

# TALKING POINTS

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## THE UNITED NATIONS IN ACTION

Eighteen months ago the United Nations came into being; the bonds which held them together were no more than frail auguries of common action. When United Nations Day was celebrated for the first time in June, 1942, the bonds had been strengthened, but still not put to the test. Now on United Nations Day 1943 the unity pledged in words has been translated into action. The promise of co-operation between thirty-two sovereign states has become real.

Inevitably geography prevents complete co-ordination of activities of thirty-two nations. Their co-operation must be in a series of groups, rather than as one whole. And at the centre of these groups stands Great Britain in the role of liaison between the old world and the new.

### THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING PEOPLES.

Into the framework of co-operation between Great Britain and the Dominions has come the United States of America. In combined economic machinery which has been set up, Great Britain and the United States play the chief parts, in some cases Great Britain acting for the Dominions after prior consultation, while in others the Dominions negotiate separately with the United States.

Five Boards constitute the backbone of the combined economic machinery. The **Combined Production and Resources Board** has as its function to combine the production programmes of the United States and the United Kingdom into a single integrated programme. The **Combined Munitions Assignments Board** then deals with the supply of products to different theatres of war according to strategic needs. The **Combined Raw Materials Board** plans the best use of raw

materials available to Great Britain and the United States. The **Combined Shipping Adjustment Board** co-ordinates the activities of the common pool formed by British and United States shipping. The **Combined Food Board's** function is to co-ordinate and plan utilisation of the food resources of the United Nations, the entire food resources of Britain and the United States being considered as a common pool.

All Combined Boards confer with representatives of Russia, China, and the other United Nations.

### GREAT BRITAIN AND THE U.S.S.R.

A year ago the treaty of alliance between the United Kingdom and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was signed in London. A milestone in the history of European and world relations, it laid the foundation on which growing mutual understanding is being built. Remaining in force for twenty years it likewise looks ahead to co-operation in peace as in war,



the two nations agreeing to "work together in close and friendly collaboration for the re-establishment of peace, for the organisation of security and economic prosperity in Europe."

**THE PACIFIC POWERS.** The Pacific War Council which sits in London and Washington, and on which are represented Great Britain and the United States, Australia, New Zealand, India, China, and the Netherlands. While not an executive body it is an organ of co-operation insofar as it makes known the wishes, suggestions and ideas of the governments concerned in the Pacific war to Chiefs of Staffs and Committees.

**THE UNITED NATIONS OF EUROPE.** For three years Britain has been the base of operations of exiled European governments. Their activities are co-ordinated in many different ways, notably by meeting of Allied Governments in London, where postwar plans have been discussed.

**THE UNITED NATIONS OF THE AMERICAS.** The war has strengthened the bonds between the peoples of the American continents. As early as June 1941 the United States and Canada set up joint economic committees to co-ordinate

**CONCERTED PLANNING: UNIFIED COMMAND.** In meetings of leaders of the United Nations, in conferences between Mr. Churchill, President Roosevelt, and Marshal Stalin, there has been created a new and more personal relationship between nation and nation. These meetings are forerunners of united action in the field under unified command.

In Africa the co-operation in action of the United Nations has been sealed by Victory. It is an earnest of greater victories through unity in peace as in war.

## THE DISUNITED NATIONS

"Germany, Italy, and their European allies, are happy in fighting this war."

This sentence occurs in the preface written by Ribbentrop to the "Handbook of Europe" (by DNB, April 28th, 1943). It is one of the blackest lies that has ever been put out even by that misguided man. Germany herself is not very happy fighting at the present moment, but her allies are even more miserably depressed. They realise quite well they have backed the wrong horse.

the combined resources of the two countries for war production. Eleven members of the Pan-American Union who are also among the United Nations have set up several joint boards, the chief among them the Inter-American Defence Board.

**RECIPROCAL AID IN ACTION.** More impressive than all the machinery of co-operation which has been set in motion is the ever-increasing flow of reciprocal aid which has been stimulated. The principle of Lease-Lend originated by the United States has become the cornerstone of the United Nations co-operation. Thirty-five countries and the British Empire have been declared vital to the defence of the United States, and therefore eligible for lease-lend.

Great Britain's reciprocal aid to the United States, after small beginnings has reached dimensions equal to those of lease-lend from the United States to Britain.

Under reciprocal aid and lease-lend Russia is receiving ever-increasing quantities of materials of war. Geographical difficulties alone stand in the way of China receiving larger quantities of material than at the moment.

**DISCONTENTED PEOPLES:** The peoples of all the satellite states are seething with discontent. Their governments have, however, committed themselves so deeply to their disastrous policy they are unable to extricate themselves from their unpleasant position. They know quite well that the Allies will accept no terms barring unconditional surrender, and that it will be short shrift for pro-German quislings who came in on Hitler's side hoping to make hay while the sun shone.

**ITALY?** The outstanding example of this dilemma is, of course, Italy, and the Fascist government protests over and over again the indissolubility of the Axis and the strength of the bonds that bind Italy to Germany. What is really going on behind the scenes it is impossible to assess. All that is obvious is that the Government and the Party are becoming more and more unpopular. The Party has had to issue a decree forcing members to wear their badges and declaring those who don't do so are "failing in political courage." (Rome Radio, May 29th, 1943). Recently people in Florence have been sentenced to banishment for distributing "defeatist poetry". (Trans-ocean, June 3rd, 1943).

