

PN-ABF-305  
60547

- HURRICANE RICARDO -

FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE SIMULATION  
FOR US EMBASSIES  
KINGSTON, BRIDGETOWN, AND PORT-AU-PRINCE

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**BETAC CORPORATION**

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**FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE SIMULATION  
FOR US EMBASSIES  
KINGSTON, BRIDGETOWN, AND PORT-AU-PRINCE**

Prepared by Betac Corporation for the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance Under AID  
Contract PDC-0000-C-00-3047-00

The scenarios which follow were developed and presented in a simulation exercise by Betac Corporation for the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance of the United States Agency for International Development at the US Embassies in Kingston, Jamaica (June 6-9, 1983), Bridgetown, Barbados (June 9-14, 1983) and Port-au-Prince, Haiti (June 14-17, 1983).

Section 1: Kingston

Section 2: Bridgetown

Section 3: Port-au-Prince

**SECTION 1**

**KINGSTON**

Disaster Assistance Simulation Exercise

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(J38)

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Theodore Yankel, Subject: Welfare and Whereabouts.

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Post Action Required.  
(J41)

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(J42)

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Reporter, Subject; Fire.

Post Action Required.  
(J43)

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Post Action Required.  
(J44)

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(J45)

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(J46)

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OFDA, S subject: Emergency Drug Supplies.

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(J47)

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(J48)

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Post Action Required.  
(J49)

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Minister's Office, Subject: Request for Fuel Bladders

Post Action Required.  
(J50)

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Post Action Required.  
(J51)

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Post Action Required.  
(J52)

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Subject: Focus of Relief Effort.

J02

**EXERCISE**

IMPLEMENTER NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Memorandum

MEMO TO: DCM  
FROM: Ambassador  
DATE: September 7, 1983  
SUBJECT: Request for Disaster Briefing, Wednesday at 4 p.m.

The hurricane news sounds bad. We have had other alerts this season, but I need to be fully assured of our readiness to handle any situation that might arise.

Please brief me tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. in the conference room. I will want to know something of how you assess the local preparedness effort as well as how ready we are ourselves.

I will expect all key players on the Mission staff to participate in the briefing.

J03

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER

Cable (received 0600 Sept. 7).

FROM: SECSTATE

TO: AMEMBASSY KINGSTON IMMEDIATE

INFO: AMEMBASSY PORT-AU-PRINCE IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY NASSAU IMMEDIATE

SUBJECT: Hurricane Advisory

AIDAC for OFDA

1. Wish to call posts' particular attention to latest hurricane advisory from U.S. National Hurricane Center.
2. At 0100 hours on September 7, Hurricane Ricardo was located at 17, N, 73, W. It has been proceeding in a north west direction for the past 12 hours and is expected to continue on this course. The wind speed was reported at 110 mph, with central pressure at 930 millibars. The hurricane is traveling at about 20 miles per hour. The hurricane force winds extend about 40 miles in all directions, with gale winds extending 150 miles north and 100 miles south of the center of the storm.
3. Tides are expected to run 5 to 8 feet higher than normal during the hurricane on the southeast coast.
4. Residents of the warning areas are advised to take actions to protect life and property.
5. Hurricane warnings are in effect for Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica. Hurricane watch is in effect for Bahamas, Caymans and gale warnings are in effect for all of the islands northwest of Hispaniola.

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BRIEFING TO AMBASSADOR;  
TO BE FURNISHED BY POST

J05

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER PRE-EXERCISE NO. \_\_

Cable

FROM: AMEMBASSY KINGSTON NIACT IMMEDIATE

TO: SECSTATE

INFO: SECDEF NIACT IMMEDIATE  
JCS NIACT IMMEDIATE  
CINCLANT NIACT IMMEDIATE  
COMNAVFORCARIB NIACT IMMEDIATE  
COMUSFORCARIB NIACT IMMEDIATE  
USCINCSO NIACT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY GENEVA NIACT IMMEDIATE

UNCLASSIFIED

AIDAC FOR OFDA; GENEVA PASS TO UNDR0

SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Situation as of 4 p.m. Thursday, September 8

1. According to local data, the front edge of the hurricane is less than one hundred miles southeast of Jamaica and moving directly on the island at minimum 20 mph. Authorities here are predicting direct hit on Kingston tonight if present course continues.
2. Winds here are gusting to 60 mph. Rains continue heavy and the sky is darkening rapidly as the hurricane approaches. The traffic leaving the city is badly clogged. High seas are battering the Palisadoes and we are unable to determine whether the airport is still accessible. It was closed to all traffic this morning as reported earlier. Police have now blocked off entire waterfront area.
3. No reports yet of injury or damage in American community. All mission personnel have again been instructed in hurricane precautions. We plan to have key members of staff at the Chancery or immediately available all night tonight.

J06

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER NO. \_

Cable

FROM: AMEMBASSY KINGSTON  
TO: SECSTATE, IMMEDIATE 1100 September 8  
INFO: SECDEF IMMEDIATE  
JCS IMMEDIATE  
CINCLANT IMMEDIATE  
COMUSFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
CINCSOUTH IMMEDIATE

UNCLASSIFIED  
AIDAC FOR OFDA

SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Mission Preparedness

1. In response to Department's telephone inquiry regarding mission preparations for possible hurricane disaster, please be assured that MDRP has been fully aired and local contacts established.
2. Ambassador briefed in meeting at 0900 today with key mission participants concerning Mission preparedness for disaster plan implementation.

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## EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER NO. \_\_\_\_

NBC News Broadcast 11 p.m. Thursday, September 8

"Hurricane Ricardo smashed into the island of Jamaica this evening about 9 p.m. According to Harry Laffe, our news correspondent in Kingston, whose message was one of the last to get through, the situation was one of severe hardship and destruction. The storm surge into Kingston harbor had reached eight feet with ten foot high battering seas. The waterfront devastation was indiscriminate and shocking. The airport was inaccessible. Harborfront buildings were reported flooded to a depth of several feet, and damage to the port was already extensive. The main business section of Kingston was in shambles, and residences were strewn with what once were shutters, roofs, stately palms, and shiny cars. A number of inhabitants of the poorer, lowlying barrios have been reported drowned while frantically seeking safety on higher ground.

Stay tuned to this network for further bulletins on this tragic hurricane situation in Jamaica."

J08

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D - DAY NO. \_\_\_\_

News Dispatch (sent at 1100 Sept. 9)

FROM: AP Correspondent John Abel, Kingston  
TO: AP  
SUBJECT: Shock Sets in After Hurricane Ricardo  
(Following is background for news spots on Jamaica hurricane)

KINGSTON, Sept. 9. We have just passed through the greatest hurricane to hit Jamaica in this century. For those who have not experienced it, the force and fury of the winds and seas is impossible to imagine. They have left the island staggering and battered with a human toll already estimated in the hundreds.

By about 7 p.m. last night, traffic had virtually stopped due to extreme road congestion in the city and inland. Police and fire officials, exhausted from long hours on duty, were gathered at their command posts to sort out the next move. No one could keep count of how many had left Kingston, but it is now clear that relatively few persons fled its crowded shantytowns. The more fortunate stayed in hotels and high rise apartments thinking they would be safe. One policeman reports that numerous residents of one of the new swinging-set Ocean View Apartments stayed and had a hurricane party. But some of them didn't live to regret the decision.

By 9 p.m., ten-foot waves were battering the spit of land where the airport lies. In the harbor waterfront structures were flooded to a depth of several feet. A number of inhabitants of the low lying neighborhoods had been reported drowned; others had frantically sought safety on higher ground. Several stories of heroic rescues by fire and police were told.

A couple of hours later, as the eye of the hurricane passed over the island, the winds dropped to 10 mph, and the air became ominously warm and humid. It was an eerie period of about 20 minutes, calm yet frightening. Some people tried to make it back to their homes or to their businesses; a number died in the attempt.

During this period, several feet of water remained in the streets because of the storm surge which affected the entire water level of the harbor with dangerous flows and deep areas. The sea was in the lobby of many of the ocean-view buildings, as well as in the buildings further up the beach. The glass was broken out of the windows in the city's modern hotels and apartments. It is now clear that the waves washed away the footings of some of the piers and most are no longer usable.

In less than one-half hour the winds again quickly reached hurricane force, indicating that the eye of the storm had passed by. For about six more hours hurricane-force winds pounded the area. The radio meteorologist said the winds were clocked at 112 mph, which meant that Hurricane Ricardo was a Class III hurricane (as measured on the Saffir-Simpson scale).

When the storm resumed, many of those who had stayed as a lark were in a state of panic. Hotel owners and building managers tried to calm those who had stayed and get them into the safer areas, such as the hallways on the second and third floors. In the shanty towns and in buildings of cheaper construction pieces of tin roofing and glass ripped through walks and into hallways. The wave action and heavy rain made everything seem like a wall of water.

By early morning today the winds dropped to below 90 mph, and the hurricane was about 100 miles NNW. The water level was increasing again with the normal tides, although there was a decreasing influence of the storm surge.

Waves continued to batter the Palisadoes (airport spit) and the waterfront. High winds still raked the area, causing more buildings to collapse under the combined beating of wind and water. Reports on the number of people killed and injured were incomplete, but local authorities were reporting growing a death toll from drowning and from the collapse of a warehouse building near the waterfront where many had gathered to ride out the storm. It was only by afternoon, when the wind and water dropped a bit, that emergency vehicles were able to get through in some parts of town.

Calls for ambulances to aid the injured were coming in fast and furiously, but travel was still impossible. Two American doctors in residence at one of the hotels volunteered to help and they and a number of local physicians had to be driven by the fire

department to the Nuttall Hospital, which is serving as a center to provide first aid for the injured. All hospitals are crowded to the walls. A critical problem is the lack of plasma and whole blood to aid those who had been severely cut by flying debris. People are still losing their lives because they are unable to get to medical assistance. Officials are now estimating the death toll at several hundred and injuries from flying debris, exposure, etc. at many times that.

Winds are now dropping to about 20 mph, with occasional higher gusts. Town officials, with the aid of Defense Force units, have begun to comb the debris to look for the injured and the dead. The Prime Minister has called for international help.

J09

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D - DAY NO. \_\_\_\_

Cable

FROM: AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO: SECSTATE NIACT IMMEDIATE

JCS  
USCINCSO  
COMNAVFORCARIB  
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN  
AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO  
SECDEF

CINCLANT  
COMUSFORCARIB  
US MISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY PORT-AU-PRINCE  
AMEMBASSY ANTIGUA

SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Sitrep No. 1, 1500 September 9

AIDAC for OFDA  
Geneva for UNDRO  
Antigua for Preparedness Team

1. As reported in previous cables, Hurricane Ricardo hit Jamaica at 2100 September 8, coming in directly over Kingston, proceeding north across the island and heading for the western tip of Cuba. This is the first round-up Sitrep from the Mission covering the situation in Kingston and elsewhere on the island, attempting to piece together a messy and highly disrupted situation. We will continue to be in regular touch with Department, AID and military by phone since the international telephone links seem to be working.

2. Thus far, Kingston is picking itself out of the debris of the worst hurricane to hit Jamaica in many years. While local and national authorities had monitored this storm closely, and had implemented their preparedness plans, in actual fact the impact and resulting devastation was beyond expectation. The overwhelming force of the hurricane disrupted island communications; placed a crushing burden on the public safety organizations and mechanisms; and caused death, injury, and property damage far beyond what could be planned for or handled. We have been in constant touch with ODP's Devon Road headquarters through E&E radio and by messenger since the departure of the storm. Although international telephone service is still operating, local telephone lines are all down, tangled with the power lines in the streets. This is making contact even by messenger a dangerous adventure. We have offered to help but have thus far received no specific requests.

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3. The Kingston water plant is inoperable and probably will be for a period of several weeks. Pipes both for sewage and drinking water have been broken in many places, plus the wave action has brought all kinds of offal into the harbor. Sanitation is a major problem at this time.

4. Vehicular travel along the streets is impossible. Debris and sand is everywhere as a result of the overwashes, wind and wave action. Only four-wheel drive vehicles are able to move around the lower town. More JDF units have been called to clear the streets and to help restore water and sewage services. The power company has also begun to assess damages; it estimates that it will take several weeks of full-scale effort to replace the power lines and damaged transformers virtually all of which were above ground. The telephone company makes a similar estimate, although lines essential to disaster emergency management should be restored within a matter of days. Police and fire radio communications are the main communication links on the island.

5. The JDF continues to turn away people trying to come into town, including panicky relatives of those thought still to be in the lower town and alarmed owners attempting to get back to see how their houses fared in the storm. Throughout Kingston hundreds of homes are literally gone, including a number where only a few sticks of lumber and remnants of foundations remain to show that they had once been there. Two of the waterfront buildings are so underwashed at their foundation as to be totally unsafe; they are candidates for the wrecking ball. Most of the hotels weathered the blow, although damage is extensive to the exteriors.

6. More serious is the reported damage done to the Kingston airport, docks, roads, and railroad through which all local relief supplies and foreign assistance would ordinarily pass. Damage to the Norman Manley International airport cannot yet be assessed; possible undermining by wave action makes its load bearing capacity highly questionable even after the serious cracks and potholes that dot its surface are given a temporary fix. The road to the airport has disappeared for long stretches. The local airport is unserviceable due to damage to control and communications from flying debris (including one private plane that is now sitting in the main lobby).

7. The railroad is badly damaged in the port area and flooding is reported to have washed out the Black River rail bridge. The docks and piers are also in bad shape, both from direct wave damage and from loss of warehouses and loading and unloading

equipment.

8. Since the storm turned directly north from here, Montego Bay and the northwest ports are reported to be in better condition than Kingston and to be able to handle traffic after minimum repairs. Sangster Airport at Montego Bay is reported to be relatively intact. We have been unable to reach Montego Bay but are trying to get a team up there; the rail bridge outage and the threat of landslides blocking the road make this difficult.

9. The Jamaican government has called an emergency meeting of the National Disaster Committee to assess what is known of the damage thus far, to activate mechanisms to coordinate the work of the ministries and the Parish Disaster Committees, and to deal with anticipated foreign offers and Jamaican requests for foreign help. The Prime Minister has already broadcast a broad appeal to the United Nations and "all Jamaica's friends" for "help in this terrible moment of Jamaica's need". We are trying to get to the Prime Minister and in the meantime are trying to assess relief needs with OPD.

10. Appreciate it if OFDA would alert DOD to possible request for DAST.

11. At this time no rept no relief supplies can be air lifted into Kingston unless by helicopter from Montego Bay. We have 640 tons of PL-480 food in country but unable to determine as yet how much of Kingston stocks still useable. PVO's expect to report during course of this evening.

12. Further details and action requests will be sent soonest.

J10

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_

Cable (sent 0700 Sept. 10)

FROM: AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO: SECSTATE NIACT IMMEDIATE  
US MISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE  
USCINCSO IMMEDIATE  
COMNAVFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ANTIGUA  
COMUSFORCARIB IMMEDIATE

FOR ARA/AS FROM AMBASSADOR  
AIDAC FOR OFDA; GENEVA FOR UNDRO

SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Request for Disaster Help

1. I was called in urgently by the Prime Minister at 0600 this morning. He made a formal request for "whatever help the US could provide to face the current disaster crisis and the subsequent period of suffering and rebuilding." At this time, he said, the great need is for an improved assessment capability, then for easily distributable foodstuffs; bulldozers to clear away the rubble and to aid in recovering the dead and wounded; field hospitals to supplement the limited capacity of the country's hospitals; medicines of all sorts; inflatable boats for work in the flooded area; tents and blankets for those left without shelter; generators for emergency lighting in the hospitals and for 24-hour search and rescue operations; and also substantial numbers of kerosene lamps. The Prime Minister referred me to the ODP and to those responsible in the ministries for details, but asked specifically if we would provide immediately some technical assistance in assessing the damage.

2. As the Department is aware from our previous communications, the hurricane has done enormous damage in the city and north to the coast. We are following up urgently on the Prime Minister's requests and will provide comment and assessments immediately in succeeding messages.

3. In the meantime, please advise availability and possible ETA of assessment team to meet the Prime Minister's request.

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J10

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_

Cable (sent 0700 Sept. 10)

FROM: AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO: SECSTATE NIACT IMMEDIATE  
US MISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE  
USCINCSO IMMEDIATE  
COMNAVFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ANTIGUA  
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**EXERCISE**

Telephone call on Embassy Intercom 0715 September 10

FROM:        AMBASSADOR

TO:           DCM

SUBJECT:     PM's Request for Disaster Help

I have just dictated a cable on a conversation I had early this morning with the Prime Minister. Have a look at it and then see if you can't get the team to start firming up his requests. We should get our recommendations up to Washington immediately--let's aim at getting out a follow-up or follow-ups to my cable by mid-morning.

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS NO \_\_\_\_

Cable

FROM: USMLO, Jamaica 0845 Sept. 10

TO: COMUSFORCARIB/J-3

SUBJECT: Disaster-Relief Operations

MAJ HIGHTOWER FOR LTC SMITH/J-3/5

Reference: a. AMEMB KINGSTON SITREP No. 1  
b. MEETING, USAMB/JAMAICAN PRIME MINISTER  
c. COMUSFORCARIB CONPLAN 2500

1. This message provides current embassy agenda items which may repeat may require US military response.
2. Based on severity of Hurricane Ricardo (see reference alpha), Prime Minister met with Ambassador, 0600 local today, and requested urgent US disaster-relief assistance. Prime Minister specifically mentioned use of US military resources.
3. Embassy Disaster Relief Committee is studying Jamaican request and will be advising Ambassador immediately on this action. Scope of support under consideration includes a request for assessment assistance, presumably involving a possibility for DARF follow-on (depending on damage assessment) and air-photo of the island.
4. Recognize no action can be taken until response to request works its way through channels; this message provides heads-up.

## EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_

Cable

FROM: USIA (received 0910 Sept. 10)  
TO: USIS Kingston  
INFO: SECSTATE  
SUBJECT: US Media On-Site Coverage of Jamaica Hurricane Disaster  
For PAO From Director, AR

1. We have been informed that the following have representatives now in Jamaica or proceeding there soonest: New York Times, Washington Post, CBS (with a three person TV crew), AP, and UPI. We presume a number of others are on their way and will advise as information on their travel becomes available. Will appreciate your keeping us advised from your end.
2. Please advise also what arrangements made for handling media, both on Jamaican side and by your post. Assume you are providing continuing information flow to them including full details of US effort. TV people will obviously be primarily interested in disaster footage; however, you should ensure maximum possible exposure to the arrival and distribution of appropriate US relief supplies, with emphasis on speed and effectiveness of US effort and coordination with other donors.
3. Will need daily report from you on media activities and USIS operations in order to respond to strong public, Congressional and White House interest.

J14

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_

Cable (received 0915 Sept. 10)

FROM: Peace Corps Washington  
TO: AMEMBASSY KINGSTON TOPEC  
SUBJECT: Welfare of PCV's in Hurricane Ricardo

FOR PCD FROM RUPPE

1. Advise soonest situation with regard to PCV's and steps taken to assure their welfare. We are receiving inquiries from families, several of whom are quite distraught at disaster news coming out of the area. In particular, need information for Arla Brown, Gene Hruska, Don Leopold, Robin Masters, John Post, and Elizabeth Young, but remain deeply concerned welfare all volunteers and request maximum information flow at all times.
2. As coincident issue, it will be most useful for PC/W to have any specific examples of role PCV's playing in helping to meet the needs of disaster stricken inhabitants as relief efforts unfold. What are current plans for PC in-country participation?

J15

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS. NO. \_\_\_\_

Message (Hand Delivered at 0920 Sept. 10)

FROM: ODP  
TO: EAC  
SUBJECT: Urgent Need for Vehicle

We have an urgent need for a four-wheel drive vehicle to get some food and especially water purifiers and medicines down to one of the distribution points on the west side. With so many sections of the streets washed out only a four-wheel drive vehicle can get through. Ours are all out in other areas for the day. Our people over there have sent word that the situation in their isolated spot is getting desperate. We understand that you have some of these vehicles. Could you possibly lend us one for a few hours?

J16

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (received 0925 Sept. 10)

FROM: OFDA  
TO: EAC  
SUBJECT: Regarding Generators

I'm calling about the Ambassador's cable reporting a Jamaican request for generators. We don't keep a complete stockpile of generators, since needs and types are so different in every disaster case. We will be glad to go after whatever we can get here, in Panama, or through PVO's or other donors (or purchase). To help justify our request when we go to these people, let me have a cable giving number and capacity of generators needed as well as what is available on the local market and at what price. Copy it to Port-au-Prince, Santo Domingo, Caracas, and Panama to see what availabilities and delivery time we can drum up there, also to Geneva.

We will do everything we can, but we're beginning to run into real funding problems. We are always under pressure to convince Congress we are going for lowest cost sourcing--compatible with speed of delivery and desirability of US goods, of course.

Oh yes, the same thing goes for kerosene lamps. The Chinese have inundated the Caribbean with them--if you absolutely have to get involved in buying any, I'm sure you can find them locally. We don't supply them.

Good luck! Remember, we're here to help where we can.

J17

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_

Visit (0930 Sept. 10)

FROM: Freddy McBurger, AMCIT/Owner and Manager of Fatted Cow Fine  
Fast Foods

SUBJECT: AMCIT Tale of Woe

My place is blown out. I've lost all the plate glass in the front of my store. The chairs and tables are blown all over the place, Lord only knows where. And the meat is spoiling in the freezer without electricity. I'm going to have to have some help getting back home--I'm broke and washed up. Can you find me a place to stay? Anything I can do to earn a few bucks while I'm waiting?

J18

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_

Cable

FROM: COMUSFORCARIB/J-3/5/DR OPS (Contingency) 101000 Sept. 10

TO: AMEMBASSY Kingston/USMLO  
COMUSFORCARIB Rep. Roosevelt Roads  
SECSTATE

INFO: CINCLANT  
USCINCSO  
COMNAVFORCARIB

AIDAC for OFDA

SUBJECT: Disaster - Relief Operations, Jamaica

1. Reference message, USMLO, Jamaica, subject as above, (NOTAL) and fonecon, CINLANT/COMUSFORCARIB
2. This is a planning message.
3. For USMLO, Jamaica. Appreciate advance warning. Informally advise Ambassador that this command stands ready to support his requirements, should it be determined that US military support is needed.
3. For COMUSFORCARIB REP. Request Pre-DAST and DAST Team plans/capabilities preview for initial survey activities in Jamaica. Any funding, manpower or equipment shortfalls that would degrade mission capability should be reported COMUSFORCARIB/J-3/5/DR OPS Contingency/ via immediate precedence.
4. Be advised that no action is to be taken on the basis of this message to commit resources or implement provisions of COMUSFORCARIB CONPLAN 2500. Activation of disaster-relief operations must be authorized by JCS and under OPCOM CINCLANT.
5. For all. Will keep you informed as situation develops.

J19

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (Rec'd 1020 Sept. 10)

FROM: Sunset State Fruit and Nut Association

TO: EAC

SUBJECT: Offer of 3,000 Cases of Fruit Salad

This is Red Sayles of the Sunset State Fruit and Nut Association calling from New York.

