

## Kolvenbach: The Jesuits choose the East

With the election, in October 1983 in Rome, of the new General of the Society of Jesuits, Father Hans Kolvenbach, the Jesuits have once again shown themselves to be ahead of the times. The primary reason for his choice was the decision of the Society to elect as their "black pope" a man of the East.

Father Kolvenbach was born 55 years ago in Holland of

a Calvinist family, but he is more oriental than European, in his studies and vocation. In fact he spent most of his life in Beirut, his adoptive city, where he finished his studies and was elected the provincial head of the local Society of Jesus; it was during his ecclesiastical studies in Beirut that, following his passion for the East, he asked and obtained permission to be accepted into the Armenian rite. This makes him the first General of the Jesuits in the history of the order who belongs to an Eastern rite. Father Kolvenbach was never a

## The latest evil deeds of the Jesuits

The Society of Jesus, architect of the Vatican's opening to religious fundamentalism and to jailed terrorists, is operating simultaneously on other fronts:

**May 1983:** The Jesuits open to the freemasons. Father Franco Molinari, S.J., teacher of history at Catholic University in Milan, stated: "The freemasons are no longer accursed brethren: They are blessed because they participate in the seventh beatitude . . . the slow but inevitable path toward the 'omega' point of universal fraternity constitutes also the luminous line that runs through the entire Bible, from which masonry and church both take their marching orders."

**May 1983:** The Jesuits attack beam weapons, their magazine *Civiltà Cattolica*. Father Giuseppe De Rosa, S.J., defined the new defensive system announced by President Reagan as an example of a crazed arms race.

**July 1983:** Father Francesco Giunchedi in *Civiltà Cattolica*, appeals for homosexuals not to be excluded from the church, because their dramatic condition is "an expression of the mystery of human pain."

In the following number of the same review, Father Enrico Baraglia maintains the need to abolish censorship of films, proposing that the public showing of "adult" films, even on television, not be subjected to any form of censorship, to protect young television viewers. Fr. Baraglia proposes instead a "prohibition on programming such films on TV before 10 o'clock at night and the posting of this prohibition in all public information materials."

**October 1983:** *Civiltà Cattolica*, in anticipation of the opening of the Synod of Bishops in Rome, heavily criticized the liturgy of the confession, counterposing a "social" conception of sin, through which the individual has no guilt, since it is society which induces him to sin. This crime was a forerunner to the famous appeal to recruit repentant terrorists into the ranks of the Society of Jesus,

launched by *Civiltà Cattolica* in the Jan. 7 issue of the present year (see accompanying article).

**October 1983:** a professor of the Jesuit Gregorian University, Klaus Dammer, proposes the transplanting of heads on new human trunks.

### Who are the Jesuits?

According to 1980 figures, the order numbered 27,027 members, of which 1,160 were in Africa, 5,751 in the United States, 1,874 in Central America, 2,806 in Latin America, 4,551 in Asia, 348 in Oceania, and 10,527 in Western and Eastern Europe. In Europe, the biggest concentration of Jesuits is in Spain where there are 2,646, Italy follows with 1,915, and Belgium with 862. Obviously these figures are underestimated, given the existence of many Jesuits who do not wear clerical garb (terrorists, directors of newspapers and TV networks, etc.).

In Rome, the headquarters of the General Curiate of the Order is in Borgo S. Spirito, near the basilica of S. Pietro. It is there that the conclaves of the Black Pope are held. At its disposal are:

- a house of the General Fathers in Grottaferrata, near Rome;
- the Pontifical Gregorian University;
- the Pontifical German-Hungarian College;
- the magazine, *Civiltà Cattolica*;
- the centers "For a Better World" and the "Oasis Movement" at Rocca di Papa;
- the Pontifical Latin American College;
- the Pontifical Institute of Ecclesiastical Studies for the Poles;
- the Pontifical Biblical Institute;
- the Pontifical Institute of Oriental Studies;
- the Roberto Bellarmino College;
- the Pontifical Russicum College;
- Vatican Radio;
- the Vatican observatory at Castelgandolfo;
- the Brazilian College;
- the International College of the Gesù;
- additional Roman buildings which belong to the Italian Provinces of the Society of Jesus.