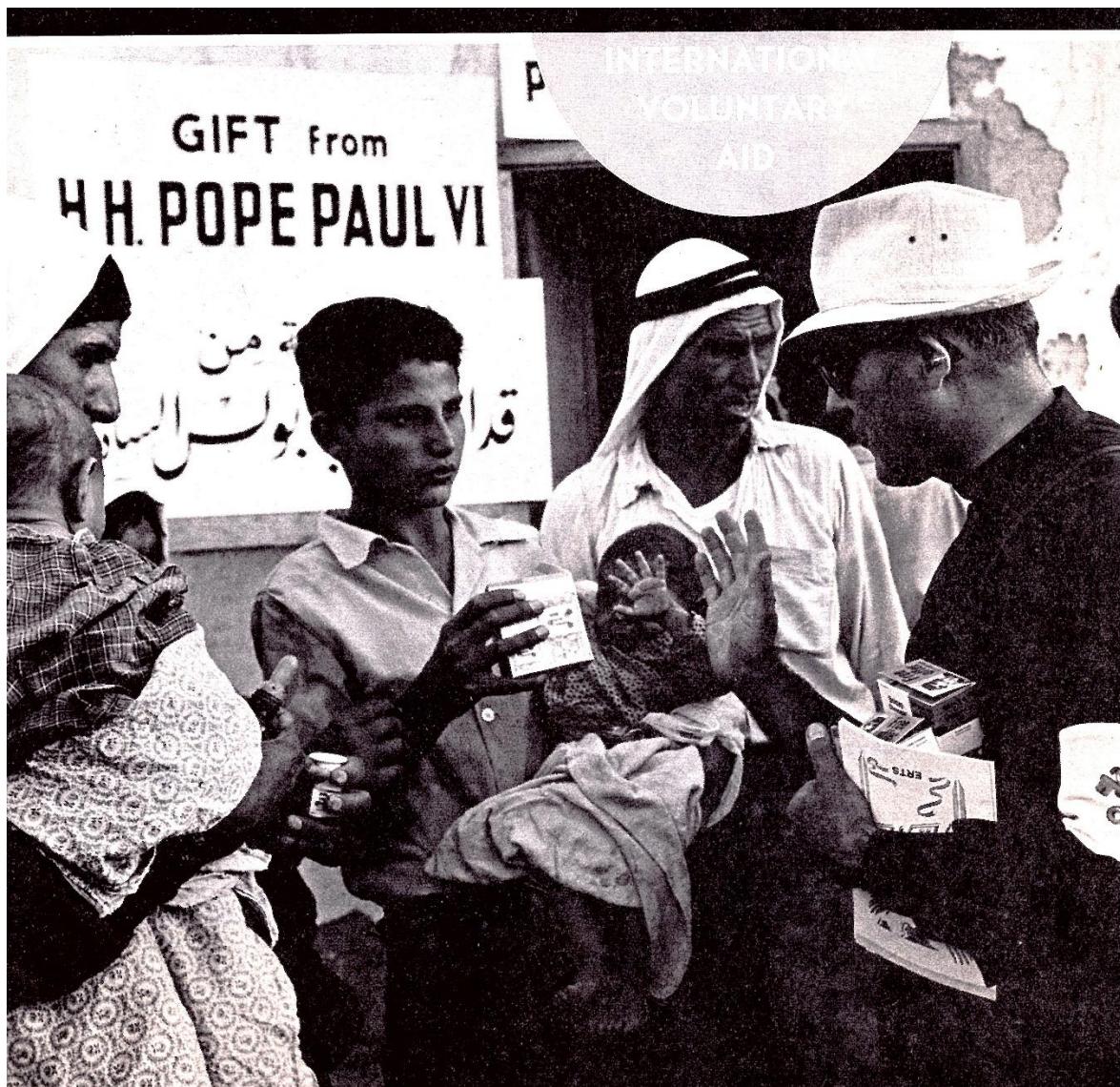


PALESTINE REFUGEES TODAY

UNRWA NEWSLETTER 56, JUNE-AUGUST 1968



"The range of services that have been developed are not the peculiar

The Belgian doctor is one
of several from Europe
and the Commonwealth who
volunteered to work with
the "Save the Children Fund"
in east Jordan following
the 1967 hostilities.



preserve and achievement of any one organisation or authority"

FOREWORD

The search for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, including, to use the words of Security Council Resolution 242 of 22 November 1967, "a just settlement of the refugee problem", continues.

Meanwhile, the homeless must be sheltered, the hungry fed, the sick healed and the children taught their lessons.

This work of humanitarian relief is an obligation shared by the governments concerned, UNRWA and a number of voluntary agencies operating in the Middle East. The range of services and forms of aid that have been developed, sometimes hastily, sometimes as a result of long experience, are not the peculiar preserve and achievement of any one organization or authority, they are the product of a combined effort in which governments, international organizations, voluntary agencies and many men and women of goodwill throughout the world play a vital part. In recent months this cooperation has been put to the test and has demonstrated its effectiveness again and again.

