



DISASTER
RELIEF

CASE REPORT

Malagasy-Cyclone "Eugenie"

February 14, 1972

Agency for International Development
Washington, D.C. 20523

MALAGASY REPUBLIC

CYCLONE "EUGENIE"

On February 14, 1972 Cyclone "Eugenie" swept across the island of Madagascar, causing extensive damage in all six provinces of the Malagasy Republic. A total of 91 people were reported killed in the two-day storm and an estimated 10,000 people were left homeless.

VALUE OF U.S.G. ASSISTANCE \$5,882

The Malagasy Republic's three most populous provinces, Tamatave, Tananarive, and Majunga, were the most brutally battered by the cyclone. The Tamatave region was hit by 130 kilometer per hour winds. The

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center of the storm passed just north of Tananarive, the capital city, which is located in the province of the same name. The city suffered extensive damage from 80 kilometer per hour winds. Trees were uprooted, power and phone lines were knocked down and some dwellings were destroyed. Four people were killed in the city. It was the worst tropical cyclone to pass so close to the inland capital in 25 years.

An estimated 2.5 million people out of a total population of approximately 5.5 million were affected by the disaster. Of this number, 91 were killed, 56 were injured, and thousands were dislocated and in need of housing, food and medical care. Damage was estimated by the American Embassy in Tananarive as follows:

Homes	\$ 706,719
Other buildings	373,454
Roads, bridges, dams, etc. . .	2,706,374
Crops and farm animals	8,638,374

Heavy rain and rapidly rising waters required that the inhabitants of several areas be evacuated. The evacuees were provided temporary housing by the Government of the Malagasy Republic (GOMR) until the flooding abated and they were able to return to their homes. The majority of the refugees were housed in school buildings. About 10,000 people were cared for through a mass feeding program instituted by the Government. Shortly after the disaster, the GOMR mobilized a National Relief Council to conduct the distribution of food, seed and medical supplies in the stricken areas. The Council was comprised of several ministers and was chaired by the Minister Delegate for the Interior.

A committee was also activated by the Government to defend and protect Tananarive, presumably against looting and other criminal activity that so often follows disasters of this kind.

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE GOMR AND LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS:

The relief effort was directed entirely by the Government of the Malagasy Republic under the supervision of the National Relief

Council. The dislocated were provided with temporary housing, food and medical care. The total value of relief provided by the GOMR is not known.

The Malagasy Republic Red Cross donated \$1,200 to the relief effort.

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT:

On February 23, 1972 the American Embassy Chargé William F. Miller notified the GOMR that it would honor for payment vouchers for emergency relief supplies up to an amount of 1,500,000 FMG or approximately \$6,000. The Embassy also offered the use of the Defense Attache's aircraft and crew for emergency relief operations in the event transport needs exceeded the GOMR's capabilities. The amount of assistance offered was the same provided the last time the Embassy gave help in a similar situation in 1969.

The Embassy's offer was publicized in the GOMR's daily press summary and was later reported by several local newspapers.

