

## Brochure on the tasks and activities of UNRRA (Washington, 15 February 1947)

**Caption:** On 15 February 1947, the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) publishes a brochure outlining the importance and nature of its aid efforts for the countries affected by the Second World War.

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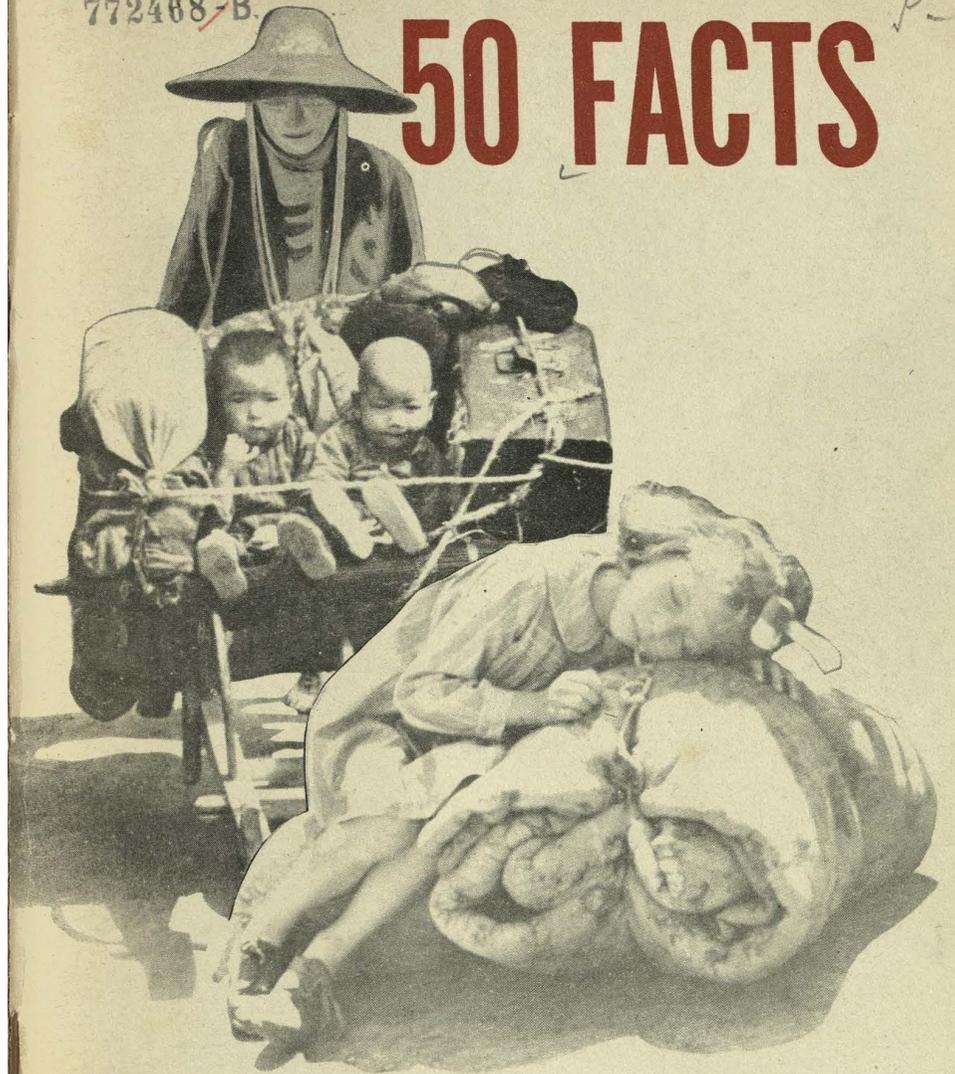
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# 50 FACTS



*about*

# UNRRA

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## FIFTY FACTS ABOUT UNRRA

Men, women, and children cannot be left to die—or left without hope of a fruitful life. And because the United Nations was faced with this problem all over the world, a global solution was required. A pooling of resources had won the war. A pooling of resources was needed to help win the peace.

The first pooling of United Nations resources for peace is represented by the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration—familiarly known as UNRRA. This organization was established because relief and rehabilitation must be the first steps in the transition from war to peace. The purpose of *relief* is to keep people alive by giving them food to eat, fuel and clothing to keep them warm, and medicine to restore their health. The purpose of *rehabilitation* is to help people restore their shattered economies by furnishing them with seeds and the implements of farming so that they can again grow their own crops; trucks and railroad equipment so that goods can be moved to where they are most needed; and machinery and raw materials so that the wheels of production can turn once more.

But it is not enough to restore the shattered economies. The wandering victims of war must be brought home. Temporary shelter must be provided and a new hope for the future inspired. The missing members of families must be found. Children must be given special care, and many of them must be shown for the first time how to laugh.

UNRRA's job was and is immediate. When its task is completed, other organizations of the United Nations must continue to build the peace in the field of long-range reconstruction.

Meanwhile, UNRRA represents first things first.

\* \* \* \* \*



## *The Story of* U N R R A



*is the story of 48 nations, victorious in war,  
banded together to win another victory in peace . . .*

As early as 1941, leaders of the United Nations surveyed the problems that would follow the defeat of the enemy. After analyzing relief needs, the United Nations governments exchanged suggestions for the purpose of establishing the first international relief organization in world history.

As a result . . . .

### ***1. UNRRA was created in November, 1943 . . . .***

On 9 November 1943—eighteen months before the defeat of Germany—the representatives of 44 governments met at the White House to sign the Agreement establishing the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. Four more governments later were admitted, and by 1946 UNRRA was composed of 48 member governments.

### ***2. . . . on a worldwide basis . . . .***

The Headquarters of UNRRA is in Washington, D. C. The European Regional Office in London supervises operations in the various European countries and in the three Western zones of military occupation in Germany, while the China Mission Headquarters is located in Shanghai, with a liaison office in Nanking. In addition, there is a Southwest Pacific Area Office in Sydney, and an office in Cairo looks after UNRRA's interests in the Middle East, including the Middle East Refugee Camps. Offices caring for liaison and the procurement of supplies were also set up in a number of other countries, including Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Iran, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Southern Rhodesia, Union of South Africa, Uruguay, Venezuela, Switzerland, France, Denmark, Belgium, and Turkey.

