Vatican Denies Role In Japan Peace Pact

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Roundup of World News
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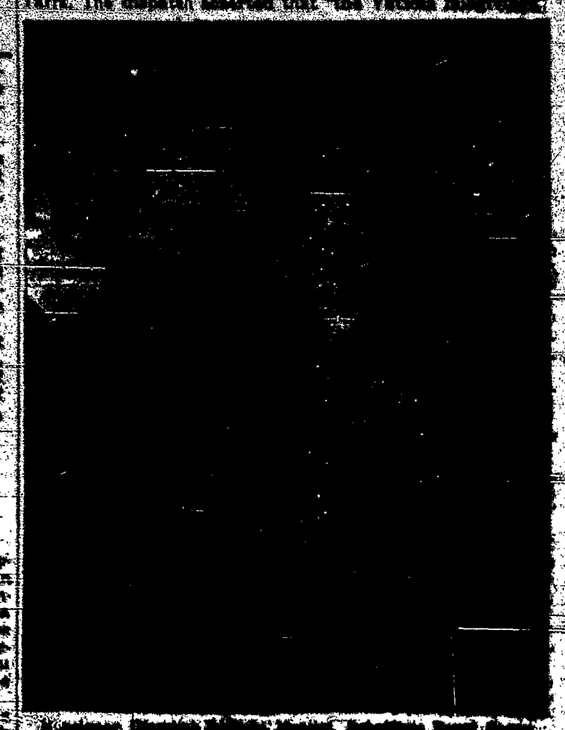
Times' Story Linking Papal Aide To Japan Peace Talks 'Unfounded,' Says Vatican

Washington — (NC) — Both Monsignor Giovanni B. Montini, Substitute Vatican Secretary of State, and the U. S. State Department have promptly and flatly denied the existence of any connection between the presence of Monsignor Montini in the United States and the forthcoming Japanese peace treaty.

The denials were prompted by a dispatch in The New York Times from its Rome correspondent Camille M. Cianfarra. The dispatch asserted that "the Vatican misgivings



Monsignor Giovanni Battista Montini, Substitute Vatican Secretary of State, at a reception in his honor in Washington, D. C., by Most Rev. Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, and Ambassador Nielsen. (NC Photo)

over the signing of the treaty were one of the causes of the Monsignor Montini's presence in this country."

THE NEW YORK TIMES correspondent based his assertions regarding "Vatican misgivings" on a purported "report" from Tokyo through which, he claimed, the Sacred Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith "expressed its views." According to a cable dispatch from the N.C.W.C. News Service correspondent in Rome, no reference to the Japanese treaty has been published by either the Congregation or by the Fides news service which operates under its auspices.

An official Vatican source stated that the New York Times dispatch regarding the attitude of the Holy See toward the Japanese peace treaty is "entirely without foundation."

Monsignor Montini, who is at present on a vacation tour through the United States, authorized the National Catholic Welfare Conference to state that "the presence of Monsignor Montini in the United States has no connection with the forthcoming Japanese peace treaty, as reported in a special news dispatch from Rome."

The U.S. State Department, through its press officer Carroll Kilpatrick, declared that no one in the Department has seen or talked with Monsignor Montini. It was furthermore made clear by the Department that no "observation" or word regarding the treaty had been received from the Holy Father or any Department officer and that, so far as the State Department knows, the Vatican has no reason to object to the pact.

SINCE MONSIGNOR Montini's arrival on this continent, it has been repeatedly made clear that he was engaged in a vacation tour which he had planned for as long as three years ago. As a Vatican official having dealings with Catholics abroad he has always had an understandable desire to gain a personal first-hand knowledge of their country which he had never seen and their conditions.

Rome Paper Raps N. Y. Times Dispatch

Vatican City — (NC) — According to an official Vatican source, the report of The New York Times purporting to state the attitude of the Holy See toward the Japanese peace treaty is entirely without foundation. Neither the Sacred Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith, which is mentioned in the New York Times dispatch, nor Fides news service, which is published under the auspices of the Congregation, has published any reference to the treaty.

IL QUOTIDIANO, Rome daily of Italy's Catholic Action, and other Rome papers have also published authorized denials of the dispatch, which was written by Camille M. Cianfarra, Rome correspondent of The New York Times.