Some of our members are pretty upset about what's happening down there - lots of Jamaicans working for them, you know, so they get an earful. Anyway, we've decided to get together and offer you 3,000 cases of fruit salad in heavy syrup that we happen to have in a warehouse in New Orleans. New Orleans tells me that some of the cans are slightly swollen, but the fruit salad is in perfect condition.

Just get us the transportation and we'll get them down to you right away. How about it?

62

J20

**EXERCISE**

**IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_**

**Memorandum Recording Oral Request Transmitted by Messenger from ODP Headquarters**

**TO: MDRO**

**FROM: MSG on duty**

**SUBJECT: Request for Inflatable Boats**

Messenger from ODP arrived at Guard Desk September 9 at 1032 and left oral message as follows (reconstructed from my notes): "We're still having a devil of a time with flooding out in the shanty area. Can't get teams in to find out the extent of the damage or get out the injured and isolated. We need some small boats to access the area for assessment and for general clearance and relief work along the sea front. We could use up to a dozen inflatable boats with 30 horsepower outboard motors. You are going to be asked officially from upstairs, but we want to tell you the request is coming and urge you give this one highest priority."

I told him that I would make sure that the message was delivered.

23

J21

**EXERCISE**

**IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS NO. \_\_\_**

**Radio Call (1045 Sept. 10)**

**FROM: Ham Radio Operator on North Coast  
Relayed by National Disaster Center**

**TO: EAC**

**SUBJECT: Ham Operator Receiving Calls About Missing Persons**

Hello? Hello? This is John Abingdon at ODP. I am relaying a message from Robert Dumont, a ham operator over in Port Antonio. He says he is receiving calls from his friends, ham operators all over the States, asking about the welfare of individuals here in this country. He asks what he should tell them. Can you keep us informed on American citizens whose welfare you learn about?

J22

**EXERCISE**

**IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS NO. \_\_\_**

**Cable**

**FROM: SECSTATE (rec'd 1140 Sept. 10)**

**TO: AMEMBASSY Kingston Immediate**

**SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Offer of Relief Goods Through Senator Dole**

**For Ambassador from ARA/DAS Smithers**

1. Senator Robert Dole's senior Legislative Aide has just called me to say that one of the Senator's important constituents has started organizing the collection of old clothes and canned goods in the Wichita area for Jamaican hurricane relief. He already has the Lions, Rotary, and other service organizations active, and several churches are participating in the drive and acting as collection points. Beech Aircraft is using its trade contacts to promote free transportation for what is expected to be several tons of miscellaneous goods.

2. Please have your people follow these shipments carefully and keep us fully advised regarding their arrival and disposition.

J23

**EXERCISE**

**IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS. NO. \_\_\_\_**

**Letter (rec'd at 1145 Sept. 10)**

**FROM: Minister of Foreign Affairs**  
**TO: AMBASSADOR**  
**SUBJECT: Confirming Prime Minister's Request**

**My dear Mr. Ambassador:**

**We deeply appreciated your willingness to meet with His Excellency the Prime Minister this morning.**

**This is to confirm both his request and its urgency. We are very much in need of support in assessing the extent of the disaster brought to this island by the hurricane. We know that you have experts in these matters, especially in your armed forces, who have provided assistance both to Jamaica and to other countries in the region in the past. I do not feel that major foreign military resources should be dedicated to relief efforts until we have a fuller view of our needs; but your help in initial damage assessment is most urgent.**

**May I ask you to inform the Prime Minister's office immediately when you have word on the assessment capabilities you might be able to provide and how soon? I should of course appreciate being kept currently informed.**

**I take this opportunity to express my appreciation and to repeat to you the assurance of my high esteem and personal regard.**

J24

**EXERCISE**

**IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS NO. \_\_\_**

**Telephone Call (rec'd at 1150 Sept. 10)**

**FROM: Monongahela Crystal Pure Water Corporation**

**TO: EAC**

**SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Offer of Bottled Water**

This is April Schauer of the Monongahela Crystal Pure Water Corporation in Pittsburgh. Some of the churches in western Pennsylvania have been pooling their money to get some pure drinking water down to those poor hurricane victims in Jamaica. The papers have been hearing some pretty heart-rending stories about the water situation down there. We have 1,000 cases of four gallons each in plastic bottles all ready for shipment. We're providing this to the churches at our special wholesale price. Where do you want us to send it? Of course, they'll need transportation, but the church representatives understand your people can fund that.

J25

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_

Cable

FROM: COMUSFORCARIB REP ROOSEVELT ROADS 101150 Sep 83

TO: COMUSFORCARIB IMMEDIATE

INFO: AMEMBASSY KINGSTON IMMED USCINCSO IMMED  
CINCLANT IMMED COMNAVFORCARIB IMMED  
JCS IMMED AMEMBASSY ANTIGUA IMMED  
SECSTATE IMMED AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN IMMED  
SECDEF IMMED

UNCLAS  
AIDAC for OFDA

SUBJECT: Disaster Assistance Survey Team

REF: COMUSFORCARIB/J-3/5/DR OPS 101000 SEP 83

1. In accordance with COMUSFORCARIB request ref tel, we are preparing DAST to proceed immediately to disaster area upon OFDA authorization. Composition of team is OIC, civil engineer, medical officer, and communications team, total 3 officers and 4 enlisted (all US citizen military), plus two helicopters. Team to be augmented as required after initial on-site assessment subject to your capabilities for providing personnel augmentation locally. Pre-DAST team can be made up immediately from available resources, if required.
2. Request you urgently identify best landing site for C130 transport and ground logistics for immediate deployment.
3. Advise current situation as regards status of forces or other immunities agreements with HC.
4. Request you confirm HC clearance and agreement for arrival of team and equipment, for temporary positioning in country of transport and communications equipment and for reexport of such equipment. Further request you coordinate best emergency frequencies.

## EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS. NO. \_\_\_

Cable (received 1200 Sept. 10)

FROM: SECSTATE

TO: AMEMBASSY KINGSTON IMMEDIATE  
SECDEF IMMEDIATE

INFO: JCS IMMED USCINCSO IMMED  
CINCLANT IMMED AMEMB ANTIGUA IMMED  
COMUSFORCARIB IMMED US MISSION GENEVA IMMED  
COMNAVFORCARIB IMMED

SUBJECT: US Disaster Relief Operations, Jamaica

References: (a) Request for military support (OFDA Tasker).  
(b) Fonecon OFDA/OJCS and CINCLANT

AIDAC for Mission Director, from OFDA; Geneva for UNDRO

1. Suggest that for any assessment/survey operations:

a. Host country authorities constitute a combined military-civilian DAST capability to assess hurricane damage. Such a combined team can key on already in place national skills and be augmented as necessary by PAHO, Antigua Preparedness team, etc.

b. We are prepared to assist in such a joint effort by providing transport and communications support, if required, in addition to such specialized professional support as GOJ requires. In meantime, we are sending an OFDA specialist and a military liaison officer from HQ, USFORCARIB for coordination. Will advise arrival time at Montego Bay soonest; Mission please provide logistic support.

2. It appears well within GOJ capabilities to rapidly pull together a team as described above. Believe GOJ will be most interested in such an operation, which will go a long way in exercising Caribbean capabilities in disaster management. Please advise Jamaican plans.

3. For SECDEF: Request that tasking described in reference (a) be expanded to include authorization for carriage in US military aircraft of US and foreign national civilian officials designated by US Ambassador upon completion of individual waiver forms.

J27

**EXERCISE**

**IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS. NO. \_\_\_**

**Letter handed by Mission Officer to Prime Minister's Special Assistant, 1330 Sept. 10**

**FROM: Ambassador**  
**TO: Prime Minister**  
**SUBJECT: Formation of Assessment Team**

**Dear Mr. Prime Minister:**

In response to the request Your Excellency made of me in our meeting this morning, my government has indicated its readiness to assist in the damage assessment effort that the Jamaican authorities are undertaking and to provide all possible transport, communications, and specialized professional support to supplement Jamaican capabilities and efforts.

I should appreciate Your Excellency's advice as to how your government would see the composition of such a team, employing skills available here and from such international sources as the UN and PAHO.

In the meantime, I expect US coordination teams (one from the Agency for International Development in Washington, D.C., and one from our Caribbean Forces headquarters in Key West, Florida) to arrive very shortly to help in putting together this joint effort.

Yours very sincerely,

J28

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS. NO. \_\_\_\_

Letter (rec'd at 1500 Sept. 10)

FROM: Medical Officer, Univ. of the West Indies Hospital  
TO: AMBASSADOR, United States Embassy  
SUBJECT: Urgent Need for Medical Supplies

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

Your generous government has helped us many times in the past to meet the crises that have been inflicted on us by a cruel and indiscriminate Mother Nature.

Once more we are in urgent need of all kinds of medicines to help us take care of the epidemics that threaten us as a result of the flooding and the destruction of sanitary facilities and water lines.

Our government is most anxious to begin a mass vaccination program in order to prevent a catastrophe. It has asked me to request of you sufficient vaccines against typhoid, cholera, and tetanus, together with vaccinating guns, to make up the difference between the 500,000 inoculations the government believes we will need and the approximately 125,000 doses we have on hand.

I hope I may take the liberty of being in touch with you again on other specific needs.

With my personal appreciation and warm wishes.

Sincerely,

## EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS. NO. —

Informal note (received 1600 Sept. 10)

FROM: Prime Minister

TO: Ambassador

SUBJECT: Composition of Assessment Team

My Dear Ambassador:

Based upon your response to my request for disaster-assessment assistance, I am attaching a copy of a plan which details minimum essential United States participation. This plan has my full approval and I am sending it along in this form simply to get things under way while the bureaucratic wheels turn.

As you will see, the assessment team is mainly composed of my country's professional experts, augmented where necessary and including a significant United States contribution. I have personally chosen Mr. E.H. Waverson, Special Executive Assistant, Ministry of National Security, to take charge of this serious task. I have great faith in his abilities and know him to be totally competent in crisis matters.

It is my sincerest hope that the government of the United States of America can aid us in this humanitarian effort.

## EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS. NO. \_\_\_

Memorandum enclosed with PM's note received 1600 Sept. 10

FROM: E.H. Waverson  
TO: Prime Minister  
SUBJECT: Disaster Assessment Team

## 1. Concept:

a. Depending mainly on national capability, reinforced when necessary by other governments/international organizations, the team will perform a full and rapid assessment of country-wide hurricane damage, to include damage to human services, commerce, security and government/private institutions.

b. The team will report findings daily to the Prime Minister.

c. The team will provide action suggestions as urgently required to reduce human suffering and provide minimum facilities for maintenance of life and of economic activity, bearing in mind long-range needs for national recovery.

## 2. Team Operations:

a. The Disaster Assessment Team will investigate conditions in the path of the hurricane via aircraft and vehicle. In addition to its daily reports it will provide a final report within 10 days after termination of its mandate. The reports will cover, inter alia, emergency supply requirements, population health and welfare, the degree of destruction, and the necessary relief and reconstruction operations

b. Most of the team's concern will be directed to the Kingston area, but we will conduct assessments elsewhere as required and in particular between Kingston and the north coast.

## 3. Team Composition (assuming US support):

- a. Team Leader In Charge: E.H. Waverson.
- b. Team Operations Officer: from Caribbean Disaster Preparedness Team.
- c. Four Medical Officers: two from PAHO (an epidemiologist and a public health nurse); general medical officer (Jamaican), and a US trauma specialist.
- d. Four Engineers: (One housing and planning (Jamaica); two contractor personnel-electrical and mechanical (Japanese); and a bridge specialist (US Army).
- e. One Farming/Agricultural Advisor (Jamaican Ministry of Agriculture).
- f. Two Finance Advisors: (One from Jamaican Ministry of Trade and Industry, and one from Caribbean Development Bank (Dominican)).
- g. One Telecommunications Advisor (Jamaican Ministry of Communications and Public Works).
- h. Two Security and Law Enforcement Advisors (Jamaican Ministry of Defense and Police).
- i. One Red Cross Advisor (Mexico, IRC).
- j. Transportation, Logistic and Communications (US personnel and equipment).

The following are needed to sustain the Disaster Assessment Team for five days of operations: three helicopters, five four-wheel drive vehicles, wireless radio communications for air to ground and ground to ground contact, and field equipment such as tents, rations, cots, power, etc. for interior base camp operations. Perhaps these could be obtained through the US Embassy. The US should if possible, also provide trained manpower to operate their equipment (number of personnel should be furnished by US) maintain fuel supply, and provide other such items necessary to perform the mission.

4. Be assured that I will be directing all aspects of this effort and will work closely with local community leaders in bringing the Prime Minister's message of hope to the people.

## EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS. NO. \_\_

Telephone Call (Received 1610 Sept. 10)

FROM: Milford Bokes  
TO: EAC  
SUBJECT: Welfare and Whereabouts

This is Milford Bokes from Stark, Florida. I'm worried something awful about my son Junior. He took off a couple weeks past with some smart alecky free-talking, loose walkin' hippy woman from Miami and went to your Island. He said they was gonna be living on the beach, selling palm frond hats to tourists. Well, I ain't heard from Junior and with the hurricane and all, I don't know. Can you find him and ask him to send a postcard or something?

(Depending on the answer, "I know enough to call Dante Fascell in the US Congress if you need more motivation to help a fellow American. He knows I always vote for him.")

J32

**EXERCISE**

**IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_.**

**Message (Hand Delivered at 1630 September 10)**

**FROM: ODP**  
**TO: EAC**  
**SUBJECT: Accident to Mission Vehicle**

We greatly regret to inform you that the vehicle you so kindly lent us has met with an accident in the course of its errand of mercy. While trying to swerve to avoid a small boy who ran into the street, the vehicle collided with the stone rubble of a wall, overturned, caught fire and is now, we understand, a total loss. Fortunately, it was on its return trip so the urgently needed supplies were delivered. Less fortunately, the boy suffered a broken leg and contusions and your driver cracked his head rather severely. Both have been taken to the hospital. We stand at your disposal to sort out the questions of legal responsibility which may arise in connection with this regrettable occurrence.

J33

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 6 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_

Press Dispatch (Filed 1530 Sept. 14)

TO: UPI  
FROM: Gordon Kingsworthy, UPI Correspondent Kingston  
SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo Aftermath

KINGSTON, Sept. 14. Several days of clear skies and sunshine have dried out much of this sodden city left nearly paralyzed by Hurricane Ricardo.

Most of the people have made their way back into the tangle of shanty housing. Men, women and children are scouring the streets and rubble-strewn open areas for old lumber, cardboard and anything they can use to rebuild the hundreds of homes destroyed or left roofless or wallless by the storm. Especially valued are the tin roofs which are found throughout the area wrapped around trees, curled on the ground, or lying intact. Thousands of makeshift shelters have been thrown together out of the rubble.

A foreign TV crew even had to ask a group of the disaster victims to stop hammering so that their sound man could record an interview with a relief official arriving with additional plastic sheeting (a US contribution) and tents. Efforts are being made to prevent rebuilding in the most hazardous, low-lying areas but the pressures seem to be too strong for the preoccupied authorities to resist and the shoddy structures near the water's edge are rapidly being repaired or rebuilt. In fact, the population in the central city is growing rapidly, as hurricane victims from outlying areas move in with relatives and friends in the city.

47

J34

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_

Cable

FROM: AMEMBASSY KINGSTON  
TO: SECSTATE  
SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Sitrep as of 1600 Wednesday Sept 14

1. As noted in Kingston's previous cables, the DAST team requested by the GOJ (which arrived on Sept 12 with two Marine Corps helicopters in Montego Bay) is now operating out of the local airport in Kingston. Working with the GOJ Officer in Charge and with additional support personnel, much of the local damage has been surveyed. The head of the US contingent expects to provide a preliminary wrap-up of his daily reporting by Monday. The cooperation with GOJ officials has gone well and the PM has been most appreciative both privately and publicly.

2. We hear some rumors that the radical left is trying to take advantage of an apparent lack of public understanding of US relief efforts. Some grumbling is being stirred up in the west end, asking why the PM thought he had to bring in the US Marines (presumably our Marine helicopters) and why he did not try to get some real relief help from his great friend to the north. The PAO is calling a press conference tomorrow morning to emphasize the large and growing US aid effort.

3. Unfortunately, the US relief supplies continued to pile up in Montego Bay until Monday, when the first truck convoys managed to get through to Kingston. Some items got in by small plane, but the local airport still is only partially in operation. Norman Manley International Airport cannot as yet take heavy traffic. The civil aviation authorities have brought in civil engineer experts for an expert diagnosis of NMI's stability and load-bearing capability, but the results may not be known for a few days.

4. All available in-country PL-480 stocks have now been distributed by PVO representatives. Replacement stocks on loan from Port-au-Prince are in Montego Bay. We are repackaging some there for bread production; we will be bringing all stocks to Kingston as soon as transport available, hopefully beginning Saturday.

4/1

5. Other offers of help continue to come in. Cubans have made a public offer to send in a plane load of food and medicines, and "volunteers to help their Jamaican brothers to distribute these fraternal gifts and to restore their homes and fields." Large shipments of miscellaneous offerings from other Caribbean and Latin American sources and elsewhere have arrived in Montego Bay where they have been piling up in port warehouses and at the airfield. The coordination, despite efforts by the GOJ and UNDR0 officials on the scene, is minimal. The majority of aid materials have been provided by governments from their relief stockpiles, including quantities of bulk food commodities (such as rice and flour, cooking oil and salt), medicines, and shelter materials including plastic sheeting and tents. Materials provided by others (including private individuals,) are a mixed bag of goods. Among the assorted items are kitchen utensils, tools, flashlights, medicines and a wide assortment of food, especially donated canned goods, hurricane lamps, clothing, blankets, and an odd assortment of tents and camping supplies, and quantities of water purification tablets. Most materials have been packed according to size and each bundle contains a hodge-podge of different materials which must be sorted upon arrival. Local authorities are swamped because of the lack of sorting and distribution capabilities. The failure to send enough food stuffs to meet local and up-country needs has raised the frustration level to the boiling point both in Kingston and in Montego Bay.

6. A call has gone out for volunteers to help sort relief materials into packages for individuals and families. The volume of the material and the confusion caused by poor packaging has required several hundred people working at Montego Bay and now at sorting centers in the capital. Reports of corruption and favoritism in the distribution of relief supplies are appearing in the press. The Prime Minister has asked the churches to form committees to oversee the distribution of relief goods in each community. During the day, three different relief agencies called coordination meetings in separate locations. At mid-day the government called for more volunteers to help sort and package incoming relief goods. The total number of people involved in sorting materials now exceeds 1,000.

7. Compounding the situation are hundreds of foreign tourists who are virtually camped at the Montego Bay airport awaiting transportation. The many Americans are besieging the Consular Agency and the counters of American, Eastern, and the other airlines. The airlines are only gradually restoring service to Miami, Toronto, Europe, and elsewhere. Again the frustration and decibel levels are high. We have sent two Consular

Officers to Montego Bay to assist AMCITS there. Only AMCIT casualties so far as can be determined were the missionary couple caught in up-country flooding the night of the hurricane, as previously reported.

8. This afternoon the Prime Minister again visited some of the worst destruction areas in Kingston and promised massive aid in a rousing "phoenix from the ashes" speech broadcast on radio and TV. He also issued an appeal for help and cooperation from all political parties and factions in the reconstruction effort. (Two hours later the leader of the opposition called a press conference where he pledged full cooperation but noted "massive corruption" and vowed to make equality of aid an issue in the next election.) Note: Mission has noted only absolute minimum diversion of relief supplies; we are following closely, in particular as regards US items, and have instructed tightening of control system to ensure continued proper channeling. Details follow.

9. Mission's American personnel have reoccupied their homes, except for the Jones family still in hotel and several families living with friends, as previously reported. We still have not heard from a number of our FSN personnel and have assigned an FSN employee to try to locate them and to follow up on our notification given GOJ authorities yesterday.

10. There continues to be some looting but it is now under control. Burglaries and street crimes remain above normal. Mission has advised all personnel of dangers of night-time movement in affected areas.

11. The Ministry of Public Works has marshalled all available trucks and construction and road building equipment. Many private contractors and the bauxite mine operator have offered to loan heavy equipment that they aren't using. Some repairs to the mountain roads have been made and all possible sources are still being scouted to find metal track to lay to the airport. The rail bridge is still out, so any goods shipped via rail have to be transhipped at the river, a slow and arduous--indeed virtually impossible--task. The opening of the road is taking much of the burden off now, however.

12. The weather is still clear and dry, and clean-up operations are proceeding as fast as limited equipment and extensive damage permit.

## EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_

Telephone Call (Rec'd at 0955 Sept. 15)

FROM: Director, USIA Office of American Republic Affairs  
TO: PAO  
SUBJECT: Article in Times

We're catching a lot of flack up here about an article in this morning's Times on Jamaica relief. Have you seen it? No? I'll cable you a copy. Anyway, the Times goes on and on about slow arrival in Kingston of US relief goods, alleged leakage into the black market, stupidity of US authorities in permitting much needed cargo space to be used for transporting such things as cuspidors or chamber pots or whatever the reporter saw dumped in a pile up at Montego Bay. Says he bought US donated powdered milk on the street in Kingston.

Give me anything you can so we can speak to these questions of speed of the relief effort and charges of black market diversion. If you have anything on the cuspidors, great. The rest we're just going to have to handle up here and let me tell you it's really hitting the fan. Can't you get these guys out and show them what we're really doing down there? And how about putting the quietus on this black market stuff? I thought it was being pretty well handled. Is it really going on?

Call me back as soon as you have anything so I can feed the wolves - they're hanging on me.

## EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_

Cable (Received 1020 Sept. 15)

FROM: SECSTATE  
TO: AMEMBASSY Kingston Immediate  
INFO: USEC Brussels Immediate  
USUN Immediate  
US Mission Geneva Immediate  
FOR: Ambassador from ARA/DAS Smithers  
SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Comparative Relief Efforts

1. Times article aside, press and Congressional comments generally are favorable to strong US relief effort being made in Jamaica and we appreciate your continuing leadership. However, an editorial yesterday in Des Moines Register raises a serious question of equality of burden-sharing. This reflects a growing undercurrent in recent radio and TV commentary that is now beginning to show up in the press. We want to counter it promptly.
2. We also have an inquiry from Congressman Lehman for specific information on how other countries' efforts in Jamaica compare with ours. He wants information to help him counter his constituents' uneasiness that "Uncle Sam is again bearing the whole load".
3. Recognize difficulty of assessing total relief effort at this point, but we need anything you can give us listing specific commodities, cash contributions and total dollar value broken down by donor country or organization.
4. Information addressees should not approach host organizations formally at this time. Embassy Kingston will be contacting their on-the-scene representatives, and we do not wish to attract international attention. Any data you have available would be welcome, however.
5. Please provide preliminary report by C.O.B., Monday, September 19.

62

J37

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (rec'd at 1030 Sept. 15)

FROM: Deputy Foreign Minister  
TO: DCM  
SUBJECT: New York Times Article on Jamaica Relief

I presume that by now you have been informed of the article that appeared this morning in the New York Times--datelined Kingston--alleging all sorts of mischievous things about your relief effort here, as well, unfortunately, as about our handling of the distribution of relief goods.

This is causing us a bit of trouble as you might imagine. Some of our friends in the opposition are smacking their lips, and the Prime Minister has already expressed his concern and unhappiness most forcefully to my chief and a number of others. We are immediately rechecking our own procedures but would appreciate your thoughts on how together we can minimize the damage and avoid this sort of thing in the future. This is most urgent. Can you come to see me this afternoon at 3 p.m.?

