

Collapse of Storefronts In Roanoke Injures 3
The Washington Post (1974-Current file); Jul 27, 1984;
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pg. C3

AROUND THE REGION

Collapse of Storefronts In Roanoke Injures 3

Three brick storefronts tumbled with a thunderous crash into a downtown Roanoke street yesterday, injuring three construction workers, including one whose right foot was amputated at the scene, authorities said. A station wagon was crushed under falling debris, but its passengers were not hurt.

The facades were among seven being saved during reconstruction of the Campbell Avenue business strip as a city transportation center. City Manager Bern Ewert said that an independent structural engineer would check previous opinions that it would be safe to retain the three-story facades.

An orthopedic surgeon agreed with rescue workers that the right foot of trapped worker Richard Nichols, 37, of Roanoke had to be amputated at the scene. Robert Hodges, 19, of Roanoke was treated for cuts and bruises, as was a third worker whose identity was not immediately available.

Eight Rescued at Sea

Eight persons were rescued unharmed after they had jumped into the water when a 42-foot chartered fishing vessel burst into flames and sank Wednesday night 17 miles southeast of Ocean City, Md., the Coast Guard reported.

The Enchantress, chartered out of Ocean City, sank in 80 feet of water after it was raked by a blaze that the Coast Guard said apparently began in the engine room. The identities of the rescued were not immediately available.

A Coast Guard helicopter, a Navy helicopter, a Navy jet and a Coast Guard ship all responded to a distress call. A spokesman said the Coast Guard vessel pulled the eight people from the water and transferred them to another fishing vessel, which brought them to shore.

Army to Remove PCBs

The Army will remove 940 tons of soil contaminated with PCBs from a Woodbridge landfill by October 1985. The soil, in an area near the Army's Woodbridge Research Facility, was tested for contamination after an employe recalled burying equipment containing the toxic chemical about 10 years ago, an Army spokesman said.

Tests showed four affected areas, one with a level of 200 parts per million. Soil with PCB content

of more than 50 parts per million is considered contaminated. Other samples were not in the contamination range.

The spokesman said that environmental studies showed no danger to human health because PCBs were detected only in soil, not in ground water that seeps into streams or reservoirs.

U-Md. Minority Report

The percentage of new black full-time freshmen enrolled at the University of Maryland's College Park campus rose from 8.9 percent to 10 percent in the three years ended in 1983, officials said yesterday. A total of 442 full-time black freshmen enrolled in the fall of 1983, compared with 411 in 1980.

The report also indicated that in most other categories of students, faculty, and employes, the campus's minority populations remained relatively stable during the period.

The report is the third submitted to the Maryland Board of Higher Education in response to a five-year plan started in 1980 by the board to assure equal educational opportunity for college students in Maryland.

Garage Bonds Approved

The Arlington County Board has unanimously approved the sale of up to \$26 million in tax-exempt, low-interest revenue bonds to finance a \$100 million renovation of the garage at the Parkington Shopping Center.

The money will fund expansion of the garage from 1,500 spaces to 2,900. County officials said demolition and reconstruction could begin as early as next week.

Addenda:

• Phillip N. Hepburn, 22, of Sunderland, Mass., was charged yesterday with reckless driving in a collision in Great Falls Wednesday that killed a second driver, John R. Blaine, 56, of Sterling, Va., and hurt four other persons, Fairfax County police said.

• The Maryland Department of Agriculture has warned hog farmers to watch for signs of parvo virus in their herds following isolated outbreaks at two Western Maryland farms. The contagious disease affects mainly gestating hogs, resulting in stillbirths and pigs with low birth weights.

From news services and staff reports

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United Press International
Rescue workers clear away debris from three collapsed storefronts in Roanoke to free trapped man.

PLANNING COMMISSION ACTIONS

Prince William County

The following were among actions taken at the Oct. 3 meeting of the Prince William County Planning Commission. For more information, call 335-6832.

