For Immediate Release,  
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Mississippi River Families Evacuated From Danger Zone.

All residents of Lake county, Tennessee, have been evacuated and are being cared for at Union City, Tennessee, in anticipation of a break in the Mississippi River levee at Hickman, Kentucky, and Tiptonville, Tennessee, today, Colonel Harry S. Berry, WPA Administrator for Tennessee, advised Harry L. Hopkins, WPA Administrator by telephone this morning.

Some 5,000 families have been removed from the danger zone and are being cared for by the Red Cross at Union City, where Red Cross and WPA headquarters have been set up. Families are also being removed from danger spots in Dyer and Lauderdale counties, which will be flooded if the levee gives way.

The Red Cross and WPA have made preparations to care for 5,000 refugee families at the Tri-State Fair-grounds in Memphis, Colonel Berry reported, but added that Memphis is in no danger.

State WPA Administrator Floyd Sharp of Arkansas reported to Administrator Hopkins this morning that he is conferring with Governor Carl E. Bailey on a program to man the Mississippi River levees with all available WPA labor from the Missouri-Arkansas line south. At the request of Lt. Col. Eugene Reybold, U.S.A. Engineers Corps, stationed at West Memphis, Ark., the WPA forces will be thrown into the battle to save eastern Arkansas from threatened breaks in the Mississippi levees.
Administrator Sharp reported that the situation in the St. Francis and White River sectors is under control and that the Arkansas River is being held in check.

Colonel Berry reported that WPA is providing the kitchens and means of transportation and distribution of commodities in the danger zone in Tennessee and that he is working in close cooperation with the Red Cross and the United States Public Health Service in efforts to preserve the health of the refugees.

Administrator F. W. McCullough of West Virginia stated in a telephone conversation with Administrator Hopkins that the crest of the flood has passed Wheeling and that WPA workers there were devoting themselves to cleaning up the city and assisting in feeding and caring for the health of approximately 12,000 refugees.

At Charleston, WPA and Red Cross officials prepared to care for 3,000 refugees from Huntington who are being brought to the State capital by train. Administrator McCullough said that he will attempt to get men to Point Pleasant today, communication with that area having been broken since Saturday. Contact with Huntington is difficult and no estimate of the number of flood victims in that city and vicinity was available today. The Ohio River reached the highest stage in history at Huntington but the slow rise of the river and early preparations by WPA to handle the flood situation has kept down the casualties and property damage, Administrator McCullough reported.