



"THE PAPER THAT HAS NO ENEMIES HAS NO FRIENDS."
—George Putnam.

CIVIL DEFENSE

Rural Units Must Supplement Metropolitan Defense Groups

By Walter A. Shead

(This is the last in a series of five articles on the civil defense program)

WHETHER YOU LIVE in a city, or a small town or on a farm in the rural areas of the nation, you have an obligation as a citizen, interested in saving your own life and the lives of your fellow citizens in the civil defense program.

Many folks in small towns or on the farms may be inclined to take the dangers inherent in a full-scale war with a grain of salt. There are no barriers to poison or nerve gases. There are no limits to biological warfare, and the destruction of the means of providing food to our military personnel may be a main objective of our potential enemy. Suppose your neighbors in a nearby city have the most efficient civil defense system possible to work out and an enemy attack knocks out large numbers of its personnel. Then it may be the duty of those in surrounding cities and towns and counties to move in as rescue teams—to care for evacuees, to improve hospitals and many other essentials of defense work.

There are hundreds of jobs for civilians which must be filled—airplane spotters, apprehension of saboteurs, guarding against water poisoning or pollution, amateur radio operators, ambulance drivers, messengers, first aid trucks, storage of thousands of items of supply in medication and food—transport, engineers, housekeeping employees for nursing and dietary departments, cooks, laundresses, blood donors, watchmen at plants, utilities, and essential services such as dairies and pasteurization plants, immunization of small animals to prevent rabies, grave diggers, specially trained radiation detection teams, air raid shelter construction—and dozens of other essential workers.

Alert watchfulness on the part of farmers to detect dangerous diseases in their live-stock, and pests and plant disease is highly important. The bureau of animal industry already has given instruction to a large number of veterinarians in the differential diagnosis of these diseases and at the first suspicion the farmer should call the state livestock sanitary officials for prompt investigation. In many instances large amounts of vaccine must be promptly available and in any widespread outbreak, quarantine procedure and destruction of animals and their burial may be all-important to prevent spread. Special equipment for disinfecting crews should be immediately available.

States doubled with the announcement. We were openly combating the forces of communism, we were committing ourselves to the defense of any peoples that sought humane rights in preference to sultan bondage. In the name of the United Nations, we were defending the very fundamentals that constitute our way of life.

Had we failed to support the United Nations, had we failed to rally to the cause of the independence in the republic of Korea, we would have failed our heritage.

In supporting the United Nations, we are encouraging a world-wide resistance of Communist aggression. In the end, that resistance shall be our own salvation.

In this world of ours today, there basically exists but two major factors—that of Communism and that of anti-Communism. Any country, however large or small, that refuses to submit to Communist forces is an ally. If they are with us, they are not against us.

If they are not with us, they are fodder for the Communist machine, however reluctant.

Had we failed the republic of Korea, there would have been no faith in the United Nations for the many nations that today are bordering on Communism.

Had the United Nations cause lacked forceful support, these countries now combating the Communist elements from within would have been forced to a resignation—the ancient story of "submit and trust the gods."

What am I doing here? I am playing the role of a very minute cog in a very immense machine that is geared to the production of a world peace. I shall ever take pride



Ramage's

The same watchfulness is essential in detection of plant pests and diseases. County agricultural agents, farmers and regional, state and federal agricultural agencies will advise which crops in their respective areas are most essential for national welfare, and therefore more likely to be the aim of biological warfare.

The State and local governments are furnishing approximately half of the three billion dollars appropriated in the national civilian defense act to provide for this nationwide program. But in spite of every thing the federal administrator may do, the responsibility of adequate defense rests at each level of local government including the responsibility for health-service operations. It is up to the state civil defense director to map out his state and to determine in each locality just what type of organization must be set up. A community then would find itself in one of three categories; first, cities within critical target areas; second, mutual aid communities; and third, mobile support communities. The folks in the small towns and rural areas would find themselves in one of the last two categories and their principal function would be to receive casualties from the nearby principal city, and to send health-service rescue teams to its aid.

The mobile support communities may be anywhere from 50 to 150 miles from the nearest principal city. And while these latter communities might not be the deliberate aim of a bombing attack, there is always the possibility of a bomber's error, as many communities in Europe and Asia discovered in the last war. The organization of these mobile support communities in rural counties are of greatest importance to the whole civil defense program. The health-service in these communities would be organized to operate as self-contained teams in such fields as first aid and radiological defense. Larger communities with hospitals or sizable clinics would also be prepared to receive casualties and should be able to supply complete surgical, burn and shock teams to disaster areas.

in the knowledge that I have served my country, and in so doing, have assured the little peoples of the world that membership in the United Nations is their insurance for survival. I've said it, and I'm glad, I now surrender the soap box.

Yours very truly,

CPL. J. B. TAVENDER

2070 Fighter Escort Wing,

—Capital Journal

EDITORIAL COMMENT:

Let's Keep Democracy

All Americans who sincerely believe in democracy will rally behind President Truman in his dismissal of General MacArthur. A fundamental principle on which our government is based is the supremacy of the civilian arm of the government over the military. MacArthur repeatedly challenged that principle by disobeying orders. A good soldier obeys orders.

A good American respects that principle. Truman would have been faithful to his oath of office, and might even have endangered our whole form of government had he not taken the bold and courageous action which he did. He has reaffirmed civilian supremacy, and by dismissing so eminent a commander has made certain that not lightly in the future will a military man again challenge civilian authority. In this unstable world, that in itself is a tremendous contribution to the strengthening of democratic processes.

Mr. Truman has also strengthened the United Nations and the cause of world peace by his dismissal of MacArthur. The United Nations policy in Asia is to end the Korean war as soon as possible. MacArthur wants to extend it by "punishing" the Chinese. He is irked because of the costly reverse he suffered last fall—a reverse largely due to his own faulty intelligence service. But the United Nations is not willing to plunge into World War III to gratify MacArthur's pride. With MacArthur out of the way, it may now be possible to move toward a United Nations settlement of the costly Korean adventure.

Thoughtful Americans should think twice before joining the hue and cry led by the Fulton Lewises and the Gabriel Heaters in denouncing Truman. In dismissing MacArthur, he rose to the finest traditions of the Presidency. He struck a blow for democratic freedoms—and against military domination—which we venture to predict, will ring through the years.—Oregon Farmer Union.

The Walsh-Hooley Public Contracts Act directs the Secretary of Labor to set prevailing minimum wages for industries affected by this law.

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