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RELIEF IN HUNGARY

REPORTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS COMMITTEE

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POUR LES DOSSIERS CONNEXES VOIR AU VERSO

CONFIDENTIAL



hungarian
refugee
relief

Report of the League of Red Cross Societies

This is the story of Red Cross Hungarian refugee relief at all its stages, starting with the kitchen at Andau on the Austrian border and continuing right through to the maternity ward of Wellington Hospital in New Zealand.

The story centres on the camps in Austria through which over one hundred thousand Hungarians passed, cared for by Red Cross workers from fifteen countries, their needs supplied by National Red Cross Societies of all six continents.

It covers also the relief action in Yugoslavia, and assistance given to Hungarians in and on the way to countries of resettlement.

The story takes us to 30 September 1957 when the international relief operations in Austria and Yugoslavia finished. This is an artificial ending, because the work of the Red Cross for the refugees will go on and on, as long as Hungarians have needs and as long as there remains that humanity in mankind which has already done so much to fill these needs.






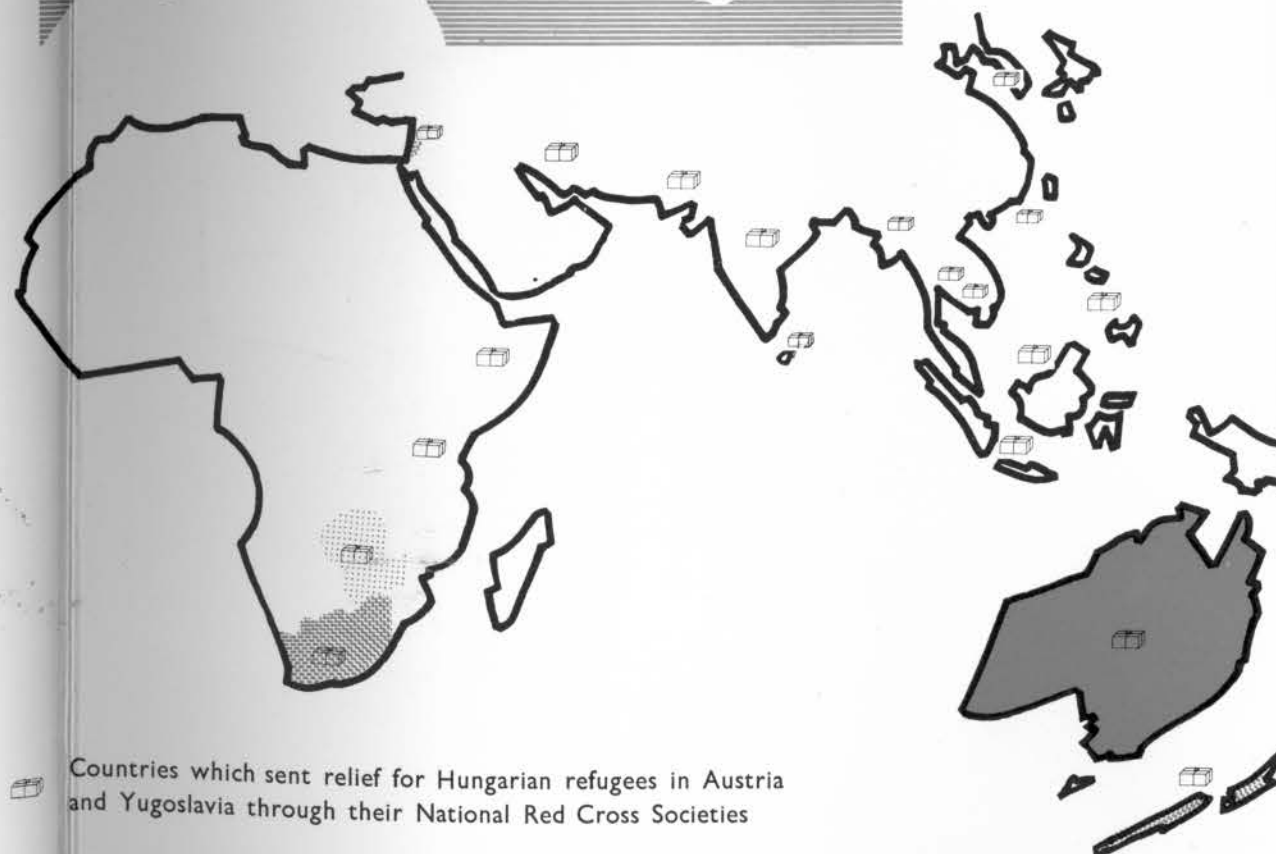
hungarian refugee relief




**Distribution of new Hungarian
refugees throughout the world
1956-1957**

countries taking

-  — 1,000
-  1,000 - 10,000
-  + 10,000



 Countries which sent relief for Hungarian refugees in Austria
and Yugoslavia through their National Red Cross Societies

hungarian

hungarian refugee relief

refugee

relief

REPORT

REPORT
ON THE
HUNGARIAN REFUGEE RELIEF
CAMPAIGN
1956-1957

REPORT
ON THE
HUNGARIAN REFUGEE RELIEF
CAMPAIGN
1956-1957

Mr. Hamori
Room 3568

hungarian

refugee

relief

REPORT

on the relief measures for
Hungarian refugees undertaken
by the League and member National
Societies in Austria, Yugoslavia
and countries of transit and
resettlement

October 1956 - September 1957

League of Red Cross Societies
Geneva, 1957

ABBREVIATIONS

ECSC	European Coal and Steel Community
ICA	International Cooperation Administration of the American Government
ICEM	Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

CONTENTS

FOREWORD	I
HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION	5

Part One

RESPONSIBILITIES IN AUSTRIA

I THE OFFICIAL CONTRACTS	15
<i>Initial Relief Activities and the First Contract — The Two Extensions of the Contract</i>	
II ADMINISTRATION	24
<i>Personnel — Supplies — Transport — Finance</i>	
III CAMP CARE	34
<i>Housing — Feeding — Clothing — Medical and Nursing</i>	
IV SOCIAL WELFARE	40
<i>Junior Red Cross Gifts — Education — Work Projects — Leisure Activities</i>	
V PUBLIC RELATIONS	46
<i>Visitors — Information</i>	

Part Two

RESPONSIBILITIES IN YUGOSLAVIA

I LEAGUE ASSISTANCE	51
II YUGOSLAV RED CROSS SERVICES	55

Part Three

ACTIVITIES IN TRANSPORT AND RESETTLEMENT

I TRANSIT ASSISTANCE	59
II RECEPTION AND RESETTLEMENT	63

CONCLUSIONS	69
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Tables

Movement of Hungarian Refugees	10
Camps in Austria Operated by National Red Cross Teams .	17
Supplies Sent for League Hungarian Refugee Relief in Austria	30
A Week's Menu from a League Camp	36
Supplies Sent for Red Cross Hungarian Refugee Relief in Yugoslavia	53

Charts

Influx & Transfer of Refugees from Austria and Yugoslavia .	9
Accommodation of Refugees in Austria	21
Organisation for League Operation in Austria	27

Appendixes

The Contract between the League and Austrian Government	73
Financial Statements	76
Summary of Contributions to League Hungarian Refugee Relief	78

FOREWORD

The morning of Saturday 27 October 1956 was an unusual one at League Headquarters in Geneva. It was unusual even for an organisation accustomed to moments of high tension. Fighting had broken out in Budapest. Many were wounded, dying. The Hungarian Red Cross could be heard on the radio asking for medical supplies.

