

## **Civil defense and disaster control news bulletin. Vol. X No. 3 August 1969**

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## NEWS BULLETIN

Published by the DIVISION OF EMERGENCY GOVERNMENT  
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WARREN P. KNOWLES  
Governor

JAMES A. GRUENTZEL  
Administrator

VOL. X NO. 3

4802 Sheboygan Avenue, MADISON, WISCONSIN 53702

AUGUST 1969



Gov. Warren P. Knowles signs \$200,000 federal disaster assistance agreement for six-county area hit by flash floods on June 29. The papers were presented for signature by Terry Vangen, right, Region 4 OEP. Looking on is Gordon Reese, Division Plans and Operations Officer.

GOVERNOR' CD CONFERENCE  
AT WIS. RAPIDS ON SEPT. 25

Wisconsin Rapids will be host to the annual fall Governor's Conference on Civil Defense for county and local civil defense directors and elected officials on September 25 at the Labor Temple in that city.

The one-day conference and workshop is sponsored each fall by the Executive Office in cooperation with the State Division of Emergency Government to assist local governments in the preparation of their plans and programs for nuclear defense and to keep them advised on current and new federal and state policies relating to the total emergency preparedness effort. A similar conference on natural disaster preparedness was held this spring in Madison.

The conference theme will be "Preparedness in the Nuclear Age" with morning activities featuring presentations by state and federal officials and the afternoon session devoted to workshops.

Key speakers will include Gov. Warren P. Knowles, who will give opening address and John E. Davis, newly appointed director of the Federal Office of Civil Defense, who will speak at the noon luncheon. Registration will be between 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. and a "Ladies Day" program has been arranged for wives of the officials. Donald Sleeter, Wood county emergency government director, is in charge of conference arrangements.

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FLASH FLOODS ADD TO  
STATE DISASTER TOTAL

Everyone hoped that mother nature would take a breather after the long battle against Wisconsin's spring flood problems, but apparently she had other ideas. As a prime example that disasters can occur anytime and anyplace, tornadic winds and heavy rains hit six Wisconsin southern counties on June 29 causing extensive damage to roads, bridges and crops in many areas from the flash floods generated by the deluge. Of the six affected counties of Grant, Green, LaFayette, Milwaukee, Racine and Waukesha, only one (Grant) suffered previous damage from the spring floods, but to a lesser extent than the June disaster.

A fly-over of the three flooded counties in the southwest area was made on July 1 by Acting Governor Jack Olson and James Gruentzel, Emergency Government Administrator, to determine if state and federal assistance was required. As a result of the aerial inspection, Olson declared a "state of emergency" in those portions of Wisconsin and requested President Nixon to declare the counties "major disaster areas" along with the three southeast counties which experienced considerable damage in the cities of Racine, Milwaukee and Waukesha from flooded streets and backed up sewage systems.

On July 11, the President authorized the Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP) to initially allocate the state \$200,000 in federal funds under PL-875 for repair and restoration of damaged public property, and for debris clearance. The additional allocation brings the total amount of federal monies received thus far this year for disaster assistance to \$700,000. OEP had previously allocated \$500,000 for spring flood damage in 15 counties. According to the Division's Emergency Resource Management Officer, Tony Testolin, the June Disaster could equal or exceed that of April in public property damage even though fewer counties are involved, since no prior preparation, such as is done each year in the state's perennial flood areas, is possible with a flash-type flood situation.

Chief culprits in LaFayette county were the Pecatonica and Galena rivers which overflowed their banks and inundated many areas. Darlington was hardest hit when more than six inches of rain fell causing the river to overflow into the city with resulting communications failures and washouts of access roads and bridges. Authorities were forced to seal off the community temporarily until waters receded. Extensive town and county road damage was recorded in the west end of Green county and heavy crop damage in the south and east portions of Grant county. In addition to street and sewer damage in Milwaukee, Racine and Waukesha, flooding occurred in the basements of numerous private homes in those communities.

