Report 47 [redacted]

NATIONAL WAR PROGRAM

MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT

August 31, 1944

Prepared by
Bureau of the Budget
Executive Office of the President

[redacted]

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) and (E)
OMB letter, 11-27-72
By SLR NARS Date JAN 22 1973

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

file

September 19, 1944.

MEMORANDUM

For the personal attention of the President.

H. D. S.

Att.

Report 47 [redacted]

NATIONAL WAR PROGRAM

MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT

August 31, 1944

Prepared by
Bureau of the Budget
Executive Office of the President

[redacted]

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) and (E)
OMB letter, 11-27-72
SLR NARS Date JAN 22 1973

CONTENTS

		Page
I.	Summary	1
II.	Aeronautical Program	2
III.	Army	8
IV.	Navy	13
V.	Merchant Shipping	25
VI.	Contract Termination	28
VII.	Agriculture and War Food Administration	29
VIII.	War Finances	33
IX.	Economic Stabilization	35
X.	Manpower	36
XI.	Administrative Developments	39

CHARTS

1.	Monthly Acceptances of Military Airplanes	3
2.	Army Military Personnel	11
3.	Construction Progress on Battleships and Aircraft Carriers	15
4.	Construction Progress on Aircraft Carriers, Escort	16
5.	Construction Progress on Large and Heavy Cruisers	17
6.	Construction Progress on Light Cruisers	18
7.	Construction Progress on Destroyers, Escort Vessels, and Submarines	19
8.	Total Active-Duty Strength of Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard	24
9.	Gains and Losses of Merchant Ocean Vessels Available to the United Nations	26
10.	Deliveries of Ships by U.S. Merchant Shipbuilders	27
11.	Receipts, Expenditures, and Public Debt	34

I. SUMMARY

Active Military Strengths

	Total All Classes	Date
Army	8,100,000	Aug. 28
Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard	3,707,871	Aug. 15

The Army reported 4,208,519 overseas . . . . . Aug. 28

(Pages 10-11, 23-24)

Aeronautical Program

August airframe acceptances, 93.2 million lbs. vs. 93.8 million in July (Pages 2-3)

Combat planes on hand:

Army: 33,251 on Sept. 1; losses—3,952 in August
Navy: 23,038 on Aug. 1; losses—1,094 in July

(Pages 4, 6)

Strength on August 1:

Army Air Forces	2,403,806
Navy and Marine Corps	359,790
Total	2,763,596

(Pages 5, 7)

Navy Ship Construction

Completions of combatant vessels—January 1 through August 20, 1944:

Battleships	2
Aircraft carriers	3
Aircraft carriers, escort	36
Large cruisers	1
Heavy cruisers	0
Light cruisers	5
Destroyers	57
Destroyer escorts	167
Submarines	49
Total	320

(Pages 13-19)

Contract Termination

Army and Navy cancellations of fixed-price prime contracts: $13.4 billion through July 31, 1944 (Page 28)

II. AERONAUTICAL PROGRAM

August Aircraft Production

Preliminary reports indicate that 93.2 million pounds of airframes (spares included, gliders excluded) were accepted in August, a decrease of 0.6 percent from the weight of July acceptances.

The number of military aircraft accepted in August was 7,939, as compared with 8,000 in July. There were 1,354 four-engine bombers accepted, including 94 B-29's and 2 XB-32's.

Aircraft Acceptances and Schedule, 1944

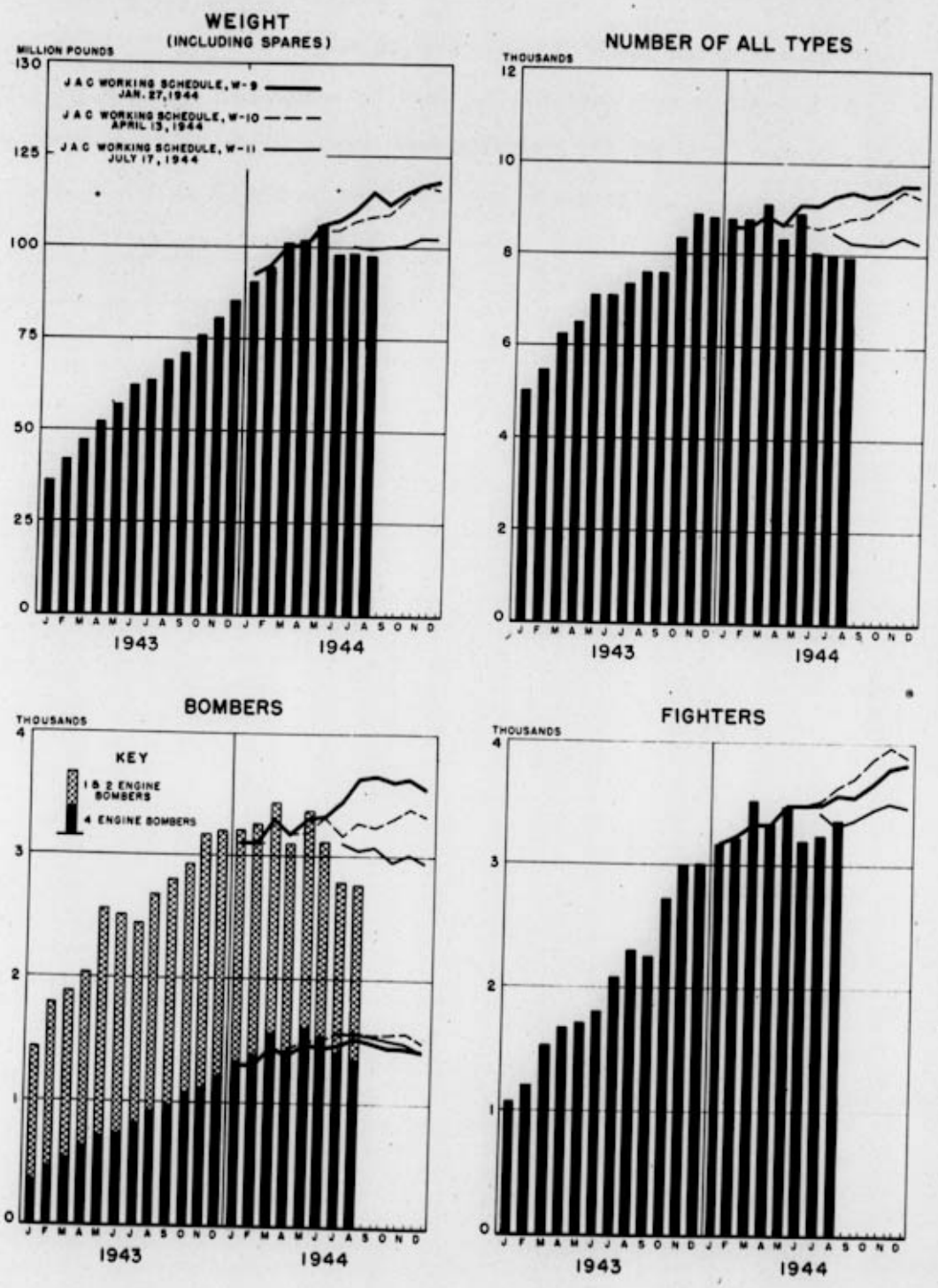
Type	Actual Acceptances			Total Scheduled 1944*
	July	August	Jan. Thru August	
Bomber, 4-engine, long-range	75	96	563	1,370
Bomber, 4-engine, other	1,349	1,258	11,069	15,187
Bomber, 2-engine	736	763	7,492	10,690
Bomber, 1-engine	636	658	5,958	8,825
Fighter	3,247	3,375	26,545	40,155
Reconnaissance	2	6	55	195
Total combat	6,045	6,156	51,682	76,422
Transport, 4-engine	57	59	364	716
Transport, 2- and 1-engine	809	755	6,602	9,466
Total tactical	6,911	6,970	58,648	86,604
Trainer	631	505	6,064	7,617
Liaison	300	308	2,513	3,705
Rotary wing	17	10	56	144
Target and drone	141	146	618	1,125
Grand total	8,000	7,939	67,899	99,195

*Actual acceptances, Jan. thru June; W-11 (revised Sept. 1) July thru Dec.

On August 31, there was a pool of 1,304 accepted but undelivered aircraft, of which 81 percent were tactical types.

CHART I

MONTHLY ACCEPTANCES OF MILITARY AIRPLANES



Airplanes of the Army Air Forces

A. Airplanes. On August 31, the Army Air Forces had on hand 33,251 first-line combat airplanes. Of these, 11,080 were four-engine bombers--an increase of 157 heavy bombers during August. Of the total combat planes, 20,060 or 60 percent were overseas on August 31.

Airplanes of the Army Air Forces on Hand, August 31 and Gains and Losses in August

	On Hand Aug. 31 1944	August Gains and Losses				
		Gains		Losses		Net Change
		Production	Other*	Operational	Other*	
Combat						
Bomber, very heavy	558	92	0	25	1	66
Bomber, heavy	10,522	1,058	143	794	316	91
Bomber, medium	4,269	167	139	200	295	-189
Bomber, light	1,908	294	16	49	86	175
Fighter	14,622	1,642	250	1,341	757	-206
Reconnaissance	1,372	106	162	76	12	180
Total combat	33,251	3,359	710	2,485	1,467	117
Transport						
Heavy	1,171	133	40	34	16	123
Medium	4,939	226	8	77	26	131
Light	437	48	1	13	0	36
Amphibian	24	0	0	0	0	0
Utility	3,625	56	6	41	23	-2
Total transport	10,196	463	55	165	65	288
Total tactical	43,447	3,822	765	2,650	1,532	405
Trainers	26,085	348	32	169	1,694	-1,483
Communications	3,571	21	180	109	712	-620
Grand total	73,103	4,191	977	2,928	3,938	-1,698

*Includes gains or losses from conversion, survey, transfer to surplus, etc.

A.A.F. Airplanes in Continental U.S. and Overseas — Aug. 31, 1944

Location	Bomber			Fighter	Transport	Other	Total
	Heavy	Medium	Light				
Continental U.S.	4,841	1,441	946	5,521	5,152	28,637	46,538
Overseas	6,239	2,828	962	9,101	5,044	2,391	26,565
Total	11,080	4,269	1,908	14,622	10,196	31,028	73,103

B. Personnel of the Army Air Forces. The active-duty strength of the Army Air Forces totaled 2,403,806 on August 1 -- an increase of 31,514 during July. AAF personnel overseas increased 24,447 during the month to a total of 1,061,781 on August 1.

Active-Duty Strength of the Army Air Forces
August 1, 1944

	Officers	Enlisted	Total
Continental U.S.	207,447	1,134,578	1,342,025
Overseas	135,467	926,314	1,061,781
Total	342,914	2,060,892	2,403,806

Bureau of Aeronautics

A. Airplanes. On August 1, the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard reported a total of 35,146 useful airplanes on hand. Of these, 23,038 were tactical combat types -- an increase of 922 tactical combat planes during July.

Navy Airplanes on Hand -- July 1, August 1, and Additions and Losses in July

Type	On Hand July 1	July*		On Hand Aug. 1
		Additions	Losses	
Tactical Combat				
Fighter	10,037	1,032	644	10,425
Scout bomber (dive)	5,112	511	210	5,413
Torpedo bomber	3,111	251	164	3,198
Patrol bomber--sea	1,547	14	24	1,537
Bomber--land:				
4-engine	393	52	6	439
2-engine	909	35	17	927
Observation scout	1,007	121	29	1,099
Subtotal	22,116	2,016	1,094	23,038
Tactical Non-Combat				
Utility	1,261	52	12	1,301
Transport	678	28	4	702
Subtotal	1,939	80	16	2,003
Training	9,652	133	140	9,645
Experimental and Miscellaneous	364	148	52	460
Grand total	34,071	2,377	1,302	35,146

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

B. Personnel. The active-duty military aviation personnel of the Navy and Marine Corps increased 10,736 during July to a total of 359,790 on August 1. This is 87 percent of the required strength by December 31, 1944. Pilots totaled 48,527 or 101 percent of requirements by December 31.

