

# Missioners Undaunted By Congo Massacres

## New Nation Struggles Toward Stability

Fast on the heels of last week's report that nine-teen missionaries were savagely massacred in northern Katanga province in the Congo, a second and third orgy of murder were reported this week.

More than a dozen priests and nuns are feared to be victims at the mission at Sola about 95 miles from Kongo, scene of the first attack.

The third rampage was reported at the town of Kilwa also in northern Katanga. Six priests and twelve nuns staff the mission there.

Vatican radio said "confused reports" from the Congo left the fate of the missioners at Sola and Kilwa still uncertain.

In its comment on the Congo massacres, the Vatican radio said the martyrdom of the missioners "will encourage rather than prevent others from following in their path."

"The Church mourns their loss. Their sacred right to life was wrested from them. As priests, they preached love to all men, even toward their enemies. As missionaries, they have given up everything in order to bring to all men, regardless of race, nationality or religion, the message of human and Christian redemption.

"But the Church hates no one, not even her enemies or murderers. She deplores and condemns crime, but uses the language of forgiveness and love toward those who know not what they do. Her logic is that of the Cross. She has possessed it for centuries, since Golgotha.

This week's logic has no fear of death. It goes beyond the grave. The Church does not give up. She keeps coming back even to those places that have witnessed the murder of her children. She knows that the death of the missionaries of the Congo will encourage rather than prevent others from following in the path of the martyrs, and that they will be as keen as ever to conquer with the love that is greater than death and stronger than the hatred that murders."

All three attacks took place New Year's Day, or shortly afterwards - but chaotic communications kept the grim secret locked in the tangled jungle for two weeks.

Swedish planes of the United Nations command were dispatched to the crisis-ridden remote area to relieve other missioners there.

According to U.N. reports, the troops attacking the Catholic mission outposts were remnants of an army once loyal to leftist Antoine Gizenga but apparently now loyal to no one. They were also linked with an anti-white, anti-Catholic sect which practices witchcraft.

DESPITE THESE outbursts of violence in the turbulent Congo, the nation's head of the Bureau of Catholic Education, Jesuit Father Martin Ekwa, said this week that despite "almost total confusion" in the newly independent country,

Political observers, however, cling to the hope that stable government will emerge.

Symbolic of the hope was a Mass in St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City Monday morning. Attending the Mass offered by Cardinal Spellman for the slain missionaries were Belgium's foreign minister Paul-Henri Spaak, Jehan de Noub representing UN secretary general U Thant and UN Congo delegate Maurice Kasongo.

Depending on one's viewpoint, either Belgium, the UN or the Congo itself is to blame for the Congo turmoil.

Wiser minds realize problems are a heritage from Adam and that is why we still need the help of a Saviour.

