



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
MARYLAND INSTITUTE FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEMS

R ADAMS COWLEY, M.D., DIRECTOR

August 8, 1983

Shock Trauma Center  
CNS Center  
Traumatology  
Critical Care  
Critical Care Nursing  
Hyperbaric Medicine  
Medical Engineering  
Research & Development  
Operations Research/  
Systems Analysis  
EMS Systems  
Education  
Training  
Communications  
Transportation  
Administration  
Evaluation

MEMORANDUM

TO: R Adams Cowley, M.D.  
William E. Clark  
Andy Trohanis

FROM: Judy Krouse *JAK*

SUBJECT: Press Release

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Attached is a copy of the press release we received from the Maryland State Police. I thought you would be interested in having a copy.

JAK/dae

Attachment

*Call to [unclear]  
JAK 8/22/83*

(PHOTO CAPTION)

#### FEDERAL OFFICIALS TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

United States Secretary of Transportation Elizabeth Dole (fourth from left) is shown above taking a first-hand look at a mock automobile accident demonstration which was held at the State Police Aviation Division. The Secretary recently visited Maryland to review the statewide system approach to emergency medical services beginning with the first responders from the fire department to the eventual arrival at the Shock Trauma Unit via State Police helicopter. On hand joining the officials for the demonstration are (from L to R) R Adams Cowley, Director of the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems; Diane Steed, Acting Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; Colonel W. T. Travers, Jr., Superintendent of the State Police; Secretary Dole; Governor Harry Hughes; and Donald P. Hutchinson, Baltimore County Executive.

(Photo by Dan McCarthy)





# The Avenue

A Community Newspaper Serving the Essex-Middle River, White Marsh, Rosedale and Surrounding Areas

## Dignitaries view "accident scene"

BY MAUREEN GOVE

Hoping to regain funding which has fallen "victim" to Reaganomics, members of Maryland's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system orchestrated an elaborate "accident scene" at Strawberry Point last Friday morning.

Federal, state and local government officials were given a first-hand look at what an EMS system is and what it can accomplish by viewing the first and most unique program in the world.

Maryland's EMS system is unique in that it is state-wide. Every hospital, fire department and the state police are hooked into the system by radio communication.

Throughout the state, there are 12 specialized units-nine trauma centers (including the University of Maryland Shock Trauma Unit), two burn units (including Baltimore City Hospitals), and the pediatric shock trauma center at Johns Hopkins. In addition, five helicopters

stand ready to air-lift a patient from anywhere in the state to any of these facilities, saving valuable time and lives.

According to Dr. R A Cowley, founder and chief executive of "Shock-Trauma" and the EMS system, that's what makes Maryland's program work.

"It's a system of care, getting you to a hospital that can treat you properly," he said. Cowley continued, "The hospital must be dedicated..(for example) be able to hold up an operating room. It's not going to do you any good if you get there and there's no operating room available."

"The helicopters, to move people faster," Cowley added, is integral to a total EMS system.

Under Cowley's careful guidance, the Maryland program has become the role model for systems throughout the world. But, many areas in this country still do not have any program at all.

Until now, the federal government had  
(see accident scene Page 5A)

## ★ Accident scene

(continued from page 1A)

allocated \$35 million of the transportation budget as "seed" money, funds to establish new EMS systems throughout the U.S. The Reagan administration cut that funding to zero, says Alistair Conn, spokesperson for Maryland's EMS.

Elizabeth Dole, Secretary of the Department of Transportation, and U.S. Representative William Lehman (D-Fla.), chairman of a house sub-committee on transportation, were among the honored guests for Friday's simulation at the State Police Aviation Division headquarters.

Realistic from "blood" to bandages, the "victims" were extricated from the wreckage and received the on-scene treatment which has helped make Maryland's program the best in the world.

One of the "patients" was then air-lifted to the University of Maryland Shock Trauma Unit where the dignitaries resumed their look into what the \$35 million was to be used for.

Dole reportedly stated she would not allocate special funds for such programs, but would instead urge states to make use of monies from traffic safety budgets to start EMS systems, using Maryland as a model.



Secretary of the Department of Transportation Elizabeth Dole (far left), governor Harry Hughes (second from left), Dr. R A Cowley (second from right), and Baltimore County Executive Don Hutchinson were among the honored guests at Friday's simulated "accident" and "rescue."