Navy and Marine Corps Active-Duty Military Aviation Personnel*
August 1, 1944, and Requirements for Dec. 31, 1944

	Navy		Marine Corps		Total	
	Requirements 12-31-44	Actual Aug. 1	Requirements 12-31-44	Actual Aug. 1	Requirements 12-31-44	Actual Aug. 1
Pilots**	38,812	38,170	9,472	10,357	48,284	48,527
Other:						
Officers	27,545	26,478	5,844	4,553	33,389	31,031
Enlisted	225,381	183,443	104,957	96,789	330,338	280,232
Total	291,738	248,091	120,273	111,699	412,011	359,790

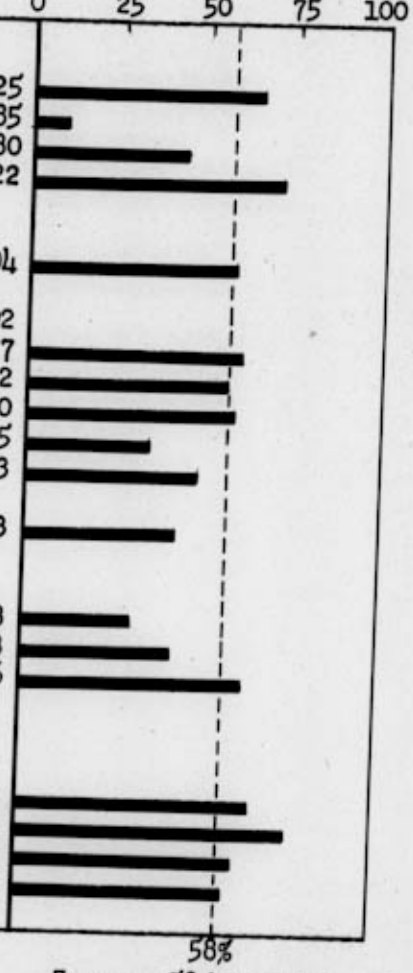
*Excludes personnel missing, prisoners of war, etc.
**Includes pilots of lighter-than-air craft.

C. Pilot Training. Student pilots in training for heavier-than-air planes on August 3 totaled 25,101, and 10,047 of these were in the last stage of training prior to commissioning. The total is a decrease of 7,683 from the number in training on June 22.

III. ARMY

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

Item	July Deliv.	1944 Army Supply Program (Revised)	1944 Deliveries January 1 to August 1 — Cumulative	Percent of 1944 A.S.P.
Combat Vehicles				
Light armored car	256	3,383	2,225	
Light tank	110	1/ 2,050	185	
Medium tank	1,193	12,749	5,480	
Universal carrier	1,000	8,200	5,822	
Motor Vehicles				
¼ ton, 4 x 4 command	14,534	180,833	106,304	
½ and 3/4 ton, 4 x 4 weapons carrier	5,335	57,726	30,492	
1½ ton, 4 x 2 cargo	2,495	32,248	19,627	
1½ ton, 4 x 4 cargo	2,540	30,851	17,732	
2½ ton, 6 x 4 cargo	2,500	30,986	18,300	
2½ ton, 6 x 6 dump	1,536	25,560	9,055	
2½ ton, 6 x 6 cargo	11,656	138,639	68,343	
10 ton, 6 x 4 prime mover	581	8,266	3,563	
Artillery 2/				
155mm gun	51	521	163	
8 inch Howitzer	60	546	233	
155mm Howitzer	176	1,889	1,196	
Small Arms				
.30 cal. U.S. rifle, M1	85,125	1,106,752	730,509	
.30 cal. carbine	103,449	2,021,109	1,551,136	
.30 cal. machine gun	9,875	120,308	74,558	
.50 cal. machine gun	55,030	673,561	402,549	



1/ Change in requirements--one model eliminated.
2/ Proof firing may not be completed.

7 mo. = 58% of year

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

Item	July Deliv.	1944 Army Supply Program (Revised)	1944 Deliveries January 1 to August 1	
			Cumulative	Percent of 1944 A.S.P.
Small Arms Ammunition (Million rounds)				
All .30 cal.	245	3,759	2,902	
All .50 cal.	168	2,310	1,272	
Antiaircraft Ammunition (Thousand rounds)				
For 40mm gun	1,848	20,224	15,876	
Artillery Ammunition (Thousand rounds)				
For 60 and 81mm mortar	2,077	31,194	13,616	
For 57mm gun	400	6,411	4,573	
For 75mm field, tank, and antitank gun	715	11,276	9,038	
For 76mm tank and antitank gun	913	9,401	4,429	
For 75mm Howitzer	47	4,361	4,092	
For 90mm antiaircraft, tank, & antitank gun	209	3,899	2,930	
For 105mm Howitzer	3,044	37,816	19,457	
For 155mm Howitzer	470	4,442	2,105	
For 155mm field gun	188	2,457	1,191	
Bombs (thousands)				
500 lb. G.P.	236	2,597	1,232	
260 lb. fragmentation	113	963	428	
23 lb. fragmentation	139	3,195	2,801	
20 lb. and 23 lb. cluster-fragmentation	229	2,815	1,383	

7 mo. = 58% of year

Military Personnel

A. Strength. From Aug. 1 thru 28, the active-duty strength of the Army increased by 50,230 to an estimated total of 8,100,000.

Distribution of the Army Active-Duty Strength, by Class
Four Weeks, Aug. 1 Thru Aug. 28, 1944

Class of Personnel	Aug. 1 Actual	Aug. 28 Estimated	4-Week Increase
Commissioned officers	697,401	700,974	3,573
Warrant and flight officers	39,268	39,361	93
Enlisted men and selectees	7,191,703	7,237,358	45,655
WAC	79,239	79,903	664
Subtotal	8,007,611	8,057,596	49,985
Army Nurse Corps	42,159	42,404	245
Grand total	8,049,770	8,100,000	50,230

The Army active-duty strength overseas increased by 221,106 to a total of 4,208,519 or 52 percent of the total Army strength.

Assignment of Army Active-Duty Military Personnel
Four Weeks, Aug. 1 Thru Aug. 28, 1944

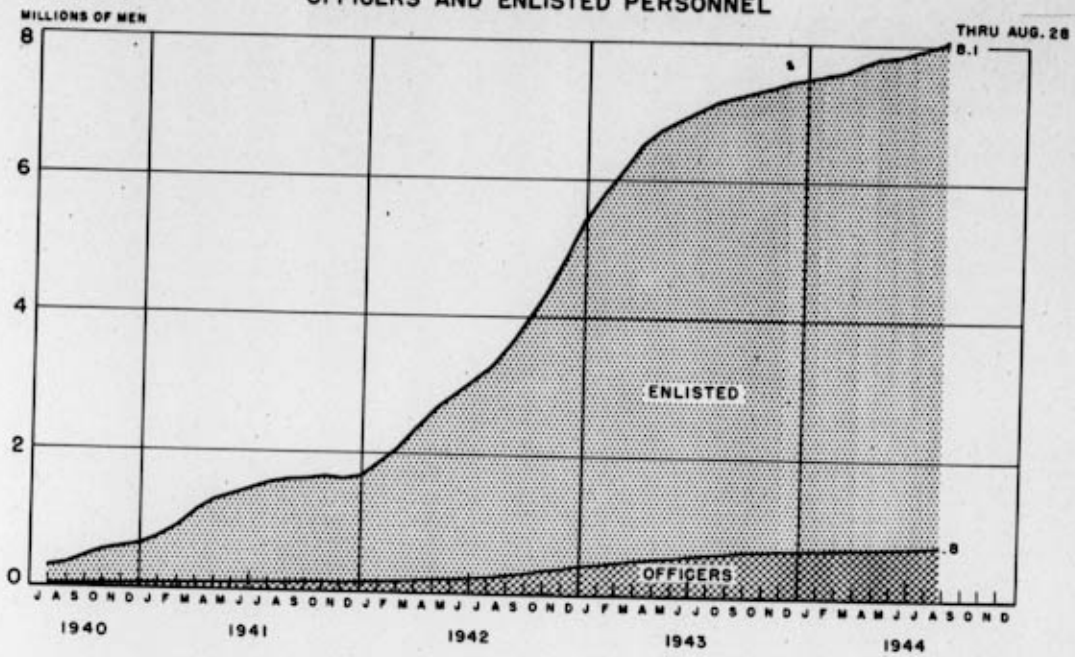
Assignment of Personnel	Aug. 1 Actual	Aug. 28 Estimated	4-Week Increase
Army Ground Forces in U.S.	1,448,736	1,410,663	-38,073
Army Air Forces in U.S.	1,343,612	1,272,182	-71,430
Army Service Forces in U.S.	1,072,233	1,035,121	-37,112
In defense commands in U.S.	32,588	32,587	-1
In staging areas	57,472	64,000	6,528
In ships	89,140	76,928	-12,212
Outside continental U.S.	3,987,413	4,208,519	221,106
Unaccounted for by Command	18,576	--	-18,576
Total	8,049,770	8,100,000	50,230

On August 28, the total active-duty military personnel was distributed as follows: Ground Forces, 3,429,855 or 42 percent; Air Forces, 2,366,939 or 29 percent; and Service Forces, 2,303,206 or 29 percent.

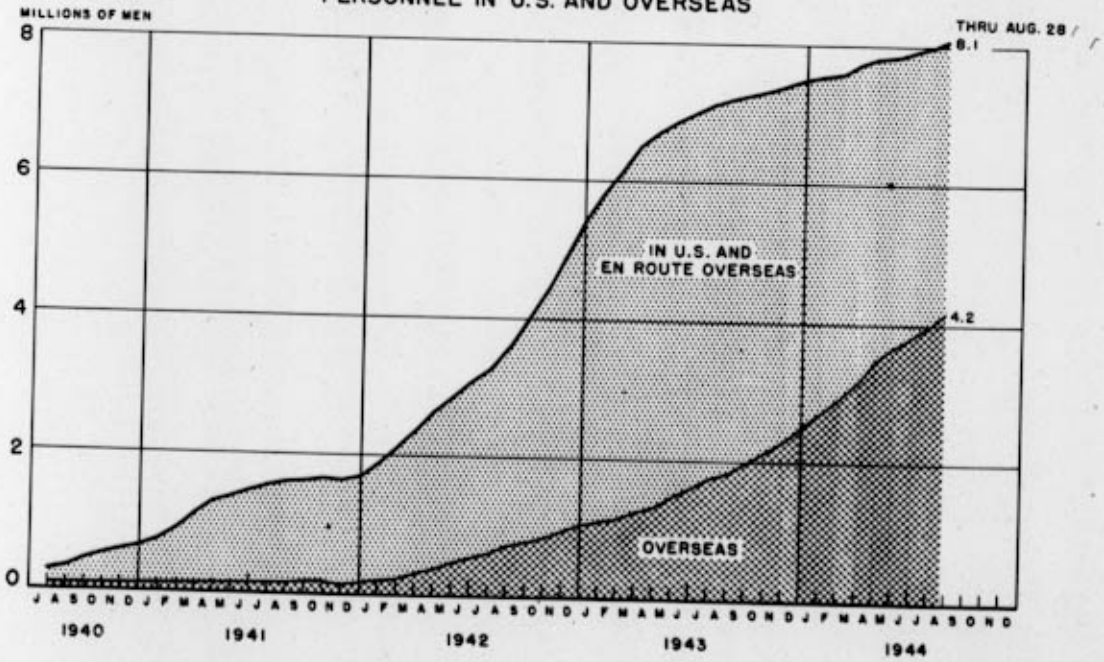
CHART 2

ARMY MILITARY PERSONNEL

OFFICERS AND ENLISTED PERSONNEL



PERSONNEL IN U.S. AND OVERSEAS



B. Army Casualties. During July, 49,510 battle casualties were reported, making a total of 248,728 between December 7, 1941 and July 31, 1944, of which 15 percent were officers. Forty-nine percent of the wounded have returned to duty.

The North African Theater reported the largest number of casualties, 105,529 or 42 percent of the total. In this theater, 60 percent of the wounded have returned to duty.

