WAR PICTORIAL NEWS NO.157. (M.O.I. - Keys).

Anstralian Porest Fire. Box - 12141.

But Nature is hardly less terrifying when she fans with gloofal breath the leaping flames of a forest-fire. Briven before a 50 mile and hour gale, fire recently swept huge tracts of the State of Victoria, in Augmentia, leaving death and haves in its walks.

Anstralian armed forces were called in to assist in the emergency. Aircraft were used for spotting purposes. Army pertable radio transmitters kept fime-fighting sections in constant touch, and made it possible to move reserves rapidly to newly threatened points. It was organisation which finally brought the fire under control and enabled the firefighters to triumph in their battle against this destructive force of Bature.

Damage is estimated at no less than 2 million pounds sterling, A quarter of a million shoop and many thousands of eattle were burned to death.

Apart from human life, bush fires have cost Australia many millions of younds in the past. This was the second fire in a month, and it left a trail of devastation and ruin. Four townships were completely burnt out. Thousands of people lost everything they possessed.

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Hundreds of houses were reduced to cinders. 20 people died and more than 70 were seriously injured, in what preved to be the most damaging fire in Victoria's history.