

# Washington Digest



## American Engineer Plans Great Dams for Asia

Dr. Savage of U. S. Dept. of Interior Proposes Extensive Flood Control and Irrigation Systems for China, India, Palestine.

By BAUKHAGE

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WNU Service, Union Trust Building, Washington, D. C.

Recently I sat with a group of my colleagues at a table and listened to a shy, elderly man, who might have been a professor of Greek, talk about dams. Just a moment before I had been in the newsroom reading of the terrible destruction which had levelled the cities of Europe. I couldn't help thinking of the paradox of civilization as this quiet man, who is the designing engineer for the greatest dams in the world, Grande Coulee, Boulder, Shasta, the Norris dam in the Tennessee valley and scores of others all over the world, outlined construction projects for Asia. His program is the exact antithesis of what is going on in Europe.

John Lucian Savage is chief designing engineer of the bureau of reclamation of the department of the interior. He has just returned from 14 months in the Far East where he has conferred with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek of China and with officials in India and Palestine on construction projects which dwarf the world's greatest efforts in this direction.

Dr. Savage discussed these undertakings as if they were some beautiful little works of art which had, perhaps, a utilitarian value, but which after all were creations of the imagination important in themselves. In the course of a half hour or so he outlined projects which would affect the life of literally millions of people for untold generations and might well change the course, not only of their history, but the world's.

He went to the Far East representing the U. S. government, loaned by the department of the interior to the state department as a specialist under its cultural program. Much has been said (with eyebrows slightly raised) about Uncle Sam's effort to spread American culture and help import some of that product from other nations. Most people do not realize that cultural matters include 10,500,000-kilowatt-waterpower plants.

"We went down the (Yangtze) river from Chungking," said Dr. Savage as if he were describing a moonlight ride on the Potomac, "by steamboat and launch to within 15 kilometers (about nine miles) of Ichang." (Later it was explained that he had to stop because it happened that a war was going on in that vicinity.) "I had with me all the topographical data I could find and I had spotted three possible dam sites from these maps. I stayed with General (name omitted for security reasons). I asked him if he had any topographic maps that might be helpful to me. He replied that he had captured an aerial map from the Japanese."

### Studies Map, Selects Five Sites for Dams

The map proved to be excellent and one could almost see the engineer's mouth water as he examined it, picking out sights simply crying to be dammed. Then, still as if it were all a great lark, he said that he went on down the river to within three miles of the battle lines (perhaps the genial general-host had called off the war for the afternoon). Anyhow, Dr. Savage said, smiling, that he had selected five possible dam sites.

The dam in the Yangtze gorge, he told us, will probably be about 750 feet high and there will be 20 tunnels of about 50 feet diameter to divert the river flow. Boulder dam on the Colorado, he told us for comparison, was 730 feet high and had only four such tunnels.

There will be 24 generating plants, each generating 110,000 kilowatts of electricity. They will equal five times the ultimate capacity of the Grande Coulee dam and ten times its present development of 10,500,000 kilowatts. The average total output of electrical energy for one year on the Yangtze will be 71,300,000,000 kilowatt-hours.

Within the present range of distribution live more Chinese than the entire population of the United States—140 millions.

Dr. Savage went into similar detail regarding more dams on tributaries to the Yangtze. The fatal result, beside regulating the river-flow so that navigation can be improved and ocean-going ships brought right up to Chungking, would mean water

storage that will irrigate a hundred million acres and make it possible to double the present production of rice.

I will not deluge you with further figures for I cannot produce them with such a flavor of enthusiasm and admixture of personal delight as Dr. Savage does, but I may add that he spent four months in India discovering and planning similar projects in the Punjab, along the Ganges, and in Afghanistan, on this and other trips. Dr. Savage, I might observe, is typical of a kind of government servant of which the world knows very little. He is one of the highly trained experts who prefer public service to financial rewards. These men turn down highly remunerative offers from business organizations.

