

Warsaw Mission Expected To Visit Vatican City Soon

By ROBERT HOLTON

Vatican City (RNS) — A diplomatic mission from Communist Poland is expected to come here within 10 days to discuss ways to improve relations between the Holy See and Warsaw.

Unofficial relations between the Vatican and the Communist government of predominantly Catholic Poland have warmed considerably in the last year.

Six months ago a major step toward the reopening of full diplomatic relations with Poland was taken by the Vatican when it formally recognized Poland's claim to the territory it took from Germany at the close of World War II.

Up to a year ago, however, Vatican relations with the Communist government had been extremely chilly — to the point where Pope Paul's desire to visit the country during the celebration of its 1,000th anniversary of Christianity in Poland was flatly rejected by the regime.

Now, however, there are reports that the delegation scheduled to meet with officials of the Vatican Secretariat of State will discuss the possibility of establishing some formal relationship with the Holy See.

Some observers close to the scene feel this relationship would fall into the category of a *modus vivendi*, or a type of gentlemen's agreement.

However, others are convinced that both parties are aiming at a full diplomatic relationship, complete with a concordat outlining the details of the church-state relationship in Poland.

It is also understood that Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński, primate of Poland, will come to Rome on Nov. 7. He is expected to be accompanied by the bishops of the dioceses whose territories were once under German control.

An outward sign of the growing cordiality between the Vatican and the Polish government was seen earlier this week in the relocation of the ambassador to the Holy See from the Polish Government in Exile.

Ambassador Kazimierz Papee, 83, moved from the embassy overlooking St. Peter's Square which he had occupied since the exiled government was set up in

London after the Nazi invasion of his homeland.

The veteran diplomat moved into an apartment in central Rome owned by the Vatican. Technically, he still is the Ambassador to the Holy See from the Polish Government in Exile.

But Papee and the Vatican both realize that if relations between Communist Poland and the Holy See are ever to be advanced beyond what they are today, the Vatican will have to end its recognition of the exiled government.

The reported coming visits of the Polish government delegation, and that of the cardinal and the bishops soon after, have given rise to speculation that Pope Paul might reschedule the Polish visit he was not permitted to make some years ago.



Pope Greets American Cardinal

Pope Paul VI shakes hands with Cardinal John Krol, Archbishop of Philadelphia and president of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, during a private audience at the Vatican. The American prelate was returning from a visit to Poland. (RNS).

Dutch Bishops Ordered To Withdraw a Catechism

Vatican City (RNS)—The Vatican has ordered the bishops of the Dutch Diocese of Breda and s'Hertogenbosch to discontinue use of a controversial two-year-old catechism in the teaching of religion in the schools under their jurisdiction.

Designed for a course in religious instruction for children between 15 and 18, the catechism was prepared by a group of 20 teachers, assisted by five professors from the Catholic University of Nijmegen, and by a guidance committee which included representatives of Bishop Uberto C.A. Ernst of Breda and Bishop Johannes W. M. Bluyssen of s'Hertogenbosch.

According to its originators, the catechism constituted an attempt to present the Catholic faith in terms that young people can understand.

Its supporters have said that much that traditionally has been regarded as part and parcel of the faith can appear meaningless and nonsensical if presented today without further explanation.

The order banning the catechism came, jointly, from Cardinal John J. Wright, prefect

of the Congregation for the Clergy, and Cardinal Franjo Seper, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

Cardinal Wright's department has an office concerned with catechetical and other forms of religious training and formation for the faithful. The Seper department — a lineal descendant of the Congregation of the Holy Office — has the over-all function of safeguarding the doctrine of faith and morals.

The heads of the two agencies of the Curia, the central admin-

istrative arm of the Catholic Church, issued a joint statement in which they said that the text of the catechism had been subjected to a "long and serious examination."

This examination, they said, revealed that the text was "gravely deficient from many points of view."

"On these grounds," they added, the bishops of Breda and s'Hertogenbosch were "instructed to make it their precise and grave duty to withdraw the catechism immediately."

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Chile Crisis Worries Pope

Vatican City (RNS) — Pope Paul reportedly displayed deepening concern over the sudden turn of events which has the Marxist government of Chile in turmoil and that nation on the brink of widespread violence.

The pontiff met privately with Archbishop Sanz Villalba Sotero, apostolic nuncio to Chile, positioning the audience last so that the Pope could draw out the talks if necessary.

Vatican sources said it was believed that the two churchmen discussed the attitude of the Chilean Catholic hierarchy under the Marxist rule of President Salvador Allende.

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Pope Paul Supports Dialogue With Non-Christian Religions

Vatican City (RNS) — Pope Paul met here with 50 scholars invited to Rome by the Vatican Secretariat for Non-Christians to discuss the major religious traditions of Asia and Africa and the problems facing the Church in those continents.

The Pope recalled that dialogue with "the different forms of religion" was one of the "main objectives" of Vatican II.

It was with that objective in mind, he explained, that he established the Secretariat for Non-Christians in May 1964, "in an effort to help create a new climate in relations between the Catholic Church and the following of the other major religions."

The pontiff conceded that there is "a heavy burden on the road to dialogue, which has the task of overcoming the limitations of language and culture."

"Everyone expects to be fully recognized and loved for himself, with the values and differences

of his own culture, he said. "How many misunderstandings and conflicts, how much bitterness, have been born in the course of human history by this proud closing of oneself, which prevents understanding of one's brothers! Without love, there is no real understanding."

Pope Paul affirmed that "the Catholic Church possesses in her spiritual heritage, and especially in the example of her Founder, the reason and the stimulus for effective love of man — whatever the cultural or religious tradition to which he belongs."

"We cannot hide the Catholic Church's own desire to see the followers of the major non-Christian religions also manifest the wish to know the Church in the same way in which our heart is open to them," he said.

He expressed hope that the day was near when "all religions will unite their efforts in the service of man, his liberty and his dignity."

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