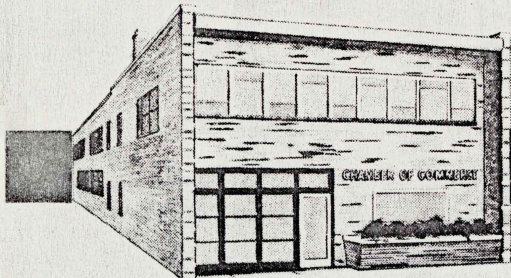


Correspondence: Congressman Flood, Dan, 1978
August-September



GREATER WILKES-BARRE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUILDING • WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18701 • TELEPHONE 823-2101

AREA CODE 717

July 25, 1972

Congressman Daniel J. Flood
108 Cannon Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Re: S. M. S. A.

Dear Congressman:

As a result of meetings held by Hazleton--Scranton--Wilkes-Barre groups concerning the Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area, we have accumulated a number of resolutions favoring the proposed plan that we have discussed with you on a number of occasions.

I received a call from Judge Rosenn asking that those we have be forwarded to you for your information together with a set to be delivered to the Deputy Director Of The Budget in Washington, D. C. As explained to Judge Rosenn, subsequent to the flood, we were able to locate those of the Hazleton--Scranton Area but as yet have not located those resolutions from the Wilkes-Barre Area. Therefore, we are enclosing herein a set of the resolutions for your files and also a set to be delivered to the Deputy Director Of The Budget.

Yours very truly,

Edgar J. Lashford
Executive Vice President

EJL:ar

Enclosures

DANIEL J. FLOOD
11TH DIST., PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR,
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515
August 8, 1972

HOME OFFICE:
1015 UNITED PENN BANK BLDG.
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA
ZIP CODE: 18701
PHONE: AREA CODE 717
822-2194

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
108 CANNON BUILDING
ZIP CODE: 20515
PHONE: AREA CODE 202
225-6511

STEPHEN B. ELKO
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

HELEN M. TOMASCIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Honorable Wright Patman
The Chairman
House Committee on Banking and Currency
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In light of the recent action by the Senate, amending H. R. 15692 in a way to bring less relief than is needed to victims of the devastating floods caused by Hurricane Agnes; I urge you as Chairman, and your fellow House Conferees, to take the following position.

The concept of a forgiveness clause tied to amount of annual income sounds equitable on paper; however, upon close examination it is shown to be indeed inequitable. The middle income groups, with income above the Senate's \$10,000 "triggering level" for reductions in forgiveness, suffered the most damage in this the greatest disaster in the history of the Republic. To penalize these people who have suffered total losses in the \$20,000 to \$30,000 range, while at the same time making an entire forgiveness for those whose losses were mere fractions of the above figures, is not only unjust and inequitable - the very arguments the Senate used in passing the amendment - but is just plain bad common sense. I urge, in the strongest terms possible, implementation of a flat \$5,000 forgiveness regardless of income, with an interest rate of 1% on the balance of the loan.

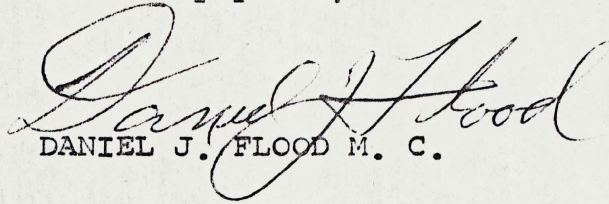
I would further urge acceptance of the Senate amendment for material aid to private schools damaged as a result of the flooding. This aid to non-profit schools would be strictly for rehabilitary projects and other non religious purposes, and such aid is desperately needed in the disaster area.

- 2 -

Mr. Chairman, the Senate amendment to provide for suspension of principal payments for certain of the elderly goes a long way to relieve the added burdens to the aged which have been placed on their backs as a result of Hurricane Agnes. The median age in Wyoming Valley - as you know, the heart of the flood area and the heart of my Congressional District - is 10 years above the national figure. This amendment, which the Chairman will recall I offered in Hearings before his Committee on H. R. 15882, is both desirable and desperately needed.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Chairman and members of his Committee for their prompt and at times unprecedented actions in rushing this emergency legislation through the Congress. The scope of the law must be made to meet the scope of the disaster, and this law can be a rainbow sign to the thousands and thousands of victims of this tragic flood.

Sincerely yours,


DANIEL J. FLOOD M. C.

DJF/ra

House of Representatives, U.S.

MEMORANDUM

The attached refers to a
subject in which you are in-
terested, and is, therefore,
referred for your information

Yours very truly

Jan

DANIEL J. FLOOD
11th DIST., PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE
APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR,
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE

**Congress of the United States
House of Representatives**

Washington, D.C. 20515
August 8, 1972

HOME OFFICE
1015 UNITED STATES BANK BUILDING
WILKES BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA
ZIP CODE: 18701
PHONE AREA CODE 717
822-2104

WASHINGTON OFFICE
100 CANNON BUILDING
ZIP CODE: 20515
PHONE AREA CODE 202
225-0311

STEPHEN B. ELKO
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

HELEN M. TOMASCHIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Honorable Wright Patman
The Chairman
House Committee on Banking and Currency
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In light of the recent action by the Senate, amending H. R. 15692 in a way to bring less relief than is needed to victims of the devastating floods caused by Hurricane Agnes; I urge you as Chairman, and your fellow House Conferees, to take the following position.

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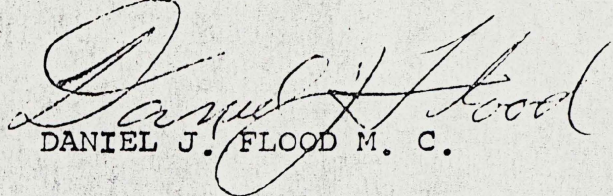
I would further urge acceptance of the Senate amendment for material aid to private schools damaged as a result of the flooding. This aid to non-profit schools would be strictly for rehabilitary projects and other non religious purposes, and such aid is desperately needed in the disaster area.

- 2 -

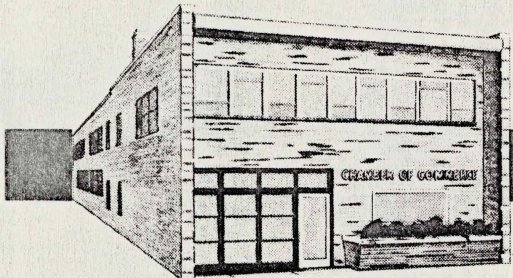
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In conclusion, I would like to thank the Chairman and members of his Committee for their prompt and at times unprecedented actions in rushing this emergency legislation through the Congress. The scope of the law must be made to meet the scope of the disaster, and this law can be a rainbow sign to the thousands and thousands of victims of this tragic flood.

Sincerely yours,


DANIEL J. FLOOD M. C.

DJF/ra



GREATER WILKES-BARRE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUILDING • WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18701 • AREA CODE 717
TELEPHONE 823-2101

August 8, 1972

Congressman Daniel J. Flood
108 Cannon Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman:

I received a call from Judge Rosenn's office today stating that they had been in contact with your office and that the Judge was informed that the copies of the resolutions relative to the S. M. S. A. matter had not been received by you.

We are, therefore, enclosing herein two sets of these resolutions as originally sent and ask that the one set be delivered to the Deputy Director Of The Budget as per our original instructions from Judge Rosenn's office. You will note that both of the enclosed copies are from the photocopies from our file inasmuch as the originals were sent to you previously.

Yours very truly,

Edgar J. Lashford
Executive Vice President

EJL:ar

Enclosures

House of Representatives, U.S.

MEMORANDUM

The attached refers to a
subject in which you are in-
terested, and is, therefore,
referred for your information.

