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FIRE BURNS 350 ACRES OF ESTATE

*Rages for 14 hours—500 firemen,
soldiers and workers put it out*

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan.30.

FIRE on a rubber estate just outside Kuala Lumpur yesterday destroyed 350 acres of the plantation. It was brought under control by 500 firemen, Army personnel, police and labourers after 14 hours.

At one stage the blaze on Hawthornden Estate threatened to spread to two neighbouring plantations, Gonggang and Wardieburn estates.

Although the fire was under control by 2 a.m., small patches of flames continued till 10 a.m.

The 350 acres destroyed were earmarked for replanting.

Old rubber land on the estate was being burned when the fire spread.

Crowds watched

Fire brakes were later dug by soldiers to stop the spread.

Hundreds of people from Kuala Lumpur flocked to watch the blaze, which was on hill slopes.

Mr. J. Robertson, manager of Hawthornden Estate, said today: "Thanks to the co-operation of the military, police, estate workers and labourers, the fire was brought under control."

Mr. S. Kandiah, Superintendent of the Kuala Lumpur Fire Brigade, said this was the longest fire the brigade had ever fought.

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