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EARTHQUAKE IN THE AZORES
A TRAGEDY AND THE AMERICAN RESPONSE

A REPORT
TO THE
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS
UNITED STATES SENATE
by
SENATOR CLAIBORNE PELL

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(II)

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS,
Washington, D.C., April 15, 1980.

HON. FRANK CHURCH,
*Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: From February 8-12, I visited the Azores islands of Portugal in order to make a first-hand assessment of the damage resulting from the earthquake that struck the islands on January 1, 1980. I felt that such an assessment was important in connection with S. 2194, which I sponsored, to authorize \$10,000,000 in supplemental funds for fiscal year 1980 for reconstruction assistance to the earthquake victims.

The report of my findings and recommendations is attached. Frankly, I found conditions to be worse than I had expected. What I saw convinced me that Portugal, as one of our closest friends and allies, needs and deserves American assistance in dealing with the disaster that befell the people of the Azores on New Year's Day.

With every good wish.

Ever sincerely,

CLAIBORNE PELL.

(III)

LETTER OF JAMES T. SMITH

TO THE
HONORABLE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

IN RESPONSE TO A RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE SENATE
ON JANUARY 15, 1854, RELATIVE TO THE
REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE
ON THE LANDS BELONGING TO THE UNITED STATES
IN THE TERRITORY OF ARIZONA
AND THE TERRITORY OF NEW MEXICO
AND THE TERRITORY OF CALIFORNIA
AND THE TERRITORY OF ILLINOIS
AND THE TERRITORY OF INDIANA
AND THE TERRITORY OF OHIO
AND THE TERRITORY OF PENNSYLVANIA
AND THE TERRITORY OF VIRGINIA
AND THE TERRITORY OF NORTH CAROLINA
AND THE TERRITORY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
AND THE TERRITORY OF MISSISSIPPI
AND THE TERRITORY OF ALABAMA
AND THE TERRITORY OF LOUISIANA
AND THE TERRITORY OF MISSOURI
AND THE TERRITORY OF IOWA
AND THE TERRITORY OF KANSAS
AND THE TERRITORY OF NEBRASKA
AND THE TERRITORY OF MINNESOTA
AND THE TERRITORY OF WISCONSIN
AND THE TERRITORY OF ILLINOIS
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AND THE TERRITORY OF KANSAS
AND THE TERRITORY OF NEBRASKA
AND THE TERRITORY OF MINNESOTA
AND THE TERRITORY OF WISCONSIN

JAMES T. SMITH

PREFACE

I visited the Azores from February 8-12 to make a personal, first-hand assessment of the damage that occurred as a result of the earthquake that struck three of the islands on January 1 of this year.

Besides touring the islands, I discussed the islands' needs and reconstruction plans with the following officials of the Portuguese Government and the Regional Government of the Azores:

Admiral Silva Horta, Minister of the Republic (representative of the national government in Lisbon);

Dr. João Bosco Mota Amaral, President, Regional Government of the Azores;

Dr. Alvaro Monjardino, President, Regional Assembly of the Azores;

Dr. José Correia da Cunha, Coordinator, Cabinet of Assistance and Reconstruction, Regional Government of the Azores;

Mr. Antonio Loureiro, President, Municipal Council of Velas, island of São Jorge;

Mr. Luis Nemesio, President, Municipal Council of Calheta, island of São Jorge;

Dr. Manuel Baptista de Lima, Director, Museum of Angra do Heroismo, island of Terceira.

I also met with Brigadeiro Fernando de Maura Carvalho, commander of the Portuguese air base at Lajes; Brigadier General Richard T. Drury, commander of the U.S. forces at Lajes; Mr. Donald Finberg, chief of the AID Mission in Lisbon; and Mrs. Ruth Matthews, U.S. Consul for the Azores.

I was fortunate that my trip happened to coincide with a visit by the Honorable William Castro, a Member of the Rhode Island Senate. Senator Castro, who is of Azorean origin himself, is Fund Chairman for the Rhode Island Azorean Relief Fund and had been invited to the Azores by the Regional Government of the Azores. Together, he and I toured the earthquake stricken areas and met with the officials named above. Senator Castro and I also had an opportunity to see the arrangements made by the Portuguese for the distribution of the items collected and donated by the people of Rhode Island, Massachusetts, California and several foreign countries.

In my meeting with Dr. Baptista de Lima, Director of the Museum of Angra do Heroismo, I discussed the Portuguese Cultural Institute that I and members of the Portuguese-American community in Rhode Island are trying to establish. I pointed out that of all the ethnic groups in the United States, only the Portuguese do not have a comprehensive cultural center. There is only the Fleischner Museum of Portuguese Church Art in Philadelphia. Dr. Baptista de Lima was interested and supportive, and I urged him to consider donating works of Azorean and other Portuguese artists to the planned cultural center or to provide such works on a loan basis. He said that he would look into that possibility, and we agreed to be in further contact.