# Med-Evac system flies to action in mock accident

BY KATHERINE DUNN

They came to see the best in action. And State and County rescue personnel showed why they deserve to be called the best in the nation when it comes to saving victims of automobile accidents.

National transportation Secretary Elizabeth Dole joined Gov. Harry Hughes and County Executive Donald P. Hutchinson for a few brief minutes at Strawberry Point Friday morning to observe the first stages of the only statewide Emergency Medical Services system in the nation.

The Maryland State Police Aviation headquarters became the scene of a mock traffic accident to demonstrate the efficient rescue and helicopter evacuation system that saves thousands of lives each year in Maryland.

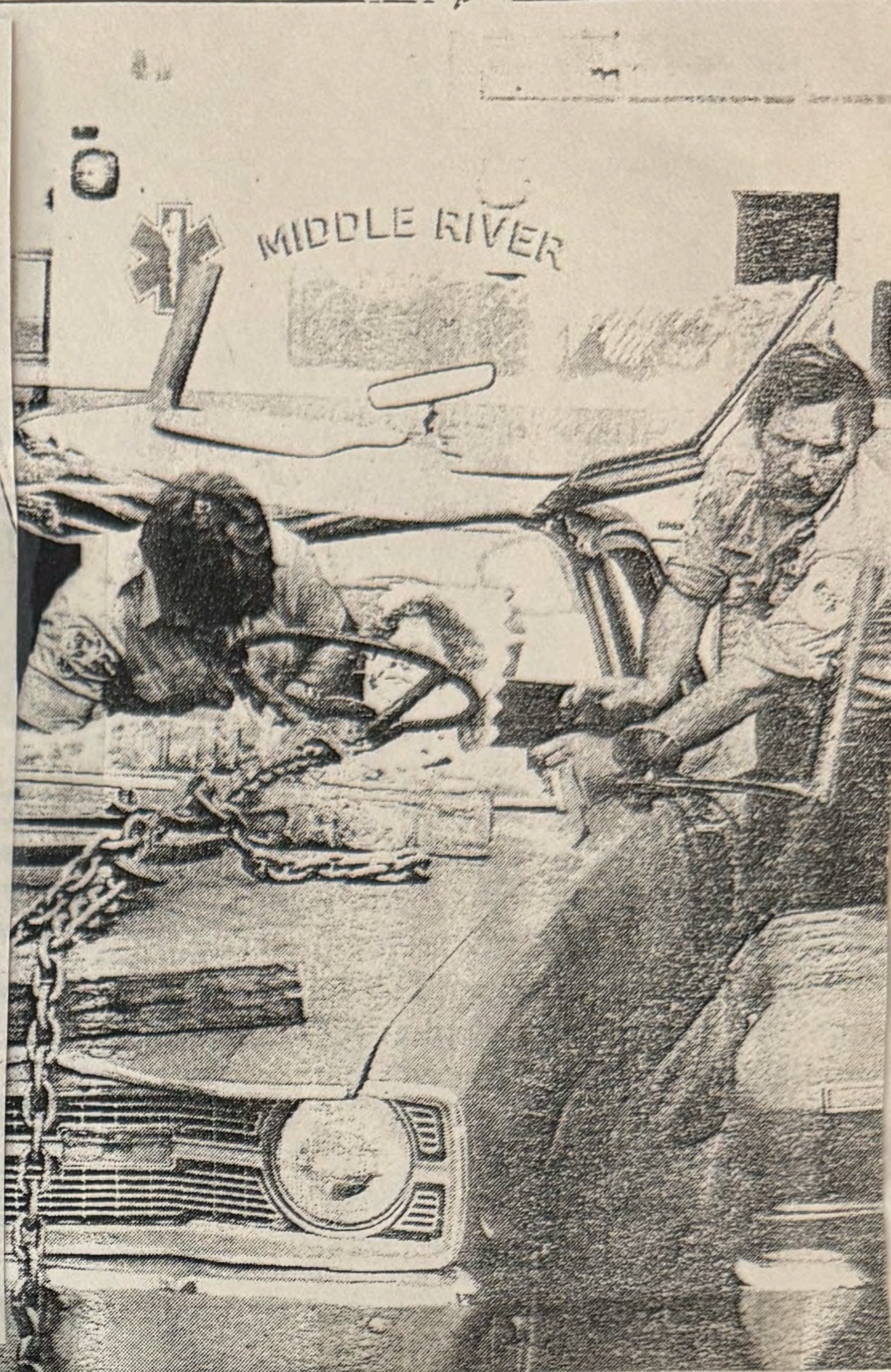
In that unique cooperation of county and state, paid and volunteer personnel long-praised by local officials, all of the units involved merged into their typically smooth rescue operation. Joining the State Police Med-Evac team were units from the Middle River Volunteer Ambulance and Rescue Company, Middle River Volunteer Fire Company and the Chase fire station along with a ladder truck from the Dundalk station.

