

# Stalin Words Show Communist Stand Against All Religion

Washington — (NC) — "The (Communist) Party cannot be neutral regarding religion, and it conducts anti-religious propaganda against all religions for scientific and religious purposes since any religion is contrary to science."

These are words of the late Josef Stalin, Russia's dictator and one of the all-time most cruel persecutors of religion. They appear in a revised edition of a Senate subcommittee report on "Strength of the International Communist Movement" just issued.

The revised edition supplements a report made by the subcommittee in October, 1953. It includes a section designed to clarify the nature of Communist Parties. A new preface by Sen. Alexander Wiley of Wisconsin, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, explains: "This section consists of a few selected quotations from Communist sources setting forth the strategy and tactics of Communist Parties throughout the world. The quotations are confined, almost without exception, to the subject of the Communist Parties as such and are not intended as an overall commentary of any phase of the theory or practice of Communism."

Like the October, 1953 report, the revised edition is the work of a special subcommittee on security affairs of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Senator Alexander Wiley of Wisconsin is the subcommittee chairman and Senators Guy M. Gillette of Iowa and Homer Ferguson of Michigan are its other members.

The STALIN quotation is printed under a section dealing with the Communist requirement of anti-religion. The report adds that Stalin also advised: "There are cases in which some of the members of the Party occasionally hinder the thorough development of anti-religious propaganda. If such members of the Party are expelled this is very good since there is not room in the ranks of the Party for such Communists."

The revised report brings up to date a country-by-country tabulation of Communist Party

## 'Under God' Urged For Flag Pledge

Washington — (NC) — The House Committee on the Judiciary has voted in executive session to report favorably to the House of Representatives a bill to include the words "under God" in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

This action was announced by Representative Louis C. Rabaut of Michigan, author of the bill which would make the pledge read as follows: "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all."

Representative Rabaut said the response to his proposal "has been amazing," and that he hopes the House would accord his measure speedy passage. "So long as this nation exists under God," he said, "we need fear no danger, from without, or from within."

# Holy Week Rites Held At Sea By Rochester Chaplain

A destroyer tender, USS Tidewater (AD31), has set what is believed to be a religious precedent for Navy ships at sea. Through the efforts of the crew and the full cooperation of the command, the complete celebration of Catholic Holy Week ceremonies was brought about aboard this vessel.

Chaplain John R. Widman, a priest of the Rochester diocese, conducted the services which began with a High Mass on Holy Thursday at 4 p.m. and concluded with the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday at 11:30 p.m.

THESE RELIGIOUS rites were observed while the Tidewater was ploughing through a rough Mediterranean Sea with elements of the Sixth Fleet enroute to Cannes, France from Barcelona, Spain. The rocking, pitching motion of the ship caused by the turbulent sea did not in any way detract from the solemnity of the ceremonies.

The Tidewater, a Norfolk-based ship commanded by Captain E. B. Mott II, is currently serving as the flagship for Commander, Service Force, Sixth Fleet, in the Mediterranean.



In addition, a general service was conducted at sunrise.

At 7 a.m. the chaplain, acting in his capacity as Service Force Sixth Fleet Chaplain, transferred by high line and boatswain's chair to the USS Great Sitkin and there offered Easter services for the men of that ship.

A pre-arranged visit to the USS Ray, a submarine, had to be cancelled.

The cooperative spirit of the Tidewater crew and the Service Force Sixth Fleet staff was manifested in several ways during the three-day period.

The metalsmith shop and the carpenter shop turned to on short notice to make articles needed for these rites. The master-at-arms pitched in to move the necessary furniture and to prepare the required space in the Crew's Lounge. The Supply Department made its office space available for use as a chapel from 4 p.m. Holy Thursday until 6 a.m. Good Friday. The Staff's boatswain's mate appropriated some of the braid from the Commodore's barge to make a canopy for use in the Holy Thursday procession.



