

## IV. The plan for crisis management

Without fanfare — without a word of coverage in any of the national media — the Carter Administration used the occasion of the March 28 “disaster” at the Three-Mile Island nuclear facility to institute a “crisis management” dictatorship within the White House and the National Security Council. Circumstantial evidence indicates that the newly mandated Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Emergency Management Committee (EMC) were the command and control channel through which Schlesinger, Brzezinski, and others organized the sabotage of the nuclear power plant near Harrisburg, “managed” the crisis that followed, and buried the evidence that pointed to the specific agencies and individuals responsible.

FEMA consolidates all federal disaster control, civil defense, and antiterrorist function under one super-agency subsumed within the National Security Council, and officially took up its presidential mandate on April 1. However, according to Gordon Vickery, the acting director of FEMA, the agency “jumped the gun” and began operations “last Tuesday (March 27 — ed.) when the incident began.” According to all public sources, the malfunction at Three-Mile Island II occurred on Wednesday morning, March 28, not Tuesday. Whether Vickery let slip with critical information or merely had his dates wrong, it is clear that FEMA personnel were on the scene, stage managing every policy decision and screening all information allowed to pass to the media.

The FEMA field crew was headed by Barry H. Evenchick of the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration, now a component of FEMA. In 1976, Evenchick was a member of the National Advisory Committee on Criminal Justice Standards and Goals, Task Force on Disorders and Terrorism. That committee, working closely with Richard Thornburgh, who then headed the Criminal Division of the Justice Department, issued a lengthy report which spelled out a series of RAND Corporation scenarios for largescale civil disorders and terrorist extravaganzas. He then drew the conclusion that complete crisis management powers had to be instituted to deal with the increasing likelihood of “high-technology” disasters.

An appendix to that report entitled “Terrorism and New Technologies of Destruction: An Overview of the Potential Risk,” said this:

Beyond the societal consequences mentioned, the question of panic merits attention because of the impact it can have on a community, both as an immediate phenomenon

and with respect to longer term consequences....

Of special importance to law enforcement and local authorities are those conditions that are most conducive to creating panic situations. Foremost, the threat must be sudden and unexpected, posing a danger that would be sufficient enough to cause immediate and intensive fear. Other factors contributing to panic are a population that believes there is a danger for which they are unprepared and which is beyond their capacity of normal behavior response to adequately treat. Elements of incomprehensibility or novelty increase the tendency to panic. Confusion with respect to the general situation and specifics, such as escape, avoidance and counteraction, directly impact on the likelihood of community panic.

(R.W. Mengel, The BDM Corp.,  
*Report of the Task Force on  
Disorders and Terrorism, page 449.*)

From Harrisburg, Evenchick maintained a minute-to-minute liaison with another FDAA official, Bill Wilcox. Wilcox, in turn, operated directly out of the NSC. This command structure, according to both eyewitness accounts and reports in both the *Baltimore Sun* and Associated Press on April 4 maintained total control over all information and manufactured what the U.S. population was told about the events at Three-Mile.

Had the sabotage scenario carried through to the mass evacuations motted by Gov. Thornburgh and the press, FEMA would have superseded all other federal, state, and local governmental bodies — with the exception of the Governor’s office — and assumed dictatorial control throughout the duration of the crisis.

### What is FEMA?

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is a disaster management team within the National Security Council that, in the event of an “emergency,” would completely bypass all constitutional mandated institutions. It would be a quiet coup against the U.S. government unless it is countered immediately by congressional challenge.

FEMA’s intended role is belied by the fact that it was constituted as the result of Presidential Review Memorandum 32 (PRM-32), drafted last spring by Samuel Huntington with input from Zbigniew Brzezinski. Huntington was the author of a 1975 Tri-

lateral Commission report, *The End of Democracy*, in which he advocated the wholesale junking of constitutional rule and the institution of a technocratic dictatorship over the advanced nations. This, Huntington argued, is the only form of government capable of managing the ongoing string of crises brought about by the need for extreme austerity measures and the growing likelihood of strategic confrontation with the Soviet Union.

