

Holiday couple survive 7 natural disasters

And to finish our programme today, the incredible story of a Swedish couple who went on holiday and survived no fewer than seven natural disasters! Stefan and Erika Svanstrom started their.....trip last December. They were travelling with their young baby daughter. First they flew from to Munich. But when they arrived in Munich they couldn't get their connecting flight tobecause there was a terrible blizzard in South Germany – the worst snowstorm for ayears! They had to wait at the airport for 24 hours.

'We just thought things will get better.'

When they got to Thailand, they had a relaxing few weeks. But that was the last time they could really relax. From Thailand they flew to the island of in Indonesia, a popular holiday destination. When they arrived inthey were expecting blue skies and sun, but what they got were terrible monsoon rains – the worst monsoon for many years.

"Now we were thinking, what will happen next?"

They decided not to stay in, but to go to Australia. They flew to Perth in Australia, but hours after they arrived Perth suffered terrible forest fires, and the streets were full of smoke. They travelled north to Cairns, and arrived just in time for Yasi - one of the worst cyclones ever to hit the city. They had to leave their hotel and spend 24 hours in a shopping center with 2.500 other people. Could things get any worse? Yes, they could. The Svanstrom family left Cairns and travelled south to Brisbane to visit friends, but the city was

suffering from the worstin its history. So they left Brisbane and booked to fly to Christchurch in New Zealand. But just before their plane left Brisbane some friends phoned them to say that Christchurch had been hit by an and a large part of the city was destroyed. Their plane landed in another city Auckland. They travelled around New Zealand for a while, and they flew to Japan. On March 11th they were having lunch in a restaurant in Tokyo when suddenly everything began to shake. It was an earthquake: nine on Richter scale and one of the worst that ever hit Japan. And after the earthquake came a devastating tsunami. Fortunately Mr and Mrs Svanstrom and their child were not hurt. They travelled from Japan to China for the last part of their holiday. Luckily, they didn't have any more natural, and they arrived safely home in Stockholm on 29th March.

"We have learnt that in life you should always expect the worst, but hope for the best. Also, you need to be prepared for anything".