

Orthodox Heads Seen Soviet Tools Against Catholic Church

Rome (NC) — The Soviet Union aims at destroying the Catholic religion by means of the schismatic Russian Orthodox Church, an article in *Civiltà Cattolica* declared.

The magazine, published here by Italian Jesuits, devoted the article to a study of the new aspects of the long standing collaboration of the "Church of Moscow" with the communists.

"THE TRUE END of the new course of Soviet religious policy is the destruction of the true religion, the Catholic religion, by means of another creed," the magazine stated. That creed is "the Orthodox schismatics of Moscow, who have collaborated fully with the political attitudes of Moscow in every field," it continued.

The Jesuit publication noted that the relationship between the Russian church and the communists has become more controlled by the state and is presently dangerous.

THE MAGAZINE cited articles published in the *Journal of the Moscow Patriarchate* which were written by the Patriarch Alexi and by the Metropolitan Nikolai.

The articles praised Soviet might in Hungary and defended Soviet aspirations in the Middle East, the Jesuit publication reported.

The Russian magazine also published an appeal, to those persons who fled Russia, to return and not to be intimidated by "false propaganda."

CIVILTÀ CATTOLICA noted that a significant reply to a similar plea was given by the Metropolitan Athanasius, president of the episcopal synod of the Russian Orthodox schismatics in exile, who wrote:

"Among these defenders, allies and supporters of Soviet power, we see, to our great sorrow, the supreme representatives of the Russian hierarchy with its present head, the Patriarch of Moscow and all Rus'... walking slavishly before the atheistic power."

"They seek not only to justify all these crimes, but, through their instigation, to support attacks on the rest of the free Russian people."

The Jesuit magazine compared the prelates of the exiled Russian church with the Catholic bishops of the Byzantine Rite, noting that the Catholic bishops have refused attempts by the communists to use the Church.

The magazine said the Catholic bishops of the East have vigorously denied the false premises of communist arguments and have instructed the faithful to do the same.



Pig Tails, Are They For Real?

St. Louis (NC) — Gene Antry and Gall Davis gave a real thrill for young patients here at Cardinal Glennon Memorial Hospital for children. Even the thrill of talking cowboys and Indians with Antry couldn't keep irrepressible young man at left from checking to see if Miss Davis' pig tails were real. She plays "Annie Oakley" on television. P.S. They're real.

Kennedy Gift Aids Children

Boston (NC) — Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston has presented the Kennedy Memorial Hospital here with a \$20,000 check donated by Joseph P. Kennedy.

Mr. Kennedy gave the money to the hospital in thanksgiving for the birth last month of his granddaughter, Caroline, whose parents are Senator and Mrs. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts.

Archbishop Cushing officiated at the child's baptism in New York's St. Patrick's Cathedral.

The Archbishop said that the money would be used to pay expenses of children in the hospital whose parents are in financial difficulty.

The Boston prelate also presented the children of the hospital with a king-size dollhouse, constructed by handicapped children at the Boston Industrial School.



JOSEPH KENNEDY

3,000 Cures Listed At Lourdes Shrine

Lourdes (NC) — During the years of its existence, the Lourdes shrine has been the site of 54 cures which are recognized by the Church as supernatural.

This figure was released by officials of the shrine who point out that these 54 supernatural cures are only a small part of the more than 3,000 cures which have taken place at Lourdes.

The 3,000 cures are recognized as at least beyond explanation by strictly scientific and mechanical knowledge. But the Church alone is qualified to declare them as works of God, and she has done so in only 54 cases so far, shrine officials noted.

TWENTY CARDINALS and several hundred bishops have already announced their intention of attending the centenary celebrations to be held here next year, it was reported.

Cardinal Gerlier, Archbishop of Lyons, will preside at the opening of the celebration on February 11, 1958.

Cardinal Roncalli, Patriarch of Venice, will dedicate the vast subterranean Church of St. Pius X on March 25, 1958.



Outfielders, Look Out!

Tokyo, Japan (NC) — Junior-sized Tokyo Giants get the low-down on American-style baseball from American Jesuit scholars studying at St. Mary's Theological here in Japan's capital city. The Jesuits, who will be ordained next year, are (l. to r.): Russell F. Horton, S.J., of Los Angeles; and Robert M. Deiters, S.J., of Cincinnati.

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SPORTSWEAR, FORMAN'S SECOND FLOOR

U.S. Priest Blesses South Pole Flag

London (NC) — An American priest blessed the first United Nations flag to be raised over the Antarctic's south pole.

