Report 43

[redacted]

NATIONAL WAR PROGRAM

MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT

April 30, 1944

Prepared by
Bureau of the Budget
Executive Office of the President

[redacted]

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET
WASHINGTON, 25, D. C.

file

May 18, 1944.

For the President's information.

H.D.S.

Report 43 [redacted]

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CONTENTS

CHARTS

I. SUMMARY

Active Military Strengths

	Total All Classes	Date
Army	7,840,000	May 1
Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard	3,344,498	Apr. 15

The Army reported 3,469,349 overseas .... May 1

(Pages 12-13, 25-26)

Aeronautical Program

April acceptances, 96 million lbs. of airframes vs. 103.4 in March
(Pages 2-3)

Combat planes on hand:
Army: 30,946 on May 1 — April losses, 2,533
Navy: 18,700 on Apr. 1 — March losses, 553
(Pages 4-5, 8)

Strength on April 1:

AAF	2,411,294	— 108,814 pilots
Navy and Marine Corps ...	311,222	— 40,825 pilots
Totals	2,722,516	— 149,639 pilots

(Pages 6-7, 9)

Navy Ship Construction

1944 completions through April 20: 2 Aircraft Carriers, 21 Aircraft Carrier Escorts, 1 Light Cruiser, 31 Destroyers, 99 Destroyer Escorts, and 21 Submarines. (Pages 15-22)

Merchant Shipping Losses, United Nations

April, 268,000 dwt. vs. 247,000 in March (Pages 27-28)

Agriculture

Wet weather has delayed the planting of spring crops and will intensify farm-labor and machinery supply difficulties. (Pages 33-35)

Administrative Developments

A plan for an international stabilization fund has been agreed upon.

The establishment of the Executive Committee on Foreign Economic Policy in the State Department is considered an outstanding development.
(Pages 41-43)

II. AERONAUTICAL PROGRAM

April Aircraft Production

Preliminary reports indicate that 96 million pounds of airframes (spares included, gliders excluded) were accepted in April — a decrease of 5 percent below the weight of March acceptances. Thirty percent of the 1.27 billion pounds scheduled for 1944 were accepted in the first third of the year.

The number of military aircraft accepted in April was 8,343, as compared with 9,117 in March. There were 1,417 four-engine bombers accepted, including 51 B-29's.

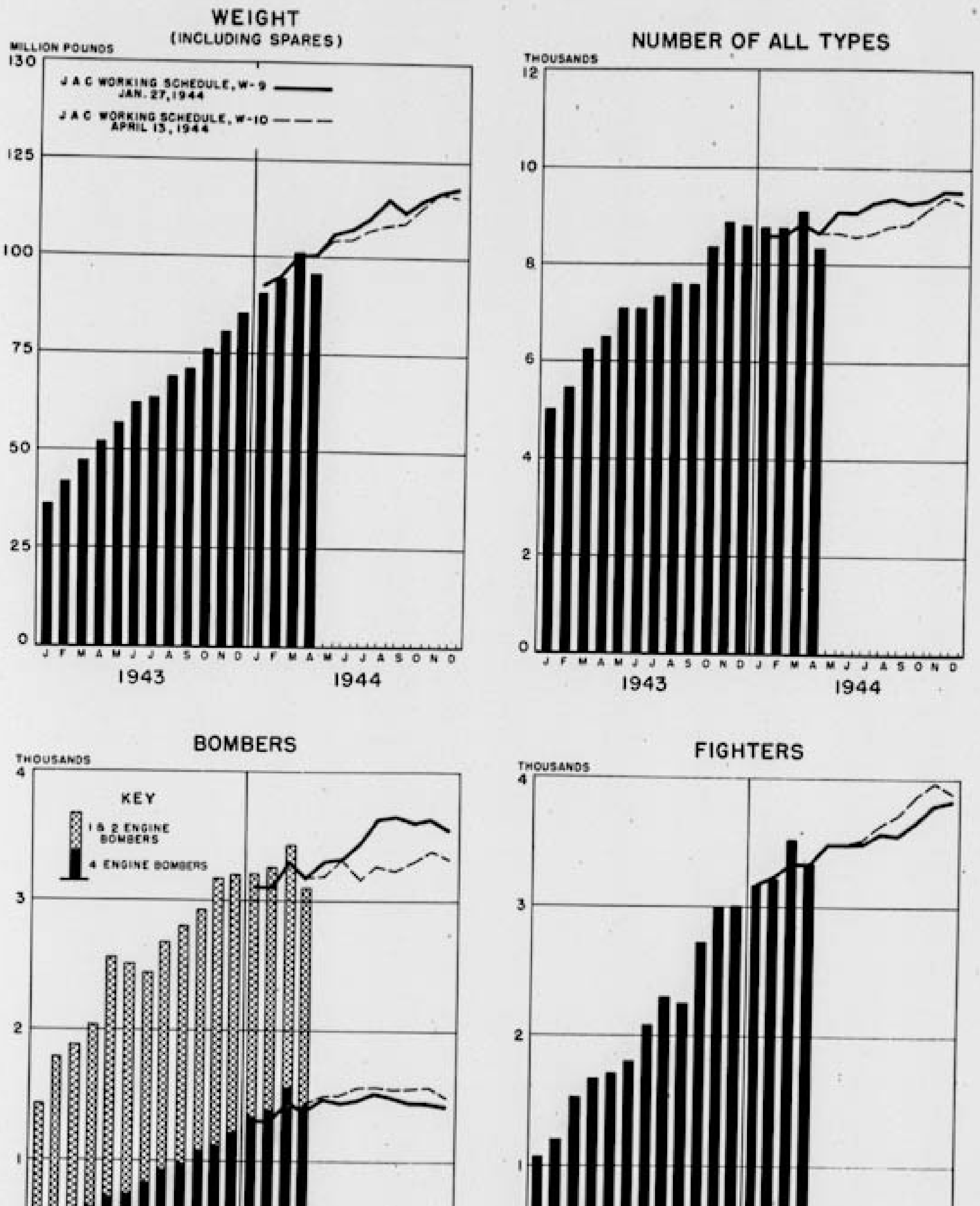
Aircraft Acceptances and Schedule, 1944

Type	Actual Acceptances			Total Scheduled 1944*
	March	April	Jan. Thru April	
Bomber, 4-engine, long-range	60	51	222	1,455
Bomber, 4-engine, other	1,509	1,366	5,501	16,626
Bomber, 2-engine	1,110	986	4,157	11,703
Bomber, 1-engine	750	700	3,136	9,311
Fighter	3,534	3,323	13,259	42,861
Reconnaissance	0	4	47	198
Total combat	6,963	6,430	26,322	82,154
Transport, 4-engine	40	47	143	759
Transport, 2- and 1-engine	885	791	3,242	9,843
Total tactical	7,888	7,268	29,707	92,756
Trainer	901	778	3,825	8,273
Liaison	273	250	1,319	3,694
Rotary wing	6	2	15	664
Target and drone	49	45	143	1,357
Grand total	9,117	8,343	35,009	106,744

*Actual acceptances, Jan. thru Mar.; W-10 schedule, Apr. thru Dec.

CHART I

MONTHLY ACCEPTANCES OF MILITARY AIRPLANES



Army Air Forces

A. Airplanes. On April 30, the Army Air Forces had on hand 30,946 first-line combat airplanes. Of these, 9,754 were four-engine bombers—an increase of 495 heavy bombers during April. Of the total combat planes, 18,619 or 60 percent were overseas on April 30.

Airplanes of the Army Air Forces on Hand
March 31, April 30, and Gains and Losses in April

Type	On Hand Mar. 31 1944	April		On Hand Apr. 30 1944	Apr. Net Gain
		Gains	Losses*		
Combat					
Bomber, heavy, long-range	235	64	4	295	60
Bomber, heavy, other	9,024	1,393	958	9,459	435
Bomber, medium	4,310	276	247	4,339	29
Bomber, light	1,325	151	90	1,386	61
Fighter	14,377	1,502	1,191	14,688	311
Reconnaissance	674	148	43	779	105
Total combat	29,945	3,534	2,533	30,946	1,001
Transport					
Heavy	570	140	9	701	131
Medium	3,476	360	57	3,779	303
Amphibian	29	0	1	28	-1
Utility	3,789	64	36	3,817	28
Total transport	7,864	564	103	8,325	461
Total combat & transport	37,809	4,098	2,636	39,271	1,462
Trainers	27,412	556	274	27,694	282
Communications	4,152	153	172	4,133	-19
Total, all types	69,373	4,807	3,082	71,098	1,725

*Includes losses from enemy action, survey, etc.

A.A.F. Airplanes in Continental U.S. and Overseas — Apr. 30, 1944

Location	Bomber			Fighter	Transport	Other	Total
	Heavy	Medium	Light				
Continental U.S.	4,421	1,677	527	5,413	4,558	31,071	47,667
Overseas	5,345	2,662	859	9,275	3,767	1,523	23,431
Total	9,766	4,339	1,386	14,688	8,325	32,594	71,098

Analysis of Losses of First-Line AAF Bomber and Fighter Planes
Sept. 1, 1943 to April 30, 1944

	Bombers				Fighters	
	Heavy		Other Bombers			
	Operational	Other Losses*	Operational	Other Losses*	Operational	Other Losses*
1943						
September	304	70	238	647	531	72
October	380	101	171	291	523	161
November	305	904	180	197	580	176
December	327	53	154	77	536	155
1944						
January	427	103	197	88	577	93
February	584	71	196	98	561	88
March	606	36	211	176	770	173
April	811	151	226	111	845	346
Total	3,744	1,489	1,573	1,685	4,923	1,264

*Includes losses due to conversion, reallocation, other inventory adjustments, and missing planes.

B. Personnel of the Army Air Forces. The active-duty strength of the Army Air Forces totaled 2,411,294 on April 1 -- an increase of 7,795 during March. Pilots on active duty were 94 percent of required strength by June 30, 1945.

Active-Duty Strength of the Army Air Forces, April 1, 1944
and Minimum Requirements by June 30, 1945

Type of Personnel	Officers	Enlisted	Total	Minimum Requirements by 6-30-45*
Pilot (includes glider and service)	106,552	2,262	108,814	116,093
Aviation cadet	—	100,542	100,542	85,180
Bombardier and navigator	35,716	364	36,080	45,079
Aerial gunner	—	16,944	16,944	35,540
Photo gunner	—	272	272	227
Airplane mechanic-gunner	—	35,383	35,383	21,429
Armorer-gunner	—	24,218	24,218	19,488
Radio operator-gunner	—	22,181	22,181	15,429
Observer	407	—	407	181
All other	164,214	1,902,239	2,066,453	1,977,555
Total	306,889	2,104,405	2,411,294	2,316,201

*The total requirements as of June 30, 1945 are not the peak requirements of the A.A.F. program. The peak of 2,412,236 was required on December 31, 1943. The total requirement tapers off commencing August 1944.

Army Air Forces personnel overseas and en route to overseas theaters totaled 906,335 on April 1.

C. Flying Training. During March, 9,657 pilots were graduated from advanced training. Since the beginning of the war emergency, a total of

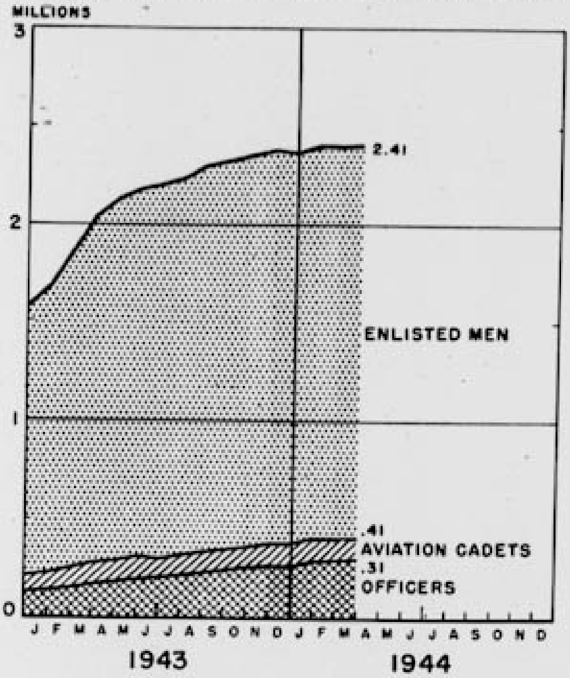
CHART 2

ARMY AIR FORCES MILITARY PERSONNEL

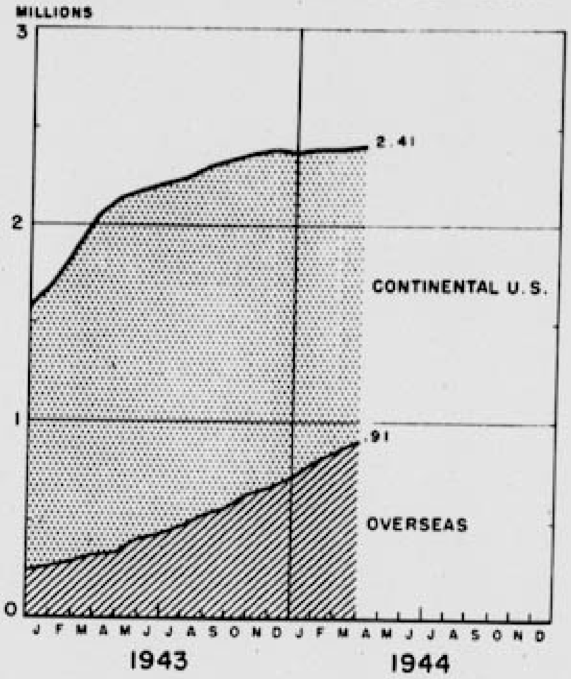
(INCLUDES PERSONNEL ASSIGNED FROM THE ASF AND AGF)