Yours very truly

Dean

DANIEL J. FLOOD
11TH DIST., PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR,
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

August 14, 1972

HOME OFFICE:
1015 UNITED PENN BANK BLDG.
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA
ZIP CODE: 18701
PHONE: AREA CODE 717
822-2194

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
108 CANNON BUILDING
ZIP CODE: 20515
PHONE: AREA CODE 202
225-6511

STEPHEN B. ELKO
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

HELEN M. TOMASCIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Mr. William B. Patterson, Director
Department of Housing and Urban Development
Curtis Building, 625 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

AUG 16 A.M.

Dear Mr. Patterson:

You will find enclosed a copy of a letter sent to me by Mr. R. C. Gennaro, Chairman of the Board of Gateway Modular Homes, Inc., and also a copy of a letter sent to me by Attorney Louis G. Feldmann, concerning the Starrett Housing Corporation of Hazleton, Pa.

Attorney Feldmann is a prominent citizen and civic leader of Hazleton - I was born there - he is a former Luzerne County District Attorney, and was my assistant when I was Deputy Attorney General of Pennsylvania in the late 1930's. He is also a former National Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Because of the urgent need for housing in the flood disaster area, I request that you contact Attorney Feldmann and Mr. Gennaro.

Also, let me know what office now handles procurement, installation, etc. of modular housing. Enclosed is a copy of an article from the August 3, 1972, issue of the Wilkes-Barre TIMES LEADER AND RECORD. What is the jurisdiction of the Luzerne County Housing Authority as to modular housing, procurement, installation, application, etc.?

Sincerely yours,

DANIEL J. FLOOD, M.C.

DJF/y
Enclosures (3)

DANIEL J. FLOOD
11TH DIST., PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR,
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

August 14, 1972

HOME OFFICE:
1015 UNITED PENN BANK BLDG.
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA
ZIP CODE: 18701
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WASHINGTON OFFICE:
108 CANNON BUILDING
ZIP CODE: 20515
PHONE: AREA CODE 202
225-6511

STEPHEN B. ELKO
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

HELEN M. TOMASCIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Honorable Norman V. Watson, Assistant Secretary
for Housing Management
Department of Housing and Urban Development
Washington, D. C. 20410

Dear Mr. Secretary:

You will find enclosed a copy of a letter sent to me by Mr. R. C. Gennaro, Chairman of the Board of Gateway Modular Homes, Inc., and also a copy of a letter sent to me by Attorney Louis G. Feldmann, concerning the Starrett Housing Corporation of Hazleton, Pa.

Attorney Feldmann is a prominent citizen and civic leader of Hazleton - I was born there - he is a former Luzerne County District Attorney, and was my assistant when I was Deputy Attorney General of Pennsylvania in the late 1930's. He is also a former National Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

What about his idea of a stockpile of modular homes? What is now the procedure as to modular homes - contracts for building - delivery - etc., who - at what office - address and phone number - for the Wilkes-Barre disaster area?

Enclosed is a copy of an article from the August 8, 1972, issue of the Wilkes-Barre TIMES LEADER AND RECORD. What is the jurisdiction of the Luzerne County Housing Authority as to modular housing, procurement, installation, application, etc.?

Sincerely yours,

DANIEL J. FLOOD, M.C.

DJF/y
Enclosures (3)

DANIEL J. FLOOD
11TH DIST., PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR,
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515
September 25, 1973

F.R.T. Free

HOME OFFICE:
1015 UNITED PENN BANK BLDG.
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA
ZIP CODE: 18701
PHONE: AREA CODE 717
822-2194

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
108 CANNON BUILDING
ZIP CODE: 20515
PHONE: AREA CODE 202
225-6511

STEPHEN B. ELKO
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
MISS HELEN M. TOMASCIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Honorable Max Rosenn, Judge
United States Circuit Court of
Appeals for the 3d Circuit
P. O. Box 880
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18701

Dear Judge Rosenn:

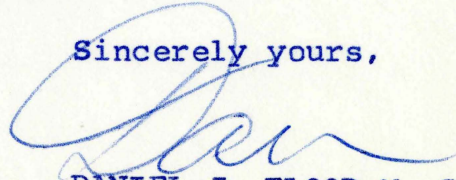
It was good to speak with you this past Saturday with regard to the National Catastrophic Disaster Insurance Act, and I do appreciate having your thoughtful comments.

I have further investigated the figures you questioned with regard to Kingston's population and number of flood insurance policies sold, and I have essentially confirmed my statements as included in the testimony before the Housing Subcommittee.

Kingston's official census population as of 1970 is listed at 18,325 - my statement that it was 17,000 was based upon the official 1970 "estimate". The official number of flood insurance policies in effect in Kingston as of this morning is 3,378.

I am sure you will agree that the figures are such to indicate a continuing disregard for the potential of disastrous flooding in the Kingston area. I have maintained in my committee testimony, and I will continue to maintain based upon these figures, that the Federal flood insurance program is not working even in those areas where its potential for success is greatest. With warm regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



DANIEL J. FLOOD M. C.

DJF/ra

August 7, 1972

Honorable Daniel J. Flood, M.C.
House of Representatives Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dan:

A matter has just come to my attention that I thought I should call to your attention since you did such a tremendous job in connection with the flood.

Knowing you as long as I have, I know you want to get things done and get the Wyoming Valley into being a place to live and work as quickly as possible. I also realize the problems you have because of the multiple municipalities and the multiple problems that are involved. However, I read in the paper where HUD was going to use Modular Homes as permanent housing in order to get new homes established as quickly as possible for some of the flood victims.

As you probably know, Starrett Modular Construction Company, a Division of Starrett Housing Corporation, has a plant in Hazleton. Because of many factors, this plant is not working as it should be, the primary one being to try to develop a market for Modular Homes in Pennsylvania.

This is ironic in that they have a plant in New York, and this plant has been going at top speed working for the New York State Housing Authority. Plus, in New York they are dealing with one authority that handles the entire matter. However, Rockefeller is a "homer" enough, that he is not allowing Modular Homes into New York that are not built in New York. In other words, he is getting two things - he is getting homes and he is getting employment. Thus, the plant in Hazleton is not employing very many, and men have been laid off now for months.

When I received the information from the newspaper about the Modular Homes, I contacted the Starrett people and suggested that they get hot on this matter. They told me that they could build between two and three homes per day, working on a 24-hour basis. To repeat, these homes have been accepted by New York, have been approved, as I understand it, by HUD in the past; and therefore, there is no problem with having a type of home that hasn't been approved or hasn't been used.

Honorable Daniel J. Flood, M.C.

Page 2

August 7, 1972

As a result of my conversation, these people contacted Mr. Tobin of the OEP, and they also tried to contact Mr. Raub of HUD in Philadelphia but wound up with Mr. Raub's Assistant. HUD indicates that they are anxious to use Modular Homes, but are having a problem working it out with the various areas.

My reason for writing to you is that as every day goes by, there are three Modular Homes that are not being produced. Isn't there some way the Government can buy these homes, stock pile these homes, and then arrange for the places to put them? Certainly if HUD is going to use Modular Homes, there is not a stock of these sitting around as there are of trailers; and therefore, they have to be reproduced.

What I am saying to you is that someone should start arranging to get a supply of these on hand so that when they get the places to put them, they will have the homes, or there is going to be another period of many months before people have places to live.

I thought you would want to know this, and if I can do anything to help, please let me know.

While we have talked several times during the emergency, I want you to know that I was proud to have been your friend for many years. The job you did during the flood was something that was unbelievable. I know you want to continue to work this problem out so that the Wyoming Valley can grow to be a bigger and better community than it was before the disaster.

