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Relief

ICRC Economic Adviser's Negotiations with EEC

The negotiations which Mr. Charles Ammann, ICRC Economic Adviser, conducted with the European Economic Community (EEC), in Brussels, led to the signing of the following agreements in 1971 :

- (1) *Agreement of 20 January 1971 between the EEC and the ICRC on the supply of grain under the food assistance programme.*

The agreement provided for the unused balance of the supplies for victims of the Nigerian conflict covered by the agreement of 14 May 1969, namely 12,671 gross tons of grain, to be made available to the ICRC.

Following the signing of the agreement, the ICRC obtained the following allocations :

Syria (persons displaced from the Golan Heights)

wheat flour	2,656 tons	
corn semolina	886 tons	
pearl barley	443 tons	
oatmeal	443 tons	4,428 tons

Gaza and Sinai (Palestinians and Bedouins)

wheat flour	1,296 tons	
cornflour	720 tons	
barley flour	1,584 tons	3,600 tons

With these allocations, the gross quantities available were virtually exhausted.

- (2) *Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the EEC and the ICRC on the supply of 200 tons of baby food and 1,000 tons of soup powders under the food assistance programme for the stricken population of East Pakistan.*

The agreement, which laid down the procedure for the action carried out between 29 November and 7 December 1970 (see Annual Report 1970, page 81), was signed on 17 March 1971.

- (3) *Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the EEC and the ICRC on the supply of 1,000 tons of powdered skimmed*

milk under the food assistance programme for flood victims in Romania.

The beginning of the operation is described on page 82 of the Annual Report for 1970. After the successful conclusion of the negotiations with the Romanian Red Cross, conducted through the League of Red Cross Societies, the ICRC signed the relevant agreement in Geneva on 24 March 1971. Mr. Marcel A. Naville, President, signed for the ICRC, while Mr. Franco Maria Malfatti, President of the Commission, signed for the EEC.

In agreement with the League, the ICRC was responsible for rail transport from factories in the Federal Republic of Germany to the Romanian border (Curtici), and after lengthy negotiations the first wagons set out for Romania on 12 July 1971.

(4) *Agreement of 13 July 1971 between the EEC and the ICRC on the supply of 7,000 tons of grain.*

The ICRC did not consider it expedient to make use of this offer during the second half of 1971.

(5) *Agreement of 23 November 1971 between the EEC and the ICRC on the supply of 50,000 tons of grain as emergency food aid to Bengali refugees in India.*

According to the procedure laid down in July 1971, the Belgian agency was to deliver to the ICRC 4,652 tons of wheat flour (after the milling of 7,000 tons of whole wheat), and the Italian agency 43,000 tons of husked rice. It proved possible to ship the wheat according to the terms of the adjudication. On the other hand, the Italian rice suppliers experienced difficulties which delayed delivery. By the end of December 1971, four of the planned eight ships had sailed from Europe carrying a total quantity of 20,150 tons of rice.

On 10 November 1971, the ICRC Economic Adviser submitted the following requests in Brussels for 1972 :

powdered skimmed milk	3,000 tons
cereal products	10,000 tons
rice (polished)	10,000 tons
white granulated sugar	2,000 tons

Relief Section

In 1971, Mr. André Beaud, Head of the Relief Section, made several trips to countries in the Middle East. In January, he went to Jordan to settle a number of questions relating to the relief action undertaken by the ICRC in the country. He left Jordan for the Lebanon, to inspect the ICRC warehouse in Beirut.

In June he again inspected the warehouse operations, the storing of supplies, and condition of the various goods. He went to Syria at the time of the arrival of the 4,428 tons of cereal products allocated to the ICRC by the European Economic Community for refugees from the Golan Heights.

During the year, the Relief Section continued to purchase and forward relief (see Table I below). Table II shows purchases made locally by ICRC field delegates.

TABLE I

SUMMARY OF RELIEF SUPPLIES FORWARDED OR DISTRIBUTED BY THE ICRC IN 1971

AFRICA

		Value in Swiss Francs ¹
Cameroon		
June	Despatch of 5 first-aid kits, by air, to the ICRC delegation at Yaoundé (for different National Societies in West Africa) . . .	460.—
Dahomey		
June	Shipment of 2 sewing machines and 250 kg of textiles to the Red Cross Society of Dahomey	3,500.—
GRAE (Revolutionary Government of Angola in Exile)		
July	Despatch of medicaments to the GRAE Health Service in Kinshasa for Portuguese prisoners	160.—
September	Transmission of clothing from the Portuguese Red Cross for Portuguese prisoners held by GRAE	not specified

¹ Exclusive of freight.

