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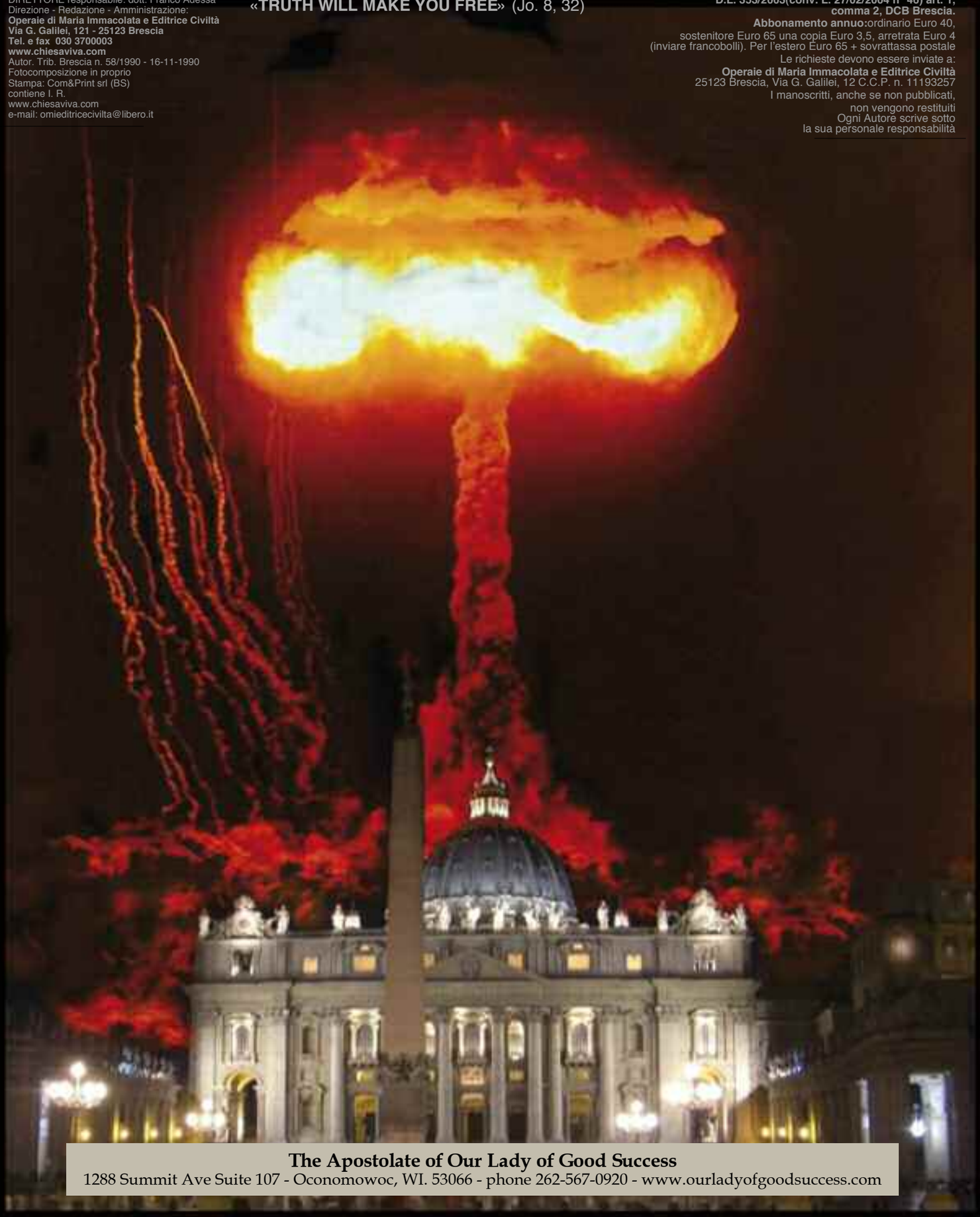

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– The remnant Catholic Church clings to life despite her exile of nearly six decades –

«GRAVE REASONS OF STATE»

THE ATOMIC BOMB AND THE ECLIPSE OF THE TRUE VICAR OF CHRIST

by **Gary Giuffré**

Was the threat of a hydrogen bomb used by the Masonic world powers to drive a newly-elected Roman Pontiff off the Chair of Peter in October 1958? Since that time, persistent reports and testimonies of former Vatican officials and secretaries of the cardinals have indicated that, **at 5:55 P.M., on 26 October 1958, the papal princes of the Church first elected Giuseppe Cardinal Siri of Genoa as successor to Pope Pius XII. The new Pope-elect reportedly accepted office and thereupon became the 262nd Vicar of Christ, and informed the cardinals that he would assume the name of "Gregorius XVII."** But the new Pope failed to appear at the papal balcony, and two nights later someone entirely different was spotlighted before St. Peter's Square as the choice of the cardinal-electors to head the Church.

Giuseppe Siri in 1955.

Although conducted within the enclosed chambers of the papal conclave, the earlier election of the new pontiff on 26 October 1958 was almost immediately apparent to the outside world due to the white smoke signals which had emanated from the Sistine Chapel stovepipe, alerting 300,000 faithful in the piazza below, and from Vatican Radio which for 20 minutes had broadcast confident announcements that a pope had indeed been elected – which were echoed by the secular media around the globe. However, within a half-hour, there was an unprecedented, second announcement that a "mistake" in the smoke signals had triggered a pre-mature report of the election of a new Pope. No figure in a white cassock would appear on the papal balcony for another 48 hours, when **on 28 October 1958,** the Feast of Saint Simon and Saint Jude, **Angelo Roncalli, a closet Freemason, suddenly burst upon the world scene as "Pope" John XXIII.**

This would be the first time since 1378 that the cardinals would mislead those outside the conclave regarding the identity of the prelate they had elected Pope, with the unintended consequences of launching **the Great Western Schism which lasted 40 years and created four antipopes.**

Proving to be far worse, the cardinals' capitulation to Roncalli's externally-imposed usurpation of the papacy in 1958 would be the "enabling act" for a monstrous schismatic sect to become ensconced in the Vatican that was at once an enemy of God and man, and would soon wield a bludgeon of heresy known as the **"Second Vatican Council"** against the faithful, **championed by six anti-popes and counting.**

The Catholic Church (together with her rightful pontiff) would be evicted from her visible structures in Rome and consigned to "the wilderness," resulting in horrific sufferings for the faithful for over a half-century.

Recorded testimonies, some of which have been published, **indicate that Siri's overturned election was repeated again in 1963 and perhaps at two more papal conclaves held in 1978.** These events were a culmination of Masonic threats to annihilate the Vatican that were openly brought against Pope Pius XII, during World War II. Before the war's end, British author and perennial spokesman for the anti-Catholic establishment, **H.G. Wells,** published his book, **"Crux Ansata,"** in which **he blatantly advocated the destruction of the Vatican.** In his opening chapter, **Wells completely distorted the Pope's neutrality during the war, and denounced Pius XII as "an open ally of the Nazi-Fascist-Shinto Axis."**

Was the threat of an atomic bomb on the Vatican used to force Joseph Siri off the Chair of Peter?

The Pope had simply agreed to allow a delegation of the Japanese government to present an appeal for the end of the war to the Vatican to be passed on to the Allies, with whom Japan had no other means of communications.

Wells concluded his tirade against the Vatican with a menacing proposal:

«**Why do we not bomb Rome?**

«On June 1st, l942, the enemy bombed Canterbury and as near as possible got the Archbishop of Canterbury. But what is a mere Protestant archbishop against His Holiness the Pope? In March l943 Rome was still unbombed.

