

## General information

# HURRICANE CAMILLE: A MONTH OF FEDERAL ACTION

Office of Emergency Preparedness\*

### 1. Editorial Introduction:

The Office of Emergency Preparedness, in the Executive Office of the President of the United States of America, is established to advise and assist the President in the total non-military defence and emergency preparedness of the United States, for the events either of war or natural disaster. The OEP administers for the President the natural disaster relief program for assistance to areas stricken by hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, floods and other natural catastrophes.

Information about the responsibilities of the OEP is given in the preceding paper, Federal Disaster Assistance in the United States of America.

The most severe natural disaster in the U.S.A., so far, was caused by Hurricane Camille in the period of August 17 to 21, 1969, as that hurricane progressed on a curling course through the States of Mississippi, Louisiana, West Virginia and Virginia. The hurricane caused 248 reported deaths, and a loss of public and private property estimated by the OEP at \$1,412,750,000.

A copy of a report of September 25, 1969 with the above title, has been included in a set of publications, reports and news releases of OEP which have been received, by the Editor, from Mr G.A. Lincoln, Director of the OEP. In response to the Editor's request, Mr Lincoln has given his permission for the Society to reprint any of the material in the Bulletin which may be of interest or value for information here. That permission is gratefully acknowledged, and the following article is reprinted verbatim.

### 2. Foreword

This report is prepared as part of the Office of Emergency Preparedness' mission of coordination in cases of declarations of major disaster by the President. Through this medium, each participating agency may know of the actions of other participating agencies, thereby generating increased spontaneous mutual support. In addition, Governors, Congressmen, and others involved may be informed concerning the federal effort.

The personal interest and concern of the President for the people of the disaster-stricken communities has been underlined by visits of both the President and the Vice President. In requesting that I pass on to

\*Executive Office of the President, Washington, D.C.

each participating agency his personal appreciation for the contributions of those responsible for the Camille recovery effort, the President stated:

"The record of what has been done is one which the entire nation greatly admires and deeply appreciates. You and your associates and all those who have helped in this effort should be very proud of the high standard which has been achieved. I hope you will pass along this word of thanks and commendation -- from me and from all Americans -- to all who helped make that achievement possible."

G.A. Lincoln  
Director

### 3. Participating Departments and Agencies:

Office of Emergency Preparedness

Department of the Treasury  
Bureau of Accounts  
Bureau of the Public Debt  
Office of the Treasurer  
Comptroller of the Currency  
Internal Revenue Service  
Cooperation with banking agencies

Department of Defense  
Army  
Corps of Engineers  
Office of Civil Defense  
Air Force  
Navy and Marine Corps

Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Immigration and Naturalization Service  
U.S. Marshals Office

Post Office Department

Department of the Interior  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Bureau of Commercial Fisheries  
Federal Water Pollution Control Administration

Department of Agriculture  
Consumer and Marketing Service  
Forest Service  
Rural Electrification Administration  
Farmers Home Administration  
Agricultural Stabilization & Conservation Service

Department of Commerce  
 Business & Defense Services Administration  
 Economic Development Administration  
 Maritime Administration  
 Environmental Science Services Administration

Department of Labor

Department of Health, Education and Welfare  
 U.S. Public Health Service  
 Social Security Administration  
 Office of Education

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Department of Transportation  
 Federal Aviation Agency  
 U.S. Coast Guard  
 Federal Highway Administration

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

Federal Home Loan Bank Board

Federal Power Commission

Federal Reserve System

General Services Administration

Interstate Commerce Commission

National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
 Marshall Space Flight Center  
 Mississippi Test Facility  
 Michoud Assembly Facility

Office of Economic Opportunity

Railroad Retirement Board

Selective Service System

Small Business Administration

U.S. Civil Service Commission

Veterans Administration

American Red Cross

#### 4. Office of Emergency Preparedness

Since Hurricane Camille -- one of the most savage storms ever to strike the mainland of North America -- slammed into the Gulf Coast of Mississippi and Louisiana on August 17, 1969, more than 100 members of the President's Office of Emergency Preparedness have been involved in marshalling federal response to this massive disaster.

Initial field command and control was exercised from OEP's regional headquarters in Thomasville, Georgia, and Denton, Texas. However, following detailed tours of the disaster area OEP Director George A. Lincoln and his Deputy Fred J. Russell, a new command post was established in Gulfport, Mississippi. From this headquarters, co-located with other federal and state officials having prime responsibility for recovery operations, George E. Hastings directs federal efforts along the entire Gulf Coast. Hastings, director of OEP's Southwest region, is acknowledged to be the nation's top hurricane recovery expert.

His deputy, Creath A. Tooley, director of the Northwest OEP region, supervised the massive restorative efforts in Alaska following the Good Friday earthquake of 1964.

Hastings has established four satellite offices -- in Biloxi, Pass Christian and Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, and New Orleans, Louisiana -- to coordinate the efforts of the more than 20 federal agencies with assistance roles. In the Gulf Coast area, more than 20 OEP disaster specialists from around the nation have been coordinating the federal supplemental efforts and administering funds triggered by the President's major disaster declarations for Camille in Mississippi and Louisiana.

Other OEP disaster specialists under Regional Director Robert Carmody, with headquarters in Olney, Maryland, have fanned out to the stricken areas of Virginia and West Virginia. They are coordinating the efforts of many federal agencies now providing supplemental assistance to state and local governments.

Based on data developed by or furnished to the OEP by other federal agencies and the American Red Cross, following is an assessment of Camille's impact on people and property in the four states affected most severely. See Fig. 1.

#### 5. Department of the Treasury

Immediately after the hurricane struck, Treasury offices placed in effect emergency measures designed to help with the financial needs of storm victims and contributed to restoration of the economies of the disaster areas. The measures, patterned on previous Treasury assistance to victims of hurricanes and other disasters, include both individual actions by the Department and cooperative efforts with other federal agencies.

The Bureau of Accounts

The Bureau has speeded up processing and release of monthly checks to regular recipients in the Gulf Coast area. It has also established an emergency disbursing office in Gulfport to make funds available quickly to persons obtaining disaster loans from the Small Business Administration.

More than 17,000 Treasury checks scheduled for delivery in early September to retired persons, veterans and other regular recipients in the hurricane-damaged areas of Mississippi and Louisiana were released to the postal service two days ahead of the normal schedule. This action facilitated delivery of checks on the regular payment dates by emergency post offices in the disaster areas.

Treasury will continue the early release arrangement if it is deemed necessary by the Post Office.

