

Aid To War Prisoners In Japan Reported on By Apostolic Delegate

VATICAN CITY — The unflagging interest of the representatives of His Holiness Pope Pius XII throughout the world to bring every possible assistance to prisoners of war everywhere is reflected in a report from His Excellency the Most Rev. Paul Marella, Apostolic Delegate to Japan, which has just been published in Ecclesia, organ of the Vatican Office of Information.

Archbishop Marella states that he has been able to obtain some funds for those held prisoners of war in Japan, despite a notable lack of English-language publications. The Apostolic Delegate to Japan reports, too, that he has arranged for an acceptable letter formula for correspondence between Dutch East Indies residents and their families. The report shows that the Delegate has interested himself also in behalf of interned missionaries of diverse nationalities. The Archbishop reports that he is preparing a file of prisoners of war who have died and those who are still alive, for aid in answering information queries.

'Biggest Thing In Their Lives'

By RAYMOND CLAPPER
(Author of this article has since
lost his life in the Pacific
War Area)

The pilots of the small, deadly, trim little A-36s climb out of their planes wringing wet, because it's not flying just a couple of feet above the surface of the water.

The squadron leader, a lieutenant colonel, says: "Let's check in and then get over to those Red Cross doughnuts."

The biggest thing in their lives at the moment is an American Red Cross girl under an olive tree serving coffee and doughnuts. Only after a second cup of coffee and a third doughnut do you begin to hear what happened.

The whole sky may be open to them in the air but on the ground they lead isolated lives, too far from town to get in for a bath or recreation. And they must fly every day in a big drive like this, so their visit to the Red Cross girl with the big tank of coffee and the crate of doughnuts becomes the most exciting event in their lives.

The real revolutionaries of this war are these flyers, munching Red Cross doughnuts on a dusty, isolated airfield, and the American Red Cross is always there to make their lives bearable and a little more human.

All my life I have been a friend and a supporter of the Red Cross, but it took such an incident as this to make me realize how much Red Cross means in the lives of these men who must fight the war. True, this was only one fragment of the Red Cross service, a service that extends throughout the world, but even this fragment symbolizes the fact that Red Cross is always at the side of the fighting man.

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Dr. Thorning To Lecture In Havana on Social Laws

HAVANA, Cuba.—The Rev. Dr. Joseph F. Thorning, Professor of Sociology at Mount St. Mary's College, Emmitsburgh, Md., has been appointed special lecturer on Social History for the 1944 session of the Summer School of the University of Havana. His course will deal with the history and content of social legislation of the United States since 1933.

Dr. Thorning was the author of "United America," an article appearing in the CATHOLIC COURIER Jubilee Magazine.

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Insurance for Handicapped
If private industrial insurance is to place obstacles in the way of employing handicapped and aged workers, government must do something about it. It may be that insurance for handicapped workers should be taken out of the competitive market. —Catholic Charities Review.

Pope's Defense of Small Nations Brought 'Izvestia' Attack, Says London Paper

LONDON (NC)—Commenting on recent attacks on the Holy See, the London Universe says: "It seems likely that the Soviet attack is based on recent indications of the interest of the Pope in the rights of small nations."

"An article in Osservatore Romano on January 18 criticized the proposal to annex Poland up to the so-called Curzon line. In French quarters, which display at least as much interest in Finland as in France, the Vatican has been attacked on the score of appointing an emissary to Finland. The Kremlin does not appear to be very well-advised on the possible effect of some recent trends in its policy of opinion in the United States."

The London Catholic Herald, complaining that Izvestia's attack on the Vatican has been soft-pedaled in this country, says "very recently told of being greeted by the mayor of a town in western Canada who had great respect for the Antagonist co-operative movement. The mayor, who was a Communist, said the Catholic Church was "following the same end as we are, although by different means, to help the little man." —Catholic Charities Review."

Arc 'Chutes Kits To India Troops

The American Red Cross in India provides "Drop Bundles"

and canteens kits containing dried fruits, dried meat, cigarettes, etc., are parachuted from planes to troops at advanced posts along the Burma border.

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