

## Book Reveals Pius XII's Efforts During WWII

By JAMES C. O'NEILL

Vatican City — Pope Pius XII's efforts to minimize the disasters of early World War II and the pressures he and the Holy See were under have been revealed in a new book of private Vatican documents.

The book is the fourth volume in a series issued by the Vatican Publications Office. It is entitled "The Holy See and the War in Europe (June, 1940 - June 1941). It is edited by four Jesuit historians, Fathers Robert A. Graham of the U.S., Pierre Blet, Angelo Martini and Burkhardt Schneider.

This volume deals with the documentation from the private archives of the Vatican, the correspondence between its representatives abroad and foreign diplomats, the danger of the progressive isolation of the Vatican in Europe at war, the campaign to influence or block Vatican Radio broadcasts and the problems raised by both the Allies and Axis powers in general.

In all, the volume is made up of 433 documents, most of which have never been made public. By means of this documentation the volume sets forth the policies, problems and efforts of Pope Pius and the Holy See in a world at war. The book ends after Germany's declaration of war against its former ally, the Soviet Union, but six months before the entry of the United States on the side of the Allies.

Among the most insistent notes in the collection of documents is the role of Vatican Radio in this period. By means of its broadcasts it was able to

voice the Vatican's point of view despite the encirclement of the Axis powers. The Papal Secretariat of State was very careful to stress Vatican Radio's unofficial status, yet both the Allies and the Axis powers argued over its broadcasts and sought to bring great pressure on it. The NCWC tried to get the texts of its broadcasts, even with the aid of the British, but it was denied by the secretariat for fear of similar demands by other agencies and nations.

Another example of pressure brought upon Pope Pius at this time was the insistence of both the Axis and the Allies to the right to select bishops in sensitive territories. The Germans tried to get a bishop of German origin in the Czech diocese of Budejovice, while the British fought the selection of Bishop Michael Gonzi of Gozo as the new archbishop of Malta. Archbishop Gonzi, however, was later made a Knight of the British Empire.

Nor were Vatican diplomats secure from the hazards of war. German occupation officials demanded and got the removal of the apostolic nuncios to the Netherlands and Belgium, among others. The British also forced the removal of the apostolic delegate to Mombasa; Antonio Cardinal Riberi, who just died (Dec. 16), and his staff, the apostolic vicar in Egypt and a member of the staff of the apostolic delegate in Great Britain, all on the grounds that they were of Italian origin (Cardinal Riberi, however, was born in Monte Carlo).

The determination of Pope Pius XII to remain in the Vatican no matter what pressures were brought to bear also came clearly in this volume, as well as his efforts to spare Rome bombardment.

2 COURIER-JOURNAL  
Friday, Jan. 19, 1968

## Franco In Too Long, Paper Charges

Madrid — (NC) — Thirty years of Generalissimo Francisco Franco as Spain's chief of state, "responsible only to God and history," are too much, a Catholic daily charged here.

In a series of editorials and columnists' comments, the Catholic daily Ya has called for new government leadership responsible to some representative body. Current public opinion in Spain, the paper said, is so strongly for a new regime in the face of "problems that block further progress in Spain" that "there is, truly a crisis of confidence in the government."

Two apparently unrelated events have deepened discontent with present government policies.

Juan Carlos de Borbon, son of the pretender to the throne, Don Juan de Borbon, has reached his 30th birthday, the age at which he could legally be proclaimed king of Spain. Spain is a constitutional monarchy, but Franco has postponed any action in that regard.

Franco has publicly expressed his preference for the prince as his successor, but the prince has stated that he would not stand in the way of his father's claim to the throne.

The other disturbing event was the devaluation of the dollar late in 1967. The devaluation has seriously affected family budgets.



## Papal Envoy Visits Refugee Camps

Amman, Jordan — (RNS) — Msgr. John Roudan, Pope Paul's special envoy in the Middle East, holds an open-air "class" for young refugees during his visit to Jordan. The priest was on an inspection tour of refugee camps in the Middle East in behalf of the Pope. He also visited the Gaza Strip and the west bank of Jordan, areas now occupied by Israel.

## Guard Changing Of The Curia Moves Along

Vatican City — (NC) — Pope Paul VI's changing of the "Old Guard" in the top offices in the Roman Curia's high offices are those of Francis Cardinal Tava Testa.

Brennan of the U.S., named prefect of the Congregation of Sacraments, and Maximilian Cardinal de Furstenberg of the Netherlands, named prefect of the Congregation for the Eastern Rites Churches. They replace, alizing the curia, which has long respectively, Cardinals Bene-

been predominantly Italian.