«Now consider the following facts:

«We are at war with the Kingdom of Italy, which made a particularly cruel and stupid attack upon our allies Greece and France; which is the homeland of Fascism; and whose "Duce" Mussolini begged particularly for the privilege of assisting in the bombing of London.

«There are also Italian troops fighting against our allies the Russians. A thorough bombing (a la Berlin) **of the Italian capital seems not simply desirable but necessary.** At present a common persuasion that Rome will be let off lightly by our bombers is leading to a great congestion of the worst elements of the Fascist order in and around Rome.

«Not only is Rome the source and center of Fascism, but it has been the seat of a pope, who, as we shall show, has been an open ally of the Nazi-Fascist-Shinto Axis since his enthronement. He has never raised his voice against that Axis, he has never denounced the abominable aggressions, murder and cruelties they have inflicted upon mankind, and the pleas he is now making for peace and forgiveness are manifestly designed to assist the escape of these criminals, so that they may presently launch a fresh assault upon all that is decent in humanity. The Papacy is admittedly in communication with the Japanese, and maintains in the Vatican an active Japanese observation post. [It must be pointed out that by this time, **Japan's defeat was already certain, as its large cities were being reduced to ashes by American incendiary bombing.** Japanese envoys were in Rome begging the Vatican's assistance to contact the American government in their behalf, so as to facilitate an end to the war. **But the Roosevelt administration wanted to prolong the war with Japan as long as possible, in order to develop the atomic bomb, test it out on the yellow race, and thereby demonstrate America's power and destructive capabilities to the whole world.]**

«No other capital has been spared the brunt of this war.

«Why do we not bomb Rome? Why do we allow these open and declared antagonists of democratic freedom to entertain their Shinto allies and organize a pseudo-

Catholic destruction of democratic freedom? Why do we – after all the surprises and treacheries of this war – allow this open preparation of an internal attack upon the rehabilitation of Europe? The answer lies in the deliberate blindness of our Foreign Office and opens up a very serious indictment of the mischievous social disintegration inherent in contemporary Roman Catholic activities."[1]

Indeed, Allied bombs did strike the Vatican twice during World War II, and thereafter Pope Pius XII assembled the cardinals to advise them to prepare for the election of a successor pontiff outside of Italy, should he be killed.

By May 1945, armed conflict in Europe had mostly concluded, but the tactics of virulent intimidation, attempted by the enemies of the Church against the Pope, did not stop at the end of the war.

A preponderance of evidence indicates that again, **in 1949, the secular powers were openly bullying Pope Pius XII with the threat of a nuclear bomb on the Vatican in order to force a change in Church teachings that were in opposition to the agenda of the emerging world government of antichrist.**

For, the Church's social doctrine, as promulgated by the Popes, from Pius IX to Pius XII, stood in the way of the establishment of the Masonic, totalitarian **"One-World Government,"** often referred to as the **"New World Order"** or the **"New Age."** As part of Freemasonry's post-war offensive against the Church, the rabidly anti-Catholic writer, **Avro Manhattan,** delivered a public warning against the Pope, in book form, by which he boldly announced:

«… the Catholic Church is intruding in the affairs of bodies politic with the same energy, boldness, cunning and determination as it did in the period between the two world wars

«The Catholic Church is not easily deterred by defeats, setbacks, or dismal failures such as would break other, less majestic institutions. Like the phoenix, it rises after each defeat stronger and more alive than before. Governments may come and go, but the Catholic Church continues to stand more challenging than ever …

«Being the relentless institution that it is, the Catholic Church will not rest …

«It is fully to be expected that instead of helping to avert a third world catastrophe, the Catholic Church, by continuing to align itself with unenlightened forces, will greatly contribute to the widening of the gap already separating two great portions of the world. **But while so doing, the Catholic Church should keep in mind that it is endangering not only the lives of countless millions, but also its own existence. A third world war,** unlike the wars of the recent past, would spell irremediable destruction not only of entire peoples, but also of ancient institutions, **among which the Catholic Church would certainly be one of the main sufferers.**

Pope Pius XII.

«Millions of thinking people are today striving to build a world in which war is outlawed. New and living forces are on the march. Because the Catholic Church has seen small countries grow into mighty empires and then tumble, because it has beheld countless rulers rise and fall, ideologies come and go, **let it not entertain vain illusions that it will also see the passing of the progressive forces which are now sweeping the globe.**

«The atomic bombs which in a few seconds wiped Hiroshima and Nagasaki from the face of the earth and brought Japan to her knees should be a warning to all those forces dealing with the future of mankind, that the methods of uncompromising principles of past ages are forever out-of-date. Unless new horizons are opened, new methods devised, and a new spirit encouraged, economic systems, social doctrines, and political regimes, as well as religious institutions, will inevitably bring upon themselves and all mankind total and final annihilation. The Catholic Church would be no exception, and, like all other world-wide institutions, it should take heed of the warning and, by keeping step with the spirit of the twentieth century, try to follow a new road.»[2]

In her esoteric writings, the late **Alice B. Bailey,** the former high-priestess of what is today known as the **"New Age Movement,"** boastfully exposed the occult forces that

[1] H.G. Wells, **Crux Ansata; An Indictment of the Roman Catholic Church,** 1944, pp. 418-420.

[2] Avro Manhattan, **The Vatican In World Politics,** 1949, Gaer Associates, New York, pp. 418-420.

dominate the Masonic drive toward world government. In 1957, one year before the death of Pope Pius XII, Bailey brazenly described how the world powers sought to terrorize the Church with their nuclear weapons. This was to pave the way for a **"One-World Religion,"** a necessary ingredient for the **"One-World Government":**

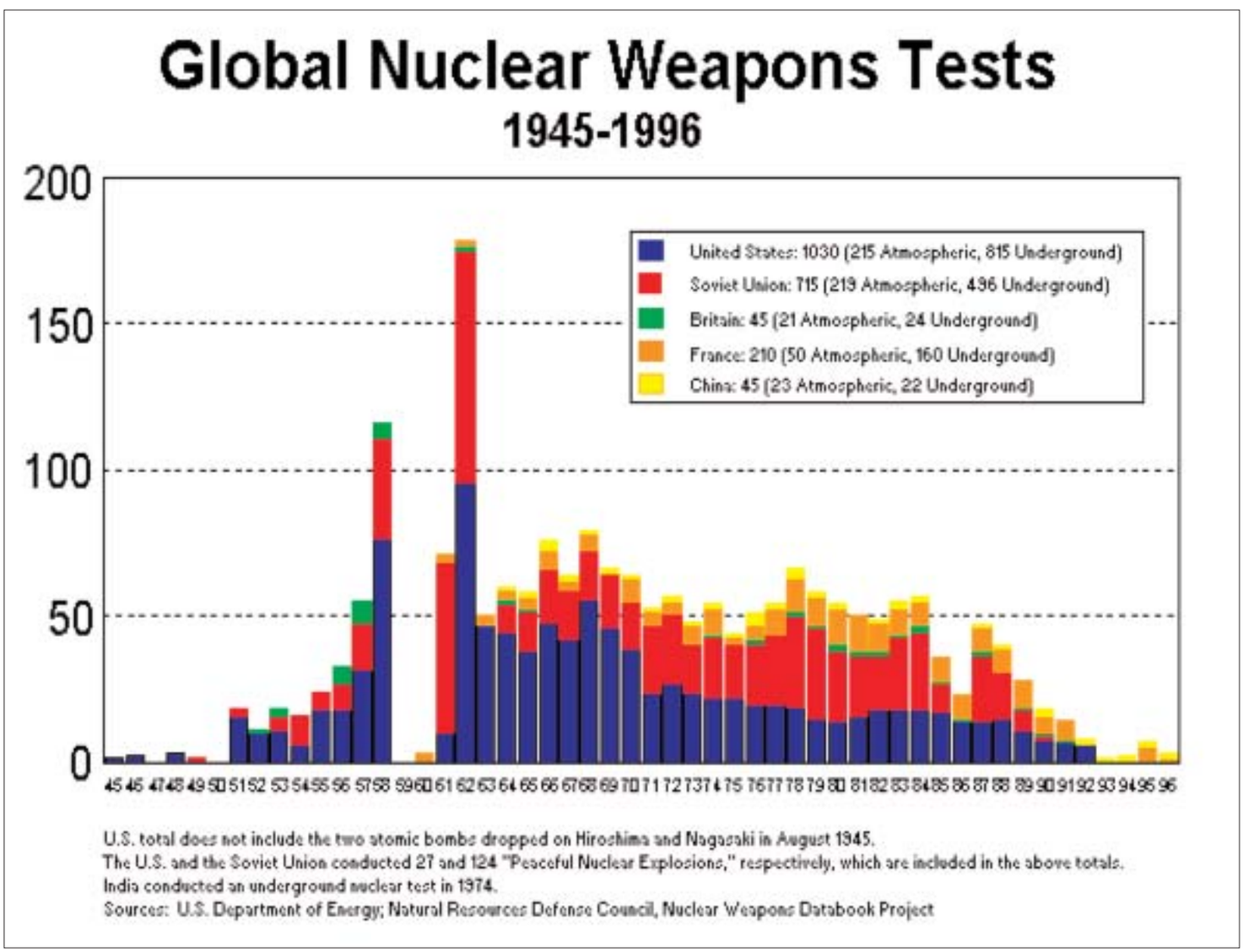
«The atomic bomb (though used only twice destructively) ended the resistance of the powers of evil. Its uses are twofold at this time:

