

Next Of U. S. Army's Mobilization Plan

The next of the mobilization plan of the U. S. Army is to be a plan for the demobilization of the Army after the defeat of Germany and the restoration of order in Europe. This plan is being prepared by the War Department and will be put into effect as soon as the military situation in Europe permits. The plan is based on the assumption that the Army will be reduced to a strength of 1,000,000 men after the war. This reduction will be accomplished by the demobilization of the Army in a systematic and orderly manner. The plan is based on the following principles:

Spring Tonic



KEEPING IN CONDITION, Simian Sam is pictured as he paid heed to the coming season by nibbling his yearly tonic. At top he holds the spoon as a keeper at the Bronx Zoo in New York pours the blunder-upper. Next, he dowses it to the last drop. And it must be good (bottom), for Sam even licks the spoon and likes it. (International)

Our Prayer

DEAR LORD
Teach us to be humble in this our hour of triumph.
Show us how to bow our heads in reverent gratitude to those men who have carried our flags to victory.
Let us not give way to exultant celebrations for there are too many bodies that were once men on that total ledger up to this day.
Help us to glorify their sacrifices by putting our shoulders to the wheel and, together, working for another Victory. We have gone only half the way.
Grant, Dear Lord, that we will see our future through eyes that have grown brighter with this day. Strengthen our minds and bodies so that we can meet the changing world with confidence.
And, above all, Dear Lord, abide with us.
AMEN
Frances Gilbert Frazier.

Indian Style Fighting Duplicated In France

WITH AMERICAN TROOPS IN FRANCE. The battle for France became a Twentieth Century Version of the winning of the American West, with roaming bands of Germans marked for extermination.

"Indian territory" — and that's the term used by Army officers to describe it — includes great blocks of forest and farm land from which supplies will depend upon the number of ships available. Thousands of ships will be required to supply the Pacific theatre. The Pacific theatre will have No. 1 priority. All else must wait. To it will be transported millions of fighting men, tanks, planes, guns, ammunition, and food over longer supply lines than those to Europe.

POINT CREDITS
1. Service credit — Based upon the total number of months of Army service since September 15, 1940.
2. Overseas credit — Based upon the number of months served overseas.
3. Combat credit — Based upon the first and each additional award to the individual of the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Legion of Merit, Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross, Soldier's Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal, Purple Heart, and Bronze Service Stars (battle participation stars).

4. Parenthood credit — Which gives credit for each dependent child under 18 years up to a limit of three children.
The value of the point credits will be announced after the cessation of hostilities in Europe. In the meantime, the point values will be kept under continuous study. The total score will be used to select surplus men from the theatre overseas and in the United States. The score also will be used when a certain portion of all these surplus men will be declared non-essential and returned to civilian life.

In all cases, however, the demands of military necessity and the needs of the war against Japan must first be met. Regardless of a man's priority standing, certain types of personnel can never become surplus as long as the war against Japan continues.
As an example of how the plan will work, assume that there are four infantry divisions in the European theatre. One is declared surplus. Men in all four divisions are rated according to the priority credit scores. The top fourth is selected and these are not essential for retention in service by reasons of military necessity are designated as surplus. Men in the surplus division who are marked for retention by reason of military necessity are then shifted into the active divisions, and all of the men designated as surplus are shifted into the surplus divisions, which now will serve as a vehicle for eventually returning them to the United States.

A CONDITION
No man in a unit that remains in service can become surplus until a qualified replacement is available. If military necessity should demand the immediate transfer of a unit to the Pacific, there may conceivably be no time to apply the plan to men of that unit before the emergency transfer is made. Consideration will be given these men also.
The active units needed against Japan will be shipped to the Pacific. These units required for occupation duty in Europe will be sent to their stations, and surplus units will be returned to the United States as quickly as possible.

