

Guatemalans Freed From Red Regime, Flock To Churches

Guatemala City (NC) — Guatemalans flocked to churches to thank God for the end of hostilities and for liberation from Communist-inspired police terror. But there was considerable weeping, too, with the prayers of thanksgiving.

As the bulging jails opened to free the victims of communist terror, friends and relatives discovered that many of their loved ones had paid with torture and death for their opposition to communism. The city morgue held more than 50 bodies that had been bruised, beaten and broken — some beyond recognition — under the communist system of police "interrogation."

ONE OF THE prisoners who survived the ordeal was Juan Alberto Rosales, director of Accion Social Cristiana, leading Catholic publication in this country. Mr. Rosales had been arrested some weeks ago and was still suffering from the effects of maltreatment when the jails were opened.

The war ended officially in Guatemala with an agreement signed between rebel chief Carlos Castillo Armas and provisional government head Eladio Tobar.

Standing by to assist in the negotiations was the Rev. Monsignor, Archbishop General Verolme. The veteran Vatican diplomat, who remained in Guatemala City during the hectic days of the former Red-tinted regime, had seen communism in operation before. He was charged with the task of negotiating the two-week civil war. However, the Church of the Most Holy (Mary) of this city was hit during an air raid.

Before the overthrow of the communist-aided government of Jacobo Arbenz, there was fear that Red agents might assassinate some of the leading priests and prelates. The rebel radio sta-

Philippine Catholic Schools Tax-Free

Manila (NC) — The Supreme Court of the Philippines has upheld a lower court ruling exempting Catholic schools from income taxation.

The decision holds in all cases where no part of a Catholic school's net income goes to the benefit of any private person, but is devoted exclusively to religious, charitable or educational purposes.

The Supreme Court confirmed a previous decision of the Court of First Instance of Manila in a test case between the Collector of Internal Revenue and the College of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Lucena, Quezon province.

Both courts rejected the contention of the Collector of Internal Revenue that the school was subject to income taxation because it charged tuition fees and thus was engaged in an "activity conducted for profit."

Teachers Of Blind



Washington, D.C. — Some 70 priests, nuns, lay teachers and students gathered this summer in the Institute for the Preparation of Teachers for the Blind, a Catholic organization, to discuss the needs of the blind in the United States. The meeting was held at the DePaul University in Chicago.

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Says President Has Made NLRB 'More Anti-Labor'

Cleveland (NC) — The Association of Catholic Trade Unionists charged President Eisenhower as being responsible for the National Labor Relations Board's becoming "more anti-labor in every decision."

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Belgians Get Warning On Socialists

Ghent, Belgium (NC) — A warning to Catholics against the dangers of collaborating with socialists was sounded here by His Eminence Joseph Cardinal Van Roey, Archbishop of Malines, at a celebration here marking the 65th anniversary of the Catholic trade union movement in Belgium.

Cardinal Van Roey's warning came a month after the Bishops of Belgium had issued a pastoral forbidding Catholics to belong to socialist trade unions and advising them to join the Catholic trade union movement.

Extreme Caution Urged

May Federal Employees Ever Disregard Secrecy Directives?

St. Louis (NC) — The greatest caution must be exercised before an individual may disregard civil laws for the sake of the common good, Father John T. Richardson, C.M., moral theology professor at Kenrick Seminary here, has warned.

"To give perfect freedom to private citizens to pass judgment on civil law and so to act as to destroy civil authority and to put chaos in the place of government," Father Richardson said.

THE MORAL theologian was asked by the St. Louis Register, newspaper of the St. Louis archdiocese, for his views on the moral issues involved in the question—recently raised in congressional hearings—of the obligation of government workers to observe secrecy directives.

The same question was discussed by Father Francis J. Connell, C.S.S., dean of the school of sacred theology at the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. in an article written for The Tidings, newspaper of the Los Angeles archdiocese, recently. Father Connell said there are times when the obligation of a government employee to observe an entrusted secret "should yield to the needs of the public good."

Father Richardson said a person is no longer obliged to keep a secret when to do so would harm the common good. But he added that directives of the Federal government and the Army "would have for their employees a moral force comparable to that of civil law."