a. As the forerunner of that release of energy which will change the mode of human living and inaugurate the **new age** wherein we shall not have civilizations and their emerging cultures but a **world culture** and an emerging civilization, thus demonstrating the true synthesis which underlies humanity;

b. As a means in the hands of the United Nations to enforce the outer forms of peace. The atomic bomb does not belong to the three nations who perfected it and who own the secrets at present – the United States of America, Great Britain and Canada. **It belongs to the United Nations for use (**or let us rather hope, simply for threatened use**) when aggressive action on the part of any nation rears its ugly head.** It does not essentially matter whether that aggression is the gesture of any particular nation or group of nations or whether it is **generated by the political groups of any powerful religious organization, such as the Church of Rome, who are as yet unable to leave politics alone** and attend to the business for which all religions are responsible – **leading human beings closer to the God of Love.»**[3]

In light of the writings of **Wells, Manhattan and Bailey, the timing of several nuclear weapons "tests" conducted in 1958, now takes on great significance.** The chart below, based upon data supplied by the U.S. Department of Energy, reveals that **a huge increase in nuclear bomb detonations** (by the U.S. and U.S.S.R.) **occurred during 1958,** more than in any previous year. What the chart does not show is that **there were more nuclear weapons exploded during the 18 days,** between the death of Pope Pius XII and the triumph of the Masonic forces at the conclave which followed, than had occurred during any comparable time period since the first atomic blast at the **"Trinity"** Test Site, on 16 July 1945.

[3] Alice B. Bailey, **The Externalization of the Hierarchy,** 1957, Lucis Publishing Co., New York, p. 548.



Moreover, **the only other12-month period when the total number of nuclear explosions was greater, was 1962,** the same year that **the Masonic Second Vatican Council got underway.**
The implications are thus enormous, that **a conspiracy of the Masonic political forces had been carried out against the Church** during those two pivotal turning points in ecclesiastical history.
This is further supported by documented evidence that the Soviet nuclear weapons program was facilitated almost from its inception by the transfer of vital technology and radioactive material from the U.S. to the U.S.S.R., during the 1940's. **This occurred with the full knowledge of the highest authorities in the American government.**

As if reflecting upon his own first-hand experience, **Giuseppe Siri revealed,** in 1972, **the desire of the world powers to overturn the law governing the election of the Pope. He believed at the time that the absolute seclusion of the conclave was essential if the cardinals were to be free to conduct a legitimate papal election.** Otherwise, external interference would result in the takeover of Vatican structures by forces hostile to the Church:
«The law of the conclave rests on two principle points: **the exclusive right of the sacred college, and seclusion.** The latter did not come at once: it resulted from a response to obvious situations and to grave necessity. These two principle points support one another in the vicissitudes of an election. It is obvious that an election entrusted to an electoral body too large, would be, humanly speaking, more difficult and more impressionable and therefore, there would be little guarantee of reasonableness for, and correspondence to the supreme interests of the Church. Only with a body of men, carefully selected, is it possible that in an election, as in human affairs, the criterion of the true good will prevail. **The seclusion of the conclave is even more necessary today; with modern means, with modern techniques, without complete seclusion, it would not be possible to gain an election against the pressures from outside powers. Today some superpowers (and even some lesser powers) have too great an interest in owning, for their part, through either compliance or weakness** [by Church leaders]**, the greatest moral authority in the world. And they would do everything in their power to accomplish this. The pressures to overturn the substance of the law of the conclave would be driven by the desire to obtain this very result."**[4]

But, before his death, **Siri reversed himself and advocated the abolition of the sealed conclave.** He had apparently realized that the closure of the conclave had outlived its usefulness during the latter part of the 20th century. For it now facilitated the plans of the enemies of the Church – who had "infiltrated" into the ranks of the cardinals – to vitiate the secret conclave process at will, with none of the restraints that would come from public scrutiny. A "30 Days" report explained:
«It was February 1988. Two **30 Days** reporters were on their way to the North Italian port city of Genoa to interview the Cardinal Archbishop Giuseppe Siri. It was the year of the Popes – the 30th anniversary of the death of Pius XII and the election of John XXIII and the tenth anniversary of the election of John Paul II. There was no better witness to the Pontifcates of these three successors of Peter than Siri, who had been a **papabile** himself in the three conclaves.
«Siri was asked a question he did not expect, about the truth of periodic allegations that Masonry had infiltrated the Church. The elderly cardinal did not answer and, suggesting that he did not want to make any public declaration on the issue, he pointed to the tape recorder that was switched on. Then he made a gesture with his other hand that was very eloquent. What he meant was: **"Of course, there was infiltration."**
«The tape recorder was turned off and Siri added: **"This is a very serious matter, and I have first-hand sources. I have written my record of this and other events in the life of the Church, which will be published in 50 years' time.** But for now, I would prefer not to say anything more."

The mushroom cloud of the explosion of the bomb dropped on Hiroshima.

[4] Giuseppe Siri, **The Election of the Roman Pontiff,** "Renovatio", VII [1972], fasc. 2, pp. 155-156, republished in: **Il Dovere Dell'Ortodossia,** 1991, Giardini Editori, Pisa, pp. 52-54.

«But the cardinal did confide in his great, personal friend, **Raimondo Spiazzi,** a Dominican theologian in the Pius XII mold who was the dean of the Angelicum's Social Sciences faculty. Spiazzi reports part of the conversation in the biography he recently dedicated to his late friend: **"Siri said we had to pray for future Conclaves,** for grace so that those who would participate would be truly free of any type of conditioning or influence, not only in ethical or political terms but also social. We had to pray that **"there would be no manipulation by any sect." He was referring to Masonry on the basis of direct information he had received from affiliates** and of his knowledge of the ruses Masonry deployed to ensnare Vatican exponents and their offices. **He did not hesitate to name names and he spoke of the danger even for the Conclave.** Perhaps this was why he proposed abolishing the secrecy aspect so that events could take place in the light of day.»[5]

ONLY AN ACCIDENT OF TIMING?

