

# Vietnam Faith Stalls Red Advance

By FATHER MORGAN J. VITTEGL, M.M. (N.C.W.C. News Service)

Hong Kong — Strong Church opposition has retarded northern Vietnam caused a slowdown in religious persecution there, a missionary who has worked in that country since 1951 reported here.

Father Terence O'Driscoll, S.S.C., recently expelled by the communists from northern Vietnam where he had served as secretary to Archbishop John Dooley, S.S.C., Apostolic Delegate to Indochina, said in an interview here that the Reds will have to use force to subdue the country's militant Catholics.

This, however, would completely defeat their propaganda campaign for reunification with southern Vietnam and its large Catholic population, the Irish Columbian priest said.

AS EVIDENCE of the failure of northern Vietnamese communists to undermine the Church there according to the pattern set by Red China's schismatic "patriotic church," Father O'Driscoll pointed out that after five years of Red harassment and pressure only 150 priests and 60 laymen out of 600,000 Catholics have joined the "progressive church."

These "progressive" priests, he reported, are completely ostracized by the faithful and have no influence in Church affairs. Moreover, despite constant accusations against bishops and priests, and propaganda on behalf of the "progressive church" blared over loudspeakers day and night, the movement has gained practically no new adherents in the last few years, he added.

He said that following the lead of Red China, the communists of northern Vietnam appointed a director of religious affairs in 1954. But since a majority of Catholic priests refused to report to him for interrogation, he has had little authority in matters affecting the Church, Father O'Driscoll said.

ANOTHER REUSE tried by the communists to get control of Church affairs, the priest reported, was a proclamation that the government would supervise all preparations and activities on religious feast days. While the bishops were forced to allow the government to organize public processions and decorations on those days, they brooked no interference with the strictly liturgical services held in churches.

Father O'Driscoll said that forewarned by the illegal consecration of bishops in Red China, one of Archbishop Dooley's last acts before he became seriously ill was to see that Vatican-appointed Ordinaries were placed in charge of the five vicariates apostolic left vacant when the bishops accompanied their Catholic faithful to the south following the Red takeover in 1954.

Looking to the future, the Columbian missionary noted that although religious worship in northern Vietnam is comparatively unhindered today and thousands pack the churches for services on Sundays and holy days, this situation could change overnight.

The change will come, he believes, when the communists finally decide that their campaign to reunite the country under Red rule has failed. From that time on, he said, they will not hesitate to use force and violence in their persecution of the Church.

He said that several incidents since the beginning of the year have indicated that a more active persecution of the Church might be expected shortly.

Among the incidents he cited were: • The arrest and rigged trial of Father Jean B. Nguyen van Vinh, vicar delegate of the Apostolic Vicariate of Hanoi, on charges of "disturbing the peace" after he forbade two "progressive" Catholics to decorate the cathedral on Christmas Eve.

• An unsuccessful campaign for the expulsion of the Apostolic Delegate by popular demand.

• His own expulsion from northern Vietnam and the closing of the Apostolic Delegation.

• The recent formation of agricultural cooperatives and the assignment of Sunday work quotas which keep Catholics from attending Mass.

• A new "space control" program under which people are assigned living quarters in homes where the communists decide there is extra or unused space. This will curtail private family devotions for fear of exposure and denouncement to the police.

Anticipating this renewed persecution, thousands of Catholics are now trying to go to southern Vietnam, Father O'Driscoll said. But while the communist "acknowledge" the Geneva Agreement that guarantees this freedom of choice to northern Vietnamese, the Reds have made any extensive movement or travel by the people impossible, he stated.

While he has been free to travel only within the city of Hanoi since 1954, Father O'Driscoll said his contacts with Catholics there have made him certain that they will defend to the death, if necessary — the Faith that has been theirs for centuries.

This material, he said, often affords an accurate view of the condition of religious freedom in Russia and the success or failure of the Communist party in eradicating what it calls "religious prejudices."

He said that the "big break" for the Church occurred in 1954, when the Soviet government made it unlawful to "violate the religious feelings" of the people but there has never been any let-up in the official government praise of what it calls "scientific atheism."

Father Mohrbacher said that the "only charitable" thing to do with regard to certain "peace" statements being made by Russian Orthodox leaders in collaboration with the government is to "withhold our judgment until we know how much force is being put on these people."