With kindest personal regards, I remain

Sincerely,

LOUIS G. FELDMANN

LCF:jk

CC: Mr. Jack Sharr
STARRETT MODULAR CONSTRUCTION
P.O. Box 86
Hazleton, Pennsylvania 18201

DANIEL J. FLOOD
11TH DIST., PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR,
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE

Flood

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
December 9, 1972

HOME OFFICE:
1015 UNITED PENN BANK BLDG.
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA
ZIP CODE: 18701
PHONE: AREA CODE 717
822-2194

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
108 CANNON BUILDING
ZIP CODE: 20515
PHONE: AREA CODE 202
225-6511

EUGENE D. HEGARTY
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
HELEN M. TOMASCIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Honorable Max Rosenn
Federal Courthouse
South Main Street
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

Dear Judge Rosenn:

This letter will acknowledge receipt of
a copy of your letter to Frank Carlucci in your
capacity as Chairman of the Flood Recovery Task
Force, Inc., concerning the Interim Assistance
Program.

I do appreciate your keeping me in mind
on these most important matters. With warm re-
gards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Daniel J. Flood
DANIEL J. FLOOD M. C.

DJF/ra



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
HARRISBURG

ERNEST P. KLINE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

September 7, 1972

The Honorable Daniel J. Flood
Congress of the United States
108 Cannon Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Flood:

I am enclosing the complete text of the Federal-State Policy Statement on Flood Plain Development for your information.

A great deal of misunderstanding concerning the agreement has been generated by inaccurate media reports of that agreement particularly in the Wyoming Valley.

Contrary to reports, the Flood Plain Development Policy Statement is positive in its intent rather than negative as has been implied. It is designed to ensure people that, in most cases, they can proceed to rebuild and restore their property with confidence that federal and state aid will be forthcoming to assist them. It was promulgated at the insistence of the Commonwealth so there would be a clear understanding as to what the federal government's policy would be on providing funds for restoration and renewal.

The agreement grew out of the Commonwealth's concern that the federal government would too rigidly apply prohibitions against rebuilding in federally designated flood plain areas. As a practical matter, for the most part, such rebuilding will be permitted to occur with some reasonable safe-guards and with a minimum of exceptions. There will be those exceptions where prudence, common sense, and the public welfare should prevail and rebuilding in areas obviously subject to frequent flooding should not be permitted.

The Honorable Daniel Flood

Page 2

September 7, 1972

It is these areas where the decisions to permit rebuilding must be made on a case by case basis and even in these cases the agreement guarantees that we will apply humanitarian standards. This, in effect, means we will give assistance to those businesses and individuals forced to relocate.

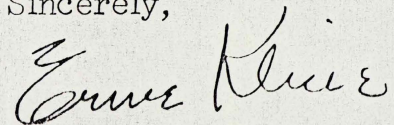
The agreement states that persons living in areas now leveed such as Kingston, Edwardsville, Plymouth, Forty Fort, Wilkes-Barre and Swoyersville will be given State and Federal assistance to rehabilitate and restore their property. We can do this because the levees will be reconstructed to their full design height and because there are plans to build the Tioga-Hammond and Cowanesque reservoirs and other flood control structures needed to protect against 100 year floods.

I am sure you will agree that in the future, wiser planning for community development must be undertaken and we must learn to have greater respect for the powerful forces of nature, but I can assure you that we are committed to assisting people to return to their normal patterns of life and to helping communities rebuild and actually to make them better places than they were prior to the flood.

We are determined to command all the resources of the Commonwealth to assist the victims of the Great Flood of 1972 and we will continue to press the Federal government to open up its purse strings and to provide the kind of massive assistance which is warranted and which the people expect of their government in times of such wide-spread disaster.

I hope this information will more accurately explain our intentions and we are very appreciative of your efforts and your cooperation with us on behalf of the people of the Wyoming Valley.

Sincerely,



ERNEST P. KLINE

kah

Enclosure

FEDERAL REGIONAL COUNCIL - COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
POLICY STATEMENT ON
FLOOD PLAIN DEVELOPMENT

Long term rehabilitation of all areas in Pennsylvania which suffered damage as a result of the floods of June 22-24, 1972 will require substantial Federal and State assistance. It is essential both for humanitarian and economic reasons that State/Federal planning efforts and the provisions of all State and Federal grant programs be utilized to encourage relocation of flood sensitive facilities, particularly housing and public buildings away from areas where the risk of future flooding is high.

While it is understood that specific projects must be considered under the provisions of State and Federal law on a case by case basis, the following basic policy shall be implemented with regard to areas subject to varying frequencies of flooding:

1. To provide State and Federal assistance for areas now leveed - such as:

Kingston
Edwardsville
Plymouth
Forty Fort
Wilkes-Barre

Swoyersville
Williamsport
Sunbury
York
Elkland

This assumes that levees are to be reconstructed and that the authorized Tioga-Hammond and Cowanesque Reservoirs and other flood control structures necessary to provide protection within the 100 year flood plains are constructed expeditiously consistent with the pace of restoration activities. However, studies should be conducted within specified communities in order to identify localized low-elevation areas of high potential risk. In these areas, local zoning ordinances should serve as guides for appropriate redevelopment.

2. To provide State and Federal assistance for all areas beyond the 100 year flood plain. Planning studies and zoning ordinances shall be employed to preserve flood plains for uses not affected by periodic flooding.

3. To provide interim assistance on a humanitarian basis to individuals businesses within the 100 year flood plain with the understanding that Local State and Federal governments will either a) utilize available authority

programs to assist these individuals and businesses to move to areas beyond the 100 year plain; or b) provide adequate safeguards.

4. Local, State, and Federal resources shall not be used for new construction within the 100 year flood plains unless such facilities are so constructed or flood proofed to provide adequate safeguards.

This agreement is subject to periodic review and modification as new information becomes available.

Ernest P. Line
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Thomas F. Leff
Federal Regional Council

August 1, 1972

DANIEL J. FLOOD
11TH DIST., PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR,
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

November 27, 1972

HOME OFFICE:
1015 UNITED PENN BANK BLDG.
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA
ZIP CODE: 18701
PHONE: AREA CODE 717
822-2194

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
108 CANNON BUILDING
ZIP CODE: 20515
PHONE: AREA CODE 202
225-6511

STEPHEN B. ELKO
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
MISS HELEN M. TOMASCIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

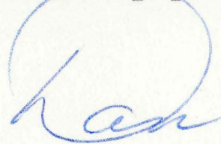
Honorable Max Rosenn, Chairman
Flood Recovery Task Force, Inc.
Hotel Sterling
Wilkes-Barre, Penna. 18701

Dear Judge Rosenn:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of a copy of
your recent letter to Mr. Roy L. Lowry, Chairman,
Committee on Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas,
concerning the creation of a metropolitan statistical area
to be known as the Northeastern Pennsylvania Standard
Metropolitan Statistical Area.

I do appreciate this.

Sincerely yours,



DANIEL J. FLOOD, M.C.

DJF/ac

Redevelopment Authority of the City of Wilkes-Barre

1000 FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING, WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18701 / (717) 829-1381

Horace E. Kramer, Chairman
Joseph F. Long
Dr. P. J. Wall
Eugene F. Durkin
Roman A. Rubinstein

Leon E. Case, Jr.
Executive Director

Donald D. McFadden
Counsel

December 7, 1972

The Honorable Daniel J. Flood
108 Cannon Building
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Re: Your letter of November 16th
Mr. Robert W. Walker
473 Carey Avenue
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

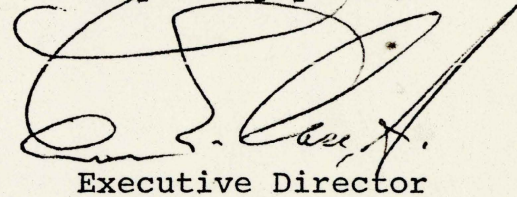
Dear Congressman Flood:

We were aware that when we undertook the Interim Assistance Program in Wilkes-Barre it had a built-in injustice, whereby persons who had already completed emergency repairs to their properties with their own funds could not be reimbursed. Unfortunately, Mr. Walker is one of those homeowners. At this writing, there is still no vehicle available to provide for reimbursement to those homeowners that took that initiative.

The recently approved referendum enables the Commonwealth to make direct grants to individuals. It is quite possible that enabling legislation will be enacted which will relieve the burden of persons like Mr. Walker.