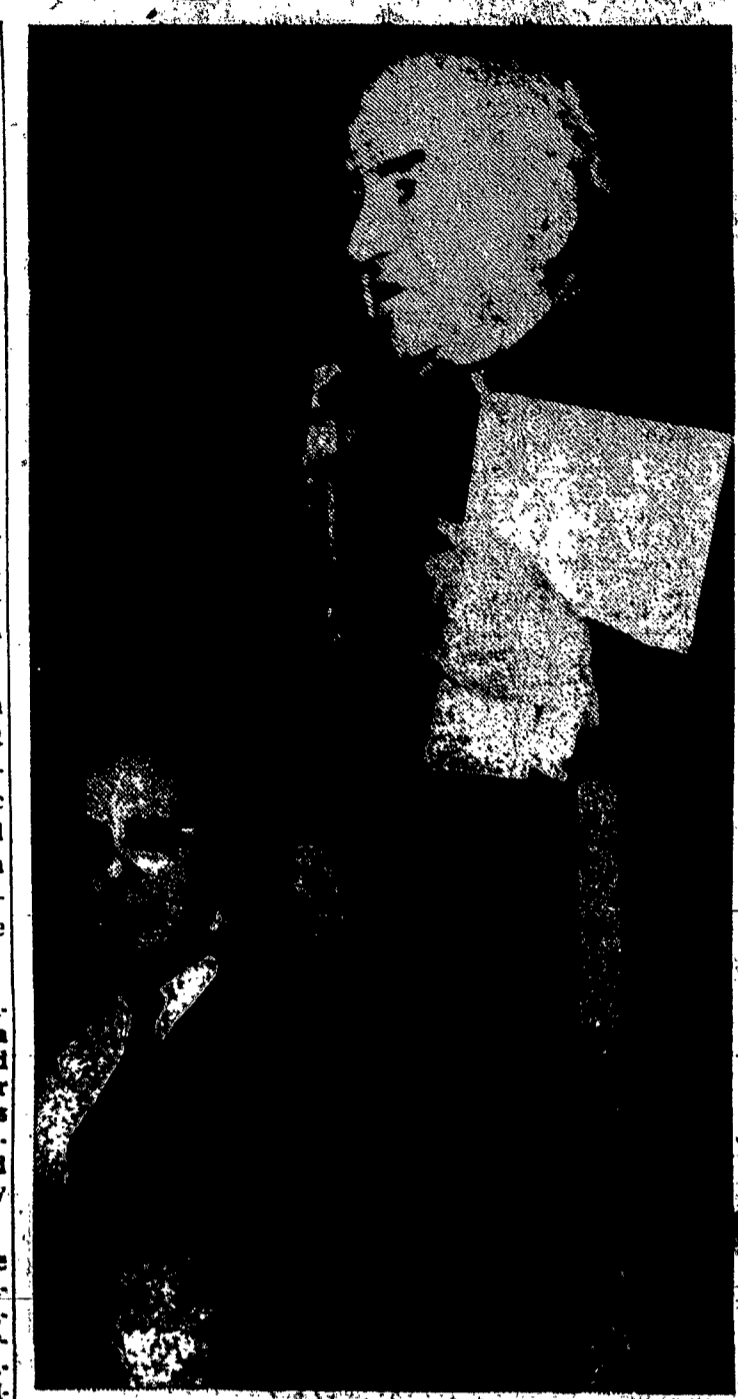
The three at prayer together reflected a growing conviction voiced by the Flemish paper Volkskrant. "We share Spaak's dislike of the UN military intervention. Yet we believe it would be a catastrophe of incalculable magnitude for Belgium, for the Congo, and for the world if one day we had to say the UN had been defeated."

## Jewish Studies At Rome School

Los Angeles — (RNS)—The First Chair of Intergroup Relations at any European institution of higher learning has been created at Pro Deo University in Rome, sponsored by the Catholic center and the American Jewish Committee.

Developed and endowed by the Committee, pioneer human relations agency, the intergroup curriculum will deal with problems of cooperation and understanding among religious and racial groups in a democratic society.

CLOCKS: Electric on Red Wound. William S. Thomas Jeweler, 512 Main St. Rochester, N. Y. Adv.



Ralph Edwards, new commander of Monroe County Catholic War Veterans hears Bishop Kearney ask organization's members to make the 1962 ecumenical council a subject of study and prayer this year.

## Veterans Meet, Adopt Program

Monroe County Catholic War Veterans were given a 1962 program at their annual convention held Saturday in East Rochester — "Inform yourselves about the Church's ecumenical council and pray for its success," Bishop Kearney told them.

He will attend the meeting along with the world's Catholic bishops at the Vatican later this year. Pope John has not as yet set a definite date for its opening.

The Bishop in his talk to the veterans cited the salient points of the Pope's Christmas Day statement announcing the historic assembly — there have been only 19 previous councils of this kind.

THE VETERANS elected Ralph Edwards commander of the county chapter. He has headed the CWV post at Sacred Heart Cathedral, is married and has two children.

HENRY NORTON, 84, oldest Catholic War Veteran in Monroe County was cited for his work since 1917 in veteran affairs. Norton is a member of Sacred Heart Post No. 1127. He headed the Rochester Memorial Day Parade for many years prior to his retirement in 1958.

In the afternoon business session members voted on several resolutions affecting both veterans and religious organizations:

1. They went on record as being opposed to the admittance of Red China into the United Nations.

2. They advocated that New York State pay a state bonus to veterans of the Korean War.

3. They commended District Attorney John Conway, Jr., in carrying out his avowed intention to eliminate smut and pornographic materials from being distributed in Monroe County.

4. They commended Rev. Joseph Cirincione of St. Francis Church for his 12 years of effort on behalf of World Peace by the daily "Family Rosary for Peace" program broadcast nightly at 7 p.m. by radio station WSAY.