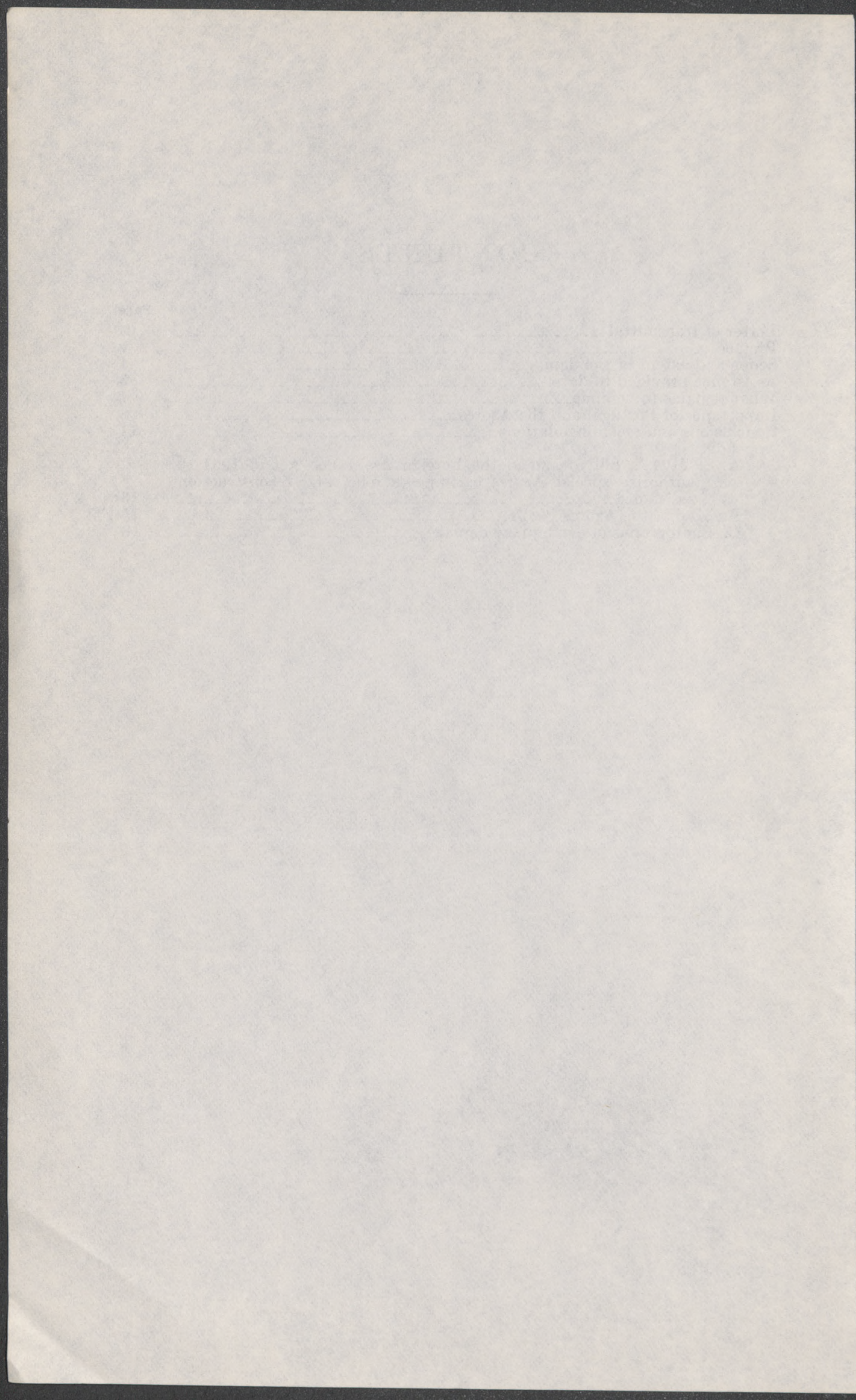
A report of my findings and recommendations regarding the earthquake relief effort follows, and I hope it will be of interest to all those concerned with an appropriate American response to the tragedy that occurred in the islands on New Year's Day.

CHAPTER I

The first part of the book is devoted to a general survey of the subject. It begins with a definition of the term "philosophy" and a discussion of its history. The author then proceeds to a consideration of the various branches of philosophy, including metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, and politics. He also discusses the relationship between philosophy and other sciences, such as mathematics and natural science. The second part of the book is devoted to a more detailed examination of the foundations of philosophy. It begins with a discussion of the nature of reality and the limits of human knowledge. The author then proceeds to a consideration of the various theories of truth and the nature of the self. The third part of the book is devoted to a discussion of the practical applications of philosophy. It begins with a consideration of the nature of the good and the right. The author then proceeds to a discussion of the various theories of justice and the nature of the state. The fourth part of the book is devoted to a discussion of the history of philosophy. It begins with a consideration of the ancient Greek philosophers and the medieval scholastics. The author then proceeds to a discussion of the modern philosophers, including Descartes, Locke, and Kant. The fifth part of the book is devoted to a discussion of the future of philosophy. It begins with a consideration of the various contemporary movements in philosophy, such as phenomenology and existentialism. The author then proceeds to a discussion of the role of philosophy in the modern world.

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SCOPE AND EXTENT OF THE DAMAGE

The decade of the 1980's began tragically with a devastating earthquake in the Azores on January 1. The islands of Terceira and São Jorge were the most seriously affected, but some damage also occurred on Graciosa. The earthquake left an estimated 69 dead or missing. Between 300 and 500 people were injured and an estimated 21,000 were left homeless. Many small villages were entirely destroyed, and almost every church on Terceira and São Jorge was either destroyed or heavily damaged to the point of being unsafe for worship services.

