

NEWSBRIEFS

The Judges arrive at the Allied Control Building in Berlin to receive the indictment against the top-ranking Nazi Conspirators. Chief prosecutors at the International Military Tribunal include legal experts from Britain, Russia, the United States & France. Presiding at this preliminary session was General Nikitchenko, the chief Russian Judge. With the 30,000 word indictment began the court case of humanity versus 24 arch-criminals.

Britain's team of prosecutors is led by Attorney General Sir Hartley Shawcross. Each chief prosecutor read out charges against the survivors of the Nazi gang. The world waits impatiently for justice, hoping that the Belsen Trial has set no standard of speed.

Prince William, elder son of the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, carries out his first public engagement at Australia's Puppy Sweepstake. The little Prince's shyness made an appealing picture and, like all youngsters, he loves a dog. An informal study of the little boy who has won a place for himself in Australia's heart.

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France's first general election for nine years set a new course in French politics and may reflect the leftward trend of Continental affairs. Twenty-four million people voted, more than half of them women, voting in their first national election. The result wrote "fini" to the 70 year-old Third Republic and was a triumph for General de Gaulle. Soldiers voted for the first time, among them General le Gentilhomme, Military Governor of Paris.

France's old political leaders reappeared in the arena. Ex-Premier Leon Blum's Socialist Party polled strongly, winning enough seats to share power with the de Gaullists and the Communists. Surprise result of the election was the eclipse of the Radicals. Their leader, ex-Premier Herriot, nearly lost his seat. With the rest at the Polling booth was Paul Reynaud, prime-minister when France collapsed in 1940.

Newspapermen had a field day. Results were relayed at top speed to the French Press and to a world waiting to see what France would decide.

Final results show that France has chosen a new system of Government.

Hamburg's massive concrete U.boat pens took four years to build and survived direct hits from ten-ten bombs. British R.E's took on the job of putting them out of action. 67,000 tons of German bombs were used in the Army's biggest demolition operation. The result was more than satisfactory and Hamburg will house no more U.boats.

A ninety-mile-an-hour gale gave Britain its fiercest buffeting for many years. Coast towns took the worst hammering, but one terrific gust smashed the 150 ft television mast at Highgate. There were no casualties but local residents got a severe shaking up, and the B.B.C's Television department has a sizeable repair job on it's hands.

Apart from the inevitable minor casualties of gales there were more serious aspects. Brighton, Folkestone, Shornham and other coast towns were reeked by mines washed ashore and exploding. Emergency squads stood by to draw the teeth of these throw backs to war.

Total damage is estimated to run to many thousands of pounds as nature let herself go.