J38

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (rec'd 1115 Sept. 15)

FROM: Dr. Theodore Yankel  
TO: EAC  
SUBJECT: Welfare and Whereabouts

Hello. This is Dr. Theodore Yankel from Ames, Iowa. Do you have any news about my parents, Hyman and Yetta Yankel? They are on a South American cruise, the S.S. Empire Princess from the Scandavia Shiplines I think. I'm not sure of their itinerary, but the boat might have been near your hurricane. What information can you give me?

04

## EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (received 1210 September 15)

FROM: Executive Assistant to the Minister of Defense

TO: DATT

SUBJECT: Request for Military Equipment

I just wanted to let you know how much the Minister appreciates the excellent work of your DAST team and the remarkable use they are making of your helicopters and commo-equipment.

In view of the importance of these items to disaster handling, the proneness of our country to such disasters and the interest of the US in disaster preparedness in the Caribbean region, the Minister has asked me to take an informal sounding with you as to the possibility of retaining this capability after the present emergency. What we would like to do is have these items remain in country in our armed forces inventory, but earmarked in particular for disaster use. What is your own reaction, just between the two of us? As you know, there is some urgency, since informed circles and the media are not unaware of the high level interest in this matter.

Well, perhaps you could let me have a reply through this same channel once you've had a chance to check a bit further.

## EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_

SUBJECT: Broadcast over JBC, at 1452 September 15.

We interrupt our regular program to bring you a news flash. According to the Kingston fire department, fire fighting equipment is being dispatched to the west side to handle a large blaze which has sprung up in that crowded and rubble-strewn area. The fire apparatus is having some difficulty in getting through because of debris in the streets left from the hurricane. The continuing winds also are causing some concern. However, the Fire Chief assures us that his department is fully prepared to deal with the situation. Stay tuned for further bulletins.

And now we return you to "The Life and Loves of Amy Upsondowns."

J41

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_

Telephone Call, (received 1457) September 15.

FROM: Robert Petrow, manager of the Petrojam refinery

TO: USAID Mission Director

Say, did you hear about the fire up in the west end? Well, I naturally try to keep an eye on things like that, what with our tanks and the Petrojam refinery and all that, so I sent one of our boys up to check the thing out. It doesn't look good. No water, damn wind still blowing, and the fire people got notified late because no telephones. You'd better tell whoever it is in the Embassy, because we just might have another disaster on our hands. I'll let you know if I hear any more.

## EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 NO. —

Telephone Call (received 1535 September 15.

FROM: Local Reporter who covers fire and police calls and has a single side-band radio to monitor the fire department's calls

TO: Public Affairs Officer

You asked about the fire in the west end. Well, as far as I can tell, it seems to have gone out of control. The Battalion Chief on site has called in multiple alarms, asked for all types of back-up assistance and has requested mutual aid from nearby fire departments (and brigades). Because of the density of the houses, the rubble (paper, trash and other burnables) in the streets, and the continuous winds, the fire has already involved all the structures in about a six block area. People are running around looking for their kids, packing up their valuables, and trying to get out. All of the people fleeing with as much as they can haul is adding to the congestion in the streets.

The third and fourth alarms and the calls for mutual aid were virtually unheeded. The manpower is scarce--because they're off doing other things--and fire apparatus in working condition is even scarcer. Several of the pumpers that are working are down with flat tires (the nails, glass and other hurricane debris has crippled many of the public safety vehicles tires), and the city is out of spare tires for the big trucks.

(If EAC calls Disaster Center for more information, they should be told that the report is essentially correct. The wind is spreading the fire rapidly and burning scraps are flying so that the areas of solid construction are providing less of a firebreak than has been calculated. If Mission does not call, then the Disaster Center should call them promptly in something of a panic, reporting burn and fire accident victims showing up at already overcrowded hospitals and refugee centers.)

Note to Controllers: Consequences will generally be in terms of shelter, food, clothing, general disaster relief, etc. Injuries will be from exposure, exhaustion, or falls (sprains,

J43

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_

Cable, (received September 15, 1545 hours).

FROM: SECSTATE

TO: AMEMBASSY KINGSTON NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO: US MISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE  
JCS IMMEDIATE  
SECDEF IMMEDIATE  
CINCLANT IMMEDIATE

USCINCSO IMMEDIATE  
COMUSFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
COMNAVFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ANTIGUA IMMEDIATE

AIDAC from OFDA  
GENEVA for UNDRO

SUBJECT: Kingston Fire Disaster Assistance from International Association of Fire Chiefs

1. In response to OFDA/W request the Int'l Association of Fire Chiefs has confirmed that it is prepared to put together a team of experienced personnel to help GOJ in assessing means of controlling conflagration and advise on assistance to victims and on management of post-conflagration activities.

2. If the group is to be of any immediate help. Mission should contact GOJ without delay and notify OFDA of GOJ reaction by telephone. NAFC says they normally send a team of three. They could get the team in Jamaica via the next Eastern flight if we can get word back to them within the next two hours.

Note to Controllers:

- Players should try to get this help there faster.
- Help the next day is a bit late--it could be used, however, for disaster mitigation.

J44

**EXERCISE**

**IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_**

**Telephone Call (received 1605 September 15).**

**FROM: ODP**  
**TO: EAC**  
**SUBJECT: Request for Fire Control Assistance**

Our fire people have called us with an unusual problem: the fire is sweeping up on the famous old Maritime Building. We're getting some hoses out there to try to wet it down, because we really want to save that building. But we can't get any pressure out of the old fire-hydrant system down there. We think there's some kind of air blockage rather than physical or mechanical blockage. Do you have anybody among your Americans--maybe your military or your plant engineers - who could give them a hand right away?

J45

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (received 1613 September 15)

FROM: EXEC ASST to the Minister of Defense

TO: DATT

SUBJECT: Request for Fuel Bladders

Listen, we're desperately in need of some storage capacity for the aviation gasoline that is now starting to come in. The fire is threatening much of our remaining central storage facilities. I know your people have some of those big fuel bladders--I saw a lot of them last time I visited US Air Force installations in the States--and the Minister is wondering if you couldn't just informally line up a couple of them to come in on the next relief flight. We don't want to risk the delay involved in going through regular relief channels--as a matter of fact, if the bladders don't get here the relief operation could pretty quickly grind to a halt--so how about getting on the phone to Key West or somewhere for us?

J46

**EXERCISE**

**IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_**

**Telephone Call (received 1635 September 15).**

**FROM:               OFDA**  
**TO:                 EAC**  
**SUBJECT:           Emergency Drug Supplies**

The Tayca-Schantz Drug Co. has offered a large quantity of miscellaneous drug products for hurricane relief. On receiving word of the fire, they added some burn relief items. Knowing your host country's sensitivity to alleged "dumping" of US drugs, advise soonest how we should handle this offer. We have no list yet, but there should be a lot of useful stuff if properly sorted and used. Will they let the drugs in?

J47

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_

THIS IS A DRAFT CABLE TO BE REVIEWED AND RELEASED AT 1645 SEPTEMBER 15.

Cable (sent 1645 Sept. 15).

FROM: AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO: SECSTATE NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO: JCS NIACT IMMEDIATE  
SECDEF NIACT IMMEDIATE  
CINCLANT IMMEDIATE  
COMUSFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
COMNAVFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
US MISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

SUBJECT: Request for Fire Assistance

AIDAC from OFDA; GENEVA for UNDRO

1. As a result of the conflagration, a wide swath of residential area has thus far been destroyed. Guesses are that about 500 homes have been destroyed or badly damaged and approximately 50 stores and churches ruined or seriously damaged. The Red Cross estimates the death toll at over 20 at this point, and the homeless at about 4,500. These numbers are in addition to the previously reported casualties from the hurricane and its aftermath.

2. There are many new injury cases that are now straining the already overloaded facilities of all local hospitals. Hospital corridors are jammed with patients and their families. Most of the fire victims who have been hospitalized thus far are suffering from shock, exposure and fairly common breaks and bruises.

1. The ODP has just called and confirmed the admission to Kingston hospitals of at least twenty-five persons with extensive burns, many of them third degree. The ODP has asked the Embassy, on behalf of the GOJ, for help in providing hospital facilities in the US for at least ten of these. They have heard of the Army Burn Center and think that it would be best to send them there. They also need most urgent help, according to the ODP, in the form of doctors and nurses experienced in burn work, and of burn treatment supplies, to help to meet the needs of the local hospitals.

Please advise urgently what we can respond to GOJ.

J48

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (received 1700 September 15.).

FROM: Medical Officer at University of West Indies Hospital  
TO: MDRO  
SUBJECT: Plea for assistance, Univ. of West Indies Hospital

We are being flooded with burn victims and people injured in escaping the fire. And we're already operating at capacity as a result of the hurricane. With overloaded generators for the operating rooms, no lights in the wards, vastly over-crowded corridors, (due to masses of family members staying with the patients) we are getting desperate. Can you do anything to help? Generators, lanterns, blankets, anything. But particularly people -- do you have any nurses in your community; social workers or others who can help deal with the relatives and friends of the seriously injured patients; or medics, pharmacists? Also, we desperately need several kinds of medicines and bandages. I have asked my supply chief to give you a list. But mostly we need skilled people. What could you provide in the way of help?

64

J49

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (received at 1710 September 15).

FROM: Prime Minister's Office

TO: DCM

SUBJECT: Request for Fuel Bladder Assistance

We hear from our aviation people that storage facilities for aviation fuel are getting to be a problem. If the fire gets to the central storage, we will indeed have had it. They tell me that there are such things as storage bags out of rubber or neoprene or something that your military uses. Can you get four 5,000 gallon tanks of this type down here on an absolute crash basis? It will be most helpful to the relief effort and to our common interests here.

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_

Cable, (received Sept. 15, 2000 hours).

FROM: SECSTATE

TO: AMEMBASSY KINGSTON NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO: US MISSION GENEVA NIACT IMMEDIATE  
JCS IMMEDIATE  
SECDEF IMMEDIATE  
CINCLANT IMMEDIATE

USCINCSO IMMEDIATE  
COMUSFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
COMNAVFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ANTIGUA IMMEDIATE

SUBJECT: Kingston Fire: Disaster Relief

AIDAC from OFDA

1. Confirming our telecon, we have contacted Army Surgeon General who advises that the limited facilities at Fort Sam Houston are completely full at present. We are working with the American Red Cross to identify facilities for hospitalization of burn victims at other centers on East Coast.

2. In meantime, we are contacting DoD/MAC to survey transportation capability from Jamaica. Much depends on number of victims actually requiring transport and timing of aircraft requirements. OFDA recommends burn team from University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) assess patients. Upon their recommendation would then task DoD to launch a MAC MEDEVAC aircraft with medical crew to accompany patients to UTMB burn center. Advise as soon as GOJ knows exact numbers and seriousness of victims requiring moving, noting that burn patients should not be moved except in extraordinary cases.

3. We are working urgently with PAHO and ARC to publicize the GOJ call for burn supplies and for additional physicians and nurses with burn experience. DoD is also canvassing to determine what personnel it can provide. It is hoped that by tomorrow there will be sufficient volunteers to meet the emergency need and we can start specific logistic planning. Advise what arrangements for the lodging and care of American civilian or military volunteers are being made. Also what approaches, if any, you or GOJ have made with Air Jamaica or other airlines to contribute to transportation from US.

6/16

4. Will appreciate any information regarding other potential donors that Geneva or Antigua may develop. Main responsibility for coordination must rest with Embassy Kingston, however, since all players are represented on the ground there. Request Embassy keep us informed on continuing basis regarding developing GOJ assessment of its needs as well as resources being provided by it and the other donors.

351

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Note

FROM: Local Traveller  
TO: Handed to MSG at 2025 Sept. 15  
SUBJECT: Offer of Help

We are isolated here at the Full Gospel Mission. The road up from the Blue Lagoon has been cut. However, we are safe and have food and water stocks for ourselves for a few days. I hear there is much suffering in the capital. The fire has inflicted a cruel blow on the poor victims of Ricardo. I am a medical doctor and want to help so am leaving tomorrow morning by mule. If I can get through, I will come to the Embassy. I am sure there are many other medical and nursing people who could help. How can I help identify and round them up?

Christian A. Bledsoe, M.D.  
Full Gospel Mission  
Upper Little Mountain

## EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_

Cable (received 2030 Sept. 15)

FROM: SECSTATE

TO: AMEMBASSY Kingston NIACT Immediate

SUBJECT: Focus of Current Relief Efforts; Long-Term Transition Planning

AIDAC FOR AMBASSADOR AND MISSION DIRECTOR FROM AA/LAC

1. The Administrator is receiving reports from Congress and elsewhere of growing concern that the flow of US relief supplies going into Jamaica may be highly duplicative of other donors' contributions. Specifically, he is being asked whether we are putting an undue proportion of our resources into miscellaneous food and clothing and their transportation, when the PVOs and other donors and the international organizations are bringing in large quantities of the same items. It is hard to see how charges like this get started but I would much appreciate your comments as well as your evaluation of how well coordination at the Jamaica country level is currently being accomplished. Particularly in view of the \$25 million supplemental bill scheduled for House floor tomorrow afternoon. Also, whether there has been any discussion thus far of the possibility of shifting the balance of the US contribution toward longer term needs, such as construction materials. The latter point seems particularly pertinent in light of the conflagration disaster of which we have just had word.

2. I will be talking with the Administrator on these and other topics Saturday morning. I would like to have your reaction as soon as possible.

3. For Director: Your preliminary thoughts on what the current US effort is doing to our longer term program for Jamaican development assistance would also be most welcome. Perhaps you could give me a rundown on current AID/J planning for the transition back to normal program activities.

4. Warm regards.

**SECTION 2**

**BRIDGETOWN**

Disaster Assistance Simulation Exercise

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(B04)

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(B.6)

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(B.7)

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Post Action Required.  
(B.8)

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Post Action Required.  
(B.9)

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Post Action Required.  
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(B22)

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1200 hours, Cable, TO: AMEMB, FM: SECSTATE,  
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(B27)

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(B28)

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(B30)

1600 hours, Note, TO: AMB, FM: Prime Minister,  
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1600 hours, (Attachment to Note) Memo, TO: Prime  
Minister, FM: Waverson, Subject: Disaster  
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Post Action Required.  
(B33)

1610 hours, Telephone Call, TO: EAC, FM:  
Milford Bokes, Subject: Welfare and Whereabouts.

Post Action Required.  
(B34)

1630 hours, Message (hand delivered), TO: EAC, FM: CERO Subject: Accident to Mission Vehicle.

Phase III D + 7 Days (September 15, Thursday)

Post Action Required.  
(B35)

0955 hours, Telephone Call, TO: PAO, FM: Director of USIA/AR, Subject: Article in Times.

Post Action Required.  
(B36)

1020 hours, Cable, TO: SECSTATE, FM: AMEMB, Subject: Hurricane Ricardo: Comparative Relief Efforts.

Post Action Required.  
(B37)

1030 hours, Telephone Call, TO: DCM, FM: Deputy Minister of External Affairs, Subject: New York Times Article.

Post Action Required.  
(B38)

1115 hours, Telephone Call, TO: EAC, FM: Dr. Theodore Yankel, Subject: Welfare and Whereabouts.

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Post Action Required.  
(B40)

1452 hours, Broadcast, Radio Barbados, Subject: Fire.

Post Action Required.  
(B41)

1457 hours, Telephone Call, TO: Mission Director, FM: Robert Petrow, Barbados Light and Power Company, Subject: Fire.

Post Action Required.  
(B42)

1535 hours, Telephone Call, TO: PAO, FM: Local Reporter, Subject; Fire.

Post Action Required.  
(B43)

1545 hours, Cable, TO: AMEMB, FM: SECSTATE, Subject: Bridgetown Fire Disaster Assistance From International Association of Fire Chiefs.

Post Action Required.  
(B44)

1605 hours, Telephone Call, TO: EAC, FM: CERO, Subject: Request for Fire Control Assistance.

Post Action Required.  
(B45)

1613 hours, Telephone Call, TO: CERO, FM: MDRO, Subject: Request for Fuel Bladders

27/1

Post Action Required.  
(B46)

1635 hours, Telephone Call, TO: OFDA, FM: EAC,  
Subject: Emergency Drug Supplies.

Post Action Required.  
(B47)

1645 hours, Cable, TO: SECSTATE, FM: AMEMB,  
Subject: Request for Fire Assistance.

Post Action Required.  
(B48)

1700 hours, Telephone Call, TO: MDRO, FM: MED  
Officer, Subject: Plea for Assistance.

Post Action Required.  
(B49)

1710 hours, Telephone Call, TO: DCM, FM: Prime  
Minister's Office, Subject: Request for Fuel Bladders

Post Action Required.  
(B50)

2000 hours, Cable, TO: AMEMB, FM: SECSTATE,  
Subject: Bridgetown Fire Disaster Relief.

Post Action Required.  
(B51)

2025 hours, Note, TO: MSG, FM: Local Traveler,  
Subject: Offer to Help.

Post Action Required.  
(B52)

2030 hours, Cable, TO: AMEMB, FM: SECSTATE,  
Subject: Focus of Relief Effort.

B02

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER NO. \_\_\_

Cable (received 0600 Sept. 6).

FROM: SECSTATE

TO: AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

INFO: AMEMBASSY ANTIGUA  
AMEMBASSY PORT-OF-SPAIN

SUBJECT: Hurricane Advisory

AIDAC from OFDA

1. Wish to call posts' particular attention to latest hurricane advisory from U.S. National Hurricane Center.

2. At 0100 hours on September 6, Hurricane Ricardo was located at 13, N, 55, W. It has been proceeding in a northwest direction for the past 12 hours and is expected to continue on this course. The wind speed was reported at 90 mph, with central pressure at 1000 millibars. The hurricane is traveling at about 20 miles per hour. The hurricane force winds extend about 40 miles in all directions, with gale winds extending 150 miles north and 100 miles south of the center of the storm.

3. Tides are expected to run 4 to 6 feet higher than normal during the hurricane on the northeast coast.

4. Residents of the warning areas are advised to take actions to protect life and property.

Hurricane warnings are in effect for all of the Windward and Leeward Islands. Hurricane watch is in effect for the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

B03

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER NO.

Memorandum

MEMO TO: DCM  
FROM: Ambassador  
DATE: September 7, 1983  
SUBJECT: Request for Disaster Briefing, Wednesday at 4 p.m.

The hurricane news sounds bad. We have had other alerts this season, but I need to be fully assured of our readiness to handle any situation that might arise.

Please brief me tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. in the conference room. I will want to know something of how you assess the local preparedness effort as well as how ready we are ourselves.

I will expect all key players on the Mission staff to participate in the briefing.

B04

BRIEFING TO AMBASSADOR;  
TO BE FURNISHED BY POST

B05

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER NO. —

Cable

FROM: AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN  
TO: SECSTATE NIACT IMMEDIATE  
INFO: SECDEF NIACT IMMEDIATE  
JCS NIACT IMMEDIATE  
CINCLANT NIACT IMMEDIATE  
COMNAVFORCARIB NIACT IMMEDIATE  
COMUSFORCARIB NIACT IMMEDIATE  
USCINCSO NIACT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ANTIGUA IMMEDIATE

UNCLASSIFIED AMEMBASSY GENEVA IMMEDIATE  
ADAC FOR OFDA; GENEVA FOR UNDRC

SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Situation as of 4 p.m. Thursday, September 8

- According to local data, the front edge of the hurricane is less than one hundred miles east of Barbados and moving directly on the island at minimum 20 mph. Authorities here are predicting direct hit on the island tonight if present course continues. Bridgetown is expected to get the full brunt of the storm.

Winds here are already gusting to 60 mph. Rains continue heavy and the sky is darkening rapidly as the hurricane approaches. The traffic leaving the city is badly logged. High seas are battering the coast and we are unable to determine whether the airport is still accessible. It was closed to all traffic this afternoon as reported earlier. Trucks have now blocked off entire waterfront area.

No reports yet of injury or damage in American community. All mission personnel have again been instructed in hurricane precautions. We plan to have key members of staff immediately available all night tonight.

B06

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER NO. \_\_

Cable

FROM: AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN  
TO: SECSTATE, IMMEDIATE 1100 September 8  
INFO: SECDEF IMMEDIATE  
JCS IMMEDIATE  
CINCLANT IMMEDIATE  
COMUSFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
USCINCSO IMMEDIATE

UNCLASSIFIED  
AIDAC FOR OFDA

SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Mission Preparedness

1. In response to Department's telephone inquiry regarding mission preparations for possible hurricane disaster, please be assured that MDRP has been fully aired and local contacts established.
2. Ambassador briefed in meeting at 0900 today with key mission participants concerning Mission preparedness for disaster plan implementation.

B07

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER NO. \_\_\_\_\_

NBC News Broadcast 11 p.m. Thursday, September 8

"Hurricane Ricardo smashed into the island of Barbados this evening about 9 p.m. According to Harry Laffe, our news correspondent in Bridgetown, whose message was one of the last to get through, the situation was one of severe hardship and destruction. The storm surge into Bridgetown harbor had reached eight feet with ten foot high battering seas. The waterfront devastation was indiscriminate and shocking. The airport was inaccessible. Harborfront buildings were reported flooded to a depth of several feet, and damage to the port was already extensive. The main business section of Bridgetown was in shambles and residences were strewn with what once were shutters, roofs, stately palms, and shiny cars. A number of inhabitants of the poorer, lowlying areas have been reported drowned while frantically seeking safety on higher ground. Stay tuned to this network for further bulletins on this tragic hurricane situation in Barbados."

Stay tuned to this network for further bulletins on this tragic hurricane situation in Barbados."

B08

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D - DAY NO. \_\_\_\_

News Dispatch (sent at 1100 Sept. 9)

FROM: AP Correspondent John Abel, Bridgetown  
TO: AP  
SUBJECT: Shock Sets in After Hurricane Ricardo  
(Following is background for news spots on Barbados hurricane)

BRIDGETOWN Sept. 9. We have just passed through the greatest hurricane to hit Barbados in this century. For those who have not experienced it, the force and fury of the winds and seas is impossible to imagine. They have left the island staggering and battered with a human toll already estimated in the hundreds.

By about 7 p.m. last night, traffic had virtually stopped due to extreme road congestion in the city and inland. Police and fire officials, exhausted from long hours on duty, were gathered at their command posts to sort out the next move. No one could keep count of how many had left Bridgetown but it is now clear that relatively few persons fled its crowded shantytowns. The more fortunate stayed in hotels and high rise apartments thinking they would be safe. One policeman reports that numerous residents of one of the new swinging-set Ocean View Apartments stayed and had a hurricane party. But some of them didn't live to regret the decision.

By 9 p.m., ten-foot waves were battering the coast. In the harbor, waterfront structures were flooded to a depth of several feet. A number of inhabitants of the low-lying neighborhoods were reported drowned; others had frantically sought safety on higher ground. Several stories of heroic rescues by fire and police were told.

A couple of hours later, as the eye of the hurricane passed over the island, the wind dropped to 10 mph, and as always the air became ominously warm and humid. It was an eerie period of about 20 minutes, calm yet frightening. Some people tried to return back to their homes or to their businesses; a number died in the attempt.