Thanks to the recent declassification of documents and the Internet, we are now able to examine the schedule of nuclear tests that were being conducted by the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. just prior to the 1958 Conclave. Let us first review the table of known Russian nuclear bomb explosions for the time period that led up to the conclave, which has been compiled by a Norwegian environmental group, the **Belona Foundation:**

Russian Nuclear Explosions 1957 - 1958

No.	Date		Time	Power
1	24 Septem.	1957	09.00	Megaton-sized [*]
2	06 October	1957	08.58	Unknown
3	10 October	1957	06.55	Small
4	23 Februa.	1958	[n/a]	Megaton-sized [*]
5	27 Februa.	1958	07.59	Megaton-sized [*]
6	27 Februa.	1958	10.24	Large
7	14 March	1958	[n/a]	Over 1 Megaton
8	20 March	1958	[n/a]	Small
9	22 March	1958	[n/a]	Medium
10	20 Septem.	1958	[n/a]	[n/a]
11	30 Septem.	1958	07.50	Medium
12	30 Septem.	1958	09.55	Medium
13	02 October	1958	08.00	Moderate
14	02 October	1958	09.01	Moderate
15	05 October	1958	06.00	[n/a]
16	10 October	1958	07.51	Large
17	12 October	1958	07.53	Megaton-sized [*]
18	15 October	1958	07.51	Megaton-sized [*]
19	18 October	1958	09.51	Megaton-sized [*]
20	19 October	1958	07.27	Small
21	20 October	1958	08.20	Megaton-sized [*]
22	22 October	1958	08.21	Megaton-sized [*]
23	24 October	1958	08.03	Megaton-sized [*]
24	25 October	1958	08.20	Large

[* 20-30 Megatons]

(Frederic Hauge, "Sources to radioactive contamination in Russian Counties of Murmansk and Arkhangelsk; Nuclear Explosions", Bellona Foundation, P.O.Box 2141 Grunerlokka, 0505 Oslo, Norway).

[5] **"Infiltrators? Yes.."** 30 Days, November 1991, p. 55.

The reader may have noticed that after a sporadic pattern of nuclear tests by the U.S.S.R., beginning on 24 September 1957, **there was a marked increase in their number during October 1958.** The explosion of six massive Soviet atomic weapons, ranging between 20 and 30 megatons, and t**he detonation of two other nuclear devices classified as "large," were conducted during a fortnight plus one day, from 10 to 25 October 1958.**

This exactly coincided with the 15-day period beginning with the day after Pope Pius XII died, and ending on the afternoon that the cardinals were sealed away in the Sistine Chapel to elect the new pope. Angelo Roncalli, described by Avro Manhattan as "the Kremlin's candidate," appeared on the papal balcony on 28 October.

Three days later, on 31 October 1958, the Kremlin announced a halt to its nuclear weapons testing program, to begin on 3 November, as if intended as a "gift" to Roncalli, the day before the antipope's coronation.

Soviet nuclear tests would not be started up again for nearly three years. In the meantime, the frequency of so many large nuclear explosions at one time, was protested as unnecessary by one of Russia's leading scientists, **Andrei Sakharov, who obviously had no idea what had motivated the Kremlin's repeated atomic tests,** and was particularly opposed to the ones that occurred just prior to the conclave:

«The atmospherical test explosions over Novaya Zemlya were performed during two periods. **The first atmospherical test explosion over Novaya Zemlya was undertaken on the 24th of September 1957.** By the 10th of October that year, **three bombs had been detonated.** During February and March 1958, six bombs were detonated. This is the only time nuclear bombs have been detonated on Novaya Zemlya during the first six months of the year. **From the 20th of September to 25th of October 1958, 15 more bombs were detonated.** Resistance to atmospheric test explosions increased among Russian arms engineers after 1958. Andrei Sakharov was one of the most noted opponents of atmospheric test explosions. He claimed there were no scientific reasons to perform repeated test explosions of bombs of megaton-sized [20-30 megatons] explosive forces... [thereafter] No Soviet test explosions took place between the 3rd of November 1958 and the 1st of September 1961…" (Ibid.)

Not to be outdone, **the Americans did their part to keep up the level of nuclear terror right up until the moment of the election of the new Pope.** During the same time period, the U.S. conducted nuclear tests that were unprecedented as to type and number. The following tables and descriptions of U.S. nuclear tests, from 28 May 1957 to 29 October 1958, were obtained from the online document, **"U.S. Nuclear Testing From Project Trinity to the Plowshare Program":**

«… 4.14 OPERATION PLUMBBOB.

«Conducted at the Nevada Test Site from 28 May to 7 October 1957, **Operation PLUMBBOB included the 24 nuclear detonations** summarized in the accompanying table. The series also included six safety experiments, conducted to ensure that no nuclear reaction would occur if the high explosive components of the device were accidentally detonated during storage or transport (18: 1, 6, 7). These tests are discussed with the subsequent safety experiments in section 4.18.

«Operation PLUMBBOB Weapon-Related Events, 1957

Event	Date	Type	Yield
BOLTZMANN	28 May	Tower	12 kilotons
FRANKLIN	02 June	Tower	140 tons.
LASSEN	05 June	Balloon	0.5 tons.
WILSON	18 June	Balloon	10 kilotons
PRISCILLA	24 June	Balloon	37 kilotons
HOOD	05 July	Balloon	74 kilotons
DIABLO	15 July	Tower	17 kilotons
JOHN	19 July	Air to air bissile	About 2 kilotons
KEPLER	24 July	Tower	10 kilotons
OWENS	25 July	Balloon	9.7 kilotons
STOKES	07 August	Balloon	19 kilotons
SHASTA	18 August	Tower	17 kilotons
DOPPLER	23 August	Balloon	11 kilotons
FRANKLIN PRIME	30 August	Balloon	4.7 kilotons
SMOKY	31 August	Tower	44 kilotons
GALILEO	02 Septem.	Tower	11 kilotons
WHEELER	06 Septem.	Balloon	197 tons
LAPLACE	08 Septem.	Balloon	1 kilotons
FIZEAU	14 Septem.	Tower	11 kilotons
NEWTON	16 Septem.	Balloon	12 kilotons
RAINIER	19 Septem.	Tunnel	1.7 kilotons
WHITNEY	23 Septem.	Tower	19 kilotons
CHARLESTON	28 Septem.	Balloon	12 kilotons
MORGAN	07 October	Balloon	8 kilotons

Mushroom cloud of an explosion of Operation HARDTACK.

«4.15 OPERATION HARDTACK I

«HARDTACK was the designation for U.S. nuclear testing in both the Pacific and in Nevada during 1958. Phase I, discussed in this section, consisted of 34 Pacific nuclear detonations, which was as many as had been fired in all prior oceanic tests. The series encompassed a wide variety of events, as indicated in the accompanying table (19: 23, 24)

