

Osservatore Refutes Tito's Charges Of Vatican Meddling

Vatican City, (NC) — Tito has his facts backwards, Osservatore Romano, Vatican City daily, declared as it took issue with the Red dictator's assertion that the Vatican is "meddling" in Yugoslavia's internal affairs.

Tito made the charge in an interview granted to the Associated Press. Asked about his regime's relations with the Vatican, the dictator reportedly replied that Yugoslavia would consider renewal of diplomatic relations with the Holy See when "the Vatican stopped meddling in our internal affairs."

The Osservatore editorial fails to see clearly what Tito refers to in his charge of "meddling," but it presumes he refers to the fact that Yugoslav Catholics — from bishops to laymen — are trying to stand up for their constitutional rights of religious freedom.

POSSIBLY THE exercises of their rights by Yugoslav citizens — priests and laymen — could be classified as "interference in state affairs" by citizens, Osservatore declares, but hardly by the Holy See.

If there has been any "meddling" in Yugoslavia, the editorial points out, it has been carried out by the Tito government itself — the Yugoslav regime which is interfering in the internal life of the Church by opposing the activity of Catholic Action and of all religious organizations, suppressing and hamstringing the Catholic press and obstructing the work of the clergy, the editorial declares.

AS AN EXAMPLE of "violent interference" Osservatore cites the recent Communist-inspired attacks on several Yugoslav bishops whom they tried to suppress the regime's association for priests. It recalls particularly the case of the late Bishop of Zagreb, Franjo Šturm, Auxiliary of Split, Josip Pavlic, Auxiliary of Senj, and Anton Vukobratovic, Auxiliary of Ljubljana. The latter was almost burned to death as a result of the attacks.

Nun Reports Conversion Of Chinese Reds

Hong Kong, (NC) — All but two of the Communist patients who died at the Catholic hospital at Harbin in Red China during the past five years asked on their deathbeds to be baptized in the Faith. Among them were some high Communist officials.

This report was brought here by Sister Mary Jarosz, a Polish nun who had been in China since 1936. She arrived in Hong Kong after illness had forced her to abandon her work in Harbin, Manchuria, and seek a permit to leave the country.

Sister Jarosz, who belongs to the Franciscan Sisters of Mary, had been at the Harbin orphanage until 1948, when it was closed by the Communists, and spent the last five years working at the Catholic hospital. She said the Reds interfered very little with the six Sisters and 14 Chinese Sisters of her congregation who were employed at the hospital.

Asked about conditions of the Church in Harbin, Sister Jarosz stated that the work of the 15 foreign and three Chinese priestesses is limited to the city area, but religious life is comparatively free, although under constant surveillance by the Communists. Outside the city, she added, work has to be carried on in secret.

Sailors Guests Of Cardinal



New York—A detachment of officers and midshipmen from the Portuguese sloop Goncalves Zarco were honored guests at a solemn Mass in St. Patrick's Cathedral here. Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, who presided at the Mass, blessed the group and said a few words to each man. Shown kissing the cardinal's ring is the crew's captain, Jose Cosme. The crew was here to take over a minesweeper given to Portugal under the Mutual Defense Assistance program. (RENS Photo).

Prisoners Form Rosary Club

Hamelin, (NC) — "That a better citizen and a better Catholic may emerge from these walls."

These words of a deaconed inmate sum up the objectives of the Oshon Prison Rosary Club.

Members are inmates who want spiritual power to overcome the weaknesses which at a single moment in their lives, led them to prison.

Pontif Approves Transfer Of Bishop To Catholic U.

Washington, (NC) — His Holiness Pope Pius XII has accepted the renunciation of the Most Rev. Bryan J. McEntegart as Bishop of Ogdensburg (New York) following his appointment as Rector of the Catholic University of America, in this city. The Holy Father has named Bishop McEntegart to be Titular Bishop of Andri.

The actions were announced here by His Excellency Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States.

Bishop McEntegart was named Rector of the Catholic University of America on June 26, to fill an office left vacant by the death of Bishop Patrick J. McCormick on May 18. He became the eighth Rector in the more than half-century history of the University, and the second alumnus ever to become its head.



Bishop McEntegart

Bible Shown In Secret

Returned Prisoners Recount Horrors Suffered From Reds

By Father Patrick O'Connor (N.C.W.C. News Service)

Freedom Village. — Men still wearing the shapeless blue uniform of Communist prison camps tell their stories here.

Most of them are in their early twenties. They puff on American cigarettes and talk with glints of humor between the grim recitals of harsh hardships and of comrades' deaths.