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## New Parish Begins Sunday

Workmen this week bustled about new Our Lady Queen of Peace Church to have it ready for opening this Sunday. Masses will be at 8, 9:30, 11 a.m. and 12:15 noon. The church is located on Edgewood Ave. off Westfall Rd. Father James Slattery is pastor.

## Religious Bias Wanes

Los Angeles — (RNS) — Interreligious amity is growing in the United States but race relations studies reveal increased "group hostility" in metropolitan areas, noted speakers told a meeting of the American Jewish Committee's executive board here.

John Cogley, director of a major Ford Foundation project and a former editor of Commonweal, national Catholic weekly edited by laymen, said that "never before in American history has there been so little religious prejudice as there is today."

However, Loren Miller, editor of the California Eagle, a leading Negro weekly, warned that racial prejudice in major cities throughout the U.S. is resulting in group hostility, cultural isolation for Negroes and a continuing breakdown of city life.

Mr. Cogley, director of The American Character Study, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions at Santa Barbara, stressed that interreligious cooperation and understanding are on the increase, both among leaders and peoples of all faiths throughout the Western world.

He said the new trend toward interreligious cooperation was marked by emphasizing differences among religious groups rather than attempting to gloss over them. He observed that theological leaders "instead of harping differences have been making sense out of the various positions taken by different groups."

"All over the nation Christians and Jews, Protestants and Catholics, believers and non-believers, are meeting together to discuss questions of common concern. Jewish writers are contributing to Christian publications, both Catholic and Protestant, and Christians are called to address Jewish gatherings."

In his talk, Mr. Miller charged that Negro migrants from the South have found "almost unanimous rejection" exercised by "realtors, builders, subdividers, financial institutions, and tract developers." It is these people, he said, who "determine where Negroes may or may not live in our metropolitan areas."

"Negroes live in cultural isolation in the cities, he said, and "lack of training and deep-rooted prejudice combine to exclude too many Negroes from desirable employment."

Mr. Miller called for "destruction of artificial distinctions between their rights." "That end," he said, "can be achieved through legislation, through executive and administrative action of local, state and national government and through voluntary actions of individuals and organizations. Only through such action can we resolve the factors which disturb Negro-white relations and strengthen those which make for the unity so necessary for the health of a democratic society."

## Pledges Go Over Half Way Mark

Fifty-five per cent of the near six million dollars pledged in the 1960 fund drive for two new Catholic high schools in Monroe County has been paid — \$3,286,656.97.

The report is dated Jan. 1 of this year and many additional payments have been made during this month, campaign officials explained, to boost the percentage still higher.

Construction at both the Cardinal Mooney High School in Greece and Bishop Kearney High School in Irondequoit is reported "on schedule."

Target date to complete the schools is September of this year when classes are scheduled to begin. Complete tabulation by parishes is on page two.



## Warm Faith in Frozen Alaska

Sub-zero weather at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, doesn't cool devotion of Father (Captain) Lawrence Ward's parishioners. In a Jan. 4 ceremony with Fairbanks Bishop Francis D. Gleason, S.J., he blessed newly elected Mrs. Richard Nyren of the Ladies Sodality and James Lindquist of the Holy Name Society. Their predecessors in office Mrs. John Shanahan and Capt. Paul Hammer joined in rite. Father Ward is a priest of the Rochester Diocese. (US Air Force Photo)

## Episcopal Prelate Endorses Aid

Providence — (RNS)—Protestant Episcopal Bishop John Seville Higgins of Rhode Island said here that Episcopalians, "as Anglicans," do not oppose use of public funds to aid "properly supervised" private schools if such aid is "found to be constitutional," is desired by a majority of the people, and is made available to all "responsible bodies on an equal basis."

In a statement which called itself a "general description" of the Episcopal position, Bishop Higgins made his first public comment on the issue raised by the recent request for public aid to the Rhode Island Board of Education by the Providence Roman Catholic diocesan school board.

In that request, parochial school officials asked for state assistance in the purchase of mathematics and science textbooks and diagnostic testing materials. Rhode Island legislators are now considering a bill that would create a commission which would study the constitutionality of such state aid.

Bishop Higgins' statement followed an editorial in the Rhode Island Churchman, Episcopal diocesan publication, which noted that "the beginnings of a parochial school system are to be found in our own communion."