The speed-up in processing has been accomplished by the Bureau of Accounts at little additional cost.

**Figure 1**

Impact of Hurricane Camille on People and Property  
as of approximately September 15, 1969

	<u>Miss.</u>	<u>La.</u>	<u>Va.</u>	<u>W.Va.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Dead	130	7	109	2	248
Missing	40	0	43	0	83
Total families suffering loss	64,154	7,737	3,763	363	75,653
Dwellings destroyed	3,880	1,768	338	36	6,022
Dwellings major damage	12,111	1,751	415	84	14,361
Dwellings, minor damage	29,684	1,883	1,870	218	33,655
Trailers destroyed	421	651	71	12	1,155
Trailers, major damage	388	266	73	6	999
Farm buildings destroyed	673	102	430	300	1,505
Farm buildings, major damage	2,214	75	526	15	2,830
Small businesses, destroyed or major damage	568	111	101	5	785
 <u>DOLLAR:</u>		<u>Public</u>	<u>Private</u>		<u>Total</u>
Mississippi	\$200,000,000	\$750,000,000			\$950,000,000
Louisiana	10,000,000	312,000,000			322,000,000
Virginia	10,000,000	130,000,000			140,000,000
West Virginia	250,000	500,000			750,000
 TOTALS	 \$220,250,000	 \$1,192,500,000			 \$1,412,750,000

Treasury's emergency disbursing office -- a branch of its Birmingham Disbursing Centre -- was established September 3 in space provided by SBA in its disaster loan headquarters at Gulfport. Treasury personnel work alongside SBA loan officials, issuing checks to borrowers within minutes after SBA has approved their home and business rehabilitation loans.

Through September 15, the disbursing office had made 221 loan payments totaling \$353,000. It expects to make 100 to 200 payments a day during the next few weeks. Teams of volunteers have been formed in the Birmingham Disbursing Center and Bureau headquarters in Washington for assignment to the Gulfport office as needed.

On the basis of its Hurricane Betsy experience, Treasury estimates that the Gulfport office will involve a cost of at least \$20,000.

#### The Bureau of the Public Debt

The Bureau has instructed the Department's paying agents in the disaster areas to redeem U.S. Savings Bonds and Freedom Shares in hardship cases even if they have not been held the required 60 days and one year, respectively.

Where Savings Bonds and Freedom Shares were lost or destroyed in the hurricane, Treasury is waiving the normal six-month waiting period for replacement and speeding the issuance of duplicate securities.

The Department also is giving preferential handling to claims for relief because of loss, theft or destruction of other registered securities, and to requests for replacement of destroyed Treasury securities in bearer form.

#### The Office of The Treasurer

The Treasurer has assigned priority to the settlement of claims for the loss or destruction of Government checks covering annuities, salaries, or other payments, and to claims resulting from the damage of currency. Special attention is being given to claims involving hardship.

#### The Comptroller of the Currency

The Comptroller, as administrator of national banks, has assisted in the prompt restoration of full banking services in the hurricane-damaged areas by sympathetic interpretation of banking regulations. Four national banks, all in Mississippi, were damaged by the storm. Except for a branch of one bank, the four are again in full operation.

#### The Internal Revenue Service

The Service has taken a broad range of actions to assist the hurricane victims, including:

- Wide distribution of information on the deductibility of casualty losses under federal tax laws.

- Assistance and counseling for individual taxpayers.

- Specialized assistance for residents of Mississippi who suffered losses because of the heavy destruction of timber in that state.

- Notice to certain fiscal year taxpayers that they may deduct their losses if the hurricane occurred after the end of their tax year but before the due date of their tax returns.

- A ruling that contributions to the "We Care -- Hurricane Camille Relief Fund" will be tax deductible for the donors.

- Arrangements for special attention in the 1970 filing period to special claims and refunds from the disaster areas, so that refunds may be speeded.

- Advice to taxpayers who file declarations of estimated tax that they could amend their declarations on or before September 15, 1969, to reflect any decrease in estimated tax because of casualty losses.

#### Treasury Cooperation with Banking Agencies

The Department also is working with other federal agencies to assure the availability of bank and other credit facilities and services in the Hurricane Camille areas.

At Treasury's request, the Coordinating Committee on Bank Regulation met on August 27 to discuss ways of providing a flow of credit to businessmen, home-owners, and students. Representatives of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, and the Federal Home Loan Bank Board exchanged information on the damage suffered by the institutions under their respective jurisdictions, reviewed the assistance each agency was giving, and discussed longer-term needs of the disaster areas. The representatives agreed on continued close cooperation to provide all possible assistance to the storm-damaged communities.

#### 6. Department of Defense

Well before Hurricane Camille struck, preparations were made to insure that the Department of Defense could respond adequately and immediately in the event of a natural disaster. As soon as Camille had passed, active Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps personnel were rushed into the Gulfport-Biloxi area to join with National Guard and Reserve forces to conduct rescue and relief operations.

The Department of the Army was given the responsibility of coordinating all the military services. Overall mission coordination was conducted in the Pentagon Army Operations Center.

The U.S. Continental Army Command at Fort Monroe, Virginia, coordinated the relief efforts of all the services within the disaster area. This was accomplished primarily through Emergency Operations Centers at Third Army Headquarters, Fort McPherson, Georgia, and at Fourth Army Headquarters, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. In addition, Third Army collocated a Liaison and Coordinating Detachment

with the Mississippi Army National Guard Command Post at Gulfport. This detachment, headed by Major General John M. Finn, provided communications links from within the disaster area to the Office of Emergency Preparedness, the Department of the Army, and Third Army headquarters.

In terms of numbers of men committed to relief operations, the peak military effort was reached August 28 when some 8,660 active, National Guard and Reserve personnel were engaged. As additional civilian engineer and contract manpower reached the area, the military commitment was scaled down to less than 600 by September 8.

#### Army

The largest active Army unit sent to the disaster areas was the 43d Engineer Battalion (Construction) from Fort Benning, Georgia, which left its home base on August 20 and worked in the devastated area until September 8. Equipped and trained to perform heavy engineering work, the men of the battalion opened some 500 miles of road and cleared more than 25,000 tons of debris in supporting recovery operations. On August 26, Company D, 818th Engineer Battalion arrived from Fort Benning. This unit remained in the area, and conducted road clearing and debris removing efforts until September 14.

