

THE DIAMOND.... As Precious In War As It Is In Peace

The diamond, world's most precious stone, is as valuable in time of war as it is in time of peace. Hardest known substance, it is vital in precision drilling. The stones are fitted to tools which true the precision instruments and emery wheels used in grinding gun bores, airplane and tank crankshafts, valves and gears. Diamond dusted tools also have numerous uses, such as grinding pistons, valve seats, artillery range finders, bombsights and navigation instruments. This series of photos illustrates one use of the diamond—as a stud bit for drills so powerful that they can penetrate any substance no matter how hard except a stratum of diamonds.

1) A collection of diamond drill bits and a few loose diamonds. The scales are used to weigh diamonds used in refurbishing a bit. In 1940 the United States purchased more than 1,676 pounds (3,801,834 carets, valued at \$10,885,664) of diamonds for use in war production. Most of these diamonds came from South Africa. (See other photos in this 3-picture set) K-T-X