



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
CIVIL WORKS
WASHINGTON DC [REDACTED]

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: DAVE MARIN

FROM: ELWYN DARDEN *ED*

DATE: 1/10/06

FAX NUMBER:

TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING
COVER: 8

SENDER'S REFERENCE NUMBER:

RE:
COL WAGENAAR'S SITUATION
REPORT AUGUST 29, 2005

YOUR REFERENCE NUMBER:

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

John Paul Woodley, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), asked me to verify that your office had received the documents it needed from the Army Corps of Engineers. I was told that there was some question whether you had the situation report from Col. Wagenaar for August 29, 2005. This is a copy of said report.

If this is not what you are looking for, or if you require some other document, please call me or COL Mike Donovan at [REDACTED]

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Event	SITREP List	Report Links	Attachments	Print Preview	Messaging	Add to My ENGLink
[REDACTED]						
Start Date: 290617zAug2005			Valid as of: 300034zAug2005			
Report Number: 003			SITREP Date: 290617zAug2005			
[REDACTED]						

I. Situation

Hurricane Katrina went over the city of New Orleans on Monday.
Winds were 145-mph winds.
River Reading: 10.1 ft
River Crest (Carrollton Cage): 15.5 ft at 0900 hrs

A. General

CEMVN's CMT and CAT are coordinating the execution plan with the Unwatering Planning Response Team. District employees are calling in to the Alternate Headquarters Site to inform their supervisors of their status. CEMVN's CMT continues to brief CEMVS's CMT on CEMVN's AOR. The Commander's Reevaluation team inspected the District Headquarters Building and found minor damages to northeast corner of the third floor. COL Wagenaar reconstituted the EOC in the District Headquarters building.

B. Weather

Rain and Windy
81 degrees F
Feels Like 85 degrees F
Wind: From WSW at 28 mph

C. Damage Assessment

No damages to report at this time.

D. Secondary Impacts

There is reported flooding in Kenner with water 4-5 ft. on Williams Blvd.
There is flooding in St. Bernard Parish with reports of water up to the roofs of homes.
It has been reported that Causeway Blvd. has about 4 ft. of standing water.
It has been reported that Arabi, in St. Bernard Parish, is under 10 ft. of water.

E. Other

PARISH EVACUATIONS:

SHELTERS:

Special Needs open: 9
General Population Shelter: 113

ROAD CLOSURES: Causeway Bridge; LA 23 Belle Chase Tunnel

A.1. MVN Project Operations

CDR has coordinated with Jefferson Parish and has the following information as of 1300 29Aug05:

3 pump stations in East Jefferson Parish are inoperable - no pump stations have operators on site - therefore no water is exiting the drainage canals and they are overtopping with rainwater and flooding the local streets. We observed 4 feet of water standing in Williams Blvd.

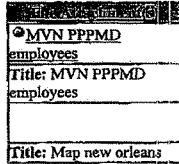
East Jefferson Parish Levee District personnel have driven the length of the Lake Ponchartrain Levee and report that the levee is in good condition, with no evidence of overtopping or erosion, only minor waves may have lapped over the levee.

We observed most houses with major damage to their roofs - roofing will be a huge mission for FEMA.

We have been unable to contact St. Tammany, Plaqueminc, Orleans, St. Charles, or St. Bernard Parishes. We continue to try to reach parish officials to assess the situation. We understand that some or all pump stations in Orleans parish have been inoperable. We have been unable to confirm this. Info from the net indicates that St. Bernard Parish experienced heavy inundation.

Have heard from sources that water came from 17th St Canal into Lake View, a subdivision in New Orleans.

Trying to make initial contacts with Memphis PPPMD, but phone lines and email have not been functional most of the day.



A.2. Waterways Operations

The Mississippi River is closed to traffic from Southwest Pass to Natchez, MS

The dredge Wheeler remains docked in Baton Rouge, LA and is likely to remain there throughout Monday.

A.3. Locks and Control Structures

Port Allen Lock is closed to most traffic due to the closure of the railroad bridge. On 29 Aug at 0525 hrs, sporadic rain, 25 mph winds, river gage 6.9 ft (was 5.9 ft. at 1500 hrs. on 28 Aug.); canal gage 1.6 ft. (was 1.8 ft. at 1500 hrs. on 28 Aug). As of approximately 1730 hours on 29 Aug, the railroad bridge at Port Allen Lock is operational and USACE hydrographic survey boats will be able to exit the lock into the Mississippi River.

