

Warning of Death Before Battle

Editor's Note: The poignant story below, written by Mr. Clapper shortly before his death in the Battle of the Marshall Islands, seems almost to indicate a premonition of his own fate.

By Raymond Clapper ABOARD AN AIRCRAFT CARRIER

TO the men aboard a warship in a combat zone, religion becomes far more important than you might suppose if you judge by civilian standards at home. You can see some idea of the reason why from the story of a flier who became afraid. I have his name, but I shall not use it now.

One of the chaplains was telling about it because it was a strange and puzzling experience. Chaplains have many unusual experiences with one man because, as this one said, bloodlets are in their religious as they seem or want to appear.

This particular chaplain, a young man who has been in the Navy seven years, before that he was pastor of a Lutheran church at the West Coast port. He had also a priest aboard. And the gunnery officer, who once studied to be a rabbi, conducts religious services each Friday night, with a usual attendance of about 30.

See PREMONITION on page 6

Appeal For Prisoner Aid

WASHINGTON—Wives, mothers and fathers of American military prisoners of war in the Japanese plea today for the appointment of a committee to provide medical and automatic insurance for them and "other aid to be sent to the boys."

Among those who testified were Dr. V. H. Spaulding, chairman of the U. S. Military Committee today for the appointment of a committee to provide medical and automatic insurance for them and "other aid to be sent to the boys."

Mrs. Bigger, whose husband is a captain with the 27th Bomber Group, declared that she had saved the West Coast from a bombing and saved Australia, and it is only fair that some recognition be given them."

But most important of all, she said, is getting relief to the prisoners.

Meanwhile, the State Department released a report of Jan. 27 protests to the Japanese Government in which this nation demanded that the Japanese take note of the charges and "take immediate steps to ease the treatment accorded American nationals held by Japan to the standard provided by the Geneva Convention."

Assistant Secretary of State Edward R. Stearns said at a news conference that the State Department, through which the protests were sent, has confirmed delivery of the messages to the Tokyo Government.

There were two separate protests, one directed at the violations of international law, and the other listed specific incidents of "inhuman and cruel treatment."

No Change Likely In Rationing of Shoes

WASHINGTON—The Office of Price Administration (OPA) said today that it is planning no change in the current rate of shoe rationing.

Although still too early to say how many pairs of shoes will be available for civilians this year, the OPA said that the present rate of rationing—a new stamp every six months for one pair—will be maintained, the agency said.

German "Hide And Seek" Gun Annoys Yanks On Cassino Front

By HAL BOYLE FROM THE RAPIDO RIVER FRONT, Jan. 30.—(Delayed)—A German "hide and seek" gun is one of the most annoying of obstacles to American Fifth Army forces surrounding the Cassino corridor.

"It is an attack gun which is hidden in a mountain side," the German explained. "The German has a small hole in the mountain side, and he can bring it out and fire it down high—just as they do in the Casino. After whipping around a new round of ammunition, he discourages traffic."

Boyle said they get the gun back in its "hide and seek" and before it will take a ton of dynamite to blow it out of its hiding place.

It is amazing to see how little impact the war has on Italian children. One little girl, who was sheltering some family chickens, stubbornly to their homes and refuse to leave.

I watched seven small children playing in a muddy yard today, only a few hours after a battlefront where men were being killed, and capturing each other with the latest type equipment.

The small boys and girls, none over six years old, gave no machine-gun fire, and the German machine-guns were silent. They had their cardboard ration boxes which they were taking to their homes, and were sitting on an imaginary rifle.

One girl had a little black and brown puppy she was trying to get into the box. She didn't let him in the box. She'd take him to her home on one leg and one long, red rubber, gun.

Another girl did not want to admit she was in an area under heavy bombardment. She said she didn't know it was there. She'd take it to her home on one leg and one long, red rubber, gun.

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS Final

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Reds Draw Ring of Death Tighter Around Nazis

MASSIVE ALLIED TANKS IN ALL

24 Die As Plane Crashes In River

Large Plane Falls Into Mississippi

MEMPHIS (AP)—Twenty-four persons lost their lives when an American Airlines transcontinental plane crashed into the Mississippi River last midnight.

Fortresses Again Blast Frankfurt

LONDON (AP)—American Flying Fortresses blasted Frankfurt-On-The-Main with tons of high explosives again today, striking the already hard-hit Southwest German industrial and transport center for the second time in four days and the fourth time since Jan. 29.