I. TOTAL STRENGTH

OFFICERS, AVIATION CADETS AND ENLISTED MEN

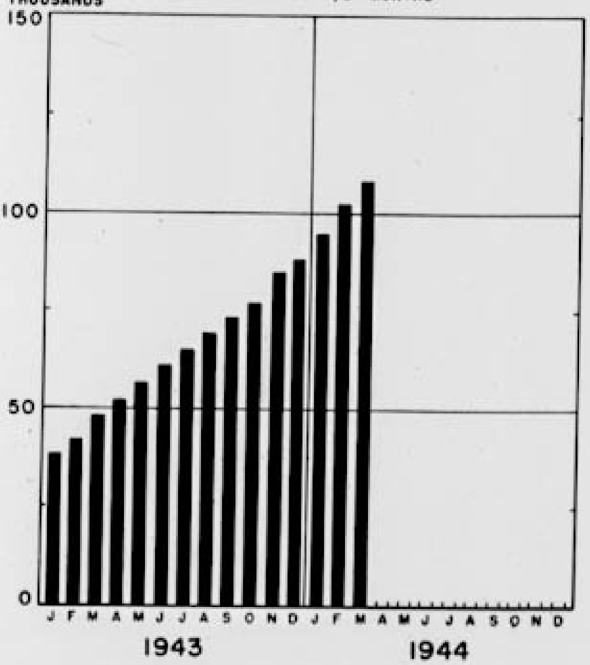


OVERSEAS AND CONTINENTAL U.S. STRENGTH

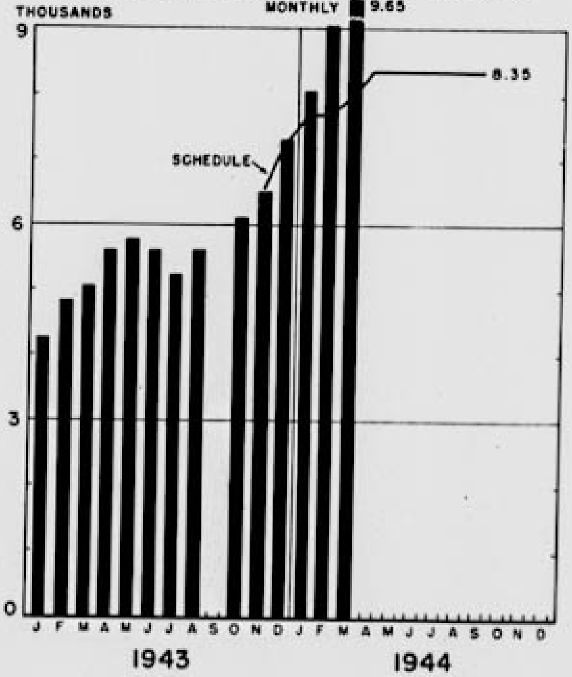


2. PILOTS AND PILOT TRAINING

COMBAT, SERVICE, AND GLIDER PILOTS
ON ACTIVE DUTY, BY MONTHS



GRADUATES OF ADVANCED PILOT TRAINING
MONTHLY



Bureau of Aeronautics

A. Airplanes. On March 31, the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard reported a total of 29,885 useful airplanes on hand. Of these, 18,700 were tactical combat types — an increase of 1,468 tactical combat planes during March.

Navy Airplanes on Hand — Feb. 29, Mar. 31, and Additions and Losses in March

Type	On Hand Feb. 29	March*		On Hand Mar. 31
		Additions	Losses	
Tactical Combat				
Fighter	6,961	1,206	262	7,905
Scout bomber	4,073	399	137	4,335
Torpedo bomber	2,499	248	96	2,651
Patrol bomber—sea	1,427	127	17	1,537
Bomber—land:				
4-engine	332	0	11	321
2-engine	839	41	13	867
Observation scout	1,101	0	17	1,084
Subtotal	17,232	2,021	553	18,700
Tactical Non-Combat				
Utility	932	50	8	974
Transport	550	24	8	566
Subtotal	1,482	74	16	1,540
Training	9,226	183	77	9,332
Experimental and Misc.	311	29	27	313
Grand total	28,251	2,307	673	29,885

*Includes diversions, reinstatements, reclassifications, and miscellaneous increases and decreases.

B. Personnel. The active-duty military aviation personnel of the Navy and Marine Corps increased 9,334 during March to a total of 311,222 on April 1. This total is 87 percent of the required strength on June 30, 1944. The number of pilots is 87 percent of requirements on that date.

Navy and Marine Corps Active-Duty Military Aviation Personnel
April 1, 1944, and Requirements for June 30, 1944

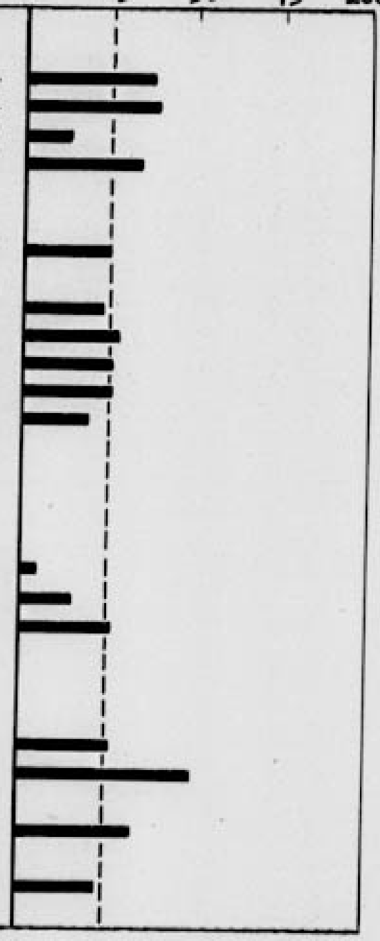
	Navy		Marine Corps		Total	
	Requirements 6-30-44	Actual Mar. 31	Requirements 6-30-44	Actual Mar. 31	Requirements 6-30-44	Actual Mar. 31
Pilots	37,405	31,506	9,562	9,319	46,967	40,825
Other:						
Officers	26,457	26,632	4,762	3,754	31,219	30,386
Enlisted	188,362	161,119	90,510	78,892	278,872	240,011
Total	252,224	219,257	104,834	91,965	357,058	311,222

C. Pilot Training. Student pilots in training for heavier-than-air planes on March 30 totaled 40,076, and 11,033 of these were in the last stage of training prior to commissioning. The total is a decrease of 1,227 from the number in training on March 2. Further reductions, totaling approximately 5,500 trainees, are planned between April 1 and June 30, 1944.

III. ARMY

Status of 1944 Deliveries of Selected Critical Ordnance Materiel
(Includes International Aid and Navy Items Procured by Army)

Item	March Deliv.	1944 Army Supply Program	1944 Deliveries January 1 to April 1: Cumulative	1944 Deliveries January 1 to April 1: Percent of 1944 A.S.P. (0 25 50 75 100)
Combat Vehicles				
Light armored car	241	3,383	1,271	
Light tank	513	3,763	1,461	
Medium tank	815	13,195	1,759	
Universal carrier	561	6,500	2,197	
Motor Vehicles				
1/4 ton, 4 x 4 command	15,204	180,833	45,948	
1/2 and 3/4 ton, 4 x 4 weapons carrier	4,281	53,183	12,377	
1 1/2 ton, 4 x 2 cargo	3,375	32,248	9,128	
1 1/2 ton, 4 x 4 cargo	2,870	30,851	8,022	
2 1/2 ton, 6 x 4 cargo	2,702	30,986	8,018	
2 1/2 ton, 6 x 6 dump	1,361	25,560	4,858	
10 ton, 6 x 4 prime mover	506	8,266	1,411	
Artillery*				
155mm gun	8	480	23	
8 inch Howitzer	15	360	55	
155mm Howitzer	134	1,628	450	
Small Arms				
.30 cal. U.S. rifle, M1	102,810	1,246,752	344,815	
.30 cal. carbine	325,293	1,954,532	984,565	
.30 cal. machine gun	9,173	109,259	36,069	
.50 cal. machine gun	60,361	741,937	172,320	

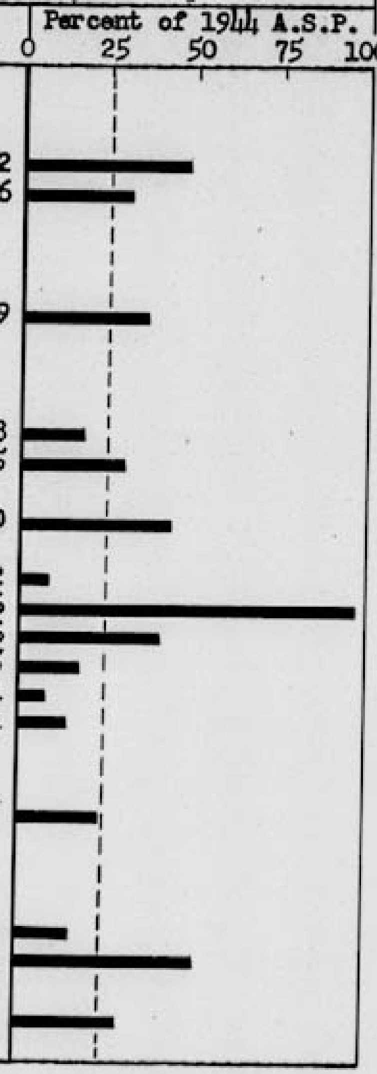


*Proof firing may not be completed.

3 mo. = 25% of year

Deliveries of Selected Bombs and Ammunition
(Includes International Aid and Navy Items Procured by the Army)

Item	March Deliv.	1944 Army Supply Program	1944 Deliveries January 1 to April 1 Cumu- lative
Small Arms Ammunition (Million rounds)			
All .30 cal.	368	3,725	1,812
All .50 cal.	238	2,136	566
Antiaircraft Ammunition (Thousand rounds)			
For 40mm gun	2,334	19,740	7,259
Artillery Ammunition (Thousand rounds)			
For 60 and 81mm mortar	2,025	25,753	4,978
For 57mm gun	1,433	10,456	3,225
For 75mm field, tank, and antitank gun	1,602	10,987	4,920
For 76mm tank and antitank gun	707	13,073	1,232
For 75mm Howitzer	1,534	4,668	4,586
For 90mm gun	413	4,594	1,916
For 105mm Howitzer	2,237	35,441	6,625
For 155mm Howitzer	215	6,043	511
For 155mm field gun	152	2,434	364
Bombs			
500 lb. G.P.	130,985	1,912,980	470,025
500 lb. cluster-fragmentation	—	315,000	—
500 lb. cluster	—	113,000	—
260 lb. fragmentation	45,084	585,000	93,062
23 lb. fragmentation	1,071,496	3,534,519	1,870,764
20 lb. and 23 lb. cluster-fragmen.	172,529	1,714,670	517,783



3 mo. = 25% of year

Military Personnel

A. Strength. The active-duty strength of the Army increased 82,371 during April to an estimated total of 7,840,000 on May 1.

Distribution of the Army Active-Duty Strength, by Class
April 1, May 1, and April Increase

Class of Personnel	Apr. 1 Actual	May 1 Estimated	April Increase
Commissioned officers	658,075	663,522	5,447
Warrant and flight officers	31,640	31,975	335
Enlisted men and selectees	6,960,388	7,035,007	74,619
WAC	67,215	67,996	781
Subtotal	7,717,318	7,798,500	81,182
Army Nurse Corps	40,311	41,500	1,189
Grand total	7,757,629	7,840,000	82,371

During April the Army active-duty strength overseas increased 302,704 to a total of 3,469,349 or 44 percent of the total Army strength.

