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FEMA [Federal Emergency Management Agency] 5/6/92 [OA 7573]

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646-3692

(5 May 92)
me 1.

BEAMA - GRANT PETERSON
Asst. → STEVE DAUGHTERY - 646-3692

EST. OF DAMAGE EXTREMELY PULVER

1. 100M TO INDIVIDUALS → # farms grants
up to \$11,500 ea. interim resources

transition to crisis food, trans, clothes, fuel,
medical - ^{if there's} urgent need

Temp. Housing - ^{many} minor damage (roof/door) repair
↓ check ^{not} 18 mos. in amt of govt rate
at least area of cost to rent a pair of accm
farming needs

crisis consensus - through Nat's org.
Recommendations need for part. help/crisis counseling
with area pool to help
Nat'l Inst. of Mental Health

Director needs assistance - not every single farm prog.
bump up to 2 weeks
or new extension
that prog.

↑ room.

2. public assistance (state/local govt - non-pro)

- ↓
- Dom 75% 85%
- state 85% 85%
- Administrative costs
- Admin removal on public property
- Public Safety - utilities

BEAMA was 1 unit's authority



Process → talk to victims already
Disaster field office is up in CA → in Pasadena, Ca.

FEMA

RED CROSS

STATE REPS.

Fed./state coordination → a command HQ
joint information center

Leadership
got together

ded of victims

disaster
relief organization
application

← 800 # up & running now

multi-language capability

\$ 111 @ least - 26 more

▲ Loatian, Spanish, Tai, Chinese, Korean

People already carry on 800 #

Mandarin

↓ AT
for hot line
for additional
trans
up to 144
languages

6 dis.
app. centers
be going in comm.

hope have up by weeks.

will be
open on 5/1

unless verbal,
hand script nice
etc.

FEMA:

ANECDOTE - KOREAN/BLACK COMMUNITY

From: Steve Dougherty
202-646-3692

Channel 9 in LA aired a story on May 4th about "Butcher Boys Market" a small grocery store located at Broadway and 74th Streets - Korean owner named Ja-hyung Ku, where Black community members came out to protect the store from harm. They referred to being "like family". The store stands intact.



**Office of Public Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20472**

(202) 646-4600

FEDERAL DISASTER AID PROGRAMS

On Saturday, May 2, 1992, President Bush declared a major disaster for California, triggering the release of federal disaster funds to help people and local governments recover from the effects of urban fires in Los Angeles torn by civil unrest last week. The particulars of the declaration and aid programs are as follows:

- . State: California
- . Declaration Number: FEMA-942-DR
- . Incident and period: Fires during period of civil unrest, beginning April 29, 1992.
- . Designated area: City and County of Los Angeles, Calif.
- . Declared assistance: Aid to individuals, families, business owners and local governments.
- . Federal Coordinating Officer: William M. Medigovich, director of FEMA's regional office in San Francisco, Calif.
- . Joint Federal/State Disaster Field Office: 245 S. Los Robles, Pasadena, Calif.
- . FEMA media contacts: Mike Allen, Ed Lecius, and Dave Martin. Tel.: 818-405-7290.

Assistance for Affected Individuals and Families:

- . Rental payments for temporary housing up to 18 months for those whose homes are unlivable.
- . Grants for making minimal repairs to primary residences that are habitable or to make them habitable.
- . Grants up to \$11,500 to help meet serious disaster-related needs not covered by other federal aid programs.
- . Low-interest loans from 4 to 8 percent to cover uninsured private and business property losses. Loans available up to \$100,000 for primary residence; \$20,000 for personal property, including renter losses; and \$500,000 for business.

-more-

- . Loans up to \$500,000 for small businesses that have suffered disaster-related cash flow problems and need funds for working capital to recover from the disaster's adverse economic impact. This loan in combination with a property loss loan cannot exceed a total of \$500,000.
- . Unemployment payments for workers who temporarily lost jobs because of the disaster and who do not qualify for state benefits, such as self-employed individuals.
- . Other relief programs: Crisis counseling for those traumatized by the disaster; income tax assistance for filing casualty losses; advisory assistance for legal, social security and veteran benefit matters.

Assistance for Affected Local Governments:

- . Payment of 75 percent of the approved costs for repairing or replacing damaged public facilities, such as roads, bridges, utilities, buildings, schools, recreational areas and similar publicly-owned property, as well as certain private non-profit organizations engaged in public service activities.
- . Payment of 75 percent of the eligible costs for removing debris from public areas and for emergency protective measures taken to save lives and protect property.
- . Loans limited to 25 percent of the annual operating budget of a local government which has suffered a substantial loss of tax or other revenue and needs funds to perform essential governmental functions.
- . Funding to restore certain damaged highways on the Federal Aid Systems.

How to Apply for Assistance:

- . Individuals, families and business owners in need of aid can apply in person at Disaster Application Centers (DACs) at locations to be announced shortly in the designated area. Those making applications should be prepared to provide basic information about themselves (name, permanent address, phone number), insurance coverage and any other information to help substantiate losses.
- . Application procedures for local governments will be explained at a series of federal/state applicant briefings with locations to be announced in the affected area by recovery officials in the next few days. Approved public repair projects are paid through the state from funding provided by FEMA.



INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE

INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY GRANTS

- Necessary Expenses and Serious Needs
- Grant Limits (\$11,500)
- State Administered
- FEMA Pays 75 Percent; State Pays 25 Percent
- National Eligibility Criteria

STATE

FEMA





Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

STATE AND LOCAL PROGRAMS AND SUPPORT DIRECTORATE

Grant C. Peterson
Associate Director

TELECOPIER TRANSMITTAL HEADER

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NAME: _____	PRIORITY: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
OFFICE SYMBOL: _____	DATE: <u>MAY 5, 1992</u>
TELEPHONE NO.: _____	NO. OF PAGES: <u>4</u>

TRANSMITTED BY: Steve Dougherty

REMARKS:



**Federal Emergency
Management Agency**

FACT SHEET

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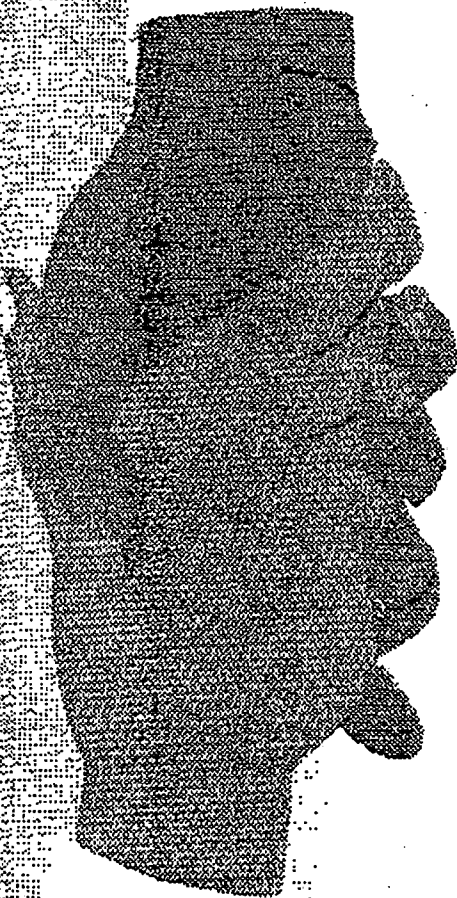
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TRANSMITTED BY: Steve Dougherty

MARKS:

Individual Assistance Programs
available for the
California Fire Disaster Declaration

Temporary Housing Assistance

For those displaced from a long-term residence:

* Financial assistance to obtain alternative accommodations.

* Financial assistance to accomplish repairs on owner-occupied homes that can be repaired quickly and economically.

For those who have financial hardship caused by the disaster which may cause eviction or dispossession, disaster housing assistance can be provided for rent or mortgage payments.

People who are not displaced from long-term accommodations are not eligible for disaster housing assistance. However, if they were displaced from short-term shelter, they are eligible for emergency shelter.

This assistance is available without respect to alienage.

