

Prayers for Peace on Memorial Day

Washington — (RNS) — Expressing the conviction that man now possesses the capacity to end war and preserve peace, eliminate poverty and share abundance, to overcome disease and illiteracy, and bring all to realization of their "dream of a better life," President Johnson proclaimed Memorial Day as a day of national prayer for "permanent peace."

peace and freedom. Their numbers are legion, their deeds valorous, their memories hallowed.

"They fought in the valleys of Pennsylvania, in the trenches at Verdun, and in the foxholes at Guadalcanal. Now America's sons are again making the highest sacrifice to protect for this and future generations the liberty won in past struggles.

In a merciful God and in His goodness. It is not only fitting but necessary that we seek His guidance and help in the pursuit of these tasks.

"Now, therefore, I, Lyndon B. Johnson, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Memorial Day, Sunday, May 30, 1965, as a day of prayer for permanent peace, and I call upon the people of the nation to pray for a lasting peace in which all mankind may reap the fruits of His blessing.

"I designate the hour beginning in each locality at eleven o'clock in the morning of that day as the time for all Americans to join in prayer. I also urge the press, radio, television, and all other media of information to cooperate in this observance."

He asked all Americans to set aside 11 a.m., Sunday, May 30, as a time to join in prayer "For a lasting peace in which all mankind may reap the benefits of His blessing."

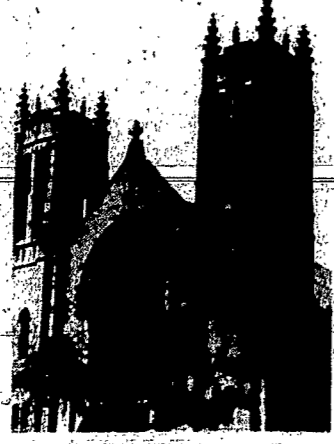
The President's Proclamation said:

"On this Memorial Day, May 30, we will pay homage to our honored dead who gave their lives that this country might live in

"Man possesses now the capacity to end war and preserve peace. We are able to eliminate poverty and share abundance, to overcome disease and illiteracy, and to bring to all our fellow citizens the fulfillment of their dream of a better life. We have the means to achieve these victories; now we need only the will.

"We are a people with an abiding faith

You can continue to help Bishop Kearney in his work for immortal souls.



More Churches are needed.

Include the Diocese of Rochester in your will or for further details phone, 454-1155, or write the Chancery, 50 Chestnut St., Rochester, N.Y.



Bishop Kearney's Appointments

JUNE

- 2 Wednesday—Villa Marie Academy—Commencement Address—3 p.m.
- 3 Thursday—St. John Fisher College—Senior Banquet—6:30 p.m.
- 4 Friday—St. Joseph Church—St. Monica Sodality Mass—9 a.m. Sheraton Hotel—First Friday Club Luncheon—12 noon Sheraton Hotel—St. John Fisher College Chancellor's Dinner—4:30 p.m.
- 5 Saturday—Sacred Heart Cathedral—Priesthood Ordinations—10 a.m. St. Andrew Seminary—Commencement Exercises—3 p.m.
- 6 Sunday—St. John Fisher College—Baccalaureate Mass—10 a.m. St. John Fisher College—Commencement—3 p.m. St. Joseph High School—Commencement—7:30 p.m.
- 7 Monday—Bishop Kearney High School—Ring Ceremony—9 a.m.
- 8 Tuesday—Academy of the Sacred Heart—Commencement—4 p.m.
- 10 Thursday—St. Augustine Church—Low Mass for Graduates of St. Mary's School of Nursing—9 a.m. Mercy High School—St. Mary's School of Nursing Commencement—8 p.m.
- 11 Friday—Community College—Ground breaking ceremony—11 a.m.
- 13 Sunday—St. Cecilia's, New York City—Preside and preach at Silver Jubilee Mass of the Reverend Joseph Barton, C.S.B., former Rector of St. Joseph Church, Rochester.
- 16 Wednesday—Mt. Carmel High School—Commencement—8 p.m.
- 19 Saturday—Eastman Theatre—McQuaid High School Commencement—8:15 p.m.
- 20 Sunday—St. Agnes High School—Graduation Mass—9 a.m. St. James Mercy Hospital, Heronell—Commencement—3 p.m. St. Rose, Lima—Preside and preach at Golden Jubilee Mass of Rt. Rev. Magr. John Ball—5:30 p.m.
- 25 Friday—Mercy High School Graduation Mass—9 a.m. Notre Dame High School, Elmira—Commencement—8 p.m.
- 17 Sunday—Holy Sepulchre Cemetery—Knights of St. John Field Mass—10 a.m. Eastman Theatre—Mercy High School—Commencement—3 p.m. Eastman Theatre—Aquinas Institute—Commencement 8 p.m.
- 28 Monday—Nazareth Academy—Graduation Mass—8:30 a.m. Eastman Theatre—Nazareth Academy Commencement—8 p.m.
- 29 Tuesday—Manger Hotel—Nazareth Academy Senior Banquet—5:30 p.m.



