



MINE WARFARE

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SYNOPSIS

MINE Warfare is a picture-story book based on the film by the same name. In their daring struggle in the War of Resistance Against Japan, the people of an anti-Japanese base, Chaochia Village in Shantung Province, supported by the Eighth Route Army, made brilliant use of land mines to defeat the Japanese invaders. Led by our great leader Chairman Mao Tsetung and the Chinese Communist Party, the army and people of the base area, men and women, old and young, everyone joined in the fighting, every village fought, to wage people's war. The mobilized Chinese people in their millions devised ingenious fighting methods to **"create a vast sea in which to drown the enemy, create the conditions that . . . make up for inferiority in arms and other things"** as summed up by Chairman Mao, and waged remarkable and heroic struggle against Japanese imperialism.



1. 1942 was the most trying year of the War of Resistance Against Japan. Then, under the leadership of Chairman Mao Tsetung and the Chinese Communist Party, the army and people resisting Japanese imperialism in the enemy's rear waged courageous struggle.



2. That summer militia leader Chao Hu, an outstanding militia hero of Chaochia Village, returns from the military area command after attending a mine-laying class. He crosses a hill near the village.



3. He sees flames and smoke rising from the village. Japanese invaders are savagely arresting and massacring the peaceable villagers who flee along the path to the mountains, taking with them their old people and children.



4. As the enemy closes in on the people and Chao Hu sees the situation is critical he quickly lays a "pull-and-go" mine.



5. Chao Hu poises ready to pull the rope and hit the enemy by surprise.



6. As the enemy soldiers rush up, the explosion of Chao Hu's mine hurls them down the slope. The fleeing people are saved.



7. Chaochia Village, on the fringe of the base area, is only four kilometres from enemy-occupied Huang Village. In view of the tense situation, the military area command transfers a number of cadres from the main force to strengthen the fight against the enemy. The county armed forces commission head, Comrade Lei, is sent to lead the mass struggle at Chaochia Village.



8. Since the enemy occupied neighbouring Huang Village, the people have gone to the mountains. Lei searches for some time before he finds the old mason Shih.



9. Shih leads Lei to the mountains where Lei discusses with the villagers how to defeat the enemy.



10. The militiamen request the leaders to give them plenty of land mines and guns. Militia guerrilla group leader Yu-lan, looking at her shot-gun, says to herself: "If only I had a rifle!"



11. Shih hears what the militiamen say and advises: "In fighting the Japanese, we should depend on our unified effort. We know the terrain. We'll fight when we can, and if we can't, we'll go to the hills!"



12. Lei gives a newspaper to Ta-yung, who reads: "Chairman Mao teaches us: **The enemy advances, we retreat; the enemy camps, we harass; the enemy tires, we attack; the enemy retreats, we pursue.**' We'll attack when there are few enemies and go away when there are many; we'll snipe at them from under cover, lay mines and watch from a distance."



13. Lei firmly calls: "That's the way we militiamen will fight. Every village gets organized, every person arms himself. Under the leadership of Chairman Mao and the Communist Party and with the support of the Eighth Route Army, we can certainly safeguard our home village and finally drive out the enemy so long as we persist in the struggle!"



14. After that the militiamen of Chaochia and the villages nearby organize joint defence. As soon as they detect enemy activity they flex for battle.