

quarterly distribution of the non-defense, non-interest obligations of the Federal Government.⁷⁹

	Percent
1st quarter.....	28
2d quarter.....	18
3d quarter.....	25
4th quarter.....	29
Total.....	100

The above percentages have been applied in order to obtain a quarterly distribution of non-defense, non-interest obligations for the fiscal years 1951-1956. The results are contained in Table 13.

TABLE 13.—*Obligations incurred by the Federal Government, by quarters*

[Fiscal years; in billions of dollars]

Year and quarter	Defense	Interest	Other	Total
1951:				
1st.....	8.6	1.1	7.8	17.5
2d.....	8.7	1.3	5.0	15.0
3d.....	16.1	1.2	7.0	24.3
4th.....	16.3	2.0	8.1	26.3
Total.....	49.6	5.6	27.9	83.1
1952:				
1st.....	13.0	1.1	10.3	24.4
2d.....	13.0	1.7	6.6	21.3
3d.....	15.3	1.1	9.2	25.6
4th.....	20.6	2.0	10.7	33.3
Total.....	61.9	5.9	36.8	104.6
1953:				
1st.....	16.8	1.1	9.1	27.0
2d.....	10.4	1.9	5.9	18.2
3d.....	10.8	1.1	8.2	20.1
4th.....	8.5	2.4	9.4	20.3
Total.....	46.5	6.5	32.6	85.6
1954:				
1st.....	6.5	1.0	8.2	15.7
2d.....	6.0	1.8	5.3	13.1
3d.....	6.9	1.2	7.4	15.5
4th.....	10.5	2.4	8.5	21.4
Total.....	29.9	6.4	29.4	65.7
1955:				
1st.....	8.0	1.1	9.2	18.3
2d.....	8.7	1.9	5.9	16.5
3d.....	8.5	1.1	8.3	17.9
4th.....	10.1	2.3	9.6	22.0
Total.....	35.3	6.4	33.0	74.7
1956:				
1st.....	6.4	1.7	9.2	17.3
2d.....	9.4	1.7	5.9	17.0
3d.....	10.7	1.8	8.2	20.7
4th.....	14.0	1.7	9.6	25.3
Total.....	40.5	6.9	32.9	80.3

Source: Table 12; Office of the Comptroller of the Department of Defense, table dated August 26, 1953; Monthly Report on Status of Funds by Budget Category, June 30, 1956, p. 33; Treasury Bulletin, August issues, 1951-1956, p. 3.

Although different assumptions as to the precise quarterly distributions would have yielded different figures, the orders of magnitude and the direction of movement would be essentially similar. However, the important movements—both expansions and contractions—

⁷⁹ U.S. Treasury Department, *op. cit.*, issues for June 30, 1946-June 30, 1949.