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FROM THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S DESK BY GARY ZULINSKI

I hope that everyone had a good Thanksgiving and hope this Holiday Season is the merriest for all and a Happy New Year to all.

The guidelines for 2005 Homeland Security have been released. There are some changes that everyone will appreciate. Grantees are permitted to drawdown funds up to **120** days prior to expenditure. Reporting will be easier with the ISIP and BISR which will both be online with a rollout of Jan 6, 2005.

As I had previously indicated 2005 funding was cut from 50 million requested to 15 million. Michigan Citizen Corps will receive **\$377,549** for 2005. I don't want anyone to draw the conclusion that this means the death knell for Citizen Corps. Indications are this may just be a pause for many states to catch up. Other states have experienced the same as Michigan, three years of funding going out in less than six months. To view the complete listing of 2005 DHS funding www.dhs.gov/dhspublic

I again stress that all councils publicize your achievements and let your local and state legislators aware of your successes.

We had to change the meeting place for the December Citizen Corps quarterly meeting from the Southeast chapter of the Red Cross to the Celebration room in the Hockey Town Café. The meeting was fantastic we had 15 or so volunteers from the recent Hurricane Relief attend and some spoke on their experience.

On November 16 Michigan Citizen Corps and Washtenaw Co Citizen Corps Council launched a

Teen School Emergency Response Training (SERT) pilot program at Milan High School. Eastern Michigan University (the POC of Washtenaw CO CC) is providing the TEEN SERT course to the students in advance placement. EMU is providing this program as a dual enrollment course with college credit to those students who successfully complete it.

I met with Col McDaniel (Governor's advisory on Homeland Security) and informed him of the Milan program and he was very excited and will be assisting me in promoting this same program to all Michigan colleges that provide dual enrollment to high school students.

I will have the TEEN SERT program on disk here by the second week of December for all that are interested.

I am in talks with SBC to form a partnership with Michigan Citizen Corps to provide preparedness education and promote CERT.

2004 HOLIDAY SEASON TRAVEL TIPS

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has a few tips to make your travel experience during the 2004-2005-winter

season more enjoyable. The suggestions below will help expedite your screening process at the airport checkpoints.

GUNS AND AMMUNITION

Firearms must be unloaded, placed in a locked hard-sided container and transported in checked baggage only. You must declare them to your airline. **Firearm parts and ammunition are also prohibited from carry-on luggage.** Ammunition must travel in the manufacturer's packaging or other packaging suitable for transport.



TSA Airport screening passenger at checkpoint.

PACKING

Pack your valuables, including jewelry, money, and laptops, and fragile items in your carry-on baggage. Fragile items and laptops could be damaged during transport, particularly when stored in the cargo hold of an aircraft or during handling. *Do not pack heavy food items in your checked luggage. Foods such as fruitcake may cause the airport screening machines to alarm, thus slowing down the security process.*

Do not overstuff your bags. Overstuffed bags will be more difficult to close if the screeners have to open your bag for a physical inspection.

SCREENING PROCEDURES

There are newly enhanced screening procedures in effect this winter season. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with the screening process so that you can move through the checkpoints rapidly.

Please be assured that TSA puts a high priority on customer service and that we have procedures in place to address all concerns.

Please be aware that although you may not alarm the metal detector, you may be required to go through additional screening for other reasons. Additional screening may include a pat down of your upper and/or lower body. If you are selected for additional screening, you may request a private area where it can be conducted.

As you approach the checkpoint, put all your metallic items, including keys, coins, phones, etc. in your carry-on bag or a plastic bag **before** you get to the x-ray machine. This will allow you to place all items together in the plastic bin at the checkpoint for easy retrieval as you exit. Some airports provide free plastic bags at the entrance to the checkpoint to collect your metal objects.

Remove your overcoat, as well as your jacket, blazer and suit coat, and place them in a plastic bin or on the x-ray belt. If a sport coat or blazer is worn as the outermost garment – not over a blouse or sweater, for example – it does not have to be removed. Sweaters and sweatshirts may remain on unless they contain a significant amount of metal or their size and bulk could potentially be used to conceal dangerous articles.

Take your laptop and video cassette-type camera out of their carrying cases. Place them in a plastic bin. You may put your overcoat and other coats or jackets on top of these items.

Gifts

Bring your gifts to the checkpoint unwrapped. Your gifts will be unwrapped by a screener if additional screening is required. You should consider bringing the wrapping paper and tape with you and wrapping your gifts upon arrival.

Sports Equipment

Transport skis and ski poles in checked baggage.

You can take ski boots as carry-on luggage.

Sporting equipment that can be used as a club (e.g. baseball bats) must be placed in checked baggage.

