

How The U.S. Saved The World During The Last 12 Months

Great Outpouring of Help To War-Wrecked Regions Balked Civilization Collapse

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Times Special Writer

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—This is the story of how the United States saved the world during the last 12 months.

The American people kept whole nations alive. They prevented civilization from collapsing into chaos and barbarism throughout most of the earth.

It was the greatest outpouring of help by one people to others that history has ever known.

This is the story of how America, in helping others, also helped itself.

People often say that one more war would destroy civilization. World war II did that—and the danger is not over yet.

At least the modern world has a good chance to survive now, thanks to the United States.

The American people have been able to produce things on a staggering scale, and to get those things to the hundreds of millions of human beings who were dying for lack of them.

Europe Like Charnel House
When world war II ended, 19 countries lay prostrate and dying. The peoples of these countries numbered almost a billion—approximately half of the human race.

Europe was like a charnel house. So was a large part of Asia.

Tens of millions were gaunt with hunger and disease. They ached with cold, crawled with vermin and shook with fever.

The world had slaughtered almost 14 million of its best men—and women—in uniform, and wounded almost 31 million more.

Another 27 million were missing or prisoners of war.

Total civilian casualties were probably at least as high as those in the armed forces. Six million civilians were killed in Poland alone.

The war had driven 77 million human beings into alien areas.

800 Million Faced Starvation

Ten of thousands of children had been so completely lost that they did not even know who their parents were, where their homes had been, their own names or nationalities, the mother tongues they had spoken. Neither did anyone else know these things.

Whole nations were wearing their last threadbare clothes. Whole na-

tions had little or no fuel to keep them warm.

Starvation faced 800 million human beings when the war ended—two-fifths of the human race.

Without help, 300 million of these people would have received 900 calories a day.

This is roughly what the Nazis fed the prisoners in the Buchenwald concentration camp.

The other 500 million would have had approximately 1500 calories a day.

This is roughly one-half as much as the average American eats. It won't even keep people alive and well for long.

Large numbers of people in Holland were so far gone that they had to be given drugs so they could assimilate food.

In an inland village in Greece where relief deliveries fell 15 days behind schedule, one-fifth of the people were found to be living entirely on roots and weeds.

Very Near End of Modern World
More than one-fourth of all newborn babies were dying in Poland. More than one-half were dying in some other parts of Europe.

Twenty million children in Europe had tuberculosis, rickets and anemia because they had been hungry for so long.

Epidemics of typhus, typhoid, cholera, smallpox, bubonic plague, dysentery had broken out.

Tuberculosis, malaria and venereal disease were out of hand.

Over this desolation of what had been the proudest, the most powerful, the richest and the most civilized of peoples, there hung the stench of the unburied dead.

Over them hung moral collapse and despair.

It was very near being the end of the modern world.

Only one country could give the hitherto undreamed-of help necessary to save the world—the United States.

And America Gave

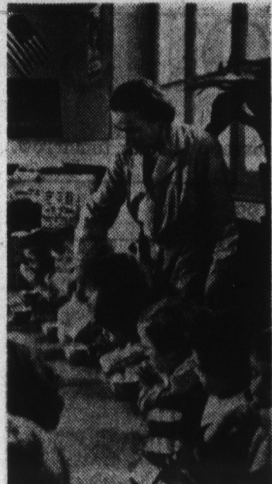
It did give it.

America has contributed more than \$5,500,000,000 to foreign relief. But money alone was useless. The world couldn't eat or wear dollar bills. Civilization was dying for the lack of goods and services.

Only the United States could provide these necessities.



"Tens of thousands of children had been so completely lost they did not even know who their parents were" . . . Here are two war waifs of Naples.



"Starvation faced 800 million human beings" . . . Here powdered milk from America formed the basis of drinks doled out to children in a French nursery.



"Money alone was useless" . . . Polish slave laborers in Germany get their ration of bread, made of American wheat, before starting their long trip home.

A great flood-tide of supplies poured into Europe and Asia from the United States—supplies by the millions of tons.

America is sending more than 16½ million tons of food abroad this year.

The total American contribution has been titanic.

There have been times this year when the United States shipped more wheat overseas in a month than it did in a whole year before the war. Every available port has been used.

Torrents of clothing have poured out of America, too.

