

R.A.F. DAMAGE TO RENAULT PLANT AT PARIS — A plane taken on a reconnaissance flight by R.A.F. shows gutted, bombed buildings and workshops of Renault plant at Billancourt, suburban Paris, after a devastating R.A.F. bombing attack which "knocked out" plants producing war materials for the Nazis and killed several hundred persons. Radioed from London.

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Claims that the Netherlands East Indies had been totally conquered were fiercely challenged by the Netherlands government.

But at New Delhi the British announced today their forces were quitting Rangoon, capital of Burma. The official statement said: "Reports from Burma indicate that March 7 it was decided to withdraw our forces from Rangoon after carrying out essential demolitions."

Earlier Japanese headquarters at Tokyo had claimed the fall of Rangoon. The communiqué said Japanese army forces completed occupation of the important port at 10 a.m., Sunday after destroying the main defence forces in the neighborhood of the capital. The announcement also claimed Pegu, 40 miles north of Rangoon, was captured Saturday afternoon.

"With the fall of Rangoon," Imperial headquarters said, "the main objective of Japanese operations on the Burma front has been attained."

Old-Burma Road Already Useless

Rangoon was the port of entry for war material and other supplies transported through Burma and into China over the Burma road for the forces of Gen. Chiang Kai-shek. The Japanese advance into Burma from Thailand already had destroyed the usefulness of this supply line for the Chinese before Japanese land forces even were threatening the capture of Rangoon itself.

The end of the life line already had been anticipated some weeks ago in the plans of the United Nations and Gen. Chiang made a special trip to India in which arrangements for alternative supply routes through India to China were made.

Reports to London indicated the fight on the Burma front still centred on the Pegu district, 40 miles north of Rangoon, where British tanks shouldered the burden of the defensive stand ordered by Lt. Gen. Sir Harold Alexander.

New British Chief Leads in Burma

It was announced in New Delhi today that Gen. Alexander had succeeded to the Burma command in a March 5 displacement of Lt. Gen. T. J. Hutton as commanding general officer.

FIRST PICTURE

London, this is the a bridge hi

The Japanese we have cut the Rangoon railway, first leg abandoned supply China, but the attack were described as a dispatch from tralia, said the L. erior-General of t Hubertus Van Mook bers of the island council had arrived from Bandung. Van Mook said fallen, and that a fe naval personnel had Java.

At about the same Imperial headquar that 93,000 Nethe and 5,000 "Americ Australian had su conditionally "in t Surabaya and Band dered were descri enemy headquarters enemy forces" in tl resistance near the Java naval base at the mountain-rin headquarters at Ban

Berlin Admi

Nazi Wipe

Associated I -The Red army-hr enemy a powerful Kursk-Kharkov frc of Moscow, where villages have been the Moscow radio a day.

The Russians said fierce resistance ir where Berlin had c lier that the Germe

Final Bulletins

Sink 2 Jap Ships Disable 4 Others

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Navy announced this afternoon that U.S. submarines in the western Pacific had sunk a Japanese destroyer and naval tanker, and put out of action an aircraft carrier and three cruisers.

The submarine actions covered the week-ended March 6. They raised to 18 the total of Japanese vessels sunk by United States submarines and to 138 for the total of all types of enemy ships sunk by the army and navy in the western Pacific.

No Dutch Armistice

LONDON (CP) — The Netherlands government indicated tonight there would be no armistice with Japan, regardless of the outcome of last-ditch fighting in Java.

McGeer Gains

OTTAWA (CP) — Dr. F. W. McKinnon, physician for G. G. McGeer, Liberal M.P. for Vancouver-Burrard, said this afternoon his patient's condition was "very satisfactory."

Mr. McGeer underwent an operation for a kidney ailment here Saturday.

To End Blackouts?

LONDON (CP) — The Daily Express today linked its editorial demands for an offensive spirit with a suggestion that the blackout be lifted from the streets of Britain's cities.

The Evening Standard also asked that the blackout be lifted, on the grounds that "every hour of light will speed up production in this country."

