

SPOT NEWS FROM NEAR AND FAR

Tokyo Fire

Fire menaced the commercial centre of Tokyo. A block of thirty buildings, flimsy wooden structures, was gutted inside an hour. It happened in the only part of the business centre not ~~gutted by war-time raids~~ ^{destroyed in it was}. The most the firemen could hope was to confine the blaze.

A whole block was ~~destroyed~~ ^{burnt out}; it might have been far worse.

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1. TITLE: TOKYO -- 30 BUILDINGS LEVELED IN DOWNTOWN BLAZE!
2. Fire strikes suddenly in the heart of downtown Tokyo. Swept by strong and constantly changing winds, an entire city block turns into an inferno. Paramount News' Tokyo cameraman is here ahead of the crowds, as the flimsy, easily inflammable buildings -- 30 of them -- go up in smoke. Families try to rescue their belongings, but time has run out. Greatest nightmare is that the fire may spread to surrounding blocks. Firemen are hampered by lack of water pressure. The blaze reportedly began from a carelessly tossed cigarette.
13. As walls topple over to signal the disaster's climax, the fire is finally isolated. Thirty buildings are leveled in a blaze that threatened the center of a big city.