

1964

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

13309

mined until the flood water leaves, and the loss may be worse than we think.

She said the administration's first concern is for the sewer and water systems because of their vital relationship to health. A wire has been sent by the city notifying Senator Mike Mansfield of the estimate.

MANSFIELD and Edward A. McDermott, Director of the Office of Emergency Planning, Washington, D.C., are coming to Great Falls Sunday to inspect the conditions here and in the entire flood area.

MANSFIELD said in a telegram today that McDermott has provided some specific information about Small Business Administration loan assistance. He said that while Public Law 875 does not provide for direct assistance to individual disaster victims, disaster loan assistance, at interest not to exceed 3 percent with up to 20 years to pay, is available through the SBA.

The assistance is available for repair or replacement of disaster damaged commercial or residential structures and the loan authority extends to contents and inventory as well as structures.

Individual needs for clothing, replacement of lost furnishings and similar needs are taken care of through the emergency relief and rehabilitation programs of the American Red Cross, he said.

While businesses are not eligible for assistance under Public Law 875, SBA disaster loan assistance is available to individuals, business concerns, including corporations, partnerships, cooperatives, and churches, charitable institutions and other nonprofit organizations.

MANSFIELD said further, concerning flood problems in Glacier County, that county roads and bridges damaged or destroyed in the floods are eligible for repair or replacement under provisions of Public Law 875. Bureau of Public Roads engineers are making damage surveys for the OEP to determine the extent of damage and eligible work. He said Glacier County commissioners should work through the Montana disaster agency headed by Gen. Richard C. Kendall, adjutant general and State disaster coordinator, in applying for Public Law 875 assistance.

[From the Great Falls Tribune,
June 13, 1964]

COUNTY LOSS HIGH IN LAND, EQUIPMENT

Cascade County farmlands were damaged to an estimated \$2,195,000 by this week's floods and the county suffered an additional \$2,087,500 in damage to farm buildings and equipment, Doug Smith, executive director of the Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service, Bozeman, said Friday at a flood relief and rehabilitation coordination meeting called by Gov. Tim Babcock.

The meeting was presided over by Creath Tooley, Everett, Wash., regional director of the Office of Emergency Planning, coordinating agency for disaster assistance furnished by the Federal Government.

Smith said the county farm equipment and facilities loss estimates include 400 miles of fencing, 200 miles of main ditch work, 2,000 irrigation structures, 40 pumps, \$200,000 worth of rip rap, 10 stock reservoirs, 150 buildings, 500 head of cattle, and weed control of an estimated \$640,000 value.

Smith said farmers will get help through temporary grazing on retired land, conservation reserve land, short-term feed grain disaster donations from the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Agricultural Marketing Service which supplies food for farmers, loans from the Farmers Home Administration, and loans from the Rural Electrification Administration. The soil conservation district will provide technical assistance in land leveling, pasture planning, and additional

personnel in cases directed by the OEP, he said.

CONSERVATION HIGHLIGHTS, 1963— AID BY SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE TO NORTH DAKOTA

Mr. BURDICK. Mr. President, the help furnished by the Soil Conservation Service in North Dakota means a lot to the farmers and ranchers of my State. More than 36,000 farmers and ranchers now are cooperators with North Dakota's 71 soil conservation districts which blanket the State. More than 25,000 of them have developed basic conservation plans for 17½ million acres of land.

In total, 67 of the 71 soil conservation districts in the State have updated their plans of operations to include broader conservation programs and have signed modernized working arrangement with the Department of Agriculture. This is a great cooperative effort between the Department of Agriculture and these local units of government organized under State law.

There has come to my attention a digest of the 1963 annual report of the Soil Conservation Service. It sets forth numerous facts about the scope of work, accomplishments, and conservation needs in a form that can be read in only a few minutes of time. It carries the following statement from Mr. D. A. Williams, Administrator of the Soil Conservation Service:

A dynamic program of soil and water conservation is going forward throughout the United States.

It is a voluntary program of the people aided by local, State, and Federal Governments.