While it is probably little consolation to Mr. Walker, we feel that he should be commended for his initiative and faith in his community. In the final analysis, it is this kind of initiative that makes a community strong.

Very truly yours,



Executive Director

C:Z

cc: Mr. Frank Carlucci
Hon. Martin L. Murray
Hon. Max Rcsenn ✓

DANIEL J. FLOOD
11th DIST., PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR,
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

December 18, 1972

HOME OFFICE:
1015 UNITED PENN BANK BLDG.
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA
ZIP CODE: 18701
PHONE: AREA CODE 717
822-2194

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
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ZIP CODE: 20515
PHONE: AREA CODE 202
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STEPHEN B. ELKO
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
MISS HELEN M. TOMASCIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Dr. J. Finton Speller
Secretary of Health
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Dr. Speller:

I am enclosing a copy of a memorandum sent to me by Judge Max Rosenn, Chairman of the Flood Recovery Task Force, Inc., in Wilkes-Barre, concerning the critical shortage of nursing home beds. A copy of the report to which he refers is also enclosed.

I would appreciate having your comments on the report and any recommendations that you might add to those of the Task Force.

Sincerely yours,

DANIEL J. FLOOD, M.C.

DJF/y

Enclosures (2)

DANIEL J. FLOOD
11TH DIST., PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR,
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

January 3, 1973

HOME OFFICE:
1015 UNITED PENN BANK BLDG.
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA
ZIP CODE: 18701
PHONE: AREA CODE 717
822-2194

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
108 CANNON BUILDING
ZIP CODE: 20515
PHONE: AREA CODE 202
225-6511

STEPHEN B. ELKO
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
MISS HELEN M. TOMASCIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Mrs. Frank Anderson
Committee on Human Services
Flood Recovery Task Force, Inc.
822 IBE Building
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18701

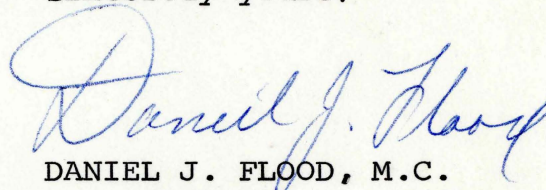
Dear Mrs. Anderson:

Sister Miriam Ruth, Administrator of Mercy Hospital, sent me a copy of her letter to you of December 11, 1972, in which she suggests the Redevelopment Authority purchase damaged homes surrounding the hospital to be razed and the land cleared for construction of a nursing home facility as a partial solution to the shortage of nursing home beds in our area.

I write not only as a Member of Congress concerned with such matters and as Chairman of the Appropriations Committee on Health, Education, and Welfare, but also as a member of the Board of Directors of Mercy Hospital.

I would appreciate it if you would let me have the comments of the Task Force on this suggestion.

Sincerely yours,


DANIEL J. FLOOD, M.C.

DJF/y

DANIEL J. FLOOD
11TH DIST., PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR,
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

September 15, 1972

F O R I M M E D I A T E R E L E A S E

HOME OFFICE:
1015 UNITED PENN BANK BLDG.
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA
ZIP CODE: 18701
PHONE: AREA CODE 717
822-2194

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
108 CANNON BUILDING
ZIP CODE: 20515
PHONE: AREA CODE 202
225-6511

STEPHEN B. ELKO
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

HELEN M. TOMASCIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I wrote to James V. Smith, Administrator of Farmers Home Administration, on August 28. I am enclosing a copy of his answer, which I received September 7, containing the requested information. You will note this report is cumulative to August 31, 1972. I thought you might want to use the enclosed information because it is up to date.

I am writing Mr. Smith today and asking him for a report up to and including the 30th of September, and upon receipt thereof, I shall forward you a copy of that information.

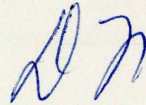
Enclosures (3)

House of Representatives, U.S.

MEMORANDUM

The attached refers to a
subject in which you are in-
terested, and is, therefore,
referred for your information.

Yours very truly

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "D. N." or similar, written in a cursive style.

DANIEL J. FLOOD
11TH DIST., PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR,
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
September 9, 1972

HOME OFFICE:
1015 UNITED PENN BANK BLDG.
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA
ZIP CODE: 18701
PHONE: AREA CODE 717
822-2194

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
108 CANNON BUILDING
ZIP CODE: 20515
PHONE: AREA CODE 202
225-6511

STEPHEN B. ELKO
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
HELEN M. TOMASCIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

F O R I M M E D I A T E R E L E A S E

Because of the importance to flood control of all forms of forestation in the flood plain of the Susquehanna River and its watershed, I wrote to Hon. Earl L. Butz, Secretary of Agriculture in Washington, D. C., on August 15, and I enclose a copy of that letter. At the same time, I wrote the same letter to William D. Ruckelshaus, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, who replied to me on August 23 that his Agency was not authorized to regulate forestry practices - that this was under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. I enclose a copy of the letter from Mr. Ruckelshaus. On August 23, I received a letter from J. S. McKnight for John R. McGuire, Chief of the Forest Service, to whom Secretary Butz had referred my letter for reply. I am enclosing a copy of the letter from Mr. McKnight.

I might say that in my many years of experience in communicating with Government agencies, this letter from Mr. McKnight is one of the best I have ever seen.

Enclosures (3)

DANIEL J. FLOOD
11TH DIST., PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR,
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515
August 15, 1972

HOME OFFICE:
1015 UNITED PENN BANK BLDG.
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA
ZIP CODE: 18701
PHONE: AREA CODE 717
822-2194

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
108 CANNON BUILDING
ZIP CODE: 20515
PHONE: AREA CODE 202
225-6511

STEPHEN B. ELKO
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
HELEN M. TOMASCIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Honorable Earl L. Butz
Secretary of Agriculture
Washington, D. C. 20250

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am sure you know of the devastation caused by Hurricane Agnes in Wilkes-Barre in the center of the disaster area in my District. It was unexpected and unforeseen - but it happened.

We are desperately trying to recoup our losses. At the same time, we are looking for reasons why it happened and solutions to prevent a recurrence.

There are various forms of flood control, but what I am interested in having your comments on is reforestation as a flood control. It is a known fact that hillsides without trees allow more water to run off faster.

I would like to know what regulations, if any, the Department of Agriculture has on stripping hillsides and denuding forests, especially in a watershed area. - what enforcement powers do you have to uphold such regulations - what means are employed to educate the farmers about controlling floods on their farm lands - what is the Soil and Water Conservation Corps - what is its purpose and how is that purpose achieved. I would also like to know if the Department has a reforestation program and what it is all about.

Sincerely yours,

DANIEL J. FLOOD, M.C.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

AUG 23 1972

OFFICE OF THE
ADMINISTRATOR

Honorable Daniel J. Flood
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

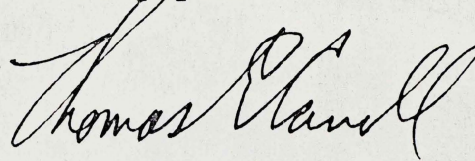
Dear Mr. Flood:

This is in reply to your August 15, 1972, letter, asking a number of questions concerning reforestation as a means of flood control.

The Environmental Protection Agency is not authorized to regulate forestry practices, although we do have a peripheral interest in this area, as the enclosed study indicates.

It would be my suggestion, therefore, that you contact the Forest Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The Forest Service has long had expertise in this field and I feel certain that they could furnish you with some helpful information.

Sincerely yours,



William D. Ruckelshaus
for Administrator

Enclosure

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
Washington, D. C. 20250

AUG 23 1972 3500
AUG 23 1972

Honorable Daniel J. Flood
House of Representatives



Dear Mr. Flood:

Secretary Butz has asked that we reply to your letter of August 15, 1972, regarding the recent disastrous flood caused by Hurricane Agnes.

