



MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER

Manila

12 December 1983 ✓

MINISTRY ORDER)

NO.)

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SUBJECT: PROCEDURES IN THE INVESTIGATION
OF THE CAUSE(S) OF FAILURE OF A
BUILDING OR A RELATED STRUCTURE.

TO: All Acting Building Officials and Building
Officials and All Concerned

All Building Officials shall adopt the following procedures in the investigation of the cause of partial or total failure of a building or a related structure, arising from earthquake, winds or fire:

- 1.0 Where rescue work will not be hampered, the structure shall be immediately cordoned partially or totally, as the case may be, so as to prevent untoward destruction of life and property due to falling debris; and shall be secured with the assistance of the Philippine Constabulary/Integrated National Police against looting, salvaging of materials and other acts which could adversely affect securing of test samples of materials, until the investigation thereof has been completed.
- 2.0 A preliminary report on the damage to life and property to the Minister of Public Works and Highways thru the Executive Director, Building Research and Development Staff shall be submitted within three (3) days after the incident together with the following:
 - 2.1 Copy of the approved plans, specifications and design computations.
 - 2.2 True copy of the Log Book including results of tests of materials during construction.
 - 2.3 Xerox copy of the Building Permit and Certificate of Occupancy.
 - 2.4 Names and postal addresses of the owner, contractors, designers (architect or engineer), structural civil engineer, in-charge of construction or/and project inspector.

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2.5 Other relevant data/information.

- 3.0 Provide assistance and coordination of the investigation work and securing of test samples from structural components of the structure by an Investigation Team composed of technical personnel of the Bureau of Design, Building Research & Development Staff, Bureau of Materials Quality Control and/or private consultants designated by the Minister.
- 4.0 The securing of test samples and subsequent testing shall preferably be witnessed by the Building Official, owner, contractor, designer and structural civil engineer or their authorized representatives.
- 5.0 At least three (3) test samples as representative for each of the structural components of the structure, such as slabs, beams, columns, bearing/shear walls, etc., shall be secured at random; the sampling and testing thereof shall be in accordance with the requirements of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), latest edition.
- 6.0 The test samples shall be identified and attested (carded) by the sampler, and shall be properly handled, stored and transported to the testing laboratory.
- 7.0 The actual testing of the samples shall preferably be witnessed as mentioned in Section 4.0.
- 8.0 A final report of the incident shall be submitted to the Minister thru the Executive Director, Building Research and Development Staff within fifteen (15) days after the investigation work had been completed, and at which time the Demolition Order shall be issued in accordance with Rule VII and Rule XV of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the National Building Code (PD 1096).
- 9.0 This Ministry shall shoulder the cost of testing.

This Order takes effect immediately.



JESUS S. HIPOLITO
Minister