

LOOKING AT WASHINGTON

By HUGO S. SIMS, Washington Correspondent

GUAM A GREAT BASE FOR FUTURE SECURITY

In pre-war days, when pacifists, isolationists and sentimentalists largely controlled the action of Congress upon matters of national defense, the Navy made repeated efforts to secure authorization for the development of Guam into an advance base.

Leading naval officers were denounced as war-mongers. The prediction was made that any attempt to fortify Guam would be resented by Japan and lead to war. In addition, opponents of the proposal insisted that Guam was utterly incapable of being developed into an operating harbor for the fleet, much less an advance base of sufficient proportions to aid the defense of the United States.

A lot of water has flowed over the dam since the attack upon Pearl Harbor, which developed despite our timidity in preparing defenses in the Pacific. On July 21, 1944, American forces invaded Guam. Since that time, it has been converted into our most powerful advance base, serving now as the reserve and supply center of the Pacific war.

A recent release gives us some interesting facts about the amazing development on the 225-mile square island, where naval and air officers direct the ever-growing assault upon Japan. Here are some of the statements:

Big shore batteries protect the coast and hundreds of anti-aircraft guns encircle vulnerable points.

The largest communication system in the world has been set up and harbor facilities expanded beyond the dreams of pre-war naval enthusiasts.

Five large air bases, including three huge B-29 fields, are in opera-

tion, with one possessing greater maintenance facilities than Hickam Field in Pearl Harbor. Fighter fields swarm with planes.

To keep its thousands of planes flying some 50,000,000 gallons of aviation gasoline are required monthly and tankers work day and night to pump a continuous stream of gasoline through fifty-one miles of pipelines.

Water, scarce in the Pacific, is abundant, with springs and wells providing 10,000,000 gallons a day for the island and some 30,000,000 gallons a month to ships in the harbor.

Roads have been rebuilt. Some 150 miles, including a four-lane military highway, are served by 3,600 jeeps, 28,000 trucks and 3,000 trailers. In addition, for construction duty, there are 1,200 heavy tractors, 400 cranes, hundreds of bulldozers and much other machinery. As a result, construction progress is unprecedented in military history.

Four navy and four army hospitals have a capacity of almost 12,000 beds, and the wounded are cared for by a staff which includes 600 medical and dental officers, 500 nurses and 5,000 corpsmen.

Anra Harbor now handles more cargo than any forward area port in the world. Thousands of tons are unloaded daily, much of it for reshipment to bases closer to Japan. Anchorages for warships, transports and supply vessels have been provided by removing 6,000,000 cubic yards of coral from the harbor itself.

We take space to recount the details about Guam, but not because it represents an exceptional performance in the Pacific. What has happened on Guam has taken place, in more or less magnitude, on every

captured island. Construction crews and service men everywhere labor incessantly to prepare the facilities that alone make possible the concentrated assaults upon Japan. Their work is not spectacular and is often performed in secrecy, but what they have done constitutes something of a miracle, comparable to the performance of industry in this country.

U. S. TO RECEIVE BENEFITS IN PROPORTION TO INVESTMENT
Despite the four-day battle waged by Senator Taft, of Ohio, the Senate has approved the Bretton Woods agreements by a vote of 61-16.

This assures that the United States will play its part in the organization set up to maintain stable currency exchanges and to provide cooperative credits for reconstruction and development throughout the world.

It is expected that other nations will immediately follow the lead of the United States and that speedy action by enough of the forty-four nations will be forthcoming to permit the bank and fund to begin operating sometime in 1946.

The measure was passed by the House in June by a vote of 345 to 12. The majority in the Senate was larger than expected and it should be noted that nineteen Republicans voted favorably, which means that the measure would have passed if every Democratic supporter had refrained from voting on the issue.

There have been some suggestions that the United States, in making a major contribution to the funds required by the agreement, should assume a disproportionate share of the burden involved. We hardly agree with this suggestion because, if a stable world can be arranged, the United States will probably receive benefits in proportion to its investment. Moreover, the encouragement which the international agreement will give to world trade should encourage the nations of the world to engage in peaceful pursuits.