Battle Casualties Reported, by Theater
Dec. 7, 1941 Thru July 31, 1944

	North African	Pacific and S.W. Pacific	European	Other	Total
Killed in Action	18,906	7,481	11,923	2,638	40,948
Wounded or Injured					
Died of wounds	2,766	957	686	134	4,543
Returned to duty	40,797	9,957	6,375	827	57,956
Evacuated to U.S.	10,025	3,548	780	212	14,565
Wounded	13,994	6,168	19,640	1,654	41,456
Subtotal	67,582	20,630	27,481	2,827	118,520
Captured or Interned					
Died of wounds	14	0	23	3	40
Died of disease	7	1,545	20	4	1,576
Repatriated	794	4	600	124	1,522
Prisoners of war	10,919	12,349	13,976	1,094	38,338
Internees	20	1	1,680	28	1,729
Subtotal	11,754	13,899	16,299	1,253	43,205
Missing in Action					
Declared dead	403	1,769	594	171	2,937
Died—cause unknown	2	188	2	38	230
Returned to duty	1,853	748	832	520	3,953
Status undetermined	5,029	15,947	15,489	2,470	38,935
Subtotal	7,287	18,652	16,917	3,199	46,055
Grand total	105,529	60,662	72,620	9,917	248,728

IV. NAVY

Completions of Naval Vessels

The battleship MISSOURI was completed in July. A total of 320 combatant vessels have been completed in 1944 through August 20 -- 32 in July and 8 more during the first 20 days of August. There are 110 additional combatant vessels scheduled for completion during 1944.

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

Type	1944				1943 Actual
	July	Aug. Thru 20th	Jan. 1 Thru Aug. 20	Scheduled Aug. 21 to Dec. 31	
Combatant Vessels:					
Battleship	1	0	2	0	2
Aircraft carrier	0	0	3	4	15
Aircraft carrier, escort	2	0	36	3	50
Large cruiser	0	0	1	1	0
Heavy cruiser	0	0	0	2	4
Light cruiser	0	0	5	7	7
Destroyer	7	1	57	26	128
Destroyer escort	14	4	167	36	306
Submarine	8	3	49	31	56
Total combatant	32	8	320	110	568
Patrol craft	43	12	352	209	718
Mine vessels	16	7	103	92	389
Auxiliaries	35	25	256	506	352
Landing force vessels*	133	79	869	614	649

*LST, LSM, LSD, LSV, LCI(L), and LCS(L)(3)

Status of Construction of Selected Naval Vessels

Twenty-one percent of the 492 combatant vessels on order on Aug. 20 had been launched, 29 percent were on the ways, and 50 percent had not been placed on the ways.

In July, 50 vessels which were building as escort vessels were reclassified as high-speed transports, and 12 which were building as destroyers were reclassified as light mine layers.

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

Type	New Construction on Order				Converting	Add'l Auth.
	Not Yet on Ways	On Ways	Launched	Total		
Combatant Vessels:						
Battleship	2	0	0	2	0	0
Aircraft carrier	3	13	5	21	0	0
Aircraft carrier, escort	11	8	4	23	0	0
Large cruiser	0	1	1	2	0	0
Heavy cruiser	15	8	5	28	0	0
Light cruiser	15	12	8	35	0	0
Destroyer	90	51	12	153	0	0
Destroyer escort	0	2	34	36	0	0
Submarine	112	46	34	192	0	0
Total combatant	248	141	103	492	0	0
Patrol craft	106	102	74	282	9	0
Mine craft	4	28	101	133	0	0
Auxiliaries	107	75	116	298	462	21
Landing force vessels*	792	168	101	1,061	0	60

*LST, LSM, LSD, LSV, LCI(L), and LCS(L)(3).

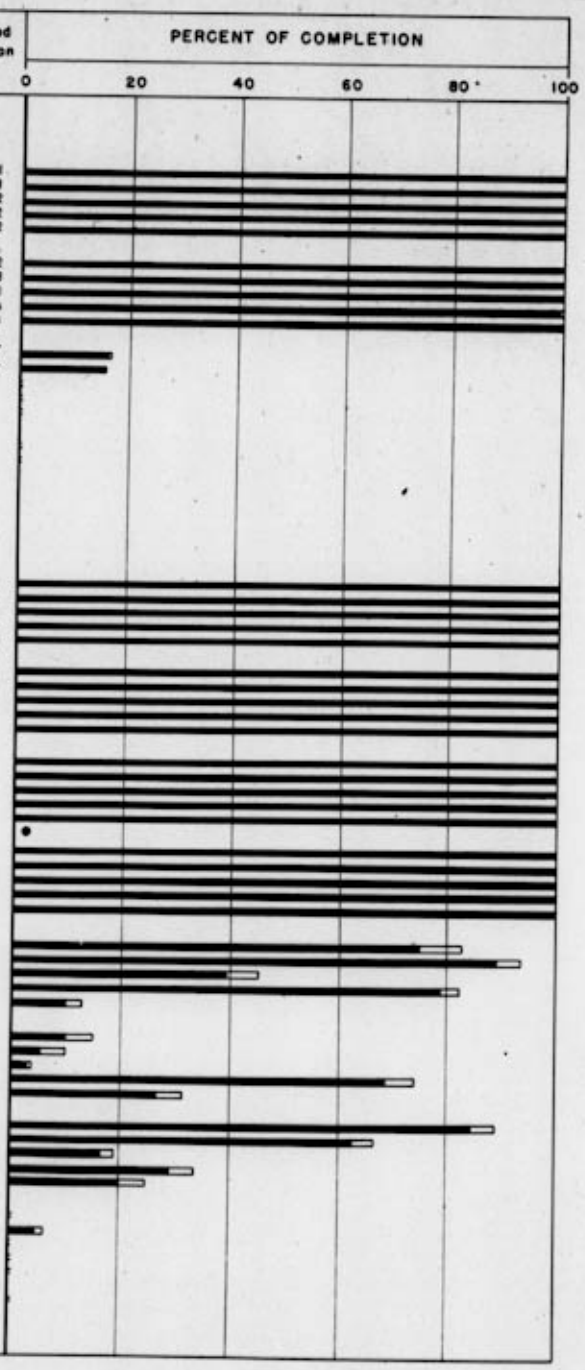
Progress of construction of combatant vessels is shown on the charts immediately following.

CHART 3

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS ON BATTLESHIPS AND AIRCRAFT CARRIERS

PROGRESS JULY 1, 1940 TO JULY 1, 1944 — PROGRESS FOR JULY 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 DAKOTA *	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	1-27-40	3-28-43
NEW JERSEY	6-1[illegible]-40	6-30-43
MISSOURI	1- 6-41	7-24-44
WISCONSIN	1-25-41	5-26-44
ILLINOIS	1- 1-45	4-30-47
KENTUCKY	10- 7-44	9-30-46
MONTANA	WORK SUSPENDED	
OHIO	WORK SUSPENDED	
MAINE	WORK SUSPENDED	
NEW HAMPSHIRE	WORK SUSPENDED	
LOUISIANA	WORK SUSPENDED	
AIRCRAFT CARRIERS		
HORNET (LOST)	6-25-39	10-20-41
ESSEX	6-28-41	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	1-14-43	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	6-11-42	8-31-[illegible]
INTREPID	12- 1-41	8-16-[illegible]
CABOT	3-18-42	7-24-[illegible]
BATAAN	8-31-42	11-17-[illegible]
WASP	3-19-42	11-[illegible]
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
HANCOCK	1-26-43	4-15-44
RANDOLPH	5-10-43	10- 9-44
BENNINGTON	12-15-42	9-22-44
BOXER	9-13-43	4- 1-45
BON HOMME RICHARD	2- 1-43	12-30-44
CROWN POINT	2-21-44	12- 1-45
KEARSARGE	3- 1-44	11-31-45
ORISKANY	5- 1-44	4- 1-46
REPRISAL	7- 1-44	6- 1-46
ANTIETAM	3-15-43	1-31-45
VALLEY FORGE	9-14-43	9-30-45
SHANGRI-LA	1-15-43	11- 1-44
LAKE CHAMPLAIN	3-15-43	3-15-45
TARAWA	3- 1-44	11-15-45
CVB41	10-27-43	11-28-45
CVB42	12- 1-43	10- 1-46
CVB43	7-10-44	4- 1-46
CV 45	9- 1-44	11-28-45
CV 46	4- 1-45	10- 1-46
CV 47	9-15-44	12-31-45
CVL48	7-10-44	12-30-45
CVL49	8-21-44	3- 1-46



* INCORRECTLY LISTED AS SOUTH CAROLINA HERETOFORE

CHART 4

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS ON AIRCRAFT CARRIERS, ESCORT

PROGRESS JULY 1, 1940 TO AUGUST 1, 1944

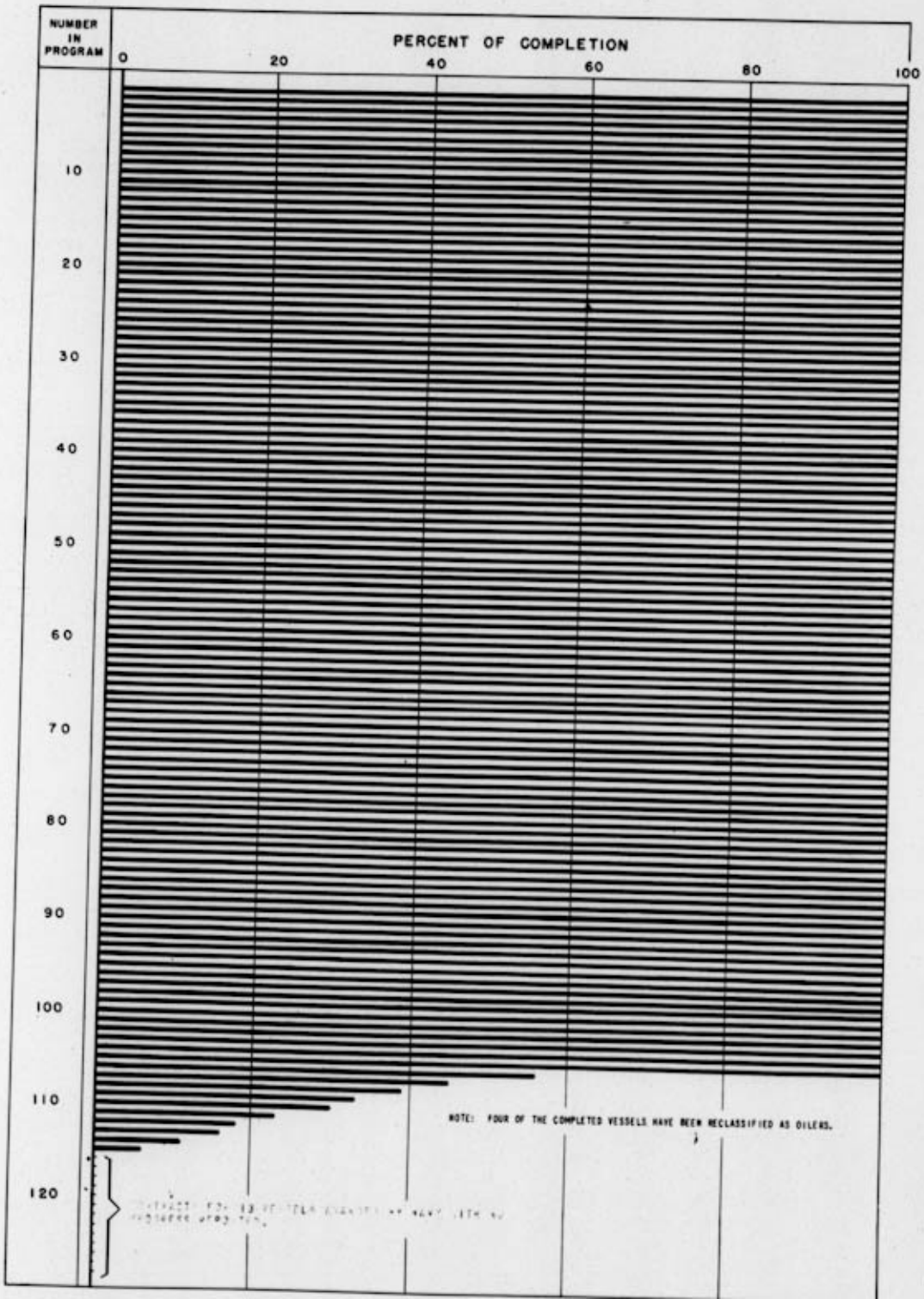


CHART 5

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS ON LARGE AND HEAVY CRUISERS

