

Quake deaths to go over 60; damage total near \$1 billion

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Deaths from Southern California's shattering earthquake appeared likely to rise above 60 Thursday and damage was estimated unofficially at \$1 billion or more.

Thousands of persons whose homes were harmed by Tuesday's tremor or who were evacuated from the area of a leaking reservoir dam either camped out in the unseasonably warm weather or stayed at Red Cross centers in schools.

The total of known dead

reached 55. Thirty-five bodies had been found in the ruins of collapsed buildings at a veterans hospital, where three patients and five nurses still were missing and feared dead.

In the hard-hit San Fernando Valley, closest populous area to the shock's center, an estimated 3,000 persons slept on cots or mats at seven evacuation centers at high schools or junior highs. No classes were held.

Others, in communities like San Fernando and Sylmar where walls

of homes were cracked and utilities were out in some districts, slept under the stars or in backyard tents.

Temperatures were in the high 80s during the day, dipping into the high 50s at night.

Eighty thousand people were ordered out of a 20-square-mile area below Van Norman Lakes dam, the city's largest reservoir. The quake shattered the concrete facing, and portions of the wall of compressed earth that retains the water cracked. Officials, fearing strong after-shocks might cause a flood, said evacuees could not return until Friday afternoon when emergency draining would lower water to a safe level.

City and county officials continued an assessment of damage to public and private facilities, with many yet to be inspected. With preliminary tallies already past the \$300 million mark, the county engineer's office said the ultimate total likely would be \$1 billion or more.

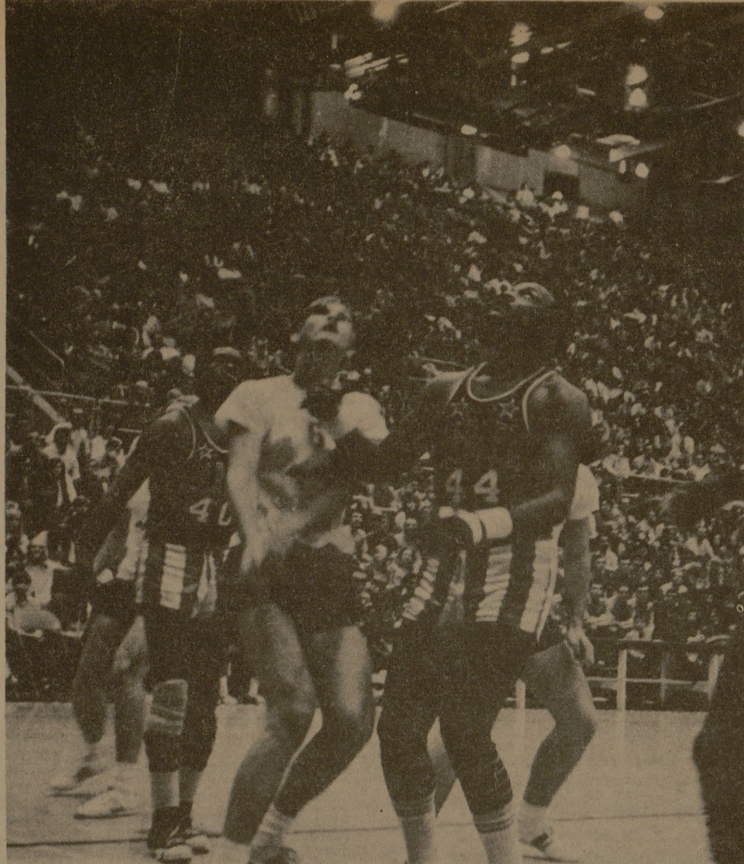
With a four-day weekend holiday coming up, California Highway Patrol officials predicted a "horrendous" traffic jam around the west end of the San Fernando Valley where freeways and other roads to some mountain and desert recreation regions were closed due to crumpling of paving and collapse of bridges.

There have been daily commuter traffic jams, as autos are diverted to surface streets, many of them damaged too. Friday is Lincoln's Birthday and Monday is being observed as Washington's Birthday.

Workers continued hunting bodies in the rubble of two collapsed buildings at the 45-year-old Veterans Administration Hospital at Sylmar. Well over 100 patients and hospital employees were inside when the walls fell out and the roof fell in. It was the third day of efforts to clear away twisted girders and huge concrete chunks that plunged and interlocked.

The Red Cross estimated that 7,000 persons had used its food and rest facilities at the seven schools, with 3,000 overnighting.

Families hastily evacuated from the area of the dam were issued passes to go back in for 45 minutes to retrieve needed personal gear, such as clothing.



The Harlem Globetrotters beat the Leggett Losers, here represented by Russel Sheaffer, in the Thursday night pre-performance show. (Photo by Mike Rice)

American soldiers seen with Vietnamese in Laos

NEW YORK (AP) — ABC Radio reported Thursday that a dead American soldier wearing a South Vietnamese uniform had been evacuated from inside Laos.

Both ABC and CBS networks carried reports that American ground troops were taking part in the invasion, some in South Vietnamese uniforms.

In Washington, Pentagon spokesmen continued to deny that any American ground combat troops are involved.

