

Islam Paves Way For Communism In Africa

The following article is written by a missionary whose name must be kept anonymous. He has spent many years in Africa and is an authority on Moslem culture.

(N. C. W. C. News Service)

Algiers, Algeria — World communism is using Islam as a tool in its drive to conquer Africa.

At the same time the Moslems of northern Africa, who are trying to win the whole continent for Allah, believe that they can use Red offers of aid to further their own ambitions.

Both realize that whoever wins over the south's Negro masses, now struggling for independence from colonial regimes and for a higher standard of living, will be master of all Africa.

RELATIONS between Islam and communism are thus based on the desire of each to exploit the other. Only one side can succeed and the odds at present greatly favor the Reds.

Although they know that the Moslem religion has a profound horror of atheistic communism, the Reds have offered aid to Moslem nations and adopted the policy of Islamize the Negroes.

They regard this policy as the first step towards a communist take-over in Africa, since they believe they can capitalize on basic Islamic weaknesses once the contrast becomes predominantly Moslem. Apparently the Reds think that Mohammedanism has greater immediate appeal than communism for Africa's 80 million pagans and are willing to help Islam act as the forerunner of Marxism.

Egypt's acceptance of arms from the USSR and its satellites is ample proof of this willingness to take Red aid. Islam, reinforced by Arab nationalism, evidently thinks that acceptance of Soviet help strengthens it in combating the West and gaining control of non-Moslem Africa.

At present the bulk of Africa's more than 85 million Moslems live in the countries along the Mediterranean coast where they make up the overwhelming majority of the population of Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Libya, Egypt and Sudan.

Intensive and continual Moslem missionary efforts have also

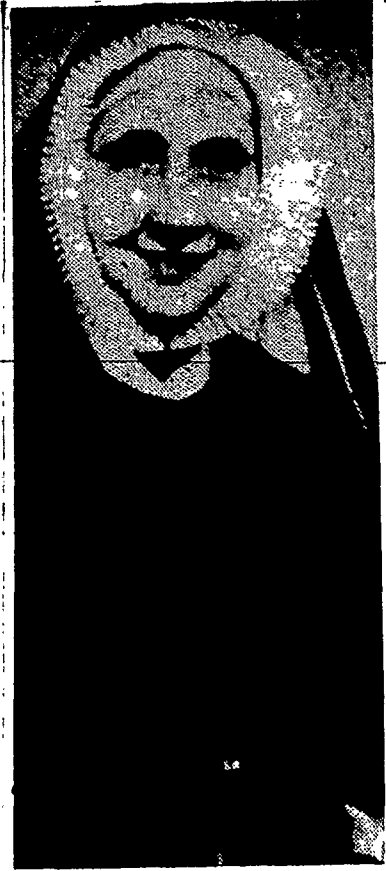
attracted huge numbers of converts in the south. Moslem strongholds in Negro Africa include Nigeria and French West Africa, where Mohammedans number about 14 million and nine million respectively.

Far from opposing Islam's missionary efforts, the communists are supporting them. They are convinced that they have nothing to fear from a Mohammedan Africa and everything to gain. They understand that Moslems' religious opposition to communism is in reality weak and illusory.

One of Islam's major weaknesses in this regard is its false idea regarding God's omnipotence.

The Moslem's blind submission to an all-powerful Allah, which has in practice involved a refusal to recognize the laws of nature, has led to a fatalism that says "what is to be will be" and denies that men can act effectively to determine their own destiny.

Unlike the Reds who have energetically set out to organize it along communist lines, the Moslem leaves everything to Allah, whom he sees as ruling over all aspects of life, even its most minute practical details. Thus, although the Moslem would like to have a higher living standard, his belief that Allah will provide has kept him from taking vigorous action to improve his lot.



Cenacle Nun

St. Louis — (NC) — Superior General of the Congregation of Our Lady of the Retreat in the Cenacle, Mother Clare Gordon, is making her first visit to the U.S., arriving from her Motherhouse in Paris. She is meeting with 30 American superiors at an annual meeting of the two American Provinces in St. Louis. The Congregation conducts retreat houses for women, including one on East Ave., Rochester.

Pope Congratulates Olympic Champion

Castel Gandolfo — (RNS) — Laraine Crapp, Australian Olympic swimming champion, was congratulated by Pope Pius XII on her sports achievements.

The Pontiff received the swimming star at a special audience in the papal summer residence here.

He talked to her for about five minutes and presented her with a medal and rosary.

Miss Crapp won the women's 400-meter free-style title and helped her country take the women's 100-meter freestyle relay during the 1956 Olympics at Melbourne.

Knights Of Columbus To Fete Bishop Kearney

His Excellency Bishop Kearney will be honored by Knights of Columbus units in the Diocese of Rochester at a dinner in Hotel Sheraton, Saturday, Oct. 26 at 6:30 p.m., it was announced today.

EACH COUNCIL of the K. of C. and Assembly of the Fourth Degree of the Order will be represented by their officers to pay tribute to the Shepherd of the Diocese and a member of the Order on his 25th anniversary of Consecration and on 20 years as Bishop of Rochester.

Bishop Kearney is a former state chaplain of the K. of C. and participated in degree work in this diocese.