## More Than Lip Service

St. Paul — (NC) — The laity must render more than "lip service" to the temporal and spiritual well-being of society, Bishop Gerald O'Keefe, Chancellor of the St. Paul archdiocese, advised here.

In a talk before the annual winter meeting of Minnesota Knights of Columbus leaders, Bishop O'Keefe urged laymen and laywomen to make their desks and workbenches their altars for daily sacrifices to God.

"Their work, their daily occupation, is their daily service to God," he said. "They must try to make society better in all ways, by work and example." The Bishop said it "is not going to help to say 'politics is bad—something corrupt.' They must enter in without compromising their principles."

He added that laymen and women must be "so dedicated to Christian principles that they seek to reform the world."

## Noted Author Funeral Held For Fr. Brennan

Funeral rites were held for Rev. Gerald T. Brennan Tuesday morning, Jan. 23, in St. Bridget's Church, Rochester, the parish he served since 1937.

He died Saturday, Jan. 20, 1962, after prolonged illness during which he patiently endured great pain.

He was 63 and was in the 30th year of his priesthood. Bishop Kearney presided at the Requiem Mass. Bishop Walter A. Foery of Syracuse, a lifelong friend of Father Brennan, also attended the Mass.

Monsignor Patrick J. Flynn gave the eulogy.

"We pray that Father Brennan who worked so long in this shadow world of faith, where sometimes we see lights of hope and at others find ourselves lost in a Calvary of darkness, may find himself standing today in the brilliant light of God's love. We pray that today the great High Priest will open His Sacred Heart and show Father Brennan the love He has prepared for His priests," Monsignor Flynn said.

(Text of sermon, page 6)

Born in Rochester, April 21, 1898, Father Brennan attended St. Patrick's Cathedral Grammar School and Aquinas Institute before continuing studies for the priesthood at St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's Seminaries.

Father Brennan was ordained on June 9, 1923 in old St. Patrick's Cathedral by the late Archbishop Thomas F. Hickey. He was named assistant pastor at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, July 16, 1923 and became pastor in 1932. He was appointed pastor of St. Bridget's Church, Rochester in June 1937 and continued to serve there until illness forced him to resign in March, 1961.

Father Brennan was known nation-wide for his children's books. Highly esteemed in his community, he was honored at a testimonial dinner in Bausch and Lomb cafeteria June 18, 1961. With Carl S. Hallauer, honorary chairman and Martin Q. Moll, chairman of the dinner, more than 900 of Father Brennan's friends and flock from St. Bridget's and Mt. Carmel parishes attended.

Committee members included religious, civic and industrial leaders and officials of Red Wing baseball club which Father Brennan served as honorary chaplain.

Although Father Brennan told publishers, "I'm a parish priest, not a writer," he attained the reputation of being "Hans Christian Andersen" of the nation's Catholic clergy.

He wrote an average of almost a book a year for children until he had to undergo surgery last year.

His books are the result of stories he told to children in catechism classes and at sermon time of the children's Mass on Sunday.

Titles of his famous books included: "The Man Who Dared a King," "The Man who Never Died," "God Died at Three o'clock," "Angel City," "The

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FATHER BRENNAN

Ghost of Kingdom Come. "The Good Bad Boy," and others.

In a pamphlet issued by the Bruce Publishing Company of Milwaukee, publishers of his books, the firm stated "Father Brennan must have the heart of a child, and the zeal of one of Christ's ambassadors. He is a true artist."

HE WAS ALWAYS keenly interested in sports and was long-time "fan" of the Rochester baseball team. In December 1959 after a meeting of the board of directors of the community-owned Red Wings, President Frank Horton wrote to Father Brennan: "The board of directors of Rochester Community Baseball has elected you chairman of the club for 1959... with authority to attend meetings of the board of directors. The decision was unanimous, and was tendered to you our appreciation for your interest and support of Red Wing baseball in our community."

Interested in a professional fighter, Ross Virgo, who decided to end his career in 1952, Father Brennan had the young man hang up his gloves in the priest's den. Father Brennan baptized the fighter, officiated at Ross' wedding and was quoted by Matt Jackson, Times Union sports editor, as "always Virgo's personal advisor."

(Continued on Page 6)