During this period, several feet of water remained in the streets because of the storm surge which affected the entire water level of the harbor with dangerous flows and deep areas. The sea was in the lobby of many of the ocean-front buildings, as well as in the buildings further along the beach. The glass was broken out of the windows in the city's modern hotels and apartments. It is now clear that the waves washed away the footings of some of the piers and most are no longer usable.

In less than one-half hour the winds again quickly reached hurricane force, indicating that the eye of the storm had passed by. For about six more hours hurricane-force winds pounded the area. The radio meteorologist said the winds were clocked at 112 mph, which meant that Hurricane Ricardo was a Class III hurricane (as measured on the Saffir-Simpson scale).

When the storm resumed, many of those who had stayed as a lark were in a state of panic. Hotel owners and building managers tried to calm those who had stayed and get them into the safer areas, such as the hallways on the second and third floors. In the shanty towns and in buildings of cheaper construction pieces of tin roofing and glass ripped through walks and into hallways. The wave action and heavy rain made everything seem like a wall of water.

By early morning today the winds dropped to below 90 mph, and the hurricane was about 100 miles NNW. The water level was increasing again with the normal tides, although there was a decreasing influence of the storm surge.

Waves continued to batter the waterfront. High winds still raked the area, causing more buildings to collapse under the combined beating of wind and water. Reports on the number of people killed and injured were incomplete, but local authorities were reporting a growing death toll from drowning and from the collapse of a warehouse building near the waterfront where many had gathered to ride out the storm. It was only in the afternoon, when the wind and water dropped a bit, that emergency vehicles were able to get through in some parts of town.

Calls for ambulances to aid the injured were coming in fast and furiously, but there was still impossible. Two American doctors in residence at one of the hotels volunteered to help and they and a number of local physicians had to be driven by the fire

department to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, which is serving as a center to provide first aid for the injured. All hospitals are crowded to the walls. A critical problem is the lack of plasma and whole blood to aid those who had been severely cut by flying debris. People are still losing their lives because they are unable to get to medical assistance. Officials are now estimating the death toll at several hundred and injuries from flying debris, exposure, etc. at many times that.

Winds are now dropping to about 20 mph, with occasional higher gusts. Town officials, with the aid of Defense Force units, have begun to comb the debris to look for the injured and the dead. The Prime Minister has called for international help.

B09

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D - DAY NO. \_\_\_\_

Cable

FROM: AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO: SECSTATE NIACT IMMEDIATE

JCS  
USCINCSO  
COMNAVFORCARIB  
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON  
AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO  
SECDEF

CINCLANT  
COMUSFORCARIB  
US MISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY PORT-AU-PRINCE  
AMEMBASSY ANTIGUA

SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Sitrep No. 1, 1500 September 9

AIDAC for OFDA  
GENEVA for UNDRO  
Antigua for Preparedness Team

1. As reported in previous cables, Hurricane Ricardo hit Barbados at 2100 September 8, coming in directly over the island and proceeding west into the Caribbean. This is the first round-up Sitrep from the Mission covering the situation in Bridgetown and elsewhere on the island, attempting to piece together a messy and highly disrupted situation. We will continue to be in regular touch with Department, AID and military by phone since the international telephone links seem to be working.

2. Thus far, Bridgetown is picking itself out of the debris of the worst hurricane to hit the island in many years. While local and national authorities had monitored this storm closely, and had implemented their preparedness plans, in actual fact the impact of the resulting devastation were beyond expectation. The overwhelming force of the hurricane disrupted island communications; placed a crushing burden on the public safety organizations and mechanisms; and caused death, injury, and property damage far beyond what could be planned for or handled. We have been in constant touch with CERO headquarters through E&E radio and by messenger since the departure of the storm. Although international telephone service is still operating, local telephone lines are all tangled with the power lines in the streets. This is making contact even by messenger a dangerous adventure. We have offered to help CERO in any way we can but we thus far received no specific requests.

3. The Bridgetown water plant is inoperable and probably will be for a period of several weeks. Pipes both for sewage and drinking water have been broken in many places, plus the wave action has brought all kinds of offal into the harbor. Sanitation is a major problem at this time.

4. Vehicular travel along the streets is impossible. Debris and sand is everywhere as a result of the overwashes, wind and wave action. Only four-wheel drive vehicles are able to move around the lower town. Police and BDF personnel have been called to help clear the streets and to help restore water and sewage services. The power company has also begun to assess damages; it estimates that it will take several weeks of full-scale effort to replace the power lines and damaged transformers virtually all of which were above ground. The telephone company makes a similar estimate, although lines essential to disaster emergency management should be restored within a matter of days. Police and fire radio communications are the main communication links on the island.

5. The police continues to turn away people trying to come into town, including panicky relatives of those thought still to be in the lower town and alarmed owners attempting to get back to see how their houses fared in the storm. Throughout Bridgetown hundreds of homes are literally gone, including a number where only a few sticks of lumber and remnants of foundations remain to show that they had once been there. Two of the waterfront buildings are so underwashed at their foundation as to be totally unsafe; they are candidates for the wrecking ball. Most of the hotels weathered the blow, although damage is extensive to the exteriors.

More serious is the reported damage done to the Bridgetown airport, docks and piers, through which all local relief supplies and foreign assistance would ordinarily pass. Full damage to the Grantley Adams International Airport cannot yet be assessed. Numerous cracks and potholes dot its surface and there was considerable damage to control tower communications from flying debris (including one private plane that is now sitting in the main lobby).

The docks and piers are also in bad shape, both from direct wave damage and from damage to warehouses and loading and unloading equipment.

The Barbados government has called an emergency meeting of the Coordinating Emergency Committee to assess what is known of the damage thus far, to activate

mechanisms to coordinate the work of the ministries and the disaster committees, and to deal with anticipated foreign offers and local requests for foreign help. The Prime Minister has already broadcast a broad appeal to the United Nations and "all friends" of Barbados" for "help in this terrible moment of Barbados' need". We are trying to get to the Prime Minister and in the meantime are trying to assess relief needs with CERO.

9. Appreciate it if OFDA would alert DOD to possible request for DAST.
10. We have 640 tons of PL-480 food in country but unable to determine as yet how much of Bridgetown stocks still useable. PVO's expect to report during course of this evening.
11. Further details and action requests will be sent soonest.

B10

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_

Cable (sent 0700 Sept. 10)

FROM: AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO: SECSTATE NIACT IMMEDIATE  
US MISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE  
USCINCSO IMMEDIATE  
COMNAVFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
COMUSFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ANTIGUA IMMEDIATE

FOR ARA/AS FROM AMBASSADOR  
AIDAC FOR OFDA; GENEVA FOR UNDRRO

SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Request for Disaster Help

1. I was called in urgently by the Prime Minister at 0600 this morning. He made a formal request for "whatever help the US could provide to face the current disaster crisis and the subsequent period of suffering and rebuilding." At this time, he said, the great need is for an improved assessment capability, then for easily distributable foodstuffs; bulldozers to clear away the rubble and to aid in recovering the dead and wounded; field hospitals to supplement the limited capacity of the country's hospitals; medicines of all sorts; inflatable boats for work in the flooded area; tents and blankets for those left without shelter; generators for emergency lighting in the hospitals and for 24-hour search and rescue operations; and also substantial numbers of kerosene lamps. The Prime Minister referred me to CERO and to those responsible in the ministries for details, but asked specifically if we would provide some immediate technical assistance in assessing the damage.

2. As the Department is aware from our previous communications, the hurricane has done enormous damage in the city and elsewhere on the island. We are following up promptly on the Prime Minister's requests and will provide comment and assessments immediately in succeeding messages.

3. In the meantime, please advise availability and possible ETA of assessment team to the Prime Minister's request.

B11

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. —

Call on Embassy Intercom 0715 September 10

FROM: AMBASSADOR

TO: DCM

SUBJECT: PM's Request for Disaster Help

I have just sent a cable on a conversation I had early this morning with the Prime Minister. Have a look at it and then see if you can't get the team to start firming up his requests. We should get our recommendations up to Washington immediately--let's aim at getting out a follow-up or follow-ups to my cable by mid-morning.

B12

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS NO \_\_\_\_\_

Memorandum (sent 0845 Sept. 10)

FROM: POLITICAL COUNSELOR

TO: DCM

SUBJECT: Disaster-Relief Operations

As you suggested. I have given Key West a call to alert them informally on what might be coming up in the way of disaster assistance needs. Nobody will jump the gun until the OFDA process is completed. I told them that the Ambassador had met with the Prime Minister at 6:00 this morning and had requested urgent US disaster-relief assistance, especially in damage assessment. I also made clear again at the end that this was an informal alert, not an action request.

B13

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Cable

FROM: USIA (received 0910 Sept. 10)

TO: USIS Bridgetown

INFO: SECSTATE

SUBJECT: US Media On-Site Coverage of Barbados Hurricane Disaster

For PAO From Director, AR

1. We have been informed that the following have representatives now in Barbados or proceeding there soonest: New York Times, Washington Post, CBS (with a three person TV crew), AP, and UPI. We presume a number of others are on their way and will advise as information on their travel becomes available. Will appreciate your keeping us advised from your end.

2. Please advise also what arrangements made for handling media, both on GOB side and by your post. Assume you are providing continuing information flow to them including full details of US effort. TV people will obviously be primarily interested in disaster footage; however, you should ensure maximum possible exposure to the arrival and distribution of appropriate US relief supplies, with emphasis on speed and effectiveness of US effort and coordination with other donors.

Will need daily report from you on media activities and USIS operations in order to respond to strong public, Congressional and White House interest.

91

B14

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Cable (received 0915 Sept. 10)

FROM: Peace Corps Washington

TO: AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN TOPEC

SUBJECT: Welfare of PCV's in Hurricane Ricardo

FOR PCD FROM RUPPE

1. Advise soonest situation with regard to PCV's and steps taken to assure their welfare. We are receiving inquiries from families, several of whom are quite distraught at disaster news coming out of the area. In particular, need information for Arla Brown, Gene Hruska, Don Leopold, Robin Masters, John Posi. and Elizabeth Young, but remain deeply concerned welfare all volunteers and request maximum information flow at all times.

2. As coincident issue, it will be most useful for PC/W to have any specific examples of role PCV's playing in helping to meet the needs of disaster stricken inhabitants as relief efforts unfold. What are current plans for PC in-country participation?

92

B15

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS. NO. \_\_\_\_

Message (Hand Delivered at 0920 Sept. 10)

FROM: CERO  
TO: EAC  
SUBJECT: Urgent Need for Vehicle

We have an urgent need for a four-wheel drive vehicle to get some food and especially water purifiers and medicines down to one of the distribution points on the north side of town. With so many sections of the streets washed out only a four-wheel drive vehicle can get through. Ours are all out in other areas for the day. Our people over there have sent word that the situation in their isolated spot is getting desperate. We understand that you have some of these vehicles. Could you possibly lend us one for a few hours?

(1)

B16

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (received 0925 Sept. 10)

FROM: OFDA

TO: EAC

SUBJECT: Regarding Generators

I'm calling about the Ambassador's cable reporting a Barbados request for generators. We don't keep a complete stockpile of generators, since needs and types are so different in every disaster case. We will be glad to go after whatever we can get here, in Panama, or through PVO's or other donors. To help justify our request when we go to these people, let me have a cable giving number and capacity of generators needed as well as what is available on the local market and at what price. Copy it to Port-of-Spain, Port-au-Prince, Santo Domingo, Caracas, and Panama to see what availabilities and delivery time we can drum up there; also to Geneva.

We will do everything we can, but we're beginning to run into real funding problems. We are always under pressure to convince Congress we are going for lowest cost sourcing—compatible with speed of delivery and desirability of US goods, of course.

Oh yes, the same thing goes for kerosene lamps. The Chinese have inundated the Caribbean with them--if you absolutely have to get involved in buying any, I'm sure you can find them locally. We don't supply them.

Good luck! Remember, we're here to help where we can.

11

B17

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Visit (0930 Sept. 10)

FROM: Freddy McBurger, AMCIT/Owner and Manager of Fatted Cow Fine  
Fast Foods

SUBJECT: AMCIT Tale of Woe

My place is blown out. I've lost all the plate glass in the front of my store. The chairs and tables are blown all over the place, Lord only knows where. And the meat is spoiling in the freezer without electricity. I'm going to have to have some help getting back home--I'm broke and washed up. Can you find me a place to stay? Anything I can do to earn a few bucks while I'm waiting?

B18

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Cable

FROM: COMUSFORCARIB/J-3/5/DR OPS (Contingency) 1000 Sept. 15

TO: AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN IMMEDIATE  
COMUSFORCARIB Rep. Roosevelt Roads IMMEDIATE

INFO: CINCLANT  
USCINCSO  
COMNAVFORCARIB  
SECSTATE

ADAC for OFDA

SUBJECT: Disaster - Relief Operations, Barbados

Reference COMUSFORCARIB/Amembassy Bridgetown phone conversation, subject as above, and phone conversation, CINLANT/COMUSFORCARIB

This is a planning message.

For Embassy Bridgetown. Appreciate advance warning. Informally advise Ambassador that this command stands ready to support his requirements, should it be determined that US military support is needed.

For COMUSFORCARIB REP. Request Pre-DAST and DAST Team capabilities preview for initial survey activities in Barbados. Any funding, manpower or equipment shortfalls that would degrade mission capability should be reported to COMUSFORCARIB/J-3/5/DR OPS Contingency/ via immediate precedence.

Be advised that no action is to be taken on the basis of this message to commit resources or implement provisions of COMUSFORCARIB CONPLAN 2500. Activation of disaster relief operations must be authorized by JCS and under OPCOM CINCLANT.

For all. Will keep you informed as situation develops.

B19

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (Rec'd 1020 Sept. 10)

FROM: Sunset State Fruit and Nut Association

TO: EAC

SUBJECT: Offer of 3,000 Cases of Fruit Salad

This is Red Sayles of the Sunset State Fruit and Nut Association calling from New York.

Some of our members are pretty upset about what's happening down there - lots of Caribbean people working for them, you know, so they get an earful. Anyway, we've decided to get together and offer you 3,000 cases of fruit salad in heavy syrup that we happen to have in a warehouse in New Orleans. New Orleans tells me that some of the cans are slightly swollen, but the fruit salad is in perfect condition.

Just get us the transportation and we'll get them down to you right away. How about it?

(1)

B20

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. —

Memorandum Recording Oral Request Transmitted by Messenger from CERO  
Headquarters

TO: MDRO

FROM: MSG on duty

SUBJECT: Request for Inflatable Boats

Messenger from CERO arrived at Guard Desk September 9 at 1032 and left oral message as follows (reconstructed from my notes): "We're still having a devil of a time with flooding out in the shanty area. Can't get teams in to find out the extent of the damage or get out the injured and isolated. We need some small boats to access the area for assessment and for general clearance and relief work along the sea front. We could use up to a dozen inflatable boats with 30 horsepower outboard motors. You are going to be asked officially from upstairs, but we want to tell you the request is coming and urge you give this one highest priority."

I told him that I would make sure that the message was delivered.

10

B21

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. —

Radio Call (1045 Sept. 10)

FROM: Ham Radio Operator on North Coast  
Relayed by National Disaster Center

TO: EAC

SUBJECT: Ham Operator Receiving Calls About Missing Persons

Hello? Hello? This is John Abingdon at CERO. I am relaying a message from Robert Dumont, a ham operator over in Speightstown. He says he is receiving calls from his friends, ham operators all over the States, asking about the welfare of individuals here in this country. He asks what he should tell them and how he can be in direct contact with the American Embassy? What should I tell him? Our radio connections are spotty. Can you keep us informed on American citizens whose welfare you learn about?

B22

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS NO. \_\_\_

Cable

FROM: SECSTATE (rec'd 1140 Sept. 10)  
TO: AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN Immediate  
SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Offer of Relief Goods Through Senator Dole  
For Ambassador from ARA/DAS Smithers

1. Senator Robert Dole's senior Legislative Aide has just called me to say that one of the Senator's important constituents has started organizing the collection of old clothes and canned goods in the Wichita area for Barbados hurricane relief. He already has the Lions, Rotary, and other service organizations active, and several churches are participating in the drive and acting as collection points. Beech Aircraft is using its trade contacts to promote free transportation for what is expected to be several tons of miscellaneous goods.
2. Please have your people follow these shipments carefully and keep us fully advised regarding their arrival and disposition.

100

B23

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS. NO. \_\_\_\_

Letter (rec'd at 1145 Sept. 10)

FROM: Minister of External Affairs  
TO: AMBASSADOR  
SUBJECT: Confirming Prime Minister's Request

My dear Ambassador:

We deeply appreciated your willingness to meet with His Excellency the Prime Minister this morning.

This is to confirm both his request and its urgency. We are very much in need of support in assessing the extent of the disaster brought to this island by the hurricane. We know that you have experts in these matters, especially in your armed forces, who have provided assistance both to Barbados and to other countries in the region in the past. I do not feel that major foreign military resources should be dedicated to relief efforts until we have a fuller view of our needs; but your help in initial damage assessment is very urgent.

May I ask you to inform the Prime Minister's office immediately when you have determined the assessment capabilities you might be able to provide and how soon? I should very much appreciate being kept currently informed.

I take this opportunity to express my appreciation and to repeat to you the assurance of my high esteem and personal regard.

10/17

B24

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS NO. \_\_\_

Telephone Call (rec'd at 1150 Sept. 10)

FROM: Monongahela Crystal Pure Water Corporation  
TO: EAC  
SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Offer of Bottled Water

This is April Schauer of the Monongahela Crystal Pure Water Corporation in Pittsburgh. Some of the churches in western Pennsylvania have been pooling their money to get some pure drinking water down to those poor hurricane victims in Barbados. The papers have been hearing some pretty heart-rending stories about the water situation down there. We have 1,000 cases of four gallons each in plastic bottles all ready for shipment. We're providing this to the churches at our special wholesale price. Where do you want us to send it? Of course, they'll need transportation, but the church representatives understand your people can fund that.

B25

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_

Cable

FROM: COMUSFORCARIB REP ROOSEVELT ROADS 151150 Sep 83

TO: COMUSFORCARIB IMMEDIATE

INFO: AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN IMMED  
CINCLANT IMMED  
JCS IMMED  
SECSTATE IMMED  
USCINCSO IMMED  
COMNAVFORCARIB IMMED  
AMEMBASSY ANTIGUA IMMED  
SECDEF IMMED

UNCLAS  
AIDAC for OFDA

SUBJECT: Disaster Assistance Survey Team

REF: COMUSFORCARIB/J-3/5/DR OPS 151000 SEP 83

1. In accordance with COMUSFORCARIB request reftel, we are preparing DAST to proceed immediately to disaster area upon OFDA authorization. Composition of team is OIC, civil engineer, medical officer, and communications team, total 3 officers and 4 enlisted (all US citizen military), plus two helicopters. Team to be augmented as required after initial on-site assessment subject to your capabilities for providing personnel augmentation locally. Pre-DAST team can be made up immediately from available resources, if required.

2 Request you urgently identify best landing site for C130 transport and ground logistics for immediate deployment.

3 Advise current situation as regards status of forces or other immunities agreements with HC.

4 Request you confirm HC clearance and agreement for arrival of team and equipment, for temporary positioning in country of transport and communications equipment and for reexport of such equipment. Further request you coordinate best emergency frequencies.

B26

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_

Cable (received 1200 Sept. 10)

FROM: SECSTATE

TO: AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN IMMEDIATE  
SECDEF IMMEDIATE

INFO: JCS IMMED USCINCSO IMMED  
CINCLANT IMMED AMEMB ANTIGUA IMMED  
COMUSFORCARIB IMMED US MISSION GENEVA IMMED  
COMNAVFORCARIB IMMED

SUBJECT: US Disaster Relief Operations, Barbados

References: (a) Request for military support (OFDA TASKER)  
(b) Fonecon OFDA/OJCS and CINCLANT

AIDAC for Mission Director, from OFDA; Geneva for UNDRO

1. To further long range goal of self-sufficiency, suggest that for any assessment/survey operations:

a. Host country authorities constitute a combined military-civilian DAST capability to assess hurricane damage. Such a combined team can key on already in place national skills and be augmented as necessary by PAHO, Antigua Preparedness team, etc. Embassy Bridgetown should also consider post's own capability to participate in a combined DAST with personnel and equipment and/or to mount immediately its own assessment effort.

b. We are prepared to assist in such a joint effort with the GOB by providing transport and communications support, if required, in addition to such specialized professional support as GOB requires. In meantime, we are sending an OFDA specialist and a military liaison officer from HQ, USFORCARIB for coordination. Will advise arrival time soonest; Mission please provide logistic support.

c. It appears well within GOB capabilities to rapidly pull together a team as described above. Believe GOB will be most interested in such an operation, which will go a long way in exercising Caribbean capabilities in disaster management. Please advise GOB arrival time soonest.

104

3. For SECDEF: Request that tasking described in reference (a) be expanded to include authorization for carriage in US military aircraft of US and foreign national civilian officials designated by US Ambassador upon completion of individual waiver forms.

B27

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_

Letter handed by Mission Officer to Prime Minister's Special Assistant, 1330 Sept. 10

FROM: Ambassador

TO: Prime Minister

SUBJECT: Formation of Assessment Team

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

In response to the request Your Excellency made of me in our meeting this morning, my government has indicated its readiness to assist in the damage assessment effort that the Barbados government is undertaking and to provide all possible transport, communications, and specialized professional support to supplement Barbados capabilities and efforts.

I should appreciate Your Excellency's advice as to how your government would see the composition of such a team, employing skills available here and from such international sources as the UN and PAHO.

In the meantime, I expect US coordination teams (one from the Agency for International Development in Washington, D.C., and one from our Caribbean Forces headquarters in Key West, Florida) to arrive very shortly to help in putting together this joint effort.

Yours very sincerely,

101

B28

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Letter (rec'd at 1500 Sept. 10)

FROM: Medical Officer, St. Elizabeth Hospital

TO: AMBASSADOR, United States Embassy

SUBJECT: Urgent Need for Medical Supplies

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

Your generous government has helped us many times in the past to meet the crises that have been inflicted on us by a cruel and indiscriminate Mother Nature.

Once more we are in urgent need of all kinds of medicines to help us take care of the epidemics that threaten us as a result of the flooding and the destruction of sanitary facilities and water lines.

Our government is most anxious to begin a mass vaccination program in order to prevent a catastrophe. It has asked me to request of you sufficient vaccines against typhoid, cholera, and tetanus, together with vaccinating guns, to make up the difference between the 75,000 inoculations the government believes we will need and the approximately 12,000 doses we have on hand.

I hope I may take the liberty of being in touch with you again on other specific matters.

With my personal appreciation and warm wishes.

Sincerely,

B29

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS. NO. —

Informal note (received 1600 Sept. 10)

FROM: Prime Minister

TO: Ambassador

SUBJECT: Composition of Assessment Team

My Dear Ambassador:

Based upon your response to my request for disaster-assessment assistance, I am attaching a copy of a plan which details minimum essential United States participation. This plan has my full approval and I am sending it along in this form simply to get things under way while the bureaucratic wheels turn.

