



DISASTER
RELIEF

CASE REPORT

Uruguay-Plane Crash

November 14, 1971

Agency for International Development
Washington, D.C. 20523

Foreign Disaster Case Reports are publications of the Office of the Foreign Disaster Relief Coordinator, Agency for International Development. This office has responsibility for coordinating U.S. Government foreign disaster relief responses and for the further coordination of such activities with those of the U.S. private and international disaster relief communities.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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URUGUAY

Air crash

On November 14, 1971 two Uruguayan Navy helicopters, staging an air/sea rescue demonstration at Pocitos Beach near Montevideo, collided in the air. One of the helicopters fell on the heavily populated beach and crushed eight people to death. Forty others were injured. Its rotary blades threw debris into the crowd of spectators so seriously injuring some that a number of amputations were necessary.

Value of U.S. Assistance\$4,002

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT OF URUGUAY:

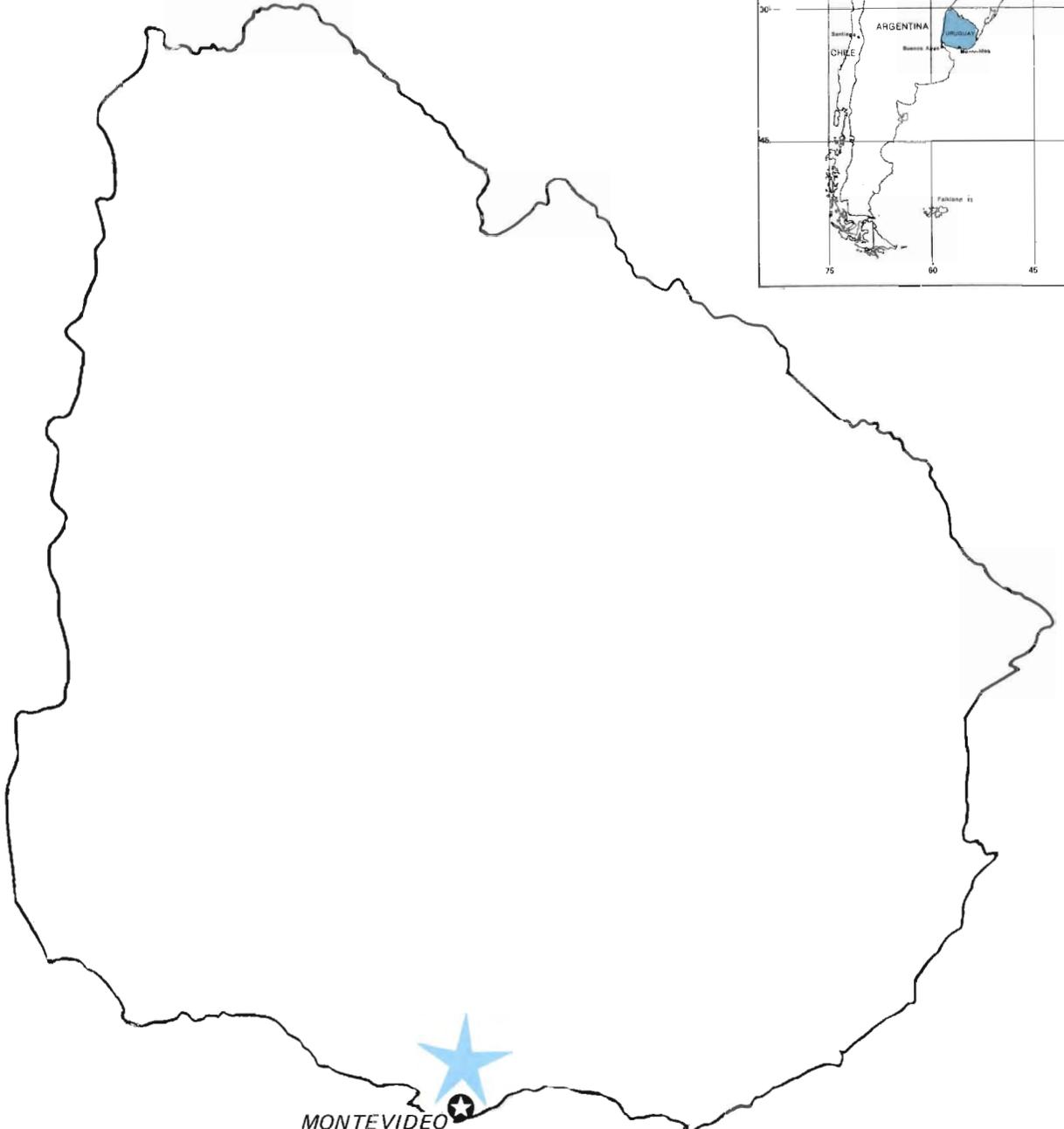
Uruguayan agencies, primarily military, assumed control and effectively restored order among the people. Casualties were rushed to hospitals where the less seriously injured were released after receiving treatment. ing treatment.

The Government of Uruguay (GOU) requested assistance from the United States in acquiring blood plasma and other medical supplies urgently needed at the hospitals where surgery was being performed and where the more critically injured were being treated.

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT:

Ambassador Charles W. Adair quickly responded to the appeal from the GOU and declared the tragic accident to be an emergency warranting U.S. assistance.

A.I.D.'s Foreign Disaster Relief Coordinator assisted the Ambassador by requesting the supplies from the U.S. Military in Panama. They were shipped immediately by commercial air to Montevideo. A.I.D. reimbursed the U.S. Military for their costs.



MONTEVIDEO

URUGUAY