Refer to the [Transporting Special Items](#) section of the TSA website for more guidance.

Shoes

You may save yourself several minutes if you [remove your shoes](#) and place them on the X-ray belt at the checkpoint prior to going through the metal detector. If you wear shoes that have thick-soles, including boots, certain athletic shoes, and platform shoes, or have shoes with metal, you will likely be required to undergo additional screening, even if the metal detector does not alarm.

Locking Your Luggage

We suggest that you lock your checked baggage with a TSA [Accepted and recognized lock](#). TSA screeners can gain access to bags with these locks without damaging your bag or lock. Other locks may need to be cut if a physical inspection is required.

TSA is not liable for damage to locks.

Inappropriate Statements

Jokes or statements regarding bombs and/or threats during the screening process are taken very seriously. They may be grounds for both civil and criminal penalties, and could cause you to miss your flight.

Checkpoint Wait Times

TSA provides [expected wait times](#) for the security checkpoints to assist you in planning for your flight.

Remember to build in additional time for parking and airline check-in and check with your airline for possible flight delays.

DHS and Ad Council Launch New Ready Campaign PSA's

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Ad Council unveiled new Ready campaign public service advertisements (PSAs) today. The PSAs are designed to encourage people to develop a family emergency plan in case of a terrorist attack or other emergency. The new PSAs, which feature children questioning parents about what to do during an emergency, are the second series of advertisements for the Ready campaign.

"The message is simple: 'Everyone should have a plan'," said Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge. "The Ready campaign is another way in which we are galvanizing public preparedness efforts along with our partners in cities and community organizations across the country."

Secretary Ridge unveiled the new Ready PSAs at an event at the National Press Club hosted by the National Cable & Telecommunications Association (NCTA) and the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), two organizations that have pledged their continued support for the campaign. The event also featured remarks by American Red Cross President and CEO, Marsha Johnson Evans, who discussed the importance of emergency preparedness and the joint efforts of Homeland Security and the Red Cross in promoting this issue.

"I hope these ads will encourage parents to take a little time to sit down and map out their family emergency plan today, so they're prepared for a terrorist attack, natural disaster or any emergency in the future," said Ridge.

The Ready campaign, launched in February 2003 by Homeland Security and the Ad Council, is designed to educate and empower Americans to prepare for and respond to potential terrorist attacks and other emergencies. The goal of the campaign is to get citizens involved and, ultimately, to increase the level of basic preparedness across the nation. Ready and its Spanish language version List to ask individuals to do three key things: get an emergency supply kit, make a family emergency plan, and be informed about the different types of emergencies that could occur and their appropriate responses.

The new version of the PSAs unveiled today, which were created pro bono by BBDO Worldwide, are aimed at parents and speak particularly about the value of a family emergency plan. The television advertisements feature children asking such questions as, "How do we keep in touch with each other if the phones don't work?" "If we can't make it home, who'll pick us up?" and "Shouldn't we pick a place to meet?" Homeland Security advises that by simply taking a little time to create a family emergency plan, parents can help uncover the answers to these critically important questions. In addition to the television advertisements, there are also new Ready campaign radio, print, outdoor and Internet PSAs.

"The Department of Homeland Security is working to prepare all Americans, including families, seniors, business owners, educators, children and single people," said Ridge. "The version of the campaign that we unveiled today is aimed towards families."

The Ad Council has declared Ready one of the most successful campaign launches in its 62-year history. Since its launch, more than 210 million people have seen or read about Ready; its website (www.Ready.gov) has received over 1.8 billion hits; and the campaign has received more than \$310 million in donated media support.

While it is too early to effectively gauge the long-term effects of the campaign on public preparedness, thus far there are indications of progress. A survey conducted by the Ad Council in early September 2004 found that 58% of Americans have taken at least one step to prepare for emergencies. The number of individuals taking specific preparedness steps has also increased:

- 36% now have an emergency supply kit, an increase of 10% since the start of the campaign
- 24% now have made a family emergency plan, an increase of 9 %
- 16% have sought more information about what to do in an emergency, an increase of 11% since the start of the campaign

The new public service announcements combined with Ready Business and the future launch of Ready

Kids are directed at engaging more Americans on emergency preparedness.

One of the Department of Homeland Security's key priorities is helping communities become better prepared to protect against or respond to a terrorist attack or major disaster. The Ready campaign, along with over 1,400 Citizen Corps Councils, helps engage citizens to prepare for emergencies. These programs are a critical part of a better-prepared America.

The Ready campaign is a national public service advertising campaign produced by the Ad Council in partnership with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Ready is designed to educate and empower American citizens to prepare for and respond to potential terrorist attacks and other emergencies.