Its emphasis is on meeting the needs of the entire population for land and water uses while improving the economy and livability of rural America.

The progress reported here stems from organized local effort and leadership coupled with the vision and skills of technically trained people.

This partnership recognizes the fundamental truth that only the people who own and control the land can really do conservation work. The rest of us are privileged to help. We are proud of that partnership and that progress.

Mr. President, I believe that other Senators would have use for the facts set forth in this Conservation Highlights, 1963, issued on January 1, 1964. Therefore, I ask unanimous consent that it be printed at this point in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the digest was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

CONSERVATION HIGHLIGHTS 1963—DIGEST OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

NEW HORIZONS

The Soil Conservation Service (SCS) enlarged its service to urban as well as rural people in fiscal year 1963.

The Food and Agriculture Act of 1962 resulted in new tasks for SCS in rural recreation, resource conservation and development projects, watershed development, and cropland conversion.

SCS made 1 million acres of soil surveys for immediate use in rural-urban planning. It provided information on soil and water use in urban fringe areas.

SCS helped plan watershed projects to include recreation and wildlife development, water supply, and other purposes along with flood prevention. Sixty percent of new projects authorized in 1963 are multipurpose.

SCS helped soil conservation districts revise their programs in relation to broadened horizons in conservation. The Secretary of Agriculture signed new working agreements with 500 districts with modernized programs.

RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT

Watershed projects, rural recreation, and all resource conservation contribute directly to rural areas development.

Forty percent of small watershed projects approved for operations in fiscal 1963 are in counties designated for assistance by the Area Redevelopment Administration.

To date, watershed projects have provided more than 6,200 man-years of construction work in rural communities.

SCS provided technical assistance to 2,008 county and area rural areas development committees and to 2,785 technical action panels in fiscal 1963.

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

In response to the Food and Agriculture Act of 1962, the Secretary of Agriculture directed U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) agencies to assist local communities with new-type resource conservation and development projects.

These projects will be locally initiated and sponsored within approved areas of several adjoining counties or watersheds. They will concentrate all USDA programs for the conservation and coordinated development of land, water, and related resources to improve local economic conditions.

SCS is responsible for USDA leadership and will provide technical assistance in planning projects and installing resource conservation and development measures.

In fiscal 1963, local organizations submitted applications for 16 projects covering 22 million acres. The Secretary approved the Lincoln Hills area in southern Indiana as the first project.

RURAL RECREATION

The Secretary of Agriculture assigned to SCS leadership for USDA's activities in developing income-producing outdoor recreation on non-Federal rural land.

Through assistance to soil conservation districts and small watershed projects, SCS helped farmers and ranchers convert land to outdoor recreation uses for pay.

In fiscal 1963 more than 9,800 district co-operators established one or more income-producing recreation enterprises. Of these, 945 adopted recreation as a primary source of income on 238,000 acres of land.

Of 473 small watershed projects authorized by June 30, 17 included recreation and 48 included fish and wildlife as a purpose.

SERVICES TO URBAN FRINGE AREAS

SCS increased soil survey work and consultative assistance to urban fringe areas in response to requests from officials needing information to guide land use planning and development.

It made soil surveys in 20 urban fringe areas under formal cost-sharing agreements with cities and towns and did special mapping work in at least 50 others.

GREAT PLAINS CONSERVATION PROGRAM

In the 383 counties designated for the Great Plains conservation program, SCS assisted farmers and ranchers prepare complete land use and conservation plans as a basis for 2,852 new cost-sharing contracts with USDA.

The plans cover 5,051,330 acres and provide for conversion of 191,826 acres of cropland to other uses.

This is an increase over 1962 of 16 percent in number of contracts and 2 percent in acres.