"From their point of view," he said, "the Russian Orthodox figure would be unwise that unless they do cooperate with the State in these 'peace' movements, their churches will be closed. They figure that if they go along with these 'peace' appeals, we should not be such fools as to believe their statements are genuine and freely made, and therefore we should discount a great deal of what they are saying. We can help them very much simply by not allowing the communist line about guaranteed freedom of religion in Russia."

The Russian Catholic apostolate, he said, is not a fad, nor does it hold any permanent attraction for those looking for the bizarre or exotic.

"Only ten per cent of the seminarians who start in theology in this work stick with it," he said.

Not, he added, was there any dramatic or decisive moment in his life which moved him to become a priest in the Byzantine Rite.

"The actual solid motivation is this," said Father Mohrbacher. "We have too few trained specialists for the actual tremendous size of the Russian nation. Russia is one of the great powers in the world and is going to help make all the future history of the world. If the Catholic Church is going to be in the future of the world then she has to be better represented than she is now in Russia."

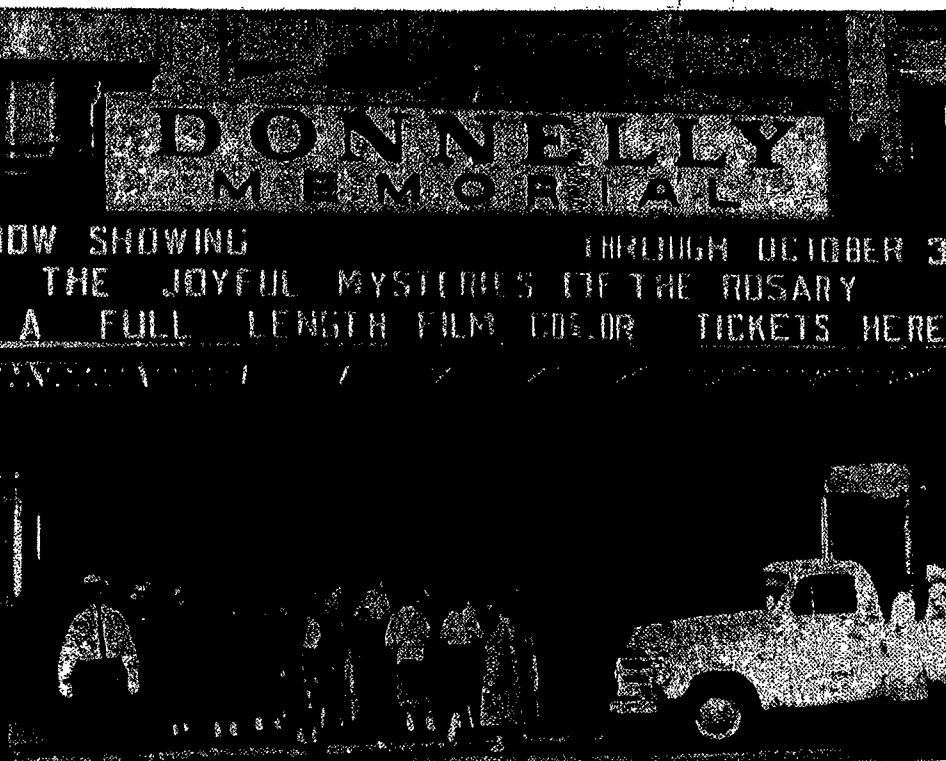
"It's hard to be a really good missionary," he said. "You have to root out everything that is accidental to Western ways. When we celebrate the liturgy, we celebrate it as a Russian would, with all the dignity and decorum found in their churches. What a Russian would be scandalized at. For example, in Russia, no lay person is ever allowed to touch the altar."

"It is only after you are ordained a deacon that you may touch the altar for the first time and it is a great thrill, because for us the altar is the very throne of God."

Since the Byzantine Rite is essentially "monastic" liturgy, there are no low Masses as in the Latin Rite. All Masses are sung and in the vernacular of the country in which they are celebrated, with the exception of the consecration which is said aloud in Slavonic. Also, Communion is received under both species.

"My biggest problem when I am on the road like this," said Father Mohrbacher, "is to find a chair to sit on. I usually take about an hour and a half to find one. I am usually exhausted when I sit down."

As part of the preparation for the day when they can enter Russia freely and work with the Russian Orthodox Church, Father Mohrbacher and his associates maintain a keen analytical study of documents and literature coming out of the Soviet Union.