In giving an account of some of the assistance rendered to the Arab refugees by international voluntary agencies operating in the region, this Newsletter expresses the sense of privilege which UNRWA feels at working in such devoted company. It is also a tribute to the prompt and effective help rushed to the Middle East during the past year from so many different sources - help that happily still continues to arrive.



Laurence Michelmore
Commissioner-General of UNRWA



Clothing is distributed to Palestine refugees from Gaza who have recently fled to east Jordan.

**CATHOLIC
RELIEF
SERVICES
U.S.C.C.**

Following the cease-fire after the hostilities of June 1967, the Headquarters of Catholic Relief Services - United States Catholic Conference in New York City immediately despatched four aircraft loads of emergency foods and medicine to Amman. The Regional Director of Catholic Relief Services - U.S.C.C., with offices in Rome, arrived in Amman about the same time.

A new office, with a new Programme Director, was established in Amman, the previous CRS office for Jordan having been located on the West Bank, newly-occupied by Israel. With the co-operation of U.S. AID, ships already at sea and carrying foods, clothing and other relief materials destined for other areas were diverted to Beirut for off-loading, re-loading and transport to Amman.

Among the commodities that reached Jordan by plane or ship from Catholic Relief Services soon after the cease-fire were:

13 tons of medicines, surgical equipment, vitamins and antibiotics.
50 tons of new and used clothing.
23 tons of canned beef and gravy.
15,000 blankets.
10,000 metal dishes, cups and mess kits.

In addition, the people of the United States donated the following:

2,710 tons of flour.
328 tons of rolled oats.
165 tons of powdered milk.
359 tons of vegetable oil.

The bulk of these commodities were distributed with the co-operation of the Jordan Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, the Supreme Ministerial Committee for Refugees, and UNRWA. Direct relief to other categories of recipients continues through the assistance of the Ministry and Jordan Caritas.

In addition to the above, Catholic Relief Services - U.S.C.C. assists in 11,000 cases of hardship. In co-operation with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, CRS is currently studying means of implementing self-help projects: a method of long-term assistance that helps to instill self-reliance and self-respect.



JORDAN CARITAS

Jordan Caritas was founded immediately after the hostilities of June 1967 - its specific purpose being to help needy people newly-displaced as a result of the conflict.

From its inception, Jordan Caritas has worked in full consultation with the Jordan Government. Distributions have been made both to the newly-displaced, living in the tented camps in

east Jordan (as well as to Palestine refugees living outside the camps), to government and private hospital patients, and also to those agencies (including UNRWA) which gave further assistance to the new refugees.

In its emergency programme, Jordan Caritas has been working in close co-operation with CRS (Catholic Relief Services). The following supplies have been distributed to an estimated 96,000 needy people:

- 1) 40 tons of food donated by the Holy See.
- 2) 120 tons of baby food.
- 3) 770 tents.
- 4) 15,000 blankets.
- 5) 76 tons of used clothing and blankets.
- 6) 10 cases of vitamins and 8 cases of antibiotics.
- 7) 140 cartons of medicines.
- 8) 5 cases of surgical and medical instruments for clinics.
- 9) 2,250 tons of flour
57 tons of rolled oats
125 tons of beans
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons of milk
80 tons of vegetable oil
125 bales of clothing.
- 10) 4,000 pairs of shoes for the children in Ghor Nimrin, Damia, Ghor Kabed and Ma'adi - emergency camps in the east Jordan Valley until February 1968, when military action prompted the refugees to flee to the uplands around Amman.

In addition, Jordan Caritas concluded an agreement with the Italian and Palestine Hospitals to treat needy cases: the cost of treatment is now shared equally by Caritas, the hospital and the patient.

Two clinics were opened - one in Zerka, one in Jabal Hashimi - and the equipment for two clinics was donated to UNRWA for use in the emergency camps.

Jordan Caritas is a young organisation, but Caritas itself is an international charitable movement. Since its first day of service, Jordan Caritas has worked closely with Caritas Internationalis and the German and Swiss Caritas organisations.

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

The Mennonite Central Committee has operated in Jordan since 1950, with offices in Jericho and Jerusalem. The June 1967 crisis divided Jordan and immediately plans were made to open an extra office on the East Bank.

Since November 1967, 70 tons of clothing, bedding and children's bundles have been received from church sources in Canada and the U.S.A. The Mennonites in central Europe sent 2,625 blankets by airfreight, in response to a general call for blankets. Besides this, sufficient funds were received from the American Mennonites to purchase 18,350 blankets through UNRWA channels in Beirut. A high percentage of this quantity was distributed in cooperation with UNRWA.

The major feature has been the distribution of more than 22,000 specially prepared children's bundles. The bundles include a new outfit of clothing for boys and girls between the ages of 4 and 16. The bundle is wrapped up in a new towel and contains a small gift, a bar of soap and other necessities, besides the clothing. Each bundle is labeled by sex and age. The distribution takes place largely to orphanages, welfare centres, hardship cases and, more recently, to all schoolchildren in the emergency tented camps operated by UNRWA. Over 9,000 children living under canvas are receiving these special children's parcels; for many, this is the first new clothing they have received for a long time.