CONSERVATION PROGRESS, FISCAL YEAR 1963

Programs and plans

	Fiscal year	To date
Soil conservation districts:		
Soil conservation districts (net increase):		
Number.....	13	2,942
Acres.....	13,077,327	1,718,856,998
Farms and ranches in districts: Number.....	24,433	3,653,001
Land in farms and ranches: Acres.....	6,276,222	1,050,990,909
Cooperators:		
Number.....	114,785	1,979,151
Acres.....	39,765,836	634,928,801
Basic conservation plans:		
Number.....	105,466	1,472,660
Acres.....	37,277,583	455,341,029
Land owners and operators assisted: Number.....	1,041,526
Land owners and operators applying practices: Number.....	665,829
Group project plans prepared:		
Number.....	2,478	27,636
Acres.....	1,141,579	21,078,804
Landowners in groups: Number.....	15,076	202,801
Soil surveys: Acres.....	68,324,163	785,235,012
Great Plains Conservation program:		
Contracts signed:		
Number.....	2,852	12,893
Acres.....	5,051,330	28,438,161
Contracts completed:		
Number.....	989	1,504
Acres.....	1,418,681	2,293,088
Planned cropland conversion: Acres.....	191,826	861,303
Agricultural conservation program:	Program year	
Cost-sharing referrals received: Number.....	387,594
Cost-sharing referrals serviced: Number.....	372,519

Conservation practices applied

	Fiscal year	On the land
Farms and ranches:		
Contour farming acres.....	6,104,602	39,204,454
Conservation cropping systems.....	22,909,067	131,704,734
Cover cropping.....do.....	4,984,775	23,850,064
Crop residue use.....do.....	18,499,453	93,898,863
Strip cropping systems acres.....	667,305	19,043,818
Soeding pasture and range.....do.....	2,693,429	49,122,566
Tree planting.....do.....	375,132	10,717,076
Wildlife development acres.....	220,267	3,019,422
Irrigation land leveling acres.....	511,125	7,587,890
Irrigation water management.....acres.....	2,408,550	8,600,236
Terracing.....miles.....	40,557	1,213,203
Diversion construction miles.....	3,310	82,458
Fold construction: Number.....	53,866	1,262,237
Watershed projects:		
Floodwater retarding structures: Number.....	379	2,578
Grade stabilization structures: Number.....	767	7,901
Silt and debris basins: Number.....	560	16,085
Stream channel improvement.....miles.....	846	1,429
Floodways.....do.....	12	110

SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

The Soil Conservation Service assisted 1,041,526 landowners and operators plan and apply soil and water conservation practices in fiscal 1963.

During the year, soil conservation districts added 114,785 cooperators with 39,765,836 acres of land. SCS helped them prepare 105,466 basic conservation plans on 37,277,583 acres.

On June 30, SCS was providing technical assistance to 2,942 soil conservation districts containing 1,718,856,998 acres in the United States, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

These districts include 97 percent of the farms and 93 percent of the land in farms. Twenty-four States and the two Caribbean territories are completely covered by districts.

Most districts are in the process of updating their programs as a basis for new memorandums of understanding with USDA providing for broadened assistance "in soil conservation, watershed protection, flood prevention, farm forestry, and rural areas development."

CONSERVATION PRACTICES APPLIED

SCS helped 665,829 landowners and operators apply one or more soil and water conservation practices.

Cooperators installed conservation cropping systems on 22,909,067 acres, an increase of 30 percent over the previous year. They practiced contour farming on 6,104,602 acres, an increase of 27 percent.

Water conservation through improved irrigation practices also increased sharply. Farmers leveled 511,125 acres of land and applied irrigation water according to conservation standards on 2,408,550 acres.

Farmers and ranchers following conservation plans seeded 2,693,429 acres of pasture and range, planted 375,132 acres of trees, and developed wildlife habitat on 220,267 acres.

They also built 40,557 miles of terraces, 3,310 miles of diversions, and 53,866 ponds.

SOIL SURVEYS

SCS completed field mapping 68,324,163 acres of soil surveys in fiscal 1963, compared to 65,040,992 acres in 1962.

A total of 785,235,012 acres has soil surveys in sufficient detail for use in conservation planning of farms, ranches, watersheds, and other uses. This is about three-fourths of the land in farms (and half the total land area) in soil conservation districts.