Burmese Free to Act

BOMBAY (CP) — Sir Reginald Hugh Dorman-Smith, governor at Burma, gave Burmese officials freedom today to act on their own initiative — without consulting higher authority. "Act," he said in a broadcast, "provided our decision is one calculated to embarrass the enemy and contribute to our war effort."

280,000,000 Bushels At 90-Cent Price

OTTAWA (CP) — The initial wheat price of 90 cents a bushel, basis No. 1 northern at Fort Williams, will be payable on a total of 280,000,000 bushels in the crop year 1942-43, Trade Minister MacKinnon announced in the House of Commons this afternoon.

20 Parisians Slain

VICHY (AP) — The execution of 20 hostages in Paris in reprisal for the slaying of a German sentinel March 1 was announced today.

A statement from the office of Gen. Otto von Stuelpnagel, Nazi military administrator of occupied France, said the executions took place some time today before a German firing squad, and described those executed as "Communists and Jews."

Operate on Gustaf

STOCKHOLM (AP) — King Gustaf V of Sweden was operated on today for removal of a large bladder stone. The king's condition was "quite satisfactory," Prof. John Hellstrom said this evening.

Mission to India

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. advisory mission to India will be headed by Col. Louis Johnson, former assistant Secretary of War, the State Department announced this afternoon. The mission's function will be to explore the possibilities of American aid for India's war effort.

Zinc Frozen

OTTAWA (CP) — Canada, largest zinc exporter in the world, took steps today to curtail its civilian use under an order prohibiting all sales of virgin zinc, except by permit from Metals Controller G. C. Bateman.

5 Years for Tire Thieves

BOONVILLE, Mo. (AP) — Two men were sentenced to five years each in the state penitentiary today after pleading guilty to stealing tires and seven tubes from a filling station. They are William J. Lipscomb and Buck Parker. The tires and tubes, valued at \$189, were recovered.

Arsonist Hunted

VANCOUVER (CP) — City police and fire department officials today are investigating an attempt to set fire to a Japanese-owned garage and truck. A quantity of cord, soaked in some inflammable liquid, was found Sunday night burning in the garage owned by H. Sakamoto. A passerby put the flames out.

Lack of Jurymen Delays Assizes

Spring session of the Assize Court in Victoria was delayed a full hour today while Sheriff Duncan MacBride, on orders from Mr. Justice A. M. Manson, went out to look for talesmen.

"Take a policeman with you and sweep them up off the street if necessary," Mr. Justice Manson instructed the sheriff. Sheriff McBride returned one hour later with his panel of talesmen complete and the Assizes were opened shortly after 12 noon.

The circumstances arose when Crown Counsel W. Moresby, K.C., refused to prosecute the first case, a charge of perjury, because, he said, Defence Counsel Stuart Henderson might appeal a possible adverse verdict on the ground that the full panel of 48 talesmen from which to select a jury were not present.

Forty-eight talesmen were summoned but 20 were excused on grounds of sickness, old age and engagement in vital war work.

Sheriff McBride announced he had six or seven additional possible jurymen available but could not fill the complete panel of 48. When Prosecutor Moresby refused to proceed, Mr. Justice Mahson ordered the round-up of citizens and adjourned the court until they were found.

Plebiscite April 27

OTTAWA (CP) — Canadians will vote April 27 in the manpower plebiscite, State Secretary McLarty announced in the Commons this afternoon.

The date is considerably earlier than had been anticipated in the capital.

Mr. McLarty tabled an order-in-council passed under the Plebiscite Act.

In the plebiscite the government will seek release from its pledges against conscription for service overseas.

The date was decided finally at a cabinet meeting about noon today.

Three dates were known to

have been before the cabinet—May 4, May 11 and May 18—but there had been no speculation on a date as early as that announced by the minister.

Cost of the plebiscite has been estimated officially at \$1,500,000 if all plebiscite workers have to be paid. However, Prime Minister Mackenzie King has urged that as much voluntary assistance as possible be provided so the cost may be reduced materially.

Twenty-eight days before voting day, enumeration to compile voters' lists will begin. There will be only one enumerator in each polling sub-division, instead of two representing different candidates as in a general election.

