

Counterspy Convert, Attended Church Honors Mass While Working As Red

Washington — (NC) — It's tough enough for an FBI "plant" to keep up the appearance of being an ardent Red in Communist Party circles. But when a counterspy gets involved in the total discipline of the party and at the same time holds to faithful attendance at Mass and regular reception of the sacraments, its doubly hard. — But that's what Mrs. Marlene Kowall did. The 27-year-old professional dancer and former model told her story to the Subversive Activities Control Board, which is holding hearings to determine whether the Jefferson School of Social Sciences in New York is actually a Communist Party front and should be compelled to register as such. Later, in an interview with the N.C.W.C. News Service, Mrs. Kowall revealed that her decision to infiltrate into the Communist Party was made not long after her conversion to Catholicism. — HER TESTIMONY before the board, the attractive brunette recounted: — that before immersing herself in Communism, she contacted the FBI and got a special dispensation from the Church. — she shifted back and forth from the Jefferson School and the Jesuits' Xavier Institute of Labor Relations, just a short distance away. — In order to avoid detection by Communists, she usually had to go to Mass at 2:30 or 4 a.m. in various downtown Manhattan churches. — that the terrific strain of pretending to be a Communist, holding a job, and remaining

faithful to her religion almost broke her health completely. — MRS. KOWALL told the board that her first contact with the Communists came during the 1945 Hollywood movie strike, when she was a messenger girl at Columbia studios. "I was only 18 at the time," and I thought the strike was helping the underdog workers. When they called for pickets, I went overboard." She said her father, screen actor Barton MacLane, warned her several times, "but I thought I knew it all." At that time, she continued, several Communists in the film colony tried to get her to join the party, and the New York Daily Worker wrote her a letter praising her part in the strike. But she said she was never in sympathy with the Communist Party. — The former counterspy told the N.C. that about that time, she felt the Methodist Church — to which she belonged — was not fulfilling her spiritual needs and she decided to think seriously about the Catholic Church. She moved East for a career, stopping on the way to ask the advice of the Dominican nuns at St. Cecilia Academy in Nashville, which she had attended for a short time in high school. They referred to her Father Peter V. Manning, O.P., at St. Vincent Ferrer's Church in New York, she said, and in April, 1946, after several months study, Father Manning received her into the Church. — After running into more Reds while working as a dance instructor and doing professional dancing, Mrs. Kowall became more and more concerned with the menace of Communism. She told the subversive control board that toward the end of 1947 she hit on the idea of joining the party "to be of service to my country." Informing the FBI of her plan, she arranged a meeting with two agents in the presence of Father Peter Duffee, O.F.M., of St. Francis of Assisi Church so that she could keep in good standing in the Church. Later, she said, she got a special dispensation. — Then, she said, she moved head on into Communist circles, using contacts she had already made in Hollywood. She left the Jeanne d'Arc Home run by the Sisters of Divine Providence where she'd been living, gave up her career, and lost her friends. — But while taking courses in Marxism at the Jefferson School, she kept in almost constant contact with her spiritual adviser. — As to revealing her activities, Mrs. Kowall said she's not worried about physical harm from the Communists "even though one can never feel particularly safe. But she's glad that her father and her old friends will now understand what she was doing and why, even though she believes Communists are still in a position to block her from jobs in various professions.

'Family Doctor of Year' Assists At Mass Daily

New Haven, Ky. — (NC) — Eighty-year-old Dr. Joseph I. Greenwell of this community has been named "outstanding general practitioner of America for 1958" by the American Medical Association. The award, which carries a gold medal and citation of service to his community, was made by Dr. Edward J. McCormick, St. Louis University alumnus and AMA president at the association's winter meeting in St. Louis. — IN SEPTEMBER, Dr. Greenwell received State-wide acclaim when the Kentucky Medical Association named him "outstanding practitioner of the year." — On Sunday, November 29, the people of Nelson County and the surrounding area attended a Solemn Mass in his honor. Abbot M. James Fox, O.C.S.O., of the Trappist Monastery of Our Lady of Gethsemani, offered the Mass in St. Catherine's Church here. Dr. Greenwell is an active member of the parish and assists at Mass daily. — For 53 years, he has been serving the people of this area, sometimes known as the "cradle of Catholicity in Kentucky." Born at Balltown, Dr. Greenwell came to New Haven shortly after graduating from the old Louisville Hospital College of Medicine in 1900. — When he first began his practice, Dr. Greenwell traveled the rugged roads by horse and buggy. In 1910 he bought his first automobile and has worn out a lot of cars since then. He still makes house calls but someone else drives for him now. — Three generations of people have received medical care from Dr. Greenwell.

