

Night of the big wind, damage widespread.

As many as
100,000
homes dark

San Francisco Examiner

777-2424

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1977

Flurry of 8 quakes jolts the Bay Area

S.F. police phones handle 2,500 calls

By Alan Cline

A string of eight earthquakes — one of them the strongest in the Bay Area in more than 11 years — rocked San Francisco and the East Bay during the night.

The quakes were centered about 20 miles east of San Francisco between Walnut Creek and Berkeley — and between the Calaveras and Hayward faults.

The University of California Berkeley Seismographic Center recorded the strongest tremor as 5.0 on the Richter scale. It was the fourth in the series of eight and came at 1:28 a.m.

Center director Bruce Bolt said more quakes were likely today, "but they probably will be smaller."

The swarm of shakes was not felt in Marin or in Santa Clara County but it set off hundreds of worried telephone calls to police.

The San Francisco police department alone handled 2,500 calls during the quake flurry, which began at 10:55 p.m. and ended today at 1:28 a.m.

One Mission District woman watched her bedroom chandelier fall as she talked to police.

Damage from the series of jolts, however, was minimal and there were no reports of injuries. Four burglar alarms in the financial district were set off.

"We're on the seventh floor and this building was really rocking," said Mary Rose, dispatcher for the Contra Costa sheriff's office in Martinez.

In Berkeley, a 10-year-old told his dad, "this is really scary, I'm chicken."

The Coast Guard alone received 200 calls, many from out-of-towners wondering if San Francisco was still standing. Many callers asked about the threat of tidal waves.

They were told there was none, that the quake was inland.

Bolt said the 5.0 jolt was the strongest since May 5, 1965, when a similar earthquake was recorded near Antioch, 33 miles northeast of Berkeley.

Bolt said a quake of 5.0 "is strong enough to cause some slight damage to very weak structures, but it would have to be at least 5.5 to cause any substantial damage."

A San Francisco resident said of the 5.0 jolt, "It lasted about 15 seconds and my room was really rocking. I thought my wife's picture would fall off the desk. It was bouncing around so much."

Another jittery San Franciscoan reported signs of a street cracking. After an inspection, a policeman said the road was indeed chipped in places, but that perhaps the damage was a result of the 14 quakes.

By Ivan Sharpe

Chilly gale-force winds gusting to 80 and 70 miles an hour — the fiercest for several years — created havoc and widespread damage in the Bay Area last night.

Streets and freeways were littered with trees, billboards, tiles and piles of debris. Power outages were widespread. Huge waves driven by the relentless northerly winds drove boats from their moorings in the Bay.

The winds touched off nearly 20 bush fires, mostly minor, the State Division of Forestry reported.

At Echo Summit, near Lake Tahoe an auto driver was killed when a pine tree toppled across the road.

The winds drove policemen to despair, touching off more than 200 burglar alarms in San Francisco during the night. Reports of broken windows, broken barrels and rolling garbage cans were common.

Just after midnight a large eucalyptus tree toppled in Golden Gate Park, smashing on to the corrugated roof of private riding stables at 38th Avenue and Main Drive.

One horse, pinned down, was freed unhurt at dawn. Six other horses in stalls under the tented trees were uninjured.

In front of the Hall of Justice on Bryant Street one of three tall flagpoles was blown over at a 60-degree angle, and was prevented from falling only by the support of nearby trees.

Firemen later anchored it down with a line, but it will have to be removed by crane.

The gales caught PG&E in the middle of the Thanksgiving Holiday weekend short of workmen. Many were out of town.

"We're having a helluva time getting crews," a spokesman said.

The utility, still struggling to catch up, was unable early today to estimate how many customers in the Bay Area were affected by the power blackouts. But it could go over 100,000.

New Hampshire Ice Mystery

By JOHN KIFNER

Special to The New York Times

WAKEFIELD, N.H., Jan. 13—First, said William McCarthy, choosing his words very carefully, "I saw what appeared to be a hole in the ice."

