

ANNUAL REPORT

1985

DISASTER RESEARCH CENTER (DRC)

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

The Disaster Research Center (DRC) relocated from the Ohio State University to the University of Delaware at the end of 1984. The Center reopened at a building in 102 East Main Street, Newark in January 1985, although the library and other components were not fully operational until the spring. Field research operations were resumed in August.

Grants and Contracts:

Two grants and a contract were obtained by DRC during the year. They were from the:

National Science Foundation--

- 1) Mass media systems and community hazards and disasters.
\$174,570. 9/1/85-2/28/87.
- 2) Joint Italy-United States seminar on social preparation, response, and recovery from major community disaster.
\$13,057. Summer 1986.

Federal Emergency Management Agency--

- 1) Disaster analysis. \$100,000. 9/30/85-9/29/86.
(renewable for four years at \$100,000 a year subject to availability of funding).

Publications:

Because of the relocation of the Center, publications by DRC personnel was below its average but 19 items were produced by the end of the year.

Monographs and Reports.

Organizational Behavior in Disasters and Implications for Disaster Planning. (Quarantelli)

Emergent Citizen Groups in Disaster Preparedness and Recovery Activities (Quarantelli)

The Functioning of the Local Emergency Services Office in Disaster (Quarantelli)

Chapters in Books.

"An Assessment of Conflicting Views on Mental Health: The Consequences of Traumatic Events," E.L. Quarantelli. Trauma and Its Wake: The Treatment of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, ed., by Charles R. Figley, (New York: Brunner/Mazel, 1985): 173-215.

Chapters in Books Continued.

"What is Disaster? The Need for Clarification in Definition and Conceptualization in Research," E.L. Quarantelli. Disasters and Mental Health Selected Contemporary Perspectives, ed. by Barbara Sowder. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1985): 41-73.

"Social Support Systems: Some Behavioral Patterns in the Context of Mass Evacuation Activities," E.L. Quarantelli. Disasters and Mental Health Selected Contemporary Perspectives, ed. by Barbara Sowder. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1985): 122-136.

"Community Response to Disasters," E.L. Quarantelli and Russell R. Dynes. Disasters and Mental Health Selected Contemporary Perspectives, ed. by Barbara Sowder. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1985): 158-168.

"First Responders and Their Initial Behavior in Hazardous Chemical Transportation Accidents." Jane Gray and E.L. Quarantelli. Conference on Recent Advances in Hazardous Materials Transportation Research: An International Exchange November 10-13, 1985 (Washington, D.C.: Transportation Research Board, National Research Council, 1985): 274-296.

Articles in Journals.

"Emergent Citizen Groups and Emergency Management," Robert Stallings and E.L. Quarantelli. Public Administration Review 45 (1985): 93-100. (Originally listed as DRC Article #999)

"Realities and Mythologies in Disaster Films," E.L. Quarantelli. Communications 11 (1985): 31-44.

Preliminary Papers. (intended for later full publication)

"Needed Innovations in Emergency Medical Services in Disasters of the Future," E.L. Quarantelli, 1985.

"Disaster: An Entry for an Italian Dictionary of Sociology," E.L. Quarantelli and Dennis Wenger, 1985

"Mass Media and Disasters," Dennis Wenger, 1985.

"Local and National Media Coverage of Disaster: A Content Analysis of the Print Media's Treatment of Disaster Myths," Dennis Wenger and Barbara Friedman, 1985.

"Social Problems of Relocation of Disaster-at-Risk Communities: Some Questions and Some Problems," E.L. Quarantelli, 1985

Preliminary Papers Continued.

"The Need for Planning, Training, and Policy on Emergency Preparedness," E.L. Quarantelli, 1985

"Strengthening Post Disaster Mitigation: A Sociological Perspective," Russell R. Dynes, 1985.

"Factors Affecting the Relationship Between the Research System and Research Users: An American View for an Italian Audience," E.L. Quarantelli and Dennis Wenger, 1985.

"Collective Behavior and Disaster Research," Dennis Wenger, 1985.

Sale of DRC publications amounted to about \$4,578. The Singapore Office of Civil Preparedness and the Western Illinois University Library purchased all available items from the DRC Publication List. Other large transactions included the purchase of 70 copies of one DRC monograph for use in a class in Queens College in New York City and several dozen copies of a DRC report for classroom use at the University of Hawaii.

Presentations and Participations.

DRC personnel made presentations at the following 22 meetings:

Hazards Research & Applications Workshop (University of Colorado)

University of Exeter (Great Britain)

Flood Hazard Research Center at Middlesex Polytechnic (Great Britain)

American Sociological Association Annual Meeting

National Emergency Training Center (Emmitsburg, MD)

London School of Economics (Great Britain)

Universita Cattolica del Sacro Curoe (Milan, Italy)

Canadian Emergency Preparedness College (Canada)

Emergency 85 World Congress (Washington, D.C.)

Children's Television Workshop Natural Hazards Session (Washington, D.C.)

Stress & Behavioral Emergencies: An International Conference (Baltimore, MD)

Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency

American Public Health Association Annual Meeting

DEMEX 85 World Congress for Disaster & Emergency Management (Indianapolis, IN)

Collective Behavior and Social Movements Workshop (Bowling Green University)

Oxford Polytechnic (Great Britain)

Presentations and Participations Continued:

Recent Advances in Transportation of Hazardous Materials Conference:
An International Exchange (Lake Buena Vista, Florida)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (Washington, D.C.)

Methodology of Civil Protection Policies Conference (Udine, Italy)

University of Delaware President's Monthly Dinner Symposium

International Symposium on Housing & Development after Natural Disaster
(Bal Harbour, Florida)

Safety & Occupational Health, Division of DuPont (Wilmington, Delaware)

In addition, DRC personnel participated in the following 6 meetings:

Meeting of the International Research Committee on Disasters (Washington, D.C.)

