

The stream of machines continues to flow. If any further evidence were needed of the growth of the British and allied air power, it is to be found in aggressive activity in the Atlantic ocean, in the North Sea and in the Mediterranean. It is to be found too in the steady defensive activity that every day pursues its revenges against those who scatter indiscriminate murder and destruction upon British soil from the British air.

Everywhere in sky warfare a situation, not yet mastered, nevertheless improves from day to day.

On the sea the curve of loss has recently shown a decline. The shipping losses for May were considerably lower than they were for April. The attack of the *Bismarck* upon H.M.S. *Hood* was followed by relentless pursuit and swift retribution. The reality of British sea power remains. The catalogue of the heavy losses sustained by enemy shipping proves that, if regard is paid to the comparative available resources of tonnage, targets and striking power, the balance of effective destruction is not tilted as heavily as might appear upon the side of Germany and Italy.

Most heartening of all in the present situation is the attitude of the United States. The promises of President Roosevelt are not only being kept, they are being enlarged. The announcement by the President on April 29 that United States warships would be sent wherever the needs of hemispheric defence required their presence; the speeches of Mr. Stimson and Mr. Knox early in May; the passage by the congress of the bill authorizing the seizure of foreign vessels in United States waters; all these were encouraging signs of stiffening opinion. But the decisive point was reached by the President in his broadcast on May 27, when he made it plain that the United States would take whatever steps were necessary to ensure the delivery of American supplies to Britain.

Mr. Roosevelt did not minimize the seriousness of the battle of the Atlantic. His statement that British shipping losses far exceeded the present combined shipbuilding capacity of Britain and the United States marks a thoroughly realistic facing of the facts.

This continent is rapidly becoming not only the arsenal of democracy, but the shipyard of the freedom of the seas. Canada has mobilized all possible resources of men, material and suitable location to build ships. American and Canadian construction have begun the race against destruction. Every ship added to the Canadian navy helps to relieve the tremendous burden so gallantly borne by the British navy. Every new American warship, every new Canadian warship, helps the British