In commenting on the report, Il Quotidiano states that regardless of the Japanese peace treaty as well as other treaties, the Holy See is not called to express judgment. It is possible, the paper adds, that some individual with a knowledge of the text of the treaty document may have thought it necessary to make reservations regarding one or more points on the basis of moral principles.

Regarding the question of the attitude of the Holy See, the paper says that regardless of points, the Holy See must be guided by principles of a general character. It is wrong, therefore, to attribute to the Holy See a judgment of a purely technical character.

Washington Report

Japan Peace Pact Seen No Cure For Far Eastern Crisis

Washington — (NC) — The treaty of peace with Japan has great importance, but its effect at this time should not be exaggerated. It is not a cure-all for the ills that beset the Far East. It is merely a necessary step, but a small step, in the right direction.

Of course the state of war between Japan and the Western Allies ought to be terminated formally. And the peace treaty does this. But there is no illusion here that the simple putting of names to a document will at once make Japan a robust nation, or that it will materially lessen our problems in the Far East at any early date.

SOME OF THE Western Ally nations object to the peace treaty as written. They feel it is not severe enough with Japan. They feel the Japanese should be made to pay for the damage done by the aggression of their military leaders. On the other hand, there are those, and some of them are here in this city, who wonder if we are not being too severe with Japan. The reason for their doubts is that they feel Japan's economy is in such a desperate shape that, even without any outside burdens, it may not be able to "make the grade," and may yet fall prey to communism—from within.

Failure on the part of Russia and her satellites to wreck the San Francisco treaty would not mean the end of Moscow's effort to "take over" Japan. In fact, it might only mean redoubled efforts, with the emphasis shifting to the economic rather than military aggression, or maybe a dual combination of the two.

JAPAN HAS a very big job ahead. The islands proper have a larger population than at the beginning of World War II. This is so, despite heavy war losses, because many of the Japanese who had gone out to the "colonies" have since been returned to their native islands with their families. Japan's food supply, greatly insufficient at the beginning of World War II, is even more inadequate today.

Japan is an industrial nation, rather than agricultural. It depends upon exports for its wealth. Its industries are in poor

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Pope's Laryngitis Denied By Paper

Rome — (NC) — Denying a secular newspaper report that His Holiness Pope Pius XII has been suffering from laryngitis, Il Quotidiano, Catholic Action daily, says the report is an unwarranted deduction from the announcement of the suspension of private and semi-private audiences for three weeks.

Il Quotidiani points out that public audiences are being held thrice weekly.

University Professor Posts $100 To Prove Blanshard Wrong On Quote

Worthington, Ohio — (NC) — A writer in the Josephinum Review has put up $100 to prove his charge that Paul Blanshard did not properly use a passage from the Encyclopedia Britannica in his book "Communism, Democracy and Catholic Power."

Dr. Frank Sullivan, professor of English at Loyola University, Los Angeles, said that "Blanshard chooses to quote a sentence out of context from the Encyclopedia Britannica as his proof that the Catholic Church controls the politics of Catholics."

DR. SULLIVAN said he was prepared to prove his charge with this challenge:

"I will send Mr. Blanshard a check for $100 if he will send me a letter from a responsible authority at the Britannica saying that their material was intended to prove the point Mr. Blanshard tries to make on page 44 of his book—to wit, that the Catholic Church is a menace to democracy in the United States."

Dr. Sullivan's article in the Josephinum Review, which is published here, was originally sent as a letter to Time magazine after the magazine had published two letters suggesting that critics of Blanshard specifically document their cases against him. His letter, though lengthy, dealt with the inaccuracies he said he found on a single page of the book.

The Loyola professor said Time was unable to publish the letter, but, he said, "in all fairness to that magazine, the Blanshard issue had ceased to be news."

Motor Firm Donates Auto To School

School of the Holy Childhood in Rochester was presented this week a 1951 Oldsmobile for the transportation use of the St. Joseph nuns who staff the school. Donation of the beautiful auto, a 4-door deluxe sedan, model '98, was made by Finchers Motors, Inc., and authorized by Mr. Harry W. Fincher, president of the firm. Representing Fincher Motors at the presentation of the auto to the school were Mr. H. Harold Henry, vicepresident and treasurer, and Mr. Ray H. Wengender, service manager. Photo shows Sister St. Mark, principal of the school and Mr. Wengender admiring car after presentation. (Davis Photo)

Educators Advised To Stress Chastity In Youth Training

Boston — (RNS) — A plea for education to train American youth to be "chaste and pure" was made here by the Very Rev. Francis J. Connell, C.SS.R., dean of the School of Sacred Theology at the Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C.

