

LOOKING AT WASHINGTON

By Hugo S. Sims, Washington Correspondent

Figures On Plane Losses U. S. Bombers Set Record

The announcement from London that 18,031 German, Italian and Japanese planes have been destroyed from the start of the war against known losses to the United States and Great Britain of only 9,906 aircraft is encouraging.

In addition, thousands of Axis planes have been destroyed by the Russians, 985 additional by the British Navy and others by the U. S. Navy in the first months of the war which are not included in the total.

The figures reveal that the Axis lost 4,201 planes over Great Britain while the R. A. F. lost only 900. Over Europe, where the R. A. F. has been on the offensive, the British have lost 5,736 planes to only 2,814 for the Axis.

In strange contrast with the excess British loss, the figures reveal that the U. S. Army Air Force, operating in the European theatre, has lost only 293 planes against an Axis loss of 1,172.

In the Middle East, including Malta, the Axis lost 3,500 planes and the Allies 1,977. In Tunisia the Axis lost 2,231 and the Allies 795 planes. The greatest disparity comes from the Far East, India and Burma, where the R. A. F. reports the loss of only 149 planes and says that the Axis lost 4,042.

The figures show that the Germans, in their effort to bomb England out of the war, lost planes at a ratio of more than four to one but the British bombing offensive suffers losses of about two to one.

American operations over Europe, mostly involving daylight raids, seem to be unusual in that while we conduct the bombing the enemy loses the greater number of planes. This reverses the experience of the Germans over England and the British over Europe. Our plane loss, despite the offensive, is only 293 while the Axis loss is 1,172, or exactly one to four.

English Speaking Peoples Conceptions Are Evident Throughout The World

Prime Minister Winston Churchill, in another of his historic addresses, calls attention to "the moral and political conceptions to which the English-speaking peoples have given birth" and stresses the importance of the association and intimate alignment of the policies of the United States and the British Commonwealth and Empire.

The British leader did not emphasize his observations but it is a fact, apparent to those who study the record, that the present civilization of the peoples of the world is largely a product of the conceptions to which he refers.

The value of British-American cooperation to the world at large is due to the fact that these nations, more than any other, have exhibited a broad tolerance to other peoples and an interest in the welfare of the entire human race. The progress which they have made in the matter of their own free institutions has opened the way for other peoples to follow unmoled in their footsteps.

What the United States has been to South America; under the "Good Neighbor" policy, the British Empire, despite its critics, has been to the other regions of the earth. Wherever the British flag has flown, the condition of alien and subject peoples has improved and, gradually, these peoples are prepared for independence and self-government.

The four freedoms which the English-speaking nations espouse are not war objectives in the sense that they will be forcibly thrust upon other peoples. They represent the fruit of centuries of toil and struggle and they live or die, of all the world, with the two great nations.

Consequently, the defense and successful survival of the United States and Great Britain inevitably means the life and vitality of the principles proclaimed.

Thus we fight in self-defence, after being brutally attacked, in defence of our national existence. The justification of our warfare and the sole aim of our exertions is to secure and guarantee our right to existence. The same applies to the British Empire.

As an inevitable consequence of our victory, and the continued supremacy of the English-speaking nations, the moral and political conceptions, of which Mr. Churchill spoke, will be strengthened and broadened throughout the world. They will be beneficial to all peoples in the future, as they have been in the past.

The English-speaking nations have no mandate to force the other peoples of the earth to adopt our ideals or our form of government. Compulsion precludes democracy. We have a duty to preserve and defend our heritage and in doing this we serve, not only ourselves but all mankind.

"Fully Equipped" In 1944 Army Needs More Staff

The appropriation of vast sums of money is not the possession of an adequate army and navy. Despite all that we read the United States expended only a little more than \$71,000,000,000 for warfare in the last twelve months.

Even so, it is somewhat surprising

to hear Lieut. Gen. Somervell assert that "the Army will not be fully equipped until well into 1944."

This officer reports that industrial output for the Army's supply program actually fell off in May, dropping below the \$1,553,809,000 of April, and declares that this was a "telling blow to our whole plan for supplying the Army's requirements."

The staff officer says that ordnance production must move up one-third over May, radar and other signal equipment must be almost doubled and gas masks and other chemical warfare equipment must increase 62 per cent above present production.

The reader will understand that Gen. Somervell's department does not include all the activity of the Army, which expended \$41,690,000,000 in the last year.

A Tax On War Incomes The Inflationary Gap Increases Not Uniform

The danger of inflation is real and the results of inflation are disastrous. Consequently, the people of the nation, without exception, assert their opposition to inflation.

Unfortunately, in the determination to avoid inflation the average American has the hazy idea that, somehow, his own salary or income can be boosted. This illogical process explains the drives of various groups and blocs for large incomes and prices.

The fiscal experts speak of the "inflationary gap." They refer to the surplus purchasing power that has been distributed throughout the nation. In 1942, according to Randolph Paul, Treasury tax expert, personal income, after the payment of personal taxes, amounted to \$109,000,000,000. Out of this citizens spent \$82,000,000,000 and saved \$27,000,000,000.

In 1944 income before taxes will exceed \$150,000,000,000. There will be available for spending, unless heavier taxes are imposed, much more than the \$82,000,000,000 spent in 1942. There will be fewer goods for sale and, consequently, unless prices are regulated, the bidding will send prices sky-high, which means inflation.

It is estimated that the surplus money, available for spending but for which goods will not be available, will exceed \$45,000,000,000. To avoid inflation it is proposed to levy heavier taxes and thus drain off the surplus funds, even though it is realized that it will not be possible to take it all.

