

# Archbishop Answers Ceylon Spying Charge

COLOMBO, Ceylon — (NC) — An official statement issued on behalf of Archbishop Thomas B. Cooray, O.M.I., of Colombo describes as "completely untrue" allegations that Church authorities in Ceylon are engaged in "spying" for the Vatican.

The charges were contained in press statements and public speeches made by Mr. Mettananda, a noted Buddhist leader, who is leading a violent campaign against Catholics.

Mr. Mettananda accused the Catholic hierarchy and Catholic public officials in Ceylon of acting as "key men" in what he described as the Vatican's intelligence service in this country. He charged that Catholics were sending "vital information" to the Vatican through the agency of the Bishops of Ceylon.

The Buddhist leader particularly criticized Hungarian Catholic nuns working in Colombo and its suburbs for "using their influence on the people."

He charged the Ceylon government with "partiality" toward Catholics because it approved Catholic religious broadcasts over Radio Ceylon's commercial service. He voiced concern over the "possibility" of Ceylon's having a Catholic prime minister who would ride roughshod over the Buddhist majority.

The statement asked Mr. Mettananda to stop his "campaign of mudslinging" against responsible persons.

The Messenger, the diocesan paper, stressed that Ceylon Catholics have shown the utmost loyalty to the country and filled the role of "reliable citizenship."

It condemned fomenters of trouble for seeking to deprive Catholics of credit for their services to the country. The Messenger warned against attempts to convert the country's freedom into a "scourge for some and a means of unrestricted license for others."

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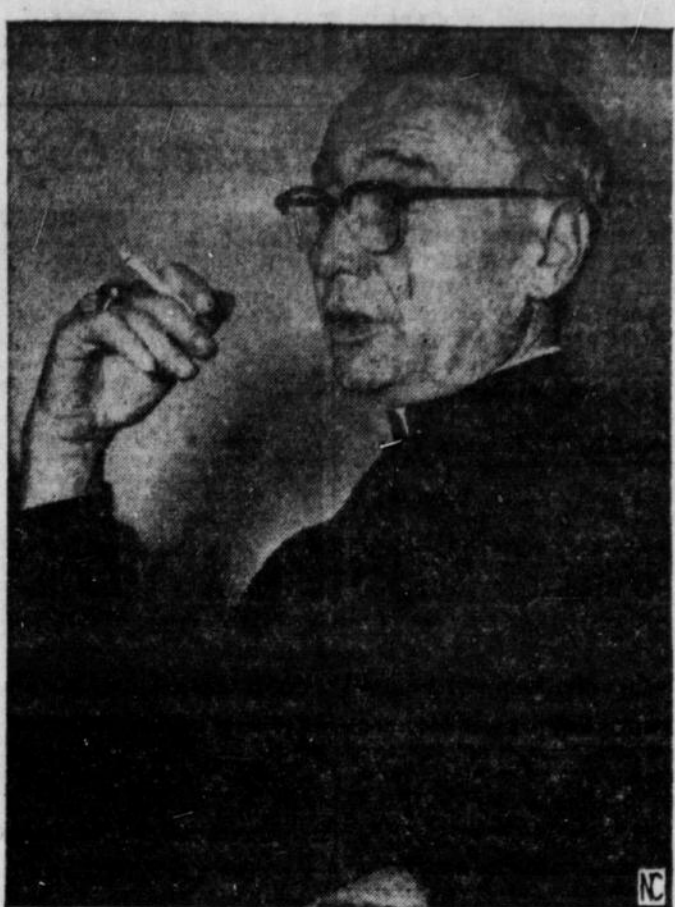
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## After Five Years In Jail

Shown during a news conference in San Francisco, Calif., is Franciscan Bishop Henry Ambrose Pinger, O.F.M., a veteran of five years imprisonment by the Chinese Communists. A native of Lindsay, Neb., and with 30 years in the Chinese missions, Bishop Pinger remarked that "In my first Holy Mass after five years ... I asked God to grant the rulers of China the grace that they may gradually ... realize and accept the existence of God ..."

**Says Prayer for Captors**

## Bishop, Red Prisoner 5 Years, Is Released

SAN FRANCISCO — (NC) — Franciscan Bishop Henry Ambrose Pinger, imprisoned five years by Chinese communists who tried to slap him into confessing that he was a spy, made his first words in his homeland a prayer for his captors.

"In my heart, I have no hatred, I have no hatred for any of the officials, the judges or the government of China," he said.

"In my first Holy Mass after five years, celebrated in Hong Kong, I asked God to grant the rulers of China the grace that they may gradually come to the point where they realize and accept the existence of God, and obtain true and lasting happiness," he told newsmen at San Francisco's International Airport.

Here "as a gentle soft-spoken man with wispy graying hair, obviously tired. A veteran of the China missions for 30 years and one of the leading Catholic prelates in that country. A meek man whose spirit was stronger than the determination of his captors."

A native of Lindsay, Neb., Bishop Pinger headed the Diocese of Chongtun in the province of Shantung. Under his jurisdiction were some 30,000 Catholics.

