

Weather

From United States Weather Bureau

Recurring rains becoming heavy at times tonight and early Thursday. Gusty winds. High today near 66. Low tonight and high Thursday 65.

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Glendale, California, Wednesday, Nov. 24, 1965

10c on News

Flood Havoc In Canyons

By DENNIS TRISTRAM
News-Press Staff Writer

A new onslaught of rain—in record amounts—continued to cause widespread damage throughout Glendale and surrounding hillside areas today.

More than a half-inch of rain fell in Glendale between 8 and 9:30 a.m., bringing the latest 24-hour total to 1.11 inches.

A cloudburst in the hills above Sheridan and Golf Club Drive early this morning sent a two-foot wall of water slashing down Sheridan and created a four-foot high mud pile at Sheridan and Country Club Drive that stranded hundreds of residents on Sheridan and Par Way.

City crews worked for more than two hours to cut a passage through the debris. Mrs. Richard Paul, whose house at 526 Sheridan is straddled by the two gullies from which the water poured, was in bed at 8 a.m. when the flood waters began tearing by her house.

She said it lasted about a half hour. Her home, which was ruined two years ago by floods, is now protected by 5-foot high retaining walls. Dirt piled up four feet high in the cul de sac in front of her house.

The flood shot down Sheridan, sluiced into a gully that runs beneath what's left of a house at 1616 Golf Club Drive which partially collapsed Monday night, and poured onto Chevy Chase Drive.

The flash flood turned Chevy Chase into a raging, gushing, roaring torrent of water.

Even police were forced to go through La Canada to reach the canyon which has been closed from Golf Club Drive to Cascadia. Auto travel up or down the inundated roadway was impossible. Worried residents peered anxiously

from the steamed windows of homes lining the cascading floodwaters.

Racing down the canyon and filling the roadway from curb to curb, the roaring waters lapped at the ivy lining the top of foot-and-a-half high curbs on the outside curves of the twisting road which had become a river bed.

Boulders and rocks rumbled ominously as they tumbled and rolled beneath the seething surface. As the waters dashed into submerged obstacles the water was thrown into the air in spouts as high as two feet above the surface.

Tree stumps, trash cans, drain pipes and tree limbs were carried down the sluicelike canyon, smashing into the wooden barrier fence guarding the huge drain at the intersection of Chevy Chase and Cascadia.

At 8 a.m. Glendale Police officers and city street crews frantically searched for a woman or girl who reportedly had been swept into the current near the 2400 block. A road grader, engine roaring, plowed into the torrent, going upstream with water cascading over the 6-foot high bow of the big machine.

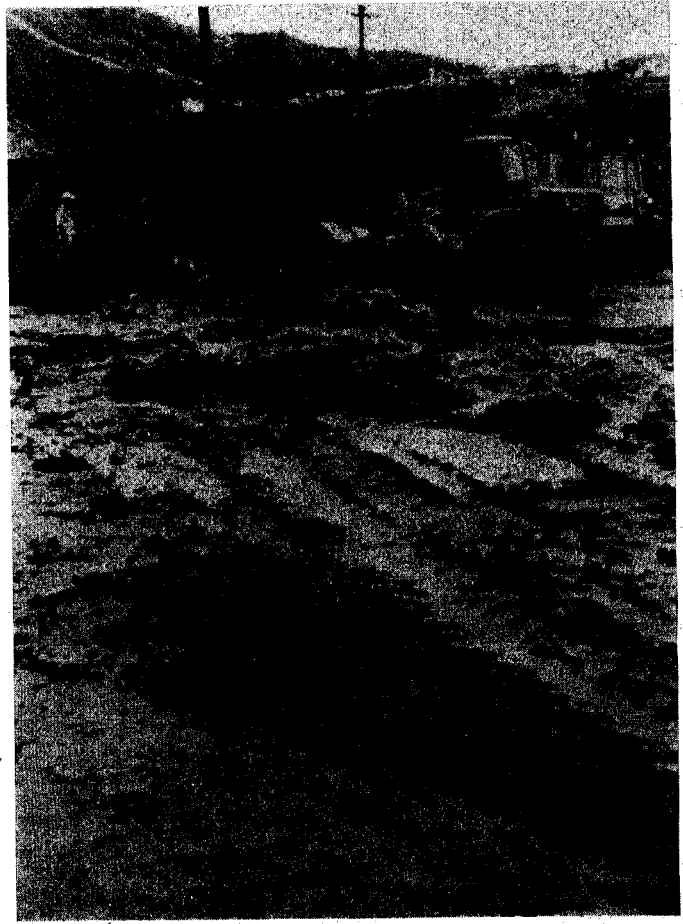
The grader's crew reported seeing no one in the raging waters and returned to the bottom of the hill to park next to the yawning mouth of the 6-foot-wide drain, swelled with the racing waters. A blue trashcan raced by and was sucked like a flash into the dark cavity of the drain tunnel.

