General MacArthur's three days of testimony before the Joint
Senate Committee prompts heavy and largely thoughtful comment
among press and radio observers. The following points are
highlighted in the weekend contributions to the 'Great Debate'.

(1) The debate itself remains inconclusive as commenta-
tors await the testimony of the Administration leaders
and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. There remains praise for
the 'high tone' of the hearings, and particularly for the
'forceful' and eloquent presentation of MacArthur.

(2) However, the General's basic thesis concerning the
Korean war again is opposed by most of the leading Eastern
commentators.

(3) These observers use America's 'global strategy' as
the chief point at which they take issue with MacArthur.
A main argument appears to be developing among them that
while the General makes recommendations having a global
effect, he does not assume the responsibility for judg-
ments on any area outside of Asia.

(4) Meanwhile, those who have consistently supported
MacArthur again rally behind him, warmly applauding his
presentation and endorsing his thesis.

(5) In other comment on the Far East, there is consid-
erable dismay at the lack of support among the UN allies for
an arms embargo against Red China.

Among the leading critics of the MacArthur thesis, the New York
Times contrasts MacArthur's scope with that of the Administration,
which "is compelled to take into account all the military, politi-
cal and moral factors of a global struggle". According to the
Times, MacArthur "insists on the measures he proposes while dis-
claiming responsibility for their consequences on either the
global struggle itself or even the future of the countries direct-
ly affected by his proposed measures". The Times again emphasizes
its stand: "We cannot afford to risk a break with our allies by
pursuing a course of action which might well bog us down in an
unlimited war in Asia."
James Reston (New York Times) lists a series of the "para-
doxa" in the General's testimony. Reston observed that
MaoTse-tung "proposed a strategy in the Far East which he
conceded might bring about a major war, but at the same
time he conceded that global strategy was not his respons-
sibility." The Christian Science Monitor asserts: "It
was when questioned on global strategy and relations with
other anti-Communist peoples that the limitations of his
view appeared."

The Washington Post takes a similar view though more
sharply critical. "What MacArthur totally fails to
argue is the relations of China and Korea to what is a
global struggle. His is a one-theater myopia," the Post
maintains. The New York Herald Tribune seriously ques-
tions whether the General's course offers advantages
comensurate with the risks involved."

Walter Lippmann, considering what the global strategy of Moscow
and Peking is in the Korean struggle, takes the commonly-held
view that the Soviets are seeking to bring about a "showdown" with
the US in the Far East--where it would be considerably to the
Koreans' strategic advantage. The test of this theory, says
Lippmann, will be in finding out if Moscow wants to continue the
Korean war; and he proposes a UN request for an armistice based
on the restoration of the status quo in Korea. Others, in contra-
distinction to MacArthur's view, who oppose expanding the Korean
war and hope for a settlement are Stewart Alsop and Lowell Mallott
(Washington Star). The General's thesis also is questioned by
Eric Sevareid (CBS), Lex van der Ryn (ABC), Thomas Stierer (Washing-
ton Star), Bartley Crum, Anne O'Hare McCormick and Damon Baldwin
of the New York Times.

The Washington Star believes that the whole controversy
has boiled down to a dispute over Soviet intentions in
Korean policy. MacArthur, the Star observes, "does not
believe we should let the fear of a possible bigger war
keep us from fighting and winning the savage, bloody war
that we are already in. That is an attitude which makes
sense."

To the Star, the doctrine of buying time to get
prepared for a war with Russia by fighting a limited war
in Korea "is one that should be given a little thought."

The Scripps-Howard press strongly backs MacArthur's view, contend-
ing: "The prevailing tendency of official Washington has been to
view everything Russian or Communist through the magnifying
lenses of timidity." George Sokolsky, the McCormick press and
David Lawrence are among others who support the General's testi-
mony. In the Senate, Republican senators available thus far,
Sen. Strom Thurmond (S.C.), Sen. Goldwater (Ariz.) reportedly predicted that MacArthur's
program would be adopted in a month, and the General's views won
approval from Democratic Senator Hoyt (N.C.) as well as Republi-
cans Gold (Neb.), Kerr (Okla.) and Morgan (Okla.) again warned of the
"risks" involved in the General's recommendations.