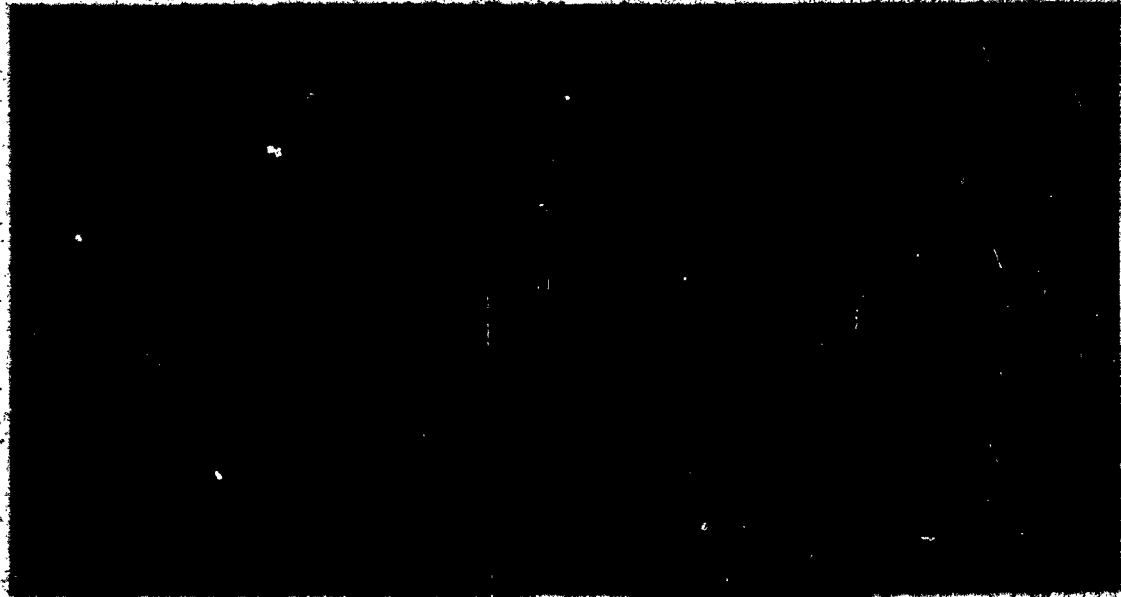


SCENE OF "CATHOLIC HOUR" PROGRAMS



The new religious studio of the National Broadcasting Company, in New York, where from the Sunday "Catholic Hour," produced by the National Council of Catholic Men, will be held, as well as other religious programs. The studio will seat 200 persons. The episode in the week of Alfred James Talk, of Mac-Jerk, Conn. (N.C.W.C.)

Catholic Hour Message

High Morale, Morals Will Assure Victory Says Navy Chaplain

NEW YORK (N.C.) — Combination of a high morale and a high moral standard, which is the essential objective of the Navy chaplains, prevails among men of the Navy today and "victory then cannot be denied these Christian warriors," was the message given as God's stars above our fighting forces," the Rev. John R. Becket, Catholic Assistant to the Navy Chief of Chaplains, asserted here Sunday evening in a "Catholic Hour" radio address.

Father Becket, who holds the rank of Lieutenant Commander, related the duties of the dedicated Navy chaplain on the radio program, produced by the N.C.W.C. and carried on a country-wide N.B.C. network.

Primary duties of the Navy Chaplain, Father Becket explained, are those of the ordained man of God, "to bring God to man and man to God." To achieve this objective, Father Becket explained, the chaplain makes use of every channel available to him, "divine services, administration of the sacraments — private confessions and mass to man talk."

"Victory in the present war and progress in the peace to come," Father Becket said, depends upon the unity of all Americans, and that unity must be free from "racial mistrust, class hatreds and religious bigotry. The Navy chaplain, he said, exercises a powerful and lasting influence in the development of the true American spirit by bringing "this desired mutual respect, understanding and tolerance" to all men.

"Navy Chaplains are always interested in explaining and defending the true liberty for which our nation is waging war today," Father Becket said, "namely, the freedom to do what is right — right before God and right before man. Moreover, the Navy Chaplain realizes that the few youthful lives of your sons are not built by physical work-being or intellectual training alone."

Becket talked in God. "True — these are necessary and important helps to his well-being, but as the foundation for everything else, there must be the basic belief in God, knowledge and observance of His Commandments and constant awareness of God's design for living and God's love for your son — the creature of His creation."