Army aviators performed a wide range of missions including evacuation of families from inundated areas; removal of hospital patients from threatened sites to other facilities; and search, recovery and supply operations. During the period, almost 600 medical evacuees were moved on Army aircraft. In addition, some 2,400 other persons were transported, along with more than 300 tons of supplies and equipment.

As families were forced from their homes, the monumental task of feeding the hungry fell largely on Army food service teams. Air Force transports flew teams from Forts Bragg, Campbell, Gordon and Jackson into the disaster area on August 21. More than 125,000 hot meals were prepared and served to displaced and needy persons by Army cooks as of September 12.

Contaminated public water systems were a serious health problem. Engineer water purification teams were brought in to alleviate that problem, and Army trucks and trailers transported potable water where needed.

As recovery operations got underway and as the casualty total mounted, state officials turned to the Army for assistance in handling fatalities. Mortuary teams from Forts Benning, Bragg, Campbell and McClellan were flown into the Gulfport area on August 22 and aided local morticians until September 2.

Lending depth to rescue and recovery operations, 15 scout dogs and handlers from Fort Benning joined the effort on August 23. The canines were invaluable in locating victims trapped beneath wreckage and debris.

Other active Army support consisted primarily of providing trucks and drivers, electrical power generators, communications equipment and operators, and laundry teams.

Army National Guard units also assisted civil authorities with rescue, security and clean-up operations. Those units also provided transportation, communications and electrical power generating equipment. At Camp Shelby, the Mississippi National Guard established a refugee center capable of accommodating some 4,000 persons. In addition, the National Guard maintained martial law in three Mississippi counties as directed by the Governor on August 19. Martial law remained in effect until August 27.

On August 23, the Army Chief of Staff initiated Operation Query, setting up a center in Gulfport to obtain information about families of military personnel in the disaster area. Until the operation was terminated on September 4, 84 queries from servicemen all over the world were handled by this center.

#### Corps of Engineers

District Engineers of Mobile and New Orleans committed their equipment and skills to the disaster relief operations from the beginning. Teams of engineers and architects were sent into the area to conduct surveys of public buildings and to determine eligibility for federal assistance. Detailed surveys of harbors, channels and basins were also completed to determine work required before shipping and boating could be resumed safely. Close liaison was maintained with the Coast Guard to position and establish navigational aids in Biloxi Harbor. Also under the District Engineers' supervision were the massive jobs of draining the flooded areas and dike enlargement and restoration.

A three-phase recovery program estimated at \$30 million is being carried out by the Corps in Mississippi and Louisiana.

1. The total value of work under Public Law 875 assigned to the Corps of Engineers by the Office of Emergency Preparedness is estimated at \$15,390,000, of which over \$12 million is in Mississippi and more than \$2,900,000 in Louisiana.
2. Public Law 99 work being carried out under the Corps' statutory authorities total \$6,186,000, of which Louisiana jobs are valued in the neighborhood of \$3,900,000 and Mississippi work at \$2,300,000.
3. Operation and maintenance work consisting of dredging, clearing channel obstructions, reconstruction of jetties and restoration of navigation aids is estimated at \$8,400,000 for the two states. O&M jobs in Louisiana are estimated at \$5 million and Mississippi work is valued at \$3,400,000.

Corps of Engineers contractors in Louisiana have moved 43,480 tons of debris since recovery operations began.

Contractors working for the Corps in Mississippi have moved 73,282 tons, bringing the Phase II clearing and removal operations in Mississippi to 73 per cent of completion. Thirty two contracts have been awarded by the New Orleans District. Corps personnel engaged in Camille recovery operations in the New Orleans District total about 240. Mobile District employees number around 390.

### Office of Civil Defense may provide:

Civil Defense communications systems (including the National Warning System and National Communication System), as well as commercial radio and television, provided storm warnings prior to the hurricane's onslaught. When the extent of damages in Mississippi became apparent, the Louisiana Civil Defense Agency dispatched to Mississippi some 170 ham radio operators with self-sustaining generators and equipment to aid in emergency communications.

Plaquemines Parish ordered evacuation of most of its land areas late Saturday, August 16. At this time the State Civil Defense headquarters went into 24-hour operation. This center included personnel from State Police and public safety units in adjacent parishes and communities along the coast. Civil Defense Emergency Operation Centers (EOC'S) were activated, with shelters opened and prepared for operation as far inland as Natchitoches, 250 miles northwest of New Orleans.

Immediate public response to the possible needs of the Camille victims in Mississippi, Louisiana and Virginia was overwhelming. Public officials took immediate steps to send massive aid to the affected areas. As a result, most of the civil defense directors in the disaster areas were swamped with volunteers, food, clothing, equipment, medical supplies, medical personnel and other technicians. A number of civil defense directors established reception and staging areas for receiving and dispatching this aid.

Emergency Civil defense organizations and procedures were activated in advance of Camille since it was anticipated that the hurricane would virtually eliminate local government in the most severely hit areas.

#### Air Force

The focal point of Air Force assistance was Keesler Air Force Base at Biloxi. Even before the storm had passed, Air Force personnel went into communities adjacent to the base, surveying damage and performing rescue operations.

Air National Guard and Reserve men and aircraft joined active duty personnel in evacuating families from flooded and threatened areas, and in bringing in recovery equipment, personnel and supplies. Some 800 relief personnel and 500 tons of equipment and supplies were brought into the area during the critical first 48 hours. Crews from throughout the country joined in the effort, coming from as far as California, Illinois and Maryland.

Evacuation of over 700 patients from Veterans Administration hospitals in the affected area to other facilities was accomplished by the 375th Air Medical Evacuation Squadron from Scott Air Force Base, Illinois. From Gulfport, 600 patients were flown to VA hospitals in Tuscaloosa and Tuskegee, Alabama, and Augusta, Georgia. Another 150 were carried from Biloxi to Miami and Gainesville, Florida; Charleston, South Carolina; and Salisbury, North Carolina.

One Air Force Reserve crew, flying a C-119 transport, brought 16,000 tetanus immunization kits and some badly needed X-ray units to

Gulfport on August 22. Other services and equipment provided by the Air Force included refrigeration vans, electrical generators, trucks and sedans, helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft, and airspace control teams. The Keesler Air Force Base MARS station was also tied into the disaster control network and provided long-range communications.

The peak number of Air Force personnel committed to relief operations on a single day was 4,344 on September 1. By the 9th, the situation permitted the Air Force to withdraw resources committed solely to the disaster area, but support continues on an individual, mission-request basis.

