FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JANUARY 3, 1978

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CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA --- FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL, (D-WV), WILL MEET ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, WITH THE TUG VALLEY CITIZEN'S COMMITTEE, TO DISCUSS THE FEDERAL FLOOD RELIEF EFFORT THAT TOOK PLACE IN SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA.

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL, AN OUTSPOKEN CRITIC OF THE RELIEF OPER-ATION, WAS THE FIRST ELECTED FEDERAL OFFICIAL TO ACCEPT THE COMMITTEE'S INVITATION TO TESTIFY.

IN HIS PREPARED REMARKS, RAHALL REVIEWED THE DEVASTATION
THAT OCCURRED LAST APRIL, "COMMUNITIES ALONG THE TUG FORK VALLEY
WERE SUNK IN DECAY AND UGLINESS, THE RESULT OF A FLOOD SURGING AS
HIGH AS 20 FEET OVER THE RIVERBANKS, WASHING AWAY HOMES AND INNUNDATING STORES."

"SURVIVAL AND RECOVERY ARE STILL THE ISSUES THAT CONFRONT
TUG VALLEY RESIDENTS," RAHALL POINTS OUT, "AND ONLY THROUGH A
UNIFIED EFFORT WILL WE BE ABLE TO PROVIDE RELIEF AND FLOOD PROTECTION TO SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA RESIDENTS."

The HEARINGS WILL BEGIN AT 10AM, IN THE MINORITY CAUCAS ROOM OF THE STATE CAPITOL IN CHARLESTION.