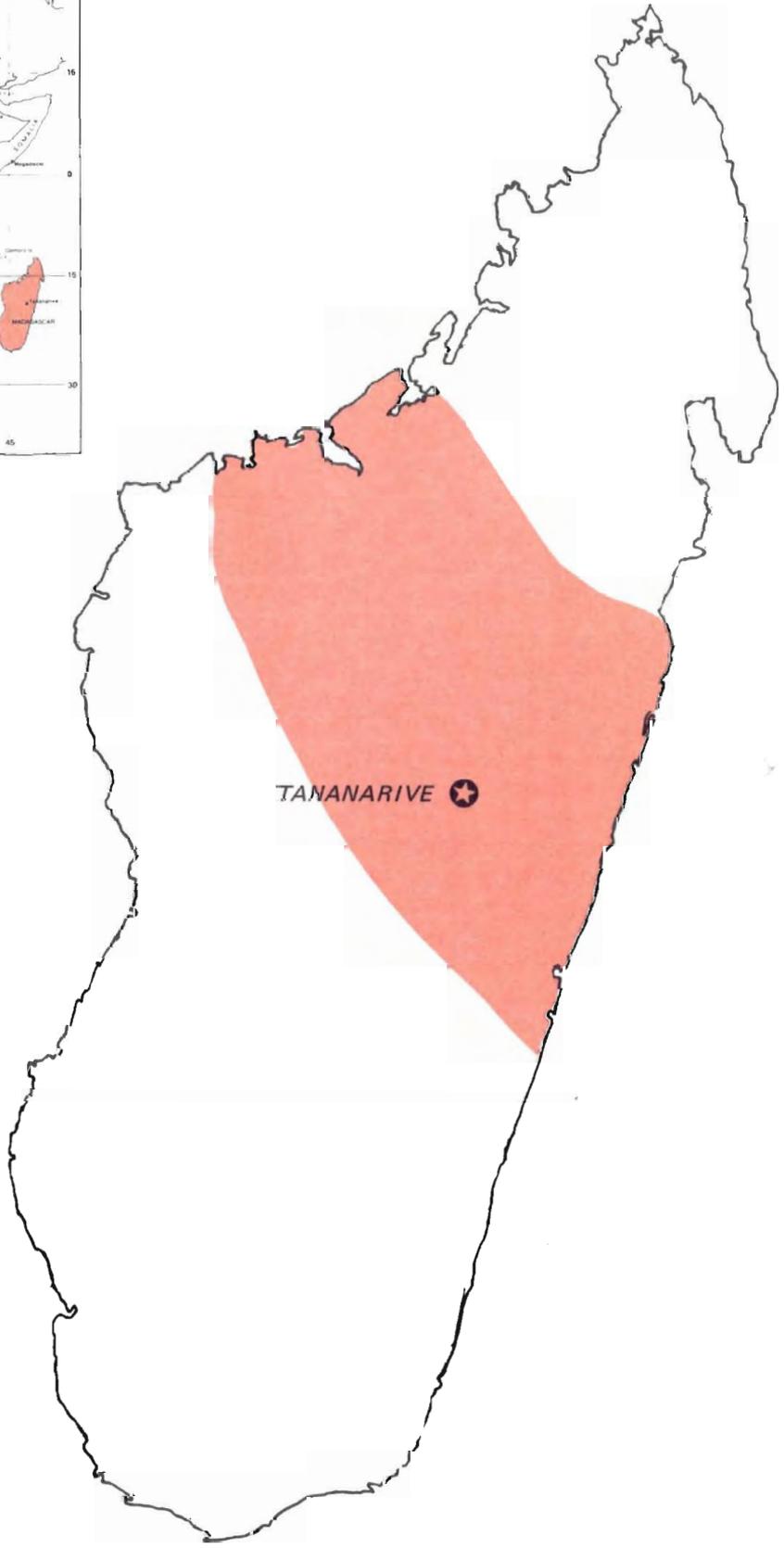
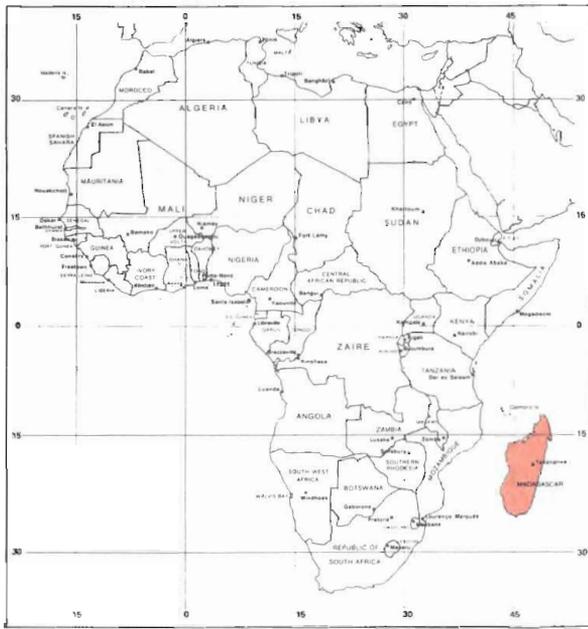
The Embassy received vouchers from the National Relief Council covering purchases of 1,470,470 FMG or approximately \$5,882 worth of medical supplies. According to the Council, the supplies were used to replenish pharmacies in the provinces which had dispensed large amounts of medicines to the devastated areas at the request of the Council. Following a request by the Embassy, the Council provided a detailed list of the medical supplies that were distributed to the various provincial pharmacies.

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY OTHER NATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS:

The following sources also contributed to the cyclone relief effort:

United Nations Development Program	\$30,000
Embassy of France	30,000
Embassy of Japan	2,000
Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany	2,000
Other private donations (estimate)	1,000

Total \$65,000



MALAGASY