Reds Raid Finn City

LONDON—The Finns announced today that 150 Russian planes bombed the industrial city of Helsinki on the coast of the Gulf of Finland, for two hours last night.

President Will Address Nation

WASHINGTON—President Roosevelt will address the nation tomorrow afternoon, speaking for about five minutes during a radio broadcast between 7 and 8 o'clock, Eastern War Time.

Cut Down All Refusing To Give Up

Foes Slaughtered Like Sheep

By EDDY GILMORE MOSCOW (AP)—The Red Army's seven spearheads brushing against the steadily diminishing circle of death around Nazi forces in the Danube Bend were hacking German-held salients to pieces today and relentlessly cutting down all who refused to surrender.

Allies Complete Huon Occupation

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC (AP)—Complete occupation of Huon Peninsula, New Guinea, and the end of a five-month campaign which cost the Japanese a division of 14,000 men was announced by Gen. Douglas MacArthur today.

Blast Jap-Held Isles

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR—Fighter planes, Mitchell medium bombers, Dauntless dive bombers, big Liberators and a Navy supply warplane are teaming up with the Marine Corps in blasting away at Japanese-held Marshall Islands today.

Blizzard Hits East

By ASSOCIATED PRESS A traffic-clogging blizzard from the frigid Midwest swept into the Eastern United States today, striking the Northeast with heavy snow and depositing snow and freezing rain from Southern Jersey to Albany.

Slavs Fall Back In Dalmatia Area

LONDON—The Yugoslav Partisan Army's 10th Division has fallen back from northern Dalmatia into the province of Lika in the face of a renewed offensive by the German army.

Writer Sees Initial Drive As Slackening

By HOMER BIGART New York Herald Tribune Correspondent Representing the Combined Press

Bad Weather

Robs Allies Of Air Weapon

By EDWARD KENNEDY ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, ALGIERS (AP)—German armored units, taking advantage of rains and clouds which robbed the British and Americans of their most potent defense, their Air Force, were reported striking with deadly probing skill into the northern flank of the Anzio bridgehead today.

Tanks Used As Artillery

By KENNETH L. DIXON WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY, Feb. 11.—(4:30 P. M.—11:30 A. M. EDT)—(AP)—Allied Army airmen which have curbed activity of the Allied air forces since noon yesterday, German armored units are utilizing tanks as artillery.

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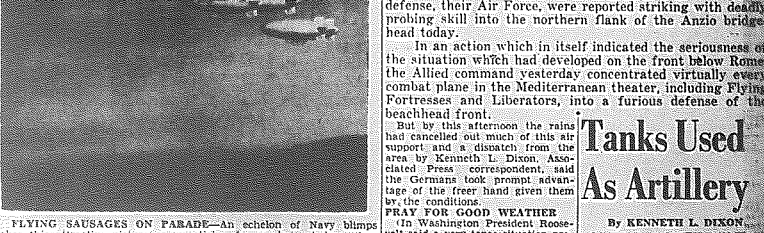
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US NAVY FLYING SAUSAGES ON PARADE—An echelon of Navy blimps makes this attractive picture as practice combat missions they glide through maneuvers at Moffett Field, Calif.



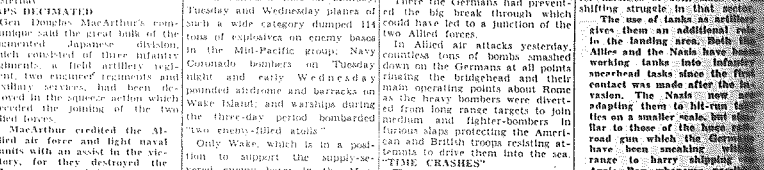
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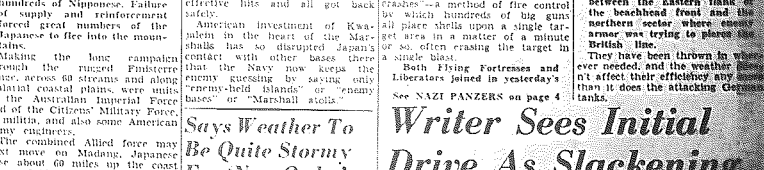
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Weather Slacks

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