#### Navy and Marine Corps

Before Camille hit, Navy disaster relief preparations began with establishment of a command communications center in Gulfport on August 16. Initial relief operations were undertaken by three Mobile Construction Battalions (SeaBee), the station complement of the Pensacola Naval Air Station, and the 8th Naval District Headquarters at New Orleans.

About 70 Marines from the SeaBee Center also were sent into the area with several trucks and amphibious tractors. About 500 persons who took refuge in a warehouse were relocated to a safe area by the Marines when the warehouse collapsed. Marines continued to evacuate stranded persons to sheltered areas, conduct search and recovery operations, and set up and staff medical aid stations as required.

The three Navy construction battalions were initially assigned road-clearing duty. One battalion went to Long Beach, another to Pass Christian, and the other to Gulfport. The battalions cleared more than 200 miles of roads, assisted in restoring electricity and water service, and provided stretcher bearers and other services.

Other Navy support consisted of providing electrical power for a radio station, nursing home, food storage sites, and water purification and pumping plants.

Navy amphibious vehicles were used in search operations, and for transporting injured and displaced persons to the base for treatment, care and housing. In addition, the Navy provided accommodations and meals for highway department workers and electrical linemen. The USS Bushnell, a submarine tender enroute from New Orleans to Key West, answered a call from the Town of Pilottown and furnished urgently needed supplies and medical aid.

All Navy elements reverted to normal duty status operations on September 8; however, assistance will continue to be provided as required on a case basis.

### 7. Department of Justice

#### Federal Bureau of Investigation

A special Bureau identification team from Washington, D.C. assisted the coroner of Harrison County, Mississippi in the processing of 30 unidentified victims. In addition,

Special Agents in Gulfport handled 62 requests for assistance in locating possible victims.

#### Immigration and Naturalization Service

Two border patrol inspectors based in Gulfport participated in search and rescue operation and escorted supply convoys in the immediate aftermath of Camille. They later provided transportation for federal, state and local officials engaged in relief operations. They were supported by a patrol inspector in New Orleans who shuttled to them gas, water and other supplies necessary for them to remain in operation.

#### U.S. Marshals Office

The Marshall for Gulfport and three of his deputies found quarters for and safeguarded the families of two U.S. judges whose homes were destroyed in Gulfport and Bay St. Louis. This was done while the judges were hearing school desegregation cases in Jackson.

While salvaging court records and books from the U.S. District Court in Gulfport, the Marshal also searched for and located relatives of Senator Eastland.

### 8. Post Office Department

Two post offices were destroyed, in Pass Christian and Waveland. Trailers, from which temporary operations were conducted, were positioned near the destroyed structures. Services in both communities, as well as areas from Alabama into Louisiana, were restored by September 2.

Damages and the emergency steps taken to maintain services are estimated to have cost between \$100,000 to \$150,000.

### 9. Department of the Interior

#### U.S. Geological Survey

Geological Survey crews were dispatched on gas and oil industry damage assessment missions as soon as Camille had passed. At present, Survey oil and gas supervisors are permitting companies which lost tanks, oil wells or other equipment to make temporary arrangements for continued production. These include relocating offshore structures until destroyed facilities are rebuilt.

Survey hydrologists are preparing a hydrographic atlas depicting the flooding cause by Hurricane Camille in Mississippi. They have found that tidal floods exceeded 21 feet above mean sea-level in some places. That is six feet above the previous record high, measured in September of 1947. A portion of the atlas will locate artesian wells which could serve as emergency water supplies in the absence of power for pumping.

#### Bureau of Commercial Fisheries

Bureau experts report extensive damages to fishing facilities and probable severe destruction of oyster reefs as a result of Camille. The estimated capital investment loss to the fishing industry along the Gulf Coast is about \$5 million; repair or replacement

costs are expected to exceed \$8 million. However, all operators, with the exception of one, intend to rebuild their plants.

Inventory losses of canned shrimp and oysters may exceed \$2 million if salvage operations involving some 200,000 cases prove unsuccessful. The Food and Drug Administration of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare will determine the operation's success after a suitable period for incubation of possible organisms.

Damage to commercial fishing vessels was minimal, according to Bureau surveyors. Only seven vessels were beached, and these received only minor damage. However, an unknown number of small skiffs probably are destroyed, but an accurate count has not been obtained.

To assist the commercial fishing industry in its recovery, the Bureau is coordinating inventory Loss Prevention Loans from the Small Business Administration. The Navy, at the request of the Bureau, has refloated several of the stranded vessels.

"Operation Grubstake," a program to return hard-hit fishermen to operation, is being sponsored by the American Red Cross, the Standard Oil Marketing Division, and the Pascagoula Ice and Freezing Company. Grubstake is providing vessels of affected operators with fuel, oil, ice and food needed to resume fishing operations.

Economic loss is enormous to communities primarily dependent on income from the commercial fisheries. The Bureau concludes that the total impact probably will never be accurately determined because of unknown factors related to the expected income loss from oyster production, the value of loss processed products for 1969 and 1970, and the temporary loss of employment affecting the community's payrolls.

#### Federal Water Pollution Control Administration

The FWPCA dispatched a mobile laboratory and five operators to the Gulf Coast as the storm forged into Mississippi. FWPCA personnel were also requested to operate a packaged sewage treatment plant, to locate debris disposal sites, to locate disinfectants to be used for sewage bypassed around inoperable treatment plants and to prescribe pesticides for pest control which are least harmful to human and aquatic life.

The FWPCA was faced with oil pollution problems in the Lower Mississippi River, where some 2,000 barrels of crude oil were lost from a tank farm and covering levees from Bootville to Venice. At their advice, vacuum equipment and straw was used to clean up the oil.

The Middle Atlantic Region of the FWPCA was alerted to the emergency condition in Virginia's Tye River, possibly carrying pesticides and herbicides from a plant at Massies Mill, Virginia, struck by a flash flood.

Also in Virginia, survey teams reported that water and sewer systems at Lexington, Buena Vista and Glasgow had received heavy damages. Water systems were restored to service and the

sewage treatment plants at Lexington and Glasgow are being repaired.

#### 10. Department of Agriculture

Insect infestations were a major threat along the Gulf Coast. USDA deployed over 60 men, using 10 jeep mounted insecticide sprayers and many items of individual equipment to kill flies, mosquitoes and other pests. At last count, 114 drums of malathion have been used to kill insect larvae and pupae. During the peak treatment period, seven Air Force planes were spraying insects in the storm area. USDA spread 100,000 pounds of donated Mirex poison bait to control fire ants infesting over 75,000 acres.