Assignment of Army Active-Duty Military Personnel
April 1, May 1, and April Increase

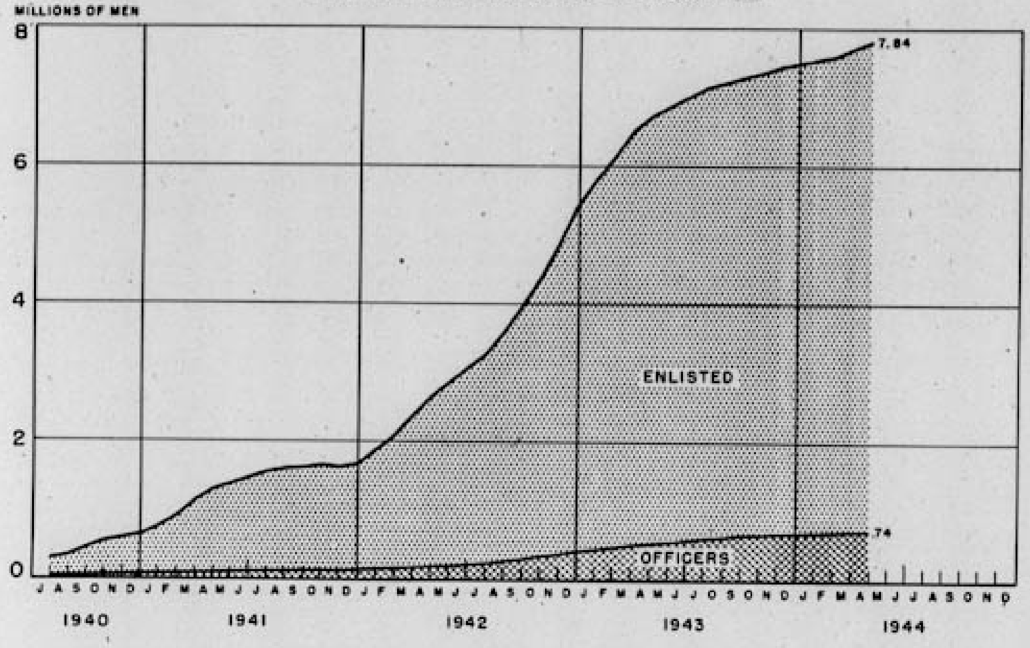
Assignment of Personnel	Apr. 1 Actual	May 1 Estimated	April Increase
Army Ground Forces in U.S.	1,585,660	1,555,168	-30,492
Army Air Forces in U.S.	1,468,206	1,440,830	-27,376
Army Service Forces in U.S.	1,137,276	1,116,217	-21,059
In defense commands in U.S.	87,172	87,172	0
In staging areas	135,724	85,000	-50,724
In ships	176,946	86,264	-90,682
Outside Continental U.S.	3,166,645	3,469,349	302,704
Total	7,757,629	7,840,000	82,371

On May 1, the total active-duty military personnel was distributed as follows: Ground Forces, 3,256,346 or 42 percent; Air Forces, 2,393,885 or 30 percent; and Service Forces, 2,189,769 or 28 percent.

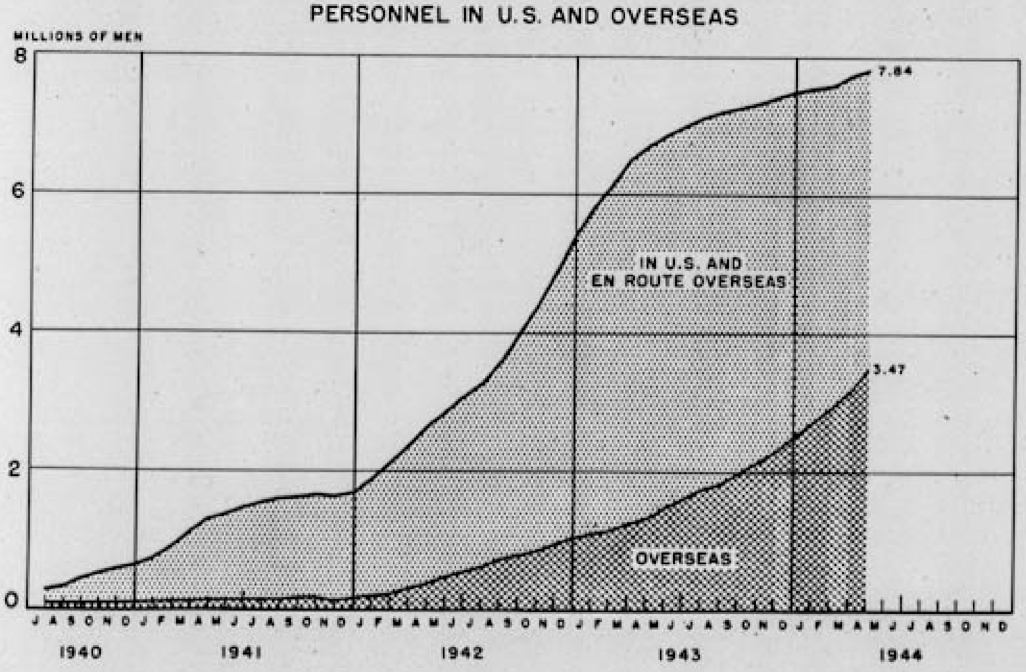
CHART 3

ARMY MILITARY PERSONNEL

OFFICERS AND ENLISTED PERSONNEL

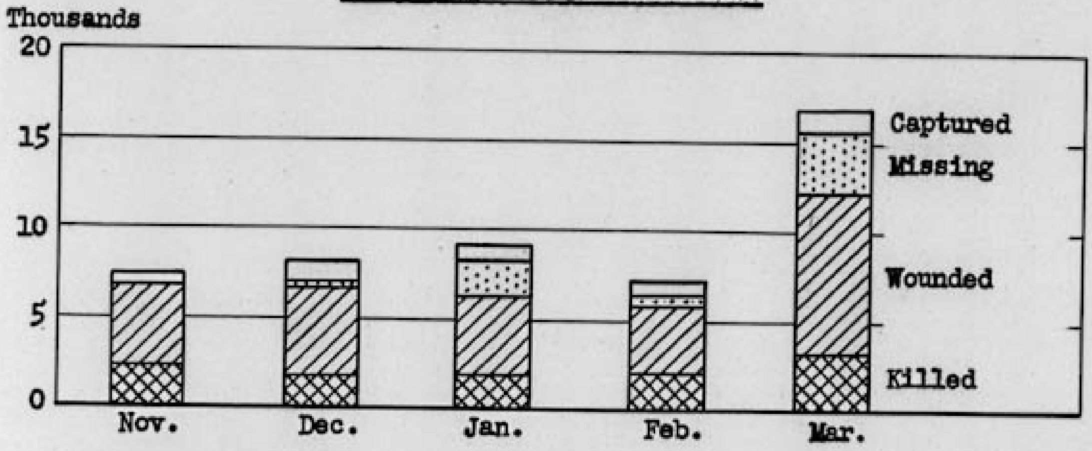


PERSONNEL IN U.S. AND OVERSEAS



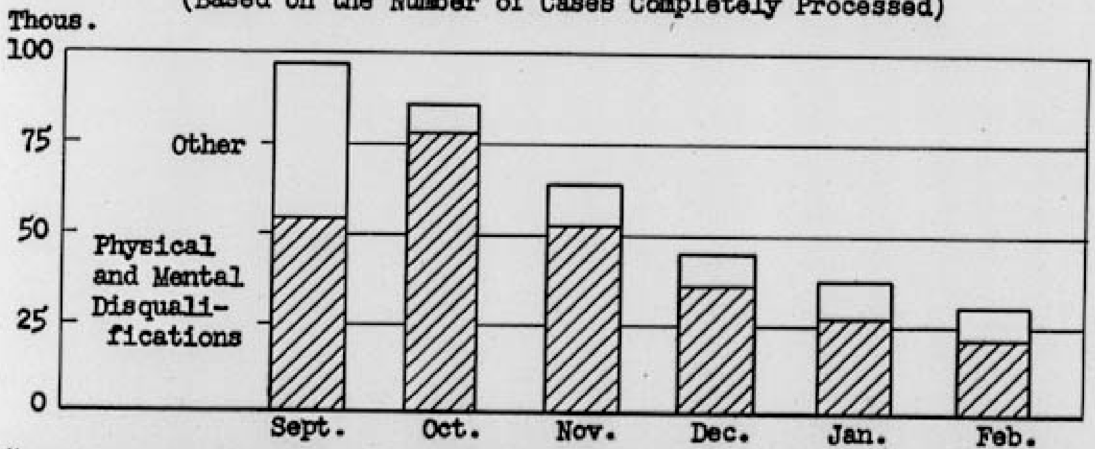
B. Army Casualties. From Dec. 7, 1941 to April 1, 1944, the Army reported 137,859 battle casualties — 20,074 or 15 percent officers.

Battle Casualties Reported
Nov. 1943 Through March 1944



C. Army Separations and Transfers--Enlisted Personnel.* Based on the number of cases completely processed, physical and mental disqualifications accounted for 619,666 separations from the enlisted ranks of the Army from November 1, 1941 to March 1, 1944.

Army Enlisted Personnel Separations and Transfers
Sept. 1, 1943 to Mar. 1, 1944
(Based on the Number of Cases Completely Processed)



*Excludes separations due to commissioning or appointment as warrant officers.

IV. NAVY

Completions of Naval Vessels

A total of 175 combatant vessels have been completed in 1944 through April 20 — 45 in March and 33 more during the first 20 days of April. There are 357 additional combatant vessels scheduled for completion during 1944.

Physical Completions of Selected Naval Vessels
(Includes Land-Lease Vessels and Conversions)

Type	1944				1943 Actual
	Mar.	Apr. Thru 20th	Jan. 1 Thru Apr. 20	Scheduled Apr. 21 to Dec. 31	
Combatant Vessels:					
Battleship	0	0	0	2	2
Aircraft carrier	0	1	2	6	15
Aircraft carrier, escort	5	3	21	23	50
Large cruiser	0	0	0	2	0
Heavy cruiser	0	0	0	5	4
Light cruiser	0	0	1	12	7
Destroyer	10	5	31	78	128
Destroyer escort	22	19	99	169	306
Submarine	8	5	21	60	56
Total combatant	45	33	175	357	568
Patrol craft	54	28	179	388	718
Mine vessels	10	6	41	166	389
Auxiliaries	32	18	115	696	352
Landing force vessels*	83	68	269	1,137	649

*LST, LSM, LSD, and LCI(L)

Status of Construction of Selected Naval Vessels

Twenty-five percent of the 747 combatant vessels on order on April 20 had been launched, 22 percent were on the ways, and 53 percent had not been placed on the ways.

Status of Construction of Selected Naval Vessels, Apr. 20, 1944
(Includes Lend-Lease Vessels)

Type	New Construction on Order				Con-vert-ing	Add'l Auth.
	Not Yet on Ways	On Ways	Launch-ed	Total		
Combatant Vessels:						
Battleship	2	0	2	4	0	0
Aircraft carrier	8	11	3	22	0	0
Aircraft carrier, escort	15	8	0	23	15	0
Large cruiser	0	1	2	3	0	0
Heavy cruiser	16	11	1	28	0	0
Light cruiser	16	13	10	39	0	0
Destroyer	121	45	25	191	0	0
Destroyer escort	73	27	117	217	0	0
Submarine	141	50	29	220	0	0
Total combatant	392	166	189	747	15	0
Patrol craft	109	71	132	312	43	106
Mine craft	31	69	101	201	3	0
Auxiliaries	143	73	90	306	484	0
Landing force vessels*	999	188	108	1,295	0	178

*LST, LSM, LSD, and LCI(L)

Progress of construction of combatant vessels is shown on the charts immediately following.

CHART 4

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS ON BATTLESHIPS AND AIRCRAFT CARRIERS

PROGRESS JULY 1, 1940 TO MARCH 1, 1944 — PROGRESS FOR MARCH 1944

TYPE AND NAME	Keel Laid	Estimated Completion Date
BATTLESHIPS		
NORTH CAROLINA	10-27-37	7-31-41
WASHINGTON	6-14-38	7-31-41
SOUTH CAROLINA	7-15-39	3-20-42
INDIANA	11-20-39	4-30-42
MASSACHUSETTS	7-20-39	5-15-42
ALABAMA	2- 1-40	8-16-42
IOWA	6-27-40	3-28-43
NEW JERSEY	9-16-40	6-30-43
MISSOURI	1- 6-41	7-24-44
WISCONSIN	1-25-41	5-31-44
ILLINOIS	7-31-44	7-31-46
KENTUCKY	6-22-44	6-30-46
MONTANA	WORK SUSPENDED	
OHIO	WORK SUSPENDED	
MAINE	WORK SUSPENDED	
NEW HAMPSHIRE	WORK SUSPENDED	
LOUISIANA	WORK SUSPENDED	
AIRCRAFT CARRIERS		
HORNET (LOST)	9-25-39	10-20-41
ESSEX	4-28-41	12-30-42
YORKTOWN	12- 1-41	4-15-43
LEXINGTON	7-15-41	2-17-43
BUNKER HILL	9-15-41	5-24-43
INDEPENDENCE	1-16-43	2-25-43
PRINCETON	6- 2-41	2-25-43
BELLEAU WOOD	8-11-41	3-30-43
COWPENS	11-17-41	5-28-43
MONTEREY	12-29-41	6-17-43
LANGLEY	4-11-42	8-31-43
INTREPID	12- 1-41	8-16-43
CABOT	3-16-42	7-24-43
BATAAN	8-31-42	11-17-43
WASP	3-18-42	11-23-43
HORNET	8- 3-42	11-29-43
SAN JACINTO	10-26-42	12-15-43
FRANKLIN	12- 7-42	1-31-44
TICONDEROGA	2- 1-43	5- 8-44
RANDOLPH	5-10-43	11- 1-44
HANCOCK	1-26-43	4-16-44
BENNINGTON	12-15-42	9-15-44
BOXER	9-13-43	4- 1-45
BON HOMME RICHARD	2- 1-43	12- 1-44
CROWN POINT	3-21-44	12- 1-45
KEARSARGE	3- 1-44	12-31-45
ORISKANY	5- 1-44	3- 1-46
REPRISAL	7- 1-44	5- 1-46
ANTIETAM	3-15-43	2- 1-45
VALLEY FORGE	9-14-43	12-31-45
SHANGRI-LA	1-15-43	11- 1-44
LAKE CHAMPLAIN	3-15-43	12-31-44
TARAWA	3- 1-44	12- 1-45
CVB41	10-27-43	8- 1-45
CVB42	12- 1-43	10- 1-45
CVB43	7-17-44	4- 1-46
CV 45	7- 4-44	2-28-46
CV 46	11-27-44	7-15-46
CV 47	3-15-45	7- 1-46
CVL48	6-26-44	12-30-45
CVL49	7-28-44	3- 1-46

