

The Holy Alliance

Ronald Reagan entered the office of President in January 1981 on a crusade against the Communist Empire—or as he characterized it—"that evil empire." Pope John Paul II had an implacable hatred of Communism. These two crusaders met for the first time on June 7, 1982, in the Vatican Library.

The February 24, 1992, issue of TIME under the article, "The Holy Alliance," details the incredible story of their meeting and agreement to undertake a clandestine campaign to hasten the dissolution of the Communist empire. The following are some quotations:

"One of his earliest goals as President, Reagan says, was to recognize the Vatican as a state 'and make them an ally'" [emphasis added].

"Both the Pope and the President were convinced that Poland could be broken out of the Soviet orbit if the Vatican and the U.S. committed their resources to destabilizing the Polish government and keeping the outlawed Solidarity movement alive after the declaration of martial law in 1981."

"A free non-communist Poland, they were convinced, would be a dagger to the heart of the Soviet empire; and if Poland became democratic, other East European states would follow."

"the objective was akin to creating a Christian Democratic majority in Poland with the church and the overwhelmingly Catholic membership of Solidarity as the dominant political force in a post-communist Poland."

"Both sides agreed that the Soviets must become the focus of an international campaign of [Economic] isolation and the withholding of Western and Japanese technology from Moscow."

"The key Administration players were all devout Roman Catholics—CIA Chief William Casey, Allen, Haig, [Vernon] Walters, William Wilson, Reagan's first ambassador to the Vatican. They regarded the US-Vatican relationship as a holy alliance: the Moral force of the Pope and the teaching of their church combined with their fierce anti-communism"

Archbishop Pio Lashi said: "It was a very complex situation But I told Vernon, 'Listen to the Holy Father [Pope]. We have 2,000 years' experience at this.'"

"Step by reluctant step, the Soviets and the Communist government of Poland bowed to the moral, economic and political pressure imposed by the Pope and the President."

We can appreciate the idealism of Reagan and the Pope to rid the world of that "evil empire." Aside from the issue of how involved a Christian should be in the governments of this world, we want to probe the prophetic implications of this incredible drama. Therefore, we will be discussing prophetic organizations—and not making value judgments of individuals.

Quotations 1 and 7 (above) from the TIME article are revealing. In Quotation 1 Reagan refers to the Vatican as a "STATE." The Roman Catholic Church claims to be a civil government in addition to being a Christian Church. Why? It claims to be God's Kingdom on earth. As such, it claims the right to civil power and consequently actually functions as a world power—exchanging ambassadors with other nations, etc. What's wrong with claiming to be both the spiritual and civil Kingdom of God?

Who is the Virgin?

The faithful church is spoken of as a chaste "virgin" engaged to the Lord, eagerly awaiting the return of her heavenly bridegroom (2 Cor. 11:2; Matt. 25:1-13). After the Lord's return, the marriage takes place and only then does the bride (faithful church) and the bridegroom (Jesus Christ) set up the Kingdom of God on earth (Rev. 19:7; 21:1-5; 22:17). Conversely, Revelation 17:1-5 symbolically describes a woman who is called "the mother of harlots" because she "committed fornication" with "the kings of the earth." This fornication is symbolic of a scripturally unlawful union with the governments of the world. This woman is not symbolic of individual Christians, but of a religious organization that did not wait for the bridegroom's return and the marriage. Rather, she broke her vows of engagement to Christ by uniting with the kings(governments) of the world to set up the counterfeit Kingdom of God before the Bridegroom's return. This is spiritual harlotry in God's sight. And if there is a "mother of harlots," there are also daughters. Pope Pius XII, already lived in fear of atheistic communism because of its professed aim to annihilate Catholicism. He presented Hitler with a large amount of Church money to "help his small, struggling band of anti-communists. 'Go quell the devil's works,' Pacelli told Hitler."²

In 1933 Pope Pius XI signed a concordat with Hitler. "It ordered the Holy See's clergy to swear fealty to Hitler and the Third Reich. It further ordered

Who is the Harlot?