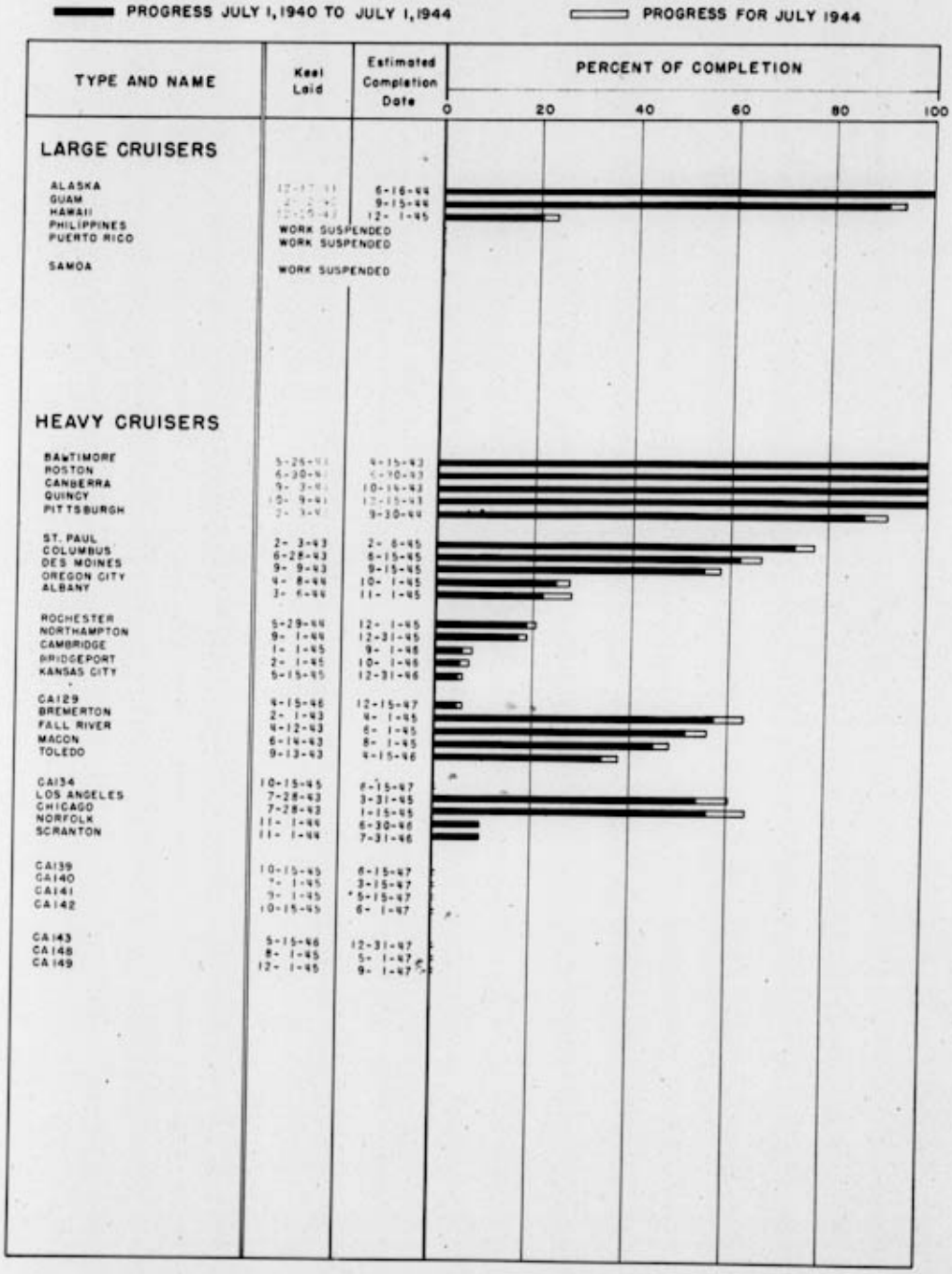


CHART 6

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS ON LIGHT CRUISERS

PROGRESS JULY 1, 1940 TO JULY 1, 1944 — PROGRESS FOR JULY 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	2-29-42
OAKLAND	7-17-41	7-17-43
RENO	8- 1-41	12-28-43
FLINT	12-23-42	8-31-44
TUCSON	12-23-42	12-29-44
JUNEAU	9-15-44	10-16-45
SPOKANE	11-20-44	12-21-45
FRESNO	1-15-45	2-28-46
LIGHT CRUISERS 10,000 TONS		
CLEVELAND	[illegible]	[illegible]
COLUMBIA	[illegible]	[illegible]
MONTPELIER	[illegible]	[illegible]
DENVER	[illegible]	[illegible]
SANTA FE	[illegible]	[illegible]
BIRMINGHAM	2-17-41	1-23-43
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
ASTORIA	3- 6-41	5-15-44
PASADENA	2- 6-42	6- 8-44
VICKSBURG	10-26-42	6-12-44
WILKES-BARRE	12-14-42	6-30-44
AMSTERDAM	3- 3-43	2- 1-45
DULUTH	11- 9-42	9-18-44
SPRINGFIELD	2-13-43	9- 9-44
TOPEKA	4-21-43	12-31-44
OKLAHOMA CITY	12- 8-42	12- 1-44
LITTLE ROCK	3- 6-43	4- 1-45
GALVESTON	2-20-44	12- 1-45
YOUNGSTOWN	9- 5-44	4- 1-46
PROVIDENCE	7-27-43	5-15-45
PORTSMOUTH	6-28-43	6-30-45
MANCHESTER	9-22-44	12-22-45
ATLANTA	1-25-43	12-13-44
DAYTON	3- 8-43	1-20-45
FARGO	8-23-43	9-15-45
HUNTINGTON	10- 4-43	6- 1-46
NEWARK	1-17-44	7-15-46
NEW HAVEN	2-28-44	9- 1-46
BUFFALO	4- 3-44	10-15-46
WILMINGTON	4- 1-45	6-15-47
VALLEJO	8-15-45	8- 1-47
HELENA	1- 1-46	9-15-47
ROANOKE	2-15-46	11- 1-47
CL115	4- 1-46	12-15-47
TALLAHASSEE	1-31-44	3- 1-46
CHEYENNE	10- 9-44	11- 1-46
CL118	10- 9-44	11- 1-46
CL144	3- 1-45	12- 1-46
CL145	6- 1-45	2- 1-47
CL146	7-15-45	3-15-47
CL147	9-15-45	5- 1-47

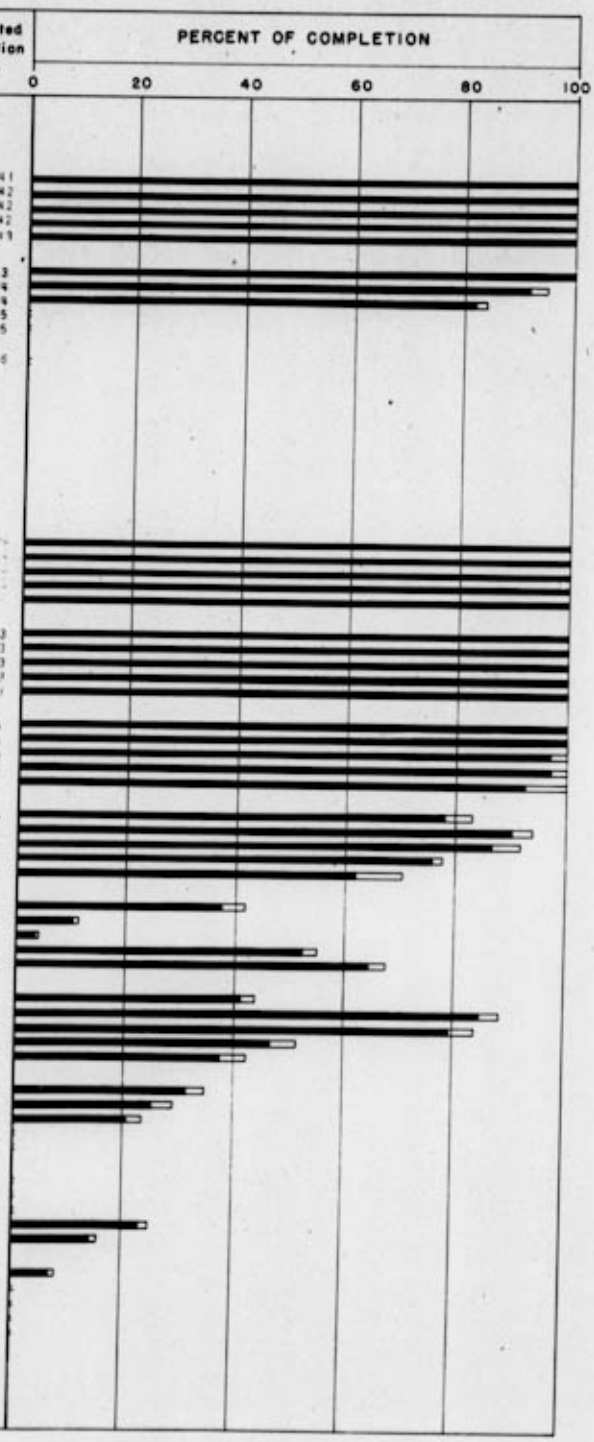
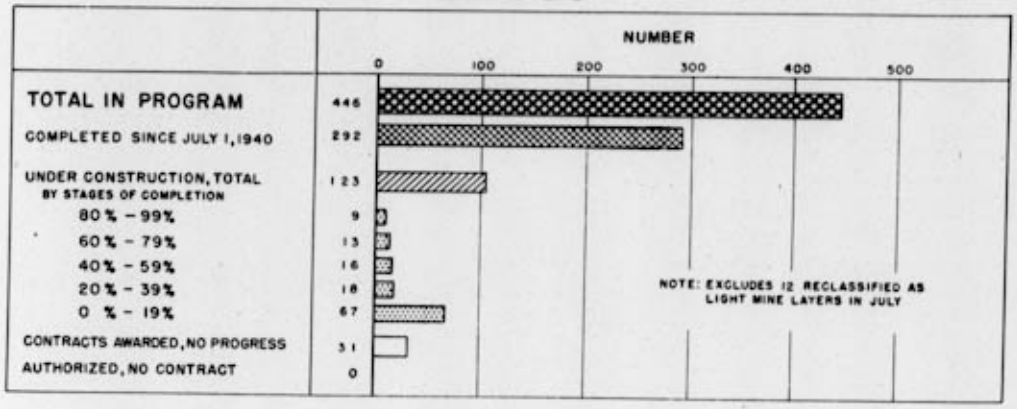


CHART 7

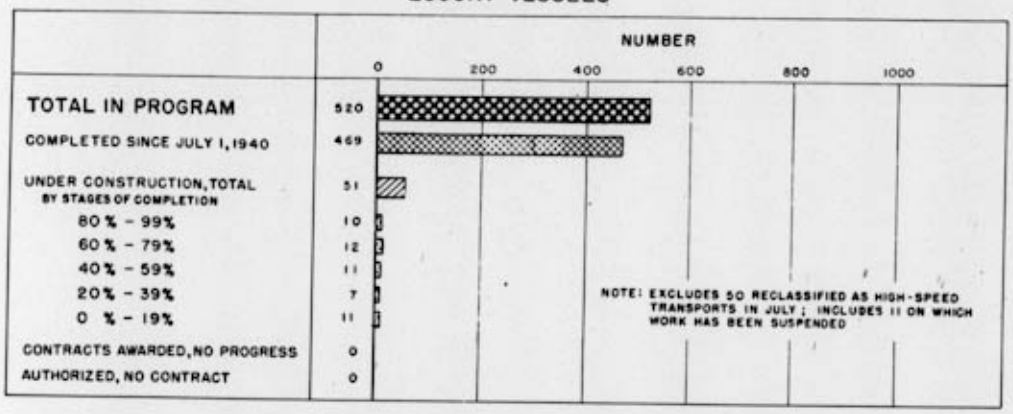
CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS
DESTROYERS, ESCORT VESSELS AND SUBMARINES

AUGUST 1, 1944

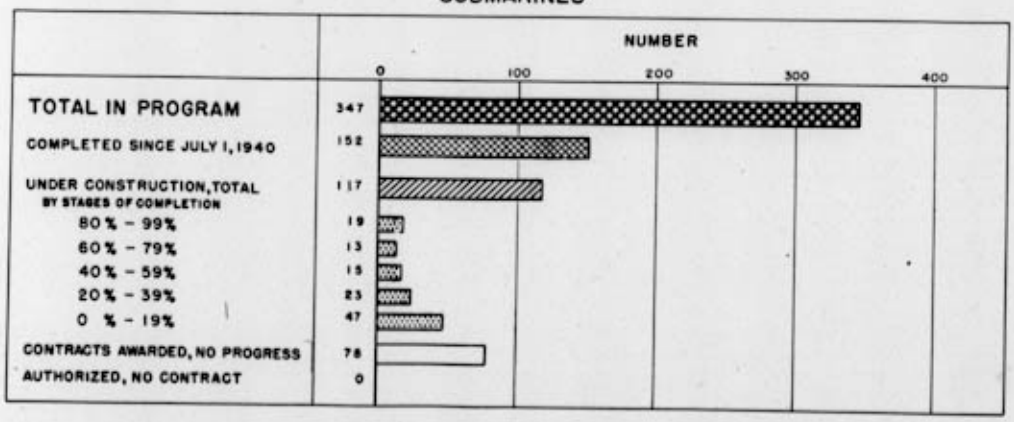
DESTROYERS



ESCORT VESSELS



SUBMARINES



Change in Vessels on Hand Since June 30, 1940

The number of combatant vessels of the Navy on August 20 had increased 753 since June 30, 1940 to a total of 1,136. These figures reflect only publicly announced losses.