FIRST HOLY WEEK AND EASTER rites claimed held aboard ship were conducted by Chaplain John R. Widman of Rochester. Aboard USS Great Sitkin, Mass was celebrated (top photo) in ship's mess hall. All Holy Thursday night until 6 a.m. Good Friday Mass, USS Tidewater men maintained a vigil before chapel repository. (U.S. Navy Official Photos).

# Secret Mass In Red Jail Recalled By Ousted Priest

Hong Kong — (NC) — A 55-year-old, expelled Canadian missionary — his vision gravely impaired after two years in Red China jails — recalls that the happiest moment of those two years was the one time he could offer Mass.

But he still does not know where the mysterious wine and bread came from to enable him to celebrate Mass while seated on his prison bunk.

FATHER LOUIS A. VENADAM, Scarborough missionary, was sitting on his bed in his cell one morning saying his rosary when he heard some small object fall on the floor near him. The guard heard the noise too and peeked through the peep hole but passed on.

The priest's eyesight was very poor so he couldn't see what had been dropped into his cell. As soon as it was safe, Father Venadam groped around the floor and found a small perfume bottle wrapped in old paper containing a bit of grape wine. A second package had a bit of bread enclosed.

Fearing some trick, Father Venadam waited three days to see whether he might be questioned about the Mass materials. Since nothing was said, he got out a clean shirt to serve as an altar cloth and sat on his bed as was his custom for breakfast.

AS HE STARTED to offer the Sacrifice of the Mass, the guard looked in through the peep hole. But Father went on calmly as if he were about to take his breakfast, and the guard passed on. Then, for the first and only time during the 22 months of his imprisonment, he had the happiness of offering Mass. During the Mass, whether by coincidence or not, someone sang the "Kyrie," the priest related.

Father Venadam learned that there were quite a few priests as well as Catholics from the neighboring dioceses of Wenhchow and Kashing in both the jail and labor crews working nearby. A Chinese priest in a "reform by labor" group of some 400 used to lead the Christians in chanting Latin hymns corresponding to the liturgical seasons of Christmas, Lent and Easter.

Bishop-Elect Byrne, St. Louis — (NC) — The consecration of Bishop-elect Leo C. Byrne, newly appointed auxiliary bishop of St. Louis, has been set for June 28, the feast of St. Peter and Paul, in the St. Louis Cathedral.

ing with spiritual advisers, Miss Kelly formed the Sodality which now numbers 1,500 sick and disabled men, women and children.

## National Magazine Features Invalid's Story Of Faith

New York — (NC) — The story of a Catholic girl, a total invalid from the age of 17, who worked to found the League of St. Therese Sodality and won the praise of Pope Pius XII, is included in the June issue of the Woman's Home Companion.

One of a series on how women have employed religious values to deal with the major problems of their lives, the article, "Was I Chosen By God?" was written by Mary Ellen Kelly of Marcus, Iowa, whose work for invalids was climaxed in a pilgrimage to Fatima, Lourdes and Rome.

INFORMED AT the age of 17 that she was a total invalid, dependent on others for her every need, Miss Kelly prayed to the Blessed Virgin. With the advice of priests, she learned to accept her suffering as a vocation and to dedicate her life to working for others.

Her inspiration came where she had suggested to a Jesuit priest that "someone should start a sodality for invalids."

"Then why don't you get busy and do it," the Jesuit said. By writing letters and consult-

## Mass Celebrated Daily At D.B.P.

Mass was celebrated daily in the fortress of Dien Bien Phu before its capture by Indo-Chinese Communists. It was reported by Major Jean Martinelli of the French Foreign Legion, one of the last French soldiers to leave the stronghold before it fell.

A graduate of St. Cyr, France's West Point, Major Martinelli was evacuated from Dien Bien Phu after being wounded in an artillery barrage.

Asked about life in the fortress while under siege, he stated: "As you know soldiers are like civilians. Some have faith. Holy Mass was celebrated daily in a central open-air chapel and as often as possible in battalion."

This was stated in an interview given by the major to the New York Journal-American.

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