



CANADA

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CANADA RINGS THE FALL-OUT TOCSIN

The following statement was made to the Special Political Committee of the United Nations on October 16 by Mr. Paul Tremblay, Canada's Ambassador to Chile and Canadian Representative on the Committee, concerning the report of the UN Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation:

"...When we took up in this Committee, just over a week ago, the question of allocating priorities to the various items on our agenda, I stressed the urgency of giving consideration to the problem of radiation hazards to human health. At that time several other delegations indicated similar concern that the item on the effects of radiation should be taken up urgently, and it was placed first on our agenda. My delegation now has been joined by 22 others in putting forward a resolution on this subject. The number of delegations which are co-sponsoring this resolution, and the broad geographic distribution reflected in the list of co-sponsors, testify to the depth and extent of international concern about the growing menace of radioactive fall-out. This is also underlined by the many expressions of support for the objectives of our resolution which have come from delegations other than the co-sponsors.

"This afternoon I propose to outline somewhat more fully the basis for this widespread apprehension. I should also like to explain the general nature and objectives of our resolution, which reflects the approach to this problem shared by Canada with so many other countries in all parts of the world.

"The concern of the Canadian Government about the hazards of radiation is not a recent development. We have been actively represented on the United

Nations Scientific Committee, whose annual progress report is now before us, since that Committee was established in 1955. At the fourteenth session of the General Assembly, Canada played a leading part in developing the resolution which detailed the current terms of reference of the Scientific Committee, and sought to intensify the efforts being made to advance man's knowledge about the effects of radiation. At the same time, having developed in Canada an extensive system of facilities for analyzing radioactive samples, we offered to share these facilities with other countries not as adequately equipped to carry out these studies. It is gratifying that, since then, 13 other member states of the United Nations and two of the Specialized Agencies have similarly offered to make their laboratories available for analysis of radioactive samples. Several countries already have taken advantage of these facilities for analysis, or are arranging to do so.

CANADIAN CONCERN

"I have mentioned these developments...to emphasize the long-standing and continuing concern of the Canadian Government about the harmful effects of radiation. Our apprehensions of course have been greatly intensified by the recent resumption of nuclear weapons testing in the atmosphere. The Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada, in his statement on October 3 to the General Assembly, stressed what this disturbing development has meant for Canadians. Following the resumption of tests in the atmosphere, the level of radioactive fall-out over one of our major cities - the city of Toronto - multi-

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plied by about one thousand times. There were, at the same time, sharp increases in fall-out readings at several other points in Canada.

"I would like to place before the Committee today just a few figures to illustrate how sharply fall-out levels have jumped. In the week ending September 10, the highest fall-out level recorded anywhere in Canada was 20 disintegrations per minute per cubic metre of air. During the following week, however, there were readings of 90 units at Ottawa, 100 units at Montreal, 260 units at Windsor and 470 units at Toronto.

LATEST FALL-OUT READING

"Even higher levels were reached during the week of September 18 to September 24. The average reading for that week at Fort William was about 280 units, and this included peak daily readings of 1,000 units and 600 units. Montreal, the largest centre of population in Canada, had an average reading of 207 units for the week - that included three consecutive daily readings of more than 350 units. Ottawa also had very high fall-out readings during the same period; the average for the week was 246 units, and two consecutive daily readings were above 500 units. At Windsor a reading of 570 units was recorded on September 22, and the average for the week there was 185 units.

"I am sure the Committee will agree with me that this is most disturbing information. Nor are we certain what further increases in radiation levels may be expected as a result of the tests which have been carried out, for past experience has shown that a large portion of the radioactive fall-out is likely to be delayed. Moreover, several further atmospheric tests have been carried out since the fall-out levels which I have quoted were recorded. Every possible effort must be exerted to ensure that there is no further intensification of the already sharply increased levels of radioactive fall-out.

