Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

Your reply of November 18th to my letter on the Ministers freedom of religion report is rather puzzling. I don't believe my letter either directly or indirectly charged you with being anti-Catholic. Yet you open your reply with the challenge "I do not think I am anti-Catholic", Under the circumstances your denial is "pregnant with a fatal admission", as the lawyers say,

During the trial of Archbishop Stepinska the government had charged him with war-crimes, From what was reported by American newspaper-men during the course of the trial, there was no evidence, other than the Archbishop's opposition to the Government's anti-religion campaign, to support these charges. You, however, have chosen to accept the false charges as evidence and brand the Archbishop as an accomplice at least to murders. Are you really serious in making such a charge?

Under your reasoning, the wartime officials of the American government must likewise be charged with the murder of countless Poles, Estonians, Latvians, etc. Did they not sit by and watch their ally, Soviet Russia, commit these murders?

I join you in encouraging freedom of religions practice wherever it may exist. But I cannot join you in so lightly dismissing the imprisonment of Archbishop Stepinska and his conferees both Roman and Orthodox. They went to jail only when they resisted Tito's domination of the Church. Whatever charges were preferred against them were mere window dressing. While they are in jail there can be no freedom of religion in Yugoslavia for they have become the symbol of that freedom.

I gather your friend who advised you on Yugoslavia is a Protestant missionary pursuing a work of proselytizing among the Spaniards, Italians and other Europeans. I am sure he is a good man. But can he be accepted as an unbiased reporter on affairs concerning the Catholic Church?

It would be a most rare Protestant missionary who could free himself of his ingrained and all-consuming bias of things Catholic. I would remind you of Robert Louis Stevenson's defense of Father Damien.

I am taking the liberty of enclosing a factual report on conditions in Yugoslavia taken from the CATHOLIC NEWS. Since you have chosen to tell your readers there is religious freedom in Yugoslavia, don't you think it fair to print the facts of the denial of the freedom as listed in this article? Also enclosed is a page from the magazine section of the TIMES. Camille Cianfarra is reporting on an Italian town

I think that has been published as well again. That is why I thought of you and of placing it on your desk.
I am taking the liberty of enclosing a factual report on conditions in Yugoslavia taken from the CATHOLIC NEWS. Since you have chosen to tell your readers there is religious freedom in Yugoslavia, don't you think it fair to print the facts of the denial of the freedom as listed in this article? Also enclosed is a page from the magazine section of the TIMES, Camille Cianferra is reporting on an Italian town.

I think this has been published by you again.

That is why I forgot to tell you a bid of thanks for your help in making such a change.

I am enclosing a letter on the Ministers freedom of speech which I think you might be interested in.

I include with this letter a few thoughts on the situation in the Balkans. In my opinion, the position which you have taken is not advisable for the following reasons:

1. In the Balkans, as in other parts of the world, the freedom of the press has always been a source of strength for the people. The Balkans are not unusual in this respect. They have always been a battleground for the struggle for freedom of speech. The freedom of the press is a right that is not to be taken lightly.

2. The Balkans are not the only part of the world where the freedom of the press is at stake. The freedom of the press is a right that is not to be taken lightly in any part of the world. The Balkans are not unusual in this respect. They have always been a battleground for the struggle for freedom of speech. The freedom of the press is a right that is not to be taken lightly.

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dominated by the Communists. Yes, the town's church is open, the same as in Titoland. But what about the official campaign to discourage church attendance?

Before you jump to such serious conclusions as to the guilt of Archbishop Stepinac and the innocence of Marshal Tito, I pray you seek out more accurate sources of information than you appear to rely on.

How can there be freedom of any kind under a dictatorship? Very sincerely yours,

Edward W. Feulner

[Signature]
WHERE the Communists have reached the same of subversion is in their anti-clerical propaganda, which Don Mauro Calvello, the parish priest, sadly admitted has been having some success. During the 1966- 67 scholastic year the party organised the "Red pioneers" to attract boys between 7 and 10 years of age and to counteract the local Catholic Boy Scout Association, which is directed by the Maffia's fathers. The "pioneers" are taken on excursions or to free moving-picture shows on Sunday mornings to keep them from attending mass. They are taught to sing Marxist songs and to regard the Pope as Italy's enemy. Yet, as the end of the scholastic year, in keeping with tradition, they all went to the solemn function in the church, where they were blessed.

Anti-clericalism is carried on by whispers and by overt manifestations, such as mass meetings. This is much more dangerous, Don Calvello said, because it is more difficult to fight, and there is no doubt that his opinion is shared by every member of the clergy in all other towns where the same tactics are used.

"I wish they would come out in the open, but they won't," Genzano's parish priest said. "Why,‘ Sigis Cozzi, was married last April, and do you know where? In church, by God. And not surreptitiously, mind you. A real solemn function. Sigis Cozzi was also married in church years ago, and do you know what his wife has been doing? She has been helping me to legitimize with religious marriages the union of those stray sheep who were married only according to civil law. I have performed 113 marriages from January until now, all in my church. During that time there has been only one civil marriage. Last year I performed ninety religious marriages. No one was married at the city hall."