As you will see, the assessment team is mainly composed of my country's professional experts, augmented where necessary and including a significant United States contribution. I have personally chosen Mr. E.H. Waverson, Special Executive Assistant, Ministry of Transportation and Works, to take charge of this serious task. I have great faith in his abilities and know him to be totally competent in crisis matters.

It is my sincerest hope that the government of the United States of America can aid us in this humanitarian effort. Do you see any areas in which you could help us by providing trained persons on the team from the embassy itself?

As ever,

100

B30

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS. NO. \_\_\_

Memorandum enclosed with PM's note received 1600 Sept. 10

FROM: E.H. Waverson  
TO: Prime Minister  
SUBJECT: Disaster Assessment Team

1. Concept:

a. Depending mainly on national capability, reinforced when necessary by other governments/international organizations, the team will perform a full and rapid assessment of country-wide hurricane damage, to include damage to human services, commerce, security and government/private institutions.

b. The team will report findings daily to the Prime Minister.

c. The team will provide action suggestions as urgently required to reduce human suffering and provide minimum facilities for maintenance of life and of economic activity, bearing in mind long-range needs for national recovery.

2. Team Operations:

a. The Disaster Assessment Team will investigate conditions in the path of the hurricane via aircraft and vehicle. In addition to its daily reports it will provide a final report within 10 days after termination of its mandate. The reports will cover, inter alia, emergency supply requirements, population health and welfare, the degree of destruction, and the necessary relief and reconstruction operations

b. Most of the team's concern will be directed to the Bridgetown area, but we will conduct assessments elsewhere as required and in particular between Kingston and the north coast.

3. Team Composition (assuming US support):

a. Team Leader In Charge: E.H. Waverson.

- b. Team Operations Officer: from Caribbean Disaster Preparedness Team.
- c. Four Medical Officers: two from PAHO (an epidemiologist and a public health nurse); general medical officer (Jamaican), and a US trauma specialist.
- d. Four Engineers: (One housing and planning (Jamaica); two contractor personnel-electrical and mechanical (Japanese); and a bridge specialist (US Army).
- e. One Farming/Agricultural Advisor (Jamaican-Ministry of Agriculture).
- f. Two Finance Advisors: (One from Jamaican Ministry of Trade and Industry, and one from Caribbean Development Bank (Dominican)).
- g. One Telecommunications Advisor (Jamaican Ministry of Communications and Public Works).
- h. Two Security and Law Enforcement Advisors (Jamaican Ministry of Defense and Police).
- i. One Red Cross Advisor (Mexico, IRC).
- j. Transportation, Logistic and Communications (US personnel and equipment).

The following are needed to sustain the Disaster Assessment Team for five days of operations: three helicopters, five four-wheel drive vehicles, wireless radio communications for air to ground and ground to ground contact, and field equipment such as tents, rations, cots, power, etc. for interior base camp operations. Perhaps these could be obtained through the US Embassy. The US should if possible, also provide trained manpower to operate their equipment (number of personnel should be furnished by US) maintain fuel supply, and provide other such items necessary to perform the mission.

Be assured that I will be directing all aspects of this effort and will work closely with local community leaders in bringing the Prime Minister's message of hope to the people.

B31

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 6 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Press Dispatch (Filed 1530 Sept. 14)

TO: UPI  
FROM: Gordon Kingsworthy, UPI Correspondent Bridgetown  
SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo Aftermath

BRIDGETOWN Sept. 14. Several days of clear skies and sunshine have dried out much of this sodden city left nearly paralyzed by Hurricane Ricardo.

Most of the people have made their way back into the tangle of shanty housing. Men, women and children are scouring the streets and rubble-strewn open areas for old lumber, cardboard and anything they can use to rebuild the hundreds of homes destroyed or left roofless or wallless by the storm. Especially valued are the tin roofs which are found throughout the area wrapped around trees, curled on the ground, or lying intact. Thousands of makeshift shelters have been thrown together out of the rubble.

A foreign TV crew even had to ask a group of the disaster victims to stop hammering so that their sound man could record an interview with a relief official arriving with additional plastic sheeting (a US contribution) and tents. Efforts are being made to prevent rebuilding in the most hazardous, low-lying areas but the pressures seem to be too strong for the preoccupied authorities to resist and the shoddy structures near the water's edge are rapidly being repaired or rebuilt. In fact, the population in the central city is growing rapidly, as hurricane victims from outlying areas move in with relatives and friends in the city.

B32

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 6 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Cable

FROM: AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO: SECSTATE

SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Sitrep as of 1600 Wednesday Sept 14

1. As noted in Bridgetown's previous cables, the DAST team requested by the GOB (which arrived on Sept 12 with two Marine Corps helicopters) is now operating out of the local airport in Bridgetown. Working with the GOB Officer in Charge and with additional support personnel, much of the local damage has been surveyed. The head of the US contingent expects to provide a preliminary wrap-up of his daily reporting by Monday. The cooperation with GOB officials has gone well and the PM has been most appreciative both privately and publicly.
2. We hear some rumors that the radical left is trying to take advantage of an apparent lack of public understanding of US relief efforts. Some grumbling is being stirred up, based on questioning of why the PM thought he had to bring in the US Marines (presumably our Marine helicopters) and why he did not try to get some real relief help from his great friend in the north. The PAO is calling a press conference tomorrow morning to emphasize the large and growing US aid effort.
3. Unfortunately, the US relief supplies continued to pile up at the airport until Monday, when the first truck convoys started to get through to Bridgetown with some ease.
4. All available in-country PL-480 stocks have now been distributed by PVO representatives. Replacement stocks of PL 480 goods are badly needed; we are making separate request for some in the form of bread or buns, which makes distribution much simpler. PCV's have been of great help.
5. Other offers of help continue to come in. Cubans have made a public offer to send in a plane load of food and medicines, and "volunteers to help their Barbadian

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brothers to distribute these fraternal gifts and to restore their homes and fields." Large shipments of miscellaneous offerings from other Caribbean and Latin American sources and elsewhere have arrived in and have been piling up in port warehouses and at the airfield. The coordination, despite efforts by the GOB and UNDRO officials on the scene, is most difficult. The majority of aid materials have been provided by government from their relief stockpiles, including quantities of bulk food commodities (such as rice and flour, cooking oil and salt), medicines, and shelter materials including plastic sheeting and tents. Materials provided by others (including private individuals) are a mixed bag of goods. Among the assorted items are kitchen utensils, tools, flashlights, medicines and a wide assortment of food, especially donated canned goods, hurricane lamps, clothing, blankets, and an odd assortment of tents and camping supplies, and quantities of water purification tablets. Most materials have been packed according to size and each bundle contains a hodge-podge of different materials which must be sorted upon arrival. Local authorities are swamped because of the lack of sorting and distribution capabilities. The failure to send enough food stuffs to meet local and up-country needs has raised the frustration level to the boiling point both in Bridgetown and in the island.

6. A call has gone out for volunteers to help sort relief materials into packages for individuals and families. The volume of the material and the confusion caused by poor packaging has required several hundred people working at the airport and now at sorting centers in the capital. Reports of corruption and favoritism in the distribution of relief supplies are appearing in the press. The Prime Minister has asked the churches to form committees to oversee the distribution of relief goods in each community. During the day, three different relief agencies called coordination meetings in separate locations. At mid-day the government called for more volunteers to help sort and package incoming relief goods. The total number of people involved in sorting materials now exceeds 500.

Compounding the situation are the large number of foreign tourists who are marking time airport awaiting transportation out. The many Americans are besieging the Embassy and the counters of American, Eastern, and the other airlines. The airlines are gradually restoring service to Miami, Toronto, Europe, and elsewhere. Again the decibel levels are high. We have sent two Consular Officers to cover the AMCITS there. Only AMCIT casualties so far as can be determined were the missionary couple caught in up-country flooding the night of the hurricane, as previously reported.

8. This afternoon the Prime Minister again visited some of the worst destruction areas in Bridgetown and promised massive aid in a rousing "phoenix from the ashes" speech broadcast on radio and TV. He also issued an appeal for help and cooperation from all political parties and factions in the reconstruction effort. (Two hours later the leader of the opposition called a press conference where he pledged full cooperation but noted "massive corruption" and vowed to make equality of aid an issue in the next election.) Note: Mission has noted absolute absolute minimum diversion of relief supplies; we are following closely, in particular as regards US items, and have instructed tightening of control system to ensure continued proper channeling. Details follow.

9. Mission's American personnel have reoccupied their homes, except for the Jones family still in hotel and several families living with friends, as previously reported. We still have not heard from a number of our FSN personnel and have assigned an FSN employee to try to locate them and to follow up on our notification given GOB authorities yesterday.

10. There continues to be some looting but it is now under control. Burglaries and street crimes remain above normal. Mission has advised all personnel of dangers of night-time movement in affected areas.

11. CERO, on behalf of the PM, has marshalled all available trucks and construction and road building equipment. Many private contractors have offered to loan heavy equipment that they aren't using. Some repairs to upcountry roads have been made, taking much of the burden off the relief effort.

12. The weather is still clear and dry, and clean-up operations are proceeding as fast as limited equipment and extensive damage permit.

B33

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS. NO. —

Telephone Call (Received 1610 Sept. 10)

FROM: Milford Bokes

TO: EAC

SUBJECT: Welfare and Whereabouts

This is Milford Bokes from Stark, Florida. I'm worried something awful about my son Junior. He took off a couple weeks past with some smart alecky free-talking, loose walkin' hippy woman from Miami and went to your Island. He said they was gonna be living on the beach, selling palm frond hats to tourists. Well, I ain't heard from Junior and with the hurricane and all, I don't know. Can you find him and ask him to send a postcard or something?

(Depending on the answer, "I know enough to call Dante Fascell in the US Congress if you need more motivation to help a fellow American. He knows I always vote for him.")

B34

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_

Message (Hand Delivered at 1630 September 10)

FROM: CERO  
TO: EAC  
SUBJECT: Accident to Mission Vehicle

We greatly regret to inform you that the vehicle you so kindly lent us has met with an accident in the course of its errand of mercy. While trying to swerve to avoid a small boy who ran into the street, the vehicle collided with the stone rubble of a wall, overturned, caught fire and is now, we understand, a total loss. Fortunately, it was on its return trip so the urgently needed supplies were delivered. Less fortunately, the boy suffered a broken leg and contusions and your driver cracked his head rather severely. Both have been taken to the hospital. We stand at your disposal to sort out the questions of legal responsibility which may arise in connection with this regrettable occurrence.

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B35

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_

Telephone Call (Rec'd at 0955 Sept. 15)

FROM: Director, USIA Office of American Republic Affairs  
TO: PAO  
SUBJECT: Article in Times

We're catching a lot of flack up here about an article in this morning's Times on Barbados relief. Have you seen it? No? I'll cable you a copy. Anyway, the Times goes on and on about slow arrival in Bridgetown of US relief goods, alleged leakage into the black market, stupidity of US authorities in permitting much needed cargo space to be used for transporting such things as cuspidors or chamber pots or whatever the reporter saw dumped in a pile out at the airport. Says he bought US donated powdered milk on the street in Bridgetown.

Give me anything you can so we can speak to these questions of speed of the relief effort and charges of black market diversion. If you have anything on the cuspidors, feat. The rest we're just going to have to handle up here and let me tell you it's really hitting the fan. Can't you get these guys out and show them what we're really doing down there? And how about putting the quietus on this black market stuff? I thought it was being pretty well handled. Is it really going on?

Call me back as soon as you have anything so I can feed the wolves - they're hanging on me.

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B36

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Cable (Received 1020 Sept. 15)

FROM: SECSTATE  
TO: AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN IMMEDIATE  
INFO: USEC Brussels Immediate  
USUN Immediate  
US Mission Geneva Immediate  
FOR: Ambassador from ARA/DAS Smithers  
SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Comparative Relief Efforts

1. Times article aside, Press and Congressional comments generally are favorable to strong US relief effort being made in Barbados and we appreciate your continuing leadership. However, an editorial yesterday in Des Moines Register raises serious questions about burden-sharing in the Barbados relief operations. It reflects a growing undercurrent in recent radio and TV commentary that is now beginning to show up in the press. We want to counter it promptly.

2. We also have a related inquiry from Congressman Lehman for specific information on how other countries' efforts in Barbados compare with ours. He wants information to help him counter his constituents' uneasiness that "Uncle Sam is again bearing the whole burden".

3. Recognize difficulty of assessing total relief effort at this point, but we need anything you can give us listing specific commodities, cash contributions and total dollar value broken down by donor country or organization.

4. Information addressees should not approach host organizations formally at this time. Embassy Bridgetown will be contacting their on-the-scene representatives, and we do not wish to attract international attention. Any data you have available would be welcome, however.

5. Please provide preliminary report by C.O.B., Monday, September 19.

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EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (rec'd at 1030 Sept. 15)

FROM: Deputy Minister of External Affairs  
TO: DCM  
SUBJECT: New York Times Article on Barbados Relief

I presume that by now you have been informed of the article that appeared this morning in the New York Times--datelined Bridgetown--alleging all sorts of mischievous things about your relief effort here, as well, unfortunately, as about our handling of the distribution of relief goods.

This is causing us a bit of trouble as you might imagine. Some of our friends in the opposition are smacking their lips, and the Prime Minister has already expressed his concern and unhappiness most forcefully to my chief and a number of others. We are immediately rechecking our own procedures but would appreciate your thoughts on how together we can minimize the damage and avoid this sort of thing in the future. This is most urgent. Can you come to see me this afternoon at 3 p.m.?

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EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. —

Telephone Call (rec'd 1115 Sept. 15)

FROM: Dr. Theodore Yankel  
TO: EAC  
SUBJECT: Welfare and Whereabouts

Hello. This is Dr. Theodore Yankel from Ames, Iowa. Do you have any news about my parents, Hyman and Yetta Yankel? They are on a South American cruise, the S.S. Empire Princess from the Scandavia Shiplines I think. I'm not sure of their itinerary, but the boat might have been near your hurricane. What information can you give me?

B39

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. —

Telephone Call (received 1210 September 15)

FROM: Executive Assistant to the Prime Minister

TO: DCM

SUBJECT: Request for Military Equipment

I just wanted to let you know how much the Prime Minister appreciates the excellent work of your DAST team and the remarkable use they are making of your helicopters and commo-equipment.

In view of the importance of these items to disaster handling, the proneness of our country to such disasters and the interest of the US in disaster preparedness in the Caribbean region, the Prime Minister has asked me to take an informal sounding with you as to the possibility of retaining this capability after the present emergency. What we would like to do is have these items remain in country in our armed forces inventory, but earmarked in particular for disaster use. What is your own reaction, just between the two of us? As you know, there is some urgency, since informed circles and the media are not unaware of the high level interest in this matter.

Well, perhaps you could let me have a reply through this same channel once you've had a chance to check a bit further.

B40

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_

SUBJECT: Broadcast Over Radio Barbados at 1452 September 15.

We interrupt our regular program to bring you a news flash. According to the Bridgetown fire department, fire fighting equipment is being dispatched to handle a large blaze which has sprung up in the crowded and rubble-strewn Bayville area. The fire apparatus is having some difficulty in getting through because of debris in the streets left from the hurricane. The continuing winds also are causing some concern. However, the Fire Chief assures us that his department is fully prepared to deal with the situation. Stay tuned for further bulletins.

And now we return you to "The Life and Loves of Amy Upsondowns."

B41

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_

Telephone Call, (received 1457) September 15.

FROM: Robert Petrow, manager of the Barbados Light and Power Company

TO: USAID Mission Director

Say, did you hear about the fire over in the Bayville area? Well, I naturally try to keep an eye on things like that, what with our rather exposed facilities and all that, so I sent one of our boys up to check the thing out. It doesn't look good. No water, damn wind still blowing, and the fire people got notified late because no telephones. You'd better tell whoever it is in the Embassy, because we just might have another disaster on our hands. I'll let you know if I hear any more.

B42

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 NO. —

Telephone Call (received 1535 September 15.

FROM: Local Reporter who covers fire and police calls and has a single side-band radio to monitor the fire department's calls

TO: Public Affairs Officer

You asked about the fire in the Bayville area. Well, as far as I can tell, it seems to have gone out of control. The Battalion Chief on site has called in multiple alarms, asked for all types of back-up assistance and has requested mutual aid from nearby fire departments (and brigades). Because of the density of the houses, the rubble (paper, trash and other burnables) in the streets, and the continuous winds, the fire has already involved all the structures in about a six block area. People are running around looking for their kids, packing up their valuables, and trying to get out. All of the people fleeing with as much as they can haul is adding to the congestion in the streets.

The third and fourth alarms and the calls for mutual aid were virtually unheeded. The manpower is scarce—because they're off doing other things—and fire apparatus in working condition is even scarcer. Several of the pumpers that are working are down with flat tires (the nails, glass and other hurricane debris has crippled many of the public safety vehicles tires), and the city is out of spare tires for the big trucks.

(If EAC calls CERO for more information, they should be told that the report is essentially correct. The wind is spreading the fire rapidly and burning scraps are flying so that the areas of solid construction are providing less of a firebreak than had been calculated. If Mission does not call, then the Disaster Center should call them shortly in something of a panic, reporting burn and fire accident victims showing up at the already overcrowded hospitals and refugee centers.)

Note to Controllers: Consequences will generally be in terms of shelter, food, clothing, general disaster relief, etc. Injuries will be from exposure, exhaustion, or falls (sprains, etc.).

B43

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_

Cable, (received September 15, 1545 hours).

FROM: SECSTATE

TO: AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO: US MISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE US CINCSO IMMEDIATE  
JCS IMMEDIATE COMUSFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
SECDEF IMMEDIATE COMNAVFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
CINCLANT IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY ANTIGUA IMMEDIATE

ADAC from OFDA  
GENEVA for UNDRO

SUBJECT: Bridgetown Fire Disaster Assistance from International Association of Fire Chiefs

In response to OFDA/W request the Int'l Association of Fire Chiefs has confirmed that it is prepared to put together a team of experienced personnel to help GOB in assessing means of controlling conflagration and advise on assistance to victims and on management of post-conflagration activities.

If the group is to be of any immediate help. Mission should contact GOB without delay and notify OFDA of GOB reaction by telephone. IAFC says they normally send a team of three. They could get the team in Barbados via the next Eastern flight if we can word back to them within the next two hours.

B44

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (received 1605 September 15).

FROM: CERO  
TO: EAC  
SUBJECT: Request for Fire Control Assistance

Our fire people have called us with an unusual problem: the fire is sweeping up on the government buildings. We're getting some hoses out there to try to wet some of them down, because we really want to save that building. But we can't get any pressure out of the old fire-hydrant system down there. We think there's some kind of air blockage rather than physical or mechanical blockage. Do you have anybody among your Americans--maybe your military or your plant engineers - who could give them a hand right away?

B45

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (received 1613 September 15)

FROM: CERO

TO: MDRO

SUBJECT: Request for Fuel Bladders

Listen, we're desperately in need of some extra storage capacity for the aviation gasoline that is now starting to come in. I know your people have some of those big fuel bladders--I saw a lot of them last time I visited US Air Force installations in the States--and the Prime Minister is wondering if you couldn't just informally line up a couple of them to come in on the next relief flight. We don't want to risk the delay involved in going through regular relief channels--as a matter of fact, if the bladders don't get here the relief operation could pretty quickly grind to a halt. Can you phone to Key West or somewhere for us and see what they can do?

B46

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (received 1635 September 15).

FROM: OFDA

TO: EAC

SUBJECT: Emergency Drug Supplies

The Tayca-Schantz Drug Co. has offered a large quantity of miscellaneous drug products for hurricane relief. On receiving word of the fire, they added some burn relief items. Knowing your host country's sensitivity to alleged "dumping" of US drugs, advise soonest how we should handle this offer. We have no list yet, but there should be a lot of useful stuff if properly sorted and used. Will they let the drugs in?

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EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. —

This is a draft Cable to be reviewed and released at 1645 Sept. 15.

FROM: AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN  
TO: SECSTATE NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO: JCS NIACT IMMEDIATE  
SECDEF NIACT IMMEDIATE  
CINCLANT IMMEDIATE

COMUSFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
COMNAVFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
US MISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

SUBJECT: Request for Fire Assistance

AIDAC from OFDA  
GENEVA for UNDRO

1. As a result of the conflagration, a wide swath of residential area has thus far been destroyed. Guesses are that about 500 homes have been destroyed or badly damaged and approximately 50 stores and churches ruined or seriously damaged. The Red Cross estimates the death toll at over 20 at this point, and the homeless at about 4,500. These numbers are in addition to the previously reported casualties from the hurricane and its aftermath.
2. There are many new injury cases that are now straining the already overloaded facilities of all local hospitals. Hospital corridors are jammed with patients and their families. Most of the fire victims who have been hospitalized thus far are suffering from shock, exposure and fairly common breaks and bruises.
3. The CERO has just called and confirmed the admission to Bridgetown hospitals of at least twenty-five persons with extensive burns, many of them third degree. CERO has asked the Embassy, on behalf of the GOB, for help in providing hospital facilities in the US for at least ten of these. They have heard of the Army Burn Center and think that it would be best to send them there. They also need most urgent help, according to CERO in the form of doctors and nurses experienced in burn work, and of burn treatment supplies, to help to meet the needs of the local hospitals.
4. Please advise urgently what we can respond to GOB.

B48

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (received 1700 September 15.).

FROM: Medical Officer at St. Elizabeth Hospital

TO: MDRO

SUBJECT: Plea for Assistance

We are being flooded with burn victims and people injured in escaping the fire. And we're already operating at capacity as a result of the hurricane. With overloaded generators for the operating rooms, no lights in the wards, vastly over-crowded corridors, (due to masses of family members staying with the patients) we are getting desperate. Can you do anything to help? Generators, lanterns, blankets, anything. But particularly people -- do you have any nurses in your community; social workers or others who can help deal with the relatives and friends of the seriously injured patients; or medics, pharmacists? Also, we desperately need several kinds of medicines and bandages. I have asked my supply chief to give you a list. But mostly we need skilled people. What could you provide in the way of help?

B49

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Call (received at 1710 September 15).

FROM: Prime Minister's Office

TO: DCM

SUBJECT: Request for Fuel Bladder Assistance

We hear from our aviation people that storage facilities for aviation fuel are getting to be a problem. If the fire gets to the central storage, we will indeed have had it. They tell me that there are such things as storage bags out of rubber or neoprene or something that your military uses. Can you get four 5,000 gallon tanks of this type down here on an absolute crash basis? It will be most helpful to the relief effort and to our common interests here.

B50

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Cable, (received Sept. 15, 2000 hours).

FROM: SECSTATE

TO: AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO: US MISSION GENEVA NIACT IMMED  
JCS IMMED  
SECDEF IMMED  
CINCLANT IMMED

USCINCSO IMMED  
COMUSFORCARIB IMMED  
COMNAVFORCARIB IMMED  
AMEMBASSY ANTIGUA IMMED

SUBJECT: Bridgetown Fire: Disaster Relief

AIDAC from OFDA

1. Confirming our telecon, we have contacted Army Surgeon General who advises that the limited facilities at Fort Sam Houston are completely full at present. We are working with the American Red Cross to identify facilities for hospitalization of burn victims at other centers on East Coast.
2. In meantime, we are contacting DoD/MAC to survey transportation capability from Barbados. Much depends on number of victims actually requiring transport and timing of aircraft requirements. OFDA recommends burn team from University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) access patients. Upon their recommendation would then task DoD to launch a MAC MEDEVAC aircraft with medical crew to accompany patients to UTMB burn center. Advise as soon as GOB knows exact numbers and seriousness of cases requiring moving (noting that burn patients should not be moved except in extraordinary circumstances).
3. We are working urgently with PAHO and ARC to publicize the GOB call for burn supplies and for additional physicians and nurses with burn experience. DoD is also canvassing to determine what personnel it can provide. It is hoped that by tomorrow there will be sufficient volunteers to meet the emergency need and we can start specific logistic planning. Advise what arrangements for the lodging and care of American civilian or military volunteers are being made. Also what approaches you or GOB may have made to BWIA or other airlines to contribute to transportation from US.

