

IKE PLEDGES HELP IN DISASTER SECTIONS

President in Hourly Contact With Aides

By NEIL MacNEIL
United Press Correspondent
Gettysburg, Pa.—President Eisenhower Saturday pledged "all possible help" from the government for the Louisiana and Texas hurricane disaster area.

White House Press Secretary James C. Hagerty said the Chief Executive regards the havoc resulting from Hurricane Audrey as "a calamitous situation."

He said Eisenhower is "very much concerned" and has pledged "all possible help" in hourly contact.

The President was in almost hourly contact with aides flown to the stricken areas to make personal surveys. Hagerty said he would order specific government assistance as the extent of the catastrophe is ascertained.

Earlier Saturday, Eisenhower declared the hurricane area eligible for federal disaster funds. He also urged Americans to contribute to the Red Cross, which, he said, "must and eventually will play a major role" in the rehabilitation work.

Eisenhower himself made "an additional contribution" to the Red Cross, Hagerty said.

The President also told Hagerty that he greatly appreciated one gift in particular to the relief agency—\$50,000 from the Canadian Red Cross for the hurricane victims.

Government Assistance

Hagerty said government assistance so far has consisted of:

- 35,000 bushels of grain released by the Agriculture Department to feed 3,500 head of cattle left without feed.
- An order to government depots and military bases to release any "surplus" lumber they have to the stricken areas.
- The dispatch of small ships and helicopters to carry drinking water and food to stranded survivors.

Hagerty said the amount of dollar aid to be made available cannot be fixed for several days. He said the President would have to await detailed reports on the damage.

Among the federal officials on the scene in Louisiana was Val Peterson, former Civil Defense administrator who was making a survey for Eisenhower. He reported by phone from New Orleans on his preliminary findings.

Peterson first talked with Hagerty for about 20 minutes and then with the President. Hagerty relayed Peterson's comments to newsmen.

He said Peterson had no accurate figure on the death toll. Eisenhower mentioned to newsmen Saturday morning that he understood 211 persons had lost their lives. Hagerty said this was an unofficial total but that it was expected to go higher.

Peterson told Eisenhower that "little, if any" drinking water or food was available. He also said the health problem was serious and that there was a great need for lumber.

Peterson declared the main disaster area as a 40-mile stretch running from Cameron and Mor-

Weather Bureau Says Audrey Was Among Best Traced

By HERBERT W. CHESHIRE
United Press Correspondent
Washington—The U.S. Weather Bureau said Saturday that hurricane Audrey was "one of the best forecast, best tracked and most forewarned of hurricanes in history."

Its statement by inference strongly denied complaints by some survivors in the disaster-stricken Louisiana coastal area that there had not been adequate advance warning.

"From press reports, an estimated 75,000 people in the threatened areas evacuated to higher ground and escaped possible death or injury because they heeded weather bureau warnings and advisories," the bureau said.

Advised to Move

"Residents of low-exposed areas were advised early Wednesday—June 26—22 hours before the storm's center hit the coast—to move to higher ground to escape the forecasted rising tides."

The statement was not signed by any bureau official.

Dr. Francis W. Reichelderfer is chief of the bureau. He was not available for personal comment.

A bureau spokesman said those who failed to leave the lowlands either did not hear the bureau's warning—or which, he said, was unlikely—or simply did not heed them.

The bureau said that as a follow-up to its warning service, it had sent Robert H. Simpson, director of its national hurricane research project, and a weather bureau "storm surge specialist" into the stricken area "to conduct a fact-finding survey" on hurricane Audrey's behavior and effect.

Specific Complaint

The specific complaint most often heard from survivors was that they were told at one point the hurricane would not hit the coast until Thursday night when, in fact, it struck about 8 a.m.

Others complained they had no warning of the "tidal wave."

In New Orleans, Ray Kraft, forecaster supervisor at the weather bureau there, pointed out that there was adequate warning in advance of the high tides. He said there was no way to specifically pin down the timing and height of the tides once the area was in the midst of the storm.

He also said the bureau's last advisory stated the center of the storm would hit the coastal area about mid-morning or about 10 a.m. CST, "and that was just about right."



FEEL HURRICANE—Area menaced by the first hurricane of the season, Audrey, is shown on the map above. Cameron, the small Louisiana coastal town washed away in high tides resulting from the hurricane, is located south of Lake Charles and east of Port Arthur, Texas, on the above map. The brunt of the hurricane was felt in Louisiana coastal area.

Welfare Payments Show Increase in May

Portland—The Oregon Welfare Commission Friday blamed depressed business conditions and the rising costs of institutional care for a 17.1 percent average increase in welfare payments during May.