What exactly were its needs? This was the question being put by the League and National Societies round the world. From Washington, the previous night the American Red Cross had phoned to ask what it could do. The German Red Cross had prepared a medical train: would the League arrange with the Austrian Society for its passage? The Italian Red Cross offered mobile clinics. The Belgian Society was maintaining a 24-hour service to cope with offers of aid. Planes carrying Norwegian and Swedish Red Cross supplies were ready to take off.

Since early morning the League had been trying to phone Budapest, but without success. Telegrams had been returned from the frontier. The Austrian Red Cross had no authentic report on the situation. At noon the Swiss Shortwave Broadcasting Station agreed to ask the Hungarian Red Cross hourly to specify its requirements on the air. For six hours the staff of the League of Red Cross Societies waited for a reply, but in vain.

Suddenly the phone rang. It was Budapest. The Secretary General of the Hungarian Red Cross was at the other end. He had a list of urgent needs. Quickly this was being repeated to other Societies. World Red Cross relief for Hungary could be set rolling.

Much of the relief went into Hungary itself, much stopped in the frontier countries. Here, on behalf of tens of thousands of refugees, the League directed the greatest ever relief operation carried out with Red Cross resources. The largest refugee action preceding this had been in 1949-50 when the League administered relief to one third of the Arabs who fled from Palestine. For sixteen months during this earlier action, staff from 18 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies ran feeding, clothing, medical and welfare services for an average of 300,000 refugees. Some of the necessary supplies came from the 18 and a further 12 Societies, most from the United Nations direct.

The world refugee crisis of late 1956 saw 200,000 Hungarians flee their country. This time an immediate overall solution of the crisis was called for, without such problems as still hung over from earlier refugee upheavals. So, unlike in the Middle East, the Red Cross stayed on in Austria and Yugoslavia right through to the end, or at least until seven out of every eight Hungarians had been moved abroad. The operation, originally planned for thirty days, had to be extended four times and covered a total of eleven months. And throughout this period not only did the League and National Societies become the agents of relief administration, but they also took it upon themselves to provide the bulk of the necessary supplies.

This present report describes the assistance given to Hungarian refugees, both the relief programme undertaken by the League and the local Red Cross in Austria and Yugoslavia, and the resettlement activities undertaken by other National Societies in their own countries. As the largest refugee relief action took place in Austria, the main part of the report is devoted to describing the Red Cross operation there. Yet such an account would be incomplete if mention were not made of Red Cross indebtedness to the general public, and through it to individuals, governments and organisations, for supporting and facilitating the Hungarian relief action from the time of the long distance call from Budapest to the time when the last foreign Red Cross worker left Vienna for his home in Canada eight thousand miles away.

Gratitude must be expressed first of all to the Austrian and Yugoslav governments for honouring the League with the largest share of responsibility in Hungarian relief, and for being ever ready to help out with practical measures and give the tolerant and expert advice which came from long experience in handling refugees. Thanks must similarly be offered to many other governments both for allowing the Red Cross to play an important part in reception and resettlement in their own countries and for making available large quantities of food and clothing either through their National Society or, as was the case with those vital supplies from the United States Government, directly to the League itself. And particularly throughout the Austrian operation, there were few occasions so encouraging to National Red Cross teams as the visits paid to camps by ambassadors and heads of state.

Acknowledgement should be made of the part played by the UN High Commissioner in putting the League in the forefront of refugee relief, and thanks offered for the technical advice given by his branch offices, and for the grant of nearly half a million dollars which proved so invaluable at the start of the operation when League funds were low. Tribute should be paid to the Intergovernmental Committee for

European Migration, above all for its remarkable achievement in quickly moving so many thousands out of the camps and so lightening the League burden, and in particular for making easier the operation of Red Cross escort and feeding services to refugees in transit.

Acknowledgement should also be made of the support given by the voluntary relief agencies, by the World YMCA and various national members of the International Union for Child Welfare for the specialised services they rendered in the larger League camps, and by the many religious bodies for their refugee counselling services which did so much to keep up camp morale.

The League itself takes this opportunity to express its thanks to all those 52 Member Societies and Junior Red Cross Sections which sent the bulk of the supplies necessary to carry out the relief operation, and in particular to the 15 Societies which provided the specialist personnel essential for the administration of such a large programme. Special tribute must be paid to the Austrian and Yugoslav Red Cross, to the latter for being the agent of League relief for as long as the action in its own country lasted, to the former for bearing the brunt of relief administration during November and for later taking on the operating responsibility of the Red Cross programme for a further three months.

Above all the League's thanks must go to those persons who came from half the world over, many of them just before a Christmas planned with their families, in order to serve the Red Cross in the field at a time when work had to be done around the clock in disused barracks and hastily-erected frontier shelters exposed to the bitter cold of a Central European winter. It is probable that they and their National Societies have profited from their experiences; it is certain that the League has gained in stature and that the standing of the Red Cross has gone up throughout the world as a result.

Emil Sandström

Chairman of the League Board of Governors

HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION

Modern Hungary, dating from 1919, has a population of some ten million and comprises an area of nearly 36,000 square miles, approximately the size of the American state of Indiana or the South African province of Natal. Her people are ethnically distinct from the neighbouring Slavs and Germans, and speak a completely different language. In the ninth century A.D. their ancestors from the Eurasian Steppes split into two groups, the one going north to what is now Estonia and Finland, the other crossing over the Carpathian Mountains of Central Europe to conquer the great plain of the middle Danube. The next thousand years found these southern Magyar tribes engaged in a continual struggle to hold their newly conquered lands and to win recognition for their national identity. In 1848 they rebelled against their Austrian Hapsburg rulers, only to be subdued with the help of Imperial Russian armies. But in 1867 Hungary was in fact granted equal status with Austria, and for the next fifty years the Emperor of the one ruled as the King of the other.