4. Will appreciate any information regarding other potential donors that Geneva or Antigua may develop. Main responsibility for coordination must rest with Embassy Bridgetown however, since all players are represented on the ground there. Request Embassy keep us informed on continuing basis regarding developing GOB assessment of its needs as well as resources being provided by it and the other donors.

B51

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Note

FROM: Local Traveller  
TO: Handed to MSG at 2025 Sept. 15  
SUBJECT: Offer of Help

We are isolated here at the Full Gospel Mission. The road up from the Blue Lagoon has been cut. However, we are safe and have food and water stocks for ourselves for a few days. I hear there is much suffering in the capital. The fire has inflicted a cruel blow on the poor victims of Ricardo. I am a medical doctor and want to help so am leaving tomorrow morning by mule. If I can get through, I will come to the Embassy. I am sure there are many other medical and nursing people who could help. How can I help identify and round them up?

Christian A. Bledsoe, M.D.  
Full Gospel Mission  
Upper Little Mountain

B52

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_

Cable (received 2030 Sept. 15)

FROM: SECSTATE

TO: AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN NIACT Immediate

SUBJECT: Focus of Current Relief Efforts; Long-Term Transition Planning

AIDAC FOR AMBASSADOR AND MISSION DIRECTOR FROM ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR LAC

1. The Administrator is receiving reports from Congress and elsewhere of growing concern that the flow of US relief supplies going into Barbados may be highly duplicative of other donors' contributions. Specifically, he is being asked whether we are putting an undue proportion of our resources into miscellaneous food and clothing and their transportation, when the PVOs and other donors and the international organizations are bringing in large quantities of the same items. It is hard to see how charges like this get started but I would much appreciate your comments as well as your evaluation of how well coordination at the Barbados country level is currently being accomplished. Particularly in view of the \$25 million supplemental bill scheduled for House floor tomorrow afternoon. Also, whether there has been any discussion thus far of the possibility of shifting the balance of the US contribution toward longer term needs, such as construction materials. The latter point seems particularly pertinent in light of the conflagration disaster of which we have just had word.

2. I will be talking with the Administrator on these and other topics Saturday morning so would like to have your reaction as soon as possible.

1. For Director: Your preliminary thoughts on what the current US effort is doing to our longer term program for Barbados development assistance would also be most welcome. Perhaps you could give me a rundown at the same time on your current planning for the transition back to normal program activities.

4. Warm regards.

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**SECTION 3**

**PORT-AU-PRINCE**

Disaster Assistance Simulation Exercise

Scenario Table of Contents

Pre-Exercise (September 3-7)

Information.  
(H01)

September 3-7, Background, Hurricane Ricardo.

Information.  
(H02)

September 6, 0600 hours, Cable, TO: AMEMB, FM: SECSTATE, Subject: Hurricane Advisory

Post Action Required.  
(H03)

September 7, Memorandum, TO: DCM, FM: AMB, Subject: Request for Briefing.

Phase I, D-Day (September 8, Thursday)

Post Action Required.  
(H04)

0900 hours, Post Briefing Conducted.

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(H05)

Cable, TO: SECSTATE FM: AMEMB, Subject: Hurricane Ricardo: Situation as of 1600 hours Thursday, September 8.

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(H06)

1100 hours, Cable, TO: SECSTATE, FM: AMEMB. Subject: Hurricane Ricardo, Mission Preparedness.

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(H07)

2300 hours, News Broadcast, NBC.

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(H08)

1100 hours, News Dispatch, TO: AP, FM: Correspondent, Kingston, Subject: Shock Sets in After Hurricane Ricardo.

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(H09)

1500 hours, Cable, TO: SECSTATE FM: AMEMB Subject: Hurricane Ricardo SITREP No. 1.

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Information.  
(H10)

0700 hours, Cable, TO: SECSTATE, FM: AMEMB  
Subject: Hurricane Ricardo: Request for Disaster  
Help.

Post Action Required.  
(H11)

0715 hours, Embassy Intercom, TO: DCM, FM:  
AMBASS, Subject: Jamaican Request for Disaster  
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(H12)

0845 hours, Cable, TO: COMUSFORCABIB, FM:  
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Operations.

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(H13)

0910 hours, Cable, TO: USIS Kingston, FM: USIA,  
Subject: US Media On-Site Coverage.

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(H14)

0915 hours, Cable, TO: AMEMB, FM: Peace Corps,  
Subject: Welfare of PCV's.

Post Action Required.  
(H15)

0920 hours, Message (hand delivered), TO: EAC, FM:  
ODP Subject: Urgent Need for Vehicles.

Post Action Required.  
(H16)

0925 hours, Telephone Call, TO: EAC, FM: OFDA,  
Subject: Regarding generators.

Post Action Required.  
(H17)

0930 hours, Visit, TO: EAC, FM: Freddy McBurger,  
Subject: AMCIT Tale of Woe.

Post Action Required.  
(H18)

1000 hours, Cable, TO: AMEMB, FM:  
COMUSFORCARIB, Subject: Disaster-Relief  
Operations.

Post Action Required.  
(H19)

1020 hours, Telephone Call, TO: EAC, FM: Sunset  
State Fruit, Subject: Offer.

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1032 hours, Memo, TO: MDRO, FM: ODP, Subject:  
Request for Inflatable Boats

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1045 hours, Radio Call, TO: EAC, FM: Ham Radio  
Operator, Subject: Ham Operator Receiving Calls.

Information.  
(H22)

Post Action Required.

Post Action Required.  
(H24)

Information.  
(H25)

Post Action Required.  
(H26)

Post Action Required.  
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Post Action Required.  
(H28)

Information.  
(H29)

Post Action Required.  
(H30)

Post Action Required.  
(H31)

Post Action Required.  
(H32)

1140 hours, Cable, TO: AMEMB, FM: SECSTATE,  
Subject: Hurricane Ricardo: Offer of Relief Goods  
Through Senator Dole.

1145 hours, Note, TO: AMBASS, FM: Minister of  
Foreign Affairs, Subject: Confirming Request.

1150 hours, Telephone Call, TO: EAC, FM:  
Monongahela Crystal Pure Water Corp., Subject:  
Offer.

1150 hours, Cable, TO: COMUSFORCARIB, FM:  
COMUSFORCARIB REP, R.R., Subject: Disaster  
Assistance Survey Team.

1200 hours, Cable, TO: AMEMB, FM: SECSTATE,  
Subject: US Disaster Relief Operations.

1330 hours, Letter, TO: Prime Minister, FM:  
AMBASS, Subject: Formation of Assessment Team.

1500 hours, Letter, TO: AMBASS, FM: Med Officer,  
University of the West Indies Hospital, Subject:  
Urgent Need for Medicines.

1600 hours, Note, TO: AMB, FM: Prime Minister,  
Subject: Composition of Assessment Team.

1600 hours, (Attachment to Note), Memo TO: Prime  
Minister, FM: Etienne, Subject: Disaster Assessment  
Team.

1610 hours, Telephone Call, TO: AMEMB, FM:  
Milford Bokes, Subject: Welfare and Whereabouts.

1630 hours, Message (hand delivered), TO: EAC, FM:  
ODP, Subject: Accident to Mission Vehicle.

Information.  
(H33)

1530 hours, Press Dispatch: UPI, FM: Gordon  
Kingsworthy, Subject: Hurricane Ricardo Aftermath.

Information.  
(H34)

1600 hours, Cable, TO: SECSTATE, FM: AMEMB,  
Subject: Hurricane Ricardo, SITREP as of 1600 hours,  
Wednesday, September 14.

Phase III D + 7 Days (September 15, Thursday)

Post Action Required.  
(H35)

0955 hours, Telephone Call, TO: PAO FM: Director of  
USIA/AR, Subject: Article in Times.

Post Action Required.  
(H36)

1020 hours, Cable, TO: SECSTATE, FM: AMEMB,  
Subject: Hurricane Ricardo: Comparative Relief  
Efforts.

Post Action Required.  
(H37)

1030 hours, Telephone Call, TO: DCM, FM: Deputy  
Foreign Minister, Subject: New York Times Article.

Post Action Required.  
(H38)

1115 hours, Telephone Call, TO: AMEMB, FM: Dr.  
Theodore Yankel, Subject: Welfare and Whereabouts.

Post Action Required.  
(H39)

Telephone Call, TO: DATT, FM: Executive Assistant  
MOD, Subject: Request for Military Equipment.

Post Action Required.  
(H40)

1452 hours, Broadcast, Radio Nationale, Subject: Fire.

Post Action Required.  
(H41)

1457 hours, Telephone Call, TO: Economic Counselor,  
FM: Robert Petrow, Haytian American Sugar  
Company Subject: Fire.

Post Action Required.  
(H42)

1535 hours, Telephone Call, TO: PAO, FM: Local  
Radio Buff, Subject: Fire.

Post Action Required.  
(H43)

1545 hours, Cable, TO: AMEMB, FM: SECSTATE,  
Subject: Kingston Fire Disaster Assistance From  
National Association of Fire Chiefs.

Post Action Required.  
(H44)

1605 hours, Telephone Call, TO: EAC, FM: Disaster  
Control Center, Subject: Request for Fire Control  
Assistance.

Post Action Required.  
(H45)

Post Action Required.  
(H46)

Post Action Required.  
(H47)

Post Action Required.  
(H48)

Post Action Required.  
(H49)

Post Action Required.  
(H50)

Post Action Required.  
(H51)

Post Action Required.  
(H52)

1613 hours, Telephone Call, TO: DATT, FM: Executive Asst of MOD, Subject: Request for Fuel Bladders

1635 hours, Telephone Call, TO: AMEMB, FM: OFDA, Subject: Emergency Drug Supplies.

1645 hours, Cable, TO: SECSTATE, FM: AMEMB, Subject: Request for Fire Assistance.

1700 hours, Telephone Call, TO: MDRO, FM: MED Officer, Subject: Plea for Assistance.

1710 hours Telephone Call, TO: DCM, FM: Prime Minister's Office, Subject: Request for Fuel Bladders

2000 hours, Cable, TO: AMEMB, FM: SECSTATE, Subject: Kingston Fire Disaster Relief.

2025 hours, Note, TO: EAC, FM: Local Traveler, Subject; Offer to Help.

2030 hours, Cable, TO: AMEMB, FM: AID/W, Subject: Focus of Relief Effort.

H02

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER NO. —

Cable (received 0600 Sept. 7).

FROM: SECSTATE

TO: AMEMBASSY PORT-AU-PRINCE IMMEDIATE

INFO: AMEMBASSY KINGSTON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY NASSAU IMMEDIATE

AIDAC from OFDA

SUBJECT: Hurricane Advisory

1. Wish to call posts' particular attention to latest hurricane advisory from U.S. National Hurricane Center.
2. At 0100 hours on September 7, Hurricane Ricardo was located at 17N, 67W. It has been proceeding in a north west direction for the past 12 hours, and is expected to continue on this course. The wind speed was reported at 110 mph, with central pressure at 930 millibars. The hurricane is traveling at about 20 miles per hour. The hurricane force winds extend about 40 miles in all directions, with gale winds extending 150 miles north and 100 miles south of the center of the storm.
3. Tides are expected to run 5 to 8 feet higher than normal during the hurricane on both east coast.
4. Residents of the warning areas are advised to take actions to protect life and property.
5. Hurricane warnings are in effect for Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica. Hurricane watch is in effect for Bahamas, Caymans and gale warnings are in effect for islands north west of Hispaniola.

H03

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Memorandum

MEMO TO:

DCM

FROM:

Ambassador

DATE:

September 7, 1983

SUBJECT:

Request for Disaster Briefing, Wednesday at 4 p.m.

The hurricane news sounds bad. We have had other alerts this season, but I need to be fully assured of our readiness to handle any situation that might arise.

Please brief me tomorrow at 8:00 a.m. in the conference room. I will want to know something of how you assess the local preparedness effort as well as how ready we are ourselves.

I will expect all key players on the Mission staff to participate in the briefing.

**H04**

**BRIEFING TO AMBASSADOR:  
TO BE FURNISHED BY POST**

H05

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER PRE-EXERCISE NO. \_\_\_

Cable

FROM: AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE IMMEDIATE

TO: SECSTATE

INFO: SECDEF NIACT IMMEDIATE  
JCS NIACT IMMEDIATE  
CINCLANT NIACT IMMEDIATE  
COMNAVFORCARIB NIACT IMMEDIATE  
COMUSFORCARIB NIACT IMMEDIATE  
USCINCSO NIACT IMMEDIATE

UNCLASSIFIED

AIDAC for OFDA

SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Situation as of 4 p.m. Thursday, September 8

1. According to local data, the front edge of the hurricane is less than one hundred miles east of here and moving directly across the island at minimum 20 mph. Authorities here are predicting direct hit on Port-au-Prince tonight if present course continues.
2. Winds here are gusting to 60 mph. Rains continue heavy and the sky is darkening rapidly as the hurricane approaches. The traffic leaving the city is badly clogged. High seas are battering the waterfront and we are unable to determine whether the airport is still accessible. It was closed to all traffic this morning as reported earlier. Police have now blocked off entire waterfront area.
3. No reports yet of injury or damage in American community. All mission personnel have again been instructed in hurricane precautions. We plan to have key members of staff at the command center or immediately available all night tonight.

H06

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER NO. \_\_\_

Cable

FROM:

AMEMBASSY PORT-AU-PRINCE

TO:

SECSTATE, IMMEDIATE 1100 September 8

INFO:

SECDEF IMMEDIATE  
JCS IMMEDIATE  
CINCLANT IMMEDIATE  
COMUSFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
CINCSOUTH IMMEDIATE

AIDAC FOR OFDA

SUBJECT:

Hurricane Ricardo: Mission Preparedness

1. In response to Department's telephone inquiry regarding mission preparations for possible hurricane disaster, please be assured that MDRP has been fully aired and local contacts established.
2. Ambassador briefed in meeting at 0800 today with key mission participants concerning Mission preparedness for disaster plan implementation.

H07

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER NO. \_\_\_\_\_

NBC News Broadcast 11 p.m. Thursday, September 8

"Hurricane Ricardo smashed into Port-au-Prince this evening about 9 p.m. According to Harry Laffe, our news correspondent in that city, whose message was one of the last to get through, the situation was one of severe hardship and destruction. The storm surge into the harbor had reached eight feet with ten foot high battering seas. The waterfront devastation was indiscriminate and shocking. The airport was inaccessible. Harborfront buildings were reported flooded to a depth of several feet, and damage to the port was already extensive. The main business section was in shambles, and residences were strewn with what once were shutters, roofs, stately palms, and shiny cars. A number of inhabitants of the poorer, lowlying barrios had been reported drowned while frantically seeking safety on higher ground.

Stay tuned to this network for further bulletins on this tragic hurricane situation in Haiti."

H08

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D - DAY NO. \_\_\_\_

News Dispatch (sent at 1100 Sept. 9)

FROM: AP Correspondent John Abel, Port-au-Prince  
TO: AP  
SUBJECT: Shock Sets in After Hurricane Ricardo  
(Following is background for news spots on Haiti hurricane)

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Sept. 9. We have just passed through the greatest hurricane to hit Port-au-Prince in this century. For those who have not experienced it, the force and fury of the winds and seas is impossible to imagine. They have left the country staggering and battered with a human toll already estimated in the hundreds.

By about 7 p.m. last night, traffic had virtually stopped due to extreme road congestion in the city and inland. Police and fire officials, exhausted from long hours on duty, were gathered at their command posts to sort out the next move. No one could keep count of how many had left Port-au-Prince, but it is now clear that relatively few persons fled its crowded shantytowns. The more fortunate stayed in hotels and high rise apartments thinking they would be safe. One policeman reports that numerous residents of one of the new swinging-set Ocean View Apartments stayed and had a hurricane party. But some of them didn't live to regret the decision.

By 9 p.m., ten-foot waves were battering the waterfront. In the harbor piers were trampled and waterfront structures were flooded to a depth of several feet. A number of inhabitants of the low lying neighborhoods had been reported drowned; others had frantically sought safety on higher ground. Several stories of heroic rescues by fire and police were told.

A couple of hours later, as the eye of the hurricane passed over the city, the winds dropped to 10 mph. The air, as usual in the eye, became ominously warm and humid. It was an eerie period of about 20 minutes, calm yet frightening. Some people tried to make it back to their homes or to their businesses; a number died in the attempt.

During this period, several feet of water remained in the streets because of the storm surge which affected the entire water level of the harbor with dangerous flows and deep areas. The sea was in the lobby of many of the city's ocean-front buildings, as well as in all kinds of buildings and down the coast. The glass was broken out of the windows in the city's modern hotels and apartments. It was now clear that the waves had washed away the footings of some of the piers and most were no longer usable.

In less than one-half hour, the winds again quickly reached hurricane force, indicating that the eye of the storm had passed by. For about six more hours hurricane-force winds pounded the area. The radio meteorologist said the winds were clocked at 112 mph, which meant that Hurricane Ricardo was a Class III hurricane (as measured on the Saffir-Simpson scale).

When the storm resumed, many of those who had stayed as a lark were in a state of panic. Hotel owners and building managers tried to calm those who had stayed, and get them into the safer areas, such as the hallways on the second and third floors. In the shanty towns and in buildings of cheaper construction pieces of tin roofing and glass tumbled through walks and into hallways. The wave action and heavy rain made everything seem like a wall of water.

By early morning today, the winds had dropped to below 90 mph, and the hurricane was about 100 miles NNW. The water level was increasing again with the normal tides, although there was a decreasing influence of the storm surge.

Waves continued to batter the waterfront. High winds still raked the area, causing more buildings to collapse under the combined beating of wind and water. Reports on the number of people killed and injured were incomplete but local authorities were reporting a growing death toll from drowning and from the collapse of a warehouse building near the waterfront where many had gathered to ride out the storm. It was only in the afternoon, when the wind and water dropped a bit, that emergency vehicles were able to get through in some parts of town.

Calls for ambulances to aid the injured were coming in fast and furiously; but relief was still impossible. Two American doctors in residence at one of the hotels volunteered to help and they and a number of local physicians had to be driven by the fire

department to the General Hospital which is serving as a center to provide first aid for the injured. All hospitals are crowded to the walls. A critical problem is the lack of plasma and whole blood to aid those who had been severely cut by flying debris. People are still losing their lives because they are unable to get to medical assistance. Officials are now estimating the death toll at several hundred and injuries from flying debris, exposure, etc. at many times that.

Winds are now dropping to about 20 mph, with occasional higher gusts. Government officials, with the aid of Armed Forces units, have begun to comb the debris to look for the injured and the dead. The President has called for international help.

H09

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D - DAY NO. \_\_\_

Cable

FROM: AMEMBASSY PORT-AU-PRINCE

TO: SECSTATE NIACT IMMEDIATE

JCSO IMMED.  
USCINCSO IMMED.  
COMNAVFORCARIB IMMED.  
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN IMMED.  
SECDEF NIACT IMMED.  
AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO IMMED.

CINCLANT IMMED.  
COMUSFORCARIB IMMED.  
US MISSION GENEVA IMMED.  
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON  
AMEMBASSY ANTIGUA IMMED.

SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Sitrep No. 1, 1500 September 9

AIDAC for OFDA  
Geneva for UNDRO  
Antigua for Preparedness Team

1. As reported in previous cables, Hurricane Ricardo hit Port-au-Prince at 2100 September 8, coming in directly over SW Dominican Republic and the connecting valley, proceeding northwest across the tip of Nord-Ouest Province. This is the first round-up Sitrep from the Mission covering the situation in Port-au-Prince and elsewhere on the island, as we can gather data. At this point, we are piecing together a messy and highly disrupted situation. We will continue to be in regular touch with Department, AID and military by phone since the international telephone links seem to be working.
2. Thus far, Port-au-Prince is picking itself out of the debris of the worst hurricane to hit the city in many years. While local and national authorities had monitored this storm closely, and had implemented their preparedness plans, in actual fact the impact and resulting devastation were beyond expectation. The overwhelming force of the hurricane disrupted island communications; placed a crushing burden on the public safety organizations and mechanisms; and caused death, injury, and property damage far beyond what could be planned for or handled. We have been in constant touch with headquarters of the Haitian disaster committee through E&E radio and by messenger since the departure of the storm. Although international telephone service is still operating, local telephone lines are all down, tangled with the power lines in the streets. This is making contact even by messenger a dangerous adventure. We have offered to help but have thus far received no specific requests.

3. The water plant is inoperable and probably will be for a period of several weeks. Water pipes have been broken in many places, plus the heavy rains and wave action have brought all kinds of offal into the harbor. Sanitation is a major problem at this time.
4. Vehicular travel along the streets is impossible. Debris and sand is everywhere as a result of the overwashes, wind and wave action. Only four-wheel drive vehicles are able to move around the lower town. More Armed Forces units have been called to clear the streets and to help restore water and try to do something about the sewage problems. The power company has also begun to assess damages; it estimates that it will take several weeks of full-scale effort to replace the power lines and damaged transformers virtually all of which were above ground. The telephone company makes a similar estimate, although lines essential to disaster emergency management could be restored within a matter of days. Police and fire radio communications are the main communication links on the island.
5. The Army and police continue to turn away people trying to come into town, including panicky relatives of those thought still to be in the lower town and alarmed owners attempting to get back to see how their houses fared in the storm. Throughout Port-au-Prince hundreds of homes are literally gone, including a number where only a few sticks of lumber and remnants of foundations remain to show that they had once been there. Two of the waterfront buildings are so underwashed at their foundation as to be totally unsafe; they are candidates for the wrecking ball. The first floor of the Chancery is a shambles; we will need immediate FBO help in assessing whether we can reoccupy certain areas. Most of the hotels weathered the blow, although damage is extensive to the exteriors.
6. Even more serious is the reported damage done to the airport, docks, and roads, through which all local relief supplies and foreign assistance would ordinarily pass. Damage to the International Airport cannot yet be assessed; there are serious cracks and potholes dotting its surface but we are told these should respond to a temporary fix. Bowen Field remains unserviceable with damage from flying debris (including one private plane that is now sitting in the main building).
7. The docks and piers are in bad shape, both from direct wave damage and from loss of warehouses and loading and unloading equipment.