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

Type	On Hand June 30 1940	New Completions	Publicly Announced Losses, Transfers, & Reclassifications	On Hand Aug. 20 1944	Net Gain or Loss
Combatant Vessels:					
Battleship	15	10	1	24	9
Aircraft carrier	6	20	4	22	16
Aircraft carrier, escort	0	101	36	65	65
Large cruiser	0	1	0	1	1
Heavy cruiser	18	4	6	16	-2
Light cruiser	19	21	3	37	18
Destroyer	225	293	141	377	152
Destroyer escort	0	473	98	375	375
Submarine	100	155	36	219	119
Total combatant	383	1,078	325	1,136	753
Patrol craft	33	1,632	375	1,290	1,257
Mine craft	35	857	289	603	568
Auxiliaries	134	843	2	975	841
Landing force vessels 1/	0	1,902	554	1,348	1,348

1/ IST, LSD, LSV, LSM, LCS(L)(3), and LCI(L).

Analysis of Losses, Leases, Transfers, and Reclassifications

The following vessels were publicly announced by the Navy as lost during August: 1 destroyer escort, 3 mine craft, and 4 large landing craft.

A total of 94 combatant vessels have been announced as lost, 133 leased, 50 transferred, and 53 reclassified through August 31, 1944.

Publicly Announced Losses, Leases, Transfers, and Reclassifications -- July 1, 1940 Through Aug. 31, 1944

Type	Lost	Leased or Transferred 1/	Reclassified	Total Decrease
Combatant Vessels:				
Battleship	1	0	0	1
Aircraft carrier	4	0	0	4
Aircraft carrier, escort	2	38	2/-4	36
Heavy cruiser	6	0	0	6
Light cruiser	3	0	0	3
Destroyer	46	50	45	141
Destroyer escort	4	88	11	103
Submarine	28	7	1	36
Total combatant	94	183	53	330
Other Vessels:				
Patrol craft	77	319	2/-1	395
Mine craft	21	202	74	297
Auxiliaries	43	124	2/-127	40
Landing craft 3/	29	253	110	392
Total other	170	898	56	1,124
Grand total	264	1,081	109	1,454

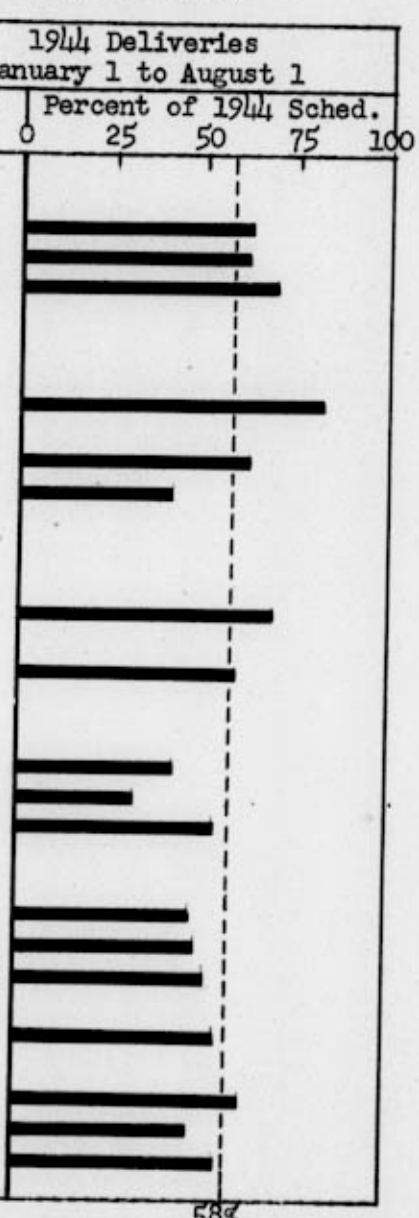
1/ Includes certain vessels sold or returned to owners.
2/ Vessels added to the total on hand.
3/ LST, LSD, and LCI(L).

Production of Naval Ordnance Materiel

From January 1 to August 1, cumulative deliveries of 6 of the 18 items of naval ordnance materiel listed below were less than 50 percent of the total scheduled for 1944. The time covered represents 58 percent of the year.

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

Item	July Deliveries	Sched. Deliv. (12 Mo.) 1944	1944 Deliveries January 1 to August 1 Cumulative	Percent of 1944 Sched.
Torpedoes 1/				
Surface craft	506	6,004	3,704	
Submarine 2/	1,202	11,353	6,315	
Aircraft 2/	489	6,945	4,805	
Surface Fire Guns				
Heavy, 12" and 16" turrets	0	11	9	
Medium, 8" and 6" turrets	10	105	65	
Light, 4" and 5"	32	296	120	
Antiaircraft Guns				
Heavy, 3" and 5" mounted barrel	591	8,540	5,931	
Light, 40mm and 20mm mounted barrel 3/	4,151	54,831	32,131	
Fire Control Equipment				
Gun directors	700	8,079	3,437	
Radar fire control	154	1,917	623	
Gun sights, Mk. 14	3,831	39,319	21,319	
Ammunition				
Heavy surface fire	8,765	116,955	55,967	
Medium surface fire	58,767	616,792	304,292	
Light surface fire	624M	7,035M	3,625M	
Antiaircraft:				
Heavy	740M	8,027M	4,452M	
Light:				
20mm HE, HEI, HET	28,863M	392,916M	242,916M	
40mm HE, HET, HEI, HEIT	7,973M	91,644M	44,144M	
1"1	279M	4,505M	2,505M	



M = 1,000 rounds

1/ Turned into store.

2/ Excludes the British-type torpedo.

7 mo. = 58% of year

Personnel

The active-duty strength of the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard increased from 3,632,329 on June 30 to 3,707,871 on August 15 -- an increase of 75,542 or 2 percent. The total on August 15 was composed of 660,145 regulars, 2,950,887 male reserves, and 96,839 female reserves.

Strength of the Naval Services
June 30 and August 15, 1944

	Navy	Marine Corps	Coast Guard	Total
Officers	289,670*	33,562	12,102	335,334
Officer candidates	110,310	7,298	490	118,098
Enlisted personnel	2,660,890	436,909	156,640	3,254,439
Total, Aug. 15	3,060,870	477,769	169,232	3,707,871
Total, June 30	2,987,311	475,783	169,235	3,632,329
Increase	73,559	1,986	-3	75,542
Percent incr.	2.5%	0.4%	--%	2.1%

*Includes 8,528 nurses.

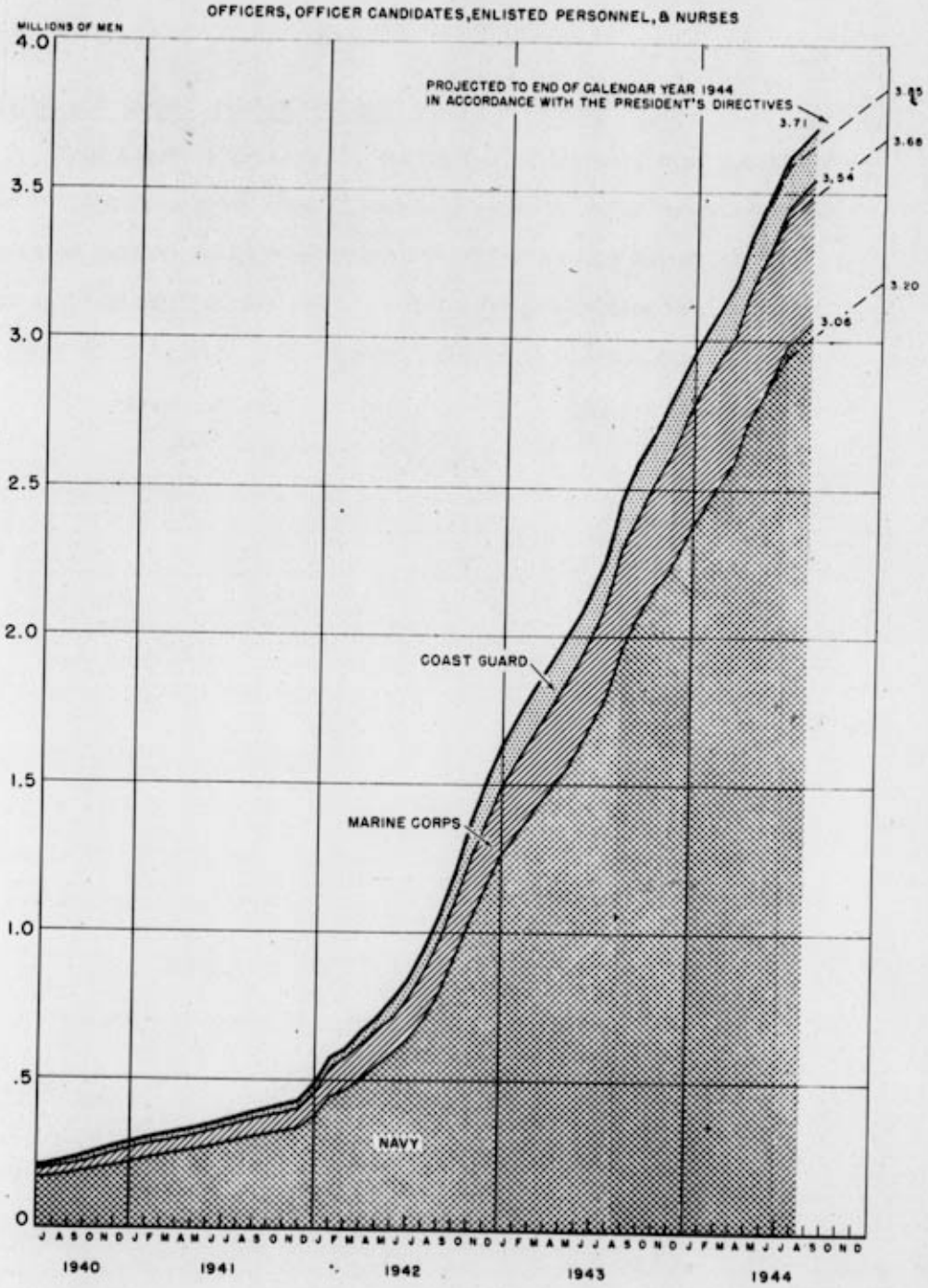
Note: Strengths approved by the President are:

Navy	3,200,000	by Dec. 31, 1944
Navy (for planning purposes)	3,389,000	by June 30, 1945
Marine Corps	478,000	thru cal. yr. 1944
Coast Guard	174,000	thru cal. yr. 1944

CHART 8

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

From August 1 through 27, the United Nations reported construction of 906,000 deadweight tons of merchant vessels, while reported losses totaled 117,000 dwt. From December 1, 1941 through August 27, 1944, a total of 44 million dwt. were constructed, as compared with reported losses of 19 million dwt. -- a net gain of 25 million dwt.