Austria-Hungary was defeated in the First World War and disintegrated thereafter when principles of self determination were worked out in Europe. Hungary herself lost two-thirds of her territories to the newly created surrounding states and also went through a series of internal revolutions. The regime finally established lasted twenty-five years, until overthrown in defeat by the Second World War.

After the war, there was a steady movement in Hungary towards setting up a People's Democracy, an aim which was achieved by 1949. But the following years witnessed considerable discontent in the country, and this came to a head in the fighting that broke out on Tuesday 23 October 1956. By the end of the month, the anti-government forces appeared to have won their struggle, but within a week the tables had been completely turned. Armed resistance seems to have continued for another three weeks, during which time one in every hundred Hungarians fled the country. In the next two months, a similar percentage was to follow.

The mass exodus falls roughly into four phases. In the week after 27 October, upwards of a thousand people fled, many of them to return again when the old order was restored. In the fortnight or so

after Sunday 4 November, the refugee stream contained a high proportion of young men, many who had taken part in the uprising and many who feared deportation. But the really big influx began in the fourth week of November when family groups predominated. This lasted until the border adjoining Austria became more effectively sealed, and was followed by a further phase, the exodus of twenty thousand Hungarians into Yugoslavia, for the most part in January and early February.

For the characteristics of the refugee population, one has to rely on analyses made in a number of countries, because in the early weeks the fast rate of migration made it impossible to record other than the barest particulars. From statistics supplied by the Austrian, Yugoslav and American Governments, it appears that two-thirds of the refugees were males, three fifths of them between the ages of 18 and 35. Very few old people seem to have come, a fact not surprising in view of the long and often hazardous tramp through marshy areas on bitterly cold nights needed to bring the refugees to the border. Similarly very few sick or wounded attempted this journey.

One out of every three refugees was a skilled or highly skilled worker. Labourers and professionals each accounted for one eighth of the influx, students and farm workers each for one twelfth.

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Nine out of ten of the new refugees sought asylum in Austria, a country a little smaller than Hungary, as mountainous as her neighbour is flat and supporting a population three million less.

Austria, like Hungary, assumed her present form after the First World War. In 1938 she became a part of the Third Reich and as such was on the losing side in the Second World War. As early as 1943, however, the Allies agreed that an independent Austrian State would be re-established at the defeat of Hitler. Negotiations to this end began in 1946, and continued spasmodically for the next nine years. Meanwhile the country, though ruled as a whole from Vienna, was divided into four occupation zones. Only in May 1955 was a State Treaty signed and in October all foreign forces withdrawn. By a constitutional law then passed the Federal Republic of Austria pledged itself to permanent neutrality.

Hardly one year had elapsed before the newly independent country became flooded with refugees from her eastern neighbour. Austria's desperate position was immediately realised by the UN High Commissioner and by many national governments. She had already borne the brunt of the post-war refugee problem, sheltering a half million people

who had fled before the advancing Soviet Army. When the influx from Hungary began, there were still 114,000 old refugees and displaced persons under UN mandate on Austrian soil, of which some 20,000 were housed in government camps and a further 8,000 in unofficial mass slum shelters. In fact the housing shortage in Austria was so acute that 30,000 of her own citizens still lived in camps and barracks. Under these circumstances, the principal accommodation available were disused military installations, left empty at the recent withdrawal of the Allied forces.

Fortunately Austria had never to deal with all the 180,000 new refugees at one time. Only hours after the first mass influx began on 4 November, the UN High Commissioner wired to various governments a request to grant asylum to as many Hungarians as possible. At the same time the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration, which in the five years since its founding had assisted in the resettlement of 550,000 people, now accepted responsibility for organising the transport, registration and processing for emigration, in conjunction with those consular missions issuing visas. Following Switzerland's lead, most of the countries in Western Europe quickly established a quota system and within a fortnight over 7,000 Hungarians had left Austria.

But with 6,000 now streaming across daily, this was not fast enough. Overseas countries were asked to accept refugees, and the European countries to increase their earlier quotas. Camps were opened in provinces far away from the immediate border area, and negotiations were begun with the League of Red Cross Societies to provide supplies and expert care in the larger mass shelters for a period of months. Meanwhile the immediate accommodation crisis was solved by a grant from the High Commissioner which made it possible for some 15,000 refugees to be housed at once in private quarters, most of them under the auspices of recognised local and international voluntary agencies.

By late November the pattern of relief which was to operate for the winter months had been fixed. Generally speaking, the Federal Ministry of Interior was responsible for reception, accommodation and movement of the refugees within Austria. The High Commissioner used his influence to persuade other countries to accept Hungarians and to support the Austrian government with financial contributions. Some voluntary agencies administered relief at the border shelters or arranged accommodation in private houses and hostel-type institutions up and down the country, while others catered for the needs of a particular section of the refugees or provided specialised education and welfare services in the larger community camps. A great number of

voluntary religious bodies offered advice on emigration opportunities and sponsored the movement abroad of the many refugees without friends and relatives in the countries of destination. ICEM arranged, and in many cases paid for, the movement of the refugees from Austria. And while the Hungarians waited to go, all those accommodated in camps with a capacity of 500 or more were provided for by the League of Red Cross Societies.

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When in late December it became difficult to enter the frontier districts adjoining Austria without a permit, thousands of Hungarians headed south for Yugoslavia, to join their compatriots who had been trickling into that country since early November.

Yugoslavia, which also attained nationhood after the First World War, is a Federation of six People's Republics. The country is more than two and a half times as large as Hungary with a present population of seventeen million. Yugoslavia was never rich and it was made considerably poorer by the ravages of the Second World War. Coupled with this poverty in material things goes great strength and independence of spirit, obvious enough from the time the Partisans formed the greatest resistance movement in Hitler's Europe, immobilising forty of his divisions.