Hospitals in Disasters: A Conference on Hospital Planning for Natural and Technological Disasters (Akron, Ohio)

Fourth World Congress of Emergency & Disaster Medicine (Brighton, Great Britain)

Annual Meeting of the British Sociological Association (Hull, Great Britain)

Workshop on the 1985 Chilean Earthquake (Reston, Virginia)

Workshop on Use of and Off Site Access to Disaster Studies Data Base
Center for Social and Urban Research (University of Pittsburgh)

Field Trips

Since external funding was not obtained until very late in the year, only three field studies were done. This brought the total of field studies undertaken by DRC to 474. In 1985 the events studied were:

- (1) Toxic Chemical Leak, Camden, New Jersey
- (2) Hurricane Elena, Gulf Coast, Mississippi
- 149 (3) Flood, Roanoke, Virginia

In addition, field training trips were undertaken in the Wilmington, Delaware and Baltimore, Maryland areas.

DRC also went to the State of Delaware Emergency Operations Center at Delaware City when it was activated for Hurricane Gloria and also for a nation wide telecast of a program on disaster preparedness for hazardous materials.

Field Trips Continued

Professor Dynes visited Mexico City as a consultant on the Development of a National Civil Protection Plan for the government of Mexico after the 1985 earthquake.

Visitors

Because DRC was not fully operational until spring, visitors were discouraged but by the end of the year persons from the following 24 organizations had come to the Center.

Foreign

Christian Albrechts University, Kiel, West Germany

Institute of International Sociology in Gorizia, Italy (the site of major social science disaster research center in Italy)

Coordinador de Assores/Secretara de Gobernacion, Mexico City, Mexico

Instituto de Investigacion de la Comunicacion, Mexico City, Mexico

Domestic

Office of Disaster Preparedness of the County of San Diego, California

University of Denver

The Program in Emergency Management at North Texas State University, Texas

St. Joseph's Hospital, Parkersburg, West Virginia

Administrators Office, City of Wilkes Barre, PA

Division for Professional Leadership of the Lutheran Church in America

The Interlibrary Loans Office of the Harvard Law Library

Department of Geography, Rutgers University

Temple University

Inter American Research Associates of Rosslyn, Virginia

Stetson University

The Cox Newspapers

University of North Carolina at Charlotte, North Carolina

PASE Inc. of Highland Park, New Jersey

The Wilmington Sunday News Journal

House of Representatives of the State of Delaware

Delaware Today

Domestic Visitors continued

University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point

The Dover State News

Roy Popkin Associates

DRC Library

The DRC library received approximately 1,000 new publications during the year. This number does not include continuing periodicals, announcements and photographs, and newspaper clippings. A total of 556 were fully processed into the library. About 500 other items were eliminated from the DRC holdings; most were contributed to the University of Delaware library system (many of these items dealt with highly technical or engineering aspects of disaster phenomena not usually part of the DRC library subject coverage).

Agreements to exchange DRC publications for their relevant organizational publications, to be put in the DRC library, were made with:

The Flood Hazard Research Center at Middlesex Polytechnic
in Great Britain;

The Natural Hazards Research and Application Center at the
University of Colorado, USA;

The library at the Center for Technology, Environment and
Development at Clark University, USA;

The Center for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters at
Louvain University in Belgium.

Old exchange agreements were reconfirmed with disaster research organizations and key researchers in Canada, Italy, Sweden, and Japan.

An agreement was made with the Joint Assistance Center in New Delhi, India to distribute in southeast Asia most of the available items on the DRC Publication List.

The American Sociological Association Section on Collective Behavior and Social Movement asked DRC to house the archives of the section. This will be done starting in 1986.

It was also decided during the year that the DRC library will house the archives of the International Sociological Association Research Committee on Disasters, and the archives of the committee journal, Mass Emergencies and Disasters.

A partial reordering of the DRC library classification system was initiated. This involves the renumbering of some old categories and the addition and elimination of subject categories to more accurately reflect the current DRC library collection.

Work continued on inventoring the DRC library holdings, on updating the subject index of the DRC library card catalog, and on processing the backlog of items and work that accumulated or were delayed as a result of the relocation of DRC.

A small duplicate collection of the rarer and the more important publications in the DRC library was established. Stored elsewhere, this collection is intended as a backup for losses by theft from the DRC library which is open to the public.

Contacts were maintained with the centers at the University of Colorado, at Clark University, and at the University of Pittsburgh (as well as the Federal Emergency Management Agency) to insure compatibility of software and hardware in the parallel work of these centers and DRC towards computerization of some of their library and/or data holdings. DRC was also represented at a meeting on this matter at the University of Colorado in July and at the University of Pittsburgh in November. The first DRC publication placed on the computer was the 442 page long volume, Inventory of Disaster Field Studies in the Social and Behavioral Sciences, 1919-1979.

DRC PERSONNEL:

Faculty

1. Russell R. Dynes, Co-Director
2. Allan McCutcheon, Research & Computer Specialist
3. E.L. Quarantelli, Director
4. Dennis Wenger, Co-Director

Graduate Students

1. Henry Fischer, III
2. Barbara Friedman
3. Dorothy Lockwood
4. Lynne Snowden
5. Dana Zeidler

Staff

1. Mary Ann Hughes Madanat, Librarian
2. Lynda Manley, Librarian
3. Karen Sicilia, Office Coordinator

Other

1. Michelle Klein, Publication Clerk

DRC Personnel Continued

Work Study Students

1. Patricia Pinkney
2. Meredith Smail

Volunteer Personnel

1. Steve Kim
2. Jacquelin Martini