

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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Pacific Bases

A subcommittee of the house naval affairs committee has made a report recommending retention of bases through the western Pacific. Following the statement of President Truman declaring the same public policy it may be regarded as settled that the United States will keep many of the key points which it has occupied during the war. This is permissible under the terms of the Charter of the United Nations, though it does not square with the strict interpretation of the Atlantic Charter.

The congressional subcommittee made four recommendations:

1st, The United States should dominate Micronesia, the nest of island along the equator, Carolines, Marshalls and Marianas; also the outlying islands of Japan, the Izu, Bonins and Ryukus.

2nd, We should have definite rights to certain sites we have developed on territories of our allies in the Pacific.

3rd, full title should be given to American bases on Guadalcanal, at Noumea, Espiritu Santo, etc.

4th, these bases should not be permitted to lapse into conditions of poor preparedness.

With due respect to the recommendations of the subcommittee we would express the view that our final policy should be worked out as a joint enterprise in which the state department, war and navy departments and congressional committees and the director of the budget should have a hand. It would be a mistake to try to grab all the pinpoints of islands in the Pacific. It is not necessary. We will do better to select the key points and then brace them.

However we must beware of being caught as the Japs have been in this war. For example if our Hawaiian base should fall then all our outlying bases would be rendered virtually impotent. Our strategic frontier therefore must be studied carefully before selections are made.

We must remember too that aircraft carriers, longer-range bombers and rocket bombs minimize the value of exposed bases, unless they are firmly held. The carrier as we have developed it has become a movable base.

Our policy with reference to the Pacific can hardly be unilateral. We have to regard the interests of the British Commonwealth of nations, of Australia in particular, of China and of Russia. Nor should we ignore the obligations of the Charter of the United Nations. If this organization succeeds as an instrumentality for keeping peace we can reduce our commitments in the Pacific, but hardly until then. There is virtually no commercial value in retention of such island outposts. They are economically deficient and we will have to pour in money to give the natives a decent standard of living.

For all these reasons our policy in the Pacific needs to be studied with extreme care, and be reasonably flexible to meet changes in the future.

Fines on Borax Concerns

The twenty-mule teams will have to haul a lot of borax out of the desert to pay the fines levied by the United States court on the borax companies for violating the Sherman anti-trust act. The six American, British and former German companies and their officers were fined

Editorial Comment

NON-APPEASER STEPS OUT
Governor Snell last Wednesday expressed "shock and keen regret" at the resignation of Paul Crooks as chairman of the state liquor control commission. Doubtless others who are earnestly interested in a forthright administration of the liquor control act share the same feeling.

The governor also said that Chairman Crooks as a member of the commission "has rendered an outstanding service and given unsparingly of his time and effort." That, too, was a statement of fact. Chairman Crooks is a busy man in attention to his private affairs, yet he took time out for daily visits to the headquarters offices of the commission and personal attention to the details of the commission's business. His oversight of the functioning of the commission was not limited to the two or three-day monthly meetings. He was on the job all the time.

Where Chairman Crooks did not mesh with his two fellow commissioners, and the commission's administrator, was that he did not like to be pushed around by licensees of the commission or those without licenses who were operating without them, or their attorneys.

One of the last checks he put under the wheels of that ilk was laid down just before his resignation, when he proposed the rule that continued operation of licensees under order of suspension be stopped immediately whenever the commission had sustained its decision after an appeal, even though application for a rehearing were filed. The practice had been that operations were allowed as long as a licensee were before the commission either on initial appeal or application for rehearing, a very convenient arrangement for the licensee.

The belated application of the Gold Room, a night spot which long had been a thorn in the side of the commission, for a service license, and the majority reversal of the commission's stand by Commissioners Lilley and Kirkpatrick and Administrator Conway, was the last straw to break down Chairman Crooks' patience and force his resignation. With three cases pending in court against the Gold Room and the recognized intent of its attorney to make these the test of commission jurisdiction, and after prior decision of the commission to take no action on the license application until after the court had acted, Commissioners Lilley and Kirkpatrick, supported by the recommendation of Administrator Conway, reversed themselves and granted the license. Chairman Crooks put the motion made by Lilley and seconded by Kirkpatrick and announced his resignation.

