

**FORTIFICATIONS
APPROPRIATIONS
BILL, 1921,
HEARINGS; H. R. 13555**

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Fortifications Appropriations Bill, 1921, Hearings; H. R. 13555 by Various

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VARIOUS

**FORTIFICATIONS
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BILL, 1921,
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON FORTIFICATIONS APPROPRIATION BILL.

REED SMOOT, Utah, *Chairman.*

WILLIAM S. KENYON, Iowa,

FREDERICK HALE, Maine,

SELDEN P. SPENCER, Missouri,

TRUMAN H. NEWBERRY, Michigan.

LEIS S. OVERMAN, North Carolina,

ROBERT L. OWEN, Oklahoma,

CHARLES A. CULBERSON, Texas,

WILLIAM J. HARRIS, Georgia.

KENNEDY F. RBA, *Clerk.*

FORTIFICATIONS APPROPRIATION BILL, 1921.

THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 1920.

UNITED STATES SENATE,
SUBCOMMITTEE OF COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,
Washington, D. C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 10 o'clock a. m., Senator Reed Smoot presiding.

Present: Senators Smoot (chairman), Overman, and Harris.

STATEMENT OF HON. FREDERICK W. DALLINGER, A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Senator SMOOT. You may proceed, Representative Dallinger.

Mr. DALLINGER. In the House, Representative Hull of Iowa and myself offered amendments to the first paragraph under "armament and fortifications" (p. 4, line 18), to increase the amount from \$1,500,000 to \$7,500,000; and on page 5, in the first paragraph under that same heading, increasing that amount from \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000.

Senator SMOOT. Was there an estimate for these increases?

Mr. DALLINGER. I will state that I got the figures from the Ordnance Department, and the basis of increase in appropriations over the amount reported by the House Committee on Appropriations was what was absolutely essential to maintain a skeleton organization in the Army.

Senator SMOOT. What I wanted to know was, was there an estimate made for these increases?

Mr. DALLINGER. There was an estimate made from the Army.

Senator SMOOT. I mean from the Secretary of the Treasury?

Mr. DALLINGER. They asked for a great deal more than that. I understand Gen. Williams asked for a great deal more than that, but these figures represented the amount absolutely essential to maintain a skeleton organization.

Now, Mr. Chairman, this is not because there is any desire on my part to keep any men on the pay roll unnecessarily.

The Watertown Arsenal happens to be in my district, and, of course, there has got to be a very great further reduction in the force of employees in that arsenal. Everybody realizes that. During the war there were five or six thousand employees there. At present there are about 3,200, and in order to get back to a peace basis there will have to be a still further reduction.

All that I am interested in is to see the efficiency of the Military Establishment maintained. My position is this: Either the United States Government and Congress must assume that there is never

going to be another war, and do away with the War Department and Navy Department, and ought to sell these arsenals, in which the people have invested hundreds of millions of dollars in land, buildings, and equipment, and realize upon them and turn the money back into the Treasury and save the expense of maintenance, or else they ought to maintain those arsenals by maintaining a skeleton organization sufficient to carry on experimental work, so that the lessons of this Great War may not be lost, and to have the different kinds of munitions manufactured, so that the art of making these things and keeping the manufacture up to date may not be lost, and in order that there may be maintained at Watertown, as was planned and as is being done so far as can be done now, a school for ordnance officers.

If we are ever going to have any war in the future, or if we want to be prepared for emergencies, it is essential that there should be trained in the Ordnance Department officers who are capable of manufacturing munitions of war in Government arsenals and in private plants.

There is no doubt whatever that we were unprepared in that respect at the outbreak of the late war, and in my opinion a tremendous saving could have been made if we had had the proper kind of training carried on to a sufficient extent to have trained a corps of Ordnance officers in sufficient numbers to have done this important work.

Now, of course you can not maintain a school for training Ordnance officers unless you have a plant to run, in the different parts, to some extent, and you can not carry on experimental work and keep the art of manufacturing these different kinds of ordnance up to date unless you carry on the manufacture to some extent.

Now, Col. Dickson, who was a brigadier general during the war and is now, as the result of the demobilization of the Army, a colonel, the commandant at the Watertown Arsenal, was asked to make an estimate of the smallest-number of employees at that arsenal that would be sufficient to maintain a skeleton organization, and he estimated about 1,800. I understand that the Ordnance Bureau here revised those figures and thought that they could maintain a skeleton organization with a force of 1,375.

