

Catholic Soldier Reports On Chaplains' Work Abroad

NEW YORK—A Catholic soldier's view of the work of a Catholic chaplain was released today by the Military Ordinariate. The report came in the form of a letter from a sergeant somewhere in the South-west Pacific. It follows:

"Though this letter bears the resemblance of a report, it is meant to be an account of the activities of the chaplains as seen by a soldier in the ranks. Also, it is meant to bring out the fact that not all religious activities on the field can be reported by the chaplains under your guidance, due to circumstances beyond their control.

"First let me tell you that we are far from the shores of the good old U. S. A. The trip to our destination was rather uneventful as far as the enemy is concerned. We had on our boat one Catholic priest and three Protestant chaplains. They were kept very busy; for it seemed that religion took on a new aspect in the lives of the soldiers. I am sure that you would wish to know just how the men of the Catholic Faith responded to their religious obligations.

"As previously mentioned, there was one Catholic priest on our boat. He did marvelous work. He had Mass each day, distributed Holy Communion to large numbers, and heard confessions in a private stateroom each evening, being ready also to be of any assistance

to the soldiers, in whatever manner he possibly could.

"I attended week-day Mass a number of times on the boat, and received Communion also. The attendance at these Masses exceeded 100 each time, there being only one day that the attendance fell below that figure. Holy Communion averaged about 75 a day, exceeding that number at times. On Sunday there were three Masses. The attendance at these was astounding. I could not count the number of Communion at the first Mass which I usually attended, but it was near 100.

"When teaching our destination a great number of soldiers, myself included, were placed in a section of territory where we could not have an American Catholic chaplain. The Division Chaplain did excellent work in arranging for the Catholics to attend Mass. He got in touch with some missionaries and a Catholic chaplain to take care of our men. Many men went to these Masses, four in all, at least 125 attending the Mass that I went to on the first Sunday. I mention this to give you an idea of the many soldiers who cannot be taken care of by an American chaplain,

Jesuit's Address

BOMBAY.—In the course of the Third Bombay Conference held here a few days ago one of the most thought-provoking speeches was delivered in Bombay, for a group of Western India, by the Rev. A. Jorda, a Spanish Jesuit. He dealt on the importance of Bombay, and showed how useful it was to a missionary and social worker.

Today we must be heard about men's rights, and the rights about men's duties.

and consequently are not included in the reports that are made by them to you.

"I am sure that were any of the clergy to spend even a small portion of time with the soldiers on the field they would readily recognize the necessity of priests and more priests in the Armed Services of our country. I once endeavored to attain that great office, studying approximately eight years. Unfortunately, I found myself unfit for that office; though I have often desired to become a priest for the succeeding years. Sometimes I visualize myself a chaplain in the Army, the wonderful work that I could do were I privileged with such a distinction. I am sure that the Church will see that we soldiers are not neglected; for she has sent hundreds of her clergy to the field already. The missionaries do great work for the soldiers when they can not be attended by Catholic chaplains. This is also the case with the Protestants."

Letters to Jack

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We ask our readers to give a Catholic Education to poor children. Ten Dollars will enable a child to attend a mission school for a year. Help our missionaries to keep open their mission schools. Sponsor a child for a year.

SCHOOL DAYS
Most people can recall with joy school days. They were happy days; they were important days. This is especially true if we attended a Catholic School. For there we learned of Our Blessed Lord. The truths and practices of our holy faith were taught us.

Now, more than ever, is there a need for Catholic Schools where Christ and His life, and His commandments are taught to the youth. This is particularly true in the Near East, where there are so many instances to draw souls away from Our Lord. Yet, even non-Catholic educators and men of thought are convinced that the root of many evils in the world today is a lack of education, resulting in ignorance of God, of Our Blessed Redeemer and His laws of Justice and Charity.

No greater blessing could you give to the poor children of our mission than an opportunity to attend a Catholic school. A mission school can be built for \$500. The success of mission work is guaranteed by a mission school.

Will you give our poor children a chance to learn about God and the true purpose of life, by building a Catholic School in the Near East Mission?
Your charity would win for you the grateful prayers of hundreds of children and their parents of all priests and sisters of the Near East Mission—yes, the blessing of God Himself.

GREGORIAN MASSES
The offering of Mass for thirty consecutive days for a deceased person. Religious orders have the Gregorian Masses offered for a deceased member. You can do so for a deceased relative or friend, and even for yourself after your death. Write for our Free Leaflet.

FOR ONE CHAPEL
Some of our Near East chapels are very bare. The people are too poor to provide even the necessities. Yet every mission priest wants his chapel furnished suitably as God's House. You can delight a missionary pastor by giving to his chapel a Chalice, Missal, Set of Linens, Candelsticks and Altar Crucifix for Forty-two Dollars.

ALL CAN HELP
Every Catholic wishes to see the mission. One very helpful way is to share the work of training young men to become missionary priests. You can do this by joining our Student Support Club. Members send a Dollar a month, or Twelve Dollars for a year.

PICTURE OF OUR LADY
Our Blessed Mother is loved in the lands where she lived. You can give to a mission school a picture of Our Lady of Fatima for Five Dollars. It will increase devotion to Our Lady.

HARD LIFE
The life of a missionary is very difficult. Away from home and friends he endures the trials of loneliness. Different food, climate and living conditions take toll of physical health. To those he is required, for he expects them, but the great trial is lack of funds to do the good he wants to do. We cannot change the climate or alter his lonely life, but we can help support him and free him of financial cares. Five Dollars will support a missionary for nearly a week. Give this happiness to a missionary.

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BOYS IN SERVICE
Ask our missionaries to visit the boys for the physical and spiritual welfare of our armed forces. They pay God's grace and care for them.

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