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**Our Debt To Washington**

Perhaps there are too many marble busts and equestrian statues of George Washington. He has become too much of a name and an image to be revered impersonally and then forgotten except when he is occasionally quoted, without too much regard for literal accuracy, on the subject of entangling alliances.

Lincoln seems likely to replace him as the great national hero—Lincoln, more human in his greatness and less remote in warmth as well as in time. And of Washington's contemporaries, the brilliant and versatile Jefferson has lately arisen to capture the public fancy.

Washington was neither brilliant nor of engaging personality. He was reserved and a trifle slow. But though he may not inspire today's poets and playwrights, he was, from the Revolution's end to his death, the object of the greatest adulation ever accorded an American leader.

It is worth remembering, in an era when dictatorship has been the world fashion, how wisely and modestly Washington bore that adulation: It is worth remembering, too, how well he deserved it.

Washington faced the gravest problems that ever beset an American leader in war or peace. The nation which he led through its longest war was nominally united, but really divided and impoverished and ungoverned. Its Congress was powerless to do more than advise the states. Its army was dispirited, badly equipped, and at times faced with actual starvation.

Washington had to divide his time between rallying his forces to stay with him, planning and leading their campaigns, and constantly begging and bludgeoning the states to provide food and money to avert the total defeat which at times was only days or hours away. He had to contend with treasonable disloyalty among his officers, and what are now known as fifth columnists among his countrymen.

Victory emerged from these surroundings chiefly because of Washington's capacity for courage, resourcefulness, compassion, steadfastness and humility. There was nothing mercurial about his statesmanship—he was a farmer by first choice, a soldier by second, and a statesman by necessity—but it was molded by common sense, hard work and an unimpeachable code of ethics.

These qualities passed into the fabric of his country and are still visible. They might be more so if we bothered to make Washington's acquaintance. His Farewell Address is worth reading again for its stately lucidity, sage wisdom and deep feeling.

The advice on foreign relations is only a part of it. And that advice, placed in its context and read against the background of 1796, becomes what it is—sound expediency for its time and not Holy Writ.

Washington was too great to become a figure on a pedestal and a patron saint to be invoked by isolationism. This would be a good day to compute once more our full debt to him.



**BY DREW PEARSON**

(Lt. Col. Robert S. Allen now on active service with the army.)

**Drew Pearson Says:— European war may be over any day; Military leaders fix July 1 as outside date; Senator Ball arranged Commander Stassen's appointment to United Nations conference.**

WASHINGTON—Supreme allied leaders are now in a position where they expect the war with Germany to end any day; but they don't want to make the same over-optimistic mistake they did last fall, when they were confident hostilities would finish before Christmas.

At present, German prisoners are reported being taken on the western front at the rate of about 1,600 a day, but there seems to be no general breakdown of German army morale. During three weeks in late January and early February, the American 7th army and French 1st

army took over 15,000 Nazi prisoners, which is a good haul. But it does not mean that large blocs of the German army are surrendering en masse, as the Italians did in North Africa.

Judging by all the standards of the last war, Germany should have capitulated long ago. It was on Sept. 28, 1918, six weeks before the armistice, that Ludendorff and Hindenburg made up their minds that defeat was inevitable. At that time, as now, it was the civilian government in Berlin, which wanted to resist longer.

One of the significant documents of the last war was Hindenburg's reply to Prince Max of Baden, who had formed a new German government and who appealed to Hindenburg on Oct. 2, 1918, to continue fighting.

Hindenburg, replying next day, was brief and to the point. He wrote: "The supreme command insists on

**Rock Of Ages**



its demand of Sunday, 29th September, that a peace offer to our enemies be issued at once."

However, the civilian government in Berlin still held out, and it took until Nov. 11 to arrange an armistice.

**BERLIN PEACE RUMORS**  
Knowing just what is going on inside Germany today regarding an armistice is one of the allied handicaps. A certain amount of information leaks out via the neutral countries. It is reported, for instance, that German business leaders would like to use Hjalmar Schacht or Franz von Papen as peace negotiators. But there is no definite indication that Hitler himself or Himmler is ready for peace. On the contrary, there are definite indications that they are determined to fight fanatically to the end.

