

# Manila Wantonly Ruined By Japs; City Is Crushed

(United Press war correspondent Ernest Barcella has reached Manila on an army-conducted tour of the Pacific battlefronts. This dispatch he described the "Murder of Manila.")

**By Ernest Barcella**  
(United Press War Correspondent)  
Manila, May 4 (UP)—Manila is a murdered city, wantonly butchered by the Japanese.

It is a grotesque symbol of the effects of total war—total destruction. What once was the pearl of the Orient now is a gigantic junkpile. Not a single structure south of the Pasig river escaped the fury of war.

Modern buildings, built to withstand earthquakes, are a mass of rubble. The legislative building, made of reinforced concrete and steel, was no match for concentrated artillery fire. It is bent and broken, as if a giant hand had crushed it to the ground. The city hall, completed in 1939, is a shell, its walls blasted by bullets and its dome a skeleton of steel against the skyline. The Manila hotel, once a luxurious structure, is a fire-blackened mass of shattered concrete.

**Buildings Ruined**  
Entire buildings have been leveled to the ground—put to the torch by the Japs, blasted by artillery fire or reduced by demolition charges left by the enemy.

Nothing was spared by the demoralized enemy—churches, cathedrals, government buildings, downtown business establishments, bridges, modern apartment buildings and humble dwellings all suffered the same fate.

Only northern Manila escaped the full fury of destruction. That was because American troops moved in too quickly for the Japs to do anything about it. There, the Malacanán—the magnificent presidential palace with its rich trappings and massive chandeliers—stands untouched.

But southern Manila is a vast mass of wreckage, for it was there that the Japs converted the city into a fortress for a fanatical last stand. Hundreds of dead Japs still lie beneath the wreckage, trapped by their own suicidal tactics.

**Streets Mined**  
The Japs mined streets and buildings. Sapper have cleaned out most of these death traps, but an occasional Filipino still is killed by the hidden charges as he forages the city for sticks of wood to build his family a shelter.

U. S. army engineers have accomplished miracles in cleaning up rubble. But a gigantic task still lies ahead. It will take years to rebuild the city; some architects estimate as much as 25 years.

Water is perhaps one of the most precious items. It is rationed because the Japs still control two of the three reservoirs which supplied the city. There is no municipal transportation. The Japs destroyed all the street cars and stole all the buses and locomotives—shipping them off to Japan. There is little shelter for the natives—huts, crude lean-tos.

Food still is a desperate problem. The army is striving to ease the situation, but shipping remains a big problem. In the early days of American occupation, natives looked for food in G.I. garbage cans and American soldiers shared their rations with them. There is a black market in food. A half loaf of bread brings 75 cents.

**Inflation Rampant**  
Inflation is rampant. Money means little because there is so little that can be purchased. A pair of silk pajamas would cost you \$50 cash. But you can make a deal if you have food to barter. A 10-cent bar of chocolate is priceless for trading purposes.

Only a limited amount of shipping can enter Manila because the docks are wrecked and the harbor is strewn with sunken Jap ships sticking out of the water. Salvage crews already have raised 114 sunken vessels, mostly small ones. All told, there were about 600 sunken ships in the harbor, half of them 2,000 tons or more. It will take years to clean up the harbor.

The task of reconstruction and rehabilitation in Manila is one that challenges the imagination.

# U. S. Takes Over Big Coal Mines

Hazleton, Pa., May 4 (UP)—The American flag was raised over all Pennsylvania's anthracite mines today as the government took over operations of the strike-bound industry.

President Truman, confronted with his first big labor problem since he became president April 12, ordered the mine seizures last night.

Acting on the presidential order, solid fuels administrator Harold Ickes took over control of the properties and ordered the miners to return to work Monday. It was the second time in two years that Ickes seized all of the hard coal properties because of a labor dispute.

The back-to-work movement was expected to get under way Monday with full production expected by Tuesday or Wednesday. A spokesman for the union said the 72,000 miners will await official word from the government and United Mine Workers president John L. Lewis to return to work. He said the men would abide by any government order.

# April Weather Very Dry, Cool

For the sixth consecutive month, precipitation in Bend was again below the 40-year average in April, with only .34 of an inch measured here in the 30 days. Observers in charge of the local weather station report that not since October, 1944, has the precipitation in any month exceeded the 40-year mean, and then by only .01 of an inch. Bend's normal precipitation in April is .78 of an inch.

Not only was the past month dry, but it was cool, the mean temperature being 42.2 degrees, compared with a mean of 45.0 degrees. Lowest temperature of the past month was 13 degrees and highest was 73 degrees. A total of two inches of snow fell in April.

