

# Business Role in Second Place For Former Officer of Army

Editor's note: This is the last of six dispatches telling the stories of some of the U.S. military leaders who have become "Tycoons Out of Uniform."

By JAMES L. KILGALLEN  
UPI Correspondent

New York—(UPI)—The present civilian post of Lt. Gen. Leslie R. Groves, USA (retired), as a vice president of Remington Rand is decidedly "interesting" but does take second place to his wartime role in the development of the atom bomb.

"It would be impossible for any job to be as interesting as mine was in the atomic bomb development," said Gen. Groves, who headed the Manhattan Atom Bomb Project during World War II. "Success meant so much to the entire country and to the rest of the world that no other job could ever possibly be of such importance, as interesting, or as wearing mentally and physically, and in saying this I do not mean

that my present work is not interesting — for it is."

## Two Parts

I asked Gen. Groves what are the "challenging" aspects of his present civilian duties. He divided his answer into two parts.

"During my first five years with Remington Rand I was in charge of our development work," he said. "During the second five years I have been concerned with general rather than specific responsibilities."

The highlight of the first five years was the development by Remington Rand of the Univac. This, as you know, was the first giant electronic brain and the foundation upon which we and our competitors in the field both here and abroad have built other such machines.

"This development was most interesting because it was important not only from the standpoint of our company, but also from the standpoint of the advancement of the standard of living of our peoples. Like the atomic bomb it was not a project which was certain of success, but the chances of failure were much less as were the consequences of possible failure."

## Should Be Good

"In the second period of my work with Remington Rand the challenging aspects have been how I can assist the company to improve the welfare of our employees, our stockholders, our customers, and our country."

"This should be the goal of every business executive. If we do this, improvement of conditions in the rest of the world will naturally follow," Groves said industry has

learned that the successful military officer has had many years of experience both in leadership and in the development of leadership among his subordinates.

"I think that industry has also found that the military officer is versatile and, contrary to public opinion, quite flexible in his approach to new situations."

"Above all else the former military leaders as a group have proved to be valuable to their employers."

Gen. Groves headed the Manhattan Project from 1942 until Jan. 1, 1957. He was in complete and responsible charge of all phases of the project, including scientific, technical and process development, construction, production, security, military intelligence of enemy activities, as well as the planning for the use of the bomb.

## Pay Better

Groves recognized that industry pays better than the military. The salary differences, he said are great, and this is "particularly true for the successful officer of more than 10 years of service." This situation, he asserted should be corrected.

"Military salaries should be high enough," he said, "so that a competent officer anxious to remain on active duty will not condemn his wife and children to a life of poverty."

Gen. Groves said he does not miss military life, for in retiring he "turned over a new leaf." Nevertheless, he added when he is thrown together with military people, as when visiting Washington, "it all comes back very promptly."

# Great Book Group Planned for Area; Seminar Possible

The Great Books Foundation is interested in forming a discussion group in Medford and possibly a seminar next summer in Ashland, according to W. E. (Gene) Thomas, 41 Ashland ave., Medford.

Larry W. Ross, western regional director of the foundation, is expected to visit here Friday.

The foundation, Thomas said, "advances the theory that the person with a thorough classical education knows how to live a better life, to vote more intelligently and to better solve both business and personal problems."

The discussion groups, meeting every two weeks with a leader who seeks to encourage discussion of issues brought to light in the assigned reading, cover in four or more years the outstanding authors of history.

Their writings are compiled into booklets sold at a low price to participants in the course. "It's my recollection," Thomas said, "that in the past the reading material could be acquired free of charge by those who were unable to pay."

No Education Requirements "There is no minimum educational requirements to belong to a Great Books group; however, if a person wasn't interested or couldn't understand literature they obviously wouldn't want to be there."

"In the past most of the money to forward this group's objectives has been supplied by the Ford Foundation." The project was born at the University of Chicago under former Chancellor Robert

# Bountiful Supply Of Mortgage Money In Coming Months

Washington—(UPI)—From two government sources come good tidings for home buyers! A bountiful supply of mortgage money is expected in the coming months, probably well into next year.

Home loan seekers, in short, are not likely to have much difficulty getting financing — although they won't find borrowing as easy as it was a few months ago when government anti-recession programs were exerting maximum influence.

This is the picture as seen by the Commerce and Labor departments' joint construction outlook for 1959 and by Commissioner Norman P. Mason of the Federal Housing Administration (FHA).

To be sure, there is no denying that money is tighter and more expensive than it was. But there is expert opinion that conditions will not stiffen much more.

Maynard Hutchins and Prof. Mortimer J. Adler.

The summer seminar at Ashland, according to Thomas, would be comparable to the one at Aspen, Colorado. Prominent men of letters would be invited to speak. Leaders and potential leaders of discussion groups would be given instruction.

"If this comes off," Thomas said, "it would be something of interest as well as publicity value to the community."

Thomas has invited anyone interested in further details of the program to get in touch with him or with Dr. Thomas Rutter, M.D., 1003 Queen Anne ave.

SPENDING MONEY Washington—(UPI)—A joint congressional committee reported Sunday that the federal government would have \$147 billion available for spending during the fiscal year ending June 30.

The sun shines 61 per cent of the daylight hours in the Lower Rio Grande Valley in Texas.

MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Oregon, Monday, November 24, 1958 3

FEW REFUGEES RETURN Washington—(UPI)—The Senate internal security subcommittee has reported that only 5 per cent of the refugees who fled the Hungarian revolution have returned home despite "persistent and at times even physically aggressive" Communist propaganda.

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