## The Holy €

This could be interesting. So far the only thing I find in the main stream press is in The Russian Times, nothing coming out in the US press.

"Unholy mess: Vatican amidst mafia money-laundering scandal" reports:

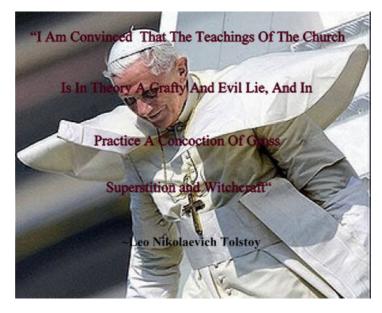
Earlier this week police conducted a dawn raid on the house and office of (former head of the Vatican Bank) Ettore Gotti Tedeschi. Investigators say they were looking for evidence in a graft case against defense and aerospace firm Finmeccanica, which was formerly run by a close friend of Gotti Tedeschi.

Instead, as it turns out, police stumbled upon an entirely different find. They discovered 47 binders containing private communication exposing the opaque inner workings of the secretive Holy See. They included financial documents, details of money transfers and confidential internal reports – all prepared by Gotti Tedeschi to build a convincing expose of corruption in the Vatican.



Aware that his crusade against corruption was failing, Gotti Tedeschi probably began to leak important documents to the media... While the leaks were a weapon with which to attack his enemies, Gotti Tedeschi was also preparing a last resort option if the battle was lost — a 'suicide belt' that would blow the lid off Vatican.

Several months ago, he reportedly told his friends that he began collecting an exhaustive dossier "in case something happened to him." It is this dossier that the police have now apparently discovered. The Vatican is barely concealing its panic – and wants the folders handed back unopened.



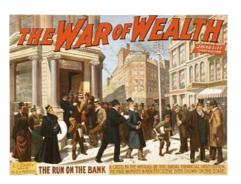
No love lost with the Russians. And just in case you might think their disdain is purely journalistic, they've also written "Smells like Pope: His Holiness commissions custom-made perfume," which says:



Pope Benedict XVI has commissioned a signature scent just for him. His Holiness' custom-made eau de cologne will convey his love to nature, peace and tranquillity.

Clearly the editors at Russia Times are having a good day.

And on the other side of the Adriatic, Greeks are now withdrawing cash from their banks at the rate of  $\underline{\in}1$  billion/day.



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