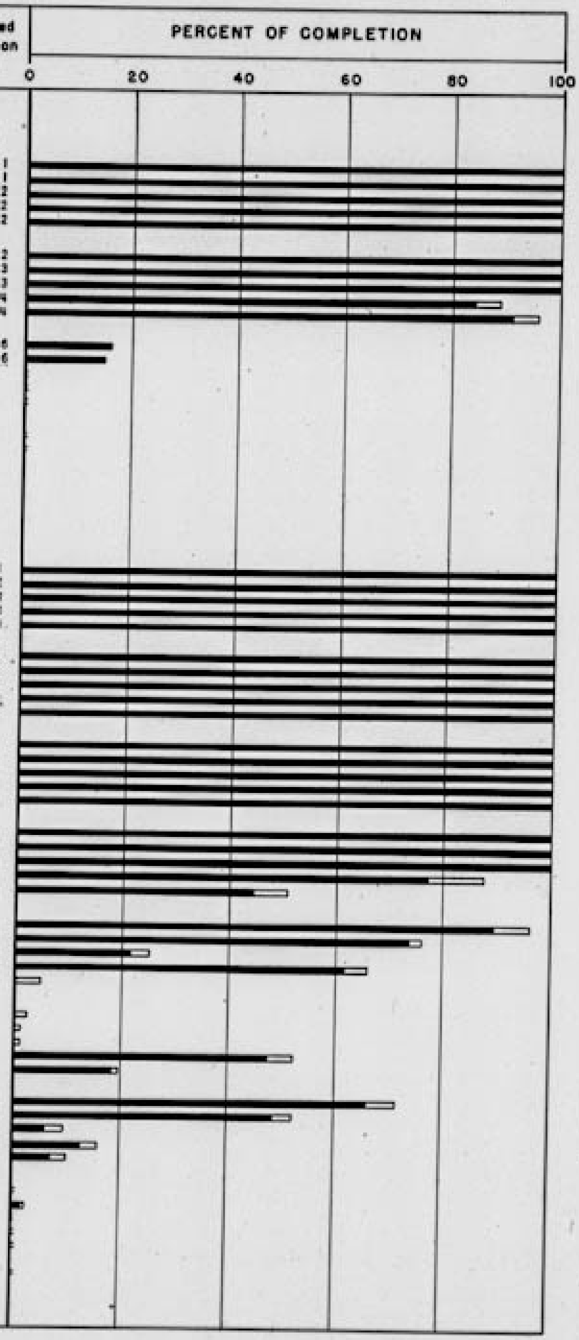


CHART 5

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS ON AIRCRAFT CARRIERS, ESCORT

PROGRESS JULY 1, 1940 TO APRIL 1, 1944

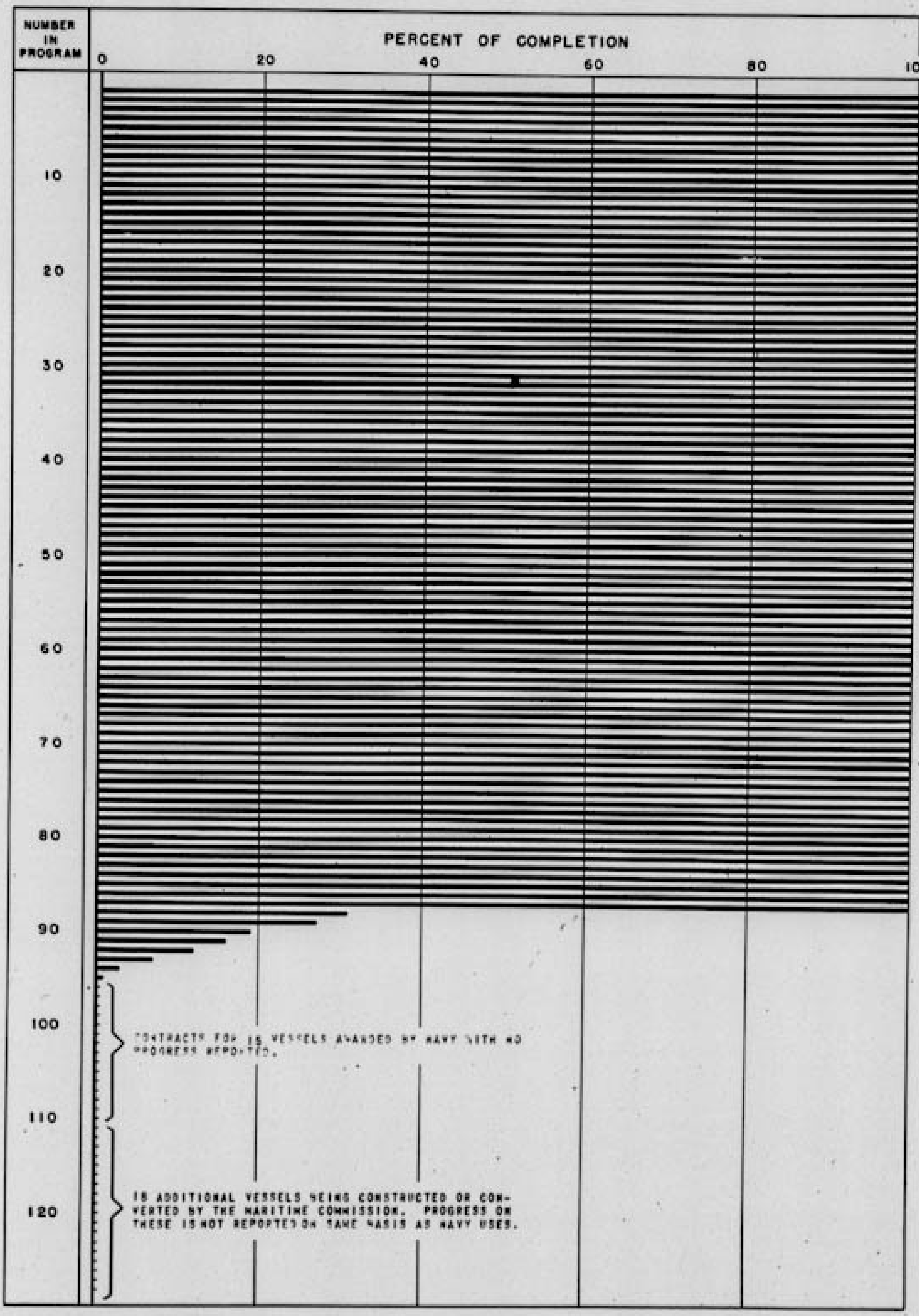


CHART 6

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS ON LARGE AND HEAVY CRUISERS

▬ PROGRESS JULY 1, 1940 TO MARCH 1, 1944 ▭ PROGRESS FOR MARCH 1944

TYPE AND NAME	Keel Laid	Estimated Completion Date
LARGE CRUISERS		
ALASKA	12-17-41	6- 1-44
GUAM	2- 2-42	8-15-44
HAWAII	12-20-43	12- 1-45
PHILIPPINES	WORK SUSPENDED	
PUERTO RICO	WORK SUSPENDED	
SAMOA	WORK SUSPENDED	
HEAVY CRUISERS		
BALTIMORE	5-26-41	4-15-43
BOSTON	6-30-41	6-30-43
CANBERRA	9- 3-41	10-14-43
QUINCY	10- 9-41	12-15-43
PITTSBURGH	2- 3-43	8-15-44
ST. PAUL	2- 3-43	10-15-44
COLUMBUS	6-28-43	3-15-45
DES MOINES	9- 9-43	5- 1-45
OREGON CITY	4-15-44	7-15-45
ALBANY	3- 6-44	8- 1-45
ROCHESTER	5-15-44	8-15-45
NORTHAMPTON	8- 1-44	9- 1-45
CAMBRIDGE	6- 1-44	9-15-45
CA127	8-15-44	11- 1-45
KANSAS CITY	10- 1-44	12- 1-45
CA129	11-15-44	12-30-45
BREMERTON	2- 1-43	12-15-44
FALL RIVER	4-12-43	12-28-44
MACON	6-14-43	2-15-45
TOLEDO	9-13-43	6- 1-45
CA134	5-15-45	8-30-46
LOS ANGELES	7-28-43	12-31-44
CHICAGO	7-28-43	2- 1-45
CA137	8- 5-44	10-31-45
CA138	8- 5-44	3-31-46
CA139	3-15-45	6-15-46
CA140	4- 1-45	6-30-46
CA141	4-15-45	7-31-46
CA142	5- 1-45	8-15-46

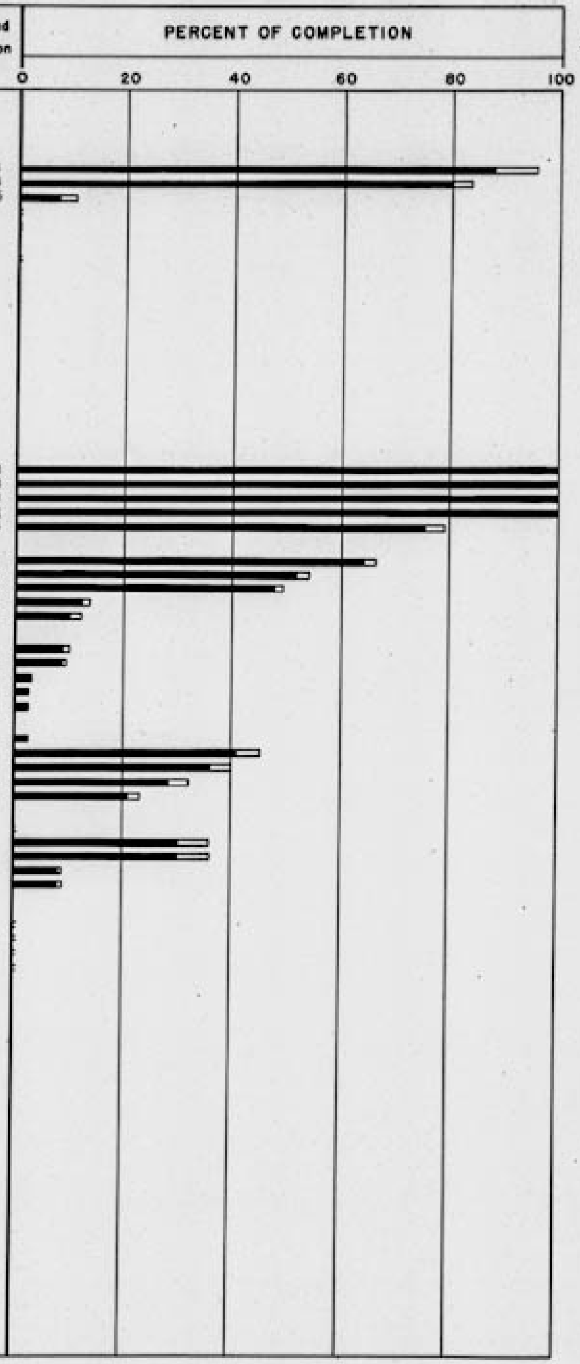


CHART 7

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS ON LIGHT CRUISERS

PROGRESS JULY 1, 1940 TO MARCH 1, 1944 — PROGRESS FOR MARCH 1944

TYPE AND NAME	Keel Laid	Estimated Completion Date
LIGHT CRUISERS 6000 TONS		
ATLANTA	4-22-40	12-29-41
JUNEAU	5-27-40	2-11-42
SAN DIEGO	3-27-40	1-10-42
SAN JUAN	5-15-40	2-28-42
OAKLAND	7-15-41	7-17-43
RENO	8- 1-41	12-28-43
FLINT	10-23-42	9-12-44
TUCSON	12-23-42	11-16-45
JUNEAU	9-15-44	1-18-46
SPOKANE	11-15-44	3-15-46
FRESNO	1-15-45	3-15-46
LIGHT CRUISERS 10,000 TONS		
CLEVELAND	7- 1-40	6-15-42
COLUMBIA	5-19-40	7-15-42
MONTPELIER	12- 2-40	3- 3-42
DENVER	12-26-40	10-15-42
SANTA FE	6- 7-41	11-24-42
BIRMINGHAM	2-17-41	1-29-43
MOBILE	4-14-41	3-24-43
BILOXI	7- 9-41	8-31-43
HOUSTON	8- 4-41	12-20-43
MIAMI	8- 2-41	12-28-43
VINCENNES	3- 7-42	1-21-44
TOPEKA	4-21-43	10- 1-44
PASADENA	2- 6-43	6- 1-44
PROVIDENCE	7-27-43	12-30-44
MANCHESTER	5-15-44	8- 1-45
VICKSBURG	10-26-42	6-12-44
DULUTH	11- 9-42	9-30-44
SPRINGFIELD	2-13-43	8-15-44
ASTORIA	9- 6-41	5-15-44
OKLAHOMA CITY	12- 8-42	2- 1-45
LITTLE ROCK	3- 6-43	6- 1-45
GALVESTON	2-28-44	12- 1-45
YOUNGSTOWN	9- 5-44	6- 1-46
AMSTERDAM	3- 3-43	2- 1-45
PORTSMOUTH	6-28-43	5- 7-45
WILKES-BARRE	12-14-42	6-15-44
ATLANTA	1-25-43	8- 1-44
DAYTON	3- 8-43	9-15-44
FARGO	8-23-43	3-15-45
HUNTINGTON	10- 4-43	4-15-45
NEWARK	1-17-44	7- 1-45
NEW HAVEN	2-28-44	9- 1-45
BUFFALO	4- 3-44	10- 1-45
WILMINGTON	2-28-44	2- 1-46
VALLEJO	9-15-44	4- 1-46
HELENA	11- 1-44	5- 1-46
CL114	11- 8-44	6- 1-46
CL115	1- 8-45	7- 8-46
TALLAHASSEE	1-31-44	2- 1-46
CHEYENNE	5- 1-44	5- 1-46
NORFOLK	8-21-44	8-15-46
CL143	2-15-45	8-15-46
CL144	3- 8-45	9-15-46
CL145	6-15-45	12- 1-46
CL146	8- 8-45	2- 1-47
CL147	10- 8-45	3-30-47
CL148	3- 5-45	12- 1-46
CL149	9- 3-45	6- 1-47

