

Japanese Airmen Kill Toronto Chinese Flier

Muin Chok Quan Shot Down in Flames Near Canton— Father Sits in Cafe and Grieves

As steadily marching invaders from the Land of the Rising Sun approach the Canton section of China, Toronto's 3,500 Chinese are watching with more and more anxiety the war reports from the motherland.

Virtually 95 per cent of Toronto's Chinese population are Cantonese, and, although interest ran high among them during the past months of the struggle, it has reached almost a fever pitch as Nipponese bombers wing close to the homes of sisters and brothers and parents.

War's Influence Felt.

Each morning, in special code despatches, come reports of the battle's progress. They are received



Muin Chok.

in the office of the Shing Wah Daily News, on Queen St. West, and decoded from figures into Chinese characters. Longer and more detailed reports come from Hong Kong in the mail compartment of the China Clipper.

Every now and then these reports carry news that strikes directly into the heart of some local Chinese, such as the one that concerned Muin Chok Quan, whose father runs the Wellington Cafe, 512 Queen Street West.

Muin Chok, a youth of 24, left his elderly father some time ago to join the Chinese Air Force. For some months old Mr. Quan watched the Shing Wah News very closely for news of the air battles and his son. One day a despatch arrived telling of how Muin Chok had downed two Japanese fighting planes over Shanghai before a bullet through his fuel tank had forced him down, unharmed. Mr. Quan rejoiced.

Flier's Father Grieves.

A few days ago, another despatch came to Toronto. It told of how Muin Chok, engaged in another battle, this time over Canton, had leaped from a blazing plane in a parachute, his body riddled with

machine-gun bullets. He died shortly after drifting to the ground.

Now Mr. Quan sits sadly in the back of his restaurant. When a reporter attempted to see him Thursday night, an employee explained: "Mr. Quan feel sick, him no talk to any one now."

An old Chinese pressman at the Shing Wah News is one of the first to seize a paper when it rolls from the press. He is Chan Taso Gee, and his son is a Colonel in the Motherland's air force at 22 years of age. According to T. Wu, an editor of the Shing Wah News, Chinese despatches from Hong Kong receive-

ed on Thursday denied that any Japanese troops had landed on Chekkai Island, close to the British Crown colony. Thursday's Canadian papers carried reports to this effect.

Every Sunday afternoon the Chinese gather in front of a building on Elizabeth Street to discuss the war in a sort of open-air forum. At nights, a loudspeaker system carries the latest reports out to the eager throng that packs the sidewalk.