##### Consumer and Marketing Service

To date, an estimated 4,687,000 pounds of surplus Department food has been used by victims of Hurricane Camille. As many as 30 USDA nutrition specialists have been working at one time with local authorities in feeding storm victims.

##### Forest Service

USFS personnel are working with state officials and private industry along the Gulf Coast to help salvage as much as 1-1/2 billion board feet of severely damaged timber and control proliferation of timber destroying insects. The 501,000 acre DeSoto National Forest near Biloxi, Mississippi was the hardest-hit national forestland with 6,000 acres containing 90 million board feet of badly damaged timber. A total of 3,000 acres will have to be cleared and planted or seeded. At the Waynesboro, Virginia George Washington National Forest a heavy loss of life among a large population of campers probably was avoided by middle-of-the-night warning patrols by Forest Service personnel.

##### Rural Electrification Administration

REA made \$2.3 million in emergency loan funds immediately available to four cooperative rural electric systems to speed temporary power to their service areas blacked out by the storm. Another \$6.3 million in REA loans has been approved to enable three of those cooperatives to install permanent lines and equipment to replace those destroyed by Camille.

##### Farmers Home Administration

Recent estimates indicate that more than \$8 million in disaster loans will be needed in four states to restore rural homes and farms damaged by Camille. Mississippi will require at least \$7 million in emergency farm credit, with an additional \$650,000 needed in Virginia, \$500,000 in Louisiana, and \$100,000 in West Virginia. So far, the Administration has accepted about 150 applications for emergency loans from throughout the hard-hit areas. Almost all are applications for housing loans at three percent. To date, 10 housing loans amounting to \$109,720, and five farm emergency operating loans at three percent have been made. The agency probably will receive well over 200 more loan applications from the Gulf Coast area alone. Residents of 33 Mississippi counties, 25 Virginia counties,

four Louisiana parishes, and one West Virginia county have been designated as eligible for these loans by Secretary of Agriculture Hardin.

##### Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

The Service has extended emergency grazing privileges on reserve cropland taken out of production in 15 Mississippi counties and 12 counties in Virginia and made 29 car-loads of emergency feed available from warehouses. Emergency funds for cost-sharing payments allocated by ASCS State Committees for farmland clean-up, fence building, and conservation structure restoration totaled \$300,000 in Mississippi and \$750,000 in Virginia.

##### Soil Conservation Service

Affected landowners have been assisted by SCS personnel on disaster relief projects. Salaries for this effort totaled \$195,000 to date. Thirty Service employees are working full time with the Governor's Forest Disaster Salvage Council to aid landowners in a 19-county area in Mississippi in salvaging timber and in replanting ravaged areas. SCS employees have interviewed over a thousand Mississippi landowners on timber damages and possible harvests to get information for state forestry officials and advise landowners. Existing small watershed project structures in Virginia are credited with helping save lives of numerous campers and hold down flood damage costs.

#### 11. Department of Commerce

##### Business and Defense Services Administration

Through a survey of Department field offices in Louisiana, Mississippi, West Virginia and Virginia, BDSA determined that no contractor with defense rated contracts needed priority assistance to resume production. Had that been needed, the Administration would have issued on-the-spot priorities.

##### Economic Development Administration

As a result of surveys of the Mississippi Gulf Coast by an EDA team, the affected counties of Harrison, Hancock, Pearl River and Stone have been designated for EDA assistance under the "sudden rise in unemployment" provision of the EDA Act. Those counties also have been added to the Southern Mississippi Economic Development District. The Administration's Economic Development Specialist in Mississippi is working with representatives of the OEP and six affected municipalities to assist in expanding utility systems now being restored.

Another EDA team has met with Mississippi mayors and other local officials to identify priorities, estimate replacement costs, and determine pre-existing inadequate facilities which could be improved during restoration.

In Louisiana, EDA officials are working with representatives of the State Department of Industry and Trade to identify ways the Administration can assist the hurricane stricken parishes of St. Tammany, Plaquemines, St. Bernard and Washington.

After field surveys of the affected areas in Alabama, Virginia and West Virginia, Administration officials determined that EDA assistance was not needed in those states as a result of Camille.

#### Maritime Administration

A technical expert on port matters was dispatched to the Gulf Coast to consult with local, state and other federal officials on problems of navigation, port and pier structures, and waterways in the aftermath of the hurricane.

The Administration's New Orleans office released for distribution in devastated areas of Mississippi and Louisiana the following excess items: 3,000 blankets, 8,000 pillowcases, 25,000 sheets, 15,000 hand towels and 30,000 bath towels.

The Administration's assistant director of ship operations in the Gulf Coast, accompanied by representatives of the Navy and the Murphy Pacific Marine Salvage Company, surveyed the SS ALAMO VICTORY, forced aground at Gulfport. The survey concerned aspects of refloating the vessel, discharge of cargo, the feasibility of continued manning of the vessel, and to determine injuries. Two representatives of the agency's legal staff also visited Gulfport to determine liability.

#### Environmental Science Services Administration

The Weather Bureau, with the Department of Defense, has begun a study of ways to better predict the direction and intensity of hurricanes following Vice President Agnew's statement that Camille forecasting was inadequate.

Environmental Science Services Administrator Robert White said the Navy Constellation aircraft used in tracking the storms, despite excellent radar equipment, could not penetrate the eye of some hurricanes; Air Force C-130's, with inferior radar equipment, can enter the eye.

White said several options are being considered, including exclusive use of C-130's with improved radar, developing a procedure that would allow the Constellations to enter the eye, or using a different plane entirely. However, White said, construction of a special hurricane hunter plane is not being considered at this time.

ESSA has noted that hurricane hunter planes as well as land based radar, tracked the storm from Thursday, August 14. A Navy plane reconnoitering a tropical wave in the Caribbean that morning encountered a fast-developing depression which reached storm intensity while the aircraft still was in the area. The first advisory on the new storm, which became Camille, was issued at 1:00 p.m. EDT that day by the Weather Bureau's National Hurricane Center in Miami.

The last advisory -- number 20 -- was issued at 11:00 a.m. CDT Monday, August 18. It reported the storm weakening as she moved northward through central Mississippi.

## 12. Department of Labor

About 350 homeless boys of the Neighborhood Youth Corps have been assisting local government, units in Mississippi in recovery tasks as assigned by town, city and county officials.

Among the jobs they have been performing are unloading emergency supplies from planes and trucks, assisting in the distribution of those supplies, and removing debris.