Father Becket related that a ranking admiral recently returned from a tour of the Pacific area and quoted him as stating: "In the South Pacific, with the fleet and at our advance bases, I became intimately acquainted with the splendid work being carried on by the chaplain corps. Your Navy men know that he can turn to the Chaplain for friendly help in any problem — whether he's worried about his God, his family back home, or his own chances for leave. Quiet, comforting, invariably a 'right guy,' the Chaplain comes through — and helps his men through."

ROUND THE WORLD WITH THE CHAPLAINS

Sgt. Jim Becket, in South, wins a convert to his faith, Chaplain writes.

Y-Letter to Father Becket from Sgt. Jim Becket, in South, writes: "I believe the Military Ordinariate should have a medal for men like First Sgt. Jim Becket" and then proceeded to tell the reason why.

On his last long trip, Father Freeman wrote, he met Sgt. Becket, who served his Mass and that's "a big moment by the way for First Sergeants." Father Freeman continued: "I didn't know him very well but I noticed him receiving Communion at every opportunity so I started to strike up a 'showing the rag' session with him and pretended to be a thorn in his side in future calls for assistance, but he was Irish and smiled broadly."

Father Freeman said he also seen noticed the Sergeant had an inseparable companion, a Chinese boy turned American soldier, who was at Mass everywhere the Sergeant was. Later the priest discovered the boy had been told he could do everything the Sergeant did, but he couldn't receive Communion.

Then tonight struck and Sgt. Jim was killed in action, leaving the Chinese boy whose name was Goo. Father Freeman struck up an acquaintance with Goo, who continued coming to Mass, reading the Sunday Mirror that Sgt. Jim had given him. The chaplain continued: "Finally, Goo came to me and in his best English told me he would like to go to Communion like Jim used to do, and I told him about the initiation that preceded reception. Goo was thoroughly sincere and little time was lost in the preliminaries — Baptism came — and the name, I thought Eugene would charm with Goo, but Goo straightened me out on this point. He wanted Jim and that's his new name. I often think of Sgt. Jim and marvel at the big things he did in such a quiet, silent way."

Writing from North Africa, the Rev. Joseph M. Clark, S.J., told of how 1,000 Catholic soldiers, many of whom had been away from the sacraments for years, were brought into a camp to receive Holy Communion on Easter and on Mother's Day through the simple medium of a Ford V-8 motor in the latter back home.

Father Clark said the letter was composed by one of the chaplains on duty with him and mentioned a pledge to receive Communion on Easter and Mother's Day for the intention of Total Victory and for Lasting Christian Peace. There was a request for the letter to be home to do likewise. Father Clark reported the letter that was introduced in a hospital, later gradually circulated among the men and "so far we have passed out over 400" and "receive it or not, not was refused and plenty had been away from the sacraments for years. He added there was a few who had neglected to make their First Communion and went to him asking for instructions as they could make their Communion by Easter and send one of the letters home."

Southwest Pacific: Navy Catholics in camp at a Southwest Pacific base. Chaplain Father Sunday Mass, the Rev. Austin Henry, Army chaplain of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, reported in a letter. With him are the Revs. Edward Connolly, C.P., Bernard F. DeCenzo, of the Diocese of Cleveland, Stephen J. Debeck, of the Archdiocese of Detroit and Joseph Whelan, of the Diocese of Lansing. The letter continued: "One of our engineer units built us a beautiful altar superimposed with a Cross seven feet high. One of our Catholic officers trained a 20-volt flashlight so they were better perfect in lighting the Mass. We had a guard of honor with full battle equipment of eight men. During the Mass, these men presented arms at both Elevations and at the Most Sacred Sacrament and at the Most Sacred Sacrament. Instead of bells, we used four bugles to blow an especially beautiful flourish at the Commencement. Previous to the Mass we used two military bands to play a concert of sacred music."

Cripple Attends Mass Five Times Daily

LONDON — A Bathgate, West Lothian, Scotland, member of the Catholic Youth Men's Society attends Mass five times every morning between 7:30 and 9:15. He is a cripple.

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WRITE TO THOSE IN SERVICE

Second Decoration

Washington, July 1. — The Army has awarded a second decoration to a Catholic soldier for his gallant service in the South Pacific.

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