

***The Big Picture – Provide for Common Defense***

Sergeant Stuart Queen: Twice each year, a group of representative American citizens is invited to inspect the Department of Defense. These guests are selected to represent all areas of the country. A meeting at the Pentagon in Washington is followed by a 9-day tour of our Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps bases. This Joint Civilian Orientation Conference is the subject of today's *Big Picture*.

Its purpose is to acquaint the American public, through representative citizens, with the problems, workings and accomplishments of the Defense Department. It shows how and why our Defense dollars are well-spent.

Narrator: One of the 80 representative Americans invited by the Defense Department to attend the Joint Civilian Orientation Conference is Ben Allan, a business man who lives and works in Virginia. An Army Veteran of World War II, Ben Allan has a special interest in the Defense establishment of today.

Like the others invited to the Conference, he travels at his own expense, except between Military installations during the 8-day tour. That he has been invited to study the workings and accomplishments of our Defense services first hand is cause for pride for both Ben and his family. And as a family man, he naturally has a strong interest in the state of our military preparedness. As a taxpayer, too, his interest is equally strong in seeing that our Military dollars are being well spent.

Now here in his own words is Ben Allan's report on his experiences during the J.C.O.C. tour...