

Foreign Affairs Analyst Says U. S., Britain Need Better Acquaintance

Russians Profit Little From U. S. Radar Training

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—(AP)—The Navy said Wednesday it trained Russian officers to operate radar equipped subchasers that were lend-leased to Russia during the war.

In response to inquiries, a Navy official recalled that the radar equipped subchasers were given to Russia in 1944. To operate them, Russian officers were trained with Americans at the sub-chaser training center in Miami, Fla.

The Navy said also that the cruiser Milwaukee, which was loaned to Russia in April 1944,

had radar equipment aboard when sent to Russia.

A Navy board which inspected the Milwaukee upon its return to the U. S. said that all of its radar equipment was unclassified, which means it was no longer considered secret or confidential.

The board's report said that at the time of the cruiser's return the radar equipment was not in good condition due to obsolescence and lack of maintenance. The report added that boxes of spare parts appeared to have been untouched.

By DEWITT MACKENIE
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These days of clashing political ideologies have a tendency to breed doubts and suspicions even between old and tried international friends.

We had a rather startling indication of this recently when Lord Strabolgi, laborite member of the British House of Lords, declared in a debate on defense that there were American hotheads who were talking quite glibly of using atomic power to divert the gulf stream if England went communist. England owes her temperate climate to the gulf stream and presumably might become an

arctic country if the stream were turned away.

Well of course, the scientists promptly tossed this idea out the window as nonsense. It would take more than atomic power to shift the gulf stream, even if anybody wanted to shift it.

So much for that scare, but it leaves us with the uncomfortable thought that this is an extraordinary viewpoint to be held by any citizen of an ally who has been through two world wars with us. England doesn't show signs of going communist, and even if she did we shouldn't try to do her in with atomic bombs.

Speaking rather louder than words are our deeds in trying to help Britain overcome her economic crisis and get on her feet.

Not Well Enough Acquainted

But what is the basis for such outlandish ideas as the gulf stream nightmare? It strikes me that the answer is lack of acquaintance. Our two peoples don't know each other as well as they should, though from first-hand observation of both countries for many years I believe America knows England better than England knows us. And I could be wrong about that.

The British school system prior to the second world war didn't teach much about the United States. American history ceased with the revolution. Since the outbreak of the war some schools have given more attention to the United States. Unfortunately this study has been greatly hampered by the shortage of newsprint which has resulted in skeleton newspapers. There hasn't been room for much more than mention of the major events.

Movies Exaggerated

True, England has been getting educated through America's movies. A large section of the British public has the idea that two-gun

cowboys still shoot from the hip in the wild and woolly west. And the ways of gangsterism are amazing.

Naturally the reason for this lack of acquaintance is the great distance separating our two countries, and the cost of travel. It's comparatively easy for the Briton to get to the continent, or for the American to reach Canada or Latin America, but crossing the Atlantic is another proposition.

So we need personal contact, and that will come in due course. Meantime we have to fall back on present communications and improve them. I was chatting with an Englishman the other day on the subject and asked him what he thought would help solve the problem.

He said that a return to normal size newspapers in England would help immensely by providing space for adequate news coverage. The motion pictures and the radio are vital mediums. More interpretive news writing and more factual novels are needed.

To illustrate his argument my friend told me about a waiter he knows in a London restaurant. This waiter was reading up on America, and one of his favorite books is the last of the Mohicans. He thinks of America partly in terms of this thriller of days long gone.

It's time America and England got acquainted.

Autumn leaves usually begin to change their color before frost.

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