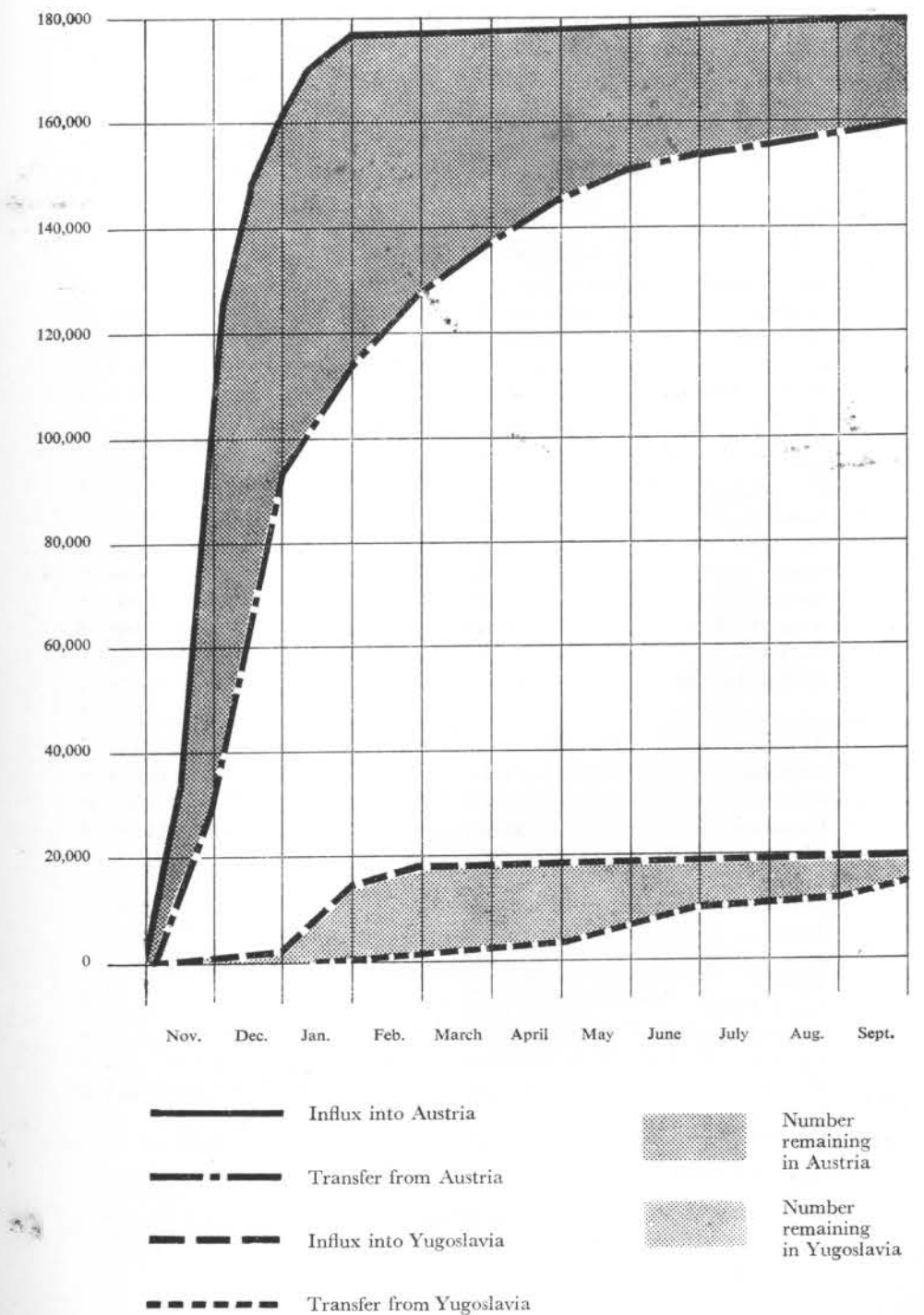
However, the 20,000 extra mouths which the land was suddenly called upon to feed proved an impossible burden, so the government of Yugoslavia, like that of Austria, turned for assistance to the United Nations High Commissioner. On 21 December it asked for financial aid and a week later requested the High Commissioner to use his influence with other governments to speed up their issue of entry visas. At the same time it agreed to a visit of a UNHCR representative, a visit which took place in the second two weeks of January.

Meanwhile the Yugoslav Red Cross had been assisting in the relief of the Hungarians. The League had offered support as early as 5 November, but outside assistance only became really necessary after the big influx of mid-January, whereupon the League sent clothing and bedding from stocks in Vienna and Marseilles. In February a member from the League Secretariat in Geneva also visited camps and centres in Yugoslavia, and during the time of his visit the pattern of relief for the country was decided upon.

All voluntary and governmental agencies working in Yugoslavia for the relief and transfer of Hungarians were to operate within the framework of the Branch Office of the High Commissioner. As in Austria, ICEM would be responsible for arranging movements, assisted

INFLUX AND TRANSFER OF REFUGEES FROM AUSTRIA AND YUGOSLAVIA

November 1956—September 1957



MOVEMENT OF HUNGARIAN REFUGEES

7 November 1956 — 30 September 1957
(UNHCR Figures — Rounded to nearest 5 or 10)

COUNTRIES OF FIRST ASYLUM	Total of arrivals	Less transfers and repatriations	Number in country on 30 September
Austria	179,400	158,600	20,800
Yugoslavia	19,800	14,300	5,500
OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES			
Belgium	5,760	455	5,305
Denmark	1,170	330	840
France	12,405	3,920	8,485
Federal Germany	15,380	930	14,450
Iceland	65		65
Ireland	540	30	510
Italy	4,200	2,620	1,580
Luxembourg	245	70	175
Netherlands	5,900	2,520	3,380
Norway	1,470	40	1,430
Spain	20		20
Sweden	6,460	280	6,180
Switzerland	12,810	2,115	10,695
Turkey	510	165	345
United Kingdom	20,690	6,320	14,370
OVERSEAS			
Argentina	1,150		1,150
Australia	11,720	15	11,705
Brazil	1,255		1,255
Canada	35,985		35,985
Chile	280		280
Colombia	225		225
Dominican Republic	580		580
Israel	2,065		2,065
New Zealand	975		975
Rhodesia	30		30
South Africa	1,330		1,330
United States	35,760	350	35,410
Uruguay	30		30
Venezuela	445		445
OTHER COUNTRIES (13)	50	5	45
NUMBER RETURNING TO HUNGARY			13,500
TOTAL NUMBER OF NEW HUNGARIAN REFUGEES			199,200

by the voluntary agencies who took responsibility for placement of refugees on arrival. The League of Red Cross Societies agreed to meet the food, clothing and medical needs of all Hungarians in camps, and the relief care itself was to be given by Yugoslav Red Cross staff seconded to the government camp leaders.

