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Office of the White House Press Secretary (Salt Lake City, Utah)

THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today declared an emergency for the state of New York because of the impact of flooding caused by a cave-in of the New York State Barge Canal, beginning about October 29, 1974. The President's action will permit the use of Federal funds in relief efforts in designated areas of the state.

The emergency situation resulted from flooding in the hamlet of Bushnell Basin, which left a number of families homeless. The President's declaration of an emergency will allow the Federal government to provide mobile homes to the state to house the homeless families.

Federal relief activities in New York will be coordinated by the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration, Department of Housing and Urban Development, under the direction of Administrator Thomas P. Dunne. Mr. Dunne will designate the specific areas within the state eligible for Federal assistance.

Mr. Thomas R. Casey, Regional Director Exthe Federal Disaster Assistance, HUD Region II, will be designated as the Federal Coordinating Officer to work with the state in providing federal emergency assistance under the Disaster Relief Act of 1974, Public Law 93-288.

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