

# Islands Under Shadow Of Red China Guns

This is the third of five articles about the Chinese offshore islands by Maryknoll Father William Richardson who has just completed a fact-finding tour there.

By REV. WILLIAM RICHARDSON, M.M.

I woke with a start at 5:50 a.m. on December 15. There was a terrific racket of artillery and machine gun fire all around me. Since it was an "odd" day, I thought to myself: "The Com-mies are right on schedule."

By the time I realized that it was our side doing the shooting, a heavy machine gun in the courtyard below let go with a few long bursts. I searched the horizon for airplanes. The early morning sky was clear. Suddenly, all was quiet.

A half hour later when I mentioned the "raid" to the houseboy, a 20-year-old Quomoy lad, he laughed and said: "Oh, that was just our monthly practice exercise."

I offered Mass at Father Druetto's Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, for a congregation of two — an old Non-Catholic lady, whom the doctors gave up as incurable and is now being cared for by Father Druetto, and General Wang Ho-pu.

(General Wang, the commander of the Psychological Warfare Department, is a mainland Catholic and a good friend of Archbishop Paul Yipin. His daughter attended the Eucharistic Congress in Rome this year.)

I spent most of the morning interviewing the Commander of Quomoy. I asked him if Quomoy could be defended and supplied; if it was militarily necessary to hold the offshore islands; and if the defense of Quomoy would set off a third world war.

"Quomoy certainly can be defended and the best proof of that is the fact that the Communists, despite repeated threats to take the island, have been unable to do so in the past eleven years," the Commander told me. The General's explanations, combined with the great firepower of the troops from concrete bunkers, convinced me that the Reds would pay an extremely high price in human life in an invasion attempt.

ANOTHER FACTOR which makes Quomoy extremely difficult to invade, he explained, is the tide. High tide lasts a little more than an hour and isn't deep enough to permit boats to over ten tons. An invading force would be forced to use thousands of heavy enemy fire, is no problem," the General said. "In fact, some of our big eight-inch guns were landed during a heavy barrage. This proves that supply under fire can be accomplished."

The Commander said that with the supplies now stored in the tunnels and caves the island could hold out for a long time, and with resupply, could be defended indefinitely.

"No Quomoy, no Formosa." HE TOLD the John Carroll University alumni association that too many Catholics are living in the past, nursing sickness of another generation, aloof from their fellow-Americans where no aloofness is called for. He added:

"Whether we voted for John F. Kennedy, or not, no true American can fail to rejoice that by his election last November an ancient American prejudice was cut down at the root."

He urged Catholics to take advantage of their new opportunities by joining other Americans in social, cultural and civic affairs and to get on with the really important things that fill the horizon of the times into which we are moving," he said.

"The primary reason for holding Quomoy is morale," he said. "The fact that we can hold Quomoy keeps the morale of our own armed forces very high, and it helps the morale and the spirit of hope among the Chinese people on the mainland. The second reason why we must hold Quomoy is strategic. To watch the mainland and to protect Formosa."

At the request of the Commanding General, I stayed on Quomoy a day longer than planned so that I might visit the more distant islands of their Protestant fellow-citizens. Ta-Tan and Ehr-Tan, which lie within the mouth of Redheld Amoy Harbor.

The General said he wanted me to see as much as possible. Up to that time, no other correspondent had been allowed to visit the tiny island fortress of Ehr-Tan.

I spent the afternoon visiting villages and speaking with such people as Mr. Li, a 35-year-old Quomoy Chinese, who saw his young wife and youngest child killed by a shell-burst. He had his right arm blown off and now finds it very difficult to find work to support his remaining three children.

# Jesuit Says 'Get Out Of Ghettos'

Cleveland — (NC) — Father Thurston N. Davis, S.J., editor of America magazine, urged American Catholics to get out of their "self-imposed ghettos" and accept the challenge of religious dialogue.

Father Davis said the inauguration of the first Catholic as President should convince Catholics that they have been recognized as first class citizens.

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"The dialogue at this stage is nothing more than friendly conversation back and forth. Conducted in patience, charity, and understanding, it is ours to carry forward."

He cautioned that since Catholics in Britain, thirty-three of the martyrs were priests and several laymen.

The Duke said he wrote "as a descendant of one of those martyrs, and because of my responsibility of my position." He is a descendant of Blessed Philip Howard, Earl of Arundel, who died for the Catholic Faith in the Tower of London on Oct. 19, 1595.

"There exists a great devotion to the martyrs whose fortitude caused such unity between the clergy and faithful, and encouraged us all in times of persecution," the Duke said. "If your Holiness graciously deigned to canonize them, that unity and courage would be greatly strengthened in these difficult days."

