

ITALIAN FLIERS WIN NEW ACCLAIM HERE; HONORED BY MAYOR

**Cheering Crowds and Flying
Ticker Tape Greet Them in
Parade Up Broadway.**

CITY MEDAL FOR BALBO

**65,000 of His Countrymen
Salute Him at Night—En-
tertainments Fill Day.**

New York, which had craned its neck in admiring wonder when General Italo Balbo's fleet winged in from Chicago on Wednesday, gave the commander and his flying officers a rousing official welcome yesterday.

Thousands of persons lined the streets through which the Italian airmen were whisked with motor-cycle escort in the New York manner—a mode of travel that the Italian Air Minister has admitted he enjoys hugely. Along lower Broadway, from the Battery to City Hall, where they moved at more sedate parade pace on their way to receive Mayor O'Brien's greetings, the sidewalks were jammed from curb to building line and the air was white with ticker tape and the flutter of torn leaves from telephone books.

In the evening when General Balbo and his officers were the guests of the Italian community of New York at a dinner in the Hotel Commodore, attended by more than 3,000 admirers, crowds lined Forty-second Street, between Madison and Lexington Avenue, for hours for a chance to cheer. Later the party attended a reception and supper dance given by the Italy American Society at the Waldorf-Astoria.

Telephones to His Wife.

General Balbo called his wife in Rome by radio telephone from the hotel at 9 o'clock last night. They chatted together for a few minutes, presumably about the events of the day. They have two children.

After the series of entertainments General Balbo and some of the members of his party visited the New York Times Annex in West Forty-third Street and witnessed the various stages in the production of the newspaper. General Balbo, a former newspaper man, had expressed a desire to see the plant of THE TIMES, which he said he had long considered one of the foremost newspapers of the world.

General Balbo, who was editor of Corriere Padano of Ferrara, Italy, showed intense interest in the plant of THE TIMES, explaining the working of linotype machines and presses to his companions. He autographed several newspapers for members of the press and composing room crews.

He showed particular interest in THE TIMES short-wave radio equipment, which had recorded his first messages to Rome, sent immediately after his arrival at Cartwright, Labrador. Those in his party included Ellery W. Stone, vice president of the Postal Telegraph and Cable Company, and a group of Italian journalists.

"Taken Into Their Hearts."

Everywhere the fliers went in a day full of ceremonies rang cries of "Bravo!" and "Viva!"

The Italian leader had told Generoso Pope, chairman of the Mayor's committee of welcome, "I have never felt that I had been taken into the hearts of people as I have felt it since coming to the United States."

The shouting sidewalks of New York gave every evidence that his interpretation of the feeling for him was correct.

In the course of their crammed

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CITY PAYS HONOR; BALBO GETS MEDAL

NEW YORK EXTENDS A HEARTY WELCOME TO GEN. BALBO AND HIS MEN.

Continued from Page One.

day, the Italian fliers heard an address of welcome from Mayor O'Brien, receiving from him medals commemorating their flight, were the guests of Mr. Pope at a luncheon at the Hotel Pennsylvania and then of the associated Italian-American societies at the Madison Square Garden Bowl in Queens. In his answers to all the words of praise that were addressed to him, General Balbo stressed the ideas of service to the new Italy of Mussolini and of friendship between his country and the United States.

Tells of Love for Chief.

"Your praises must go to the workmen who have constructed our machines—the unknown men of the Italian nation, people whom we here are proud to call brothers," the General said to the Mayor. "The love which we bear for our chief is more than discipline; more than devotion. It is a true religion. We have arrived here because he so commanded us—to bear a message of good will from the new Italy. We will tell our chief that America is a great and hospitable country; that we have felt as though we were in our own native land."

In his several speeches General Balbo paid three tributes to American aviation—to the Wright brothers, Wiley Post and Roger Q. Williams, first to fly from the United States to Rome.

General Balbo and his thirty-nine officers arrived at the Pennsylvania Station from Washington at 9:58 A. M.

"Your American trains are all right," said the bearded Italian leader as he stepped onto the platform to be greeted by Mr. Pope, Judge John J. Freschi, Antonio Grossardi, the Italian Consul, and Umberto Carodossi, vice consul.

Smoking a cigarette, the General passed with his companions between two lanes of policemen to the ramp on the Thirty-first Street side. There they entered automobiles and sped away, cheered by a crowd behind the police lines. In a few moments the party were at the Hotel Ambassador, their headquarters, and sought seclusion to change into their dress "whites." They were joined there by nine officers of the fleet who had remained behind to check up the overhaul work on the Savoia-Marchetti planes at Floyd Bennett Field.

It was nearly 11:45 before the visitors emerged from the hotel. Each officer wore across his chest, diagonally from shoulder to waist, the broad sash of "sciarpi" of light blue—the color of the reigning house of Italy, the House of Savoy. Ribbons of decorations of many sorts were on their left breasts. General Balbo came first.

