

Boy, 10, Points Carol Broadcast To Father, a General Overseas

That shock of yellow hair in front wouldn't quite stay down in spite of everything, but beneath it the face of the little boy was earnest as



Allen Holmes.

as he took part in the world-wide broadcast of carols and the Christmas story on the second anniversary of Pearl Harbor.

Two years ago, his father was with him and his mother and little sister and brother. Last December it was Africa, and now Allen believes he is in Italy.

The little boy sat very still in his neatly pressed dark suit, one of a row of other solemn young "south procession sopranos" from St. Albans School for boys. Across from them and around them, in

his young soprano blended with the voices of 500 other boys and girls in the nave of the Washington Cathedral yesterday afternoon.

Ten-year-old Allen Holmes was hoping that perhaps his father, Brig. Gen. J. C. Holmes was listening somewhere overseas

the lofts above the heads of the huge congregation were older boys and girls in white dresses, from the Cathedral schools.

The children sang before an audience of approximately 1,000 in the nave, and to countless members of the service overseas by NBC short-wave. Transcriptions of the program are to be rebroadcast by short-wave Christmas Day.

Allen is in the sixth grade at St. Albans and this is his second year there. When he grows up he wants to be in the Army like his father, but "only if the war's still on." He wishes the war would end, so his father could come home, and he is buying as many War Bonds as he can.

His little sister, Elsie Jane, 8, couldn't come because she wasn't feeling very well, and his mother and 4-year-old brother are visiting in Kansas. They will return to their home at 1621 Twenty-first street N.W. next week, to be together for Christmas—all except father.

As he listened to Canon W. Curtis Draper, jr., reading the holy story from the Bible, and then sang with the others, "O Little Town of Bethlehem," Allen was filled with expectancy for the holidays and all the other things Christmas means to little boys. But he did wish his Dad could be home.