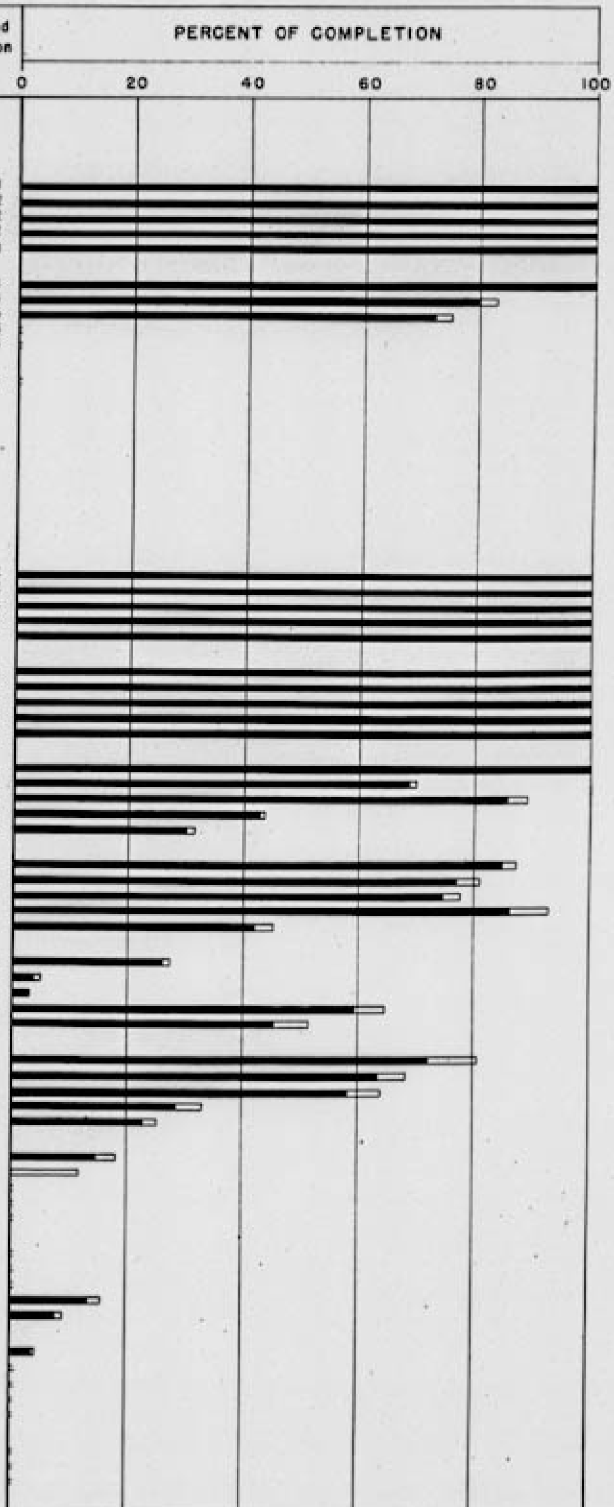
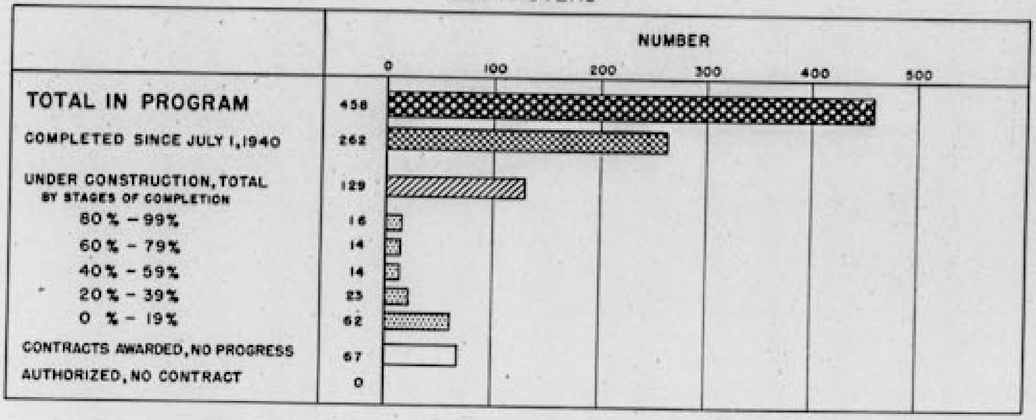


CHART 8

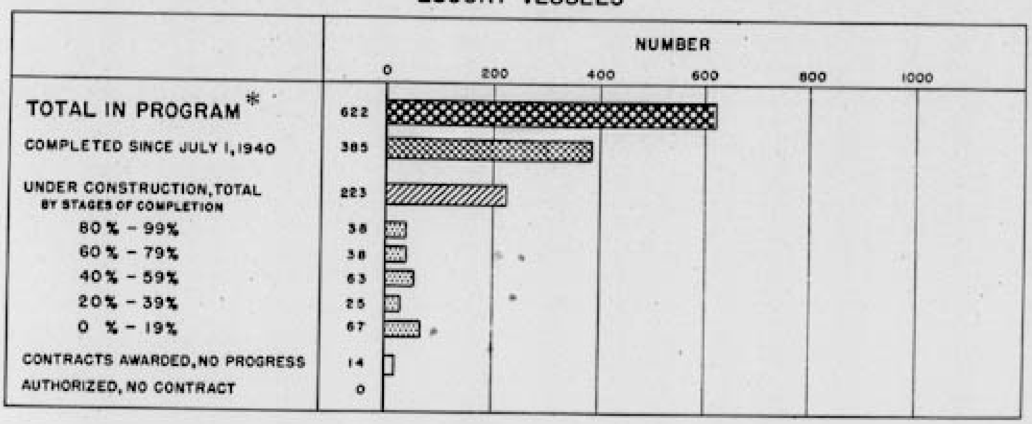
CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS
DESTROYERS, ESCORT VESSELS AND SUBMARINES

APRIL 1, 1944

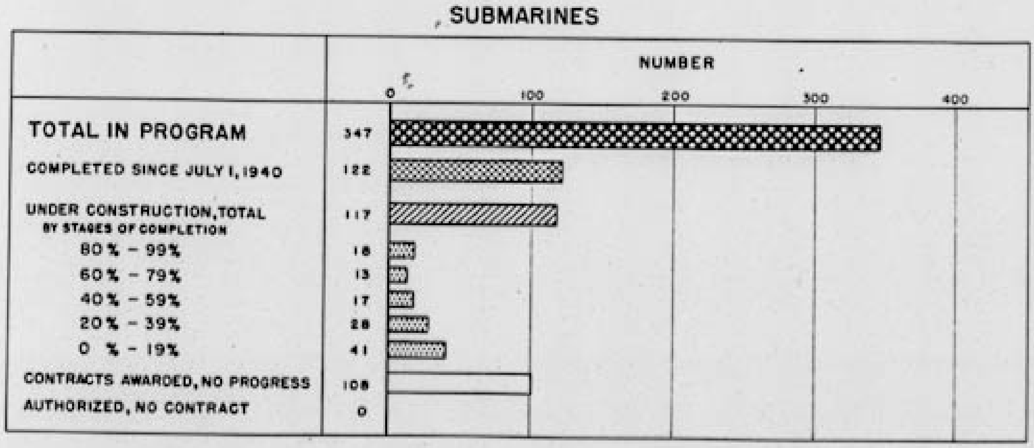
DESTROYERS



ESCORT VESSELS



SUBMARINES



* 78 VESSELS WERE CANCELED IN MARCH, LEAVING 622 IN THE PROGRAM

Change in Vessels on Hand Since June 30, 1940

The number of combatant vessels of the Navy on April 20 had increased 633 since June 30, 1940 to a total of 1,016. These figures reflect only publicly announced losses.

Selected Naval Vessels on Hand, June 30, 1940 and Apr. 20, 1944
(Includes Lend-Lease Vessels and Conversions)

Type	On Hand June 30 1940	New Completions	Publicly Announced Losses, Transfers, & Reclassifications	On Hand Apr. 20 1944	Net Gain or Loss
Combatant Vessels:					
Battleship	15	8	1	22	7
Aircraft carrier	6	19	4	21	15
Aircraft carrier, escort	0	86	35	51	51
Heavy cruiser	18	4	6	16	-2
Light cruiser	19	17	3	33	14
Destroyer	225	267	132	360	135
Destroyer escort	0	405	85	320	320
Submarine	100	127	34	193	93
Total combatant	383	933	300	1,016	633
Patrol craft	36	1,457	302	1,191	1,155
Mine craft	36	794	251	579	543
Auxiliaries	138	720	49	809	671
Landing force vessels*	0	1,133	288	845	845

*LST, LSD, and LCI(L)

Analysis of Losses, Leases, Transfers, and Reclassifications

The following vessels were publicly announced by the Navy as lost during April: 5 patrol craft, 1 mine vessel and 1 auxiliary.

A total of 81 combatant vessels have been announced as lost, 131 leased, 50 transferred, and 39 reclassified through April 30, 1944.

Publicly Announced Losses, Leases, Transfers and Reclassifications — July 1, 1940 Through April 30, 1944

Type	Lost	Leased or Trans- ferred1/	Reclassi- fied	Total Decrease
Combatant Vessels:				
Battleship	1	0	0	1
Aircraft carrier	4	0	0	4
Aircraft carrier, escort	1	38	2/ -4	35
Heavy cruiser	6	0	0	6
Light cruiser	3	0	0	3
Destroyer	41	50	42	133
Destroyer escort	1	84	0	85
Submarine	24	9	1	34
Total combatant	81	181	39	301
Other Vessels:				
Patrol craft	66	221	15	302
Mine craft	15	196	43	254
Auxiliaries	38	102	2/-94	46
Landing craft3/	18	254	18	290
Total other	137	773	-18	892
Grand total	218	954	21	1,193

1/ Includes certain vessels sold, returned to owners, or transferred to other United States agencies.

2/ Vessels added to the total on hand.

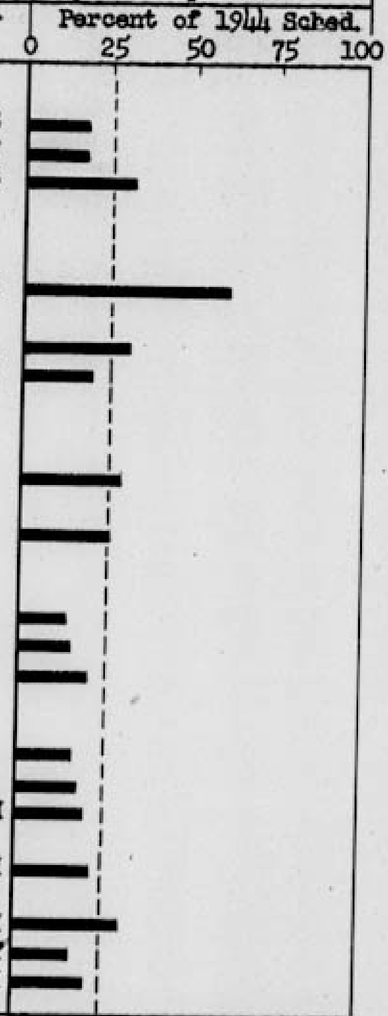
3/ LST, LSD, and LCI(L).

Production of Naval Ordnance Materiel

From January 1 to April 1, cumulative deliveries of 12 of the 18 items of naval ordnance materiel listed below were less than 25 percent of the total scheduled for the year.

