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## EDITORIALS

# Of People and Things

### Guam and the Pathos Of It

It was on the 21st of February, 1939, and the scene opens in the House of Representatives.

Speaker Rayburn is in the chair. The House is considering an appropriation of \$5,000,000 to fortify the Island of Guam.

Representative Hamilton Fish, ranking member of the Rules Committee, is speaking:

"Mr. Speaker, President Roosevelt is the one who has been advocating Guam as an air base from the beginning and that is why it is before the House today.

"We are supposed to goose-step in support of the proposal because the President wants Guam fortified as a part of his program to quarantine the world. Do not make any mistake about that.

"I want to appeal to my fellow Republicans and emphasize that there is no country in the world thinking of attacking us.

"There is no country that has the ability or the capacity to attack us even if they wanted to do so.

"All this talk about an attack or invasion from a foreign nation or nations is part of the war hysteria and fear being created in America by the New Deal Administration . . . merely political bunk and eyewash to cover up the change in our foreign policies from neutrality, nonintervention, peace and no entangling alliances to collective security, economic sanctions, aggression and war."

Representative Carl Vinson, the chairman of the naval affairs committee, Representative Patrick Henry Drewry of Virginia, and Speaker Rayburn defended the appropriation; many other Democrats defended it. Representative Ralph E. Church, Representative John Taber, Representative Charles Gifford and various other Republicans spoke against it.

The vote came: The Guam resolution was defeated by 205 to 168. The Republicans voted practically solidly against fortification, quite a sprinkling of isolationist Democrats voted with them.

Five years later the epilogue came on August 9, 1944. Admiral Chester W. Nimitz gives the result:

"Casualties suffered by American forces on Guam Island through August 3 (W. longitude date), the day on which organized Japanese resistance ended were:

"1214 killed in action.

"5704 wounded in action, and

"329 missing in action.

"Elimination of the enemy continues."

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATHS OF AMERICAN BOYS IN THE REDEMPTION OF GUAM?

### The Resurrection of France

Paris, the pride of France, is now free of the Hun.

Countless thousands of the capital's patriots, who have been held in leash by the Hun armies quartered in and all around her, rose this week under the protection of Eisenhower's armies now thundering at the gates, ran the Germans out and proclaimed Paris free after four years of slavery to her beastly conquerors.

And now Roumania, Germany's most powerful European ally after the smash of Italy, has renounced Hitler and comes over to the side of the Allies.

Bulgaria is trying her best to do likewise, but the Allies do not listen, as the Bulgars came only when they thought it was time to save their necks. But unconditional surrender is the only terms offered to the Bulgarians.

One by one the props are falling from under the Axis. With three-fourths of Italy conquered by the Americans and British, with France fast crumbling under the thundering legions of Patton and Bradley and the Canadian armies, with the Russians on the frontiers of East Prussia, with 300,000 German troops in a fatal trap in the Baltic area, with unnumbered reinforcements pouring into France for the onward sweep to Berlin, the days of Hitler and his gang are numbered.

It may be in 30 days, it may be October, it may be by Christmas, but the German strangle hold on Europe is giving way to the blasts of the avenging democracies.

The time is surely close at hand when Right shall triumph over Wrong.

Watch, pray and listen for the bells of victory.

### Roosevelt In Front

National polls to get the sentiment for President have recently been closed, one by Fortune Magazine, the other by Gallup.

Both polls place Roosevelt far in the lead, with the soldier vote uncounted, which is expected to be overwhelmingly for the present occupant of the White House.

It is about two and a half months till the election, and changes can take place in the attitude of many voters before the final count is made the first week in November. But an analysis made by Elmo Roper, the Fortune poll taker, indicates that Roosevelt's popularity with the voters has increased 3.3 percent in the last four weeks, while Dewey's has increased by only 1.2 percent.

This in the face of the fact that Mr. Dewey has been very active in the last four weeks, while the President has been

### The Last Pose of Summer

It is with poignant regret we announce to our readers that Summer is waning—

Like the proud contour of Mary Queen of Scots before she bared her neck to the axe—or Cleopatra smiling as she invited the asp to sink its fangs into her heaving bosom.

Ah, beautiful, sad, fleeting life, symbolized by the dying summer.

In the poplars the fatal tinge of saffron, to the ground the first leaves of the locust falling, in the bottoms jaundice on the pumpkins.

The golden rod hills bring a nameless suggestion of dream and pause, and unheard yearning of hearts that can never attain again—

The tuberose with its subtle scent and its recollections of the night when you pinned it on his lapel, pinned it to the setting of a sweet geranium leaf—

But on the hills the light from a thousand blazing flues lends allure to the landscape. And over there the harvest moon is rising in its glory. There is the tobacco barn, the sound of jollity, the roasting ears, the late watermelons, the fried chicken, the banjo talking in the moonlight, the shouts of carelessness and frivolity.

Laughter in the antics of the young, but tears in their hearts. They watch the moon rise. The glamour of the perfect night somehow soothes the fancies. Revelry is rampant. But some stroll off to hide their tears. Oh, Moon, where were you last night? Looking over the blood-stained strands of Normandy, sending your quiet stray beams into hospital windows, or were you lighting the swirling yellow waters of Pacific isles? Did you see my boy, what was he doing, was he well, or was he sitting on his bunk wondering why letters did not come from home? Did he send a message to me, when is he coming back?

The mute moon smiles down, a benediction.

The dawn evolves like a million diamonds flashing in the eastern sky, the morning glory laughs from the corn, the sunflowers look East with wondering eyes, there is a triumphant peace in the emerald skies, there is hope in the russet dawn.

The second coming of the hollyhock decks the highways, the birds sing in the trees, the squirrels romp in the hickories.

practically unheard from.

It is going to be mighty hard to defeat the man of the people—the man who has done so much for the people as Roosevelt has done.

His record in peace and war needs no defense.