### ***3. . . . with an international staff . . . .***

UNRRA is staffed by an international civil service, comprising persons recruited from most of the 48 nations. The greatest number of employees totaled 12,895 on 30 June 1946. These employees take an oath upon joining the organization that they will adhere to the ideal of international cooperation and will abstain from any act of discrimination on account of nationality, race, creed, or political belief.

UNRRA's staff had to be highly specialized. From dozens of countries have been recruited experts on supply, transport, health, welfare, displaced persons, industry, agriculture, and administra-

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tion. More than half of UNRRA's staff was recruited to deal with displaced persons in Germany and Austria.

**4. . . . and with international chief officials . . . .**

The Director General is Major General Lowell W. Rooks (United States). He succeeded F. H. La Guardia, former Mayor of New York City, on 1 January 1947. Mr. La Guardia took over the post of Director General from Herbert H. Lehman, former Governor of New York, who as UNRRA's first Director General served from November, 1943 to March, 1946. The Director General's Senior Deputy is Commander R. G. A. Jackson (Australia). Karl Borders (United States) is in charge of supply operations. The Deputy Director General in charge of the Secretariat is Dr. P. W. Kuo (China). The Deputy Director General in charge of the Bureau of Services is Mikhail A. Burinski (U. S. S. R.). The Director General's personal representative in charge of all UNRRA operations in Europe is Lieut. Gen. Sir Humfrey Gale (Great Britain), while Myer Cohen (United States) directs UNRRA's displaced persons operations in Germany, Austria, Italy, and the Middle East from headquarters in Paris.

Various nationalities are represented among the Heads of Missions in Europe and the Far East—American, British, Russian, and Canadian. In most cases, the Deputy Head of Mission is of different nationality from that of the Head of Mission.

**5. . . . UNRRA is responsible to 48 governments . . . .**

UNRRA is the operating organization of 48 governments, each of whose sovereign rights must be at all times respected by it. UNRRA is governed by a Council, composed of one representative from each of the 48 member nations, which makes policy decisions by a simple majority vote. The Council met at Atlantic City in November, 1943; at Montreal in September, 1944; at London in August, 1945; at Atlantic City in March, 1946; at Geneva in August, 1946; and at Washington in December, 1946. The Council marks out the work to be done by the Administration and recommends action by the member nations to make this work possible.

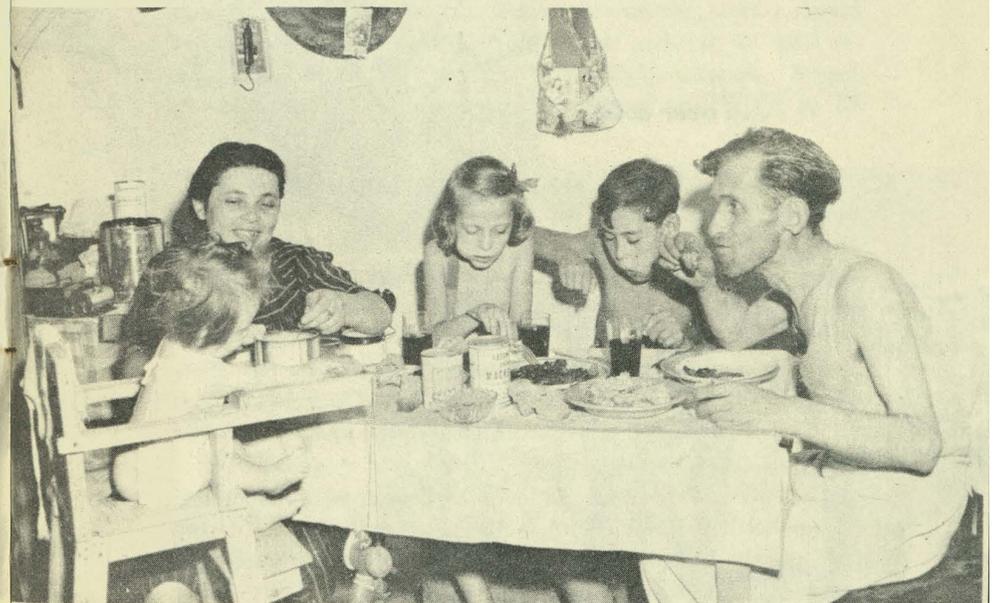
When the Council is not in session, emergency policies are formulated by the Central Committee, composed of the representatives of the United States, United Kingdom, Soviet Union, China, France, Canada, Australia, Brazil, and Yugoslavia. Resolutions

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**TO RESTORE HEALTH AND HOPE TO MILLIONS . . .**



**. . . of children  
. . . of families**





**A VICTORY . . .**

**. . . over homelessness**

**. . . over hunger**

**. . . over cold**



passed by the Central Committee are subject to review by the Council when it subsequently meets.

**6. . . . and is financed by 48 governments . . . .**

All member governments contribute to UNRRA's *administrative* fund, which defrays the costs of management. This administrative fund is much less than one per cent of the total financing asked of member nations.

UNRRA's *operating* fund is much larger. It finances relief and rehabilitation supplies and services. These operating costs are borne by those member countries whose home territories were *not* invaded. Of the 48 member governments, 32 fall in this category. The UNRRA Council at Atlantic City in 1943 recommended that each of the uninvaded nations should contribute one per cent of its net national income for the year ending 30 June 1943. It was further recommended that at least one-tenth of such contributions should be in freely exchangeable currency, permitting the remaining nine-tenths to be contributed in actual supplies and services.

When UNRRA was originally financed, no territory had been liberated, and it was impossible to gauge accurately the total relief needs throughout the world. When this became possible the UNRRA Council, meeting in London at the time of Japan's surrender, recommended that the uninvaded countries make a second contribution of the same size as the first, and that the total resources be used for the completion of UNRRA's program. A total of \$3,681,455,730 had been paid or pledged to UNRRA by 30 November 1946.

**7. UNRRA operates in designated areas . . . .**

UNRRA was set up primarily to aid those liberated countries which request help and which lack adequate foreign exchange to finance the importation of supplies to cover their most urgent relief and rehabilitation needs.

The United Nations in western Europe—including France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Denmark, and Norway—possess adequate foreign exchange to purchase their own supplies and services, and have not asked for UNRRA aid.

As of January, 1947, UNRRA was providing general relief aid to the following countries: Albania, Austria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Czechoslovakia, the Dodecanese Islands, Greece, Italy, Poland, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, and Yugoslavia.

