

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

Somerville Chapter.

Major Nelson, Chairman of Transportation Committee was called on the phone by the Somerville Police at about 11:55 P.M. and told of Coconut Grove Disaster. Prior to that time he understands that the police contracted the Chief Air Raid Warden who was out of town and had to be called and then had to give instructions to nephew who in turn relayed information to police.

Mr. Corwin, Red Cross representative at Report Center was also called by police, at his home.

Major Nelson contacted his assistant, one ambulance, and went to Red Cross Headquarters, equipped ambulance and went to the scene of disaster.

In the meantime Mrs. Nelson called the two women who do the clerical work for the transportation committee and sent them to Headquarters.

The following personnel were contacted and reported at Headquarters.

- 1 ambulance Meldon Whitcomb - Driver Left Hdqtrs. approx
- Vincent March - Rider 12:45
- 1 ambulance P. Mancini - Driver Same as above
- Charles Leaver - Rider
- 1 ambulance
- 1 ambulance Rodney Penny - Driver Left Hdqtrs. at
- Harold Young - Ass't to approx. 12:30
- Chr.
- Mjr. Nelson - Chr.

3 ambulances, with Mercurio, Dardeno and Carbonetti were assembled and waiting for notice to proceed to disaster.

The following personnel attended to details within the Headquarters: Mrs. Leaver, Mrs. Holder, Mrs. Kent, Chr. of Motor Corps, Mrs. Robert Stafford, director of group in transportation committee, and Mr. Norman Corwin, mentioned above.

When our ambulances reached the scene of the disaster they were told they were not needed unless they had baskets and they did not have this equipment.

All ambulances reported back to headquarters between 2:00 and 3:00 A.M.

Major Nelson inquired from police where he should report but all vehicles were routed the same way and he could locate no one to whom to report on that route.

No canteens were sent from this chapter.