

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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July 27, 1956

To Colonel Harry A. Mapes, Director, Civil Defense and Public Safety
Re: Survival Project

This is in answer to your questionnaire received in this office on July 26, 1956. The questions are answered seriatim.

"1. Have government functions been analyzed and a determination made of those functions which must be continued?"

Answer. No.

"2. Have plans been made for continuing such functions?"

Answer. No, with the qualification that functions of this office will continue under any circumstances, provided always that there are sufficient personnel to operate the same.

"3. Have relocation sites for government agencies been selected?"

Answer. A relocation site for this office has not been selected because it is out belief that at least part of this office must be located close to or in the same spot as the relocation site of the Governor and Council and other executive offices, as it is our duty to advise them on questions of law, and under emergency conditions we should undoubtedly have to answer innumerable questions from them as to their emergency powers and duties, etc.

"4. Have plans been made and implemented for safe storage of vital records?"

Answer. No.

"5. Has a line of succession been established for key personnel?"

Answer. Yes. See attached memorandum from James G. Frost, Deputy Attorney General, addressed to your department and dated July 18, 1956.

Questions 6 and 7 apparently do not apply to this department.

"8. Have all government agencies developed evacuation plans?"

Answer. We have been asked to give the number and classification of those employees of this department whose normal services are essential during an emergency. The list of the Attorney General, the Deputy Attorney General and the Assistant Attorneys General is disclosed in the attachment referred to in the answer to Question 5, and our view is that their services are essential at all times and cannot be dispensed with. This department is a small one, having one law clerk and one Clerk-Secretary III. Their services in the event of an emergency cannot be dispensed with, and both the normal functions of this office and its emergency functions must be carried out. The only persons whose normal duties may possibly be dispensed with during an emergency are the special investigators, Philip W. Wheeler and Walter C. Ripley.

Mr. Ripley is head of your Marine Police Section and would undoubtedly be called to duty in that capacity. Mr. Wheeler is head of the Civil Defense unit in his home town of Cumberland, and in the event of a State-wide emergency would undoubtedly have to report to his local headquarters to take charge of matters there.

This covers all employees of this department.

If there be any further questions in regard to these answers we will be glad to give them consideration upon request.

Frank F. Harding
Attorney General

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