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**8. . . . and also gives emergency and special assistance . . . .**

While UNRRA concentrates primarily on providing general relief aid to those countries which lack foreign exchange, it is also empowered to give limited emergency aid wherever it may be required to tide a war-devastated region over an immediate difficulty, or to give special assistance.

On this basis, UNRRA in 1945 sent emergency supplies to areas in Normandy which had been devastated in the Allied invasion. Later, programs of limited emergency aid were put into effect on behalf of Finland, Hungary, the Philippines, and Korea. In addition, a special program was being operated to help Ethiopia in the fields of medicine, welfare, and transport, and another small special program assisted San Marino.

**9. . . . but is not giving assistance to the Germans or the Japanese . . . .**

UNRRA was created to help the victims of aggression—not the aggressors themselves. With its limited resources, UNRRA could scarcely more than begin to meet the overwhelming relief and rehabilitation needs of the many United Nations directly dependent upon its aid.

Germany and Japan, as occupied ex-enemy countries, are under the jurisdiction of the Allied military authorities, who have responsibility regarding the food and other relief requirements of the German and Japanese populations.

However, UNRRA has been helping those persecuted groups in Germany who cannot be considered enemies, those who were the victims of Nazi persecution because of race, religion, or activities in favor of the United Nations.

**10. UNRRA provides relief supplies . . . .**

The overall strategy of saving people and restoring shattered economies demanded that the first emphasis be placed on providing food, clothing, shelter, medicine. During the critical winter of 1945-46, for example, UNRRA concentrated on shipping primarily food, clothing, fuel, medicines to keep entire populations alive and in reasonable health and vigor.

**11. . . . and relief services . . . .**

At the same time, UNRRA public health and welfare services were stepped up to give immediate assistance to persons desperately in need of them, wherever eligible governments request these services. UNRRA public health and welfare experts have also assisted

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**A VICTORY . . . over ruin**

**. . . over enforced exile**

**. . . over sickness and epidemics**



9



*... over bewilderment*

*... and over drudgery*



countries not dependent on UNRRA for supplies. Relief services include, of course, assistance in the care and repatriation of millions of displaced persons in Germany, Austria, Italy, the Middle East, and elsewhere.

**12. . . . and rehabilitation supplies . . . .**

UNRRA's job is "to help people to help themselves." Along with consumer supplies for survival go supplies to help revive transportation and enable the people to restore fundamental farm and factory production of life's necessities. Agricultural rehabilitation supplies include seeds, fertilizers, insecticides, livestock, and basic farm tools and machinery. UNRRA, at the beginning of 1946, sent large quantities of these supplies to help European farmers in their spring plantings, so that the fall harvests would provide the liberated countries with home-grown stocks of food and seed for future plantings.

Similarly UNRRA has been distributing such industrial rehabilitation supplies as spare parts and lubricants for machinery in the mines and the factories producing relief goods; locomotives, rolling stock, trucks and barges to rehabilitate inland transport; and raw wool and raw cotton to feed textile mills.

**13. . . . and rehabilitation services . . . .**

As part of the rehabilitation program, UNRRA technical personnel attached to country missions in Europe have been working with government officials in improving veterinary techniques, introducing artificial insemination to increase local livestock, and advising on the best methods for restoring soil fertility and raising crop yields.

Industrial rehabilitation experts have been giving instruction in the maintenance of transport equipment, the proper use of shop tools and appliances, and mechanical techniques.

**14. UNRRA reviews the needs of a country . . . .**

The world's relief and rehabilitation needs are enormous, and UNRRA's resources are limited. The best it could hope to accomplish was to raise the living conditions of a liberated country to a reasonable minimum standard. The first step was to set a standard for what constitutes the essential minimum of human needs. These "bases" were agreed upon by the Council and are the same for all European countries (although they do not apply to the Far East because of profound economic differences between the two regions). The second step was to estimate the supplies

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available in each country from its own resources. The third step was to estimate by how much local supplies fell short of the agreed standard bases, for although the bases are the same for all European countries, this does not mean that each country needs to receive from UNRRA an equal amount of aid per head of population. For example, the local food resources of mountainous Greece were much smaller than those of an agricultural country such as Poland, and therefore UNRRA must provide a greater amount of assistance to the individual Greek than to the individual Pole in order that both may attain the same minimum standard.

**15. . . . and goes out and get the supplies . . . .**

One great value of an international relief organization lies in its ability to draw on many different countries for supplies. UNRRA works through the governments of the supplying countries. In the United States, the Department of Agriculture and the Treasury Department procure supplies for UNRRA as part of the American contribution. In Canada, the government procurement agency is the Canadian Commercial Corporation.

Some of the commodities most needed by UNRRA—such as bread grains, meat, fats and oils, and fertilizers—are in critical world short supply. During the war, the United States, the United Kingdom, and Canada set up Combined Boards to allocate these short supplies. UNRRA had to depend for allocations of vitally needed foodstuffs upon the Combined Food Board. It has constantly sought increased allocations of wheat, meat, fats and oils to meet its heavy overseas commitments. Since 1 July 1946, the functions of the Combined Food Board were taken over by the International Emergency Food Council.

The United States is UNRRA's largest supplier. The next largest is the United Kingdom, with Canada third. These countries supply the bulk of goods and services required by UNRRA. But the effectiveness of the organization's international pipeline is shown by the diversity of supplies contributed by other member governments. For example, South Africa has been supplying coal; India, peanut oil and jute; Australia and New Zealand, raw wool and foodstuffs; Brazil, livestock, food, and textiles; Cuba, sugar; the Dominican Republic, corn; Peru, beans and fish; Uruguay, blankets and cheese; Iceland, fish; and so on. The Argentine, although not a member of UNRRA, contributed 150,000 tons of grain for use by UNRRA in the spring of 1946.

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**TO WIN THIS VICTORY . . .**



*. . . the nations chose an American, Herbert H. Lehman*



*. . . then succeeded by two other distinguished Americans; first by F. H. La Guardia (right) and since 1 January 1947 by Major General Lowell W. Rooks, as Director General of the largest international relief operation in history.*

**TO THE NEEDIEST LIBERATED PEOPLE,**



**UNRRA PROVIDES . . .**

**. . . food**



**. . . warm clothing**

**. . . and shelter**



**16. . . . including military surpluses . . . .**

A valuable source of supplies for UNRRA is to be found in military surpluses. Since V-J Day, UNRRA has bent every effort to obtain these surpluses, which were stockpiled both in the supplying countries and in theaters of war. They include great quantities of food and clothing, medical supplies, and much-needed trucks and other transportation equipment.

