

JAMES ABOUREZK
2D DISTRICT, SOUTH DAKOTA

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VOLUNTEER SERVICE OFFICES:
LEAD, MOBRIDGE, PIERRE, WINNER

September 19, 1972

Mr. Robb DeWall
P.O. Box 1341
Rapid City, South Dakota 57701

Dear Robb:

I am most happy to furnish what knowledge I can impart with regard to the impact of broadcasting during the Rapid City flood.

As you recall when I first hit town I wound up in the basement of the Courthouse where you were broadcasting over a telephone.

As I remained in Rapid City for the next two days, I consistently kept on the radio to try to determine what was happening. Actually, the value of the continuous broadcast of messages, of the dissipating of rumors, and other services was in my opinion probably the only thing that kept the community from going into total panic. I recall specifically rumors flying around Rapid City that another dam was about to break upstream from Rapid City and of the general near panic of such a report.

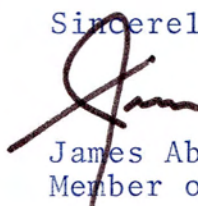
The ability of your broadcast to quiet that rumor down as well as others was, I believe, of extreme value. Of course, the assistance provided by broadcast radio in helping relatives and friends find each other was of great personal comfort to all those involved.

This may sound like a testimonial but it is really the only thing that I can say about the services provided during that period.

Keep up the good work.

With kindest personal regards, I remain

Sincerely,



James Abourezk
Member of Congress