«Operation HARDTACK I Nuclear Events, 1958

Event	Date	Type	Yield
YUCCA	28 April	High Altit. (balloon)	1.7 kilotons [*]
CACTUS	06 May	Surface	18 kilotons
FIR	12 May	Barge	1.36 megatons
BUTTERNUT	12 May	Barge	81 kilotons
KOA	13 May	Surface	1.37 megatons
WAHOO	16 May	Under water	9 kilotons
HOLLY	21 May	Barge	5.9 kilotons
NUTMEG	22 May	Barge	25.1 kilotons
YELLOWWOOD	26 May	Barge	330 kilotons
MAGNOLIA	27 May	Barge	57 kilotons
TOBACCO	30 May	Barge	11.6 kilotons
SYCAMORE	31 May	Barge	92 kilotons
ROSE	03 June	Barge	15 kilotons
UMBRELLA	09 June	Subac	8 kilotons
MAPLE	11 June	Barge	213 kilotons
ASPEN	15 June	Barge	319 kilotons
WALNUT	15 June	Barge	1.45 megatons
LINDEN	18 June	Barge	11 kilotons
REDWOOD	28 June	Barge	412 kilotons
ELDER	28 June	Barge	880 kilotons
OAK	29 June	Barge	8.9 megatons
HICKORY	29 June	Barge	14 kilotons
SEQUOIA	02 July	Barge	5.2 kilotons
CEDAR	03 July	Barge	220 kilotons
DOGWOOD	06 July	Barge	397 kilotons
POPLAR	12 July	Barge	9.3 megatons
PISONIA	18 July	Barge	255 kilotons
JUNIPER	22 July	Barge	65 kilotons
OLIVE	23 July	Barge	202 kilotons
PINE	27 July	Barge	2 megatons
TEAK	31 July	High Altit. (rocket)	3.8 megatons
QUINCE	06 August	Surface	zero
ORANGE	11 August	High Altit. (rocket)	3.8 megatons
FIG	18 August	Surface	20 tons

«[*] Some yields marked "Not announced" in the original report have since been declassified and are included in this online version.

«4.15.1 BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES OF OPERATION HARDTACK I

«HARDTACK I consisted of three parts. The first, aimed at the development of nuclear weapons, continued the type of testing that had been conducted at Enewetak and Bikini during the early and mid-1950s. The AEC weapon development laboratories (LANL and LLNL) detonated experimental devices, with the DOD providing support and conducting experiments that did not interfere with AEC activities (19: 1).

«The second part, sponsored by DOD, consisted of the underwater test shots, WAHOO and UMBRELLA, the first in open ocean and the second within the lagoon at Enewetak. These tests, which furthered efforts undertaken with the 1946 CROSSROADS and the 1955 WIGWAM series, were designed to gain additional data on the effects of underwater explosions on Navy ships and material (19: 1).

«The third part, sponsored by DOD, addressed a military problem that was newer: nuclear weapons in air and ballistic missile defense. Shots YUCCA, TEAK, and ORANGE, also called Operation NEWSREEL by DOD, were directed to this concern (19: 3).

«4.15.2 HARDTACK I TEST OPERATIONS

«The HARDTACK experimental program incorporated two aspects, one being the development of the weapons and the second being the measurement of the explosive and radiation effects. The AEC was primarily interested in weapons development, and the DOD focused on weapons effects, specifically concerning the military application of the weapons (19: 3).

"Approximately 16,000 DOD personnel took part in HARDTACK I. They participated in the weapons development experiments by providing cloud-sampling aircraft and crews, along with ship patrols, instrument placement and recovery, and radioactive sample return. Their primary participation, however, was in the effects experiments associated with the underwater and the high altitude shots (19: 105).

«4.16 OPERATION ARGUS [1958]

«ARGUS, the code name for the only atmospheric nuclear test operation in the Atlantic Ocean, consisted of the three high-altitude, low-yield detonations identified below. The nuclear devices were lifted to about a 300-mile altitude by rockets fired from the missile trials ship **USS Norton** Sound (AVM-1), one of the nine ships participating in the series (20: 1).

"The operation was based in the Atlantic at about 45 deg south latitude [about 1100 miles southwest of Capetown, South Africa]. The location placed the task force outside regular shipping lanes but kept the launch well within the range of U.S. military forces required for support of ARGUS scientific projects (20: 19).

Event	Date	Type	Yield
ARGUS I	27 August	Rocket	1-2 kilotons
ARGUS II	30 August	Rocket	1-2 kilotons
ARGUS III	6 Septem.	Rocket	1-2 kilotons

«4.16.1 BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES OF OPERATION ARGUS

«ARGUS was unique among U.S. atmospheric nuclear test operations in a number of respects. It was one of the most expeditiously planned and executed of all U.S. nuclear tests, requiring just 5 months from inception to execution, in contrast to the normal period of 1 or more years. Besides TRINITY, it consisted of the only clandestine tests

conducted during the 18-year period of atmospheric testing. The intentions of all phases of the ARGUS operation were concealed not only from other nations but also from the majority of DOD participants in the tests. In addition, ARGUS was the first shipboard launch of a ballistic missile with a nuclear warhead (20: 11, 18).

«Most significant of all, the purpose of ARGUS did not fit the usual categories: the ARGUS shots, strictly speaking, involved neither diagnostic tests of a weapon design nor effects tests on military systems. **The objective was to establish the practicability of a theory, postulated by Nicholas Christofilos,** a physicist at LLNL, **that a very-high-altitude nuclear detonation of proper yield would produce phenomena of potentially significant military importance by interfering with communications and weapon performance.** When the Eisenhower Administration officially announced the occurrence of the tests on 19 March 1959, the **New York Times** headlined ARGUS as **the "Greatest Scientific Experiment Ever Conducted"** (20: 11,12). «The operation proved the validity of the Christofilos theory. It not only provided data on military considerations, but also produced a great mass of geophysical information (20: 2).

«4.16.2 ARGUS TEST OPERATIONS

«The series was conducted by Task Force 88, a naval organization consisting of nine ships and approximately 4,500 men. Coordinated measurement programs using satellite, rocket, aircraft, and surface stations were carried out by the services and other Government agencies and contractors throughout the world. The ships of Task Force 88, in addition to the **USS Norton Sound,** were the antisubmarine carrier **USS Tarawa**, the destroyers **USS Bearss** and **USS Warrington**, the destroyer escorts **USS Courtney** and **USS Hammerberg**, the fleet oilers **USS Neosho** and **USS Salamonie**, and the seaplane tender **USS Albemarle** (20: 1).

«4.17 TESTS OF OPERATION HARDTACK II.

«HARDTACK II was the continental phase of Operation HARDTACK. The oceanic phase, HARDTACK I, was conducted in the Pacific from 28 April through 18 August 1958, as noted in section 4.15. Phase II, conducted at the Nevada Test Site from 12 September through 31 October 1958, consisted of 19 nuclear weapons tests and 18 safety experiments (21: 1). The next section, 4.18, discusses the safety experiments. This section concentrates on the weapons related tests, identified in the accompanying table.

«Operation HARDTACK II Nuclear Events, 1958

Evento	Data	Tipo	Potenza
EDDY	19 Septem.	Balloon	0.083 kilotons
MORA	29 Septem.	Balloon	2 kilotons
TAMALPAIS	08 October	Tunnel	0.072 kilotons
QUAY	10 October	Tower	0.079 kilotons
LEA	13 October	Balloon	1.04 kilotons
HAMILTON	15 October	Tower	0.0012 kilotons
LOGAN	16 October	Tunnel	5 kilotons
DONA ANA	16 October	Balloon	0.037 kilotons
RIO ARRIBA	18 October	Tower	0.090 kilotons
SOCORRO	22 October	Balloon	6 kilotons
WRANGELL	22 October	Balloon	0,079861111 kilotons
RUSHMORE	22 October	Balloon	0,130555556 kilotons
SANFORD	26 October	Balloon	4.09 kilotons
DE BACA	26 October	Balloon	2.02 kilotons
EVANS	29 October	Tunnel	0.055 kilotons
MAZAMA	29 October	Tower	NMY [*] kilotons
HUMBOLDT	29 October	Tower	0.0078 kilotons
SANTA FE	30 October	Balloon	1.03 kilotons
BLANCA	30 October	Tunnel	22 kilotons

«[*] No measurable yield

Mushroom cloud of an explosion HARDTACK.

«4.17.1 BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES OF OPERATION HARDTACK II.

