



TALKING IT OVER—Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway (left), newly named supreme Allied commander for Europe, begins preparations to wind up his Far Eastern command in Tokyo. He is shown discussing his appointment with his aide, Maj. Richard H. Maeder, in his Tokyo office. Ridgway is expected to reach Paris before Gen. Eisenhower departs for the United States June 1.

Bradley Sees Greatest Threat of War in 1954

WASHINGTON (AP)—Gen. Bradley told Congress Monday that Russia is building toward a peak of military strength which will make "the general period of 1954 the most dangerous" to U. S. security.

Bradley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of staff, testified before a Senate Appropriations subcommittee. He was opposing a House approved ceiling of 46 billion dollars on U. S. defense spending in the year starting July 1. The Pentagon budget called for a spending program of 2 billions.

His prepared statement, read to the subcommittee at a closed door meeting, was made public by that group. BUILDUP "Military considerations which today deter our enemies from war may have lost their deterring effect by the 1954 period," Bradley said.

"Our enemies will have capabilities of endangering our country—doing it most critical damage—at that time."

His implication was that U. S. atomic superiority may be lost by that date. The general said he believes Russia has gained "considerable research knowledge" in atomic weapons developments from Germany.

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ON THE HOUSE

By DAVID G. BAREUTHER, AP Real Estate Editor

One of the easiest ways to get more out of your home is to convert the basement into useful and livable space. This does not mean that you have to install a bar. There are lots of things that you can do with the space. With building costs what they are today, it's extravagant not to utilize all the house you've paid for.

Finishing a basement invariably adds much to the value of a house. It can add to your enjoyment of your home and housewives say it makes it easier to keep the whole house clean—providing play space and eliminating the cellar dust which is usually tracked all over the carpets.

If you have a basement and don't appreciate the value of it, consider the number of small houses built in recent years without basements just to keep costs down. Basements are worth money. Yet the bulk of older houses waste from about a third to a half of their space in cluttered and dingy cellars.

Modern building materials and methods have completely overcome conditions of dampness. Basement rooms nowadays can be made as cheerful, dry and healthful as any rooms. They can give youngsters a place to play without wrecking the appearance of the living room. They can provide oldsters with generous hobby space a place for a work bench a desk, filing cabinets, sewing machine, movie projector and screen—all of the paraphernalia for normal living that gets crowded out of the dressed up rooms.

The result is that many house-holders are finding that finishing basements is one of the cheapest and most satisfying improvements. And spring, with its clean-up, paintup, fix-up custom, is an ideal time to consider such a project. The basement is dry from a winter's heating and the humidity of summer has not started to condense into moisture on the cool foundation walls. Past dampness problems can be prevented from recurring. So it's a good time to plan a better basement.

No major raid on the pocket book is necessary. Merely a good cleaning and thorough painting of a basement can accomplish a lot. Doing it yourself will give you additional satisfaction. From that point on, you can gear the project to whatever you can borrow from your bank on an FHA monthly installment improvement loan.

You can add a ceiling to hide the pipes and joists and add fire protection to your home. You can pave the floor in colorful patterns of asphalt tile, which is impervious to dampness and therefore rated as one of the best basement floor coverings. You can erect your own paneled partitions as elaborate as you prefer, and install any equipment you can afford—bar, or no bar.

Bright colors and freedom for home-made ideas have made many basements among the most cheerful parts of homes. Decorative schemes turn out to be as original and individual as any family is by nature. The range of possibilities is amazing when you review them. For example, a family may go in for boating. Its nautical bent is carried out in a light blue and white basement. A large map of the world may be mounted on one wall and given a coat of thin shellac for permanence. Ship's models and a marine clock serve as bric-a-brac. Along side the stair balustrade, white ropes are run vertically from floor to ceiling to give the impression of rigging. The floor is finished with blue and white tiles accented with stock insets of ships and stylized compass points. Deck chairs have pillows in the shape of life preservers.

Another family hunts. Walls are finished in wood paneling, lodge style. An open gunrack is built with a light chain locked through the trigger guards to prevent reckless removal. Hunting trophies are displayed. The room provides a good place for the mouse head excised from the living room.

