

ITEMS ON PARADE

Arthur Koestler describes his experience with the Spanish Falange in his latest book, "Dialogue With Death." As a Loyalist captured at Malaga, he witnessed the execution of 600 fellow prisoners. His official sentence arrived in the guise of a female Hearst correspondent in a Falangist uniform, acting for the Propaganda Bureau. In an American twang she drawled "dea-qa-h-th," but suggested that a kind statement about Franco would save him from the firing squad.

Joe McWilliams was freed in Chicago of a charge of violating the Selective Service Law on July 14. His freedom was short-lived as he was immediately picked up again and taken before a Federal Grand Jury which is investigating sedition.

Former America First spokesmen in Congress are encountering this typical attitude expressed by a father last week at a St. Louis meeting: "I have lost one son in this war and I have three others in the service. I don't begrudge their sacrifices, but I ask that their sacrifices should not be made in vain. I do not want men like Ploeser, Short, Bennett and Champ Clark — little men rattling around in big jobs — to write the peace."

The Vatican is preparing a peace encyclical defining Pope Pius XII's ideas of the basis of negotiating a peace. "The encyclical . . . will contain provisions seeking to maintain the present Catholic authoritarian regimes in Italy, Spain, Portugal and France" according to a United Press dispatch from Vichy.

The Catholic International, a scurrilous pulp magazine which attacks democracy and poses as a religious organ, has been traced back to Boston, where it is handled by the University Distributing Co., 186 Brookline Ave., Everett Hurley is president and David Adams is secretary. Both Hurley and Adams were employees of the Curtis Publishing Company in Philadelphia. They resigned on December 31, 1941, because they "wanted to make more money"; the venture has proved "a natural" and has exceeded expectations. Former associates do not know where they raised the capital for this new venture but they are sure Hurley and Adams had none of their own.