



The U.S.S. Bunker Hill Monument

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A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL HANDS

THE CAROLINES PACIFIC ISLANDS NUMBER FOUR

The accompanying chart shows a long, narrow group of 44 islands, between the equator and 10° N running 1,800 miles east and west from the Marshalls to the Philippines. These are the Carolines, with Truk in the center. They are for the most part low-lying coral atolls, but at Palau, Ponape, Yap, Kusaie and Truk there are volcanic mountains covered with dense tropical vegetation.



Far at the west end of the Carolines, with five or six hundred miles of the Philippines, lies Palau. Here, besides extensive military installations, the Japs mine considerable quantities of bauxite (aluminum) and phosphate (fertilizer). Two hundred miles northeast of Palau is Yap, another large base. Moving east, the next important point is Truk, itself, Japan's Pearl Harbor. It lies 710 and 600 miles north of Rabaul and Kavieng respectively. Truk is a large atoll, 30 miles in diameter, with several volcanic islands inside the reef-circled lagoon. It is an excellent anchorage and an

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MORE DOUGH GOES TO DEPENDENTS UNDER NEW LAW

If your wife and kiddies think they will get more dough now that the new Servicemen's Dependency Bill has become law, they're right. If they think they will get it right away, they're wrong.

Conversion of more than 3,000,000 accounts from the old forms to the new ones is a tremendous task, the War Department has warned, and it's going to take time.

First, dependents will be mailed a single sheet certificate form which requests all the information needed to convert accounts to the new rates. Dependents should complete the form immediately so that payment at the new rates may be expedited. In the meantime dependents will receive benefit checks at the old rates.

The new scale doesn't change the \$50 payment your wife now receives but if you have a child, the payment is increased from \$62 to \$80 a month and each additional child receives \$20 extra per month instead of \$10. A parent dependent for a chief portion of support will now receive \$50 a month, an increase of \$13.

Dependent	Old	New
Wife.....	\$50	\$50
Wife and one child.....	62	80
Additional children.....	10	20
Child but no wife (with \$15 for each additional child).....	42	42
Divorced wife.....	42	42
One parent (dependent for CHIEF support): Where there is no Class A (wife or child) dependent.....	37	50
Where there is a Class A dependent.....	20	50
One parent (dependent for SUBSTANTIAL support): Where there is no Class A dependent.....	37	37
Where there is a Class A dependent.....	20	37
Two parents (dependent for CHIEF support): Where there is no Class A dependent.....	47	68
Where there is a Class A dependent.....	30	68
Two parents (dependent for SUBSTANTIAL support): Where there is no Class A dependent.....	47	37
Where there is a Class A dependent.....	30	37
One parent and one brother or sister (dependent for CHIEF support): Where there is no Class A dependent.....	42	68
Where there is a Class A dependent.....	25	68

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Pages 3-6 are missing.

Staff



The Ship's Paper of the U. S. S. BUNKER HILL
John J. Ballentine, Captain, U. S. N.
Commanding

J. J. Quigley, Lieut. (Chaplain)..... U. S. N. R.
E. F. Brissie, Lieut. (jg)..... U. S. N. R.
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THE NEW YEAR

Few New Year editorials can be anything but trite.

Editorials greeting a New Year, and bidding farewell to the old year are like the resolutions that people make, come January 1st--they generally are a revamping of last year's models.

These statements are not as cynical as they may seem, at first glance. Generally speaking, the subject matter of editorials is the same by necessity. The hopes and ambitions for the new 12 months run along the same pattern as they did the previous year. Man constantly strives for betterment, and seeks to improve his record.

Comes 1944 and the youthful MONUMENT has no editorials of last year to revamp for this issue. This is fortunate.

The BUNKER HILL can look back on 1943 with a certain sense of satisfaction; it was commissioned, formed its crew, trained all hands and, in the words of the Captain, all were "put to the supreme test, men and materials..." Little of that satisfaction, however, can be carried over into 1944; it cannot be revamped and made to fit the New Year. We know that the coming 12 months will be tougher, or at least as tough, as have been some of those in 1943.

But we know also, that the ship, God willing, will be equal to its tasks. We have gained a confidence that can come only from experience.

Experience was 1943's greatest gift to the BUNKER HILL, and will be the BUNKER HILL's greatest gift to 1944. Our hopes and ambitions for the New Year are the highest, and we can only ask for 1944 to be as successful as our experience and God's grace made 1943.

MAIL ORDERLIES ATTENTION!

Distribution of THE MONUMENT, beginning with this issue, will be the responsibility of the division mail orderlies, it has been announced by Chaplain J. J. Quigley.

Chaplain Quigley said that mail orderlies would receive their division's quota of MONUMENTS at the crew's library on the day of publication, and would be assigned the duty of distributing them to their divisions. He emphasized the fact that the papers would be given only to the mail orderlies, and that individuals desiring their issue of the paper would not be able to receive them at the library, but from their own mail orderly. Then there will be no unfair distribution; no duplication; no mix-up.

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PROBLEMS IN BALKANS

If the Balkans are a storm center in times of peace, how much more are they likely to be when torn apart by the ravages of war. Warning comes from correspondents that the Allied governments, when they come into the Balkans, must have a well prepared plan to meet the political situation in each of these little countries, with their maze of factions and cross interests. It will be necessary, presumably, to study each country by itself and shape a formula to its special needs.

