

"The importance of this development can hardly be exaggerated", it said. "The admission ... will permit valuable communication and co-operation between Christian leaders of the West and those of the Soviet Union. It will almost certainly have an effect on the isolation and nationalism which have hitherto characterized the Russian Orthodox Church. Not least, it will mean that the 'divided Christians' spoken of sorrowfully by Patriarch Alexis (head of the Russian Orthodox Church) will have moved another large step closer to unity. Without forgetting or minimizing the difficulties ... it is impossible not to be moved and heartened by the Russian Orthodox decision."

EPS, Geneva

Ecumenical Press Service has served the Communist cause well in reporting the activities of Nikodim with no intimation of his Communist service. The use by the Kremlin's agents of Ecumenical Press Service indicates the way in which it will be further exploited with the Russian Orthodox Church in the World Council of Churches

THE CHURCHES IN RUSSIA ARE CONTROLLED BY THE SOVIETS. Testimony, under oath, before the Senate

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in the world today; including Methodist Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam of the United States, who has called the God of the Old Testament a "dirty bully" because He condemns man for Adam's sin. The International Council numbers among its membership only men who believe the entire Bible and are known around the world as Bible-believing leaders, who have taken part in the preservation and the establishing of true, pure Christian churches.

9. Kingdom of God

The World Council conceives of the kingdom of God as a visible social order patterned after the communistic economic principles, and as such is a foe of the capitalistic, private enterprise system. The International Council conceives of the kingdom of God as a spiritual order into which men can enter only through the new birth, and believes Christians to be "salt" in the present social order, demanding freedom of the individual before God, accountable for his property and talents in obedience to the commands of God.

10. Government Relationships

The World Council has an International Commission, one of whose functions is to place pressure upon national and international political bodies. The International Council does not conceive of its task as in any way political. It feels the responsibility, however, to expose, to offset, and to undo as much as possible the destructive work of the World Council.

11. Support

The World Council has the support throughout the world of the most blatant modernists and inclusivists and calls itself the representative of the "non-Roman" churches. The International Council has the support throughout the world of churches that are standing steadfastly by the faith once delivered unto the saints and calls for a "Twentieth Century Reformation."

12. National Organizations

The World Council has the endorsement and co-operation in the United States of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in America. The International Council has the endorsement and co-

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Internal Security Subcommittee, April 12, 1956, of Yuri Rastvorov, former MVD secret police agent, revealed that young MVD counterintelligence officers were sent to the seminaries and later became bishops in many churches of the Soviet Union. Nikodim fits this category.

(Photographically reproduced)

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Mr. RASTVOROV. Yes.

Mr. MORRIS. Now, was he given this post as chairman of the religious committee in connection with his service in the NKVD?

Mr. RASTVOROV. Yes.

Mr. MORRIS. All right.

Now, would you describe the function of that particular role that he was performing?

Mr. RASTVOROV. As you know, the church in the Soviet Union is not independent, as, at the present time, the Soviet Union Government is trying to prove. It is completely dependent on the state, and the state conducts all activities of the church in the Soviet Union.

Moreover, they not only conduct activities of the Orthodox Church in the Soviet Union, penetrated by MVD agents—

Mr. MORRIS. You say it is penetrated by MVD agents?

Mr. RASTVOROV. Yes. It is, I think, worthwhile to stress that at the end of the second war, when—

Mr. MORRIS. World War II?

Mr. RASTVOROV. Yes, the second war. [Continuing]. When the Government permitted the Orthodox Church to operate more freely, the church organized seminaries, I think 1 or 2, and a couple of people—not a couple, but many people—from MVD headquarters were sent to the seminaries as students.

Mr. MORRIS. Were they sent as students or sent to superintend the students?

Mr. RASTVOROV. No. They sent officers, counterintelligence officers, to these seminaries, and later they became bishops in many churches in the Soviet Union.

Mr. MORRIS. In other words, they were sent as seminarians?

Mr. RASTVOROV. Yes.

Mr. MORRIS. And actually, they were members of the Soviet Security Police?

Mr. RASTVOROV. They were members; they were officers of MVD, pure counterintelligence officers in MVD.

Mr. MORRIS. And you say later on they became bishops?

Mr. RASTVOROV. Yes.

Mr. MORRIS. Now, before getting into that, I would like to ask you particular questions about that. Could you describe Major General Karpov's role? You said he was chairman of the religious committee?

Mr. RASTVOROV. Yes.

Mr. MORRIS. Could you tell us what the function of that particular