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Since the Second World War there have been six considerably greater refugee upheavals than the one in Hungary. Some 35 millions, or one out of every 80 of the world's inhabitants, have been uprooted from their homes in Eastern Europe, India, Palestine, China, Korea and Vietnam. But there has been no faster refugee resettlement than that which took place in the winter of 1956-7. In ten weeks 100,000 Hungarians had been moved to a total of 28 countries on all six continents. By the end of September 1957 over 60,000 more had followed, to these and another 14 countries. Some 46 per cent of the refugees were transferred by land, 29 per cent by air and 25 per cent by sea. ICEM assisted in the movement of 145,000, or nearly 90 per cent of the total number. Half of the refugees went originally to European countries and half to the five other continents, but of the former some 16,000 had been transferred overseas by 30 September 1957. On this date one out every 450 Canadians was a new Hungarian refugee, as was one out of every 500 Swiss, 800 Australians, 1,200 Swedes, 3,000 Germans and 5,000 Americans.

At the end of September there were still 20,800 Hungarian refugees in Austria and 5,500 in Yugoslavia. Half of the refugees in Austria were living privately and it is likely that the majority of these have been assimilated into the country's economy. Some 600 have been assimilated in Yugoslavia.

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Of all the Hungarians who fled, one in every fifteen returned to his own country, either for reasons of family reunion, disappointment with emigration possibilities, or out of sympathy with the reestablished order. Some 6,700 returned from Austria, 2,700 from Yugoslavia and 4,100 from countries of second asylum.

PART ONE

Red Cross Responsibilities in Austria

THE OFFICIAL CONTRACTS

Initial Relief Activities and the First Contract

Not a month before the October disturbances, the League had completed the distribution in Hungary of over \$3,600,000 of ICA and Red Cross food supplies to the hundred thousand victims of Danube floods in March.

The new appeal to the League came on Saturday 27 October in the telephone call from the Secretary General of the Hungarian Red Cross asking for food and medical assistance. As an armed conflict was still in progress, the neutral intermediary of the Red Cross, the Swiss-formed International Committee, automatically became responsible for administration of first aid and material relief, while the League agreed to advise Member Societies of priority needs and appointed a delegate in Vienna to coordinate the arrival and forwarding of supplies and personnel.

In those early days many Societies rushed relief straight into Hungary, but on the renewal of fighting national units had to leave the country. But the ICRC stayed on—the only international organisation to do so—to administer for eight months a \$19,000,000 relief programme which benefited more than one million Hungarians. Some 30,000 tons of food, clothing, medical and household supplies were distributed, of which one half came from 36 National Red Cross Societies. The other half came chiefly from governments which also entrusted the distribution of some 9,000 tons of coal and a similar quantity of seeds to the International Committee.

Once other Red Cross nationals had recrossed the border into Austria, they found that the mass exodus of Hungarians had made the need for relief in the one country as pressing as that in the other. Immediately the exodus began, a proviso was added to the agreement with the Committee permitting the League Delegate in Vienna to withdraw relief supplies from general stocks for emergency aid to the new refugees.

Thus, on Wednesday 7 November it could be announced that the League had assumed responsibility for the basic needs of 10,000 newly arrived Hungarians for a period of 30 days. At that time the Austrian Government had opened three large camps, at Traiskirchen, Judenau and Graz, and to these were now assigned those foreign Red Cross personnel who had not already found their way to the border reception centres. Earlier, on 5 November, the Austrian Red Cross had agreed to organise the first aid points in the border province of the Burgenland, and to lay the foundations of a tracing service in cooperation with the Federal Ministry of Interior.

A further extension of the Red Cross programme came on 15 November when, at the initiative of the Austrian Society the Federal Government addressed an urgent appeal to the League to double its previous commitments, to look after 20,000 refugees for 60 days. As with the earlier offer, the League agreed both to meet the food, clothing and medical needs of these Hungarians and also to improve camp facilities with such equipment as beds and blankets, field kitchens and cutlery. The camps now numbered 13 and the total of refugees in Austria upwards of 25,000.

Another 70,000 came across in the next two weeks, and this called for a longer term type of relief operation. On 29 November an agreement was concluded with the Austrian Government whereby the League would provide the necessary relief supplies and specialist staff to administer 10 camps with capacity for 20,000 refugees by 15 December, and a further 4 camps with a capacity for 5,000 by 1 January. A few days later, the High Commissioner asked the League to look after, at UN expense, a further 10,000 in 10 more camps, again from the New Year. The care of all these 35,000 Hungarians, in their 24 camps, was to last until the end of February.

The agreement embodying these proposals was formally signed by the three parties on 15 December. The Austrian Federal Ministry of Interior remained responsible under the contract for the selection, equipment, maintenance, and sanitation of camp buildings, for utility services, for police and security, and for looking after all refugees who needed outside hospital care. The League of Red Cross Societies undertook to provide and administer the food (2,400 calories), clothing, medical and nursing care needed by the 35,000 Hungarian refugees in their 24 camps. The High Commissioner made a grant to the League of \$413,000 which, on the basis of 70 cents per refugee per day, would cover operational costs for the additional 10,000 Hungarians for a period of two months. In order to ensure the government services, the Ministry of Interior appointed its own camp leaders.

REFUGEE CAMPS IN AUSTRIA
OPERATED BY NATIONAL RED CROSS TEAMS
UNDER LEAGUE DIRECTION

<i>Province and camp</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Red Cross team</i>	<i>Operating between</i>
BURGENLAND			
Eisenstadt	1,000	Austrian	February-July
Kaisersteinbruch	4,000	German	December-June
		Austrian	July-August
CARINTHIA			
Annabichl	500	Austrian	December-June
Feffernitz	800	American	February-June
Karawankenhof	700	Austrian	December-April
St. Martin	650	Canadian	February-May
LOWER AUSTRIA			
Altkettenhof	1,000	Netherlands	February-June
Bad Neuhaus	500	Norwegian	March-July
Hirtenberg	1,200	Finnish	March-May
Hyrtl'sches Waisenhaus	1,500	German	January-June
		British	July-September
Judenau	1,000	Netherlands	December-June
Klosterneuburg	1,000	Danish	January-September
Korneuburg	500	Swedish	January-September
		Finnish	May-June
Schloss Liechtenstein	500	British	December-June
Spratzern	3,000	Danish	December-April
		Finnish	June-August
Stockerau	1,000	German	January-September
Traiskirchen	3,500	Swedish	December-September
Wiener Neustadt 1	1,000	Canadian	December-June
Wiener Neustadt 2	1,000	Finnish	December-June
Wöllersdorf	1,000	British	December-August
UPPER AUSTRIA			
Bad Kreuzen	1,000	Norwegian	December-July
Ebelsberg	250	German	February-May
Enns	750	Swedish	February-June
Haid	1,400	Swiss	February-June
		Austrian	July-September
Jägermayer	330	Austrian	February-March