Gains and Losses of United Nations' Merchant Vessels
Reported Dec. 1, 1941 Through Aug. 27, 1944
(000 Dwt.)

	Dec. 1, 1941 Through June 30, 1944	July	August Through 27th	Total Through Aug. 27
Gains	42,025	1,450	906	44,381
Losses	19,056	183	117	19,356
Net gains	22,969	1,267	789	25,025

Deliveries by U.S. Shipbuilders

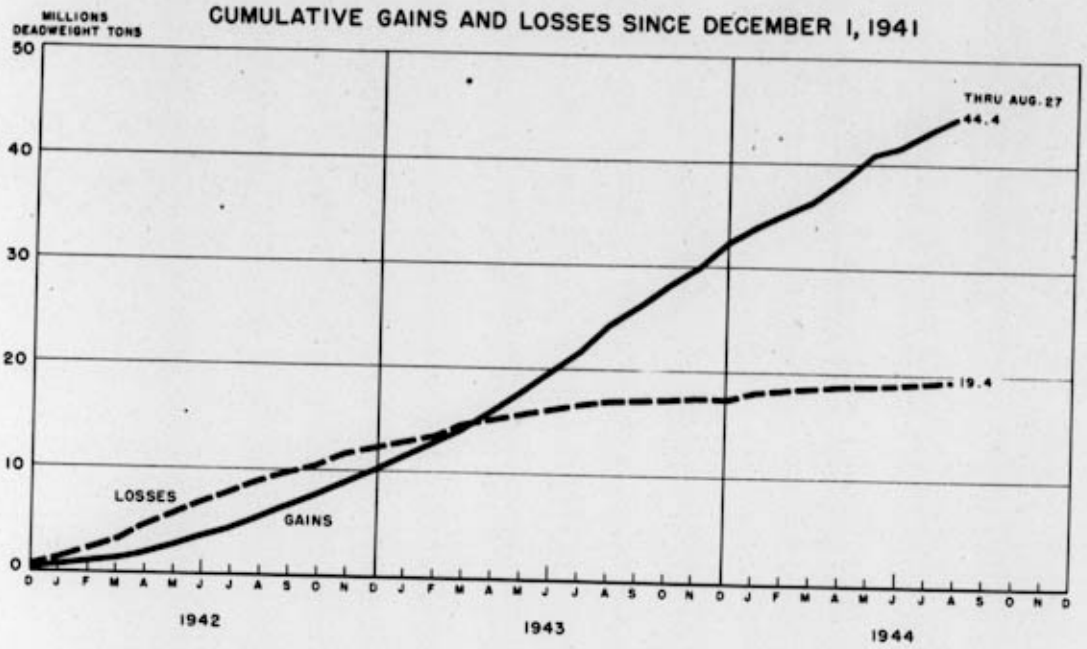
In August, U.S. merchant shipbuilders delivered 110 major-type vessels at 1.1 million dwt., including 28 vessels for military use. The July deliveries were 117 vessels at 1.2 million dwt.

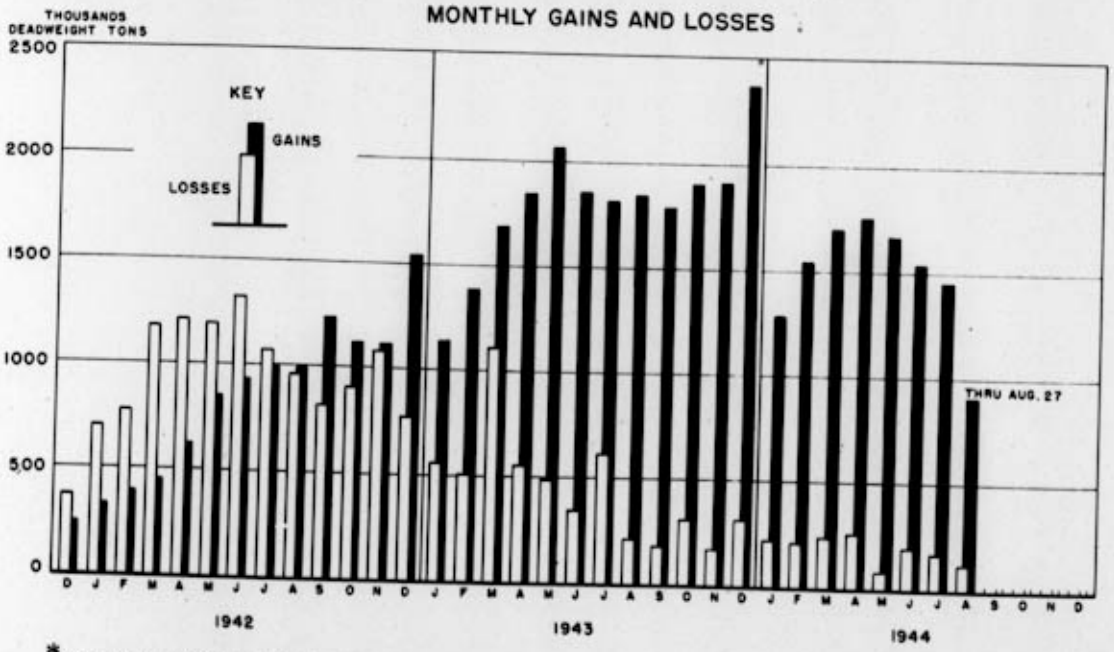
Vessels Delivered by U.S. Merchant Shipyards
July and August 1944

Type	July		August	
	Number	Dwt.	Number	Dwt.
Dry cargo	74	797,103	66	707,504
Tanker	19	317,807	16	268,240
Military	24	123,312	28	141,615
Total	117	1,238,222	110	1,117,359

CHART 9

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



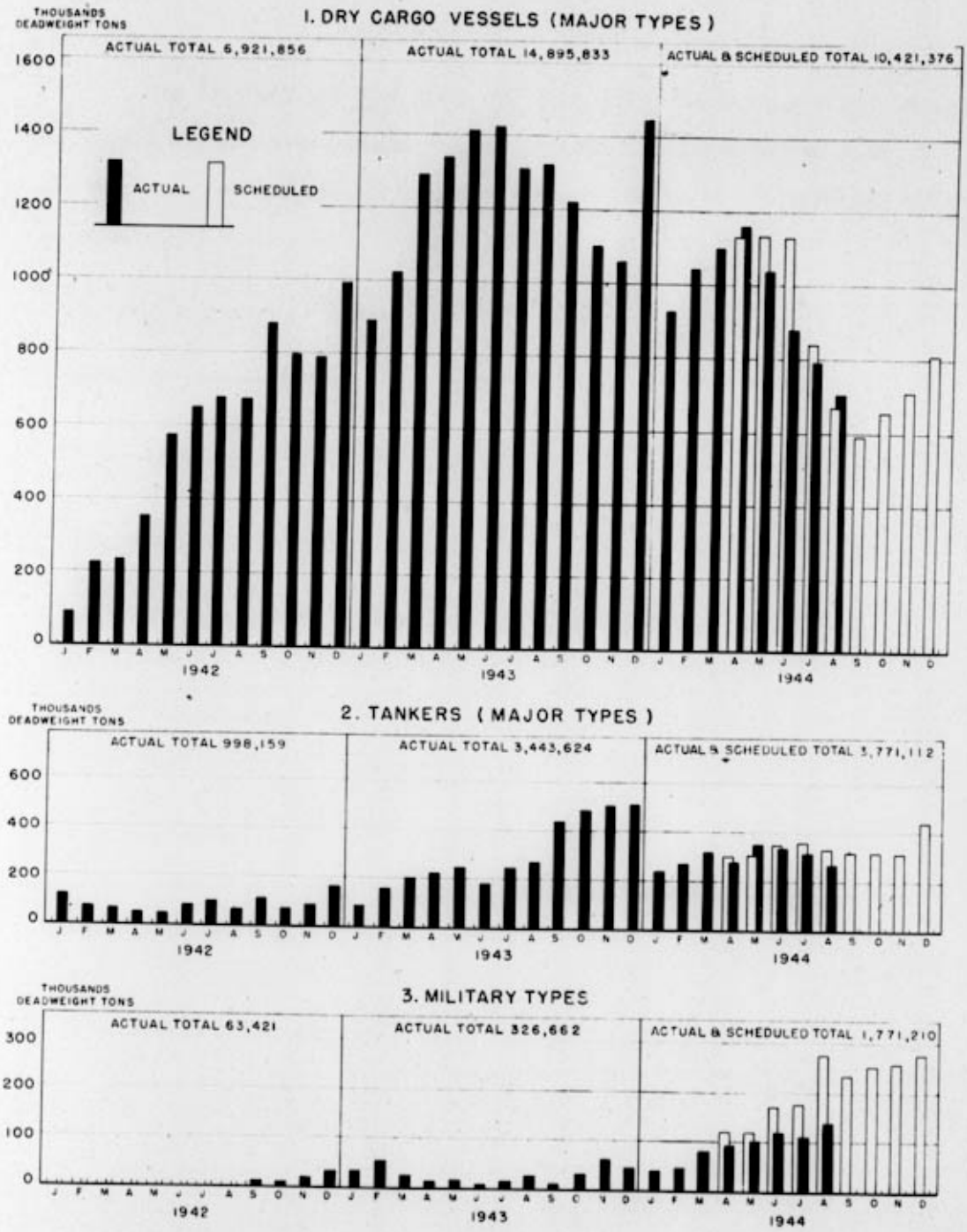


*BEGINNING WITH AUGUST 1943, MERCHANT VESSELS COMMITTED FOR MILITARY SERVICE ARE INCLUDED. LOSSES ARE ON A NOTIFICATION BASIS.

SOURCE: WEEKLY REPORT OF THE COMBINED SHIPPING ADJUSTMENT BOARD

CHART 10

DELIVERIES OF SHIPS BY U. S. MERCHANT SHIPBUILDERS



SOURCE WARITIME COMMISSION SCHEDULE AS OF 4-1-44

VI. CONTRACT TERMINATION

The contract price of items canceled under fixed-price prime contracts by the War and Navy Departments totaled $13.4 billion through July 31, 1944. This does not include cancellations or cutbacks in cost-plus-fixed fee contracts.

Summary of Terminations and Settlements of Fixed-Price Prime Contracts By the War and Navy Departments — Cumulative Thru July 31, 1944
(Millions of Dollars)

	War Dept.	Navy Dept.	Total War & Navy Departments
Number terminated	26,944	2,192	29,136
Contract price of items canceled	$11,365	$2,001	$13,366
Number settled	22,540	866	23,406
Without claim	16,159	764	16,261
With claim	6,381	102	7,145
Contract price of items canceled in settled terminations	$ 7,072	$ 208	$ 7,280
Without claim	3,303	21	3,324
With claim	3,769	187	3,956
Amount claimed under settled terminations	$ 319	$ 4	$ 323
Settlement amount	$ 264	$ 3	$ 267
Number of terminations pending settlement	4,404	1,326	5,730
Contract price of items canceled in terminations pending settlement	$ 4,293	$1,793	$ 6,086

VII. AGRICULTURE AND WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION

The over-all agricultural and food situation continues to look good with farm income up ten percent for the first half of 1944. Outstanding farm loans of the Farm Credit Administration have been reduced $660 million since June 1942, a 40 percent decrease.

Price index up one point: The index of prices received by farmers for August was 193. This is one point above July and is the first time since April, 1944 that the index for any month has been above that for the previous month. A sharp increase in hog prices was largely responsible for the rise.

Farm income up 10 percent in first six months of 1944: Total receipts from farm marketings for the period January through July amounted to $10,271 million. This was 10 percent greater than for the corresponding months in 1943.

Drought curtails crop production: For the first time in at least four years, an extensive drought has noticeably curtailed crop production. The area affected extends from northeastern Texas to northern New York and southern New England and centers in Kentucky, Tennessee, and considerable sections of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois. While crop production for the nation as a whole will not be critically affected, dairy producers in the drought area are definitely feeling the effects. This is because pastures, hay, and feed crops in that order have substantially been reduced.

