

however, were turned over to the religious congregations or associations, for permanent use free of charge."

VI.

Metropolitan Nicolai was the second ranking churchman in the Soviet Union and in charge of foreign relations for the Moscow Patriarch. He preceded Nikodim in this office. Nikodim served as an assistant to Nicolai for one year before Nicolai was removed. In June, 1956, Nicolai visited the United States as the guest of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Nicolai maintained the identical same positions as those enunciated by Nikodim, November 20, 1961, in New Delhi. In an Associated Press dispatch, June 9, 1956, from Washington, D.C., it was reported, "Metropolitan Nicolai of the Russian Orthodox Church denied categorically tonight that either he or any other member of the Soviet religious delegation now visiting the United States had ever collaborated with the Communists."

Petr Deriabian worked with Metropolitan Nicolai under instructions from the KGB. Deriabian testified that while he was Deputy Chief of Counterintelligence of MGB, Soviet State Security in Vienna, December, 1953, Colonel Kovalev received and referred to him a telegram from Alexander Panyushkin, who had previously been Ambassador to the United States. The telegram advised that a Soviet delegation to the Vienna Conference for Peace would arrive in Vienna. Deriabian testified that at the same time "the telegram said that Metropolitan Nicolai is an agent of the State Security."

Under questioning, Deriabian said that he was given the telegram in the course of his official duties: "The telegram told me to take care of all of the delegation and to meet them. . . . Actually, the Metropolitan Nicolai arrived by plane, and I

met him in the airport and put him into my car with another member of the delegation."

Deriabian reports in detail his repeated contacts with Nikolai as they worked together to make sure that Father Arseny did not defect to Switzerland. Nicolai reported to Deriabian that the job had been done and Arseny would remain in his position (May 5, 1959, pages 13 and 14).

Nikodim, who replaces Nicolai as chairman of the Foreign Office of the Russian Orthodox Church, is an agent of the secret police and an important part of the Communist conspiracy. He is Exhibit A in the World Council of Churches of the effective use which the Communists are able to make of the Christian churches. His statements at the press conference in New Delhi, November 20, are seen to be Communist propaganda.

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