Searchers failed to find any victim and investigating officers speculated the informant had mistaken a blue trashcan for a person and called police after hearing

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RAINFALL TABLE

| | 24 Hrs. | Season | Last Yr. |
|--------------|---------|--------|----------|
| Glendale | 1.11 | 14.97 | 2.48 |
| Tulsa | .98 | 13.55 | 3.45 |
| La Canada | 1.08 | 17.09 | 3.69 |
| La Crescenta | 1.03 | 21.28 | 3.59 |



FLASH FLOOD—City crews work to remove four feet of mud and water which marooned hundreds of resi-

—News-Press Photo by Louis Deisbeck
dents on Sheridan and Parway this morning after a flash flood poured from the fire denuded Verdugo Hills.

Flood Victims Face Bleak Thanksgiving

By AVERY KEENER
News-Press Staff Writer

It will be a bleak Thanksgiving for at least two Glendale families whose homes were destroyed by the fury of this week's storm.

A third family, fearing its home is next to go, will be separated on what is usually a festive family day.

Richard Butler moved his family late Monday morning out of his home at 1616 Golf Club Drive. While their house collapsed into a caved-in ravine, Mrs. Butler, who is ex-

pecting a baby in a month and a half, and her 2-year-old son, who was ill with a 104-degree temperature, moved hurriedly into a vacant apartment unit which the Butlers own.

Although they are safe, their home and irreplaceable antique furnishings are in a broken, twisted heap of rubble along with a 50-foot section of the street, broken sewer lines and the back yard of a neighbor's home.

"It all started about 11 a.m.

Monday," Butler told the News-Press at the scene.

"At first the house began creaking like a boat. Then a door, which had been leaning against a wall, moved, the posts started sinking and the beams buckled."

During the gradual collapse, a cragged chasm was carved beneath the street and the Butler's home.

What two days ago was a home, a suspended patio and garage is now a pile of timber and mud and a few broken rooms hanging precariously

on the unstable rim of the ravine.

"The two storm drains that ran across the property were built more than 30 years ago," Butler remarked. "We could see they were rotten, and were afraid something would happen."

Residents in the disaster-prone canyon pay extra for fire insurance. None has flood insurance or any that would cover this type destruction.

Butler's neighbor, Duncan Robertson, still had a house but his yard collapsed with

Butler's house, and his family has been evacuated.

"I've moved everything of value out and I'm staying with neighbors," Robertson said. "If we get any more rain at all this house could go too."

Robertson's wife is taking the couple's two children to Chicago, where they will stay until they can either move back home safely or find another place to live.

Both families have lived in the damaged area less than five years.

"Since we have lived in this

house we have been hit by a fire, two floods and now this. I've had it. In fact my wife and I had decided to sell and move out just after Christmas.

"We're in the process of re-decorating right now," said Robertson.

As the two men talked they and workers in protective helmets moved soaked furniture and debris out of what remained of the Butler house.

Not far away in a state-owned house at 754 Solway in the Glendale freeway right-of-

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