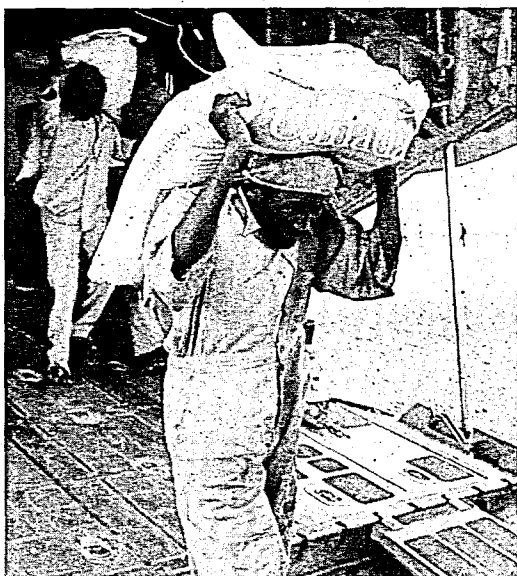


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Human suffering caused by natural disasters, armed conflict, economic, political or environmental crises prompts an understandable and heartfelt desire to help. Canadians have always responded generously to international appeals for assistance in times of emergency and disaster. Some citizens have found unique and successful ways of making their own personal contribution to those in need, and their efforts are worthy of praise.



CIDA photo: David Barbour, Ethiopia

To save lives and alleviate suffering, the response to international emergencies must be timely, effective and well-organized. Over many years of experience, the Government of Canada--and governments around the world--have concluded that financial contributions to well-established experienced relief agencies are the most efficient way to provide assistance to the greatest number of people in need.