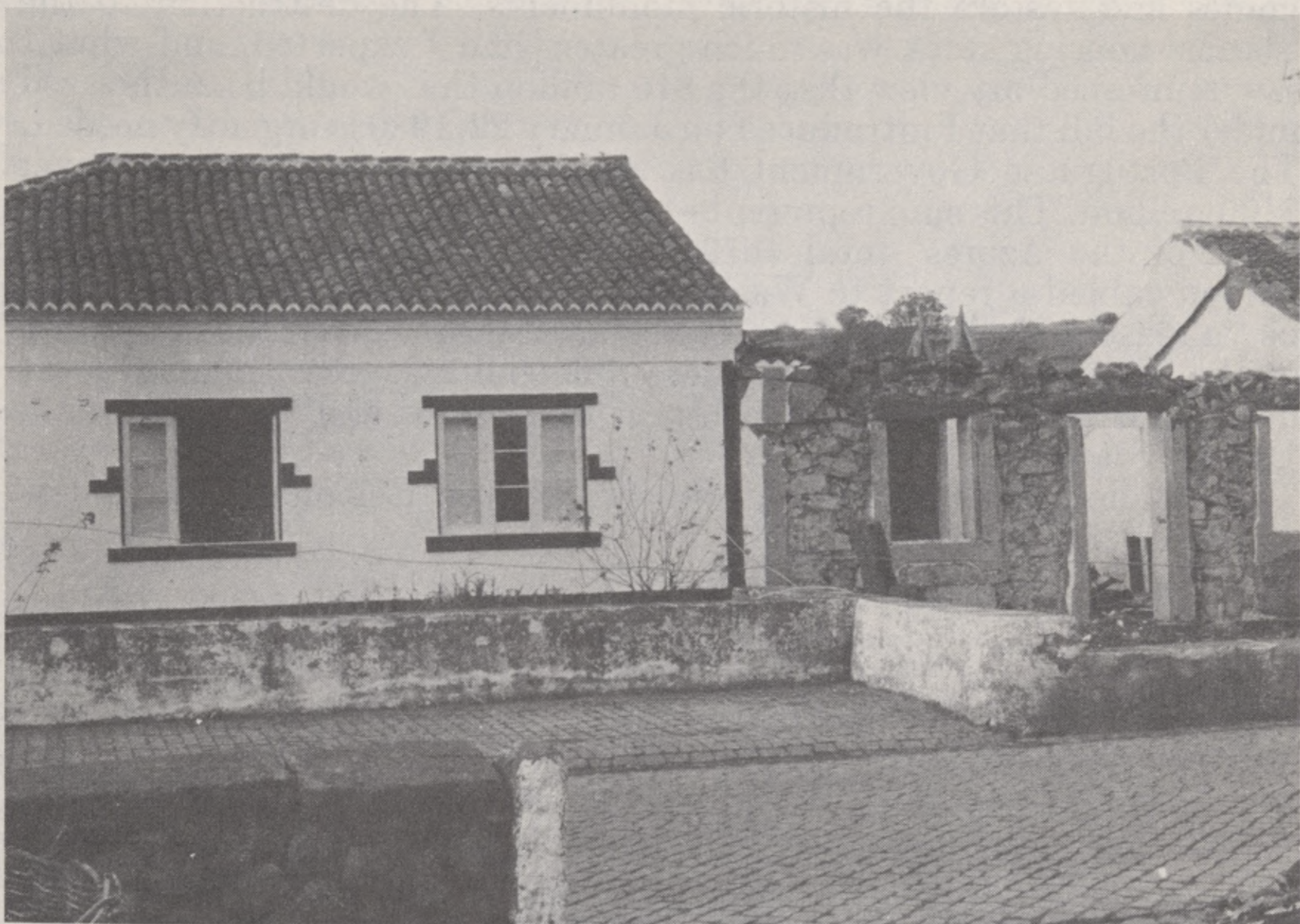
The people of the Azores were fortunate in one regard: most of the islands' residents were outside on a holiday afternoon enjoying a sunny and unseasonably warm day. If the earthquake had occurred at night or during bad weather when they would have been at home, the casualties would have been extremely high; and the earthquake could have constituted one of the greatest natural disasters in recent years. In this connection, I recall visiting one village and looking at the clock on the tower of a ruined church. The clock had stopped at 3:42 p.m., the precise time at which the earthquake struck. Looking at the ruins about me, I thought how lucky were those who were out of doors at that fateful hour.

The reason that so much damage occurred was that the walls of the majority of houses, churches and other buildings were constructed solely of uncut field stones and compacted earth. There was little or no structural reinforcement that would have provided the necessary strength and flexibility to withstand the earthquake tremors. A photograph showing this earthquake-prone construction appears below.

(1)



If buildings had been built with even a minimum of reinforcement, such as concrete with steel rods or even wooden poles imbedded in the concrete, they would have withstood the earthquake. No unusual or expensive construction would be necessary for a building to survive the kind of earthquake that occurred on January 1. I saw ample evidence of this, as in many neighborhoods where reinforced concrete buildings were interspersed with traditionally constructed ones, the former survived intact, while the latter were reduced to rubble. The photograph below shows two adjacent homes illustrating the strength of reinforced concrete construction and the weakness of traditional construction.



Despite the heavy damage to their homes, churches and shops, the people of Terceira and São Jorge impressed me with their strong spirit to rebuild their communities and resume their former activities. I personally saw hundreds of the homeless doubling up in the homes of friends and relatives, some living in partially destroyed homes with sheets of plastic covering gaping holes, and others living in tents or small wooden temporary shacks. People were cheerful, however, even when high winds and rain—which occurred when I was there—brought down tents and reduced these and other emergency housing areas to quagmires of mud.

Most difficult of all for the people of Terceira and São Jorge was the loss of virtually every church. The islanders are a deeply religious people, and the churches are vital centers of community as well as religious life. Congregations have had to meet in school buildings, which for the most part were not damaged because of their sound construction, but those buildings cannot, obviously, take the place of the churches, which will take many years to rebuild.

As I toured the islands, I was struck by the remarkable extent to which life had returned to something approaching normalcy. Streets were cleared of rubble, people were patching their homes, shops were open, and people were back at their jobs. In fact, the economic life of the islands resumed within a few days after the earthquake; and the fears of mass emigration proved to be unfounded. The people have decided to remain and rebuild rather than leave. Most remarkable of all, I learned that not a single case of looting was reported following the earthquake. Where else does that kind of honesty and community solidarity exist?

