

organization. One of these branches, the Aircraft Warning System, has spotters in every section of the State to warn of the approach of hostile aircraft. These reports come in through "filter centers" to "information centers."

When the Control Center receives warning of approaching planes, the local forces of civilian protection are brought into play. If it is night-time, a blackout is ordered, air raid wardens get people into shelter, auxiliary firemen and policemen take their posts, fire watchers report to locate falling bombs, messengers and drivers report for duty under the direction of the Staff Corps; emergency medical services, ambulances, first aid stations and hospitals are readied for prompt action. Demolition, road repair and bombing disposal squads prepare to function as they may be needed. Emergency food and housing units assemble to care for those whose homes are bombed; and rescue squads arrive to remove persons who may be trapped in wreckage.

With so many important phases of Civilian Defense, it is easy to picture how many workers would be required in all these specialized fields should, for instance, a city the size of Hagerstown or Baltimore be subject to severe aerial bombardment.

When and if bombs actually begin to fall on any part of Maryland, and people are injured, buildings are demolished, huge conflagrations started, perhaps water and light and gas services disrupted, it doesn't take a very imaginative mind to comprehend how much work—speedy, intelligent, well-planned and well-supervised work—will be required to safeguard the health and other interests of our population during such a crisis.

Washington County had the honor of giving to the service of our Country the first Marylander killed in this new World War. The family of Staff Sergeant Joseph C. Herbert, of Clear Spring, have the profound sympathy of the entire people of our State. The memory of Sergeant Herbert will remain as long as Maryland archives endure. All the more reason, therefore, why residents of Washington County should feel themselves under solemn obligations to do, and to give and to sacrifice, without end, so that other mothers and other families of future years may raise their sons, without fear of treacherous aggression, such as was responsibility for Sergeant Herbert's death.

No one could fail to be thrilled at the story of the woman who walked into defense headquarters in a Northern state, asking for an opportunity to build ships, or to help make cannon. Her husband was a marine on Wake Island, she stated simply, and she wanted to do anything she could to wipe out the aggressive forces that, at that moment, were still trying to wipe out the gallant marine defenders of that little Island. Those aggressors will be wiped out, too, completely and devastatingly, if not only the residents of Washington County, but every resident of America responds to the demands of Civilian Defense, or gives to some defense industry all the energies and capabilities he possesses.

I might cite with satisfaction that among the first of the industries to recognize their responsibility in property protection was the Fairchild Aircraft Company of your City. At their request I have commissioned Special Policemen, who now are on duty, insuring that nothing will happen to impede the very important work that concern is doing for National Defense.