## Catholic Press on Bishop's Pastoral

(Continued from Page 1)

seems more concerned to assert the uniqueness of the Roman communion than to celebrate what progress toward Christian unity has occurred or to encourage further movement.

The NCR editorial concludes with the comment that the decision to issue the pastoral "was a good idea, and we think the results are well worth study." This study, the editorial states, will probably be confined to theologians, pastors, preachers and others with special interest in ecclesiology.

The Pilot, newsweekly of the Archdiocese of Boston, said it

"draws the conclusion that the pastoral was intended to be read by those with some background in theology or other ecclesiastical science, and, perhaps, by them interpreted to those of less academic background."

The Pilot's editorial urges: "Since this is the first of what is expected to be a series of similar pastoral letters, we can expect that the reception this one receives may influence the form and content of later publications."

"For this reason, it will be important that candid discussion follow the release of the text and that its size, style, flavor, form and effect be scrutinized with great care. The

Church in American can be well served over the years by this kind of direction from its bishops. Our people will seek it and rejoice in it. Whether we have found the best means for this pastoral effort remains to be seen. A beginning has been made, however, and it is a very important one."

Twin Circle

Twin Circle — The National Catholic Press, a weekly which began publication in early November, called the document "a masterful statement" which "if taken to heart by Catholics of all ranks, (would) go a long way toward preserving the precious unity of the Church and ending the petulant tantrums of some

who feel the Church is out of step with truth because it is out of step with them."

To those who object because the episcopal document deals only with abstract principles, Twin Circle answers:

"Here again the bishops have correctly diagnosed that it is beneath the surface, at the very heart of things, that the danger and the modern crisis must be resolved. To have dealt in particulars would have been to have treated symptoms rather than the cause of sickness."

"The U.S. bishops have shown that Catholic truth can be beautiful and exciting and challenging. The challenge happens to be ours."

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**Around T**

Belgian Party Opp  
Brussels — (NC) — The Y  
ginn's Social Christian party  
the creation of a Christian party  
making the Catholic University  
Flemish-speaking institution.

In a press conference, A  
-Walloon or French-speaking  
party (PSC), said:

"As Christians, we believe  
Catholic university in Belgium  
is fundamental. To create  
Catholic university would con  
ing of the dissemination of F  
the world, a dissemination of  
fruitful on the occasion of t  
We must all insure the main  
this dissemination."

Bishop Praises Stri  
Crates, Brazil — (NC) — J  
educational reforms in Bra  
Fragsos of Crates has Fla  
Castro has made great strid  
Gospel." At the same time  
dictatorship whose tactics he

The bishop cited Castro's  
cent illiteracy rate in Cuba  
all secondary schools and com  
education and literacy camp  
measures to back up the cla

Polish Bishops Warn  
Bonn — (NC) — The Pol  
ment's accusing parliament  
president of the German go  
of "devoting himself to m  
ecclesiastical authority" and  
"of the most responsible m  
regard to the socialist state.

French Cardinal Sp  
Paris — (RNS) — The con  
lot, Archbishop of Paris, s  
terricated alarmingly," arc  
Cardinal Veillot is "extre  
talk," the announcement sa  
transfusions.

German Cardinal Calls f  
Munich — (NC) — Julius  
president of the German E  
on Catholics to contribute  
campaign to bring relief t  
In his appeal Cardinal Doe  
emphasis on the necessity fo  
countries as a means of p  
and technical means to ram  
available, the cardinal said.

Vatican Paper Cou  
Vatican City — (RNS) —  
City's newspaper has order  
Parliament commissions wh  
which would legalize divor

The commission, by a r  
on the first article of a bill  
in a Roman Catholic countr  
terms it would permit divo  
contracted civil marriages  
"other religious" marriages  
would be contrary to the  
tween the Italian governme

Dutch Pastoral Council  
Noordwijkerhout, The I  
bly of the Dutch National P  
approved a resolution askin  
to be ordained priests in th  
have married be allowed to

Munich to Follow  
Rochester's Lead:  
Regional Vicars

Munich, Germany — (NC)  
Julius Cardinal Doepfner  
Munich, head of the Germ  
Bishops Conference, announc  
here that the Munich arch  
case will be split into th  
regions, each administered  
an episcopal vicar worki  
under the direction of the c  
dinal.

