

Learning from Earthquakes

The February 3, 1996 Yunnan, China Earthquake

Dean Ye Liaoyuan of the Institute of Civil Engineering, Yunnan Polytechnic University, Kunming, PR China, contributed some of the information used in this report.

At 7:14 a.m. local time on February 3, 1996, a major earthquake struck Lijiang, Yunnan Province, in the south-central section of the People's Republic of China. U.S. Geological Survey preliminary reports estimated the magnitude at 6.4 m_s ; United Nations authorities reported the magnitude as 7 on the Richter scale; Professor Ye Liaoyuan of Yunnan Polytechnic University stated the magnitude was $M_L = 7.0$. The depth was about 10 km. The epicenter was located at latitude 27.2° north, longitude 100.5° east, about 330 km northwest of Kunming, the provincial capital. As of February 6, four aftershocks greater than magnitude 5 had occurred, including one of magnitude 6.

Chinese officials report that 251 people were killed, more than 4,000 were seriously injured, and over 10,000 suffered minor injuries. Over 330,000 houses have been destroyed, leaving about 1 million people homeless. Cold and damp weather conditions in the affected area, a mountainous region near the Tibetan Plateau, made temporary shelter one of the most urgent emergency relief needs. Damage to schools and health clinics is reported to be extensive. Three reservoirs, a hydro-electric plant and a bridge were damaged. Over 24 million kg of grain were destroyed. China is accepting United Nations-coordinated relief assistance in dealing with the disaster.

Announcements

Highlights on the Organization of 11WCEE

The date of the Eleventh World Conference on Earthquake Engineering (11WCEE) is approaching. The Third Announcement of the event was mailed in December 1995. If you haven't received this information packet, contact the address given at the end of the article. The packet includes details on the technical, social and accompanying persons programs, as well as information on conference fees, registration procedures and accommodations.

The technical program will consist of a Main Technical Program (MTP) and a simultaneous Complementary Technical Program (CTP). The MTP will feature two keynote lectures (Profs. Pauley and de Buen), 19 state-of-the-art reports, five poster sessions (in which 90 percent of the papers will be displayed), and oral presentations of selected papers.

In the CTP, the following activities will take place: **Emilio Rosenblueth Seminar**, on the Future of Earthquake Engineering; **Julio F. Borges Seminar**, on Structural Safety and Earthquake Engineering; **Hajime Umemura and Keizaburo Kubo Seminar**, on the 1995 Great Hanshin (Kobe) Earthquake; **Asociación Iberoamericana de Ingeniería Sísmica Seminar**, on Seismic Hazard and Code Harmonization in IberoAmerican Countries; and 22 special theme sessions on hot topics in earthquake engineering.

Conference fees have been established in US dollars as follows: (a) Technical participants: \$650 before March 1, 1996/\$750 after March 1, 1996; (b) Accompanying persons \$320/\$370.

For the first time, WCEE's proceedings will consist of one volume of extended abstracts printed in paper and a set of two CD-ROM's. Proceedings are included in the cost of registration for Technical Participants.

Further information on the Conference may be found in the 11WCEE home page: <http://ensayes-1.cenapred.unam.mx/11wcee.html>. (*Editor's note: that's a "one" after ensayes-, and an "eleven" after mx/.*) Users will find the Third Announcement online, as well as information on Acapulco, Mexico City, archaeological sites and other cities which are included in the Conference tours, and on other tourist attractions within Mexico. Since the information in the page will be updated frequently, users are strongly encouraged to access the page periodically.

For more information, contact: 11WCEE Secretariat: Apartado Postal 70-291, Coyoacan 04511, Mexico, D.F., MEXICO, phone (52-5) 622-3464, fax (62-5) 616-1514, 616-2894, 622-3477, 606-1608. e-mail: WCEE@pumas.iingen.unam.mx.

NOTE:

11WCEE Third Announcement Errata.

On page 30, first line of the Hotel Rates section:

- Replace: Nightly rates per person are shown . . .
- With: Nightly rates are shown . . .

On page 34, second line:

- Replace: night fee per person as deposit . . .
- With: night fee as deposit . . .