### Australia Asks for Dr. Savage's Help

Back in 1940 a cable came from London asking the United States government for Savage's assistance in conjunction with the Burrinjuck dam in Australia. Before the department of the interior replied, Dr. Savage was reminded of what he already knew; namely, that United States officials may not receive emoluments of any kind from foreign governments. Our founding fathers were quite sensitive on that point.

"... no person," says the Constitution, "holding any office of profit or trust under (the United States) shall, without the consent of Congress, accept any present, emolument, office, or title of any kind whatever, from any king, prince or foreign state."

And so Savage, rather than delay the project while congress decided whether such emolument be permitted, wired the then commissioner of the bureau of reclamation: "Any assistance given to New South Wales will be gratis and I shall not accept any fee or other form of compensation or any reimbursement."

As a government servant, Dr. Savage, although he cannot accept titles and awards from princes, kings or foreign commoners, has garnered plenty of honors from American institutions. They include his doctorate in science from the University of Wisconsin and the American Society of Civil Engineers' medal. Also he has that most coveted award, the Gold medal for outstanding engineering service, a joint award of the leading organizations of his profession.

If culture can be served by damming rivers, and capital can be found to pay the bill, they'll be dammed—by Savage.

The war will wipe out a lot of ignorant sneers which so-called "practical" men often direct at "long-haired professors." Perhaps the science of psychology gets the most wallops from the uninitiated. Says General Arnold in his second report on the army air force: "The RAF paid the AAF a compliment in 1944 by adopting our system of air crew selection and classification. Our psychological testing procedures were also adopted by the Free French."

There are 20 psychological tests administered which have proved valid in predicting a cadet's chance to win his wings and his chance for combat success.

"The aviation psychology program has paid off in time, lives and... money saved," says General Arnold, "at a total cost of less than \$5 per candidate."

The Soviet information bulletin published in Russia calls attention to the fact that the Russian guards created by Peter I, in 1700, were the first to enter Berlin in the Seven Years war.

It further states that the traditions of the Soviet guards, created when the German armies were nearest Moscow, in the autumn of 1941, were inspired by the ancient Russian guards and "are preserved to this day."

This is one of the many indications of how the Soviet government is continually looking back on Russian history and increasing national consciousness among the people, by-passing the ideology of communism and the landmarks set up by the revolution.

## High Officers Given Promotions



Recent promotions announced by President Roosevelt include: (1) Henry K. Hewitt, commander of the Mediterranean fleet, to be admiral. (2) Vice Admiral Waesche, coast guard commandant, to be an admiral. (3) Lt. Gen. Alexander A. Vandegrift, commandant of the marine corps, to full rank of general. (4) Vice Adm. Richard S. Edward, deputy chief of naval operations, to be admiral. (5) Vice Adm. T. C. Kincaid to be admiral.

## Vinson Takes Over Byrnes' Job



Fred M. Vinson, former federal loan administrator, has taken over the office of director of war mobilization and reconversion, following the resignation of James F. Byrnes. Byrnes announced that V-E Day was not far off and he believed whoever was to direct the reconversion program should begin his work immediately.

## Allied Leaders Inspect Germany



Churchill and Eisenhower, upper left, talk things over on the Rhine river bank. Upper right, Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery visits British and Canadian troops in the forward areas. Lower, Prime Minister Winston Churchill persuaded Gen. William Simpson to make the trip across the Rhine where he had a narrow escape from German shells.

## Watermelon for Iwo Warriors



Third division marines on the front lines at Iwo Jima use a Japanese samurai sword to slice a watermelon, a rare fruit on that barren volcanic island. The melons, in addition to other produce, comprised a shipment sent by transport plane from the United States farms on Guam, where experiments in soilless agriculture were conducted.

## G.I. and Nazi Heroes



Above photographs show the difference between the U. S. and the Nazi heroes. Upper, Maj. Carroll C. Smith, America's first night fighter ace, who flew a Black Widow P-61. Below, Fritzie sniper, a hero to his comrades before capture.

