



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
 FEDERAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION
 120 MONTGOMERY STREET CENTER
 SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94104
 FEDERAL SUPPORT STAFF

IN REPLY REFER TO:

REGION IX

76 JUN 12 P 5: 38

DATE: June 12, 1976

FROM: Robert C. Stevens, Regional Director, FEDERAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

SUBJECT: Request for Presidential Major Disaster Declaration from Northern Mariana Islands of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

The following message has been received from Mr. Erwin D. Canham, Resident Commissioner, Government of the Northern Mariana Islands, Saipan, Mariana Islands, dated June 10, 1976:

June 10, 1976

The President
 The White House
 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
 Washington, D.C. 20500

Through: Mr. Robert C. Stevens
 Director, Region Nine
 Federal Disaster Assistance Administration
 120 Montgomery Street
 San Francisco, California 94104

Dear Mr. President:

I respectfully request that you declare that a Major Disaster exists in the Northern Mariana Islands of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, comprised of the inhabited islands of Saipan, Rota, Tinian, Anatahan, Pagan, Agrihan and Almagosa, under the provisions of the Disaster Relief Act of 1974, Public Law 93-288.

Beginning Thursday, May 20 and through Saturday, May 22, 1976, the eye of Typhoon Pamela passed within 50 miles of the Island of Rota, and at its closest approach, within 80-100 miles of the Islands of Saipan and Tinian, resulting in sustained winds of 50-60 m.p.h. with gusts of up to 90-100 m.p.h. at these islands. This caused severe damage to private housing, commercial facilities and agricultural crops on Rota, and, although to a lesser degree, substantial damages of like nature to Tinian and Saipan. Due to wind and wave action, the dock and breakwaters at Tinian received major damages, and Rota's East Harbor dock was almost totally demolished.

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File	BI	EG	ER	EAA	BAF	EAR	EDS	EX	SO	D	DPL	FD-4	Action
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As a result of the typhoon, 572 private buildings were damaged, of which 56 buildings sustained over 50 per cent damage; damage to farms and crops ranged from 50 per cent to 100 per cent, primarily at Saipan, Rota and Tinian. Radio communications with the Northern Islands of Pagan, Agrihan and Alaxagan also indicate crop damage at these locations; however, it has not been possible to make on-site surveys due to the lack of transportation.

The estimated damage to public facilities rendering essential public service is as follows:

Docks, seawalls and breakwaters	\$3,653,500
Public Buildings	171,583
Roads	31,800
Water Systems	22,000
Power Systems	211,000
Telephone Systems	7,000

Total damages estimated at this time are:

Public damages	\$4,134,783
Private Damages	786,270
Agriculture	1,050,000

Agriculture within the Northern Mariana Islands consists of both commercial and subsistence farming. Principal crops are vegetable and fruits. Typhoon Pamela's high winds, heavy rain and waves resulted in destruction of matured fruit and vegetable crops. Salt-water intrusion of farm areas of Tinian, Rota and Saipan also occurred because of sea spray. The Mariana Agriculturist estimates that it will take 3 to 6 months to re-establish crops to pre-typhoon levels. This will require replanting after the salt has been leached by rains. The cost estimate for agriculture listed above represents costs involved in providing plants, seeds, pesticides and fertilizers and for the rental of farm equipment and implements.

The public damage estimate listed above includes \$37,000 for debris clearance.

Certain emergency actions, particularly repair and reactivation of essential utility services were begun on Saturday, May 22, 1976. On Monday, May 24, 1976, the then Acting Resident Commissioner Mr. Francisco C. Ada, declared a state of emergency in the Northern Mariana Islands, particularly for the Islands of Rota and Tinian, and convened a special meeting of the Cabinet and other involved officials, to declare this emergency. He directed that pertinent sections of the Trust Territory Emergency Plan for such disasters be invoked, in accordance with



Section 301 of U. S. Public Law 93-288, and further directed that a Marianas emergency damage assessment force proceed immediately to Rota and Tinian to make on-site surveys and to assist in emergency actions. Similar actions were also taken at Saipan.