(Con'd on page 2, col. 1)



**(FLOODS - Cont'd from front page)**

Following the disaster, state and federal officials conducted briefings at Waukesha and Darlington for the local officials of the affected counties to outline procedures for requesting federal disaster assistance funds. Project applications for the federal money must be submitted to OEP by the local governments concerned within 90 days of the July 11 declaration by the President.

To date, PL 875 checks totalling \$35,693 have been distributed by the Division as advance payments to ten counties and communities for public property damage incurred from the spring floods, with 18 project applications still pending approval by OEP.

Payments made thus far are as follows:

Merrill .....	\$1,500	Fountain City .....	\$6,780
Ashland Co. ....	2,000	Twn of Buffalo .....	3,375
Pierce Co. ....	2,300	Soldiers Grove .....	695
Hudson .....	7,800	Lynxville .....	3,063
Twn. of Waumandee ...	980	Prairie du Chien .....	7,200



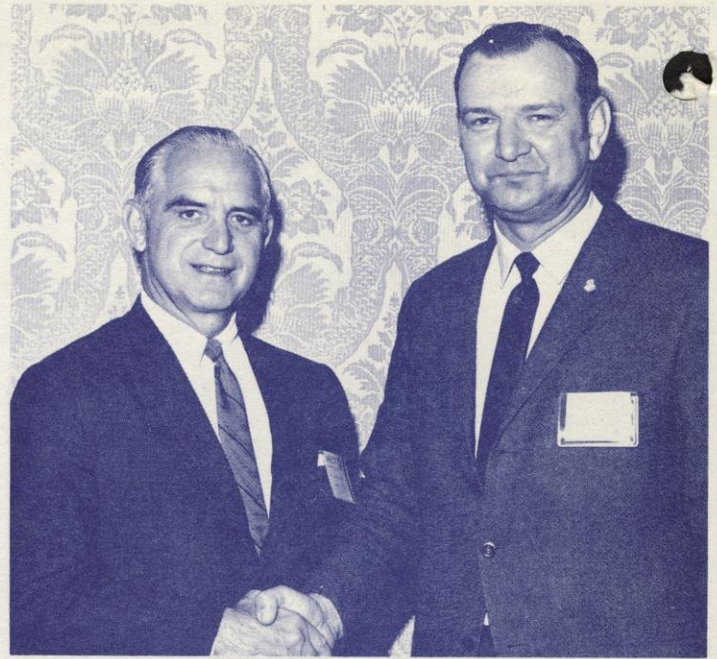
Picture of Highway 23 bridge, two miles south of Darlington, is typical of damage caused to roads and bridges in several counties from heavy rains and resulting flood waters.

**CDAE PROGRESS NOTED**

Lloyd E. Berray, Civil Defense Education Coordinator, Department of Vocational, Technical and Adult Education, reports that 1,279 high school students were enrolled in the Personal and Family Survival course in the month of June. A total of 53 courses were held with 1,254 students completing the course. One adult course was held with 15 graduates. Since the first of the year, Berray reports that a total of 139 courses have been held with 308 adults and 3,059 high school students completing the training.

The June report also shows that 17 individuals completed the Radiological Monitor 2-hour refresher course, 10 persons the Shelter Management course, and that 16 Shelter Management Instructors were certified. A teacher training Personal and Family Survival workshop for Vo-Ag instructors was held in Madison in July in connection with their annual Summer Conference, Berray said.

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**GRUENTZEL NEW REGION VICE PRESIDENT**

John E. Davis, left, national Director of the Office of Civil Defense, congratulates Division Administrator James Gruentzel on his election by Region 4 State Directors as the new regional vice-president. Davis, new OCD director, addressed the recent conference of the National Association of CD Directors at Portland Maine.

**OVER 21,000 TRAINED IN MSH**

The State Monthly Activity Report on Medical Self-Help training for the month of June shows that 1,096 courses were held with an enrollment of 21,504 students. Of these, 1,019 courses were conducted in Junior or senior high schools with 19,483 students taking the training. Of the total number of courses, 22 included the Red Cross First Aid Course along with the MSH training with an enrollment of 568 students.

Over 262,000 Wisconsin citizens overall have taken the MSH course since its initiation in 1962.

