

Bless 'em All

They say there's a troopship just leaving Bombay
Bound for old Blighty's shore,
Heavily laden with time expired men
Bound for the land they adore.
There's many an airman just finished his time
And many a twerp signing on.
They'll get no promotion this side of the ocean,
So cheer up my lads, Bless 'em all.

Chorus

Bless'em all! Bless'em all!
The long and the short and the tall.
Bless all the sergeants and WO Ones,
Bless all the corp'rals and their blessed sons.
For we're saying good bye to them all,
As back to their barracks they crawl.
We'll get no promotion, this side of the ocean,
So cheer up my lads, bless'em all!

Bless'em All - Lancasters

A Lancaster was a heavy bomber flown by the allied forces in World War II. Capable of carrying bomb loads up to 18,000 pounds and a crew of seven it had a range of 2,530 miles. Many Lancasters were manufactured in Canada and a great deal were flown by Canadians. The following chorus, from the Airman's Song Book, is a Coastal Command version.

A Lancaster leaving the Ruhr
Bound for old Blighty shore,
Heavily laden with flak frightened crew,
Scared Stiff and prone on the floor.
There's many a bomber long finished his tour,
There's many a plonk signing on,
We'll get no promotion this side of the ocean,
SO, cheer up, my lads, bless 'em all.

Bless'em All - Wellingtons

Wellingtons were two engine bombers nicknamed Wimpey for the character J. Wellington Wimpy in the cartoon Popeye the Sailor. Both the aircraft and 'Wimpey' were thought to be fat, lazy, messy and in the case of 'Wimpey', devoted to eating great quantities of hamburgers. The Wellington was capable of carrying a bomb load of 4,500 pounds and reaching speeds of 234 mph.

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| <p>Worry me, worry me, Wellingtons don't worry me. Oil-chewing Wimpey's with flaps on their wings, Bugged up pistons, and bugged up rings, The bomb load is so blessed small, Four-fifths of five-eighths is not much There'll be such a commotion when o'er the ocean, So cheer up my lads, bless 'em all.</p> |
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