

U. S. Air Strength Declines to Where It Was in '39-40

By PETER EDSON
NEA Washington Correspondent
WASHINGTON — Army Air Force and Naval Aviation procurement officers and planners today find themselves right back where they were in 1939 and 40. The word "bottleneck" is heard again in bureaucracy land. Shortages of strategic materials and the need for allocations and priorities are being talked about. Once more there is discussion of re-tooling and converting plants to defense production. There's a manpower shortage. It's the old pre-World War II story all over.

What has happened is that World War II air power has become obsolete. Planes in the new air arms must be faster and have longer range. They must carry greater bomb loads and have more fire power. These new planes have been designed and experimental models have been built and flown. But in putting these new models into production, the aviation industry has to start from scratch. It is this situation which is behind all the apparent confusion over building up U. S. air power. It will take from two to three years to get going.

No. 1 bottleneck is in jet engine production. These engines require new alloys that can resist high temperatures. There are five principal jet engine builders—Allison, General Electric, Westinghouse, Wright, Pratt and Whitney. Up to now, Allison has been making 90 per cent of the jet engines for the Air Force. Westinghouse is in production for Navy. The others are just getting started. None has orders worth anything.

2 1/2 Years Required
Allison is in actual production on two models. Its management says two and a half years would be needed to tool up and train 30,000 new employees to turn out 3,000 jet engines a month.

With everybody in the country now at work and with industrial production of civilian goods at a peacetime high, it's going to be tough finding materials and extra plant capacity to make new engines.

All the wartime aids to production are gone. Defense Plant Corporation is out of business. It can't build new plants to make new planes. Reconstruction Finance Corporation could make loans, but engine builders won't go in debt or invest their own capital till they know what their orders are going to be.

Shortage of aluminum would be the first bottleneck airplane builders would run into. There are no allocation controls to give aircraft manufacturers priority on materials. Those war powers have lapsed.

Forrestal Amazes Solons
Even if the airplanes could be built and even if engines could be built to fly them, there would be bottlenecks to break on fire control, radar, radio and other electronics equipment. Manufacturers of these devices are now concentrating on television and doing all right. They'd have to convert to war production.

These are some of the major factors behind Defense Secretary James V. Forrestal's decision to expand the U. S. Air Force to only 55 groups. Members of the Senate Armed Forces Committee could hardly believe their ears when this figure was mentioned.

Then Forrestal amazed the committee further by saying that it would cost \$15,000,000,000 to increase the Air Force by 15 groups, or from 55 to 70. The reason given was that if the Air Force was increased by this amount, it would be necessary

'Who's Helping?'



With the vital April 18th elections in Italy attracting world-wide attention, both sides are electrifyingly bitter. This Rome street-cleaner studies a poster which asks "Who is helping Italy?" and then calls attention to the Western Powers' offer to return Trieste to Italy. (Photo by NEA-Acme staff correspondent Albert Pissetti.)

to increase Army and Navy proportionately. That would make the total National Defense bill for next year \$29,000,000,000.

The senators couldn't understand this at all. Secretary Forrestal will have to go back before the committee to explain in detail. Increasing the Air Force to only 55 groups—raising the defense budget from \$11,000,000,000 to \$14,000,000,000—will give the Air Force \$1,187,000,000 for new planes. Naval aviation \$743,000,000. The total of \$1,930,000,000 is close to the \$2,000,000,000 recommended by the Fineletter and Congressional Air Policy Committees.

New Rent Control Rules Discussed

E. Daryl Mabey, Douglas County area rent control director, today discussed new rent regulations that conform with the Housing and Rent Act of 1948, which became effective April 1.

Under the new law, rent controls are in effect through March 31, 1949, under the administration of the housing expediter. It makes no automatic change in rent ceilings and for most tenants, their maximum rent under the new law are the same as those which were in effect on June 30, 1947, with the following three types of exceptions:

A. Where a landlord and ten-

Loans on Homes FOR LESS

Repay at any time without penalty

UMPQUA SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSN.

Draft Legislation Will be Delayed By New Hearings

WASHINGTON, April 6.—(AP)—Hopes faded today of having either temporary draft or universal military training bills ready for the Senate this week.

"We'll be lucky if we get a bill by the first of next week," Chairman Gurney told reporters after a closed door session of the Senate armed services committee.

Gurney said the change in plans for speedy action results from a decision to call in the heads of the three armed services for separate sessions this week.

Gurney said demands of some senators for an immediate increase in airpower had closed down his legislative timetable.

Some senators are demanding that the United States air force be expanded immediately to a 70-group program instead of the 55-group now included in administration plans.

Gurney said the committee also faces these issues:

1. A demand that all veterans of World War II who served at least 90 days be eliminated both from draft and possible service in the National Guard or Reserves. The original administration proposal would subject veterans to draft if they had served less than 18 months and were not members of a reserve unit.

2. A demand that the top limit on required registration be lowered from 45 years. The chairman said some senators want to limit the registration "from 18 years to 30 or in the 30's."

Senator Edward V. Robertson (R-Wyo.), a member of the armed services committee, said in advance of today's session that the administration is trying to "ride" UMT through Congress "on the coattails of selective service."

ant had voluntarily entered into a written lease increasing the rent up to 15 per cent.