Individual and Family Grant Programs

Stafford Act

Funds of up to \$11,500 may be made available to individuals or families whose necessary expenses and serious needs cannot be met through other forms of disaster assistance or through other means such as insurance. The State administers the program and pays for 25% of the grant costs; the Federal Emergency Management Agency pays the remaining 75%. The eligible categories include: housing (repair, replacement, rebuilding), personal property, medical, dental, funeral, and transportation. Ineligible expenses include improvements or additions to real or personal property, recreational property, cosmetic repair, business expenses, and debts incurred before the disaster.

State Program

California's companion to the IFG program provides for up to an additional \$10,000 to those who receive the maximum grant amount under the Stafford Act IFG program, and who still have remaining needs.

This assistance is available without respect to alienage.

Disaster Unemployment Assistance

This program provides unemployment benefits and re-employment services to individuals who have become unemployed because of major disasters who are not entitled to regular unemployment insurance. The Department of Labor has delegated authority to administer this program, for which the Federal Emergency Management Agency is the funding source, through State employment security agencies.

The benefit period begins with the week following the disaster incident or the date thereafter that the individual became unemployed and can extend up to 26 weeks after the date of declaration or until the individual becomes reemployed, whichever is less.

DUA is not paid to an individual who receive regular unemployment compensation, unless that person's other program eligibility expires and weeks of unemployment continue in the disaster assistance period. The average weekly benefit amount in California is \$142.

This assistance is provided to U.S. citizens and to legal aliens since they are are "able and available to work."

Crisis Counseling Assistance

Upon separate request from the Governor, two types of crisis counseling service may be provided:

* Immediate services, funded directly by FEMA to the State, for screening, diagnostic, and counseling services, outreach, public information, and community networking, which can be applied to meet mental health needs immediately following a disaster. This funding, which is provided for up to 60 days after the date of the disaster declaration, must be requested in writing within 14 days of the disaster declaration.

* Regular program services are designed to provide crisis counseling, community outreach, and consultation and education services. This funding, which must be requested within 60 days of the disaster declaration, may be provided for up to 9 months, with provisions for extension. The assistance is awarded and administered through the National Institute of Mental Health, with the Federal Emergency Management Agency as the funding source.

Crisis counseling assistance is provided without respect to alienage.

Cora Brown Fund

Under a bequest from a disaster victim in 1977 (Mrs. Cora Brown), a special fund for unmet needs of disaster victims is available. Those needs which cannot be met by disaster assistance programs or other means, and who are identified by the Federal Emergency management Agency, the American Red Cross, or other Federal, State, local, or voluntary agencies, may be considered for Cora Brown assistance. This fund will not be used in a way that is inconsistent with other Federally mandated disaster assistance or insurance programs.

Disaster Legal Services

Free legal services can be provided to victims of a major disaster. Legal advice is limited to cases that will not produce a fee (i.e., those cases where attorneys are not paid part of the settlement which is awarded by the court). Assistance examples include: help with insurance claims for doctor and hospital bills, loss of property, loss of life; drawing up new wills and other legal documents; advice on landlord and tenant problems; and preparing powers of attorney.

This assistance is provided without respect to alienage.

American Red Cross Assistance

* Emergency assistance may be available for those affected by fire. Help with food, shelter, emergency medical care, rental accommodations, bedding, and other emergency assistance is available.

* Additional assistance is available for fire victims who have exhausted all their governmental disaster assistance benefits. Assistance is available to complete repairs and obtain essential replacement personal property.

This assistance is made available without respect to alienage.

SL-DA-IA-IN
May 4, 1992

SENT BY FAX TO TELECOPIER 10:20 1 3 3 3 10:40
Jennie
Call if you
need more - Pete

FEMA/SBA
- 16 -

What of it
help people do...

Q Marlin, was Gary able to get a better handle on those numbers that --

MR. FITZWATER: The total estimate of SBA loans is \$300 million, which is the face value of the loans, not actual outlays. The FEMA cash grants are estimated at \$300 million. These are estimates that may change due to assessments being made on the ground. But the two together would be \$600 million, as Ann said.

Q Grants are to individuals and for infrastructure? Is that combined?

MR. FITZWATER: Yes.

Q Marlin, that exceeds the damages --

Q Marlin, you said the whole program is one of the major programs that exemplifies the conservative direction that you want the administration to go in. The program was, in effect, mostly given away by the administration in negotiations with the House this year. Kemp asked for a veto.

MR. FITZWATER: Which program? The HOPE?

Q The homeownership program. Kemp asked the White House to veto or to threaten to veto the HUD independent agencies legislation because the program was more or less -- written out large parts of it out of these negotiations. Does the administration now regret allowing this program to be decimated that way now and is it going to have any more emphasis as you move through?

MR. FITZWATER: I'd have to talk to Jack about it. I don't know what the status was. I don't have anything here on it, and I don't know the legislative process --

Q Passed by the Senate and torn up by the House.

MR. FITZWATER: -- yes, whether we -- I just don't have the status of it.

Q Marlin, why are we giving \$600 million in federal money when the damage is only \$550 million?

MR. FITZWATER: That's the problem of giving out numbers like that. First of all, they're just estimates, and there are different categories of -- I mean, one is damage in terms of -- in other words, I don't know how the calculation damage was given by the city of Los Angeles. It may be buildings or whatever. Ours is on insurance and loans and all kinds of things.

Q Are you really saying that all that money is going to be loaned or are you just saying that's the money that's available?

MR. FITZWATER: It's available and there are estimates

MR. FITZWATER: It's available and there's no way
that it could be called on to use.

Q The only point I'm making is you make it sound like

--

MR. FITZWATER: These are all soft numbers. Nobody knows this for sure. They're all big money estimates, but nobody can give you precise numbers.

Q But you can take \$50 million or \$100 million -- you make it sound like the federal government is picking up the entire cost of the damage.

MORE

#457-05/04



Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

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TRANSMITTED BY: Steve Dougherty

REMARKS:

Firms Pledge to Rebuild Shattered Areas of City

By **PATRICK LEE**
and **JUBE SHIVER JR.**
TIMES STAFF WRITERS

Several major Los Angeles businesses jumped in Monday with a range of plans to help rebuild riot-torn areas of the city, while criticism continued to mount against the embryonic redevelopment efforts headed by former baseball Commissioner Peter V. Ueberroth.

Actions ranged from a \$25-million loan program from Bank of America and aid programs by African-American and Korean-American owned banks, to the formation of an investment group by retired basketball star Earvin (Magic) Johnson aimed at spurring minority businesses.

Most businesses, however, held off major aid efforts and confined their initial actions to food drives and other disaster relief.

Ueberroth flew to Chicago on Monday to meet with potential investors, said Joel K. Rubenstein, a partner in Ueberroth's Orange County investment firm, the Contrarian Group. Ueberroth was scheduled to return to Orange County later Monday for at least one other meeting.

Rebuild L.A., Ueberroth's extragovernmental task force, has yet to name a board of directors, select permanent staff or pick a headquarters site. Close associates

of Ueberroth conferred with attorneys, architects, land-use experts, real estate executives and others in Los Angeles to define the scope of their group's enormous task.

But the Rev. Jesse Jackson criticized Ueberroth's appointment as sending the wrong message, and at

Please see **REBUILD, A11**

National Guard Official Cites Series of Delays

By **DANIEL M. WEINTRAUB**
TIMES STAFF WRITER

SACRAMENTO—The first troops Gov. Pete Wilson ordered to the Los Angeles riots were delayed for several "critical" hours by a series of decisions and breakdowns that began long before the jury in the Rodney G. King beating trial delivered its verdict, a top California National Guard general acknowledged Monday.

Brig. Gen. Daniel L. Brennan insisted that the Guard's response compared favorably to any of its previous commitments in times of civil unrest—including the Watts riots. But Brennan, in an interview

Please see **GUARD, A11**

(1)

TUESDAY, MAY 5, 1992

LOS ANGELES TIMES

RIOT AFTERMATH: GETTING BACK TO BUSINESS

BUILD: Loans and Investments Are Pledged

from Al Johnson, president of the employee's Assn. in Los Angeles, a 6,000-member labor and community group, said: "He has a history of doing benefit minority people, and he didn't enhance management when he was owner of baseball." While, as companies aid, community activists up their calls for a new revitalization for South Los Angeles that would be a marked change from the past and ensure a bright future for the people who live there had a stake in its economic future. Commitments for loans, investments for loans, investments for other support came from entire capitalists, investors and wealthy indi-

viduals to generate private sector, Gov. Pete Wilson met with 16 California corporations in Los Angeles—representatives of four financial institutions and four supermarket chains. Johnson announced that Bank of America, Wells Fargo Bank, First Bank and Home Savings Bank have pledged to help new enterprises and existing ones in distressed areas. Bank of America said its \$25-million program was aimed at financing the rebuilding of small businesses. The bank said it will provide up to \$100,000 per business owner becoming an equity partner with some of those businesses.