SUGGESTS REORGANIZATION OF POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT
Mr. Frank C. Walker, who recently retired as Postmaster-General, has included in a report of the activities of the Department a suggestion that it be reorganized, primarily with a view to further decentralization.

Mr. Walker thinks that the administration of the postal service "is too highly centralized in Washington" and that there is an absence of continuity of high administrative officers, which is essential to effective operation. He also opposes the idea that the postal service should be a revenue producing agency and declares that it should be conducted for the service of the people of the nation.

The recommendation of the former Postmaster-General should receive serious consideration. Certainly, there is a general belief that the Postoffice Department can render more effective service and that, somewhere along the line, there is too much lost motion in the handling of the mail matter.

MARTIN PROPOSES BAN ON FORCED MILITARY SERVICE
The elimination of compulsory military service in time of peace, by agreement between the nations, is proposed by Representative Joseph Martin, of Massachusetts.

This suggestion will arouse public interest and may lead to confused thinking. There is a vast difference between an international agreement and what actually occurs, as the Kellogg-Briand pact to outlaw war as an instrument of national policy abundantly proves.

The War Department says there is a difference between military service and military training, pointing out that what is now proposed in the United States is that young men be trained but not compelled to render military service.

We think it would be splendid if every nation could abolish all armed forces with complete confidence in its safety. It may be that the organization of the United Nations will in time offer such security but years will elapse before this is definitely established. Meanwhile, every nation, with anything to defend and the means of doing so, must be prepared for any eventuality.

AID FORCES ON OKINAWA TESTING DIVIDED COMMAND
In Europe, the combined chiefs of staff, including British and American Army, naval and air officers were in control of Allied operations, but they had under them General Eisenhower as a single responsible head, directing the complete forces.

A different situation prevails in the Pacific war, where, on Okinawa, the Army Air Force has won some recognition through the appointment of General Carl Spaatz as Commander of the Army Strategic Air Force which operates on a parity with the military and naval commanders. In Europe, it should be noted, the Strategic Air Force was under the supreme command of General Eisenhower.

The question of top command in the Pacific has been thoroughly discussed. General MacArthur has been in charge of army, navy and air forces operating in the Southwest Pacific and Admiral Nimitz has command combined forces operating in the Pacific Ocean area.

On Okinawa at the present time, there is, consequently, divided authority. General Spaatz controls the B-29s and long-range fighters. General MacArthur controls a tactical bombing force, commanded by General Kinney, which includes B-17s, B-24s, B-25s, B-26s and escorting fighters.

Admiral Nimitz, in addition to commanding the warships of the fleet, controls the Privateers, Liberators and such planes of Fleet Air Wing 1 and the Corsairs, Hellcats and Avengers of the Second Marine Aircraft Wing.

It is widely assumed that General MacArthur will command Army forces in the attack upon Japan and it is also presumed that Admiral Nimitz will continue in charge of naval operations. There seems to be no real reason why this division of command should not function efficiently, because, obviously, it will be the task of the navy to protect the transportation of men and supplies on the high seas and to play the leading role in the acquisition of adequate beach-heads.

When the forces are ashore and engaged in tremendous land operations, it appears logical that the command should shift to an experienced Army leader.

The division of command on Okinawa seems to relate to air forces. Even here, we see no insuperable objections to the present setup which is being thoroughly tested. The operational activities of the various air forces can be coordinated and, so far as strategic bombing is concerned, ample time is available to select objectives and deliver assaults in unison. Equally obvious, however, is the advisability of placing tactical air operations under the commander of any enterprise, whether it be naval or land-based.

Fertilize Grains Before Planting

Unless small grains are planted after such liberally fertilized crops as cotton and tobacco, they should receive fertilization before planting, says Enos Blair, Extension agronomist at State College.

Where bromes have been turned under, the recommendation is 200 pounds of 0-12-12 or 0-14-7 per acre. After corn or hay crops, small grains require a complete fertilizer. The recommendation for the Coastal Plain section is 300 pounds per acre of 4-10-6 or 4-8-8 and for the Piedmont and Mountains, 300 pounds per acre of 3-12-6 or 4-12-4.