The commission recommended that the Board of County Supervisors approve the following requests:

DAVIS FORD ROAD AND HOFFMAN DRIVE—By Southern Cross Investment Corp. to rezone 25 acres from agricultural to general business for future development. 6 to 1. *Neabsco District.*

POTOMAC MILLS CIRCLE AND POTOMAC MILLS ROAD—By BPI-Potomac Mills Limited Partnership for a special use permit to operate a gas station and convenience store. 7 to 0. *Occoquan District.*

TELEGRAPH AND HORNER ROADS—By Potomac Park Retail

Center to rezone 25 acres from light industrial to general business to construct a 320,000-square-foot shopping center. 6 to 1. *Occoquan District.*

The commission agreed that the following plan is in conformance with county's comprehensive plan:

DAWSON BEACH ROAD AND JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY—By the Prince William Board of County Supervisors to operate a homeless shelter in a duplex and seven town houses, which were formerly residences for employees of the U.S. Army's Harry Diamond Laboratory's Woodbridge Research Facility. 7 to 0. *Woodbridge District.*

Battle Rages Over Development of Woodbridge Army Lab Site

By Spencer S. Hsu
Washington Post Staff Writer

Within range of the towers that once jolted sky and earth with the electrical impact of a nuclear blast 20 times a day, Gottschalk crouched in a smoky creek bed and scooped up a slender weed.

"Eloids," the 75-year-old environmentalist and former director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service explained, saying the humble weed's name as though it were "Eureka."

In a small twist to the Cold War's end, the closure of a little-known, top-secret Army base in Prince William County has led to a new battle in the long war between environmentalists and developers. The contest pits one of the county's biggest pending development proposals against urgent calls to save one of Northern Virginia's few remaining natural preserves.

The closure of the Woodbridge Research Facility (officially the Harry Diamond Laboratory), scheduled for September 1994, has set off competition for the 577-acre site, which has been zoned in and isolated from most humans since World War II.

A loose alliance of back yard and governmental preservationists wants the Army to give the wildlife service full control of a preserve they say could attract up to 100,000 visitors a year.

On the opposing side is the Library of Congress, which hopes to build 18 buildings in the heart of the site. And, just across a nearly mile-long fence at the base's northern end, Arlington developers Stephen and Preston Caruthers are pressing ahead with plans to build office towers, a boat marina, 1,500 houses and a golf course to bolster the foundering Route 1 corridor.

Environmentalists say the library's plan to use up to 100 acres of open meadow would wipe out the base's most valuable ecological features and damage the surrounding marshes and forest. And they worry that the Caruthers's project, known as Belmont Center, would divert the drainage of water that sustains downstream marshes.

"It's doing this just because I live here. I'd like it to be here for my kids and grand-kids," said the environmentalists' spokesman, James Waggoner, a retired Army colonel living in Woodbridge. From inside the base's rusting fences, "You can look around and see land locked up for the last 50 years by the government. It's different from any other forest in the county."

One recent day, Gottschalk, Waggoner and companions scouted for wildlife on the inconspicuous base site, which has been partly dismantled since 1990.

Here and there among the trees and fields stood eerie Cold War sentinels, tall poles and wires strung together the length of football fields. Through these wires, Army scientists from 1970 to 1988 regularly blasted the equivalent of 50,000 volt-meters, comparable to small lightning bolts, to test military electronics' endurance against nuclear detonations.

Last spring, the Army announced a proposal to turn the land over in part or in whole to the Fish and Wildlife Service. The closure stems both from a 1988 environmental lawsuit and the Pentagon's decision to shrink and relocate the 90-member research staff.

Since plans to close the base were announced three years ago, Army and independent naturalists found that the testing grounds support more than 180 wild bird species, more than 150 deer and families of fox, beaver, muskrat and otter. Resurgent bald eagles nesting at the neighboring Mason Neck Wildlife Refuge across the Potomac River use the area for hunting, as do osprey, herons and Great-horned owls. The site consists of 477 acres of forest and wetlands and 100 acres of meadow.

A coalition that includes the nearby Lake Ridge and Occoquan civic associations, the Northern Virginia Audubon Society, the Audubon Naturalist Society, and U.S. Sen. John W. Warner (R) and Charles S. Robb (D) has formed to urge the Army to deliver all of the site, and not just the forest and protected wetlands, to the Fish and Wildlife Service.