Twenty-eight soil surveys were published during the year, and the maps and texts for 162 surveys are in various stages of preparation for publication.

The use of soil surveys by both public and private agencies and by individuals continues to increase. Nonagricultural users—especially State, city, and town planning groups—are requesting more soils information applicable to urban and suburban areas.

SCS is cooperating with the Bureau of Land Management in three pilot surveys on extensive rangelands in the West.

WATERSHED PROJECTS

Eighty-eight new small watershed projects were approved for operations and 121 were authorized for planning in fiscal 1963, the largest number in any year since the program started.

By the end of the year, 48 States and Puerto Rico had submitted 1,936 applications for Federal assistance covering 138.3 million acres.

On June 30, a total of 890 watersheds had been authorized for planning. Of these, 473 were approved for operations.

In addition, SCS prepared work plans for 11 subwatersheds covering 874,000 acres in the 11 major river basins authorized for flood control work.

Construction work in all types of watershed activity during fiscal 1963 completed 379 floodwater retarding structures, 757 grade stabilization structures, 580 silt and debris basins, 346 miles of stream-channel improvement, and 12 miles of floodways.

RIVER BASIN INVESTIGATIONS

Soil Conservation Service participated with other Federal and State agencies in surveys of 25 major river basins in fiscal 1963.

These surveys aim to develop comprehensive plans for the coordinated and orderly development, management, and use of the water and related land resources of the basins.

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

During fiscal 1963 SCS completed a tentative work plan for a watershed project in Tunisia under contract with the Agency for International Development (AID).

SCS also contracted with AID to provide technical services to the Government of Algeria in rural rehabilitation and soil conservation.

During the year SCS made available to AID 12 professional conservationists for short assignments in 6 countries.

SCS assisted with training in the United States of 330 foreign nationals from 60 countries.

CONSERVATION NEEDS INVENTORY

Results of a National Inventory of Soil and Water Conservation Needs, begun in 1957, were published in August 1962 as USDA Statistical Bulletin 317.

All agencies of USDA concerned with land and water resources cooperated in the inventory under the leadership of SCS. State and local representatives of USDA and other interested agencies participated in all counties.

The inventory revealed that nearly two-thirds of all non-Federal rural land needs conservation treatment of some kind and 8,368 small watersheds need community-type projects for flood prevention and water management. (See table.)

Conservation needs

	Acres	Percent
Non-Federal rural land needing treatment:		
Cropland.....	272,060,000	62
Erosion hazard.....	181,582,000	37
Excess water.....	59,925,000	14
Unfavorable soil.....	36,463,000	8
Adverse climate.....	14,111,000	3
Pasture and range.....	364,797,000	73
Establishment of plant cover.....	72,380,000	14
Improvement of plant cover.....	107,570,000	22
Protection of plant cover.....	184,847,000	38
Forest and woodland.....	242,371,000	55
Establishment of timber stand.....	69,656,000	16
Improvement of timber stand.....	160,260,000	36
Erosion control.....	12,464,000	3
Other land.....	10,358,000	17
Total area needing treatment.....	889,606,000	62
	Number	
Small watersheds needing projects for—		
Flood prevention.....	6,364	50
Erosion control.....	4,661	36
Drainage.....	3,937	31
Irrigation.....	2,625	21
Total number needing projects for 1 or more purposes.....	8,368	

Otepka

THE COVER-UP—A NEW MORALITY

Mr. DOMINICK. Mr. President, I bring to the attention of the Senate one matter which I think is particularly important. This deals directly with the struggle between the legislative and executive departments, in connection with actions of the executive department. As Senators well know, on many occasions there have been investigations of what happens in various departments, including the Billie Sol Estes case, the Otepka case, and a number of others.

It now appears that in almost every instance in which some employee of one

of the executive departments gives Congress information leading to an investigation and the revelation of dealings which, to say the least, are not proper, that person is punished by his department; and the person who has not done anything about it, and has resisted in many instances the bringing of evidence from other departments to Congress, gets a promotion or goes free from criticism.

