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OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE OF THE
OREGON STATE CONTROL CENTER.

This control center is designed as a dual purpose operation --- that is, it provides a single location at which all those agencies or departments which are involved may receive a clear, comprehensive picture of the extent and effect of enemy action throughout the state and at the same time provides a central dispatch point where calls for aid from counties involved in the attack may be received and the requests acted upon.

The first of these purposes, that of providing the overall picture, is accomplished in the following manner:

Army liaison will be established immediately by the Commanding General, Northwestern Sector, Western Defense Command, upon notice of attack on any portion of the state. Telephone and teletype communication for the army personnel is provided by the control center and these will be augmented by short wave radio transmitters and messengers provided by the army. Reports from military units in the field will be fed into the control center through army headquarters to the extent that such reports affect the operation of the civilian defense organization in any part of the state.

As a supplement to this source of information, county civilian defense coordinators in the counties under attack or in those counties where occurrences, such as sabotage of communication or transportation facilities, will affect the dispatch of aid to areas under attack, by telephone or otherwise will furnish all pertinent facts to the State Control Center.

Information gained from these two sources will be communicated to all services represented, both by message and by the listing of same on a "tactical situation board" and its plotting on a large scale map. By this method, every item of pertinent information is so handled that it becomes immediately available to all present.

The principal purpose for which the control center was organized, that of providing aid to areas in distress, operates in the following manner:

Civilian defense in Oregon recognizes the county as the administrative unit. City defense councils may be organized as provided for in state law but are subordinate to the county defense council. This procedure has greatly simplified the organization and administration of civilian defense in the state. The actual operation of the Citizens Defense Corps in this state is handled similarly. Cities or towns under attack are expected to have prepared to the best of their ability to meet such attack and will do all within their power to handle the situation. When and if it becomes apparent that they need help they will obtain it by appeal to the County Commander of the Citizens Defense Corps.

Similarly, the county organization will handle the county-wide problem to the best of its ability. When county resources are facing exhaustion there will be no call for aid made directly to an adjoining county, even though only a few miles away. Rather, the county commander or his representative will call the State Control Center making known his needs and the State Control Center will undertake to obtain this aid from the nearest available source.

In this manner local responsibility will be maintained at all times insofar as local resources will permit. At the same time, confusion and duplication will be avoided by these established lines of communication and authority.

Present in the State Control Center in addition to the army liaison personnel previously mentioned will be the following individuals:

The Governor as Director of the State Defense Council
The State Administrator as Commander in charge of control center operations

And the service heads or their representatives as listed below:

The State Fire Coordinator
The State Police Superintendent
The State Highway Engineer
The State Public Utilities Commissioner
The State Medical Officer
The State Public Welfare Administrator
The State Evacuation Officer
The Commanding General of the State Guard
The Adjutant General of the State of Oregon
The State Property Officer
The American Red Cross Director

The manner in which aid to meet a request will be obtained by the State Control Center differs in relation to the service involved. This can best be understood through describing the activities of each of the services represented.

FIRE

The State Fire Coordinator will satisfy a call for fire equipment in either of the two following ways:

1. He may order OGD fire fighting equipment assigned to any Citizens Defense Corps in the state to any other point in the state for the purpose of fighting fire caused by enemy attack.
2. Under the provisions of Chapter 140, Oregon Laws of 1943, the Governor, after the declaration of martial law, may order the fire fighting forces, including both equipment and personnel, of any political subdivision of the state to any other point in the state.

POLICE

The State Police will continue to function as a highly mobile, trained police organization prepared to maintain law and order; patrol roads and highways; and guard against acts of violence or sabotage.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The maintenance of roads, bridges, and highways and the establishment of alternate routes should main highways become impassible, will be under the direction of the State Highway Department. Its hundreds of employees and large amount of equipment will be of tremendous importance in maintaining transportation routes in the event of enemy attack.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

The many and varied utility organizations in the state make imperative a centralized coordination of this field. The State Public Utilities Commissioner and staff, with the files and records of his organization, represents the logical coordination agency. The Public Utilities Commission will have no equipment or facilities of its own nor may it order equipment from one utility to another, but the job of determining the location of available equipment to meet a specific call for aid from any utility, through the county commander best can be accomplished by this department. Confusion and duplication will be eliminated. The utilities head will receive the request, determine where the aid can be obtained most expeditiously, and will then make the request for such aid. The borrowing agency will be responsible for compensation to the lending agency. This entire procedure is concerned only with operations of such immediacy they must be handled, even though a raid is in progress. Post-raid operations involving utilities may be handled on an organization basis.

MEDICAL

The State Medical Officer, in conjunction with the State Property Officer, may order the dispatch of any OCD Medical equipment located anywhere in the state to any other place in the state. He may also call upon Sector and Regional OCD for the dispatch of additional medical aid from outside the state. He is preparing an inventory of locally owned medical supplies which could be called upon. He will encourage the organization of teams of doctors and nurses which would be willing to go as units to the aid of a community in distress.

RED CROSS AND PUBLIC WELFARE

These two organizations will function in the control center as they have in time of natural disaster. The full extent of their great resources will be brought to bear to alleviate human suffering. Control of this aid will be in the hands of representatives of their own choosing in the state control center.

EVACUATION AND TRANSPORTATION

The State Evacuation and Transportation Officer in conjunction with the County Evacuation and Transportation Officer will, from the State Control Center, direct and coordinate the evacuation and transportation of the civilian population wherever necessary.

STATE GUARD

The State Guard Liaison Officer at the State Control Center will be the coordinating officer between Civilian Defense and the Oregon State Guard.

PROPERTY OFFICER

The State Property Officer will operate in conjunction with other agencies in the State Control Center to facilitate the movement of OCD property located in the state.