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Gentry Urges Trial For Treason For Non-Defense Minded Men

WILLIAM H. GENTRY (left), Harrodsburg farmer and survivor of the Bataan "death march," blamed insufficient appropriations for the fate that befell him and others early in World War II, when he spoke at the recent Army Day luncheon celebrating that occasion in Phoenix Hotel, Lexington. Attended by area military and civic leaders, the event was sponsored by Man o' War Post, American Legion, with Pat Wingfield, commander, who is shown with Gentry.

The young veteran, who is married to the former Miss Poor of Danville, recommended trial for treason, a fate similar to that of Mildred (Axis Sally) Gillers, for congressmen who fail to make adequate appropriations for national defense.

Gentry, a Reserve Infantry captain, commanded Company C of the 192nd Tank Batallion, stationed in the Philippines when the Japs struck at Pearl Harbor. It contained 68 men from Harrodsburg, only 32 of whom survived the war. A prisoner of the Japs more than two years, Gentry urged continued support of our armed forces and said adequate preparation is America's only hope for peace.

Alleging the United Nations is impractical, he said, "We can neither raise other nations to our level nor sink to theirs. It is also impossible for us to police the world. We can preserve our peace and freedom only by being strong."

The veteran said that of the 24,000 Americans, including civilians and members of all branches of the armed forces, in the Philippines on Dec. 7, 1941, fewer than 4,000 are alive today . . . because Congress failed to act. "We had plenty of ammunition. It was lack of food, medicine and gasoline that forced us to surrender," he declared bitterly. "With sufficient quantities of those items on hand we could have withstood the attack and some of us would have been there when General MacArthur returned."

He said food supplies intended for 24,000 Yanks were sadly inadequate when native troops became dependent on the Americans for food. "With 75,000 persons to feed, our supplies lasted only a month." In spite of lack of food and medicine, the men would not have surrendered without orders, he said. He dwelt briefly on the hardships of the "death march" and brutalities of the Japs.

"We have had two bitter lessons. One was at Valley Forge and the other was at Bataan. I sincerely hope that our country in the future is spared a third lesson, equally bitter.

"To prevent a third lesson," he emphasized, "we must assure ourselves that Congress is providing adequately for our armed forces."

Youngstown Kitchens

U. S. Jaycees to Sell 'American Way' Abroad

TULSA, Okla., April 12. (AP)—With a mission selling "The American Way" abroad, 119 young U. S. business and professional men will fly to Europe to attend an international convention at Brussels, Belgium, April 21-28.

They are representatives of the U. S. Junior Chamber of Commerce from 29 states and Alaska. They will attend the Junior Chamber International convention at Brussels.

Announcement of the trip was made today by Chamber President Paul D. Bagwell, Lansing, Mich., at national headquarters here.

GentryAW

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