As of 1 January 1947, UNRRA had either procured, or was procuring, the following United States military surpluses from domestic or overseas sources:

	<i>Domestic</i>	<i>Overseas</i>
Food	\$142,133,000	\$ 17,241,983
Clothing, Textiles & Footwear	12,349,984	6,621,339
Medical supplies	10,111,056	14,207,876
Agricultural rehabilitation	5,940,993	8,503,146
Industrial rehabilitation	19,429,006	131,040,121
UNRRA Services	-----	1,023,320
	<b>\$189,964,039</b>	<b>\$178,637,785</b>

**17. . . . and secures contributed supplies . . . .**

The great bulk of the supplies delivered to receiving governments by UNRRA is provided by the uninvaded nations as part of their contributions. However, a considerable volume of supplies was contributed by private individuals and voluntary agencies. This was particularly true of clothing and footwear.

In the United States, enough clothing for an estimated 25,000,000 people was collected in a national drive during 1945, thanks to the splendid cooperation of the churches, fraternal and service organizations, and other groups and individuals. Nation-wide clothing collections in Canada, Australia, and New Zealand netted about 17,000,000 pounds. During the spring of 1946, another clothing collection was held in the United States, with the goal set at 100,000,000 garments.

Contributed supplies have not been limited to used clothing and footwear. During the fall of 1945, a canned food drive was initiated in the United States. On 12 May 1946, an Emergency Food Collection drive was started on a nation-wide scale to obtain donations of canned food and money on behalf of UNRRA for starving millions abroad.

UNRRA shipped this food abroad to its receiving countries. At the completion of the drive, Mr. La Guardia, through a special

arrangement with the leaders of the drive, Mr. Henry A. Wallace and Mr. Lee Marshall, allocated hundreds of thousands of dollars to various needy countries to be used exclusively for food and medicines for children. The remaining funds, \$550,000, were presented to the United Nations as the first contribution to the International Children's Fund, a UN agency devoted exclusively to saving the world's underprivileged children by providing them extra food and medicines.

Meanwhile, many groups have donated supplies of different kinds, ranging from 54 dairy cattle for the children of Greece from the Falls Cities Cooperative Milk Producers Association of Louisville, Ky., and two boatloads of cattle from the people of Mississippi to the people of Greece, to \$75,000 worth of medical supplies for labor rest camps in Czechoslovakia, donated jointly by the C.I.O. and the A.F. of L.

### **18. UNRRA arranges for shipping . . . .**

UNRRA does not own ocean shipping. While the war was still on, shipping shortages constituted the greatest single problem of the United Nations authorities. While the world shipping situation remained critical and military operations had absolute priority, UNRRA received little more than marginal space. But by the autumn of 1945, conditions were much improved; and by the spring of 1946, monthly shipments had climbed to over one and a half million tons—or about 200 shiploads. In January, 1947, UNRRA had loaded its 20 millionth ton of relief supplies.

### **19. . . . . and delivers its supplies to the receiving governments . . . .**

UNRRA is responsible for getting the supplies shipped from the contributing to the receiving countries. At designated ports in the receiving countries, UNRRA turns over the main bulk of supplies to the national governments involved, which are then wholly responsible for arranging distribution.

The national governments distribute the supplies as much as possible through normal wholesale and retail channels. People who are able to pay are expected to purchase their share of relief supplies, while those in distress and unable to pay receive their share without charge.

The money derived from the sale of UNRRA supplies is used to defray the cost of the UNRRA country missions, and for rehabilitation projects, such as transportation, hospitals, and nurseries, which can be constructed by local labor and paid with local cur-

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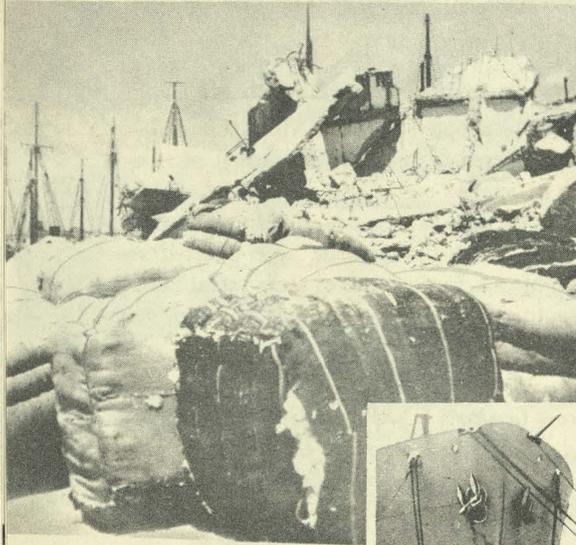
**UNRRA PROVIDES . . .**

*. . . medical supplies*

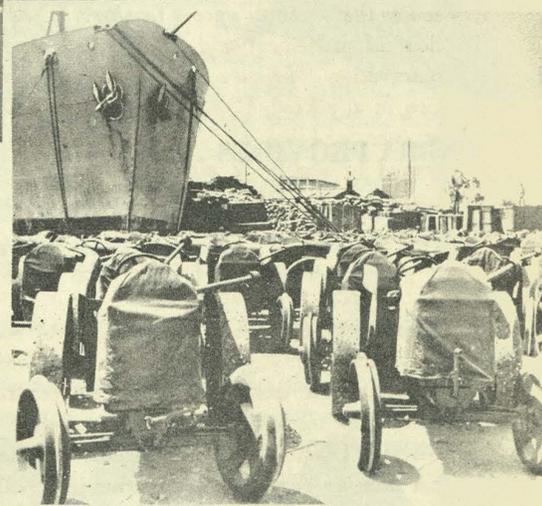
*. . . and friendship and care*



## TO START PRODUCTION AGAIN, UNRRA PROVIDES . . .



*. . . raw materials*



*. . . farm equipment*

*. . . and trucks*



rency. The sale of UNRRA supplies, under strict government supervision, both stimulates economic recovery in the receiving country and saves UNRRA money which it would otherwise have to spend to pay the expenses of the UNRRA mission in that country.