8. Since the storm turned northwest from here, and the northern ports are reported to be in better condition than Port-au-Prince and to be able to handle traffic after minimum repairs. The Cap Haitien Airport is reported to be relatively intact. We have been unable to reach that area but are trying to get a team up there; the threat of landslides blocking the road make this difficult.
9. The President has called an emergency meeting of the National Disaster Committee to assess what is known of the damage thus far, to activate mechanisms to coordinate the work of the ministries and the Disaster Committee, and to deal with anticipated foreign offers and Haitian requests for foreign help. The President has already broadcast a broad appeal to the United Nations and "all Haiti's friends" for "help in this terrible moment of Haiti's need". We are trying to get to the President and in the meantime are trying to assess relief needs with the Disaster Committee.
10. Appreciate it if OFDA would alert DOD to possible request for DAST.
11. At this time no relief supplies can be air lifted into Kingston unless by helicopter from Cap Haitien. We have only 640 tons of PL-480 food in country and are unable to determine as yet how much of these local stocks are still useable. PVO's expect to report during course of this evening.
12. Further details and action requests will be sent soonest.

H10

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_

Cable (sent 0700 Sept. 10)

FROM: AMEMBASSY PORT-AU-PRINCE

TO: SECSTATE NIACT IMMEDIATE  
US MISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE  
USCINCSO IMMEDIATE  
COMNAVFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ANTIGUA IMMEDIATE  
COMUSFORCARIB IMMEDIATE

FOR ARA/AS FROM AMBASSADOR  
AIDAC FOR OFDA; GENEVA FOR UNDRO

SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Request for Disaster Help

- I was called in urgently by the President at 0600 this morning. He made a formal request for "whatever help the US could provide to face the current disaster crisis and the subsequent period of suffering and rebuilding." At this time, he said, the great need was for an improved assessment capability, then for easily distributable foodstuffs; bulldozers to clear away the rubble and to aid in recovering the dead and wounded; field hospitals to supplement the limited capacity of the country's hospitals; medicines of all sorts; inflatable boats for work in the flooded area; tents and blankets for those left without shelter; generators for emergency lighting in the hospitals and for 24-hour search and rescue operations; and also substantial numbers of kerosene lamps. The President referred me for details to the Disaster Committee and to those responsible in the Ministries for details, but asked specifically if we would provide immediately some technical assistance in assessing the damage.

As the Department is aware from our previous communications, the hurricane has done enormous damage in the city and seriously affected the Northwest Province. We are following up urgently on the President's requests and will provide comment and recommendations immediately in succeeding messages.

In the meantime, please advise availability and possible ETA of assessment team to meet the President's request.

H11

**EXERCISE**

Visit 0715 September 10

FROM: AMBASSADOR

TO: DCM

SUBJECT: Request for Disaster Help

I have just dictated a cable on a conversation I had early this morning with the President. Have a look at it and then see if you can't get the team to start firming up his requests. We should get our recommendations up to Washington immediately--let's aim at getting out a follow-up or follow-ups to my cable by mid-morning.

H12

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS NO \_\_\_\_\_

Cable

FROM: DAO, Port-au-Prince 0845 Sept. 10

TO: COMUSFORCARIB/J-3 IMMEDIATE

INFO: SECDEF IMMEDIATE  
CINCLANT IMMEDIATE

SUBJECT: Disaster-Relief Operations

MAJ HIGHTOWER FOR LTC SMITH/J-3/5

Reference: a. AMEMB PORT-AU-PRINCE SITREP No. 1  
b. MEETING, USAMB/President Duvalier  
c. COMUSFORCARIB CONPLAN 2500

1. This message provides current embassy agenda items which may repeat may require US military response. It has been coordinated with EAC.
2. Based on severity of Hurricane Ricardo (see reference alpha), President met with Ambassador, 0600 local today, and requested urgent US disaster-relief assistance. President specifically mentioned use of US military resources.
3. Post's Disaster Relief Committee is studying request and will be advising Ambassador immediately on this action. Scope of support under consideration includes a request for assessment assistance, presumably involving a possibility for DARF follow-on (depending on damage assessment) and air-photo of the island.
4. Recognize no action can be taken until response to request works its way through channels; this message provides heads-up.

H13

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_

Cable

FROM: USIA (received 0910 Sept. 10)  
TO: USIS Port-au-Prince  
INFO: SECSTATE  
SUBJECT: US Media On-Site Coverage of Haiti Hurricane Disaster  
For PAO From Director, AR

1. We have been informed that the following have representatives now in Haiti or proceeding there soonest: New York Times, Washington Post, CBS (with a three person TV crew), AP, and UPI. We presume a number of others are on their way and will advise as information on their travel becomes available. Will appreciate your keeping us advised from your end.

2. Please advise also what arrangements made for handling media, both on Haitian side and by your post. Assume you are providing continuing information flow to them including full details of US effort. TV people will obviously be primarily interested in disaster footage; however, you should ensure maximum possible exposure to the arrival and distribution of appropriate US relief supplies, with emphasis on speed and effectiveness of US effort and coordination with other donors.

3. Will need daily report from you on media activities and USIS operations in order to respond to strong public, Congressional and White House interest.

124

H14

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Cable (received 0915 Sept. 10)

FROM: Peace Corps Washington

TO: AMEMBASSY PORT-AU-PRINCE TOPEC

SUBJECT: Welfare of PCV's in Hurricane Ricardo

FOR PD FROM RUPPE

1. Advise soonest situation with regard to PCV's and steps taken to assure their welfare. We are receiving inquiries from families, several of whom are quite distraught at disaster news coming out of the area. In particular, need information for Arla Brown, Gene Hruska, Don Leopold, Robin Masters, John Post, and Elizabeth Young, but remain deeply concerned welfare all volunteers and request maximum information flow at all times.
2. As coincident issue, it will be most useful for PC/W to have any specific examples of role PCV's playing in helping to meet the needs of disaster stricken inhabitants as relief efforts unfold. What are current plans for PC in-country participation?

H15

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS. NO. \_\_\_

Message (Hand Delivered at 0920 Sept. 10)

FROM: Haitian Red Cross

TO: EAC

SUBJECT: Urgent Need for Vehicle

We have an urgent need for a four-wheel drive vehicle to get some food and especially water purifiers and medicines down to one of the distribution points in Cite Simone. With so many sections of the streets washed out, only a four-wheel drive vehicle can get through. Ours are all out in other areas for the day. Our people over there have sent word that the situation in their isolated spot is getting desperate. We understand that you have some of these vehicles. Could you possibly lend us one for a few hours?

159

H16

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (received 0925 Sept. 10)

FROM: OFDA

TO: EAC

SUBJECT: Regarding Generators

I'm calling about the Ambassador's cable reporting a Haitian request for generators. We don't keep a complete stockpile of generators, since needs and types are so different in every disaster case. We will be glad to go after whatever we can get here, in Panama, or through PVO's or other donors (or purchase). To help justify our request when we go to these people, let me have a cable giving number and capacity of generators needed as well as what is available on the local market and at what price. Copy it to Port-au-Prince, Santo Domingo, Caracas, and Panama to see what availabilities and delivery time we can drum up there, also to Geneva.

We will do everything we can, but we're beginning to run into real funding problems. We are always under pressure to convince Congress we are going for lowest cost sourcing--compatible with speed of delivery and desirability of US goods, of course.

Oh yes, the same thing goes for kerosene lamps. The Chinese have inundated the Caribbean with them--if you absolutely have to get involved in buying any, I'm sure you can find them locally. We don't supply them.

We're moving on the question of a DAST and awaiting your firm requests on the basis of the President's requests. Good luck! Remember, we're here to help where we can.

H17

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Visit (0930 Sept. 10)

FROM: Freddy McBurger, AMCIT/Owner and Manager of Fatted Cow Fine Fast Foods

SUBJECT: AMCIT Tale of Woe

My place is blown out. I've lost all the plate glass in the front of my store. The chairs and tables are blown all over the place, Lord only knows where. And the meat is spoiling in the freezer without electricity. I'm going to have to have some help getting back home--I'm broke and washed up. Can you find me a place to stay? Anything I can do to earn a few bucks while I'm waiting?

H18

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_

Cable

FROM: COMUSFORCARIB/J-3/5/DR OPS (Contingency) 101000 Sept. 10

TO: DAO, AMEMBASSY PORT-AU-PRINCE  
COMUSFORCARIB REP. ROOSEVELT ROADS IMMEDIATE  
SECSTATE

INFO: SECSTATE IMMEDIATE  
CINCLANT IMMEDIATE  
USCINCSO IMMEDIATE  
COMNAVFORCARIB IMMEDIATE

AID for OFDA

SUBJECT: Disaster - Relief Operations, Haiti

Reference message, DAO Port-au-Prince, subject as above, (NOTAL) and  
fonecon, CINLANT/COMUSFORCARIB

2. This is a planning message.

3. For DATT, Port-au-Prince. Appreciate advance warning. Informally advise  
Ambassador that this command stands ready to support his requirements, should it be  
determined that US military support is needed.

For COMUSFORCARIB REP. Request Pre-DAST and DAST Team  
plans/capabilities preview for initial survey activities in Haiti. Any funding, manpower or  
equipment shortfalls that would degrade mission capability should be reported  
COMUSFORCARIB/J-3/5/DR OPS Contingency/ via immediate precedence.

Be advised that no action is to be taken on the basis of this message to commit  
resources or implement provisions of COMUSFORCARIB CONPLAN 2500. Activation of  
disaster-relief operations must be authorized by JCS and under OPCOM CINCLANT.

For all. Will keep you informed as situation develops.

H19

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (Rec'd 1020 Sept. 10)

FROM: Sunset State Fruit and Nut Association

TO: EAC

SUBJECT: Offer of 3,000 Cases of Fruit Salad

This is Red Sayles of the Sunset State Fruit and Nut Association calling from New York.

Some of our members are pretty upset about what's happening down there - lots of Haitians working for them, you know, so they get an earful. Anyway, we've decided to get together and offer you 3,000 cases of fruit salad in heavy syrup that we happen to have in a warehouse in New Orleans. New Orleans tells me that some of the cans are slightly swollen, but the fruit salad is in perfect condition.

Just get us the transportation and we'll get them down to you right away. How about it?

H20

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. —

Memorandum Recording Oral Request Transmitted by Messenger from Haitian Disaster Committee Headquarters

TO: MDRO  
FROM: MSG on duty  
SUBJECT: Request for Inflatable Boats

Messenger from Disaster Committee arrived at Guard Desk September 9 at 1032 and left oral message through receptionist interpreter as follows (reconstructed from my notes): "We're still having a devil of a time with flooding out in the shanty area. Can't get teams in to find out the extent of the damage or get out the injured and isolated. We need some small boats to access the area for assessment and for general clearance and relief work along the sea front. We could use up to a dozen inflatable boats with 30 horsepower outboard motors. You are going to be asked officially, but we want to tell you the request is coming and urge you give this one highest priority."

I told him that I would make sure that the message was delivered.

164

H21

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS NO. \_\_\_

Radio Call (1045 Sept. 10)

FROM: Ham Radio Operator on North Coast  
Relayed by National Disaster Center

TO: EAC

SUBJECT: Ham Operator Receiving Calls About Missing Persons

Hello? Hello? This is John-Pierre from the Disaster Committee. I am relaying a message from Robert Dumont, a ham operator down in Jacmel. He says he is receiving calls from his friends, ham operators in the States, asking about the welfare of individuals here in this country. He asks what he should tell them. Can you keep us informed on people whose welfare you learn about? Our radio connections are spotty.

H22

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Cable

FROM: SECSTATE (rec'd 1140 Sept. 10)  
TO: AMEMBASSY Port-au-Prince Immediate  
SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Offer of Relief Goods Through Senator Dole  
For Ambassador from ARA/DAS Smithers

1. Senator Robert Dole's senior Legislative Aide has just called me to say that one of the Senator's important constituents has started organizing the collection of old clothes and canned goods in the Wichita area for Haitian hurricane relief. He already has the Lions, Rotary, and other service organizations active, and several churches are participating in the drive and acting as collection points. Beech Aircraft is using its trade contacts to promote free transportation for what is expected to be several tons of miscellaneous goods.
2. Please have your people follow these shipments carefully and keep us fully advised regarding their arrival and disposition.

H23

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS. NO. \_\_\_\_

Letter (rec'd at 1145 Sept. 10)

FROM: Minister of Foreign Affairs  
TO: AMBASSADOR  
SUBJECT: Confirming President's Request

My dear Mr. Ambassador:

We deeply appreciated your willingness to meet with His Excellency President Duvalier this morning.

This is to confirm both his request and its urgency. We are very much in need of support in assessing the extent of the disaster brought to this country by the hurricane. We know that you have experts in these matters, especially in your armed forces, who have provided assistance to Haiti and to other countries in the region in the past. I do not feel that major foreign military resources need be dedicated to relief efforts until we have a fuller view of our needs; but your help in initial damage assessment is most urgent.

May I ask you to inform the Presidency immediately when you have word on the assessment capabilities you might be able to provide and how soon? I should of course appreciate being kept currently informed.

I take this opportunity to express my appreciation and to repeat to you the assurance of my high esteem and personal regard.

H24

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+36 HRS NO. \_\_\_

Telephone Call (rec'd at 1150 Sept. 10)

FROM: Monongahela Crystal Pure Water Corporation

TO: EAC

SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Offer of Bottled Water

This is April Schauer of the Monongahela Crystal Pure Water Corporation in Pittsburgh. Some of the churches in western Penns. 'vania have been pooling their money to get some pure drinking water down to those poor hurricane victims in Haiti. The papers have been hearing some pretty heart-rending stories about the water situation down there. We have 1,000 cases of four gallons each in plastic bottles all ready for shipment. We're providing this to the churches at our special wholesale price. Where do you want us to send it? Of course, they'll need transportation, but the church representatives understand your people can fund that.

H25

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Cable

FROM: COMUSFORCARIB REP ROOSEVELT ROADS 101150 Sep 83

TO: COMUSFORCARIB IMMEDIATE

INFO: AMEMBASSY PORT-AU-PRINCE IMMED  
CINCLANT IMMED  
JCS IMMED  
SECSTATE IMMED  
SECDEF IMMED  
USCINCSO IMMED  
COMNAVFORCARIB IMMED  
AMEMBASSY ANTIGUA IMMED  
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN IMMED

UNCLAS  
AIDAC for OFDA

SUBJECT: Disaster Assistance Survey Team

REF: COMUSFORCARIB/J-3/5/DR OPS 101000 SEP 83

1. In accordance with COMUSFORCARIB request reftel, we are preparing DAST to proceed immediately to disaster area upon OFDA authorization. Composition of team is OIC, civil engineer, medical officer, and communications team, total 3 officers and 4 enlisted (all US citizen military), plus two helicopters. Team to be augmented as required after initial on-site assessment subject to your capabilities for providing personnel augmentation locally. Pre-DAST team can be made up immediately from available resources, if required.
2.
  - A. For DAO Port-au-Prince: Request you urgently identify best landing site for C130 transport and ground logistics for immediate deployment.
  - B. Advise current situation as regards status of forces or other immunities agreements with HC.
  - C. Request Embassy confirms HC clearance and agreement for arrival of team and equipment, for temporary positioning in country of transport and communications equipment and for reexport of such equipment. Further request you coordinate best emergency frequencies.

H26

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 NO. \_\_\_

Cable (received 1200 Sept. 10)

FROM: SECSTATE

TO: AMEMBASSY PORT-AU-PRINCE  
SECDEF IMMEDIATE

INFO: JCS IMMED  
CINCLANT IMMED  
COMUSFORCARIB IMMED  
COMNAVFORCARIB IMMED

USCINCSO IMMED  
AMEMB ANTIGUA IMMED  
US MISSION GENEVA IMMED

SUBJECT: US Disaster Relief Operations, Haiti

References: (a) Request for military support (OFDA Tasker).  
(b) Fonecon OFDA/OJCS and CINCLANT

AIDAC from OFDA; Geneva for UNDRO

1. To further long range goal of regional self-sufficiency, suggest that for any assessment/survey operations:

a. Host country authorities constitute a combined military-civilian DAST capability to assess hurricane damage. Such a combined team can key on already in place national skills and be augmented as necessary by PAHO, Antigua Preparedness team, etc. Embassy should also consider its own capability to contribute personnel and equipment to a combined assessment team (and/or to mount immediately its independent assessment effort.

b. We are prepared to assist in such a joint effort by providing transport and communications support, if required, in addition to such specialized professional support as GOH requires. In meantime, we are sending an OFDA specialist and a military liaison officer from HQ, USFORCARIB for coordination. Will advise arrival time at Cap Haitien soonest; Mission please provide logistic support.

2. It appears well within GOH capabilities to rapidly pull together a team as described above. Believe GOH will be most interested in such an operation, which will go a long way in exercising Caribbean capabilities in disaster management. Please advise GOH plans.

3. For SECDEF: Request that tasking described in reference (a) be expanded to include authorization for carriage in US military aircraft of US and foreign national civilian officials designed by US Ambassador upon completion of individual waiver forms.

H27

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_

Letter handed by Mission Officer to the Sec'y of State for the Presidency, 1330 Sept. 10

FROM: Ambassador  
TO: The President  
SUBJECT: Formation of Assessment Team

Your Excellency:

In response to the request Your Excellency made of me in our meeting this morning, my government has indicated its readiness to assist in the damage assessment effort that the authorities of your country are undertaking and to provide all possible transport, communications, and specialized professional support to supplement Haitian capabilities and efforts.

I should appreciate Your Excellency's advice as to how your government would see the composition of such a team, employing skills available here and from international sources.

In the meantime, I expect US coordination teams (one from the Agency for International Development in Washington, D.C., and one from our Caribbean Forces headquarters in Key West, Florida) to arrive very shortly to help in putting together this joint effort.

Yours very sincerely,

H28

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. \_\_\_\_

Letter (rec'd at 1500 Sept. 10)

FROM: Medical Officer, General Hospital  
TO: AMBASSADOR, United States Embassy  
SUBJECT: Urgent Need for Medical Supplies

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

Your generous government has helped us many times in the past to meet the crises that have been inflicted on us by a cruel and indiscriminate Mother Nature.

Once more we are in urgent need of all kinds of medicines to help us take care of the epidemics that threaten us as a result of the flooding and the destruction of sanitary facilities and water lines.

Our government is most anxious to begin a mass vaccination program in order to prevent a catastrophe. It has asked me to request of you sufficient vaccines against typhoid, cholera, and tetanus, together with vaccinating guns, to make up the difference between the 500,000 inoculations the government believes we will need and the approximately 125,000 doses we have on hand.

I hope I may take the liberty of being in touch with you again on other specific needs.

With my personal appreciation and warm wishes.

Sincerely,

H29

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS. NO. —

Informal note (received 1600 Sept. 10)

FROM: Secretary of State for the Presidency

TO: Ambassador

SUBJECT: Composition of Assessment Team

My Dear Ambassador:

Based upon your kind response to request of his Excellency the President for disaster-assessment assistance, I am attaching a copy of a plan which details minimum essential United States participation. This plan has His Excellency's full approval and I am sending it to you in this somewhat rough form simply to help us save precious time.

As you will see, the assessment team is mainly composed of my country's professional experts, augmented where necessary and including a significant United States contribution. The President has personally chosen M. Etienne, Special Executive Assistant in this Secretariat, to take charge of this serious task. The President has great faith in his abilities and know him to be totally competent in crisis matters.

It is my sincerest hope that the government of the United States of America can aid us in this humanitarian effort.

H30

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS. NO. \_\_\_

Memorandum enclosed with PM's note received 1600 Sept. 10

FROM: E.H. Etienne  
TO: The Secretary of State for the Presidency  
SUBJECT: Disaster Assessment Team

In response to the request of His Excellency the President, which you passed to me this morning, I drafted the following paragraphs, which I have now modified to take account of the letter just received from the American Ambassador.

1. Concept:

- a. Depending mainly on national capability, reinforced when necessary by other governments/international organizations, the team will perform a full and rapid assessment of country-wide hurricane damage, to include damage to human services, commerce, security and government/private institutions.
- b. The team will report findings daily to the Presidency.
- c. The team will provide action suggestions as urgently required to reduce human suffering and provide minimum facilities for maintenance of life and of economic activity, bearing in mind long-range needs for national recovery.

2. Team Operations:

- a. The Disaster Assessment Team will investigate conditions in the path of the hurricane via aircraft and vehicle. In addition to its daily reports it will provide a final report within 10 days after termination of its mandate. The reports will cover, inter alia, emergency supply requirements, population health and welfare, the degree of destruction, and the necessary relief and reconstruction operations

b. Most of the team's concern will be directed to the Port-au-Prince area, but we will conduct assessments elsewhere as required and in particular in the Northwest Province.

3. Team Composition (assuming US support):

a. Team Leader In Charge: E.H. Etiennen.

b. Team Operations Officer: from Caribbean Disaster Preparedness Team.

c. Four Medical Officers: two from PAHO (an epidemiologist and a public health nurse); general medical officer (Haitian), and a US trauma specialist.

d. Four Engineers: One housing and planning (Haiti); two contractor personnel-electrical and mechanical (Japanese); and a bridge specialist (US Army).

e. One Farming/Agricultural Advisor: (Haiti Secretariat of Agriculture).

f. Two Finance Advisors: One from Haiti Secretariat of Finance and one from Caribbean Development Bank (Dominican).

g. One Telecommunications Advisor: Haiti Secretariat of Public Works.

h. Two Security and Law Enforcement Advisors: Haiti Secretariat of Interior.

i. One Red Cross Advisor (Mexico, IRC).

j. Transportation, Logistic and Communications (US personnel and equipment).

The following are needed to sustain the Disaster Assessment Team for five days of operations: three helicopters, five four-wheel drive vehicles, wireless radio communications for air to ground and ground to ground contact, and field equipment such as tents, rations, cots, power, etc. for interior base camp operations. Perhaps these could be obtained through the US Embassy. The US should if possible, also provide

trained manpower to operate their equipment (number of personnel should be furnished by US) maintain fuel supply, and provide other such items necessary to perform the mission.

4. Be assured that I will be working closely with you (as well as with local community leaders in bringing the President's message of hope to the people).

H31

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS. NO. —

Telephone Call (Received 1610 Sept. 10)

FROM: Milford Bokes

TO: EAC

SUBJECT: Welfare and Whereabouts

This is Milford Bokes from Stark, Florida. I'm worried something awful about my son Junior. He took off a couple weeks past with some smart alecky free-talking, loose walkin' hippy woman from Miami and went to your Island. He said they was gonna be living on the beach, selling palm frond hats to tourists. Well, I ain't heard from Junior and with the hurricane and all, I don't know. Can you find him and ask him to send a postcard or something?

(Depending on the answer, "I know enough to call Dante Fascell in the US Congress if you need more motivation to help a fellow American. He knows I always vote for him.")

H32

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 36 HRS NO. —

Message (Hand Delivered at 1630 September 10)

FROM: Haitian Red Cross  
TO: EAC  
SUBJECT: Accident to Mission Vehicle

We greatly regret to inform you that the vehicle you so kindly lent us has met with an accident in the course of its errand of mercy. While trying to swerve to avoid a small boy who ran into the street, the vehicle collided with the stone rubble of a wall, overturned, caught fire and is now, we understand, a total loss. Fortunately, it was on its return trip so the urgently needed supplies were delivered. Less fortunately, the boy suffered a broken leg and contusions and your driver cracked his head rather severely. Both have been taken to the hospital. We stand at your disposal to sort out the questions of legal responsibility which may arise in connection with this regrettable occurrence.