I have before me two newspaper articles which comment on this situation. One is from the Rocky Mountain News of June 7, 1964. The article is entitled "Federal Wheels Grind Slowly in Bizarre Security Case." This pertains to the Otepka case.

The other article is from the Washington Star. It is entitled "The Coverup—A New Morality—Record Shows Federal Officials Who Expose Shady Deals Get Bounced."

Because I think this is of such importance, I ask unanimous consent that these articles be printed at this point in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the articles were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Rocky Mountain News, June 7, 1964]

FEDERAL WHEELS GRIND SLOWLY IN BAZARRE SECURITY CASE

(By Richard H. Boyce)

WASHINGTON, June 6.—Every workday morning Otto F. Otepka, a \$16,900-a-year Government employee, goes to the State Department, and every afternoon he goes home. During the 8 hours in between, Otepka does nothing but read the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Otepka is Chief of the State Department Security Evaluation Division. But he is not permitted to do the work he is paid for.

He gets no important Department mail. In an entire year he has had only two Department phone calls. Fellow workers snub him. He's not invited to office luncheons or Department social affairs.

It's a lonely life for Otepka, 49 and ruggedly handsome. He thinks his office is bugged. He doesn't trust his desk telephone. He won't let his private briefcase out of his sight, even takes it to the washroom with him.

He reads the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD because his superiors told him to—after they filed charges against him that can cost him his job. Reading the RECORD is supposed to keep Otepka busy until a hearing is held on his ouster. He has been doing "mostly nothing" for a year now—a hearing date still hasn't been set.

TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS' SERVICE

Otepka has been in Government service for 28 years, moving up all the time—until last year. His troubles started after he testified in November 1961 and March 1962 before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee. As a long time security expert, Otepka told the Senators that some new State Department appointees were being given rush-job security clearances.

The committee at the time was investigating Fidel Castro's rise to power and his links with communism. Otepka had something critical to say about that, too, in connection with high State officials and State Department security practices.

Early in 1963 Otepka was called back to the committee. Some of his earlier testimony differed from statements made by other Department officials. To prove he was right, Otepka gave Committee Counsel Jay Sourwine three confidential documents.

CHARGES VIOLATION

This was all right, Otepka said, because Sourwine had security clearance. Besides, Otepka insists, the documents didn't endanger national security.

But the Department said Otepka violated a 1948 order by President Truman forbidding unauthorized disclosure of executive department files. Otepka concedes this, but points to a 1948 law which says "the right of any member of the classified civil service to furnish information to any Member of Congress shall not be denied."

Otepka also leans on a 1958 joint congressional resolution saying "any person in Government service should put loyalty to country above loyalty * * * to any Government department."

Nevertheless the State Department said Otepka's acts were insubordination, and on June 27, 1963, charged him with conduct unbecoming an officer.

AID RECANTS

To get evidence to back up the charge, Otepka's phone was tapped. Later John F. Reilly, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Security, and Elmer D. Hill, Chief of the Technical Services Division, were fired because they lied to the committee, saying they knew nothing of the wiretap.

David Belisle, Reilly's special assistant, told the committee he knew nothing of it, then recanted and said he knew of it but didn't do it. He was transferred to other work outside the Security Section.

Besides the wiretap, Otepka's trash baskets were sifted, his typewriter ribbon deciphered, and his torn carbon papers pieced together. One night his office safe was "burglarized." Someone drilled it open and photostated papers in it.

Twelve file cabinets and two safes in Otepka's office were then impounded by the Department. Otepka was turned out of office, given a cubbyhole, and told to read the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, to determine Congressmen's attitudes toward the security program—obviously a makework assignment.

Seven members of his staff have been reassigned to other work, and Otepka charges this was because they openly declared they would testify for him.

Raymond Loughton, Francis Gardner, Edwin Burkhardt, John R. Norpel, Jr., Harry Hite, and Howard J. Shea—all experienced in security work—were transferred to the Department's Latin American Affairs Section "to review highly sensitive security cases."

They have privately told friends they are doing no worthwhile work.