Probably the most difficult and yet the most rewarding task was the distribution of personalized family bundles, through social workers and volunteers, to many thousands of hardship cases. After careful investigation these cases were referred to the Mennonite office in Amman from many sources, including the Jordan Government's Supreme Ministerial Committee for Refugees and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour.

The Mennonites are also sponsoring a layette project for needy expectant mothers, in connection with a clinic in Jebel Nadif. This has already helped several hundred mothers and it is hoped that other clinics will shortly be in operation.

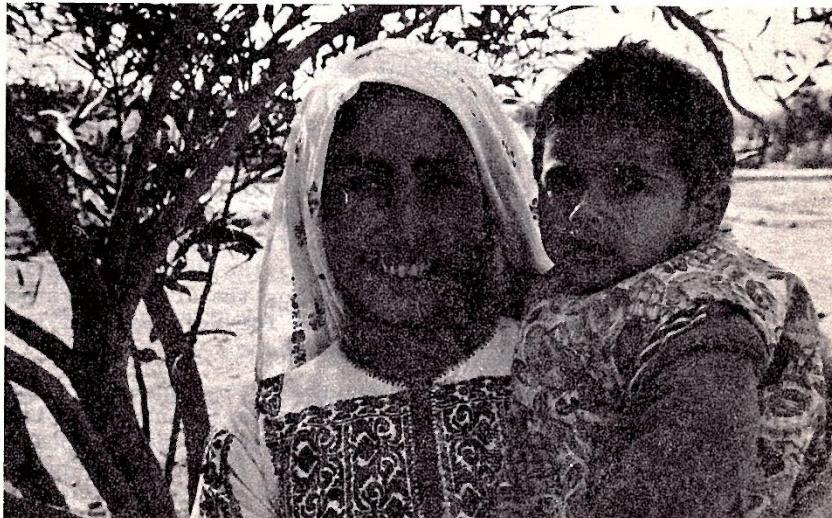
The Mennonites are sharing and have shared in numerous other projects in co-operation with one or several other

Working on the Mennonite layette project in east Jordan: Sifra, a Palestine refugee, receives instruction on one of the Committee's sewing machines.



voluntary agencies, including the purchase of clothing for 200 refugee students attending Jordan University; new shoes for orphans in an orphanage; providing material aid of various types for 10,000 victims of military action in the Jordan Valley in February and March 1968; shared in purchasing 470 tents for refugee families; shared in the cost of 12 young men from Gaza attending the Schneller vocational training school in Amman, and various other involvements too numerous to mention.

In cooperation with UNRWA, one or more playcentres for pre-school age children and a Women's Activities programme are under development at Baqa'a Camp. As part of this programme, the Mennonites have already purchased six large marquee tents and additional support will be forthcoming as the programme gets under way.



THE COMMONWEALTH SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND

The Commonwealth Save the Children Fund's contribution to the relief of distress following the June 1967 hostilities has taken the form of providing medical and infant welfare teams to work in the emergency camps. The conditions under which refugees and displaced persons have been living since the war have made the children more vulnerable to sickness. It is due to the care of the Save the Children Fund doctors and nurses, together with the preventive measures undertaken by UNRWA itself and the Jordan

Ministry of Health, that the new refugees have been spared an abnormally high infant mortality rate and any serious epidemic.

The Save the Children Fund had been working in Jordan for many years. Thus, its professional staff were on the spot to bring first aid relief to the refugees immediately after the hostilities, when the need was greatest, and a team was formed to work in Wadi Dleil, one of the first emergency camps, operated by the Jordan Government. Conditions during the first two or three months in this camp were appalling. The Belgian doctor, Dr. Cecile van Ackere, worked in her mobile clinic seeing over 100 patients daily; most were suffering from gastro-enteritis. Two British nurses, with their Jordanian girl interpreters, worked ceaselessly with the infants, giving extra milk and baby foods where necessary and encouraging the mothers to make the best use of what little they had. At first a cup of milk, and later a hot meal, was given to as many children daily as it was practicable to handle. Because the Save the Children Fund staff lived in the camp itself and were always on duty, they also helped unofficially with the distribution of many of the relief supplies which poured into the camp, from baby clothing to kerosene stoves.

A few weeks after the emergency started, volunteer professional staff began to arrive from the United Kingdom and it was possible to relieve the regular staff to enable them to return to their normal duties. After three months, the Norwegian Refugee Council began to provide professional staff on a regular basis. At about the same time, funds were made available to the Commonwealth Save the Children Fund from money raised in June and July in the United Kingdom as a result of a joint appeal by several voluntary agencies. This enabled the Save the Children Fund to establish an entirely new medical team to provide services in another camp.