The energy and cheerfulness with which the islanders are rebuilding their homes and lives do not, however, obscure the fact that there was a great immediate need for help in the days following the earthquake and that a great deal still needs to be done to rebuild the islands'

homes and restore the historic monuments. The destruction to the islands' housing stock was much greater than I expected, and what I saw reinforced my view that the \$10 million that would be authorized under the bill that I introduced on January 22, 1980 is urgently needed. The Portuguese Government has assessed the total damage at over \$100 million. This sum represents 102 percent of the Regional Government of the Azores' total 1979 budget. The U.S. AID Mission in Lisbon cabled a report to Washington stating that \$10 million would be "a reasonable amount for a U.S. contribution, given the magnitude of the disaster, limited Portuguese financial resources, humanitarian needs and the special relationship of the Azores and Portugal to the United States."

A detailed damage survey, prepared by the Regional Government of the Azores follows:

Locality	Population	Housing stock	Houses destroyed	Percent houses destroyed	Houses repairable	Displaced persons	Dead or missing
Terceira Island (total).....	65,352	19,075	4,727	25	2,447	18,741	50
Angra do Heroismo (subtotal).....	39,731	11,220	3,962	35	2,203	15,878	50
Urban areas.....	18,294	4,607	1,814	39	804	7,566	-----
Nossa Senhora de Conceição.....	5,644	1,362	409	30	158	1,840	-----
Santa Luzia.....	3,853	966	415	43	204	1,930	-----
São Bento.....	2,205	542	243	45	135	1,300	-----
São Pedro.....	3,960	1,054	242	23	223	884	-----
Sé.....	2,632	683	505	74	84	1,612	-----
Rural areas.....	21,437	6,613	2,148	32	1,399	8,312	-----
Altare.....	1,294	447	112	25	78	451	-----
Doze Ribeiras.....	957	338	334	99	92	900	-----
Feteira.....	986	329	90	27	129	297	-----
Cinco Ribeiras.....	852	281	140	50	8	607	-----
Porto Judeu.....	2,476	656	6	1	41	26	-----
Raminho.....	853	349	70	20	61	280	-----
Ribeirinha.....	2,910	839	250	30	116	1,300	-----
Santa Barbara.....	1,816	598	350	59	89	1,115	-----
São Bartolomeu de Regatos.....	1,294	562	250	45	158	1,050	-----
São Mateus de Calheta.....	3,093	774	140	18	225	650	-----
São Sebastião.....	2,761	761	150	20	197	600	-----
Serreta.....	675	259	106	41	68	426	-----
Terra Chã.....	1,470	420	150	36	137	610	-----
Praia da Vitória (subtotal).....	25,621	7,855	765	10	244	2,863	-----
Agualva.....	2,544	652	50	8	92	208	-----
Biscoitos.....	1,980	787	404	51	84	1,316	-----
Cabo da Praia.....	1,314	457	3	1	-----	16	-----
Fonte do Bastardo.....	1,210	331	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Fontainhas.....	1,825	523	24	5	12	108	-----
Lajes.....	4,815	1,366	12	1	2	50	-----
Quatro Ribeiras.....	763	238	135	57	35	540	-----
Santa Cruz.....	7,478	2,480	7	1	1	30	-----
São Brás.....	1,260	341	30	9	-----	145	-----
Vila Nova.....	2,432	680	100	15	18	450	-----
São Jorge Island (total).....	6,068	2,241	450	20	1,424	2,064	19
Calheta:							
Calheta.....	1,473	514	20	4	-----	90	-----
Norte Pequeno.....	369	186	30	16	-----	120	-----
Nossa Senhora do Rosário do Topo.....	759	238	120	50	-----	554	-----
Ribeira Seca.....	1,861	680	80	12	-----	320	-----
Santo Antão.....	1,606	621	200	32	-----	980	-----
Graciosa Island (total).....	7,420	2,991	120	4	478	489	-----
Santa Cruz da Graciosa:							
Guadalupe.....	2,562	1,005	40	1	-----	165	-----
Luz.....	1,583	709	80	11	-----	324	-----
Santa Cruz.....	1,955	755	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Praia.....	1,320	522	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Grand total.....	78,840	24,307	5,297	22	4,349	21,294	69

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO DATE

Portuguese Government authorities, U.S. military units at Lajes Air Force Base on Terceira, the U.S. Embassy, and the Red Cross responded with help immediately. U.S. disaster funds of over \$650,000 have been made available by AID. This was followed by further help from foreign governments and private groups including Portuguese-American organizations in Rhode Island, Massachusetts and California. The day after the earthquake occurred, I cabled a request to the U.S. Ambassador in Lisbon and to the U.S. commander at Lajes urging that help be provided immediately. I was delighted to learn that the United States was already providing assistance when my cable arrived.

Ambassador Richard Bloomfield in Lisbon declared the Azores a disaster area, thus enabling him to provide \$25,000 in emergency relief immediately. Brigadier General Richard Drury at Lajes assembled his Crisis Action Team within minutes after the quake and began receiving requests for help from Portuguese civilian and military authorities. Emergency supplies at the base hospital were broken out, and food and medical supplies were provided to earthquake victims. The base dining hall was also opened to earthquake victims and was soon serving 1,800 meals a day.

Teams of U.S. Air Force, Army, Navy, civilians and dependent personnel from the base were organized and dispatched into the communities hardest hit by the quake. These teams cleared roads, dug through rubble and helped Azorean families move their belongings to protected shelters. Civil engineers from the base provided electric generators to the Portuguese authorities managing the relief operation, as 90 percent of Terceira's electric power was cut off. Two of the generators were used at a Portuguese hospital and another at a bakery to permit it to continue operating. The Base units also provided badly needed communication support. Temporary lodging was provided at dormitories and the gym on the base. Clothing was collected, and General Drury sent out a call for tents, mattresses and blankets.