Civilian food supply generally good: The over-all civilian food situation will be comparatively good for the rest of 1944. Civilian supplies of most foods have been quite liberal all spring and summer, but such foods as butter, evaporated milk, pork, and citrus fruits are now becoming less plentiful. Pork and citrus fruits will increase seasonally later in the year. Somewhat less butter and other manufactured dairy products, lamb, canned fruit, canned vegetables, and less of the better grades of beef will be available during the next few months than during the spring and summer, but all of these are being rationed to assure equitable distribution. However, available supplies of these foods, except the better grades of beef, are not expected to be much below those of the last few months of 1943. Fresh fruits, and perhaps fresh vegetables, will be more plentiful than last year. The reduction in the butter supply, as the result of greater-than-usual seasonal declines in butter production and large noncivilian takings, will bring civilian per capita supplies for the fourth quarter lower than at any time in over half a century. Other fats and oils are expected to continue relatively plentiful for several months.

Special purchase program for dried whole egg powder announced: For the month of September, egg driers may offer dried whole eggs to the WFA up to 100 percent of their plant capacities for the month. It is believed that this additional purchase will help stimulate the current egg market.

Special milk payments in drought areas: To relieve drought-stricken dairy production areas, supplemental payments at the rate of 10 cents for 100 pounds of milk and 1 cent a pound for butterfat were announced early in the month. The special payments are to help dairymen in meeting feed problems brought on by the dry weather.

Butter set-aside: Manufacturers of creamery butter are being required to set aside for war uses 20 percent of their September production again this year.

Milk powder restrictions eased: Because milk powder is in better supply for domestic use, all restrictions on its use in the manufacture of bread have been removed. Removal of the restriction will enable bakers to return to prewar standards in the proportion of milk to flour, and will result in the improvement of bread from the standpoints of nutritive value, palatability, and keeping qualities.

Support program for fruits announced: A support program for apricots, peaches, and pears was set up during August by WFA. It was designed to encourage maximum production of specified canned fruits and to facilitate payment of grower support prices by protecting canners against price declines.

Consumption of excess vegetables urged on housewives: Faced with a crop of small-sized potatoes in several eastern producing areas because of abnormally dry weather, WFA called upon the American housewife to use more potatoes of that size in August in place of the larger sizes. The home canning of tomatoes is being urged in the Northeast and Midwest regions, where tomatoes for canning have been in supply too great for canneries to handle. An intensive campaign to encourage the consumption and home storage of onions is being planned.

Set-aside on beef and pork increased: A boost in the beef set-aside, and the placing of a set-aside on pork, has been made necessary by increased military demands for meat. The order is not expected to make any material change in the supply of meat to civilians.

Lend-Lease deliveries decline: Lend-Lease deliveries of food for July totaled 522,851,964 pounds, compared with 658,116,418 pounds in June and 1,231,844,656 pounds in July of last year. Of the July deliveries, 36 percent was meat, 19 percent dairy products, 16 percent grain products, 7 percent fruits and vegetables, 7 percent fats and oils, 7 percent sugar, 6 percent special commodities, 2 percent cotton and fiber, and less than 1 percent tobacco.

Production of farm machinery at new high level for the year: The production of farm machinery and equipment reached its highest level for the year during July. Many of the items which have been behind schedule through previous months were completed during the month. While a number of these items were produced too late for maximum use for 1944, they will be available for fall use and for the 1945 season. Several manufacturers have reported delays in shipments of combines and corn pickers because of a shortage of flat cars. Steps have been taken to assist in making flat cars available to expedite deliveries.

Surplus trucks going to farmers: The procedure through which farmers are able to secure surplus government trucks has been materially improved, and the flow of surplus trucks to agricultural users is proceeding in an orderly and satisfactory manner. Reports from Department field representatives indicate that farmers and haulers of agricultural products are receiving a fair share of all surplus trucks available and are generally satisfied with the present program. The Treasury has informed this Department that 6,000 surplus trucks were sold in the past month. It is estimated that 70 percent or more of these surplus trucks went to agricultural users.

Additional farm utility connections and lumber for farms: In order to provide a method for handling electric utility connections for fruit and vegetable farms, and some other connections which are not presently covered by existing "U" orders, an arrangement was made with the Power Division of the WPB for giving favorable consideration to applications for service which are recommended by both the county and State AAA Committees. Arrangements have also been made for the issuance of a directive to WPB Order L-335 which will permit the farmer to have 5,000 board feet of lumber per year sawed from his logs for his own use without requirement of any kind of certification.

Plans made for food production and distribution in liberated areas: Recommendations for implementing the joint United States-United Kingdom policy for assuring the production and equitable distribution of food in liberated areas of Europe were recently submitted to the Liberated Areas Committee. A considerable number of handbooks on the agriculture of enemy occupied countries now have been completed and several are nearing completion. They are primarily for the use of Allied military governments in liberated areas. The Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations is working in close collaboration with other experts of the United Nations in an attempt to assure and maintain at the highest possible efficiency the distribution and utilization of the available food resources of the world.

REA allotments totaled $33,666,888 in 1944: During the fiscal year 1944, REA allotted $33,666,888 for loans to 360 borrowers in 41 states and the territory of Alaska. Approximately two-thirds of this amount was to finance farm connections and facilities under the WPB regulations which authorize connections to existing rural power lines of farms able to utilize electrical equipment in livestock, dairy, and poultry production. Repayments continue to exceed the amounts due by a wide margin, and delinquencies are less than one-half of 1 percent of the amount due.

Repayments on FCA loans increased: Repayments of principal on Federal land bank loans during fiscal year 1944 amounted to $294,522,761. Payments on Land Bank Commissioner loans were $122,313,500. Thus, total principal repayments in 1944 totaled $416,836,261. This compares with the total of $384,087,072 in fiscal year 1943. During the past fiscal year, 157,489 land bank and Land Bank Commissioner loans were paid in full, as compared with 139,783 during fiscal year 1943. That the collections of principal are far in excess of new loans made is shown by the statement of outstanding land bank and Land Bank Commissioner loans as of the end of the last three fiscal years, as follows:

Date	Outstanding Loans	
	Land Bank	Land Bank Commissioner
June 30, 1942	$1,705,805,529	$567,745,303
June 30, 1943	1,489,449,958	463,257,083
June 30, 1944	[illegible]	[illegible]

VIII. WAR FINANCES

Expenditures

Total expenditures for war purposes in August were $7.8 billion, or at an annual rate of $90.1 billion.

	June	July	August
	(Billions)		
Monthly rate	$8.0	$7.4	$7.8
Adjusted annual rate	95.7	88.2	90.1

Appropriations

Appropriations, other Congressional authorizations, and commitments of Government corporations for war purposes increased $300 million in August to a total of $399.8 billion. Net expenditures against this amounted to $215 billion.

Appropriations and Expenditures, F.Y. 1941 Thru August 1944
(Billions)

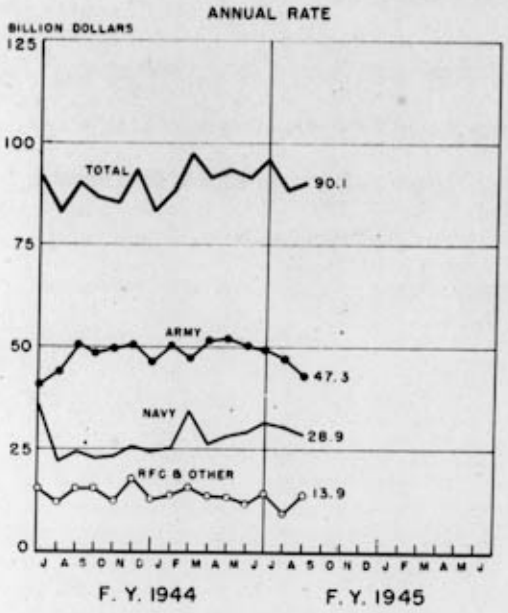
	Appropriations & Authorizations				Expenditures
	F.Y. 1941 Through F.Y. 1943	F.Y. 1944	F.Y. 1945	Total	F.Y. 1941 Through August 1944
War Department	$126.7	$59.0	$15.4	$201.1	$117.4
Navy Department	47.5	29.8	29.1	106.4	63.4
Maritime Commission	11.0	-0.1	5.7	16.6	8.1
Govt. Corpns. (commit.)*	19.9	4.3	0.6	24.8	8.8
Other	32.7	4.1	5.5	42.3	17.3
Est. approp. required beyond F.Y. 1945 for completion of Navy	—	—	—	8.6	—
Total	$237.8	$97.1	$56.3	$399.8	$215.0

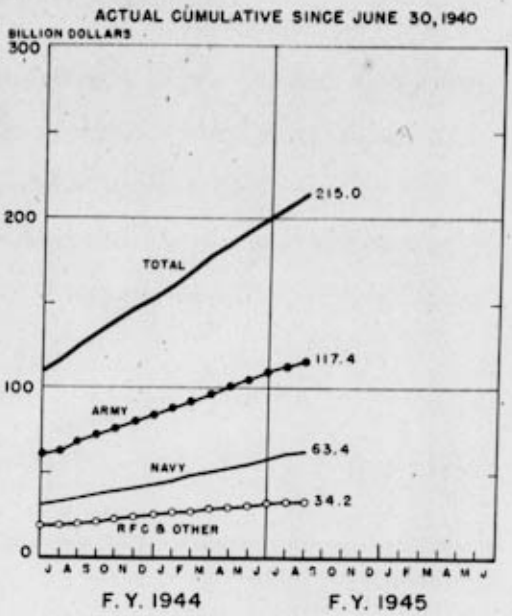
*Commitments do not reflect receipts (rents--repayments and sales) totaling $7.2 billion.

CHART II

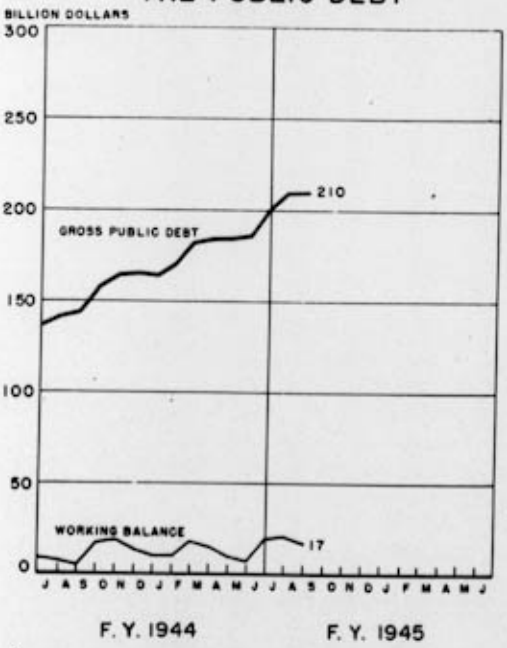
RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES AND PUBLIC DEBT*

WAR EXPENDITURES

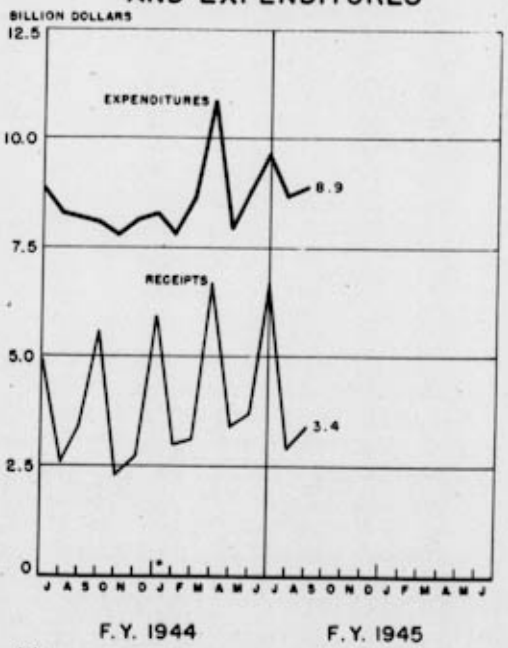




THE PUBLIC DEBT



TREASURY RECEIPTS** AND EXPENDITURES



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

**EXCLUDES PUBLIC DEBT ACCOUNTS

IX. ECONOMIC STABILIZATION

In the first year after defeat of Germany, if hostilities with Japan continue, the processes of reconversion will get under way while the economy is still operating under many of the restraints imposed by the war. The most urgent problem will doubtless be to organize the available manpower, raw materials, plant, and facilities to secure as much civilian production as possible.

