

Refugees From Reds Arrive In New York

New York — (NC) — Twenty-eight of 70 sailors who jumped off the Polish liner *Batory* last August 22 in the port of Copenhagen rather than return to Red dominated Poland have arrived here by air.

With the *Batory* group were 56 other refugees of various eastern European nationalities who had been granted temporary asylum in Germany.

The transportation of the Polish sailors was arranged by the U.S. Escape program. Sponsorship for the Polish escapees was secured by Catholic Welfare Conference in cooperation with the Polish American Immigration and Relief Committee.

The *Batory* was making its first postwar voyage with an organized tour from Poland to Denmark when the mass defection occurred. According to Jerzy Progulsky, 43-year-old engineer and spokesman for the group, the defection had not been planned in advance.

IT WAS NOT until the 70 applied for asylum in Copenhagen that they realized they had all entertained the same idea of escape. A few gave themselves up as soon as they got ashore; others went into hiding until after the ship had sailed.

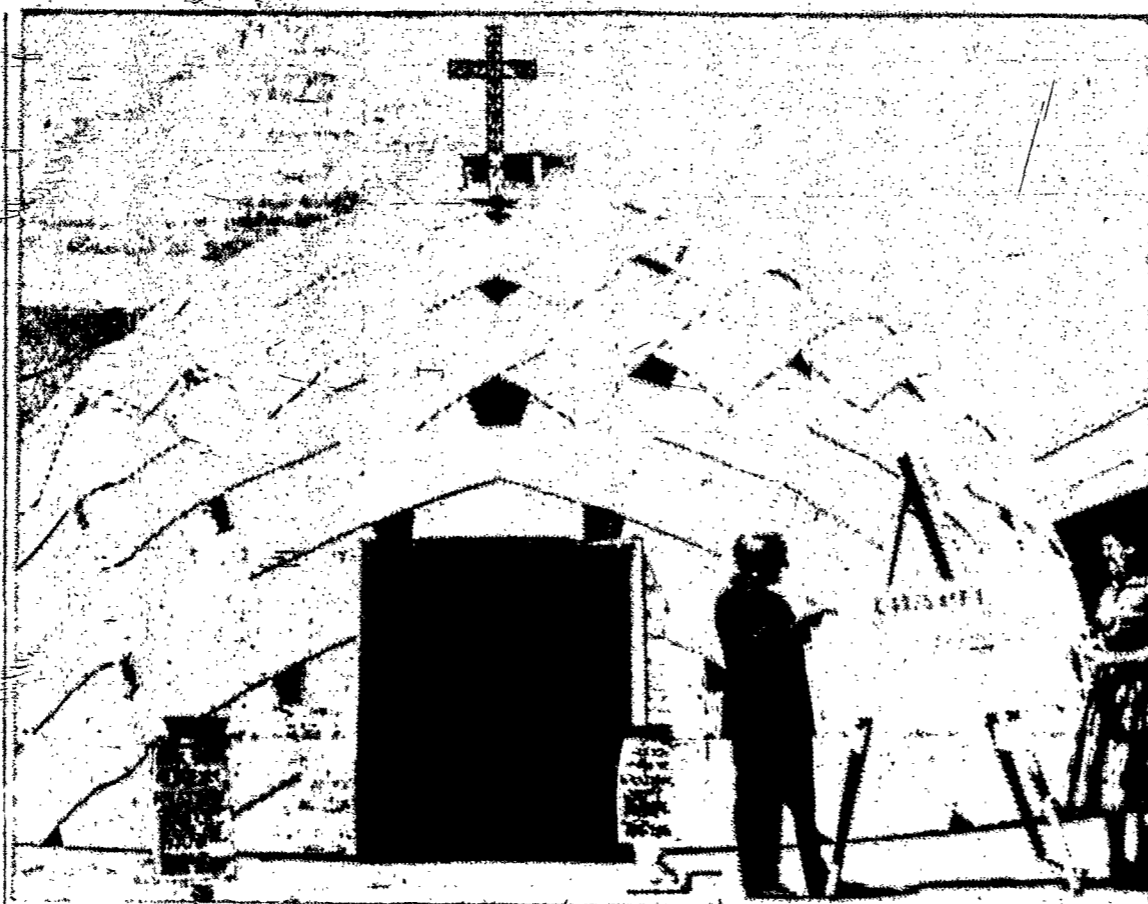
As Mr. Progulsky explained, 12 years of communism had led us to the only logical conclusion: to get out of it as quickly as possible.

