

FI- FIL

Fields, Geo.

October 19, 1945

Dear George:

I was very glad to get your letter of October 8th and hope that you will soon be discharged and able to return to civilian life soon.

I am deeply grateful to you for sending me a copy of your prayer and I shall try to find out if it is possible to have it published. Perhaps I could use it in my column.

Fala is getting along extremely well and seems to have adjusted himself happily to life in New York City with a chance to enjoy the weekends in the country.

With best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

October 19, 1945

Dear George:

Do you think there is any chance of getting this prayer published? The writer was my husband's valet for many years.

Very sincerely yours,

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The C & S S, Office



U. S. NAVAL TRAINING AND DISTRIBUTION CENTER
Camp Peary, Williamsburg, Virginia
The C & S S, Office

October 8, 1945

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Your wonderful gift was received recently and, indeed, it is one that my family and I can truly appreciate and treasure in memory of the President. I thank you very much and I shall never forget this thoughtfulness and kindness.

I have admired you so much in the courageous and strong manner in which you have borne your bereavement. This example probably has helped thousands of widows and mothers to bear their bereavement with more courage, also, you have shown how -- by working harder for unselfish and humane purposes -- a real tribute to the memory of their loved ones.

I should be eligible for discharge this month, if the navy's critical score for joint discharging is reduced as announced today. You can imagine how happy and grateful I feel and how greatly I am concerned with post war matters. But, one



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thing, the race problem, disturbs me very much. Therefore, I am enclosing an effort of mine for your consideration and help in getting it published if you think that it merits such and has possibilities of doing any good. This paper is the result of my idea that this is every American's job of doing all within ones power for the promotion of better racial understanding.

It is very encouraging to see the general awakening to this problem and the great work being done, but I feel that the surface is only being scratched as long as a Jim Crow sign hangs in America, and such men as Mr. Bibbs and Mr. Eastman sits in Congress. Of course I know that the majority group alone is not to blame for all the troubles and the chasm between the two races. But I feel that it is no time to continue pointing out the wrongs of the other, when most of us know too well that we ^{all} are victims of a society that bred two types of citizenship, which has left a



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barrier for proper racial understanding,
and that barrier is chiefly intolerance
and incorrect thinking.

I feel that the manner in which
this progressive work is accepted by the
men coming home will determine whether
there will be any lasting gains. And when
I sense the power of this group, then I
feel that definite steps should be taken to
insure proper thinking and to win their
support.

Perhaps, I have not made my request
clear; if you feel that the prayer is worth-
while, I would be pleased with any type
of publication or any use made of it. And
I should appreciate any advice regardless.
I am also enclosing a newspaper account of
a man who shares my idea of individual
effort and responsibility. (Please excuse its
ragged and untidy shape.)

I trust that you are well and enjoying
pleasant days. I hope your family is fine and
that all your sons will be home soon.
Please remember me to Mrs Thompson and
the family.

I hope Fala likes his new home.
Best wishes to you and may God bless you.
Respectfully yours,
George Field

DID HE FIGHT IN VAIN?

Wounded Vet Pickets Bilbo Hotel

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—A wounded Navy veteran, limping from injuries he suffered in the Pacific, this week picketed the Senate office building in protest against slanders by Sen. Theodore Bilbo (D., Miss.) against minorities.

He is Edward Bykowski, discharged pharmacists' mate first class who is using his disability and mustering out pay to maintain himself in the nation's capital until Senator Bilbo retracts his statements against Poles, Jews, Negroes and Catholics or is impeached.

Forced by capital police to abandon his picketing after one hour in front of the Senate office building, Bykowski took up his vigil in front of the Bilbo residence in the Towers hotel where he says he expects to stay for as long periods as his leg will permit until Senator Bilbo answers his wire requesting an appointment.

That wire was sent some six days ago, and as yet "The Man" has not answered.

Around his neck he carried a large sign on which was emblazoned a bleeding purple heart with the sign, "Was this in vain? Tell it to me Bilbo—I fought for democracy!"

A personable young man of 31 years, Bykowski who was dubbed "Bigski" by his mates because he stands 6 feet 4 inches sent a wire



EDWARD BYKOWSKI

to Senator Bilbo upon his arrival in the district. He said:

"Arriving in Washington today. Request you meet me. I want you to tell me—a wounded war veteran that Poles, Jews, Catholics, Negroes all racial and religious minorities are undesirable. You will find me picketing your office until you retract your statements or are impeached."