Production

A 40 percent reduction in war production is expected to follow the end of the war in Europe even if the war in the Pacific were to continue for another year. Resumption of civilian production will be facilitated by liquid position of contractors; procedures for Government guarantees of termination loans on canceled war contracts have already been issued by the Director of Contract Settlement. Resumption of civilian production will probably not be seriously limited by raw material shortages, although automobile production may be affected by shortages of motors, tires, and gasoline, and construction by shortage of lumber.

Manpower

End of the war in Europe may bring within a year the release of over 4 million workers from munitions industries and an additional 1 to 2 million from other war production. Reemployment of discharged service men (perhaps 2 million in number) and war workers will require substantial reconversion in munitions industries as well as expansion in other industries. Curtailment of overtime work will probably facilitate reabsorption of workers.

Prices and Wages

Elimination of overtime work at premium wages except in essential war industries and in tight labor-market areas may contribute at the end of the European war to a decline in earnings. At the same time, some increase in prices may have to be allowed for many consumer durables not now being produced, such as automobiles, radios, and refrigerators. Maintenance of existing wage control standards will probably become increasingly difficult; the cut in overtime premium wages may permit a moderate increase in straight-time wage rates without increasing costs.

X. MANPOWER

There was a further seasonal increase of three-quarters of a million in the civilian labor force in July, accompanied by an increase in the number of employed persons. No change is reported in the number unemployed. Wage-earner employment declined in durable goods manufacturing as war contracts were readjusted or completed. A Detroit survey indicates that large numbers of women recruited for war production expect to remain in the labor force after the war, although other evidence shows that many women released by cut-backs do not seek other employment. Average hours worked in manufacturing plants increased somewhat in June, but hourly average earnings remained constant. For the first time in several months, more factory workers were hired in June than were separated. Fewer strikes started in July than in June with fewer workers affected, although man-days lost as a result of strikes were comparable with the earlier month.

Labor Force and Employment

The civilian labor force showed a further seasonal increase of 780,000 persons in July from the June total. No change was reported in the number unemployed, and the number of persons in agricultural and non-agricultural employment increased by 780,000.

Civilian labor force estimates for July and June 1944 and July 1943 follow:

Employment Status	Persons 14 Years of Age and Over		
	July 1944	June 1944	July 1943
Civilian labor force	55,000,000	54,220,000	56,040,000
Employed	54,000,000	53,220,000	54,750,000
Unemployed	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,290,000

July normally marks the highest seasonal peak in the civilian labor force, largely because of the heavy demands of agriculture, which brings many non-workers into the labor force for a short time. For the first time, the number of women in the labor force exceeded 19 million, nearly 18.6 million of whom were employed. The increase in the number of male workers, 350,000, was substantially smaller than the June-July 1943 increase.

Wage-earner employment in manufacturing industries continued to decline, with 66,000 fewer workers reported for July. Durable goods plants showed a decline of almost 100,000 workers, but increases in non-durable goods plants—particularly food processing—reduced the over-all decline. Increased employment was also reported for finance, service, and miscellaneous industries, while government service and trade declined.

Both the airframe and the shipbuilding industries have passed their employment peak and now have fewer employees by 100,000 or more than during the 1943 peak. Foundries continue to be one of the most critical industries from the standpoint of manpower shortage.

Survey of Women Employed in Detroit Area

According to recent estimates of the Women's Bureau, nearly one-half of the 432,000 women employed in the Detroit area were not in the labor force before Pearl Harbor. Seventy percent of these recent entries into the labor market expect to remain after the close of hostilities. Some 85 percent of the women employed prior to Pearl Harbor expect to remain in the labor market. In other words, the survey shows that there will be approximately 337,000 women in the labor force in the Detroit area after the war, or 140,000 more than were in the labor force prior to Pearl Harbor. Most of the women are reported as satisfied with their present occupation, since only 15 percent desire a change. This minority is now employed principally in the service occupations. Of the 220,000 women employed in private establishments producing under war contracts, only 13,000 were employed in the same plants in 1941 and only 26,000 in manufacturing plants within the same area.

Follow-up on Workers Released from War Plants

Personal interviews with some 300 workers released as a result of production adjustments in the Chicago area during the first quarter of 1944 show that all of the male workers have remained in the labor force with less than 3 percent now unemployed. On the other hand, nearly one-third of the female workers released have retired, at least temporarily, from the labor force and are not now seeking employment. The great majority of the women retiring from the labor market have returned to domestic duties. For the most part, those workers who have secured new employment have remained in essential activity.

Manpower Shortages

The War Manpower Commission announced in August the tightening of the labor shortage classification in ten additional areas. Three new areas were added to the number in which acute labor shortages exist. Six were added to the number of areas in which labor stringencies exist, and one area was added to the number in which the labor supply substantially balances the demand. On the other hand, labor shortage classifications were loosened in three areas, and twelve were dropped from the classification list as no longer meeting basic requirements.

Hours and Earnings

Average weekly hours worked by factory workers increased from 45.3 in May to 45.5 in June as the result of increases in both durable and nondurable goods manufacturing. The longer average work week resulted in an increase in average weekly earnings to $46.28 in June in relation to $46.03 in May. In June, average hourly earnings continued practically unchanged at 101.08 cents per hour, and average weekly hours worked were 46.9 in durable goods manufacturing and 43.4 in nondurable goods.

Labor Turnover and Absenteeism

The average monthly separation rate for employees in manufacturing industries remained practically unchanged at 7.07 in June in relation to the 7.08 rate reported in May. Quit rates similarly remained practically unchanged at 5.38 in June and 5.27 in May. For the first time in several months, the accession rate of 7.53 was higher than the separation rate for June. The highest separation rates were reported for aluminum and magnesium smelting and refining, shipbuilding, and small arms ammunition.

Absence rates in selected war industries fell slightly to 6.1 in June in relation to the 6.3 rate reported in May. Relatively small changes were reported by most industries.

Strikes

Strike activity in July was a little less than in June, with 470 strikes reported, involving 145,000 workers and 680,000 man-days lost. The June figures show 500 strikes, involving 155,000 workers and 680,000 man-days lost.

The War Labor Disputes Act had been in effect one year on June 25, 1944. During this time the National Labor Relations Board, under terms of the Act, conducted 230 strike ballots, in 203 of which the workers voted to strike and in 27 they voted against striking. Only 64 strikes, involving 41,718 workers, actually occurred following strike ballots conducted by the NLRB. These strikes amounted to 1.4 percent of all strikes which occurred during the period, and the 41,718 workers involved constituted 2.4 percent of the total number of workers involved in all strikes.

XI. ADMINISTRATIVE DEVELOPMENTS

The most important administrative development during August was the progress in setting up the program for partial reconversion of industry to production of non-war goods.

War Production Board

Changes in top personnel constituted the major administrative event in WPB during August. Operations within the organization had long been severely handicapped by the cleavage between the Chairman and the Executive Vice Chairman. The immediate prospects were that the personnel changes would result in a more unified leadership of the organization without any serious disturbance of detailed operations.

In spite of the turmoil at the top levels of the organization, the professional staff continued to make progress on reconversion policy. By the end of the month, lines of policy which had been under staff development and discussion for months were approaching final form. As it became apparent that the V-E Day cutback would be much larger and more rapid than had earlier been expected, it became clear that the industrial controls which would have to be retained would be much less extensive than had earlier been predicted. However, WPB planning was somewhat hampered by the lack of firm decision on the probable effects of V-E Day on Navy and Maritime programs.

Negotiations were completed for the elimination of the position of Rubber Director by the modification of the Executive Order dealing with the rubber program. The major part of the functions of the Office of Rubber Director were to be carried on as a part of the War Production Board in the same manner as all industries are dealt with.

Office of Price Administration

The OPA developed and announced a five-point program dealing generally with price, rationing, and rent controls during the reconversion period. The announcement was occasioned by inquiries growing out of the recent WPB spot authorization order permitting the resumption of civilian production under certain conditions. While this announcement answered most of the current questions being directed to the OPA, it was recognized that serious problems on price policy in the period following the German defeat remained to be resolved. OPA was devoting considerable study to this problem, and a policy should be in readiness within a few weeks.

Supplementary Order #94, establishing maximum price policies for surplus property sales, was issued after several months of interagency negotiation. The delay was due in large part to the failure to establish effective representation of the OPA in the SWPA and to the absence of any general leadership to resolve the differences which developed between the OPA and the disposal agencies. The issuance of the order was expected to give the disposal agencies rough guides as to current values of surplus property and to prevent the demoralization of the market through excessive mark-ups by dealers in surplus property.

Procedures for the issuance of commercial transport rations were simplified as a result of a study undertaken by the Budget Bureau in cooperation with the OPA and the ODT. It was found that the ODT would be able to abolish 49 of its present 142 district offices, commercial transport applicants would receive considerably improved service, and responsibility for determinations would be more clearly fixed. No increases in personnel will be required for the OPA.

Steps were undertaken by the OPA to comply with the provisions of the Stabilization Extension Act of 1944. A board of review was established to hear protests challenging the validity of OPA regulations. Amendments were made to rent regulations in order to permit adjustments provided under the Act, and other changes and regulations required by the law were completed. These amendments will require a considerably larger staff for the OPA; an interim increase in personnel ceiling of 1,500 positions was approved by the Budget Bureau. Eventually, it is expected that these amendments may require several thousand additional positions, although the full effect will not be known until the deficiency appropriation is submitted to Congress later this year.

Office of Defense Transportation

ODT and OPA reached full agreement with regard to a reassignment of responsibilities for rationing gasoline to commercial vehicles. The plan agreed upon differed in some respects from the recommendations suggested by Budget Bureau staff, but for the most part the objectives of the original proposals will be realized. The net result will be to reduce the role of ODT in rationing gasoline. In line with this agreement, there was in prospect a substantial curtailment of the ODT field force and a realignment of offices to make them coincide with the OPA system of district offices.

ODT reports indicated that approximately 5,000 over-the-road trucks, 800 busses, and 700 tank trucks were out of service because of inability to obtain heavy-duty tires. The operators had exhausted all reserve supplies.

The railroads were experiencing difficulty in handling the heavy grain crop, and a car shortage for this particular traffic was expected.

State Department

The Department has not yet organized the Division of Administrative Management provided for under the Reorganization of last January. Thus, after more than seven months there is still lacking any central staff competent and responsible for putting the reorganization into effective operation. Consequences of this situation have been repeatedly noted in this report. There was no evidence of a new orientation in work habits, which the January reorganization was supposed to achieve.

UNRRA

In a Report of the Director General prepared for the Second Session of the UNRRA Council opening in Montreal on September 15 and circulated to member countries during August, Mr. Lehman made note of two serious problems confronting the organization. The first involved finances: UNRRA was not yet able to learn with any real accuracy either what total funds it will have at its disposal from all nations or what moneys it will need to meet the claims which will be made upon it for assistance. The second related to supplies: UNRRA was not successful in securing from the Combined Boards more than a small part of the allocations it had requested. While this did not necessarily mean that adequate supplies will not be available when needed, it did leave UNRRA without assurance on this point.

Some progress was made during the month in reaching agreement between UNRRA and the Combined Food Board with regard to their working relations. The document was not, however, ready for signature by the end of the month.

Foreign Economic Administration

After some months of relative inactivity, the FEA Administrator seemed to be ready to prepare for handling the disposal of surplus war property abroad. An officer in charge of surplus property was appointed and a general plan of organization seemed to be approved, although much work was yet required on details. The agency was still moving slowly.

Interagency Communications Committee

Under State Department leadership, interagency agreement was reached on the issuance of a tri-weekly report of economic information to representatives of State Department and other agencies abroad. The report will contain information from Combined Production and Resources Board, Combined Raw Materials Board, Agriculture, Commerce, State, Treasury, FEA, PAW, WFA, WPB, and WSA. The report is the most serious attempt in the history of this Government to keep foreign missions currently informed of economic developments.