SS8H9b Evaluate the importance of Bell Aircraft, military bases, the Savannah and Brunswick shipyards, Richard Russell, and Carl Vinson.

Bell Aircraft

* Bell Aircraft Company of Buffalo, NY, won a contract to build the B-29 bomber in a new plant in Marietta.
* Largest aircraft assembly plant in the world
* Over 4.2 million square feet
* Over 27,000 employees
* Creating 60-65 planes/month
* Between 1943-1945 built 668 planes
* Still open—operated by Lockheed Martin Corporation

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Military Bases

* WWII bought millions of dollars to GA
* GA became site of many military installations due to:
  + Climate
  + Senator Richard Russell Jr.
  + Representative Carl Vinson
* Fort Benning – Columbus, GA
  + Largest infantry center in country
* Camp Gordon- Augusta
* Fort Stewart and Hunter Air Field – Savannah
* Warner Robins Air Field- Macon
* Camp McPherson- Atlanta
  + Where newly drafted soldiers were inducted from all over USA
  + Military hospital
* Fort Gillem – Clayton county
  + Army storage facility
  + Railroad yard
* Prisoners of War: Ft Benning, Gordon, Oglethorpe, & Stewart
* Fort Oglethorpe
  + Allowed women to train as postal workers, clerks, typists, switchboard operators, code clerks, drivers, aides

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Savannah & Brunswick Shipyards

* Cities where “Liberty Ships” were built
* Named after Patrick Henry’s quote-essential to war effort
* First: Nov 1942, The USS James Oglethorpe (sunk by a German sub 1943)
* Savannah: 88 ships built by 15,000 workers (many women)
* Brunswick: Over 16,000 workers, 99 ships built
  + Set national record by bldg 7 ships in one month
  + Crews worked Christmas Day, donated paychecks for the war effort

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Richard B Russell- GA’s youngest governor

* Made needed changes
* Combined 102 state offices🡪made 17 agencies
* Tried to run the state like a successful business
* Eased some of the pblms brought by the depression
* Became senator (for 38 years)
* Favored military programs, funded gov’t programs
* Promoted Strong National Defense
* Sponsored legislation: provide school lunches for ALL children
* Became third in line for presidency when he served as president pro tempore for the senate

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Carl Vinson

* Served 25 consecutive terms as GA Representative
* Promoted Strong National Defense
* Supported bills to increase our military (planes, naval ships, etc)
* Known as “father of the two-ocean navy”