

Ireland: Following weeks of gale-force winds and heavy rain that reduced the grain harvest - a further catastrophe overtakes the rich farm-land areas - disastrous floods.

These heart-breaking pictures were taken near Athlone, where more than twenty square miles of farm-land are inundated by the flood waters of the River Shannon. In some places, the river has doubled its normal width ~~and~~ ~~is~~ following heavy and prolonged rain.

For the farmers - the floods have come as the final crippling blow of a disastrous summer. Many have given up all hope of salvaging their crops - the unfortunate victims of the worst floods in the area for thirty years.

A year of wide-spread flood havoc - and the latest country to suffer is Italy. Torrential rainstorms, during the night, in the Province of Salerno (the scene of the Allied invasion in 1943) have brought ~~disaster~~ disaster and death from floods and landslides.

Avalanches of mud swept down the mountain-sides to engulf over forty towns and villages. Troops were rushed to stricken areas to dig out the victims from shattered houses and a sea of mud...

Hundreds have lost their lives - while thousands have been made homeless.

The tragic aftermath ~~of the flood~~ <sup>of the flood terror of</sup> Salerno..