We share your concern regarding the occurrence of such disasters and agree with your opinion that forest cover exerts an influence and supplies a degree of control over rates and amounts of streamflow and flood runoff. The studies, experiments and observations of careful observers over a long period of time have led to an understanding of basic relationships between land use and runoff, debris deposition, the shoaling of stream channels, silting of reservoirs and other phenomena that have followed improper logging, cultivating, burning and overgrazing of forest lands. This information is applied by us in carrying out our responsibilities in protecting and improving watershed values of forested lands.

However, just as dams, levees and other flood control structures have a limit to their flood control effectiveness, likewise forest cover has a limit to which it is effective in reducing flood runoff. In the case of the really big floods or the catastrophic floods, the effect of forest cover is not as great as it is for the floods of smaller magnitude. This is because large floods occur at times when there is sufficient rainfall or snowmelt to saturate the soils. When soils are wet enough, the infiltration rate from a forested area is not much different from that of a non-forested area because there is no more capacity in the soil to receive and retain additional water. This explains why it is possible that large floods are known to have occurred before man began logging or farming in the basins which produced the floods.

Another problem that adds complexity to flood control is that many millions of people have chosen to reside and work on land subject to occasional flooding. The number of such people occupying

areas subject to flooding increases each year. This means that each year there is more and more encroachment upon the natural floodplains of our rivers by structures of all sorts, houses, buildings, factories and utilities, all of which can be damaged by floods. In some river basins the effects of flood control efforts are overshadowed by an increase in flood damage due to floodplain encroachment. It is evident that floodplain zoning is needed as an important part of the solution to flood control problems.

The Forest Service and the cooperating State Foresters are directly involved in flood prevention work in connection with their regular programs and in carrying out responsibilities under the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, Public Law 83-566 and in some cases, PL-534, the authorized Flood Prevention Projects. In cooperation with the Soil Conservation Service, which has overall responsibility for the administration of these latter two programs, the Forest Service has Federal leadership in the forestry phases of these watershed projects. This responsibility is largely accomplished by providing technical assistance in planning, installing and maintaining forestry measures that reduce flood runoff and sediment production. The Department has also carried out effective emergency measures under Section 216, Flood Control Act of 1950 following disasters from floods and fires. This authority, limited to \$300,000 unless supplemented, has and is being used in the case of Hurricane Agnes. We have taken the liberty of enclosing a copy of "After Camille" in case you had not seen it.

In most counties, the Rural Environmental Assistance Program shares with landowners the cost of improving forest stands and of planting trees. Cost shares are paid upon completion of approved forestry work complying with specifications. Payments vary--usually 50 to 80 percent of the average cost of doing such conservation work.

The Department of Agriculture has no regulations regarding the clearing of hillsides and denuding forests on non-Federal lands. Along these lines certain States are developing and passing laws. Iowa, for example, now has a law requiring landowners, urban and rural, whose soil loss exceeds certain limits to employ erosion control measures. Under this law Iowa landowners who do not take steps to prevent erosion may face contempt-of-court charges.

In regard to your questions on education, the Department of Agriculture utilizes its Federal Extension Service which is an educational agency and functions in cooperation with the State Extension Service of the land-grant universities. Extension Service Foresters

are members of the university staffs. Working through county extension agents and at State and district levels, they provide "out-of-school" training in multiple-use forest management and protection. Training methods include individual visits, short courses, seminars and demonstrations. County Extension Agents are local representatives of the State Extension Service and the State land-grant universities. They may be contacted for assistance and information about extension forestry work.

We have no information regarding the Soil and Water Conservation Corps. We understand there is a program known as SPEED which utilizes young people to do clean-up work on farms following such disasters as floods. The program is administered by the Department of Labor.

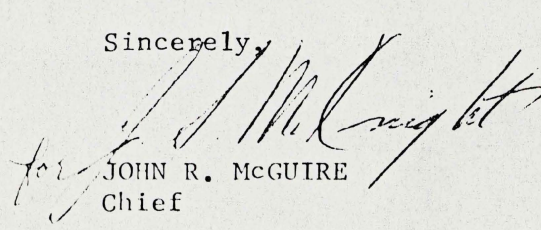
Public Law 91-378 established within the Departments of Interior and Agriculture a joint 3-year pilot program designated as the Youth Conservation Corps. In the Department of Agriculture, the overall responsibility and authority for the program is vested in the Chief of the Forest Service. We are enclosing, for your information, a brochure that describes this program in detail.

In regard to your question on reforestation programs, there are currently two Cooperative Federal-State Programs which provide assistance to States in seedling production and tree planting. Under Section 4 of the Clarke-McNary Act, Federal and State cooperation insures a continuing supply of forest tree planting stock for use in forestation work on all types of State and private forest lands.

Under Title IV of the Agriculture Act, the Federal Government through the Forest Service, provides funds and technical assistance to the States for tree planting on non-Federal forest lands. The Forest Service assists cooperating States to rehabilitate depleted State forest lands, to develop genetically improved sources of seed and planting stock, and to aid private landowners in reforestation work.

We certainly appreciate your personal interest in the rehabilitation of forest lands and its importance in protecting water resource values. We have welcomed this opportunity to express our views and provide you certain information. If we can be of further help in any way, we will be happy to do so.

Sincerely,


JOHN R. MCGUIRE
Chief

Enclosures

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

SEP 6 1972

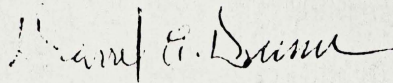
Honorable Daniel J. Flood
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Flood:

The enclosed report is submitted in response to your letter of August 28, 1972, requesting information on Farmers Home Administration disaster-type loan assistance due to Tropical Storm Agnes in Carbon, Columbia, Luzerne, Montour, and Sullivan Counties.

Your interest is appreciated.

Sincerely,



for JAMES V. SMITH
Administrator

Enclosure

Name of County	Emergency Loans 1/				Rural Housing Disaster Loans 2/		
	Number	Number			Number		
	Applications Received	Applications Approved	Amount		Applications Received	Applications Approved	Amount
Carbon.....	1	0	0	:	0	0	0
Columbia.....	66	37	\$277,400	:	48	31	\$112,260
Luzerne.....	27	8	45,000	:	4	1	3,000
Montour.....	32	20	64,600	:	12	6	35,910
Sullivan.....	13	7	25,500	:	1	0	0
Total.....	139	72	\$412,500	:	65	38	\$151,170

1/ Emergency loans are made to eligible farm operators to continue normal operations after losses from a natural disaster.

2/ Rural Housing Disaster loans are made to rural residents including farmers to restore dwellings or farm service buildings damaged by a natural disaster.

This report is cumulative to August 30, 1972.

DANIEL J. FLOOD
11TH DIST., PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR,
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

August 28, 1972

HOME OFFICE:
1015 UNITED PENN BANK BLDG.
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA
ZIP CODE: 18701
PHONE: AREA CODE 717
822-2194

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
108 CANNON BUILDING
ZIP CODE: 20515
PHONE: AREA CODE 202
225-6511

STEPHEN B. ELKO
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

HELEN M. TOMASCIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Honorable James V. Smith, Administrator
Farmers Home Administration
14th & Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D. C. 20250

Dear Mr. Smith:

In light of the recent devastating flooding caused by Hurricane Agnes, I would appreciate having the following information from the Farmers Home Administration.

Would you please favor me with an itemized list of the number, kind, and amount of FHA loans to farmers affected by the flooding? In addition, I would appreciate a list of all other disaster assistance to farmers - agricultural related business, homes, buildings of all kinds, crops, land, etc.

The information is requested for the following counties in Pennsylvania: Luzerne, Montour, Carbon, Columbia, and Sullivan. Please let me hear from you.

Sincerely yours,

DANIEL J. FLOOD, M.C.

