

Marine Corps Demands Greater Voice In Unification Of Armed Services

WASHINGTON, May 26 — (AP) — Two ex-marines came out fighting on the Senate floor Wednesday to give the Marine Corps more voice in the Unified Armed Services.

Senator Douglas (D-Ill) and McCarthy (R-Wis), who served in the Marines during the war, were joined by Senator Flanders (R-Vt) in that proposal.

They offered a series of amendments to pending legislation to revise the law that unified the Army, Navy and Air Forces.

One would give the commandant of Marines a place and vote on the Joint Chiefs of Staff when that top-level agency was considering a matter involving the Marine Corps or their specialty of amphibious warfare.

Normally only the heads of the Army, Air Force and the Navy are members of the Joint Chiefs. The Navy represents the Marines.

The pending bill would add a permanent chairman to the Joint Chiefs.

Another amendment would spell out functions of the Marines and eliminate a present requirement for coordination with the Army and give a boost to the Army.

It would give the Army authority to operate "tactical close-support" aviation. This is a duty now handled by the Air Force, some Navy Aviation, and Marine Aviation.

Morse's Proposal Hit Flanders hit at an amendment by Senator Morse which would let the secretary of defense shift around functions of military personnel. The Marines fear that fighting duties might be taken from the Corps.

Morse argues that the secretary of defense ought to have more authority and be able to "knock some heads together down at the Pentagon."

After the ex-marines' proposals were offered, the Senate slipped down 46 to 26 Morse's idea of giving the defense secretary a free hand in shifting personnel among the services.

That was a key item in Morse's plan to give the secretary head-knocking powers.

Unless Secretary Johnson can deal this way with top leaders of the Army, Navy and Air Force and cut out "inset and tie," Morse said, there never will be either "true unification" or the multi-million-dollar savings that real unification would bring.

The Oregon Senator offered five amendments to a bill written by the Senate Armed Services Committee to revise the 1947 unification act.

Under another Morse amendment, the secretaries of Army, Navy and Air Force would be called "undersecretaries of defense."

Other changes proposed by the Oregon Senator would strengthen the position of the proposed chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; give the Joint Chiefs a larger staff of helpers; and increase the authority of the munitions board to plan for possible war.

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Remarriage Rates Rate of remarriage among the divorced is higher than the overall marriage rate.



OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams

Oakland Sewer Project Plans OK'd; Green Light Given Vets Hospital Plan

Plans and specifications for new sewer mains and a sewage treatment plant at Oakland were approved this week by the State Sanitary Authority. Mayor John Edwards of Oakland said the installations are contingent upon approval of a proposed bond issue by voters of the city.

He said sewer mains would be installed in the principal streets, while the proposed treatment plant would be located on Calapooia Creek, west of the Southern Pacific tracks. The outfall would be about a 1,000 feet below the city.

Engineering for the sanitary survey of Oakland was accomplished through aid from the state, said Edwards. It is hoped that further aid may be obtained for

construction of the project. Estimated cost will be \$51,500 for sewers and \$24,300 for the 1,000-population treatment system.

"Go ahead" signals were also given the Roseburg Veterans Hospital to construct a sewage treatment plant. Dr. John L. Haskins, manager, said the hospital's plans are based on cooperation with the North Roseburg Sanitary District, which has plans for a treatment plant on the South Umpqua River.

Clarence Landis, chairman of the North Roseburg Sanitary District, said the district is awaiting the engineer's report, on which plans for a bond issue will be based. The bond issue must be passed by voters of the district. The election will probably be scheduled in July.

Two Associations Rap Health Insurance Plan

WASHINGTON, May 26 — (AP) — President Truman's national health insurance program was assailed Wednesday by the American Medical Association and the American Dental Association.

The Medical Association denounced the administration's payroll tax insurance plan as "an extreme example of compulsory paternalism, wrong in principle, impossible of practical operation, and contrary to our established ways and habits of life and practical principles."

Dr. Louis H. Bauer, a member of the AMA Board of Trustees, spoke for the Association in a statement prepared for delivery before a Senate labor subcommittee studying the President's program and alternative plans. Bauer said the emphasis should be on voluntary health insurance plans.

The Dental Association opposed

compulsory health insurance on the ground that it would "tend to shift emphasis away from preventive procedures to a mass repair program."

Discovered Gems Don't Interest Land Owner

PORTLAND, May 26 — (AP) — Dwight C. Thorsen, operator of a parking lot which yielded \$4,000 worth of jewelry from a hole Tuesday, said he wasn't "going to squabble over a few diamonds."

"I have other things to do," said Thorsen, who has the mysterious jewelry in his safety deposit box. "They belong to the person who lost them, and I hope the rightful owner will be found."

The jewelry—71 diamonds and two pearls in a rotted chamois bag, buried two feet deep—were found by Milton Holland, a workman digging a sump hole.

No one knows to whom they belong. Miss Katherine C. Donovan, in whose family the property has been for 80 years, said the jewelry wasn't hers, and she wasn't interested in it.

Officials said that if no owner turned up, the finder could split the value with Multnomah County.

Norblad Asks Delay In Hospital Demolition

WASHINGTON, May 26 — (AP) — Rep. Norblad (R-Ore) asked the War Assets Administration Wednesday to delay planned demolition and removal of the Navy Hospital near Astoria, Ore.

The facility has been declared surplus and turned over to the WAA for disposal. Norblad told the WAA the Astoria Chamber of Commerce, City Council and civic groups are now trying to find a beneficial use for the property.

"As you know this Hospital is a permanent structure which cost more than \$2,000,000," he wrote Rear Admiral Paul L. Mather, administrator. "and it would seem unwise at this time to destroy it without considering every possible use which could be made of it."

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Common Policy Toward Chinese Red Rule Sought

WASHINGTON, May 26 — (AP) — The United States is urging all other nations with direct interests in the Far East to agree on a common policy toward the Communist government in China — and to avoid granting recognition hastily.

Talks have been held in Washington and in the capitals of the other countries involved which include Britain, France, The Netherlands, Belgium, Siam, India, New Zealand and Australia.

While State Department officials gave a guarded confirmation that discussions are underway with all these nations, indications were that the chief concern of American leaders is that Britain and the United States should stick together on this issue. They wish to maintain a solid Anglo-American front toward Communism in the Far East as well as in Europe.

There has been considerable concern here that the British are much more anxious to establish close working relations with a Red government in China than are the Americans. This difference in attitude is responsibly attributed to the greater British business interests in the area, including the immense amounts of empire wealth at Hongkong.

for it was quelled. Capt. Sperry's action "enabled us to keep the fire to a reasonable extent and save many thousands of dollars in fire fighting costs," Nelson said in a letter of commendation to the airline office here.

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Military Plane Purchases' Probe Demanded

WASHINGTON, May 26 — (AP) — Rep. Van Zandt (R-Pa.) has proposed a congressional investigation of "the nature and circumstances" of military airplane purchases.

He introduced a resolution to create a special five-man House committee which, among other things, would inquire into "prior or present" connections of any military officials with any company which has received aircraft contracts.

Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson was a director of Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corp., Consolidated Vultee makes the B138, giant bomber on which the Air Force has been concentrating.

Van Zandt said in a statement: "A great deal of information has come to my attention within recent weeks regarding the unusually large purchases of aircraft from Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corp., controlled by Floyd Odlum, a heavy contributor to the Democratic campaign and a company of which Louis Johnson was until three days after his nomination

as secretary of defense by the President, a director and Washington counsel.

"I am also informed that to obtain funds for these unusually large contracts, the Air Force has ruthlessly canceled orders from four other aircraft companies."

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