Citizens interested in receiving a "Get Ready Now" brochure may call 1-800-BE-READY or visit www.Ready.gov for more information.

VOLUNTEERS IN POLICE SERVICE PROGRAM DOUBLES PARTICIPATION SINCE 2003

Participation in the Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) Program, a volunteer law enforcement program, has more than doubled since last year, increasing participation from 27,000 to 69,000 civilians nationwide. VIPS now operates 1000 programs across the country; nearly doubling last year's 585 programs.

The VIPS Program is administered by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP) and assists local law enforcement in every state and the District of Columbia. VIPS is one of four Citizen Corps programs, which are a part of USA Freedom Corps, President Bush's initiative to encourage and provide opportunities for all Americans to engage in community service and to participate directly in efforts to improve homeland security. Prior to the launch of the VIPS national effort in 2002, there were 76 programs in 27 states and the District of Columbia.

"It is especially encouraging to watch VIPS programs flourish and the number of volunteers double over the last year. The tremendous growth in the number of citizen volunteers illustrates their eagerness to

serve and support local police departments in securing our communities and neighborhoods," said OJP Assistant Attorney General Deborah J. Daniels. "Equally encouraging is the fact that police departments are acknowledging the value of volunteers, allowing officers to concentrate on their primary duties and spend more time where they're most needed."

The goal of the VIPS Program is to enhance the volunteer capacity of state and local law enforcement agencies. The Department of Justice administers the VIPS Program in partnership with the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). IACP is the world's oldest and largest nonprofit membership organization of police executives, with over 19,000 members in more than 89 different countries. VIPS volunteers assist law enforcement agencies in a variety of ways, including answering phones, taking incident reports, participating in crime prevention programs such as Neighborhood Watch, sitting on citizen advisory boards and engaging in citizen patrols, and assisting with special events. They also help direct traffic, act as interpreters and donate their computer skills.

The 1000th registered VIPS program is the 911 Explorer Post, affiliated with the Albion, N.Y., Police Department. The Explorer post was formed by the Village of Albion Police Department in conjunction with the Albion Central School District. The Explorer post has nine volunteers trained in basic police tactics and operations who provide security at school and community events. The volunteers are issued uniforms similar to those of the Albion Police Department and often work to control traffic and crowds at festivals, parades and other community events.

Another volunteer unit, the "VIPS Gray Squad," is an all-volunteer "cold case" unit within the Tulsa, Okla., Police Department, dedicated to solving cases on which the trail of evidence has become cold. It is located within the department's Homicide Unit and is led by a former Tulsa Police Department detective who now volunteers. Earlier this year, the Gray Squad spent hundreds of hours closing the 1975 murder of a local college student. In April 2004, the case was closed when the accused pleaded guilty and received a sentence of life in prison.

The VIPS Web site serves as a gateway to information both for law enforcement agencies and for citizens interested in volunteering. It includes a searchable database of existing programs, a resource guide of downloadable sample documents and policies, a VIPS information e-mail list, and a "VIPS to VIPS" moderated discussion group. The Web site has been instrumental in helping communities establish new VIPS programs and in mobilizing citizen volunteers. It also provides a wealth of information for law enforcement agencies seeking to enhance or establish a VIPS program. To date, the VIPS Web site has received more than 5.1 million hits and is accessible from the OJP's Web site at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov>.

The Office of Justice Programs provides federal leadership in developing the nation's capacity to prevent and control crime, administer justice, and assist victims. OJP is headed by an Assistant Attorney General and comprises five component bureaus and two offices: the Bureau of Justice Assistance; the Bureau of Justice Statistics; the National Institute of Justice; the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; and Office for Victims of Crime, as well as the Office of the Police Corps and Law Enforcement Education and the Community Capacity Development Office, which incorporates the Weed and Seed program and OJP's American Indian and Alaska Native Affairs Desk. More information can be found at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov>

Niigata Quake Spurs Disaster-Relief Rethink

By Eriko Arita and Akemi Nakamura
Staff writers

The powerful earthquakes that hit the Chuetsu region of Niigata Prefecture in October, forcing the evacuation of up to 100,000 people, have jolted prefectural and city governments throughout the nation into reviewing their own disaster countermeasures.

The central, prefectural and city governments reinforced their disaster measures after the Great Hanshin Earthquake of 1995, which resulted in the

loss of more than 6,000 lives and displaced more than 300,000 people.

One of the major lessons learned from the Hanshin quake was the need to secure sufficient amounts of emergency rations. After the killer quake severed their lifelines and transportation networks, many local governments -- dependent on outside help -- found themselves unable to obtain enough food and drinking water.