Bishop Casey's Appointments

JUNE

- 1 Tuesday—St. Theodore's Church, Gates—Confirmation—7:45 p.m.
- 2 Wednesday—St. John the Evangelist Church, Greece—Boy Scout Ad Altare Dei Awards—7:45 p.m.
- 3 Thursday—St. Bernard's Seminary—Diaconate Ordination—6:30 a.m.
- 4 Friday—St. Bernard's Seminary—Clerical Tonsure—4 p.m.
- 6 Sunday—Sacred Heart Cathedral—Sermon, First Solemn Mass, Rev. John Reiff—11 a.m. St. Lawrence Church, Greece—Confirmation and Dedication of New School—4 p.m.
- 7 Monday to 14 Thursday—St. Bernard's Seminary—Annual Retreat of Pastors
- 13 Sunday—St. Helen's Church, Gates—Pontifical Low Mass, Silver Anniversary of Parish—4:30 p.m.
- 14 Monday—Ridgeway Country Club—Our Lady's Guild, Holy Name Church Annual Dinner—6:30 p.m.
- 19 Saturday—Sacred Heart Cathedral—Reception of Religious Habit, Sisters of St. Joseph—9 a.m.
- 20 Sunday—St. Ann's Home Chapel—Sermon, Golden Jubilee of Rev. Daniel O'Rourke—4 p.m.
- 24 Thursday—Eastman Theatre—St. Agnes High School Graduation Exercises—8:15 p.m.
- 25 Friday—St. Joseph's Villa—Graduation Exercises—4 p.m. Sacred Heart Cathedral—Pontifical Low Mass, Closing of Triduum—in honor of the Sacred Heart—5:30 p.m. St. Francis Assisi Church—Sacred Heart Night, Family Rosary for Peace—7 p.m.
- 26 Saturday—Some Catholic High School, Rome, New York—Graduation Exercises—3 p.m.
- 17 Sunday—Sacred Heart Cathedral—Graduation Exercises of Sacred Heart School—3:30 p.m. DeSales High School, Geneva—Graduation Exercises—8 p.m.
- 18 Monday—Aquinas Institute—Annual Meeting of Board of Trustees—5 p.m.

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MOST REV. JAMES E. KEARNEY, D.D., President
MAIN OFFICE: 50 Chestnut St., 454-1155 - Rochester, N.Y. 14604
TELEPHONE: 454-1155
ADVERTISING OFFICE: 100 E. Chestnut St., AL 2-4448

Twentieth Anniversary of Slovene Massacre

By FRANC GRUM

Twenty years have passed since 12,000 men were the victims of one of the most barbarous crimes since Polish Katyn. The bodies of these unfortunates have since disintegrated, but the memory of them is still alive in the hearts of the Slovenian people. It shall not be forgotten, these, the darkest days of the Slovenian history.

The Slovenian and the other Yugoslav people cannot commemorate this 20th anniversary since they are enslaved even yet by the Communist dominated Tito regime. They yet live, however, with the hope that the day will come when they too shall be free to celebrate the victory and enjoy the freedom of which they were robbed in 1941 by the Nazis and in 1945 by the Communists.

The following is an eyewitness account of the Slovene massacre. I have written these eyewitness accounts so the free people of the world lost they forget what freedom is and what our boys have fought and died for—lest they forget that there are many people yet in the world who do not have this freedom and are still enslaved.

This I have written too, to the memory of the gallant men who were murdered in Slovenia in the woods of Teharje, Skofja loka, Podulak, Kocevje and other places; men I personally knew and lived with.