"This area has been largely insulated from human pressures for the past 40 years. . . . It represents one of the few large tracts of open grasslands and wet meadows left in northern Virginia," said Ronald Lamberton, a regional director for the wildlife service.

But on the other side, Librarian of Congress James H. Billington has argued that the location is ideal for a storage facility housing two million books. Such a project would "protect . . . the principal wildlife habitat and at the same time provide for the preservation of the records documenting our nation's cultural heritage," he said.

The move would be the first stage of a relocation plan continuing through the year 2050, when the

library would house its film and audio collections, microfilming department and library-exchange operations at the Woodbridge site.

The library has powerful allies. Last week, it secured a House of Representatives amendment in a military appropriations bill granting it the 100 acres free of charge. Warner has vowed to quash the measure in the Senate.

Meanwhile, in a remaining petition before the Prince William Board of County Supervisors, two Caruthers partnerships are seeking permission to put the first 10-story-plus buildings in the county—plus houses, restaurants, a hotel, a marina, a highway interchange and a helicopter landing pad—on 312

acres directly north of the Army base. The holders have owned the land for decades.

The plan calls for as much as 1.9 million square feet of office space and 300,000 square feet of retail space.

Michael Lubely, an attorney for the two partnerships, said the owners are fully within their rights to build upstream of the military base.

"Most of that area is now zoned for heavy industry, town houses and apartments," he said. In fact, the Belmont Center plan calls for fewer houses and industry than the county now permits, and provides a "wonderful buffer" via the golf course, Lubely said.

The county's planning commis-

sion approved the proposal last month. Local Supervisor Hilda M. Berg (D-Woodbridge) has called the Caruthers proposal "a good package . . . as good as we're going to get," clearing the way for a Board of Supervisors hearing set for July 20.

Preservationists are not so sure. "It's one of those things where you can destroy the whole by taking away a part," Waggoner said.

Large-scale development will reduce the amount of water that empties into the wetlands on the Army base and dump contaminants into the flow, he said.

Though environmentalists agree with Lubely that the Belmont proposal is an improvement on what is now allowed, they would like to see

a forest buffer as large as possible between the proposed project and the Army base.

They also have asked that the proposed golf course meet stringent pesticide and drainage standards, but the ballpied be placed far behind the base fence-line and that office towers be capped and set back from the area.

Short of congressional action, the base parcel's fate remains in Army hands. The Baltimore office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is conducting an environmental impact study due this fall that will include a recommendation for the land's use. The report must be approved by the assistant secretary of the Army for installation, logistics

and environment, with input from the Base Realignment and Closure Commission.

Gottschalk, an Arlington resident who ran the Fish and Wildlife Service from 1964 to 1970, summed up the fight while holding up his slender wetland weed.

The eloids, he said, often is used in household aquariums and may seem mundane. But it rarely appears in areas inhabited by humans, for it grows only in the damnest water.

"Here you have a piece of property that can be saved with very little effort, free of charge," Waggoner said. "But because it's been closed to the public, it has no constituency."

HISTORIC SITE FILE: *Army Electromagnetic Pulse.*
PRINCE WILLIAM PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
RELIC/Bull Run Reg Lib, Manassas, VA

Area Dealt Glancing Blow In U.S. Base-Closing Plan

By Kent Jenkins Jr. and Dan Beyers
Washington Post Staff Writers

More than 2,200 defense employees in Maryland could lose their jobs under a military cost-cutting plan announced yesterday, but new jobs at some Washington area bases could help soften the blow to the region's economy.

Two Navy research and electronics facilities in the Washington area would be hit hard by the plan. The Naval Surface Warfare Center in Silver Spring, an advanced research facility, would lose about 1,250 of its 1,800 civilian employees, including some scientists and engineers. And the Naval Electronic Systems Engineering Center in St. Mary's County, which processes sophisticated systems for the Aegis cruiser, would be shut down, eliminating 1,000 jobs.