### **20. . . . and insists on fair distribution to all . . . .**

One of the first policies to be adopted by the UNRRA Council—and one which is strictly adhered to at all times—is that of non-discrimination. UNRRA is founded on the premise that relief supplies and services must not be used as weapons of political, racial, or religious discrimination. Distribution must be conducted so that all groups of the population, irrespective of their racial background, religious and political beliefs, or economic position, receive their fair shares of essential commodities.

Under no circumstance does UNRRA send relief to any country unless that country agrees to admit UNRRA observers with freedom of movement and in sufficient numbers to permit proper observation. Whenever there have been complaints of discrimination of any kind, UNRRA has always investigated these charges at once, and has had the cooperation of the governments concerned in rectifying matters whenever discrimination has been found.

### **21. . . . and fights continually against black markets . . . .**

Relief supplies from UNRRA go into war-shattered economies where the supply is much smaller than the demand. Under these circumstances, and because of price control and rationing measures, black markets in certain commodities and for luxury goods—which UNRRA does not handle—at times spring up. There has been no sizeable black market in UNRRA supplies anywhere. Occasionally an individual may trade an UNRRA item for another item which he needs more but which UNRRA does not handle.

UNRRA takes every possible care to ensure that there is no leakage of supplies between ship and warehouse. From the point where goods are handed over to the national authority, UNRRA officials watch for any leakages and report any abuses. Thus, UNRRA supplies weaken black markets and hold down inflationary prices.

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## UNRRA RETURNS

### WAR-DRIVEN EXILES TO THEIR HOMES . . .



*. . . finds new families for orphans*



*. . . and helps people to help themselves*



and large quantities of medical supplies, including penicillin and other drugs and thousands of hospital beds, have been distributed.

#### **25. . . . and in Poland . . .**

A formal agreement establishing an operating mission was signed between the Polish government and UNRRA in September, 1945. UNRRA, even before that time, was shipping supplies to Poland, but here again, the lack of port facilities kept imports to a minimum for the first few months. The opening of Gdansk and Gdynia allowed shipments to be accelerated, and by 1 January 1947, a total of \$407,026,000 in supplies had been shipped to Poland. These have included thousands of tons of food and a large number of locomotives, besides thousands of head of livestock. Virtually the entire population lacked decent clothes and footwear, and millions of pounds of used clothing have been sent in to cope with the problem.

#### **26. . . . and Czechoslovakia . . .**

A formal operating agreement was signed with the Czechoslovak government in February, 1945. The special problems confronting relief operations in Czechoslovakia are the distance from the ports where supplies can be unloaded and the need for transportation over the long overland route. The first shiploads of supplies had to be routed via Constanza, Romania. Full-scale assistance required the opening of Hamburg and Bremerhaven. By 1 January 1947, a total of \$224,586,000 in supplies had been shipped to Czechoslovakia. Approximately half of these shipments consisted of foodstuffs, although a strong emphasis was also placed on raw cotton and raw wool for use in the many idle Czechoslovak textile factories. UNRRA also imported thousands of trucks, acquired principally from surplus military stocks. The Government used funds derived from the sale of UNRRA supplies to maintain children's nurseries and other welfare institutions and services.

#### **27. . . . and the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic . . .**

Twice the Byelorussian S. S. R. was a battleground—once when the tide of German invasion reached to Moscow and again when the enemy was driven out by the victorious Soviet armies. Thousands of towns and villages were destroyed, and millions of people were made homeless.

The Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic requested aid from UNRRA amounting to \$61,000,000. Shipments of supplies began

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prior to the signing of the formal agreement on 18 December 1945, and were delivered via Odessa. UNRRA's mission headquarters are at Minsk. By 1 January 1947, UNRRA had shipped \$49,206,000 in supplies.

**28. . . . . and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic . . . . .**

The Ukrainian S. S. R. also suffered enormous damage and, as a result, requested aid from UNRRA amounting to \$189,000,000. By 1 January 1947, shipments to the Republic amounted to \$159,576,000 in supplies. They consisted chiefly of canned foods, agricultural and industrial rehabilitation supplies, and some fats and oils. However, no wheat has been sent to either the Ukrainian or Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic. The UNRRA mission for the Ukrainian S. S. R. has its headquarters in Kiev.

**29. . . . . and Albania . . . . .**

UNRRA signed an agreement with the Albanian government on 1 August 1945. By 1 January 1947, \$17,795,000 in supplies had been shipped into the country. In order to get the devastated inland transport of this mountainous country into working condition, UNRRA has shipped in trucks and other transport equipment. Thousands of tons of wheat seed from the United States have been distributed throughout the country, and medical supplies have gone both to hospitals for free treatment and to pharmacists for sale.

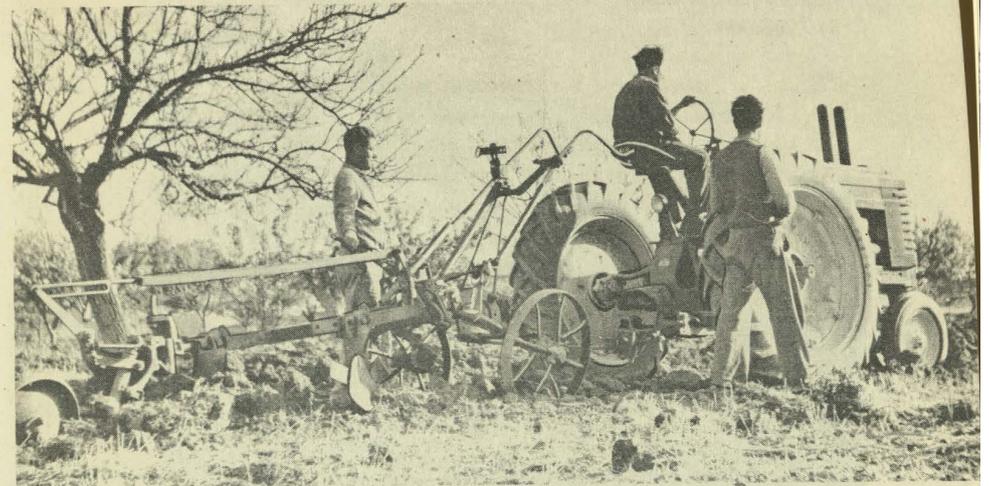
**30. . . . . and Italy . . . . .**

The UNRRA Council adopted a resolution in Montreal in September, 1944, calling for a \$50,000,000 program of limited aid to Italy, primarily for children and nursing and expectant mothers. During 1945, UNRRA was feeding at least 1,000,000 of Italy's most needy children.