"It is true that Canada is one of the countries geographically located in the latitudes which, on the basis of evidence so far available, seem to have received some of the heaviest concentrations of radioactive fall-out. I am sure, however, that the anxiety aroused in Canada by the effects of recent tests explosions is shared by peoples of every nation represented in this Committee. There are too many grim uncertainties about this matter of radiation hazards to human welfare for any of us to be complacent. Intensity of radioactive fall-out varies from one locality to another, and from one week to the next. Concentrations build up in particular areas. The long-term effects of exposure are by no means clearly established; some of these effects may not appear for many years. It is thus not only ourselves and our children who face the consequences of ever higher levels of radiation; generations yet unborn also may suffer, to an extent which it is not now possible to measure. Another ominous aspect of the increase in levels of radioactive fall-out is the evidence that some individuals are more susceptible than others to harmful consequences of radiation.

"Whatever disagreement or doubt there may be about the level of radiation which would pose an immediate menace to human well-being, the fact that

all radiation does present a potential hazard, and that higher levels increase this hazard, is beyond dispute. Everything we learn about the nature and extent of the consequences of radiation reaffirms the gravity of the problem. The fact that we have still so much to learn about its long-term effects cannot fail to add to our apprehension.

"It is with these sombre considerations in mind... that my delegation has participated in formulating the expressions of international concern which are found in the resolution we have put before this Committee. As the Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada, Mr. Green, said when he addressed the General Assembly, we take the most vigorous exception to having our own and succeeding generations exposed, through the actions of other states, to the dangers of radioactive fall-out. We must register in the most unequivocal terms the anxiety felt among members of this world organization, and the populations represented here, about the growing threat to which mankind is being exposed. By any standard for the conduct of international relations, it cannot be accepted that any state by its actions should cause populations of other states, and their descendants, to be exposed to these incalculable risks. We firmly believe it to be a responsibility of this Assembly to make this point sharply and clearly.

"It is essential, therefore, that we should not pass lightly over this item concerning the annual progress report of a scientific body established by the General Assembly to study the effects of atomic radiation. In dealing with it, we must take account of current developments which have such direct and important implications for the studies which that body is carrying out. If we failed to do so, we should be ignoring the views of the Scientific Committee itself. As its report states, the Committee recognizes that the resumption of nuclear test explosions increases the urgency for the intensification of relevant scientific studies.

CZECH PROPOSAL CHALLENGED

"It is difficult for my delegation to understand how the distinguished representative of Czechoslovakia could suggest, as the resolution submitted by his delegation does, that, despite the present disturbing circumstances, we should treat this item concerning radiation hazards in a routine and, indeed, almost casual manner. Item 24 is, after all, the only item on the agenda of the sixteenth session which deals specifically with the consequences of atomic radiation. I am sure the Committee will agree with me that, as representatives of our peoples - the very men, women and children directly threatened by the radiation menace -, we cannot do less in this Assembly than to take the kind of positive and substantive action which they expect of us. We must, therefore, seize the opportunity afforded by the consideration of this item to ensure that the focus of world opinion is held on this grave problem.

"Before I pass on to the scientific proposals contained in our resolution, I should perhaps comment briefly on one possible misconception about the nature of its objectives. It is not our intention - and in this I am sure I speak for all co-sponsors -

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CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

The Third Meeting of the National Committee on the Centennial of Confederation was held on October 11 in Ottawa to discuss plans for the observance of the Centennial.

The Committee includes four ministers of the Federal Government, and a minister and one other representative from each of the ten provinces. Mr. Léon Balcer, federal Minister of Transport, and Mr. Angus MacLean, federal Minister of Fisheries, are the joint chairmen of the Committee.

Mr. Balcer announced that the Federal Government's plans for its own part in the Centennial would be based on a budget of \$100 million. One federal project has already been announced - the National Capital Commission has been authorized to purchase properties on the east side of Sussex Drive in Ottawa, and to restore the buildings to their appearance at about the time of Confederation. This project, to be called "a mile of living history", will be situated on the direct route between Parliament Hill and Government House. Other federal projects will be announced as they are selected.

Mr. Balcer also announced that part of the funds for which the Government intended to ask Parliament might be used to make grants for projects by local committees on the Centennial. The total amount of such federal grants within a province will not exceed \$1.00 *per capita* of the population of the province.