Despite those cuts, the local effect of Defense Secretary Richard B. Cheney's plan would be far less than cuts suffered elsewhere in the nation.

Cheney has proposed that some bases in the area be expanded, including adding 1,800 jobs at the Naval Air Test Center in Patuxent,

Md., through transfers from other installations.

Statewide, Maryland would lose about 900 civilian jobs and the District would lose about 100. Virginia, which has one of the highest concentrations of Navy bases in the country, would gain about 1,500 jobs, although most of those would be outside the Washington area.

Most local lawmakers expressed relief yesterday that the area did not fare worse.

"We have been hit badly in a couple of places, but overall we're in pretty good shape," said Sen. Paul S. Sarbanes (D-Md.). "Compared to some states, the impact here is not very great. But I'm concerned about some of the individuals at bases most heavily impacted. These are highly skilled workers and we need to make the case for them."

Sen. John W. Warner (R-Va.) said in a statement that "I am pleased that Virginia has so many essential military installations that appear to have endured the stringent base-closing test. I urge my fellow Virginians to accept this circumstance without boasting."

Cheney's announcement yesterday was the first step in a process

See CLOSINGS, B5, Col. 1

Md. Suffers Hardest Blow In Base Plan

CLOSINGS, From B1

designed to close 43 military bases and change the size of 28 others across the country. It marks the second time federal officials have taken on the politically difficult task of eliminating installations military officials believe are unnecessary. Several years ago, a similar process targeted Fort Meade in Anne Arundel County and Cameron Station in Alexandria for closing.

In the Washington area, most of the facilities that would shrink significantly or disappear under Cheney's plan are in Maryland. Along with the Silver Spring and St. Inigoes bases in St. Mary's, the David Taylor Research Center in Annapolis would lose about 650 workers and the Naval Ordnance Station in Indian Head would lose about 600 employees.

In the District, the Naval Electronic Systems Engineering Center would lose about 100 positions. And in Virginia, the Harry Diamond Laboratory in Woodbridge would be closed, transferring about 90 jobs elsewhere.

The only Washington area lawmaker to immediately condemn Cheney's proposal yesterday was Rep. Tom McMillen (D-Md.), whose district includes the David Taylor center in Annapolis. McMillen, Sarbanes and other Maryland lawmakers have urged Cheney to put military research centers in a separate category from operating bases and not to close or consolidate any until an ongoing study is complete. McMillen said he would oppose any base closings unless the research centers are removed from the list.

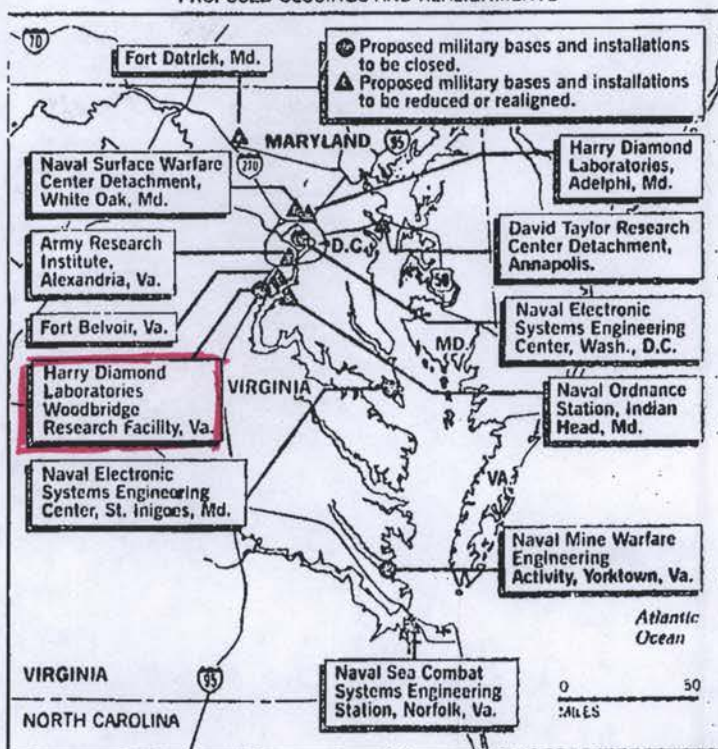
The Silver Spring research facility includes underground chemistry laboratories, three high-speed wind tunnels, a 1.75 million-gallon water tank for testing underwater missile launches and a nine-hole golf course. Under Cheney's plan, most of its research positions would be transferred to a base in rural Dahlgren, Va., just across the Potomac River from St. Mary's County. Other jobs would be cut through attrition.