They are being paid from Department Manpower Training Funds.

## 13. Department of Health, Education and Welfare

DHEW quickly responded to Camille, both in the the Gulf Coast and in the Virginias, dispatching special teams to all major trouble spots within 24 hours after the first report of an emergency.

In the weeks that have followed, the Department has furnished well over \$4,250,000 in materials and services to the stricken areas. Regional offices were authorized to draw on Public Health Service medical stockpile reserves and units of the Surplus Property Program. Using these reserves in the recovery effort, DHEW has supplied hundreds of thousands of items, such as 50,000 doses of typhoid vaccine, 1,000 bottles of insulin, 3,100 bottles of tetanus toxoid, over 100,000 doses of children's vaccines, 25,000 disposable syringes, and an undetermined number of refrigerated trucks, mobile toilet units and 50-kilowatt generators for emergency power requirements.

#### U.S. Public Health Service

Prepositioned packaged disaster hospitals were put into operation to care for Camille's victims, and more such hospitals were sent to the Gulf Coast and affected parts of Virginia and West Virginia from adjacent areas. More than 100 public health officials, including sanitary engineers, assisted local health officials in recovery of sewer and water systems. Service physicians helped local doctors treat the injured. Food and drug inspectors cleared contaminated food and drug supplies and supervised burial of decaying animals by the Army Engineers. Epidemiologists and insect and rodent control specialists helped bring major health hazards under control. Working with members of the State Board of Health in the affected states, DHEW officials have declared large areas potential health menaces and have directed the removal of debris from private property to reduce harborage for rats and mosquitoes.

#### Social Security Administration

SSA instituted emergency procedures to quickly settle claims for survivors. The Administration also took immediate action to ensure monthly checks to homeless beneficiaries dependent on them for survival.

#### Office of Education

Disaster teams, comprising principally Office Of Education engineers, have been

dispatched to the Gulf Coast states and Virginia to assess damages to public schools.

#### 14. Department of Housing and Urban Development

On Friday, August 22, the Department was instructed by the Office of Emergency Preparedness to provide necessary emergency housing for Camille's victims. The following Sunday families made homeless by the storm and flooding started moving into mobile homes leased by HUD.

A total of 2,745 mobile homes have been ordered by the Department, the leasing price to be reimbursed by the OEP. As they are allocated now, 2,050 will be used in Mississippi, 495 in Louisiana, and 200 in Virginia and West Virginia. As of September 17, 952 families have been housed in Department-owned or leased homes -- 644 in Mississippi, 100 in Louisiana, and 208 in Virginia and West Virginia.

As of August 19, the Department had received 2,770 applications for emergency housing from state and local disaster representatives. DHUD officials estimate that the need for emergency housing in the three states will be between 4,000 and 5,000 mobile homes.

After the hurricane, HUD engineers, together with state water pollution control teams, moved into the disaster areas to assist communities in restoring water and sewage facilities. The agency continues to provide assistance in the form of damage assessment to the Army Corps of Engineers for full restoration of water and sewer systems.

Long-term planning by the storm-damaged communities is under way. DHUD programs such as open space comprehensive planning, urban renewal, code enforcement, early land acquisition, loans, and low-rent public housing figure significantly in these plans.

#### 15. Department of Transportation

##### Federal Aviation Agency

Camille closed the airport at Gulfport, but FAA and airport crews restored it within 16 hours. Lacking lights and navigation aids, air operations were confined to daylight hours. Within 48 hours, portable air navigation equipment was dispatched from Atlanta along with FAA technicians who installed it at Gulfport. Air control towers at Gulfport, Mobile, New Orleans and Jackson were knocked out of service for varying periods of time. Major air traffic control facilities at Laurel and Green County, Mississippi and Grand Owl, Louisiana also were put out of service.

Air traffic service demands in the Virginia area were heavy but FAA facilities were able to provide emergency service beyond normal duty requirements.

A Federal Aviation Agency electronic technician at the FAA Dothan, Alabama Airway Facility Center was killed in an automobile accident while returning home from emergency duty.

No estimate of funds expended or projected can be made as yet.

##### U.S. Coast Guard

Fifteen Coast Guard aircraft and six vessels rescued 55 persons from immediate peril, evacuated another 140 persons, and assisted 39 vessels in distress. Coast Guard aircraft made 32 flights transporting and supporting representatives of other government agencies and made 13 emergency flights carrying urgently needed medical and relief supplies. More than 300 fixed aids to navigation and over 40 navigational buoys were destroyed, lost, or damaged. Those are being restored as quickly as possible. Normal vessel traffic has resumed in all channels.

No estimate of funds expended or projected can be made at this time.

##### Federal Highway Administration

Damage to highways and roads was extensive, particularly in Virginia. Federal payments will be made for two categories -- federal aid highways and for certain other roads.

Current estimates are:

State	Federal Aid Highways	Other Roads
Virginia	\$12,700,000	\$ 6,400,000
Mississippi	10,500,000	300,000
Alabama	1,150,000	-----
Louisiana	300,000	50,000
Grand Total	<u>\$24,650,000</u>	<u>\$ 6,750,000</u>

#### 16. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

The Corporation reports that losses by banks due to damage to properties serving as collateral for loans cannot as yet be measured. An estimate must await such developments as settlement of insurance claims and determination of the ability of bank borrowers to sustain such losses.

The FDIC has not found it necessary to provide financial assistance to insured banks in the disaster area. However, the Corporation has used Camille as a catalyst for the development of a more definitive and self-executing response to major disasters.

FDIC Chairman K.A. Randall says that the ability demonstrated by bankers in the disaster area to resume business deserves praise. In some instances, structural damage made it necessary to find temporary quarters with other businesses. For some banks, functions were curtailed to only those necessary, but late reports indicate a rapid return to complete banking services.

#### 17. Federal Home Loan Bank Board

The Federal Home Loan Bank Board approved measures to provide liberalized credit for member savings and loan associations in the affected areas.

The FHLBB also recommended leniency in the case of borrowers unable to meet contractual obligations owing to the disaster.

## 18. Federal Power Commission

The Commission's role during the Camille recovery effort consists primarily of monitoring reports of repair activities by electric utilities and natural gas firms in the affected areas, and sending this information to OEP.

The major problem encountered was inadequate initial communications with utilities in the disaster area. The Southern Company reported to the FPC in Washington mid-morning August 18 extensive damages to public utilities in Biloxi, Gulfport, Pass Christian and Bay St. Louis. The FPC also initiated contact with Virginia Electric Power Company and Appalachian Power Company to determine preventive and restorative measures taken in Virginia.