Mr. Progulsky served as secretary of the Geophysical Institute of the Polish Academy of Science in 1957. He speaks Polish, English, French and German. He said he hopes to remain in New York City with friends.

Except for three married couples among the *Batory* group, the others are single men between the ages of 22 and 36.

VA Chaplain Now Monsignor

Washington — (NC) — Msgr. Edward A. McDonough, chief of chaplains in the Veterans Administration with headquarters here, has been elevated to the rank of domestic prelate, with the title of Right Reverend Monsignor by His Holiness Pope Pius XII.



Dome Chapel For Missions

Buffalo — (NC) — This geodesic dome, displayed in Buffalo, will be dismantled and shipped to Jesuit Father William Walter, missionary in the Caroline and Marshall Islands. He will erect it for use as his chapel of Our Lady of Hope. It will accommodate 200 persons. It is made of plywood sections, without beam or joist. Colored plastic panes fill the windows. The project was sponsored by the Western New York (K. of C.) Anchor Clubs.

Retired But Not Idle

Michigan Man Makes Mission Crosses

Grand Rapids — (RNS) — Since he retired from business several years ago, Stanley Despres of this city hasn't had an idle day.

A former dowel manufacturer, Mr. Despres is now a wood-working "industrialist" for Catholic missions, around the world, turning out wooden crucifixes by the hundreds each month.

BOXES OF HIS PRODUCTS have found their way to Bolivia, Guatemala, Africa and East Pakistan. The handsome crosses, about nine inches high, are used by missionaries as gifts to their parishioners and are made, donated and shipped as a charity by Mr. Despres. He himself pays for all the materials, gives his time, and pays for shipping costs.

Before he retired from business Mr. Despres was asked to make 58 crucifixes for a new Franciscan seminary in Minnesota.

"While I was at it," he said, "I decided to make a few more." Those "few more" have since grown into thousands.

Headquarters for the mission cross project is a well-equipped shop complete with two electric saws, a jointer, a drill press and a sanding machine. Each cross requires 11 steps, starting with the original stock. Mr. Despres figures it takes him six hours to turn out 11 crosses.

Finding a corps suitable for the cross was quite a task. One Grand Rapids manufacturer had a supply but was unwilling to part with them. "But I'm not a competitor," Mr. Despres argued, "My crosses are going free to missions all over the world." He got what he wanted.

His "full-time business," as he calls it, is keeping his retirement happy, busy and satisfying.

Combine Work, Prayer, Pope Tells Nuns

Catagando — (RNS) — Pope Pius XII, in his third and final broadcast to cloistered nuns throughout the world, advised them to combine work with prayer and meditation. He said this will not only help them to support themselves, but enable those who are not in want to help the needy.

At the same time, the Pontiff warned the nuns in 3,200 cloistered communities against "narrow-minded" opposition to changes in the regulations of their orders.

Pope Pius, who spoke in French over the Vatican Radio, noted that there are convents "which, alas, are nearly dying of starvation, of misery, of want." The immediate remedy, he said, was for the nuns to work for their own wants rather than rely on outside aid.

"We therefore invite them," the Pope said, "to resort to working for themselves so that they may earn their own living and not think first of turning to the goodnes and assistance of others."

THE PONTIFF said another good reason for work was to help the nuns preserve their "spiritual balance" against the possible "adverse effects of complete seclusion and the comparative monotony of daily cloistered life."

Pope Pius said that even convents that have rules excluding labor might find it wise, at least for a while, to take up gainful employment now, and that those who worked in the past should resume the practice.