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**SCHOOL DISASTER PLANNING URGED**

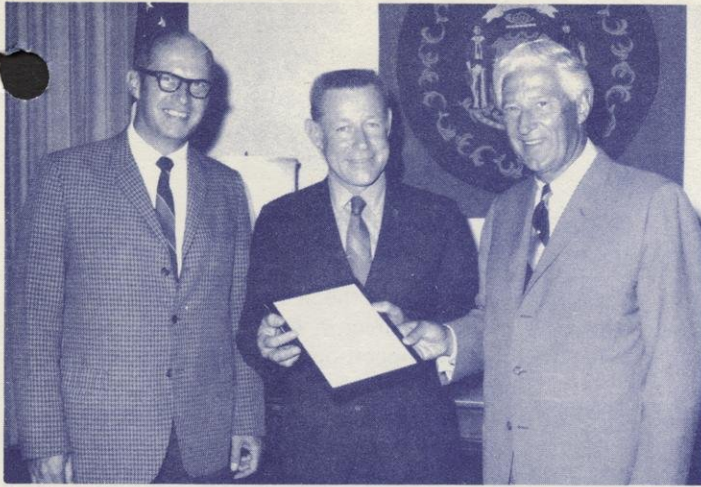
A publication entitled "State and Local Responsibility for Education" issued in October 1968 by the Council of Chief State School Officers contains a position statement by the Council on the importance of school disaster planning.

The statement stresses the need for school officials to develop both training programs and physical facilities for the protection of pupils against major disaster in addition to traditional school safety programs. Specifically, these would include warning devices, shelter facilities, lines of communication, first aid equipment and survival supplies, among others, as part of a school's physical capability to act in a disaster, and mental preparations developed through inservice disaster education for all school personnel.

Additional copies of the publication, which has been distributed to key school officials, are available at \$1.25 postpaid from the Council at 1201 Sixteenth St., N.W., Washington D.C. 20036.

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Bruce Bishop, center, receives the U. S. ESSA Weather Bureau's Public Service Award from Gov. Knowles in a July 21 ceremony. Bishop, former Division administrator and now a special assistant to the governor, was cited in the letter of commendation from George P. Cressman, Director of the U. S. Weather Bureau, for his "dynamic leadership in the organization and promotion of natural disaster preparedness in the State of Wisconsin". Representing the Weather Bureau was Joe Rigney, left, Madison weatherman.

## CITIZENS REQUEST HFPS MATERIAL

As a result of the Home Fallout Protection Survey (HFPS) program conducted by the Bureau of Census in Wisconsin in 1967, over 6,000 state householders have submitted requests for shelter plans and other survival information, according to a report received from the Bureau of Census Systems Division.

Specifically, the report shows that as of May 31 a total of 16,701 individual pieces of material were requested by interested residents. Of these, 5,248 were for survival booklets (SM 3-11) and 11,453 for six different types of basement home shelter plans. The concrete block shelter plan was most frequently requested, followed by the ceiling modification and snack bar plans.

Over one million Wisconsin residences were surveyed in 1967 as part of a nation-wide program to determine the degree of fallout protection presently existing in their basements. Homeowners were then sent information on their individual protection factors (PF) and the added weight of material needed to bring their basement up to the minimum federal fallout protection standard of PF 40. Householders without basements were sent information on emergency preparedness measures they could take, including the improvisation of fallout shelters.

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## CD WALLET CARDS REPRINTED

A reprinting has been made of the Division's popular civil defense wallet card. The 2½ x 3½ yellow and black card contains shelter information and official civil defense warning signals on one side, and basic tornado preparedness tips on the other side. Approximately 100,000 of the cards were distributed to citizens the past year following their initial printing. As before, the cards may be obtained by local directors from their respective Area Directors.

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## TELEVISION PI KITS ISSUED

The Division of Emergency Government has now received its allocation of the OCD "In Time of Emergency" TV Announcement Kits for distribution to Wisconsin's 19 commercial and educational television stations. The kits have been issued to the Area Offices for subsequent distribution to local directors having television stations in their communities, such as was done with the radio and newspaper kits previously issued.

