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BULLETIN # 24 - "Vehicle Maintenance Guidelines"

This bulletin supplements previously issued material, especially TIB #2b. Where TIB #2b is written for auto drivers, this bulletin is written for service stations, garages and others involved in maintaining passenger vehicles and light trucks. It reflects available recommendations from manufacturers of automobiles and parts. Guidelines for use in dealership garages have been distributed by major manufacturers. In general, these recommend increased frequency of all normal maintenance procedures for U. S. and foreign cars. The General Motors message to drivers, published in major newspapers in the ashfall area June 6, 1980, is consistent with the guidelines.

Note: The following portions of this bulletin are being reproduced on card stock and will be distributed free of charge by FEMA to the automotive trade in the ashfall area.

MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES FOR USE IN AREAS WITH VOLCANIC ASH

General - Use air (maximum 30 psi) to blow dust from open electrical equipment, such as the alternator, starter, windshield wiper motor etc. (500-1,000 miles per G.M.) Clean brake assemblies with compressed air (50-100 miles per G.M.) or monthly to 90 days (per Ford). Clean the automobile completely including the engine, radiator, etc. as often as daily if necessary. Use water to flush material off. If available, use more complete instructions from vehicle manufacturer.

Passenger Compartment - Cover air intake to ventilation, heater, or air conditioning system with loosely woven felt-type material.

Air Cleaner - Use of heavy duty (HD) air filters is recommended. Inspect the air filter frequently, and clean using compressed air (30 psi) to remove dust from the filter element, blowing from inside out.

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