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## THE CHURCH FACES A CHALLENGE.

To a desperate world, the first assembly of the world's protestant churches in Amsterdam brings new hope. At a time of great crisis in man's history, 1,000 delegates from 40 countries meet to declare their faith in the christian creed as the sole answer to human folly. For the challenge to the teaching of the church has seldom been greater than it is today.

Now, as perhaps never before, is there a need to create among the peoples of the world a rising tide of faith in all that christianity means.

As the spiritual leaders rededicate themselves, the world is caught up in a war of ideologies - a war that only a crusading moral faith can halt. From an Amsterdam cathedral eyes turn to the testing ground. In the ruins of the German capital, East defies West. Here, political skirmishing is played out and few can see the outcome. The city has two currencies, twofold administrations, two police forces - Berlin is now two cities. Caught midway in this conflict are the Germans - to whom retribution of war has come in full. Now in the third month of the Soviet blockade, Berlin's industries are at a standstill. Unemployment is rising. Dissatisfaction is spreading. And again there is talk of war.

Yet there is hope as the West's food planes fly in day and night. Yorks, Fortresses and Dakotas form a giant air-relief-chain. Sunderland Flying boats land on the city's lakes. So far, the airlink has brought into the besieged city more than 100,000 tons of food and coal.

Two and a half million people are being fed by such efforts. The cost of this vast operation - borne by Britain and America - rises daily. There is a price to pay, too, in human life. Five Americans die when their plane crashes into a 4 storey building.

From their one time enemies come tributes to such sacrifice. For the Germans find themselves not alone in their desire to hold their new freedom. The food battle of Berlin is a guarantee of the Western Allies resolution. As Western air strength is steadily reinforced, American jet fighters fly the Atlantic to German air bases. The issues are clear. This time there will be no Munich.

But even more impressive than the show of strength is the spiritual reawakening of a nation. In the minds of the German people - regimented in the service of the state for more than a decade - something stirs. Intense preparations for the celebration of Cologne cathedral's 700th anniversary are the first flickerings of a religious revival. Badly damaged during the war, the ancient cathedral is to be reopened for public worship for the first time in five years.

Along the beflagged route through the city great crowds gather to watch one of the greatest religious spectacles of all times. Bearing holy relics that have been kept in Cologne since the Middle Ages, the procession is led by seven Cardinals and includes archbishops and bishops from all over Europe.

6,000 worshippers crowd into the cathedral. Loudspeakers transmit the service to the thousands waiting outside.

In the hearts of the/

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In the hearts of the watching multitude, the ritual of the occasion sets alight a desire that only the church can give. In Amsterdam, as in Cologne the spiritual revival is the churches answer to the problems which beset a troubled mankind.