"No one is particularly keen to go to Dahlgren. There's not much out there," said one employee who declined to give his name.

But most workers, citing previous rumors of moves or closings, seemed to take yesterday's announcement in stride. "We've been through this many times before," said Brian Federline, a machinist

AREA MILITARY INSTALLATIONS AFFECTED

PROPOSED CLOSINGS AND REALIGNMENTS



JOB LOSSES AND GAINS IN D.C. AREA

PROPOSED AREA CLOSINGS

- St. Inigoes, Md.: Naval Electronic Systems Engineering Center—losing 37 military, 1,018 civilian jobs
- Washington: Naval Electronic Systems Engineering Center—losing 41 military, 162 civilian jobs
- Woodbridge: Harry Diamond Lab Woodbridge Research Facility: losing 90 civilian jobs
- Yorktown, Va.: Naval Mine Warfare Engineering Activity—losing 12 military, 206 civilian jobs

PROPOSED AREA REALIGNMENTS

- ▲ Adelphi: Harry Diamond Laboratories—losing 21 military, 562 civilian jobs; gaining 14 military, 452 civilian jobs
- ▲ Alexandria: Army Research Institute—losing three military, 54 civilian jobs
- ▲ Annapolis: David Taylor Research Center Detachment—losing five military, 548 civilian jobs
- ▲ Fort Belvoir: losing 17 military, 147 civilian jobs
- ▲ Fort Detrick, Md.: losing nine military, 30 civilian jobs
- ▲ Indian Head, Md.: Naval Ordnance Station—losing two military, 30 civilian jobs
- ▲ Norfolk: Naval Sea Combat Systems Engineering Station—losing 12 military, 280 civilian positions; gaining 49 military, 856 civilian jobs
- ▲ White Oak, Md.: Naval Surface Warfare Center Detachment—losing five military, 1,701 civilian jobs
- ▲ Patuxent river, Md.: Naval Air Test Center—gaining 1,300 positions.

SOURCES: Washington Post reports and Associated Press

from Hagerstown, Md. "We'll just have to wait and see what happens."

Capt. Richard W. Moore, the officer in charge of the 730-acre, campus-like center, said 550 employees will remain when the cuts are completed in 1997. But he said the center's managers, who over-

see basic research used in such programs as the Strategic Defense Initiative and superconductive wiring, will have to cut back on research.

"You will destroy an awful lot of good work going on," Moore said.

Staff Writer Marilyn Tounignant contributed to this report.

UPDATE ON THE NEWS

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UPDATE ON THE NEWS

Still Waiting for Money For Washington Monument

It was to be one of the most extensive face lifts of the Washington Monument grounds since the marble obelisk was completed in 1884. There were to be new walkways, a visitors center, an improved road system and an end to the long lines that snake around the city's most visible monument.

But the National Park Service's ambitious plan is languishing because Congress has not appropriated the initial \$3.1 million needed to get the project going.

The plan was conceived 12 years ago, and four years ago tomorrow the National Capital Planning Commission, the federal government's planning agency for the region, gave the Park Service its blessing to go ahead.

"Our image as the nation's capital is of great importance to the many visitors and tourists who frequent that area daily," commission Chairman Glen T. Urquhart said at that time. "Our commission's policy calls for the ever-improving maintenance of high quality visitor attractions in a manner that is appropriate to Washington."

But the optimism expressed that day has faded. Park Service spokeswoman Sandra Alley said agency officials have asked a House subcommittee for permission to proceed with the project but have so far been turned down each time.

"It just didn't make the list in terms of being a priority," Alley said.