Bank Vice Chairman C. Hartnack said his bank is providing three immediate reboosterings: its Small Business Administration-related loan program, offering mortgages at below-market interest rates for those whose homes were damaged and offering low-interest

home improvement loans for people whose homes were damaged.

Wilson added that companies that operate the Vons, Ralphs and The Boys and other supermarket chains plan to repair and reopen supermarkets damaged during last week's disturbances.

"I was enormously cheered by what I heard," Wilson said at a news conference after the private meeting. "These companies are entitled to the kind of support that they didn't receive during [last week's] tragedy."

At the same time, Magic Johnson announced the formation of his investment group, which is to include other wealthy sports and entertainment figures, to build new businesses and employ young people in the community, said Lou Rosen, Johnson's agent.

For the most part, however, Los Angeles businesses said it is too early to say how much financial help they will be able to offer. They said they will wait for direction from Ueberroth or city officials.

These companies concentrated their early efforts on disaster relief. Utility companies were offering discounted rates and emergency service to displaced residents.

Emergency food relief was available from several supermarket chains, such as the operators of Alpha Beta, The Boys, ABC, Viva and Food 4 Less stores. But they declined to say whether all of the 40 or so stores burned or looted in the rioting will be rebuilt.

Atlantic Richfield Co. said it will rebuild five of 11 Arco service stations burned during the rioting, but was less committal about long-term financial aid.

In the affected communities, three black-owned financial institutions—Broadway Federal Savings & Loan, Family Savings Bank and Founders National Bank—announced plans to cooperate to provide loans to rebuild old businesses and finance new ones, said Wayne-

Kent Bradshaw, president of Family Savings.

"We can get more leverage by combining some of our resources," Bradshaw said.

Lance E. Drummond, the black chief executive officer of the Economic Resources Corp. near Watts, and other black venture capitalists said they sense a lot more interest among African-American and some pension fund investors in investing in minority communities.

"We are talking to people who earlier said 'no' that now are saying 'maybe,'" Drummond said.

At the Los Angeles office of the New York investment house of Bear, Stearns & Co., broker Lemuel Daniels said he is getting calls from African-American professionals interested in investing in enterprises that serve minority communities.

The Korean-American business community, meanwhile, rallied to its redevelopment challenge, aiding businesses, including hundreds of members of the Korean American Grocers Assn., which were destroyed by looters and vandals.

David Kim, president of the grocers group, has helped establish an emergency relief organization designed to help merchants in various industries and others who suffered losses during the disturbances.

Late Monday afternoon, the heads of both locally based and Korea-based banks serving the Korean-American community met to assess the situation of their customers, but most said they were still gathering information on what kind of help the small merchants will need.

John Britt, president of United Citizens National Bank, an institution founded three years ago by local Korean businessmen, said his bank will be willing to defer interest and principal payments on outstanding loans for six months or more, depending on need.

As the aid came in, several black

business leaders raised concern about the direction of the city's main redevelopment efforts. Some recalled similar promises made after the 1980 Liberty City riots in Miami, when the local business community sought to pull together a public-private economic development response for the inner city.

Although committees were formed and some small development projects begun, the areas' woes were not seriously addressed. Miami was hit by other riots in 1980.

Jackson said in a meeting Monday with editors and reporters of The Times that the choice of Ueberroth to lead the city's rebuild L.A. task force sends the wrong message to the mostly black and Latino communities hit hardest by the destruction.

"It doesn't look good," Jackson said. "It's like sending in another white man to save us and help rebuild."

Community leaders called for fewer liquor stores and shopping centers and more investments in manufacturing and other enterprises that would create meaningful jobs and economic opportunities for local entrepreneurs.

Jackson notwithstanding, Ueberroth does have significant support, particularly among the city's older, more established black business leaders.

"I don't have those concerns about Ueberroth," said Larkin Teeley, president and chief executive officer of Los Angeles-based Golden State Mutual, the nation's third largest black life insurance company. "I think the thing I'm most concerned about is the success of the undertaking" of rebuilding the city.

Three staff writers James Bates, Susan Moffat, Michael Parrish, Jonathan Peterson, James Risen and George White contributed to this report.

2

Families in the Riot Areas Try to Pick Up the Pieces

■ Survival: After five nights of living in fear, many try to settle back into everyday routines. Others look to leave.

By JOHN L. MITCHELL
and TINA GRIEGO
TIMES STAFF WRITERS

At the street corner where the Los Angeles riots began, Roy and Laverne Walker had endured five nights of terror—watching fires, hearing gunshots, doing without lights or a phone and sleeping on the floor for safety.

But on Monday, the jittery Walkers could look to the streets and see calm. They could dress and feed their 31-month-old daughter, Saïda, in a household where the lights worked, where the phone was on. A gardener came by expecting to be paid, and for the first time in days a mail carrier completed his appointed rounds.

"Is that it? No, hills," asked Walker, 41, a state police officer, accepting a stack of junk mail at the couple's neat, middle-class home near Normandie Avenue, where, miraculously, even the roughness survived the most violent times in city history.

Without fanfare, and with uncertain prospects of help from authorities or charitable organizations, the Walkers and untold numbers of other families in Los Angeles were beginning to pick up the pieces of their homes, shops and battered psyches.

For many, Monday brought a welcome sense of the routine, a quiet day's respite from the long, dark days of violence. There were some FAMILIES, AS



FAMILIES: 'Normal' Life

Continued from A-1

There were bills to pay, groceries to buy, errands to run. There were windows to replace, plywood sheets to take down. There were moments of shared grief, moments of relief, even levity, and moments to reflect on the horrors of a week gone haywire.

Like the Walkers, Koreatown businessman Charles Yoon has decided he will leave Los Angeles, and as soon as he possibly can. Birdell Wright, a soft-spoken Sunday schoolteacher who watched parts of Long Beach burn, was left trying to comprehend not only the violence, but also the stunning verdicts in the Rodney G. King trial that touched it off.

Darinda Davis of Compton, who is seven months pregnant, struggled to erase from her mind the harrowing images of looters and arsonists and an all-night fire that threatened to destroy her home.

And Raubi Sundher, who spent four days and nights holed up inside the Hollywood Wax Museum, was back at work there Monday, looking out for the family business while wondering how Hollywood could ever recover.

Roy Walker, a product of South Los Angeles who has lived in the same home for 17 years, came away from the worst rioting in city history with personal baggage. He was left to agonize over the turn of events Wednesday night as the violence began. Right outside his home—at the epicenter of the unrest—mobs began pulling motorists from cars and beating them in the streets.

Although trained as a peace officer, Walker only stood and watched from his own doorway.

"I felt so helpless," he said. "I've been tortured ever since . . . feeling helpless, wanting to do something but not knowing what to do. Could I have made a difference? Or would I have been another statistic? It has been on my mind constantly."

The ensuing days unfolded in kaleidoscopic images of anarchy. Walker ran out for kerosene and batteries for flashlights, but the family was unable to do laundry or get food. On Thursday, Walker was due at work at 10 a.m. but arrived at 1 in the afternoon. His supervisors yelled at him, he said, and he was forced to explain—before donning his riot gear to take to the streets—that it had been impossible to phone in. Service was out in the entire neighborhood.

With her husband working late, Laverne Walker tried to look after the baby. They slept together on the bedroom floor for fear of gunfire.

"I heard shots," she said. "I was afraid to go to the window."

Like other families, the Walkers are thinking of finding a new home elsewhere, maybe in Palmdale or Lancaster. And Walker is kicking himself. "I really screwed up," he said. "I have a gold card. Why did I bother staying? I should have just taken my family out of the neighborhood and put them up at a hotel."