(from left to right) Wa'il, Ahmad and Aydah, all recently displaced from their homes on the Jordan's West Bank, are now fit and well-thanks to treatment for severe malnutrition by the SCF

During the winter 1967/68, all the hill camps were moved into the Jordan Valley. The Norwegian team, supported and administered by the Save the Children Fund, moved to Ghor Nimrin and the British team to Damia. The medical sections of both teams were housed in mobile clinic units provided by the Norwegian Refugee Council and they remained in the Valley until military action caused the refugees to move back into the hills. The two teams then combined to take care of children at Baqa'a Camp, near Amman. Currently, there are two medical sections each seeing some 60 children daily in the age group 0 - 5, and two welfare sections each seeing about the same number of children, all in the one camp. In addition, a rehydration/nutrition centre has been set up and undernourished children are brought daily by their mothers for special feeding.

THE PONTIFICAL MISSION FOR PALESTINE

The Pontifical Mission for Palestine was founded in 1949 by Monsignor Montini, then Pro-Secretary of State of the Holy See, now His Holiness Pope Paul VI. Its charter was broad, its motto "Need not creed" inspiring and its purpose simple: serve the refugees. For 19 years, in Lebanon, Jordan, Syria and the Gaza Strip, the Mission, on behalf of the Holy Father, has done precisely that.

In its early days the Pontifical Mission provided relief services of all kinds to help the refugees from the 1948 Arab-Israeli conflict. After the immediate emergency it began to concentrate on long-range, self-help projects and, until the renewal of hostilities in June 1967, that was its major role. Shortly after the cease-fire, however, most of the voluntary agencies in the area, at a meeting convened by the Pontifical Mission, agreed that the best way to serve the new refugees was to divide the work into two sections: 1. The Arab countries. 2. The territories newly-occupied by Israel.

As part of its work in the Arab countries, the Mission's immediate task was to funnel the first of approximately \$4,250,000 worth of clothing, food, medicine and other vital supplies into Jordan, the Syrian Arab Republic and the United Arab Republic. Sent by Catholic sources around the world, these supplies had begun to pour into the Middle East even before the hostilities ended. Those sent to Jordan included 5,596 tons of food and milk powder; 29,400 blankets; over 50 tons of clothing and shoes; 90 tents; 10,000 mess kits; 5,500 cooking stoves; 17 tons of medical supplies, anti-biotics and vitamins, (themselves worth more than \$30,000) and about 1,000 tins of canned meat, 5,300 new pairs of army slacks; 3,250 mattress pads. Some 9,500 blankets, 1,000 cooking stoves and 2,400 kerosene lamps went to the refugees in the Liberation Province of the United Arab Republic.

In the Syrian Arab Republic the Mission provided 3,500 blankets and 1,250 mattress pads and built (and donated to the Syrian Red Crescent Society) 96 rooms to house more than 500 displaced persons from the Quneitra area. It has made a similar

offer to the Jordan Government for the war victims now in east Jordan.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, the Pontifical Mission repaired and re-equipped its Centre for the Blind. This Centre, offering vocational training for blind children and home-service training for blind adults, was badly damaged during the hostilities and looted.

In the Old City of Jerusalem, the Mission carried out a house-repair scheme in the Bab Hutta district to insure that houses damaged in the fighting would be able to withstand winter weather.

As economic conditions became more difficult in the occupied West Bank area generally, the Mission also accepted new responsibilities for the welfare of the war victims. These included immediate aid in cash, and relief in kind. Because of its contacts with hundreds of priests and many religious groups in and around Jerusalem, and with others working for the poor in the area, as well as the reputation it has earned there over the years, the Pontifical Mission has frequently been called upon in the past months to investigate appeals and to distribute funds on behalf of other organizations or donors wishing to remain anonymous.

Another important project was the Mission's Feeding Programme. Since the beginning of October 1967, Pontifical Mission personnel have prepared and served more than 5,000 hot meals a week to needy Arab children in and around Jerusalem and feeding continued until the spring school term ended in May 1968.