<i>Province and camp</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Red Cross team</i>	<i>Operating between</i>
UPPER AUSTRIA (<i>ctd.</i>)			
Niedernhart	370	Austrian	February-July
Ried	2,500	French	December-June
Stadl-Paura	1,000	Monacan	February
		Danish	March-May
Steyr	1,150	Danish	February-April
		Canadian	May-June
		Austrian	July-September
Wels	1,000	Austrian	January-July
SALZBURG			
Siezenheim	4,500	American	December-September
STYRIA			
Eisenerz	500	German	March-June
Judenberg	500	British	March-May
Kapfenberg 1 and 3	800	Danish	March-September
Kapfenberg 2	600	Danish	March-September
Trofaia	600	Austrian	March-September
TYROL			
Imst	1,000	American	January-May
Solbad Hall	1,000	American	January-June
Wörgl	800	American	January-April
VIENNA			
Albrechtskaserne	2,000	German	March-September
Brigittaspital	500	Canadian	January-September
Kagranerkaserne	3,500	Swiss	April-September
Kaiser-Ebersdorf	1,500	French	January-September
Rothschildspital	1,000	Swiss	January-April

Note. — Because of the rapid movement of Hungarians, the population of camps seldom equalled their capacity. Moreover, the capacity-ratings themselves were often changed, either through the addition of new housing quarters or through the adaptation of existing buildings for other than dormitory purposes. The maximum official capacity at one time was 50,000, in March.

The Two Extensions of the Contract

The terms of the agreement made in November had allowed for the League to take over more camps at government request. The 24 original camps were all being operated with Red Cross teams by the New Year, but since the time that the arrangements had been made, another 50,000 refugees had crossed the border. The Federal Government in its desperate search for accommodation had to resort to further housing, that of making room in old DP camps. Many such places were found in Upper Austria and in Carinthia, and it was 9 of these with a capacity for 9,000 refugees which the League was requested to take over on 1 February. The old refugees in most of these additional camps had for a long time had their own feeding arrangements whereby meals were brought in from outside kitchens. Because it was rather late in the operation to install new equipment in camps from which it was said the Hungarians would soon be moved, the League decided to utilise the existing arrangements, sending basic food supplies to these outside kitchens and paying a daily rate per head for cooking.

A tenth camp taken over by the League at the beginning of February was the important transit centre of Eisenstadt, the capital of the border province of Burgenland. It was to this town that most of the refugees came from the reception centres in the border villages. From the beginning, these centres had been stocked with League food and clothing, but the number and quality of services were often inadequate owing to the lack of coordination among the many voluntary agencies working on the border. It had long been obvious to the Austrian Government that a coherent plan was needed here, and at the turn of the year negotiations to this effect had begun with the League. However, they lost their point when the number of new arrivals rapidly diminished after mid-January, but Eisenstadt itself was always full and to the end remained a camp with special problems.

Meanwhile the time for renewing the contract had arrived. It had already been agreed that the League would continue its operation after 28 February, but the extension of the contract, however formal, did provide a good opportunity both for finalising the number of camps to be administered and for defining more sharply the competence and responsibilities of the Government and League in the light of the past months' experience.

According to the new contract, 9 additional camps were to be taken over in March and April. They were either old refugee centres in the province of Styria or newly constructed camps in and around Vienna. In all, 44 camps were to be taken over, including the 41 in

Austria with a capacity of 500 or more, and 3 smaller ones considered as annexes to larger camps near Linz. The housing capacity of all 44 camps was 50,000. But this was the maximum possible and in only a few places was the local capacity ever reached. The total cared for at any one time was 35,000, housed in the 34 camps run by League teams at the beginning of February. On the other hand, it is likely that as many as three out of every four refugees benefited directly from Red Cross camp care during their stay in Austria.

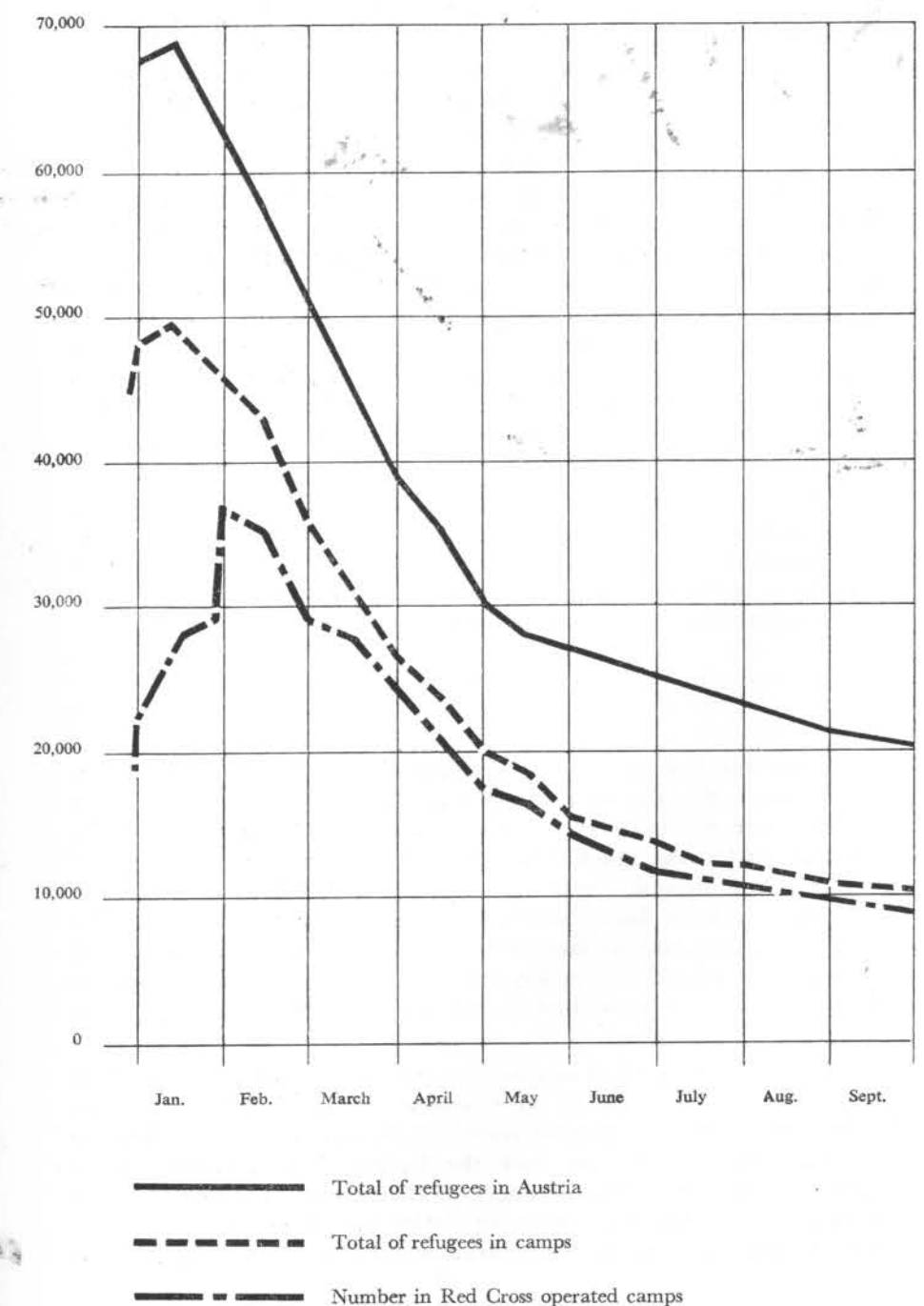
The new agreement also cleared up some ambiguities of terminology. The Government was to be responsible for all forms of heating, not only in kitchens and dormitories but also in stores, offices and recreation rooms. The Government took full responsibility for providing all specialised medical care, including dental and optical treatment. With regard to sanitation, the League became responsible for disinfection of the refugees and their personal effects while the Federal authorities remained in charge of the disinfection of camp buildings.

