

ECUADOR

Floods

November 1970

March 1971

... cause evacuation of 10,100 in Imbabura and Guayas Provinces.

Value of U.S. Assistance \$1,843

DETAILS:

November 1970 Floods

During the early part of November, the Ambuqui River overflowed and seriously affected an estimated 100 persons in the Province of Imbabura. Eight families were left homeless, and many acres of recently planted land were covered with water. Dollar damage was estimated at \$20,000.

March 1971 Floods

Flooding occurred along the banks of the Babahoyo River in Guayas Province in the vicinity of Guayaquil. Some 10,000 flood victims in five or six villages were in need of assistance. Four of the villages—Samborondon, Juan B. Aguirre, General Vernaza and Urbina Jado—were completely inundated and the population isolated.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ECUADOR

Distribution of food for the November flood victims was supervised by the local police in coordination with Caritas/Ibarra Inspector.

For the March floods, the Commander of the Second Military Zone of Guayaquil requested food assistance from Catholic Relief Services for 650 families. USAID authorized CRS to donate 20,000 pounds of USG PL 480 commodities. The food was delivered to Major Jorge F. Vasquez for distribution using Ecuador Army personnel and vehicles.

The Government of Ecuador, acting through the Ministry of Defense, provided local commodities for distribution to approximately 500 families, which were a separate group from those that received PL 480 food. This food consisted of rice, sugar, salt, spaghetti, lard and beans in the amount of 30,000 pounds, valued at about \$2,000. CRS Program Director, Richard A. Redder, made the following statement concerning GOE relief operations: *"We are pleased with the manner in which this emergency was handled and with the cooperation and aid provided by the Ministry of Defense. The assistance was timely, distributions prompt and orderly, and, therefore, the recipients were very satisfied and grateful."*

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT

The only assistance requested by the Government of Ecuador from the USC was through Catholic Relief Services for PL 480 food. Deployment of such food by CRS was approved by USAID as follows:

November Floods—1300 pounds of CSM, flour, bulgur and vegetable oil, and rolled oats with an estimated value of \$ 86

March Floods—19,696 pounds of flour, CSM, bulgur and vegetable oil, valued at 1,757
\$1,843

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY U.S. VOLUNTARY AGENCIES

A direct request for food assistance was made to CRS by the Government of Ecuador Army. CRS responded immediately with the previously listed PL 480 commodities. CRS representatives visited the flood areas and observed the relief operations. See comments under GOE section of this report.

ASSISTANCE BY OTHER NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

None reported

