WHITTIER EARTHQUAKE REPORTS FROM CSMIP, USGS

CSMIP Strong-Motion Records from the Whittier, California Earthquake of October 1, 1987. California Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Geology, Office of Strong Motion Studies Report OSMS 87-05.

This report contains highlights of the strong motion data recorded by the CSMIP program, tables describing the stations and peak accelerations from all channels, copies of all film records, and sensor layouts for each structure. Available from the CSMIP office at 630 Bercut Drive, Sacramento, CA 95814.


This report, by authors E. Etheredge and R. Porcella, describes the USGS program and the significant records from this event, copies of the film records, tables describing the stations and peak accelerations on each channel, and descriptions of the structural stations. Information is available from the authors at USGS, 345 Middlefield Rd., MS 977, Menlo Park, CA 94025, or from the USGS Open File Services Section, Box 25425, Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225.

The USGS Preliminary Determination of Epicenters provides the accompanying isoseismal map for the earthquake (from C. Stover) and the following data: October 1, 1987; 14 hr, 42 min, 19.9 sec (GMT) at 34.052N, 118.076W and 11 km depth. Local Richter magnitude of 5.9 (PAS) and 6.0 (RRK). (Tom Heaton, USGS, at the Whittier Narrows Technical Briefings, goes with a 6).

Eight people killed, many injured, about 2200 homeless and more than 10,400 buildings damaged in the Los Angeles-Whittier-Pasadena area.

Preliminary estimate of damage approximately 213 million dollars. Maximum intensity (VIII) at Whittier. Felt strongly in much of southern California and as far away as Las Vegas, Nevada.