

Basic Detail Report

The displaced survivors of the destroyed town Salaparuta, during the Belice earthquake, gather for rations and provisions.

Sicily, 1968

Date

1968-1968

Medium

gelatin silver print

Description

The 1968 Belice earthquake sequence took place in Sicily between 14 and 15 January. The largest shock measured 5.5 on the moment magnitude scale, with five others of magnitude 5+. The maximum perceived intensity was X (Intense) on the Mercalli intensity scale. The earthquake sequence, centred between the towns of Gibellina, Salaparuta and Poggioreale, killed at least 231 people, possibly more than 400, with between 632 and about 1000 injured and left 100,000 homeless. It is known in Italy as Terremoto del Belice. Salaparuta is a town and comune in South-Western Sicily, Italy, in the valley of the Belice river, administratively part of the province of Trapani. It had 1,781 inhabitants as of 2007. In 1968 the original site of the town was near epicentre of the Belice Valley earthquake. As a result, Salaparuta was completely destroyed and rebuilt not far from the original location. The current Salaparuta is still home to many of the citizens of the old town.

Dimensions

Overall: 30.2 x 21 cm (11 7/8 x 8 2/8 in.)