Fr. Connell

He told 5,666 Catholic educators and administrators at the 42nd annual Diocesan Teachers' Institute that "we know full well that among many of our teen-agers even the most fundamental rules of decency are rejected."

Discussing causes of "the most degrading forms of impurity as practiced by many Americans," the priest said: "Books are published that specialize in obscenity. The alarming increase in divorce, with its inevitable accompaniment of the breakdown of sexual morality, have had dire effects on children."

He stated, however, that the lack of chastity among American youth is especially traceable "to the rejection of religious and moral instruction in the public schools of our nation."

"Some of our boys and girls," Father Connell said, "have fallen into evil habits through ignorance rather than through malice—because they did not receive sufficient instruction to prepare them for the onslaughts of temptation and the allurements of the world."

Catholic Women Score Drum Majorettes' Antics

Pittsburgh — (RNS)— High school drum majorettes were criticized here by the National Catholic Women's Union for their "indecent contortions and undress."

A resolution adopted at its annual convention scored the practice of using drum majorettes at any time, asking: "Why be modest at home, in school and in church, while outrageously immodest and most alluring and enticing to the opposite sex in public?"

"In most bands today," the resolution said, "there are many girls and women attired from top to toe in military dress, playing their instruments while parading, who are not overcome by the heat. In baseball and other games are men who still win their games while completely and heavily attired."

Deploring parental negligence in regard to modesty among young people, the resolution said the the result was that "hundreds, perhaps thousands, of Catholic boys and girls are losing their virtue, moral principles and faith."

Reds Ban Religion From School Books

Vienna — (RNS) — School children returning to their classes in Communist Czechoslovakia after the summer holidays were handed textbooks from which, according to Deputy Education Minister Anna Karlovska, all "obscurantism, superstition, lies and deceit" have been eliminated.

Writing in Rude Pravo, organ of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, the Communist official said the new texts, from which all references to religion have been deleted, were designed "to bring the class war into the schools, where the ideological struggle is sharpest."

"CHILDREN MUST leave school with a determination to defend the Soviet Union to the last drop of their blood," Miss Karlovska stated.

Although the deputy minister did not mention religion by name, she made it clear that the Prague regime was determined to wipe out all Christian traditions and supplant them by "the only living philosophy—Marx-Leninism."

Churches Converted To Communist Halls

London — (RNS) — Orders have been given by the State Office for Church Affairs in Communist Hungary to convert various Roman Catholic and Protestant churches into Communist meeting halls, the Vatican Radio reported.

Express your sympathy with Flowers. Call RA. 9494. Blanchard Florist of 58 Lake Avenue, where you really get best value. Daily deliveries to all sections, including hospitals. — Adv.

Students Earn Million In Jobs

Brooklyn, N. Y. — (NC) — Students who have secured jobs through the placement bureau of St. John's University here during the last year received salaries totalling $1,000,220, it was reported here.

General Custer Scout, 101, Dies

New Orleans — (NC) — A Requiem Mass was offered this week in St. Rose de Lima church here for a 101-year-old former army scout who had warned General Custer, just before his last stand, that he would be ambushed.

Ignatius A. Hebert, who died at the Veterans Administration Hospital, had been a Texas Ranger, United States Army Scout, builder of narrow-gauge railroads for sugar plantations, builder of wharves and railroads in South America and was lately in the lumber business.

Red Summer Camps Closed

Rome — (NC) — By order of local Prefects (Government representatives), 14 holiday camps promoted by communist organizations — UDI (Unione Donne Italiane) and INCA (Istituto Di Vittorio's Communist Confederation of Labor) — have been closed. Reasons given for the order include technical deficiencies, moral reasons and political propaganda.

Assistants Assigned

Assignments of three assistant pastors to new posts were announced today by the Diocesan Chancery. They are:

Rev. Hugh W. Wendt, assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church, Rochester, to assistant pastor of Holy Trinity Church, Webster.

Rev. L. John Madras, assistant pastor of the Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Brockport, to assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church, Rochester.

Rev. James Doyle, assistant pastor of Holy Trinity Church, Webster, to assistant pastor of the Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Brockport.