At the UNRRA Council session held in London in August, 1945, a resolution was adopted providing for full-scale aid to Italy during 1946. Previously, the basic supplies imported for the entire Italian population were provided by the American, British, and Canadian armies. UNRRA, in 1946, thus became the principal means of providing some 45,000,000 people with their daily bread ration. It also had to import large quantities of seed, fertilizer, and farm equipment to rehabilitate the country's wrecked agricultural economy. In addition, fuel, transport equip-

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**UNRRA SUPPLIES . . .**



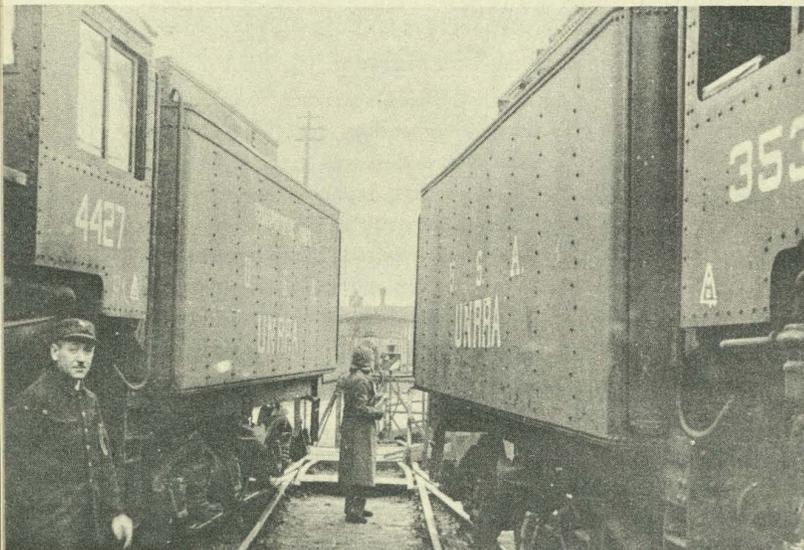
*. . . plows to break the land  
. . . and new seed for home-grown food*



**UNRRA FURNISHES . . . tools for reconstruction**



**. . . and locomotives to restore transportation**



ment, and raw materials—such as wool and cotton to get the industrial economy working again—have been shipped to Italy. By 1 January 1947, shipments to Italy amounted to \$314,430,000 in supplies.

**31. . . . and even in tiny San Marino . . . .**

An agreement was signed with the Republic of San Marino for providing medical and sanitary aid, as well as assistance to displaced persons, mothers and children. Expenditure for this program totalled \$30,000 and was completed before 1 January 1947.

**32. UNRRA has stepped up aid to China . . . .**

UNRRA's largest single country program relates to China. However, full-scale aid had to wait for the end of the Pacific war. By 1 January 1947, UNRRA had shipped to China \$265,881,000 in supplies. To save time, initial shipments were collected in Australia and New Zealand, Canada and the United States. UNRRA medical teams checked an outbreak of cholera in Chungking in 1945. During the winter of 1945-46, UNRRA undertook a special training program for recruits in Washington.

UNRRA has established its headquarters in Shanghai, with a liaison office in Nanking, and 15 regional offices scattered throughout the country. UNRRA at all times works in the closest cooperation with a Chinese government agency, known as the Chinese National Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (CNRRA).

High priority in UNRRA's and CNRRA's overall planning has been concentrated on the corridor extending from Hankow to Liuchow and Canton, where the destruction was greatest as a result of the 1944 offensive in which the Japanese attempted to knock China out of the war. High priority also has been given to rehabilitating China's scattered transportation system and to getting the Yellow River back on its true course by repairing the dikes blown up in 1938. By this means, an estimated 2,000,000 acres can be reclaimed, capable of producing up to 200,000,000 bushels of wheat annually.

**33. UNRRA also provides aid to Austria . . . .**

In August, 1945, the UNRRA Council authorized the Administration to treat Austria as a liberated area. Accordingly, arrangements were made by the Administration with the occupying military authorities and the Austrian Government for a relief and rehabilitation program on the same basis as in the Allied coun-

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tries. By 1 January 1947, UNRRA had shipped to Austria \$99,659,000 in supplies.

#### **34. . . . . and Hungary . . . . .**

In January, 1946, UNRRA's Central Committee authorized a limited program of aid to Hungary, following a recommendation by the Allied Control Commission there, stating the urgent need for help to check famine and disease.

The cost of the UNRRA program for Hungary does not exceed \$4,000,000. The assistance comprises emergency relief supplies for persons in extreme need, such as children and expectant and nursing mothers, and essential supplies for a medical and sanitation program. UNRRA, the Allied Control Commission, and the National Hungarian Government are cooperating in the limited emergency program. As of 1 January 1947, \$2,806,000 had been expended for relief in Hungary.

#### **35. . . . . and Finland . . . . .**

The northern areas of Finland were devastated by the Nazis, and, as a result, the country requested emergency relief supplies. From the list of requirements submitted, UNRRA developed a program of operations, to cost \$2,500,000, and to include food, clothing, household equipment, some building materials, and trucks of which \$2,196,000 in supplies had been delivered as of 1 January 1947.

#### **36. . . . . and the Dodecanese Islands . . . . .**

Since December, 1945, UNRRA has carried out a program for the Dodecanese Islands. By 1 January 1947, UNRRA had shipped \$4,006,000 in foodstuffs to the islands. UNRRA assumed financial responsibility for providing relief, but shipping difficulties made it necessary for the British Military Administration, which controls the islands, to continue its own shipments until the end of March, 1946. The UNRRA Dodecanese program was practically complete by 30 January 1947.

#### **37. . . . . and the Philippines . . . . .**

UNRRA is not furnishing full-scale assistance to the Philippines. As part of its emergency program, however, UNRRA sent food and medical supplies into the Islands which had been badly damaged during liberation. UNRRA has authorized allocations totaling \$12,000,000 for purchases of food and medical supplies for the Philippine population. On 1 January 1947, \$6,095,000 in supplies had been delivered.

