

Mass Honors Dead Bishop, Reds' Captive

New York Times News Service
HONG KONG, Sept. 11—More than 1500 persons attended a Solemn Pontifical Mass celebrated here today for the Most Rev. Francis X. Ford, late American Bishop of Mellican in Northern Kwangtung Province. Among those who crowded the Caine Road Cathedral were representatives of various western Consulates in Hong Kong.

The Brooklyn born prelate died in a Canton prison hospital last Feb. 21 at the age of 60 after more than a year under Chinese Communist arrest. News of his death reached his fellow Maryknoll priests here two weeks ago.

Bishop Adolph Taschang, an American Maryknoller whom the Communists expelled last June 6 from his see at Kongmoon in Kwantung, said Mass. Archbishop Antony Riberi, the Papal Internuncio in China who was expelled from Nanking last September, gave the absolution.

The Papal Internuncio eulogized Bishop Ford as a "captain of Christ" who had spent the last 31 years of his life "bringing knowledge and love of God to the people of Kwantung."

West German Socialists Rap Constitution

BONN, Germany, Sept. 11 (AP)—West Germany's powerful Social Democrats (Socialists) said today their representatives in the Schuman Plan Assembly will boycott work on the draft of a European constitution.

The Schuman Plan Assembly voted by an overwhelming majority in Strasbourg yesterday to start work without delay on the foundations of a unified West Europe.

The German delegation in the Schuman Plan Assembly consists of representatives of all major political parties in the country. The refusal of the Social Democrats—main opposition party in West Germany—to take part in the preparation of a European constitution will not affect the participation of the other German delegates.

RTIV, Channel 11, Sunday at 11:15 p.m.]

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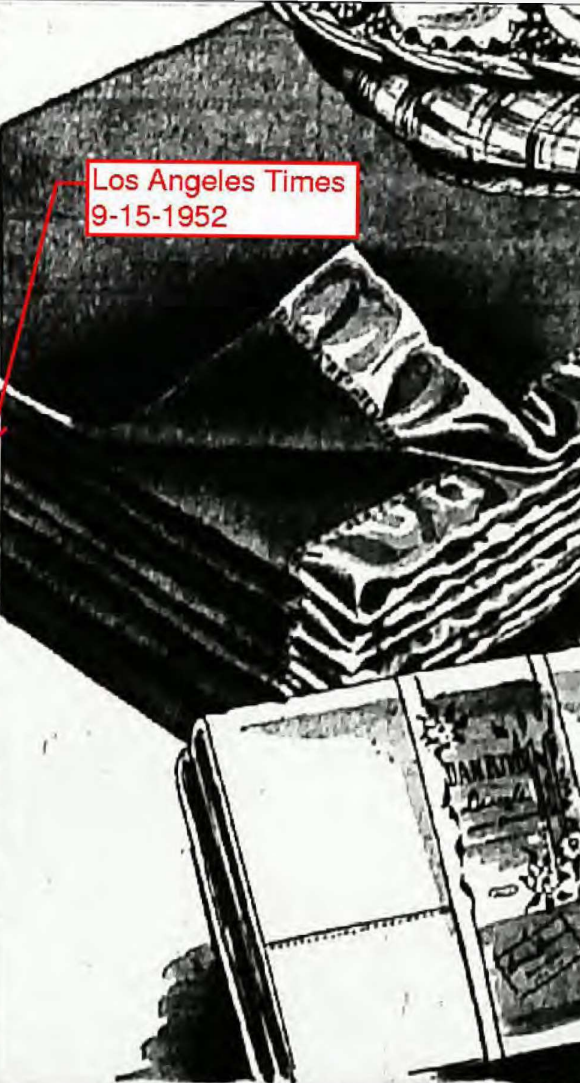


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