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Emergency calls number in hundreds, Bliss solders assist

[Daniel Borunda / El Paso Times](#)

A multi-agency force, including Fort Bliss soldiers, was prepared Tuesday evening to deal with any more flooding problems.

A dozen 5-ton green Army trucks gathered next to the Central Fire Station in Downtown El Paso, along with U.S. Border Patrol water rescue personnel, El Paso firefighters and police officers.



Fort Bliss soldiers prepared to render aid throughout the city along with the El Paso Fire Department and Police Department on Tuesday evening.

[Photo gallery: Tuesday's flooding cripples region](#)

[Photo gallery: Storm creates severe flooding](#)

(Yasmin A. Aboytes / El Paso Times)

A caravan of three Army trucks was escorted by El Paso police.

"Our main concern is making sure we keep people safe," said El Paso police spokesman Javier Sambrano.

By 8:45 p.m. Tuesday, the Police Department had responded to 374 flood calls, 73 water emergencies and 18 traffic collisions, Sambrano said.

Those emergency calls did not include problems in Vinton, Socorro and other communities outside the El Paso city limits.

No deaths or major injuries had been reported by late Tuesday.

Throughout Tuesday, Border Patrol agents, state troopers and other law enforcement personnel helped rescue people and directed traffic on flooded city streets.

Police evacuated about 100 people from the Segundo Barrio and Chihuahuita neighborhoods.

The evacuations were a precaution in case of flooding and rising Rio Grande water, Sambrano said.

El Paso police set up a Special Operations Center at Police Headquarters that was expected to be open until at least this morning depending on weather conditions.

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