Private citizens in Rhode Island, Massachusetts and California also mobilized help for the Azorean earthquake victims. Under the leadership of Senator Castro and others, Rhode Islanders collected over \$35,000 in cash and 60 tons of relief materials. Contributions from the United States played a significant role in meeting the immediate needs for food, clothing, cleaning materials and baby supplies. Private groups, such as the Rhode Island Azorean Relief Fund, are now working to help eliminate the "Azorean Tents," that still house many of the earthquake victims, and replace them with decent, durable structures.

A summary of the assistance provided by Portuguese, United States and other sources is as follows:

DISASTER RELIEF FOR THE AZORES

(As of March 1980)

GOVERNMENT OF PORTUGAL AID

As of February 24, 1980 GOP donations total 210 million escudos, approximately \$4.4 million. The GOP announced February 14 that it would open two lines of credit at low interest rates for 15 and 30

year terms to assist reconstruction efforts. The GOP is also providing between 100 and 200 pre-fabricated houses at an estimated cost of between \$2 and \$4 million. The Regional Government of the Azores had obligated by mid-February 108 million escudos of the sum mentioned above; due to its limited revenue base, any RGA efforts would probably have to be funded through reprogramming of its FY 1980 budget, which must be approved by the GOP.

The Government of Portugal also took the following measures in the immediate aftermath of the earthquake:

- High ranking civilian and military officials surveyed damage and coordinated requests for assistance.
- Portuguese military aircraft delivered emergency supplies.
- A Portuguese Health Team was sent to the islands.
- Portugal undertook photo reconnaissance jointly with the U.S. Military.
- Seismologists and other scientific personnel went to assist in the Azores.
- The Portuguese Air Force sent a plane to Canada to pick up relief supplies.

U.S. GOVERNMENT AID

The U.S. Military personnel from Lajes Air Force Base, Azores provided many volunteers to assist in the relief work as well as:

- Relief supplies including 1,000 mattresses and 1,000 blankets.
- Three military medical assistance teams and medical supplies.
- Road clearing convoys including personnel and heavy equipment; distribution of potable water; delivery of food.
- Emergency housing and meals provided by the U.S. air base for 642 Portuguese. Total DOD Cost—\$207,617.

OFDA airlift of 700 tents and tent flies and 1,000 blankets from the stockpile in Leghorn, Italy—\$391,212.

Airlift of emergency relief supplies collected by Azoreans from Rhode Island and Massachusetts—\$56,232.

200 tent repair kits—\$544 and 300 cots—\$4,420.

Seismologists to assess the situation on the islands—\$5,650.

Housing consultants for three weeks to recommend reconstruction options—\$14,000.

Total to Date—\$679,675.

THIRD-COUNTRY GOVERNMENTS

Greece—\$12,000.

Japan—\$10,000.

West Germany—\$60,000.

France—\$15,000.

South Korea—\$10,000.

United Kingdom—\$11,000.

Canada—\$100,000.

PRIVATE SECTOR

Total contributions in cash are about \$900,000, of which \$25,000 is reported to be from American citizens or residents and \$7,000 from Canadian sources. Actual total cash donations from both countries could be much higher. The remaining sums were given by mainland Portuguese and Azorean inhabitants and businesses.

The Boston Salvation Army coordinated the collection and shipment of relief supplies donated through the efforts of several East Coast Luso-American groups. The Salvation Army also solicited garbage bags, diapers and baby bottles and purchased cots for the Azores.

West Coast Luso-American groups also collected relief supplies, 10 tons of which have been shipped to the Azores at no cost through the work of the U.S. Navy's Project Handclasp, based in San Diego, California.

The Seventh-Day Adventist World Service (SAWS) has donated \$57,000 to buy blankets, tents and housing materials.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Canadian International Development Society—\$25,000.

Canadian Red Cross—\$5,000.

United Nations Disaster Relief Organization—100 French tents, 100 British tents and 500 Swiss tents from the International Red Cross, valued at \$150,000.

League of Red Cross Societies—915 tents.

U.S. CARITAS—\$320,000 (Repayments from existing USAID grant).

European Economic Community—\$150,000 to UNDRO to purchase 605 tents.

European Investment Bank—\$36,000.

Austrian CARITAS—\$40,000.

UNESCO—Technical assistance in reconstruction.

ICEM—Offer of technical assistance for housing.

The legislation that I sponsored was approved unanimously by the Senate on February 28, but has not yet been acted on by the House of Representatives. Because Congressionally authorized spending for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1980 has already reached the ceiling set by law, it appears unlikely that additional funds will be made available for the current fiscal year. In view of that, AID with my support and encouragement has decided to convert up to \$5 million of a \$30 million loan fund requested by the Administration for Portugal into a grant and to use it for Azorean earthquake relief. This is a necessary and desirable short-term emergency measure, but I believe it is essential that the \$5 million that will be borrowed from the loan fund should eventually be restored to that fund and an additional \$5 million provided for earthquake relief. Otherwise, important proposed agricultural development projects for Portugal will suffer.

WHAT REMAINS TO BE DONE

When Dr. Alvaro Monjardino, President of the Regional Assembly of the Azores, visited Rhode Island shortly before my trip, he said that there were three priority requirements as a result of the earthquake. They are: "housing, housing and more housing." The reconstruction and repair of other buildings, while important, would have to wait. What I saw convinced me that Dr. Monjardino was right. When I spoke with him and other Azorean officials during my visit, it appeared that the immediate need was for temporary prefabricated housing, but it now appears that adequate temporary housing is being provided and that the real need is for new permanent housing and materials to repair partially damaged homes.

