

Hope Repudiated OWI Italian Broadcast May Result Favorably

WASHINGTON (NC)—The much-discussed OWI broadcast to Italy in the Italian language in which specially derogatory remarks were leveled against King Victor Emmanuel III and his Premier, Marshal Pietro Badoglio, is regarded by students of public affairs in the Capital as a deplorable incident that just possibly may result in some good.

Coming upon the heels of Benito Mussolini's resignation, and at a time when the United Nations high command was heading every effort to bring about the capitulation of all of Italy with a minimum loss of lives, the broadcast was far worse than ill-adviced observers declare. The promptness with which President Roosevelt repudiated it, saying it should never have been made and that neither he, nor Secretary of State Hull, nor Robert Sherwood, head of the overseas division of OWI, knew anything about it, substantiates this belief.

Effect Doubtful
There does not seem to be any grounds upon which the broadcast can be defended. While it cannot be told now to what extent it has hindered a less bloody conquest of Italy, it can now be said definitely that it did not contribute to such a conquest in any possible way. It could not have helped; it may have done incalculable harm, students of such matters assert.

Why then was the broadcast made? Was it upon personal responsibility? To vent a personal spleen?

These are things observers in the Capital, and the people at large, apparently, would like to know. In bringing out the real answers to these questions, lies the only possibility of any good being wrung from an egregious blunder. The search for the truth, observers say, may unfold a situation the cure of which will prove of the utmost importance and benefit to the country.

Arthur Krock, widely-known Washington Correspondent of The New York Times, has noted that "so far there have been no resignation" from OWI as a result of this misadventure, adding that "in the opinion of this correspondent, there should be a number of them, voluntary or required, and for several reasons."

"There is no good administrative excuse for an organization that rushes into such an adventure without every check and authority, including that of a chief who at all times has access to the President," says Mr. Krock. He adds "that those administrators of the foreign propaganda division who are not confused, or deliberate underwriters of the State Department, are incompetent."

Communism Threat
At the same time, other Washington writers, as well as Mr. Krock, have spoken of Communist penetration in the Office of War Information, and said an investigation of its existence will shed revealing light on the influences behind the new notorious Italian broadcast.

Willard Edwards, writing in The Times-Herald of Washington, says a report prepared by a Congressional investigator specifically names individuals in the Italian section of OWI "whose records and activities indicate them as followers of the Communist party line."

It is to be noted that Joseph Barnes, deputy director, Overseas Branch, OWI and James F. Warburg, of New York, Deputy Director of the Overseas Operations Branch of OWI, have accepted responsibility for the Italian broadcast.

Power In World
Observers ask one to bear in mind that OWI has enormous power and potentialities both here at home and abroad. They doubt if very many people realize the tremendous possibilities that rest in the hands of those who administer our Office of War Information. Not only is it the clearing

Rabbi Lauds Late Catholic Prelate For Defending Jews

VATICAN CITY — Following the recent death of Bishop Zichy of Kalocsa, the Chief Rabbis Hungarian Rabbis delivered in the synagogue a eulogy which lauded in the highest terms the efforts put forward by the late deceased Catholic prelate in defense of the Jews, according to word reaching here from Hungary.

Bishop Zichy was promoter of the association for the defense of Jews in Hungary.

Lacking Mass, Say Navy on Sunday In Jap War Prison

SAFETY DEPARTMENT — The family of Major Don Sherry, who was taken prisoner upon the fall of Manila, has received a letter from him, dated November 24, 1942, in which he states that he and his fellow American and Filipino prisoners of war are without a chapel in which to hold Mass or any other religious services.

"I made my Easter duty in Manila," Major Sherry wrote, "and have attended Mass at every opportunity. When I was with the 1st Philippine Commonwealth Division the Mass was held chapel with Catholic priests who were our hosts and he would read an altar boy around on Sunday morning to notify me that it was Sunday and that the Mass would mean tomorrow. That was better than our service, wasn't it? While we

wait for a permanent chapel we are not permitted to have such services as the Mass, Holy Communion, etc. as we are in a prison, we must have a Mass or say a prayer."

Major Sherry is now part of the 1st Philippine Commonwealth Division of the United States Army, and is being held in the Japanese War Prison at Camp 54, Manila.

Genl. Hensley's Secretary Returns To Duty As British Navy Captain

LONDON — Major Valentin Hensley, general secretary to the late Genl. Hensley, has joined the navy again, this time as captain. He served in the navy as a lieutenant before the war and resigned in 1918 to study for the priesthood.

His father, the archbishop of York, was killed by a train in England. Mrs. Hensley is Lady Walsley Street.

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