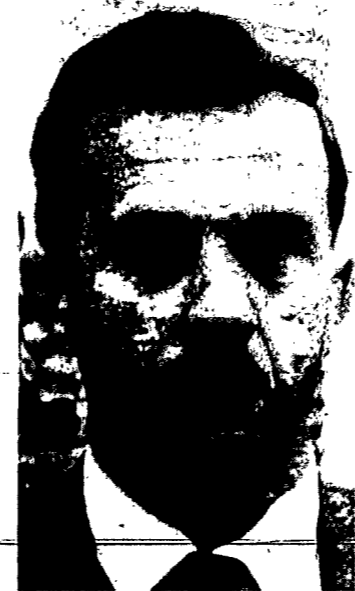
The month of May 1945 brought joy to millions of people in the world; the war against Nazi tyranny and aggression was over. The whole democratic world was celebrating this tremendous victory; thousands of war prisoners and political prisoners were free again. The day for which so many nations waited for so long a time had arrived and the atrocious camps with their gas chambers were abolished.

But the celebration of the victory was taken from some of the people who also believed in the democratic cause, and who had fought for the cause of the Allied victory; for the cause of freedom. Instead of the freedom, so much desired, and for which were lost so many lives, the new tyranny came up them. The tyranny of Communist dictatorship and slavery. Among those people to whom the Allied victory brought disappointment were also the people of Slovenia.

Based on the famous Yalta agreement the Allied governments recognized Tito's Communist movement and they turned their backs on General Mihajlovic, his nationwide movement, and on other patriotic and anti-Communist forces. These forces, who were the only real allies of the western democracy, were discredited and the support of Tito the Communist was in the full swing.

This switch of the Allied policy was unfortunate for the Slovenian and all Yugoslavian people. It would be too long to discuss this most tragic struggle of the Slovenian people

Franc Grum, author of this article, is a member of Mother of Sorrows parish in Greece. Born in Yugoslavia, he was a captain in the anti-Nazi movement under General Draza Mihajlovic. When Communists took over the nation he fled to Austria but was returned to his homeland where he witnessed the massacres he describes in this article and was one of the few who managed to survive and escape. He spent four years in a refugee camp in Austria prior to coming to the United States. He studied at the University of Rochester and now supervises the spectrophotometric laboratory at Eastman Kodak Co.



FRANC GRUM witness of a massacre

against a triple enemy: Nazis, Fascists, and Communists. Tito, in spite of outside political, moral and military support, never succeeded in winning the confidence of the people nor in developing a great military power.

It is a known fact that Tito's forces never succeeded in entering Serbia where the woods and mountains were dominated by the nationalistic forces. Only in the fall of 1944, with the help of the Russian army, did they enter Serbia, while even then in Slovenia they were only the minority movement.

From late 1944 into the first few months of 1945, over 300,000 were eliminated by the Communists because of their governing and methods.

In the May of 1945 long columns of civilians left their homes, left everything they worked for and joined thousands of other refugees. They went with only the hope of obtaining freedom and the need to save their lives. Among those thousands of civilians were about 12,000 officers and men of the Slovenian national army who crossed into the British occupation zone of Austria.

They put away their arms on the British promise that they would be sent to Italy to join the other refugees from Slovenia. These unfortunate men were deceived, and starting May 24, 1945, till May 31, they were loaded into trucks and transported to railroad stations in several places in Austria, Bleeberg, Rosenbach and others. From there they were forcefuly and under heavy guard and in locked cars sent to the Red butchers in Yugoslavia.

These people, not knowing just what was going on, were



All that's left of a parish church in Hinje after Communist troops passed by.

the victims or price of the international agreements. The minute those trains crossed the Yugoslav border, they were opened and the men exposed to most barbarous tortures and they were finally killed in cold blood and thrown into mass graves.

When the word leaked out of the country as to what had happened to the 12,000 men, nobody could believe that such things were possible in these modern times. Nobody could believe that the British armed forces would go along with such a plot to push these unfortunates into their graves. But it was true. One of the most horrible happenings in the history of mankind.

I should add that along with 12,000 Slovenians some 3,000 Serbian cetniks, about 1,000 Montenegrins and about 150,000 members of Croatian army members were returned to Communist Yugoslavia and massacred in Slovenia.

In a few words, I shall now describe what happened to the returned men. There are a few witnesses alive who will confirm the following facts, confirm the most barbarous atrocities performed by Tito's Communists.

Here are the facts:

When the trains of the returned soldiers entered Yugoslavia the occupants were robbed, slaughtered, beaten. The trains were escorted from station to station, and at each stop the Communist crowd came into the cars and the brutalities were repeated. At any time individual Communists were allowed to take anyone from the car to perform individual atrocities, and finally kill him.