Continuing, he said, "I fought for democracy, what did you do?"

He then said, Bilbo "has abrogated everything that veterans have died for, suffered the agonies of hell for."

Relating his experiences in the Pacific, Bykowski said:

"I keep remembering the little Jewish boy—Danny Boy we called him. He died in my arms saying, 'Keep on fighting boys.' He was clutching something—I didn't know what. When his hands were opened, we discovered it was a six-point Star of David. He left behind a wife, and a baby he had never seen.

"Then there was the colored boy whom we called Sunshine. I never met a more courageous kid in all my life. Lots of comment was made about the record he piled up."

And then, as if reliving the entire experience, he said, "With one arm blown off, he disregarded what was said and kept passing the ammunition with the other hand—seeing to it that the boys on top got the ammunition they needed."

Pausing for a moment, Bykow-

See WOUNDED, Page 3, Col. 3

Wounded Vet Pickets Bilbo Hotel

(Continued from Page 1)

ski said, "In the hospital we service men get to discussing a lot of things. When I thought that here is a man elected to the second highest office in the country and realized that the things we fought for he is trying to destroy, I swore to God that if I ever got on my feet I would make Senator Bilbo retract his statements."

Gets Two Threats

Here he emphatically declared, "I am not afraid of anyone in this world. I fear only God Almighty, and if Senator Bilbo is a God-fearing man, I think he will tell it to me."

He revealed that in the course of his first day's picketing he had received two telephone calls. The first told him that he had better get out of Washington before he gets another Purple Heart. The second simply warned, get out of Washington, or else.

Bykowski said he was convinced that Senator Bilbo "is not an example of Mississippi. There were lots of fellows in the hospital who can't do anything about it," adding, "I was fortunate to get out."

Although doctors warned the young Navy hero that he must take it easy for a few weeks,

being released from the Naval hospital at St. Albans, L.I., on July 10, he explained "Senator Bilbo's vicious attacks stirred me up so much, I was determined to do something about it."

Worked in New York

Bykowski said he needed no help now—that he is perfectly willing to take his own meager income for the task he has undertaken. He stated, however, that he would be happy to have any ex-GIs join him.

Born in New York, prior to the war Bykowski was attached to the Department of Hospitals for the City of New York, a Civil Service position.

He entered the Navy August 9, 1940, and served in the task force which took General Dolittle's flyers within range of Tokyo in the spring of 1942. He fought in the battles of the Coral Sea, Midway,

Guadalcanal, and Savo Bay. In the sinking of the Vincennes on the night of August 8-9, 1942, he suffered a compound fracture of the left leg in four places.

He has seen service in the European, African, American, Asiatic, and Pacific theatres.

Ambling his way out of his room in the Raleigh hotel to take up his position in front of the Bilbo residence, his parting shot given with complete sincerity was, "I'm trying to do something for the boys I left behind."

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APARTADO 678
HABANA, CUBA

CHAPTER 119 DE
"THE AMERICAN PHILATELIC
SOCIETY"
CHAPTER 19 DE LA
"AMERICAN AIRMAIL
SOCIETY"
MIEMBRO DE LA
CORPORACION NACIONAL
DEL TURISMO

November 10, 1945.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt,
Hyde Park, N.Y. U. S. A.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Enclosed please find two copies of our magazine **ACTIVIDADES FILATELICAS**, No. 31, April-June Good Will issue, which I have the pleasure of sending you with the request that you read on pages 6/9 the obituary I wrote of your late husband, the Great Citizen of the World and Honorary life member of our Club, Mr. **FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT**.

I have run my story from the view of Mr. Roosevelt as a philatelist, and stating what Cuba owes to him for his Good Neighbor policy.- I also have the pride of stating how the Cuban people loved your deceased husband and honors his memory for the historical facts that I mention in my article.-

Should you need additional copies of our publication, please let me know and I will be very glad to send you the desired copies.-

With expressions of deep sympathy to you, I beg to remain,

Devotedly yours,

CLUB FILATELICO DE LA REPUBLICA DE CUBA
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