PRINCIPLES GOVERNING FEDERAL GRANTS

Centennial grants from the Federal Government will be subject to seven principles:

- (1) They will not be considered if federal aid is available for the project under other legislation.
- (2) They may be made only for projects of a "lasting" nature. This might include buildings, parks, concert halls and the writing of books, but would not cover the purchase of existing books, the costs of

COMMONWEALTH ACADEMIC AWARDS

The Canadian Scholarship and Fellowship Committee has completed its choice of candidates for Canadian scholarships and has granted awards to 104 scholars from 27 Commonwealth countries and territories.

Applications for these awards were first submitted by the students to the appropriate agencies in their own countries. As a result of this preliminary selection, 231 nominations were sent to the Canadian Commonwealth Scholarship Committee for final selection. Most of the scholarships were awarded at the post-graduate level, for a period of two years; the candidates have now been placed in universities throughout Canada. The awards cover transportation costs, tuition fees, and living expenses in Canada. Scholars will be attending the following

pageants or celebrations or the administrative expenses of local committees.

(3) Applications should be made to the National Centennial Administration through provincial governments. A provincial contribution will be a prerequisite to a federal grant. The grant will be made to the province.

(4) A federal contribution will not exceed a third of the agreed estimate of cost.

(5) Projects must have a reasonable prospect of completion by the time of the Centennial observances.

(6) Applicants must show evidence that their projects will be properly maintained following completion.

(7) Revenues expected from a project after completion will be taken into account in determining the amount of federal contribution. These principles may be amended from time to time as appropriate.

A province or a municipality may avail itself of other forms of financial assistance (for example, under the National Housing Act, the Technical and Vocational Training Assistance Act, the Canada Water Conservation Act, or the municipal winter works programme); but a particular project receiving federal assistance under one of these schemes will not also be eligible for a Centennial grant.

A third announcement made at the meeting was that the Federal Government intended to issue a special silver dollar to commemorate the Conferences of 1864 in Charlottetown and Quebec, which led the way to Confederation.

The meeting reviewed the numerous suggestions that had been received as to possible projects for the Centennial. In particular, the National Committee studied a proposal for a travel scheme for Canadian students.

The Centennial observances themselves will begin with suitable ceremonies to commemorate the 1864 Conferences.

universities and colleges: Acadia, 1; Alberta, 4; Assumption, 1; British Columbia, 14; Dalhousie, 2; Macdonald College, 3; Manitoba, 9; McGill, 18; McMaster, 4; Montreal, 1; New Brunswick, 2; Ontario Agricultural College, 3; Ontario Veterinary College, 1; Ottawa, 5; Queens, 7; St. Francis Xavier, 1; Saskatchewan, 5; Toronto, 17; Western Ontario, 4; Mount Allison, 2.

The Canadian Commonwealth Scholarship Committee, composed of nine representatives of the English-language and French-language institutions, is responsible for Canadian participation in the Commonwealth Education Plan. Its Chairman is Dr. G.F. Curtis, Dean of Law, University of British Columbia.

Of the 101 scholars awarded Canadian scholarships last year, 17 completed their programmes and 82 are continuing their awards for the coming year. Only two were unsuccessful.

CANADA'S FAO DELEGATION

Prime Minister Diefenbaker announced on October 12 that an 18-man delegation, led by Agriculture Minister Alvin Hamilton, would represent Canada at the eleventh session of the Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome, November 4 to 23.

One reason for the strength of the delegation is Canada's interest in a World Food Bank - a plan proposed by the Prime Minister on a number of occasions as a means of assisting nations facing famine and other emergencies. Canada is concerned with getting support for the Food Bank and with steps directed to raising nutritional standards in all parts of the world, as well as using food for development purposes.

Two other matters of international significance will claim Canada's close attention: (1) the suggested standardization of pesticide procedures throughout the world, combined with a study of pesticide residues; and (2) guiding principles for agricultural price stabilization and support policies.

Fisheries Minister J. Angus MacLean will be Canada's alternate delegate. Deputy Minister of Agriculture S.C. Barry will be the deputy delegate. Mr. Barry is chairman of one of three commissions appointed by FAO. His group is responsible for current and prospective activities.

