

NATIONAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

REPORT FOR 1943

PART I. POST-WAR PLAN AND PROGRAM

JANUARY 1943

NATIONAL RESOURCES PLANNING BOARD

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

To the Congress of the United States:

To assist the Congress in the development and consideration of appropriate legislation to achieve normal employment, to give assurance for all our people against common economic hazards, and to provide for the development of our National resources, I am transmitting herewith two reports of the National Resources Planning Board.

The first, "National Resources Development—Report for 1943" presents the results to date of the Board's work on post-war plans and a record of wartime planning activities. The Board proposes measures to meet the problems of the transition period from war to peace and for the longer range development of an expanding economy. It is appropriate that each year the immediate programs contained in the Budget of the United States should be considered by the Congress in the light of much longer range plans and programs. To facilitate such use of this report, I recommend that the report be printed, in accordance with past custom.

We can all agree on our objectives and in our common determination that work, fair pay and social security after the war is won must be firmly established for the people of the United States of America.

Men in the armed forces and all those engaged in the war effort rightly expect us to be considering their future welfare.

We fight today for security for our Nation and at the same time we can endeavor to give our citizens and their families security against attacks from without, and against fear of economic distress in old age, in poverty, sickness, involuntary unemployment and accidental injuries. We need to look forward to the accomplishment of these objectives—world peace, democratic society and a dynamic economy.

The second report transmitted herewith, on "Security, Work, and Relief Policies", has been developed over the last 3 years by the National Resources Planning Board, at my request, with the cooperation of the Federal agencies concerned and with the help of citizens with special knowledge and competence in this field. It reviews the accomplishments and experience of the last 10 years, pointing out some of the weaknesses of our security system, and suggesting ways of improving and strengthening the whole program.

Because of their basic importance to our national welfare during the war and after the war, it is my earnest hope that the Congress will give these matters full consideration during this session. We must not return to the inequities, insecurity, and fears of the past, but ought to move forward towards the promise of the future. When the Congress has agreed on procedures for the consideration of these problems, the Executive agencies responsible for the administration of programs in these fields are prepared to provide the Congress with all assistance within their power in devising appropriate ways and means to accomplish these high purposes.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *March 10, 1943.*

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
NATIONAL RESOURCES PLANNING BOARD
WASHINGTON, D. C.

December 16, 1942.

The PRESIDENT,
The White House.

MY DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

We have the honor to transmit herewith National Resources Development—Report for 1943. In accordance with your instruction, we have concentrated our activities during the last two years on “correlating plans and programs under consideration in many Federal, State, and private organizations for post-war full employment, security, and building America.”

In Part I of this document, Post-War Plan and Program, we have brought together some of those plans both for the transition period immediately following the cessation of hostilities and for the longer range period of post-war development of our expanding economy.

Part II—Wartime Planning for War and Post-War—presents the current planning activities for stabilization and development.

The decisions taken during the war will make possible or impossible the execution of the plans which we as a people make for the peace. We need to see more and more clearly the kind of world toward which we are headed in order to maintain the fighting spirit of our armed forces and the ardor of our industrial workers. We need to stir the imagination and aspirations of all people, free or temporarily enslaved, for new objectives, new goals which can be reached when the war is won. Some people work harder and fight harder when they are on the defensive or fighting for their very lives. Fortunately, we Americans fight best and produce more under the challenge of adventure and with the “offensive spirit.”

To win the peace we must call on those deeper resources of the spirit which provide patience and endurance through crisis and which light the future with vision and with hope.

Respectfully submitted.

FREDERIC A. DELANO, *Chairman*
CHARLES E. MERRIAM
GEORGE F. YANTIS

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NATIONAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT REPORT FOR 1943

Contents

PART I—POST-WAR PLAN AND PROGRAM

	Page
INTRODUCTION	
Findings and Recommendations	
I. Plans for Transition from War to Peace	9
A. Demobilization of Men from the Armed Forces and from War Industries	9
B. Demobilization of War Plants, Machines, and War Contracts	10
C. Demobilization of Wartime Economic Controls	11
II. Plans for Development of an Expanding Economy	13
A. Plans with Private Enterprise	13
B. Plans for Finance and Fiscal Policies	13
C. Plans for Improvement of Physical Facilities Urban, Transportation, Energy, Land, Water, Public Works	13
III. Plans for Services and Security	16
A. Plans for Development of Service Activities Health, Nutrition, Education, etc.	16
B. Plans for Underwriting Employment	17
C. Plans for Social Security	17
IV. Plans for Action by State and Local Governments and Regions	18
Supporting Technical Material	
I. Demobilization of Plant and Controls	20
II. Promotion of Free Enterprise	27
III. Urban Conservation and Development	31
IV. Rural Land Improvements	37
V. Valley Development	45
VI. Energy Resource Development	51
VII. Public Construction Program Planning	55
VIII. Equal Access to Health	60
IX. Equal Access to Education	68
X. Equal Access to Economic Security	75

PART II*—WARTIME PLANNING FOR WAR AND POST WAR

INTRODUCTION

- I. Wartime Planning for Resource Use
- II. Trends of Production, Employment, Prices and Consumption
- III. Progress in Public Works Planning
- IV. Regional, State, and Community Wartime Planning

*Part II is printed separately, as House Document 128, Part 2.

INTRODUCTION, FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

INTRODUCTION

Findings and Recommendations

- I. Plans for Transition from War to Peace
 - A. Demobilization of Men from the Armed Forces and from War Industries
 - B. Demobilization of War Plants, Machines, and War Contracts
 - C. Demobilization of Wartime Economic Controls
- II. Plans for Development of an Expanding Economy
 - A. Plans with Private Enterprise
 - B. Plans for Finance and Fiscal Policies
 - C. Plans for Improvement of Physical Facilities—Urban Transportation, Energy, Land, Water, Public Works
- III. Plans for Services and Security
 - A. Plans for Development of Service Activities—Health, Nutrition, Education, etc.
 - B. Plans for Underwriting Employment
 - C. Plans for Social Security
- IV. Plans for Action by State and Local Governments and Regions