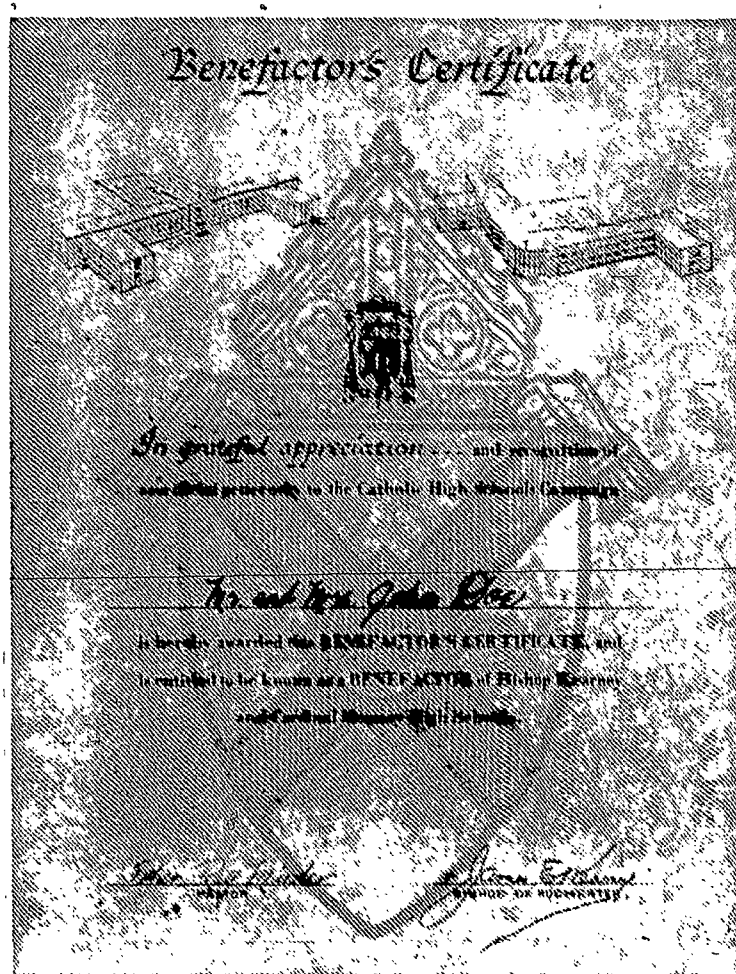
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# Professor Says 'Parallel' Action Isolates Laity

Minneapolis — (RNS) — The religious issue in the recent Presidential campaign pointed up the failure of Catholics to communicate with their fellow citizens, according to a University of Chicago professor and a leading Catholic scholar.

Dr. Jerome Kerwin, author of "Catholic Viewpoint on Church and State," deplored the lack of Catholic participation in civic reform movements and lack of contact between Catholic clergy and those of other denominations.

In a lecture at the University of Minnesota Catholic center, Dr. Kerwin said Catholics should cooperate more in joint intercreedal activities rather than engage in their own parallel action.

Catholics are more active than ever before in political life, but it is generally in party organizations rather than in the independent side of community organizations, he observed.

He also urged that Catholics engage more in the work of the vernacular movement such as translation of services into English as a means of making the Church more understandable to those on the outside.

He appealed for greater cooperation between Catholic colleges and universities and those operated by other denominations or by the state. As an example of such programs now in progress, he cited conversations on theology and liturgy being conducted by participants from Notre Dame University, a Catholic institution, and Valparaiso Ind., University, a Lutheran institution.

# Baptist Cleric Irks Orthodox

Athens — (RNS) — The Holy Synod of the Greek Orthodox Church, continuing its fight against the press evangelistic activities of a New York Baptist minister, called on the Greek people not to read the "heretic" messages written by the head-sectarian Spiros Zodiates.

This was a reference to the Rev. Spiros Zodiates, general secretary of the American Mission to Greeks, who for more than two years has been publishing evangelistic messages as paid advertisements in some 100 of this country's newspapers and magazines.

In a 1,700-word encyclical warning against the clergyman and the mission, the Holy Synod urged its church members: Don't touch anti-Orthodox pamphlets or books, and if you already have such publications, burn them at once.

"SHUT YOUR doors to heretic visitors," the synod said. "Be careful of those who come to impart to you their heretic misbeliefs under the pretension of some material aid. Discontinue any relations with these people who seek to take out of your soul everything that is higher and sacred, which was infused to you by your forefathers."

Some 250,000 copies of the encyclical were distributed in Orthodox churches across the country. It was signed by Archbishop Theophilus of Athens and 12 bishops of the Holy Synod.

# \$9 Million For Needy

Aachen — (RNS) — More than \$9,000,000 has been allocated by the German hierarchy during 1960 to finance relief projects around the world, according to a report by the bishops' distribution committee here.

The money was raised in collections among German Catholics in the campaign "against hunger and sickness throughout the world" begun in Lent 1959 and continuing until at least the end of 1961.

# Ford Gives Eight Million

New York — (RNS) — Notre Dame University was one of four institutions of higher learning receiving Ford Foundation grants totaling \$8 million to aid their international teaching and research programs.

Notre Dame received \$2,650,000. Others were Chicago University, \$5.4 million; Northwestern University, Chicago, \$1.3 million; and University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, \$1 million.

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