Deliveries of Selected Naval Ordnance Materiel
(Includes Defense Aid and Army Items Procured by the Navy)

Item	March Deliveries	Sched. Deliv. (12 Mo.) 1944	1944 Deliveries January 1 to April 1: Cumulative
Torpedoes 1/			
Surface craft	627	6,448	1,178
Submarine 2/	845	11,934	2,197
Aircraft 2/	811	7,324	2,376
Surface Fire Guns			
Heavy, 12" and 16" turrets	2	10	6
Medium, 8" and 6" turrets	11	99	31
Light, 4"	7	170	34
Antiaircraft Guns			
Heavy, 3" and 5" mounted barrel	843	9,462	2,707
Light, 40mm and 20mm mounted barrel 3/	4,962	55,484	14,316
Fire Control Equipment			
Gun directors	428	8,568	1,177
Radar fire control	72	1,210	177
Gun sights, Mk 14	3,006	37,755	7,699
Ammunition			
Heavy surface fire	8,733	126,178	20,676
Medium surface fire	34,167	671,830	119,380
Light surface fire	393M	8,215M	1,655M
Antiaircraft:			
Heavy	642M	8,218M	1,783M
Light:			
20mm HE, HEI, HET	43,798M	417,518M	127,518M
40mm HE	6,664M	92,398M	14,898M
1".1	402M	5,684M	1,184M



M = 1,000 rounds

3 mo. = 25% of year

1/ Turned into store

2/ Excludes the British-type torpedo

3/ Excludes 40mm singles which are procured from the Army.

Personnel

The active-duty strength of the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard increased from 3,188,862 on March 15 to 3,344,498 on April 15, an increase of 155,636. The total on April 15 was composed of 627,573 regulars, 2,637,522 male reserves, and 79,403 female reserves.

Strength of the Naval Services
March 15 and April 15

	Navy	Marine Corps	Coast Guard	Total
Officers	253,979*	30,770	11,417	296,166
Officer candidates	123,891	8,553	769	133,213
Enlisted personnel	2,350,077	406,343	158,699	2,915,119
Total, Apr. 15	2,727,947	445,666	170,885	3,344,498
Total, Mar. 15	2,590,985	426,308	171,569	3,188,862
Increase	136,962	19,358	-684	155,636
Percent incr.	5%	5%	-0.39%	5%

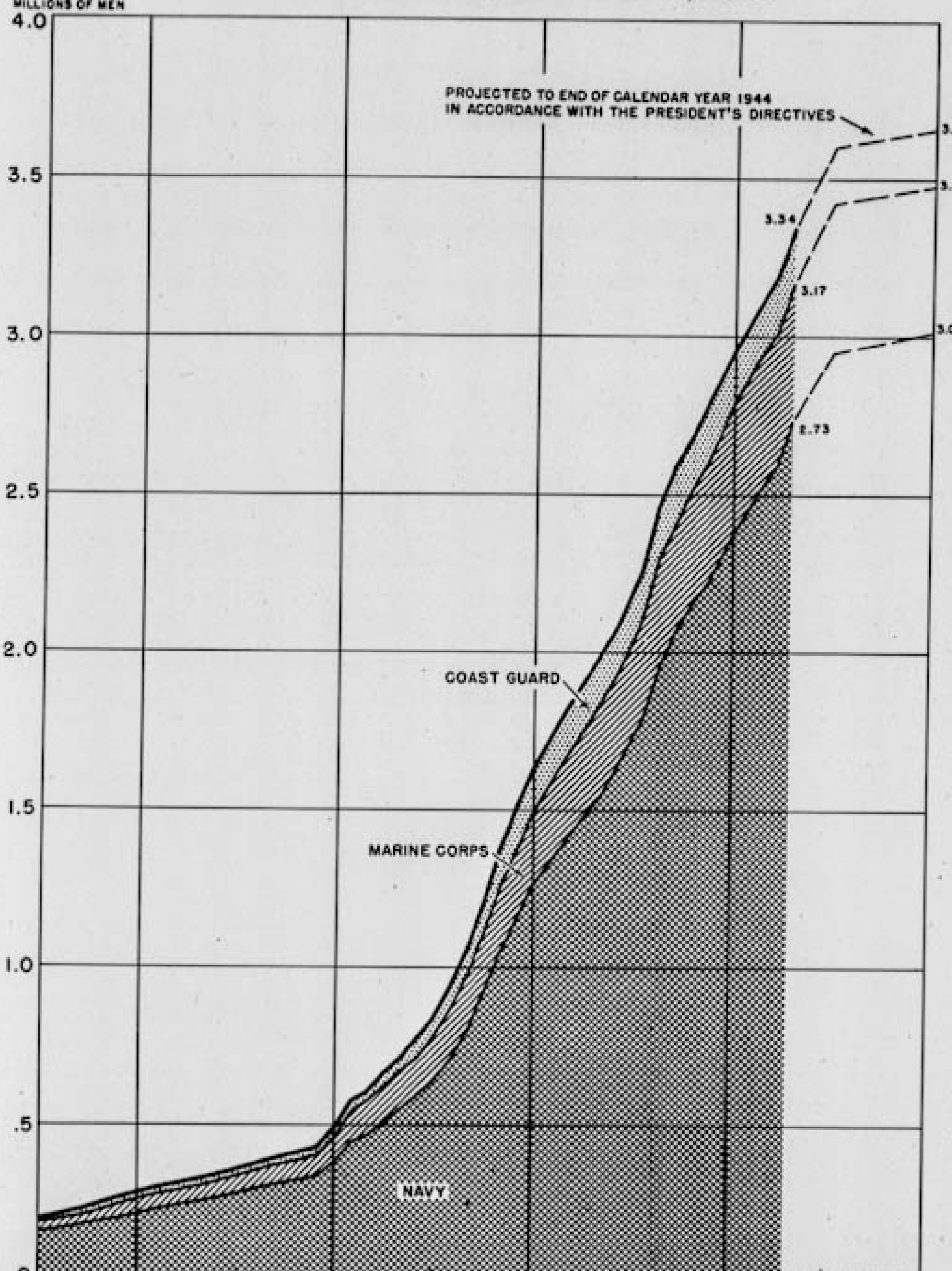
*Includes 7,780 nurses.

Note: Strengths approved by the President are:
Navy .... 2,947,500 by June 30, 1944
Navy .... 3,006,000 by Dec. 31, 1944
Marine Corps ..... 478,000 thru cal. year 1944
Coast Guard ...... 174,000 thru cal. year 1944

CHART 9

TOTAL ACTIVE DUTY STRENGTH OF NAVY, MARINE CORPS AND COAST GUARD

OFFICERS, OFFICER CANDIDATES, ENLISTED PERSONNEL, & NURSES



V. MERCHANT SHIPPING

Gains and Losses, United Nations

During April the United Nations reported construction of 1,765,000 deadweight tons of merchant vessels, while reported losses totaled 268,000 dwt. From December 1, 1941 through April 1944, a total of 38.8 million dwt. were constructed, as compared with reported losses of 18.8 million dwt. — a net gain of 20 million dwt.

Gains and Losses of United Nations' Merchant Vessels
Reported Dec. 1, 1941 Through April 1944
(000 Dwt.)

	Dec. 1, 1941 Through Feb. 29, 1944	March	April	Total Through April
Gains	35,327	1,700	1,765	38,792
Losses	18,262	247	268	18,777
Net gains	17,065	1,453	1,497	20,015

Deliveries by U.S. Shipbuilders

In April, U.S. merchant shipbuilders delivered 139 major-type vessels at 1,538,880 dwt., including 12 vessels for military use. The March deliveries were 136 vessels at 1,504,733 dwt., including military types.

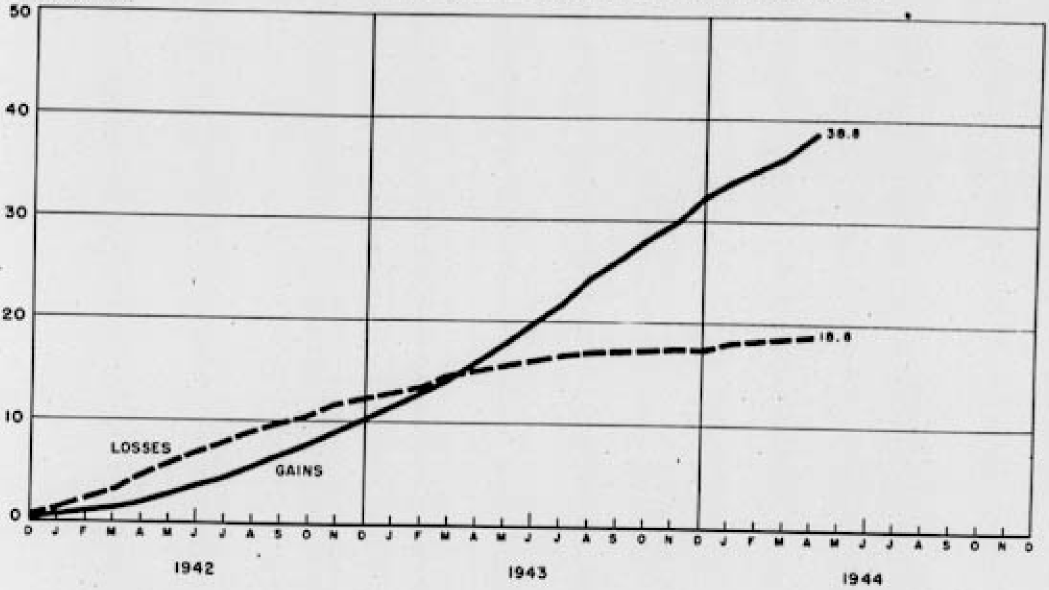
Vessels Delivered by U.S. Merchant Shipyards
March and April, 1944

Type	March		April	
	Number	Dwt.	Number	Dwt.
Dry cargo	105	1,105,642	110	1,158,758
Tanker	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