"You may also work," he told the nuns, "to procure the means to fulfill the Christian precept of charity toward the poor."

Warning of "a certain egotism, at least in some orders," the Pope said this "may be understandable, but a narrow-minded rigidity and obstinacy must be overcome."

The Pope concluded his talk by appealing for a renewed dedication to what he called a three-fold apostolate. This demanded, he explained, giving examples of Christian perfection, engaging in private and community prayer, and the performance of penitential practices. He said these practices would embrace not only those prescribed by the rules of the particular order "but also those suggested by a generous love of Our Lord."

Pope Pius urged the nuns above all to dedicate themselves wholeheartedly "to the apostolate that is the biggest of all, namely that of the Church." This apostolate, he said, looks to the entire world — "in other words toward all men of all people and all times, Christians and pagans, believers and non-believers."

'Who Speaks For Hungary?'

Rome — (NC) — Although its thinking is today dominated by events in the crisis-torn Middle East, the West must not forget the plight of Hungary, Msgr. Bela Varga, president of the National Hungarian Committee, said here.

MSGR. VARGA, onetime president of the Hungarian parliament, said "the Russians and communists the world over are protesting the sending of American troops to Lebanon although it was done at the invitation of the Lebanese."

"But who speaks for Hungary today? Hungary, where there are Russian troops who have not been invited by the Hungarians."

The press conference was one of several held by Msgr. Varga in European capitals to call attention to the situation in Hungary. Msgr. Varga flew from the committee's headquarters in New York to talk to the press corps of Paris, Bern and Rome. He had planned to fly to the Moslem countries to present his country's case, but said the events in the Middle East make the trip impossible now.

He said the Soviets have admitted to keeping 60,000 Russian troops stationed in Hungary but that the total actually is more than 100,000. Many of these troops, both army and political

police, wear civilian clothes and work in Hungarian factories and offices watching for any sign of rebellion, he added.

"THE RUSSIANS completely control the economic life of Hungary," the Monsignor said. He asserted that they have deported Hungarian citizens to Russia and that Hungarian political prisoners are known to be working on construction projects in China and North Korea.

The Russians and their communist allies in Hungary are destroying the Hungarian people through prison camps, labor camps, abortion and sterilization, he continued.

He said the number of people sent to prison or work camps is five times larger than the number officially published. Some 20,000 Hungarians died in the

uprising in 1956 and another 2,000 have been killed in the past two years, he added.

According to Msgr. Varga the present regime in Hungary is actively encouraging immorality among youth and has publicly sanctioned abortions and the use of various antifertility and anti-conception techniques.

He reported that officially communists placed the number of abortions in Hungary's public hospitals at 40,000 in 1955; 80,000 in 1956 and 120,000 in 1957. These figures do not include the private abortions in Hungary for these years, he said.

He suggested United Nations action in Hungary to remove Soviet troops, to free the Hungarian people and to establish a new independent, neutral government.

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By MOST REV. FULTON J. SHEEN

THE TRAGEDY of the world is not so much what people suffer, but what they miss when they suffer. So much pain is wasted because there is no one to love; no one for whom the suffering may be offered.

SO IT IS with giving. The Americans are the most generous people on earth; but there is so much giving that never sanctifies the giver, because it never sanctifies the receiver. Our Lord had this in mind when He asked: Which is the greater, the gift or the altar which consecrates the gift? The altar is God's always; the gold becomes holy because offered for the altar. No one need fear that his offering is too small or too unworthy, the altar sanctifies the gift that is laid upon it.

THE REASON the altar in the Old Testament sanctified the gift was because it was sprinkled seven times with the blood of sacrifice; the reason the altar in our churches sanctifies is because the Sacrifice of the New Testament is offered thereon; it is sanctified with the Blood of Christ.

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ALL THE SACRIFICES you send to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith are forwarded to His Holiness for distribution. Above all offer your own lives in sacrifice as St. Paul asked: "And now brethren, I appeal to you by God's mercies to offer up your bodies as a living sacrifice, consecrated to God and worthy of His acceptance."

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