Chairman Crooks does not believe in a policy of appeasement in the administration and enforcement of the liquor control act. So he got tired of butting against it and quit—Ralph Watson in Oregon Journal.

\$146,000. Of course, that is probably just a fraction of the toll they have taken through their fixing of prices.

In addition the British interests are required to sell two of the mines they have owned and to drop a suit against the secretary of the interior in which they were trying to get patent to ten acres of one of the world's richest deposits of kernite, from which the commercial borax is derived, which was valued at from seven to ten million dollars.

The persistent efforts of the department of justice will bring results in making business concerns pay more respect to the Sherman act. Business itself, which talks a lot about free enterprise, doesn't hesitate to shackle competition in order to gouge the public.

Plants for Experiments

Springfield's wood alcohol plant is in the same boat as Salem's alumina plant; the war ended before either got to operating. Like our alumina venture, the alcohol plant is something of an experiment, to see if it is practical to produce alcohol from waste wood. In both cases the experiments should be carried out so that operation techniques may be learned and costs determined.

What needs to be solved with the Springfield plant is disposal of the waste liquors which result from the process. We have been told they were in such quantity and of such chemical strength they would destroy fish life in the Willamette. Researchers at Oregon State college are working on the problem but we have heard of no solution.

It's gradually getting easier for some folks to remember they've gas enough so they don't have to walk or take a bus down town. But it'll be a few days yet before everyone gets in the habit of remembering where they parked the car.

The Japanese wouldn't have had to understand English to get the gist of the quite-expressive comments which greeted the news that some of our fliers still were being shot down over Tokyo after the surrender.

Interpreting The War News

By JAMES D. WHITE
Associated Press Staff Writer

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 20.—(AP)—Even without his handle-bar moustache, I think I recognized Lt. Gen. Takashiro Kawabe from his picture. He is the unfortunate Shamurai chosen to head the mission to General MacArthur to learn the terms of Japanese surrender.

If this is the Kawabe I knew, years ago, he has plumbed the depths of degradation for a Japanese, for when I knew him he was a conqueror.

It was August 9, 1937, and a mechanized Japanese army brigade was taking over the ancient capital of China, Peiping. Along the mimosa-lined street rolled a staff car, and in the staff car was General Kawabe his moustaches waving in the breeze.

But the story begins still earlier. Early in 1937, some months before the Japanese invaded China from their Manchurian base but were already planning to, the commandant of the Japanese embassy guard threw a party for foreign correspondents.

The commandant was a Col. T. Kawabe, famous locally for his handle-bar moustaches but whose first name, we were told, was a military secret.

He was being transferred to Manchuria, and wanted to entertain the foreign press before he left. That was the story. From the careful questioning at the dinner it was apparent the Japanese wanted to know exactly what foreign correspondents thought about Japan and what she was doing.

Kawabe was a red-faced little man, unusually so for a Japanese. He had the ruddiness and the liveliness of some Yankee country storekeeper. It was one of those banquets where you sit on the floor in your socks and try to avoid drinking as much sake as the Japanese want you to.

Kawabe, as host, was all over the place and got boisterously tight as he tried to get us drunk. He confided to each his consuming friendship for foreigners who understood Japan's real intentions, and held our hand as he labored in English to get us to tell him what we really thought about Japan. It was all according to protocol at first, and he held the hand of the oldest guest first, but soon abandoned this order to get to the representatives of the bigger news agencies.

He got very gay, along with the other Japanese present, and ended up by giving us a demonstration of how he could walk on his hands.