The May figure reached \$2,887,476 as compared with \$2,465,545 for the same month a year ago.

Although budgets from the counties will exceed available funds for the coming fiscal year, the budgets were approved here by the Commission with the understanding that county welfare commissioners would meet with State Director Miss Jeanne Jewett to seek possible reductions.

Quarterly budget for the counties for July, August and September totaled \$9,133,764, the bulk of its total assistance payments to the counties.

The old colored lead pencil (made in a few primary colors) has blossomed into 72 shades—10 times the number of colors in the rainbow.

SWEET STINKER

St. Petersburg, Fla.—Mrs. Gladys Stewart Wahn, a cosmetic saleswoman, didn't exactly call an arresting officer a stinker but he got her message anyhow. Patrolman Richard Kimble told the court Wednesday night that when he stopped Mrs. Wahn for speeding she said "I wouldn't call you a stinker, but..." and then handed him a bottle of her sweet-smelling wares.

The post-Civil War period saw the introduction of mascara at fashionable spas such as Newport and Saratoga. This was accredited to Empress Eugenie.

Survivors Gather at Arena To Identify Those Missing

By JAMES M. FLINCHUM
United Press Correspondent
Lake Charles, La.—Hundreds of persons stood or sat in the rodeo arena at McNeese state college Saturday studying each other's tired faces for a missing relative or friend.

They were the survivors of Hurricane Audrey along the Louisiana coast, brought north to Lake Charles by boat and put up temporarily by relief agencies in the rodeo arena.

Most of these survivors of Audrey came from Cameron parish towns—Cameron, Grand Chenier, Little Chenier and Creole.

Helicopters Shuttle

Helicopters shuttled them in, landing on the college's football field. A man with a loudspeaker greeted them, asking them to register before greeting those they recognized.

Mrs. Percy Dyson sat quietly with two small girls. She left Cameron Friday about 10 a.m. from the courthouse.

"Not a splinter of the house is left. Everything's gone," she said. "We went to the courthouse the night before the winds hit."

The girls were Gloria, three, and Martha, 11 months. Her husband and a son, David, four, had not arrived. But she said they were all right.

Not all of the survivors were natives. Mrs. R. A. Cooke, wife of a Louisville, Ky., electrical contractor, for example, was visiting a sister at Creole.

Her mother and sister-in-law accompanied her there Wednesday. When Audrey's winds increased, the women decided to drive to safety about 3:30 a.m. Thursday.

Wave Strikes

It was too late. Before they could flee, a tidal wave swept over them, pouring water through doors and windows of the house.

The younger women tried to make a raft of debris for her 72-year-old mother, Mrs. W. K. Evans, Sr.

"But then a big wave struck and carried me away. I never saw them again."

She clung to a timber which carried her to higher ground. She remained there until rescued.

In addition to her mother, Mrs. W. K. Evans Jr., the sister-in-law, and Mrs. O. L. Richards of Creole, the sister, were missing.

"But my sister thought there would be plenty of time," she said.

Authorities decided to close the arena late today and move the refugees elsewhere because of sanitation problems.

The only wooden shoe factory in the United States is located at Holland, Mich.

Six thousand persons died in the tornado and tidal wave that struck Galveston, Texas, in 1900.

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gan City on the Louisiana coast inland up to 40 and 50 miles. He said Pecan Island was "very severely smashed" and that Cameron was the most "severely hit town."

Grange Notes

Shady Cove Grange
The Shady Cove Grange met Wednesday evening, June 26, in the Shady Cove school cafeteria with its monthly potluck supper and social meeting.

Several guests were present among whom were Mrs. Ada Shull and Mrs. Stanley Stevens of North Bend, Oregon, and Mr. and Mrs. Miles Williams of Eagle Point Grange.

A short business meeting was called, at which time Mr. and Mrs. K. Oliver received the obligation for the first and second degrees.

The HEC of Shady Cove Grange and the HEC of Upper Rogue Grange will have a noon picnic on July 9 at Casey's park.

The next regular meeting of the Grange will be July 10.

Della A. Littlefield, Publicity Chairman

Griffin Creek Grange
Griffin Creek Grange met for a potluck supper Thursday, June 27.

Following the supper a program arranged by lecturer Mrs. Clyde Sturgif and Mrs. Cyril Farnsworth was presented.

A skit portraying a wedding party of 50 years ago was given in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bierus, who recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They were presented a gift from the Grange.

Grange was called to order by Master Cyril Farnsworth and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Minear were obligated in the first and second degrees.

Petitions were to be given to a committee to get signatures concerning house bill 163 known as the school consolidation law.

As this was the social meeting there were no reports of committees.

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