

LOOKING AT WASHINGTON

By Hugo S. Sims, Washington Correspondent

Attacks On U. S. Ships Outside The War Zones In The South Atlantic

The first ten American merchant ships, sunk in the present war, included six vessels flying the flag of Panama and four flying the Stars and Stripes. It might be well for American citizens to consider the location of the attacks upon these American ships.

Of the four ships flying the American flag, one struck a mine and sank in Australian waters in November 1940. Another was torpedoed and shelled in the South Atlantic in May, 1941. The third was attacked from the air and in the Gulf of Suez on September 5th. The fourth was sunk by a torpedo off the coast of Africa on October 19th.

Of the six ships flying the flag of Panama, four were owned by the United States Maritime Commission and two by the Standard Oil Company. One of the Standard Oil tankers was torpedoed off the coast of Africa and the other in the South Atlantic. Four Maritime Commission vessels came to grief in waters off Iceland, the last being sunk five hundred miles south of the Island.

The pattern of attacks indicates a widespread offensive against shipping being conducted by Germany. Not one of the vessels was destroyed in belligerent waters of the war zones, as proclaimed by the President. Every ship had a right to be where it was destroyed, under International Law, and the ships flying the American flag were proceeding in accordance with our law.

Eliminating the ship which struck a mine in Australian waters, we observe that the three ships destroyed while flying the American flag went down in the South Atlantic, the Gulf of Suez, and off the coast of Africa. Regardless of their cargoes, or their destinations, it is obvious that no self-respecting nation can permit another nation to sink its ships with impunity.

F. D. R. For La Guardia Against Tammany Man

An interesting situation has developed in the City of New York, where Mayor Fiorella La Guardia, seeking re-election, is opposed by District Attorney William O'Dwyer, who is running as a Democrat.

President Roosevelt has given his unqualified support to Mayor La Guardia, expressing the opinion that he has given New York "the most honest" and, in the President's opinion, "the most efficient municipal government," within Mr. Roosevelt's recollection.

The President's action was not entirely unexpected and Democratic leaders in the metropolitan city have long known that Mr. Roosevelt has little love for the Tammany organization. In fact, the President came into political prominence as a young state senator in blocking the election of a Tammany candidate to the United States Senate.

In spite of the President's endorsement, the Democratic candidate is being supported by Edward J. Flynn, National Chairman of the Democratic Party, and has the endorsement of Governor Lehman, Senator Wagner and other prominent Democrats.

Defense Strikes. Labor Loses Ground.

Labor policies of the United States Government are more out of line with the sentiment of the people of the United States than any other Administration stand. The Gallup poll indicates that 80 per cent of the voters in the United States are in favor of having defense strikes prohibited.

The gains that labor has made in the last decade should certainly be protected, but the Government should strike down on all labor leaders who for selfish reasons tamper with national defense.

John L. Lewis through his coal mine strike is certainly doing labor no good. He is not trying to gain better working conditions or higher wages for the workers, but is trying to get a closed shop in place of the existing open shop. A closed shop in this case means that all employees of these coal mines must be members of the CIO.

In the United States today both the open and the closed shop exist. Labor desires the closed shop in all industries, while management, in general, is trying to maintain the open shop. This is the inevitable clash between labor and management.

A moratorium should be declared in this battle while the United States is in a state of national emergency. Neither labor nor business leaders should be permitted to change an existing condition.

Government arbitration can settle injustices without the loss of freedom to either employee or employer. Courts in the United States have the power to take a man's life; why shouldn't they have the power to determine his working conditions?

U. S. Approaches Unity. War Policy Approved. Sentiment Hardens.

The impression is growing that the people of the United States are fast moving toward a national unity of purpose and determination to accept the full implication of a resolute "beat Hitler" policy with a thorough understanding of the gravity of the decision made.

While national sentiment does not

yet approve full-fledged participation in the war in Europe, there is every indication that public sentiment is overwhelmingly behind the "shoot-on-sight" order that governs naval operations in the Atlantic and that the people of this country have decided that nothing must interfere with the production of the necessary supplies for the nations now fighting aggressors.

During the consideration of neutrality act changes, surprising sentiment developed in favor of its repeal, which would permit American ships to carry supplies anywhere in the world, regardless of combat zones.

In view of the foreign policy of this nation, promulgated by the President and repeatedly endorsed by Congress, it is foolish to debate the issue at this time, but any observer, intent upon interpreting public opinion, can easily discover abundant indications of a hardening temper among the American people. This change is apparent in expressed impatience with delays in production or delivery of supplies to nations considered friendly to the United States.

A careful survey of public opinion reveals increasing instances of a demand for participation in the war in Europe, the suggestion that war be declared against Germany or Japan and a growing conviction that sacrifices must be made in order to speed increased shipments to Great Britain, Russia and China.