One reason may be that the Lincoln and Jefferson memorials are involved in an extensive 10-year, \$22 million renovation project.

In the meantime, Park Service officials have revised the plan, though the concept is the same. Among other things, the Park Service wants to improve control of pedestrian traffic on the 106-acre grounds so the grass east of the monument plaza won't be trampled by

people walking to the monument from Tourmobiles and the Mall.

The existing monument lodge would be used as the entrance to a new underground visitors center, where tourists would gather for orientation before being taken in small groups by a ranger to the monument. In this way, the lines at the monument would be eliminated. The concrete and asphalt paving at the base of the monument would be replaced with grass.

The snack bar and gift shop would be torn down and rebuilt on the north side of Madison Drive and the south side of Jefferson Drive between 14th and 15th streets. Parts of Madison and Jefferson drives and 15th Street would be realigned.

— Stephen C. Fehr

Warehouses to Go Elsewhere

■ The Library of Congress no longer is a threat to the birds and furry animals on 100 acres of meadow land in Prince William County.

Not that the library—nor Congress, for that matter—bears the wildlife any malice.

The land is part of a 577-acre tract that over the years has had a variety of Defense Department installations (a secret listening post and later an electronic testing ground where certain effects of nuclear blasts were simulated).

Now known as the Woodbridge Research Facility, it is to close next September, and all but the 100 acres will go to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for a wildlife preserve.

What will happen to the 100 acres is still unresolved, but the land won't go to the Library of Congress, which wanted it as a site for warehouses.

In October, President Clinton signed legislation containing an amendment proposed by Rep. Leslie L. Byrne (D-Va.) that gives the library surplus military land near Laurel for the warehouses it was thinking of building in Northern Virginia.

The future of the 100 acres is still unre-

solved. The Audubon Naturalist Society is leading a drive to add the land to the wildlife preserve.

A local citizens group, working with the Army, will decide what to do with the site, said Todd A. Waltemyer, Defense Department base coordinator.

— Spencer S. Hsu

Churches Defend Help for Homeless

■ About 20 members of religious organizations have mobilized in response to moves by the D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment to curtail some church programs that help the homeless.

Noting that three churches have been fined or been prevented from starting long-planned programs, members of the group said they feared government interference in their programs too.

The group met last week with city officials to convey its concerns. City Administrator Robert L. Mallett gave assurances that the city respects and appreciates the work of all the religious bodies that care for the poor.

But Mallett said he emphasized that the city's role is to serve as "fair referee" between religious institutions and residents concerned that the homeless are encroaching on their neighborhoods.

"Our concern," said the Rev. Rodney Young, executive director of the Council of Churches of Greater Washington and one of those at the meeting, "is that we have the right to say that feeding homeless persons in our churches is our decision, not the decision of government."

It was decided to form a group of city officials and representatives of the religious community to help mediate disputes between religious institutions and their neighbors.

Young said city officials are invited to a prayer service Dec. 13 at First Rising Mount Zion Baptist Church to see the strength of the religious community's commitment to serving the poor.

— Laurie Goodstein

Potomac Paragraphs

U.S. Condemns Tract For Va. Radio Station

From Press Services and Correspondents
RICHMOND, Va., Feb. 26 (AP).—A declaration of taking has been filed by the Government in Federal District Court against approximately 640 acres of land at Woodbridge, Prince William County, for the establishment of an Army radio station.

The action, brought by Army Secretary Frank Pace, jr., included a deposit of \$14,500 in the registry of the court here for payment to owners of the tracts involved.

Pace said that the land was required for "immediate use".

The notice of condemnation in the case said the government would ask the Alexandria Division of the court on April 16 to name commissioners to ascertain just compensation to owners "and to assess the damages, if any, to the other property of the owners of said land beyond the peculiar benefits that will accrue to such other property from the development of the said project."

In Washington, the Army said it was acquiring the land to add to its "world-wide radio transmission facilities."

