

CONTRIBUTORS

B.P. Borkan, a Ph.D. Candidate in the Wharton School, Philadelphia, Pa., has worked in the field of natural hazards for several years. His dissertation concerns modeling the decision processes utilized by insurance agents in promoting coverage against natural hazards.

Lars Clausen is Full Professor of Sociology at Kiel University (West Germany). He is working on theory and small scale research on the sociology of catastrophe and disaster.

Paul Conlon, a sociologist, originally specialized in minorities and consumer research before becoming one of the founders of the SIFKU-institute in Kiel, Germany, where he now conducts research on traffic accidents.

Brian E. Fisher has served 27 years with the City of London Police, England. He has been engaged for the past ten years on emergency planning and intervention development and is the Secretary of the London Emergency Services Joint Planning Committee. He has had experience of five major incidents – two air crashes, two bombings and one underground train crash and thus has had the practical experience to supplement the theoretical approach. In 1975 H.M. The Queen appointed him a Member of the Order of the British Empire in recognition of his contribution to the field of emergency planning and for his work at the Moorgate Underground Disaster.

Wieland Jäger is deputy director of the SIFKU-institute and works as a sociologist at the University of Dortmund in West Germany. One of his main interests has been in basic research towards developing and refining the sociological theory of disasters and accidents in the context of capitalist industrial societies.

Thomas James is an assistant professor and **Dennis Wenger** an associate professor of sociology at the University of Delaware, Newark,

Delaware. Dr. Wenger is currently on a visiting professorship at the School of Law and Social Science at University College, Cardiff, Wales. Together they are involved in a National Science Foundation study of factors affecting community planning for disaster preparedness.

Alcira Kreimer is Staff Officer with the Committee on International Disaster Assistance (CIDA) at the National Academy of Sciences. She is an Assistant Professor (on leave) in the Department of Urban Studies, MIT. An architect, she received a Ph.D. in environmental planning from the University of California at Berkeley.

Howard Kunreuther, Chairman and Professor of Decision Sciences in the Wharton School, Philadelphia, Pa., has conducted extensive research on the economics of natural hazards. Dr. Kunreuther has been an advisor to the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration and on an NAS Committee on the Socioeconomic Effects of Earthquake Prediction. He recently completed a book entitled *Disaster Insurance Protection: Public Policy Lessons* (with R. Ginsberg, L. Miller, P. Sagi, P. Slovic, B. Borkan, and N. Katz) (Wiley Interscience, 1978) on the decision process related to insurance purchase by homeowners in flood and earthquake-prone areas.

Stephan Metreveli, a sociologist, conducted research in disaster behaviour for several years before becoming one of the founders of the SIFKU-institute in Kiel, West Germany, of which he is now director. His area of specialization has been in planning and conducting empirically oriented research on disasters and accidents.

Roy S. Popkin is the assistant national director of Disaster Services for the American National Red Cross. In addition to disaster assignments he works closely with the U.S. Weather Service, Civil Defense and various groups in disaster-related projects.