Harvey Lock remains closed. Lost power but is on generator power. On 29 Aug at 0550 hrs, steady rain with 65 mph winds. Gage readings unobtainable at this time. At midnight river gage 5.0 ft. and canal gage 1.45 ft. On 29 Aug at 1055 hrs, the gage on the canal side of Harvey Lock is at 3.0 ft and rising; the river gage at the lock is at 15.0 ft. There are approximately 30-40 trees down and all trees in the area are damaged. Hatch covers for the engine room were bolted down but blew away and several buildings in the area have roof damage. On 29 Aug at 1330, water is rising on the canal side and is about 1/2 ft. from topping the bank (gage is at 4.0 ft.) and the river is dropping. The canal is backed up and overtopping its banks in areas.

Algiers Lock remains closed. On 28 Aug at 2300 hrs. canal gage reading 0.75 ft. On 29 Aug at 0500 hrs. extensive rain and wind. Canal gage reading unobtainable at this time.

IHNC Lock remains closed. Water is rising fast on canal side and is beginning to overtop concrete floodwall. Lock lost commercial power and generator power due to flooding from overtopping of floodwall along the west side of the IHNC. On 29 Aug. at 0610 hrs, river gage is 9.1 ft. and canal gage is 14.4 ft. On 29 Aug at 1325 hrs, there is about 16 inches of water in the tunnels. The tide in the canal is going down (gage is about 11.0 ft.) and the Florida Ave. Bridge is under water. It has been reported that the electrical components of the lock were flooded, but the machinery was above the water level. Approximately a 1-block section of the floodwall along the canal failed on the east side of the canal & north side of Judge Seeber Bridge.

Bayou Boeuf Lock sustained no visible damage and reported only small tree debris on the grounds. They

are on generator power and have enough fuel for about a week and a half. There is no visible damage to any of the buildings and the lock should be able to open at 1900 hrs on 29 Aug.

All other facilities are open for normal operations.

A.4. Pumping Stations

Jefferson Parish pumping stations at Duncan & Bommabel canals are damaged. All Jefferson and Orleans Parish Pumping Stations are inoperable as of 29 Aug.

B. USACE Authorities

C. FEMA Mission Assignments

C.1. ICE Mission

C.2. Water Mission

C.3. Emergency Power Mission

C.4. Debris Mission

C.5. Temporary Roofing Mission

C.6. Temporary Housing

C.7. Technical Assistance

C.8. Regional Activation

A. Personnel

Assigned = 47

Accounted = 254

Unknown = 839

Accountability of district personnel: Supervisors continue their attempts to contact all personnel, but connections are limited by cell phone traffic limitations. Employees have been instructed to call in to MVN and MVK toll-free numbers to gain accountability. Those that get through have expressed difficulty in making telephone contact because of cell phone traffic limitations and land-line long distance connection problems.

cw/df - 29 Aug 05

B. Information Management

Continue to address computer related problems and connectivity issues. Cell phone service is diminished. Out going long distance phone service was lost and remains down. Network connectivity with the New Orleans District district is currently down. DLB

C. Logistics

New Orleans District Facility status:

(NOTE: This is an initial status report.)

Shops building roof over the office area is coming off.
 Canopy to new mail room (bldg 748) has blown off.
 NOD building has significant substantial damages, e.g., north side.
 Also damages to Child Care Center building.
 Door to the 400 kw generator blew in, generator has been shut down. Bunker is being supported by the 50kw generator.

MVN RECON team is scheduled to return to New Orleans ASAP to do site survey of damages. This is essential before we can reopen our district headquarters.

GSA leased vehicles that were on the grounds are damaged/destroyed; not sure to what extent. GSA Regional Fleet Office was notified of this status and requested to be prepared for emergency replacement of vehicles.

Port Allen Lock has been designated as staging area for FEMA and COE.
 (Brad Blanchard, [REDACTED], is available on site to coordinate actions.

LM personnel status report: 23 assigned; 10 accounted, 13 unknown. Various times today attempts have been made to contact unknown via personal cell, however, no calls have gone through. LM will continue calling.

Continuing coordination with local hotels to ensure CMT, CAT members are being accommodated with lodging. Hotel staff has been very supportive but there is much confusion ensuring that our team continues to have a room. Available rooms in Vicksburg area are extremely hard to locate or non-existent at this time. One additional room was reserved today to a new team member added.

Additionally the local area has experienced several power outages throughout the day and has had to switch to generator power. MVK personnel have been released due to no electrical power in the building. Hotels are now also reporting lost of water due to city problems.

Supported EOC by inputting data into Englink; also prepared T&A sheets for CMT & CAT team members. Initiated action to all members to fill out emergency deployment evacuation TDY Travel regarding legal dependents who accompanied Corps team member. RM requested this information to estimate cost.

