

# NBC Report Links Kremlin To Papal Assassination Try



By NC News Service

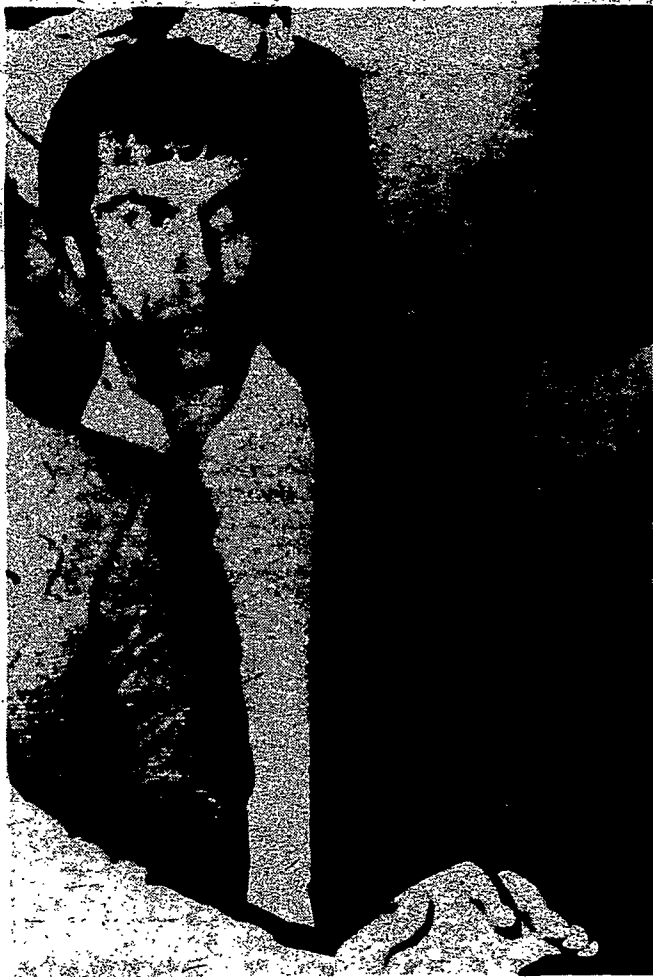
The Soviet Union, through its Eastern European satellite, Bulgaria, was linked to the assassination attempt on Pope John Paul II by Turkish gunman Mehmet Ali Agca in May 1981, according to an NBC documentary news report slated to be aired last night, Sept. 21.

The NBC report was similar to the findings of author Claire Sterling, an expert on international terrorism. Ms. Sterling wrote in the September Reader's Digest that the Soviet Union, through Bulgarian ties, was connected to the assassination attempt.

According to the Washington Post, American intelligence analysts have reached similar conclusions although concrete evidence implicating the Soviets to the attack on the pope is lacking.

The NBC report, shown ahead of time to the press, suggested that the Soviet Union either was behind the attempt to kill Pope John Paul or was aware of the plot and that the Soviet government was angry at the pope because of John Paul's strong backing for the independent Polish labor union, Solidarity.

Ms. Sterling reached the same conclusion.



Mehmet Ali Agca in the custody of Italian police following his assassination attempt of the pope.

NBC, like Ms. Sterling, focuses on Agca's ties to Bulgaria. Agca, they report, got his fake passport and the gun used in the assassination attempt from associates of an alleged Turkish gunrunner and smuggler, who in turn was controlled by or had strong affiliations

with the Bulgarian secret police, who were supervised by the Soviet Union.

According to NBC news correspondent Marvin Kalb in the documentary, "The Man Who Shot the Pope: A Study in Terrorism," the pope had sent a letter to

Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev in August 1980 declaring the pope's intent, if the Soviets attacked Poland, to put aside the throne of St. Peter and return to Poland to stand alongside his people.

The Soviets were so angry at this that they devised or condoned the plot to kill Pope John Paul, NBC reported. The network said it could not reveal the source of the letter.

"NBC News has accumulated a great deal of evidence, some of it, to be sure, circumstantial," Kalb said. "A Soviet connection is strongly suggested, but it cannot be proved."

Kalb discussed the documentary and its findings in early September during an interview with Henry Herx of the U.S. Catholic Conference Department of Communication in New York.

"What the program establishes is that Agca was not a religious fanatic but a sane and intelligent man whose assistance came from left-wing terrorist groups," Kalb said then. "The focus is on Agca, but substantively the program tells the story of terrorist forces controlled by Soviet satellite states within the context of the Soviet Union's fear of losing Poland. If the pope could somehow be eliminated the threat from Solidarity would be ended."

"The weight of evidence points to the Soviet Union," Kalb said then. "If it did not directly hatch the plot, it certainly had to be aware of its existence."

U.S. intelligence sources have said Agca got his gun and passport in Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria, in 1980.

Abuzer Ugurlu, the man accused of gunrunning and smuggling and running a ring that included the alleged providers of Agca's

gun and passport, is now under arrest in Turkey.

An Italian judicial report in September 1981 stated that Agca was "only the visible part of a conspiracy" to kill the pontiff.

