

U.S. Steps up Food Relief for World's Poor

(This is the last of three articles)
By RUSSELL SHAW
(N.C. W.C. News Service)

Washington — The world is hungry. The United States and other rich nations have got to do something about it.

These two simple facts underlie a growing sense of urgency in and out of government concerning future U.S. foreign aid policies, particularly food aid to the developing nations.

Radical changes are clearly in the works for U.S. foreign assistance. In the past month the nature of these changes has become increasingly apparent.

There will be new emphasis on "self-help" in developing countries — those that do the best job of assisting themselves will get the lion's share of U.S. support. There will be greater stress on increasing the food output of the poor countries, so that they can feed their growing populations. American agricultural capacity will continue to be used to feed developing countries, but under more realistic conditions and with the clear understanding that it will not suffice indefinitely.

There will also be more emphasis on population control in U.S. aid programs. How much emphasis and the exact forms it will take remain uncertain. Some, in Congress and elsewhere, advocate all-out efforts to promote birth control in developing countries.

Others, however, say that while it is desirable that rapid population growth be slowed in some areas of the world, this should be accomplished by programs designed to increase resources — especially food output — and thus raise living standards, rather than by crash programs of birth control.

In the short run, it is argued, birth control is no answer because it does nothing to solve the existing problem of imbalance between population and resources. The immediate need

is to provide for the people who are already here.

And for the long haul, it is said, birth control is the wrong place to start because economic development must precede population control. Only people who have achieved a measure of prosperity, and can see the possibility of achieving more, have the motivation for limiting — voluntarily and by methods of their own choosing — the size of their families.

If expansion of resources should take priority, then, the question is — where is beginning? On this point there is growing agreement that agriculture must be the starting point.

In an address last September to the American Marketing Association, W. W. Rostow, chairman of the State Department Policy Planning Council, said there is wide recognition that "the next phase of development" in the poor nations must be the "systematic diffusion of the modern skills" into the agricultural sector of the economy.

Up to now, Rostow pointed out, developing nations have for the most part emphasized industry in order to thrust themselves into the 20th century. This led to a systematic neglect of what agriculture could and must contribute: food, industrial raw materials, foreign exchange and enlarged domestic markets.

In part this policy in the developing nations has been offset by sales and gifts of food. One of the most notable efforts in this line has been the U.S. Food for Peace program.

In the decade since enactment of Public Law 480 — the legislation authorizing the program — government-to-government food for Peace aid totaled more than \$12 billion. Most of this was in sales of U.S. food to other countries for their own currencies, which have then been used to finance economic development in those countries.

Another noteworthy aspect of the Food for Peace program has been the distribution of more than \$1.5 billion worth of free food to the world's needy through U.S. voluntary agencies. The largest of these is Catholic Relief Services—National Catholic Welfare Conference, the U.S. Catholic overseas relief agency.

P.L. 480 is scheduled to expire at the end of this year. President Johnson recently proposed extension and revision of the program under the name Food for Freedom.

There are several significant differences between Food for Peace and Food for Freedom. The new program will emphasize "self-help" in developing countries, which will be required to take realistic steps to increase their own food output as a condition for getting U.S. aid.

U.S. food will continue to be supplied to needy countries

under sale and gift arrangements. But there will be a clear understanding that it represents only stop-gap assistance, designed to tide the poor nations over during the period between now and the time when they are producing enough food to meet their own needs.

The "surplus" concept will be dropped from the program. Up to now Food for Peace commodities have been limited to those designated as being in surplus supply in this country. U.S. and world — food surpluses are now, however, declining to the vanishing point.

Therefore, overall U.S. agricultural policy will be revamped to take into account both domestic and foreign needs, and U.S. farmers will be encouraged to produce accordingly. The 60 million acres of U.S. farm land not now employed for food production will be brought back into production as these needs dictate.

Food for Freedom programs will operate at a level of \$2.7-\$2.8 billion per year, compared with about \$2.3 billion for Food

for Peace at present. The government will continue to use U.S. voluntary agencies in its people-to-people food aid programs.

The permanent solution to the problem, however, is obviously for the developing nations to become agriculturally self-sufficient. This is no small assignment. The need, as British economist Barbara Ward has said, is "urgent and immediate." But the "transformation" of agriculture that is required cannot come about without "massive" investment.

"Without capital," Miss Ward has written, "the land cannot progress. All the methods of transforming agriculture are expensive. Farmers need more skills, more fertilizers, more credit. There is no hope of a productive agriculture if saving is squeezed out of the country and nothing is put back."

"In the past," Miss Ward says, "agriculture has been all too often the last on the government's priority list. Modern experience suggests it should be moved to the top."

Ten years ago Barbara Ward said the rich nations of the world should devote 1% of their gross national product yearly to the aid of the developing nations. At present, the figure for the western countries is about .4%. This amounts to about \$6 billion of the \$1.5 trillion total production of North America, Western Europe and Japan.

President Johnson, in his foreign aid message, asked for \$2.46 billion in economic assistance for the next fiscal year — the smallest program in 18 years and some \$600 million below the current figure. Some commentators have said the President's proposal falls far short of the needs.

In his address last Oct. 4 to the United Nations, Pope Paul VI said: "You must strive to multiply bread so that it suffices for the tables of mankind, and not rather favor an artificial control of birth which would be irrational, in order to diminish the number of guests at the banquet of life."

The guests are already here, and more continue to arrive. The challenge now is to find something for them to eat.



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Uganda Prelate Dies at 66

Kampala — (NC) — Archbishop Joseph Kiwanuka, W.F., of Rubaga, who at his consecration in St. Peter's by Pope Pius XII in 1939 became the first African Negro Bishop in over 400 years, died here Feb. 22 after long illness. He was 66 years old, and had headed Uganda's Catholic hierarchy since 1960.