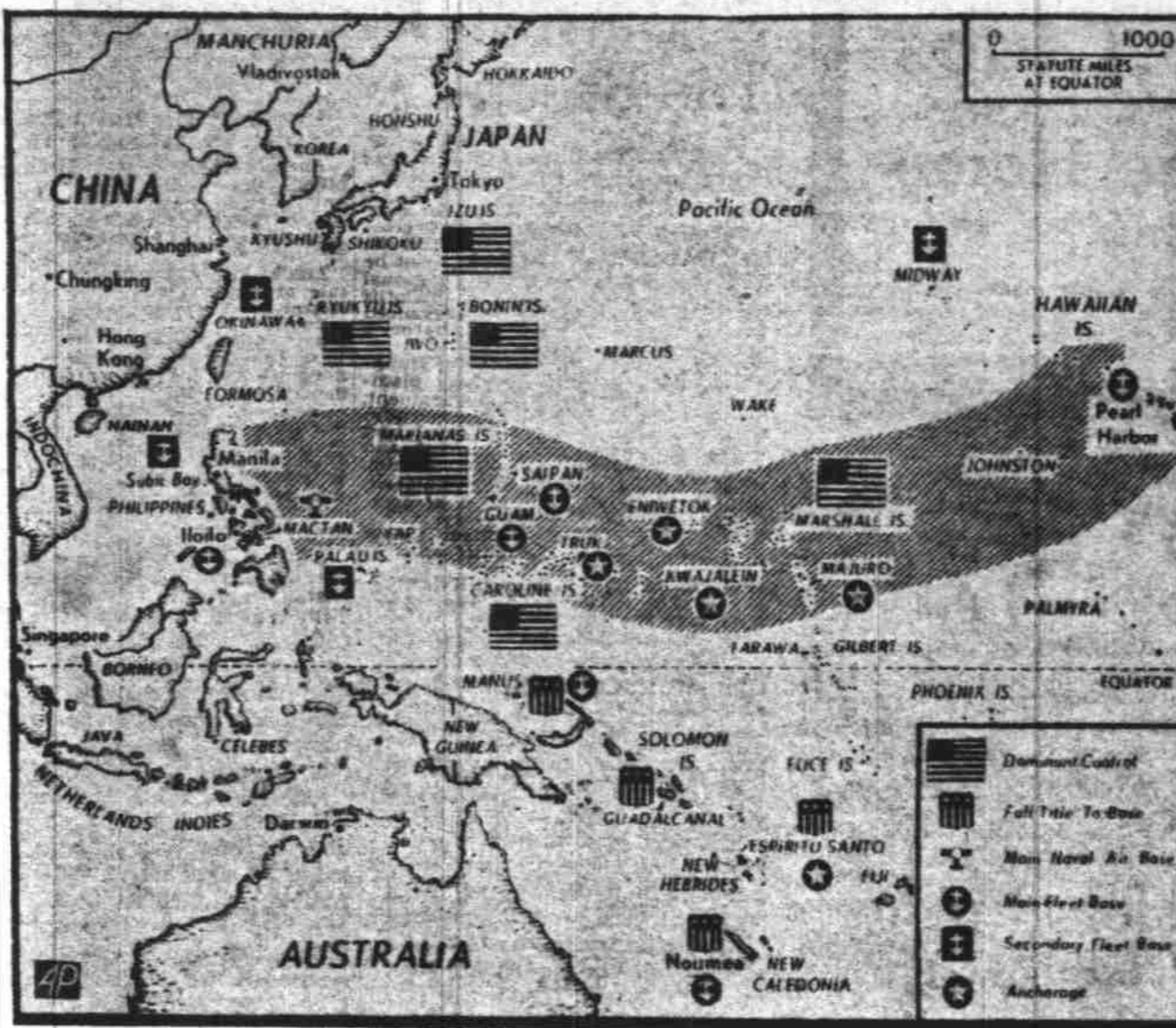
He was good, too. He stumped around the room upside-down, and the skirts of his long black kimono fell down over his head. He was wearing long underwear.

Kawabe then went to Manchuria, but soon came back. When war broke out with China the next summer a mechanized brigade thundered down through the great wall and encircled Peiping. Its job was to let the Chinese garrison slip out and thus take the great cultural center intact. Kawabe, who knew the city intimately from his service there as garrison commandant, did exactly that as leader of the mechanized force.

