

*United Nations Agreement*

displaced from their homes and in agreement with the appropriate governments, military authorities or other agencies, in securing their repatriation or return.

3. Rehabilitation supplies and services: materials (such as seeds, fertilizers, raw materials, fishing equipment, machinery and spare parts) needed to enable a recipient country to produce and transport relief supplies for its own and other liberated areas.

4. Rehabilitation of public utilities and services, so far as they can be repaired or restored to meet immediate needs.

In this way, UNRRA will follow closely on the heels of AMG, the allied military governments, which organization, military in nature, provides for the peaceful administration of territory which has just been relieved of enemy occupation, seeking to make use, whenever possible, of the then existing local authorities and local civilian organization. UNRRA will step in only when the military authorities think it wise, and only in full cooperation with them, to take over the job of bringing to the civilian population what they most urgently need.

As soon as the military authorities hand over the problems of the civilian population to UNRRA, there will be certain things that will have to be done immediately. It may be presumed that the military authorities and the AMG have already been busy with the work of distributing free rations of bread, possibly some supplies of clothing. The military doctors and hospitals have done some of the most urgent medical work among the undernourished, physically feeble civilian population. They, however, must pass on to immediately needed work in face of the enemy. UNRRA must now get down to the task of seeing that the civilian population can be permanently and regularly supplied with what it needs and, still more important, put as quickly as possible in a position to supply itself. I stress that last point seriously—"put in a position to supply itself."

One thing we do not want to do in Europe or in Asia, under any circumstances, is to establish any sort of world-wide system of direct relief. I have no need, I am sure, to go into any details, before this house, as to the evils of direct relief. We know too much about it already. But I may take a moment to point out that when you face a people that has been in practical slavery for four or five years, and has had its moral and physical resistance lowered by persistent malnutrition, unsatisfactory housing, insufficient clothing and brutal terrorization, it would not be a difficult thing to educate them down to a condition of permanent dependence by just handing things out to them and accustoming them to look to the overseas Santa Claus to keep

on sending them manna from heaven. We know how easy it was to educate Canadians down to that standard, so I am casting no stones from my glass house when I say that it would be still easier to do so with peoples who have been through the agonizing experiences of the past few years in Europe or Asia.

We must feed them for a few days and then start them feeding themselves.

Let us consider now the situation likely to face us when we liberate a section of, say, Europe from German domination. If the Germans have had time to retreat slowly, we shall find everything useful destroyed. Millions of people will want water, clean, sterile water safe for drinking, and be unable to obtain it because their waterworks plants will have been destroyed. UNRRA will not be able to build brand new aqueducts and filtration plants for them. But it will, with their help and ours, be able to fix them up with temporary equipment to bring them water from reasonably safe sources, and with chlorination equipment to render the water bacteriologically safe, until such time as they themselves can acquire adequate equipment and rebuild their water plants. When that time comes, if the liberated peoples have a reserve of American or Canadian dollars stored away somewhere, perhaps a reserve in this country that has been stored here since the early days of the war, they will buy the machinery they need in this country and UNRRA will simply give all the help it can to see that they get delivery as quickly as possible; may perhaps provide them with technical help and guidance in rebuilding their plants.

If the country recently delivered from enemy hands was an industrial one, its industries will probably have been wrecked, either deliberately by the enemy or by the actual fighting from house to house and street to street. They will need some machinery at once to get their industries going again, either for industrial production or, alternatively, as part of the united nations war industry producing war equipment. And later, if they are not to be dependent on us for ever for their supply of machinery, we must see that they get the machine tools with which to start making their own machinery.

Their farm lands have lain idle for years. They have in many places undergone the scorched-earth policy twice, or even oftener. Either we resign ourselves to sending them farm produce for an indeterminate period, which would be "direct relief" again, or else we must get their farms back into production quickly. The latter proposal implies getting them supplies of seed, of fertilizer and of farm