Charles Yoon, the owner of a key copying shack in a mini-mall in Koreatown, answered his portable phone. After taking a few seconds to recognize the caller, he looked across the street on Monday to Nice Fashions, a boarded-up dress shop.

"Oh, yes, it's still locked up," Yoon, 63, reassured the shop's owner. "Looks fine. Don't worry about a thing."

Like the dress shop, Yoon's key shack at 8th Street and Vermont Avenue survived the riots without major looting or damage. However, on Monday, Yoon was one of the mini-mall's first tenants to return to work.

All around him, less fortunate businesses show the ravages of recent days. Adjacent to his establishment, an electronics store had been hit by pickup truck, then plundered by looters who carried away hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of merchandise. Its battered facade was a mute legacy of the ransacking.

Nearby, only steel girders and ash were left of a string of six Korean- and Vietnamese-owned shops that also were devastated.

As Yoon listened to Korean-language radio and looked out at what was left of the street, he talked of spiritual damage that would be difficult, if impossible, to repair. Since he moved to Koreatown three years ago from Orange County, returning Korea has been in the back of his mind, Yoon said.

Now, he is sure he will go back, as soon as his son finishes two years of art school.

"Sure, I've considered staying for good," Yoon said of Los Angeles. "But this is not the way I want to live for the rest of my life."

Yoon, who hadn't made a sale since closing early Wednesday afternoon when he heard the King verdicts, sat watching the street Monday. At last, a customer showed up, a man who needed two keys copied. The total sale: \$2.

Also contributing to today's coverage are Laurie Backlund, Leslie Berger, Bettina Boxall, Howard Burns, Stephanie Chavez, Virginia Ellis, Andrea Ford, Ashley Dunn, David Farrell, Tina Gageo, Lee Harris, Scott Harris, Melissa Healy, Shawn Hunter, Amy Kaiman, John H. Lee, Penelope McMillan, Pat Morrison, Fred Muir, Dean E. Murphy, Lisa Ompfroy, James Rainey, James Risen, Cecilia Rasmussen, Kenneth Reich, Carla Rivera, Ron Russell, Louis Schuman, John Schwada, Stuart Silverstein, Richard Simon, Mark A. Stein, Vicki Torres, Harry Weinstein, Eric Young and Nora Zamichow.

"I didn't have much of anything to lose in the fire place," Yoon said, motioning toward a box of walkie-talkies and a padlock display, which were among Yoon's undisturbed merchandise. "I gave my rifle to the others [in the mall], so they could protect the businesses. I'm ready to go back [to Seoul]."

Never in her life, had Birdell Wright, 69, seen anything like it.

Shopping strips were on fire, sending acrid smoke through her neighborhood of neat, modest stucco houses in West Long Beach. Stores that weren't burning were boarded shut. The state Department of Motor Vehicles building a few miles away was charred ruins. Even the clothes that one of her daughters had taken to the local dry cleaners had been destroyed when the shop was firebombed.

On top of all that, Wright tried vainly to grasp not-guilty verdicts received by the four Los Angeles police officers accused of beating motorist Rodney King. "I have never felt such rage," recalled Wright who sings in her church choir.

"Then I started praying. I was walking around the house praying for myself because of this terrible rage. . . . As I began to pray, tears came. I just cried

2

Resumes, but It's Not the Same

and cried," she said. "Then a terrible sadness was inside me."

Throughout much of the weekend, Wright stayed inside with her husband, Artis, and her two grown daughters, who live with them. But on Saturday, desperate for some diversion, she ventured to Torrance with a friend to look at the South Coast Botanic Garden. "It helped a lot."

On Sunday, Wright and one of her daughters decided to go out for breakfast. They had to try three restaurants before they found one that was open.

On Monday, however, Wright's daughters returned to work and shops were reopening. Wright was going to do some gardening in her flower beds.

And yet the emotional toll remained; the neighborhood, the city at large, would never really be the same.

"You're driving along and you usually turn at a landmark and the landmark's not there. It's a pile of rubble," said Wright, a retired aide for the Long Beach school system.

Wright's daughter, Joani, spoke of being near tears because the destruction had crept into her community. Yet she also noted a feeling of camaraderie among those trying to deal with the crisis. At stores that began reopening, she said, "people were smiling or nodding their head. People are coming together. I don't know if it will last."

As soon as the verdicts came in, Darlinda Davis—seven months pregnant and at home in Compton with their 2-year-old daughter—called her husband, Delton, at the Gardena Kentucky Fried Chicken franchise he manages.

"They are gonna let those men go," she said, near tears.

"There is going to be a riot," he answered quickly, needing no more explanations. "Stay in the house."

"I just start crying and everything got worse and worse," she recalled. "I put my daughter down to bed, because I didn't want her to see any of this."

Sure enough, three hours later, the trouble began. From the window of their Compton Boulevard home, Darlinda watched 20 cars pull up to the neighboring swap meet store, and a sick feeling gripped her. For the next five hours, the neighborhood was filled with strangers running with their arms filled with clothes, electronic equipment, beauty supplies, jewelry, everything that could be carried or dragged.

Just before midnight, the store exploded in fire. Huge, searing flames quickly spread to the neighboring Baptist church and sent the Davises running outdoors to hose down their home of four years.

The fire burned for more than 12 hours, littering the Davises' yard with ash and debris. But the home was spared.

After that, everything seemed to pass by. Darlinda recalled.

She remembers driving through Compton with Delton and her mother, watching in disbelief as looters darted through traffic. She went to the Salvation Army to get bread for dinner because she couldn't find a store that was open. The organization gave her not only bread, but a bagful of groceries and three spaghetti dinners.

She remembers a man asking her if she wanted to buy some rings he had just stolen.

She remembers the nightmares that came to her Thursday night.

"Something terrible—the ultimate something awful—was chasing a bunch of us, but it wanted me

because I had something that it wanted and it was coming and coming," she said, recalling one dream.

By Sunday, everything had quieted down. Nightmares stopped. On Monday morning, Delton returned to his job. Darlinda, rested from the first sleep she had had since Wednesday, spent the morning paying through their bills while a soap opera played on the TV in the background.

Later, she would go to the bank, grab a quick lunch and salad at a fast-food restaurant and finish braiding her daughter's hair—a chore she had started Wednesday. She planned to go see her husband at the job and then simply relax.

"We are just trying to get back into a routine," she said on her way to the bank. "I don't think things will get back to normal here for a while."

For someone who spent most of four days and nights holed up inside the Hollywood Wax Museum, Raubi Sundher was coping well.

"I'm tired, I'm angry and I'm trying to figure out how we can get on our feet again," said Sundher, 32, who manages the tourist attraction his father founded 21 years ago, during the summer of the Watts rebellion.

For Sundher, the riots were surreal. He had himself snuggled up with a shotgun and a sleeping bag on the off chance that anyone would want to come in and make off with a wax figure of Ronald Reagan.

Unlike some other nearby establishments, including the landmark Frederick's of Hollywood, the museum was unharmed. But as a few merchants along Hollywood Boulevard worked to sweep up debris, Sundher recounted his own four-day ordeal and how he imagines how Hollywood would restore its battered image with tourists.

"We've got a big-time image problem on our hands," he said, peering at a television monitor of the wax museum's entrance, which was deserted at midday except for a lone ticket-taker. "As you can see, the actual damage in Hollywood wasn't that great, but the people we depend on—the people back in the heartland—will connect Hollywood and riots, and we've got to worry if they're still going to want to come."

As the upheaval began, Sundher saw the sporting goods store across the street looted, the flea market down the street torched and a friend's leather shop several blocks away emptied of \$300,000 worth of merchandise. "At one point, I walked up to a policeman and said, 'You know they're looting down there,' he recalled, referring to the leather store and he just said, 'Thank you,' and did nothing."

From Thursday afternoon to Sunday morning, Sundher said, he never left the wax museum, except to swap guard duty with other family members at the Guinness World of Records attraction across the boulevard, which the family also owns.

Luckily, the museum features a fully stocked refrigerator, which was loaded with pizza, cold cut and other foods.

"I remember as a kid hating this place at night, how dark and spooky it was, and how after the lights went out all you could see were these glass eyes that seemed to stare at you in the darkness," Sundher said.