UNRRA alone has shipped more than 279,000 tons of clothing, textiles and footwear from the United States.

The American Red Cross has distributed more than 41 million garments abroad.

The United States exported almost no coal to Europe before the war. This year, shipments have run between 1,400,000 and two million tons monthly.

Transport Facilities Swamped
American medical and sanitation supplies have flooded into Europe and Asia, too.

The Red Cross has sent whole hospital units, bacteriologicals and drugs, X-ray supplies, bedding and rubber sheets, equipment for producing penicillin, blood plasma, decontamination units.

This torrent of goods has sometimes swamped transport facilities. After the war, when ships became available, the flood-tide of goods they poured into Europe and Asia overwhelmed the transport facilities there.

America had to deliver the goods, as well as produce them.

So trucks and tires and parts and oil and gasoline are being sent overseas too.

With them are going whole mo-

tor vehicle repair shops, road-building machinery and locomotives and freight cars and track, spikes and ties and tugs and LST's and LSM's and LOM's.

UNRRA sent 18 fixed steel bridges to China this year.

Gives More Than All the Rest
America has given more to foreign relief than the rest of the world put together.

The United States has contributed 73 per cent of UNRRA funds. It has provided 71.6 per cent of the total tonnage of UNRRA supplies.

America has produced 73.1 per cent of all UNRRA food shipments; 68 per cent of all clothing, textiles and footwear; 69.7 per cent of all fuel, lubricants, petroleum and products, and 92.8 per cent of all

medical and sanitation supplies. Besides its enormous outright contributions to relief, the United States has made available to the rest of the world since before Pearl Harbor, or committed itself to do so, the staggering total of more than \$66,386,000,000 in various other forms such as lend-lease and foreign credit authorizations.

Only a part of this total has been or will be available at any one time. Some of it will be paid back with interest.

Almost \$70 Billion
But all of these items represent in the last analysis American goods and services which nobody else could make available to the world, which America did make available and without which the world would have perished.

These outlays plus American con-

tributions to foreign relief total almost 70 billion dollars.

The total U. S. national income reached this figure in only one previous year—1937.

The U. S. public debt didn't total 70 billion until 1943.

Total wages and salaries paid in private American industry didn't reach that figure until 1945.

So colossal is America's power to produce that the country has been able to pour out its wealth on this gigantic scale without suffering hardship at home.

Contributing to relief is not only a spontaneous act of humanitarian generosity. It is also a deliberate act of high policy.

Decent World Made Possible
The basic aim of American foreign policy is to create—or maintain—the kind of world society in which the United States can prosper and can preserve its free institutions and ways of life.

Without American relief revolutions would have swept a dozen countries, and Europe and Asia would have turned to Moscow for hope and direction.

Foreign relief—and America's other outlays—have made a decent world possible.

There is only a chance for America's kind of a world. But without American help there wouldn't even have been a chance.

U. S. policy on foreign relief and lending now enters a new phase. There will be no more huge outpourings of American treasure.

UNRRA goes out of business Dec. 31 in Europe and March 31 in the Far East.

New Chapter Begins
The world will need large-scale relief for another year. But the United States will no longer contribute three-fourths of it.

Also, America itself will distribute what it does contribute.

Washington thinks that the worst

needs which UNRRA was created to meet will be met by early next year.

Thus a great chapter in the history of U. S. foreign policy—and of civilization—ends. A new chapter begins.

But regardless of what the new chapter reveals, this remains true: The modern world has come within a hair's breadth of destroying itself.

One people alone have been able and willing to produce the things that the world had to have, or perish—the American people.

The American people have thereby given the modern world—including themselves—a chance to survive.

Suppose that, in another war, America should suffer so horribly—along with the others—that the American people would not be able to save everyone else, even if they wanted to do so?

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PLAN OPEN HOUSE FOR MAGICIANS

An open house will be held for all members of the International Brotherhood of Magicians at 8 p.m. tomorrow in the D. A. R. chapter house, 824 N. Pennsylvania st.

Clyde Crouse will speak of his experiences while entertaining G. I.'s in Africa, Italy, Germany and France.

Refreshments will be served.

