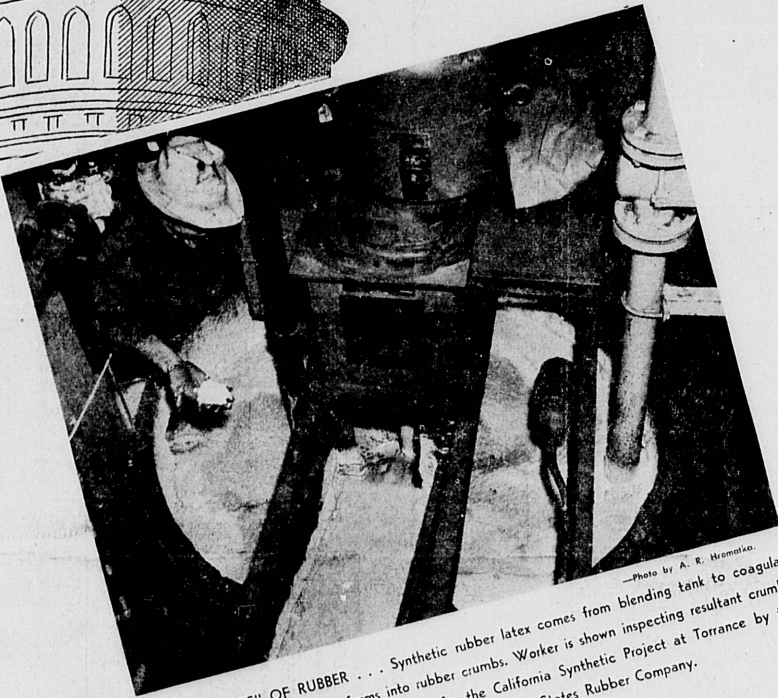
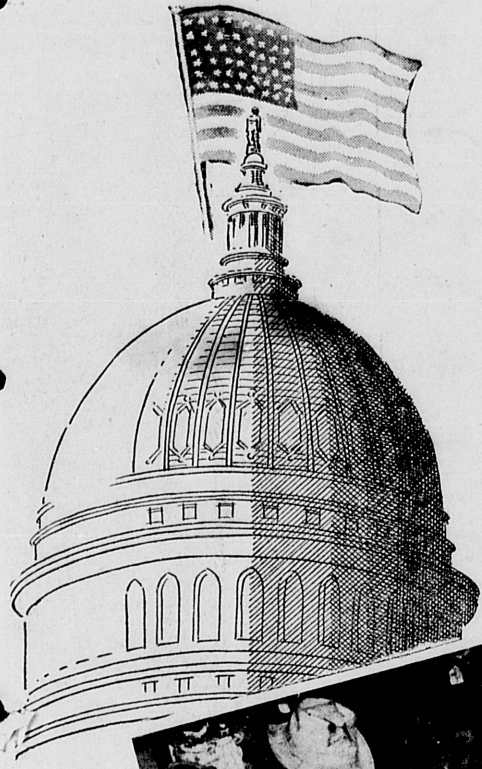


NOW IT CAN BE TOLD!