ACCEPTS DEMOTION

Billy N. Hughes was persuaded to accept demotion to an investigator position created in Memphis, Tenn.

Only 11 security evaluators remained in Otepka's section. To fill the vacancy, field investigators were brought in. Otepka believes they are not experienced in handling the complicated evaluation system he worked out.

Otepka demands that he be reinstated. Under Department regulations he is entitled to a hearing before another Department employee. Otepka wants an outsider to hear the case.

A decision has been hanging since Otepka filed his demand on January 20.

[From the Washington Evening Star]

THE COVERUP: A NEW MORALITY—RECORD SHOWS FEDERAL OFFICIALS WHO EXPOSE SHADY DEALS GET BOUNCED

(By Richard Wilson)

The handwriting on the wall has been written large here: Don't buck the system. This truth is freshly proved by a Government distinguished service award to an obscure official named Horace D. Godfrey. Mr. God-

frey is the Administrator of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service under Agriculture Secretary Freeman.

It is charged in the House of Representatives that Mr. Godfrey was given this award although in his branch of the Federal service "obviously a coverup was attempted in the entire Billie Sol Estes case." The evidence in the Billie Sol Estes investigation showed, it is charged, incredible confusion, mismanagement, lack of records, duplication, and "woeful lack of management and knowledge of what was going on in the Estes case."

Mr. Freeman so values Mr. Godfrey today, however, that he confers upon him the highest accolade of his Department as an example to others.

But what the man who testified and supplied records to show that the bigtime Texas promoter now under prison sentence for fraud was shown favoritism in Mr. Freeman's Department as early as November 1961? This man, N. Battle Hales, has been denied an automatic in-grade promotion which would ordinarily have come to him in the course of his Federal service. Thus the accuser languishes and the accused flourishes, although the record seems clear that Billie Sol enjoyed a favored position in the Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Freeman has no monopoly on this technique. One Jerry Jackis, who revealed to Congress the use of foreign aid funds in Cambodia for a Communist-sponsored hospital, was fired while the State Department official who made a record against him was promoted.

Otto Otepka, State Department security official, who committed the unforgivable sin of peaching on his superiors and telling Congress what is wrong with the internal security system in the State Department, is in limbo. But William J. Crockett, Deputy Under Secretary, who was in charge of the Otepka matter for Secretary Rusk, is up for promotion to career minister, a better job. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee is looking into this because the record shows wiretapping, general harassment, and attempts to degrade Mr. Otepka after he helped the Senate Internal Security Committee to expose some of the weaknesses of the State Department security system.

It is worth noting also that Gen. Curtis LeMay has been given an extension, at least until after the election, of his tenure as Air Chief of Staff. General LeMay protested against the multimillion-dollar award of the TFX contract for what he thought was a second best fighter plane to be used by both the Navy and Air Force. The Navy commander, Admiral Anderson, who also objected openly before Congress, has long since vanished from the Washington scene. But General LeMay was pointedly given only a 1-year reappointment, instead of the usual 2, and this has now been extended. But it looks as if General LeMay's service is rapidly coming to a close.

The pattern set in these several cases is shocking. The lesson taught to Federal officials is that if they see mismanagement, wrongdoing, or bad judgment they would be wise to keep their mouths shut if they wish to maintain or improve their job status.

Their worst sin would be to tell their story to Congress, although it is the clear and imperative responsibility of Congress to inquire into the operation of Federal executive departments funded solely by the votes of Congress. Congress controls absolutely the appropriation of money to operate the Federal Government and of taxation to provide these funds. This is its exclusive power, and Congress has the right to know how the funds are spent.

Some kind of a new morality seems to have gotten lodged in official Washington. It is the morality of blind loyalty to superior authority and complete obeisance to the word

13312

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

June 15

from on high. It is the morality of coverup in the Billie Sol Estes case and whitewash in the Baker case. And it is not a very healthy atmosphere for the prudent conduct of the public's business.