DJF/ra

DANIEL J. FLOOD
11TH DIST., PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR,
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

September 8, 1972

HOME OFFICE:
1015 UNITED PENN BANK BLDG.
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA
ZIP CODE: 18701
PHONE: AREA CODE 717
822-2194

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
108 CANNON BUILDING
ZIP CODE: 20515
PHONE: AREA CODE 202
225-6511

STEPHEN B. ELKO
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
HELEN M. TOMASCIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

F O R I M M E D I A T E R E L A S E

Because of the vital importance of forests, logging operations, reforestation, and land use of forest lands, and the importance of the many problems connected with these matters as vital to flood control, I wrote Hon. James A. McHale, Secretary of Agriculture in Pennsylvania, on August 15. A copy of that letter is enclosed. Secretary McHale advised me that these problems were under the jurisdiction of Dr. Maurice K. Goddard, Secretary of Environmental Resources. A copy of Secretary McHale's letter so stating is enclosed. I received a letter from Secretary Goddard on these matters and a copy of that letter is enclosed.

I am sure you would like to present this information to your public.

Enclosures (3)

DANIEL J. FLOOD
11TH DIST., PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR,
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

August 15, 1972

HOME OFFICE:
1015 UNITED PENN BANK BLDG.
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA
ZIP CODE: 18701
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822-2194

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
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ZIP CODE: 20515
PHONE: AREA CODE 202
225-6511

STEPHEN B. ELKO
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
HELEN M. TOMASCIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Honorable James A. McHale
Secretary of Agriculture
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I know you know of the devastation caused by Hurricane Agnes in Wilkes-Barre in the center of the disaster area in my District. It was unexpected and unforeseen - but it happened.

We are desperately trying to recoup our losses. At the same time, we are looking for reasons why it happened and solutions to prevent a recurrence.

There are various forms of flood control, but what I am interested in having your comments on is reforestation as a flood control. It is a known fact that hillsides without trees allow more water to run off faster.

I would like to know what regulations, if any, your Department has on stripping hillsides and denuding forests, especially in a watershed area - what enforcement powers do you have to uphold such regulations - what means are employed to educate the farmer about controlling floods on their farm lands. I would also like to know if your Department has a reforestation program and what it is all about.

Sincerely yours,

DANIEL J. FLOOD, M.C.

DNF/y

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

JAMES A. McHALE
THE SECRETARY

August 22, 1972

Honorable Daniel J. Flood
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Flood:

I have your letter of August 15 concerning the devastation caused by Hurricane Agnes in the Wilkes-Barre area, which was indeed tragic.

Since the Department of Agriculture does not have a reforestation program, I am forwarding your letter to Dr. Maurice Goddard, Secretary of Environmental Resources, for comments and proper action.

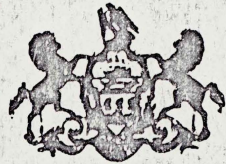
Sincerely yours,

Jim McHale
James A. McHale

JAM:nc

cc: Dr. Maurice Goddard

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

P. O. BOX 1467

HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120

SEP 5 1972

August 28, 1972

The Secretary

The Honorable Daniel J. Flood
U. S. Congress
108 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman Flood:

This will constitute my reply to your letter of August 15th, directed to the Secretary of Agriculture, The Honorable James A. McHale, raising certain questions with respect to the impact of forests in connection with the recent flood in the Wilkes-Barre area. I would remark in a general way, that the effects of current logging on the watershed above Wilkes-Barre could have had very little impact on the total amount of water involved in the river flow at that time. The areas logged today, in terms of total acreage harvested at any one time compared to the total acreage of forests in any unit of area, is fairly small. The methods of logging used today are far less conducive to rapid water run off, during times of heavy precipitation, than was the case two or three decades ago. Research in general has actually indicated that recently logged over areas, if other detrimental factors are not present, have a greater capacity to infiltrate water into the ground water system, than is the case with more mature, unlogged forest areas. The principal problem that could be associated with logging would lie in poor location and maintenance of the associated logging roads. This would probably have a greater impact in producing increased sedimentation into the water, than it would in increasing surface water run off from the limited areas of logged off land involved.

Pennsylvania does not currently regulate forest and/or logging practices on private land. The principal contact by this Department and its Bureau of Forestry, with logging on private lands, lies in the area of laws designed to reduce the forest fire hazard from logging debris on such areas. The Bureau of Forestry does provide technical advice and assistance to private timber land owners in the best methods for managing and harvesting their timber. This is accomplished through our service forestry program operated in conjunction with the U. S. Forest Service. Unfortunately, the budgets for this program are such that we are not staffed to handle the total job we feel is needed, to provide this service to all forest land owners who might need it. Unquestionably, there are areas throughout the watershed above the Wilkes-Barre area on the Susquehanna that are in need of reforestation. These areas consist mainly of idle or abandoned former crop and pasture lands on farms which have gone out of production over the past several decades.

The Honorable Daniel J. Flood

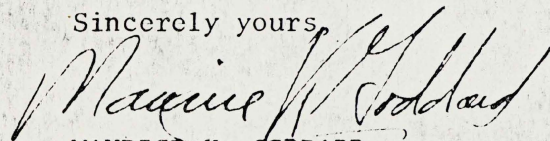
- 2 -

August 28, 1972

While trees would undoubtedly enhance the value and the future usefulness of these areas, it would be difficult, on the basis of known facts, to prove that trees on these areas would hold back any more water than the heavy sod cover which currently is to be found on most of them.

In conclusion may I suggest that for additional information on our programs and their potential impact on future flooding, you contact Mr. Samuel S. Cobb, Director, Bureau of Forestry, in our Harrisburg Office, or Mr. Manuel M. Gordon our District Forester with offices at Scranton. I understand you are acquainted with Mr. Gordon. I am sure he would be delighted to explain to you the local activities of the Bureau of Forestry, particularly the workings of our service forestry programs noted above.

Sincerely yours,



MAURICE K. GODDARD
Secretary



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20413

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT

SEP 7 - 1972

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Honorable Daniel J. Flood
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Flood:

This is in reply to your letter of August 15, 1972, requesting copies of any regulations issued by HUD for the mini-repair program, the private rental program, and the modular housing program for the housing of flood disaster victims in eastern Pennsylvania.

In regard to the first item, enclosed is a copy of a memorandum from the Director of our Scranton Disaster Office outlining the criteria and procedure for the mini-repair program, together with a form letter given to applicants and an information sheet on the repairs that are authorized. These are based on regulations issued by the Office of Emergency Preparedness which assigned HUD its housing mission.

Interested persons living in the Wilkes Barre area may secure information or apply for temporary housing assistance at the HUD office in South Main Towers, 116 South Main Avenue, Wilkes Barre, the telephone number is (717) 829-1301.

In regard to the second item, individuals and families whose former dwellings become uninhabitable as a result of a major disaster are eligible for temporary tenancy in housing provided by HUD. The type and location of housing available is outlined in Part 1710.13, 32 CFR (see enclosed copy.)

The procedure for placing a disaster victim in private rental housing is generally as follows. We emphasize the use of rental housing because it is immediately available, is less expensive than mobile homes, and it helps the local economy.

We solicit the listing of rental properties with the local HUD office, and we encourage disaster victims to locate a rental unit on their own. Each rental unit is inspected to determine size, condition, contents, and rental value. A private rental resource file is maintained. When a flood victim applies for temporary housing, his eligibility is verified and he is encouraged to accept a private rental unit if one is available. A HUD housing counselor matches the family housing requirements

with an adequate rental unit in the location required. If the dwelling is satisfactory to the applicant, a meeting of the applicant, the property owner or manager, and the HUD counselor is held to agree on the terms of the lease, contents (furniture and appliances), utilities furnished, and rental. A HUD representative signs a lease with the owner and the flood victim signs a dwelling lease. The family then takes possession.

In regard to the third item, we suggested to the Office of Emergency Preparedness some time ago that modular housing could serve as a form of temporary housing as well as permanent housing for disaster victims. Due to cost, time required for installation, and other factors, OEP chose not to participate in this form of housing assistance.

