

REFUGEE WOMEN MAKE MATS FOR THE ARMY



An interesting photograph taken in France of a number of women and children refugees in the courtyard of the building provided by the military authorities, where these women make straw mats for the army, and in this way are able to support themselves. The mats are used for the purpose of strengthening defenses, for floors and for camouflage.

AUSTRIAN NAVAL BASE DEMOLISHED

Illinois Sailor Describes Feat of American, British and Italian Fleet.

ALLIES HAVE NO CASUALTIES

Mighty Base at Durazzo Is Laid in Ruins, Several Warships and at Least Four Submarines Are Destroyed.

Waukegan, Ill.—How the American, Italian and British sailors destroyed the enemy fleet and reduced Durazzo, Albania, the mighty Austrian naval base, to ruins, is graphically told in an uncensored letter by George Millmore of Waukegan, stationed on a United States submarine chaser, in a letter to Thomas H. McCann, as follows:

"We are just returning from an attack we made on an Austrian port. American submarine chasers co-operated with allied marines in destroying a strong Austrian submarine rendezvous and port of disembarkation. We left our base last week and put into an Italian port.

"A few days later we shoved off for Durazzo, an Albanian town captured early in the war by the Austrians and turned into an Austrian submarine base and port of disembarkation for Austrian troops on their way to the Macedonian front.

"We maneuvered over the fortifications for about an hour when the English light cruisers and destroyers and torpedo boats, with the Italian battleship, destroyers and torpedo boats and English and French submarines appeared on the horizon, bearing down on us at full speed. Our ship had the exceptional honor of being flagship of the squadron, which represented Uncle Sam in the scrap.

"First to Draw Fire. "We were assigned to submarine and torpedo defense for the other ships, and were the first ship in line and the first to draw fire from the land batteries. We were from two to three thousand yards nearer the beach than the other ships, and the shells began dropping all around us and whizzing just over our aerial.

"One broadside from a battleship silenced the shore battery just about the time they had our range. Our bombardment started at noon and lasted about an hour and a half. The Austrian submarines came out and were immediately attacked by our fast chasers.

"In one attack, as a submarine came up for a sight, the second shot from a chaser cut his periscope clean off.

"After a short run, dropping light depth charges on it, we blew the submarine clear out of the water.

"Another chaser pounced on another submarine as it was about to discharge a torpedo into the fleet of warships and a few more ash cans (depth charges) sent one more Hun pirate and its crew on its final submergence. Still another unit of chasers saved at least two first-class destroyers from mines by cutting in across their bow and sinking mines by gunfire which lay dead ahead in the destroyer's course.

"At times during the bombardment, when we would be in a certain position as a broadside was being delivered, the concussion would be great enough to roll our light craft as though in a heavy sea. When the bombardment was finished, the whole allied fleet steamed back to open sea, while the United States chasers remained and kept up the defense until it was obvious no more submarines were forthcoming.

"Some Results. "We soon got into formation and under full speed headed out to sea and picked up the main fleet. The town of Durazzo was bombed by planes from 5 a. m. every half hour until after we finished. The results were as follows: One big Austrian transport sunk and two large supply ships; one large Austrian destroyer and one torpedo boat; at least four submarines sunk and one Austrian plane brought down. Our whole fleet returned intact, with no casualties, and Durazzo is no more.

"We intercepted an Austrian hospital ship and sent a boarding party aboard and found 200 Austrian soldiers aboard who were wounded during the early bombardment.

"It appears that some were just leaving the transport and others were stationed in the town when they met their fate. There were a number of nurses aboard and when they saw the United States chasers they rushed to the rail to wave to the American gobs."

"We turned the ship free afterward and let it proceed back to the Austrians, even though the crew and nurses seemed quite pleased at being made prisoners by the Americans.

"This scheme was brought about mainly through the efforts of our captain and commander in charge of this fleet. He is a real American scrapper and has enough reserve American 'pep' to supply the whole allied fleets here. He is an old United States navy man and hero of the Spanish-American war."

CAN LEARN TO LIKE TASKS

Quality Once Acquired, Many Men Will Find Their Life Take on a Brighter Hue.

It is a remarkable fact that most men are engaged in occupations that they dislike. We know many a doctor who would far rather be an author, and, by the same token, we know some authors whom we would like to be doctors or something else. There are statesmen who always wanted to be blacksmiths, and blacksmiths who wanted to be statesmen. In many instances they could trade and the country would be the gainer.

But that's neither here nor there. The thing to be considered is that we can make life a whole lot easier by learning to like tasks that we now do not like. It can be done, strange as it may seem. Many a man has learned to like to play croquet or to eat greens. There are instances of men who actually fell in love with their wives.

It will not do to merely assume a grin-and-bear-it attitude toward the unpleasant task. Eat it up. Go at it as though there were not half as much fun in doing anything else in the world. You will then certainly discover that you were not nearly so badly off as you thought you were.—Los Angeles Times.

Another Shakespearean Question.

The fact that Shakespeare made one of his characters in "Twelfth Night" say: "But I am a great eater of beef, and I believe that it does harm to my will," has caused the claim to be set up that Shakespeare was a fishmonger on the side.—Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

No Time for That.

Kathryn came running to her mother, crying as though her heart would break. Between sobs she said that a dog had frightened her. Her mother, trying to divert her attention, said, "What kind of a tall did the dog have?" Kathryn sobbed, "Do you suppose I stopped to look at his tail?"

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