The Alabama Power Company in Birmingham, as requested by FPC, airlifted a 250 kilowatt generator to the Gulfport Veterans Administration Hospital, thus providing power until commercial service was restored four days later. This is only a single example of the prompt actions which characterized the electric utility industry's response to the emergency.

Of the seven major natural gas interstate pipeline companies in the disaster area, three suffered damages to their facilities, causing significant interruptions of production and distribution in the area.

Over-all, deliveries to municipal customers have been restored to about 85 per cent of normal demand. Service to Biloxi, Mississippi has been 90 per cent restored; service to Pass Christian, almost totally destroyed, has been only 10 per cent restored.

## 19. Federal Reserve System

The Federal Reserve System activated emergency procedures to ease restrictions on credit needs of bank customers engaged in reconstructing the disaster area.

Under arrangements established by the System's Board of Governors in Washington, the Federal Reserve Banks of Atlanta and Richmond, whose districts encompass the disaster areas, were authorized:

- To relax penalties on member banks for failure to maintain required reserve balances; and
- To make appropriate credit available to disaster-area banks to help them meet emergency conditions.

## 20. General Service Administration

The Federal Building in Laurel, Mississippi began housing refugees August 17.

On August 18 an initial shipment of 125 generators was made to Gulfport and Biloxi, along with 3,000 sheets, blankets, and pillowcases, 5,000 cots, 10,000 sanitary facilities, flashlights, batteries, and disposable eating utensils.

Subsequent shipments included: vehicles and trucks for the Corps of Engineers and others in support of disaster operations; two refrigerator

truckers to the Veterans Administration Hospital in Biloxi to replace a malfunctioning cold storage area; medical supplies, including alcohol, insulin, cotton, tetanus toxoid, and surgical masks, to state and county medical authorities; 5,000 additional blankets to Hattiesburgh, Mississippi for refugees; and building materials, tools, equipment for food services, and bags for human remains to all sectors of the disaster area.

Logistical support by GSA is estimated to be in excess of \$500,000. A single Administration depot shipped 176 tons of equipment and supplies valued at \$205,562 to the disaster area.

Salvage and restoration of records was conducted with officials of the State of Mississippi, and office space was leased to the Small Business Administration.

GSA telecommunications experts were sent to the Gulf disaster area to help restore communications facilities; arrangements were made to extend the Federal Communications System to emergency operating centers.

## 21. Interstate Commerce Commission

Commission field offices processed many requests by motor carriers for temporary authorities to transport fuel oil and other emergency supplies.

Owing to destruction of portions of U.S. Highway 90 along the Gulf Coast, motor carriers transported freight on alternate routes; several carriers issued embargoes because of their inability to serve affected areas. Railroads also were seriously disrupted but continued to operate by using existing open routes, regardless of ownership.

In Virginia, two railroads were granted rerouting orders by the ICC because of severe damage to their own tracks. Serious interstate highway damage in that state also caused deviation from regular routing to remaining open highways.

## 22. National Aeronautics and Space Administration

The Mississippi Test Facility (MTF) and Michoud Assembly Facility (MAF) are located in the Camille disaster area and, after protective preparations on-site, both installations provided substantial assistance to local authorities and disaster victims. The Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC), adjacent to the disaster area, was involved in the recovery effort, as was the Kennedy Space Flight Center in Florida, which airlifted to the Gulf Coast some 16 tons of foodstuffs, clothing, bedding and other supplies, including typhoid vaccine.

Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville

When the Marshall Center learned of the disaster at MTF and MAF, Dr. Werner von Braun sent disaster teams and material to assist in emergency operations in the affected areas. Medical, communications and logistics personnel flew to MTF on August 19. At the same time, a 200 bed Civil Defense packaged disaster hospital, auxiliary power generators, engine fuel, portable water and other essential supplies were being trucked into Pass Christian. MSFC expended about \$40,000 in this operation.

### Mississippi Test Facility, Bay St. Louis

As Camille slammed ashore near Bay St. Louis some 1,060 evacuees, primarily from the coastal cities, were sheltered at MTF. The Facility escaped the expected severe damages from Hurricane Camille, and thus was able to immediately assist local communities. Heavy equipment -- cranes, loaders, bulldozers, and trucks -- was dispatched to the affected areas. Food service was provided both on and off-site. NASA/MTF also acted as a storage and clearing agency for food and clothing donated by various agencies, localities and individuals for Camille victims. About 50 tons were handled during a one-month period.

The emphasis over the first three days was search and rescue. The MTF maintained 24-hour communications with the devastated area, filling requests, where possible, for food, water, clothing, and similar critical supplies. On Friday, August 22, "Operation Inland" was initiated to check by car and aircraft the small communities on the inland path of the hurricane. By Tuesday, September 2, normal mission operations were reestablished. MTF's projected expenditure for Camille recovery is slightly over \$2 million.

### Michoud Assembly Facility, New Orleans

Requests for relief from adjacent communities were heavy and most MAF participation was channeled through the Hurricane Disaster Control Center at the Mississippi Test Facility. Actions by MAF included furnishing a medical relief team for emergency medical services and inoculations; transportation for work crews, food, equipment and medical supplies; evacuating hospital patients; establishing communications; evacuation of victims to up-state shelter areas; and assistance in site restoration services, including salvaging of household goods and personal effects. Projected cost for MAF is \$166,000.

### 23. Office of Economic Opportunity

At the request of Governor John Bell Williams, the president of the Mississippi bar association and the state attorney general, the Office of Economic Opportunity on August 22 provided an emergency grant of \$50,000 to provide legal services for poor victims of the hurricane in eight affected Mississippi counties.

Mississippi officials requested the funds, they said, because they were concerned that the legal rights of the poor should receive immediate attention and protection.

As a result of the grant, low income victims in Harrison, Forrest, Jackson, Marion, Lamar, Pearl River, Stone and Hancock Counties are receiving legal assistance in dealing with the losses caused by the hurricane.

### 24. Railroad Retirement Board

Railroad retirement benefit checks dated September 1 were released to the Post Office Department in Chicago two days early, to ensure timely distribution in the disaster area.

Although the Board has offices in all states struck by Camille, the operations of only one --

in Mobile, Alabama -- were affected. Despite a loss of electric power, the manager kept the office open and conducted some business.