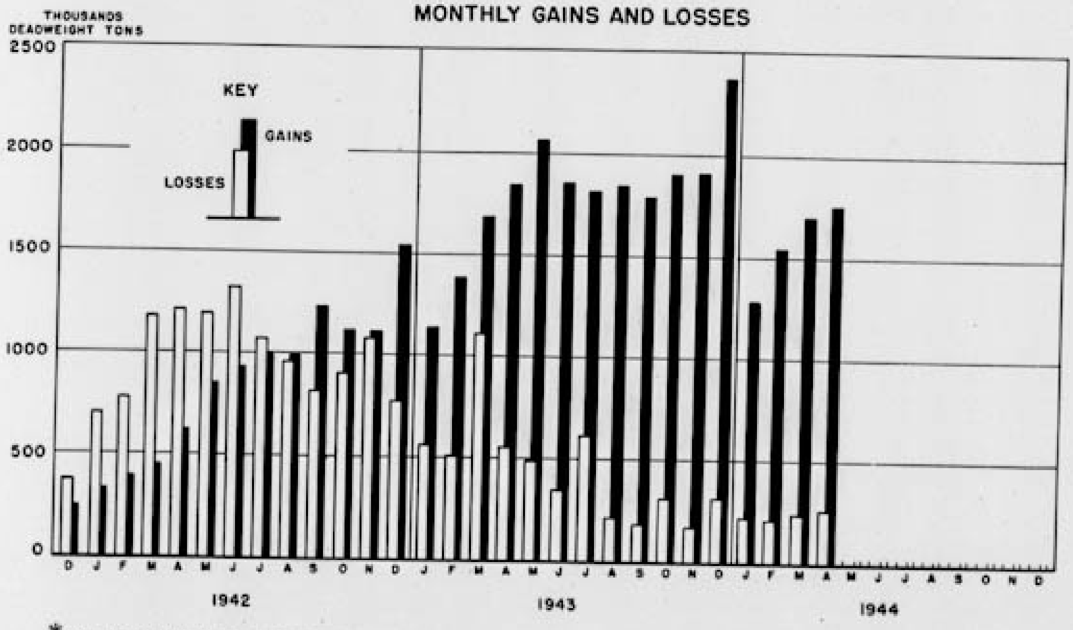
CHART 10

GAINS AND LOSSES OF MERCHANT OCEAN VESSELS AVAILABLE TO THE UNITED NATIONS*

CUMULATIVE GAINS AND LOSSES SINCE DECEMBER 1, 1941



MONTHLY GAINS AND LOSSES

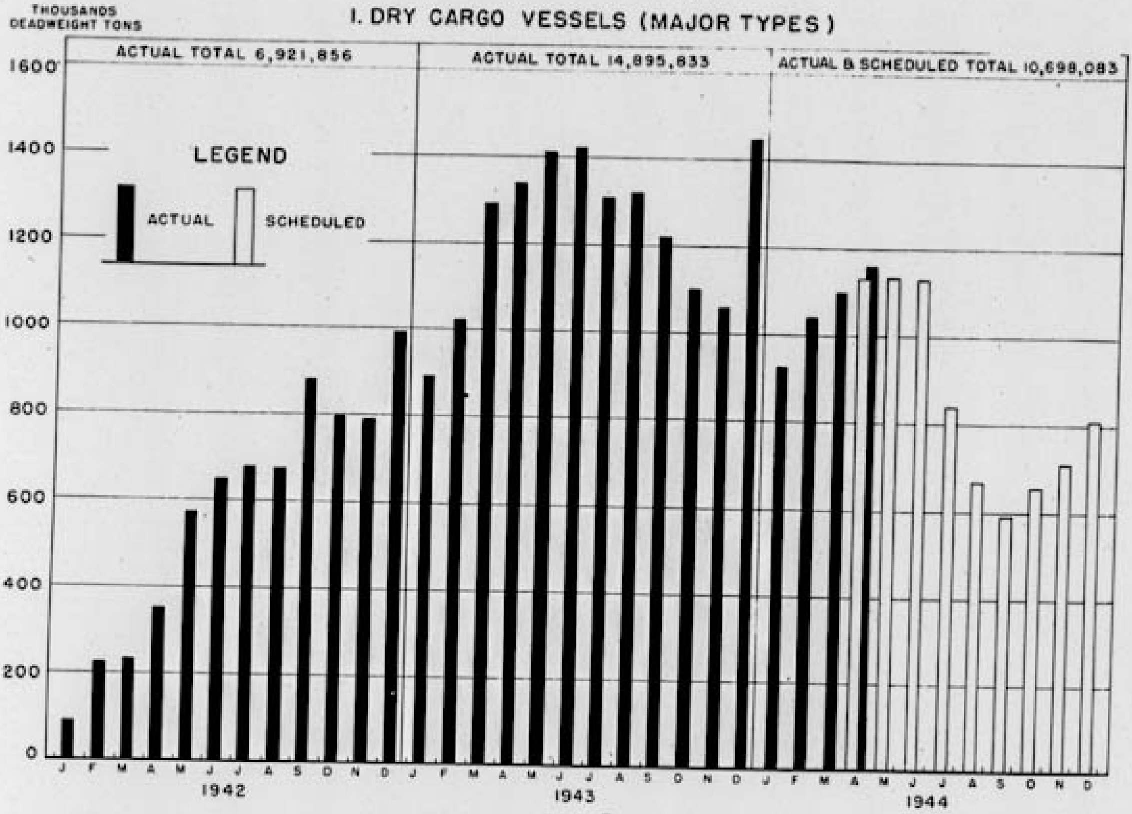


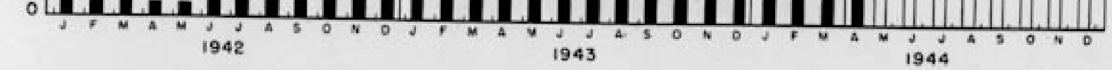
*BEGINNING WITH AUGUST 1943, MERCHANT VESSELS COMMISSIONED FOR MILITARY SERVICE ARE INCLUDED. LOSSES ARE ON A NOTIFICATION BASIS.

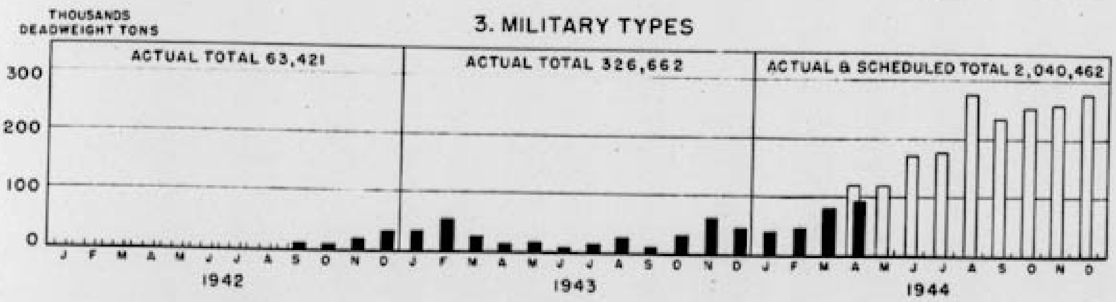
SOURCE: WEEKLY REPORT OF THE COMBINED SHIPPING ADJUSTMENT BOARD

CHART II

DELIVERIES OF SHIPS BY U. S. MERCHANT SHIPBUILDERS







SOURCE: MARITIME COMMISSION - SCHEDULE AS OF 4-1-44

VI. REVIEW OF PRODUCTION IN SELECTED WAR INDUSTRIES
(By the War Projects Unit of the Bureau of the Budget)

Aluminum fabrication facilities are now completed. Ingot supply is more than adequate, and fabrication output for 1944 will meet requirements with an average surplus capacity of 350 million pounds per year, a portion of which has been suggested for use in the civilian economy.

Magnesium ingot production for 1944 is being reduced to 72 percent of capacity. This rate will supply 1944 needs and maintain the present stockpile.

Aluminum Fabrication

Since the last review (report of June 1943), construction of new facilities for aluminum fabrication has been essentially completed. All facilities were available by March 1944. Because of curtailments in the aircraft program, the supply of fabricated aluminum was generally adequate during 1943, and mounting surplus ingot and fabricated stocks accrued.

The present 1944 fabrication program is 52 percent in excess of actual shipments for 1943 and contemplates increases throughout the year for most uses, as shown by the following table:

Shipments of Fabricated Aluminum for 1943
and Scheduled Shipments for 1944
(Millions of Pounds)

Year	Purpose				Total
	Aircraft	Army-Navy Other Than Aircraft	Export	Other	
1943	1,478	254	250	191	2,173
1944	1,929	601	397	372	3,299
% Incr.	31%	137%	59%	94%	52%

The above requirements for 1944 may be unrealistic, since shipmen are now meeting actual demands at a substantially lower rate than the official program of requirements. Further, the principal users of fab ricated aluminum, particularly the aircraft plants, at the end of 1943 had accumulated stocks amounting to 413 million pounds.

Fabricated aluminum output has recently been much below capacity in spite of newly adopted uses. Generally speaking, this condition wi continue throughout 1944. At the end of 1943, two-thirds of planned plant capacity was in active operation, and for the Government-owned facilities, which constitute 43 percent of total capacity, output was less than one-half of capacity, largely due to lack of orders.

The supply of aluminum ingots is fully adequate. The present domestic production program for 1944 of 2,200 million pounds (86 perce of total capacity) is expected to be augmented by ingot imports from Canada of 626 million pounds and by secondary production of 705 millio pounds. This new supply plus ingot stocks on hand at the beginning of the year will amply provide for the 1944 requirements.

Magnesium Ingot

Since October 1943, the estimated 1944 requirements have been fir up at substantially 450 million pounds. This has led to important red tions in the 1944 production program, accomplished by 50 percent cut-backs, beginning in April, in some of the major plants and by shutting down of two plants (Mathieson at Lake Charles, La. and Ford at Dearbor Mich.)

VII. STOCKPILE PROGRAM OF SELECTED CRITICAL AND STRATEGIC MATERIAL

Government stockpile objectives plus industry stocks are set at a minimum of three months' requirements or a year's requirements less North American supply, whichever is greater. There are set out in the following table the 1944 requirements, new supply expected in 1944, and stock levels at the beginning of the year as well as estimated levels at the year's end for ten selected commodities. This list presents commodities not reported on last month.

Stockpile, Supply, and Requirements of Selected Strategic and Critical Materials for 1944

Item and Unit of Measure	1944 Requirements	New Supply and Stocks Expressed in Percent of 1944 Requirements						
		New Supply			Stocks			
					January 1, 1944			Est. for Dec. 31 1944
		Foreign	Domestic	Total	Govt.	Private	Total	
Balsa (1,000 board feet)	30,916	116%	0%	116%	0%	10%	10%	26%
Copper metal (1,000 short tons)	3,142	23	79	102	10	4	14	16
Rough diamonds (1,000 carats)	10,000	100	0	100	60	113	173	173
Graphite (flake; short tons)	4,500	171	0	171	56	25	81	152
Lead (1,000 net tons)	1,060	26	76	102	16	20	36	38
Manganese ore (long tons)	1,550	75	16	91	69	40	109	100
Manila fiber (1,000 pounds)	43,800	23	0	23	40	16	56	-21
Vanadium (1,000 lbs. recoverable)	4,111	49	51	100	81	59	140	140
Wood pulp (1,000 short tons)	11,280	10	85	95	0	3	3	-2
Zinc (1,000 short tons)	1,042	53	74	127	32	34	66	93

VIII. AGRICULTURE

Wet weather and the resulting delay in planting spring crops will intensify farm labor and machinery supply difficulties. Delayed spring work means that more work will have to be done in a shorter period of time.

Prices

In April the index of prices received by farmers for the first time since December 1939 was below the index of the corresponding month a year earlier. Also, for the first time since the beginning of the war the index of prices paid by farmers has remained constant over a three-month period. The index of prices received for crops was eight points higher than in April 1943, but this advance was more than offset by the fact that prices of livestock and livestock products were 11 points under the April 1943 figure.

Farm Labor

Total farm employment during April, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, showed a decline of 228,000 from April 1943. The decline, however, was not all due to labor scarcity. Wet weather in most regions of the country delayed spring work and limited the employment of farm workers.

Farm wage rates were at an all-time high.

Food Distribution

The most difficult food distribution problems during April were in connection with certain commodities which are in temporary surplus. The commodities in particularly heavy supply were potatoes, eggs, and some fresh vegetables. These situations, however, are expected to arise in a period when every effort is being made to be sure there is enough.

Larger flocks and heavier production per hen combined to flood the market with eggs. The number of hens was only about 5 percent greater than last year, but production per hen during January and February was about 10 percent higher. At the beginning of April, supplies of shell eggs in cold storage were about 1.2 million cases larger than a year ago and nearly four times as many as during the 5-year 1939-43 average for that date. To check the price break and move more eggs into channels of consumption, the War Food Administration encouraged consumers to eat more eggs, speeded up its buying program for drying and for other uses, located additional storage space, and in the areas of heaviest production in the Middle West and South, designated agents to buy ungraded eggs from producers at not less than 26 cents per dozen. Prices now generally reflect to farmers the support levels promised. Dryers have been informed that the prices they will receive for dried eggs delivered under contract to the War Food Administration will be the actual cost of the eggs they use plus a specified margin of profit.

On April 21 the War Food Administration issued an order under which the Quartermaster Corps expects to obtain approximately 8,800,000 pounds of hen turkeys for holiday dinners, about half the quantity that will be needed for troops overseas.

There will be more and richer ice cream at least during the early part of the summer this year. From May 1 through June 30, manufacturers will be permitted to use in the production of ice cream 75 percent as much milk solids as they used in May and June 1942. Since February 1943 manufacturers have been limited each month to 65 percent of the corresponding month of the base period, December 1941 through November 1942.

A heavier-than-normal seasonal increase in milk production made adjustments necessary in the milk conservation program. Quotas limiting the sales of fluid cream and fluid milk by-products have been increased for May and June. Metropolitan milk dealers will be permitted to sell as much cream and milk by-products, such as chocolate drink, buttermilk, and cottage cheese, as they sold in June 1943. The purpose of the limitation which has been in effect is to prevent the channeling of increasing quantities of milk into fluid milk uses and away from the manufacture of evaporated milk, cheese, and dried milk, badly needed to meet the war requirements.

In line with the War Food Administration policy of making heavier food purchases during the months of heavy production, butter set-aside is being increased from 10 percent in April to 40 percent for May and 50 percent for June. During May and June, cheese manufacturers will be required to set aside 60 percent of their output.

In line with the policy of returning commodities for civilian use not needed because of changing war requirements, supplies of fruit juices and canned vegetables have been offered for resale to packers from whom they were originally purchased.

Exports of food and other agricultural products under the Lend-Lease program for February were smaller than for January. Forty-seven percent of these supplies went to the British Empire, 45 percent to Russia, and 8 percent to other countries, including Greece and North and West Africa.

To meet the needs, as explained by the War Department and the War Production Board, for corn for processing plants supplying vital war materials, the War Food Administration has undertaken a corn purchase program. To protect the source of supply, an order was issued restricting movement in 125 designated counties of the Corn Belt to sales to the Commodity Credit Corporation except for limited supplies to meet needs of feeders in the area.

IX. WAR FINANCES

Expenditures

Expenditures for war purposes during April were \$7.5 billion or at an annual rate of \$93.8 billion. The total for the first ten months of F.Y. 1944 was \$74 billion — 80 percent of the estimate of \$92 billion for the fiscal year.

	March	April	10-Month Average for F.Y. 1944
	(Billions)		
Monthly rate	\$7.9	\$7.5	\$7.4
Adjusted annual rate	92.1	93.8	89.2

Appropriations

Appropriations, other Congressional authorizations, and commitments of Government corporations for war purposes increased \$800 million in April to a total of \$347.7 billion. Net expenditures against this amounted to \$184 billion. There was a decrease of \$200 million in the estimate of appropriations required after June 1944 to complete the Navy shipbuilding program.

