

Purchase Of Lands Scheduled To Begin For National Park

The National Park Service of the Department of the Interior will establish a land acquisition office in the near future to launch the task of purchasing lands for the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreation Area, Secretary of the Interior Oscar L. Chapman has announced. Available for the purpose are \$618,000 in State of North Carolina funds and a matching amount from unnamed donors. The project on which these funds are to be expended was first authorized by Congress in 1937.

The boundaries of the area in which lands are to be acquired have been jointly agreed upon by the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Commission, the Governor's Council, and the National Park Service. From the point, locally known as Whalebone, on Bodie Island, approximately 8 miles north of Oregon Inlet, where U. S. Highway 158 turns to go to Roanoke Island, the project extends down to Cape Hatteras itself and southwestward from the Cape to the farther end of Ocracoke Island. No part of the ocean-front resort community of Nags Head is included within the project. All the several villages lying along

the inner side of North Carolina's Outer Banks—North and South Rodanthe, Silver, Buxton, Frisco, Hatteras and Ocracoke—are excluded, as required by the 1937 act of Congress. So also are liberal areas surrounding them, to leave adequate room for their expansion.

This portion of the Outer Banks of North Carolina comprises one of the few extensive stretches of undeveloped seashore remaining on the Atlantic Coast, Secretary Chapman stated.

Author of the 1937 legislation was the Hon. Lindsay Warren, then Representative from North Carolina's First Congressional District, and now Comptroller General, who has retained his interest in the prospect during the nearly 12 years since he took over his present position. Mr. Warren has taken an active and effective part in the recent negotiations which resulted in the decision of the Governor's Council to make \$618,000 of the State's funds available for the project, as has his successor in Congress, the Hon. Herbert C. Bonner.

The total area within the project boundaries comes to approximately 30,000 acres of land.

European Army Will Bolster Ridgway's NATO Command

Mobilization of the six-nation European army will place a million men, as well as the resources of most of Western Europe, alongside American, British, and other forces under the command of Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway, Supreme Allied Commander in Europe.

This supranational army will be assembled when the European Defense Community treaty is adopted. Though already signed at Paris by

their foreign ministers, the treaty must be ratified by the parliaments of West Germany, France, Italy, Belgium, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands. In addition, to complete the new arrangements a protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty which links the EDC and North Atlantic Treaty Organization also must be approved by the 14 member countries of NATO.

The ratification process necessarily will take time. For example, the people of the Netherlands will hold their elections this summer, after which the Parliament will be convened and a new government formed. The Netherlands thus will not be able to act on the treaty until fall at the earliest. So it will be some months before the European Defense Community can be established.

Meaning for Americans

For the United States and individual Americans, what does the military integration of Europe mean? The Department of State asserts that, among a number of benefits, there

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will be three principal results of this integration:

1. It will settle many of the political differences in Western Europe, particularly in bringing together into the same community France and Germany whose centuries-old difficulties have forestalled a welding of the common aspirations of the French and German people.

2. It will assure that Germany will contribute both manpower and industrial resources to the defense of Europe. The nature of the EDC machinery is such as to prevent so far as possible the revival of a German national army.

3. It will encourage continued growth of European unity and the integration of Europe's economy.

Clearly, the unification of Europe, of which the EDC is an essential part, will make possible tremendous economic benefits from increased production and more equitable distribution of goods and services in Europe. And this, in turn, eventually will lessen the dependence of that area on the United States for direct aid.

The plan for this community, however, is meeting opposition both within some countries and from the Soviet Union. The latter and the Kremlin-directed Communist parties reacted immediately to the signing of the EDC agreement by making an obvious effort to delay or wreck the ratification. They instigated border incidents along the line dividing East and West Germany, as well as repressive acts in Berlin. These are desperate efforts to frighten and threaten West Germans and West Europeans.

Yet after months of hard work and negotiation the six European countries are determined to bring about the merger of their armed forces (excluding only those on duty outside of Europe) despite this opposition.

The Plan in Detail

To do so, they will fuse their national forces into a single army, with a common command structure, training, budget, and uniform. Their forces above the division level will be combined into groups of corps which will comprise the army. That army will be under the direction of the NATO commander.

In aligning themselves, the six countries propose to pool not only their military strength but their economic resources and their political institutions under a new supranational authority. The treaty stipulates that they will establish a Council of Ministers, an Assembly, a Court of Justice, and a nine-man Executive Board. These institutions will exercise power throughout the six countries.

The first task of the supranational body will be to direct the financial contributions of each participating country in the establishment of a single defense force. Together with the merger of their armed forces, including both conscripts and regulars, the countries in the EDC through the supranational body will award contracts, make allocations for purchases and supplies, and determine production arrangements.

Within 6 months, the Assembly as provided in the treaty will present suggestions looking toward a federal union for Europe. These suggestions will then be considered by the European countries. For the distant future, the hope is to find agreement on something like a "United States of Europe," including a unified Germany.

Under the proposed amendment of the North Atlantic Treaty, which the foreign ministers approved at Paris, there are guarantees of help against armed attack between members of NATO and EDC. This provision, when ratified, will affirm their intentions to treat any attack upon one member as an attack upon all.

American Position

A Three Power declaration issued at Paris by the United States, Britain, and France stated that they will regard as a threat to their own security any action from whatever quarter which threatens the integrity or unity of the European Defense Community. They made it clear that they will defend Berlin against attack from any quarter.

This declaration does not represent a change in American policy. Nor is it a new commitment. In this declaration the United States simply clarifies and reaffirms a long-standing policy recognizing that the security of Europe is necessary to our own interests and security, and that Germany is part of the complex of Europe.

In short, the EDC treaty and the accompanying agreements and declarations signed at Paris:

1. Bind Germany and France, along with four other European countries, in a European Defense Community.
2. Commit EDC to the defense of the North Atlantic area.
3. Guarantee that NATO countries will defend the countries represented in EDC.

German Agreements

West Germany's participation in EDC as an equal partner, and the German commitments to that organization, have been negotiated simultaneously with the working out of the "contractual agreements." These agreements were signed last month at Bonn between West Germany and the United States, Britain, and France.

As a companion agreement to EDC, they will restore virtual sovereignty to West Germany and will end the 7-year-old occupation in all parts of Germany, except for the area dominated by the Soviets.

Berlin, surrounded by the Soviet zone, is not included in the contractual agreements and will continue to be under Four Power occupation. But

the city will have more latitude in governing its own affairs, since the controls in the three western sectors of Berlin are to be considerably reduced.

The contracts with West Germany will have the effect of transforming the forces of the Western powers from occupation to defense duties. Joined by German contingents in the European army, they will help to safeguard the freedom and security of Germany and the Western world.

To sum up, the immediate purpose of EDC is to give European peoples—and a restored Germany—better protection against the threat of ag-

gression. But as Secretary Acheson pointed out in Paris, the "true meaning" of EDC extends far beyond the field of defense.

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