

# *Has the United States Any Territorial Ambitions?*

**Trend Report Based on Four Nation-Wide Surveys**

**(10,142 Interviews)**



**NATIONAL OPINION RESEARCH CENTER**

**UNIVERSITY OF DENVER**

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# *Has the United States Any Territorial Ambitions?*

Only a small minority of Americans favor a clear-cut isolationist policy. Such a policy implies our retiring within the bounds of the continental United States after the war. Few people desire to give up all territory difficult to defend.

An almost equally small minority envision an all-out imperialism—getting as much new land in the world as possible.

In between these two extremes opinion is much less clear cut. Apparently it is difficult to make an ethical or practical distinction between the alternatives of being satisfied with the amount of land the United States held before the war or securing new military bases in addition. About eight out of ten people with opinions, however, adhere to one of the two "middle of the road" policies.

The exact wording of the question asked in the nation-wide survey reads:

"Which of these four statements comes closest to what you think the United States should do about new land and possessions in the world after the war?

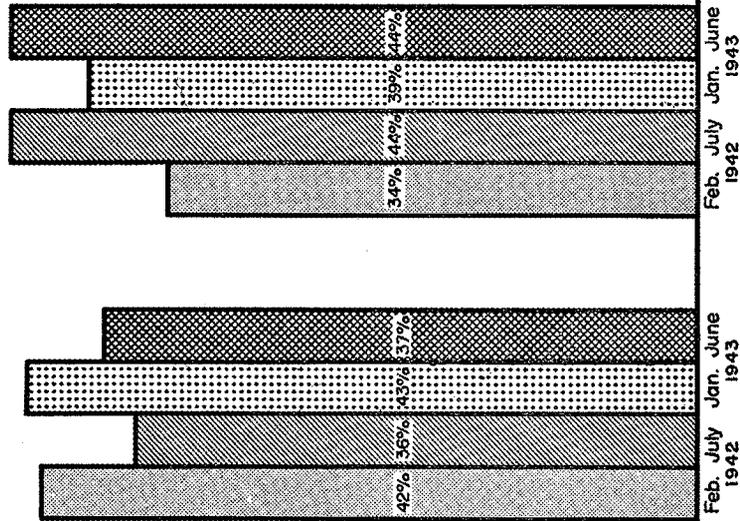
- a. "The United States should give up all the land outside of the United States that is difficult to defend.
- b. "The United States should be satisfied with the amount of land in the world she had before she entered the war.
- c. "The United States should try to get new military bases, but nothing else.
- d. "The United States should try to get as much new land in the world as she can."

Number of interviews is as follows: February, 1942—2,537; July, 1942—2,582; January, 1943—2,466; June, 1943—2,557.

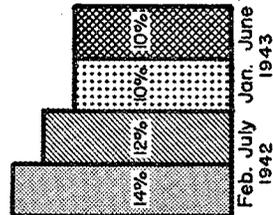
N.O.R.C. will be glad to send additional information regarding the national cross-section and methods used in the surveys on which this report is based.

# AFTER THE WAR THE UNITED STATES SHOULD

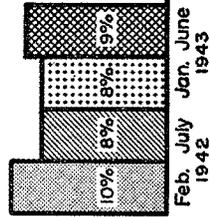
Be Satisfied with Pre-War Land \* Get New Military Bases Only \*



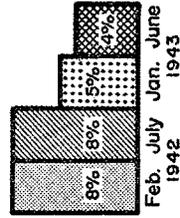
Get as Much Land as Possible \*



Give Up Land Difficult to Defend \*



No Opinion



\* Percentages exclude "No Opinion"