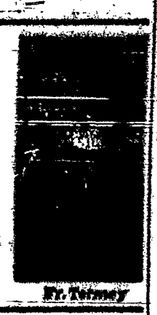
Catholic Aide To Japanese Minister At San Francisco

Tokyo — (NC) — The Japanese delegation to the San Francisco peace conference includes John Akira Matsui, a Catholic official of the Japanese foreign office. He serves as secretary to Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida, head of the Japanese delegation.

Mr. Matsui, whose father was a diplomat, is fluent in English and French and served as interpreter when Emperor Hirohito visited Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

The daughter of Prime Minister Yoshida, Mrs. Kazuko Aso, also a Catholic, accompanied her husband, who is an adviser to the Japanese delegation, and her father on the plane taking them to San Francisco. Mr. Yoshida's wife, who is dead, was a Catholic.

Morals Behind The Headlines



Fr. Tormey

The Rev. Richard T. Tormey will resume his weekly broadcast of news commentary on The Catholic Courier Journal program (this Sunday (Sept. 9) at 12:15 p.m. over Rochester radio station WHAM.

This season will mark the fifth year that The Courier Journal has presented Father Tormey's timely analysis of the "Morals Behind the Headlines."

The program has become a popular feature of Sunday radio listeners throughout Western and Central New York, and Canada, as well as the neighboring states of Pennsylvania and Ohio.

Teen-Age Dating System Criticized

Milwaukee—(NC)—The present-day dating system is a "stagnant swamp" of danger for high school boys and girls and should be strongly discouraged, Brother Francis Wheldt, C.S.C., of Albany, N. Y., says in the September issue of the Catholic School Journal, just published here.

Brother Francis is in favor of promoting even greater association of boys and girls, but wants to see emphasis placed upon "the group". "Let there be dances, lots of dances," he says, "but let us abolish the one girl concept. There is nothing inherent in nature in a girl's paying her own way into a dance, or a boy dancing with eight different girls in an evening."

Parker Pen Sets, Schick and Sunbeam Shavers at Thorne's William R. Thorne Jeweler 118 East Main Street

'THE FORGOTTEN MAN'

Czechs Hold Jersey GI Student Since '48

Washington — (NC) — An American GI student has been languishing in a Czechoslovakian prison on the usual "espionage" charge since shortly after the Communists took over the Prague government. His Congressman, who has just introduced a House resolution in his behalf, calls him "the forgotten man."

He was arrested in 1948, some seven months after the Reds took over. Since February 23, 1950, no American official has been allowed to see him. The last time his parents in this country heard from him, the youth, a Catholic, wrote them that "only prayer and deep love of God give him any more hope." He received a ten-year prison term.

The imprisoned student is John Hvasta, 24, of Hillside, N. J., who has been in a Czech prison since October 16, 1948. William Oatis, Associated Press reporter whose imprisonment has aroused such a wide protest in this country, was arrested last April 23, 1951.

YOUNG HVASTA'S Congressman, Peter W. Rodino of Newark, a Knight of Malta, introduced a resolution in the House of Representatives demanding that all "commercial relations with Czechoslovakia should be terminated immediately, and should be resumed only if and when the Government of Czechoslovakia restores to John Hvasta his freedom."

Subsequently a State Department spokesman said here that it had finally received permission from the Czech authorities to send a Prague Embassy aide to interview Mr. Hvasta in his prison cell under surveillance of a Czech official.

Young Hvasta was born in Slovakia on January 2, 1927. He came to the U.S. with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Hvasta, at the age of 12. He has a brother, Stephen, at Seton Hall University, South Orange, N.J. From September, 1943, to August, 1946, he served in the U.S. Navy after being naturalized in 1944.

JOHN HVASTA
'Only Prayer, God'

In February, 1948, he went to Czechoslovakia under the GI Bill of Rights to study the Slovak language and literature at the state university at Bratislava in Slovakia.

DURING HIS brief career at the university he became an interpreter for the U.S. consulate general at Bratislava, and Congressman Rodino said that it was through this employment that he was accused of espionage for the U.S., and arrested that October. Despite repeated efforts of the U.S. Embassy and the consulate general, he was detained without trial for seven months. After a secret trial on May 27, 1949, he was sentenced to three years in prison. After an appeal, according to Mr. Rodino's resolution, the sentence was increased to ten years on April 6, 1950. He has been incarcerated at Leopoldov prison.