JAPANESE TERROR IN CHINA

This vivid and startling revelation of the sixteen months of Japanese military aggression in China has been written by H. J. Timperley, China correspondent for the Manchester Guardian, to further educate the world in the meaning of modern war. It is to be sure, a sure indictment of the Japanese military party, which controls with an iron hand politics, education, religion, industry, and even the social existence of the inhabitants of Nippon; the author, however, has not compiled this concise volume of documentary evidence of the Japs' deliberately ruthless war policies in China primarily as anti-Japanese propaganda. The sources of the author's information are unimpeachable, for the letters and diary accounts which comprise the greater part of the book were smuggled through the Japanese lines by American and European men who risked death in the hope they might somewhat alleviate the pain and suffering of the Chinese people.

A little more than half of the material is eyewitness accounts in diary or report form of the Japanese army's program of terrorism—of murder, robbery, and rape committed upon the civilians of Shanghai, Wushu, Sungkong, Canton, Hanghau and thousands of smaller towns, villages and farms. Authentic statistics tell of the looting of privately owned factories, of the shipping to Japan of all metal, including machinery and small objects like doorknobs, and of the systematic destruction of educational centers and hospitals, foreign-owned or otherwise.

Japanese People Being Duped.

An extensive appendix includes dozens of letters and case reports from the International Committee for the Nanking Safety Zone, which group of neutral observers fed and gave all possible protection to the thousands of destitute Chinese civilians. There are copies of letters sent to the high Japanese authorities requesting, quite in vain, for permission to buy food for and disciplinary measures against the Jap army. Especially significant are Japanese newspaper articles and news reports, which stress in glowing terms the love of the Chinese for the "kind Japanese soldiers," thus revealing that the people of Japan as a whole are being duped.

Japanese Terror in China is restrained in tone. It does not go into great detail, but simply depicts—without the degeneration of Japan's holy war into a campaign of sadistic pillage.