Neither the establishment of mass care shelters nor the implementation of an emergency or temporary housing program within the Islands is considered necessary. Families and individuals displaced because of destruction of or major damage to their homes are being housed temporarily by relatives and friends. Since most of the residents who have sustained damage to their homes do not have insurance coverage, a program which will provide for the repair or restoration of their homes will be necessary. In addition, emergency home and personal property loans, to include loans to commercial farmers, should be made available to those who can qualify. It is not believed at this time that unemployment assistance will be required. Between 15-20 small businesses were damaged to varying degrees; however, it is not known whether SBA loans will be requested. I hereby request that assistance authorized under Section 408, Individual and Family Grant Programs, of the Act be made available. I have determined that assistance under the Act and from other means will not be sufficient to meet the necessary expenses or serious needs of approximately 250 to 300 families, based on reports of the damage assessment teams dispatched by this office to the Islands of Saipan, Rota and Tinian. The Government of the Northern Marianas will implement an approved Administrative Plan, and the Grant Program will be made available throughout the designated Major Disaster areas. This Government has the personnel and administrative capability to administer this program. I will designate a Coordinating Officer, who will maintain close coordination with the Federal Coordinating Officer, and will provide him with such reports as he may require. Total funding for this program is estimated to be \$225,000, of which \$168,750 will be the Federal share and \$56,250 will be the Government of the Northern Marianas share. All Federal and Northern Marianas funds committed to the Grant Program will be specifically identified in the accounts of the Government of the Northern Marianas.

Since no Government of Northern Marianas funds are available, at this time, the Government of the Northern Marianas is unable to pay its 25 per cent share and I request that \$225,000 be advanced by the Federal Government to cover both the Federal and Government of Northern Marianas share. In order to repay this advance, I will either reprogram Government of the Northern Marianas funds and/or request the Legislature of the Northern Marianas for an appropriation of funds, during their next regular session, and will repay this advance as soon as funds become available. I anticipate that this advance will be repaid by December, 1977. I agree to return, immediately, upon discovery, all Federal funds advanced to meet the Government of Northern Marianas 25 per cent share which exceed actual requirements.



Northern Mariana Islands

I have determined that the situation is beyond the capabilities of the Government of the Northern Marianas. Because of the recent formation of this Government on April 1, 1976, contingency funds for emergencies do not exist within the budget. Therefore, supplementary funds will be required to repair and restore disaster damaged public facilities and to provide financial assistance to individuals and facilities affected by the disaster.

Pursuant to Section 301 of U. S. Public Law 93-288, and Federal Disaster Assistance Administration Regulations, I certify that the total expenditures for this disaster, for which no Federal reimbursement will be requested are expected to exceed \$100,000, as listed in the following table:

Individual Assistance:

1. Housing (emergency distribution of materials for temporary repairs of private homes)	\$6,500
2. Individual and Family Grants (GNMI Share)	\$6,250
3. Costs of emergency distribution of food commodities for 6 months	6,000
4. Sanitation and Medical Supplies	2,500
Total - (Individual)	\$71,250

Public Assistance:

1. Protective Work	\$ 1,000
2. Restoration of Public Facilities	20,000
3. Public Safety	3,000
4. Salaries & Overtime (other than in Public Works and Public Safety)	4,750
Total - (Public)	\$28,750

Grand Total \$100,000

In view of the recent formation of the Government of the Northern Marianas, and the limited budget presently available, I believe that the amount of \$100,000 represents a significant contribution by the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands for this disaster.

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Northern Mariana Islands

I further request other Federal assistance, as listed in the attached table. Your kind consideration and favorable action on this request for declaration of a Major Disaster in the Northern Mariana Islands as a result of Typhoon Pamela would be greatly appreciated by myself, and all the people of these Islands.