Gen. LORD. That is correct.

Mr. DALLINGER. And it was on that revised estimate that the figures which we offered in the House were based.

Now, so far as I can find out, what happened in the House committee was this: The estimates of the War Department were \$118,000,000 for this bill, if I recall correctly.

The House bill as reported was about \$18,000,000, and as nearly as I can find out, carrying out the platform of economy as a political matter, a slash was made of \$100,000,000. Of course, it is good politics. We have got to reduce because of the tremendous burden of taxation, and they were told, "you have got to reduce this bill \$100,000,000." So the bill was arbitrarily reduced from \$118,000,000 to \$18,000,000.

Now, Mr. Chairman, it appears to me that that is not a scientific way of getting at the thing, and all we tried to do in the House was to raise that amount to about \$26,000,000.

As I said on the floor of the House at the time the matter was up, if they were simply trying to reduce expenditures and reduce

taxation, and were going to cripple the Military Establishment and make it impossible to maintain an efficient school for ordnance officers and to carry on this necessary experimental work and to do what ought to be done, the thing to do was to bring in no bill at all, to wipe out the whole \$18,000,000, and sell these arsenals and realize the money and put it into the Treasury. In other words, there is a point below which you can not go; and so far as I am concerned this is a question of reducing the estimates from \$118,000,000 to \$26,000,000 instead of \$18,000,000, as the House has done.

Senator OVERMAN. Are you a member of the House Committee on Appropriations?

Mr. DALLINGER. No, sir. I am interested in this matter because the Watertown arsenal is in my district.

Senator SMOOT. Do you know anything about the amount of the balances on hand for the purpose of ordnance and fortifications?

Mr. DALLINGER. No, sir. I understand the House bill provides for turning that all back into the Treasury—over \$800,000,000.

Senator SMOOT. No; I mean for this item alone.

Mr. DALLINGER. Not for this item alone; but for all the items.

Senator OVERMAN. Was there any attempt made on the floor of the House to increase this amount?

Mr. DALLINGER. Yes; we made an attempt on the floor of the House, but, as you know, Senator, it is almost impossible to beat the committee on the floor of the House. This is my third term here and I do not recall any time when the Appropriations Committee has been beaten on any material point.

Senator SMOOT. You want the item for purchase, manufacture, and test of mountain, field, and siege cannon, including their carriages, sites, implements, equipments, and the machinery necessary for their manufacture, from \$1,500,000 to \$1,750,000?

Mr. DALLINGER. No; to \$7,000,000. I want it increased \$6,000,000.

Senator SMOOT. Oh, is that all?

Mr. DALLINGER. I do not pretend to be an expert. The officers of the Ordnance Bureau are here, and they know the figures a great deal better than I do, and I do not pretend to know the details. I only know this, as I said before, that you have got to have a very much larger amount than that bill calls for in order to maintain a skeleton organization, and I think it would be a great shame to have that skeleton organization destroyed.

Senator SMOOT. Will the details of this be discussed by you, Gen. Lord?

Gen. LORD. By representatives of the Ordnance Bureau.

Senator SMOOT. Gen. Lord, we will hear from you now.

STATEMENT OF BRIG. GEN. HERBERT M. LORD, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE.

Gen. LORD. Mr. Chairman, I am submitting for the use of the committee a statistical history of this bill in photostat form.

In the first column of figures is the appropriation for 1920.

In the next column is the original estimate printed in the Book of Estimates for 1921.

In the next column are the revised requirements as finally submitted to the House Committee on Appropriations at the time of the hearing, March 20, 1920.

The next column shows the amounts appropriated in the House bill, and the last column shows the revised requirements, which have the approval of the War Plans Division and the War Department for submission to this committee.

Senator OVERMAN. Let me understand you, General. As I understand, taking the first line of figures, the House appropriated \$3,068,100 and you want \$3,251,145?

Senator SMOOT. That is for the Engineer Department alone.

Gen. LORD. That is for the Engineer Department alone, under the head of fortifications for continental United States.

Senator OVERMAN. That is the increase you think is absolutely necessary for the Engineer Department?

Gen. LORD. Yes. You will find in studying that table that in many cases they ask for no increase.

Senator SMOOT. The increase asked for the Engineer Department under that item is not \$3,251,145, but it is the difference between \$3,068,100 and \$3,251,145.

Gen. LORD. Yes.