### 25. Selective Service System

All orders to report for physical examination or induction for September and October were cancelled as the affected registrants were deemed more essential to the reconstruction effort. The Mississippi state director determined that there should be no finding of delinquency due to failures and/or difficulties in the communications and postal services,

Virginia and Louisiana continued their normal operations under very difficult circumstances.

All costs involved have been absorbed by the System.

### 26. Small Business Administration

Since Camille slammed the Gulf Coast and dumped torrential rains on portions of Virginia and West Virginia, the SBA has been contacted by more than 15,500 home owners, renters and businessmen in Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Virginia and West Virginia. Loan applications have been provided to 6,930 firms and individuals.

Through September 13, the Administration received 1,194 completed applications -- 1,020 for disaster home loans amounting to \$7,049,961; 174 for disaster business loans amounting to \$5,245,805. During the same period, 407 home loans were approved for \$2,035,440, and 41 business loans were approved for \$513,400.

The SBA is operating from more than 15 special disaster offices in the affected areas.

More loans are expected in the weeks ahead as victims make final decisions for restoration or rehabilitation. Administrator Hilary Sandoval reports that no accurate estimate of money to be expended is possible owing to loss of records by victims, shortage of qualified contractors, and the general chaos still prevalent in the disaster area.

### 27. Civil Service Commission

About 5,000 federal employees are in the immediate area affected by Hurricane Camille.

The Executive Officer of the Interagency Board of Examiners for Mississippi and one staffing specialist set up offices in the Mississippi State Employment Office at Gulfport to assist in the recruitment of 250 temporary employees for the Navy Construction Battalion Center. As of September 5, all but a few of the people needed had been hired and the Gulfport branch of the Interagency Board of Examiners was closed.

Federal agencies took immediate steps to reassign employees who could not report for duty to their regular installations. Employees of the destroyed post offices at Pass Christian and Waveland were assigned work in the Gulfport and Bay St. Louis Post Offices. All but a very few

of the 600 employees of the Gulfport VA Hospital which was damaged severely, were transferred to the VA Hospital at Biloxi.

The funds expended by the Commission in responding to this disaster are estimated to be \$1,300. No additional expenditures are expected.

## 28. Veterans Administration

Efforts by the Veterans Administration to alleviate the suffering caused by Hurricane Camille have been extended to thousands of veterans, VA employees from the area and others caught up in the disaster.

Since communications and mail services were seriously disrupted, Post Office and Treasury officials worked out plans with the VA to speed delivery of checks to veterans who depend on VA pension and compensation payments and to VA employees.

VA employees in various parts of the country initiated drives to assist fellow employees and other victimized by the disaster.

The two VA hospitals buffeted by the hurricane were at Biloxi and Gulfport. Biloxi, though damaged, managed to stay in operation while Gulfport had to be evacuated.

The 729 patients safely evacuated from Gulfport were flown by military aircraft to eight VA hospitals in six southern states: Tuscaloosa, Alabama, 254; Tuskegee, Alabama, 210; Augusta, Georgia, 90; Miami, Florida; 50; Salisbury, North Carolina, 35; Gainesville, Florida, 31; Charleston, South Carolina, 35; and New Orleans, Louisiana, 24.

VA medical teams comprising doctors, nurses and nursing assistants came from VAHs at Jackson, Mississippi, and New Orleans. They assisted at the Biloxi VAH and local community hospitals, established four first aid stations in the Biloxi area and helped immunize victims to prevent epidemic.

The VA hospital at Richmond, Virginia set up a health center for victims of the flood damage Camille dealt to that part of the country, admitted five victims and provided first aid to 22 others.

In the Pass Christian and Gulfport-Biloxi areas, where some 8,500 G.I. loans have been approved by the VA since the end of World War II, veterans whose homes were damaged as a result of Hurricane Camille were urged to contact the VA for assistance.

In cases where damaged homes were being financed by VA guaranteed loans, the VA assists veterans in collecting their insurance and in dealing with private lenders who hold the mortgage. Where the VA has made direct loans, it can work directly with insurance companies, and when necessary, can suspend mortgage payments.

Vacant homes owned by the VA have been offered to flood victims and to relief agencies assisting victims; for example, four such homes were turned over to the Slidell Louisiana Chamber of Commerce for six months for \$1 a month.

Forty-eight other VA-owned homes have been made available -- six in or near New Orleans; two that escaped damage on Mississippi's Gulf Coast, and 40 at Mobile, Alabama.

## 29. American Red Cross

Red Cross disaster specialists and volunteers are well into the rebuilding and rehabilitation phase of the disaster relief operation in the wake of Hurricane Camille, which devastated the Gulf Coast then cause torrential floods in Virginia and West Virginia.

More than 26,00 families in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Virginia and West Virginia have registered for Red Cross recovery assistance, and the number is expected to reach 28,000. Rehabilitation help for these victims of Camille is expected to increase the cost of the relief operation to more than \$20 million, making this the second largest disaster operation in Red Cross history. The 1937 Ohio-Mississippi River Flood relief program cost the Red Cross \$25 million.

This long-term Red Cross assistance is given to families who lack the credit or other resources to finance their own recovery. It includes rebuilding or repairing and refurbishing of owner-occupied homes; replacement of occupational tools and other equipment, nursing and medical care, and helping meet normal living expenses until the families' homes and means of livelihood can be reestablished.

According to present estimates, this recovery help will cost up to \$17 million, in addition to expenditures already made by the Red Cross for mass care and other emergency measures. Building and repair expenditures are expected to exceed \$7.8 million; replacement of household furnishings \$6.6 million; replacement of tools and equipment \$390,000; family maintenance \$2 million, and medical and nursing care \$250,000.

Red Cross disaster workers -- some 550 of them from all over the country -- are moving as rapidly as possible, writing disbursing orders on the spot for such items as mattresses, other household items, occupational equipment as well as developing recovery plans for families needing more extensive aid in home repair or rebuilding.

As part of this rebuilding operation, some 6,600 members of the AFL-CIO affiliated building trades unions in Louisiana will donate their services for six successive weekends to build 150 or more homes for hurricane victims in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. The Red Cross will provide building materials for the project which will start early in October.

During the days immediately after the disaster, the Red Cross gave mass care to more than 230,000 persons in the five states affected, feeding some 100,000 disaster victims and emergency workers daily.

Throughout this relief operation, the Red Cross has had the close cooperation and assistance of the Office of Emergency Preparedness, Small Business Administration, all branches of the military, Civil Defense, state and local authorities, and organized labor.

The Red Cross is conducting a nationwide campaign for \$15 million to provide relief for Camille victims.