A Catholic Chaplain has written to fellow-chaplains urging them to remind their men to have their religion marked on their identification tag. A sentence from his letter will explain why he is anxious this detail: "In a crash some time ago the chaplain found that only two of the 24 victims had their tags stamped." If you are known to be a Catholic, attendants who are caring for you in some emergency will call the Catholic Chaplain.

All branches of the Service provide for the stamping of "C" on your tag. It's only a small item, but the identification of your religious affiliation will bring a priest when you need the consolation of his presence and the strength of the sacraments which he will administer to you. Be alert, if you do not ask for this extra stamp on your tag, it will be overlooked.

Of course the disclosure of your religion puts you on the spot before your companions. Once they hear you are Catholic they will know very definite things about you without your telling them. In you they will expect to find the Catholic attitude and practice in regard to purity in courtship, marriage, the dignity of human life, womanhood, observance of Sunday Mass, prayer, sacrifice and charity.

Your type of blood is marked on your tag. The "C" on the tag indicate that you realize that you have been redeemed by the Precious Blood of Christ. When you are conscious of your dog tag dangling around your neck, ask yourself whether or not you are thinking and acting like a Catholic should think and act.

II. Always carry a Crucifix.

A picture in the Sunday newspaper tells in part why Lt. Col. W.E. Dyess was able to withstand the sufferings in Japanese prison camps in the Philippines. The picture shows the articles carried by the late Colonel throughout those days of terror. They were a tin can used as a pocketbook, his wings and captain's bars, his identification tags, a St. Christopher medal and a large crucifix.

For the Catholic, the crucifix is a reminder of our Lord and His patient suffering for all men. The sight of Christ on the Cross inspires and encourages one who is suffering to carry his cross willingly after the imitation of Christ.

"I carried my rosary (with its crucifix) in my hand every moment of that day we invaded Italy," confessed a Catholic Ensign. Holding the crucifix is - all at one time - a prayer without words and an expression of confidence in the words of Our Lord, "Ask and you shall receive."
A war correspondent recently wrote that he never entered a plane at the front without grasping a little brown bear. That was superstition. A metal bear has no supernatural power of protection. There is power and protection in possessing and using medals and crucifixes because of the prayerful devotion of the war.

There are good crucifixes on the rosaries at the pamphlet racks. Don't leave the campus for your vacation or for a new station without possessing one. All the rosaries are blessed and indulgenced. When you need a lift, unpocket your crucifix and look at it.

PRAYERS: (deceased) Alfred Fritzsche; friend of Bob Horton (B-P); Msgr. Eugene Cullinane (Jackson, Mich.); Ensign Henry Briggs (trained in ND V-7). (Ill) mother of Robert Bodon (Dil); Mary Ellen Noonan; Seaman Jim Klockenkemper (Al), operation St. Jos. Hospital, South Bend. 2 Special Intentions.