Part of the problem comes from the fact according to Russell Hill, New York Herald Tribune correspondent at Istanbul, that while the urge for "freedom" is strong among the Balkan peoples, ideas about "democracy" in the political sense, are hazy. Greece alone has definite leanings toward a republican form of government, although King George, now head of the government in exile, apparently expects to return to his country to resume the monarchy.

In Yugoslavia, the situation is complicated by the rival interests of the two guerrilla bands, the Mihailovitch faction and the Partisans who are united only in their hatred of the Nazis. Once their soil is free again they may begin fighting each other unless the Allies step in with a pre-arranged plan to keep the peace. The aim there will be to reunite the country under King Peter.

How to handle the semi-wild natives of Albania and Montenegro, who have, little political consciousness, will be another man sized problem. Rumania, Bulgaria and Hungary, which were nominally in the Axis camp although containing many sympathizers with the Allied cause, must be fitted into the general settlement.

No doubt those special agencies now being trained to operate in occupied countries have full appreciation of the Balkan problems. Our entire post-war policy will influenced by what we do there.

Attention!

ALL HANDS

THE MONUMENT is for use aboard ship only.
It must not be taken ashore or mailed.

THE CAROLINES
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all important center of supply for the Marshall-Bougainville-Rabaul-Kavieng-New Guinea area. One hundred and fifty miles southeast of Truk are the Nomoi Islands with a good anchorage and air facilities from Truk to the Solomons. One third of the way is the seaplane base at Kapingamarangi. Four and seven hundred miles east of Truk, respectively, are the volcanic islands of Ponape and Kusaie, invaluable fighter plane staging points between Truk and the Marshalls. Ponape is the largest of all the Caroline group, but has no good anchorage for surface vessels.

The Carolines are inhabited by Micronesian (Kanakas). Six years ago they were said to be numbered 36,000 in comparison with an estimate Japanese population of 11,000 men and 6,000 women. The natives apparently prefer the Japanese to the earlier German rule. Japanese schools, language and propaganda have made rapid progress in bringing them "into line," though the natives at Kusaie, thanks to successful missionary efforts, are still thought to be friendly to the Allied cause.

These islands were seized by the Japs during the early stages of the First World War. In 1919, they were given to Japan as Class C mandates. In 1935, lip service to the League of Nations ceased and the Carolines were closed to all foreigners. During the months immediately following Pearl Harbor they served as the center of Jap offensive operations.

Climate in the Carolines is "tropical oceanic"—damp, and hot. There is little variation in the high temperature and low pressure. Heavy rains prevail, especially in the eastern part. Kusaie, with an annual rainfall of 200," is one of the wettest spots in the world. The islands are in the northeast trade belt. Though they produce coconut, taro, fish, and some livestock, most food is imported.

The Carolines, then, are Japan's major supply center for the outer limits of her empire. Planes can easily be staged down from Jap factories to Truk via the Marianas (Pacific Islands Number 5). Excellent fleet anchorages are available. Stores of fuel, ammunition, and food can quickly supply any expeditionary force. Seaplane, sub, and land-plane bases are numerous. They will be a "tough nut to crack."

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MORE DOUGH TO DEPENDENTS
UNDER NEW LAW
(continued from page 1)

The first three pay grades also benefit by the new bill: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd class petty officers, as well as corresponding grades in the Marines, and Army, who were not benefited in the old bill now may receive family allotments provided that they waive subsistence and rental payments they are now authorized to receive.

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Happiness is not a station you arrive at, but a manner of traveling.

Life is a one way street. No matter how many detours you take, none of them leads back. And once you know and accept that, life becomes much simpler. Because then you know you must do the best you can with what you have and what you are and what you have become.

THE ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON N.S.I.
MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED
(continued from page 3)

13. If So, Why Should I, If I Have No Legal Beneficiary?
How many of your shipmates were single when they signed up and now have wives and children? Do you know that they can convert their certificate even if the premiums are waived because of disability? Do you know that though premiums are waived, all the values and privileges in the converted policy are yours to do with as you want as long as you keep the insurance in force?

14. I Am Thinking Of Getting Married, Who Should I Name As My Beneficiary Until I Am And Can Name My Wife?
NO ONE! If you do get married, your bride will be entitled to the insurance and in the event of your death she will be asked to do NO MORE than if she were named as beneficiary. Your wife will need her birth and marriage certificate to establish her claims.

If you don't, then your insurance will be paid in equal shares, within the order named, to those beneficiaries of the permitted class as set forth in the law creating National Service Life Insurance, and living when your insurance becomes a claim. Those beneficiaries likewise will have to prove their relationships and age whether named or not.

By applying for your insurance in this manner you prevent the possibility of your wife and children, to be, standing aside, while the beneficiary or beneficiaries you had named and forgot to change, receive the monthly income.

(to be continued next week)



When Mrs. O'Brien urged her little son to eat his supper like a little sailor, he replied: "Alright, pass the xyz&%% (!!†0)+=!!**/###! blankety blank stuff!"

Michael had taken a strong dislike to kindergarten. All persuasion failed, and finally his mother, in desperation, told him firmly that he would have to go. "All right, Mother," retorted Michael. "If you want me to grow up into a damn bead-stringer, I'll go."

Landlady: "How do you like this room as a whole?"
Prospective Tenant: "As a hole, it's fine; as a room, not so good."

"Where's the C.P.O."
"He's over in his compartment hanging himself."
"Did you cut him down?"
"No—he wasn't dead yet."

Male Call

by Milton Caniff, Creator of "Terry and the Pirates"

BIMBY SLAP-SLAP

