

On and on

by CURE publicists

The world is a raft sailing through space with, potentially, plenty of provisions for everybody; the idea that we must all co-operate and see to it that everyone does his fair share of the work and gets his fair share of the provisions seems so blatantly obvious ...
George Orwell

After the cameras have left, the famine remains. The conditions that aroused international concern late in 1984 have become worse. Twenty-four African countries with a total population of 150 million are still in the grip of a catastrophic food shortage. We are witnessing the destruction of literally 1/4 to 1/3 of the people in Africa. Our efforts to date will be in vain if last years supplies run out, shortages become evident, and our only response is one of comfortable forgetfulness.

United Nations organizations, international and Canadian based agencies have attempted to coordinate generous donations from all over the globe. Such organizations have the experience and expertise to direct these funds where the need is greatest. But ultimately, the effort begins with community based fund-raising activities initiated and supported by individuals. This is where the college and university community enters the picture and how students and faculty can play an essential role.

The College and University Relief Effort can contribute to a CURE for thousands of individuals in Africa. This is a campaign which we hope will evolve into an organization composed of all of the 150 colleges and universities that decide to participate in this fund-raising and educational campaign. Its goals are: to collect funds to assist aid organizations in their relief and development programs in African countries that are affected by the famine; to inform college and university communities about the current crisis and its roots; to build a communication and action network between campuses to discuss and implement development plans.

What effect can we have? A \$00.50 dose of syrup will

cure the distended stomachs of kwashiorkor victims; \$20 will return a seriously malnourished child to a state of survival. Our dollars are needed for elementary antibiotics, salt ans sugar mixtures for rehydration treatments, for water purification treatment, etc. A host of long-term projects are also vital: irrigation, agricultural tools and education, organizing of agriculture and fishing cooperatives, etc.

The aid agency that your money will go to is a decision of your local committee. A central authority has avoided making any recommendations in this area. However, the decision will be made with these criteria in mind:

- The agency should:
1. not be top-heavy with administrative costs.
 2. have no political affiliation or preferences.
 3. be accountable.
 4. be established and have a good track record.
 5. stress long-term development as well as relief.

Ask your local committee where your money will go.

To a large extent, emergency food airlifts are rightly portrayed as a post-mortem operation coming after great numbers of people have already died and when most relief agencies must concentrate on the immediate crisis rather than the prevention of it. Long-term development strategies which address the root causes of hunger in the developing world **must** be implemented. However, this does **not** take away from the immediacy and importance of solving the present crisis. Please give generously.

The following individuals and organizations are supporting the College and University Relief Fund.

Hon. Eugene F. Whelan
P.C. LL.D.
President,
World Food Council

John Wieler
Co-ordinator, African
Emergency Aid
(a committee of 24 Non-Governmental Aid Organizations)

David MacDonald
Canadian Emergency
Co-ordinator, African
Famine



Graphic: Sheaf

LETTERS

Cheap shot at CHTN

Dear Editor:

In the March 7th issue of the *Netted Gem*, there was a short article entitled Bugs of the Week ... It took a cheap shot at CHTN Radio, thus incurring this response.

An agreement was made between CHTN and U.P.E.I. that CHTN alone would broadcast the A.U.A.A. and C.I.A.U. hockey playoffs. If this had not been approved by all those concerned, an agreement would not have taken place.

It should also be noted that those who can pick up CIMN on their radios can also get CHTN. So why the need for two broadcasts?

The writer referred to CHTN as being second-rate, privately-owned radio station. This was uncalled for, not to mention unfounded. CHTN follows C.R.T.C. regulations, as do all radio stations across Canada. CHTN is Island owned and operated, which means Island money stays on the Island. And, all issues and events pertaining to the Island are most important. The writer

must also understand that the operation of an AM radio station is much more complicated than that of a campus station.

No offense intended. I did agree with the writer on one statement, however, Prince Edward Island *does* need a sports complex.

Thank you for allowing me this space to express *my* Bug of the Week.

Sincerely yours,

Heather Parry
Continuity Director
at CHTN and
U.P.E.I. graduate,
class of '78

Students help in famine

To the Editor,

Greetings from Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. We are writing to you on behalf of the College and University Relief Effort (CURE). Last November many individuals and organizations at Queen's came together to organize a fund-raising and educational campaign for the famine victims of Ethiopia. In two weeks, the campaign

raised over \$10,000 and dis-

tributed over 4,000 educational sheets on a campus of 10,000 students.

The impetus for the campaign was the news of the catastrophic crisis in Ethiopia that threatened 9 million of Ethiopia's 33 million people with starvation.

Today, most of the media have gone, but the famine remains. The conditions that provoked international concern late in 1984 are even worse today.

In response, we are embarking on a new effort by sending campaign kits to Canada's 150 colleges and universities. Each kit contains all the materials needed to organize and run a successful campaign scheduled for the last week of March.

We are appealing to you to put this letter or some similar information in your publication to inform your campus community about CURE and remind them of the campaign kit, now in your student government office. It is vital that some individuals or organizations on your campus take the initiative to open the kit, read the materials and call a meeting. This should be done right away.

Letters have also been sent to many political, religious,

faculty, service, athletic, etc. clubs and organizations on your campus urging them to become involved. The campaign isn't much work, and it **really** pays off. CURE will be raising money for other African countries besides Ethiopia — all the details are in the package.

We look forward to hearing from you and your campus. Together — we can provide a CURE for thousands of blameless victims.

Sincerely,

B. Homich
CURE (Queen's Committee)
c/o A.M.S. Office
Queen's University
Kingston, Ontario
K7L 3N6

The Netted Gem

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We are the staff: Howard Beattie, Robert Bodrog-Goodland, Glen Boswall, Kaberi Dasgupta, Lori Anne Heckbert, Ross Hartinger, Jim Lai, Ron Lewis, Brian Linkletter, Brian MacLeod, Jonathan Orlovski, John Pendergast, Nancy Ross, Carolyn Ryan, The Shadow, Bob Stanley, Phil Stanyer, Jill Warburton, Dave Yorston and Michael Zinck.

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