

air, and representations were therefore made to the Minister of National Defence for military assistance. As a result a security officer was appointed by the Department of Munitions and Supply and he discussed the whole question of protection with the writer. The R.C.M.P. later made a thorough inspection of the company's protective measures and reported on them to Ottawa.

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OTHER precautions were taken as well: four Doberman pinscher police dogs were stationed in isolated areas; full cooperation was established with the provincial headquarters of the Civilian Protection Corps, and trial black-outs were introduced at various points on the Shawinigan system. At the same time, closer liaison in the matter of coordinating protective measures was established with Brown Corporation at LaTuque and Southern Canada Power Company Limited in the Eastern townships, and selected agents visited the Niagara Hudson Company in Buffalo, N.Y., U.S.A., to study the methods in use there and compare them with those of the Shawinigan system.

And when the St. Maurice Chemicals Limited early in 1942 started to manufacture R.D.X.—the newly developed super-high explosive—in a Government-owned plant near Shawinigan Falls, a new guarding responsibility fell to the lot of the company's anti-sabotage division.

The bombing of Pearl Harbour in December, 1941, at first believed to have been the work of bombers from the Japanese mainland rather than from aircraft-carriers, brought fresh anxieties to the anti-sabotage committee. The possibility of breaching power dams on the river was explored and found to be a distinct hazard, both from the viewpoint of air attack and local sabotage. The tremendous volume of water released if the dams were blown, probably would wreck or severely damage most of the generating plants down stream, unless

warning came in time. Radio communication was therefore arranged for, in cooperation with the Quebec Streams Commission, between Rapide Blanc and the dams. Carrier pigeons were kept as well and, after being trained, were able to traverse the intervening distances in record time.

The wisdom of taking these precautions was later demonstrated when the Royal Air Force destroyed the Mohne and Eder Dams in Germany.

Early in 1942 the R.C.M.P. reported intelligence indicating that attempts at sabotage might be expected during the spring. In all probability, these attacks would coincide with a spring offensive by the Germans, and be delivered simultaneously at a number of points. The Force emphasized the need for tightening up the restrictions regarding individuals entering vulnerable points, of maintaining close watch so that no unobserved entry could be made, and of guarding against employees being persuaded to commit acts of sabotage.

Accordingly, the personnel of the anti-sabotage system were instructed to intensify their control measures. Every motor car and truck that entered company property was searched and all crates and packing cases of incoming goods and merchandise were opened before being taken into any building.

In the summer of that year reports were received from the R.C.M.P. that enemy agents, who were well provided with Canadian money, had landed on the eastern shores of Canada. In response to repeated requests to various Government departments for assistance in protecting the company's properties, representatives from headquarters of Military District No. 4, Montreal, and from the Security Branch of the United Kingdom Technical Mission in Ottawa, visited Shawinigan Falls and discussed the measures in force. From then on a regular inspection was conducted each month by the Security Branch and the R.C.M.P. At the end of 1942, the number of guards