

THE NATIONAL PLAN
for
Civil Defense and Defense Mobilization

Annex 17
DISASTER SERVICES



Executive Office of the President
OFFICE OF CIVIL AND DEFENSE MOBILIZATION

Preface

This annex supports and amplifies the National Plan for Civil Defense and Defense Mobilization, particularly Part V, Section H, **Disaster Services**. It states the principles, responsibilities, requirements and broad courses of nonmilitary action incident to this subject.

Auxiliary documents will be issued as necessary and will be subordinate to and compatible with this annex and the National Plan.

The annex is published in looseleaf form in order that pages may be added or replaced easily whenever revisions are made.



Director

Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization

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ANNEX 17 DISASTER SERVICES

I. Definition

Disaster services are functions performed locally and under emergency conditions to minimize those attack effects, direct or indirect, immediately endangering life and property or hindering recovery efforts. As used herein, they also include development of the capability for such emergency performance. Disaster services include, but are not limited to:

- A. Casualty care and emergency public health
- B. Emergency welfare services
- C. Rescue
- D. Debris clearance
- E. Fire protection
- F. Decontamination.

The term also applies to similar emergency actions to avert or alleviate the effects of natural disasters and other calamities not caused by armed attack. This definition does not limit, or in any way affect, the responsibilities of the American National Red Cross, as defined by law (33 Stat. 599 and 36 USC 3), or specifically assigned or authorized natural disaster responsibilities of government agencies.¹

¹See Annex 40, NATURAL DISASTER ~~ANNEX 40~~.

II. Assumptions²

A. It is assumed that disaster services are principally local, limited in time, and intended primarily to respond only to the immediate emergency situation. Therefore, priority in the use of resources, manpower and equipment may be given to disaster services only to the extent that such priority is compatible with total preparatory, emergency and rehabilitation requirements of the Nation.

B. It is assumed that in disaster situations not caused by a nuclear attack, disaster services may have a greater proportionate influence on survival and, therefore, may command a proportionately greater part of the total civil defense effort.

III. General Responsibilities

A. Federal

The Federal Government is responsible for acquiring and storing limited quantities of supplies and equipment for disaster service operations as a general reserve, and for providing financial and technical assistance to the States and their political subdivisions for the accumulation of supplies and equipment and the recruitment and training of personnel for disaster services.

²See Part I of the NATIONAL PLAN and Annex 1, PLANNING BASIS.

Federal disaster service capabilities shall be made available to augment State and local resources as soon as possible in emergency, when not required for emergency activities of the Federal Government. An appropriate portion of the total of Federal disaster services materiel shall be committed only for reestablishment of a minimum level of regular community disaster service capability for the surviving population.

Field offices of appropriate Federal agencies shall assist the States in providing disaster services.

B. State and Local

States and their political subdivisions will accumulate necessary supplies and equipment and recruit and train personnel in disaster services.

In emergency, the State is responsible for evaluating the total situation within the State, directing the movement of populations away from danger areas and committing State disaster forces, including those made available by invocation of interstate compacts, as indicated by the situation. States will also use, where appropriate, resources of nongovernmental organizations. Requests for needed support will be made to the OCDM Regional Director. Capabilities excess to the needs of the States will also be reported to the Regional Director when requested. Where prearranged State and national plans exist, requests for support and reports of excess capabilities may be made by State or local governments to field establishments of appropriate Federal agencies.

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Local governments are responsible for directing the movement of populations away from danger areas, committing disaster forces under their control as required by the situation, evaluating their capabilities and notifying the State as to deficiencies or excess capabilities. In accordance with prearranged State and national plans, notification may also be made to the field offices of appropriate Federal agencies. Due consideration will be given to the continuing requirements for disaster services in emergency commitment actions.

C. Private Organizations and Individuals³

Individuals and families are responsible for sustaining themselves in an emergency and for contributing to their community and State disaster service operations, including the necessary preparatory measures. Industries and organizations — professional, labor, service, religious, civic and social—are responsible for making such contributions to the preparations for and performance of disaster services as may be possible.

IV. Functions

A. Casualty Care and Emergency Public Health⁴

1. Objectives

- a. Emergency medical and related aid for those ill or injured because of or coincident with enemy attack or other disaster, including first aid, ambulance service and medical, surgical

³See Annex 2, INDIVIDUAL ACTION.

⁴See Annex 18, NATIONAL ~~(MEDICAL AND)~~ HEALTH PLAN.

and dental care in all of their specialties and adjunct therapeutic fields.

- b. Identification, control and treatment of communicable diseases.
- c. Sanitation of milk and food, prevention and alleviation of water pollution, and control of insects, rodents and other public health hazards.

