



Russian observers leave Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome, on December 7th, after attending the first session of the Ecumenical Council.

by John M. Haffert

When you get right down to it, what do we *really* know about Khrushchev? Do the other members of the Russian government know? Could it be that Khrushchev has already been converted and is leaning towards a new world free of "arranged" Marxist dialectics?

Let's face the fact: We don't know,

and we probably won't . . . until either we are burrowing into the ground to escape atomic attack, or we see the sign foretold by Our Lady of Fatima.

All we really know is that so far we have a stalemate. Khrushchev . . . and the Russian government . . . preferred to back down to the United States rather than go to war.

We also know that Russia is in open disagreement with China.

That is knowing a great deal.

We also know . . . or with good reason can suspect . . . several developments both frightening and hopeful. But before glancing over the list, let the reader be advised that we have some pretty definite

RUSSIA CHANGING?

ideas to offer . . . the kind of ideas that might be found only in a magazine dedicated to the Message of Fatima . . . the message which bears the promise of Our Lady that ultimately Russia WILL be converted.

The Adverse Side

1) Maybe all the offensive weapons have NOT been removed from Cuba. It took two months and 165 ships to build up the missiles in Cuba. How could Russia have removed them all, in seven ships, in two weeks?

2) Red China took Ladakh, the most important area in Central Asia for a nuclear missile base. Then she called a "cease fire" with India, and the world seems to be accepting it...

3) In North Africa, Algiers is going the way of Cuba . . . and this time there is no one to prevent installation of the Russian missile bases. There is no Monroe Doctrine in North Africa and no strong man to act for a badly divided Europe.

In a word, we face the cold and terrible fact: The Communist threat continues to advance.

Other Side of Picture

There are four great facts on the other side of the picture:

1) Russia DID back down on Cuba. We said in effect that we were willing to fight a nuclear war, and the Russians backed down. Maybe we could have pushed the matter further. Maybe we should have. But the great fact of the backdown is there . . . and all the "neutral nations" are in awesome awareness of it.

2) Russia supported India *against* China. Just before the cease fire, Russian migs were sent to Nehru.

3) There is a new persecution of religion going on in Russia, and it emphasizes the *tremendous spiritual growth among Russia's devout*

millions . . . a growth which, from flashes revealed to us, would seem to put our Western spirituality to shame.

4) The *message of Fatima has taken hold of the world*. Maybe here in the United States we may feel that not *enough* persons have heeded the message of Fatima, and we may be alarmed at the stand which some have taken against it. But the fact is that *millions* are fulfilling the requests of Our Lady, and among them are many saints.

The Answer

We asked at the beginning: "What do we *really* know about Khrushchev?"

Isn't it true that only God knows what is in the hearts of the men whose commands can either release atomic war or bring us to peace? And isn't it true that only God knows whether an accident . . . a miscalculation, like a blob on a radar screen . . . might spark the world into an atomic blast?

If *ever* in history man had some reason, in each and every nation, to be conscious of complete dependence on God, that moment is now.

So the most important key to understanding the Russian leaders lies not in Moscow, but at Fatima.

Many persons who have seen me interviewing famous and important persons on television, ask: "What do YOU think is going to happen?", as though either from talking with saints I might have a revelation, or from talking with experts I might have inside information. I have neither.

We are all in the guessing game.

And it's the uncertainty . . . like that which *should* have filled the spirit of the people of Pompeii beneath the smoking mountain of Vesuvius . . . which should goad us to action now.

Our Lady *has promised* to change Russia. She has *promised* that we shall have peace . . . if enough of us will hear her message.

And regardless of whether Father Fuentes may have been misquoted or himself made a mistake, and regardless of whether some other theologian may declare that we don't *have* to believe in Fatima, and some other may say it is dangerous not to believe, regardless of whether Fatima ever happened at all:

This is God's world. We are His creatures. If we speak to Him, He hears us. And if we make reparation, then the wars . . . which are punishment for sin . . . will cease. And at this moment, Russia *is* changing. There have been probably more Christian martyrs in Russia than in any other country during the past four decades, and more real "conversions."

We are on the brink of war, with our missiles poised at Russia, and hers "at the ready" against us.

But even more: *We are on the brink of a brilliant tomorrow*. As perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament creeps over the globe, and as all the Bishops of the world soon again will be converging on Rome for the second session of the Ecumenical Council, and as Father Peyton's Rosary Crusade spreads, and as the membership of the Blue Army slowly swells and untold saints measure up to unexpected crosses to become victim souls, time is on *our* side.

Russia is not only changing. Russia has *already* changed. And the change will extend up to Khrushchev and his government, and to Castro and Mao, Bella in Algeria and Tshombe in the Congo, if we begin looking for the answer to "What is going to Happen" . . . not in Moscow, but in Fatima.