

CLOUDBUSTER

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Chaplain's Column

By GEORGE J. GREWENOW
Chaplain Corps, USNR

The scene of a shipwreck, a composer of many tunes, a reputation confined to twenty-four lines of verse—these are the ingredients of the hymn so near and dear to the heart of the Navy. Perhaps no hymn sung by the men of the Navy and by the Navy's loved ones is so full of meaning and so soul-stirring as "Eternal Father, strong to save."

William Whiting, Master of Wichester College Choristers' School, England, wrote the hymn seventy-seven years ago. He wrote other hymns, but his reputation as a hymn-writer is confined almost entirely to this hymn of twenty-four lines. It was written at a time when many of England's young men were going to sea and loved ones ashore anxiously awaited their return. Dr. John B. Dykes, composer of many beautiful hymn tunes, wrote the tune to which it is sung.

The tune is called "Melita." Melita, now called Malta, is the scene of the shipwreck suffered by the Apostle Paul recorded in the Book of Acts, chapters 27 and 28. Paul knew by his own experience the power of the "Eternal Father, strong to save." A more fitting name could scarcely be given the tune.

The stanza so meaningful to the Navy Air Corps was written in 1915 by Mary C. D. Hamilton.

Here are the words:

*Eternal Father, strong to save;
Whose arm doth bind the restless wave;
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep,
Its own appointed limits keep,
O hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea.*

*Lord, guard and guide the men who fly
Through the great spaces of the sky.
Be with them traversing the air,
In dark'ning storm and sunlight fair—
O hear us when we lift our prayer
For those in peril in the air. Amen.*

On The Lighter Side . . .

Out in New Guinea a squadron leader went in to report to his Commanding Officer after returning from a raid.

"Weren't you nervous during the attack?" the CO asked.

"Who, me? I was cool as a cucumber during the whole show."

"Swell," said the CO. "I thought you might have been a bit nervous when you radioed in that 27,000 bombers were coming in at 8 feet."

* * * * *

Englishman: What are those friends of yours doing?

U. S. Sailor: They're jitterbugging.

Englishman: They get married later, don't they?

* * * * *

A swanky chap applied at the recruiting office to enlist.

"I suppose you want a commission?" said the officer.

"No, sir," replied the S. C., "I'm such a poor shot that I'd rather work at a straight salary."

* * * * *

FINAL WORD

"Control tower to pilot. Control tower to pilot. Your landing gear has just dropped off."

Your landing gear has just dropped off. That is all. That is all, brother."

* * * * *

S2c: Does your girl smoke?

S1c: Not quite.

* * * * *

The new line: "You must come up to my apartment and see my porterhouse steaks!"

* * * * *

Teacher: Now, Johnny, if I lay two eggs over here and three over here, how many will there be altogether?

Johnny: Personally, I don't think you can do it.

* * * * *

A sensible gal is not so sensible as she looks because a sensible gal has more sense than to go around looking sensible.

Sunday Divine Services

Protestant	1000	Memorial Hall
Roman Catholic	0615	Gerrard Hall
Jewish	1000	Hill Music Hall
		Graham Memorial

Chaplain's Office Hours: Daily, 0830-1700;
Monday and Wednesday, 0830-1800.
Father Sullivan will be in Chaplain's Office on Tuesdays, 1845-1930.
Confessions: Saturdays in Gerrard Hall, 1900-2015.

Male Call

by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"

I Dream of Genii

—(CNS)

