

## Too Late For Recrimination —Van Mook

MELBOURNE, Wednesday.—“I don't see any use in recrimination at present, because that only loses time,” said Lieut.-Governor-General of the N.E.I. (Dr. van Mook) when questioned today as to the adequacy of support received by the N.E.I. from Great Britain and the U.S.A.

“I WOULD advise Australia not to worry about what should have been done, but do as much as possible now,” he said.

“Australia should be prepared for the Japs to enter their country,” he said. “Too many have not been prepared for the arrival of the enemy. It is quite possible the Japs will try to gain a foothold in the northern and western parts of the continent. The extent of the penetration will depend on how hard it is made for them.”

Japanese planes were certainly superior to Wirraways, but not to Hurricanes and other better types of U.S. machines used by the Allies, said Dr. van Mook.

They were superior to Brewsters, but mainly in armament, the Brewsters having too light a machine-gun.

Not only were their planes good, but strategic use of them was very effective. The Japs know how to destroy planes on the ground, said Dr. van Mook.

“I would not say individually that they are better pilots, but in a case of 10 against one it is not a case of good pilots,” he added.

### A.I.F. May Be Fighting On

About 3000 Australian troops are probably still fighting in Java, in the mountain country east and west of Bandoeng, according to Dr. van Mook.

The English-speaking troops in Java, numbering in all about 5000, Dr. van Mook explained, had been grouped for convenience.

He will confer in Canberra tomorrow with members of the Australian Government, including the Prime Minister (Mr. Curtin).

When he has completed the organi-

sation of Dutch forces in Australia, Dr. van Mook will probably go to Washington and London.