A Burse in the name of the K. of C. units will be presented.

John J. Conway Jr., assistant district attorney of Rochester and past faithful navigator will act as toastmaster. Edward A. Claus of Elmira, district deputy of the 6st New York District is chairman.

Information Forum To Hold Final Meeting

Closing meeting of the Catholic Information Forum will be held in the Seminary Chapel of St. Andrew Seminary, 1150 Buffalo Road on Monday, Oct. 28 at 8 p.m. according to the Rev. Raymond Kenny, forum director.

The Catholic Information Forum was held each Monday for the past five weeks at Manager Hotel.

Persons who attended the forum as well as interested friends will gather for the last meeting in the Seminary Chapel. The Mass vestments and sacred vessels will be displayed and explained. The chapel and altar furnishings will also be explained.

The meeting will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Seminarians will sing at Benediction and assist at the ceremonies.

Really Look Up To Their Priests

Fushimi, Japan — Two towering Maryknoll missionaries here are causing a run on liniment sales in local pharmacies.

To the average small Japanese parishioner of St. Therese Church, Fathers Patrick F. O'Donoghue, M.M., of Washington, D.C., and J. Gregory Gilmartin, M.M., of Waterbury, Conn., appear to be giants.

One observer reports that the parishioners are asking the tall padres to sit down when talking to them because they are getting stiff necks from looking up to the priests.

U.S. Rushes Aid To Flood Victims

Madrid — (RNS) — An American Catholic relief agency was among the first to rush supplies to Valencia in the wake of floods which cost at least 100 lives and caused considerable property damage.

Prior to leaving here for the east Spain city Roberto F. Medina, delegate in this country for Catholic Relief Services-National Catholic Welfare Conference, said the organization had already speeded 180 tons of food and other materials to the flood site.

He said another 100 tons of supplies was due to be sent immediately.

Meanwhile, Archbishop Marcelino Olaechea Loloaga of Valencia organized prompt on-the-spot measures for the victims, many of whom lost their homes when nearly a week of rain caused the Turia River to overflow and swirl through the city.

The archbishop's first action was to arrange for the sheltering and feeding of many flood victims in his episcopal residence.



Outstanding In Catholic Action

WILLIAM T. NOLAN of Rochester awarded 1957 Bishop Duffy Medal at Regional Meeting of Lake Erie Region of National Federation of Catholic College Students. The Rev. Jerome Kelley, O.F.M., left, of St. Bonaventure University's faculty admires medal presented to Nolan at a dinner in the university dining hall capping a day-long workshop and seminar meeting of the N.F.C.C.S. last Saturday. Others from left are the Rev. Bernard Weiss, D'Youville College faculty member and N.F.C.C.S. chaplain, who presented the medal, Nolan, Patrick Jesaitis, a Port Jefferson, N.Y., senior at St. Bonaventure and regional N.F.C.C.S. president.

Seton Workers Hear Bp. Kearney At Breakfast

Ninth annual Mass and Communion of the Seton Branches of St. Mary Hospital was held Sunday, Oct. 20. Mass was celebrated in the hospital chapel by His Excellency Bishop Kearney, assisted by Rev. Edward McAniff and Rev. Paul G. Wozniak, hospital chaplain.

Addressing the members, Bishop Kearney said, "The most significant act of charity you do is done for God Himself. Whether you are visiting patients, doing mechanical work like preparing bandages, raising funds, in any act of charity connected with St. Mary's that you do you are carrying out the mandates of Our Divine Lord. 'Inasmuch as you have done it to the least of these, my brethren, you have done it unto Me.'"

After the Mass, the members were guests of Sister Martina and the Sisters of Charity at breakfast in the nurses' home. Mrs. Frank P. Toolan, chairman of the 54 Seton Branches, numbering over 700, greeted the guests, and introduced as toastmistress the co-chairman Mrs. Arthur B. Weston.

Mrs. Weston introduced special guests, officers, and committee members. Mrs. Robert C. Odenbach as treasurer presented Sister Martina with a check for \$1,000 for the Student Nurses' Scholarship Fund, one of the projects of the Seton Branches.

A musical program was presented by members of the Nazareth Glee Club, singing favorite selections of Bishop Kearney.

At each place was a booklet on the life of Mother Seton, the gift of the Bishop to the Seton Workers to celebrate the centennial Mass and breakfast. The cover was a copy of the painting in the hospital oratory of "Christ Healing the Sick."

Mrs. Weston was chairman of the breakfast, assisted by Mrs. Edward J. Loeb, co-chairman, and Mrs. John Burns. Hostesses were Mrs. Henry S. Hanford, Mrs. Patrick Nash, Mrs. Charles Gerner, Mrs. Joseph S. Weber, Mrs. Charles F. Seuffert, Mrs. John A. Dale, Mrs. Frederick C. Moser, Miss Marie Larigan, Mrs. John F. Hitchcock, Mrs. Joseph Crowley, Mrs. William J. Sheehan, Mrs. Leonard Harris, Mrs. Urban De Corinck, Mrs. Norman R. Stewart, Mrs. Arthur B. O'Brien, Mrs. E. James Hickey, Mrs. Edward Klee, Miss Mae Halbe, and Miss Margaret J. McWhinney.



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