

Four Soldiers Trapped 60 Hours In Bombed Warship Finally Freed

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, Oct. 5 (AP)—Four American soldiers are alive today due to ingenuity and courage after having been trapped for 60 hours in a warship radio compartment surrounded by water after a bomb blew a huge gash in the ship's side.

The men had to stay in the cell, which was slowly filling with water, until the warship could reach drydock and they could be cut out.

They were R. J. Garmuchsky of Canton, Ohio; Joseph Costa of Fall River, Mass.; James H. Lowes of Niagara Falls, N. Y., and Charles J. Clark Jr., of Covington, Ohio.

One telephone line was working from their cell to the bridge.

After many hours of effort, the men working on the bridge managed to pump air down to the trapped men.

"The dripping water sort of got

on our nerves," Clark said.

On the deck the men worked at scheme after scheme to get food and water to the trapped men.

First they tried dropping ice cubes down the ventilator, but they failed to reach the men.

"Then they tried to pass down a wire. Then a rubber hose. But nothing worked. That's when I stumbled on the brightest idea," said Garmuchsky.

Because the air was being pumped in a strong current, the air was going out toward the deck up the vent. Garmuchsky took some toilet paper, tied a piece of thread to it and threw it into the vent.

It sailed up to the deck into the deck officer's face. The thread then was used to pull a large wire through the ventilator and finally a rubber hose through which water was sent down. Oranges and apples followed.

The San Bernardino County Sun (San Bernardino, California)

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