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**CASSINO MONASTERY BOMBED.**

The Abbey on the Crest of Monte Cassino. Before we take you through each phase of its landing, we visit an Abbey, in Kent, for an exclusive interview granted by the Lord Abbot of Furness and Haslemere, Head of an Anglican Community of Benedictine Monks, the Abbot makes these observations.

"Benedictine Monks all over the world will regret the destruction of the Abbey on Monte Cassino for it was there that St. Benedict wrote the rule which is that of all Benedictine Monks.

Regrettable though the bombing and shelling the Monastery may be it would appear that our military leaders had no choice in the matter. If its preservation would have meant the prolonging of the war or the loss of, perhaps, hundreds of our soldiers, its destruction was more than justified."

On February 14th the Allied Command took steps to warn the occupants of the impending bombardment. This took the form of leaflets printed in Italian and English to be dropped over the building by special shells.

This warning was made to enable Italian refugees and all those, other than the enemy, to seek shelter away from the Monastery. German soldiers were known to be using the great building as an observation post. They made it the main bastion of the Gustav Line. The leaflets were scattered over the building in this manner.

On the following day, Fortresses, Mitchells and Raiders, a squadron at a time, showered high explosives on the Abbey every twenty minutes or so. After careful deliberation and with every reluctance the decision was executed.

Another wave came. For two hours the blows were maintained.

The German troops were by now reported to be seeking escape. Shell fire was added to pepper the slopes and demolish other hideouts on the MASSIV. Sound cameras catch this amazing scene.

Again that awful drone of aircraft, and the thunder of bombs cutting craters in the huge walls.

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Vapour trails form strange patterns around the sixteen hundred  
foot MABIE. The noise of bombardment echoing back and forth  
among the mountains ringing Cassino.

Of this and but absolutely necessary operation little can be added  
to what has already been said. Where e're the Germans carry war,  
there also must inevitable follow death and destruction. Our long  
hesitation to act as we did was what they expected. There is no respect  
for ~~sanctuary~~ in the German curriculum of war.