While ailing, Archbishop Kiwanuka had taken part in the Vatican Council. But he was flown back to this capital on Dec. 13 and taken immediately to a hospital. He had said he wanted to die among his flock.

(He visited Rochester on various occasions to appeal for funds for his mission diocese.)

Born in a tiny Uganda village in 1899, Joseph Kiwanuka was baptized by members of the White Fathers of Africa, who had converted his parents. He himself was to join the missionary order — but only after his ordination in 1929 and a two-year stay in Rome during which he earned his doctorate in canon law.

Returning to Uganda after his novitiate at the White Fathers' headquarters in Algiers, Father Kiwanuka worked both as a missionary and as a secondary professor until chosen by Pius XII to be a bishop.

'Rhythmn' Has 'Bad Press'

Winooski Park, Vt. — (NC) A Catholic medical scholar and psychiatrist told a St. Michael's College audience here the "pill" will not solve problems of population growth and food shortages.

Dr. Frank J. Ayd, Jr., of Baltimore, Md., first American layman to serve on the faculty of the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, speaking on "Fertility Control," said no contraceptives yet devised would have any appreciable effect in controlling population in the next decade or two.

"Many of the nations that have the greatest population problems just do not have the doctors nor the education to make birth control programs effective. In more sophisticated societies, the side effects have caused many women to stop using pills," Dr. Ayd declared.

"The rhythm method, approved by Catholic theologians, is effective," he said, "but it's had a bad press. Too many doctors just haven't understood its working and consequently people who have turned to them have been confused."



JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL, on island of Truk in the Caroline chain, nears completion. Students will travel from as far as 2,000 miles to attend the new school.

Jesuit Dinner To Aid Missions

Main beneficiaries of the first annual Jesuit Mission Benefit Dinner, planned for March 28 at the Manger Hotel, will be the South Sea natives who are being served by Jesuit missionaries. The Jesuits' Buffalo province, in which Rochester is located, has for its mission responsibility the Caroline and Marshall Islands in the Pacific.

With over two and one half million square miles of territory, this is the largest single mission territory in the world. Some forty Jesuits are working there at the present time. The results of their work were shown to the Loyola Jesuit Council recently in a colored movie film which followed the educational experiences of a native boy from the time he left his native island to attend the mission school until he graduated and took his place as a cultured and useful citizen. This was filmed by Father Ronald Sams, now at the Jesuit Bureau in Buffalo. Father Sams taught in the Carolines for several years, as did Father Robert Keck, local high school principal.

The Caroline Marshall Islands have a population of 60,000 Micronesians, of whom 24,000 are Catholic. Their eagerness to learn and their willingness to travel thousands of miles in order to attend school is matched by the devotion and hard work of the Jesuits — who have the responsibility of aiding them. These missionaries receive support and encouragement from this First Annual Jesuit Mission Dinner.

Heading the Executive Committee as Honorary Chairman is Bishop Kearney. Co-chairmen are Sylvester Zicari and Mrs. Joseph Siconolfi. Helping them is an executive committee of some 90 interested workers from Rochester and other towns represented on the Loyola Council. Tickets and reservations are being handled by Mrs. William Wilmot, while Mark Tuohy is handling publicity. More specific information concerning the dinner can be obtained by calling Mrs. Thomas Garvey at GI 2-8039.

Belgian Named To Rome Post

Vatican City — (NC) — A Belgian dogmatic theologian from Louvain University has been named to a high position in the Doctrinal Congregation.

In a second step within 10 days toward the internationalization of the Roman curia, Pope Paul VI appointed Father Charles Moeller as undersecretary of the congregation which until its reform in December was known as the Holy Office.

During the Vatican Council he served as an expert and was one of the theologians called by Leo Cardinal Suenens of Malines, Belgium, to frame a preliminary draft of the schema on the Church in the Modern World, which came to be known as the "Louvain text." This was a revision of the first schema drafted by a preparatory commission. The famous document emerged as one of the Council's most important pronouncements.

Father Moeller also was a member of the subcommission charged with preparing the final draft of the same document, which underwent many revisions after the "Louvain text."

Peace Prayer During Lent

Vatican City — (NC) — Pope Paul has ordered the insertion of an invocation for peace into the Prayer of the Faithful in all Masses during the remainder of Lent.

The invocation, published March 1 by decree of the Congregation of Rites, asks that "just peace and true concord be realized among peoples violently afflicted by war or civil discord."

The official Latin text of the invocation is: "Oti populus, quaesumus, ut saluum, dilectissima, miseris affligunt, pax justa, adveniat et vera concordia."

Prelate Upholds Old Devotions

Buenos Aires — (NC) — The bishop of a nearby diocese has told his people that devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and the Blessed Virgin Mary "must not only be maintained in their full splendor but must also be strengthened."

Bishop Jose Chalup of Gualeguaychu in a letter to his clergy called for continuation of such devotions as novenas and "first Friday" and "first Saturday" services as long as they "are practiced with a genuine pastoral feeling." And he said that Mass with congregational participation is at no time to prevail over Mass offered by a priest privately or with only a server.

The bishop said that "nothing is more appropriate at this time" than reading and following the directives of Mysterium Fidei, the encyclical on the Eucharist issued by Pope Paul VI last fall, and encyclicals written by Pope Pius XII in the 1940's—Mediator Dei and Mystici Corporis Christi.

Hud Loun
Washington — (NC) — The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), through the Community Facilities Administration, has made a \$1,800,000 loan to Barat College of the Sacred Heart, Lake Forest, Ill.

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