

49/24**BLAZE DESTROYS U.S. ARMY BASE**

Exploding oil drums hurl columns of liquid fire eight hundred feet into the sky, as a midnight blaze sweeps through a warehouse at the Oakland, California, Army base.

The giant warehouse was packed with Army equipment intended for Japan. Six minutes after the first spark had ignited an oil drum, the entire length of the half-mile pier was engulfed in flames. Firemen, unable to extinguish the blazing inferno, concentrate on saving nearby property.

Half a million pounds worth of supplies go up in spectacular flames in America's biggest fire of the year.