The Regional Government of the Azores recently informed the U.S. Agency for International Development that adequate resources are available to provide temporary shelter and that credit and supplies being provided for self-help reconstruction of homes in the rural areas. The Regional Government does not want additional temporary shelter or relief supplies and opposes prefabricated permanent housing. It prefers permanent housing similar to that being built in continental Portugal.

The Regional Government has formally requested U.S. assistance in the construction of a permanent housing project in Angra do Heroismo, the city hit hardest by the earthquake. Land has already been acquired and a design decided upon. Bids for the project will be opened toward the end of April. The up to \$5 million of grant aid reprogrammed by AID for earthquake relief would be applied to this housing project if the unit costs are low enough so as to maximize the number of homeless who could be housed.

IMPORTANCE OF PORTUGAL AND THE AZORES

The nine islands of the Azores lie in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean between Europe and North America, approximately 900 miles west of continental Portugal and 2,300 miles east of New York. The strategic location of the islands, which were discovered in about 1427, was recognized very early; and the Azores became an important port of call for ships bound for the New World as well as for those returning from India. Formal ties between Portugal and the United States date from our earliest days as a nation. President George Washington established diplomatic relations with Lisbon in 1791, and accredited a consular officer to the Azores that same year.

American whaling vessels frequently called at the islands in the 19th century and often took on Azoreans as crewmen, many of whom settled permanently in the whaling communities of southern New England. Significant emigration to North America did not, however, occur until the beginning of the 20th century when political upheaval, that finally led to the overthrow of the Portuguese monarchy in 1910, ended a century of great prosperity for the Azores. Heavy emigration has continued throughout this century, almost all of it directed toward the United States and Canada. From 1960 to 1975 alone, emigration representing 35 percent of the 1960 population occurred. As a result, the population of the Azores, at approximately 260,000, is about the same as it was a century ago. By contrast, more than a million Azoreans live in the United States and Canada, with the highest per capita concentration being in Rhode Island. Emigration from the Azores has produced some of our finest citizens and has greatly enriched the cultural life of our country.

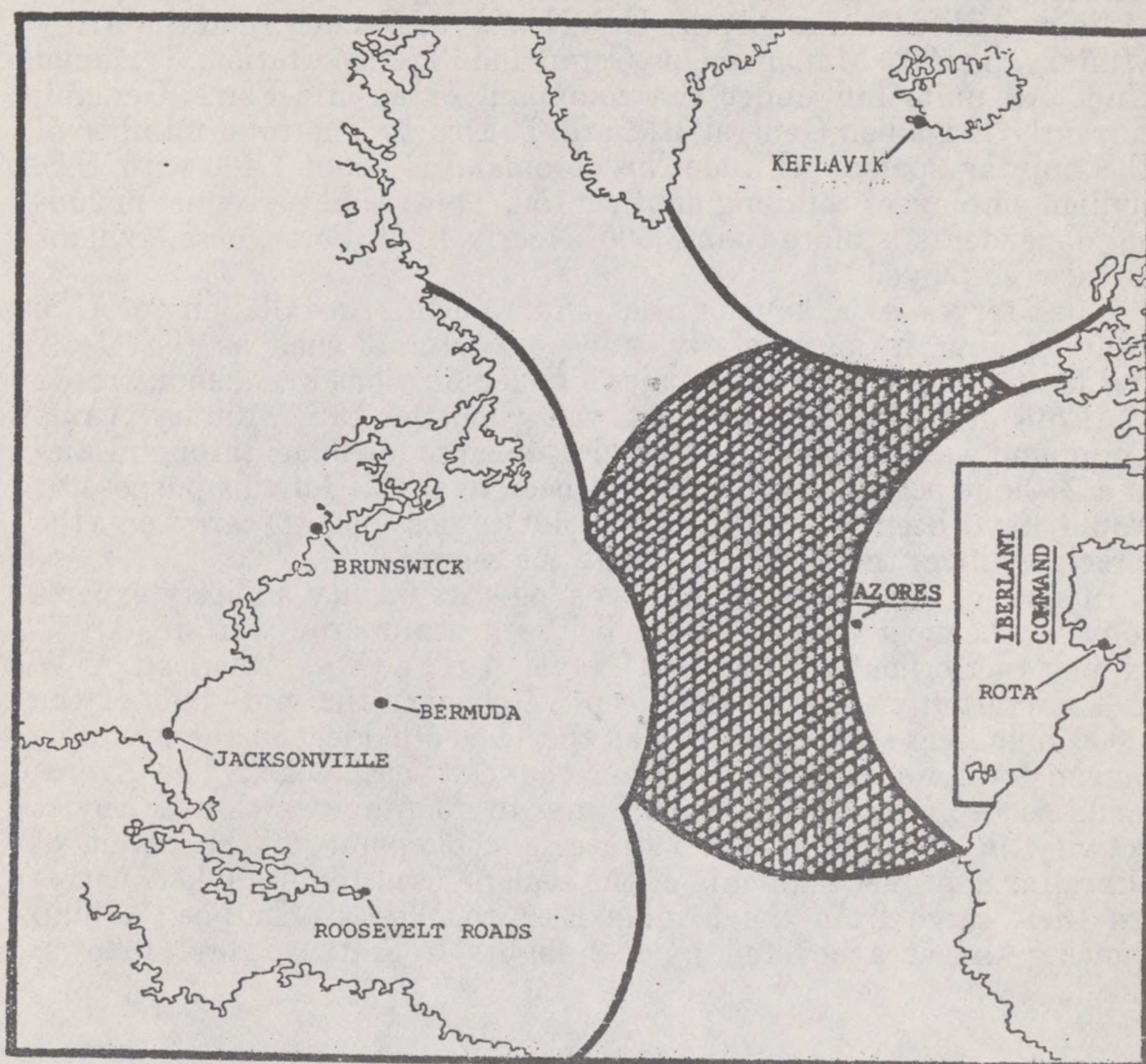
During World War II, Portugal provided important base facilities to the Allies in the Azores. Portugal became a charter member of NATO in 1949, and is the host for NATO's Iberian-Atlantic Command, headquartered just outside Lisbon. In 1953, the United States obtained the use of facilities for military forces to be stationed at Lajes Field on the island of Terceira. Contrary to popular belief, Lajes Field is not a U.S. "base," but is an area located on a Portuguese Air Force base where U.S. Air Force, Army and Navy units conduct a variety of important activities related to the common defense interests of the United States and Portugal.