According to the London Daily Mail, Father Leon S. Darkowski, U.S. Navy chaplain with Operation Deepfreeze, blessed the blue and white banner that was put up on December 15.

At the ceremony, the priest from the Diocese of Pittsburgh said, "This international emblem of world peace and unity has been flown many places but never has it been unfurled from where it could radiate its meaning to all the people of the world — so symbolic is this location."

The South Pole is now marked with the U.S. Stars and Stripes and the U.N. flag, which flutters inside a circle of oil drums.

Costumed Clowns Attend Xmas Mass

Paris (NC) — One of the most unusual of the many Midnight Masses celebrated here on Christmas took place in the main ring of Paris' Palace of Sports, attended by circus people.

The entertainers — equestriennes, clowns, sword-swallowers, acrobats — came to the Mass immediately after the last performance of the evening, still wearing their costumes. The Mass was celebrated by Auxiliary Bishop Andre Leclerc of Paris.

Great Cross Reset In Rome Colosseum

Rome (RNS) — Pope Pius XII pressed a button in the Vatican Palace to floodlight a great bronze cross restored to the Colosseum of Rome where many of the early Christians died for the Faith under the Roman emperors.

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Discovery Linked To Apostle's Tomb

Vatican City (NC) — A "cheap and fragile clay lamp" forms still another link in the chain of evidence proving that St. Peter's tomb beneath St. Peter's basilica was situated in a first century cemetery on Vatican Hill.

The lamp was found during excavations under the basilica by Miss Marguerita Guarducci, professor of epigraphy (the science of inscriptions) at the University of Rome.

IN A REPORT TO the Pontifical Roman Academy of Archeology, Miss Guarducci said the lamp, according to a stamp engraved on it, seemed to date back to the Roman Emperor Nero's time, 54 to 68 A.D. It was found near the tomb of St. Peter, underneath the foundations of the "Red Wall," a supporting wall that was built in the second or third century. The lamp was found lying in a heap of funeral implements.

Excavations under St. Peter's have uncovered a double row of mausoleums of the second and third centuries which lined a road running along the slope of Vatican Hill. In uncovering these tombs which were filled in by the Emperor Constantine for a foundation for the first St. Peter's Basilica, archeologists came on evidence of an earlier cemetery and eventually on the tomb of St. Peter.

THE PRESENCE of "an oil lamp dating back to the first century seems to prove that the tomb (of which the lamp was part) also belonged to that era," Miss Guarducci said, "for one could hardly believe that a cheap and fragile clay lamp would have been used a long time after it was made."

Miss Guarducci, who up until the discoveries of 1957 did not believe that tombs of the first century would be found under the Vatican, said the lamp "and similar discoveries, tend to prove that tombs dating back to the first century did exist under the basilica."

MISS GUARDUCCI cited all the ancient and recent discoveries that have confirmed the existence of a large cemetery beneath the Vatican.

"One can assert that as early as the first century after Christ tombs were built along the road which lead from the right bank of the Tiber River to the top of the Vatican Hill and going through the place where the Vatican basilica was built later," the scientist said.

"TOMBS DATING back to the first century," she said, "were naturally destroyed in the part where the basilica stands when rich mausoleums were built there during the second and third centuries. But some vestiges of the first century have remained underneath the basilica, besides the famous tomb of the Apostle."

"Until now the only object found which could be safely traced back to a determined age was a tile bearing a stamp of the Emperor Vespasian's time, 69 to 79 A.D. The important discovery of the lamp can now be added to that stamp."

Reds Jam Pope's Radio Broadcast

London (NC) — Intense jamming of Radio Vatican's short-wave frequencies began 1 hour before Pope Pius XII delivered his annual Christmas message, December 22.

Radio listeners here reported that reception on the 21-megacycle channel remained jammed throughout the 40-minute broadcast. The 21-megacycle frequency is the channel most likely to be heard clearly in Russia.

While apparently every effort was made to keep the Pope's actual words from penetrating behind the Iron Curtain, Radio Moscow did give a brief news report on the Christmas message. Quoting a dispatch from Tass, the Soviet news agency, it said that "in his message the Pope referred to the question of peace and international security."

Father Peyton Ends Crusade in Greece

Athens, Greece (NC) — Father Patrick Peyton has ended a two-month Family Rosary Crusade in this eastern Mediterranean nation.

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