

TYPHOON LASHES ISLANDS OF JAPAN

Floods in the wake of a typhoon - throughout its history Japan has known scenes such as these, as the storms have spread death and destruction across the islands. The latest typhoon is the worst in a quarter of a century. Lashing Japan's industrial center with winds of up to 160 miles an hour, Typhoon Vera has left a death toll that may reach to well over fifteen hundred. Some thirteen hundred persons are missing, nearly seven thousand injured, more than a million homeless. Firemen and the land army have been mobilized to aid victims and to combat the floods, which have also done extensive damage to rice and vegetable crops that were ready for harvesting. The fifth to hit Japan this year, Typhoon Vera leaves the nation stunned and grieving.