SALVATION ARMY? DOES BATTLE

Mr. BARTLETT. Mr. President, assistance to Alaska in its great disaster has flowed from many organizations and individuals. Alaskans will long remember March 27 and its aftermath, but I believe as the years go by the good done by these private individuals and associations will live longest in their memories.

One of the organizations which has contributed so much is the Salvation Army. Most of us in the United States in one way or another probably have had associations with this great organization. However, I do not believe many of us know in detail the good deeds performed by the Salvation Army in behalf of those caught in personal losses and tragedies. I believe, therefore, a report which I have just received telling how the Salvation Army went about its job after the Alaska earthquake and subsequent tidal waves will be of particular interest. I ask unanimous consent that the article may be printed in the RECORD at this point.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

ALASKA EARTHQUAKE AND TIDAL WAVES

Almost before the earth had stopped shaking on that memorable Good Friday afternoon, March 27, 1964, the Salvation Army was here, there, and everywhere giving needed help.

As the days became weeks, this service continued in all of the stricken areas, supplies being distributed and money provided with no strings attached, an example of people helping people that Alaskans will never forget.

The end is not in sight. Damage wrought by the tidal waves proved most disastrous in some areas and was followed by still further property damage from unprecedented high tides. Homes were destroyed and businesses wiped out with tragic losses that will require assistance for months to come.

In the beginning, when it became apparent there had been a major disaster, Maj. Forrest Moseley, division secretary, quickly marshaled forces and all possible reserves; committees and volunteers were quickly organized to perform a variety of needed services. In the early minutes, it was a search and rescue job; then came the stupendous task of clearing the names of missing persons and notifying the next of kin.

The Army was asked to take over the task of processing the thousands of inquiries pouring into civil defense headquarters. Inquiries included everything from missing persons to requests for housing. The divisional headquarters building at Eighth and Barrow became a communications center, with scores of runners, investigators, and secretarial assistants locating missing persons and compiling lists of former residents of the hard-hit Turnagain area.

Services of the MARS (U.S. Army Communications) and SAU (Strategic Air Command), RACES (Ham Radio Network) consisting of over 800 operators in Alaska, and three teletype operators from Fairbanks, were put at the disposal of the Salvation Army. The Air National Guard, PNA, and other airlines flew in large supplies of bedding, toys, food, and clothing from several States. Civil Air Patrol and military planes from Elmendorf and Fort Richardson made

possible the quick distribution of supplies to all disaster areas. Other Salvationists organized a production line for preparing sandwiches, coffee, and other food, which was dispersed through 10 mobile canteens for Anchorage disaster workers, guards, and other "on duty" personnel. It proved to be an immediate morale builder for the stricken to find that someone cared or was interested and shared in their grief with a kindly "God bless you."

Total mobilization of all facilities, personnel, and equipment was offered to the city and State Civil Defense. Five areas of service were agreed upon for immediate action:

1. Mass feeding: (a) social center; (b) mobile canteens.
2. Emergency housing.
3. Receiving and distributing clothing.
4. Processing inquiries and notifying next of kin.
5. Establishing offices and personnel in disaster areas.

An organization was effected with officers in charge of the above major divisions, assisted by other officers and volunteer workers.

In the early hours the Salvation Army established sleeping accommodations in the Anchorage Post Office building. Food, water, and hot coffee were provided, and the homeless were accommodated in the hallways of the post office, with cots, mattresses, and blankets from the military and others.

All telephones were out in Anchorage, and the only means of communication between Army workers was the use of radio station KENI. Each worker carried a transistor radio.

The movement of canteens and preparation of food was constant. Army workers slept and worked in shifts, but sleep was limited to a few hours at a time. Sandwiches were made at the rate of 1,000 an hour when the demand was greatest. The social center at Eighth and C became a depot for serving hot meals and distributing food, baby supplies, and household effects. The headquarters building, Eighth and Barrow, was set up to distribute clothing and bedding and provide for special needs.

A private detective agency volunteered its services and "Hot Rod" club runners, as well as Explorer Scouts and other groups with cars, spent many hours tracking down missing persons, utilizing all available leads. Inquiries pouring in from all points of the United States and from countries around the world were promptly processed by Mrs. Major Moseley and volunteers and replies returned at once.