Respectfully,

Erwin D. Canham
Resident Commissioner
Government of the Northern Mariana Islands
Saipan, Mariana Islands

CATEGORIES OF REQUESTED FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

Individual Assistance:

Individual and Family Grant Program (Sec. 408):

Federal Share.	\$168,750
Government of the Northern Mariana Share & (advanced by Federal Government).	56,250
(No temporary housing or unemployment compensation requirements)	

Public Assistance:

Docks and seawalls	\$3,653,500
Public Buildings	171,583
Roads	31,800
Water systems	22,000
Power systems	211,900
Telephone systems.	7,000
Debris clearance	37,000
Total	54,134,783

Agriculture:

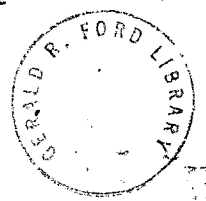
An emergency food program is being carried out, for a total of 790 persons or approximately 100 families (average of 8 per family) at 30 cents per day per family. These 790 recipients are in addition to the welfare assistance recipients of 715, who will continue to receive food commodities attributed to "welfare", rather than typhoon assistance (526 at Rota, 189 at Tinian, 75 at Saipan).

790 individuals (100 families) for 6 months

Total	\$6,000 &
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& (This represents distribution costs - mainly freight only - as there are no charges for the USDA rations themselves).

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TYPHOON PAMELA
REGIONAL BREAKDOWN OF DAMAGE ASSESSMENTS

A. SAIPAN

1. Public facilities (offices, buildings, schools, etc.)	\$ 45,000
2. Public utilities (water, power, telephone, & sewers)	162,000
3. Road system damage	31,000
4. Debris clearance	12,000
Sub-total, Public Facs.	\$ 250,000
5. Private sector losses (private & commercial)	132,588
6. Agricultural losses	468,233
Total for Saipan	\$950,821

B. TINIAN

1. Docks, seawalls and breakwaters damages	\$3,029,000
2. Public facilities (offices, buildings, schools, etc.)	5,000
3. Public utilities (water, power, phones & sewers)	1,900
4. Road system damages	800
Sub-total, Public Facs.	\$3,046,700
5. Private sector losses (private & commercial)	12,490
6. Agricultural losses	306,587
Total for Tinian	\$3,365,777

C. ROTA

1. Docks, seawalls and breakwaters damages	\$ 614,500
2. Public facilities (offices, buildings, schools, etc.)	121,583
3. Public utilities (water, power & sewers)	77,000
4. Debris clearance	25,000
Sub-total, Public Facs.	\$ 838,083
5. Private Sector Losses:	
5.a. Dwellings	\$457,080
5.b. Commercial buildings	117,112
5.c. Catholic Mission (public meeting hall)	77,000
	\$ 651,192

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Northern Mariana Islands

C. Rota (Continued)

6. Agricultural losses	\$ 241,982
Total for Rota	\$1,731,257

D. NORTHERN ISLANDS (ANATAHAN, ALAMAGAN, PAGAN AND AGRIHAN)

I. Agricultural losses	\$ 33,198
Grand Total for the Northern Mariana Islands.	\$5,981,053

Recap and Summary

I. Total for Northern Marianas	\$5,981,053
II. Categorical Break-down:	
A. Public facilities (docks & seawalls).	\$3,653,500
B. Public facilities (buildings, housing, schools, hosp., etc.)	171,583
C. Public utilities (power, water, phone, sewer)	240,900
D. Debris clearance	37,000
E. Road system damages	31,800
Sub-total (public facs.)	\$4,134,783
F. Agricultural losses	1,050,000
G. Private sector losses (dwellings & commercial).	796,270
Grand Total - Northern Marianas	\$5,981,053

Prepared by:

Dan F. Akioto
 Special Consultant to the Resident
 Commissioner (Typhoon Coordinator)
 Government of the Northern Mariana
 Islands, Saipan, Mariana Islands"

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Northern Mariana Islands

We have responded to the Resident Commissioner's request as follows on June 12, 1976:

"From: Robert C. Stevens, Regional Director, FDAA Region Nine,
 San Francisco, CA
 To: Mr. Erwin D. Carls, Resident Commissioner, Government of
 the Northern Mariana Islands, Saipan, Mariana Islands
 Subj: Request for Declaration of a Major Disaster Area

Your message PLZ0900Z Jun 76 received this date requesting the declaration of a major disaster area in the Northern Mariana Islands of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands due to damage caused by Typhoon Pamela is receiving prompt attention. You will be notified as soon as a determination is made."

* * * * *

Regional recommendation will be forwarded later.

[Handwritten Signature]
 Regional Director

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