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MEMO

TO: PAUL

FROM: ALAN

RE: THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND PREPAREDNESS ADMINISTRATION ACT

I. This legislation would create a Federal Emergency Assistance and Preparedness Administration (FEAPA) as an independent establishment of the Executive Branch of the government by combining the following units:

- A. The Defense Civil Preparedness Agency of the Department of Defense;
- B. The Federal Disaster Assistance Administration of the Department of Housing and Urban Development;
- C. The Federal Preparedness Agency of the General Services Administration;
- D. The Office of Industrial Mobilization of the Department of Commerce;
- E. 37 independent emergency preparedness offices attached to various departments and agencies of the government by Executive Order. These would become "delegate" agencies of the new Administration. (See IV below)

The Administration would be under congressional mandate to coordinate all other programs, functions, and activities of the government relating to disaster assistance or emergency preparedness.

II. STRUCTURE:

The Administration would be under the control of a Director and Deputy Director appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The Director would be authorized to delegate responsibilities within the Administration as he sees fit. The following subagency units would be established to implement specialized functions of the Administration.

- A. An office of Disaster Assistance Operations;
- B. An office of Emergency Preparedness;
- C. An Emergency Information Center;
- D. An office of Program Evaluation.

The Director would become a statutory member of the National Security Council and report to the President through his Domestic Council.

III. FUNCTIONS:

The Administration would be responsible for all disaster assistance and emergency preparedness functions of the government. All functions of the four agencies combined into the Administration would vest directly in the Director. Among the responsibilities of the Administration would be:

- A. Disaster assistance functions under the Disaster Relief Act of 1974;
- B. Civil Defense, emergency preparedness, and continuity of government functions under the Civil Defense Act of 1950;
- C. Industrial Mobilization functions under the Defense Production Act of 1950;
- D. Training and assistance grant programs to the states for civil defense and disaster assistance;

(MORE)

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- E. Development and implementation of a unified and coherent policy and program framework for all functions of the Administration;
- F. Coordination of all other emergency functions and programs of the Federal government;
- G. Information collection and dissemination, research and development, and program evaluation functions in the emergency preparedness and disaster assistance fields.

IV. COORDINATION WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTAL UNITS:

The Administration would serve as a single point of contact for state and local governments in dealing with the Federal government on emergency matters. The Administration would provide liason and information services and work with the states and local governments in developing improved avenues of cooperation and coordination.

The Administration would be responsible for coordinating the total Federal effort in the emergency preparedness and assistance fields. Agency heads with functions or activities in this area would be directed to cooperate with the Director in this effort. In cases of Presidentially declared emergencies or disasters, the Director would have direct supervisory authority over all Federal agencies responsible for providing assistance.

The 37 small emergency preparedness Offices attached to different agencies of the government under Executive Order 11490 (1969) would become "delegate agencies" of the Administration. The Director would have both budgetary and supervisory control over these Offices, though they would remain within their home agencies for purposes of retaining necessary agency expertise.

V. EFFECT ON SUBSTANTIVE PROGRAMS:

This legislation makes only one substantive change in Federal emergency programs. Currently, Defense Civil Preparedness Agency (DCPA) preparedness grant funds to the states are limited to nuclear civil defense purposes. States are technically forbidden from using these funds for coping with natural disasters. This restriction would be removed.

Aside from this single substantive change, the new administration would be charged with reviewing and recommending proposals to streamline and harmonize the variety of programs within its jurisdiction. Further substantive changes, of course, will require further legislation.

VI. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS:

The authorization for the Administration is designed to result in savings of \$15 million stemming from the general reorganization. (see attachment A)

(MORE)

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However, actual emergency assistance funds would not be included in this restriction so as not to cripple the ability of the government to react to an unforeseen emergency situation. Total authorization for the Administration, not including emergency assistance funds, would total \$164.7 million in the first year as opposed to a current cost of \$179.7 million.