

DISASTER  
RELIEF

CASE REPORTS

Central African Republic-Floods September 1973  
Lesotho-Typhoid Epidemic April 1974

Agency for International Development  
Washington, DC 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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## CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

### Floods

On September 12 and 13, 1973, flash-flooding in the capital city of Bangui destroyed 730 homes and damaged 3,000. While an estimated 13,000 people were affected by this flooding, there were no reports of fatalities or serious injury.

Value of U.S. Government Assistance \$12,000

### ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AND LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS:

President Jean-Bedel Bokassa pledged the efforts of the Government to build new houses and resettle the flood victims on higher ground. Local authorities arranged to house the homeless in schools and public buildings.

### ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT:

In response to the request for assistance from President Bokassa, U.S. Ambassador William N. Dale exercised his disaster relief authority and contributed \$12,000 to the local Red Cross for the purchase of emergency construction materials.

### ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY OTHER DONOR GOVERNMENTS:

Following an appeal from the League of Red Cross Societies for assistance to the Central African Republic, the following made contributions in cash and in kind:

Society	Estimated Value
Canada .....	\$13,433
France .....	1,053
Sweden .....	1,985
U.S.S.R. ....	10,705
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	\$27,176

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## LESOTHO

### Typhoid Epidemic—April, 1974

- 500 cases
- Towns affected—Teyteyaneng, Rome, and Mohale's Hoek

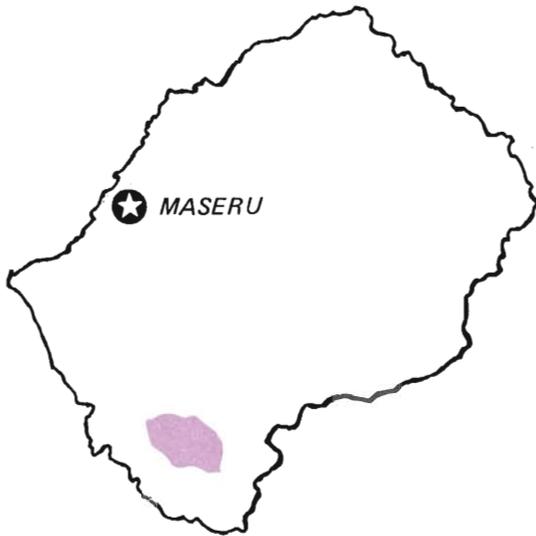
### ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT:

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) resident representative notified the American Embassy in Maseru of the epidemic. He stated that the Lesotho Ministry of Health was requesting emergency medical assistance because hospitals in the affected towns were so full, patients were being placed on floors for lack of available beds.

Acting in the absence of the Ambassador, the Deputy Chief of Mission, Donald D. Haught, on April 5 determined that the situation warranted U.S. Government assistance and authorized the expenditure of \$15,000 for the purchase of beds and bedding. Initially it was thought that 200 beds and sufficient bedding for them would be needed but these requirements were much too high. Actual cost of supplies needed and provided by the United States was \$1,233.12.

### ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY:

The UNDP representative indicated the World Health Organization would provide medicines but amount and value were not reported.



**LESOTHO**



**CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**