«HARDTACK II was the last nuclear test series before the United States adopted a nuclear test moratorium, which had originally been intended to last 1 year but continued until 1961. The nuclear weapons tests were conducted to evaluate the yield and efficiency of newly developed nuclear devices (21: 1, 7).

"Concern about nuclear weapon proliferation intensified throughout the 1950s, particularly after the BRAVO test of Operation CASTLE and the heavy fallout resulting from this shot. At that time, **Prime Minister Nehru of India** proposed a cessation of tests.

The call for a test ban figured repeatedly in disarmament discussions, most importantly, those of the Disarmament Subcommittee of the U.N. Disarmament Commission, in session from 18 March to 6 September 1957. Continuing pressure on the nuclear powers to reach an agreement on limiting testing resulted in the **Conference on Discontinuance of Nuclear**

Weapons Tests, which began in Geneva on 31 October 1958 and was attended by U.S., British, and Soviet delegates. On 1 November 1958, the U.S. unilaterally announced a test moratorium to begin on 1 November 1958, declaring a cessation in nuclear testing if the Soviet Union also refrained (21: 28).
«Because the testing and improvement of various nuclear weapons was crucial to American defense policy, a number of tests needed to be conducted before the moratorium began. On 28 August 1958, President Eisenhower approved an accelerated series of nuclear tests code named **Operation MILLRACE** to be completed at the NTS before the start of the moratorium. On 29 August 1958, by AEC directive, the name of the series was changed to **Operation HARDTACK, Phase II** (21: 28,29)."[6]

According to former FBI consultant, **Paul L. Williams,** "declassified" U.S. intelligence documents allegedly **confirm that Giuseppe Siri was elected Pope in 1958, but afterwards was overthrown by a threat that was brought to bear against him before his election to the papacy could be revealed to the world.** While affirming Siri's election, Paul Williams was either unaware of the actual nature of the threat used to force the new Pope off the papal throne or purposely omitted any mention of it in his book: «In 1958, when the cardinals were locked away in the Sistine Chapel to elect a new pope, mysterious events began to unfold. **On the third ballot, Siri,** according to FBI sources, **obtained the necessary votes and was elected as Pope Gregory XVII.**[7]
White smoke poured from the chimney of the chapel to inform the faithful that a new pope had been chosen. The news was announced with joy at 6 P.M. on Vatican radio. The announcer said, "The smoke is white. There is absolutely no doubt. A pope has been elected."[8]
«But the new pope failed to appear. Questions began to arise whether the smoke was white or gray… By evening Vatican Radio announced that the results remained uncertain…
But the reports had been valid. **On the fourth ballot,** according to FBI sources, **Siri again obtained the necessary votes and was elected supreme pontiff. But the French cardinals annulled the results, claiming that the election would cause widespread riots and the assassination of several prominent bishops behind the Iron Curtain.**[9]
The cardinals opted to elect **Cardinal Frederico Tedeschini** as a "transitional pope," but Tedeschini was too ill to accept the position. Finally, on the third day of balloting, **Roncalli received the necessary support to become Pope John XXIII…»**[10]

In the "mainstream" account of the "election" of John XXIII, priest and historian, **Father Paul Perrotta,** may have inadvertently revealed his own knowledge that the 1958 Conclave had been vitiated, **by his surprising comment that the Vatican could become the target of nuclear attack:**
«Should all the cardinals be killed, as is possible now in the face of the atom bomb, the right to elect the Bishops of Rome will revert to the body which originally enjoyed it and of which the cardinals are representatives, namely, the clergy of the Eternal City.»[11]

It would seem that **the simultaneous killing of all the cardinals** would only be possible on the limited occasions when the papal princes are all together in Rome, such as, during a council or a conclave. But what appears to have escaped Fr. Perrotta, is that, if all the cardinal electors were to die at once, as he suggested – by an atomic bomb on the Vatican – t**hen the 'back-up" electors of the Pope, the Roman clergy, would likely all be wiped out at the same time.** Of course, the Masonic world powers would make it look as if it had been an unfortunate "accident," but the end result – the vaporizing of the Vatican – would be the same as that inflicted by an overt, nuclear attack on Rome. **Giuseppe Siri would not have been oblivious to such a terrorizing prospect.** For, he well knew that in such an event, it would have been practically impossible for the Church to elect a new pope. Threats against Siri's family, execution of the Bishops behind the "Iron Curtain" and even a schism by the French Church, were all rumored to have caused Siri's tacit abdication during one or more of the conclaves at which he was elected Supreme Pontiff. But could anything less than his fear of the annihilation of the institution of the papacy have forced his silence for over three decades?
Thus, Siri's punch line is his 1972 essay, **"The Election of the Roman Pontiff,"** bears a second examination:
«Today some superpowers have too great an interest in owning, for their part the greatest moral authority in the world. And they would do everything in their power to accomplish this. The pressures to overturn the substance of the law of the conclave would be driven by the desire to obtain this very result.»

Before he died in July 1999, former Jesuit priest novelist and perennial Vatican "insider," **Malachi Martin, cryptically admitted that criminal "insider," intervention had occurred during the 1963 Conclave, just after Siri's second papal election, by means of a horrendous, external threat to annihilate the Vatican.** Martin boastfully asserted that:

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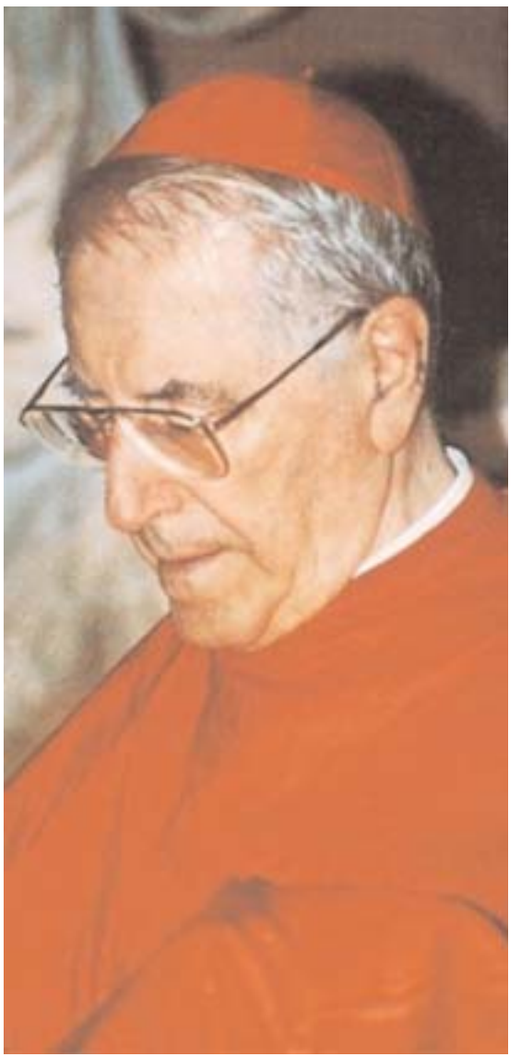
[6] Abby A. Johnson, et al, **For the Record - A History of the Nuclear Test Personnel Review Program, 1978-1986,** Defense Nuclear Agency, DNA 6041F, 1986, Digital version created by Gregory Walker, gwalker@netcom.com.
[7] Department of State secret dispatch, **"John XXIII,"** issue date: November 20, 1958, declassified: November 11, 1974.
[8] The announcer's words appeared in the **London Tablet,** November 1, 1958, p. 387.
[9] Department of State secret file, **"Cardinal Siri,"** issue date: April 10, 1961, declassified: February 28, 1994.
[10] Paul L. Williams, **The Vatican Exposed,** Prometheus Books, Amherst, NY, 2003, pp. 90-92.
[11] Paul Perrota, **Pope John XXIII; His Life And Character,** Thomas Nelson and Sons, New York, 1959, p. 68.

