

FLOODS IN JAPAN KILL 664

The worst flood in sixty-one years sweeps across Kyushu, Japan's southernmost island, submerging acres of rich farm land and hundreds of homes. At least 664 people are known to have been killed and nearly two thousand injured. But it is feared the casualty list will be even heavier, for about five hundred people are still missing. Refugees seek what shelter they can as the turbulent waters pour across the island smashing everything in their path.

People begin to search amongst the wreckage of their homes. Some come to seek their relatives and friends carried away by the raging torrent.

Finally the storms die down and the residents of the city of Kurume return to begin the work of salvage and reconstruction. With horror they learn of the death roll and pray that the floods will not return. Food is scarce in Kurume, and pitiful queues gather at the local railway station to receive emergency supplies rushed in from other islands. A desperate struggle for existence faces many whose homes now lie beneath the waters of the great flood.

JAPAN FLOODS

Weist-Fitzgerald

X
 The worst flood in sixty-one years rolls across Japan's southernmost island of Kyushu, taking at least six hundred and twenty lives. And a million persons are homeless while torrential rains lash the island for the better part of a week.

X
 Refugees from the flood find what shelter they can while dikes crumble and the water rips across rich farming lands and city streets, tearing away roads, paddy fields and everything else in its path.

X
 Human beings pit their strength against the force of nature gone mad. Damage to public installations alone runs to sixty million dollars.

X
 Finally the rain is over and residents of the city of Kurume begin the back-breaking job of salvage. A check-up shows that more than six hundred persons are still missing -- many of them feared dead.

X
 At the city's railroad station food is distributed to the haggard survivors awaiting the arrival of relief supplies. With the entire city underwater, suffering is etched on the faces of the victims -- helpless against this terror of nature.