

## CHINA FLOODS WORST FOR GENERATION

Floods of almost unimaginable extent ~~devastate~~  
devastate hundreds of square miles ~~at~~ at the head of the  
Canton delta. Dykes, damaged by Japanese bombing and ill-  
- repaired, collapsed under the weight of the swollen Yangtsee  
and Sikiang rivers. There was no cement whatever. <sup>By</sup> The  
primitive methods of two thousand years ago, when the  
first dykes rescued the Canton area from annual flooding,  
hordes of Chinese laboured to ~~breach~~ <sup>close</sup> the gaps. Of the  
number made homeless no estimate was possible at this stage.  
From fields under nine feet of water farmers dived to  
salvage the rice crop; a strange harvest vitally essential  
if the teeming millions of the densely populated Canton  
area are not to starve. For in China, at the best of times,  
not want but famine always lies in wait round the next  
corner. With oriental calmness beyond western understanding  
these illimitably patient people throng the food relief  
centres.

(4 out)  
(af old wom) To the 400-million Chinese, <sup>↑</sup> ~~plagued~~ <sup>tormented</sup> by  
civil ~~war~~ <sup>war</sup>, ravaged for ten years by Japan, now comes  
a natural calamity.

Steckman  
Joyce  
#96: :  
Non

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1. TITLE: Canton FLOODS ADD TO CHINA'S WOES!
2. Floods in Canton! China, already plagued by civil war, pitiful food shortages, and almost unbelievable hardships, suffers a new blow!  
FLOODS!
- T The swollen waters from the South China highlands overflow broken dykes once intended to contain the three lowland rivers of the Canton delta. The dykes had been damaged by Jap bombs. Lack of cement had prevented their repair since. So, in desperation, the people turn to the methods and materials of their ancestors, the back-breaking labor that built the Great Wall of China 200 years before Christ.
16. The Canton coastal area is one of the most densely populated of all China. There can be only vague estimates of the hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions, who are made homeless. Even worse, however, are the flooded rice fields.
23. These farmers, diving in nine feet of water, are not thinking in terms of salvaging a cash crop. They are staving off tomorrow's hunger. For starvation is never far away in China. Lines waiting patiently for hours outside relief kitchens are not emergency measures in China today. New disasters merely tax the kitchen's facilities and food supply still further. More patience is required by a people so bitterly trained in adversity. The only food is pitiful plates of rice and beans!
38. It is difficult for Americans to realize the daily and eternal struggle for mere existence of more than 400 million human beings - one fifth of all the earth's peoples. Here, even a major flood is accepted with a terrible calm - merely one more disaster - absorbed in a depth of despair!