In an effort to see the entire operation first-hand, the Secretary, joined by Rep.

William Lehman (D-Fla.), chairman of a House subcommittee on transportation, and Diane Steed, acting National Highway Traffic Safety Administration administrator, spent part of the afternoon touring the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Shock Trauma Center at the University of Maryland Hospital. Doctors showed Sec. Dole the procedure for dealing with patients after they are airlifted to the Center.

The entire tour was planned to give the Secretary a "greater awareness of the Emergency Medical System," according to Alastair Conn, medical director at University Hospital. Officials hoped that a greater understanding of the system could lead to additional funds for Emergency Medical Systems for other parts of the nation, he added.

Although Sec. Dole said she was impressed with the Maryland system she said she would not commit additional federal money to fund such programs in other states. However, the Secretary said she would recommend that states use Maryland's system as a model and to apply more of their portions of the \$100 million for National Highway Traffic Safety Administration programs to such operations.



**ONCE THE HELICOPTER LANDED** the patient was hurried aboard. Had she been a real victim she would have had an excellent chance of survival upon arriving at the University of Maryland Shock Trauma Unit.





United Press International

Transportation Secretary Elizabeth Dole and Gov. Harry R. Hughes watch a demonstration of an accident rescue operation.

# Dole sees Shock-Trauma as role model

By Blair Claffin  
Evening Sun Staff

Secretary of Transportation Elizabeth Dole had barely stepped out of her helicopter after landing when an ambulance and a fire truck raced by at Glenn L. Martin State Airport.

The two emergency vehicles pulled up to two cars located about 100 yards from where Dole was standing. Paramedics and firefighters armed with axes, saws and stretchers raced to the two cars.

Dole, a member of President Reagan's Cabinet since February, was unruffled by all the sudden excitement. In fact, she had expected it.

Joined by Gov. Harry R. Hughes and Baltimore County Executive Donald P. Hutchinson, who had been waiting for the secretary, Dole calmly walked to the "accident" scene to get a closer look.

Dole had flown to Baltimore yesterday to observe "firsthand" Mary-

land's emergency medical network in action.

She was treated to a complete demonstration which started with the arrival of Baltimore County rescue crews and a State Police helicopter at the mock accident scene and ended with an extensive tour of the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services, commonly known as the Shock-Trauma Unit in Baltimore.

Rep. William Lehman, D-Fla., who is chairman of the House appropriations subcommittee on transportation, accompanied Dole.

"The Department of Transportation wants to work to prevent all accidents on our nation's highways," Dole said, explaining the reason for her trip.

"We want to get drunk drivers off the highway. We want people to use safety belts. So, coming here to see this operation, which happens at such a key hour, is natural."

After touring Shock-Trauma, Dole

said her department might promote Maryland's emergency medical system, one of the leading treatment systems in the country, as a model for other states. But she was quick to add that any final decision on such a program would be up to each individual state.

"I don't think we want to tell states how to spend their money," the secretary said. "They know their needs and how money can be best spent."

Dole's trip, which was interrupted by a quick helicopter flight back to Washington to meet with the president, also served as an opportunity for Maryland officials to lobby for more federal funding for emergency medical services.

"The federal government put in a lot of the seed money for projects like this," said Dr. Alasdair Conn, director of field services for Shock-Trauma, shortly before Dole arrived.

He said Shock-Trauma programs can cut down on medical costs.

"If medics can tell at the scene that a patient has a head injury, then they can direct the patient to the nearest equipped emergency room," Conn told reporters before the tour. "Every hospital wouldn't have to have expensive equipment. Right now, we have hospitals within blocks of each other and they all have operating rooms."

Lehman's words, however, were far more encouraging to state officials.

The five-term congressman said the transportation budget has increased from about \$77 million last year to \$100 million this year and he expects a larger share of that money to be spent on emergency medical services.

However, he said, emergency medical service programs still may not receive what they deserve.

"We spend hundreds of millions on cancer and heart disease treatment and research and I believe this is as important as those are," Lehman said.