SSG KAREN J. SAVAGE 6 FEB 98 HQ CALIFORNIA NATIONAL GUARD PAGE: 1 OF 2

## STRANDED PEOPLE RESCUED

## February 6, 1998

91 SECONDS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

M/S CHINOOK HELICOPTER FIERCE RAIN DRIVEN BY 50-MILE-AN-HOUR WINDS SLAMMED CALIFORNIAS' CENTRAL COAST, CAUSING LANDSLIDES, AND DOWNING POWER LINES.

L/S LANDSLIDES THE NEXT MORNING, RESIDENTS AND VACATIONERS IN THE TOWN OF BIG SUR FOUND THAT LANDSLIDES HAD REMOVED

L/S BREAK IN HIGHWAY COASTAL HIGHWAY ONE, BOTH NORTH AND SOUTH OF THE TOWN. AN INSTRUCTOR HAD DRIVEN DOWN THE AFTERNOON BEFORE TO THE ELDER HOSTEL RESORT, TO GIVE A CLASS.

M/S EVACUEES & SCHOOLBUS SOUND BITE (19 SECONDS) INCUE: "IT WAS A WILD..." OUTCUE: "...COMPLETELY ISOLATED THERE

(MORE)

L/S 3 PEOPLE WALKING SEVERAL OF THE GUESTS HAD MEDICAL CONDITIONS THAT, AS ONE OFFICIAL PUT IT, COULD GET UGLY, FAST.

M/S VIEW FROM HELICOPTER OFFICIALS TASKED TWO C-H-47-D, "CHINOOK" HELICOPTERS FROM COMPANY G, 140<sup>TH</sup> M/S EVACUEES READY AVIATION, TO FLY THE STRANDED BACK

TO MONTEREY. BY THE SECOND DAY OF THE MISSION, THE TWO FOUR-MAN CREWS HAD MADE 27 SORTIES

M/S EVACUEES MOVE UP AND HAD AIRLIFTED OVER 100 PEOPLE AND THEIR LUGGAGE FROM ISOLATION.

MCU HELICOPTER PASSENGERS <u>SOUND BITE (16 SECONDS)</u> INCUE: "PEOPLE HAVE BEEN..." OUTCUE: "...HAPPY TO HELP."

M/S HELICOPTER LIFTS OFF I'M ARMY STAFF SERGEANT WARREN SAVAGE

# # #