

The was the most immediate transformation of daily life that the war broke out. The regulations insisted that no chink of light must be visible from flats, houses, offices, factories and shops.

People had to replace their bulbs by very low wattage ones and numerous accidents were reported in the home. They had to put thick curtains at their windows or paint them black.

Illuminated signs must be turned off for the duration of the war. Street lighting would be extinguished; and cars, trains buses, trams and trolley buses would be obliged to mask their headlights and to screen their interior lights. Cars bumpers and bicycle frames had to be painted white and people were encouraged to wear something white.

In the face of mounting public anger at the toll of deaths and injuries and the inhibition to people's everyday lives some relaxation were introduced.

From *Wartime Britain 1939-1945* by Juliet Gardiner, 2004

Qu'est ce que le "blackout"?

Quelles étaient les recommandations pour la maison ? dans la rue ?

Quelles étaient les conséquences ?

Food rationing began on 8 January 1940. The intention was that every member of the public would be able to obtain a fair share of the national food supply at a reasonable price. Britain, as primarily an industrial nation and urban country, was a net importer of food. As a matter of extreme urgency, land had to be turned over to growing crops such as corn and potatoes. By 1944 food production had risen 91% and in effect Britain was able to feed itself for approximately 160 days a year instead of only 120 days.

In September 1939 householders received *Growmore Bulletin n°1* to give amateur gardeners simple instructions on how to grow vegetables in their back garden or allotments.

Allotments were dug in public parks, private, gated squares, recreation grounds and football pitches, railways banks, seaside promenades and municipal flower beds.

From *Wartime Britain 1939-1945* by Juliet Gardiner, 2004

Quel était l'objectif du rationnement alimentaire ?

Qu'est ce que l'Angleterre a amélioré du fait de la guerre ?

Qu'est ce que le gouvernement a encouragé dans les foyers ?

'Dig for Plenty' indicates a recognition that victory was already assured and now a healthier future was possible. Previous campaigns had seen many gardens turned into allotments. Those who dug up half their lawn for vegetables had done it partly in response to the government campaign and partly because they feared rises in food prices. It was also a leisure interest. In 1944, the campaign no longer called for extra allotments and was directed almost entirely to greater efficiency in vegetable production.

Quels étaient les trois avantages de cultiver son propre jardin ?

..... of children, pregnant women, mothers with young children, the elderly and the infirm was organized. It would be the largest mass movement in British history.

“The scheme is an entirely voluntary one, but clearly the children will be much safer and happier away from the big cities where the danger will be greatest. There is room in the safe areas for these children; householders have volunteered to provide it. They have offered home were the children will be made welcome. The children will have their schoolteachers and other helpers and their schooling will continue. Do not hesitate to register your children. Of course it means the heartache to be separated from them, but quite sure they will be well looked after.” (Public Information leaflet n°3)

For some children it was the happiest days of their lives, others missed their homes and families almost unbearably. 10 to 15% were abused physically, sexually or emotionally. This measure was a failure because it was started too long before the actual bombings, it was expensive for the parents who missed their children and by 1940 about 60% of the evacuees had returned home.

From *Wartime Britain 1939-1945* by Juliet Gardiner, 2004

Qui était concerné par cette mesure?

Qui accompagnait et accueillait les enfants ?

Comment ont-ils vécu cette mesure ?

Pourquoi cette mesure a-t-elle échoué ?

Rumour and conjecture flew around. Concerned about public morale and possible defeatism, the government resolved to crack down on scaremongering and spreading rumours.

Proceedings were instituted against individuals for spreading ‘alarm and despondency’. At the insistence of Winston Churchill, the Ministry of Information promulgated a heavy-handed ‘silent column’ campaign in the press and on the radio.

Moreover, there also were anxieties about those who would be ready to lend a hand with the invasion, the so-called fifth columnists’, the ‘enemy in our midst’ who were ready and waiting to collaborate with the Germans.

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Quelles ont été les mesures prises ?

Pour quelle raison Churchill a-t-il insisté ?

Pourquoi demandait-on à la population d’être discrète ?

Housewives could participate in the battle. “The Minister of Aircraft is asking the women of Great Britain for everything made of aluminium, everything that they can possibly give to be made into aeroplanes, Spitfires and Hurricanes. Now you are going to be able to have a chance of doing something positive that will be of direct and vital help to our airmen. I am asking for the things that you use everyday, new and old, sound and broken, everything that’s made of aluminium.” (appeal on BBC radio). The response was instant and overwhelming, saucepans, kettles, dishes, colanders, zinc baths, metal hot-water bottles, clothes hangers, etc... were being handed to centres.

Another scheme was settled: an account was opened so that anybody could help pay for a Spitfire. The Spitfire Fund proved a public relation coup: almost every town and city in the British Isles set one up. Those who bought a Spitfire could have it named after their town, company, or any other legend they chose, in 4-inch-high-letters painted on to the fuselage.

From *Wartime Britain 1939-1945* by Juliet Gardiner, 2004

**Quels étaient les deux stratagèmes imaginés pour financer la construction des avions?
Comment ont-ils fonctionnés ?
Quels étaient les bénéfices obtenus par les participants ?**

In 1940 the Ministry of Agriculture had broadcasted an appeal to ensure food production. Many women volunteered. The objection to women in agriculture was that they would be unable to do the heavy work required by farm labouring, that they would cut men's low wage rates by being prepared to work for less than their male counterparts. Many land girls were treated well and had comfortable accommodation, plenty of food, friendly hosts and a relaxed atmosphere. By July 1943 there were 87,000 Land Girls. Much of the initial scepticism had faded: many farmers had grown to respect the Land Girls' competence, stamina, consciousness and willingness to learn.

From *Wartime Britain 1939-1945* by Juliet Gardiner, 2004

**Quels étaient les besoins du Ministère de l'Agriculture?
Qui a répondu à l'appel ?
Ces personnes ont-elles été bien reçues ?
Ce sentiment a-t-il persisté ?**