White House press secretary Roland L. Ziegler said that "our policy is and will continue to be that there will be no U.S. combat troops or advisors in Laos."

ABC newsman Howard Tuckner reported he had seen what appeared to be an American bathing with two South Vietnamese soldiers 25 miles inside Laos. South Vietnamese riding with Tuckner said the man was a "GI adviser."

"When we tried to jump off

the vehicle to speak to him, he ran off into the bush," Tuckner reported.

He said that soon an American helicopter came in to pick up some American bodies. He said the pilot, who was on the ground for 30 minutes, told him he was waiting to pick up the bodies of four helicopter crewmen who were shot down.

The South Vietnamese unexpectedly brought a fifth American body, wearing the uniform of the South Vietnamese airborne troops, Tuckner reported.

CBS Radio news reported that U.S. helicopters flying South Vietnamese troops into Laos sometimes carry American Special Forces officers, some in South Vietnamese uniforms.

Fish drill team faces busy times

A busy spring schedule will be initiated Saturday by the Fish Drill Team.

The unit that will defend three straight national championships in April will be the lead unit in Conroe's sixth "Go Texan With Conroe" parade.

Invitation for the all-freshman unit's performance was extended to President Jack Williams by the Montgomery County Trail-Riders Association.

Virtually every succeeding weekend until Final Review is also booked for the team commanded by William L. Peppard of Houston. The Fish Drill Team will have one free weekend besides the Easter holiday class break.

Peppard will step off the 1:30 p.m. Conroe parade alongside a 33-member team making its first spring semester appearance. Team advisor J. Malon Southerland of the Commandant's Office

said the Conroe A&M Club will host the cadets and upperclass advisors headed by Richard A. Hanes of San Antonio at a barbecue lunch.

The Conroe Club president is Dr. Rolf R. Lipke, 1962 A&M graduate in animal science who also received the D.V.M. here.

"We look upon the Conroe parade as a good warmup for the spring competition schedule," commented Southerland, who shares advisor duties with Air Force Maj. Harvey Haas and Army Capt. Charles Briscoe. "We'll begin finding out what we have."

The team that has won the National Intercollegiate ROTC Drill title at the Washington, D. C., Cherry Blossom Festival for the last three years made five fall semester appearances. They were at football march-ins, the Tyler Rose Festival, a campus group meeting exhibition and annual Bryan and College Station Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade.

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Application for degrees are now being accepted in the Registrar's Office from all undergraduates who expect to complete their degree requirements by May, 1971. Candidates for advanced degrees must file their applications with the graduate Dean's Office. The deadline date for filing applications is February 12, 1971.

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SCIENTISTS READY FOR MOON ROCKS

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — Scientists prepared the Lunar Receiving Laboratory here Thursday for the arrival of the Apollo 14 astronauts and the scientifically precious rocks they brought from the moon.

Astronauts Alan B. Shepard Jr., Stuart A. Roosa and Edgar D. Mitchell arrive here early Friday, completing a trip by sea and air from the South Pacific where they splashed down from space Tuesday.

Twelve persons, who will handle the housekeeping chores, are already quarantined in the Lunar Receiving Laboratory — LRL — awaiting the astronauts. The spacemen will be in isolation there until Feb. 26.

Scientists working the sample examination section of the LRL were prepared to start processing a load of rocks planned to arrive about 4 p.m. EST at Ellington Air Force Base near the Manned Spacecraft Center.

This shipment was flown from the prime recovery ship, the USS New Orleans, on Wednesday.

Scientists said the first shipment is thought to weigh between nine and 12 pounds and will include four core tubes taken from beneath the moon's surface, a few rocks and a quantity of material taken from an 18-inch trench dug on the moon.

Most of the 95 pounds of moon rock gathered by the astronauts will arrive at the laboratory next week, officials said.

Palace

TODAY—1:45-3:38-5:31-7:27-9:22
"BREWSTER McCLOUD"
With Salley Kellerman

CAMPUS

TODAY & SATURDAY
1:30 - 4:47 - 8:04
"3 IN THE ATTIC"
3:13 - 6:30 - 9:47
"3 IN THE CELLAR"
STARTING SUNDAY

groupie
A rock group camp follower. Some are kinky some freaky — But to get a cat she's gotta have a gimmick.

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WEST SCREEN AT 6:30 P. M.
LAST NITE
"TASTE OF BLOOD"
At 8:15 p.m.
"TEENAGE STRANGLER"

OUR SATURDAY NITE SPECIAL
ALL 3 IN COLOR
No. 1 At 6:30 p.m.
"LONG RIDE FROM HELL"
No. 2 At 8:30 p.m.
"HOW TO COMMIT A MARRIAGE"
No. 3 At 10:30 p.m.
"NAKED ANGEL"

EAST SCREEN AT 6:40 P. M.
"MAD, MAD, MAD, WORLD"
At 9:15 p.m.
"A PLACE CALLED GLORY"

CIRCLE DRIVE-IN

TONITE AT 6:30
"LOVERS AND OTHER STRANGERS"
At 8:30 p.m.
Steve McQueen In
"BULLIT"

PALACE

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