But last week, the real horrors were outside, on where the city was burning.

"Hey, this is our life," he said, explaining why he stayed to stand guard. "This is everything we own. No way were we not going to stay and protect it."

3

FEMA:

Grant Peterson
Steve Dougherty
both at 202-646-3692

FEMA facts:

MONEY

\$100 million to individuals - available in various forms:

Grants: up to \$11,500 ea. interim resources
transition to crisis for food,
transportation, clothing, furniture, medical
-- if there is an unmet need

Temp. money for minimal damage repairs; or up to 18
Housing: months in amount of going rate of that area
of cost to rent a facility to accommodate a
family who lost their home as a result of the
disaster

Crisis
Counseling: through Nat'l Org. of Mental Health,
tremendous need for professional help

Disaster
Unemployment
Assistance: assistance for people who are unemployed as a
result of the disaster - up to 26 weeks

\$200 Million Public Assistance to state and local governments to:
pay for police overtime/ pay for additional police
administration costs
debris removal from public property
public utilities/facilities damaged by disaster

FUN FEMA FACTS:

FEMA has check writing ability

Disaster Field Office is up and running in Pasadena, CA [as
of May 5.]

800 disaster teleregistration # already taking calls in
English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Thai, and Loatian.

Six disaster application centers will be going in the
community - to be up and running by Friday May 8.

FEMA:

ANECDOTE - KOREAN/BLACK COMMUNITY

From: Steve Dougherty
202-646-3692

Channel 9 in LA aired a story on May 4th about "Butcher Boys Market" a small grocery store located at Broadway and 74th Streets - Korean owner named Ja-hyung Ku, where Black community members came out to protect the store from harm. They referred to being "like family". The store stands intact.



Office of Public Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20472

(202) 646-4600

FEDERAL DISASTER AID PROGRAMS

On Saturday, May 2, 1992, President Bush declared a major disaster for California, triggering the release of federal disaster funds to help people and local governments recover from the effects of urban fires in Los Angeles torn by civil unrest last week. The particulars of the declaration and aid programs are as follows:

- . State: California
- . Declaration Number: FEMA-942-DR
- . Incident and period: Fires during period of civil unrest, beginning April 29, 1992.
- . Designated area: City and County of Los Angeles, Calif.
- . Declared assistance: Aid to individuals, families, business owners and local governments.
- . Federal Coordinating Officer: William M. Medigovich, director of FEMA's regional office in San Francisco, Calif.
- . Joint Federal/State Disaster Field Office: 245 S. Los Robles, Pasadena, Calif.
- . FEMA media contacts: Mike Allen, Ed Lecius, and Dave Martin. Tel.: 818-405-7290.

Assistance for Affected Individuals and Families:

- . Rental payments for temporary housing up to 18 months for those whose homes are unlivable.
- . Grants for making minimal repairs to primary residences that are habitable or to make them habitable.
- . Grants up to \$11,500 to help meet serious disaster-related needs not covered by other federal aid programs.
- . Low-interest loans from 4 to 8 percent to cover uninsured private and business property losses. Loans available up to \$100,000 for primary residence; \$20,000 for personal property, including renter losses; and \$500,000 for business.

-more-

- . Loans up to \$500,000 for small businesses that have suffered disaster-related cash flow problems and need funds for working capital to recover from the disaster's adverse economic impact. This loan in combination with a property loss loan cannot exceed a total of \$500,000.
- . Unemployment payments for workers who temporarily lost jobs because of the disaster and who do not qualify for state benefits, such as self-employed individuals.
- . Other relief programs: Crisis counseling for those traumatized by the disaster; income tax assistance for filing casualty losses; advisory assistance for legal, social security and veteran benefit matters.

Assistance for Affected Local Governments:

- . Payment of 75 percent of the approved costs for repairing or replacing damaged public facilities, such as roads, bridges, utilities, buildings, schools, recreational areas and similar publicly-owned property, as well as certain private non-profit organizations engaged in public service activities.
- . Payment of 75 percent of the eligible costs for removing debris from public areas and for emergency protective measures taken to save lives and protect property.
- . Loans limited to 25 percent of the annual operating budget of a local government which has suffered a substantial loss of tax or other revenue and needs funds to perform essential governmental functions.
- . Funding to restore certain damaged highways on the Federal Aid Systems.

How to Apply for Assistance:

- . Individuals, families and business owners in need of aid can apply in person at Disaster Application Centers (DACs) at locations to be announced shortly in the designated area. Those making applications should be prepared to provide basic information about themselves (name, permanent address, phone number), insurance coverage and any other information to help substantiate losses.
- . Application procedures for local governments will be explained at a series of federal/state applicant briefings with locations to be announced in the affected area by recovery officials in the next few days. Approved public repair projects are paid through the state from funding provided by FEMA.



INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE

INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY GRANTS

- › Necessary Expenses and Serious Needs
- › Grant Limits (\$11,500)
- › State Administered
- › FEMA Pays 75 Percent; State Pays 25 Percent
- › National Eligibility Criteria

STATE

FEMA





Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

STATE AND LOCAL PROGRAMS AND SUPPORT DIRECTORATE

Grant C. Peterson
Associate Director

TELECOPIER TRANSMITTAL HEADER

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FROM

TO

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AGENCY: _____

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NO. OF PAGES: 4

TRANSMITTED BY: Steve Dougherty

REMARKS:



**Federal Emergency
Management Agency**

FACT SHEET

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Washington, D.C. 20472

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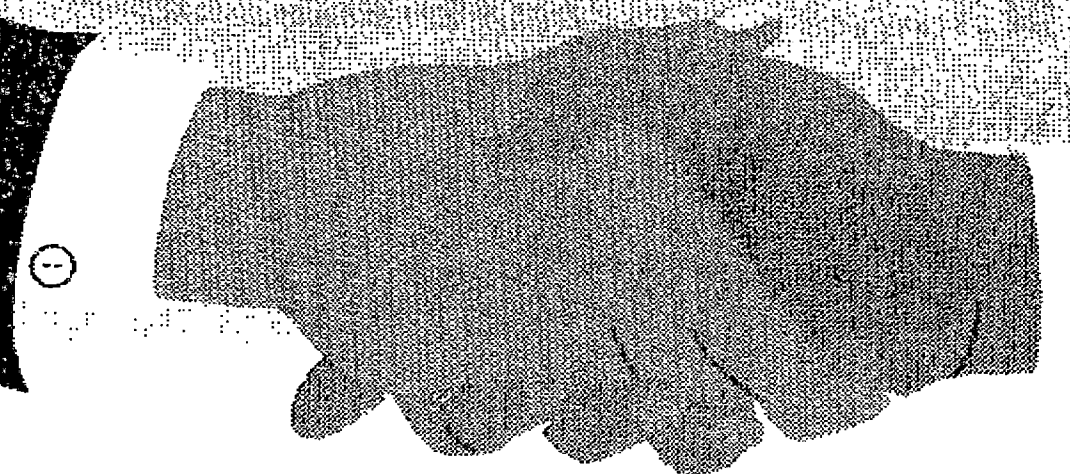


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FEMA



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OFFICE SYMBOL: _____	DATE: <u>MAY 5, 1992</u>
TELEPHONE NO.: _____	NO. OF PAGES: <u>4</u>

TRANSMITTED BY: Steve Dougherty

MARKS:

Individual Assistance Programs
available for the
California Fire Disaster Declaration

Temporary Housing Assistance

For those displaced from a long-term residence:

* Financial assistance to obtain alternative accommodations.

* Financial assistance to accomplish repairs on owner-occupied homes that can be repaired quickly and economically.

For those who have financial hardship caused by the disaster which may cause eviction or dispossession, disaster housing assistance can be provided for rent or mortgage payments.

People who are not displaced from long-term accommodations are not eligible for disaster housing assistance. However, if they were displaced from short-term shelter, they are eligible for emergency shelter.

This assistance is available without respect to alienage.