This was in the middle of a blizzard, and the ice, he said, was about 15 inches thick on his farm pond. Peering through the hole, he went on, he saw what appeared to be "a black square object." But after probing it with a hose and rakes, it turned out to be "just a square hole, about a foot square and three feet deep, in the bottom of the pond, in the hardpack."

After a while, he said, the ice began to melt through in two roundish holes and the snow on top and around the small pond turned to slush. The temperature was about five degrees above zero Fahrenheit.

Radioactivity Suspected

Reporters, sightseers and a civil defense crew descended on the farm today amid widespread reports that a highly radioactive object had fallen, but New Hampshire Governor Meldrim Thomson Jr. told reporters in Concord late this afternoon that the furor was nothing to worry about.

"In fact, there is no object on the bottom of the pond," the Governor declared, adding that "I am glad the whole thing was false," because the situation "could have been detrimental to the citizens of New Hampshire."

However, Mr. McCarthy, a building contractor, is not so sure. "Come spring, I'm going to dig the whole thing up and see," he said.

This afternoon Mr. McCarthy, his wife Dorothy, their three children and a few friends slumped bemused around the fire in their comfortable farmhouse amid a parade of visiting reporters, neighbors and curiosity seekers.

"If a hole appears ever again, I'm not going to say anything," Mrs. McCarthy said.

Earlier that day, men from the local Highway Department, along with a bevy of state officials, including a colonel from the National Guard, arrived



The New York Times/Jan. 14, 1977

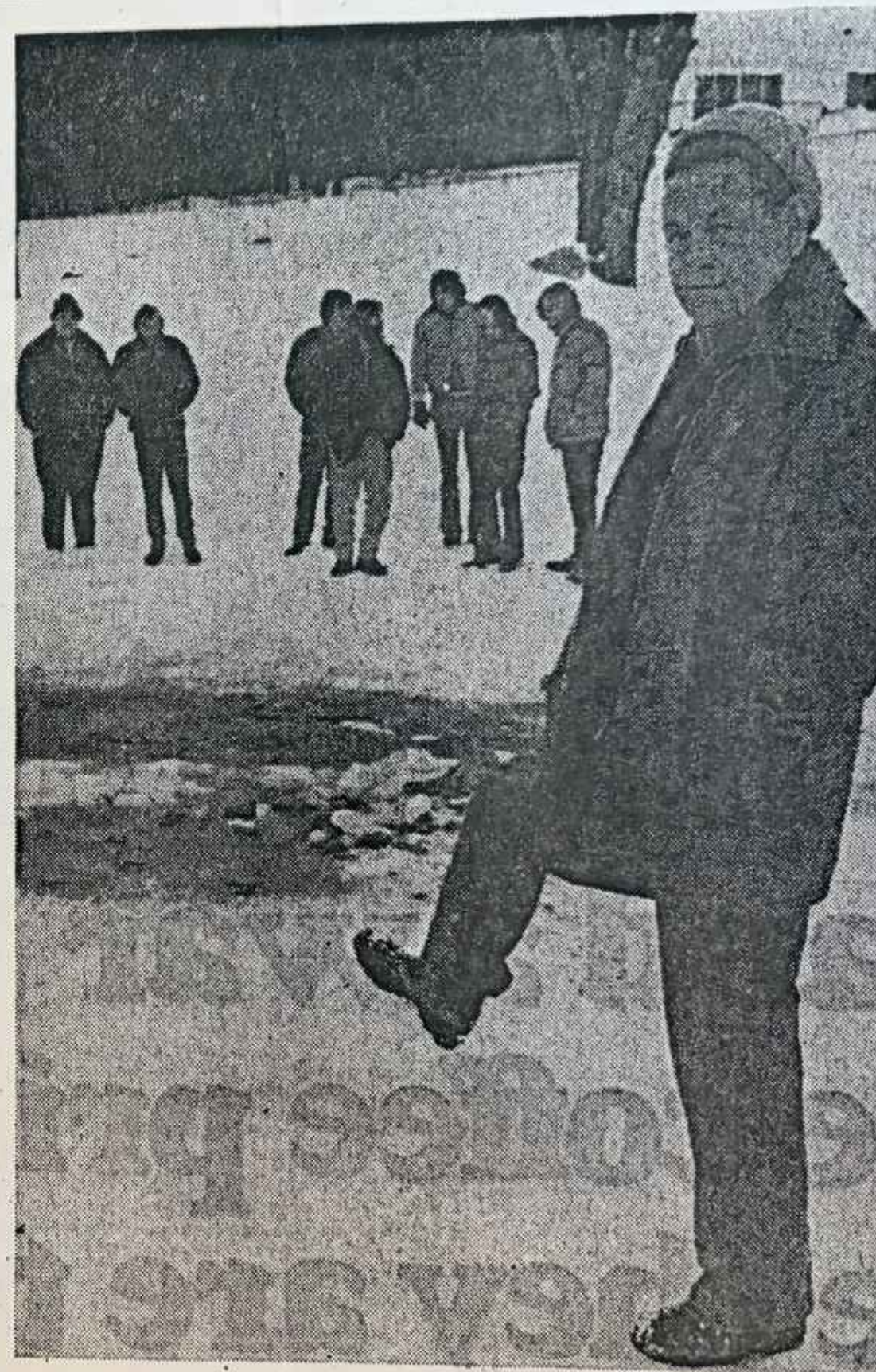
at the farm. They sawed through the ice and dug up some mud from the bottom with a post hole digger. They put it in a plastic bag and drove away.