Prison was not a new experience for him. He was jailed by the Japanese in 1943, but said here that under their forces his captivity was spent as "an enemy alien," but under the Reds he was "a prisoner and an alien spy."

Bishop Pinger said he was astounded when the communists arrested him. "I was told," he said, "that I was engaged in espionage as the head of a secret society, the Legion of Mary, and accused of being subversive and transmitting information concerning military installations."

In his small cell, which he occupied with an armed guard, Bishop Pinger was subjected to "interrogation" for 12 hours at a time.

Forced to stand all the time, he was frequently slapped in an effort to induce a "confession."

The priests, held with ten other Americans Protestant missionaries and businessmen, are: Fathers Joseph P. McCormack, Maryknoll missionary, of New York City; Fulgence Gross, Franciscan, Omaha, Neb.; Cyril Wagner, Franciscan, Pittsburgh; John A. Houle, Jesuit, Oakland, Calif., and Charles J. McCarthy, Jesuit, San Francisco.

## No Basis to Charges Against Indian Missionary Work

NEW DELHI, India — An Indian official said here there is no "factual basis" for allegations that Christian foreign missionaries are engaged in anti-Indian activities.

B. N. Datar, Minister of Home Affairs, gave this reply to questions asked by Hindus in the lower house of the Indian Parliament. He was asked if it is a fact that there has been an increase in anti-Indian activities by foreign missionaries. Datar said that according to Indian government information there was no factual basis for the assumption made in the question.

Therefore, he said, the question of whether the government should take steps to combat the

conversion "menace" did not arise. Mr. Datar told other Hindu questioners that charges, that foreign missionaries had forcibly converted persons in certain parts of India, were "proved baseless" by inquiries made at the direction of the Indian government.

Some suggestions have been received, he stated, for the appointment of an inquiry commission to investigate conversion. However, it was "not considered necessary" to act on them, he said. Asked about the situation in Rajasthan state, Datar said the authorities are satisfied no forcible conversions had occurred there.

**God Love You**  
**Give Yourself To Christ**  
**As He Did for the World**  
—by Bishop Fulton J. Sheen—

Recently after a talk on the Missions in a small town in the Middle West, a little girl, aged five, came up to the platform with a small bouquet of lilies tied with a string, and presented them to me. "Why do you give these to me?" I asked. "Because I love you."

"Do you ever bring any flowers to Our Lord?" I asked. "No, I give Him myself," she answered.

In Mission work we have always insisted on the difference between giving what we HAVE and giving what we ARE. But we never heard it expressed so beautifully before. The 133 Directors of The Society for the Propagation of the Faith in the United States are the arm of the Holy Father in providing for his 100,000 missionaries throughout the pagan world. We not only want to help them by providing schools and hospitals — we also want to aid in their sanctification. Let the world tell you to "give": our mission is to "sanctify" both the receiver and the giver. We do not want merely to heal a leper in Christ's name through your sacrifice; we want to draw you closer to the Heart of Christ through the same sacrifice.

Are you able to say as this little girl said, "I give Him myself"? Our Lord says: "Amen I say to you, unless you turn and become like little children, you will not enter into the kingdom of heaven." And will you not help others to enter into the kingdom of heaven also? Make it possible for our Holy Father's missionaries to continue spreading the word of God. Assure them of your continued support through an Annuity with The Society for the Propagation of the Faith. When you take out such an annuity, you receive a fixed income on your investment; when you die your money goes to the Holy Father's Mission. For further information about annuities, write, phone or stop at your Diocesan office.

Cut out this column, pin your sacrifice to it and mail it to the Most Rev. Fulton J. Sheen, National Director of The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 366 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, N.Y., or your Diocesan Director, Reverend James Kulp, 246 East Town Street, Box 795, Columbus 16, Ohio.

**College Opens**  
STEBENVILLE—The College of Steubenville will commence its eleventh year next Tuesday with an enrollment of close to 1000 students, which will be an all time record, according to Audrey Savastone, registrar. Orientation for freshmen and new students will be held from Sept. 13-17, with registration set for Sept. 13 for upper classmen and Sept. 14 for freshmen and transfers.

There is nothing more tragic in life than the utter impossibility of changing what you have done. —John Galsworthy (1867-1933), Justice.

**As Our Lord gave Himself up for us, so we ought to give ourselves up to Him. We can do no greater honor to our Lord's Cross than to follow it so that others in pagan lands may know and love Him. When you write to The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, say: "Enclosed please find a splinter of the Cross and a sacrifice that I never could have made if Our Lord had not died first for my sins."**

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**WHY NOT DO GOOD NOW WHILE YOU ARE LIVING?**  
**JOHN AND MATHEW ARE SEMINARIANS** studying at St. Joseph's Seminary in India. They are praying daily that they might be blessed by a benefactor that could adopt them and help them reach the altar of God. They only need \$100 for each year of their six year's training—\$600 in all. This sum can be paid in any installments. For \$600 you can give to God a perfectly trained native priest to labor among his own people. He will be your PRIESTLY SON FOR ALL ETERNITY.

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**BE GOOD TO GOD AND GOD WILL BE GOOD TO YOU.**  
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