B. Where the local rent office had issued an individual adjustment order changing the rent, or

C. Where the housing expediter had approved a general increase in the rent level in a rent area or portion of an area in response to a recommendation of a local rent advisory board.

Tenants who have not signed voluntary lease increases are protected for the life of the Housing and Rent Act of 1948, through March 31, 1949.

Draft to Follow Law By 90 Days, Hershey States

COLUMBUS, O., April 6.—(AP)—The first batch of 18-to-25-year-olds may be drafted within 90 days after Congress enacts a proposed emergency selective service act, Major General Lewis B. Hershey said today.

Hershey estimated 50 to 60 per cent of the personnel active on selective service boards during World War II will be available again.

However, he predicted some difficulty in hiring clerks and renting office space.

Hershey expressed doubt many fathers would be drafted under the peacetime measure. He said: "We went pretty easy on fathers during the war and I imagine few, if any, of them will be taken under this peacetime measure."

Salvation Army Board Advisors Will Meet

A meeting of the Salvation Army advisory board has been called by Chairman Jack Farris for Wednesday noon at the Uniqua Hotel. All members are urged to attend as business of "vital importance" to the operation of the Salvation Army in Roseburg will be discussed.

Major Henry Koerner from divisional headquarters in Portland, and Jack Chesbro, divisional public relations manager for the Salvation Army, will be present at this meeting.

Bulgars Accuse Greece Of Kidnaping Guards

SOFIA, Bulgaria, April 6.—(AP)—Bulgaria last night officially accused that 100 Greek soldiers kidnaped three Bulgarian border guards Sunday. The accusation said the Greek force fired on Bulgarian outposts southwest of the village of Generalovo.

Foreign Minister Kolarov addressed a note to Secretary Lie of the United Nations energetical-

Registration Of Voters to be Urged

Ways and means of getting eligible voters to register prior to April 20, date when poll books will close, was discussed at a meeting of the Young Republicans Federation at Eugene Sunday, it was reported by Robert Hansen, Sutherlin, president of the Douglas County Young Republicans Club.

Payette Thompson of Sutherlin was one of two new members elected to the board of directors, to fill vacancies created by persons formerly on the board becoming candidates for public office.

Members representing Douglas County at the meet were Mr. and Mrs. Hansen, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Kabler, all of Sutherlin; Fred Bernau, Roseburg, and Justice of the Peace and Mrs. Thomas C. Hartfield of Winchester.

By protesting and demanding that Greece be warned to discontinue such violations.

WEATHER CUTS GOLF

Golf play at the Country Club was held to a minimum over the weekend due to the unfavorable weather conditions, and the qual-

ifying round for the men's spring tournament will be carried over through April 17, according to Eugene McElroy, tournament chairman.

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Each member of Congress is entitled, on request, to as many as three plants from the National Botanic Gardens.

Straight in the Goodwill of our Friends and Neighbors



ROSEBURG FUNERAL HOME
FUNERALS
AMBULANCE SERVICE
"The Chapel of the Roses"
Oak and Kane Sts. Tel. 600 Roseburg, Oregon



L. L. Powers

SALE!

OUR GREATEST YET

TRADER GILKEY

GUIBERSON
250 BHP
RADIAL DIESEL
BRAND NEW
2400.00



CALK SHOES 14.95
12" Top "Chippewa" Sizes 5-11
Just Arrived 50 Pairs

SHEETS
PILLOW SLIPS

81 x 99
120 Count
No. 16 Grade

HOME SIZE

2.49
59c

WHITE TOWELS

20" x 40"

69c



MEN'S SOX

Doz.

69c

Brand New Factory Irregulars

TEE SHIRTS

S-M-L Fine Grade . . 85c

Special No. 1 Grade . . 59c

MEN'S WORK SHOES

Army Field Type

5.95

A RED JEEP

We even got a Jeep—Bright red—Military, low mileage, good condition.

795.00

AT

Gilkey Trading Post

523 N. Jackson

Ph. 803-L

Your FORD can always look its best

THANKS TO FORD 4-WAY SERVICE!

Bring your Ford to your Ford Dealer NOW and find out how easy and inexpensive it is to make your Ford look "like new" again. Using Factory-approved Methods and Special Ford Equipment, the men who know Fords best will remove tell-tale dents and scratches, straighten fenders, touch-up your Ford and give it any other attention it needs. And you'll be saving money, too, with this 4-Way Ford "Beauty Treatment":



FORD DEALERS KNOW YOUR FORD BEST!

Your Ford Dealer invites you to listen to the Ford Allen Show, Sunday Evenings—NBC network. Listen to the Ford Theater, Sunday Afternoons—NBC network. See your newspaper for time and station.

LOCKWOOD MOTORS

Oak & Rose Sts.

Ph. 80

CURTAINS AND DRAPES
Need Spring Cleaning?
THERE'S A JOB FOR
NEW METHOD!

NEW METHOD CLEANERS

Free Pickup and Delivery—Phone 933-R

Each dress measured and re-shaped to exact size on our new FLEX-FORM machine after cleaning to insure perfect fit.

We Operate Our Own Plant

217 E. Douglas

Across from Courthouse

3-DAY SERVICE

National Institute of Cleaning and Dyeing