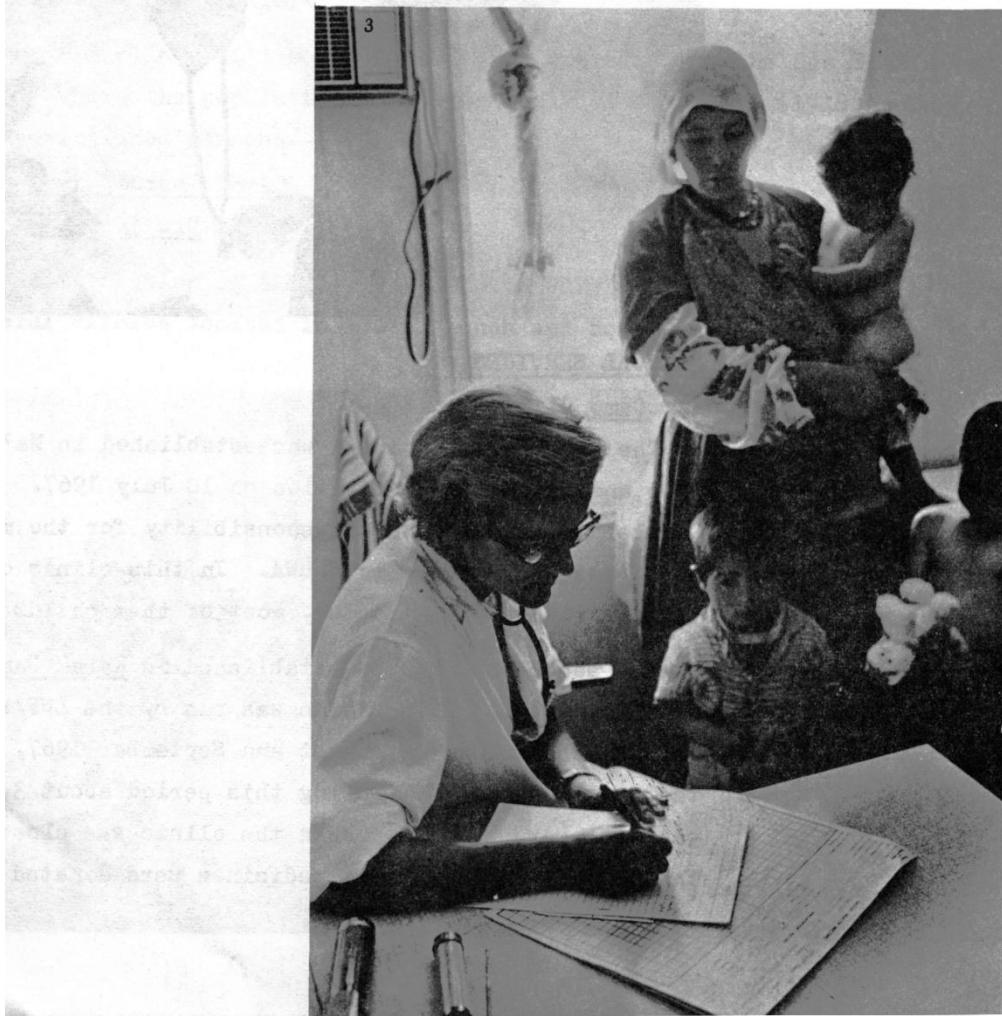
While the Pontifical Mission has channelled more than \$70 million in aid into the Middle East since its foundation, the real importance of its contribution is its flexibility. It can probe as it sees fit into the small, unseen needs of the helpless victims of war, occupation and economic collapse. It can make judgements unencumbered by political implications. It can supply data from dozens of unrelated, uninstitutionalized sectors. And if it cannot provide help it will often find an agency that can.

1. "Save the Children Fund" Land-Rovers helped maintain a flow of food and medical supplies to many residents of Wadi Dleil Camp, east Jordan, now closed.

2. Emergency feeding by a SCF nurse takes place at a welfare clinic in one of UNRWA's tented camps.

3. Filling in a nutrition report at UNRWA's Baqa'a Camp, east Jordan: a Norwegian doctor with the Norwegian Refugee Council plans this baby's path back to health.

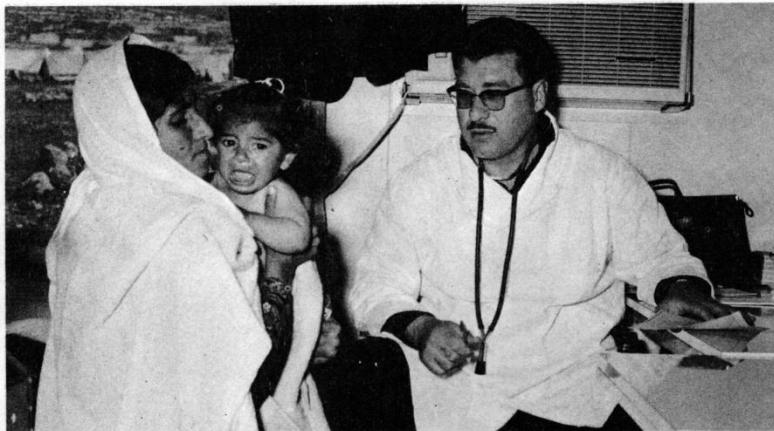




**THE LUTHERAN
WORLD FEDERATION
Department of
World Service
AMMAN**

When the Jordan Government invited voluntary agencies to assist in alleviating the human misery resulting from the June 1967 hostilities, concerned Lutherans the world over offered their gifts of food, clothing and money through the Lutheran World Federation.

The Israeli occupation of the West Bank where the LWF/WS has maintained its Middle East Headquarters since 1948, necessitated setting up an office in Amman to establish and supervise a programme in east Jordan, as well as to continue supervision of the current programme in Syria.



MEDICAL SERVICES

1. Camp Clinics

The first LWF/WS clinic was established in Ma'adi Camp and started its operation on 10 July 1967. On 3 October the clinic, with responsibility for the medical care, was handed over to UNRWA. In this clinic over 5,000 patients were treated, most of them children.

The second clinic was established in Karak Camp, south of Amman. This clinic was run by the LWF/WS through the months of August and September 1967, until the camp was closed. During this period about 3,500 patients were treated. When the clinic was closed, all the medical equipment and medicines were donated to the

Ministry of Health clinic in that area.