CANADA AT DETROIT METALS SHOW

The largest piece of cobalt strip in the world, produced by a Canadian manufacturer, will be one of 14 unique displays in the Canadian exhibit at the National Metals Congress and Exposition in Detroit from October 23 to 27. Details of Canada's participation are provided in an attractive illustrated booklet, *Canada Exhibits Metals and Metal Products At Detroit*, published by the Department of Trade and Commerce.

The booklet is now being sent by Canada's trade commissioners in the United States to potential buyers of Canadian metals and metal products in their territories, together with an invitation to visit the Canadian stand at the big Detroit show. The booklet will also be distributed at the Canadian exhibit.

Featuring the new cobalt strip on its cover, the booklet describes many other striking Canadian advances in the production of a wide range of metals and metal products, from new developments in the field of powder-metallurgy to fencing material coated in coloured vinyl.

It also tells how one Canadian firm is co-operating with the Canadian Government in an intensive programme of research into the non-nuclear uses of uranium. This firm is now in a position to supply limited quantities of uranium master alloys for industrial research.

Another interesting Canadian development is the triodetic system -- an entirely different conception in structural connection of metal members.

STUDY HEALTH SURVIVAL PLANS

Pharmacists from across Canada met from October 16 to 20 at the Canadian Civil Defence College, Arrprior, Ontario, to study and recommend methods by which they could assist the federal Emergency Health Services in the provision of health supplies and trained manpower in time of national emergency.

About 60 candidates attended the conference, which combined a three-day civil defence refresher course with a two-day study of the health-supplies officer's role.

Representatives included retail, hospital and governmental pharmacists; officials from the National Pharmaceutical Associations such as the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association, Canadian Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association, Proprietary Association of Canada, Industrial Pharmacists Section of the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association, deans and senior professors from the Canadian Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties, provincial pharmaceutical registrars, provincial health supplies officers and observers from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare in the United States.

The meeting was conducted by the Emergency Health Services Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare under the supervision of J. Earle Matthews, Pharmaceutical Consultant, Administrator, Health Supplies Section, in co-operation with the staff of the Canadian Civil Defence College.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES

Consumer price indexes rose in eight of the ten regional cities and declined in two. Increases ranged from 0.1 per cent in Halifax to 1.1 per cent in both Ottawa and Toronto. The indexes for the latter two cities reflected the introduction of the 3 per cent sales tax in Ontario. The St. John's and Saint John indexes declined 1.0 per cent and 0.3 per cent respectively.

Food indexes also rose in eight of the ten regional cities and declined in two. Shelter indexes showed mixed results as three indexes were unchanged, four indexes were up and three declined. Clothing indexes were lower in six of the ten regional cities, higher in three cities and unchanged in the remaining city. Household-operation indexes were up in four cities, down in three cities and unchanged in the other three cities. Indexes for other commodities and services declined in six of the ten regional cities, increased in two cities and were unchanged in the other two.

CANADA RECOGNIZES SYRIA

Prime Minister Diefenbaker has announced that Canada had extended recognition to the Government of Syria. The Prime Minister has replied to the message he received earlier from Dr. Kouzbari, Prime Minister of Syria, expressing the wish of the Syrian Government to establish friendly relations with Canada.

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RCN COLLEGE TRAINING PLAN

Eighteen men of the Royal Canadian Navy have qualified under terms of the College Training Plan and been selected to attend the University of British Columbia this fall. All have been promoted to the rank of Officer Cadet.

The College Training Plan applies specifically to men from the lower deck who have been chosen as officer candidates. These candidates must qualify for entry to the Canadian Services Colleges or to university before they reach the age of 25. Those selected are entitled to the full pay and allowances of the last rank they held, up to Petty Officer Second Class. Tuition and other essential fees are paid by the Navy.

To qualify, these 18 men successfully completed a senior matriculation course given at HMCS "Naden", at Esquimalt, British Columbia. This is a full-time, nine-month academic course, which prepares the candidates to write examinations set by the Department of Education of British Columbia. On successful completion of the examinations, the candidates became eligible for selection by a final board of review. On completion of their degree at the University of B.C. the men will be promoted to commissioned rank in the RCN.