11

H33

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 6 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Press Dispatch (Filed 1530 Sept. 14)

TO: UPI  
FROM: Gordon Kingsworthy, UPI Correspondent Port-au-Prince  
SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo Aftermath

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Sept. 14. Several days of clear skies and sunshine have dried out much of this sodden city left nearly paralyzed by Hurricane Ricardo.

Most of the people have made their way back into the tangle of shanty housing. Men, women and children are scouring the streets and rubble-strewn open areas for old lumber, cardboard and anything they can use to rebuild the hundreds of homes destroyed or left roofless or wallless by the storm. Especially valued are the tin roofs which are found throughout the area wrapped around trees, curled on the ground, or lying intact. Thousands of makeshift shelters have been thrown together out of the rubble.

A foreign TV crew even had to ask a group of the disaster victims to stop hammering so that their sound man could record an interview with a relief official arriving with additional plastic sheeting (a US contribution) and tents. Efforts are being made to prevent rebuilding in the most hazardous, low-lying areas but the pressures seem to be too strong for the preoccupied authorities to resist and the shoddy structures near the water's edge are rapidly being repaired or rebuilt. In fact, the population in the central city is growing rapidly, as hurricane victims from outlying areas move in with relatives and friends in the city.

H34

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 6 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_

Cable

FROM: AMEMBASSY PORT-AU-PRINCE  
TO: SECSTATE  
SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Sitrep as of 1600 Wednesday Sept 14

1. As noted in Port-au-Prince's previous cables, the DAST team requested by the GOH (which arrived on Sept 12 with two Marine Corps helicopters in Cap Haitien) is now operating out of the international airport here. Working with the GOH Officer in Charge and with additional support personnel, much of the local damage has been surveyed. The head of the US contingent expects to provide a preliminary wrap-up of his daily reporting by Monday. The cooperation with GOH officials has gone as well as could be expected and the GOH has been most appreciative both privately and publicly.
2. We hear some rumors that the radical left is trying to take advantage of an apparent lack of public understanding of US relief efforts. Some grumbling is being stirred up in the devastated sections of the city, asking why the GOH thought it had to bring in the US Marines (presumably our Marine helicopters) and why it did not try to get some real relief help from its great friend to the north. The PAO is calling a press conference tomorrow morning to emphasize the large and growing US aid effort.
3. Unfortunately, the US relief supplies continued to pile up in Cape Haitian until Monday, when the international airport here was restored for limited service and the first truck convoys managed to get through from the north.
4. All available in-country PL-480 stocks have now been distributed by PVO representatives. Replacement stocks on loan from Santo Domingo are arriving, and we will be coming in shortly with our full-scale requirements for emergency relief and reconstitution of stocks. We are repackaging some for bread production.
5. Other offers of help continue to come in. Cubans have made a public offer by radio to send in a plane load of food and medicines, and "volunteers to help their Haitian brothers to distribute these fraternal gifts and to restore their homes and fields." Large

shipments of miscellaneous offerings from other Caribbean and Latin American sources and elsewhere have arrived in Cap Haitien where they have been piling up in port warehouses and at the airfield. The coordination, despite efforts by the GOH and UNDR0 officials on the scene, is minimal. The majority of aid materials have been provided by governments from their relief stockpiles, including quantities of bulk food commodities (such as rice and flour, cooking oil and salt), medicines, and shelter materials including plastic sheeting and tents. Materials provided by others (including private individuals) are a mixed bag of goods. Among the assorted items are kitchen utensils, tools, flashlights, medicines and a wide assortment of food, especially donated canned goods, hurricane lamps, clothing, blankets, and an odd assortment of tents and camping supplies, and quantities of water purification tablets. Most materials have been packed according to size and each bundle contains a hodge-podge of different materials which must be sorted upon arrival. Local authorities are swamped because of the lack of sorting and distribution capabilities. The failure to send enough food stuffs to meet local and up-country needs has raised the frustration level to the boiling point both in Port-au-Prince and in the north.

6. A call has gone out for volunteers to help sort relief materials into packages for individuals and families. The volume of the material and the confusion caused by poor packaging has required two to three hundred people working at Cap Haitien and now at sorting centers in the capital. Reports of corruption and favoritism in the distribution of relief supplies are cropping up in the underground grapevines. The President has asked the churches to form committees to oversee the distribution of relief goods in each community. During the day, three different relief agencies called coordination meetings in separate locations. At mid-day the government called for more volunteers to help sort and package incoming relief goods. The total number of people involved in sorting materials now exceeds 500.

7. Compounding the situation are a substantial number of foreign tourists who are virtually camped at the airport awaiting transportation. The many Americans among them are besieging the Consular Section and the counters of Air Florida, Eastern, and the other airlines. The airlines are only gradually restoring service to Miami, Toronto, Europe, and elsewhere. Again the frustration and decibel levels are high. We have sent two Consular Officers to Cap Haitien and the northwest to check on welfare of AMCITS there. Only AMCIT casualties so far as can be determined were the missionary couple caught in up-country flooding the night of the hurricane, as previously reported.

8. This afternoon the Prime Minister again visited some of the worst destruction areas in Kingston and promised massive aid in a rousing "phoenix from the ashes" speech broadcast on radio and TV. He also issued an appeal for help and cooperation in the reconstruction effort. (Two hours later the an opposition group issued a clandestine statement pledging full cooperation to help the poor people of Haiti, but noting "massive corruption" and calling on the government to insure equality in the aid distribution. Note: Mission has noted only minimum diversion of relief supplies; we are following this closely in particular as regards US items, and have instructed tightening of control system to ensure continued proper channeling. Details follow.
9. Mission's American personnel have reoccupied their homes, except for the Brown family still in the hotel and several families living with friends, as previously reported. We still have not heard from a number of our FSN personnel and have assigned an FSN employee to try to locate them and to follow up on our notification given GOH authorities yesterday.
10. There continues to be some looting but it is now under control. Burglaries and street crimes remain above normal. Mission has advised all personnel of dangers of night-time movement in affected areas.
11. The Secretariat of Public Works has marshalled all available trucks and construction and road building equipment. Many private contractors and operators of industrial facilities have offered to loan heavy equipment that they aren't using. Some repairs to the mountain roads have been made, and all possible sources are still being scouted to find equipment for temporary repairs on the wharf cranes and other port facilities. The opening of the Cap Haitien road took much of the burden off of the logistics of relief handling.
12. The weather is still clear and dry, and clean-up operations are proceeding as fast as limited equipment and extensive damage permit.

H35

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_

Telephone Call (Rec'd at 0955 Sept. 15)

FROM: Director, USIA Office of American Republic Affairs  
TO: PAO  
SUBJECT: Article in Times

We're catching a lot of flack up here about an article in this morning's Times on Haiti relief. Have you seen it? No? I'll cable you a copy. Anyway, the Times goes on and on about slow arrival in Port-au-Prince of US relief goods, alleged leakage into the black market, stupidity of US authorities in permitting much needed cargo space to be used for transporting such things as cuspidors or chamber pots or whatever the reporter saw dumped in a pile up at Cap Haitien. Says he bought US donated powdered milk on the street in Port-au-Prince.

Give me anything you can so we can speak to these questions of speed of our relief effort and charges of black market diversion. If you have anything on the cuspidors, great. The rest we're just going to have to handle up here and let me tell you it's really hitting the fan. Can't you get these guys out and show them what we're really doing down there? And how about putting the quietus on this black market stuff? I thought it was being pretty well handled. Is it really going on?

Call me back as soon as you have anything so I can feed the wolves - they're gaining on me.

H36

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_

Cable (Received 1020 Sept. 15)

FROM: SECSTATE  
TO: AMEMBASSY PORT-AU-PRINCE Immediate  
INFO: USEC Brussels Immediate  
USUN Immediate  
US Mission Geneva Immediate  
FOR: Ambassador from ARA/DAS Smithers  
SUBJECT: Hurricane Ricardo: Comparative Relief Efforts

1. Times article aside, press and Congressional comments have been generally favorable to strong US relief effort being made in Jamaica and we appreciate your continuing leadership. However, an editorial yesterday in Des Moines Register raises a serious question of equality of burden-sharing in the relief operations. This reflects a growing undercurrent in recent radio and TV commentary that is now beginning to show up in the press. We want to counter it promptly.
2. We also have an inquiry from Congressman Lehman for specific information on how other countries' efforts in Haiti compare with ours. He wants information to help him counter his constituents' uneasiness that "Uncle Sam is again bearing the whole load".
3. Recognize difficulty of assessing total relief effort at this point, but we need anything you can give us listing specific commodities, cash contributions and total dollar value broken down by donor country or organization.
4. Information addressees should not approach host organizations formally at this time. Embassy Port-au-Prince will be contacting their on-the-scene representatives, and we do not wish to attract international attention. Any data you have available would be welcome, however.
5. Please provide preliminary report by C.O.B., Monday, September 19.

H37

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (rec'd at 1030 Sept. 15)

FROM: Deputy Foreign Minister

TO: DCM

SUBJECT: New York Times Article on Haiti Relief

I presume that by now you have been informed of the article that appeared this morning in the New York Times—datelined Port-au-Prince--alleging all sorts of mischievous things about your relief effort here, as well, unfortunately, as about our handling of the distribution of relief goods.

This is causing us a bit of trouble as you might imagine. Some of those who do not with well to this government are smacking their lips, and the President has already expressed his concern and unhappiness most forcefully to my chief and a number of others. We are immediately rechecking our own procedures but would appreciate your thoughts on how together we can minimize the damage and avoid this sort of thing in the future. This is most urgent. Can you come to see me this afternoon at 3 p.m.?

H38

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_

Telephone Call (rec'd 1115 Sept. 15)

FROM: Dr. Theodore Yankel  
TO: EAC  
SUBJECT: Welfare and Whereabouts

Hello. This is Dr. Theodore Yankel from Ames, Iowa. Do you have any news about my parents, Hyman and Yetta Yankel? They are on a South American cruise, the S.S. Empire Princess from the Scandavia Shiplines I think. I'm not sure of their itinerary, but the boat might have been near your hurricane. What information can you give me?

H39

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. —

Telephone Call (received 1210 September 15)

FROM: Executive Assistant to the Secretary of the Interior and National Defense

TO: DATT

SUBJECT: Request for Military Equipment

I just wanted to let you know how much the Secretary appreciates the excellent work of your DAST team and the remarkable use they are making of your helicopters and commo-equipment.

In view of the importance of these items to disaster handling, the proneness of our country to such disasters and the interest of the US in disaster preparedness in the Caribbean region, the Secretary has asked me to take an informal sounding with you as to the possibility of retaining this capability after the present emergency. What we would like to do is have these items remain in country in our armed forces inventory, but earmarked in particular for disaster use. What is your own reaction, just between the two of us? As you know, there is some urgency, since informed circles and the media are not unaware of the high level interest in this matter.

Well, perhaps you could let me have a reply through this same channel once you've had a chance to check a bit further.

YD

H40

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. —

SUBJECT: Broadcast over Radio Nationale at 1452 September 15.

We interrupt our regular program to bring you a news flash. According to the Port-au-Prince fire department, fire fighting equipment is being dispatched to the north side to handle a large blaze which has sprung up in that crowded and rubble-strewn area. The fire apparatus is having some difficulty in getting through because of debris in the streets left from the hurricane. The continuing winds also are causing some concern. However, the Fire Chief assures us that his department is fully prepared to deal with the situation. We will provide further bulletins.

And now we return you to the music of Claude Debussy as presented by the Port-au-Prince string ensemble.

H41

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_

Telephone Call, (received 1457) September 15.

FROM: Robert Petrow, manager of the Haitian American Sugar Company

TO: USAID Mission Director

Say, did you hear about the fire up in the west end? Yes, in the La Saline area. Well, I naturally try to keep an eye on things like that, what with our molasses tanks and installations and all that, so I sent one of our boys up to check the thing out. It doesn't look good. No water, damn wind still blowing, and the fire people got notified late because no telephones. You'd better tell whoever it is in the Embassy, because we just might have another disaster on our hands. I'll let you know if I hear any more.

H42

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 NO. —

Telephone Call (received 1535 September 15.

FROM: Local Radio Buff

TO: Public Affairs Officer

I've heard that there is a fire in the La Saline area. Well, as far as I can tell, from monitoring the fire calls, it seems to have gone out of control. The Battalion Chief on site has called in multiple alarms, asked for all types of back-up assistance and has requested mutual aid from nearby fire departments (and brigades). Because of the density of the houses, the rubble (paper, trash and other burnables) in the streets, and the continuous winds, the fire has already involved all the structures in about a six block area. People are running around looking for their kids, packing up their valuables, and trying to get out. All of the people fleeing with as much as they can haul is adding to the congestion in the streets.

The third and fourth alarms and the calls for mutual aid were virtually unheeded. The manpower is scarce—because they're off doing other things—and fire apparatus in working condition is even scarcer. Several of the pumpers that are working are down with flat tires (the nails, glass and other hurricane debris has crippled many of the public safety vehicles tires), and the city is out of spare tires for the big trucks.

(If EAC calls Disaster Committee for more information, they should be told that the report is essentially correct. The wind is spreading the fire rapidly and burning scraps are flying so that the areas of solid construction are providing less of a firebreak than had been calculated. If Mission does not call, then the Disaster Center should call them shortly in something of a panic, reporting burn and fire accident victims showing up at the already overcrowded hospitals and refugee centers.)

Note to Controllers: Consequences will generally be in terms of shelter, food, clothing, general disaster relief, etc. Injuries will be from exposure, exhaustion, or falls (sprains, etc.).

H43

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_

Cable, (received September 15, 1545 hours).

FROM: SECSTATE

TO: AMEMBASSY PORT-AU-PRINCE NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO: US MISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE  
JCS IMMEDIATE  
SECDEF IMMEDIATE  
CINCLANT IMMEDIATE

USCINCSO IMMEDIATE  
COMUSFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
COMNAVFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ANTIGUA IMMEDIATE

AIDAC from OFDA  
GENEVA for UNDRO

SUBJECT: Port-au-Prince Fire Disaster Assistance from International Association of Fire Chiefs

1. In response to OFDA/W request the Int'l Association of Fire Chiefs has confirmed that it is prepared to put together a team of experienced personnel to help GOH in assessing means of controlling conflagration and advise on assistance to victims and on management of post-conflagration activities.
2. If the group is to be of any immediate help, Mission should contact GOH without delay and notify OFDA of GOH reaction by telephone. IAFC says they normally send a team of three. They could have the team in via the next Eastern flight if we can get word back to them within the next two hours.

H44

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (received 1605 September 15).

FROM: Haitian Disaster Committee  
TO: EAC  
SUBJECT: Request for Fire Control Assistance

Our fire people have called us with an unusual problem: the fire is sweeping up on the sugar complex. They are getting some hoses out there to try to wet it down, because we really want to save the installation-if it goes up then we're in real trouble. But they can't get any pressure out of the fire-hydrant system down there. They think there's some kind of air blockage rather than physical or mechanical blockage. Do you have anybody among your Americans--maybe your military or your plant engineers - who could give them a hand right away?

H45

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (received 1613 September 15)

FROM: EXEC ASST to the Secretary of the Interior and National Defense  
TO: DATT  
SUBJECT: Request for Fuel Bladders

Listen, we're desperately in need of some storage capacity for the aviation gasoline that is now starting to come in. The pumps out at the airport were damaged by the hurricane and the fire is threatening some of our remaining storage facilities. I know your people have some of those big fuel bladders--I saw a lot of them last time I visited US Air Force installations in the States--and the Secretary is wondering if you couldn't just informally line up a couple of them to come in on the next relief flight. We don't want to risk the delay involved in going through regular relief channels--as a matter of fact, if the bladders don't get here the relief operation could pretty quickly grind to a halt could you get on the phone to Key West or somewhere for us?

H46

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (received 1635 September 15).

FROM: OFDA

TO: EAC

SUBJECT: Emergency Drug Supplies

The Tayca-Schantz Drug Co. has offered a large quantity of miscellaneous drug products for hurricane relief. On receiving word of the fire, they added some burn relief items. Knowing your host country's sensitivity to alleged "dumping" of US drugs, advise soonest how we should handle this offer. We have no list yet, but there should be a lot of useful stuff if properly sorted and used. Will they let the drugs in?

H47

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_

This is a draft cable to be reviewed and released at 1645 Sept. 15.

FROM: AMEMBASSY PORT-AU-PRINCE

TO: SECSTATE NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO: JCS NIACT IMMEDIATE  
SECDEF NIACT IMMEDIATE  
CINCLANT IMMEDIATE

COMUSFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
COMNAVFORCARIB IMMEDIATE  
US MISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

SUBJECT: Request for Fire Assistance

AIDAC from OFDA GENEVA for UNDR0

1. As a result of the conflagration, a wide swath of Port-au-Prince's residential areas has thus far been destroyed. Guesses are that about 500 homes have been destroyed or badly damaged and approximately 50 stores and churches ruined or seriously damaged. The Red Cross estimates the death toll at over 20 at this point, and the homeless at about 4,500. These numbers are in addition to the previously reported casualties from the hurricane and its aftermath.
2. There are many new injury cases that are straining the already overloaded facilities of all local hospitals. Hospital corridors are jammed with patients and their families. Most of the fire victims who have been hospitalized thus far are suffering from shock, exposure and fairly common breaks and bruises.
3. The Haitian Red Cross has just called and confirmed the admission to Port-au-Prince hospitals of at least twenty-five persons with extensive burns, many of them third degree. The Red Cross has asked the Embassy, on behalf of the GOH, for help in providing hospital facilities in the US for at least ten of these. They have heard of the Army Burn Center and think that it would be best to send them there. They also need most urgent help, according to the Red Cross, in the form of doctors and nurses experienced in burn work, and of burn treatment supplies, to help to meet the needs of the local hospitals.
4. Please advise urgently what we can respond to GOH (via Red Cross).

H48

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D+7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (received 1700 September 15.).

FROM: Medical Officer at General Hospital  
TO: MDRO  
SUBJECT: Plea for assistance, General Hospital

We are being flooded with burn victims and people injured in escaping the fire. And we're already operating at capacity as a result of the hurricane. With overloaded generators for the operating rooms, no lights in the wards, vastly over-crowded corridors, (due to masses of family members staying with the patients) we are getting desperate. Can you do anything to help? Generators, lanterns, blankets, anything. But particularly people -- do you have any nurses in your community; social workers or others who can help deal with the relatives and friends of the seriously injured patients; or medics, pharmacists? Also, we desperately need several kinds of medicines and bandages. I have asked my supply chief to give you a list. But mostly we need skilled people. What could you provide in the way of help?

H49

**EXERCISE**

IMPLEMENTER D+7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Call (received at 1710 September 15).

FROM: Office of the Secretary of the Presidency

TO: DCM

SUBJECT: Request for Fuel Bladder Assistance

We hear from our aviation people that storage facilities for aviation fuel are getting to be a problem. If the fire gets to the central storage, we will indeed have had it. They tell me that there are such things as storage bags out of rubber or neoprene or something that your military uses. Can you get four 5,000 gallon tanks of this type down here on an absolute crash basis? It will be most helpful to the relief effort and to our common interests here.

H50

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_

Cable, (received Sept. 15, 2000 hours).

FROM: SECSTATE

TO: AMEMBASSY PORT-AU-PRINCE NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO: US MISSION GENEVA NIACT IMMED  
JCS IMMED  
SECDEF IMMED  
CINCLANT IMMED

USCINCSO IMMED  
COMUSFORCARIB IMMED  
COMNAVFORCARIB IMMED  
AMEMBASSY ANTIGUA IMMED

SUBJECT: Port-au-Prince Fire: Disaster Relief

AIDAC from OFDA; GENEVA for UNDRO

1. Confirming our telecon, we have contacted Army Surgeon General who advises that the limited facilities at Fort Sam Houston are completely full at present. We are working with the American Red Cross to identify facilities for hospitalization of burn victims at other centers on East Coast.
2. In meantime, we are contacting DoD/MAC to survey transportation capability from Haiti. Much depends on number of victims actually requiring transport and timing of aircraft requirements. Advise as soon as GOH has a grip on exact numbers and seriousness of cases requiring moving, noting that began patients should not be moved except in the case of extraordinary circumstances. OFDA recommends burn team from University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) assess condition of patients. Upon their recommendation would then task DoD to launch a MAC MEDEVAC aircraft with medical crew to accompany patients to UTMB burn center. Advise as soon as GOH knows exact number and seriousness of cases requiring moving, noting that burn patients should not be moved except in extraordinary cases.
3. We are working urgently with PAHO and ARC to publicize the GOH call for burn supplies and for additional physicians and nurses with burn experience. DOD is also canvassing to determine what personnel it can provide. It is hoped that by tomorrow there will be sufficient volunteers to meet the emergency need and we can start specific logistic planning. Advise what

arrangements for the lodging and care of American civilian or military volunteers are being made. Also what approaches, if any, you or GOH may have made with airlines to contribute to transportation from US.

4. Will appreciate any information regarding other potential donors that Geneva or Antigua may develop. Main responsibility for coordination must rest with Embassy Port-au-Prince, however, since all players are represented on the ground there. Request Embassy keep us informed on continuing basis regarding developing GOH assessment of its needs as well as resources being provided by it and the other donors.

H51

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Note

FROM: Local Traveller  
TO: Handed to MSG at 2025 Sept. 15  
SUBJECT: Offer of Help

We are isolated here at the Full Gospel Mission. The road up from the Blue Lagoon has been cut. However, we are safe and have food and water stocks for ourselves for a few days. I hear there is much suffering in the capital. The fire has inflicted a cruel blow on the poor victims of Ricardo. I am a medical doctor and want to help so am leaving tomorrow morning by mule. If I can get through, I will come to the Embassy. I am sure there are many other medical and nursing people who could help. How can I help identify and round them up?

Christian A. Bledsoe, M.D.  
Full Gospel Mission  
Upper Little Mountain

H52

EXERCISE

IMPLEMENTER D + 7 DAYS NO. \_\_\_

Cable (received 2030 Sept. 15)

FROM: SECSTATE

TO: AMEMBASSY PORT-AU-PRINCE NIACT IMMEDIATE

SUBJECT: Focus of Current Relief Efforts; Long-Term Transition Planning

AIDAC FOR AMBASSADOR AND AID MISSION DIRECTOR FROM ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR/ LAC

1. The Administrator is receiving reports from Congress and elsewhere of growing concern that the flow of US relief supplies going into Haiti may be highly duplicative of other donors' contributions. Specifically, he is being asked whether we are putting an undue proportion of our resources into miscellaneous food and clothing and their transportation, when the PVOs and other donors and the international organizations are bringing in large quantities of the same items. It is hard to see how charges like this get started but I would much appreciate your comments as well as your evaluation of how well coordination at the Haiti country level is currently being accomplished, particularly in view of the \$25 million supplemental bill scheduled for House floor tomorrow afternoon. Also, whether there has been any discussion thus far of the possibility of shifting the balance of the US contribution toward longer term needs, such as construction materials. The latter point seems particularly pertinent in light of the conflagration disaster of which we have just had word.
2. I will be talking with the Administrator on these and other topics Saturday morning so would like to have your reaction as soon as possible.
3. For Director: Your preliminary thoughts on what the current US effort is doing to your longer term program for Haiti development assistance and to Title II funding and utilization would also be most welcome. Perhaps you could give me a rundown on current AID/H planning for the transition back to normal program activities.
4. Warm regards.