



PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

NO 2.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 1958

THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT AN RCAF AIRCRAFT WILL LEAVE MONTREAL AT 2 P.M. THIS AFTERNOON FOR CEYLON CARRYING MEDICAL EMERGENCY SUPPLIES AND BABY FOODS, PROVIDED BY THE CANADIAN RED CROSS TO HELP THE VICTIMS OF THE RECENT FLOODS WHICH HAVE CAUSED WIDESPREAD DESTRUCTION AND SUFFERING IN LARGE AREAS OF THAT COUNTRY. DR. G.W. MILLER OF THE RED CROSS WILL ACCOMPANY THE SHIPMENT IN ORDER TO ASSIST THE CEYLONESE AUTHORITIES AND TO REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN THE DISASTER AREAS.

LAST SUNDAY, IN RESPONSE TO AN URGENT APPEAL FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CEYLON, AN RCAF AIRCRAFT WAS SENT FROM MONTREAL TO CEYLON WITH A LOAD OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND CONCENTRATED FOOD PRODUCTS CONTRIBUTED BY THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT.

ACCORDING TO DR. W. S. STANBURY, NATIONAL COMMISSIONER OF THE CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY, THE CANADIAN RED CROSS IS SENDING BY THIS SECOND RCAF AIRCRAFT MORE THAN \$32,000 WORTH OF DRUGS AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES WHICH, ACCORDING TO THE APPEAL FROM THE LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES IN GENEVA, ARE NOW URGENTLY NEEDED IN CEYLON. PART OF THIS AMOUNT WILL BE FINANCED OUT OF FUNDS PREVIOUSLY MADE AVAILABLE TO THE CANADIAN RED CROSS BY THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT. IN ADDITION THE CANADIAN JUNIOR RED CROSS IS PROVIDING ABOUT \$5,000 WORTH OF CONCENTRATED BABY FOODS. THESE MEDICAL AND FOOD SUPPLIES WILL BE CONSIGNED TO THE CEYLON RED CROSS FOR DISTRIBUTION. THE RCAF NORTH STAR CARRYING THIS SHIPMENT IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN CEYLON EARLY NEXT WEEK.

DR. G.W. MILLER, WHO IS FLYING TO COLOMBO WITH THE AIRCRAFT, HAS HAD CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE IN MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH WORK IN ASIA. AFTER 15 YEARS IN THE INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE, HE WAS APPOINTED MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF THE ROYAL INDIAN NAVY AT THE BEGINNING OF WORLD WAR II. FOLLOWING THE WAR, HE BECAME THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION IN GENEVA, AND LATER RETURNED TO CANADA TO JOIN THE STAFF OF THE CANADIAN RED CROSS. THE LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES IN GENEVA HAS ASKED DR. MILLER TO SERVE AS A DELEGATE OF THE LEAGUE DURING HIS CURRENT ASSIGNMENT IN CEYLON.