

Interview 9-9-72 with DICK DELL at State Police Radio Communications Center at Camp Rapid. He was dispatcher on duty evening of June 9th and my only source of verified information regarding developing flood threat (aside from the official weather bulletins)

sequence of my calls with him that evening. On the phone he was using there was a tape recorder, and all the conversations were recorded and then listed on the official log. there were, however, two additional phones in the office which were in use the night of the flood, and there were several other personnel in the office (some of whom were taking calls) so the following list of calls does not preclude other ~~calls~~ conversations I ~~had~~ may have had during the evening with State Police Radio.

6:10 pm State Police called the station and asked that we announce that Boulder Canyon has been closed due to downpour and 8-10 inches of water at Sturgis end.

6:42 I called back and asked if any change in that situation, and told there was none, but got elaboration on seriousness of it

6:53 pm I called back again to check on conditions...was told not getting any better

7:33 I called back to check on more information and was advised highway 40 west and Nemo Road no travel advised because high water,

(7:35 State Police Radio (Dell) declared it an emergency for communications purposes (all radio traffic switched to one band?))

7:39 I called back and a talked with Colonel Leemaster who told me Highway 40 and Boulder Canyon closed (some question if it was Boulder Canyon he referred to or Nemo ~~Road~~ Road area)

8:54 DICK SHILVOCK from Cable TV called for the first time for information/ later came to state radio office and stayed there

[Maybe I had other conversations with them, but these were the only ones logged via the tape recording until I called back again at 10:38 and talked to someone other than Dell, and was somewhat smart with me and told me they were too busy to take calls from the news media]

off the record: sheriff told me he was too busy when I called him ...Shrine convention was in town at this time

10:05 Mayor returned State Radio's call, and Dick talked with him for the first time and reported to him lot of water coming this way. he said this could give us about 40 minutes. He said would pull out the stops.

10:07 report logged from a game warden that houses were moving in the Johnson Siding area.

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"nothing on the log that night about deaths but I recall it was late before we had anything on deaths." He couldn't give any time element on this other than "it was late" off the record, he thinks about the time the dam went first report of a body

~~KRSR~~

"KRSR never calls us, and they didn't call on the night of the flood at all."

KIMM didn't call either (off the record: they were taking information directly from police transmissions)

US weather bureau did not call us with anything, but at 8:06 they did call to ask us what was happening with rain in the Piedmont area. State Police gave them a report on rain conditions reported from highway patrolmen, etc throughout the area.

NAWAS [National Warning Alert System] tied in with Norad in Colorado was not in use that night of the flood "They ~~didn't~~ didn't know how to work it. (the special telephone link from the weather bureau in RC)." "we now have much better communications via direct line, etc. [Dick said he later was questioned about this by National Weather Bureau investigators and members of a Governor's Investigation Group, and he says he demonstrated to them that no one would answer the NAWAS call when he tried to get through to the weather bureau in RC. Then he called them via land line and asked them to call him back (while delegation of investigators was there). After a delay, the weather bureau called back via land line to ask ~~State~~ State Radio what number to dial to get through on the NAWAS phone.