Unlike most Japanese militarists, he did not swagger as he rode into town in his staff car with moustaches flying. He soon turned command over to General Count Terauchi, and disappeared. From his pictures radiophotocoded from Manila, he is much changed today. The proud moustaches are gone, but the jutting cheekbones and the stiff gait look the same. He looks, of course, many years older.

Kawabe used to be one of the more appealing Japanese, one of those who seems in spite of long military careers to have a joke dancing in his eye, but who is all spit and polish and military efficiency at the same time.

Where Naval Group Wants U.S. to Keep Bases in Pacific



Map locates sites for naval bases in the Pacific which would be retained by the U. S. under recommendations of the house naval subcommittee report which asserted the U. S. should retain outright some islands taken from the Japanese, and that other bases should be maintained in the Pacific. The report urged that full title be obtained for those bases in islands mandated to other nations which cannot defend them. Shaded area traces some suggested as main line of strategy for defense in the Pacific. (AP wirephoto map)

The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS

DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA, by Alexis de Toqueville (Knopf, 96c)

Since Toqueville wrote his classic more than a century ago, a delay in reviewing this edition published in April, ought not to matter. Perhaps the most astonishing aspect of the young French visitor's undoubted genius is that so many of the observations he made in 1831-2 are as true today as they were then, or as they were three months ago.

Toqueville was a royalist, or at least a Bourbon, sympathizer. He and a friend, Gustave de Beaumont, came here to investigate prisons, stayed to study democracy in action. Toqueville saw America under one of the most forthright democrats: President Jackson; he wrote for Frenchmen living under one of the least effective monarchs: Louis-Philippe the Orleanist.

But in a larger sense he wrote for all peoples in all times. Philosophers had theorized about the equalitarian, democratic state, but it remained for him to take an actual example apart and study it piece by piece. He made unique discoveries about us and our government, and phrased them superbly.

We might ask ourselves how many of these observations, picked at random, would apply to us now: "The characteristics of the American journalist consist in an open and course appeal to the passions of his readers, in which there is so little independence of mind and real freedom of discussion as in America. . . . (The prejudice of race is nowhere) so intolerant as in those states where servitude has never been known. . . . In aristocracies a few great pictures are produced; in democratic countries a vast number of insignificant ones. . . . Democracy not only infuses a taste for letters among the trading classes, but introduces a trading spirit into literature. . . . (Democratic communities) will endure poverty, servitude, barbarism, but they will not endure aristocracy. . . . The Americans, in their intercourse with strangers (foreigners), appear impatient of the smallest censure and insatiable of praise."

This smartly designed, two-volume, boxed edition is the Reeves translation as revised by Bowen, now corrected and annotated by Dr. Phillips Bradley of Queens College. Bradley is correct in noting that it is time for a brand new translation.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



"Our plans for peace are substantially the same as they were for war, colonel—it all has to be done in triplicate!"

Kenneth L. Dixon AT THE FRONT!
War Has Left France Poor, Bewildered, But Full of Ambition

By Robert Wilson (Subbing for Kenneth L. Dixon) PARIS, Aug. 19.—(AP)—A bathtub and refrigerator in every French home is one facet of a program under which the poorly housed French people hope to raise their standard of living closer to the American standard. "The French are the worst-housed people in Europe," Reconstruction Minister Raoul Dautry says. "Our hygienic level hasn't made any progress since the time of Charles X (1830)."

In addition to sanitary complaints, French farmers in Brittany resent the dollar a day paid German prisoners working the farms while the French farm labor wage is fixed at 80 cents daily. . . . France's population is now estimated at 40,300,000 which is 900,000 less than in September, 1939. An estimated 100,000 troops were killed in 1939-40, another 50,000 from then to the war's end, while 100,000 civilians were killed by bombings and shell-fire, 4000 were executed by the Germans as French traitors and 60,000 died as slave laborers for the reich. . . . French clocks, now six hours ahead of New York time, will be turned back an hour.