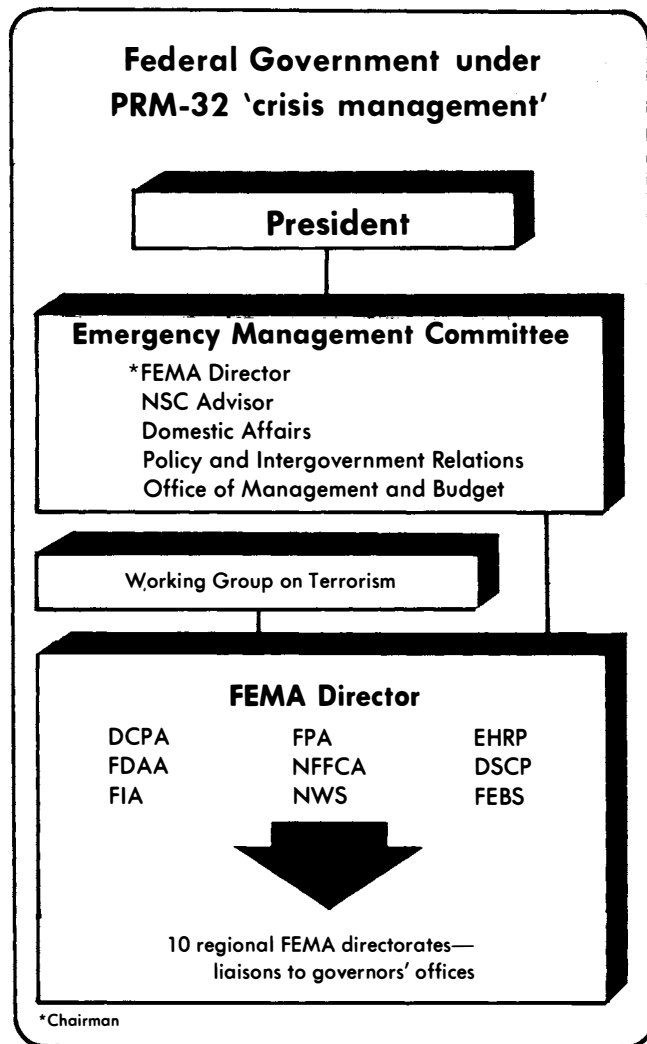
On June 19, 1978, President Carter and John McIntyre, Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), held a White House press conference announcing the formation of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Under special reorganization authority adopted by Congress in April 1977, FEMA gained "official" congressional approval 60 days later since Congress did not veto the proposal.

The creation of FEMA signified, among other things, that the Pentagon and the Joint Chiefs of Staff would be shut out of involvement in national emergency planning and implementation — including nuclear war! The director of FEMA, appointed by the President, maintains total control over all federal agencies involved in crisis management from his seat on the National Security Council.

Under PRM-32 and the June 1978 presidential order, FEMA assumes total control over the following agencies:

1. Defense Civil Preparedness Agency, formerly in the Department of Defense;
2. Federal Disaster Assistance Administration, formerly in the Department of Housing and Urban Development, mandated to assume all disaster control authority under the Disaster Relief Acts of 1970 and 1974;
3. Federal Preparedness Agency, formerly in the General Services Administration, responsible for designating all strategic stockpile programs;
4. Federal Insurance Administration, formerly in HUD;
5. National Fire Prevention and Control Administration, formerly in the Commerce Department;
6. National Weather Service, formerly in Commerce;
7. Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program, formerly in the Office of Science and Technology, the White House;
8. Dam Safety Coordinating Program, formerly in the Office of Science and Technology;
9. Federal Emergency Broadcast System, formerly in the Offices of Sciences and Technology.

In addition to these officially mandated components, FEMA is also authorized — through its status within the NSC — to participate in advance planning and crisis management of terrorism along with the Working Group on Terrorism of the Special Coordinating Committee of the NSC.



By the same presidential fiat, President Carter established an even more specific crisis management command structure within the Executive: the Emergency Management Committee. Chaired by the FEMA director, the Committee includes the National Security advisor (an appointed position that requires no Senate approval), the Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs, the Assistant for Policy and Intergovernmental Relations and the Director of the OMB.

This signifies that Zbigniew Brzezinski, Stuart Eisenstadt, David Aarons, John McIntyre, and the yet-to-be-named FEMA director will dictate U.S. policy at every point of a national crisis. Based on the past performance of these individuals, the broad-based national security powers vested in the EMC and FEMA — and evidence of sabotage involving the agency team at Three-Mile Island — the past week's events signal the beginning of an officially mandated takeover of the U.S. government in preparation for World War III.

— Jeffrey Steinberg