The third clinic was set up in Shuneh Camp in November 1967. It was a clinic for nursing mothers, which treated 50 to 60 patients each day. When the camps were moved out of the Jordan Valley in February 1968, this clinic was set up at a new site in Souf Camp, near Jerash.

2. Amman Clinic

The population of parts of the city of Amman consists almost entirely of displaced persons and refugees. In one of the sections - Wadi Nasir - LWF opened another clinic in October 1967.

Services include a rehydration/nutrition centre where 10 children can be treated simultaneously. Because of the high incidence of disease and malnutrition among the children, special emphasis is given to maternal and child care.

In all LWF operated clinics, patients are provided with the basic drugs free of charge, and children suffering from malnutrition receive baby food and special enriched and fortified milk.

Another clinic will soon be ready for operation in the Ras El-Ein quarter of Amman, where the population consists mainly of Palestine (1948) refugees and newly-displaced persons.

3. Other Medical Work

Financial Aid

A contribution of \$18,400 was made to UNRWA to cover operating costs of the general clinics located in South Shuneh and Souf Camps.



RELIEF WORK

Immediately after the cease-fire, LWF/WS began an emergency programme which included distribution of primuses, cooking pots, clothing and blankets to persons living in tented camps and to displaced families living in Amman and various other locations. Small cash grants were also made to some families.

Regular monthly flour distributions are made to social cases in Amman, Madaba, Sahab and Zerka.

Recipients are chosen by the Jordan Government through social investigations. The number of recipients averages over 10,000. Salad oil and other foods, when available, are also distributed.

A clothing-parcel centre is being operated with a daily output of about 300 parcels. By the end of March 1968, over 30,000 parcels had been delivered to UNRWA and the Supreme Ministerial Committee for distribution to refugees and other displaced persons. Twenty-five thousand blankets were also contributed for the same recipients. Kiddie and/or Klenli Kits have been given each child in the tented elementary schools.

From June 1967 to March 1968, the following quantities of commodities were distributed:

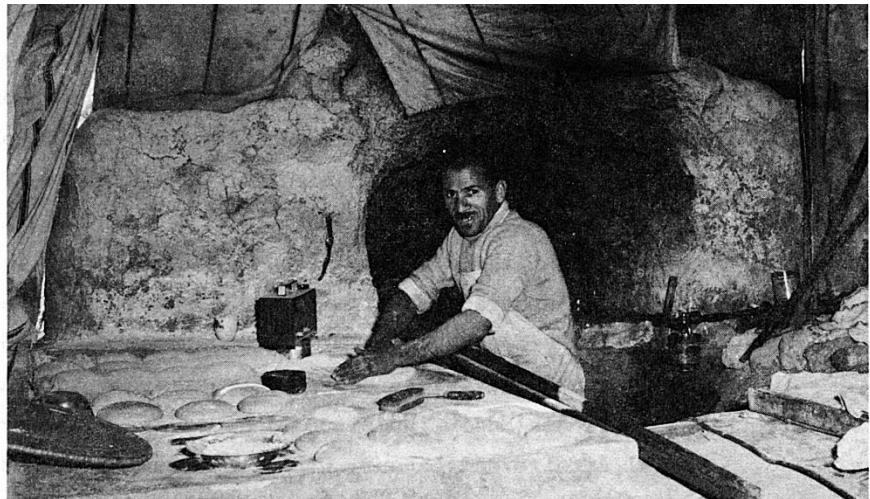
Blankets, clothing and bedding	500,000 lbs.
Flour	604,050 "
Milk	52,958 "
Blended Food	1,100 "
Soybean Salad Oil	11,696 "
<hr/>	
Total	1,169,804 lbs.
Beef (tins)	5,592
Baby food (jars)	7,440
Cooking Pots	1,478
Primuses	1,000

The exodus from the Jordan Valley in February, 1968, created an acute shortage of tents. To assist in this emergency, 350 tents valued at \$35,000 were donated to UNRWA.

EDUCATION, YOUTH AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Over 40 students from the LWF Vocational Training Centre and Nursing Schools at Jerusalem were unable to return to the West Bank to complete their education. LWF is either paying the full costs for these students or providing teaching personnel. LWF/WS has also established a scholarship programme from which more than 20 university students are being assisted to continue their education, as they are separated from their families.

Several times displaced, this Palestinian can still make bread for inhabitants UNRWA's Souf Camp in east Jordan - thanks to a self-help grant from the Lutheran World Federation.



© 1968
LWF

SELF-HELP

Shortly after the June, 1967 exodus, UNRWA identified over 20 refugee bakers who were ready to start baking bread but needed financial help to cover some of the capital costs. LWF made available a sum of \$10,000 for this purpose.

Because the bakers provided all the labour and participated with funds within their ability, these bakeries were built at a cost of less than 50% of the original estimate.

