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PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 58

FOR RELEASE IN AFTERNOON PAPERS OF FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1953.

The Department of External Affairs announced today that \$50,000 worth of canned pork and dried skimmed milk has been made available by the Canadian Government for flood relief purposes in Japan.

It is expected that these foodstuffs, totalling 95,200 lbs. of dried skimmed milk and 144,000 lbs. of canned pork, will be shipped from Vancouver towards the end of this month. In addition to this gift, British Commonwealth forces in Korea, of which the Canadian 25th Brigade forms a part, have already released certain supplies suitable for disaster relief, and the Canadian Red Cross has made \$20,000 available to the Japanese Red Cross.

In recent months Japan has suffered two disastrous floods. The first took place in the southern island of Kyushu, in which 1,000 persons were reported dead or missing, 4,000 injured and some 20,000 dwellings were partially or totally destroyed. The second flood, in mid-July, struck the southeastern section of the main island of Japan, including the metropolitan districts of Osaka and Mie. This disaster was of greater magnitude than that in Kyushu, and some 65,000 persons are reported to have been killed, wounded or rendered homeless.