Individual and Family Grant Programs

Stafford Act

Funds of up to \$11,500 may be made available to individuals or families whose necessary expenses and serious needs cannot be met through other forms of disaster assistance or through other means such as insurance. The State administers the program and pays for 25% of the grant costs; the Federal Emergency Management Agency pays the remaining 75%. The eligible categories include: housing (repair, replacement, rebuilding), personal property, medical, dental, funeral, and transportation. Ineligible expenses include improvements or additions to real or personal property, recreational property, cosmetic repair, business expenses, and debts incurred before the disaster.

State Program

California's companion to the IFG program provides for up to an additional \$10,000 to those who receive the maximum grant amount under the Stafford Act IFG program, and who still have remaining needs.

This assistance is available without respect to alienage.

Disaster Unemployment Assistance

This program provides unemployment benefits and re-employment services to individuals who have become unemployed because of major disasters who are not entitled to regular unemployment insurance. The Department of Labor has delegated authority to administer this program, for which the Federal Emergency Management Agency is the funding source, through State employment security agencies.

The benefit period begins with the week following the disaster incident or the date thereafter that the individual became unemployed and can extend up to 26 weeks after the date of declaration or until the individual becomes reemployed, whichever is less.

DUA is not paid to an individual who receive regular unemployment compensation, unless that person's other program eligibility expires and weeks of unemployment continue in the disaster assistance period. The average weekly benefit amount in California is \$142.

This assistance is provided to U.S. citizens and to legal aliens since they are are "able and available to work."

Crisis Counseling Assistance

Upon separate request from the Governor, two types of crisis counseling service may be provided:

* Immediate services, funded directly by FEMA to the State, for screening, diagnostic, and counseling services, outreach, public information, and community networking, which can be applied to meet mental health needs immediately following a disaster. This funding, which is provided for up to 60 days after the date of the disaster declaration, must be requested in writing within 14 days of the disaster declaration.

* Regular program services are designed to provide crisis counseling, community outreach, and consultation and education services. This funding, which must be requested within 60 days of the disaster declaration, may be provided for up to 9 months, with provisions for extension. The assistance is awarded and administered through the National Institute of Mental Health, with the Federal Emergency Management Agency as the funding source.

Crisis counseling assistance is provided without respect to alienage.

Cora Brown Fund

Under a bequest from a disaster victim in 1977 (Mrs. Cora Brown), a special fund for unmet needs of disaster victims is available. Those needs which cannot be met by disaster assistance programs or other means, and who are identified by the Federal Emergency management Agency, the American Red Cross, or other Federal, State, local, or voluntary agencies, may be considered for Cora Brown assistance. This fund will not be used in a way that is inconsistent with other Federally mandated disaster assistance or insurance programs.

Disaster Legal Services

Free legal services can be provided to victims of a major disaster. Legal advice is limited to cases that will not produce a fee (i.e., those cases where attorneys are not paid part of the settlement which is awarded by the court). Assistance examples include: help with insurance claims for doctor and hospital bills, loss of property, loss of life; drawing up new wills and other legal documents; advice on landlord and tenant problems; and preparing powers of attorney.

This assistance is provided without respect to alienage.

American Red Cross Assistance

* Emergency assistance may be available for those affected by fire. Help with food, shelter, emergency medical care, rental accommodations, bedding, and other emergency assistance is available.

* Additional assistance is available for fire victims who have exhausted all their governmental disaster assistance benefits. Assistance is available to complete repairs and obtain essential replacement personal property.

This assistance is made available without respect to alienage.

SL-DA-IA-IN
May 4, 1992

*Jeanie
Call if you
need more - Pete*

FEMA/SBA
- 16 -

*What do
they people do...*

Q Marlin, was Gary able to get a better handle on those numbers that --

MR. FITZWATER: The total estimate of SBA loans is \$300 million, which is the face value of the loans, not actual outlays. The FEMA cash grants are estimated at \$300 million. These are estimates that may change due to assessments being made on the ground. But the two together would be \$600 million, as Ann said.

Q Grants are to individuals and for infrastructure? Is that combined?

MR. FITZWATER: Yes.

Q Marlin, that exceeds the damages --

Q Marlin, you said the whole program is one of the major programs that exemplifies the conservative direction that you want the administration to go in. The program was, in effect, mostly given away by the administration in negotiations with the House this year. Kemp asked for a veto.

MR. FITZWATER: Which program? The HOPE?

Q The homeownership program. Kemp asked the White House to veto or to threaten to veto the HUD independent agencies legislation because the program was more or less -- written out large parts of it out of these negotiations. Does the administration now regret allowing this program to be decimated that way now and is it going to have any more emphasis as you move through?

MR. FITZWATER: I'd have to talk to Jack about it. I don't know what the status was. I don't have anything here on it, and I don't know the legislative process --

Q Passed by the Senate and torn up by the House.

MR. FITZWATER: -- yes, whether we -- I just don't have the status of it.

Q Marlin, why are we giving \$600 million in federal money when the damage is only \$550 million?

MR. FITZWATER: That's the problem of giving out numbers like that. First of all, they're just estimates, and there are different categories of -- I mean, one is damage in terms of -- in other words, I don't know how the calculation damage was given by the city of Los Angeles. It may be buildings or whatever. Ours is on insurance and loans and all kinds of things.

Q Are you really saying that all that money is going to be loaned or are you just saying that's the money that's available?

MR. FITZWATER: It's available and there are estimates

MR. FITZWATER: It's available and that it could be called on to use.

Q The only point I'm making is you make it sound like

MR. FITZWATER: These are all soft numbers. Nobody knows this for sure. They're all big money estimates, but nobody can give you precise numbers.

Q But you can take \$50 million or \$100 million -- you make it sound like the federal government is picking up the entire cost of the damage.

MORE

#457-05/04



Federal Emergency Management Agency

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TRANSMITTED BY: Steve Dougherty

REMARKS:

Firms Pledge to Rebuild Shattered Areas of City

By PATRICK LEE
and JUBE SHIVER JR.
TIMES STAFF WRITERS

Several major Los Angeles businesses jumped in Monday with a range of plans to help rebuild riot-torn areas of the city, while criticism continued to mount against the embryonic redevelopment efforts headed by former baseball Commissioner Peter V. Ueberroth.

Actions ranged from a \$25-million loan program from Bank of America and aid programs by African-American and Korean-American owned banks, to the formation of an investment group by retired basketball star Earvin (Magic) Johnson aimed at spurring minority businesses.

Most businesses, however, held off major aid efforts and confined their initial actions to food drives and other disaster relief.

Ueberroth flew to Chicago on Monday to meet with potential investors, said Joel K. Rubenstein, a partner in Ueberroth's Orange County investment firm, the Contrarian Group. Ueberroth was scheduled to return to Orange County later Monday for at least one other meeting.

Rebuild L.A., Ueberroth's extragovernmental task force, has yet to name a board of directors, select permanent staff or pick a headquarters site. Close associates

of Ueberroth conferred with attorneys, architects, land-use experts, real estate executives and others in Los Angeles to define the scope of their group's enormous task.

But the Rev. Jesse Jackson criticized Ueberroth's appointment as sending the wrong message, and at

Please see REBUILD, A12

National Guard Official Cites Series of Delays

By DANIEL M. WEINTRAUB
TIMES STAFF WRITER

SACRAMENTO—The first troops Gov. Pete Wilson ordered to the Los Angeles riots were delayed for several "critical" hours by a series of decisions and breakdowns that began long before the jury in the Rodney G. King beating trial delivered its verdict, a top California National Guard general acknowledged Monday.

Brig. Gen. Daniel L. Brennan insisted that the Guard's response compared favorably to any of its previous commitments in times of civil unrest—including the Watts riots. But Brennan, in an interview

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LOS ANGELES TIMES

RIOT AFTERMATH: GETTING BACK TO BUSINESS**BUILD: Loans and Investments Are Pledged**

from Al Johnson, president of the Employee's Assn. in Los Angeles, a 6,000-member labor and community group, said: "He has a history of doing benefit minority people, but he didn't enhance management when he was manager of baseball." While, as companies aid, community activists pick up their calls for a new revitalization for South Los Angeles that would be a marked change from the past and ensure that people who live there had a stake in its economic future. Commitments for loans, investments for other support came from venture capitalists, investors and wealthy indi-

viduals to generate private sector. Gov. Pete Wilson met with 16 California corporate executives in Los Angeles—representatives of four financial institutions and two supermarket chains. Johnson announced that Bank of America, Wells Fargo Bank, First Bank and Home Savings Bank have pledged to help new enterprises and existences in distressed areas. Bank of America said its \$25-million program was aimed at financing the rebuilding of small businesses. The bank said it will provide up to \$100,000 per business for becoming an equity partner with some of those businesses.

