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FUTURE OF POLAND WORRIES VATICAN

Holy See Is Dismayed by News Received From Districts Occupied by Russia

CHURCHES RUINED IN WAR

Papal Nuncio to Warsaw, Now in Rumania, Aids in Relief Work for Refugees

By Telephone to THE NEW YORK TIMES.
ROME, Sept. 22—The Holy See has been completely cut off from the Catholics in Poland, but it was learned here that Mgr. Filippo Corresi, Nuncio to Warsaw, is now in Bucharest, where he is organizing a work of religious, moral and spiritual assistance as well as material aid for Polish refugees.

News arriving indirectly from Poland indicates that all the Bishops have remained in their dioceses. August Cardinal Hlond, primate of Poland, is resting from the mental and physical suffering of more than two weeks of war, but as soon as he has recovered he will return to Warsaw, it is said in Vatican City.

The difficulty now is that there are no direct communications with Poland and the news that arrives through Rumania, Hungary and Germany makes unhappy reading for the Secretariat of State. Innumerable churches and religious buildings have been damaged or destroyed by bombing and shelling. There is nothing to indicate, however, that priests, monks or nuns have been molested or that the damage was deliberate.

The really great anxiety at the Vatican is for that half of Poland which Russia is seizing. The reports of the Soviet invasion of the region, which are already coming through, have caused dismay.

Pope Admittedly Shaken

Authoritative Vatican circles today admitted that the Pope has been profoundly shaken by what has been happening that he has even increased the austerity of his life, but they deny and resent the reports that he has been sleeping on the bare ground and fasting so as to participate spiritually in the war suffering.

"Today, more than ever," it was explained, "His Holiness feels deeply the duty of insisting on prayer, mortification and good work in order to implore God for that peace which he vainly hoped of man. Certainly, even if the Pope fasted and performed self-mortification, he would not be the man to flaunt it in public. One should keep in mind his habitual disposition to piety and mortification and his reiterated recommendations to the whole world which leads to the conclusion that doubtless the practice of his life is such as to find him in the first ranks of the crusade of prayer and good work which he has asked of all the faithful. But beyond that, it is not permitted to go without falling into a play of the imagination that may become indiscreet."

The Holy See sent the Rumanian Government a telegram of condolence for the assassination of Premier Armand Calinescu. There is so much anxiety here over the possible developments in Rumania that Mgr. Andrea Cassulo, Nuncio to Bucharest, who has been in Italy on vacation, was ordered to return immediately to the Rumanian capital, where he arrived this evening.

Catholicism Linked to Patriotism

VATICAN CITY, Sept. 22 (P)—One reason why churchmen believe catholicism in Poland may suffer both at the hands of the Societ and the Nazis is that Polish catholicism always has been closely united with Polish patriotism.

After previous partitions of Poland both Russians and Prussians attacked the Polish Church in an attempt to crush Polish nationalism. Of the country's 35,000,000 inhabitants about 65 per cent are Roman Catholics and 10 per cent Greek Uniat Catholics, who use the Greek rites but recognize the Pope.

Eleven per cent are Orthodox Catholics, not recognizing the Pope, and 10 per cent are Jews. Uniat and Orthodox Catholics are mainly in the eastern region occupied by the Russians.

Berlin Hears of Papal Peace Plan

BERLIN, Sept. 22 (UP)—Catholic sources reported tonight that within a few days Pope Pius will approach the belligerent powers with a written peace proposal containing specific suggestions for a settlement of their differences.

SOVIET ATHEISTS NOW DEFEND ORTHODOXY

'Godless' Paper Rails at Roman Catholics in Poland

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MOSCOW, Sept. 22.—Spirited protests are being made in the Soviet atheist newspaper *Bezboznik*, which means "godless," against alleged oppression by Polish Roman Catholics of members of the Orthodox Church.

"Hundreds of Orthodox churches are being forcibly converted into Roman Catholic churches," it charges, and adds:

"Forty per cent of the Orthodox churches in Poland have been destroyed or converted into Roman Catholic churches. In the Spring of 1919 Polish legionnaires, headed by officers, invaded an Orthodox church during the service and announced that the church would be transformed into a Catholic church.

"It was with difficulty that the Orthodox priest was able to finish the service. Thereafter the ikons and church plate were carried off. The Polish Government has never afforded the Russians, Ukrainians and White Russians in its territory, as the Riga treaty of 1921 provided, an opportunity of freely fulfilling their religious obligations."

The foregoing are some of the many alleged outrages against Orthodox believers in the Polish Ukraine and White Russia distributed among Polish Catholics published here. The article is extremely serious in tone and is well-documented.

Nevertheless, many consider that it is the best joke in Moscow. For it does not appear, as might be imagined, in some emigré Orthodox organ, but in a Soviet newspaper famous for its campaigns against the Orthodox Church.

Hong Kong Has First Black-Out

HONG KONG, Sept. 22 (AP)—Hong Kong had its first blackout tonight as several thousand trained men and women gave the city a full-dress rehearsal of air-raid defense. Even craft in the harbor, including the United States liner *President Coolidge*, extinguished its lights during the ninety-minute test.

Polish patriotism.

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The informant said the Pope would suggest that some major neutral power such as the United States take over the representation of Poland in any such proceedings, in view of the contention of one faction that the Polish State no longer exists.

It was understood that a peace encyclical, which the Pope prepared several weeks ago, probably would be read in Catholic churches soon in an altered form.

SWISS FIRE ON PLANES

French and German Ships Targets of Anti-Aircraft Guns

BERNE, Switzerland, Sept. 22 (AP)—The Swiss military command announced today that two French warplanes crossed over Swiss territory near Basle Wednesday and returned to France only after Swiss anti-aircraft guns opened fire.

The first plane, a bomber, flew over the Porrentruy region. The second, a fighter, was sighted two hours later in the same region.

ZURICH, Switzerland, Sept. 22 (AP)—Swiss anti-aircraft batteries at 4:40 P. M. today opened fire on two or more German planes said to have flown over Swiss territory at low altitude in the canton of Schaffhausen. The German planes were reported to have flown at high speed.

Pilsudski's Widow in Stockholm

Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Sept. 22—Mme. Alexandra Pilsudski, widow of Marshal Josef Pilsudski of Poland, with her two daughters, Jadwiza and Wanda, and a prelate named Meyztowics arrived here today from Riga, Latvia. They may go to England.

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