He said that the important question raised in the recent hearings whether Congress can supersede such commands or can allow a committee or a committee chairman to overrule them—is one that has not yet been answered.

"Civil law, or such commands, can ordinarily be disregarded only if a person is well-informed and certain that what is commanded or forbidden is unreasonable, that is, contrary to the natural law," he said. "To fail to protect the common good is unreasonable."

"But one who would act without further investigation or prudent counsel in the matter of such a conflict," Father Richardson continued, "could not be justified, for there is an ever present danger of accepting one's own position rather than that of authority, without being thoroughly familiar with the facts of the case."

IN THE MATTER of national defense, Father Richardson continued, the obligation to secrecy is grave and that obligation would cease only if a grave danger to national security existed. He added that communism is such a grave danger.

Father Richardson said that the first obligation of a person sworn to secrecy, who was aware of subversion in government, would be to inform some authorized person in his department or the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

In any case, Father Richardson continued, the person could volunteer to pass on such classified information only if he was certain that the common good was in grave danger. He added that in grave danger, the law must be followed to the letter, and good will result from not following it.

Einaudi Gets Panal Award



Rome — President Luigi Einaudi of Italy (right) was presented with the Supreme Order of Christ, highest Pontifical decoration, by Archbishop Giuseppe Fietta, Papal Nuncio to Italy (left), at a special ceremony in the chapel of the Quirinal Palace here. The award was bestowed on Mr. Einaudi for his services to Italian Catholicism. Only four other living persons belong to the order, normally reserved for heads of state. (RNS Photo)

U. S. Catholic Married At Mass In Moscow

Mingham, La. — (NC) — ZAGS, the much discussed "civil status registry" of the Soviet Government, where once a divorce could be obtained by a post-card, now contains the official marriage record of a U.S. Catholic diplomat.

The diplomat is William H. Duncan, Jr., who with his wife, the former Ulla Schmidt of Copenhagen, Denmark, is visiting his parental home here after finishing a tour with the United States Embassy staff in Moscow.

MR. DUNCAN, a convert of three years, and his non-Catholic wife had the distinction of being married at a Nuptial Mass during Lent.

Mr. Duncan explained that Father Georges Bissonette, American Assumptionist who is chaplain to the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, had the authority to grant dispensations and there by was enabled to officiate at the mixed marriage at the Nuptial Mass in his apartment chapel, which serves Catholics of the U.S. and other embassies.

The Soviet government required a public notice of the registration.

After a month in Copenhagen, the couple will go to Rome, Mr. Duncan's next post.

MR. DUNCAN now 26, met his wife, 20, at the American House club in Moscow in 1953. The club is the social center of diplomatic corps members. She was an employee of the Danish Embassy in Moscow.

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Indian Women Ask Action On Films

New Delhi, India (NC) — About 15,000 housewives and mothers in Delhi demanded action to "control the evil of the cinema."

The women leaders criticized modern movies as a "major factor in the moral decay of children" and pressed for legislation to curb the evil.

They said that films are exciting children into "precocious sexual habits" and are serving as a major factor in inciting to crime and the general unsettlement of society. The mothers complained that many of their children do not attend school and steal money to go to the movies.

This demand, which represents also the views of Indian Catholics who have long fought against immoral films, has reportedly been promised full consideration by Mr. Nehru.

Reds Tighten Reins On Chinese Priests

Hong Kong (NC) — As the Red government in China continues to expel Catholic foreign missionaries, it is tightening the screws of persecution on the Chinese priests and religious who remain, it was learned here.

Arrests and confinement to isolation compounds have been increasing. At Chong, near Peking, several Chinese Marist Brothers have been put under house arrest. The director of the Sacred Heart primary school at Peking, Brother Celestin Lion, has also been put under house arrest.

Notre Dame Gets \$50,000 Gift

Notre Dame, Ind. (NC) — The University of Notre Dame today announced a bequest of \$50,000 from the estate of Charles F. Williams, Cincinnati, O., to establish scholarships in its College of Law.

Mr. Williams, who was president of the Western and Southern Life Insurance Company, was a member of the Associate Board of Lay Trustees at Notre Dame from 1948 until his death in September, 1962.

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