

Church, U. S. Radio 'Moral Sanctuaries' In Red-Held Poland

Washington, D. C. (NC) — A picture of Red-manacled Poland as an "immense totalitarian prison camp" in which people throng to the churches despite constant purges, was starkly outlined to a Congressional committee by Dr. Marek Stanislaw Korowicz who quit Poland's UN delegation for asylum in the U.S.

In testimony that pierced the Iron Curtain via transatlantic radio, the former University of Krakow professor said that while Communists use every means to obliterate the Catholic Church, "the Church in Poland today is a great power — the sanctuary of my people."

"NEVER IN MY life have I seen such throngs of people as go to the churches daily," Dr. Korowicz reported. "From early morning to late in the evening there are Masses all day long." The Communists "do what they can to persecute the Church," he stated, through arrests of priests and public trials as in the recent case of Bishop Czeslaw Kaczmarek of Kielec. But they haven't succeeded.

Describing life in present-day Poland as "a real inferno," Dr. Korowicz repeated what he called a current "slogan" in the country: "The people of Poland have two moral sanctuaries — the Church and broadcasts from free America."

Speaking under a blaze of newsworld TV lights, the frail, international law scholar described his escape from a New York Hotel, residence of the United States UN team representing Poland, and said he now wishes to be "spokesman for the enslaved Polish nation."

Dr. Korowicz had planned to escape when he was first notified that he would serve as first alternate delegate of the Polish UN group. He had been chosen to serve on an important UN committee of jurists because Polish communists had no trained men for the post, and because Poland is scheduled to take over the committee's chairmanship at this UN session.

Dr. Korowicz testified in French through a translator. At his side were Stefan Korowicz, Polish underground, here — who

sheltered him after his daring New York escape. Segments of Dr. Korowicz's testimony were recorded in Polish for broadcasts beyond the Iron Curtain.

Speaking calmly and with occasional flashes of humor, the greying professor touched on the following:

Despite "peace offensives" the Soviet aim is still world conquest which they hope to achieve "in 1970 or 1980 through progressive destruction of the cultural, economic and political foundations of the free world."

Stop U. S. Aid To Tito, Paper Tells President

LOS ANGELES (NC) — President Eisenhower has been called on to halt U.S. aid to communist Yugoslavia in order to restore America's moral prestige.

The demand was made in a Los Angeles Herald-Express editorial titled "No 'Good' Communists."

"This country took a calculated risk when it extended the good hand, as well as dollar and defense aid to the Yugoslavian dictator, Tito," the editorial stated.

"This country knew Tito was an implacable communist, but was overjoyed when it turned out that Tito was an anti-Moscow communist."

"We naively thought of Tito as a 'good' communist. Well, there are no such!

"Tito's Yugoslavia is now embroiled upon a brutal and diabolical persecution of the Catholic priesthood in line with the eternal communist war against all religions."

"President Eisenhower could regain moral prestige for the United States by telling — and cutting — Tito off!"

Invalid Pilgrims Receive Communion



Hoboken, N. J. — Bedridden and wheelchair invalids about to sail from here on a 17,000 mile pilgrimage to Rome and various European shrines, receive Holy Communion from Bishop Charles Leo Nelligan of Assumption College, Windsor, Ont., who offered a Pontifical Mass celebrated on the Holland America Line pier. The Mass, first evening Mass ever celebrated in Newark archdiocese, was presided over by Archbishop Thomas A. Boland. Sponsor of the pilgrimage, first of its kind to leave from the U. S. for Europe, is the Confraternity of Pilgrims, of which Bishop Nelligan is spiritual director. (RNS Photos).

Pilgrim Invalids Leave For European Shrines

Hoboken, N. J. — (RNS) — A band of afflicted men and women from 11 states and Canada grouped around a simple altar on a waterfront pier here for the first evening Mass ever celebrated in the Newark archdiocese.

They were members of the first United States Pilgrimage of Invalids who sailed for an unprecedented overseas pilgrimage to Catholic shrines in Rome, Italy and five other European countries.

Invalid travel to sacred shrines is not uncommon in Europe, according to Patrick W. O'Grady, of Chicago, executive director of the Confraternity of Pilgrims which arranged the pilgrimage.

But this was the first undertaking of its kind from the United States, he said.

ADDRESSING THE invalids, some of whom were completely helpless on stretchers, others huddled in wheelchairs, Archbishop Thomas A. Boland of Newark, who presided at the

Mass, said their presence brought "a blessing to the Archdiocese of Newark."

Bishop Charles Leo Nelligan stepped down from the altar to distribute Holy Communion to the helpless. He is spiritual director of the Confraternity of Pilgrims and a member of the faculty of Assumption College, Windsor, Ont.