Senator OVERMAN. And that is true as to each item, that the increase asked for represents the difference between the two columns.

Gen. LORD. Yes. In the subsequent sections of this table, A, B, and C, you will find the amounts subdivided and itemized.

On section A will be found the itemized estimates and statistical history for continental United States.

Section B covers the insular possessions and section C the Panama Canal.

The table referred to is as follows:

Statement of estimates for 1921, fortification bill.

(1) General objects.	(2) Appropriation for 1920.	(3) Estimate for 1921.	(4) Revised requirements, Mar. 20, 1920.	(5) Reported by House Appropriations Committee Apr. 9, 1920, and passed by House Apr. 13, 1920.	(6) Revised requirements, Apr. 20, 1920.
Fortifications in the United States (for details see section A):					
Engineer Department.....	\$946,250	\$8,328,010	\$8,255,538	\$3,068,100	\$3,251,145
Chief of Coast Artillery.....	150,000	174,339	1,809,758	771,055	771,885
Signal Corps.....	2,380,442	72,979,889	174,336	165,000	165,000
Ordnance Department.....	40,000	669,985	37,389,536	9,915,933	12,858,733
Construction Division.....			240,027	80,000	50,000
Totals, continental United States.....	4,516,692	85,178,355	47,739,600	13,970,718	16,795,563
Fortifications in insular possessions (for details see section B):					
Engineer Department.....	273,750	1,971,000	1,335,780	554,760	1,164,760
Signal Corps.....	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Ordnance Department.....	1,065,000	7,024,865	4,537,960	713,450	713,950
Chief of Coast Artillery.....		317,850	273,350	175,000	175,000
Construction Division.....	225,000	374,237	374,237	106,800	108,300
Air Service.....		2,746,962	2,265,147	1,300,200	1,300,000
Totals, insular possessions.....	1,618,750	12,498,614	8,841,454	2,877,190	3,496,900

FORTIFICATIONS APPROPRIATION BILL, 1921.

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Statement of estimates for 1921, fortification bill—Continued.

(1) General objects.	(2) Appropriation for 1920.	(3) Estimate for 1921.	(4) Revised requirements, Mar. 20, 1920.	(5) Reported by House Appropriations Committee, Apr. 9, 1920, and passed by House Apr. 13, 1920.	(6) Revised requirements, Apr. 26, 1920.
Fortification in Panama Canal (for details see section C):					
Engineer Department.....	\$225,000	\$619,250	\$699,450	\$109,750	\$664,750
Chief of Coast Artillery.....		474,000	474,000	474,000	474,000
Signal Corps.....	10,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Ordnance Department.....	86,000	11,534,494	2,245,777	1,108,684	1,108,684
Construction Division.....	4,161,840	96,500	96,500	40,000	40,000
Air Service.....		7,067,516	8,132,833	239,100	2,738,766
Totals, Panama Canal.....	4,523,840	20,067,751	9,654,531	1,985,534	5,041,227
Board of Ordnance and Fortification.....		58,500	58,500		
Totals, fortification bill.....	10,669,201	117,793,330	66,294,114	18,833,442	25,224,780

[Section A.]

CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES.

ENGINEER DEPARTMENT.					
Gun and mortar batteries.....	\$380,000	\$2,900,000	\$2,900,000	\$1,800,000	\$1,800,000
Modernizing older emplacements.....	37,250	157,510	157,510	37,250	120,285
Preservation and repair of fortifications.....	231,000	403,000	403,000	300,000	400,000
Plans for fortifications.....	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Supplies for seacoast defenses.....	50,000	75,000	75,000	60,000	60,000
Casemates, galleries, etc., for submarine mines.....	1,400,000	890,000	773,848	150,000	150,000
Sites for fortifications and seacoast defenses.....		15,000	49,000	49,000	49,000
Land defenses.....	60,000	20,000		100	100
Electrical and sound-ranging equipment, etc.....		3,218,500	3,218,500	566,250	566,250
Protecting shore of Sandy Hook Reservation.....	544,000				
Sea walls and embankments.....		947,000	647,000	20,500	20,500
Repair and restoration of defenses of Galveston, Tex.....		10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Contingent expenses, seacoast fortifications.....		100,000	100,000	60,000	60,000
Total.....	946,250	8,328,010	8,235,858	3,068,100	3,251,145
CHIEF OF COAST ARTILLERY.					
Fire control at fortifications.....		3,134,890	1,698,508	776,000	776,000
Coast Artillery wax instruction.....		1,260	1,260	1,685	1,685
Total.....		3,136,150	1,699,768	777,685	777,685
SIGNAL CORPS.					
Maintenance, etc., fire-control installations at seacoast defenses, Signal Service.....	150,000	174,330	174,330	165,000	165,000
ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.					
Armament of fortifications:					
B—Mountain, field, and siege cannon (purchase, manufacture, etc.).....		15,141,200	11,682,360	1,500,000	2,712,000
C—Mountain, field, and siege cannon (ammunition for).....		1,766,000	1,766,000	1,600,000	2,480,300
DFO—Seacoast cannon (purchase, manufacture, etc.).....		14,365,400	15,837,800	2,000,000	2,000,000
H—Seacoast cannon (ammunition for).....	835,442	31,596,608	11,566,883	1,000,000	1,000,000
K—Seacoast artillery practice (ammunition, subcaliber guns, etc.).....	1,000,000	655,388	217,010	200,000	200,000
M—Seacoast artillery (alteration and maintenance).....	1,250,000	3,013,427	1,197,081	1,000,000	1,000,000