Farmers in the Woodbridge area had not been notified of the land selected. B. H. Davis of Deep Hole Farm said that "surveyors from the Pentagon" looked at the 400-acre farm about a year ago. The farm is a mile from Woodbridge and is located between U. S. 1 and the Potomac River.—

Varner, Warren Moyer, Everett Griffith, David Shenk and Harold Fitch.

when he fell or jumped 75 feet from the Bath Street viaduct in BALTIMORE. Papers in his pocket indicated he was a Spanish-American War veteran, Washington S. Cox, 77, of Baltimore.

At a meeting of Prince William County farmers at the county agent's office in MANASSAS, Va., members of two committees were elected. The District Pasture Committee includes: Dr. Grover F. Brown, Lester W. Huff, Phillip B. Reading, John M. Piercy, jr., Dr. John Aldred, Gordon Pattie, Alan Staples, J. L. Cato, L. D. Utterback, W. M. Johnson, John Barrett, C. C. Lynn, E. W. Thompson, jr., Gilmer Garber, G. C. Russell, Robert Tyrrell. The District Corn Committee includes: A. Blake-more Fleming, John W. Ellis, Ewing House, Edgar B. Heflin, James Watson, Preston Smith, Kite Roseberry, Harvey Young, E. P. Hurst.

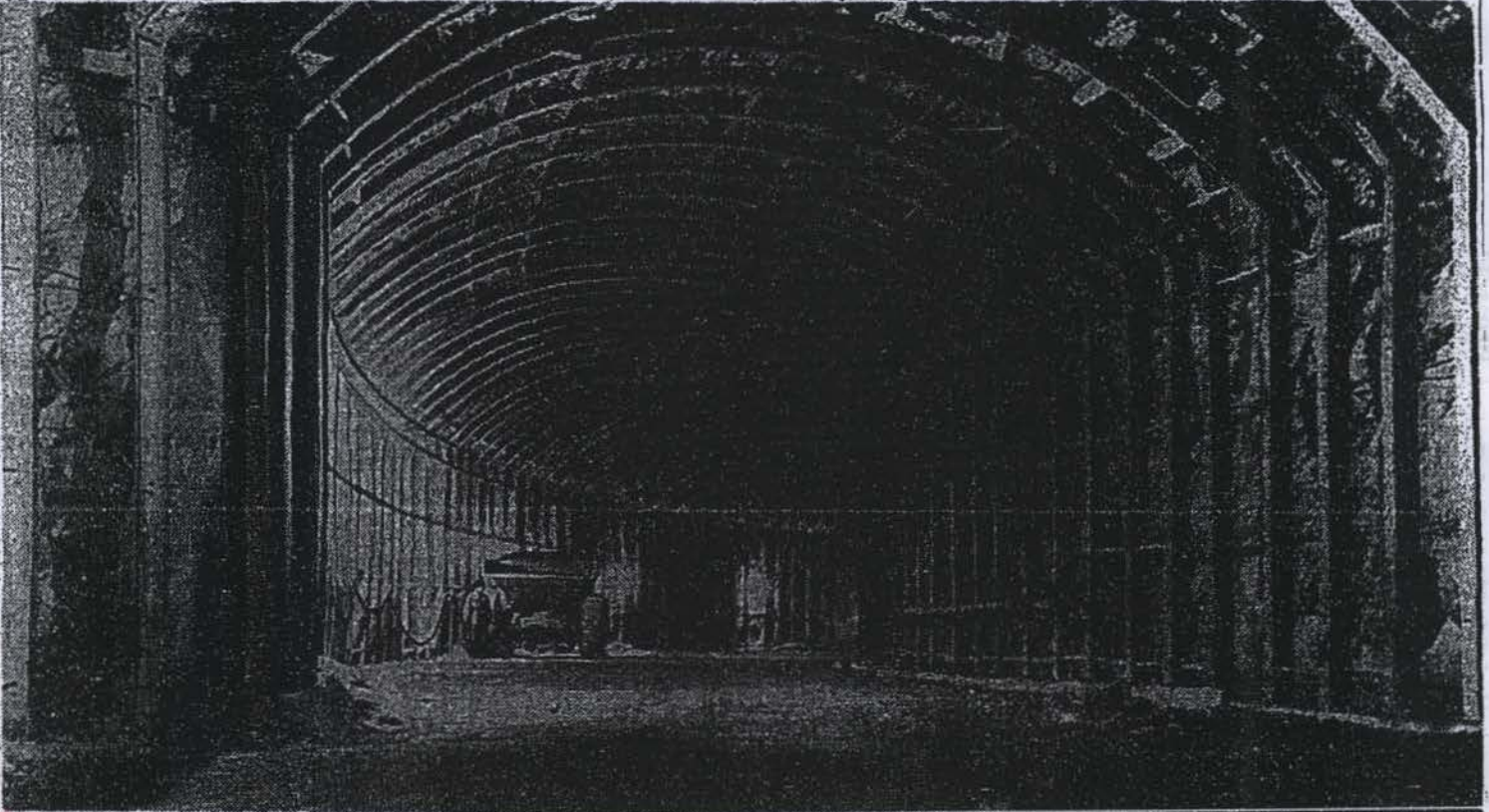
A meeting of farmers, farm

Army Electromagnetic
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Buried Pentagon Is Revealed As 3-Story Building Inside Hill

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pg. 1



TUNNEL IN THE INTERIOR OF HOLLOWED-OUT RAVEN ROCK MOUNTAIN AT FORT RITCHIE

35-Million-Dollar Project

Buried Pentagon Is Revealed As 3-Story Building Inside Hill

Copyright 1952, The Washington Post Co.

The Army yesterday—perhaps by inadvertence—took some of the wraps off the heretofore top secret "Underground Pentagon" in the Maryland mountains, 65 miles north of Washington.

Officials released a photograph of the interior of hollowed-out Raven Rock Mountain at Fort Ritchie, Md., where an alternate global communications center is being constructed for use in case present Army, Navy and Air Force facilities here are knocked out by atomic attack.

At the same time, they made public the first official description of the project, giving new details about the hush-hush development. Release of the picture and data came not from Department of Defense public information officers—which have confined themselves to a few one-paragraph announcements and "can't talk about it" warnings—but from a history book just off the press.

It is called "A Historical Sum-