More significant was the Government's official recognition of Red Cross activities in the field of social welfare. Provision of such services had been left vague in the earlier contract, a fact not surprising when the overriding aim of everyone concerned had been to move the refugees on, and to move them on quickly. Even so, no one for the moment had the intention of foregoing the Season's celebrations, and it was these very preparations, made for Christmas and the New Year, which showed the wide variety of activities possible thereafter. Early in January all team leaders were called to Vienna and an outline was given of the future development of welfare programmes. Progress was slow in the first two months of 1957. Yet there was enough of it by the end of February in school, work and leisure projects for the Government to give it detailed recognition in the new contract. Later with the arrival of tools and materials from Societies and Junior Red Cross Sections, with the freeing of camp rooms for welfare purposes, and with the stabilisation of the refugee population, much more headway was made with social welfare, so much so that many of the camps had become real communities when the time came to close them down.

The last of the 44 camps was taken over in late April, but by that time three smaller camps had been closed. The consolidation of camps, which began with the closing of Jägermayer in late March, presented the League with many more problems than their opening. The chief reason for this was the unexpectedness, both to headquarters staff and camp teams, with which the decision to close came. Not only was the decision unexpected by the League leaders, it was also unexpected by the Ministry of Interior officials themselves. In Federal Austria some

ACCOMMODATION OF HUNGARIAN REFUGEES IN AUSTRIA

January-September 1957



of the camps were run by the central and some by the provincial governments, and in the short run the plans of the two did not always coincide. Thus even as late as June, the federal authorities agreed to the provincial government's request to leave open one camp which was to have been closed and to close another instead, long after preparations had been made for the first team to go home.

The advantages of consolidation were obvious enough. By the end of April, two thirds of the camps had a population of less than 500, while nearly three quarters of them were only half full. On the other hand, because the Government capacity-ratings allowed for the maximum of room to be used as sleeping quarters, comparisons of capacity and population are rather misleading. What does remain true, however, is that some of the camps, particularly those taken over in March, were never filled according to plan and so there were at least a half dozen teams maintained in Austria each with no more than 250 refugees to look after.

Thus from April to June the principal theme of all discussions at the Ministry of Interior was the closing of camps, and the principal aim that of drawing up a consolidation schedule. The opportunity for drawing a *contractual* list was in fact presented by a second extension of the agreement, signed in late June.

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At its 76th Session in Geneva, during April, the League Executive Committee had voted to continue the refugee relief in Austria for a further three months after 30 June. For the additional period the Austrian Red Cross, not the League, was to be the operating agency, supported by League funds and supplies and, where necessary, by personnel seconded from National Societies at League request. The feeding, clothing and welfare services would continue but in future all professional medical care in the camps would be given by government doctors, working in cooperation with Red Cross nurses and using League pharmaceutical supplies.

The new contract had of course to contain a list of camps in which Red Cross services would be given, and it was in this list that the past three months' progress towards consolidation was best seen. When the Austrian Society took over from the League, it was responsible for operating only 18 camps, housing 11,000 refugees. The principle had been agreed on that if a camp's population fell below 400 the Government would take over the administration of relief services, although the

Red Cross would continue to send basic food supplies to that camp until 30 September. So, in addition to the 18 camps which had Red Cross staff, supplies were sent to 6 more. By the end of August the number of Red Cross operated camps had fallen to 14, and at the end of September when the Red Cross action finished, only 10 of the original 44 camps had to be handed back to the government.

II

ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

The first League delegate on the scene was Henrik Beer, Secretary General of the Swedish Red Cross, who arrived in Vienna on 3 November. It was his task both to arrange the pooling and distribution of relief supplies and to advise national delegates on the most effective placement of their personnel. At that time all efforts were concentrated on supplying the need for relief inside Hungary, and it was obvious that the League representative was there to act in a co-ordinating capacity only.

It was the mass influx of refugees that brought up the possibility of the League playing a more positive role in Hungarian relief. That such a role became a reality was due both to the government's preference for dealing directly with one organisation, the League, and to the prompt acknowledgement of this fact by many Societies. The ensuing unity and purpose in action reflected to the credit of the world Red Cross.

With the Government pressing the Red Cross for a longterm relief action, a more stable organisation had to be set up. The League delegate himself could not forsake his duties as Secretary General much longer, but before leaving Vienna he worked with his successor, Raymond T. Schaeffer, a disaster relief expert loaned by the American Red Cross, to draw up the necessary longterm plan. This provided for a headquarters staff of relief specialists drawn from over a dozen Red Cross Societies, supported in the field by camp teams each of which was drawn from one National Society only. These field units were each to comprise a team leader and administrative assistant, a nurse and a welfare worker, and experts in feeding and in housing and clothing. This was the first time that the principle of national teams was put into practice, and it was generally agreed to have been a farsighted

decision for the circumstances. In the Middle East, where Mr Schaeffer had served as League Deputy Commissioner, it had been impracticable to tie the relatively few Red Cross personnel for a long time to any one camp, whereas in Austria the overwhelming support of Societies in sending staff made possible the efficiency to be gained from a national team working together in an ever fluid refugee situation.