ELECTRIC POWER STATISTICS

Net generation of electric energy by plants that normally produce 10 million kilowatt hours or more a year declined 4.4 per cent in August to 8,829,218 megawatt hours from 9,236,252 mwh a year earlier. The month's imports of electric energy advanced sharply to 64,154 mwh from 10,030 mwh a year earlier, and exports dropped substantially to 281,444 mwh from 628,008 mwh. As a result, the amount of energy made available in July declined 1.1 per cent to 8,611,928 mwh from 8,708,324 mwh; the amount used in electric boilers was down to 401,076 mwh from 535,956 mwh.

Generation of electric energy in the January-August period decreased 1.8 per cent to 74,342,055 mwh from 75,701,720 mwh in the same eight months of 1960. Imports climbed to 629,042 mwh from 187,137 mwh, and exports fell to 2,727,566 mwh from 3,970,960 mwh. Energy made available in the eight months totalled 72,243,891 mwh, up slightly (0.5 per cent) from the year-earlier total of 71,917,897 mwh; some 3,996,005 mwh were used in electric boilers compared to 5,089,499 mwh.

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

Motor vehicle traffic accidents in Canada in this year's second quarter numbered 54,589, comprising 649 fatal accidents, 16,101 non-fatal injury accidents and 37,839 accidents causing property damage only. There were 767 persons killed in the three-month period and 23,414 injured. Property damage from all accidents in Canada (excluding Quebec) was estimated at approximately \$18.5 million.

CANADA RINGS THE FALL-OUT TOCSIN

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it is in no way our intention to involve ourselves here with the complex question of effective and practical arrangements for achieving a cessation of nuclear weapons tests. The position of the Canadian Government on this issue is well known. Canada is unalterably opposed to the testing of nuclear weapons, both because of the radiation hazard posed by such tests and because of their contribution to the development of very terrible weapons of war. The Canadian attitude in this respect has been emphasized wherever and whenever the matter of tests has been discussed. It will continue to be stressed in the appropriate forum, the First Committee of this Assembly.

A HARSH REALITY

"But what we are concerned with here in the Special Political Committee is one specific aspect of the dangers associated with the testing of nuclear weapons in the atmosphere. The basis for our urgent examination of this problem is the indisputable fact that sharp increases in radioactive fall-out have occurred as a result of nuclear weapons testing. This is not a matter for argument and it is not a theoretical prospect; it is a harsh reality. The hazards which it poses for all our peoples are the proper concern of the Scientific Committee, whose report we have before us. It is not only appropriate but also imperative that, in the light of recent developments, we should place renewed emphasis on all the various lines of study being carried out by the Committee.

"It is against this background that I turn now to the proposals we have offered in the 22-power resolution before the Committee.

CONTENTS OF RESOLUTION

"The preambular paragraphs of our resolution record the deep and universal concern about the increasing levels of radioactive fall-out, to which I have already referred. The second of these paragraphs stresses particularly the apprehension about the cumulative effects of exposure to ever-increasing levels of radiation over a long period of time.

"The fourth paragraph of the resolution sets forth a declaration citing the responsibility of all states in respect of any actions by them which would further increase levels of radioactive fall-out, with possibly harmful biological consequences for the present and future populations of other countries.

"Bearing in mind particularly the reference, in Paragraph 12 of the Scientific Committee's report, to the implications of recent developments, the resolution goes on to stress the importance of pursuing and intensifying the various scientific studies on radiation levels and effects. It reaffirms the importance of the fullest international co-operation in exchanging results of research on the radiation problem. The resolution also stresses the importance of making available to the Committee the results of research carried out and information acquired by national

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services, so that its second comprehensive report may be as scientifically authoritative and informative as possible.

"We and our co-sponsors have also considered it important that the preparation of the comprehensive report should be expedited as far as possible, in view of the mounting international concern about the effects of radiation. With the same considerations in mind, the resolution, in Paragraph 9, invites the Committee to consider whether the information before it would call for the submission of an interim report before the comprehensive report can be made available. The possibility that the facts compiled by the Committee on levels or effects of radiation might warrant such interim reports was, of course, envisaged by the General Assembly when the Scientific Committee was established. Its original terms of reference specifically provide for such a possibility.

