

**EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE
UNTIL 6:00 P.M. (EDT)**

APRIL 12, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today declared an emergency for the State of Louisiana because of the impact of heavy rains and flooding beginning about March 14, 1975. The President's action will permit the use of Federal funds in the provision of temporary housing for those families who lost their homes as a result of the heavy rains and flooding.

Federal relief activities in Louisiana 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, based upon Federal and State damage assessments.

Mr. Joe D. Winkle, Regional Director of the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration, HUD Region VI, 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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