The American units, known collectively as United States Forces Azores, consist of the 1605th Air Base Wing, a unit of the Air Force Military Airlift Command; the U.S. Naval Air Facility; and the Army Military Traffic Management Command Transportation Terminal Unit. All units fall under the command of an Air Force General, currently Brigadier General Richard T. Drury. The total number of U.S. military personnel under his command is about 1,400 with U.S. civilian employees totalling another 150. Total U.S. personnel including dependents is more than 3,500. Nearly 1,500 Portuguese civilians are also employed.

Lajes serves as a key logistics and refueling installation for U.S. military aircraft, particularly transport aircraft such as the C-5A and the C-141. The value of Lajes for such missions was demonstrated in 1973 during the Middle East war when the U.S. Military Airlift Command was able to route 42 flights of cargo for Israel through Lajes in a 24-hour period. Had Lajes not been available for this purpose, it would have been very difficult, if not impossible, to carry out the Israeli airlift in the time and quantities required.

In spite of the utility of Lajes as a logistics facility, military experts consider the most vital mission to be the antisubmarine warfare (ASW) support performed by the U.S. Naval Air Facility. American ASW P-3 aircraft from the Azores keep watch over the mid-point of the 4,000 mile long sealane that links the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean with its supply depots on the U.S. east coast. The Azores facilities also permit the United States to maintain watch over Soviet activity in and around the strategic chokepoint of the Strait of Gibraltar and over segments of the sealane used by oil tankers carrying their cargo from the Middle East to Western Europe. A map showing the area covered by P-3 flights from the Azores follows:

P-3 antisubmarine coverage in the Atlantic



Cross-lined area is that which can be covered by P-3 flights only through use of the Azores facility

The Army's Military Traffic Management Command Transportation Terminal Unit provides port terminal services at Praia da Victoria on Terceira Island for cargo arriving for all U.S. forces stationed at Lajes. Other functions are sea rescue and inter-island transportation. It is odd, in this connection, that all of the U.S. ships in the Azores (for transporting cargo from larger ships to port facilities) are controlled by the Army, all aircraft (ASW patrol planes) by the Navy, and all ground facilities by the Air Force!

Given the military missions performed from the Azores, it is clear that their continued availability to the United States is very important. In June 1979, an agreement was signed between the Governments of the United States and Portugal providing for the continued use of Lajes by American military units through 1983. Associated with the renewal of U.S. rights for the use of Portuguese facilities at Lajes, were agreements by the United States to provide \$60 million in grant military assistance over 2 years to Portugal and \$80 million of grant assistance over 4 years for the economic and social development of the Azores.

Note: Areas represent 1,000 nautical mile range for P-3 aircraft; but distances can vary due to many conditions such as wind and weather.

This aid, as well as the budgetary support that is contributed by the national government in Lisbon, is important to the Azores both in order to develop the economic opportunities that will stem the flow of emigration from the islands and strengthen ties with the mainland. Relations between the islands and the mainland have improved markedly since I last visited Portugal in 1976. At that time, the people of the Azores, who are generally conservative politically, were concerned about the leftist direction of the forces that had held power since the revolution of 1974.

That concern revived the spirit of separation that has long been present in the Azores. The autonomous status granted to the Azores in 1976 along with the ascendancy of moderate forces in Lisbon and greater attention to the economic problems of the Azores has greatly diminished the strength of Azorean separatism.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

There are strong family, cultural and strategic ties between the United States and the Portuguese inhabitants of the Azores. These ties can be reinforced by our lending a helping hand to the people of the Azores at a time of great need. Portugal demonstrated its faithfulness as a friend and ally in 1973, when we needed to use the facilities at Lajes to resupply Israel, and in April of this year broke off economic ties with Iran in support of our sanctions policy. We should show that we have not forgotten.

In addition, democracy and national unity in Portugal are by no means assured despite the advances made in the last 2-3 years. The Portuguese Communist Party made significant gains in the Parliamentary election of December 1979 and controls the major national labor federation. We were very generous in providing military and economic aid to Portugal when a Communist takeover appeared imminent a few years ago, although I would add that the real factor in thwarting a Communist takeover at that time was the common sense, conservative character and religious nature of the Portuguese people themselves.

I would find it odd and disturbing if we took a complacent attitude now and failed to respond adequately to an urgent appeal, which involves a contribution of less than 5 cents from every American. In this connection, the United States has responded very generously following earthquakes in recent years in Italy, Yugoslavia and Turkey; and we should be no less responsive in Portugal's case.