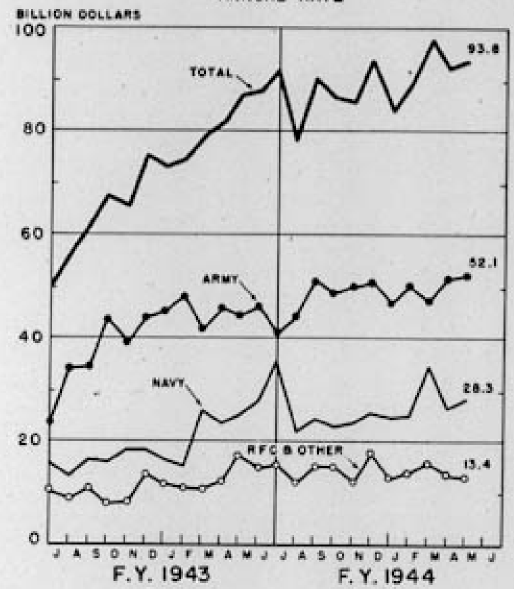
Appropriations and Expenditures, F.Y. 1941 Through April 1944
(Billions)

	Appropriations & Authorizations			Expenditures
	F.Y. 1941 Thru F.Y. 1943	F.Y. 1944	Total	F.Y. 1941 Thru April 1944
War	\$126.6	\$59.1	\$185.7	\$101.0
Navy	47.5	28.7	76.2	53.1
Maritime Commission	11.0	.03	11.0	7.2
Govt. Corpns. (commit.)	19.9	3.4	23.3	8.0
Other	32.7	3.8	36.5	14.7
Est. approp. required beyond F.Y. 1944 for completion of Navy	—	—	15.0	—
Total	\$237.7	\$95.0	\$347.7	\$184.0

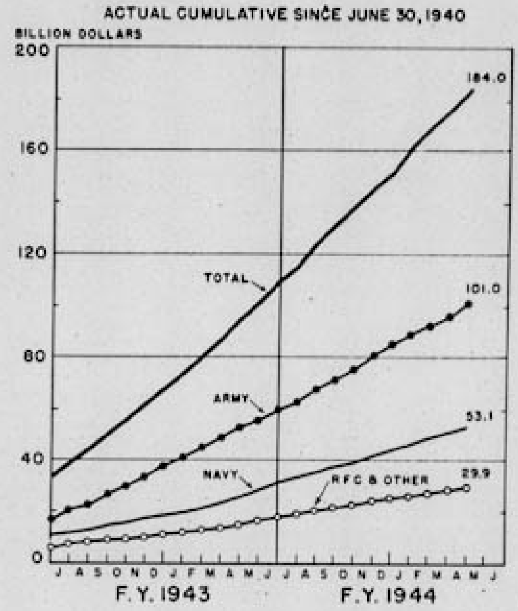
RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES AND PUBLIC DEBT*

WAR EXPENDITURES

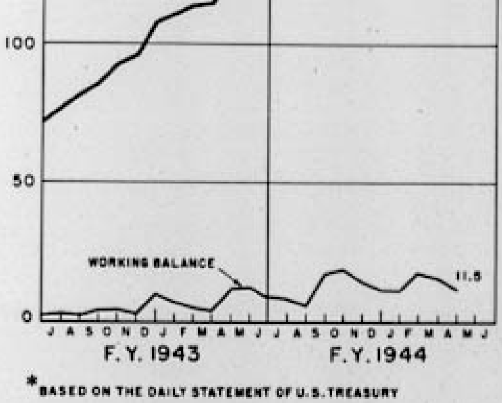
ANNUAL RATE



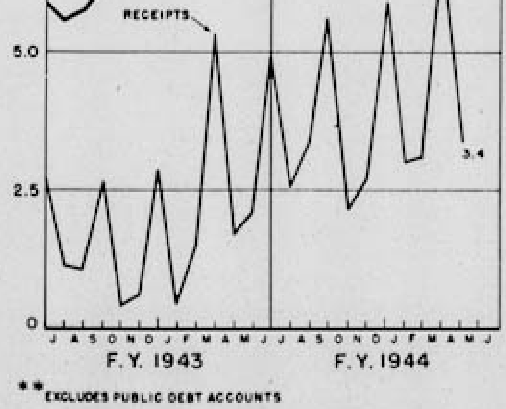
ACTUAL CUMULATIVE SINCE JUNE 30, 1940



THE PUBLIC DEBT



TREASURY RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES**



*BASED ON THE DAILY STATEMENT OF U.S. TREASURY

**EXCLUDES PUBLIC DEBT ACCOUNTS

X. ECONOMIC STABILIZATION PROGRAM

Under present war production schedules, some release of productive capacity and manpower for civilian production may ease pressure on supplies if full utilization of resources is maintained under proper controls. Price Administrator Bowles advocates measures to protect and support the level of prices and wages for postwar.

Prices -- Cost-of-living: No change in the cost of living was reported for the month ending March 15, as lower food prices balanced higher costs for spring clothing, household equipment, and services. Clothing prices constitute the chief source of concern, having increased over 7 percent in the past year.

Prices -- Farm: Prices received and paid by farmers remained unchanged in the month ending April 15. Farm product prices averaged 115 percent of parity, with all principal farm products except wheat, cotton, hay, peanuts, rye, and lemons at or above parity.

Rationing: Temporary removal of point values from 85 percent of meats is attributable to overflowing storage facilities and continued heavy marketings under feed shortages, accompanied by a sharp decline in Lend-Lease takings and the normal seasonal decline in civilian meat consumption.

Taxes: Revenues for F.Y. 1944 are now expected to exceed January Budget estimates by $1.5 billion to $2.0 billion. The House passed by unanimous vote a tax simplification measure which will eliminate complete returns for 30 million taxpayers and will simplify returns for 10 million more.

Wages: A subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor added its voice to pressure for revision of the Little Steel formula, recommending that "substandard wages", over which WLB controls would be removed, be defined to include all incomes of $200 or less per month for heads of families and $150 or less per month for unmarried persons.

War Bonds: Net sales (total sales less redemptions) of savings bonds were $502 million in April, as redemptions continued on a high level, 32 percent of sales.

Demobilization: Following passage by the Senate of the Murray-George contract termination bill, Senate committees are expected to turn to legislation dealing with unemployment compensation, transportation allowances, and other demobilization measures.

XI. MANPOWER

Non-agricultural employment declined further in March, principally as a result of production adjustments in the munitions industries. Agricultural employment was seasonally higher than in February, although below the levels of March 1942 and 1943. Unemployment reached a record low of 870,000 individuals. Employment declines are reflected in the reduction of the number of areas classified as having critical manpower shortages. Employee separations in manufacturing industries in February were again below accessions, but the quit rate was somewhat lower than the 1943 average. Little change was reported in absenteeism rates between January and February. More strikes began in March than in February, but fewer man-days were lost.

Labor Force and Employment

In March, the civilian labor force (51,360,000) and total employment (50,490,000) both increased above February levels although they were below the annual averages for 1943. Unemployment in March declined to the levels prevailing in November 1943, a record low of 870,000. The number of men in the labor force (34,480,000) declined by 40,000 between February and March and was lower by 1,540,000 than a year ago. The number of women in the labor force (16,880,000) rose from February to March and was 600,000 higher than a year ago.

Non-agricultural employment, which declined steadily in the first quarter of 1944, reached in March the lowest level (43,580,000) since June 1942. Although agricultural employment rose in March as compared with the winter months, the current level (6,910,000) is below March 1943 and considerably below the same month in 1942.

Manufacturing employment was 200,000 lower in March than in February as the result of further cut-backs in several munitions industries and declines in other lines. Employment declined in all but 3 of the 20 major manufacturing groups between February and March. Employment in mining and construction also declined, while employment in transportation and utilties, trade, finance and other non-agricultural enterprises increased slightly.

Manpower Shortages

Reduction in industrial demand because of contract cancellation or rescheduling of production during March was primarily responsible for the easing of the manpower situation in a number of areas. There were 13 areas reclassified downward from the point of view of labor stringency, 7 of these from Group I. Nine areas were classified upward, but only one of these moved into Group I; 4 moved into Group II, and the others into labor surplus groups. The War Manpower Commission reported that labor priority committees have been established in 71 labor shortage areas, and employment ceilings have been fixed in 38 areas. Some type of controlled referral program is in effect in 81 areas.

The War Manpower Commission reports that the most critical current manpower shortages are outside the munitions industries which now have prior claims on manpower. Shortages will be increasingly important in such supporting activities as railroads, coal mining, and cotton textiles.

Labor Turnover and Absenteeism

Accessions in manufacturing industries were below separations in February, accompanying the decline in employment. For every 1,000 workers employed in factories, 45 quit their jobs, 8 were laid off, 6 were discharged, 5 left to enter the armed forces, and 1 left for other reasons. The quit rate, while still high relative to pre-war rates, is lower now than during most of 1943. The average separation rate was 6.47 per 100 employees in manufacturing industries in February in a range from 2.26 in wire products plants to 16.11 in small arms ammunition plants. The latter figure reflects a high lay-off rate as a result of production cut-backs.

Strikes

Preliminary estimates indicate that there were 360 strikes beginning in March 1944, involving 115,000 workers with an estimated loss of 415,000 man-days. The number of strikes was higher in March than in February, although the man-days lost were lower. These figures exclude all strikes lasting less than one day and those involving fewer than six workers.

XII. ADMINISTRATIVE DEVELOPMENTS

The agreement of the technical experts on a plan for an international stabilization fund and the establishment in the State Department of the Executive Committee on Economic Foreign Policy were the two outstanding developments in the international administrative picture during April. No major administrative changes took place in the domestic war agencies during the month.

Office of Price Administration

Preparations were under way in April for extension of community prices (dollars and cents prices for individual marketing areas) to 700 additional items. Greater emphasis was also being placed upon the work of volunteer price panels in securing compliance with price regulations.

Although food rationing was operating smoothly, due in part to easing of supplies of processed foods, OPA continued to have difficulty with the black market in gasoline. Efforts were being made to control the black market through centralizing the issuing of gasoline rations in metropolitan centers, through auditing the actions of local boards in issuing supplemental rations, through the development of staffs to combat counterfeiting, and through the verification of the coupon flow back to the banks in the regional distribution centers.

War Production Board

The operations of the Board continued to be hampered by divergent views of the Chairman and the Executive Vice Chairman as to policies and administrative methods. No substantial progress was made toward establishment either of policy or machinery for the control of reconversion, although the creation of an advisory committee for civilian policy, consisting of persons not connected with the Government, was announced by the Chairman. Major reconversion is not yet occurring but smaller problems involving significant issues are arising and greater certainty as to policy and organization would reduce confusion among both Government officials and industrialists.

The problem of taking manpower availability into consideration in the

State Department

The interagency Executive Committee on Economic Foreign Policy held its first organizational meeting in April and is now launching the work of its subcommittees. There is considerable pressure for speedy committee work in view of early conversations scheduled with the British on some major questions of post-war economic organization and policy. Weekly meetings of the main committee are scheduled.

Definite progress was registered in the State Department during the month in improving Foreign Service reporting to the Department and to other interested agencies. Budget staff is assisting in developing reporting standards and procedures.

Internally, increased attention to organizational problems was evident, although permanent Personnel and Administrative Management division chiefs are still to be selected. Recurring confusion is noted between parts of the Department dealing with war-time economic controls and those dealing with post-war economic policy.

Relief and Rehabilitation — Appropriation Responsibilities of U.S. Agencies

The joint State-War-FEA agreement on appropriation responsibilities for relief in liberated areas represents a major settlement of issues previously in dispute. As approved by the Bureau of the Budget, it is provided that (1) the U.S. Army will finance our share of civilian relief in the military period for areas where it participates in military engagements, (2) Lend-Lease contingent funds will be used for our share where military control authorities do not include any substantial number of U.S. troops.

In case of Axis collapse in large areas, indigenous governments may take over control, relying on UNRRA in many cases for civilian supplies and relief administration. An effort will be made to secure agreement by UNRRA to provide relief in certain enemy and ex-enemy areas when military control of the function can be relaxed. This will require action by the UNRRA Council.

United Nations Relief

The United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration submitted to its member governments on April 21 the provisional agenda for the second session of the Council in Montreal, Canada, beginning June 23, 1944.

Excepting such matters as may grow out of the report of the Director-General, the most significant items relate to (a) the extent of the Administration's responsibility in connection with care and repatriation of displaced persons located in territory never occupied by the enemy, and (b) the scale and nature of operations in enemy or ex-enemy areas and with respect to displaced persons of enemy or ex-enemy nationality.

Foreign Economic Administration

The clearing house for reports on U.S. expenditures and transacti in and for foreign areas has been established as directed by President letter of April 7, 1944. A director has been appointed and interagenc advisory and operating committees are being set up. The new unit can of considerable value in improving reporting to the public and Congres furnishing better data to guide future transactions, and providing som basic facts needed for Lend-Lease and other international settlements.

World Currency Stabilization

The April 21 announcement of agreement among technical experts of thirty allied and associated governments on a program for world curren stabilization is a milestone in international economic planning. A nu ber of administrative questions need consideration in connection with proposal, including: the relationship of the fund to existing and pro- posed international organizations, such as the Bank for International Settlements, International Labour Organization, international bank, int national development authority, commercial policy organizations, and t over-all political organization.

On the U.S. side, there must be a relating of the financial and economic objectives of such agencies as State, Treasury, Federal Reser FEA (including corporations), Commerce, Tariff, Securities and Exchange Office of Economic Stabilization, and Budget to American participation the fund. The recently established Executive Committee on Economic Foreign Policy should be useful to this end.