

OCTOBER 1, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President today amended his September 21, 1976, declaration of a major disaster for California because of damage caused by severe storms and flooding associated with Tropical Storm Kathleen, beginning about September 10, 1976, to include damage caused by severe storms and flooding beginning about September 23, 1976. This action was taken so that Federal disaster assistance may be provided in those areas of the State of California which sustained damage resulting from the September 23 flooding.

Federal assistance from the President's Disaster Relief Fund will consist primarily of temporary housing, 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, and emergency loan assistance will be made available by the Farmers Home Administration.

Federal relief activities in California 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. Robert C. Stevens, Regional Director of the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration, Region IX, who was appointed Federal Coordinating Officer for the President's September 21 declaration of a major disaster, will also coordinate Federal relief and recovery activities in the areas which sustained damage because of the September 23 severe storms and flooding.

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