



THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20410

June 15, 1976

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

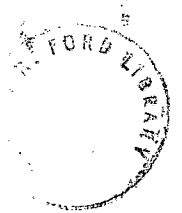
Resident Commissioner Erwin D. Canham of the Northern Mariana Islands of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands has requested a major disaster declaration under Public Law 93-288 because of damage resulting from Typhoon Pamela.

During the period May 20 - 22, 1976, Typhoon Pamela raked the Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota with high winds gusting up to 90 - 100 miles per hour. Extensive damage was caused to public, private, and agricultural property in the affected areas. The Resident Commissioner estimated that damage to public property totaled \$4,134,783, private property damage exceeded \$796,000, and agricultural losses totaled \$1,050,000.

Members of our FDAA Regional Office staff from San Francisco have been working closely with Territorial and local officials to determine both the losses and the requirements for Federal assistance. The Resident Commissioner has requested the provision of individual and family grant assistance under Section 408 of Public Law 93-288. Our assessment indicates that there is a significant need for the provision of such assistance. There will also be a requirement for food assistance as the Typhoon caused extensive damage to the subsistence agricultural sector. There is a significant need for Federal financial assistance under Public Law 93-288 to assist the Territorial and local governments in debris clearance, and the repair or restoration of damaged or destroyed streets, roads, bridges, and public facilities and utilities.

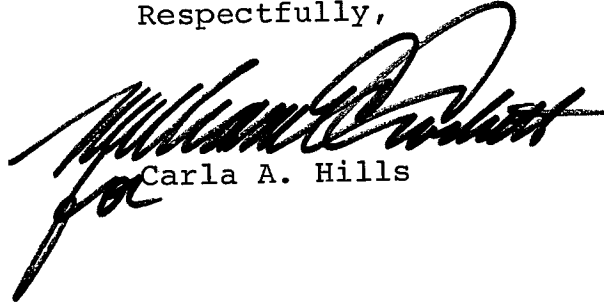
On the basis of information already available, we have concluded that Federal assistance is required and that this is a disaster of major proportions. I recommend that you declare a major disaster for the Northern Mariana Islands and authorize such funds as are necessary to provide Federal disaster assistance.

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If you concur in this recommendation, we propose to appoint Mr. Robert C. Stevens, Regional Director of the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration, HUD Region IX, as the Federal Coordinating Officer for disaster assistance activities in support of this declaration.

Respectfully,



Carla A. Hills

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Suggested
Press Release

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RECEIVED

June , 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President today declared a major disaster for the Northern Mariana Islands as a result of Typhoon Pamela beginning about May 20, 1976, which caused extensive public and private property damage. The President's action will permit the use of Federal funds in relief and recovery efforts in designated areas of the Territory.

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

Federal relief activities in the Northern Mariana Islands will be coordinated by the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration, Department of Housing and Urban Development, under the direction of Administrator Thomas P. Dunne. Mr. Dunne will designate the specific areas within the Territory eligible for Federal assistance, based upon Federal and Territorial damage assessments.

Mr. Robert C. Stevens, Regional Director of the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration, HUD Region IX, will be designated as the Federal Coordinating Officer to work with the Territory in providing Federal disaster assistance under the Disaster Relief Act of 1974, Public Law 93-288.

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

Resident Commissioner's
Request

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TELEGRAPHIC MESSAGE

NAME OF AGENCY The White House	PRECEDENCE ACTION: INFO:	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION ST 51 FG 24
ACCOUNTING CLASSIFICATION	DATE PREPARED	TYPE OF MESSAGE <input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE <input type="checkbox"/> BOOK <input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE-ADDRESS
FOR INFORMATION CALL		
NAME	PHONE NUMBER	

THIS SPACE FOR USE OF COMMUNICATION UNIT

MESSAGE TO BE TRANSMITTED (Use double spacing and all capital letters)

TO:

June 17, 1976

Honorable Erwin D. ^xCanham
 Resident Commissioner
 Government of the Northern
 Mariana Islands
 Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

As you requested, I have declared a major disaster for the Northern Mariana Islands because of damage due to Typhoon Pamela beginning about May 20, 1976. I have authorized Federal relief and recovery assistance in the affected areas.

The Administrator, Federal Disaster Assistance Administration, Department of Housing and Urban Development, will coordinate Federal disaster assistance efforts for such assistance. The Federal Coordinating Officer will be Mr. Robert C. Stevens, Regional Director of the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration, HUD Region IX. He will consult with you and assist in the execution of the Federal-Territorial Disaster Assistance Agreement governing the expenditure of Federal funds.

GERALD R. FORD



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not
 6.17.76

Disaster in Mariana Islands

Dispatched at 9:30 a.m. - 6/17/76;
 Copy to Sec Needy - 6/18/76.

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SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

76 06 17 1337

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20490

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 17, 1976

Dear Madam Secretary:

I have determined that the damage in certain areas of the Northern Mariana Islands resulting from Typhoon Pamela beginning about May 20, 1976, is of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant a major disaster declaration under Public Law 93-288. I therefore declare that such a major disaster exists in the Northern Mariana Islands.

In order to provide Federal assistance, you are hereby authorized to allocate, from funds available for these purposes, such amounts as you find necessary for Federal disaster assistance and administrative expenses.

The time period prescribed for the implementation of Section 313(a), Priority to Certain Applications for Public Facility and Public Housing Assistance, shall be for a period not to exceed six months following the date of this declaration.

Sincerely,

Ronald R. Ford

Honorable Carla A. Hills
Secretary of Housing and
Urban Development
Washington, D.C. 20410

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Disaster in Mariana Islands

JUN 30 1976
GENERAL FILE

*Orig, w/ copy of telegram to Resident Commissioner Canham,
sent to Sec Head by J. H. Messinger, w/ receipt - 6/18/76.*

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*noted
for*

WU INFOMASTER

WHITEHOUSE WSH

004236C169 0832EST
001 DLY INTL TDWX WHITE HOUSE DC JUNE 17
INT HONORABLE ERWIN D CANHAM DLR DONT DWR
RESIDENT COMMISSIONER
GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS
SAIPAN (MARIANA ISLANDS)

UUUUU AS YOU REQUESTED, I HAVE DECLARED A MAJOR DISASTER FOR
THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS BECAUSE OF DAMAGE DUE TO
TYPHOON PAMELA BEGINNING ABOUT MAY 20, 1976. I HAVE
AUTHORIZED FEDERAL RELIEF AND RECOVERY ASSISTANCE IN THE
AFFECTED AREAS.

THE ADMINISTRATOR, FEDERAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE ADMIN-
ISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT,
WILL COORDINATE FEDERAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE EFFORTS FOR
SUCH ASSISTANCE. THE FEDERAL COORDINATING OFFICER WILL
BE MR. ROBERT C. STEVENS, REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE FEDERAL
DISASTER ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION, HUD REGION IX. HE
WILL CONSULT WITH YOU AND ASSIST IN THE EXECUTION OF THE
FEDERAL-TERRITORIAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT GOVERNING
THE EXPENDITURE OF FEDERAL FUNDS.

GERALD R. FORD.

ACCEPTED
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