PRIEST DIES WHILE HOLDING FUNERAL

BATTLE CREEK, Mich., Nov. 28 (U. P.).—The Rt. Rev. Magr. Maurice Walsh, pastor of St. Philip's Catholic church, warned in a funeral sermon yesterday that "no man can know when death may come."

Then he collapsed in the pulpit. Doctors pronounced him dead of a heart attack.

ICC HEARS DISPUTE ON RAILWAY TRUCKS

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28 (U. P.).

—Vice President Charles D. Young of the Pennsylvania railroad yesterday charged that "a deliberate effort is being made to deceive the public" as to the need for replacing the nation's fleet of railroad passenger cars.

Mr. Young said "people are being misled into believing that it would cost the public nothing to replace existing equipment entirely, and that such a thing is likely to happen." Renewal of the running gear of passenger cars and sleepers before it is necessary would be an "economic waste," he added.

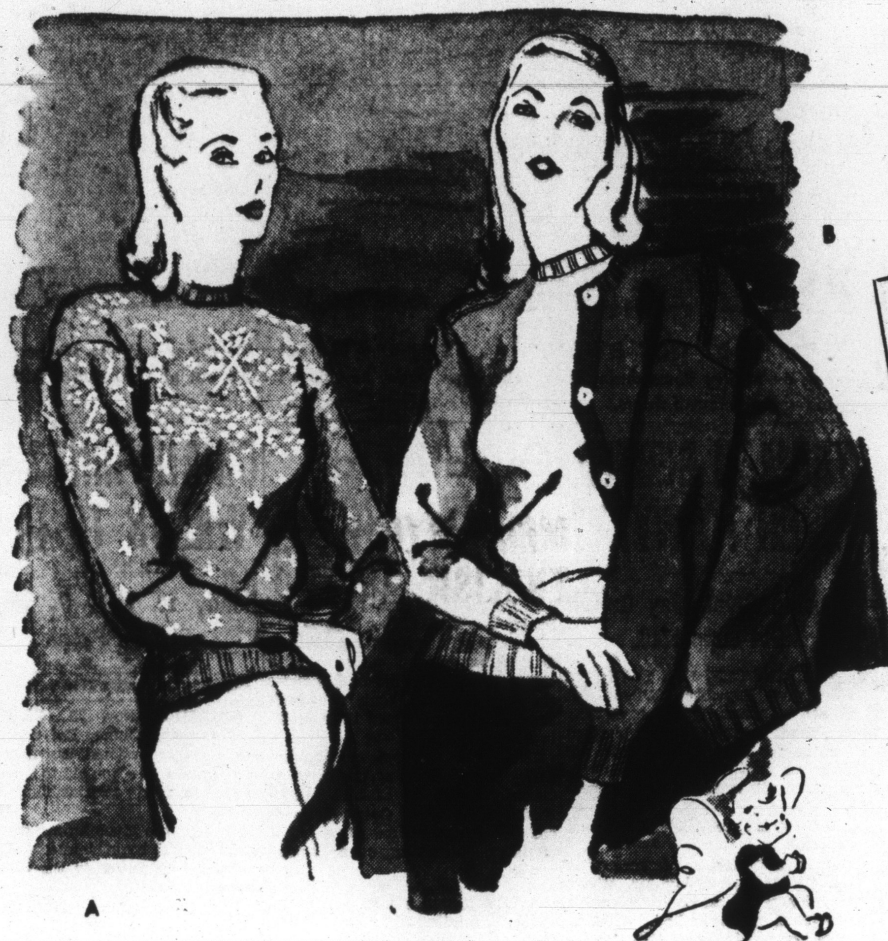
He read his statement at interstate commerce commission hearings on the joint application of 48 railroads to buy the Pullman sleeping car business.

The testimony by Mr. Young of the Pennsylvania was in answer to statements at last week's session by Robert R. Young, chairman of the board of the Chesapeake & Ohio and related lines. The C. & O. official argued that passenger equipment should be replaced every seven years.

Fortune Tellers Offering 'Proof'

SHANGHAI, Nov. 28 (U. P.).—Shanghai's 2500 blind fortune tellers and 700 others—their means of livelihood menaced by a city ban on "superstitious enterprises"—offered yesterday to take an examination to prove their prophecies are accurate.

The stunned bureau of social affairs presumably was wondering what subjects it should ask the seers to foretell in the event it honors their petition.



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