Bank Vice Chairman C. Hartnack said his bank is providing three immediate rebuilding loans—Small Business Administration-related loan, offering mortgages at market interest rates for those homes were damaged and offering low-interest

home improvement loans for people whose homes were damaged.

Wilson added that companies that operate the Vons, Ralphs and The Boys and other supermarket chains plan to repair and reopen supermarkets damaged during last week's disturbances.

"I was enormously cheered by what I heard," Wilson said at a news conference after the private meeting. "These companies are entitled to the kind of support that they didn't receive during [last week's] tragedy."

At the same time, Magic Johnson announced the formation of his investment group, which is to include other wealthy sports and entertainment figures, to build new businesses and employ young people in the community, said Lon Rosen, Johnson's agent.

For the most part, however, Los Angeles businesses said it is too early to say how much financial help they will be able to offer. They said they will wait for direction from Ueberroth or city officials.

Those companies concentrated their early efforts on disaster relief. Utility companies were offering discounted rates and emergency service to displaced residents.

Emergency food relief was available from several supermarket chains, such as the operators of Alpha Beta, The Boys, ABC, Viva and Food 4 Less stores. But they declined to say whether all of the 40 or so stores burned or looted in the rioting will be rebuilt.

Atlantic Richfield Co. said it will rebuild five of 11 Arco service stations burned during the rioting, but was less committal about long-term financial aid.

In the affected communities, three black-owned financial institutions—Broadway Federal Savings & Loan, Family Savings Bank and Founders National Bank—announced plans to cooperate to provide loans to rebuild old businesses and finance new ones, said Wayne-

Kent Bradshaw, president of Family Savings.

"We can get more leverage by combining some of our resources," Bradshaw said.

Lance E. Drummond, the black chief executive officer of the Economic Resources Corp. near Watts, and other black venture capitalists said they sense a lot more interest among African-American and some pension fund investors in investing in minority communities.

"We are talking to people who earlier said 'no' that now are saying 'maybe,'" Drummond said.

At the Los Angeles office of the New York investment house of Bear, Stearns & Co., broker Lemuel Daniels said he is getting calls from African-American professionals interested in investing in enterprises that serve minority communities.

The Korean-American business community, meanwhile, rallied to its redevelopment challenge, aiding businesses, including hundreds of members of the Korean American Grocers Assn., which were destroyed by looters and vandals.

David Kim, president of the grocers group, has helped establish an emergency relief organization designed to help merchants in various industries and others who suffered losses during the disturbances.

Late Monday afternoon, the heads of both locally based and Korea-based banks serving the Korean-American community met to assess the situation of their customers, but most said they were still gathering information on what kind of help the small merchants will need.

John Britt, president of United Citizens National Bank, an institution founded three years ago by local Korean businessmen, said his bank will be willing to defer interest and principal payments on outstanding loans for six months or more, depending on need.

As the aid came in, several black

business leaders raised concerns about the direction of the city's main redevelopment efforts. Some recalled similar promises made after the 1980 Liberty City riots in Miami, when the local business community sought to pull together a public-private economic development response for the inner city.

Although committees were formed and some small development projects begun, the area's woes were not seriously addressed. Miami was hit by other riots in the 1980s.

Jackson said in a meeting Monday with editors and reporters at The Times that the choice of Ueberroth to lead the city's Rebuild L.A. task force sends the wrong message to the mostly black and Latino communities hit hardest by the destruction.

"It doesn't look good," Jackson said. "It's like sending in another white man to save us and help us rebuild."

Community leaders called for fewer liquor stores and shopping centers and more investments in manufacturing and other enterprises that would create meaningful jobs and economic opportunities for local entrepreneurs.

Jackson notwithstanding, Ueberroth does have significant support, particularly among the city's older, more established black business leaders.

"I don't have those concerns" about Ueberroth, said Larkin Teasley, president and chief executive officer of Los Angeles-based Golden State Mutual, the nation's third-largest black life insurance company. "I think the thing I'm most concerned about is the success of the undertaking" of rebuilding the city.

Times staff writers James Bates, Susan Moffat, Michael Parrish, Jonathan Peterson, James Risen and George White contributed to this report.

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Families in the Riot Areas Try to Pick Up the Pieces

■ **Survival:** After five nights of living in fear, many try to settle back into everyday routines. Others look to leave.

By JOHN L. MITCHELL
and TINA GRIEGO
TIMES STAFF WRITERS

At the street corner where the Los Angeles riots began, Roy and Laverne Walker had endured five nights of terror—watching fires hearing gunshots, doing without lights or a phone and sleeping on the floor for safety.

But on Monday, the jittery Walkers could look to the streets and see calm. They could dress and feed their 21-month-old daughter Saïda, in a household where the lights worked, where the phone was on. A gardener came by expecting to be paid, and for the first time in days a mail carrier completed his appointed rounds.

"Is that it? No bills?" asked Walker, 41, a state police officer, accepting a stack of junk mail at the couple's neat, middle-class home near Normandie Avenue, where, miraculously, even the rosebushes survived the most violent unrest in city history.

Without fanfare, and with uncertain prospects of help from authorities or charitable organizations, the Walkers and untold numbers of other families in Los Angeles were beginning to pick up the pieces of their homes, shops and battered psyches.

For many, Monday brought a welcome sense of the routine, a spring day's respite from the raging onslaught of violence. There

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FAMILIES: 'Normal' Life

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were bills to pay, groceries to buy, errands to run. There were windows to replace, plywood sheets to take down. There were moments of shared grief, moments of relief, even levity, and moments to reflect on the horrors of a week gone haywire.

Like the Walkers, Koreatown businessman Charles Yoon has decided he will leave Los Angeles, and as soon as he possibly can. Birdell Wright, a soft-spoken Sunday schoolteacher who watched parts of Long Beach burn, was left trying to comprehend not only the violence, but also the stunning verdicts in the Rodney G. King trial that touched it off.

Darinda Davis of Compton, who is seven months pregnant, struggled to erase from her mind the harrowing images of looters and arsonists and an all-night fire that threatened to destroy her home.

And Raubi Sinder, who spent four days and nights holed up inside the Hollywood Wax Museum, was back at work there Monday, looking out for the family business while wondering how Hollywood could ever recover.

Roy Walker, a product of South Los Angeles who has lived in the same home for 17 years, came away from the worst rioting in city history with personal baggage. He was left to agonize over the turn of events Wednesday night as the violence began. Right outside his home—at the epicenter of the unrest—mobs began pulling motorists from cars and beating them in the streets.

Although trained as a peace officer, Walker only stood and watched from his own doorway.

"I felt so helpless," he said. "I've been tortured ever since . . . feeling helpless, wanting to do something but not knowing what to do. Could I have made a difference? Or would I have been another statistic? It has been on my mind constantly."

The ensuing days unfolded in kaleidoscopic images of anarchy. Walker ran out for kerosene and batteries for flashlights, but the family was unable to do laundry or get food. On Thursday, Walker was due at work at 10 a.m. but arrived at 1 in the afternoon. His supervisors yelled at him, he said, and he was forced to explain—before donning his riot gear to take to the streets—that it had been impossible to phone in. Service was out in the entire neighborhood.

With her husband working late, Laverne Walker tried to look after the baby. They slept together on the bedroom floor for fear of gunfire.

"I heard shots," she said. "I was afraid to go to the window."

Like other families, the Walkers are thinking of finding a new home elsewhere, maybe in Palmdale or Lancaster. And Walker is kicking himself. "I really screwed up," he said. "I have a gold card. Why did I bother staying? I should have just taken my family out of the neighborhood and put them up at a hotel."

Charles Yoon, the owner of a key copying shack in a mini-mall in Koreatown, answered his portable phone. After taking a few seconds to recognize the caller, he looked across the street on Monday to Nice Fashions, a boarded-up dress shop.

