

# Christmas Greetings

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## Our 16th Consecutive Year of Saying... **A MERRY XMAS** To You!

### Christmas 1943...



By  
Rev. T. J. Douglass

This Christmas is very much unlike the first Christmas which came nearly two thousand years ago. The first Christmas found this world at peace. The blood-thirsty nations had been conquered, the countries had been united for the coming of Jesus Christ. Thus He came to a peaceful world.

This Christmas finds the world in a terrible war. Kings have been dethroned, empires are crashing, cities are bombed, ships are sunk at sea, and thousands have lost their lives on the battle fronts of the world. This Christmas finds the world passing through a terrible crisis. On account of the enemy, our country is sending her sons to the front to preserve the freedom won for us by our fathers. This Christmas our prayers are offered for these sons wherever they may be. This Christmas, God bless America. God bless her sons at war, and the rest of the nations who are fighting with her for the freedom of mankind. We pray.

These times are trying the souls of men but we must not forget. 'Tis Christmas! The meaning of it has not changed. It has the same glory as it had when the angel said unto them, "Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Christmas still means peace and good will toward all people. Color, creed, and condition have nothing to do with the meaning of this glorious day. All peoples can share and share alike in this common joy that Christmas brings to the world. Our Saviour came to the world to bring peace. We seem to be far from it today, yet we may be nearer to it than we think.

This Christmas the nations of the world are giving and receiving blows in this conflict, but down in the trusting hearts of some of the people of these nations, Christmas still means, PEACE AND GOOD WILL toward all people.

The first Christmas the Heavenly chorus sang: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, and good will toward men.

This Christmas we can sing!  
Joy to the world the Lord is come,  
Let earth receive her King,  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heaven and nature sing.

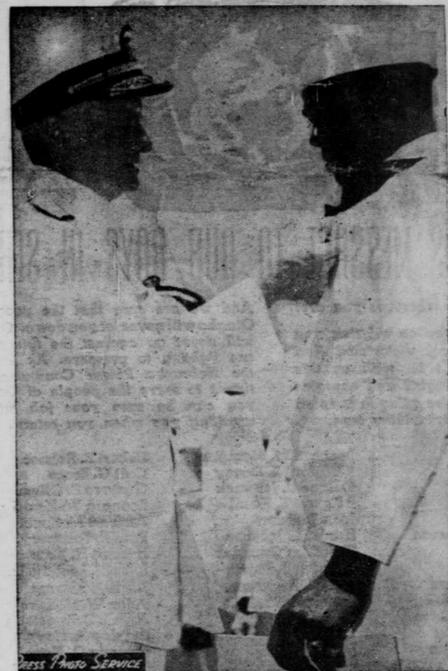


And lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary, His Mother, and fell down, and worshipped Him; and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto Him gifts; gold, frankincense and myrrh.

The Gospel according to St. Matthew



### Dorie Miller "Missing in Action"



Dorie Miller shown above at ceremonies where he received the Navy Cross for gallantry in action at Pearl Harbor. Admiral C. W. Nimitz is shown pinning the award on Dorie.

(Cleared and Issued Through Facilities of the Office of War Information)

Washington, D. C. (Press Photo Service).

The Navy Department this week confirmed reports that Dorie Miller, first Negro Blue Jacket hero in this war, is "missing in action" in the Southwest Pacific. His next of kin, Mr. and Mrs. Conery Miller, Waco, Texas, have been notified.

Miller, a strapping, 200 pound former fullback from Waco's Moore High School, was awarded the Navy Cross by President Roosevelt for "distinguished devotion to duty, extraordinary courage and disregard for his own personal safety during the attack on the Fleet in Pearl Harbor, Territory of Hawaii, by Japanese forces on December 7, 1941."

At the same time, Miller received a letter of commendation from the Secretary of the Navy and was advanced in rating from Mess Attendant, Third Class, to Mess Attendant, First Class. In addition, Bluejacket Miller has received the American Defense Service Medal, the Fleet Clasp and the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal.

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Commander-in Chief of the Pacific Fleet, personally presented the Navy Cross to Miller in ceremonies aboard a United States warship in the Pacific on May 27, 1942. Pinning the bit of ribbon and cross of bronze on the sailor's breast he described his act of heroism on the U. S. S. Arizona during the Japanese attack on the Pearl Harbor naval base, and complimented Miller on being the first representative of his

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