In discussing small grain fertilization, Blair cited an outstanding demonstration conducted by Roland Salter of Carteret county with oats. The plot without any fertilizer produced 31 bushels per acre. An application of 300 pounds of 4-10-6 per acre at planting produced 36 bushels; a top-dressing of 150 pounds of nitrate of soda on March 1 and no fertilizer at planting, 53 bushels; and both fertilizer at planting and the nitrate of soda top-dresser, 63 bushels per acre.

On the high plot of 63 bushels per acre, with oats valued at one dollar per bushel, the total profit from the fertilizer treatment was \$24.00 per acre.

Blair recently recommended the following seeding rates for small grains to those farmers who are conducting rotation experiments with him: wheat, 1-1 1/2 bushels; oats, 2-3 bushels; rye, same as for wheat; and barley, 2 bushels.

As to seeding rates for winter legumes, he suggested 20 to 30 pounds of seed for crimson clover per acre; vetch, 15 to 25 pounds; and Austrian winter peas, 30 to 40 pounds. Recommendations for fertilization are 200 pounds of either an 0-12-12 or 0-14-7.

Poultrymen Urged To Prevent Bronchitis

Poultry producers in Wake and other counties of North Carolina have reported the outbreak of bron-

chitis in their flocks of growing pullets, say specialists of the State College Extension Service.

The disease is usually caused by the lack of ventilation and by the overcrowding of the birds into the poultry houses, and Extension specialists point out that it is advisable for poultrymen to open up their poultry houses during the hot summer months and provide all the fresh air possible for the growing chickens.

George W. Wright, of Raleigh, Route 2, discovered that his leghorn pullets caught colds, which later settled in the bronchial tubes causing bronchitis. The reason for the disturbance was the fact that the pullets became too warm during a certain night because of the lack of ventilation, Wright said.

The Raleigh poultryman went to work immediately to remove the causes of the disease, and fortunately he did not lose any of the birds. Today at Roberson's, adv

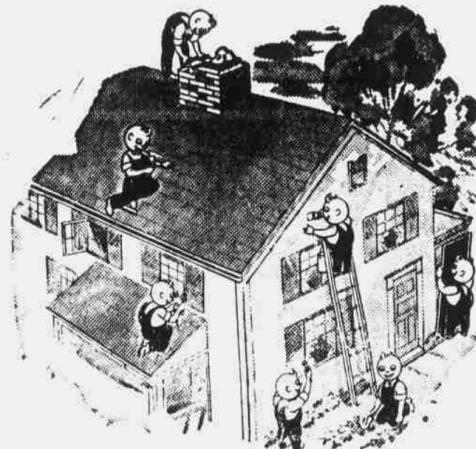
Wright has found that spraying of an inhalant over the heads of the chickens at night has aided a great deal in relieving the situation.

State College poultry authorities suggest that farmers check their poultry houses to determine whether sufficient ventilation is provided in order to avoid excessive outbreaks of bronchitis in their flocks. Further information about the disease may be secured by writing to the Department of Poultry Science at State College.

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Chapter 3 "Purple Monster"
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Sunday, Aug. 12—
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James Craig and Donna Reid in
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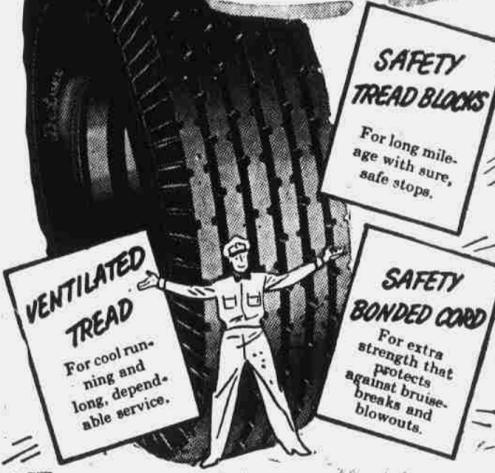
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