"Oh, yes, it's still locked up," Yoon, 63, reassured the shop's owner. "Looks fine. Don't worry about a thing."

Like the dress shop, Yoon's key shack at 8th Street and Vermont Avenue survived the riots without major looting or damage. However, on Monday, Yoon was one of the mini-mall's first tenants to return to work.

All around him, less fortunate businesses show the ravages of recent days. Adjoining his tin establishment, an electronics store had been hit by pickup truck, then plundered by looters who carried away hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of merchandise. Its battered facade was a mute legacy of the ransacking.

Nearby, only steel girders and ash were left of a string of six Korean- and Vietnamese-owned shops that also were devastated.

As Yoon listened to Korean-language radio an hour and a half away from the street, he talked about the spiritual damage that would be difficult, if not impossible, to repair. Since he moved to Koreatown three years ago from Orange County, returning to Korea has been in the back of his mind, Yoon said.

Now he is sure he will go back, as soon as his son finishes two years of art school.

"Sure, I've considered staying for good," Yoon said of Los Angeles. "But this is not the way I want to live for the rest of my life."

Yoon, who hadn't made a sale since closing early Wednesday afternoon when he heard the King verdicts, sat watching the street Monday. At last, a customer showed up, a man who needed two keys copied. The total sale: \$2.

Also contributing to today's coverage are Laurie Becklund, Leslie Berger, Bettina Boxall, Howard Burns, Stephanie Chavez, Virginia Ellis, Andrea Ford, Ashley Dunn, David Ferrell, Tina Grigo, Lee Harris, Scott Harris, Melissa Healy, Shawn Huber, Amy Kaman, John H. Lee, Penelope McMillan, Pat Morrison, Fred Muir, Dean E. Murphy, Lisa Omphroy, James Rainey, James Risen, Cecilia Rasmussen, Kenneth Reich, Carla Rivera, Ron Russell, Louis Sahagan, John Schwada, Stuart Silverstein, Richard Simon, Mark A. Stein, Vicki Torres, Harry Weinstein, Eric Young and Nora Zambichow.

"I didn't have much of anything to lose in the first place," Yoon said, motioning toward a box of walkie-talkies and a padlock display, which were among Yoon's undisturbed merchandise. "I gave my rifle to the others [in the mall], so they could protect the businesses. I'm ready to go back [to Seoul]."

Never in her life, had Birdell Wright, 69, see anything like it.

Shopping strips were on fire, sending acrid smoke through her neighborhood of neat, modest stucco houses in West Long Beach. Stores that weren't burning were boarded shut. The state Department of Motor Vehicles building a few miles away was a charred ruin. Even the clothes that one of her daughters had taken to the local dry cleaners had been destroyed when the shop was firebombed.

On top of all that, Wright tried vainly to grasp not-guilty verdicts received by the four Los Angeles police officers accused of beating motorist Rodney G. King. "I have never felt such rage," recalled Wright who sings in her church choir.

"Then I started praying. I was walking around the house praying for myself because of this terrible rage. . . . As I began to pray, tears came. I just cried

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Resumes, but It's Not the Same

and cried," she said. "Then a terrible sadness was inside me."

Throughout much of the weekend, Wright stayed inside with her husband, Artis, and her two grown daughters, who live with them. But on Saturday, desperate for some diversion, she ventured to Torrance with a friend to look at the South Coast Botanic Garden. "It helped a lot."

On Sunday, Wright and one of her daughters decided to go out for breakfast. They had to try three restaurants before they found one that was open.

On Monday, however, Wright's daughters returned to work and shops were reopening. Wright was going to do some gardening in her flower beds.

And yet the emotional toll remained; the neighborhood, the city at large, would never really be the same.

"You're driving along and you usually turn at a landmark and the landmark's not there. It's a pile of rubble," said Wright, a retired aide for the Long Beach school system.

Wright's daughter, Joani, spoke of being near tears because the destruction had crept into her community. Yet she also noted a feeling of camaraderie among those trying to deal with the crisis. At stores that began reopening, she said, "people were smiling or nodding their head. People are coming together. I don't know if it will last."

As soon as the verdicts came in, Darlinda Davis—seven months pregnant and at home in Compton with their 2-year-old daughter—called her husband, Delton, at the Gardens Kentucky Fried Chicken franchise he manages.

"They are gonna let those men go," she said, near tears.

"There is going to be a riot," he answered quickly, needing no more explanations. "Stay in the house."

"I just start crying and everything got worse and worse," she recalled. "I put my daughter down to bed, because I didn't want her to see any of this."

Sure enough, three hours later, the trouble began. From the window of their Compton Boulevard home, Darlinda watched 20 cars pull up to the neighboring swap meet store, and a sick feeling gripped her. For the next five hours, the neighborhood was filled with strangers running with their arms filled with clothes, electronic equipment, beauty supplies, jewelry, everything that could be carried or dragged.

Just before midnight, the store exploded in fire. Huge, searing flames quickly spread to the neighboring Baptist church and sent the Davises running outdoors to hose down their home of four years.

The fire burned for more than 12 hours, littering the Davises' yard with ash and debris. But the home was spared.

After that, everything seemed to pass in a blur, Darlinda recalled.

She remembers driving through Compton with Delton and her mother, watching in disbelief as looters darted through traffic. She went to the Salvation Army to get bread for dinner because she couldn't find a store that was open. The organization gave her not only bread, but a bagful of groceries and three spaghetti dinners.

She remembers a man asking her if she wanted to buy some rings he had just stolen.

She remembers the nightmares that came to her Thursday night.

"Something terrible—the ultimate something awful—was chasing a bunch of us, but it wanted me

because I had something that it wanted and it was coming and coming," she said, recalling one dream.

By Sunday, everything had quieted down. The nightmares stopped. On Monday morning, Delton returned to his job. Darlinda, rested from the first night's sleep she had had since Wednesday, spent the morning sorting through their bills while a soap opera played on the TV in the background.

Later, she would go to the bank, grab a quick burger and salad at a fast-food restaurant and finish braiding her daughter's hair—a chore she had started Wednesday. She planned to go see her husband at the bank and then simply relax.

"We are just trying to get back into a routine," she said on her way to the bank. "I don't think this will get back to normal here for a while."

For someone who spent most of four days and nights holed up inside the Hollywood Wax Museum, Raubi Sundher was coping well.

"I'm tired, I'm angry and I'm trying to figure out how we can get on our feet again," said Sundher, 32, who manages the tourist attraction his father founded 27 years ago, during the summer of the Watts rebellion.

For Sundher, the riots were surreal. He found himself snuggled up with a shotgun and a sleeping bag on the off chance that anyone would want to break in and make off with a wax figure of Ronald Reagan.

Unlike some other nearby establishments, including the landmark Frederick's of Hollywood, the museum was unharmed. But as a few merchants along Hollywood Boulevard worked to sweep up debris, Sundher rebutted his own four-day ordeal and tried to imagine how Hollywood would restore its national image with tourists.

"We've got a big-time image problem on our hands," he said, peering at a television monitor of the wax museum's entrance, which was deserted at midday except for a lone ticket-taker. "As you can see, the actual damage in Hollywood wasn't that great, but the people we depend on—the people back in the heartland—will connect Hollywood and riots, and we've got to worry if they're still going to want to come."

As the upheaval began, Sundher saw the sporting goods store across the street looted, the flea market down the street torched and a friend's leather shop several blocks away emptied of \$300,000 worth of merchandise. "At one point, I walked up to a policeman and said, 'You know they're looting down there,'" he recalled, referring to the leather store and he just said, 'Thank you, and did nothing.'"

From Thursday afternoon to Sunday morning, Sundher said, he never left the wax museum, except to swap guard duty with other family members at the Guinness World of Records attraction across the boulevard, which the family also owns.

Luckily, the museum features a fully stocked refrigerator, which was loaded with pizza, cold cut and other foods.

"I remember as a kid hating this place at night, hot dark and spooky it was, and how after the lights went out all you could see were these glass eyes that seemed to stare at you in the darkness," Sundher said.

But last week, the real horrors were outside, out where the city was burning.

"Hey, this is our life," he said, explaining why he stayed to stand guard. "This is everything we own. No way were we not going to stay and protect it."

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