NBC quoted Cardinal Silvio Oddi, prefect of the Vatican's Congregation for the Clergy, as saying that "we suspect, we think, we are trying to prove" that some government was out to kill the pope.

Political Advertisement

Political Advertisement

## PROUD SUPPORTS CATHOLIC EDUCATION



Assemblyman Gary Proud was the person who passed the law which guaranteed Rochester Catholic School children the same privileges as other school students. Pictured above, Assemblyman Proud receives the Freedom of Choice Award from the Rochester Chapter of the New York State Federation of Catholic School Parents from Mrs. Gina Ouweleen of Rochester at the Parents' Mass of Recognition in Sacred Heart Cathedral on October 14, 1979.

Gary Proud has been a lifelong member of St. Philip Neri Church and has served as a member of the Parish Council and as a Trustee. He graduated from St. Francis Xavier Elementary School in 1958.

## VOTE PROUD - HE WORKS FOR YOU

DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRIMARY - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 PULL LEVER 6A

P.S. If you do not want your tax dollars to pay for abortions, then Vote for Gary Proud.

Citizens for Proud - R. Gekoski, Treas.

## Pope Is Given Peace Manifesto

Castelgandolfo, Italy (NC) - A leading nuclear scientist on Sept. 10 gave Pope John Paul II a seven-point plan designed to end the risk of nuclear war.

Antonio Zichichi, director of the International Center for Scientific Culture in Erice, Sicily, presented the document during a private audience with the pope at Castelgandolfo.

Called the "Manifesto on Science, Technology and Peace," the plan was drawn up at an Aug. 20-23 international seminar in Erice on the world implications of a nuclear conflict. One of the principal authors was U.S. physicist Edward Teller, known as the father of the hydrogen bomb.

## Annual Dinner-Theater Scheduled for Oct. 16

Auriclesville - The Sir William Johnson Lyric Theater will stage "Brigadoon" in the Auriclesville Shrine Cafeteria following a roast beef dinner at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 16.

The annual dinner-theater is being sponsored by the Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha League to raise funds for a chapel in honor of the Indian maiden beatified in 1980 by Pope John Paul II.

Preceding the dinner-theater at the 4 p.m. Mass in the Shrine Coliseum, the 1982 Tekakwitha Award will be presented to Father Henri

Zichichi, who also gave Italian President Sandro Pertini a copy of the document Sept. 10, said it was given to Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev on the same day by Piotr L. Kapitsa, a Soviet Nobel prize winner in physics and a participant in the Erice meeting.

The manifesto was to be presented to U.S. President Ronald Reagan and other world leaders in the near future, Zichichi added.

"The danger of a nuclear holocaust is not an inevitable consequence of the great development that pure science has had," the document said.

"Science means the study of the fundamental laws of

nature; technology on the other hand is the study of how man's power can be increased," it added. "The choice between the technology of peace and the technology of war is not of a scientific nature, but cultural."

The scientists listed seven proposals which they said were "fundamental elements" in the quest to avoid "a catastrophic Third World War without precedent."

The proposals included the elimination of "restrictions on the free circulation of information, ideas and persons," since such restrictions increase "suspicion and rancor in the world," the reduction of the secrecy about military technology, which generates "hate and mistrust," continued efforts to keep nuclear technology out of the hands of non-nuclear powers; attempts to reduce "the causes of insecurity" of non-nuclear powers; and the prohibition of "any

type of nuclear tests for war-like aims."

## Fourteen Added To Staff

Fourteen new teachers have joined the Aquinas faculty. They are: Father James Kelly, English; Father Norbert Maduzia, Spanish; John Miller, social studies and English; Marcel Senasac, Spanish, French and math; Randy Wiscomb, English II and III; Mrs. Sue Bingham, office practice, personal typing and typing I, II; Miss Judith Kiehl, English and Latin; Mrs. Mary Lou Knapp, math; Miss Janice LaVigne, physical education and health; Mrs. Barbara Swiatek, sacraments and theology; Thomas Helfrich, theology, English and French; Dana Meredith, biology and chemistry; Michael Ruff, bookkeeping I, II and business law; and James Scarfia, theology.

Bechar, SJ, vice postulator for the Kateri cause in Canada for 34 years and who is currently celebrating his 50th anniversary as a Jesuit religious.

Also receiving the award are Mr. and Mrs. Richard Adach of Gloversville; Peg Bova of Mattydale; Mr. and Mrs. William Janeski of Amsterdam; and Catherine Ozug, also of Amsterdam.

Tickets are \$12.50 each and may be obtained at the League Office, Auriclesville, N.Y. 12016. The phone number is (518) 853-3153.

**More Heat From Less Wood**

**Squire Stove**

**The Carpet Tack**

HOURS: MON. WED. FRI. 10-6 • TUES. THURS. 10-9 • SAT. 10-4  
7328 Pittsford/Palmira Road. 223-7813

**Carpet Special**  
100% Nylon Sculptured, Multi-Color, Scotchguard and Anti-Static Carpet

**845**  
per square yard (Regularly 11.95)