The French telephone system is currently one of the more mysterious phenomena on the face of the globe. It is a common experience to find yourself suddenly conversing with someone who has telephoned you while you were talking to someone else. Apparently finding your conversation dull for eavesdropping purposes, the operator simply cuts in another call. . . . Much has been spoken and written about France's food shortage. . . . The stark facts are that a Frenchman who before the war ate 95 pounds of meat yearly now has 1 pound, compared to the American consumption of 141 pounds per capita; 12 pounds of fats compared to 33 pounds in France in 1939, and 13 pounds of sugar compared to 47 five years ago. . . . French newspapers carefully pointed out that under the law Gen. Petain's condemnation to "national indignity" means he no longer has the right to the title "marshal". . . . France currently has 200,000 nazi prisoners at work and hopes eventually to raise this number to 1,400,000. . . . As first reparations she anticipates 800,000 pairs of shoes from a German factory at Pirmasoon.

French newspaper editors struggled heroically trying to translate "blood and guts" when Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., came to Paris. . . . In French slang the American monicker came out "sang et cran" (blood and intelligence) and "sang et tripe."

The Safety Valve

LETTERS FROM STATESMAN READERS

END DAYLIGHT SAVING
To the Editor:

Now that we are passing from war-time to peace time, and, probably, to considerable unemployment, it seems appropriate to allow the world's workers a chance to go to work by daylight.

"Daylight-saving" is a misnomer, known as such by every student of science, as well as by most early risers; so why should we continue to cheat ourselves, just to please a minority of the commercial interests?

But owing to the nature of our government, no change is likely until individuals and organizations request it of their congressmen. So, now that no one can be accused of sabotaging the war effort, many of them will welcome such requests.

Respectfully,
JOSEPH E. TORBERT,
961 Oak St.

Vehicle Registration Totals 408,406 Units

Motor vehicle registration in Oregon at the end of July totaled 408,406 units, an increase of 2400 units over the registration at the same time last year, Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell, Jr., announced here today.

Of the total, 322,671 were private passenger cars which represented a slight decrease from the total of 323,543 registered a year ago.

There were 1142 busses, 35,385 light trucks and 45,448 heavy trucks. Registration fees totaled \$3,454,443.07 compared to \$3,245,192.94 a year ago.

CRASHES REPORTED

MEDFORD, Aug. 20.—(AP)—First weekend after gas rationing ended here today with five persons in a hospital from four accidents.

News Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON
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WASHINGTON, August 20.— The confusion about where the United States is going in this world seems developing into a debate. Mr. Churchill, still the best reporter of international events in his new secondary role (his speeches give more news) told parliament the U. S. "at the minute stands at the summit of the world."

He added that in power and responsibility it would take two or three years before our great progress is overtaken. Yet since peace, all you hear on our radio every hour on the hour are doleful tomes about how many unemployed there will be and Mr. Truman has summoned back congress primarily to raise the unemployment compensation level from \$20 to \$25 a week and extend the allowances from 20 to 26 weeks.

There are some who see a connection between the cries that the wolves are at our door, and the program to push up the unemployment allowance which congress had steadfastly resisted for many months. In fact the connection is so closely joined, in their eyes, that the common prophesies of defeat for the Truman idea—and the CIO demands which would go further—are being softly amended. Word being passed around now, the Truman measure will surely be adopted and the CIO may pry additional concessions.

I am not a master of the propaganda arts, which become more mystifying to me as new techniques develop, but I do recall many past occasions, in recent years, when the cry of "wolf, wolf," was raised solely for the purpose of shearing the sheep while the public was looking for the wolf.

In this particular case, I note that tax reduction is a subject further down the list. Indeed, no program for that phase of post-war adjustment was worked up in advance by the administration, although some anonymous members of congress were being quoted on the back pages of the papers that the normal tax will be cut from 6 to 3 per cent. Also I have heard some rather good authorities suggest the taxes our people are paying are greater than the war expenditures of all the other nations of the world—in short, our people are paying more than all other nations were putting out in the war. This cannot be precisely proved or disproved because what Russia spends is not even known to her own people, but I believe it to be substantially true.

In any case, everyone now is paying taxes, or should be, most people through the nose by the withholding arrangement, yet no comparable interest in their behalf is noticeable. You never hear anyone crying: "Wolf—the tax collector."