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## **UNRRA OFFERS FOR THE CHILDREN OF LIBERATED LANDS . . .**



*. . . life*



*. . . and hope*



**38. . . . and has extended aid to Formosa and Korea . . . .**

Formosa and Korea have suffered for decades at the hands of the Japanese, Formosa having been annexed forcibly after the Sino-Japanese War of 1894-95, and Korea in 1910. In 1945, General MacArthur invited UNRRA to examine the needs of the American-occupied districts of Korea, and an invitation to consult on relief problems in the Soviet-occupied zone of Korea was anticipated.

Formosa has returned to Chinese sovereignty. Therefore, its relief program is being carried on as part of the program for liberated China as a whole. Formosa constitutes one of the administrative districts for the China relief operation.

**39. UNRRA has been assisting displaced persons . . . .**

There are several classes of displaced persons for which UNRRA has limited responsibilities. First, there are those who are unable to return to their own countries without assistance. Others are inside their national boundaries but unable for various reasons to return to their individual homes. Displaced persons are found in many countries in Europe and the Far East, but a large proportion of European displaced persons is in Germany and Austria, and includes former slave laborers, civilian political prisoners, war fugitives, and concentration camp internees.

**40. . . . in Germany and Austria . . . .**

UNRRA's authority in Germany has been broadly limited to dealing with displaced persons of United Nations nationality in the American, British and French occupation zones. Overall responsibility for displaced persons has always been placed upon the military authorities. They have provided the food and transportation for the millions of displaced persons repatriated to their homelands, and continue to feed, house, and supply those still in displaced persons' camps. Under the basic agreement of November, 1944, between the Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force, and UNRRA, the latter was to provide personnel to assist the military authorities in health, welfare, administration, and transport services.

During the winter of 1945-46, UNRRA's job was to provide such assistance to the military for about 1,000,000 displaced persons, who had not been repatriated or handed over to a permanent organization. However, the military continued to have overall control and to provide supplies, including food, fuel,

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clothing, medical items, and transportation. At the end of March, 1946, UNRRA had sent into the three western military zones of Germany 5,174 persons to work in 274 assembly centers. "Assembly centers" are buildings such as barracks or groups of houses, where displaced persons are housed and given food, clothing, medical care, and other essential services, pending repatriation.

On 1 January 1947, UNRRA was caring for a total of 684,056 DP's in Germany. During a special UNRRA campaign in the fall of 1946, 94,000 Poles were repatriated from Germany and Austria.

In Austria, there were approximately 95,010 displaced persons housed in 50 UNRRA assembly centers, operated by UNRRA teams in the British, American, and French zones.

**41. . . . and has assisted displaced persons elsewhere . . . .**

In May, 1944, UNRRA took over responsibility from the British military authorities for six camps in the Middle East. These camps housed Yugoslav and Greek displaced persons primarily, and had a population of about 40,000. By 1 January 1947, over 39,000 of these displaced persons had been repatriated by UNRRA. In addition, UNRRA has repatriated large numbers of Greeks from Cyprus, and other displaced persons from Ethiopia, Tanganyika, the Beligan Congo, and Ruanda-Urundi.

In Italy, UNRRA has taken over 19 camps from the military authorities, and, as of 1 January 1947, was caring for 11,540 displaced persons housed in these camps, and 12,950 outside them.

**42. UNRRA has provided special welfare services . . . .**

Relief supplies are augmented by welfare and health services. Welfare services are designed to meet the needs of handicapped people. Some of these, such as the sick and disabled, are unable to buy needed supplies; others, such as homeless or orphaned children, pregnant women, nursing mothers, and aged persons need special help. UNRRA welfare officers perform a wide variety of services, ranging from help in the distribution of food, clothing, and household supplies, to assistance in emergency housing, children's nurseries, and occupational training. UNRRA has supplied equipment for milk kitchens, day nurseries, children's hostels, and child welfare centers. Effective 1 January

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1947 UNRRA's welfare functions, except in DP operations, became the responsibility of UN.

**43. . . . and health services . . . .**

UNRRA provided, when requested, medical officers and technical experts to assist in the fields of sanitation, nursing, hospital management, nutrition and public health, including the control of malaria, tuberculosis, typhus, and other diseases.

UNRRA's health services were concerned mainly with preventive medicine. In addition to the services which it offered to the countries receiving its aid, UNRRA has sponsored new international Sanitary Conventions under which it distributed warnings of epidemics in various parts of the world. Twice each month, UNRRA published an *Epidemiological Information Bulletin*, widely read by doctors and public health authorities.

UNRRA conducted the largest international medical operation in history. In November, 1945, there were 800 UNRRA physicians and nurses at work in Europe. This personnel had been recruited from the nationals of at least 20 countries. These do not include medical personnel belonging to voluntary societies collaborating with UNRRA. On 1 January 1947, UNRRA transferred its health advisory services to the Interim Commission of the World Health Organization. UNRRA's health work in China will be transferred in part to the National Health Administration and in part to the Interim Commission of WHO.

**44. . . . UNRRA works in close cooperation with voluntary agencies . . . .**

From its beginning, UNRRA has sought the support and participation of voluntary agencies in meeting the tremendous needs of the liberated areas—needs so vast that the total resources of both governmental and private effort are required even to approximate them.

Voluntary agencies from countries all over the world are providing substantial assistance in the work of relief and rehabilitation. This assistance usually takes one of the following forms: (1) the loan of skilled and professionally trained personnel to UNRRA to work in the countries which UNRRA is helping; (2) the conducting of planned programs in those countries of relief and rehabilitation supplementary to the basic program of UNRRA; and (3) the contribution of supplies to UNRRA, or, with the assistance of UNRRA, to an agency or institution in the devastated country for distribution to the people.

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Through close cooperation, UNRRA and the voluntary agencies seek to avoid duplication, so that their total resources may be utilized most effectively. The voluntary agencies go into a country with the permission and cooperation of that government and UNRRA.

**45. UNRRA plans to complete its programs in Europe by June, 1947, and in the Far East by the end of 1947 . . . .**

UNRRA is a short-term organization, with a temporary, though vastly important, job to perform. Its present plans call for completing its programs in Europe by the end of June, 1947, and in the Far East by the end of 1947. The United Nations have created other instrumentalities to provide long range economic help. For example, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development was conceived by the conference at Bretton Woods for the purpose of assisting in reconstruction through the extension or underwriting of long-term loans.