## Boston Catholics Rename Theater

Boston — (RNS) — Loew's State Theater in Boston, recently purchased by the archdiocese for year-round church educational programming, was named the Donnelly Memorial Theater in honor of one of New England's most distinguished Catholic families. It is New England's second largest motion picture place, with a seating capacity of 3,583. Richard Cardinal Cushing, Archbishop of Boston, said that a "princely benefaction" made by Edward

## No Substitute For Holy Name

Newark — (NC) — "The Holy Name Society is the official ecclesiastical society for all Catholic men, and membership in other societies should not be considered a substitute for joining the Holy Name Society."

Archbishop Thomas A. Boland of Newark said this statement in a pastoral letter read at all churches in the archdiocese (Oct. 4) as he announced approval of the statewide HNS membership campaign being conducted.

"THE CAMPAIGN," he said, "has my cordial approval and my earnest prayers for complete success." The four New Jersey Sees are cooperating in the two-month drive.

"We cannot overstate the point that the Holy Name Society is for every man who professes the Faith and who is not ashamed or afraid to defend and practice it," the Archbishop said.

He pointed out that the society was founded almost 700 years ago "so that Catholic men could give organized and public profession of faith in Jesus Christ as God."

The society, he declared, "calls upon its members to give living expression of that faith, and to support the Church publicly in its never-ending crusade to have mankind recognize, accept, live and defend what is pleasing to the Heart of Our Savior, His Divinity, His Sacred Name and His Divine teaching."

Other members of District No. 3 in attendance at the meeting were: Miss Mary Coker, President of District No. 3 New York State Nurses Association; Miss Lena Goodrich, Treasurer, District No. 3; Mrs. Ruth Powers, Member of Board of Directors, New York State Nurses Association and Mrs. Esther Kelley, President Arnot-Ogden Memorial Hospital Alumnae Association.

Official delegates from District No. 3 were: Private Duty Section, Mrs. Adele Mayer and Miss Lucille Goodwin, Public Health Section, Miss Audrey Byrne; Institutional Nursing Service Administration and Educational Administration Consultants Teachers, Miss Dorothy Young and Miss Helene Milliken; Delegate at large, Mrs. Kathleen Stuart.

If you are a domestic worker, working in a private household, you are probably earning social security credits towards your retirement. If you work in a private household and are paid \$50 or more in cash in a calendar quarter, check with your employer to see if he is reporting these wages to the Director of Internal Revenue.

## Trod On Red Soil Prelate Steps Into Trouble

Vienna — (RNS) — An American-born missionary bishop ran into trouble when he inadvertently stepped on Communist Hungarian soil during a visit to the "Iron Curtain" frontier near Heiligenkreuz in the Burgenland province of Austria.

THE PRELATE was Bishop Leo C. Arkfeld, S.V.D., Apostolic Vicar of Wewak, New Guinea, where his skill in handling a mission plane and landing under the most difficult conditions has earned him the title of the flying bishop.

Bishop Arkfeld learned his lesson when Hungarian frontier guards fired a round of shots. However both he and two priests who were with him escaped unhurt.

The prelate was in Austria on a tour of Catholic centers in this country. His itinerary included a visit to Wernberg, in Carinthia province, where he was to be presented with a model of an aircraft given him by the Catholic farmers of New Guinea in recognition of his missionary work.

## Delegate Made Franciscan

Testopolis — (RNS) — The Holy See's Apostolic Delegate to the United States, Archbishop Egidio Vagnozzi, was made a member of the Order of Friars Minor (the Franciscan First Order) in ceremonies here celebrating the closing of the 60th anniversary year of the Franciscans in the Middle West.

Archbishop Vagnozzi was presented with the Franciscan habit and the breviary signifying his clothing and reception as a Franciscan Friar. They were conferred by the Very Rev. Plus Barth, O.F.M., Provincial of the Franciscan Province of the Sacred Heart.

Services, to be held each evening for nine days at 7:30, include recitation of the Rosary, a prayer to St. Joseph and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

SPECIAL PRAYERS were recited on the Feast of the Holy Rosary.

The novena will close on Oct. 13. It was on that date in 1917, that the Blessed Virgin made her final appearance to the three peasant children at Fatima, Portugal, requesting that the world return to Christ.