Today, many have enough rice, hardtack and drinking water stored to last for a couple of days. The Tokyo Metropolitan Government and municipalities within the capital combined have two days of food and four weeks of water (three liters a day for each resident) stored up for a worst-case scenario: a direct hit on the capital by a giant quake originating directly underneath. Tokyo plans to use 1,700 gas stations as bases of support for the estimated 3.7 million commuters who will be stuck in the city if such a disaster strikes. The designated filling stations are tasked with supplying drinking water, lavatories and resting space, as well as information from emergency radio broadcasts.

"The gas station buildings are constructed under tighter fireproofing and earthquake-resistant standards" than other buildings, said Motoaki Kobayashi, a spokesman for the metropolitan government's Disaster Prevention Bureau.

"At the time of the Hanshin earthquake, (most) gas stations remained intact, whereas many other buildings were destroyed in (quake-induced) fires." While many local governments have improved preparedness for major disasters, some remain unready.

Katsunori Ishida, assistant director of the Hyogo Prefectural Government's disaster management division, pointed out that some of Hyogo's municipalities have paid little attention to stockpiling emergency rations -- even though the area was severely damaged in 1995.

"Some rural towns -- especially those in rice-producing areas -- have made little progress in preparing emergency food because they assume they have abundant rice supply in the communities," he said.

According to Ishida, those municipalities are not complying with the prefecture's requirement of storing one day's worth of food for local residents.

Elsewhere in the country, local governments have formed agreements to mutually support each other with food, vital goods and personnel.

In Fukushima Prefecture, one of the seven in northeastern Japan that have emergency support agreements with Niigata Prefecture, fact-finding officials were dispatched to Niigata the day after the first series of quakes struck on Oct. 23.

After discovering food was short, Fukushima teamed up with Miyagi and Yamagata prefectures on Oct. 25 to send enough rations to feed 50,000 people, said Susumu Takano, a spokesman for the Fukushima Prefectural Government's disaster measures group.

In addition, the prefecture sent about 20 officials to help their counterparts take care of the evacuees, he said.

"As the Niigata Prefectural Government officials were in utter confusion right after the earthquake, they could not come up with detailed requests for us," Takano said. "So we suggested a menu of possible support we could offer."

Tokyo has formed similar support agreements with several neighboring prefectures.

In May, Sugunami Ward, one of Tokyo's 23 wards, formed a mutual disaster support agreement with Ojiya, Niigata Prefecture, which was one of the cities hardest hit by the Oct. 23 quakes. Sugunami dispatched officials there to provide food and manpower.

In addition to the problem of emergency supplies, the Niigata quakes shed light on how stress and fatigue impact evacuees over extended periods.

Of the 37 confirmed quake fatalities, 14 died after falling ill after the temblors. Some of them were found to be suffering from so-called economy-class syndrome (in which blood clots form during prolonged inactivity) because they had to sleep in their vehicles.

Mikio Maeda, director of the Shizuoka Prefectural Government's disaster prevention office, said the

prefecture needs to improve its disaster relief measures to cope with such problems.

"Our (disaster relief) plan does not anticipate that so many residents will take refuge in their vehicles," he said. "What we should do (to prevent economy-class syndrome) is to secure sufficient public shelters for all evacuees."

Shizuoka has been preparing for a major earthquake since 1976 amid persistent forecasts that a magnitude-8 earthquake is due to hit the Tokai region.

Suminao Murakami, director of the Laboratory of Urban Safety Planning, a private think tank, said the public should help itself by re-examining its own preparations.

"Residents should become more aware of the importance of preparing for disaster" by participating in drills and using tools to prevent furniture from being toppled by earthquakes.

The Japan Times: Nov. 4, 2004

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RESOURCES:

CERT Resources

http://www.michigan.gov/mcsc/0,1607,7-137-6116_23782-103091--,00.html

Are You Ready?

www.ready.gov

FEMA Preparation and Prevention Virtual Library

<http://www.fema.gov/library/prepandprev.shtm>

Building A Disaster Resistant Neighborhood

<http://www.tallytown.com/redcross/drn.html>

CDC Emergency Training and Response

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/training>

American Red Cross Community Disaster Materials

<http://www.redcross.org/pubs/dspubs/cde.html>

CERT: FAQ

<http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/CERT/certfaq.asp>

Take The CERT CHALLENGE!

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/CERT/certchallenge/instruction.htm>

For more information about Michigan Citizen Corps, contact the Program Coordinator, Gary Zulinski at (517) 241-3867 or zulinski@michigan.gov.

***We all have a role
in Hometown Security***

**Citizen Corps asks you to embrace the personal responsibility to be prepared;
to get training in first aid and emergency skills;
and to volunteer to support local emergency responders, disaster relief, and community safety**