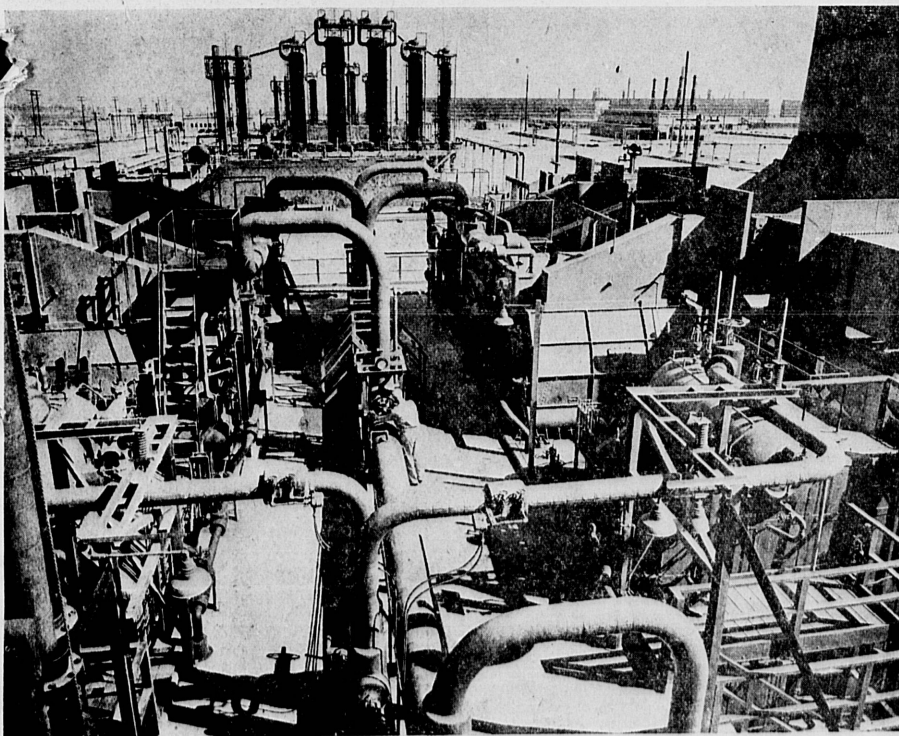
Torrance Herald
April 27, 1944

TORRANCE ♦ ♦ ♦

The Synthetic RUBBER CAPITAL of the West



—Photo by A. R. Hromatic.
FIRST "CRUMBS" OF RUBBER . . . Synthetic rubber latex comes from blending tank to coagulation unit where acidified latex forms into rubber crumbs. Worker is shown inspecting resultant crumbs at one of three co-polymer units operated for the California Synthetic Project at Torrance by the Goodyear Synthetic Rubber Corporation and the United States Rubber Company.



—Photo by Powell Press Service.
GIANT STEAM PLANT . . . at the Dow Chemical Company plant at Torrance. Over half a million pounds of steam per hour are generated for Dow and the rubber companies in these converted marine boilers which were removed from World War I destroyers and moved to the rubber project plants at Torrance.

Officials of the six companies operating the government Rubber Reserve's California Synthetic Rubber Project announced this week that it is completed and in full operation, rated to produce one-eighth of all the GR-S type synthetic rubber made in the nation based on the rated capacity of the present program.

Covering about 250 acres, the California project consists of six operational plant units, four of which are located at Torrance, one in Los Angeles and one at El Segundo.

The Southern California Gas Company at Los Angeles, the Standard Oil Company of California at El Segundo and the Shell Chemical Division of Shell Union Oil Corporation at Torrance produce and refine the butadiene. Dow Chemical Company at Torrance makes the styrene, and the Goodyear Synthetic Rubber Corporation and the United States Rubber Company combine the two materials into synthetic rubber in their three co-polymer plants at Torrance.

While the six companies operate the central units, so many other Pacific Coast industries contribute raw materials that its significance in production and the use of the finished products made from it, touches every individual on the Pacific Coast. The raw materials for making butadiene, one of the basic materials, can be secured from almost all of California's oil producers.

Dow Chemical Company's styrene unit at Torrance receives alcohol from the wine distillers of the Pacific Coast, benzol from Kaiser's Fontana coke ovens, and the Portland Gas and Coke Company. From Utah and California's desert areas comes rock salt, 70 tons of which are used daily as a coagulating agent.

Built In 19 Months

Construction began in September, 1942. Considering the wartime problems of materials scarcity and labor shortage, as well as the revision of plans to enlarge the units' capacities, the project's completion in this period of time is a remarkable achievement.

At its rated capacity of 90,000 tons annually, the California project will produce enough rubber to make 54,000 passenger tires daily, or one set of tires yearly for every automobile on the Pacific Coast, if all the rubber were used for this purpose. To produce that enormous tonnage of natural rubber on high yielding plantations, nearly 60,000 workers would be required, tapping 20,000,000 Hevea trees on nearly

(Continued on Page 2-C)

RUBBER To Lick The Axis



TIRES FOR JEEPS . . . and bombers in jig time; also bullet-proof gas tanks for airplanes, life boats and lots more besides, urgently needed to lick the Axis . . . are produced from synthetic rubber made at Torrance. They are busy fighting the war now . . . but watch this growing baby industry for after-the-war rubber magic.