This happened every day, train by train.

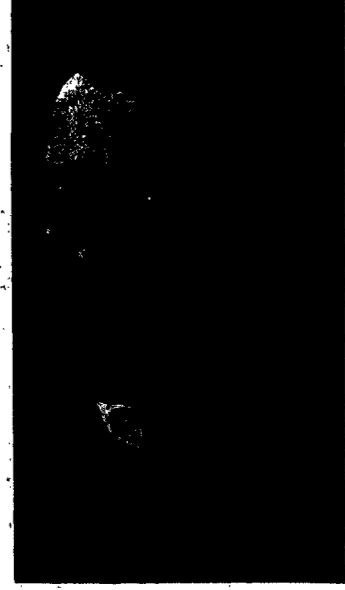
The victims who survived the trip were jammed in old barracks in the cities of Celje, Teharje, Skofja loka, St. Vid near Ljubljana. At that time Tito's special emissary Slovenian Penetic came from Belgrad, Colonel Penetic brought with him a commission and the final solution of the "Balkan Communist problem."

The Slovenian officers were first separated from the group and shot. The remainder were shifted around again and finally killed. Some 5,000 in the woods near Teharje, about 2,000 near Skofja loka and about 5,000 near Kocevje.

Besides these 12,000 returned from Austria, the Communists at that same time arrested about 18,000 other Slovenians. These arrested too ended in the mass graves, most of them in the woods near Kocevje. The returned Serbian and Croatian soldiers were also massacred in these same places. Shooting and tortures went on every day.

The Communist butchers invented such torturous methods that a civilized man would not even dream about it. There were cases like the following: Several men from the barracks near Teharje were at different times ordered to a nearby field. They were ordered to lay down on the grass and the Red partisans then rode horses over the men. Similar atrocities were performed all the time with officers the special target.

When the "prisoners" came to the final station, Kocevje, they were loaded into trucks with their hands tied with wire, two men together. They were brought to the nearby woods where there are large natural caves. The victims were unloaded near the caves and their hands, bloody and swollen, were untied.



Father Anton Slakar, one of the victims of the Communists in Slovenian massacre.

They were stripped and ordered to run a 200-foot gauntlet of Communists with clubs and picks. At the end of the line, those with gold teeth were stopped and their teeth pulled, then they were shot and pushed into the cave.

Some witnesses of these massacres survived the gauntlet and, eluding the guards, ran deep into the cave. They were fortunate to be only slightly wounded. They had to move around in the cave to avoid burial under the pile of dead and dying men. A few of the witnesses, however, later were rescued during the night to escape from the cave.

Hidden by peasants the witnesses finally found the way to escape from the country of slavery to freedom. They came to America for which they are very thankful.

These witnesses and all those who have seen and survived Tito's Communist revolution are deeply concerned today nowadays pictured as a better type of Communism, an independent Communism. We would like to state that all Communism is an evil. It is the same evil, no matter if it is Russian, Chinese, Yugoslav or any other form and there is no such thing as a good evil.

I hope that this short description of Communist massacres will serve to be a warning and that it will also enlighten the free people of the world as to the methods of Communism in practice. The Communists have but one aim—a Communist-dominated world.

They may from time to time change their tactics and adapt their tactics in accordance to the particular time and situation but their final goal has never changed. This we can clearly see this very day if we observe and carefully analyze the situation in southeast Asia.

May these accounts remind us, who under the grace of God live in the free world, to really appreciate our heritage of freedom. I cannot stress too much the appreciation we who have lived and witnessed the Communist domination have for the freedom we enjoy in this wonderful country of ours.

Persecution Continues

Washington (NC)—U.S. Sen. Thomas J. Dodd of Connecticut has stated a "policy of brutal persecution of religion" continues in Yugoslavia despite the reputation that country has for "more liberal and humane brand of communism."

Yugoslav secret police made an unsuccessful attempt to kidnap in Trieste an Orthodox church leader opposed to Marshal Tito's regime and bring him across the Yugoslav frontier, the Senator charged. He said the case was featured in the Italian Press last December.

In a statement issued in conjunction with the third volume of a report of "The Church and State Under Communism," dealt with Yugoslavia by the Senate internal security subcommittee of which he is vice chairman, Dodd identified the church leader as Dr. Dragoljub Vurdela, president of the Serbian Orthodox Church of Trieste.