and improvements at Vint Hill Farms and Arlington Hall, Va., and La Plata, Md.

Describing the "Ritchie Project," the book disclosed that the over-all cost will be 35 million dollars. Telling of construction problems at Raven Rock, it declared:

"Here, one half million cubic yards of the hardest rock on the East Coast was blasted out and hauled away in ten months. In the hole created, a three-story building is being erected.

"This building stands behind two heavy steel blast doors that close the tunnel openings during an alert. Special means are provided for ventilation, gas and biological agent filtering, emergency power and reserve water supply."

Major features of the project, it was said, are:

"(a) A communications center designed to resist atomic attack. This is located inside Raven Rock Mountain, about five miles east of Fort Ritchie. It has been dubbed the 'Underground Pentagon.'

"(b) Conversion of Fort Ritchie to house the personnel connected with operation of the 'Project.'

Army Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) ...
HISTORIC SITE FILE:
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see back →

warnings—but from a history book just off the press.

It is called "A Historical Summary of the Work of the Corps of Engineers in Washington, D. C., and Vicinity, 1852-1952," and was prepared by the Washington Engineer District. Elsewhere in the volume is described the build-up in the primary military communications facilities since Korea, telling of the construction of new radio stations at Woodbridge, Va., Andrews Air Base, Pigeon House, Brandywine and Silver Hill, Md.,

connected to house the personnel of the 'Project.'

"(c) A transmitter station at Greencastle, Pa.

"(d) A receiver station at Sharpsburg, Md.

"(e) Five micro-wave stations that tie the 'Ritchie Project' into the signal facilities of the Army, Navy and Air Force already constructed in the Washington area."

No mention is made in the history of the fact that much more costly housing facilities were contracted for and started at Fort Ritchie for use in an emergency and then canceled by Department of Defense orders. Top Pentagon officials feared the standby quarters, recreational facilities and clubs planned would become a weekend haven for military brass.

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VA, Manassas, Md. Public Library System
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1952 (EWA)
New York