He counseled the sick who might pray for cures to do so with "perfect resignation to God's holy will." He asked them also to remember in their prayers at the sacred shrines "the thousands of invalids who are unable to make this pilgrimage."

THE MASS was celebrated on the Holland America Line pier, where steamship officials esti-

mated that in addition to the pilgrim band, a congregation of 700 attended the history-making Mass. The ceremony was broadcast by Radio Station WUSO, Seton Hall University.

The pilgrims sailed on the NIEUW AMSTERDAM for a seven-week journey that will include visits to two world famous shrines to the Virgin Mary — Lourdes, France, and Fatima, Portugal; Lisieux, France, where the canonized Carmelite nun known as "The Little Flower" lived and died; the holy places in Rome and other shrines and churches in Belgium, Switzerland and Holland.

The shut-ins coined their own title for the pilgrimage. They call it "Operation Dreamboat." They explained that without the Confraternity only "rich invalids" could make such a journey. The Confraternity has supplied nurses, arranged for special transport facilities abroad and all living accommodations, and paid all the expenses of some of the travelers.

Red Terror Called Proof Devil Exists

Washington — (NC) — The Red persecutions "have not convinced us there is no God—they have convinced us of the existence of Satan," according to Auxiliary Bishop Fulton J. Sheen of New York. The mission leader recalled in a public address that in earlier times there were many instances of diabolical possessions of individuals.

"But the possession of the 20th Century is not individual," he said. "It is collective; the devil is possessing masses."

BISHOP SHEEN contrasted the early persecution of the Church by the Romans with that of the communists today. The Romans wanted blood, and many early Christians were "wet martyrs." But the Red persecution is psychological. The Bishop explained that the communists do not want blood, and in subjecting their Christian victims to mental torture, they are making "dry martyrs." Thus what we have today, he asserted, is "an entirely new category for the martyrs of our time."

"We will have to rewrite our breviaries and reword our missals," he said, because the martyrs of China are being denied death although they would rather "take a thousand knives in the back."

Bishop Sheen declared that perhaps there have been more martyrs in the past 38 years than there were in the first few centuries of the Christian era. He said, however, that "it is very possible that there are less apostates in China today than there were in North Africa, than there were in Rome, during the persecutions."

This is because Roman judges were promoted on the condition that they secured apostates and because they merely had to accept the gods of Rome, he said, whereas the Reds demand complete denial of God. Despite the horrible ordeal of those subjected to brainwashing and brainchanging, these tortures "are practically never effective with anyone who has the Faith," he said.

Red Violence Against Bishops Ordered By Tito

Trieste (NC) — The recent eruption of violence which brought beatings and bloodied faces to Bishops and priests throughout Yugoslavia was instigated by Tito personally, according to information received here.

The information states that last June Tito sent a confidential letter to all Communist party cells urging them to intensify their fight on religion. The letter reportedly stated that all means — even violence — should be used to prevent Bishops and priests from opposing the government-sponsored "priests' associations."

THE VIOLENCE against the Bishops erupted shortly thereafter. It is pointed out here.

Meanwhile it is reported that Bishop Anton Vovk, Apostolic Administrator of Ljubljana, has again fallen victim to the regime's animosity. The prelate, who has at various times been beaten and set afire by a Red mob and fined by Red courts, has now been deprived of a seminary farm because he was unable to pay an impossible "tax." The Tito authorities assessed the Bishop for "taxes" amounting to two million dinars (\$5,500). When he was unable to pay, the authorities seized the farm and the last building owned by the diocese at Gorican.

Not far from the Bishop's see city of Ljubljana, the Communist authorities have arrested two priests for allegedly inciting a riot when police and militiamen destroyed some 20 ancient religious and historical monuments. Varying from crucifixes to small shrines, these monuments were built through the centuries as a sign of the people's gratitude for being saved from various plagues and natural catastrophes.

WHEN THE people demonstrated against this destruction of their revered shrines, the authorities arrested the priests as "instigators against the government."

Other examples have been received here of how Tito's much-touted "religious freedom" works. Family retreats in which husbands and wives pray, study and meditate together on the ideals of Christian marriage, are on the increase throughout the U.S. Increased popularity of the husband-wife spiritual exercises is reported in a new publication, "Family Retreat Conference" by Father Edgar Schneider, O.S.B., director of the Family Life Bureau, N. C. W. C. The 80-page booklet, containing a series of eight conferences for family retreats, was prepared at the request of the Family Retreat Committee, consisting of Family Retreat Directors and Diocesan Family Life Directors. The volume defines the family retreat as a set of spiritual exercises that focus attention of husband and wife together on the spiritual aspects of their wedded life.

Family Retreats Reputed Growing

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