This Department has allocated 2,500 low-rent housing units of industrialized housing for the eastern Pennsylvania disaster area. A number of local housing authorities have applied for these units. Modular housing units are also being proposed for projects developed under Section 235, 236, and other HUD mortgage insurance programs in the disaster area. Mr. William B. Patterson, Director of our Philadelphia Area Office, may be contacted for further information. His address is the Curtis Building, 625 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106 (telephone (215) 597-2358).

Erman Williams, Director, and John Lines, Deputy Director, head the HUD eastern Pennsylvania Disaster Field Office at Spruce Street and Adams Avenue, Scranton (telephone (717) 961-3841). Robert Prescott is Director of the HUD Wilkes Barre Office at 1575 Wyoming Avenue, Forty Fort (telephone (717) 288-7521). My Deputy, G. Richard Dunnells, who is providing overall direction, and Kenneth C. Cavanaugh of my staff, who is helping to establish the plan and organizational structure for management and maintenance operations of the Wilkes Barre temporary housing program, may be reached at Holy Cross Hall, Kings College, Franklin Street, Wilkes Barre (telephone (717) 825-6811, Extensions 511 through 514.) John Gibson provides central office direction for this program and may be contacted at (202) 755-6860.

Please do not hesitate to call on me for further assistance at any time.

Sincerely,

NORMAN V. WATSON

Norman V. Watson
Assistant Secretary

Enclosure

Memorandum

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

TO : Director, Harrisburg Disaster Assistance Office
Director, Reading Disaster Assistance Office
Director, Williamsport Disaster Assistance Office

DATE: August 3, 1972

IN REPLY REFER TO:

FROM : *E. Williams*
Ernest Williams, Director, Headquarters Office
Scranton, Pennsylvania

SUBJECT: Temporary Housing Repairs of Limited Degree

Because of the extensive nature of the damage resulting from recent flooding and delays expected in providing mobile homes, leased, or other rental housing, the following concept of an alternate means of providing temporary housing is hereby authorized.

This concept basically consists of making temporary repairs to housing rendered uninhabitable as a result of the major disaster.

Criteria:

The following criteria will apply:

1. The dwelling unit in question must be determined uninhabitable and the occupant eligible for temporary housing (DHUD responsibility).
2. Cost of temporary repairs to render housing habitable shall not exceed \$3,000 for any single dwelling.
3. Eligible temporary repairs must require skilled labor, such as plumbers, electricians, or roofing specialists, and should be limited to power, water, sewer, security, and safety work and repairs beyond the normal capability of the average homeowner to perform himself. All work and materials must meet local building code requirements for such repairs.

4. Average time for accomplishment of repairs should not exceed two weeks per unit, and in no case shall exceed three weeks. If repairs are not started within two weeks from the date the applicant signs agreement, the applicant may cancel his agreement and reinstate his request for temporary housing.

5. Scope and cost of the work will be limited to that required to make the home habitable as reflected in work order, approved by the Federal Coordinating Officer or his designated agent. (See paragraph 3 under Procedure).

6. Applicants receiving this form of temporary housing assistance will not be eligible for other temporary housing.

Procedure:

1. DHUD, through the State or local government, determines applicant to be eligible for temporary housing.

2. Corps of Engineers on mission assignment makes estimates of repairs for each damaged dwelling unit designated as eligible by DHUD. Candidate dwelling units will be identified as a part of the application process based on DHUD interview with owner.

3. Using list of candidate housing, furnished by DHUD, COE-contractor estimating team will make estimate of scope and cost of repairs. Scope and cost of work, as defined on the work order, will be approved by COE representative and owner will concur in writing in scope of work prior to commencement of repairs.

4. COE contractor repair teams will accomplish authorized temporary repair of each house. COE will sign three copies of completed work order, annotated to reflect actual cost of repairs, (one copy to GEP, one copy to DHUD, and one copy for COE records).

5. Work orders will be reviewed weekly by COE for appropriate cancellations when timely repairs cannot be made. COE will furnish DMUD a copy of each cancelled work order without delay so that an application can be reinstated for other temporary housing.

6. COE and DMUD will collaborate on letter to be signed by applicant accepting temporary repairs in lieu of other temporary housing and providing right-of-entry and necessary release of any claim against the Federal Government arising from the repair work undertaken. (Original to COE, signed copies to OEP and DMUD).

Attachments:

Copy of form letter to applicant

Copy of information sheet repairs

HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

LACKAWANNA COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
1st FLOOR - SPRUCE STREET & ADAMS AVENUE
SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18503

PHONE: (AC 717) 331-3241

Dear

To further assist you in meeting your housing needs, a new temporary housing assistance program, authorized by the President's Office of Emergency Preparedness, is now available. As an applicant for emergency housing, you may be eligible for temporary home repairs so you can move back into your home instead of waiting for other types of housing to become available.

The following guidelines apply to this new form of temporary housing assistance:

1. Your home must be uninhabitable in its present condition.
2. Only essential repairs which will make it possible for you to move back in will be made.
3. Eligible temporary repairs will be limited to restoration of utilities, security, and safety work beyond the normal capability of the average homeowner.
4. Average time for accomplishment of repairs should not exceed two weeks. If repairs are not started within two weeks, you may reinstate your request for other temporary housing.
5. Applicants accepting temporary repairs will not be eligible for other temporary housing.

If you believe you qualify for the temporary repair program and want an inspection of your home, you may apply at the following two locations:

Information Sheet

TEMPORARY REPAIRS TO HOMES

1. The Corps of Engineers in cooperation with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (DHUD) may in certain cases perform temporary repairs to homes on request. Application for this program should be made through DHUD.
2. Once the homeowner has requested to participate in the program, the decision to make the temporary repairs will be made by the Corps of Engineers in view of the extent of repairs required. If the required repairs are deemed by the Corps of Engineers to be extensive, the repairs will not be offered to the homeowner. Another factor which the Corps of Engineers will consider is the ability of contractors to perform this work on a timely basis.
3. While the Corps of Engineers is preparing estimates on required repairs, the homeowner will not give up his or her place on any housing list. However, once the Corps of Engineers offers the program to the homeowner and the homeowner accepts it, the homeowner will be removed from any housing list he or she may have been on.
4. The applicant must waive liability of the Federal Government for any work done under the program.
5. Authorized temporary repairs are as follows:
 - (a) Steam cleaning of the home.
 - (b) Extermination service.
 - (c) Check and repair of essential plumbing. If replacement of fixtures is required, standard fixtures will be used.
 - (d) Check and repair of the essential portions of the electrical system. No increase in service capacity will be provided unless the home owner indicates his intent to buy a new water heater or stove requiring more power. If replacement of fixtures is required, standard fixtures will be used.
 - (e) Provision of home security through repair of external doors, external windows, and cellar doors.
 - (f) Repair of major safety hazards in the house, such as broken stairs.
 - (g) Check and repair of the heating system. (To include replacement in kind of the heating unit where deemed necessary).
 - (h) Check and repair of the hot water system. (To include replacement in kind of the hot water unit where deemed necessary).
6. The following work will not be done except under paragraph 5 above.
 - (a) No work on internal walls or floors
 - (b) No work on ceilings.

- (c) No work on air conditioning or fans.
- (d) No replacement of appliances.
- (e) No repair or replacement of insulation.
- (f) No painting, wallpapering, plastering, or paneling.
- (g) No yard work.
- (h) Other work not essential.

7. The corps of Engineers will not be responsible for providing any utility hookup, to include gas, electricity, telephone, water, or sewage. These hookups remain the responsibility of the appropriate municipality or private company.

8. This program is to be offered only to owner/residents who reoccupy the house.

§ 1710.13 Temporary housing.

In providing assistance under this section for temporary housing for persons requiring such housing as a result of the disaster, the following criteria shall apply:

(a) Prior to provision of temporary housing a determination of the need for same will be made by the Regional Director based on a recommendation by the State Coordinating Officer, and after a survey of available facilities by private, local, State, and Federal agencies, as appropriate.