## What's This About?



Baby duckling, recent arrival at Bronx zoo, wasn't able to give enlightenment on which came first—the egg or the duck. He was willing to pose for his picture atop an ostrich egg.

## 'So Big'—U. S. Push



Lt. Gen. George S. Patton Jr., commanding general of the U. S. 3rd army, tells his superior, General of the Army Dwight Eisenhower, about the big push into Germany. He is either indicating the size of the drive or the final push yet to come.

## Nazi's Future Boss



Maj. Gen. Lucius D. Clay, who has been named as aide to General Eisenhower, is to be in charge of civilian affairs in Germany when that country accepts surrender.



Washington, D. C.

### ARMY DISCHARGE CREDITS

Here is how the army will determine what men are to be discharged after the war in Europe is over. Special forms have been quietly sent to commanding officers in all theatres. The G.I.s who will fill them out, try to figure out the number of credits they have earned to give them a quick return home.

The one thing still undecided by the army is the number of credits necessary for immediate release. This columnist is able to reveal, however, that:

1. All credits will be determined as of the date the war in Europe is over.

2. Special credits will be given for overseas service, and overseas service will mean any service outside the continental limits of the U. S., including Alaska. Thousands of men who served in Alaska will receive overseas credit. Overseas service will be determined from the day a man leaves a port of embarkation.

3. Combat credit will be given only for those receiving the medal of honor, distinguished service cross, legion of merit, silver star, distinguished flying cross, soldiers' medal, bronze star, air medal, purple heart or bronze service stars for battle participation. No other awards or ribbons will be included.

4. Credit will be given for children who are under 18 years of age on the day the war in Europe ends, but for some mysterious reason the army will not allow credits for more than three children.

### HENRY KAISER CONCILIATES

Few people realize it, and ship-builder Henry Kaiser is too modest to admit it, but he was the guiding genius behind the recently signed pledge for postwar industrial peace just promulgated by Eric Johnston, president of the U. S. chamber of commerce, CIO Pres. Phil Murray and AFL Pres. Bill Green.

Kaiser figured out the scheme last fall after seeing the terrific bitterness of the election campaign. He first approached Bill Green, told him that if Green was sincere about believing in a 60,000,000-job program, management needed assurances of labor peace. Green was agreeable. Johnston agreed to call the first meeting, invited Kaiser, Murray and Green to a hush-hush dinner in his Mayflower hotel suite, debated the entire proposal up, down and sideways.

Not content with a bare statement of unity and pledge of labor-management peace, Kaiser has now quietly proposed that the U. S. chamber of commerce, the AFL and the CIO set up a new, well-financed organization which can actively go about the business of contacting local labor leaders and local business men, preaching the gospel of cooperation on that level.

### PETRILLO CRACKDOWN

Congress is so steamed up about the rambunctious practices of horn-tooter James Caesar Petrillo, head of the American Federation of Musicians, and bushy-browed John L. Lewis, mine workers' chief, that responsible labor leaders are greatly worried that it may pass the Bailey bill.

This would invalidate the agreement Petrillo won after defying the record manufacturers and the government for two years, and which provides that the manufacturers pay his union a royalty on every record made. It would also rule out the 10-cent-per-ton coal royalty Lewis asked after he saw Petrillo get his.

Even though many of them have little sympathy for the Petrillo-Lewis methods, labor leaders see in the Bailey bill far more danger than appears on the surface. For if the bill becomes law, it will knock out not only Petrillo royalty setups, but also numerous negotiated agreements whereby employers agree to pay a small portion of their payroll into health funds jointly administered by the union and the employer.

These are used to pay sickness and accident benefits, medical costs and death benefits for employees, and more and more employers are agreeing to include contributions to these funds in their contracts with the unions. There have been no complaints about these funds, but they will be illegal if the Bailey bill becomes law.