With him in his car rode Augusto Rosso, the Italian Ambassador; Captain Carlo Carducci, the General's aide, and Mr. Pope. In the cars immediately following were Rear Admiral Frederick R. Harris, Thomas Malone, representing Mayor O'Brien; Commander G. W. Spencer, the General's naval aide in this country, and Major Gen. Dennis E. Nolan. A motorcycle escort of twenty police, carrying the American and Italian colors, rode ahead of the cars and other motorcycle policemen flanked the long line.

Parade From Battery.

The procession went south on Park Avenue to Forty-seventh Street, then west to the river and down the Express Highway to West Street and the Battery at Pier A. There the fliers were greeted by Rear Admiral Yates Stirling Jr., and found a guard of honor in command of Colonel Joseph A. Marmon awaiting them for the parade up Broadway.

At the Battery there was a shift in the personnel of the first two cars. With General Balbo now rode Ambassador Rosso and Mr. Pope. In the second car were General Aldo Pellegrini, second in command to General Balbo on the mass flight, General Nolan and Admiral Stirling.

The parade swung slowly around the Bowling Green and into the mouth of the canyon that is lower Broadway. From every skyscraper façade flew American and Italian flags and from every window streamed festoons of ticker tape. The dense police lines could hardly keep back the straining crowds.

"Viva Balbo!" "Viva l'Italia!" came the shouts, and now again the Fascist cry—"Eia, Eia, Eia! Alala!"

General Balbo stood up from time to time in his open car, smiling broadly and waving in friendly response to the hurricane of sound. At City Hall the park was packed solid with waiting, cheering people. It was with difficulty that the official cars made the turn that brought them at last to the City Hall steps.

As General Balbo stepped from his car the noise was deafening. Thousands of hands were raised in the Fascist salute. The band of the Sixteenth Infantry struck up the Italian national anthem. The General spun on his heel, faced the colors of the infantrymen and snapped into salute. Then he and



Times Wide World Photo.

A View of the Italian Fliers Being Hailed by a Storm of Ticker-Tape as They Passed the Downtown Section Yesterday on Their Way to the City Hall Reception.

his men were hurried into the City Hall.

Mayor Presents Medal.

In the Aldermanic Chamber people were packed like sardines. The room was stifling. Mayor O'Brien came in with Dennis J. Mahon, acting president of the Board of Aldermen; Borough Presidents Levy and Lynch, and other officials.

Non-commissioned officers and men of the Italian squadron formed a tight little knot beside the dais. General Balbo and his party entered amid applause and were introduced by Mr. Pope to the Mayor, who praised the courage, skill and organization that the ocean flight had shown.

When General Balbo had replied, the Mayor pinned upon his already resplendent breast a medal inscribed: "Presented by Honorable John P. O'Brien, Mayor of the City of New York, to General Italo Balbo, Italian Minister of Aeronautics, July 21, 1933."

Down the spiral staircase the Italian fliers were hustled once more to face another barrage of photographers and sound movie cameras. Then they entered their cars and began another triumphal parade, this time up Center and Lafayette Streets and Fifth Avenue to the Hotel Pennsylvania. Along the way the cheering, the flag waving and the rain of paper were hardly less constant than on lower Broadway. Above Canal Street, 500 girls in white carrying flowers and with a float bearing a golden eagle cheered the fliers.

As General Balbo alighted from his car at the hotel the crowd momentarily broke the police lines and the mounted men had to ride on to the sidewalk to wedge the people back within bounds.

Judge Freschi was toastmaster at the luncheon. The Mayor spoke once more briefly and General Balbo said in reply:

"I hope that Mussolini will be able to come to America to see what this great nation is. I hope that if some day he will decide to come to America, he will entrust to us, his aviators, the great pride of taking him over."

Ready to Bring the Pope.

The General smiled and added that the Mayor of Chicago had said to him, in his enthusiasm for the flight, that he hoped the next time he would bring the Pope with him.

"I answered," said General Balbo, "that I did not know whether his Holiness, the Pope, would want to come to America, but that he would surely have entrusted his sacred person to our wings as the most rapid means of transportation."

At the end of the luncheon the Italian fliers returned to the Ambassador.

In the late afternoon General Balbo and his officers journeyed with a motorcycle escort to Madison Square Garden Bowl in Long Island City. There a medley of bands, a pathway of flowers, the Fascist anthem, Fascist salutes and "Vivas!" from the throats of some 65,000 Italian residents of New York City were combined in an enthusiastic welcome.

A few devotees had come as early as 6 A. M., and many were there by noon. The crowd began to arrive in buses, autos and on foot by 2:30, although the doors were not opened until nearly 4. Workers from near-by factories marched in after their work was done and 1,500 Italian societies and groups sent delegates, some coming from New Jersey, Massachusetts and Connecticut.