RAW Cozzi later in the square and asked him if he was an atheist. He said he was. "Then why did you marry in church?" I asked. He laughed. "We Communists respect traditions," he answered. "Religion is a purely personal question, which every one must solve for himself."

The point, however, seems to be that in the Genzanese Commumists, as in almost all the other 2,000,000 Italian com- mades, communism is a political means with which to attain material things. Religion, on the other hand, has been part of their spiritual life as their body is of their physical life. This antithetic dichotomy in the psychology of the Italians seems to be the strongest natural anti-Communist bulwark. And on whether or not the Communists will be able to eliminate it may depend to a large extent the success or failure of their movement in Italy.
Gennaro's embattled priest, Don hazaro Galli.

(Continued from preceding Page) The Commissar later disclosed that the Commissar had been trying to counteract the Communist propaganda based on mirages with a practical and-to-you-now policy.

Christian Democrats feel that the Communists are ready for anything, including armed uprising. Nascito Corso, the 85-year-old son of a restaurant owner, is an ardent Christian Democrat. His father is a Socialist and his mother is a Communist. They all work together, in perfect harmony, when customers are around. But more often than not they are not on speaking terms with one another.

He said that no one in Gennaro was surprised last July when the carabinieri discovered a cache of arms and ammunition belonging to the Communists which the police have been unloading all over Italy.

WHERE the brothers were asked to explain how they came to be in possession of 2 machine guns, a mortar, 300 hand grenades, automatic rifles and myriad other weapons, the governor said that the whole lot had been turned over to them by Mayor Colaschi. Colaschi disappeared for ten days, after which he returned and obtained a "vote of confidence" from the Town Council as the "people's answer" to the手腕es line of his political enemies. The authorities were not impressed, however, and he was arrested in October during the Palamara trial.

It is common knowledge —
200 Catholic Priests Now Held in Prison By Yugoslav Regime

50 Orthodox Priests Also Under Arrest
Religious Schools Abolished in Country Where, Say Ministers, Religion Is Free

Marseilles, France (AP Radio).
Anyone attempting to evaluate justly the religious situation in Yugoslavia today must bear in mind the fact that at least 200 Catholic and 50 Orthodox priests are now languishing in prisons under arrest by the Yugoslav secret police.

This is perhaps the severest indictment, among many others, evidenced by unquestionable documentation, recalled here as seven United States Protestant ministers who visited Yugoslavia as Tito's guests are relating to New York their assertions of last summer that they found "complete religious freedom" in Yugoslavia.

It is clearly indicated that the Tito regime is stifling the religious life of the nation. It is true that churches are open, this serves purposes of propaganda. But anyone not hindered by fear might have told the visiting clergymen of the government's efforts to keep people from attending church services, especially youth. OZNA men often take the names of those entering the churches; sermons of priests are reported for possible remarks to be construed by communists and communist courts as "political utterances" for which the punishment is death or imprisonment.

Sunday Worship Hampered
No mention apparently was made in the report of the American clergymen concerning the "voluntary" work brigades on Sunday, or the meetings scheduled on Sunday mornings, or of the fact that members of the armed forces, policemen and state employees who attend Mass are subject to loss of their jobs or their ration cards. These same functionaries are subject to similar disabilities for marrying in the church or bringing their children to the church for Baptism.

(Continued on Page 34)
There does not exist today in Yugoslavia a single one of the many flourishing pre-war religious schools; there is scarcely a school in which religious education of any sort is permitted; priests are imprisoned and fined for gathering children in homes or churches for instruction in the catechism; seminaries are closed, occupied by the army or by state-controlled institutions; only three bulletins remain of a former Catholic press comprising 150 regular publications.

While 300 Catholic priests and 50 Orthodox priests languish in OZNA prisons, the hospitals, orphanages and old people's homes operated by Catholic nuns have been taken over and are being conducted as state institutions. All private charitable organizations have been dissolved and their assets confiscated. Some 300 university residence halls owned by the Catholic Church have been confiscated and are being conducted by communists. Atheism is taught but religion is proscribed.

Chaplains Banned

In the army, administration of the Last Rites of the Church is forbidden and there are no chaplains. Even in the case of specific requests from patients in hospitals that they be allowed to see a priest, the visit of the latter is often obstructed. Criminals condemned to death are denied the Sacraments. Bishops are often impeded in administration of Confirmation by mob violence, such as took place recently in Laniche, where a Catholic priest was killed. Often new parish priests are not permitted to accept their appointments. Others have been forced by threats to flee. As a result there are many parishes without priests.

Yugoslav police make little or no effort to apprehend murderers of priests. The president of Croatia under the Tito regime has published an article profaning atheism and condemning preaching concerning appearance of the Blessed Virgin Mary. All Catholic printing presses have been confiscated; Catholic Action groups have been disbanded, newspapers continually ridicule priests and nuns.

The Orthodox Church in Yugoslavia suffers under the same restrictions as the Catholic Church, though perhaps to a somewhat lesser extent, and the same is true of Protestant groups. A number of Baptist churches, for example, have been burned.

In brief, atheism is the state religion of Yugoslavia and all who oppose it in the interest of religious freedom suffer.