«It is certain that within the 1963 Conclave voting, Siri had garnered the required number of votes to make him Pope-elect, but the Siri nomination and election were set aside by what has been called the "little brutality." Once the Conclave area of the Vatican has been sealed off … there are supposedly no communications with the outside world except in the gravest necessity … Such grave necessity would be the physical needs of the electors … or **grave reasons of state – such as the very continued existence of the Vatican City State or its members and dependents…**

«… at least **one Cardinal Elector did have a conversation … with** someone not participating in the Conclave … the someone was **an emissary of an internationally based organization … the conversation did concern the Siri candidacy …** What is certain is that **the Siri candidacy was laid aside** and most **probably in connection with that conversation. The only other viable candidacy available was Montini's.**

After a three-day conclave he emerged as Paul VI. Montini would give the anti-Church its head.»[12]



Giuseppe Siri in 1978.

Whatever threat had been sufficient to force Giuseppe Siri off the Chair of Peter in 1958 **was evidently sufficient to keep him off the chair and to compel his nearly complete silence on the matter for another three decades,** until a few years before his death in 1989. **Siri's declaration** to the French journalist, **Louis Hubert Remy,** in 1985, concerning his pitiful dilemma, adds additional weight to the background information above: «**This secret [of the conclave] is horrible. I would have books to write about the different conclaves. Very serious things have taken place. But I can say nothing.»**[13]

Following the events of 11 September 2001, veteran **Newsweek** reporter, **Hugh Sidey** disclosed the astounding details of a conversation he had with **President John F. Kennedy,** during lunch at the White House, in late July 1961, just seven months into the president's three-year term of office.

After a comment by Sidey to Kennedy about the huge staff that the Soviets were housing in their Washington embassy, the president replied:

«You know, they have an atom bomb on the third floor of the embassy ...»

Sidey believed Kennedy to be joking, but the stoic-faced president quickly dispelled any notions of levity:

«No, Kennedy countered, it was his understanding that the Soviets had brought the components of an atomic device into the building in inspection-free diplomatic pouches and assembled it in an upstairs attic. "If things get too bad and war is inevitable," he said, "they will set it off and that's the end of the White House and the rest of the city. That's what I've been told. Do you know something that I don't?»

Only then did it finally dawn on Sidey that Kennedy was in dead-earnest, but then, the issue was dropped: «No sign of mirth. The conversation moved on …»

It was another 40 years before Sidey's account of this exchange would appear in **Newsweek,** but only after he had met a former intelligence officer who was able and willing to corroborate the president's assertion:

«Five years ago, I was lecturing in Staunton, Virginia, and retold the story. In the question session, a man in the audience rose and said, **"You may not believe that story about the bomb in the attic, but I do. I worked for 25 years at the Defense Intelligence Agency, and that was our understanding."** And now I can hear Kennedy asking again, "Do you know something I don't?"»[14]

President Kennedy had scarcely been sworn into office before being informed that an armed nuclear bomb was situated just a short distance from the White House, which would guarantee the destruction of the seat of America's government if war were to occur between the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R.

This, of course, could only have occurred with the active collaboration of sinister agents, right inside the power structures of Washington D.C., **in order to force the new**

[12] Malachi Martin, **The Keys Of This Blood,** 1991, Simon & Schuster, New York, pp. 607-09.

[13] Louis Remy, **"The Pope: Could he be Cardinal Siri?", Sous La Banniere** No. 06 - July-August 1986; Editions Sainte Jeanne d'Arc, **"Les Guillots,"** Villegenon, F-18260 Vailly-sur-Sauldre, France.

[14] Hugh Sidey, **"Were the Russians Hiding a Nuke in D.C.?", Newsweek,** 12 November 2001.

president to become an impotent slave of the "invisible government" of the New World Order.

Considering the security in and around Washington, even in 1961, and the comparative lack thereof in Rome, **it would have been very easy for these same agents to bring a nuclear device into Communist-infested Italy, and place it at the doorstep of the Vatican.** The question thus arises – if the newly-inaugurated Catholic President of the United States had been made aware that he was being blackmailed into submission to dark forces beyond his control, by a hydrogen bomb set to go off in Washington D.C. at any moment—**would the newly-elected pope, in the defenseless environs of Vatican City, have been treated any less harshly by the same enemies of Christ just three years before?**

Once Giuseppe Siri had been replaced by Angelo Roncalli to sit upon the Chair of Peter, the Vatican structures were brought totally under the heel of the Masonic world powers. **Within 48 hours, both the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. simultaneously announced the suspension of their respective nuclear testing programs.** The conjunction of the two events speaks volumes when viewed in the context of what happened to the Church immediately after the '58 Conclave.

J.F. Kennedy in 1962.

The next time that the terror of nuclear weapons would be held like a dagger against the throat of the Vatican was in October 1962.

In 1957, **Alice Bailey** had suggested that **the "threatened use" of the atomic bomb would be enough to intimidate the "Church of Rome," to do the bidding of the world powers.** Nuclear tests conducted by the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. in 1962, were more numerous than during any other calendar year, before or since. As a show of their might, the Masonic and Communist powers detonated several hydrogen bombs in outer space, each time with a display of piercing brightness in the sky, appearing like a "second sun" as if to rival the omnipotence of the Creator. This time, the bomb scare coincided with the second week of Vatican II, when not just the cardinals, but most of the world's bishops were assembled in Rome.

Then, on 15 October 1962, just four days after the opening of the council, American reconnaissance aircraft "discovered" several installations of Soviet medium-range missiles in Cuba that were reported to be capable of delivering a nuclear first-strike to dozens of US cities. On 22 October, just eleven days into the council, President Kennedy revealed the presence of the offensive missiles to the American people on nationwide television.

The world became frozen in suspense over the carefully choreographed "stand-off" between Washington and the Kremlin, today known as the **"Cuban Missile Crisis."** What the American people did not know, however, was that there would have been no Russian missiles in Cuba capable of hitting US cities were it not for the fact that the ball-bearing technology to build guidance systems for those missiles had been supplied to the USSR by the American company that developed the technology, with the approval of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

In his third book exposing Western technology transfers to the Soviet military, investigative journalist, **Antony Sutton,** revealed that:

«**The Bryant Chucking Grinder Company accepted a Soviet order for thirty-five Centalign-B machines for processing miniature ball bearings**. All such precision ball bearings in the United States, used by the Department of Defense **for missile guidance systems**, were processed on seventy-two Bryant Centalign Model-B machines.

«In 1961 the Department of Commerce approved export of thirty-five such machines to the USSR, which would have given the Soviets capability about equal to 50 percent of the U.S. capability.

«The Soviets had no equipment for such mass production processing, and neither the USSR nor any European manufacturer could manufacture such equipment …»[15]

Prior to the delivery of this key component in US missile guidance technology to the Kremlin, the only delivery platform for Russia's nuclear weapons were the Soviet Air Force's ponderous, propeller-driven bombers that could be easily shot out of the sky by U.S. interceptor jets, way before they could enter American air space. **But with the help of the US government, the Soviet Communists suddenly had ballistic missiles with nuclear payload capabilities parked just 90 miles south of Key West, Florida.** Thus, the technologically-primitive Soviet military of 1960 was instantly "brought up to speed" by its pretended adversary, the

[15] Antony C. Sutton, **The Best Enemy Money Can Buy,** 1986, 2000, p. 19.