2. Actions Required

- a. Accumulate stocks of essential medicines, chemical supplies, materials and equipment estimated to be in short supply under emergency conditions.
- b. Educate the public in methods of self care in emergency.
- c. Train professional personnel in unique functions and principles of disaster care where required.
- d. Train and organize medical auxiliary personnel.
- e. Establish emergency organizations and procedures.
- f. Conduct necessary research into casualty care and emergency public health standards, methods, organization, medicines, materials and equipment.

B. Emergency Welfare Services⁵

1. Objectives

- a. Feeding, clothing and housing (including lodg-

⁵See Annex 19, ~~MASS CARE AND ASSISTANCE~~; Annex 20, ~~REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION~~; and Annex 31, ~~NATIONAL FOOD PLAN~~; *Emergency Welfare*; Annex 31, *National Food Plan*; + Annex 42, *Natl. Emer. [5] Housing Plan*.

ing in private and congregate facilities), under disaster conditions, evacuees and resident populations as needed.

- b. Registering displaced populations, locating and reuniting families, answering inquiries about the safety and whereabouts of individuals and families, and collecting and supplying information to displaced populations and others regarding available resources and services.
 - c. Care of unaccompanied children, the aged, the handicapped and other groups needing specialized care or service.
 - d. Financial assistance, or assistance in kind, counseling and referral services to families and individuals, and all other feasible welfare aid and services as required to reestablish family life and enable the surviving population to become adjusted to the postattack environment.
 - e. Aid to welfare institutions under national emergency or postattack conditions.
2. Actions Required
- a. Determine requirements and measures for the establishment of an operational capability and maintenance of a state of readiness for all aspects of emergency welfare services.
 - b. Accumulate or otherwise reserve stocks of such essentials as food, clothing and emergency cover to sustain survivors during disaster periods.
 - c. Educate the public to the need for conservation

and sharing of available resources and to the potentials of substitution and use of unconventional resources.

- d. Develop methods and procedures for obtaining and disseminating information on survivors.
- e. Train and organize professional personnel and auxiliaries to perform emergency welfare services.
- f. Conduct appropriate research into emergency welfare methods, organization, materials and equipment.

C. Rescue

1. Objectives

- a. Locating and extricating persons entrapped in damaged buildings, shelters, vehicles and other enclosures.
- b. Recovery of critical supplies, materials and equipment from similar places.

2. Actions Required

- a. Accumulate or otherwise provide for rescue materials and equipment.
- b. Educate the public in the rudiments of light rescue practices.
- c. Train professional and auxiliary personnel.
- d. Establish emergency organization and procedures.
- e. Conduct necessary research into rescue techniques and equipment.

D. Debris Clearance

1. Objectives

Removal under emergency conditions of debris and rubble from streets, highways, rail centers, dock facilities, airports, shelters and other such areas as necessary to permit recovery or movement of people and resources, emergency operations, and repair or reconstruction of facilities.

2. Actions Required

- a. Train government and private organizations in techniques of debris clearance.
- b. Organize available personnel and equipment on a standby basis for emergency.
- c. Conduct research into techniques and equipment for debris clearance under emergency conditions.

E. Fire Protection⁶

1. Objective

Protection of life and property from fire.

2. Actions Required

- a. Accumulate reserves of necessary supplies and equipment expected to be in short supply during emergency.
- b. Educate the public in fire prevention and fire fighting techniques.
- c. Train local fire organization personnel, including auxiliaries, in techniques of combatting mass fires.

⁶See Annex 21, NATIONAL FIRE ~~(PROTECTION)~~ PLAN. *Defense*

- d. Conduct necessary research into the nature and characteristics of attack-caused fires and into methods and equipment for combatting them.

F. Decontamination⁷

1. Objective

To reduce the hazard associated with an object or area by absorbing, destroying, neutralizing, making harmless or removing chemical, biological, radiological or toxicological agents clinging to or around it.

2. Actions Required

- a. Accumulate necessary materials and equipment not ordinarily available or expected to be in short supply during emergency.
- b. Educate the public in decontamination methods.
- c. Train government, auxiliary and community-services personnel in decontamination methods.
- d. Conduct necessary research into the causes and effects of contamination and into preventive and remedial measures.

V. Execution

A. Preparations for and conduct of disaster services will be directed primarily by local governments, in accordance with Part IV, Section B and Part V, Section H of the National Plan for Civil Defense and Defense

⁷See Annex 23, NATIONAL RADIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PLAN, and Annex 24, NATIONAL BIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL WARFARE DEFENSE PLAN.

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Mobilization, other applicable sections of the National Plan and appropriate annexes and other documents subordinate to the National Plan.

B. Assistance to States for the preparation and conduct of disaster services will be provided by the Federal Government under the direction of the Director, Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization, through such other officials and organizations as he may designate. Assistance will be rendered in accordance with applicable sections of the National Plan, its annexes and such other rules and regulations as are or may be prescribed.