**STATE OF EMERGENCY IN BULGARIA.** The signs of the times are to be read large in Bulgaria. Collaborationist after collaborationist has lately been murdered, including the former Minister of War, the president of the Foreign Affairs Committee, the police officer in charge of combating illegal activities, and the former Chief of Police. All four were prominent pro-Germans. Furthermore, the police found it necessary to carry out a raid which lasted two days in Sofia, wherein everyone was confined to the house, all traffic stopped, and every block of houses was systematically combed for suspects.

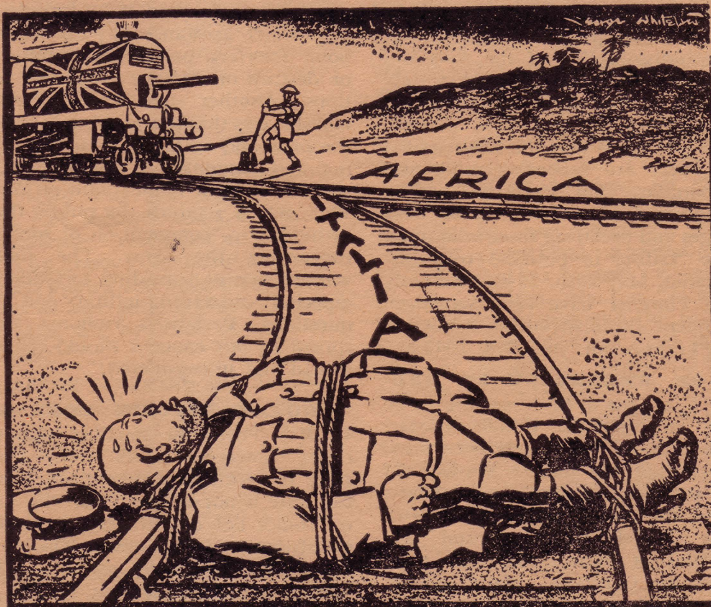
**PROHIBITIONS IN ROUMANIA.** Authorities obviously fear similar outbreaks in Roumania. The Bucharest Military Command recently found it necessary to issue a new set of decrees with penalties ranging from six months penal servitude to death. It seems strange that a bel-

ligerent nation in the fourth year of war should find it necessary to forbid its people to give assistance to parachutists, harbour deserters, possess radio transmitters, or destroy or damage telephone installations. Another sign of Roumania's low morale are the continual adjurations in the press and on the radio to avoid gossiping and rumour. A typical example is the Roumanian home radio on May 8th, 1943, which reminds the public that it is forbidden to "comment on or spread news concerning the army. The public is warned against spreading forbidden news, especially concerning military and political questions. Perfidious rumours and lies spread by our enemies should remain unspread and unconsidered."

**HUNGARY REFUSES MORE SACRIFICE.** The most startling sign of the times, however, comes from Hungary. Here the acknowledgement that the satellite state is not satisfied with the Axis set-up comes not only from the people but also from the government. On May 29th Prime Minister Kally stated: "The supreme aim of Hungarian foreign policy is to safeguard the existence of the Hungarian state. Sacrifices should only serve the interest of the nation. Hungary can therefore only bear sacrifices in proportion to her strength." He further made it clear that certain of these sacrifices are to cease in the future. The Second Hungarian Army he announced had returned from the Russian front and was being demobilised. Kally then added that "it was not during my term of office that it was decided Hungary should take part in the Russian campaign."

**THE RESULT OF GERMANY'S POLICY.** Yes, Germany's allies would all get out from under if they could. Not only because they feel they are on the losing side, but also because for four long years they have been bled white to help Germany. Their soldiers have fought on the Eastern front, their workers have been taken to work in Germany, their food has gone to feed the 'herrenvolk'. Germany has been the dominating power in Europe all this time. This is the result of her policy. Because she has gone out to grab all she can get to make herself strong at the expense of others, she is loathed and detested not only by the countries she has conquered, but by those who originally played her game in the hope that they might benefit from it in the end.





#### TRAIN'S IN SIGHT

("Real difficulties will begin when fighting is switched from Africa to Europe.")  
—*London Daily Herald.*



#### WAR BOOKS

**COMBINED OPERATIONS:** the official story of the Commandos. Among the raids narrated in detail are a series of attacks on Norway, an assault on Southern Italy, a Libyan foray, the storming of Diego Suarez and Madagascar, the famous raid on St. Nazaire, the Dieppe attack. Illustrated with official photographs and maps. Price — \$2.00 postpaid.

**COASTAL COMMAND,** the British Air Ministry's account of the part played by Coastal Command in the Battle of the Seas, 1939-1942. A chronicle of contemporary action, thrillingly and efficiently carried on. It is a story of triumphs and setbacks, of courage and hardihood, and of gratifying achievement. Profusely illustrated with fine photographs. Price \$1.50 postpaid.

The above two books are written by Hilary A. St. George Saunders. Many of our readers no doubt heard this author's very fine broadcast address on June 7th, and also read of him in the press. These books are an outstanding addition to any library.

All the above now available at our office.

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