

# Avoid Stuffed Complacency

Albuquerque — (RNS) — A call for a rebellion against the modern world's "soft conformity and stuffed complacency" keyed the opening session of the 45th annual National Newman Clubs Federation convention here on the campus of the University of New Mexico.

Representing the Catholic students of some 700 secular colleges and universities in America, the delegates heard Bishop Paul J. Hallinan of Charleston, S.C., say: "It is high time for a rebellion against this soft conformity, this stuffed complacency. And its appropriate battle-cry is not security, nor docility, nor together-ness. It is freedom."

"Freedom to know, to be convinced, to speak out, and to live as responsible human beings created by God. Freedom is not only our heritage as Americans; it is the core of our being as Christians."

Bishop Hallinan's challenge opened a convention devoted to the theme "Authority and Freedom in Catholic Life," a topic chosen by leaders of Newman Clubs to examine the many questions being raised during a Presidential election year when Catholics are being considered as candidates.

There was a strong feeling here among the students that Catholics have been too hesitant about explaining their role as citizens to the community at large.

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Bishop Hallinan, former national chaplain of the Newman Club organization, told the delegates: "We Catholics have apparently failed to convince others — not of our faith — that freedom is our concern, well-adjusted with the rest."

## Huk Leader Never Athiest

By FATHER EDWARD DE PERSIO  
Society of St. Columban

Manila — (NC) — Luis Taruc, former leader of the Filipino communist Huks who has returned to the practice of his Catholic Faith, revealed here that he never accepted the atheist element in communism.

In his cell in the jail where he is serving a life term for his Red activities, Mr. Taruc told this reporter that while he was never an atheist, the pressure of events forced him to become an agnostic.

Luis Taruc was brought up a Catholic. He said he resented any of his communist underlings' attempts at forcing the peasant, Filipinos among whom they organized their bands, to deny the existence of their God. On one occasion he actually demoted one of his officers who did so, he recalled.

In the early days of the Huk movement in the Philippines in the late 1930s, Mr. Taruc said, he felt that religion should play an important part in agrarian reform, which has always been his ultimate desire.

In that period, he stated, he organized Passion Plays, Nativity Plays and the ceremony of the Seven Last Words on Good Friday, but all against a socialistic background, emphasizing Christ the Worker.

He had to abandon these projects when higher-ups in the communist organization made them virtually impossible, he said. During this period, he noted, he was estranged from the Church, but always maintained his friendship with Filipino priests whom he knew had the welfare of the people at heart.

Brought back to the practice of his Faith in his prison cell, he said he now understands that while his objective of agrarian reform was good, the communist methods he employed in armed revolt against the Philippine government were absolutely wrong.

He still feels that there is a crying need for agrarian reform in the islands, but he reported that he now believes that this must be obtained by a "concerted drive of Christian love rather than by a concentration of communist hate."

He said he also thinks that communism will fail because it is based upon a foundation of fostering hate in the class struggle. At the same time, he is of the opinion that communism will continue to exist until the principles of Christian love become more than mere theory and find actual application among the downtrodden Philippine peasants.

He said he now looks forward to the day when the Philippine government will either give him a pardon or reopen his case and grant him an acquittal. When either of those two happens, he declared, he will try to undo some of the harm done by communism. He will seek to do it by influencing the masses through an organization he calls AMOR — initial letters which stand for an organization based on Christian charity.

THE STORY of Luis Taruc's return to the Faith is a story in which his son and a Columban missionary as well as a former communist newspaper editor, played important roles.

In 1954 he submitted to Philippine government authorities at the invitation of Ramon Magaysay, the late Philippine president. In subsequent trials, he was found guilty of complicity in murders and in rebellion against the state.

He was given four life terms plus twelve years for rebellion



## First Visit In 30 Years

SYDNEY, Australia — (RNS) — Gregory Peter XV Cardinal Agagianian, Pro-Prefect of the Sacred Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith, brings Pope John's blessing to Australia at the First National Catholic Biblical Congress in Sydney. Welcoming the visiting cardinal at left is Auxiliary Bishop James Carroll of Sydney. Cardinal Agagianian's visit was the first to the city in 30 years by a Catholic prelate of his rank.

## Patience, Plea To Families

Notre Dame — (RNS) — A Catholic couples and 400 chaplaincy for fortitude and patience on the part of the Catholic family in America to withstand the temptations of "contemporary materialism and resurgence of paganism" was made here by Archbishop Albert G. Meyer of Chicago in an address to 300 living offers the Catholic family of today.

The Illinois prelate told the 11th annual convention of the Christian Family Movement, however, that "the bearing of witness to Christ has never been easy, has never been without its special problems and difficulties which contemporary



## Haiti Nuncio Leaves Rome

Rome — (NC) — The Apostolic Nuncio to Haiti, Archbishop Domenico Enrichi, has left here to return to his post in Port-au-Prince, now the scene of an open rift between the Church and the State.

## World Council Seeks Rome Tie

Rhodes — (RNS) — More theological discussions between the World Council of Churches and the Catholic Church were asked by the council's Faith and Order Commission here.

## Threat To America

### Pentecostals Label Pope Foreign Potentate

San Antonio — (NC) — More than 12,000 delegates to the annual convention of the nation's largest Pentecostal sect were told here that "a church with loyalties to a foreign potentate poses a new threat to America."

The Catholic Church was never mentioned by name in the address of J. Robert Ashcroft to the convention of the Assemblies of God, but the content of his references to "pagan Christianity" was generally regarded as referring to the Church.

HE ALSO charged that the aims of "pagan Christianity" in the United States include "union of Church and State with Church supreme; schools and churches built with government funds; taxation of Protestant churches; salaries of priests paid from tax funds; and legal measures to prevent Protestants from winning converts."

## Kerala Prelates Hold Meeting

Ernakulam — (NC) — Kerala's Catholic Bishops met here for the first time since the communists were dismissed from control of the State government.

The South India state's 15 bishops held a seven-hour meeting here at the house of Archbishop Joseph Attipetty of Verapoly who is president of Kerala's Catholic Bishops' Conference.

Prince Rainier is a member of the Grimaldi family, who were for many centuries rulers of this little town situated between Avignon and Arles. His son, Prince Albert, heir to the throne of Monaco, bears the title "Prince des Baux."

## Rainiers Give Church Window

Les Baux — (NC) — Prince Rainier of Monaco and Princess Grace are slated to attend the Christmas Eve blessing of stained glass windows they have donated to the 13th century parish church of Baux; it was announced here.

Egotist — A concocted fool who thinks he knows as much as you do.

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