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APPENDIX

II

Calendar No. 60696TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION**S. 2194****[Report No. 96-568]**

To amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to authorize special Azores earthquake relief and reconstruction assistance.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 22 (legislative day, JANUARY 3), 1980

Mr. PELL introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

FEBRUARY 6 (legislative day, JANUARY 3), 1980

Reported by Mr. CHURCH, without amendment

A BILL

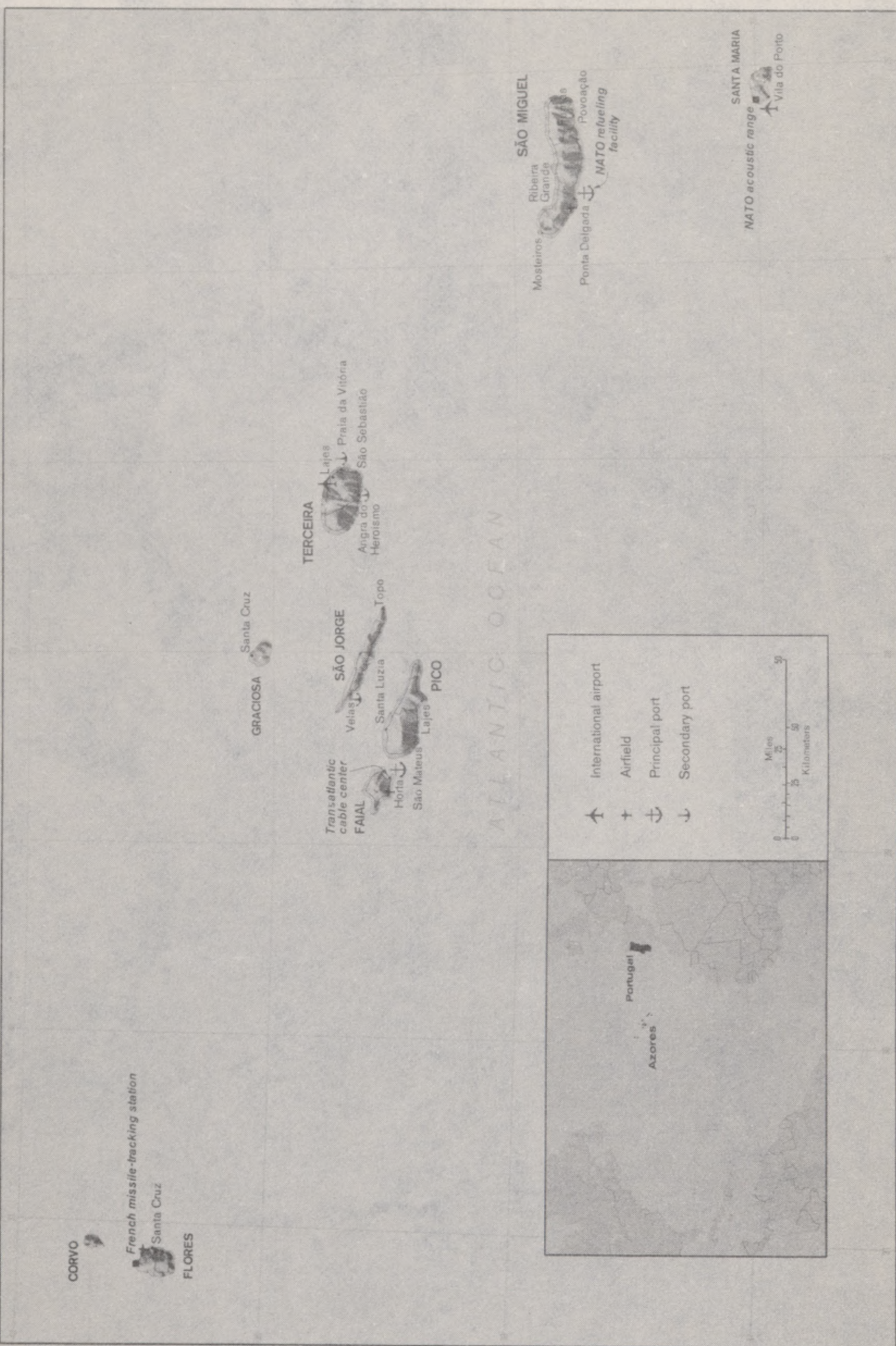
To amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to authorize special Azores earthquake relief and reconstruction assistance.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That chapter 9 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of
4 1961 is amended by adding at the end thereof the following
5 new section:

1 “SEC. 495I. SPECIAL AZORES EARTHQUAKE RELIEF
2 AND RECONSTRUCTION ASSISTANCE.—(a) The President is
3 authorized to furnish assistance on such terms and conditions
4 as he may determine, for disaster relief and reconstruction in
5 the Azores to assist in alleviating the human suffering caused
6 by a recent earthquake. In addition to amounts otherwise
7 available for such purposes, there is authorized to be appro-
8 priated for purposes of this section \$10,000,000 for the fiscal
9 year 1980, which amount is authorized to remain available
10 until expended. Assistance under this section shall be pro-
11 vided in accordance with the policies and general authorities
12 contained in section 491.

13 “(b) Obligations incurred, prior to the enactment of ap-
14 propriations to carry out this section, against other appropri-
15 ations or accounts for the purpose of alleviating the human
16 suffering caused by the earthquake in the Azores may be
17 charged to the appropriations authorized by this section.”.

Azores



502801 11-75 (542247)



Mother and children, day of the earthquake, Terceira Island

U.S. Air Force Photo



Touring Terceira Island with João Bosco Mota Amaral, President of the Regional Government of the Azores, and Mrs. Ruth Matthews, U.S. Consul for the Azores



Old man repairing his house, Terceira Island



Street scene, Topo, São Jorge Island



A neighborhood in ruins, Topo, São Jorge Island



Interior of a damaged church, Angra do Heroísmo, Terceira Island



Street scene, Angra do Heroísmo, Terceira Island



Cleaning an apartment, Angra do Heroísmo, Terceira Island

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