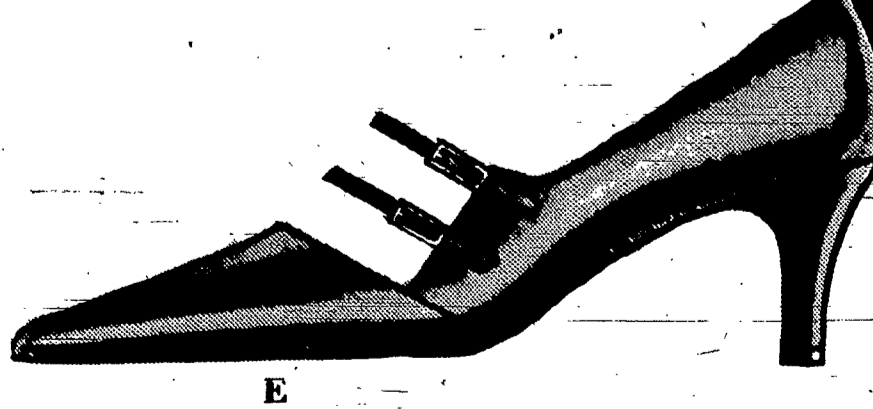
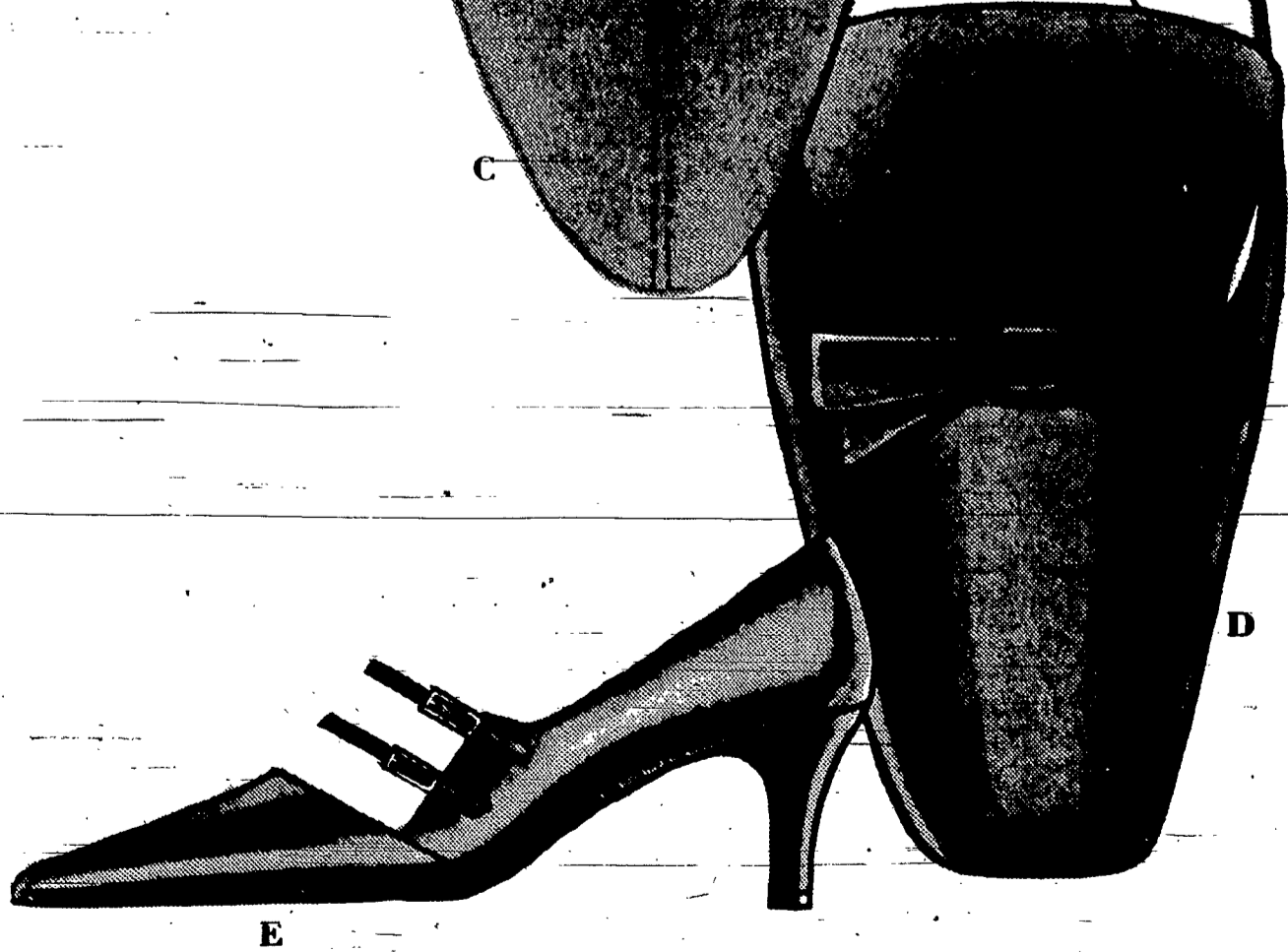
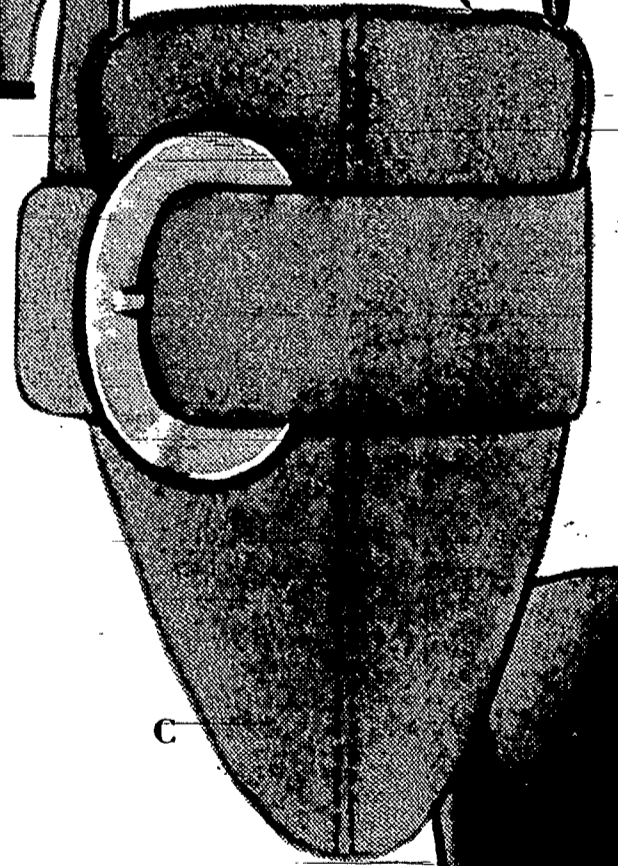
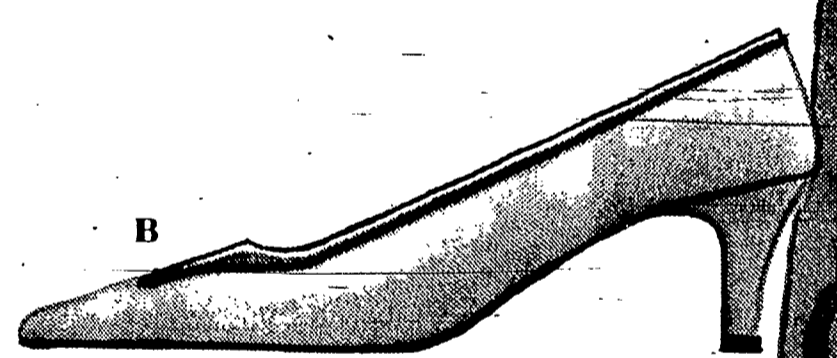
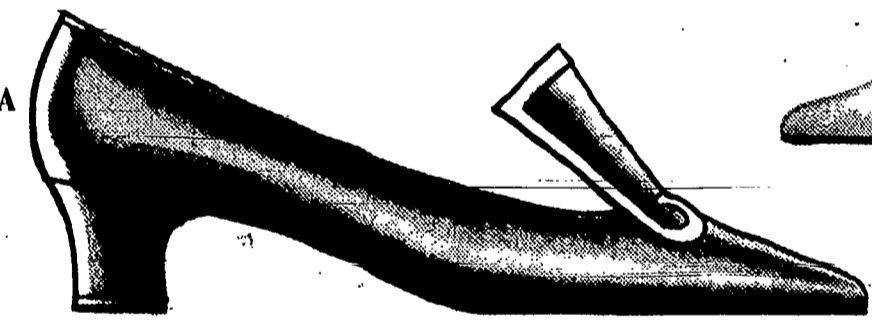
Based on predictions that  
population of Munich will  
crease 50 per cent in the n  
25 years and on the are  
shortage of priests, the reorg  
ization will also give layme  
wider role in the Church's  
tivities.

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