

JULY 31, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President today amended his June 17, 1976, declaration of a major disaster for the Northern Mariana Islands because of damage caused by Typhoon Pamela, beginning about May 20, 1976, to include damage caused by Typhoon Therese, beginning about July 13, 1976. This action was taken so that Federal disaster assistance may be provided in those areas of the Northern Mariana Islands which sustained damage resulting from Typhoon Therese.

Federal assistance from the President's Disaster Relief Fund will consist primarily of debris removal, and the repair or restoration of damaged or destroyed streets, roads, bridges, and public facilities and utilities. Low-interest rate disaster loans will be made available by the Small Business Administration.

Federal relief activities in the Northern Mariana Islands 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 Territory eligible for Federal assistance, based upon Federal and Territorial damage assessments.

Mr. Robert C. Stevens, Regional Director of the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration, Region IX, who was appointed Federal Coordinating Officer for the President's June 17 declaration of a major disaster, will also coordinate the Federal relief and recovery activities in the areas which sustained damage because of Typhoon Therese.

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NOTE:
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM FDAA: (202) 634-6666.