		Value in Swiss Francs
Nigeria		
May	Despatch of rehabilitation material to the Nigerian Red Cross Society	180.—
Sudan		
June	Despatch of 20 first-aid kits, by air, to the Sudanese Red Crescent	1,900.—
August	Shipment of 300 tons of powdered milk (a gift from the European Economic Community) to the Sudanese Red Crescent	1,200 000.—
Togo		
June	Despatch of 5 first-aid kits by air to the Togolese Red Cross Society	460.—
June	Shipment of 3 sewing machines and 430 kg of textiles to the Togolese Red Cross Society	5,800.—
LATIN AMERICA		
Bolivia		
August/ December	Five relief consignments, totalling 650 kg of medicaments and dressings plus 300 blankets	23,200.—
Colombia		
September	Despatch by air of 210 kg of medicaments, to the Colombian Red Cross	14,500.—
Ecuador		
June	Despatch by air of 114 kg of medicaments, to the Ecuadorian Red Cross	4,000.—
Guatemala		
September	Despatch of 3 tents and gas masks to the Guatemalan Red Cross	3,500.—
December	Despatch of 250 kg of baby food to the Guatemalan Red Cross	1,200.—
Guyana		
April	Shipment of 2 tons of powdered unskimmed milk to the Guyana Red Cross	11,000.—
October	Shipment of 1 ton of powdered unskimmed milk to the Guyana Red Cross	5,500.—
Haiti		
May	Despatch by air of 15 first-aid kits to the Haiti Red Cross . . .	1,400.—
May	Shipment of 2 tons of powdered milk and a Land-Rover to the Haiti Red Cross	31,000.—
October	Despatch of 15 first-aid kits by air to the Haiti Red Cross . .	1,400.—

		Value in Swiss Francs
Honduras		
October	Despatch of 15 first-aid kits to the Honduran Red Cross	2,500.—
Panama		
December	Despatch of 250 kg of baby food to the Panamanian Red Cross	1,200.—
Trinidad and Tobago		
March	Despatch of 1 ton of powdered milk to the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society	5,500.—
Venezuela		
December	Despatch of 250 kg of baby food and 1 ton of powdered milk to the Venezuelan Red Cross	6,700.—
ASIA		
Ceylon		
June	Remittance to the Ceylon Red Cross for the purchase of clothing for detainees	40,000.—
September	Remittance to the Ceylon Red Cross for purchases for detainees (donations from the Norwegian, British, Luxembourg, Canadian and Liechtenstein Red Cross Societies)	15,000.—
India		
October	Shipment of 100 tons of powdered milk to the Indian Red Cross for refugees (a gift from the Swiss Government)	550,000.—
October- November- December	Shipments totalling 24,798 tons of grain (a gift from the European Economic Community) to the Indian Red Cross	23,000,000.—
December	Despatch by air to the Indian Red Cross of 2.5 million Mexaform tablets	175,000.—
December	Despatch by air to the Indian Red Cross of 1.5 tons of medicaments	31,600.—
Indonesia		
November	Shipment of 474 kg of medicaments and various materials, plus 7 microscopes, to the Indonesian Red Cross	22,800.—
Khmer Republic		
June	Direct despatch of 15,000 flasks of streptomycin by the Danish Red Cross to the Khmer Red Cross	18,000.—
August	Despatch of 96 kg of antibiotics, by air, to the Khmer Red Cross	5,200.—
November	Shipment of 1,296 kg of medicaments and dressings to the Khmer Red Cross (partly out of the balance of the funds available following the League-ICRC appeal made in June 1970).	41,600.—
November	Shipment of 6,742 kg of sweetened powdered milk (a gift from the Swiss Government) to the Khmer Red Cross	20,500.—
December	Shipment of 3.5 tons of medicaments and dressings to the Khmer Red Cross	70,000.—

		Value in Swiss Francs
GRUNC (Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia)		
	Four despatches of relief supplies, totalling more than 4 tons of medicaments, dressings, etc., between January and March . . .	80,000.—
	Transport (by air) amounted to Fr. 38,600.—	
Laos		
August	Despatch of children's clothes, by air, to the Lao Red Cross (a gift from the Canadian Red Cross)	22,000.—
Pathet Lao (Neo Lao Haksat)		
	Despatch through ICRC delegation in Laos of: 412 kg of medicaments and dressings by air (including a gift of streptomycin from the Danish Red Cross)	13,000.—
November	389 kg of medical supplies by air	11,000.—
Pakistan		
April	Delivery of 5,000 flasks of penicillin to the Pakistan Red Cross .	9,500.—
Republic of Vietnam		
	Despatch of various medicaments to the ICRC delegation in Saigon for orphanages	13,900.—
EUROPE		
Greece		
February	Transmission to the Hellenic Red Cross of a gift of clothing from the Italian Red Cross	16,000.—
Hungary		
January to December	Despatch of medicaments to the Hungarian Red Cross	16,500.—
Poland		
January to December	Despatch of medicaments to the Polish Red Cross	7,300.—
Romania		
January to December	Despatch of medicaments	6,500.—
MIDDLE EAST		
Israel and occupied territories		
February	Despatch of 265 kg of protein foods from Geneva (for the Nazareth hospital)	1,500.—
June	Despatch of 3,600 tons of grain for the needy population of Gaza and Sinai (a gift from the European Economic Community) . . .	3,600,000.—