This saving made it possible to assist the same bakers in re-establishing themselves when the camps in the Jordan Valley had to be moved in February 1968. While still living in the camps, they can now support themselves and, equally important, help in providing the necessary bakery services for the camp population at a very low cost. Similar self-help projects will continue to be features of the LWF programme among the refugees and newly-displaced persons in east Jordan.

SYRIA

Five clinics, providing specialized medical care and child welfare for refugees, are operating in Damascus.

Over 95,000 patient visits are recorded annually. Clothing is distributed through UNRWA to 40,000 hardship cases and also to 16,000 of the newly-displaced refugees. LWF/WS also provides some financial support for the government-operated nursing school at Homs.

CARE- JORDAN

Following the hostilities in June 1967, CARE food stocks were made available immediately for the displaced persons arriving in east Jordan from the West Bank. CARE commodities distributed during the first months, with the assistance of the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Supreme Ministerial Committee for Refugees, included 11,000 lbs. of powdered milk, 31,800 lbs. of flour, 50,000 lbs. of vegetable oil, and 358 cases of tea. According to Mr. Basri Ala'Eddin, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, CARE flour was the first relief aid given to the new arrivals.

At the request of the Jordan Government, CARE airlifted tinned meat from Turkey and trucked in jam and cheese from Beirut. A portion of this was distributed immediately upon arrival in Amman, while remaining amounts were held in stock for distribution during later periods of crisis. In all, CARE has provided 31,000 tins of meat and 52,000 lbs. of jam and cheese.

In response to an appeal made jointly by the Supreme Ministerial Committee and UNRWA, CARE donated 10,000 blankets to the newly-displaced in east Jordan. These were received and distributed in January 1968. Twenty-five concrete blockmaking machines were imported by CARE for use in the winterization programme planned by UNRWA for the tented camps.

In addition to the direct assistance indicated above, CARE made limited material contributions to the emergency programmes of the Save-the-Children Fund, the Joint Norwegian Appeal, and the Lutheran World Federation, in the form of soap, liquid aspirin, nylon bags and food commodities. At the request of the YMCA, CARE has also provided hand tools for use in the Youth Activities Centres in UNRWA camps.

The above mentioned assistance was provided by CARE to help meet the emergency needs resulting from the June hostilities. It was a separate operation from the contin-

using programmes that CARE has been conducting in Jordan for some time. These include a country-wide feeding programme, now confined to east Jordan, which is providing basic food commodities for approximately 25,000 beneficiaries in schools and institutions. In addition to powdered milk, wheat flour, vegetable oil and burghol, CARE has provided supplementary items such as canned food and beverages and dry food preparations.

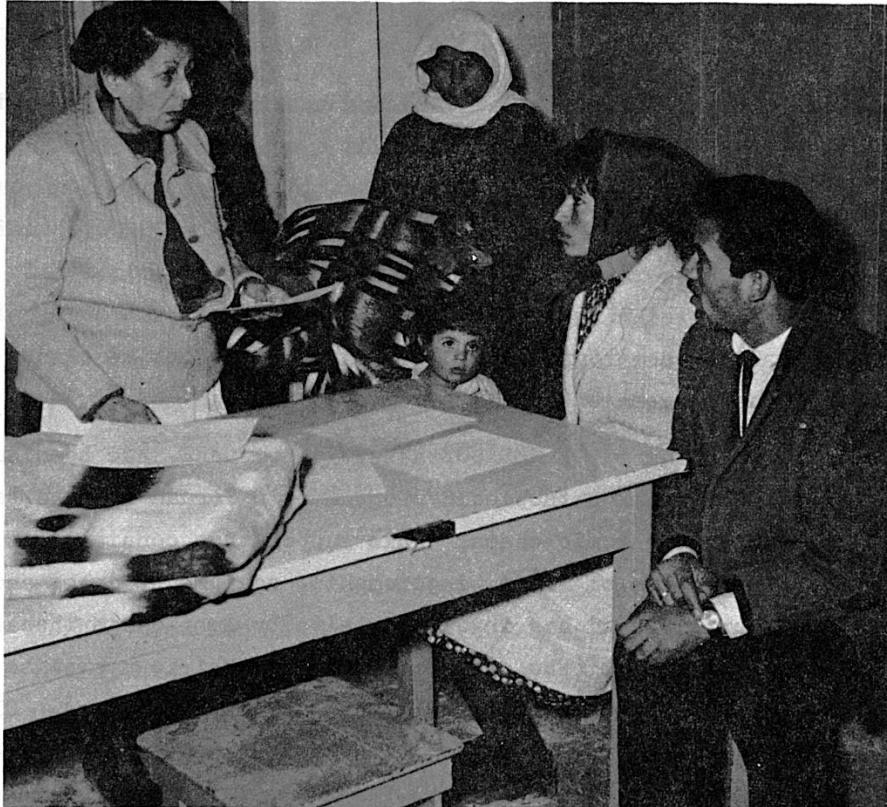
Since 1959, MEDICO, a service of CARE, has been supporting an orthopaedic programme in Jordan for the benefit of chronic cases. This support has consisted of the provision of funds, instruments, equipment, drugs and supplies and has involved visits by American orthopaedic specialists (who come to Jordan at their own expense and give their professional services free of charge). Clinics are held every week in which hundreds of patients are currently treated by Dr. Yaser Amer, who has long been associated with the CARE Orthopaedic programme.