Undoubtedly, such increased taxation will serve two purposes: (1) protect domestic economy from the threatened inflation and (2) enable the nation to pay for a large part of its war out of current income. These are valuable results, if they can be obtained, but the difficulty is that incomes have not risen uniformly and hence any general increase of taxes, which does not differentiate between those of larger incomes and those with the same or less incomes, will not be equitable.

We are glad to notice that this solution of the tax problem is being considered. Certainly, if it desired to drain off the "inflationary gap" it must be tapped where it is. No increase of taxation on an individual whose income remained steady will remove surplus spending power from individuals whose incomes have increased.

It is suggested, for example, that a special tax be applied to incomes above a base year. This is a sensible suggestion. It could be graduated just like the regular income tax. There should be no especial hardship involved and the citizen whose income has increased should be willing and able, to pay the heavier levy.

Convoys Beat U-Boats
The German Admiralty admits that the U-boats sunk only 107,000 tons of shipping in June, which compares with a claim of 851,000 tons in March.

This may be taken as an official admission that the U-boat campaign in the Atlantic has been beaten, despite the alarm that almost swept

some Americans into the abyss of despair in the early part of the year.

When Germany launched her attacks against the United States, in the early months of 1942, we lost nearly 450 valuable cargo carriers. The worst months were May, June and July, when American ships to the number of 207 were sunk by German raiders.

This loss was occasioned solely because we did not have sufficient escort vessels. The fact is abundantly proved by the experience of the Navy, which, in the same three months, escorted 11,125 ships under convoy with a loss of only five vessels.

Uncle Sam Needs Extra Pulp Wood

Uncle Sam is asking farm woodland owners to spend some of their spare time in cutting pulpwood because more tons of wood go into the war machine than tons of steel, says R. W. Graeber, extension forester at N. C. State College.

Recently 125 farmers and timbermen met in Rutherford County with the county agents and soil conservationist from Polk, Cleveland, Burke, McDowell and Gaston counties. Paper company representatives were also present to answer questions put to them by the farmers.

The meeting brought out that a paper company at Georgetown, South Carolina is making 125,000 boxes a day for use in exporting food and war supplies for the army. Ninety-two percent of the paper manufactured by this plant goes into the war effort and it has a capacity of 2,200 cords a day.

This company is getting only 1,600 cords of wood at the present time, and the farmers pledged to cut extra pulpwood just as soon as the crops are lead by and before the fall harvest season begins.

The conference showed that the army and navy use wood products in about 800 different ways and that the demand is so great for pulpwood and other timber that unless growers make every effort to supply the mills with extra timber this year, a severe shortage of wood products will prevail.

HONOREE AT KITCHEN SHOWER

Mrs. Charles E. White was a charming hostess to a number of friends at her home on Wednesday evening when she entertained at a kitchen shower, complimenting Mrs. Bryant Miller. The guests were greeted at the door by Miss Rosa Lassiter. Each guest wrote a wish for the bride.

Contents were enjoyed, with Mrs. E. J. Proctor and Mrs. Charles Phillips winning the prizes.

Those present were Miss Blanche Goodwin, Mrs. C. M. Umphlett, Mrs. E. L. Goodwin, Mrs. W. D. Perry, Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Stallings, Mrs. Roy S. Chappell, Mr. and Mrs. E. Y. Berry, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Mathews, Mrs. J. C. Hobbs, Mrs. J. J. Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Shelton Long, Mary Inez Chappell, Mrs. Preston Long, Miss Gertie Chappell, Mrs. Charles Phillips, Mrs. J. B. Basnight, Mrs. E. J. Proctor, Mr. and Mrs. S. P.

Mathews, Mr. and Mrs. Ennis Phillips and children, Johnnie and Pat, Mrs. M. T. Griffin, Miss Evelyn Long, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. White, Mrs. Pearl Proctor, Mr. and Mrs. Bryant Miller, Miss Rosa Lassiter, and Beverly Russell.

The honoree received many lovely, useful gifts.

Grow More Alfalfa For Excellent Hay

Alfalfa produces exceptionally high quality hay and larger total acre yields than other legumes, making it an excellent crop for planting to offset the existing feed shortage, says Dr. E. R. Collins, in charge of agronomy extension at State College.

Alfalfa can be grown on moderately-heavy, well-drained, and fertile upland soils throughout the State. It is not suited to bottom soils because it gets "wet feet" when the water table is high. It must be grown on good land because it is not a "poor land" crop.

Collins advises that now is the time to select the land for the sowing of the crop in September. Disk it with a "bush and bog" harrow, leaving as much of the vegetation on the surface as possible, and prepare to disk once or twice more before seed-

ing. A sample of the soil should be taken now and sent to the Soil Testing Laboratory at Raleigh for a recommendation on how much lime is needed for the crop. It should be applied immediately since limestone does not quickly neutralize soil acids.

An application of five to ten tons of stable manure per acre is recommended at planting and each year thereafter. Also apply 700 pounds of a 2-12-6 fertilizer and 35 pounds of granulated borax per acre. Larger amounts of borax may damage the crop.

Collins recommends the planting of Kansas common, Utah common, or

Oklahoma common seed, at the rate of 20 to 25 pounds per acre, with an alfalfa or clover drill, a grain drill, a cyclone seeder or by hand. The rate of seeding should be increased when the crop is sown by hand.

For complete information on seeding alfalfa locally, see your county agent.

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Sunday, July 18—Double Feature
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"FOLLOW THE BAND"

Monday & Tuesday, July 19-20—
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"THE PRIDE OF THE YANKEES"

Wednesday, July 21—
Double Feature, 11c & 25c
Lloyd Corrigan in
"THE MANTRAP"
Margaret Lindsay in
"LET'S HAVE FUN"

Thursday & Friday, July 22-23—
Charles Laughton and
Maureen O'Hara in
"THIS LAND IS MINE"

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