		Value in Swiss Francs
June	Despatch of 8 tons of cleaning products (a gift from the German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany)	15,000.—
August	Transmission of 300 tons of foodstuffs, blankets and textiles (a gift from the Red Crescent Society of the Arab Republic of Egypt) for the needy population of Sinai	not specified
October	Despatch from Geneva of 10,000 ball-point pens for detainees.	1,300.—
October	Despatch of 3 typewriters for the Red Crescent in Jenin	1,000.—
October	Transmission of 250 tons of foodstuffs and textiles (a gift from the Red Crescent Society of the Arab Republic of Egypt) for the needy population of Gaza	not specified
October/ November	Despatch of 20 tons of powdered milk for distribution to maternity homes, nurseries and other social institutions on the West Bank (a gift from the Swiss Government)	110,000.—
November	Despatch of 1 ton of baby food for a children's home in Jerusalem	5,000.—
Jordan		
March	Delivery of 50 tons of powdered milk, 25 tons of biscuits and one generator to the Jordan National Red Crescent Society.	250,000.—
November	Delivery of 50 tons of powdered milk, 10 tons of biscuits, blankets and clothing to the Jordan National Red Crescent Society	230,000.—
Lebanon		
September	Delivery of 5 tons of powdered milk and 300 bales of clothing to the Lebanese Red Cross.	25,000.—
" Palestinian Red Crescent "		
September	Delivery of 10 tons of powdered milk, 5 tons of biscuits and one generator to the " Palestinian Red Crescent "	50,000.—
December	Delivery of 25 tons of powdered milk and 230 bales of clothing to the " Palestinian Red Crescent "	120,000.—
Syria		
March	Despatch of 564 tons of wheat flour to the Syrian Red Crescent for persons displaced from the Golan Heights (a gift from the Swiss Government)	320,000.—
March	Despatch of 112 tons of powdered milk for persons displaced from the Golan Heights (a gift from the European Economic Community)	560,000.—
May	Despatch from Geneva of 750 kg of medicaments to the Syrian Red Crescent	30,000.—
May	Despatch of 4,428 tons of grain for persons displaced from the Golan Heights (a gift from the European Economic Community)	4,500,000.—
May	Despatch of 20 tons of cleaning products (a gift from the German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany)	35,000.—
June	Delivery of 100 tons of powdered milk to the Syrian Red Crescent	400,000.—

		Value in Swiss Francs
Yemen Arab Republic		
June	Despatch from Geneva of 40 kg of medicaments for the Turba hospital	2,000.—
November	Despatch from Geneva of 2 tons of cheese for the Taiz hospital	8,000.—
People's Democratic Republic of Yemen		
September	Despatch of 20 tons of powdered unskimmed milk to the " Aden Red Crescent " for needy families (a gift from the Swiss Government)	110,000.—
October	Despatch of anti-haemophilic serum to the " Aden Red Crescent "	750.—

TABLE II

**SUMMARY OF PURCHASES MADE IN THE FIELD
BY ICRC DELEGATES IN 1971**

		Value in Swiss Francs
AFRICA		
Malawi	Purchase of one Land Rover for the Malawi Red Cross . . .	19,000.—
Rwanda	Purchase of one motor vehicle for the Rwanda Red Cross Society	10,500.—
Miscellaneous	Distribution of sport and toilet articles, clothing and medicaments to detainees and prisoners in various African countries	7,950.—
LATIN AMERICA		
Bolivia	Local purchase and distribution of food, medicaments, clothing and blankets to detainees	15,800.—
ASIA		
Laos	Purchase and distribution of clothing, food and medicaments to displaced persons	81,630.—
Republic of Vietnam	Purchase and distribution of food, medicaments and clothing to detainees	15,940.—
	Purchase and distribution of food, clothing, medicaments, etc., to prisoners of war	28,820.—
	Purchase and distribution of medicaments and clothing, and cash donations to hospitals, orphanages and other institutions . . .	64,420.—
EUROPE		
Greece	Clothing and various relief supplies for detainees	33,620.—
MIDDLE EAST		
Israel and occupied territories	Assistance to civilian detainees, prisoners of war, the civilian population, local sections of the Jordan National Red Crescent Society, and various relief supplies	501,200.—
Arab Republic of Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan	Local purchase of relief supplies for prisoners and the civilian population of these countries	39,800.—
People's Democratic Republic of Yemen	Aid to political detainees and their families	9,620.—
	Various relief supplies	5,280.—
Yemen Arab Republic	Artificial limb workshop	85,070.—