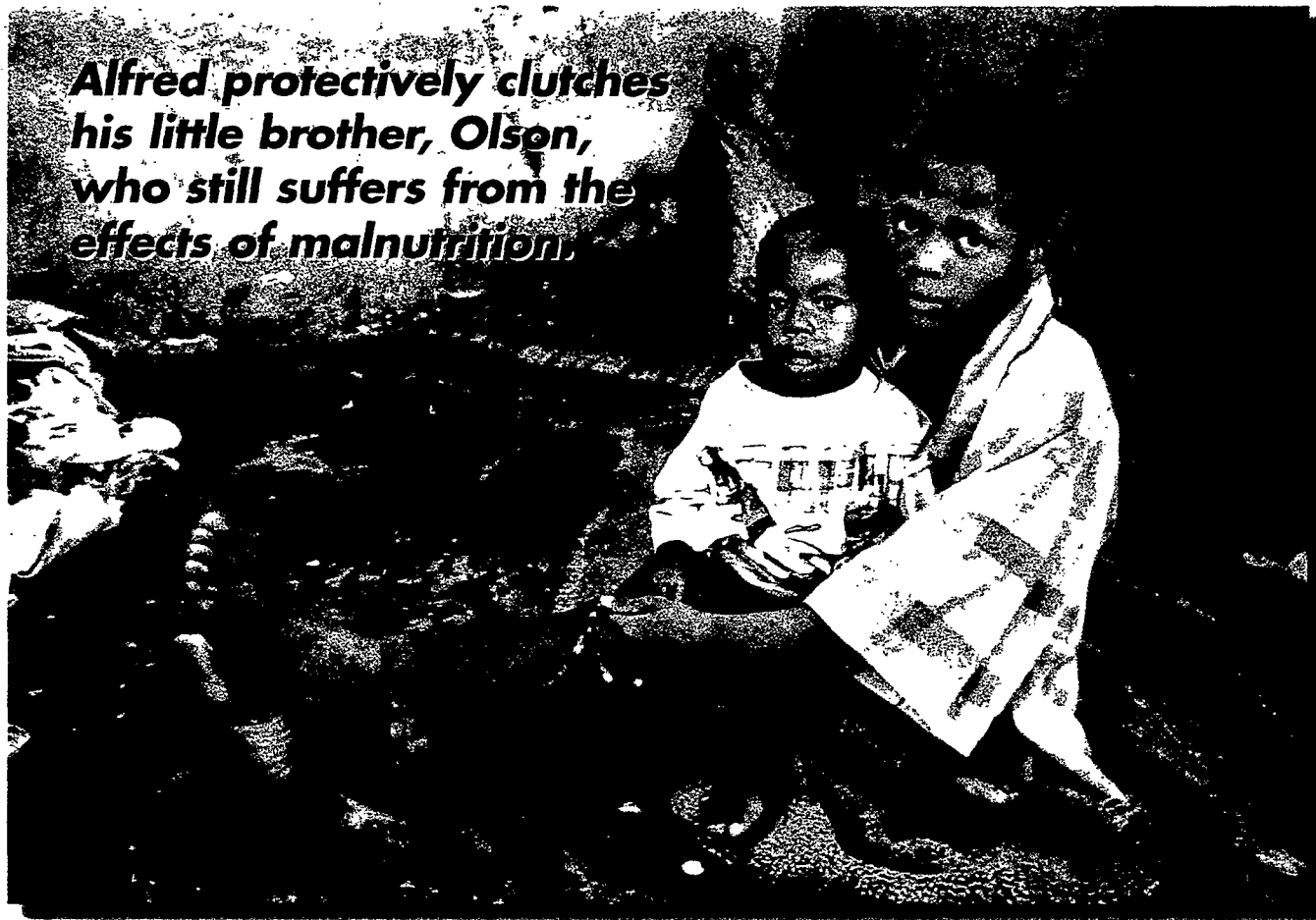


PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Orphans

Hungry orphans fervently pray



Alfred protectively clutches his little brother, Olson, who still suffers from the effects of malnutrition.



Little Dony waits for someone like you to feed her.

Sitting on the floor where he sleeps, Alfred, 10, clutches his little brother in a protective embrace as if to shield him from the world's pain. Olson, 2, was very malnourished when the brothers first arrived at the orphanage where they now live. Olson still hasn't totally recovered from the devastating effects of malnutrition. There's never enough food, and the children are constantly hungry.

Dinner, their only meal of the day at the orphanage, is watery bean soup. It bubbles over an open fire in a large cauldron, cooking outside the orphanage's makeshift kitchen. The pastor running the orphanage can only afford one meal a day for the

orphans. He begs; but no one has anything to give. So he scrapes together every penny to buy food, going hungry himself to feed the children.

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Sixty boys and girls sleep in tiny rooms. The kitchen is a coal pit sitting next to the latrine. Alfred and Olson, don't have the luxury of hot water. Laundry is done in a wheelbarrow.

But at night when they lie on their ragged mats on the hard concrete floor, it is the aching hunger pains in their empty stomachs that truly pierce them.

It takes all of Alfred's energy to remain strong for his little brother. Hope flickers in his eyes as he explains how faith helps him endure sharp hunger pains. "I ask Jesus to help us and give us strength to continue to pray," he says softly.

In destitute countries like Haiti, the most desperate of society's poor are the orphans. The United Nations warns of a "silent food crisis" sweeping through Haiti. More than 3.8 million people live every day with hunger. For orphans like Alfred and his brother, it's not a mere statistic, but a fact reflected in their empty, grumbling tummies. Orphans are the forgotten of society, the weakest and most helpless of God's hungry children, indeed, the least of His brothers and sisters.

You can help

"Religion that is pure and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their affliction..." (James 1:27a)

You can be God's instrument in answering prayers of hungry children like Alfred through Food For The Poor. Food For The Poor ships thousands of pounds of lifesaving food to hungry children in developing countries such as Haiti, Nicaragua, Jamaica and Honduras. Make a difference this holiday season for hungry orphans by helping to provide lifesaving food