D. Public Affairs

Phone outage: Due to long-distance phone outage, incapable of making outgoing long-distance calls back to media. Requested MVN PAO patch media directly to us and tell media about the situation and to keep calling us.

29 Aug Media Interviews conducted:

- New York Times, Andrew Revkin - science reporter [REDACTED]
- * John Hall - conditions at levees
- Chicago Tribune, Jeffrey Manier [REDACTED]
- * John Hall and Al Naomi - overall situation, weaknesses

- Newsweek, Susanna Schrobsdorff [REDACTED]
- * returned call only
- ENR, Andrew Wright [REDACTED]
- * phone line busy

28-29 Aug

- NPR, Emily Baracas,
- * John Hall, Al Naomi, Maj Murray Starkel - overall situation

Positive media for the most part. Fox News reported "Corps of Engineers did a miraculous with the levees."

Live video coverage of New Orleans and vicinity at: <http://www.wdsu.com/index.html>

Rumors reported in St. Bernard Parish are that the Corps, in cohorts with FEMA, blew the levee at Industrial Canal at Tennessee Street to prevent topping at Orleans. Contacted local TV and WLL radio to help dispel the rumors. The following was emailed:

From: New Orleans District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Date: Aug. 29, 2005

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said Monday that reports are untrue that the Corps had created breaches in the hurricane levees. There have been no breaches of the levees by human action of any kind at this point.

If breaching of a levee to release water is required, it would be done only after careful coordination between the Corps of Engineers, levee districts and other local authorities.

At this point, the Corps of Engineers has no confirmed reports of levee breaching or levee failure of any kind during Hurricane Katrina. We are investigating for the possibility of any breaching, and we are also investigating whether levees have been overtopped at any point.

We have confirmed a floodwall failure on the Industrial Canal. The failure occurred on the east bank north of North Claiborne Avenue and south of Florida Avenue. It is about one block long.

We also have a confirmed report that there is no damage to the hurricane levee in Jefferson Parish and that the Jefferson Parish hurricane levee has not been overtopped.

New Orleans District Public Affairs can be reached at [REDACTED]
Crisis Action Team operating temporarily in Vicksburg, MS.

E. Security & Safety

F. Contracting

Spoke with 15 additional CT personnel. All were evacuated. Spoke with MVM contracting and unwatering team members on contracting strategy. Receiving numerous inquiries from potential vendors. Verbal NTP issued Saturday for two tow boats to support the Dredge Wheeler. Attempting to locate survey contractors with hydrographic capabilities. (JAB 8-29-05)

G. Resource Management

FCCE
Class 210 funding: \$50K

Notified CENWO to process 80 hours of pay for all workers in New Orleans District. Will need to do prior period adjustments on return to work.

The fully burdened labor cost estimate for billets assigned to the various hurricane teams is \$62,700 a day.

RAF

H. Engineering

Richard Pinner is located in Baton Rouge and is prepared to deploy on down river inspection. Richard has design experience with St. Bernard Parish and Orleans Parish floodwalls and levees.

Gages: Evaluation of storm surge was hampered by lack of gages and gage failure or not reporting. Also Internet problems also were encountered. Mississippi River gages on rivergages.com were accessed. The Carrollton gage crested at 15.5 feet at 0900. Venice gage was inoperable due to overtopping.

ADCIRC model was functional and helped to indicate water levels where gage data was not available or suspect.

I-walls: Floodwalls were overtopped on the east side of the 17th street Canal and the east side of the IHNC. Sections of wall failed in each area.

Doug Dillion is Engineering Division representative on the unwatering team and is currently deployed in Memphis.

We are inventorying our P&S under design for availability for construction.

CEMVN-ED stands ready to provide engineering support to Memphis and St. Louis Districts for unwatering and remedial flood control repairs and other civil works efforts.

I. Real Estate

Contacted C/Real Estate, Memphis District, to deploy to Port Allen Lock on 31 Aug 05 - they anticipate handling roof mission for FEMA. FEMA will also be located at Port Allen Lock. Memphis RE has received no tasks associated with the unwatering plan.

Service Support

A. Bunker

The Commander's Reevaluation team moved back to the EOC in the District Headquarters Building.

Command and Control

A. Command and Control
Bunker (located at New Orleans District):
COL Richard P. Wagensar
Commanding
[REDACTED] (bunker)
[REDACTED] (satellite)

James Walters
National Manager
[REDACTED] (bunker)

CMT (located at Vicksburg District):
MAJ Murray P. Starkel
Deputy Commander
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (fax)

Gregory Breerwood
DPM
[REDACTED]

Herbert "Joey" Wagner
National Disaster Manager
[REDACTED]

Field Offices

A. Field Officers
Mike Lowe