

AMERICAN NEWSPAPER COMMENT

The New York Times states today:-

The United States, Great Britain and Soviet Russia, as the nucleus of the United Nations, will meet in conference in Moscow this week to lay plans for the final defeat of their common enemy and to explore the ground for the foundations of the post-war world. There have been many conferences during this war, at which plans were worked out for that mutual support in military operations which saved each of them from separate defeat and turned the tide against the would-be world conquerors. But this is the first conference among the three of them; and though even it is only a preliminary meeting to pave the way for a conference between the heads of the three governments, it is still the most crucial thus far in the war....

The outlook for the conference is auspicious. The armies of the United Nations are advancing on all fronts and the enemy is being beaten on land, on the sea and in the air. The enemy coalition has been broken. Italy, an original Axis partner has declared war against Germany. And the rest of the European nations are making re-adjustments to prospective Allied victory, which might turn into a landslide that could bury Hitler....

The conquered nations are stirring with revolt, and all the Axis satellites can be counted upon to take the first safe opportunity to leave Hitler's sinking ship. Moreover through the Atlantic Charter the three powers are already agreed on principles. The resolutions adopted by the House and prepared in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee are evidence of America's willingness to join other nations in a sure and constructive peace. Meanwhile, Russia's participation in various Allied commissions, above all her joint acceptance of the Royal Italian Government as a co-belligerent pledged to the establishment of a democratic rule in conformity with the will of the Italian people after the war, is an indication that she is moving in the same direction.

There are important issues which remain to be settled.... but they are not insoluble if the three powers continue to co-operate in good faith, as they have heretofore, and if they remain mindful of the consequences of disagreement.

THE AIR WAR

Today's New York Herald Tribune says:-

Somewhere in the recesses of the High Commands, Allied and German, the progress of the air war is being tallied accurately.

A great and momentous experiment in warfare is being conducted in the air over Europe - in great battles of hundreds of planes, spreading over vast areas. No fixed ratio of bomber loss, no ratio between American and German planes downed, can truly establish the effectiveness of the war in the air. If, as General Lemay predicted in England on Friday, German industry can be destroyed by Spring, such a victory would be worth great sacrifices; it would be the major decision in the war. Even short of that, the progressive crippling of German war potential and German morale would pay tremendous dividends. And the toll of German fighters is already having its effect on every European front.

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