

University of Notre Dame
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A Look Into The Future.

Whether you are a Senior or a Sophomore, the day isn't far off when the majority of you will very likely be in service, possibly in Korea, or in a similar place. Death will be looking over your shoulder constantly. Who knows -- Death may suddenly grab you by the lapel and lead you off with no warning whatsoever. It is happening every day in Korea to men as young and healthy as you. It's a grim experience, all right, as one of the chaplains writes in a recent letter to the campus here:

"I've served with a front-line infantry outfit since hitting Korea, May 10 -- the 9th Regiment of the Second Division. I've seen a lot of the boys killed and battered. The priest's job isn't easy. Only one priest to a regiment which includes 20 well-spread companies, encompassing over 3000 men -- generally about 30% Catholic. I say 4 Masses on Sundays, beginning at 8 and finishing at 5, with lots of jeep-rolling in between.

"The lads appreciate their priests, and I'm glad I'm here to help them. You experience moments of deep sorrow and those of supreme joy. It's agony to look on a lad you know, whose body is blown apart, and watch him pass away. At times he knows you, and grabs your hand with a clasp that says things words never could. Then it's really hard to take.

"Here, no end is in sight. Fighting is stepped up, if anything. Just recently our sister regiment, the 38th, suffered 450 casualties on old Baldy in two nights. We are to relieve up there in a few days. We inflict higher Chinese casualties. But in the big picture I can't see where we profit. The morale of the front-liners is good. Oh, they all want to get out, and go home -- naturally. But they work effectively....."

There's the picture -- what you are in for; what you are going to run up against in the days to come.

Here at Notre Dame these days, there is no similar difficulty or shortage of Masses, confessions, or opportunities to store up graces against the day when the Padres in your area will be scarce, and the reception of the Sacraments difficult.

It would be wise to go into Korea with a little spiritual bank account -- with a little reserve put aside for just such an emergency.

And these are the days for saving. Never again will it be so easy to acquire so much with such little effort. Where else will you ever have God so close as you do now, living in your own hall with you?

Remember the local facilities: Cavanaugh until 9:30 every morning
Howard until 9:30 every morning
Dillon until noon every morning

Each evening -- Confessors are available until 9:30 p.m.