

Leaving the dreadful place, we saw German prisoners being taken out of the camp to work on the roads or into the city to clear away rubble. The SS troops were heavily guarded, but the other prisoners did not require much watching.

Motored back to Munich through the devastation and observed that sixty percent of the city is in ruins. The Post Office, Opera House, financial district, Gestapo headquarters, and Hitler's old brown house are all "kaput."

In the large parade square of the Konigs Platz we witnessed the decoration of a number of heroic American soldiers. In this square we saw 8 bronze caskets containing the remains of the original deluded disciples of Hitler who were killed on the initial march on Munich when he assumed power.

We visited St. Luke's Cathedral, which was not badly hit. Here a priest, Father Meyers, upon being released from Dachau where he had been imprisoned by the Nazis, said Mass. Six thousand people attended.

### *Visit to Cardinal Faulhauber*

An appointment had been made for us with Cardinal Faulhauber, the one remaining cardinal in Germany. He had been ill and was not allowed by his physician to receive guests, but an exception was made in our case. His home, while not directly hit by bombs, was slightly damaged.

The cardinal received us in the large reception hall. His age is about 72. He is a kindly, benevolent man of large stature and appears, when necessary, to be very forceable. He spoke English haltingly. I told him that we were going to visit the Holy Father in Rome. He asked if I would take the message to the Holy Father that he, himself, expected to come to Rome in early October and that he hoped to be able to dispatch papers to Rome shortly through a diplomatic courier of the church.

Cardinal Faulhauber thoughtfully inquired about friends in America and gave me personal greetings for three or four American friends.

We spent about 20 minutes with the venerable cardinal. He grieved over the awful devastation and the pitiful condition of the people. Upon leaving his presence we were told by our Army officer guide—now Public Relations Officer of Munich—that 2 years ago the Nazis ordered the cardinal's arrest and he sent word to them that he would present himself for arrest in the cathedral the next day. As promised, he appeared at the cathedral clothed in his state robes for arrest, but in the square outside of the cathedral some 20,000 people had gathered as the word passed around that their beloved cardinal was to be imprisoned, and the Nazis were frightened off from making the arrest.

Upon the occupation of Munich by the Americans, Cardinal Faulhauber issued a statement to the effect that he was glad the Americans were in Munich and that he would work with them for the betterment of the people, but if they committed any unwise or outrageous act, he would be just as critical of them as he had been of the Nazis.

The cardinal gave an ironical touch to things at the beginning of the American occupation, when the unpopular fraternization ban was on. He refused to allow American Catholics to kiss his ring. "I want to obey the non-fraternization order," he said.

### ***Hitler's Beer Hall***

Motoring about the city, we saw that the charming old Four Seasons Hotel had been bombed. It is now a hotel for transient G.I.s. It interested us to note that the notorious Hitler beer hall—which had strangely escaped damage—is now a Red Cross recreation center. Everywhere about the gardens of the beer hall—where Adolph shouted his aims to the first Nazi recruits—we saw American G.I.s drinking beer.