Church Honors Actress, Singer Given To Dennis Day

Houston, Tex. — (NC) — Actress Irene Dunne and singer Dennis Day were among 37 prominent Catholics invested with the Order of the Holy Sepulchre at the Church of the Annunciation. — At colorful ceremonies, including a Pontifical Mass celebrated by His Eminence James Francis Cardinal McIntyre, the group which included three Bishops was accorded honors in the order reserved for people who have rendered outstanding service to the Church. — Honored with Miss Dunne was her husband, Dr. Francis S. Grylls, M.D., and his wife, both of whom were invested, were listed by the singer's baptismal name, Owen P. McNulty. — The three Bishops who were admitted with prior rank of knights commander with star were Coadjutor Bishop Thomas K. Gorman of Dallas, Bishop Louis J. Reicher of Dallas and Bishop Laurence J. Fitzsimon of Amarillo. — Twenty-eight Texans were among those honored. — Bishop Eugene J. McGuinness of Oklahoma City and Tulsa, grand prior of the western liutenancy of the order, officiated as the honorees were invested and elevated. Bishop Wendelin J. Nold of Galveston delivered the sermon. — The order which began in the days of the crusades was originally formed to guard the tomb of Christ. — Pledge Rosaries — Mexico City (NC) — Franciscan monks and parishioners of St. Francis Church here have pledged themselves to recite the Rosary 8,000,000 times during the Marian Year.



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In the hills of Lebanon, high above the Mediterranean is Choufat. Magr. McMahon wrote from there recently: "Three years ago I started a school for the refugee children and I had to ask the priest, some miles away, to come on foot to instruct them. I had to ask the people to walk these miles to the church. Now my heartiest desire is to give these exiles a little chapel, for they are a new Catholic community in the area. Can you help me raise \$1,000 to give them a worthy House of God? You preach Christ to them. You preach all His mercy when you help us."

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NOEL, NOEL

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Vatican Official Outlines Marian Year Observances

Rome — (NC) — Four general types of external activities which will characterize the Marian Year throughout the world were outlined at a press conference here by Archbishop Luigi Traglia, Viceregent of Rome, and chairman of the Marian Year Committee. — Archbishop Traglia said the committee had recommended that Marian Year observances be developed in four different categories — religious, cultural, artistic and social. He stated that this would best realize the aims set forth by His Holiness Pope Pius XII in his encyclical letter, "Fulgens Corona," proclaiming the Marian Year as a commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the definition of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception. — HE SAID that experts are already at work preparing publications on mariology, as well as study course outlines ranging from a scientific to a popular character. He added that the principal Catholic universities are expected to take a leading part in activities of this nature. — Archbishop Traglia told the press conference it would be impossible to think of programs honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary without including some of artistic interest. — "She has been such a paragon for artists of all ages, such an object of artistic expression in every form," he said, "that it is natural to think of exhibits of Marian art, as well as of the construction and embellishment of shrines and churches and of the publication and distribution through press outlets of reproductions of masterpieces in the history of Marian art." — ARCHBISHOP Traglia said that his committee is sponsoring in Rome an exhibit of Marian art from the earliest times to the year 1300, and of great masterpieces from that time to the present. — In the social field, Archbishop declared, it is hoped that the results of enhanced love and devotion to the Mother of God will be shown in enterprises designed to assist those in various kinds of need. He said that this should take shape both individually in human hearts, and collectively in projects which will extend the warmth of Christian charity in a far broader circle.

India's Sixtieth Bishop Consecrated

Ernakulam, India — (NC) — India's 60th Bishop, Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Parakkattil, of Ernakulam was consecrated here by His Eminence Eugene Cardinal Tisserant. — The Dean of the Sacred College officiated at the rites held on the grounds of St. Mary's Cathedral here in the presence of many members of the Indian hierarchy and a great gathering of people that included the new prelate's parents. — Cardinal Tisserant, currently visiting India as secretary of the Sacred College of Oriental Rites, interrupted his tour of Malabar to consecrate Bishop Parakkattil.

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