawer, if it is not listed, may lead to serious trouble."

Cries Of Revenge Send Nuns To Jail

Yokohama — (NC) — Seven nuns were taken to jail following what communist papers describe as an "accusation meeting" of 30,000 Red students of Nanking, charging the Sisters with "killing children while conducting a Sunday school."

The accused nuns are Franciscan Missionaries of Mary of several European nationalities, who have operated Sacred Heart Orphanage in Nanking for 15 years. The nuns saved many of the diseased, crippled and starved babies, many brought to them from garbage dumps. However, the lives of a large percentage could not be saved because of their weak condition. The Red authorities have now charged the nuns with the "murder" of those babies who died.

Shorb To Fight Ouster As Teacher

BOONE, Ia. — (RNS) — Robert F. Shorb, 33, Boone high school teacher who lost his job because he refused to take his seven-year-old son out of a parochial school, announced here he will fight the ouster.

He plans an appeal to Boone County Superintendent Harold Sturtz and possibly to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Mr. Shorb's attorney, Richard Jordan and Robert Mahoney, said the case may be taken to the district court, if necessary.

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THE NEW EVIDENCE of the "guilt" of the nuns reportedly aroused the representatives of the women's groups at the "accusation meeting" to shout: "Mothers, arise! Protect our children!"

The nuns brought before the "accusation meeting" were the Sisters St. Aubert (French), Achilla (Polish), Frazeres (Portuguese), Robertlebs (French), Bilhilda (Austrian), St. Just (French) and Venanzia (Italian). The communist papers fail to mention that the mothers who now clamor for "revenge" on the Sisters were the people who thrust the care of these unwanted babies upon the nuns.

St. Jude City Gets Hospital
Montgomery, Ala. — (NC) — A new 162-bed hospital, erected at the cost of \$1,500,000, was opened to public inspection in the City of St. Jude, near here, by the Rev. Harold Purcell.

Catholic Engineers Schedule World Meeting In Rome
Paris — (NC) — The capability of the Catholic engineer to contribute more efficiently to the brotherhood of nations will be one of the principal points on the agenda of the First International Congress of Catholic Engineers to be held at Saint-Germain-en-Laye, a suburb of Paris, July 20-22.

Diocese of Honolulu Honolulu — (NC) — Bishop James J. Sweeney celebrated a Solemn Pontifical Mass at the Cathedral here on May 13, to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the Diocese of Honolulu.

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