The TV material, which may be used in a normal as well as in a crisis period, consists of four copies each of 10 one-minute spot announcements with four color slides to illustrate portions of each announcement, and a cover letter of explanation for the station manager or program director. When delivering the material to their local TV stations, CD directors should *emphasize the importance of the station retaining the kit in a special file so that it is always available for use in event of a national crisis.*

Distribution of the radio and newspaper PI kits is progressing at a steady pace with 43 counties now completed. To date, 72 radio stations and 176 newspapers have received the kits.

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Radio Frequency Interference Team from the Communications Engineering Installation Agency, Ft. Huachuca, Arizona makes preliminary survey prior to the installation of NACOM II equipment at State EOC. Front to rear, are MSgt Gene Duerre, Sfc Earl Gallien, Sp5 Richard Darnell and civilian electrical engineer Ramelan Svwarno.

## PEGGIE WILLS JOINS STAFF

Peggie Wills, 17, of Madison joined the Division's staff as a Steno I on July 21.

Miss Wills will work with both Anthony Testolin, Emergency Resources Planner, and Stanley Grimstad, Shelter Officer, in the preparation of plans and guidance materials on the two programs. She is a graduate of East High school and resides at 805 Pulley Drive.

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# CIVIL DEFENSE AROUND THE STATE

★ ★ ★ what your neighbors are doing ★ ★ ★



**ANTIGO** — Langlade county's Community Shelter Plan was distributed to county residents on June 23 as an insert to the Antigo Daily Journal. The blue and white brochure contains maps of the county's public shelter facilities showing which shelters citizens should go to in time of an emergency and other preparedness actions that they can take if public shelter is not available in their areas. The brochure also advises residents of other pertinent aspects of local government CD plans including warning signals used, shelter supplies, school disaster plans and general public instructions. A family check-list is also featured to help prepare each individual home for disaster. Public shelters in Antigo and the balance of Langlade county presently provide fallout protection for 10,605 persons out of a total estimated population of 18,000. The Langlade county CSP is the second shelter utilization plan to be completed and distributed in Wisconsin. Dunn county made the first CSP distribution in the state in early February.

\*\*\*\*\* CD \*\*\*\*\*

**RACINE** — Nick Braun, Racine County CD director, recently forwarded to the Division office a full page spread on tornado preparedness carried by the Wisconsin HI-LIGHTER in its April 23 edition. The layout features the picture of a rapidly spinning funnel cloud with the word "Tornadoes" just above it and instructions on what citizens should do to protect themselves. Readers are also told to clip out the material and save for their protection. Braun arranged the publication of the information with the HI-LIGHTER and is also going to reproduce it on 8½ x 11 flyers for further distribution.

\*\*\*\*\* CD \*\*\*\*\*

**MADISON** — Bob Kneeland, former La Crosse county CD director, was recently appointed the new civil defense director for Dane county. As La Crosse director, Kneeland did notable work in the spring flood fighting operations in that city in this and past years. A retired Air Force major, he replaces Curt Brauhn who resigned from that position earlier in the year. Kneeland said his first priority for Dane county would be the preparation of a community shelter plan which will probably be ready by this fall.

\*\*\*\*\* CD \*\*\*\*\*

**SHEBOYGAN** — County CD director James Smyth told the county board at a recent meeting that the federal government has approved funds in the amount of \$73,140 for the remodeling of the sheriff's office and related areas which will incorporate the county's emergency operating center. The project is expected to be completed within 60 — 90 days with the federal monies covering about one-half of the remodeling costs.

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**DARLINGTON** — Ronald Johnson, LaFayette county civil defense director, was commended in an editorial by E. Bowden Curtiss in the Republican Journal for the fine work he did during the recent tornado disaster near Belmont. Curtiss, who is editor and publisher of the paper said many citizens had mentioned Johnson's contribution during the period of the emergency. He said, "At times we're inclined to think of Civil Defense as a waste of time, but planned preparations for natural or unnatural catastrophe does pay off."

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SEE YOU AT THE GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE!  
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