

Korea GI Bill Hits Vets Enrollment In Catholic Colleges

Notre Dame, Ind.—(NC) — Because of the fixed nature of education grants under the new Korean GI Bill of Rights, the enrollment of Korean veterans in Catholic and other non-State supported colleges is not expected to match the influx of World War II GIs.

This statement was made here by Emerit E. Moore, director of student accounts at Notre Dame University, who disclosed that at present 33 Korean veterans are attending the institution, with slightly more expected in February after the operation of the new law becomes better known.

"The new Korean GI Bill," Mr. Moore declared, "tends to operate to the disadvantage of the private institution, since the student is paid a fixed monthly sum without regard to the fees of the school he chooses. As a result, many veterans are choosing state-supported colleges or other schools with lower tuition."

Mr. Moore pointed out that the bill provides payments of \$110 a month to the single student, \$135 to the married student, and \$160 to those married and with more than one dependent. The student must pay his tuition, fees and expenses from this lump sum.

"In the past," he said, "the government paid the veteran's tuition and, at the GI's option, stipulated sums for books, supplies and expenses. Now it's up to the student to budget his own educational income."

THE COLLEGE official said the new law virtually eliminated the possibility of profiteering by day-night schools and in this and other ways is an improvement over the World War II legislation, from the government point of view. On the other hand, he added, it has increased rather than lessened the administrative burden on long-established institutions such as Notre Dame.

Mr. Moore stated that before the student can receive his monthly check—the first payments are expected sometime in October—he and the university must complete a joint form certifying his attendance at classes and his satisfactory progress within the school's regulations.

Nun Baptizes Dying In Korea Prison Camp

Milton, Mass.—(NC) — The story of a refugee nun who baptized more than 900 dying adults and children in a guerrilla prisoner-of-war camp in Korea has reached here.

The nun is Sister Youn Maura, one of eight Benedictine nuns who fled their own mission in communist-occupied Korean territory and came to help out with mission work in Kwangju.

LAST SPRING some 2,000 guerrillas, including women and children in their families, were captured near Kwangju and put into the prisoner-of-war camp, according to the story received here by The Far East magazine, published by the Columbian Fathers. The Kwangju Prefecture Apostolate is a Columbian mission.

Due to lack of food, suitable living conditions and other hardships, many of the prisoners, especially the women and children, fell ill. Hundreds contracted tuberculosis; many now are in advanced stages of the disease, the advices stated.

EACH DAY, according to the story, Sister Youn Maura visited the camp, consoling the sick and giving medical aid. Since June, it was related, the Benedictine nun baptized more than 900 adults and children who were in danger of death. Two-thirds of them died, it was stated.

Sister Youn Maura has been assisted in her work by the Rev. Harold W. Henry, Columbian missionary from Minneapolis, who is Pro-Prefect of Kwangju. Father Henry also cares for some 150 lepers and several hundred other refugees. A dispensary was erected for the lepers, where they are allotted medical supplies and given treatment.

'FOR OUR COUNTRY'



His Eminence Samuel Cardinal Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, has initiated a Rosary Campaign for his archdiocese and the other dioceses of Illinois for the month of October by blessing the rosaries of military personnel in the area. Pictured with the Cardinal as he launched the state-wide Rosary Campaign "For Our Country," are left to right: S/Sgt. Lillian M. Carrig, of Coupon, Penna.; Lucille M. Rider, TECA, Elmhurst, Ill.; and Cpl. Winifred T. Geiger, Erie Pa. (NC Photos).

New Trappist Abbey Founded In Africa

Yaounde, Cameroun —(NC) — A new Trappist monastery, dedicated to Our Lady of Africa, has been established in nearby Minlaba.

The community has fifteen members, seven Europeans and eight Africans. Ten of them are priests and five are postulants from Cameroun who recently joined the community.

THE SITE of the new abbey was chosen after an extensive inspection tour of southern Cameroun by its superior, the Rev. Marie Moulin, O.C.S.O. It occupies the buildings formerly used by the Minlaba mission, which include a church and several houses.

The Minlaba abbey follows much the same rule as Trappist communities in other parts of the world. Silence is perpetual. Its daily schedule includes seven hours of prayer, six hours of manual labor and four hours of study. Because of the climate, however, the monks wear linen instead of woolen habits.

MANY AFRICANS, Father Moulin stated, are attracted to the contemplative life rather than to a more active ministry. But, he remarked, referring to the community's African members, the average native is still astonished when he sees one of his educated fellow countrymen doing manual work.

GI's Need Chaplains In Korea, Japan

Washington — (NC) — More Catholic chaplains are needed in the Far Eastern Command to care for the spiritual and moral needs of American GI's serving in Japan and Korea, where a strongly pagan atmosphere prevails.

THIS WAS the word brought back by the Very Rev. Cosmas J. Shaughnessy, C.P., superior of the Bishop Molloy Retreat House, Jamaica, Long Island, New York, who spent more than a month conducting retreats for U.S. Catholic chaplains in the two countries.

He told the NCWG News Service in an interview here that the scarcity of chaplains prevents many Catholic GI's from attending Mass. Even in the hospitals where wounded men are evacuated from the Korean front, he added, there is a shortage of priests.

"If we had more chaplains to look after the moral and spiritual life of our boys," Father Shaughnessy commented, "we would have less need to worry about a better generation to come."

The retreat superior said that one of the things that most impressed him during his Pacific visit was the remarkable charity and generosity of the American servicemen.