Some wear around their necks the new rosaries just received from the chaplains.

Their stories run like this: "I got the same medical attention from the Chinese that their own wounded got in the hospital. Later when they wanted to get information from me, they stood me in a foxhole up to my knees in water. My wounds had not healed. They put a pistol to my head, then beat me over the head with a club."

"Some Korean civilians were friendly. They tried to slip us a turnip or something. One Korean woman in the village secretly opened a package and showed me the Bible. It smelt mildewed, showing that she had kept it hidden away."

"Men were dying right and left. . . . Some men fell out during the march (after capture) and we don't know what happened to them. . . . We were packed into a room so that nobody could lie down. . . . We ate snow for water."

"They took the guys' shoes and clothing at the Chosin reservoir (in December 1950)."

"An American Air Force officer, a British officer and a sergeant escaped and were recaptured. The Communists tied them by the wrists and hung them with arms high in the air for several days. They let them down only to eat."

"I estimated there were about 800 graves in Camp One."

"The night before the armistice was signed they read out sentence they had passed on eight guys in my camp. They had pulled out men they thought had acted against the Communists and gave them sentences from one to three years."

"I was jailed on Christmas Day, 1951, but I wasn't put in a box. Each box was about six feet long and two and a half feet wide and three feet high, solid except for the 'door' made of wooden bars. The box was placed lengthwise with the door in front. The man was handcuffed and had to sit up in the box from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m."

"If you argued against Communist instructors you were put out of circulation here. Not studying the Communist lessons was an offense."

"The Chinese are the bosses. After the prisoners of war the Koreans seem to come third in North Korea. . . . The Chinese Communists are pushing the Koreans around quite a bit. . . . The Koreans had a lot of trouble with the Chinese."

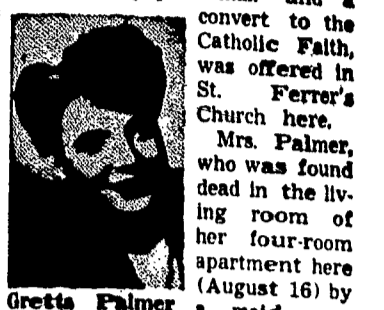
"After Little Switch (the exchange of wounded last April) we began getting one egg a week. Before that it was one a month."

"We put on some sort of entertainment on Saturday evening mimicking the stateside radio shows. The Communists took a dim view of our punch lines and songs. The toothpaste they gave us was called 'roccolin.' As a 'commercial' for roccolin one kid would open his mouth and pull out his choppers as a testimonial. The Communists then required us to submit a prepared script and we had to discontinue the humor."

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Gretta Palmer Noted Writer Dies At 46

New York (NC) — Requiem Mass for Gretta Palmer, 46, author, newspaperwoman and a convert to the Catholic Faith, was offered in St. Ferrer's Church here.



Mrs. Palmer, who was found dead in the living room of her four-room apartment here (August 16) by Gretta Palmer, a maid, was the author of a weekly column, "The Top Of My Mind," which was syndicated by the N.C.W.C. Feature Service. (The column was used regularly in this paper.)

Her last book, "God's Underground In Asia," was published last February. Four years ago in collaboration with "Father George," a pseudonym, she published a book, "God's Underground," which dealt with conditions in Russia.

THE DAUGHTER of August E. and Marie Morphy Brooker, Mrs. Palmer was born in St. Louis. She was graduated from Vassar College in 1925 and the following year began her career in writing with the New York magazine. In 1927, she wrote fashion articles for the New York World's Sunday edition and some years later was woman's page editor of the New York World Telegram.

Later as a free-lance magazine writer, she contributed articles to the Ladies Home Journal, Cosmopolitan, the Saturday Evening Post and a number of other leading magazines.

MRS. PALMER visited Japan and Manchuria as a writer in 1939 and in 1944 served as a war correspondent in the Mediterranean war theater. In 1945, she again visited the Orient and served as a correspondent in French Indo-China and other places.

She was married to Paul Palmer of Seattle, Wash., in 1925, but subsequently they were divorced.

After taking instructions in the Catholic Faith from Auxiliary Bishop Fulton J. Sheen of New York, Mrs. Palmer entered the Church in 1946.

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Church's Collapse Can't Stop Wedding

Ragus, Italy — (NC) — Not even the collapse of the church where they were waiting to be married could stop the wedding of a young couple here.

Just before their marriage was to take place, a furious thunderstorm blew down one of the church's walls. Finding that no one was hurt, the bride and groom left the ruins with their wedding party and went to the priest's house where they were married.

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