

The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor changed the situation. Three days after Pearl Harbor, all dealings in new tires and tubes were prohibited except by permit, and the following day all processing of crude rubber for civilian purposes was prohibited until January 2, 1942. These temporary freezing orders were replaced by more permanent regulations which resulted in a reduction of 85% in use of rubber for civilian purposes, the first tire restriction order becoming effective on January 5, 1942.

Jurisdiction over rubber was removed from the Supplies Control and the new Rubber control was established on November 2, 1942.

The following table shows the extent to which use of crude rubber for other than war purposes has been reduced by Rubber Control regulations:

Average pre-war yearly consumption -----	34,400	long tons.
1942 civilian consumption -----	5,031	" "
1943 " " -----	4,390	" "

ALLIES STOCKS POOLED

The allies pooled their rubber stocks under the Combined Raw Materials Board, set up on January 26, 1942, which allocated the crude rubber resources of the United Nations equitably to meet demands of war needs for the use of all. Controls in Canada and the United States have been kept more or less parallel and the rubber stockpile has been treated as a U.S.-Canada reserve.

There were 1,029,007 long tons of rubber brought into North America in 1941, compared with 282,653 in the following year and 55,329 in 1943, which shows the reduction in crude rubber imports brought about by Japanese control of Eastern sources of supply.

Reductions in the North American crude rubber stockpile have been as follows during the past three years: stocks on hand January 1, 1942 were 533,344 long tons; on hand January 1, 1943 422,714 long tons, and 139,594 long tons on hand January 1, 1944.

By the end of 1942, reclaim rubber was being substituted wholly or partly in the manufacture of essential articles, including military tires and war supplies. Rubber processors were under tight control and the rubber they used, for war or civilian manufacture, had to be processed according to mandatory specifications. No rubber was released, even for war purposes, except by permit, and no part of the civil allotment could be carried over from one month to the next by a manufacturer.

At the close of 1941 and subsequently applications for civil allotments of natural or synthetic rubber were considered only for the following list of essentials:

1. Medical, surgical and laboratory supplies and druggists' sundries for feeding of infants and care of the sick.
2. Jar rings and sealing compounds for canning of foods (beverages excepted).
3. Protective clothing for certain workers in essential services and industries.
4. Mechanical rubber articles, hard rubber, and compounded latex for industrial equipment and for the repair of industrial plants and mines, for firefighting equipment, for agricultural equipment such as