In the United States, the men of these surplus units will revert to a surplus pool in the Army Ground Forces, Army Service Forces and Army Air Forces. The surplus pool will include surplus men from all overseas theatres and surplus men from these continental United States.
From these surplus pools the reduction of various types of Army personnel will be made. The number to be returned to civilian life as no longer essential to overall Army needs will be chosen from among those with the highest priority credit scores.
It is emphasized that the rate of return or surplus men from over-

Brest to Le Mans and from Angers by the River Loire north to Mortain.

Although American armored columns cut this great block of France away from the main body of the German Army, there still are wandering and pocketed groups ranging from small squads to units of some size still intact and fighting like covying Indian tribes of old.
Many of the enemy units broke into French farm homes and stole eggs and livestock to keep from starving.

Playing the part of Nineteenth Century Indian scouts, armed members of the French resistance movement hunted out hidden bands of marauding Germans and other clashed with them or rode back posthaste to report their presence to "Federal troops."

Troops ride to the noise of marching tank treads instead of the music of hooves, and cut up the enemy with shells instead of spears, but they charge with all the thrill of a horse opera. Everything is there but the bugle.

Resistance fighters are as careless of dress as were the old-time Indian scouts and they are just as reckless.

They ride about the secondary roads in diminutive vintage model automobiles, flying tractor flags, visible for miles, and it takes a four-hearted German to tangle with these wild young men with potato-masher grenades and waving captured German rifles.

Some American armored columns between Le Mans and Brest are patrolling 50-mile stretches. Some of these flying spearheads have run wild since the Yank breakthrough of the solid German Lessay-Poriers-St. Leger line in July and plunged the war into a period of mazes-dazzle fighting.

"The break-through ended that 1918 type of fighting in the Normandy hedgerows which was costly on both sides," said Capt. James Campbell, Memphis, Tenn.

"Our reconnaissance units have light tanks, halftracks, and light artillery, and if opposition isn't too strong they brush on through it. If it is more than they can handle, they withdraw or fight a delaying action until heavy armored support arrives."

Like settlers of the covered-wagon days, truck convoys moving through the "Apache country" need protection, and they are getting it now, although in the first days of spectacular advance through Normandy they had to run a gamut of enemy ambushes.

A number of trucks were shot up by hidden German machine-guns who employed the old Indian trick of waiting until most of the convoy was past and then picking off stragglers.

All female personnel of the Army, those whose husbands have already been released will be discharged upon application.

The plan as now adopted will provide some reduction in the Army's Ground forces and initially considerably less in the Service forces and in the Air forces.

Following Germany's defeat, the Air forces will have to move combat groups and supporting ground units from all over the world to the Pacific areas. The nature of the Pacific area dictates that Service force personnel will be needed in great numbers to carry the war to Japan. Long supply lines, scattered bases, jungles, primitive country, all contribute to the importance and necessity for Service force personnel. Therefore, the reduction in its strength will be slow at first.

As replacements become available from the Ground forces and from new inductees, the Air forces and the Service forces will discharge a fair share of men proportionate with the Ground forces.

Surplus individuals declared non-essential to the needs of the Army will be discharged from the service through separate centers. Five Army separation centers are already in operation and additional ones will be set up when the need develops. A total of eighteen in all parts of the country are contemplated. Their wide distribution will enable us to discharge soldiers close to their homes.

The readjustment and demobilization plan applies only to readjustment and demobilization and in the period between the defeat of Germany and prior to the defeat of Japan. It sets forth the principles and responsibilities involved during that period. Theatre commanders and commanders of all other major commands of the Army will put the plan into operation in as simple a manner as possible based on those principles and responsibilities.

The War Department has determined that the successful operation of the plan requires that the troops themselves, as well as the public, be kept fully informed.

EXACTNESS
The size of the military establishment that will be needed after the defeat of Germany has been calculated with the same exactness as the size of the Army needed up to now. No soldier will be kept in the military service who is not needed to fulfill these requirements. No soldier will be released who is needed.

Manila Rope Source Spreads
The abaca plant, the source of Manila rope, is now being grown successfully in Panama, Costa Rica, Honduras and Guatemala.



THE CORNERSTONE OF VICTORY HAS BEEN LAID

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... WE PRAY

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... WE CELEBRATE

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