This time, the Nazi leaders have organized a secret service infinitely more ruthless than anything known in the Kaiser's day, with the result that they have maintained the whip hand so far over any German military leader who may pine for peace. Finally the Volkssturm or People's Army, thrown in to fill the gaps in the regular army, has made up in ferocity what it lacks in experience.

Weighing all these factors, top allied military strategists figure the war in Europe probably won't end before April 1, and should not last longer than July 1. But in this war anything can happen.

**STASSEN AND GOP**  
Several GOP senators were furious when they heard that President Roosevelt had named Commander Harold Stassen, ex-governor of Minnesota, as one of the eight American delegates to the United Nations conference at San Francisco.

Some felt FDR was trying to catapult Stassen into the leadership of the republican party, and deliberately kicking Tom Dewey in the shins. Cracked Michigan's hard-hitting Senator Vandenberg:

"I assume Stassen is going to the conference representing the navy department."

Note—The man who sold the White House on appointing Stassen was his old friend, Senator Joe Ball of Minnesota. The senator has not heard from Stassen since Ball deserted Dewey and came out for Roosevelt. However, Ball still thinks Stassen is the logical GOP candidate for 1948 and is quietly plugging for him.

**INSURANCE LOBBY**  
The insurance lobby is headed for trouble regarding its bill to exempt insurance companies from the Sherman Anti-Trust act. If the lobbyists aren't careful they will get a White House veto.

The bill passed the senate in a form which met with all-around approval. But in the house, the insurance lobby sharpened its ax and quietly tacked on some amendments which will not be acceptable either to the White House, or, probably, to a majority of the senate. Chief effect of the amendments was to make it impossible to revive the Anti-Trust act regarding insurance

**BARBS**

**THERE'S** no economy in saving on one thing so you can buy another—unless it's a War Bond!

Statistics show heavy sales of second-hand cars—those things you purchase in haste and repaint at leisure.

Another thing to be blamed on the hard winter will be the highways that will make it too easy for people to get into a rut.

It's easier to stick to a diet if you just remember that figures don't lie.

No matter how many dates the modern girl has there always seems to be room for one more.

companies, without a special act of congress.

Fair-minded Senator O'Mahoney of Wyoming, was quite willing to give the insurance companies a reasonable compromise, will fight this extra grab to the end. So will a great many of his colleagues.

**CAPITAL CHAFF**  
The war department's G-2 or military intelligence is being reorganized again, partly as a result of failures to spot Nazi troop concentrations preparing for the bulge attack in mid-December. . . Tom Clark, astute assistant attorney general in charge of the criminal division, would like to retire to practice law in Texas, but topsides in the justice department are trying to persuade him to stay on. It was Clark who prosecuted the two latest Nazi saboteurs and sent them to jail. . . Senator Glenn Taylor of Idaho has used only five gallons of gas since arriving in Washington—an example which could be emulated by a lot of other bigwigs. . . The Mexico City confab is the most sorrowful Pan-American conference in history for Dr. Leo S. Rowe, benign, longtime director of the Pan American union. This is the first important Pan-Am parley held outside the confines of his union. Dr. Rowe says: "I cannot speak, but my heart is running over." . . Watch Cuban delegate Eddie Chibas at Mexico City. He is expected to launch an attack on Dictator Trujillo of the neighboring Dominican republic. . . General Franco's controlled Spanish press has been using the same propaganda line as Hitler regarding the Big Three conference. . . Not content with blocking plans for a Jewish homeland in Palestine, the state department is sending Colonel Harold Hoskins a leading opponent of the Jewish homeland, as U. S. economic minister to the near east. Hoskins, born in Beirut, Syria, attended an Arab college, and has been a champion of the Arab cause.

**ROOSEVELT GOES LEFT?**  
The last session of the House Ruler committee on Henry Wallace heard a veiled GOP threat that unless Wallace was prevented from becoming a director of the export-import bank, republicans would try to block approval of the Bretton Woods agreement.

**Hell Island Is Appropriate For Iwo Jima**  
Situation Terrific From First One Side and the Other as Battle Rages

BY UNITED PRESS—Iwo Jima could well be named "Hell Island" where a battle beyond comparison with anything else anywhere is raging, a correspondent said today in a pooled broadcast from Admiral Richmond K. Turner's flagship off the island.