U.S.A., and became a far more frightening "bogeyman" than it had been up to that point. If the American people were terrified at the prospect of nuclear war, so much more so were the Europeans, who still had vivid memories of obliterated cities and millions of incinerated bodies of innocent women, children and the elderly in the wake of Allied saturation bombing during World War II. With good reason to be especially afraid were the people of Rome when they learned that U.S. medium-range missiles had been installed at the American **Air Force base at Gioia del Colle,** just 300 miles south of the Eternal City, thereby guaranteeing that the capital of Italy would be one of the first targets of a Soviet retaliatory strike in an all-out nuclear war.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

Virtually unnoticed by the faithful during this orchestrated **"Cold War" showdown between its two primary actors, the USSR and the USA, was the other showdown unfolding in the first days of Vatican II.** The council's initial, traditional preparatory schemas that had been painstakingly organized for two years by a team of orthodox prelates under the guidance of **Archbishop Domenico Tardini were dumped in the waste bin to make way for a radical, revolutionary agenda. A whole new set of schemas, tailor-made for the anti-church, and secretly drafted by the agents of the Synagogue of Satan,** well in advance of the council were then rolled out – with the connivance of John XXIII.

Despite Roncalli's remaining in the background during this treachery, his part in the sabotage of the authentic schemas for the council was not lost on the traditionalist and conservative cardinals, **particularly those who knew that his imposition upon the Chair of Peter by the interference of the secular powers from outside the Church had spoiled the conclave and produced an anti-pope.**

But Roncalli's betrayal of the council fathers was to be glossed over almost **as soon as it happened by his re-introduction onto the world stage as the great "peacemaker" and negotiator for ending the Cuban Missile "Crisis,"** further reinforcing the title bestowed upon him by the controlled media: **"Good 'Pope' John."** Obviously coached by his handlers and press agents, Roncalli proposed first to the Kremlin, then to Washington that **The American missiles at Gioia del Colle,** Italy (which had been a US provocation against the USSR that led to the installation of Russian missiles in Cuba as a counter-balance) made Italy a prime target for a Russian nuclear strike.

Obviously coached by his handlers and press agents, **Roncalli proposed first to the Kremlin, then to Washington that the missiles in Italy be removed in return for the dismantling of Soviet missiles in Cuba.**

Throughout the crisis, the American people were informed only about the removal of US missiles in Turkey as the trade-off offered to the Russians. But in Italy, **the faithful and council fathers who had been wary of Roncalli were suddenly reluctant to criticize the peacemaker "Pope" who had "saved" Italy and the Western World from nuclear destruction.** Today, periodicals and TV docudramas portray the **"Good 'Pope' John"** as the saintly mediator between the super-powers who would ultimately be awarded the Soviet **"Balzan Peace Prize."** The American government, which had forty-five years before rejected a legitimate peace plan, proposed by an authentic Roman Pontiff, Benedict XV, to bring an early-end to the killing fields of World War I, now found in the antipope, whom it had just recently helped to impose upon the papal throne, to be an acceptable go-between to defuse the most hyped crisis of its manufactured "Cold War" with its bought-and-paid-for "enemy," the USSR, which it had been arming and equipping with technological assistance throughout World War II, right up to the Cuban Missile "Crisis," and beyond.

The real war being conducted by the Masonic cabal that ran the government in Washington, D.C., had been a covert war against the Church and an overt war against Catholic states since at least 1845. The American government's hatred for all things Catholic was matched only by that of its protégés in the Kremlin, which had murdered thousands of Catholic priests and faithful (not to mention, millions of Russian Orthodox Christians) since 1917. The acceptance by the fake belligerents of the **"Pope of Rome"** as a trusted negotiator to avert World War III made no sense **unless the "Pope" was no pope at all but an agent of the twin governments of Antichrist, which had been jointly set up by the Syna-**

gogue of Satan to suppress the rightful pontiff, eclipse the Church and pave the way for the unveiling of the "man of sin." But to accomplish their satanic end-game of preparing the world for Antichrist, the world powers would next have **to darken the intellects of half a billion Catholics by depriving them of Sanctifying Grace at its source – the Sacraments of the Church.**

Besides the papacy, the principal target of the adversaries of the Church has always been the grace-giving Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. In retrospect, the rapid demolition of the Mass by the usurpers in the Vatican soon after the overthrow of Pope Gregorius XVII calls to mind the Latin axiom: **"Tolle Papam; Tolle Missam"** ("Take away the Pope and the Mass will be suppressed.") Indeed the connection between the obscuration of the Pope and the disappearance of the Mass was predicted by **Melanie Calvat of La Salette** not long before her death in 1903:

«The Church will be eclipsed. At first, we will not know which is the true pope. Then secondly, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will cease to be offered in churches and houses; it will be such that, for a time, there will not be public services any more. But I see that the Holy Sacrifice has not really ceased: it will be offered in barns, in alcoves, in caves, and underground.»[16]

There could be no greater catastrophe for the Church than for her to be deprived of her head. In his 1888 **"Prayer to St. Michael,"** Pope Leo XIII seemed to be warning a future generation of Catholics of the consequences that would befall the Church once dispossessed of her sovereign pontiff, and of the devilish spirits that would inspire the evil world powers to bring about such dire events:

«O GLORIOUS Archangel St. Michael, Prince of heavenly host, be our defense in the terrible warfare which we carry on against principalities and powers, against the rulers of this world of darkness, spirits of evil … **These most crafty enemies have filled and inebriated with gall and bitterness the Church, the spouse of the immaculate Lamb, and have laid impious hands on her most sacred possessions. In the Holy Place itself, where has been set up the See of the most holy Peter and the Chair of Truth for the light of the world, they have raised the throne of their abominable impiety, with the iniquitous design that when the Pastor has been struck, the sheep may be scattered …»**[17]

The mechanism for "scattering the sheep" was the council – convoked, corrupted and ratified by the antipopes who usurped the Chair of Peter against the authority of the lawful Pope. The remnant Church must come to grips with the reality that the false council was the brainchild of false shepherds who broke into the Vatican like "thieves and robbers," with the help of the anti-Catholic secular powers. The path to the Church's restoration, to her rightful, visible structures will be by means of re-establishing her connection to the authentic Roman Pontiff, who must at some point reemerge onto the world stage, but only with continuity to (and succession from) St. Peter. As explained by the **"Catholic Encyclopedia":**

«A council in opposition to the pope is not representative of the whole Church, for it neither represents the pope who opposes it, nor the absent bishops, who cannot act beyond the limits of their dioceses except through the pope.

A council not only acting independently of the Vicar of Christ, but sitting in judgment over him, is unthinkable in the constitution of the Church; **in fact, such assemblies have only taken place in times of great constitutional disturbances, when either there was no pope or the rightful pope was indistinguishable from antipopes.**

In such abnormal times the safety of the Church becomes the supreme law, and the first duty of the abandoned flock is to find a new shepherd, under whose direction the existing evils may be remedied.»[18]

[16] Abbe Paul Combe: **The Secret of Melanie and the Actual Crisis,** 1906, Rome, p.137.
[17] "#407 Prayer to St. Michael," **The Raccolta,** 1930; Benziger Brothers, p. 314-15.
[18] "Councils," **The Catholic Encyclopedia,** Vol. 4, 1908, p. 426.

«Now is the time; the abyss is opening. Here is the King of Kings of darkness; here is the Beast with his subjects, calling himself the Saviour of the world. He will rise proudly into the air to go to Heaven. He will be smothered by the breath of the Archangel Saint Michael. He will fall, and the earth, which will have been in a continuous series of evolutions for three days, will open up its fiery bowels; and he will have plunged for all eternity with all his followers into the everlasting chasms of hell. And then water and fire will purge the earth and consume all the works of men's pride and all will be renewed. God will be served and glorified.»

(Our Lady of La Salette)