

EarthQuake Airlift!

HOW TO DO IT



A Special Project of the California Pilots Association

P.O. Box 6868, San Carlos, CA 94070

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EARTHQUAKE AIRLIFT !

Are We Ready for the "Big One?"

California is earthquake country. The official geologic earthquake fault map resembles a giant jigsaw puzzle with its pieces defined by many fault lines forming the State of California. Earthquakes are going to happen. There will be many "Big Ones". The times, places and severity are unknown.

What can volunteer pilots do? Volunteer pilots can respond quickly. Quick response after an earthquake is of the essence to alleviate the pain of earthquake victims. No lengthy official approval process is required as is required by official agencies. This was clearly demonstrated after the Northern California Loma Prieta earthquake of 1989 and the Southern California Northridge earthquake of 1994. In both instances general aviation pilots were the first responders. They delivered thousands of pounds of emergency supplies and provided transportation for key personnel to hard hit communities before official agencies could respond.

When taking the lead, volunteer pilots can invite and encourage personnel of local official agencies to participate. But, an airlift should not be delayed by an agency's need for more preparation time.

Can privately owned aircraft be used? Yes. There is a large fleet of general aviation aircraft situated throughout the state. Pilots can use these aircraft to respond quickly. No special permission is needed for individual owners to donate and control the use of their aircraft for this humanitarian purpose. A volunteer airlift flight can be operated in the same manner and under the same rules as a personal transportation flight.



SUMMARY OF WHAT TO DO AFTER AN EARTHQUAKE

(Adaptable to Provider or Receiver Airport)

1. SELECT A COORDINATOR FOR YOUR AIRPORT
2. SELECT VOLUNTEERS FOR KEY FUNCTIONS
3. ESTABLISH COMMUNICATIONS WITH LOCAL AGENCIES
4. ESTABLISH COMMUNICATIONS WITH COORDINATORS AT OTHER AIRPORTS
5. SELECT AIRCRAFT AND PILOTS FOR AIRLIFT OPERATIONS
6. DETERMINE WHICH AIRPORTS ARE TO RECEIVE EMERGENCY SUPPLIES
7. DETERMINE WHAT TYPES OF SUPPLIES ARE NEEDED
8. ARRANGE FOR OFF-AIRPORT COLLECTION OF EMERGENCY SUPPLIES
9. ORGANIZE AN ORDERLY ON-AIRPORT TRAFFIC FLOW FOR AIRCRAFT AND GROUND VEHICLES
10. SELECT QUALIFIED PERSONS TO OPERATE GROUND EQUIPMENT
11. SELECT A LOADING SUPERVISOR TO SUPERVISE AIRCRAFT LOADING
12. SELECT A FLIGHT DISPATCHER TO KEEP FLIGHT RECORDS
13. SELECT A PILOT BRIEFER
14. SECURITY: CONTROL AIRPORT ACCESS BY NON-PARTICIPATING PERSONS
15. HUMAN FACTORS: ARRANGE FOR FOOD, DRINK AND TOILET FACILITIES FOR VOLUNTEERS
16. VOLUNTEERS SHOULD PAY THEIR OWN FLIGHT EXPENSES (For legal reasons)
17. RECEIVER AIRPORT: ARRANGE WITH LOCAL AGENCY FOR OFF-AIRPORT RECEPTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF EMERGENCY SUPPLIES



RECEIVING AIRPORT

RECEIVING AIRPORT COORDINATOR. This person should:

- * Maintain communications with the provider airport(s);
- * Advise coordinator at provider airport(s) of types of emergency supplies needed;
- * Direct ramp traffic flow of arriving and departing aircraft to maintain safety for volunteers;
- * Direct unloading of emergency supplies in a safe manner;
- * Place emergency supplies in a suitable staging area;
- * Arrange for local agencies such as Second Harvest or Red Cross to receive and distribute emergency supplies;
- * Assure dispatch of aircraft back to home airport.

LEGAL NOTE

Participating aircraft owners are to provide this humanitarian service with no expectation of pay. They should not agree before a flight to receive money, free fuel or anything of value in exchange. That precaution is to assure the aircraft owner's insurance will remain in effect and there will be no violation of Federal Aviation Regulation Part 91.



NEEDED RELIEF

Prompt transportation of key personnel such as police, firemen and government officials may be needed.

Needed emergency supplies could include any of the following:

Clothing, canned food, fresh food, water, flashlights, extra flashlight batteries, bedding, sleeping bags, folding cots, cooking utensils, medical equipment, medicine or first aid, sanitary supplies, baby supplies, dishes, paper plates, plastic bags, gloves, hand tools, building materials, portable cook stoves, germicides or cleaners, tents, portable radios, floodlights, generators, portable lamps, water pumps, rope or cable.

HOW TO DO IT

With slight adaptation these guidelines can be used at both provider and receiver airports. The first step after an earthquake is to select key persons to implement an emergency airlift.

SELECT AN AIRPORT COORDINATOR. This person can designate others to assist in the overall airlift operation such as:

- * Select and assign volunteers for key functions;
- * Take safety precautions for volunteers and others who are on the airport;
- * Provide guidance for ground vehicles;
- * Designate a staging area for collection of emergency supplies from off-airport sources;
- * Provide guidance for aircraft movement by establishing a flow pattern for aircraft approaching and departing the ramp loading area;
- * Use hand-held radios to maintain communications with other on-airport volunteers;
- * Maintain security by excluding from the operations area persons not having a role in the operation, e.g., TV camera persons and politicians who want to capitalize by being identified with the humanitarian event.



COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR. Key functions:

- * If available and needed use a list of telephone numbers to contact local volunteer aircraft owners and notify them that their services are needed;
- * Use hand-held radios to maintain contact with other on-airport volunteers.
- * Establish communications with a coordinator at a receiver airport. This may be done with cell phones, land lines, Ham radio operators or E-mail;
- * Determine from receiver airport coordinator what supplies and assistance are needed.

EMERGENCY SUPPLIES RESOURCES COORDINATOR.

Services of a relief agency such as Second Harvest or Red Cross may be used to deliver emergency supplies to the provider airport staging area;

Individuals may deliver emergency supplies to the airport if under guidance of the Airport Coordinator to maintain safety and avoid vehicle congestion.

LOADMASTER. This person should direct all aircraft loading.

- * Observe safety precautions relating to both aircraft and ground vehicles;
- * Complete a load sheet in duplicate for each flight describing all items loaded;
- * To avoid overloading list the approximate weight of each item;
- * Secure cargo to prevent shifting in flight;
- * Keep one copy of the load sheet, give one copy to the pilot.

FLIGHT DISPATCHER.

- * Brief pilots on weather, routing, air traffic, radio frequencies, condition and reception area of receiver airport;
- * Notify Air Traffic Controllers before beginning the airlift operation;
- * Coordinate individual flights with Air Traffic Controllers;
- * Maintain contact with receiver airport Coordinator;
- * Log departure and arrival times at both departure and destination airports;
- * Track flights to destination and return to assure that all are accounted for.

AIRCRAFT LOAD SHEET

(Complete for each flight)

Name of dispatching airport _____

Aircraft Make/model _____ Reg. "N" No. _____

Pilot's name _____ Tel. No. _____

Destination airport _____

Name of loading supervisor _____

Date _____ Time of flight dispatch _____

LOAD

Weight, Lbs

Remarks

____ Clothing
____ Canned food
____ Fresh food
____ Water
____ Flashlights/batteries
____ Bedding
____ Cooking utensils
____ Medical equipment
____ Medicine/First aid
____ Sanitary supplies
____ Baby supplies
____ Dishes
____ Paper plates, etc
____ Plastic bags
____ Gloves
____ Hand tools
____ Building materials
____ Germicides, cleaners
____ Sleeping bags
____ Tents
____ Portable radios/telephones
____ Floodlights
____ Generators
____ Pumps
____ Rope, cable

Passenger's Name

Passenger's Name

____ Total weight.

LOCATION:

NAME OF HAM OPERATOR:

CALL SIGN

TEL #

LOCATION:

[illegible]

NOTES/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

IMPORTANT INDIVIDUAL AIRPORT INFORMATION

NAME OF AIRPORT _____

AIRPORT MANAGER _____ Tel _____

AIRPORT COORDINATORS:

_____ Tel _____

_____ Tel _____

_____ Tel _____

FAA CONTROL TOWER FREQUENCY _____ Tel _____

FIRE DEPARTMENT LOCATION _____ Tel _____

LOCAL POLICE, LOCATION _____ Tel _____

SHERIFF, LOCATION _____ Tel _____

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES _____ Tel _____

RED CROSS LOCATION _____ Tel _____

SALVATION ARMY LOCATION _____ Tel _____

SOURCES OF EMERGENCY SUPPLIES _____ Tel _____

TELEPHONE COMPANY EMERGENCY SERVICES _____ Tel _____

AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS _____ Tel _____

EMERGENCY FUEL SUPPLIES FOR AIRCRAFT _____ Tel _____

FAA WEATHER BRIEFING / AIRPORT NOTAMS _____ Tel _____

OTHER:



Buchanan Field
Concord, CA
Photos by James McCloud

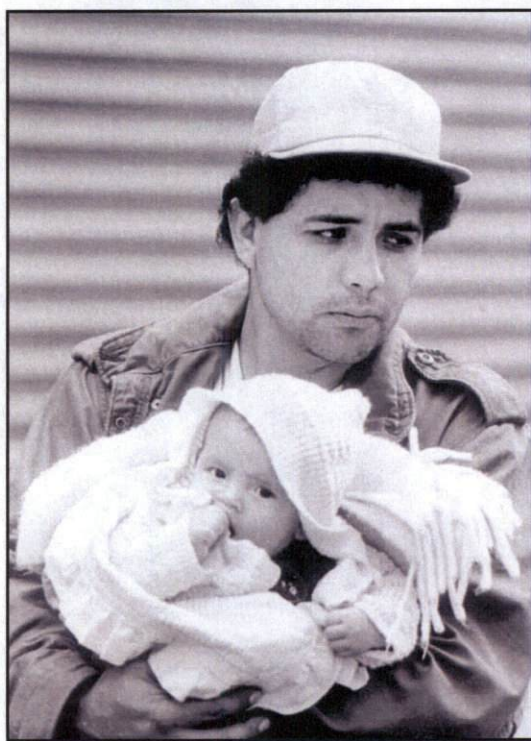
Provider Airport



Reid Hillview Airport
 San Jose, CA
 Photos by Joe Villarin
 & John Kuzynski
 Provider Airport



Reid Hillview Airport
San Jose, CA
Photos by Joe Villarin
& John Kuzynski
Provider Airport



Watsonville Airport
 Watsonville, CA
 Photos by Joe Villarin
 Receiver Airport

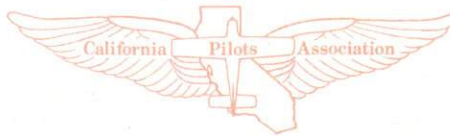


Watsonville Airport
Watsonville, CA
Photos by Joe Villarin
Receiver Airport

This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, leaving small margins at the top and bottom. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

California Pilots Association

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