

**Description**

Oil slick (lower left foreground) caused by crude oil trapped between emergency gate valves, shut when flood damage occurred in "Big Inch" river crossing, seeped to the surface along bank of Arkansas River to mark the point of break in 24 inch War Emergency Pipeline. Raging water gouged back hundreds of feet of river bank and caused the "Big Inch" to break far north of the river channel. In the distance is Rock Island Railroad Bridge where the completed temporary pipeline detour spanned the flood, permitting resumption of "Big Inch" oil runs for the East.

Date(s)

ca.
1942

Accession Number 2008-569

8x10 inches (21x26 cm) Black & White

Related Collection [Davies, Ralph K. Papers](#)

Keywords Floods Rivers Oil industries Pipelines

HST Keywords Arkansas

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