More than 1,000 policemen under Deputy Commissioner John A. Leach were on hand, but if any anti-Fascist groups were present they were overawed by the enthusiasm of the crowd.

Flowers Thrown in His Path.

When General Balbo arrived, shortly after 6, a shout went up.

He and his officers walked into the Bowl past a rainbow-hued mass of banners, a shouting group of white-clad schoolgirls casting white carnations in the fliers' path, and a small but proudly saluting group of Blackshirts just below the rostrum steps.

Mgr. Alfonso Aceso began the ceremonies with a few words of praise, in Italian, for the airmen who had added glory to Italy's history. Then Consul General Grossardi, chairman of the committee, introduced General Balbo. The young Air Minister's words were carried over the National Broadcasting Company network and rebroadcast in Italy, Brazil and Argentina.

"Italians of New York," he began in his native tongue, "we bring you the greeting of the Italy of Mussolini. Comrades in America, be faithful to Italy and Il Duce and respect your country. Be faithful to your new country as well as your old. In a few days, God willing, I will return to Rome and tell Il Duce of the faithfulness of the Italian people in Greater New York."

As he concluded with "Long live Italy!" the band struck up the Fascist anthem, "Giovanezza," in which the crowd joined lustily. After Ambassador Rosso had read a message to be sent to Mussolini, General Balbo and his group left, to be whisked back to the Ambassador to prepare for a busy evening.

More than 1,500 police were on special duty during the height of the reception rush. Police arrangements were in the hands of Acting Deputy Chief Inspector Thomas F. Walsh. Police Commissioner James S. Bolan was at the City Hall reception.

Eulogized by Notables.

At the Hotel Commodore, the Italian fliers were hailed with Fascist anthem, saluted with the Fascist salute and eulogized by Mayor O'Brien, Henry P. Fletcher, former Ambassador to Italy; Mr. Pope and the Italian Ambassador. Mayor O'Brien reminded the guests that he was the chief executive of what he, like his predecessor James J. Walker, described as the "greatest Italian city in the world," and Mr. Pope expressed the hope that Mr. O'Brien would continue in office "another eight years if he wants to do so."

In replying to the words of greeting, General Balbo said he would like to give way oratorically to some of the officers who accompanied him on his flight, but he recognized the fact, he said, that his position as Air Minister put upon him the responsibility of responding to welcomes as well as of leading his armada.

General Balbo said it was a rare privilege to a traveler to find an Italian colony capable of giving such a reception as he had received and he thanked Mayor O'Brien for his "unforgettable kindness." He presented to the Mayor a medal as a memento.

He told how the idea of a flight from Italy to the United States came to him in 1928 when he visited this country. As he saw the gigantic skyline, he said he thought how glorious it would be to see it from the air after a transoceanic flight. At that time it was impossible of achievement. His flight to South America, he said, was in the nature of a practice flight. Recalling that he had lost five men, he declared that he sometimes wondered if his dream were not too ambitious.

"Sometimes," he said, "a great fear arose in my heart. Sometimes, I heard a voice saying, 'It is too big for you. Give it up. You have your place in the sun; try to keep it.' But I didn't want merely to preserve my place. I wanted to fight, to die if I must to win the goal."

Continuing he said: "We are poor in money but we

are rich in courage. In my country we have 4,000 aviators who believe that life is a useless gift of God if they find no pleasure in risking it every day for something better for all."

He was especially grateful for the demonstrations of welcome given to him and his officers, General Balbo said, for the joy that would come to the mothers of the men when they read of it in their newspapers at home.

"It may help to repay them," he said, "for the suffering and anxiety we bring upon them every day. Perforce we cause them to suffer, but it cannot be helped, for we love only our work. We can do all this to our mothers because behind the white hair of these women is the mother country. It is she who commands us."

Cardinal Hayes, unable to attend the dinner, sent his greetings, and in honor of the occasion granted a special dispensation allowing all Catholic guests to eat meat, although it was Friday.

Greeted by 500 at Supper Dance.

General Balbo arrived at the Waldorf-Astoria at 11:45 o'clock to attend a reception and supper dance given by the Italy American Society. He was accompanied by Henry P. Fletcher, president of the society; Mayor O'Brien and Primo Carnera, heavyweight champion. As he stepped from his car in the driveway he was greeted by Oscar of the Waldorf.

The General and the Italian fliers were escorted to the Basildon Room, where a reception was held for the 500 guests prior to the program of entertainment in the grand ballroom and the supper dance.

In the ballroom the General occupied a box with Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher, the Italian Consul General, Antonio Grossardi, and Mme. Grossardi; the Mayor and Mrs. O'Brien, Generoso Pope, Ambassador Rosso and Henry Rogers Winthrop.

The program included selections by Mme. Santa Bodi, Alfredo Gandoli and Nino Martini of the Metropolitan Opera Company, and Mauro Cottone, organist.