

MRS. E. N VAN KLEFFENS Wife of the Netherlands Minister of Foreign Affairs. She is interviewed below

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Later the same night came an urgent relephone call from the permanent secretary of his department. His minister, Mr. Welter, had ordered Mr. Peekema and three of his colleagues to join him in London. He could refuse to leave if he liked, but it was felt that whatever the fate of Holland, the administration of the Dutch colonial empire must go

And so the following morning he said good-bye to his family, joined his colleagues, and contacted the British legation, with whom he was to travel to England. They made three attempts to leave The Hague, being fired on by several parties of Germans, but eventually they arrived at Ijmuiden, their port of embarkation.

There, by sheer luck, they found the British destroyer Havoc, the same Havoc which had played a brave part in the Narvik episode. Landing parties were even then engaged in blowing up harbour installations and generally making the port unusable for the Germans. At night, when the work had been completed, they picked up the demolition party, and set sail for England.

Next day, on May 16, Mr. Peekema landed at Harwich.

WOMEN OF HOLLAND

Their Part In War And Politics

In an interview with The Listener, Mrs. E. N. Van Kleffens, wife of the Netherlands Minister of Foreign Affairs, spoke of the work which women are doing for the defence of the Dutch East Indies. Their organisation is known as the Kovim. Thousands of women have been trained to man first-aid posts, to run canteens and to assist with transport and dispatch work. Many of the higher-class native women are taking part in the work of defence, but the majority are too ignorant to serve in this way.

In London, an organisation of Dutch women is coping with the refugee problem. Clothes have been pouring in from all parts of the world, but at the present time these are being stored to be distributed to Dutch children at the end of the war. There is, of course, no point in sending to Holland material which would be used for Germany.

Mrs. Van Kleffens has had no direct communication with Holland since the invasion, but occasionally hears word of her relatives through friends in some neutral country. She spoke of Holland as she remembered it. The women of Holland took fuller advantage of their political rights than do the women of New Zealand, and the proportion of women members of Parliament was considerably higher. The traditional Dutch dress was now worn only by a few of the older women in the fishing villages. Windmills are rapidly giving way to more modern pumping equipment (though there is a society for their preservation), and tulip-fields have been ploughed to make way for root-crops.

Mrs. Van Kleffens is now on her way back to England, where she will make her home for the duration of the war. "I've come all the way out here with only two and a-half suitcases and one hat-box," she said. "After two months of living in 'planes and in hotel rooms, I'm looking forward to being somewhere where I can have all my possessions round me."

MORSE TESTS

HE following are the answers to tests in Morse broadcast to Air Force trainees from Stations 2YC, 1ZM and 3YL on Monday and Tuesday, May 26 and 27:

MONDAY, MAY 26.

Line 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	PBTLGCWROXFIKSECAXTAWNXS	HHVMQFDTEWDLIGGDEQYSHEGV Y, NEGBEMBCBHPLUASRCCCCSRSC	2SIVEUTOBTSDMJENEMEV QOAG AXENIZXLSUOCPEWIJEMEDTCEJ	XQKLQICGFZESRFXINRGCIFTS . CTTMBBQAWQOZVXONBRHWOWBM	BYCSDTPEPCAYZUNHMEFAYMPB
Line 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 20 21 22 23 24	T OMXCRZGYCJTPDQXLOUNLFXYK	Y, A negeembobhpjuasrogoosrsc	M X F N I Z X L S U O C P E W I J F M P D T C P I	7. CTTMBBQAWQOZVXONSRHWOWBM	SQDEALVKEHDRLATBMTQFSTHK

In the last five and a-half weeks Mrs. Van Kleffens has flown three-quarters of the way round the world. She went from London to Portugal, by Clipper to New York, then across America by 'plane and across the Pacific to the Dutch East Indies, and so to Australia and New Zealand.



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