So far as we can judge, however, the opinion still prevails in the United States that this country will not be required to send an expeditionary force outside of this hemisphere. The conviction exists that positive action to safe guard our ships at sea, including the delivery of war supplies, will be all that is necessary to insure the defeat of Hitler and his allies.

Until other facts make it clear that this conviction is unsound, little consideration will be given to any idea of using our soldiers to defend any area from Hitler's legions or for the purpose of a final smash into Germany.

The reader will understand, we trust, that the writer is not attempting, in this article, to suggest any course of national action. We merely set down for the information of those who might be interested, the conclusions stated above which are based upon a careful effort to follow the trend of public opinion in this country.

Where Ignorance Is Dangerous

3—"If You Can Keep Your Head—"

By L. M. Thompson, M. D., Assistant Director First Aid, Water Safety, and Accident Prevention Service, American National Red Cross.

Speed is responsible not only for a large proportion of accidents; it is frequently the cause of death following injury.

Those who gather at the scene of an accident are more than curious. They have a strong desire to help. But the one idea most frequently uppermost in their minds is the necessity of haste.

More often than not, the newspaper accident story should read: "BECAUSE the victim was RUSHED to the hospital he was pronounced dead on arrival."

Now there are plenty of emergencies in which haste is vitally important. But there are no emergencies in which it pays to do the wrong thing.

If the victim is suffering from a spinal injury, if he has broken ribs or internal injuries, the difference between life and death may well depend upon the manner in which he is moved. If he is bleeding from a severed artery, if he is the victim of poison, or if breathing is suspended for any reason, prompt transportation to the hospital will hardly suffice to save him.

It is therefore plain to see that effective emergency action is primarily a matter of knowing what to do and how to do it. And that is where a knowledge of First Aid is invaluable. That the knowledge of what to do includes the knowledge of what not to do is obvious and important.

The Red Cross defines First Aid as "the immediate, temporary care given in case of accident or sudden illness before the services of a physician can be secured." That is a brief definition but it sometimes covers a good deal.

On reaching the scene of an accident the First Aid trained individual will quietly find out for himself just what has happened. He will immediately offer his cooperation, or, if there is no physician present, will assume the necessary leadership. In this he will have no difficulty if he is calm and sure in manner and action. Bystanders who do not know what to do will be relieved and yield him authority if he announces that

he has been trained by the Red Cross in first aid, and then reveals by his confidence and actions that he knows what he is doing.

The first-aider can make good use of members of the crowd, and it is well to keep them occupied as fully as possible to forestall well-intended criticism or possible interference. But he must first of all determine the nature and extent of the victim's injuries as surely and quickly as possible, for that will largely determine his subsequent actions.

If he has found someone present who apparently can be relied upon to help, he can make use of such assistance in summoning a physician. Others can be asked to find out what necessary materials and equipment are at hand for use in caring for and transporting the victim.

In communicating with the physician it is vitally important to be calm and explicit. A little care and extra time given to that may well prevent mistakes and the loss of a great deal more time from that point on.

The physician should be given the exact location of the accident and, if necessary, careful directions as to how to get there. He should also be informed of the nature of the victim's injuries, of what has been done and of what equipment is at hand. It is likewise important to find out whether the physician has any instructions for further action pending his arrival, and there should be a clear understanding about arrangements for transportation.

In caring for the victim there are certain procedures which should be followed. He must be kept lying down, in a comfortable position, with the head level. This will help prevent fainting and the condition called shock. Only if the face is flushed, the head may be slightly raised. If there is vomiting turn the head slightly to one side.

The injured person must be kept warm. This is essential in preventing shock. If the weather is cool, it is just as important to wrap the patient on the under side as to cover him over.

If the injury is of the arm, leg or body, it is advisable to cut or rip the clothing from the injured part. To remove clothing in the usual way is likely to cause unnecessary suffering and may aggravate the injury.

Stimulants are often helpful, par-

ticularly in cases where the injured person shows symptoms of fainting or shock. It is well to remember that alcohol is not a stimulant and should never be used as such. The best stimulants are strong, hot tea or coffee, or aromatic spirits of ammonia, a teaspoon to the glass of water. Most injured persons may be given water to drink, but should take it slowly, in sips.

A proper mental attitude on the part of the victim promotes cooperation and aids recovery. The first-aid should cheer him, allay his

fears and keep him hopeful. And the first-aid, if he can keep his head, will not be hurried into moving the injured person, unless absolutely necessary, until a clear idea of the nature and extent of injury is obtained and First Aid has been rendered.

Lacked The Important Thing
First Hobo—What's worryin' yer, 'Erbert?

Second Hobo—I found a recipe for 'ome-made beer and I ain't got no 'ome.

Add Short Proposal
A gentleman in India suddenly determined to offer marriage to a young lady in England, so he cabled, "Will you?" The answer came promptly, "Won't I?"

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