Maximum and minimum temperature for the month follow:

	Max.	Min.
April 1	38	21
April 2	46	14
April 3	47	14
April 4	57	25
April 5	54	34
April 6	52	35
April 7	53	33
April 8	53	24
April 9	44	13
April 10	47	22
April 11	47	28
April 12	46	19
April 13	50	14
April 14	63	23
April 15	59	30
April 16	60	19
April 17	69	30
April 18	71	38
April 19	75	32
April 20	75	34
April 21	57	35
April 22	60	19
April 23	58	37
April 24	52	32
April 25	48	31
April 26	62	26
April 27	59	38
April 28	65	34
April 29	76	39
April 30	73	36

# Reported Free

Leon Blum, above, former French premier, was one of the political prisoners held by the Germans, whose release was reported negotiated by the International Red Cross. Dispatches from Schoenberg, Germany, said Blum was among Allied prisoners that Nazis prodded ahead of them as they retreated.

**Kessler Cannon Advertises Bend**  
Mindful of the days when he was with radio station KBND and an ardent promoter of Central Oregon, Pfc. Kessler R. Cannon, now stationed at Camp Roberts, Calif., is carrying on an advertising campaign down there.

Cannon wrote Don H. Peoples, executive secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, complaining that many of the soldiers at the fort didn't believe that there was such a charming place as the midstate and the lofty Cascades.

"I want to convince them that there are other places besides their own home towns," Pfc. Cannon wrote.

# Ads to Include Facts About Cars

Washington, May 4 (UP)—As part of its campaign to enforce price control on used passenger cars, the office of price administration today directed that newspaper advertisements offering automobiles for sale must include the make of the car, the model year, the body type, the price and a statement that the price is "within OPA ceiling."

At the same time, OPA removed from price control all used passenger cars of the model year 1925 and earlier.



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# Illness Strikes Church Delegates

Bellingham, Wash., May 4 (UP)—Forty-two delegates to a church conference, most of them ministers and their wives, were in St. Luke's general hospital today with food poisoning, but attendants said many of them were much improved and would be discharged by nightfall.

All of the stricken persons who were hospitalized several hours after attending a luncheon yesterday were out of danger. They were here for the district convention of the North Pacific Missionary conference.

Dr. C. L. Longstreth, Bellingham city physician, said bacterial toxin and not chemical poisoning was indicated by the lapse of several hours between the end of the late luncheon and the time when the illness struck.

He tentatively attributed the illness to custard pie served at the luncheon in the local Mission Covenant church. Only 13 persons escaped the effects.

# Five Day Forecast

Five-day forecast ending Tuesday night:  
Oregon and Washington west of Cascades: Few light showers Tuesday or Wednesday. Near normal temperatures.  
Idaho, Oregon and Washington east of Cascades: Few scattered light showers beginning of period. Somewhat cooler but with temperatures rising above normal.

**SNOW FALLS IN EAST**  
Kane, Pa., May 4 (UP)—A one-inch snow was reported here today by the U. S. weather bureau.

In one summer, a single fireweed plant will produce 80,000 seeds.

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## DID YOU KNOW?

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According to authorities the food shortage will be more acute this year than in the past. The government urges you to grow all the food you can, conserve all you can, to prevent a serious food shortage.

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# Homemaking

**WRIGHTS VERSUS PINS**  
To save time and do a more accurate job of cutting out patterns from certain materials Elizabeth H. Boeckl suggests that weights are sometimes better than pins for holding the paper pattern on the fabric. If the fabric is thick, pins make it "buckle," that exact cutting is difficult. When it is necessary to cut through two thicknesses of fabric, the pinning may cause so much buckling, that one piece comes out a different size from the other.

Weights allow the fabric to lie flat and anchor it against shifting. Small objects of heavy metal like bolts, nuts, small paper weights, heavy cups or sauce dishes may be used for pattern weights. Lay the weights far enough away from the edge of the pattern to allow for easy cutting, warns Miss Boeckl.

For cutting out medium or light-weight fabric, pins generally are better than weights.

# Fire Destroys Portland Plant

Portland, Ore., May 4 (UP)—The Lumber Manufacturing Co. of Portland was swept by fire last night which did damage estimated at \$125,000 and kept firemen battling for an hour and a half before bringing the blaze under control.

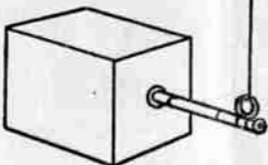
The plant was a total loss, R. A. Stevenson and J. W. Capp, owners, said today. The fire was believed to have started near the planer room of the mill.

The company was using the plant to process lumber for airplane construction.

# Kirkham to Speak Here on May 18

With a topic of "Tourists Unlimited," Art Kirkham, vice-president and general manager of Radio station KGIN in Portland, will address a town meeting of the Bend Chamber of Commerce in the Pine tavern at noon on May 18. It was announced today. According to Don H. Peoples, secretary of the chamber, the town meetings are open to the public, and reservations for the luncheon should be made the day before.

## DANGER!

Split-toed Japanese shoes that help snipers climb trees make wonderful souvenirs. So they're sometimes left behind, cleverly attached to explosives that would maim a souvenir hunter who wasn't wise to such Booby Traps.

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