Statistics tell grim story

By BOB SMITH

When the earth finally stopped rocking and rolling Oct. 17, 1989, Santa Cruz County and the rest of the Central California coast had experienced the greatest natural disaster in their history.

The quake measured 7.1 on the Richter scale. The U.S. Geological Survey reported more than 7,500 after shocks that measured between 1.0 and 5.4 magnitude on the Richter scale.

It's taken nearly two years for the damage toll to be added up.

Sixty-three people died and 3,757 were injured.

The monetary loss is estimated at \$5.9 billion.

For Santa Cruz County, it was the fifth presidentially declared disaster of the decade.

But the damage was far worse than anything experienced in the floods of 1982 and 1983 when the damage toll reached into the hundreds of millions of dollars.

State and federal agencies have poured \$702 million into the disaster region in aid to individuals, families and businesses. Another \$4.2 million has been spent by state and federal agencies for crisis counseling.

Five temporary mobile-home parks with 160 units were opened

Loma Prieta Earthquake

Oct. 17, 1989 5:04 p.m

Magnitude: 7.1

Total deaths: 63
Santa Cruz Co.: 5
Monterey Co.: 2

Total injuries: 3,757

**Homes** 

Total destroyed: 1,018 Santa Cruz Co.: 774 Monterey Co.: 19 Total damaged: 23,408

Santa Cruz Co.: 13,329 Monterey Co.: 341

**Businesses** 

Total destroyed: 366
Santa Cruz Co.: 310
Monterey Co.: 11
Total damaged: 3,530
Santa Cruz Co.: 1,615
Monterey Co.: 48

Total loss: \$5.9 billion Santa Cruz Co. \$432,797,162 Monterey Co. \$117,736,000

in Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito counties.

The state paid out \$72 million in settlements to the victims of the Cypress and Bay Bridge collapses.

Through the end of September 1991, repairs to public property have cost \$402 million. The federal government provided \$304.5 million of the money. Another \$12 million has been approved for earthquake hazard mitigation projects, with half the cost coming from the federal government.

The quake saw an enormous outpouring of volunteer assistance.

The American Red Cross sheltered 64,159 persons, served 642,785 meals and operated various other assistance programs at a total cost of \$74.5 million.

In Santa Cruz County, the Red Cross provided more than \$13 million in aid, including \$7,951,315 to local non-profit and government agencies.

The grants went to Food and Nutrition Services, the Samaritan Center, Women's Crisis Support, Salud Para La Gente, Supportive Outreach Services, Santa Cruz Community Mental Health, CFSC Inc., the Santa Cruz Housing Authority, the city of Watsonville, the city of Santa Cruz Housing Reconstruction Fund, the Community Housing Corporation, Housing for Independent People, Pajaro Valley Shelter Services, Fajaro Valley Affordable Housing Shared Living Resource Center and the Pajaro

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