## Secret Details Of Jap Balloon **Bomb Disclosed**

Forests of British Columbia In Danger From Attack Of Incendiary Bombs

Widespread fires in the vast forest areas of British Columbia and extending onto the rich grain lands of the Prairie Provinces might have materialized, had the Japanese been able to continue the war and so maintained their incendiary bomb attacks by balloon on Canada, it has been disclosed by National Defence Headquarters.

The bombs, first of which were discovered at Minton, Sask., early last January, cascaded down in unknown quantities from the Pa-cific coastline to the Western Ontario border, and had their fiery loads not been smothered in the snowy vastness of the West, some rich areas would have fallen prey.

Disclosing some hitherto secret details of the Japanese device, the army said some of the bombs were of the high explosive type but any which were detonated fell in unopen country and no material dam-age or loss of life occurred.

Fragments of the balloons, which began falling on the United States and Canada last December, have been found as far south as Mexico and north to Alaska. In Canada to date 250 recoveries, from tiny parts to complete balloon, have been made, with the latest at Mc-Bride, B.C., August 4.

Danger For Years The army statement warned that it was possible the balloons recovered were only a fraction of those completing the lower stratosphere journey from Japan and there was danger for years to come of unsuspecting campers, trappers and tourists detonating unexploded anti-personnel bombs.

went too high, gas was automatically released from the balloon. The merchanism, with its battery and aneroid barometers, was so arranged to release the bombs after The self-destroying mechanism all ballast had been dropped.
On the main balloon there were
19 shroud lines, each 45 feet long,
gathered together at the lower end on many of the balloons did not function and the picric containers. designed to explode the paper bal-loon, can be just as dangerous as the unexploded bombs. and knotted to a steel ring. When completely filled, the balloon was capable of lifting, at its operation-

Although no definite clue has been unearthed as to the object of the attacks, it is believed the Japs eventually hoped to gain information on weather conditions, prevailing wind currents and behavior of their balloons for future systemized flights.
Research experts, inter-service

bomb disposal squads, air force personnel. Royal Canadian Mount-ed Police, civilian police, Indian

AIR HERO SETS UP-AIRLINE INTO ONTARIO TOURIST HAUNTS



His score 11 Nazis planes destroyed, a probable and seven damaged. Sqdn.-Ldr. Bert Houle, D.F.C., and Bar, Massey, Ont. is seen with his mother when he returned home. Now he's setting up an airline into the north country of Ontario.

ed the connection of the aneroid barometer to a battery. As long as

the balloon stayed at a proper height there was no need for any

The weapon was fitted with two

self-destroying devices. The stand-

ard Japanese picric acid demolition block was tied to a wooden block

in the inner ring with detonato and fuse through one of two holes. The other hole was fitted with a

60-foot length of safety fuse which

led to a flash charge fastened in a sleeve cemented to the balloon

ed, a contact detonated the bal-

All of the balloons found were of paper construction, except one of rubberized silk which carried

a radio transmitter in place of the usual incendiary cannister. This

gave rise to the belief that these

balloon armadas were accompan

Standard signals picked up by listening post from such transmit-ters permitted the exemy to plot the course of the balloons across the Pacific and procure valuable

nformation about prevailing

WHAT CAN YOU SPARE THAT THEY CAN WEAR? . . . Used clothing is wanted for over-seas relief . . . Take it to your local clothing collection dept.

oon and ballast release gear and



This sign marks Houle's airfield. He's only employing veteran R.C.A.F., personel and plans a feeder-line for T.C.A. as well as a service for tour-ists seeking the best hunting and fishing spots.

MEMORIAL TO JEWISH CANADIANS



As the result of a fund started by Jewish Canadians, during the European fighting, the sum of £500 has been raised for the purpose of establishing a "Canada Memorial Grove" in the Holy Land. This is the equivalent of 1,400 trees. On Sept. 5 a scroll commemorating this project was presented to Lieut.-Gen. the Hon. P. J. Montague, Chief of Staff, CMHQ, by Ptc. Lillian Meltzer, St. John, N.B., on behalf of Jewish members of the Navy, Army and Air Force. The group which participated in the ceremony are shown here, left to right: Capt. W. Epstein, Calgary Ptc. Meltzer; Lieut.-Gen. Montague; Col. J. Logan-Veneta, Chief Protestant Chaplain, of Ottawa; Col. M. O'Neill, Chief R. C. Chaplain, of Edmonton, and Maj. Gershon Levi, Senior Jewish Chaplain, of Montreal, who made a speech. S/Ldr. Jacob Eisen, RCAF Chaplain, of Edmonton, was present also.

## LIFE RETURNS TO ATOM-BOMBED NAGASAKI



harmless: R.C.A.F. pilots were successful in shooting down several of the

The balloons, constructed of tough paper, 33 feet in diameter and carrying 19,000 cubic feet of hydrogen gas, were designed to operate at a height of nearly five miles and to stay aloft for about one week.

one week.

This was done by an ingenious

system of dropping ballast when-ever the balloon dropped below its operational height. If the balloons

al height, a weight of 250 pounds.

Self-Destroying Devices The outside steel ring, or "chan-delier," contained 72 holes with

blow-out plugs in all but two holes.
These contained long green fuses
which were ignited by friction ignitors when the balloon was

lannched and after burning through two 33-foot pieces of safety fusetaking approximately three-quarters of an hour—two plugs were blown out and their springs allow-

ROAD BACK to new life in Nagasaki. Families, like one above with loaded cart, trek in to



NEW HOME for bombed-out Nagasaki family above is built from pieces of tin f debris. Mother and her son are cating their usual meal—rice. Photo is one of f rebirth of city.



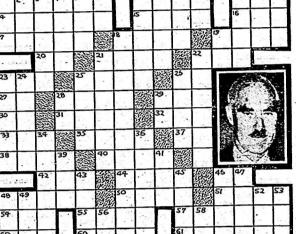




CLEANUP of ruined city is under way, as picture above shows. Roadway is open for at least one-way traffic and homeless victims of Nagaraki atonic bomb gather porcessions and huntielter. This photo was taken in center of devastated area.

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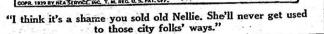
THE DREAMER T. M. REG. M. O. PAT. COP. THE SPORTING THING By Lang Armstrong



"He says he's autographed so many baseballs he can't write in a straight line!"



This Curious World . By William Ferguson





"Stop interrupting, Dear! After I finish my account, you can

## THIS ARMY



"He just keeled over Sir!,-I told him he could draw any amount he wished!"