Or the ranch house craze is ridden underground. Walls are hung with Navajo rugs and decorated with steer horns and six-shooters. The Indian theme is carried out in the floor with Navajo rug patterns worked out in green, yellow and black tiles in a field of red.

The musical family builds a floor-to ceiling record rack around a radio-phonograph. The floor is accented with musical note picture tiles and waxed for dancing. The main thing to do is to prevent dampness and its consequences. This can be done with proper construction and adequate ventilation. Details in achieving this will be taken up in the next installment.

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M'Carthy Tape Causes Row

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. McCarthy, who has filed a two million dollar libel-slander suit against Sen. Benton, was supposed to question Benton in a provincial hearing Monday but all that developed was a row over McCarthy's having a tape recorder on hand.

Benton, acting on the advice of his attorney, Theodore Kiendl of New York, refused to testify so long as the tape recorder remained in the room. McCarthy, insisting on having it, said he was surprised that "a great pillar of virtue such as Mr. Benton" should object of having "an accurate record."

This latest tussle in the feud between McCarthy, Wisconsin Republican, and the Connecticut Democrat, lasted only 18 minutes. It broke up with McCarthy announcing he would seek an order in U. S. District Court here to compel Benton to testify with his words recorded on tape.

In the meantime, the Senate elections subcommittee met to consider Benton's resolution looking toward ouster of McCarthy from the Senate but took no action. It is to consider the resolution again Wednesday.

After the session broke up, Benton issued a statement saying Kiendl "in his long experience at the bar has never participated in a judicial proceeding in which a tape recording machine was used."

Kiendl has a reputation as one of the country's top flight lawyers. He has been one of the attorneys for U. S. steel in the litigation over President Truman's seizure of the steel industry.

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Portland News Strike Looms

PORTLAND (AP)—The Portland Newspaper Guild executive committee was authorized Sunday to call a strike against Portland's two major newspapers to back up the Guild's demands for a wage increase and job security.

Results of the voting authorizing strike action against the Oregonian and Oregon Journal were not disclosed. Larry Howes, president of the Portland local, said an original wage demand of \$125 a week for experienced reporters has been scaled down to come within the increase now allowed by the Wage Stabilization Board. Reporters with five years' experience now are paid \$98.96 a week. The WSB formula would add approximately \$6 to that. Negotiations have been under way since Feb. 15.

The union represents about 200 workers on the editorial staffs of both papers and the Journal's circulation staff.

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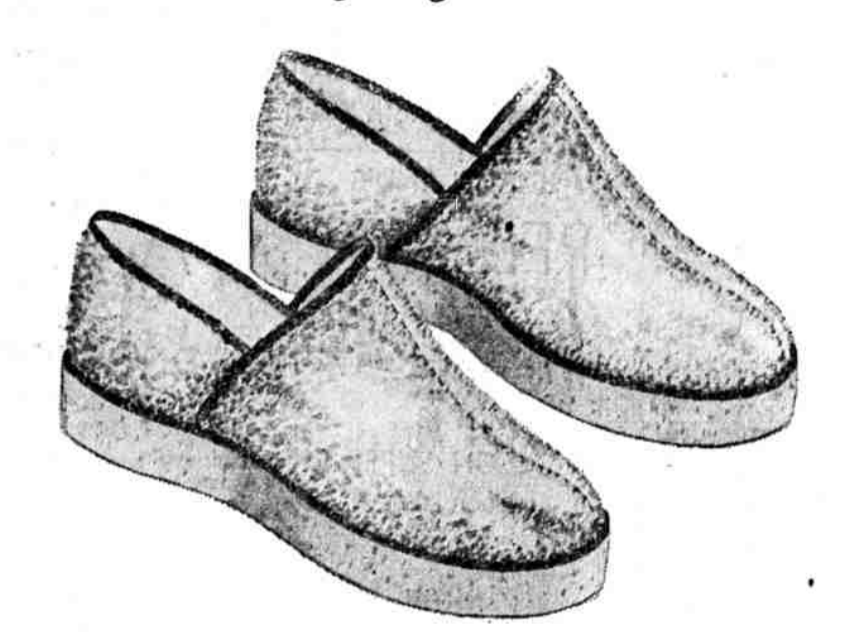
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