CARE has also provided considerable assistance in the field of vocational training. It has donated a wide range of tools, machinery and equipment to vocational training centres, both public and private. These have included carpentry, metal working, auto mechanic and agricultural hand tools, power tools and machinery, sewing and knitting machines, weaving looms and classroom equipment.

CARE has also made substantial contributions in the medical field including the donation of a mobile health unit, physiotherapy equipment, midwifery kits, a portable x-ray unit, a portable operation room, vitamins, drugs and medicines, and anaesthesia machines.

CARE is also increasing its activities in community development whereby it seeks to join its resources with government agencies and local communities to assist the latter in improving their physical, economic and social environment.

A destitute middle-class family, newly displaced from the Jordan's West Bank, is interviewed by a NECC caseworker at Zerka, near Amman.



THE NEAR EAST COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

The Near East Council of Churches (NECC) began its refugee ministry during the Arab-Israeli war of 1948 and has continued to the present day.

Throughout these years, the NECC's programme has gradually changed from one of essential but short-term relief to substantial work on long-term educational and welfare projects.

With the new Middle East crisis of 1967, however, the NECC and the World Council of Churches (WCC) realised the need for restarting emergency relief programmes. The World Council of Churches immediately appealed to all member churches for \$2,000,000 to aid the new refugees: so far, contributions total more than \$1,100,000. This aid is channelled to the newly-displaced through the N.E.C.C., which acts for the W.C.C. in matters concerning Arab refugees.

Two weeks after the cease-fire, the first of the appeal

money was being put to good use with air-shipments of relief supplies.

About 50,000 blankets have been distributed and 25,000 mattresses manufactured locally for Syrian and Jordanian displaced persons. An emergency medical clinic was established in Jordan. Over 6,000 sick children and mothers were treated in Amman and 7,000 in Zerka. Relief centres operating in Amman, Zerka, Salt and Irbid registered some 9,000 families composed of approximately 45,000 persons, and 5,000 family kits, blankets, bedding, food and cash grants were distributed.

Five hundred tents manufactured in Pakistan were airlifted to Jordan - the Jordan Government having made a major contribution to transportation costs. Four hundred and seventy more tents were purchased in Lebanon by the

As part of a joint programme with the Syrian Government, NECC is building a new town some 20 km. north of Damascus for 2,000 families displaced from the Quneitra area.



This dressmaking class at Zerka, east Jordan, is one aspect of a continuing programme to help refugee girls prepare for marriage and motherhood.





NECC/WCC and a group of other voluntary agencies to meet the new emergency situation that arose after military action in the Jordan Valley caused the refugees to flee to the uplands in February 1968. One hundred refugee women produced more than 8,000 garments for refugees, while over 200 girls are enrolled in NECC sewing and home-making centres in Jordan. Interest-free loans were offered to middle-class families facing emergency problems; most of them have already been repaid.

N.E.C.C. has also been very active on the West Bank of Jordan. Besides operating an interest-free loan programme, grants totalling nearly \$14,000 have been made to educational projects. The West Jordan Area Committee, which runs four clinics for 23 villages, has continued its normal programme of road and building construction. Its projects now include repairs to homes damaged in the June 1967 hostilities.

In Syria, a joint Syrian Government/World Council of Churches housing project is creating a new town outside Damascus for 2,000 families - refugees from Quneitra. The Syrian Government has provided 75% of the total expenditure on this joint project. One hundred heating stoves were provided for refugee families in Syria.

In order to assist stranded students already receiving scholarship loans, the NECC office in Beirut allocated an additional \$25,000.

In the Gaza Strip, 50 boys and young men are enrolled in the Vocational Workshop and Training Centre. The annual income of a 10 acre orange grove goes to war widows and orphans. The Hope Orphanage helps 90 boys and 40 girls. In Khan Younis, the cane-work project was looted during the war but tools have been replaced and new raw material provided for the crippled men who work in the project.

In the United Arab Republic, \$128,000 were distributed to 3,500 homeless families in Egyptian pounds, in counterpart payment for medical supplies bought abroad and shipped to Cairo by the World Council of Churches for the Egyptian Health Ministry. Twelve thousand five hundred blankets from WCC were also distributed through local churches.

This material and monetary assistance has been made possible by the \$2,000,000 World Council of Churches appeal.

The Near East Council of Churches for its part, while continuing its long-term educational projects, will continue to devote itself to the urgent needs of the newly-displaced.



Further information may be obtained from:

UNRWA Public Information Office,
Museitbeh Quarter,
Beirut,
Lebanon.

UNRWA Liaison Office,
Palais des Nations,
Geneva,
Switzerland.

UNRWA Liaison Office,
United Nations,
New York,
U.S.A.

NOTE:

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