### CAPITOL CHAFF

The RFC has named the New York firm of Fuller, Smith and Ross to handle advertising of surplus property to be sold through RFC. This firm is also the advertising representative for the Aluminum company of America, which has a major interest in plant facilities to be sold through RFC.

Despite the wide publicity ridiculing him a few months ago, Rep. William Gallagher, former Minneapolis street cleaner, has won the respect of his colleagues in the house.

## CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

### MISCELLANEOUS

Colorfully Hand Decorated in Flower Designs—Serving Tray 11x15", 22.95, Set (4) Glass Ash Trays 8x10", C.G.D. Refundable, Michele Studios, Box 64, Allentown, N. J.

### CARBON DIOXIDE

A Conductive Factor in Longevity, Address E. JAY CLEMENS, M. D., The Merritt Bldg., Los Angeles 14, Calif.

### Seeds, Plants, and Bulbs

DAHLIAS: 15 for \$2.00, different, labeled, finest flower, reliable, 50 varieties. List free. CREESEY'S DAHLIAS, Gretna, Va.

### WANTED TO BUY

WE BUY all new feathers, duck and goose especially. Also feather beds. N. DEITCH, Fruit Trade Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.

## Save Used Fats for The Fighting Front

### SNAPPY FACTS ABOUT RUBBER



Recent government tests demonstrated that synthetic truck tires show slower wear and less tread-cracking when operating at night than during daytime service. Atmospheric temperatures were given as the reason for this difference in service.

Like other rubber commodities, footwear should be treated properly to extend serviceability. Avoid tearing by putting on and removing rubber footwear carefully, wash outer surfaces after each wearing; dry out linings in room temperature; store in cool, dry, dark place and make sure to keep footwear free from folds or wrinkles.

*Henry Shaw*  
In war or peace  
**B.F. Goodrich**  
FIRST IN RUBBER

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Low-Spirited Moods And Fatigue—Are Often Symptoms Of Constipation!  
For constipation take Nature's Remedy (NR Tablets). Contains no chemicals, no minerals, no phenol derivatives. NR Tablets are different—act different. Purity vegetable—a combination of 10 vegetable ingredients formulated over 50 years ago. Uncoated or candy coated, their action is dependable, thorough, yet gentle. Get a 25¢ Convincer Box. Caution: Take only as directed.

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*Nature's Remedy*  
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**ONE WORD SUGGESTION FOR ACID INDIGESTION— "TUMS"**

AT FIRST SIGN OF A  
**COLD**  
USE 666  
Cold Preparations as directed

WNU-4 15-45

## Watch Your Kidneys!

Help Them Cleanse the Blood of Harmful Body Waste

Your kidneys are constantly filtering waste matter from the blood stream. But kidneys sometimes lag in their work—do not act as Nature intended—fail to remove impurities that, if retained, may poison the system and upset the whole body machinery.  
Symptoms may be nagging backache, persistent headache, attacks of dizziness, getting up at night, swelling, puffiness under the eyes—a feeling of nervous anxiety and loss of pep and strength. Other signs of kidney or bladder disorder are sometimes burning, scanty or too frequent urination.  
There should be no doubt that prompt treatment is wiser than neglect. Use Doan's Pills. Doan's have been winning new friends for more than forty years. They have a nation-wide reputation. They are recommended by grateful people the country over. Ask your neighbor!

## DOAN'S PILLS

## BARBS... by Baukhage

Apparently General Arnold of the air force and not Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau is dictating what is to be done with German industry.

Since it has been established that the cherry trees in Washington are Korean and not Japanese, they blossom earlier, trying to synchronize with Korean independence week.

The population of Berlin is becoming "radical, almost red," say reports of Swedish refugees. What would you call that? An attempt at protective coloring?

Obituaries of prominent Nazis are appearing in great numbers in German papers. The "deceased" are said to have gone "underground," but not cemetery-style.