Beginning last night and throughout the day, the telephone in the farmhouse rang constantly with inquiries from radio, television and newspapers across the country. A helicopter carrying a television crew landed in the snowy field, but there was no room for a second helicopter. Cars were lined up by the huge snowbanks on the normally quiet back road.

Gelger Counters Used

"Hey, it's Miami," somebody shouted from the kitchen after answering the telephone. "Well," his voice could be heard saying a few minutes later, after going over the oft-repeated story, "this is a spokesman."

The hole appeared, Mr. McCarthy said, shortly after noon Monday during a snowstorm here at the farm near the Maine border where the family moved to raise horses six years ago. It had been a summer place for them since 1967, when they were living and working in the Boston area.



William McCarthy by the hole in the ice at his pond in Wakefield, N.H.

The New York Times/Arthur Grace

1-20-77 SFE Examiner

Fire bombs set \$25,000 S.F. blaze

Two firebombs were thrown at a Victorian building in the Western Addition early today, touching off a \$25,000 blaze and causing injuries to two firemen.

Jean Lacues, 29, was taken to the burn unit at St. Francis Hospital for treatment of electrical burns on his hands. The other firefighter was treated at the scene and returned to duty.

The blaze broke out in a pair of flats at 420 and 420½ Austin St., between Bush and Pine streets.

Note: Today, Jan. 11, '77
called Jeffrey... a played
recorder, where I was
mad at him Dec. 31, ~~at~~
& threatened to "kick
hell out of the San Fran.
area." What followed was
a swarm of gnarles that
hit the Fresno bullseye.

57/10/02 / 1st since Moses ^{to have 2 way}
1/6/77 965 - ^{3 being destroyed} beginning (R) where modified
abstract symbols.

UFO → teaching
how to make lightning hit

"forward artillery man" -
for UFO. "Only UFO
bridge to human race."

From another dimension.
"To save human beings from
destroying themselves."

Before acting, read human
decision (choice) - then
law.

Role: each day concentrate on
(roughly drawn) maps & grids
& activate. Master at mental
imagery. UFO's place in circle
around Target. Bars across -
create electromagnetic effects.

Dr Zakow, astro-phys.

Key letters on drought in England

'72, '73, '74 - letters to scientists
warning about droughts around
world. "To prove my link to UFO's
I'll be only one able to end drought."

Telepath to them. Get their
permission

Mechanism - how other dimension

"Need a safe base. That requires
some money. Go to work. End
drought. Notify

Sheet of paper. Map of U.S. (PK map)
I activate it once a day.

^ ^ ^ ^
i i i i i