(b) Assistance for temporary housing with respect to a particular major disaster shall be limited to the minimum required to provide shelter within a reasonable commuting distance during such period of time, as determined by the Director, as would be necessary to permit the construction or repair of permanent housing in the area, or relocation of displaced persons into other adequate housing.

(c) Temporary housing accommodations may be furnished by, but not limited to:

(1) Using any unoccupied and readily usable housing owned by the United States under any program of the Federal Government.

(2) Arranging with a local public housing agency for using unoccupied and readily usable public housing units, or

(3) Acquiring existing dwellings by lease.

(4) Acquiring mobile homes, or other readily fabricated dwellings by purchase or lease.

(5) Any mobile home or readily fabricated dwelling shall be placed on a developed site, complete with necessary improvements and utilities to the location of each such dwelling as provided without charge to the Federal Government by State or local government, or by the owner or occupant of a site who was displaced by the major disaster. In such cases, the Federal responsibility shall be limited to connection costs to the furnished utilities. Failure to provide such facilities on sites proposed for use by owners or occupants, shall constitute a basis for rejection of such sites. If the Regional Director determines it is in the public interest to use more economical and accessible sites, such sites, including utilities and improvements, may be provided at Federal expense.

(d) The occupant shall be responsible for paying directly all utility use charges, or shall be responsible for paying a monthly allowance for utilities used if he occupies a mobile home or prefabricated home located in a park or other dwelling for which utilities are not metered separately.

(e) No rentals shall be established for any temporary housing for the first 12 months of occupancy. Thereafter, rentals shall be as established by the Regional Director and shall be based on the fair market value of the accommodations being furnished, adjusted to take into consideration the financial ability of the occupant: *Provided, however, That oc-*

cupants of temporary housing may be evicted on 30 days notice for reasons including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) Alternate housing, determined to be adequate by the Federal Coordinating Officer or his representative is now available.

(2) The occupants' predisaster housing is now ready for occupancy.

(3) Failure to pay rent or utility charges.

(4) Failure to utilize and maintain the housing in a manner normally expected of tenants of rental housing.

(f) Temporary housing shall not be made available to any displaced individual or family with insurance coverage which provides the full cost of alternate living arrangements. An exception may be made if adequate housing for the individual or family is not available.

(g) Any mobile home or other dwelling provided under this part shall normally be the minimum size required to accommodate the individual or family occupant.

(h) Temporary housing (including but not limited to, mobile homes or other readily fabricated dwellings) acquired by purchase as a result of the major disaster may be sold directly to individuals and families occupying Federal furnished temporary disaster housing at prices that are fair and equitable.

(i) A disaster victim is expected to accept the first adequate housing offered. If, because of personal preference he refuses such housing, his request shall be returned to the State Coordinating Officer.

(j) Temporary housing shall not be made available to any person or family for use as a vacation or other secondary residence.

(k) Temporary housing will not be provided when mass shelter or typical transient accommodations are sufficient and when the nature or duration of the housing requirement does not justify more stable arrangements as determined by the Regional Director or his representative.

§ 1710.14 Lease and mortgage payments.

The director or his designee shall provide assistance on a temporary basis in the form of mortgage or rental payments to or on behalf of individuals and families who, as a result of financial hardship caused by a major disaster, have received written notice of dispossession or eviction from a residence by reason of foreclosure of any mortgage of lien, cancellation of any contract of sale, or termination of any lease entered into prior to the disaster. Such assistance shall be provided for a period of not to exceed 1 year or for the duration of the period of financial hardship, whichever is the lesser.

§ 1710.15 Grants for removing timber from privately owned lands.

Removal of timber damaged by a major disaster from privately owned lands may be eligible for Federal assistance.

(a) An action plan shall be prepared by the State to tailor the cleanup and timber salvage operation to fit the specific situation, including at least the following:

(1) Priorities in the approval of work shall be established to guide efforts to areas where fire, pest, and wildlife hazards are concentrated.

(2) An appropriate limitation shall be placed on the degree of cleanup to be approved.

(3) Approved work practices and a scale of acceptable unit costs (per acre or otherwise) shall be established, if feasible.

(b) Inspection of the areas to be cleared shall be made by State and Federal representatives to provide a valid basis for approval of work to be done. In those cases where work has already been started or completed, the inspection is to determine a reasonable basis for approving or disapproving such work. Inspection reports shall include a complete description of the land to be cleared and of the eligible work and an estimate of the salvage value as well as the estimated cost of such work.

(c) Considerations in determining public interest under this section shall include threats to life and property, and possible flood hazards.

(d) Considerations in determining eligible costs under this section shall include:

(1) Claims for reimbursement shall be verified before payment on the basis of inspections and audits of completed work.

(2) Any applicable insurance recoveries and any salvage value of all timber removed or to be removed are to be considered and deducted from the costs for approved work. If the individual property owner elects to burn or otherwise dispose of the damaged timber instead of salvaging it, an estimated net value of potential salvage shall be established by the State and Federal representatives. If they cannot agree, the OEP Regional Director shall make the determination, and his decision will be final.

(3) Costs for construction of temporary roads approved by the OEP Regional Director, as necessary for access to or salvage of damaged timber are eligible.

§ 1710.16 Assistance to unemployed individuals.

Based on delegation authority by the Director dated January 8, 1971, the Secretary of Labor will (a) under section 240 of the Act, provide assistance to individuals unemployed as a result of a major disaster, and (b) under section 226(b) of the Act, provide reemployment assistance services under other laws administered by the Department of Labor to individuals who are unemployed as a result of a major disaster and to issue such rules and regulations as may be necessary and appropriate. Such regulations are provided in Title 20, Chapter V, Part 625, of the Code of Federal Regulations (34 F.R. 19656, Dec. 13, 1969), as amended.

DANIEL J. FLOOD
11TH DIST., PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR,
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

September 14, 1972

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STEPHEN B. ELKO
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

HELEN M. TOMASCIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

F O R I M M E D I A T E R E L E A S E

Even though some of the items I refer to hereafter have been covered by the news media from various sources of information, I am receiving so much mail, telephone calls, and personal interviews from the people of our area on these problems I got in touch with Norman V. Watson, Assistant Secretary for Housing Management of the Department of Housing and Urban Development in Washington, and I enclose what I think is an excellent letter from him to me, as well as enclosures dealing with the questions I raised.

I think it is especially important that he gave me the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of HUD officials dealing with specific problems. Under the circumstances, I thought you would consider presenting this matter to the public.

Enclosures (5)

DANIEL J. FLOOD
11TH DIST., PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR,
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515
August 15, 1972

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

HELEN M. TOMASCIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Honorable Norman V. Watson
Assistant Secretary for Housing Management
Department of Housing and Urban Development
Washington, D. C. 20410

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter sent by me to General F. J. Clarke, Chief of Army Engineers, with reference to temporary repairs of housing in the disaster area and also the procedures for later permanent repairs.

I would appreciate any regulations issued by HUD on the same subject, giving me the same detailed explanations of such regulations, names and addresses, etc., of the HUD officials who have jurisdiction in the disaster area.

I also would like an explanation of HUD regulations dealing with what HUD refers to as "temporary housing" as distinguished from mobile homes, trailers, and campers. I would like the requirements for such temporary housing - the procedure as well as the names and addresses of the proper local HUD officials to be contacted.

I would like a statement and explanation of the HUD regulations and the procedure for applications - names and addresses of the responsible HUD officials - on the subject of modular homes as distinguished from mobile homes, trailers, and campers. I wish you would, on this subject, refer to the size, type of construction,

Honorable Norman V. Watson

- 2

costs, installation cost, and procedure for those on private property of the individual, on private property camp sites, or on public property camp sites.

Sincerely yours,

DANIEL J. FLOOD, M.C.

DJF/y

Enclosure

NOTE
100-895-5730
FOR THE NIGHT EDITION
PHOTO - 10'00 COLLECTED
VOID LINE - 11/11/11