

# So Long, Mom (A Song For World War III)

[Tom Lehrer](#)

So long mom, I'm off to drop the bomb,  
So don't wait up for me,  
But while you swelter down there in your shelter  
You can watch me. . . On your TV. While we're attacking frontally, watch Brinkley and Huntley  
Describing contrapuntally the cities we have lost.  
No need for you to miss a minute of the agonizing holocaust. Little Johnnie Jones was a US pilot, no shrinking  
violet was he.  
He was mighty proud when world war three was declared  
He wasn't scared, no siree.  
And this is what he said on his way to Armageddon: So long, mom, I'm off to drop the bomb, so don't wait up  
for me,  
But though I may roam, I'll come back to my home,  
Although it may be a pile of debris. Remember Mommy, I'm off to get a Commie,  
So send me a salami, and try to smile somehow.  
I'll look for you when the war is over,  
An hour and a half from now.

Lyrics provided by

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