¹ Repeal of prior appropriation.

* A additional contract authorization of \$185,000 asked.

FORTIFICATIONS APPROPRIATION BILL, 1921.

Statement of estimates for 1921, fortification bill—Continued.

CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES—Continued.

(1) General objects.	(2) Appropriation for 1920.	(3) Estimate for 1921. *	(4) Revised requirements, Mar. 20, 1920.	(5) Reported by House Appropriations Committee Apr. 9, 1920, and passed by House Apr. 13, 1920.	(6) Revised requirements, Apr. 20, 1920.
ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT—continued.					
Armament of fortifications—Continued.					
1—Mobile artillery (alteration and maintenance).....		\$3,893,576	\$3,607,569	\$2,000,000	\$2,900,000
N—Mountain, field, and siege artillery practice (ammunition, subcaliber guns, etc.).....		105,800	205,800	215,800	205,800
Proving grounds, Army.....	\$400,000	1,563,670	1,300,000	550,000	900,000
Submarine mines:					
A—Procurement of material.....		528,650			
C—Submarine mine practice (material for).....		9,233	9,233	9,233	9,233
B—Maintenance of material.....	\$125,000	50,900	50,900	50,900	50,900
Total	3,380,442	72,979,980	137,369,636	9,915,933	12,658,733
CONSTRUCTION DIVISION.					
Barracks and quarters, seacoast defenses....	40,000	559,965	240,027	50,000	50,000
AIR SERVICE.					
(Extension of availability of current appropriations asked.)					
Total, continental United States	4,516,692	85,178,365	147,739,609	13,970,716	16,796,563

[Section B.]

INSULAR POSSESSIONS.

ENGINEER DEPARTMENT.					
Fortifications in insular possessions:					
Preservation and repair of fortifications—					
Hawaiian Islands.....	\$12,500	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
Philippine Islands.....	35,000	85,800	85,800	50,000	50,000
Searchlights—					
Hawaiian Islands.....		50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Philippine Islands.....	30,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Supplies for seacoast defenses—					
Hawaiian Islands.....	5,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
Philippine Islands.....	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Electrical installations—					
Hawaiian Islands.....	20,000	4,000			
Casements, galleries, etc., for submarine mines—					
Philippine Islands.....	140,000	102,000	74,000	55,000	55,000
Reserve equipment—					
Hawaiian Islands.....	3,250				
Philippine Islands.....		113,200	113,200		
Land defenses—					
Hawaiian Islands.....		560,000	560,000	130,000	560,000
Philippine Islands.....		407,000			
Sites for fortifications and seacoast defenses—					
Hawaiian Islands.....		260,000	206,760	25,750	205,760
Plans for fortifications—					
Hawaiian Islands.....		3,000	3,000		3,000
Philippine Islands.....		3,000	3,000	3,000	
Breakwater at Fort Mills, F. I.....		152,000			
Engineer wharf, Fort Mills, F. I.....		75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Seacoast batteries—					
Hawaiian Islands.....		50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Philippine Islands.....		67,000	67,000	67,000	67,000
Total	273,750	1,971,000	1,336,760	554,760	1,184,760

* Repeal of prior appropriation.

* Additional contract authorization of \$133,600 asked.