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WORLD FLASHES.

To the little Italian village of Zambana, in the Trentino region, comes a strange disaster - "cold lava", the villagers' name for a torrent of mud washed from the surrounding mountains by weeks of rain. The people of Zambana work desperately to stem the relentless avalanche, but are defeated by the sheer weight of it.

As their houses are submerged by the creeping mass, the villagers pray that the mud will subside before Zambana is destroyed for ever.

To Hungary, the Danube in flood brings a crisis that is more familiar but no less tragic. Hundreds of families are driven from their homes by the rising water. In a few hours, the island of Mohacs disappears beneath the flood, and the Army is called in to help the stricken islanders.

Two thousand five hundred Army lorries are used to evacuate families and livestock to higher ground, where the people of nearby villages are preparing food and shelter for their unfortunate neighbours, and their animals. Until the floods subside and they can return to salvage their homes.

Choking smoke billows into the night after a tremendous explosion caused by a mixture of oxygen and dust flattens a six-storey gain elevator in the heart of Philadelphia. Hundreds of firemen, struggle to bring the blaze under control.

Three people are reported missing, and more than eighty are injured, in this three-million dollar disaster.