



PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

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The Department of External Affairs announced today that \$25,000 in relief supplies has been offered to Lebanon through the Canadian Red Cross Society following recent severe earthquakes there which caused considerable damage and loss of life. There are 40,000 people homeless and reports also indicate outbreaks of infectious diseases particularly among children. The relief assistance will be in the form of drugs and blankets.

For this purpose the Canadian Red Cross Society will use \$25,000 of the unexpended balance of the European Flood Relief Fund. The Fund was originally established for relief assistance to Great Britain, the Netherlands and Belgium following the disastrous floods there in 1953. The use of the Federal Government's portion of the Fund by the Canadian Red Cross for international relief purposes was approved by Parliament with the passing of the final supplementary estimates.

The Canadian Junior Red Cross is also offering \$10,000 in drugs and antibiotics.