"The situation was terrific from first one side and then the other. But the marines are going ahead and they're driving the Japs back," the correspondent said.

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1:00 P.M.	4:45 P.M.
3:45 P.M.	* 5:30 P.M.
5:05 P.M.	* 5:45 P.M.
6:30 P.M.	* 11:30 P.M.
1:30 A.M.	2:15 A.M.
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democrats on the rules committee, said:

"You will have before you shortly the Bretton Woods agreement, and the question of increasing the capital of the export-import bank. You are building up opposition to the monetary fund if you inject the personality of Henry Wallace, who is the symbol of leftist opposition, into this picture."

Wolcott then called for assurance that Sidney Hillman, CIO-PAC leader, will not be named head of the export-import bank and concluded by complaining that President Roosevelt has not gone to the right since the November elections. The nation, he said, had a right to expect the president to make some gestures, at least, toward appeasing industry for the sake of national unity.

"But now we have Wallace," Wolcott declared.

To this, veteran rules committee chairman Adolph Sabath replied:

"You may feel that the president has not gone to the right, that he has not made concessions for the sake of national unity. But do you remember the names of the men he appointed to the state department? Do you think that labor and liberals wanted Stettinius, Clayton Grew, Rockefeller, Dunn, and Holmes?"

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**EDSON'S WASHINGTON COLUMN**

BY PETER EDSON  
NEA Washington Correspondent

**U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES TACTICAL TRAINING CENTER, ORLANDO, Fla.**—Most of the air failures of the present war have been logistic, say the experts at this AAF brain center.

They mention this fact in pointing with something of a red face to the tons of material piled up in Europe today—stuff that has become obsolete since the time it was ordered. The reason for these surpluses is simply that the planes for which these supplies were ordered became obsolete before the supplies could be consumed.

So swift has been the technical advance of military aircraft that at this very moment the logisticians are faced with the possibility that the internal combustion engine may be obsolete for aircraft of the future if the gas turbine, or jet-propelled engine, lives up to its present promise. No one can today give an exact answer to this probability, but it emphasizes what procurement men are up against.

**BECAUSE** there were no experience data on airplane performance in desert, amphibious, arctic and high altitude warfare, there have been no guidebooks on which supply officers could base their requirements estimates. Only in the last few weeks have the experts been able to compile what they might call a "logistical bible," bringing together all the experience in air supply for this war. It is still a highly imperfect document, subject to numerous and frequent changes. But it is a start at making a handbook for one of the newest branches of military science.

Ordering up for an air war begins with the planes. It is a surprising and sad fact that up to this point in the war perhaps not more than one out of every five planes produced is in action on the front. Training in the United States requires many, planes undergoing repair or maintenance accounts for others, planes in transit or reserve number many more. Planes actually lost in combat checks off half the total in some categories.

**BOMBS** make up from 6 to 21 per cent of Air Force supplies by weight, but the one big item is gasoline, which is 60 per cent of the supply problem by weight. It was only last September that the supply of aviation gas became greater than the demand. Production in March of this year is estimated at only 50,000 barrels a day above requirements, but this margin has been obtained only by taking a big allotment of butylene from the synthetic rubber industry and by reducing the grade of the gasoline from 140 to 130.

Throwing around all these supplies—2½ tons per day per plane—takes manpower and the supply of that is something of a problem, too. A rule of thumb is two and a half men on the ground for every man in the air at a base, but this only begins to tell the story. In certain Pacific operations last year, to keep 450 men in the air required 10,000 men on the ground, to keep 815 planes going took 38,000.

**OUT OUR WAY**

By J. R. Williams



BORN THIRTY YEARS TOO SOON

"I saw the bravest guys in the world hiding in foxholes, running forward in a crouch, leaping into Japanese emplacements and then finishing off the enemy at close quarters. You know it takes guts to fight that way. Replacements are constantly moving forward. There are Japanese bodies everywhere, too, and that makes you feel just a little better."

He said the Japanese artillery and rockets and the American warship bombardment throughout the night "makes a hell if there ever was one. There is nothing anywhere to compare with the battle of this island—the battle of Iwo Jima."

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