"I HAVE never seen anywhere such a display of charity and generosity as I have in the American Armed Forces," he said. "All a chaplain has to do is to get interested in a hospital or orphanage, and the GIs are ready to pour their money out. Their charity is so great that the chaplains have a hard time keeping up with offers to help that come to them."

"A real apostolate is being conducted by the chaplains over there," the superior declared. Praising the work of the chaplains in general, he said:

"Their spirit is magnificent. I have never found a better body of men. The only complaint they have is that there is not enough of them to carry on the work which the Church expects to be done in Japan and Korea today."

Fatima College, Quilon, India. — (NC) — A new college named for Our Lady of Fatima will be dedicated here by His Eminence Norman Cardinal Gilroy, Archbishop of Sydney.

Catholics Smuggle Message

China Letter Bares Terrorism

Rome — (NC) — The Asian "peace congress now in session in Peking, China, focuses interest on a letter by Chinese Catholics smuggled out of that Red country.

The letter is addressed to Madame Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, the sister of Indian Premier Jawaharlal Nehru. She headed an Indian cultural mission to China early this summer. The letter is signed: "a group of Chinese Catholics."

It states that the group had tried to contact the Indian woman leader but was prevented from doing so by Red police. The Catholics sent her a letter but doubt that it reached her. As a result they had a letter addressed to her smuggled out of the country.

THE LETTER has been printed in full by the Fides news agency here.

It is considered of special interest now. For the Chinese communists reportedly have made great preparations to convene delegates to the Peking "peace" congress that Catholics enjoy "full freedom of religion" and are "spontaneously" participating in the "peace" rally.

It was learned that "progressive" Catholics have been ordered to put on a "Catholic" demonstration in connection with the congress. They have also been coached about how to answer the questions of interested delegates.

The difficulty that genuine Catholics will have in contacting the delegates and giving the true religious picture in China can be gathered from the letter addressed to Nehru's sister. As published by Fides, it reads in part:

"ACCORDING to a rumor widespread in China you were during your visit in Peking deeply affected by the lot of Catholics, both priests and laity, who are held in Chinese prisons. It is said that you asked for permission to visit the prisons and that permission was refused.

"We tried to give you a proof of our gratitude by word of mouth but the guards who, probably unknown to you, jealously kept on the alert for your "safety" did not permit the least approach, the least communication. We confided a letter to the mails but we doubt that it has reached you. It is for this reason that we take the liberty to address you in the press through this letter.

"We shall not here detail the

terrible religious persecution that rages in China. All the world already knows that outside a certain number of large centers, freedom of worship, although guaranteed by the Constitution, is a mockery pure and simple, that the dioceses have been devastated spiritually, that their leaders have been expelled, that the Chinese and foreign priests have been driven away, that churches are occupied and that most abominable pressure is brought to bear on individual consciences.

"IN COMMUNIST China one cannot hope to live without adopting the materialistic and atheistic principles of the party. We wish to call your attention especially to the lot that befalls our prisoners. They were imprisoned by the hundreds on the pretext of crimes against the fatherland but in reality for their religious convictions. . . .

"Their lot is simply appalling. There are dark holes and overcrowded cells where the unhappy prisoners cannot all lie down at the same time and where they must take turns in sleeping. . . . Prisoners are obliged, from daybreak until nightfall, to squat, without the least motion on wooden or cement floors. . . . It is a crime for them to close their

eyes and one who does so is immediately called to order by the bellowing of the guards. . . . Interrogations are the only break in this monotonous regime.

"The prisoner appears alone before his judges. Alone, he must, without a lawyer, without a defense, answer his spiteful and crafty judges who try to ensnare him in every sentence.

"If his answers are judged unsatisfactory or insolent, or if he refuses to answer, because any answer would imply apostasy or his own dishonor, he is kept standing for hours, sometimes for days and for entire nights between guards holding Tommy guns. . . . Prisoners are suspended by their hands until they ask for mercy and agree to talk.

"This, Your Excellency, is what you wished to see during your sojourn. It is this that you most likely suspected but which you were not permitted to verify."

Orthodox Nuns Sentenced In Tito State

Belgrade —(RNS)—Three Serbian Orthodox nuns from Nikolski monastery in Ovcar Kablar were sentenced to prison by a Yugoslav Communist court for their alleged part "in hiding the royalist Chetnik Commander, Martinovich, from Communist authorities in 1947."

Those sentenced were Sister Branka Lazovic, who received 18 months, and Sisters Katica Vujtov and Darinka Stefanovic who other defendant, Zora Despotovic, each were given 15 months. Anovic, a minor and a novice at the monastery, was sent to a Communist reform school.

It was stated at the trial that the Abbess of the monastery, Iliina Stefanovich, described as "Martinovich's chief accomplice," was in hiding with some other nuns.

Italian Ban Lifted On U.S. Sect

Rome —(NC)—The "Church of Christ," an American-supported sect, held services here for the second successive Sunday.

This development followed an announcement at the American embassy here that Italian authorities have permitted the sect to carry on its activities while its formal application for a permanent permit is under consideration.

Previously several establishments of the "Church of Christ," including one in Rome, had been ordered closed because the leaders of the sect had failed to obtain the permit required by law.

In protesting against the closing orders, the sect declared them to be in violation of the Italian constitution. Sect leaders also referred to the 1948 treaty between Italy and the United States which stated that the nationals of either country shall "in conformity with the applicable laws and regulations" be permitted to engage in religious activities and to "lease and occupy appropriate buildings . . . for religious purposes."

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