

# *To The Mars Bluff People, a Salute*

The people in the Mars Bluff community, all of them—and especially the family of Walter Gregg, have reacted to the atom bomb in the finest of American character and traditions. They, more directly concerned than anyone else in a story that reached around the world, had more cause than anyone to react against a military policy that air transports nuclear weapons.

If you read our Mr. Jimmy Walker's story in Sunday's Florence Morning News, you must have been impressed, as we were, with what the ones most directly concerned had to say.

Like this, for instance:

"It was just an accident" . . . "It's better having one of our's up there

training than somebody else's coming over with a load to drop" . . . "It wouldn't be fair to say they can fly over Mr. Jones' place but not mine. They've got to fly somewhere" . . . "The Air Force has had men around looking at the damage and they'll make it good" . . . "It goes with the defense of the country" . . . "We realize how important our Air Force is, and if they have to keep those planes in the air 24 hours out of 24, they have to."

— And from Walter Gregg himself, the man who with his family came closest to death: "It's more valuable for the bombers to have those nuclear weapons up there than not to."

We salute Mars Bluff and its people. All America should.