

British-American Pacific Islands

By Marshall Mackie

THE Honorable George Holden Tinkham, Representative from Massachusetts, was talking to the House on March 21, 1940. His complete remarks will be found in the Congressional Record for that date.

"Mr. Chairman, the American people will be astonished and shocked to learn of the existence of a joint agreement between the United States and Great Britain—secretly negotiated and relating to joint control over strategically located islands in the Pacific Ocean—which in its implications amounts to a political alliance of far-reaching and dangerous consequences," declared Mr. Tinkham.

"The agreement relates to the Canton and Enderbury Islands of the Phoenix Group located some 1,912 miles southwest of Hawaii and some 1,316 miles southeast of the Japanese mandated Islands.

"The agreement, which has the force and effort of a

treaty and by its terms is to endure for fifty years, is the fruit of a controversy between Great Britain and ourselves with respect to the ownership of these islands and rests upon diplomatic interchanges between the two Governments which have never been made public, and which the State Department now refuses to disclose to Members of Congress." In support of this assertion Mr. Tinkham read a letter dated July 25, 1939 to him from the State Department stating that "exchange of communications with Great Britain with respect to Canton and Enderbury Islands could not be made available for your inspection without the consent of the British government."

"The facts evidence that President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Hull have been guilty of collusive action in entering into this alliance with Great Britain in rela-

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Searchlights of Our Fleet Dazzle Hawaii—James E. Cunningham



Bombing of 1935 Flow Results—L. W. Bryan

Power will make a British Pond, Sky, and Earth, of the world. A victory for the Allies will find Britain with an invincible Air-Navy.

Uncle Sam, without deliberate intention, is aiding John Bull to perfect this Grand Plan. Our American Uncle has no "moral embargo" fighting Allied Air-power. Instead, America is lending every possible assistance. American planes and plane-materials, are flowing and flying Britainward and Franceward. Slowly, as yet, is the plan being executed but acceleration will soon be noticed. Pilots, as well as warplanes, are vital.

Unless Uncle Sam is extremely hardboiled, watchful, and a bit selfish, he again will be extending credit to European States in order that they might sustain Democracy—and perfect a British World-Air Plan.

Watch the Pacific Area as trade-tracks, from the United States and Canada to the Antipodes, glisten from the transportation of Materials-for-Air. Visualize Australia as a modern major Base of the Empire—supporting India, Dutch East Indies, Singapore, Hong Kong, French Indo-China, East-Mediterranean and West-Europe Allies Areas. The Pacific and Indian Oceans are comparatively free from German menace and, already, a fleet of superb Allied armed merchant-ships have rendezvoused there. Britain can, and will, make safe the trade-routes of the Pacific, the Suez Canal life-line, and the route around Cape of Good Hope.

All the Dominions are tuned up to maximum efforts in performing the missions assigned them in the Empire World-Air Plan. The Empire Training Plan is operating smoothly. Training of pilots and air-crews in the

dominions represents an Allied advantage over Germany. Fuel for training is plentifully available in the Dominions. Pilots will be perfected in the Dominions under the most economical conditions. The whole world, except Germany and the German-occupied countries, is working feverously in efforts to make the Allies supreme in the air.

The world knows today that it can be controlled by Air-Power cooperating with Sea-Power. Both Sea and Air are required for the grand idea. It can be done and Britain is securing a long running start on other maritime-air powers (including USA), with the aid of Uncle Sam.

BUT! If Germany should win World War II, she might do all this instead of Britain!

Editor's Note: Bailey S. Marshall possibly may have selected the wrong winner of World War II; but his article contains general principles that serve as a warning to Uncle Sam.

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tion to these islands, and that great secret diplomacy has dominated the situation from start to finish," continued Mr. Tinkham in his remarks to the House. After reciting the history of how Britain and the United States both claimed and occupied Canton and Enderbury Islands, the Massachusetts Representative then expressed an opinion that—

"If an enemy of Great Britain should attack these islands, the United States, having joint control over them, would have to join Great Britain in their defense, thereby becoming involved in war. Such an arrangement constitutes not only a political alliance but, what is more, a military alliance, inasmuch as even the armament of the islands could be agreed upon secretly by the two Governments."

Those interested in this subject should read the confidential press release, April 6, 1939, of the Department of State set forth on page 4958 of the *Congressional Record*, March 21, 1940. This release publishes notes exchanged between the United States and Britain April 6, 1939 agreeing to a "joint control over these islands," for "fifty years from this day's date. If no agreement to the contrary is reached before the expiration of that period, the joint control shall continue thereafter until such time as it may be modified or terminated by the mutual consent of the two Governments."

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efficiently and tactically organized, can maintain and support by Air and Sea the bases that are above claimed to be futile. If Germany is the winner, she can, by adding an adequate surface naval force to her efficient Air Force and Sub Force, maintain bases anywhere she establishes them. With anticipated air and sea strength, the United States can successfully maintain bases at Guam and the Philippines. Tremendous cost is the only practical deterrent.