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MAY 1, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

The President has amended the declaration of a major disaster for Tennessee.

The new action would allow Federal disaster assistance to be used in those areas of the states which sustained tornado damage on March 22, 1975 and April 18, 1975. The original declaration was issued on March 22, 1975 to provide assistance for areas affected by severe storms and flooding which began about March 11, 1975.

Federal assistance from the President's Disaster Relief Fund will consist of temporary housing, and disaster unemployment assistance payments. Low-interest rate disaster loans will be made available by the Small Business Administration under the authorities of Public Law 93-24, and emergency loan assistance will be made available by the Farmers Home Administration.

Federal relief activities in the areas affected by the tornadoes 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. Thomas P. Credle, Regional Director of the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration, HUD Region IV, who was appointed Federal Coordinating Officer for the President's March 22 declaration of a major disaster, will also coordinate the Federal relief and recovery activities in the areas which sustained tornado damage on March 22 and April 18.

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