Here are some important social security A.B.C.'s for household workers. A—Show your social security card to your employer as soon as you start working. B—Be sure to obtain a receipt from your employer showing the amount of cash earnings you received for the year. C—Check on your social security account.

## Hammondspoint Unit Schedules Events

Hammondspoint — The Rosary Society of St. Gabriel's Church in Hammondspoint met in the Church Monday evening. Following recitation of the rosary, members adjourned to the social rooms for the regular business meeting.

MRS. FRANK VAN GELDER and Mrs. Karl Millard, co-chairmen for the forthcoming rummage sale, announced that donations of clothing, etc. may be left in the church hall at any time.

Further business included plans for a tureen supper at the November 2 meeting, at which time, husbands and other members of the parish are invited to attend. Mrs. Van Gelder and Mrs. Eckel will act as hostesses and those attending will bring a covered dish. Mrs. Wagner will be program chairman for the evening.

Mrs. Franklin M. Aulls and Mrs. Van Gelder have care of the sanctuary and altars this month.

## Fatima Novena Held in Hornell

Hornell — A novena for peace in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary under her title "Our Lady of Fatima" is being held in St. Ann's Church.

Services, to be held each evening for nine days at 7:30, include recitation of the Rosary, a prayer to St. Joseph and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

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## Sisters Attend State Meeting

Sister Anne Maurice, Director of Nursing, St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing, Elmira, and Sister M. Angeline, Operating Room at the hospital attended the New York State Nurses Convention held in New York City, October 4-9.

Sister Anne Maurice was a member of a panel discussing "The Scope of Professional Nursing." On October 5, Sister Angeline participated in an institute on Operating Room Technique.

Other members of District No. 3 in attendance at the meeting were: Miss Mary Coker, President of District No. 3 New York State Nurses Association; Miss Lena Goodrich, Treasurer, District No. 3; Mrs. Ruth Powers, Member of Board of Directors, New York State Nurses Association and Mrs. Esther Kelley, President Arnot-Ogden Memorial Hospital Alumnae Association.

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## Parishioners Fete Priests, Teachers

Pina Yan — The priests, sisters and teachers were guests at a pot-luck supper held by the St. Michael's Mothers' Club on Wednesday, Oct. 7. Mrs. Richard Lord served as chairman of the affair. The monthly meeting followed at 8 p.m.

The Children's Clothing Outlet Sale will be held in St. Michael's Church Hall on Friday, Oct. 16 from 10 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 17 from 10 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

All wishing to sell clothing at the Outlet are asked to bring the articles to the Church Hall on Oct. 14 and 15 from 1 to 5 p.m.

ALL CLOTHING to be offered for sale must be laundered or dry cleaned. Committee chairmen are Mrs. James Hoban, Mrs. Andrew Guidarelli and Mrs. Ross Swarthout.

On Sunday, Oct. 4 from 4 to 5 p.m. a Holy Hour was held. Parishioners were led in prayer by Rt. Rev. Mgr. Joseph J. Sullivan, pastor. This will be a monthly event held on the first Sunday of every month.

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9'x8'	Grey commercial	\$136.00	\$56	12'x7'10"	Tan sculptured	\$126.50	\$85
9'x15'2"	Red twist	\$165.00	\$98	12'x8'10"	Turquoise nylon twist	\$153.00	\$74
9'x14'4"	Beige and brown twist	\$203.00	\$125	12'x18'	Blue twist	\$216.00	\$144
9'x10'4"	Cinnamon twist	\$114.00	\$70	12'x14'	Sculptured beige	\$321.00	\$207
9'x13'	Sculptured floral	\$155.00	\$70	12'x14'4"	Black and white	\$165.00	\$85
9'x9'5"	Multicolor pattern	\$110.00	\$79	12'x25'	Beige textured scroll	\$268.00	\$175
9'x11'9"	Green twist	\$140.00	\$69	12'x19'8"	Acrylic shell brown	\$300.00	\$235
9'x16'6"	Sculptured pattern	\$160.00	\$88	12'x8'	Gold tuigured wilton	\$328.00	\$250
12'x8'9"	Burnt olive twist	\$228.00	\$153	15'x9'8"	Beige twist	\$176.00	\$115
12'x9'9"	Beige twist	\$198.50	\$105	15'x10'	Green sculptured	\$163.00	\$80

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