
Britain's peripheral strategy in WW2

❶ Cartoon by Illingworth, *The Daily Mail*, 4 November 1942:



❷ Churchill's priority list announced in a secret meeting of the British chiefs of staff on 19 October 1943:

Churchill decided not to publish that document in his history of the Second World War.

If we were in a position to decide the future strategy of the war, we should agree

1. To reinforce the Italian theatre to the full.
2. To enter the Balkans.
3. To hold our position in the Aegean Islands.
4. To build up our air forces and intensify our air attacks on Germany.
5. To encourage a steady assembly in this country of United States troops, which could not be employed in the Pacific owing to the shortage of shipping, with a view to taking advantage of the softening in the enemy's resistance due to our operations in other theatres, though this might not occur until after the spring of 1944.

National Archives, Cabinet Papers, Chiefs of staff archives, in David REYNOLDS, *In Command of History, Churchill fighting and writing the Second World War*, Random House, NY, 2005, p. 381.

➤ How do those documents exemplify the British strategy in WW2 ?