**46. . . . but relief and rehabilitation needs may persist . . . .**

A great many European countries were afflicted by a serious drought in 1945. This disaster followed the decline suffered by European agriculture during the war years from a lack of seed, fertilizer, and insecticides. The result was that the 1945 crops fell far short of needs. To meet the problem during the critical winter months of 1945-46, UNRRA had to ship in a much larger amount of wheat and other foods than had been originally anticipated. As a result, UNRRA was forced to change its program largely to a relief basis and away from rehabilitation. This inescapable shift has had long-range repercussions. UNRRA has not been able to deliver as large a quantity of rehabilitation supplies as was planned, and therefore, by the time the organization's termination dates arrive, the receiving countries will not be in as strong an economic position as had been originally expected.

When UNRRA finishes its assignments, various European countries still will require some degree of relief and rehabilitation assistance.

**47. UNRRA and UN are cooperating . . . .**

UNRRA was created to handle an emergency; the UN and its various specialized agencies, such as the Food and Agriculture

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Organization and the World Health Organization, were created to be permanent. But the problems of relief and rehabilitation will continue long after UNRRA has completed its assigned task. This work is of particular concern to the United Nations, and at its last General Assembly meeting in New York the United Nations took official notice of the task still remaining throughout the world.

At its final session in December, 1946, the UN General Assembly authorized a special Technical Committee on Relief Needs After the Termination of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. This committee reported on 29 January 1947 that Austria, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Poland and Yugoslavia would require a total of \$583,000,000 in outside help in 1947 to supply their main requirements on food and other basic essentials. The Chinese Government estimated its relief needs, exclusive of UNRRA shipments, at \$294,924,031.

#### **48. UNRRA's "know-how" will be passed on to UN . . . .**

As UNRRA nears the end of its program, many of its functions are being taken over by UN and its various specialized agencies. UNRRA's health advisory functions are already being handled by the Interim Commission of the World Health Organization. The Food and Agriculture Organization is now arranging to continue some of UNRRA's agricultural rehabilitation work and UNRRA is turning over funds to ensure that there be no interruption in the advisory service furnished by expert technicians. The United Nations itself is assuming the responsibility of some of UNRRA's welfare work except in displaced persons camps. Soon, it is expected that the International Refugee Organization will be sufficiently organized to take over the operation of UNRRA's displaced persons camps in Germany, Austria and Italy.

#### **49. The receiving countries express gratitude to UNRRA . . . .**

Dr. Edward Benes (President of Czechoslovakia): "It is hard to express to UNRRA the great gratitude of the people of Czechoslovakia."

Premier Alcide De Gasperi of Italy: "On the third anniversary of UNRRA I wish to express the gratitude of the Italian people without distinction of party of UNRRA's assistance to Italy."

Leopold Figl (Federal Chancellor of Austria): "UNRRA has the historical merit in Austria of having helped the Austrian

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nation in the most crucial months. If not for UNRRA, starvation with all its dreadful consequences would have been inevitable for our population."

Archbishop Damaskinos (Regent of Greece): "I wish to express the gratitude of the Greek people to UNRRA and to stress how deeply we feel for all that our friends have done and are still doing to restore our people."

Boleslav Bierut (President of Poland): "My country fully and with gratitude appreciates the importance of the tremendous help it receives from UNRRA."

Marshal Tito (Prime Minister of Yugoslavia): "Would you please accept my congratulations on the occasion of the 3rd anniversary of the founding of UNRRA. I should like to point out once more that UNRRA offered substantial aid to peoples of Yugoslavia in their effort to rebuild their war devastated country and heal wounds caused by war against the common enemy of mankind. Today, 3 years after the founding of this organization, it can be said that UNRRA has done everything up to the expectations of peoples who suffered Fascist aggression and occupation."

Dr. Vaclav Mager (Food Minister of Czechoslovakia): "The beneficial effects of UNRRA will show themselves here for a very long time. For us, UNRRA in Czechoslovakia has never meant only material help. The Czechoslovak nation sees in UNRRA the first big step to nations cooperating in the field of economics."

Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek (China): "The spirit of mutual aid among the peoples of the world which UNRRA represents is the spirit which we hope will characterize the new world order . . . The arrival of the first UNRRA ships in China has heartened many millions, who are struggling to pull themselves out of the misery of war. For this, I wish to thank you."

#### **50. UNRRA is proving that nations can work together . . . .**

The work of UNRRA is indispensable, so that the wounds of war can be bound up, hungry children be fed, and war-shattered economies assisted back on their feet.

But the problem goes farther. UNRRA, as the first operating organization created by the United Nations during war, became from the outset a testing ground of the ability of the United Nations to cooperate at common tasks during peace. Its success has given all nations fresh assurance that they can work together at other, and longer-range, tasks.

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The late President Franklin D. Roosevelt's words at the signing of the UNRRA Agreement at the White House on 9 November 1943, have a vital significance today:

"As in most of the difficult and complex things in life, nations will learn to work together only by actually working together. Why not? The nations have common objectives. It is, therefore, with a lift of hope, that we look on the signing of this agreement by all of the United Nations as a means of joining them together still more firmly."

President Harry S. Truman said:

"UNRRA has been and is today the proving ground for the capacity of the United Nations to work together to relieve suffering, prevent starvation, and restore hope to the people who have borne and resisted fascist invasion."



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## FROM VICTORY TO PEACE



# UNRRA

**48 MEMBER GOVERNMENTS OF UNRRA**

*as of January, 1947*

Australia	Iran
Belgium	Iraq
Bolivia	Liberia
Brazil	Luxembourg
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Rep.	Mexico
Canada	Netherlands
Chile	New Zealand
China	Nicaragua
Colombia	Norway
Costa Rica	Panama
Cuba	Paraguay
Czechoslovakia	Peru
Denmark	Philippine Commonwealth
Dominican Republic	Poland
Ecuador	Turkey
Egypt	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Rep.
El Salvador	Union of South Africa
Ethiopia	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
France	United Kingdom
Greece	United States of America
Guatemala	Uruguay
Haiti	Venezuela
Honduras	Yugoslavia
Iceland	
India	



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