"The main work of the Scientific Committee is concerned with assessing the biological implications for mankind of exposure to radiation. With so much concern at the present time about radioactive fall-out, a major and increasing source of radiation, it is imperative that this aspect of our studies on the radiation problem should be particularly emphasized. Section II of the resolution which we are co-sponsoring, having to do with the role of the World Meteorological Organization, seeks to amplify the information available about the world-wide incidence and distribution of radioactive fall-out.

FUNCTION OF WMO

"The World Meteorological Organization is a Specialized Agency of the United Nations, which has 102 members. Its facilities enable it to collect, co-ordinate and distribute accurate information about atmospheric phenomena in all parts of the world. The Meteorological Organization thus is uniquely suited to assist in increasing the extent and accuracy of man's knowledge about concentrations of radioactive fall-out and the pattern of movements of such concentrations. It is also well equipped to summarize and disseminate such information throughout the world, without delay and on a regular basis.

"I have already mentioned the very high concentrations of radioactive fall-out which have been recorded recently in various parts of Canada; and other members of this Committee, I am sure, will be reporting similarly high levels elsewhere. But one of the disturbing aspects of the current trend toward ever-higher average levels of fall-out is the fact that our information is so incomplete. Over large areas of the world, no regular records of fall-out levels are maintained. It may be that the populations living there are being exposed to equal or greater dangers than are suggested by the levels recorded where statistics are kept. Moreover, until we have comprehensive readings of fall-out levels throughout the world for a considerable period of time, there will be much still to be learned about the movements of fall-out systems, and the duration of concentrations in particular areas. This information clearly is of great importance in assessing the nature and extent of radiation hazards.

"...The members of the World Meteorological Organization - and this includes most of the countries represented in this Committee - utilize the facilities

of the Organization to have at their disposal, on a day-to-day basis, information about a broad range of atmospheric factors throughout the world. What could be more logical than that the United Nations should turn to the competent Specialized Agency to ask that its international system of meteorological reporting should undertake measurement of one of the factors which is of such vital significance of human well-being - the level of atmospheric radioactivity? The collection and distribution of these data, besides contributing to various aspects of the study of radiation hazards, would also serve to keep world public opinion alert to one of the most critical problems of our time.

"In conclusion...I should like to sum up the fundamental objectives of the resolution which my delegation has joined with many others in placing before this Committee. We wish to register in unmistakable terms the concern of mankind at the growing hazards of radioactive fall-out, which we cannot afford to see further intensified. We seek to direct renewed and increased effort to the pursuit of scientific studies, to improve man's knowledge of radiation problems and thus make us better able to avert the dangers suggested by the evidence we now possess. Finally, with a view to bringing ever greater pressure to world opinion to bear so that the current disturbing trend may be reversed, it is our purpose to expose this problem to the most intensive public scrutiny - to inscribe on the conscience of the world community an acute awareness of the menace to which our own and succeeding generations are being exposed. We cannot face the future with equanimity if we approach this grave problem complacently, or if we fail to bring to bear the full authority of this organization with a view to dispelling the ominous shadow of radioactive fall-out that menaces all mankind."

"WHOOPEES" FLYING SOUTH

Adult whooping cranes and their young-of-the-year have started the 2600-mile autumn flight from Wood Buffalo National Park in Alberta to their wintering grounds in the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge on the coast of Texas.

National Resources Minister Walter Dinsdale said recently that this phase of the migration had been indicated by the sighting of adult whoopers only by the Canadian Wildlife Service on a September 29 aerial check of the nesting grounds of the big white birds in the Sass River area of the Park. The remaining adults are expected to leave the Park shortly.

Eleven adults and three young-of-the-year were sighted on the previous check on August 25.

Though whooping cranes are protected by law in Canada and the United States, they are in real danger on the long flight. There are natural hazards, such as bad weather, but of most concern is the possibility that the very low population might be further reduced by careless or inexperienced waterfowl hunters. Thirty-six whoopers completed the long flight to Aransas last year.

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service has reported that Hurricane "Carla" caused very little damage to the whooping-crane habitat at Aransas.