Quotation 7 refers to the Vatican's experience of 2,000 years influencing and manipulating governments. Two thousand years is a bit presumptuous. It was not until 533 AD that the Bishop of Rome was recognized by the Emperor Justinian as the head or Pope of the Church of the Roman Empire. After 539 AD the Pope of Rome exercised temporal power over Rome and its environs. In 744 AD Emperor Charlemagne made the Pope ruler of much of Italy. In 800 AD Papacy was officially recognized as the Kingdom of God when Charlemagne had Pope Leo III crown him Emperor of the Western Empire and/or Holy Roman Empire. For centuries this Papal counterfeit Kingdom of God held the masses in chains of superstition and crowned and uncrowned kings and emperors. Luther and other reformers identified the Papacy as the "little horn of Daniel 7 & 8 and the antichrist beast of Revelation 13."¹ The civil power of Papacy was relatively unchallenged until Napoleon downgraded the Papacy in 1799. Later in the 1870's with the unification of Italy, Victor Emmanuel liberated the Papal States leaving the Pope Vatican City. Then the Marxist philosophy of Communism eclipsed Papacy's influence after 1917.

In the Reagan-Pope John Paul battle against communism, Papacy might look like "Mr. Clean" compared to Communism. But look at another scenario recorded in Paul I. Murphy's book, *La Popessa*. In Munich in 1919 Adolf Hitler's nationalism was born. Archbishop Pacelli, later to become that prayers be said publicly for the Fuhrer and Germany by Catholic bishops and priests. The Church, in effect, pledged never to oppose Hitler's dictatorship." A similar pact, the Lateran Treaty, was signed with Mussolini. The Papacy considered the Nazis and Fascists as their best defense against communism.³

In *German Catholics and Hitler's Wars*, by Gordan Zahn, the author, a Catholic sociologist and professor of sociology at Loyola University, explains that almost all German Catholics completely supported Hitler's wars of raw aggression and ruthless conquest because of formal direction given by Catholic Church leaders and the Catholic press.⁴

In late 1942 the Vatican learned of the Holocaust but chose to remain silent so as not to offend Hitler.⁵ Again we can sympathize with the good intentions of individuals. But Rev. 17:1-5 shows a church system that continued to unite with the governments of Europe and calls it harlotry.

There is a current demand that the Vatican open its files on its post-war activities to probe whether the "escaping Nazis 'had many protectors in the Vatican,' where prelates hope they would be useful allies in the coming fight against communism."⁶

A Secret Agenda

With the collapse of Communism, seemingly the crusade of Reagan and Pope Paul was accomplished. But the Vatican had a secret agenda unknown to Reagan. The fall of "that evil empire" was only the beginning of this agenda.

Pope John Paul II revealed the Vatican's complete agenda in a statement on April 21, 1990, "A united Europe is no longer a dream. It is not utopian memory from the middle ages [emphasis added]. The events that we are witnessing show that this goal can be reached."⁷

The Pope wants to revive the Holy Roman Empire of the Middle Ages when no one dared question the Papacy's claim to be the Kingdom of God on earth. That glorious hour of Papal Rome was written in blood. Historians call it the Dark Ages.

A controversial book, *The Keys of this Blood—Pope John Paul II Versus Russia and the West for Control of the New World Order* was written by Dr. Malachi Martin, a Vatican insider, friend and advisor to Pope John Paul. Martin, a priest who writes from a Catholic perspective, credits the Pope for coining the phrase, "New World Order"—before President Bush.

Whose New World Order?

"John Paul had taken on not merely a national regime but an international of government. He had opened the first effective challenge to the political order of the Soviet satellite system and of the Soviet Union itself. Just as he said he would in his earliest speeches after his papal election, he had indeed called for the beginnings of 'a New Order' in Central Europe and in the international, political and economic order enlaced with it." Martin predicted first the fall of Gorbachev then President Bush, after which Pope John Paul would bring in a united Europe.

"John Paul's goal is a geopolitical structure for the society of nations designed and maintained according to the ethical plans and doctrinal outlines of Christianity as taught and propagated by the Roman pontiff as the vicar of Christ. There can be no compromise with the dialectal materialism of that 'East' or with the capitalist materialism of that 'West.'

We are living in prophetic times. Europe will be ruled by a short duration church-state system just before the returned Christ fully destroys man's perverted "New World Order (a revised old Holy Roman Empire)" and replaces it with God's truly New World Order, the Kingdom of God on earth.

ENDNOTES

1. Murphy, pp. 193-202.
1. Star Ledger, February 21, 1992.
2. New York Times, April 23, 1990.
3. Lutheran World, September, 1960, pp. 128-129.
4. Paul I. Murphy, La Popessa, Warner Books (N.Y. 1980), p. 52
5. Murphy, p.198.
6. German Catholics and Hitler's Wars by Gordon Zahn, Sheed and Ward—New York, 1962, p.56.