B.C. 'Checks' Articles

Japanese Hand Over Cars, Radios on Mainland

VANCOUVER (CP) — The Pacific war reached out today to deprive Japanese residents of the lower mainland of British Columbia of luxuries they had come to take for granted in their western way of life.

Government regulations prohibiting ownership of automobiles, radios, cameras, guns and explosives by Japanese in the coastal defence zone came into effect regionally, and Japanese, whether Canadian-born or nationals, gave up these belongings to authorities in compliance with the order.

JAPS LINE UP

Scores of trucks and automobiles, and even motorcycles, were turned over to R.C.M.P. and a representative of the custodian of enemy alien property at Hastings Park racetrack. At the R.C.M.P. barracks, other Japanese lined up to hand over their radios, cameras, guns, ammunition and explosives.

New shiny trucks and automobiles recently purchased, and old cars with bent fenders, drove up to the Hastings Park track. While officials quickly took down the details, a sign painter painted a white number on each windshield.

The owner was handed a copy of the registration papers—all he will have to show ownership until after the war. Then he was told to drive across the soggy race track infield to where the cars were being parked temporarily until they can be stored.

BICYCLES AS SUBSTITUTES

One Japanese brought a bicycle in the back of his truck—to ride home on. Scores of white men hoping for a last-minute bargain deal with some Japanese car or truck owner were present, but no sales were reported and the legality of such transactions was questioned.

Many Japanese had sold their cars and other possessions liable to seizure during the past few weeks. Others had been reported making private deals whereby they turned over their cars to whites with the agreement that the vehicle be delivered to them when they are later settled outside the defence zone.

R.C.M.P. expected possibly 1,500 cars would be taken into custody here from all lower mainland

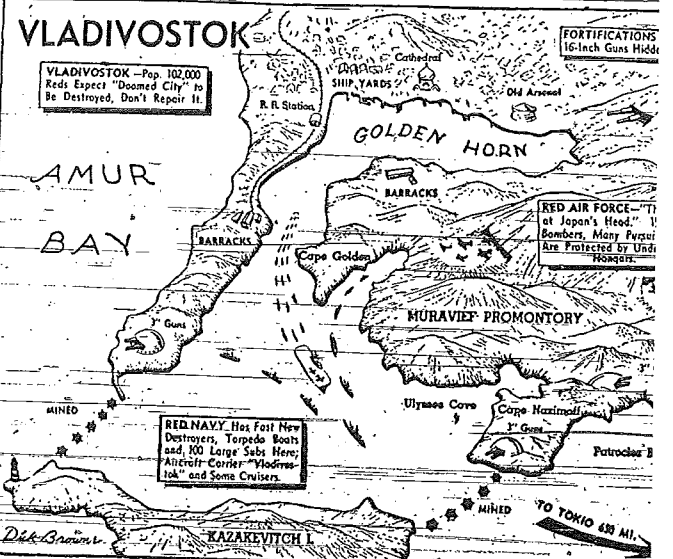
points. Japanese-owned cars on Vancouver Island will be taken over later at an island collection centre.

R.C.M.P. said present plans call only for the storing of the Japanese property. However, it was thought possible a disposal committee might be set up to sell the Japanese-owned cars, radios, cameras and other seized property, as was done in the case of Japanese-owned fishing boats which were immobilized at the start of the Pacific war.

(See Story "Camps Ready" Page 3).

Body Found in Creek

VANCOUVER (CP) — A body bearing papers giving the name of Charles Edward McCaw, Vancouver, was taken from False Creek today. Police have no report of McCaw as missing.



POWERFUL VLADIVOSTOK A 'LOADED PISTOL' AT JAPAN HEAD — One of the most powerfully fortified cities is Vladivostok, owned by the Russians, and in a strategic launch attacks on Japan. The Russians have converted it into a "loaded pistol pointing head," ready to fire when the Russians are ready. Hidden gun emplacements, secret air fields in the harbor make it almost impregnable to attack, while its position and facilities ideal for the launching of any attack on Japan by sea or air.