Many unusual requests came to the Army:

Salvationists helped to remove a man who had barricaded himself in a hotel room.

Three elderly women were assisted from their home in a badly devastated area of Anchorage.

Racing with the stork was a girl from the Army Booth Memorial Home who faced an additional emergency brought on by the earthquake. With transportation impossible, Salvationists literally walked her to the Native Hospital six blocks away just in time to beat the stork.

On Sunday morning, the Salvation Army was asked to present an Easter service to the community via radio, since all churches were closed. The broadcast originated in Anchorage and was received with gratifying reaction from many remote areas.

Sorting and distributing clothing for all disaster areas required immediate coordination. The divisional headquarters building was set up as the distribution center for Anchorage, under the direction of Mrs. Capt. William Lynch.

Under the able leadership of Mrs. Lieutenant Colonel Rody, a warehouse was obtained for sorting, sizing, and packing clothing, bedding, and household furnishings. A produc-

tion line, preparing for shipment to various parts of the State as needed, was set up.

The machinery of assisting other communities with cash and supplies was put into motion. Lieutenant Colonel Rody, divisional commander, made a complete survey of all outlying communities affected by the earthquake and tidal waves and established offices in each stricken town, where Salvation Army personnel began working with local committees in the tremendous job of assisting the homeless and helping small businesses to re-establish the economy of the communities.

SEWARD

Maj. Lester Holmes, service extension director, was sent almost immediately to Seward with a load of supplies. He set up a canteen in the State employment office, which became a 24-hour-a-day meeting center. Since the Alaska Railroad had been demolished, he obtained a truck for making regular trips to outlying areas cut off from sources of supply. Later, Mrs. N. V. Jensen came from Portland to take over his duties.

Working with the Seward Disaster Committee, she continued the canteen service and began plans for filling the greater needs of families and businesses. Of the 87 Seward homes destroyed, 60 were those of people in the low-income group; \$18,000 was provided for immediate cash assistance in replacing personal effects. Medical bills for individual needs amounted to \$5,250. In some cases, the Salvation Army paid rent and purchased necessities.

Serious losses in the Seward hospital included destruction of kitchen and laundry equipment and the generator. An emergency generator was purchased and funds made available for replacement of other equipment.

KODIAK

Damage to Kodiak was so extreme that Lieutenant Colonel Rody estimates emergency help will be needed there for a year or more.

Following the quake and wave disaster, Lt. Col. Max Kurtz, former Alaskan divisional commander, was sent from San Francisco to Kodiak, where he made a careful survey of the most urgent needs. He set up headquarters in the civil defense trailer at the request of the civil defense director.

With the economy at a standstill because of loss of the boats and canneries, Lieutenant Colonel Kurtz aimed at quick repair of vital small businesses, dispersing funds to augment what was available locally. A sawmill and boat repair shop were given immediate assistance with \$7,500, and a cannery with \$3,000.

Twenty-seven families who had suffered total losses received immediate cash grants totaling \$3,000, and \$12,000 additional was set aside for emergency needs, which so far have helped 50 families. A total of 180 homes had been destroyed.

As in other communities, the Salvation Army set up a service center for dispensing such necessities as baby food and diapers, detergents, bedding, rain gear, and clothing for children and adults.

Now in charge at Kodiak are two Salvationists, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Thompson, who maintain an office and coordinate the continuing needs of the islanders. At their request, the Anchorage headquarters sends needed supplies and funds. The most recent shipment consisted of 1,800 pounds of clothing, detergents, canteen supplies, bedding, and blankets which were part of a gift sent by Japanese businessmen. The total commitment to date for Kodiak is \$24,000.

VALDEZ

Valdez suffered almost total devastation.

Brig. and Mrs. Stanley Jackson of Prince Rupert arrived shortly after the quake and flood, setting up a headquarters office in the State highway building. An Army detachment from Fairbanks provided personnel to