Not only that but you never even get a straight-forward picture of the unemployment situation. No one has gone on the radio at any hour I have been on, to say that 80 per cent of the unemployed are already authorized to get the maximum of \$20 a week, but an expert figured out the fact, and the congressional experts say it is about right. The states, of course, are flushed (possibly \$6,000,000,000) with big employment reserves from war taxes, as in New York, for instance, where the unemployment sales tax was kept on before and throughout the war although there was no unemployment. When need for the tax passed, the tax was not repealed. Perhaps I am expecting too much to think that any politician would wolf up a tax reduction program. But why is this? There are more taxpayers than any other class.

Nor do I hear anything about the existing, greatest non-military spending program ever conceived in the mind of man. Congress has appropriated \$1,500,000,000 for flood control works and \$500,000,000 a year for highways, a fact you will never find in a CIO leaflet promoting increased free compensation. The GI bill of rights is supposed to dispense between \$3,000,000,000 and \$4,000,000,000 in compensations within two years, with allowances to pay the way of many boys through two years school.

ing, but there is no advertising on that. I thought I had a rather good column Aug. 6 showing the unadded total of our foreign spend-program was \$15,700,000,000 including lend-lease, export-import bank, Bretton Woods, army relief and UNRRA, but that fact is still otherwise unadvertised. No one else added it and no one ever referred to it as a foreign lend-spend program. In connection with this current story, it must be considered an unemployment relief measure.

Now add on the domestic end, \$2,000,000,000 for public works, \$3,500,000,000 for GI and \$5,000,000,000 in the state unemployment compensation funds and you have \$11,500,000,000 more, or a grand total planned expenditure of more than \$27,000,000,000 (billions). Why, Roosevelt in his palmyest free-spending days never spent one-third of that amount in his budgets. In short, the proposed relief spending is more than three times the amounts with which Mr. Roosevelt shocked the world of economics a few years ago.

The taxpayers, of course, will pay it all. Is this why the present-day politician never mentions the subject most affecting practically all the people in their pocketbooks and breadbaskets? And why their publicity men do not add up and announce what they are spending and proposing to spend, but let the wolf cry run such deep wells as to deafen the public against all other considerations except the reported presence of the wolf?

Control Board Office to Close

The hop control board offices in Salem are preparing to close with the automatic expiration of the marketing agreement. Under the marketing law the hop agreement automatically expires September 1 and renewal under existing laws may not be sought while prices are above parity.

While the marketing agreement is expiring some of the advantages which have accrued to the industry through the maintenance of a control office may be maintained on a voluntary organization basis.

Among these advantages are included the collection and dissemination of industry statistics and the common meeting ground for affiliated industries, producers, dealers and brewers.

The local office has two months in which to liquidate its net up and it is possible some such volunteer organization may be established before November 1, the end of the two month period.

Paul Rowell is the managing director of the local office. He has held that position since October 1943 when Conrad Paulus retired to private business.

The hop control board covers all of the Pacific coast hop growing areas and is estimated to include 99 percent of the United States hops.

Council Pleads Salvage Need

The need for salvaging scrap paper, tin cans and waste fats continues, regardless of the end of the war, the Marion County Defense Council stressed today.

A telegram received by the State Salvage Committee from the War Production Board in Washington, DC, stated that "although fighting war has ended, certain materials are in short supply and restrict orderly reconversion. For the present, therefore, will you please ask your committees to continue salvaging tin cans, used fats and waste paper as if there had been no change in war status. We hope need for volunteers in salvaging these materials will terminate in near future, but for present their efforts are definitely needed."

There probably will be a combined tin can and waste paper drive in the fall. In the meantime, each person is urged to save their tin cans and paper until notified of the date of the drive. Waste fats may be turned in to meat dealers at any time.

The federal reserve system was inaugurated in 1914.

Stevens
Makers of Fine Jewelry
Lovely mountings of various designs to enhance the beauty of your diamonds
Diamonds reset while you wait
Terms gladly arranged
339 Court St. Salem, Oregon