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U.S. NAVY AND CONVOYS

In September 1940, when the war was only twelve months old, the British Government handed over to the U.S.A. facilities for the establishment of Naval and Air bases in Newfoundland. These pictures, now released by the U.S. Navy Department, show the progress that has been made since then. Everything from aerodromes to Recreation Centres is operating at undisclosed bases along the coast. For the first time we see the U.S. Navy Air Patrol in action at this key point in the North Atlantic. To guard the great ocean convoys, an army of American airmen receive instructions at shore stations, and ferry pilots who fly the bigger aircraft direct to Britain know the place well. Newfoundland is the energetic headquarters of the men who guard the hundreds of thousands of tons of American war material sailing from the States.

Boundary limits of American protection to shipping (engaged in carrying war cargoes) have varied from time to time, in accordance with the political situation in Washington. Steadily United States influence has grown and widened until, thanks to the magnificent efforts of Mr. Roosevelt, America now lifts the brake on her Merchant Fleet and makes her most momentous decision of the war. Up to a short while ago Newfoundland was a terminus; now it is a half way house.

Communication between plane and shore is maintained by radio as giant seaplanes guard precious convoys outward bound. America may not be at war but she's in it, right up to the shores of Great Britain and Russia, with her armed merchantmen and protecting aircraft. It's the biggest help she has yet given to the Allied cause. An immensely powerful new weapon has come into our hands. Thanks America.