In all, thirteen National Societies contributed teams, while eleven of them and two others provided the staff at headquarters. Taking the League operation as a whole, the Austrian Red Cross provided teams to operate 7 camps, the American 5, British 3, Canadian 3, Danish 5, Finnish 2, French 2, German 6, Monacan 1, Netherlands 2, Norwegian 2, Swedish 3, Swiss 3. The Belgian and Liechtenstein Red Cross had personnel at relief headquarters.

Between them the 14 foreign Societies sent some 650 workers to Austria to serve under League direction. The maximum at any one time were the 350 working on 1 March, the most extensive stage of the League operation, though as many as 112 stayed on after 30 June to serve the Austrian Red Cross. The average individual period of service was a little over three months, the total of working days 65,000. In addition 60 members of the Austrian Red Cross served in camps, while hundreds more ran ambulances or worked on the border. The value of National Society personnel services to the League is estimated at \$700,000.

Apart from teams and Vienna staff, many Societies kept delegates in Austria, a hangover from early days when the League had been only a coordinating agent. Later it became possible to absorb many of the delegates into the League operation either as departmental heads in Vienna or as team leaders in the camps. But even those who remained on the fringes of the operation performed several useful functions, particularly with regard to their nationals. The League Personnel Officer was responsible for problems arising from locally employed staff only, so in looking after the personnel matters of their teams the delegates rendered a very valuable service. They gave equally good service in the field of public relations both in taking on representational functions and in acting as publicity liaison officers between the scene of operations and their Societies at home.

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The plan of organisation at Vienna headquarters provided for a Director of Operations and a Deputy Director, together with an Assistant Director from the Austrian Red Cross responsible for liaison with the Federal Government and with Austrian industry and trade.

Responsible to the Deputy Director were the Field Supervisor and the Supply and Transport Officer. The latter took charge of reception, warehousing and distribution of supplies, advised would-be donors of outstanding needs and made purchases to augment stores where necessary. He was assisted by Road and Rail Transport Officers, a Chief Warehouseman and a Stock Control Officer.

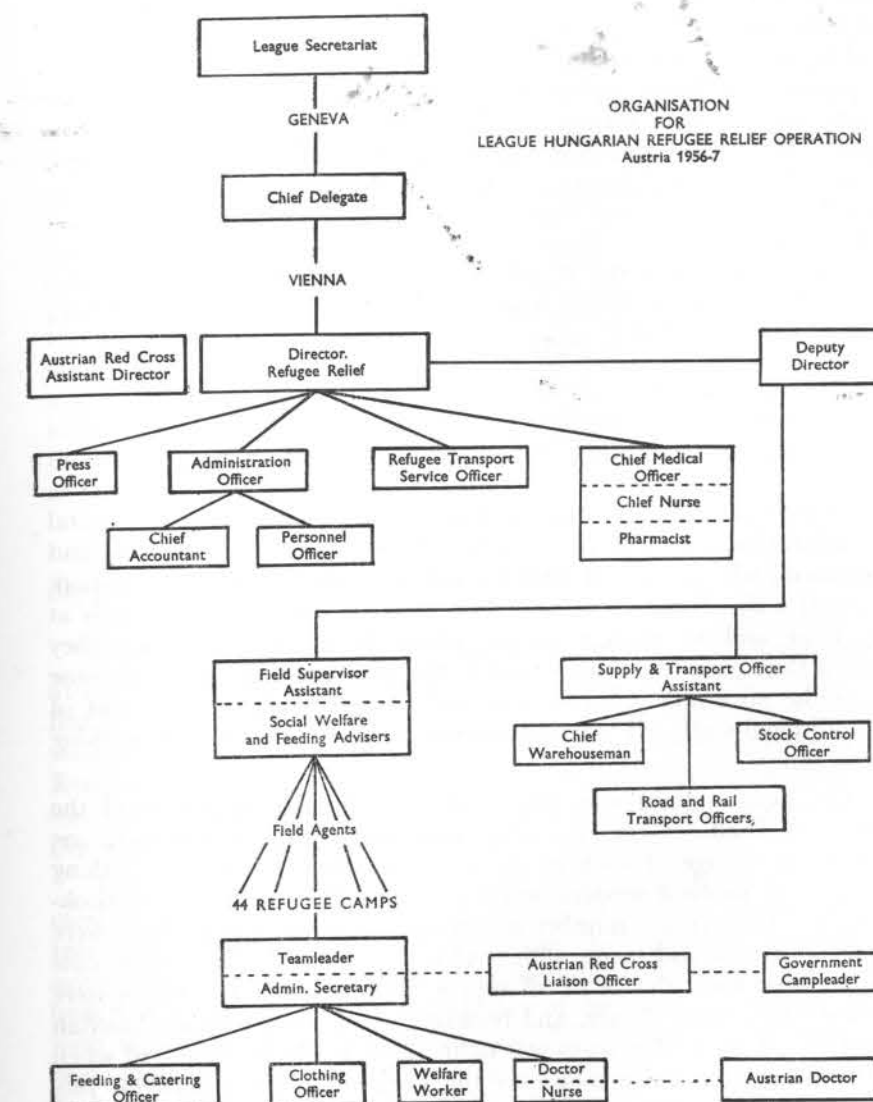
The Field Supervisor and his Assistant were in charge of implementing the League programme in the camps. They placed personnel, approved requisitions, interpreted their duties to team leaders, and kept them informed on all matters likely to affect the future of refugees. The contact between relief headquarters and the camp teams was provided by three to five Field Agents, appointed more or less on a provincial basis. Later, Field Service was augmented by special Feeding and Social Welfare Advisers.

Responsible to the Director himself were the Chief Medical Officer and the Chief Nurse, assisted by the League Pharmacist; the Administrative Officer, with the Chief Accountant and Personnel Officer; the Press Officer, with a Reports Officer, an Austrian and a Swedish writer; and the Refugee Transport Service Officer in charge of co-ordinating Red Cross escort nursing and feeding services for Hungarians in transit through Europe.

Contact between headquarters and the teams was established through the following four methods. In the first place there were the regular visits to the camps, undertaken for the most part by Field Agents. But the Field Supervisor and the Feeding and Social Welfare Advisers also went on tour, as did the Chief Medical Officer and the Chief Nurse.

Secondly there were the monthly team leaders meetings which provided an opportunity both to outline the League programme for the time ahead and to hear accounts of problems and progress in individual camps. In addition many of the staff in camps near Vienna regularly came to headquarters for advice and assistance.

Thirdly there was the Information Bulletin Service which kept teams up-to-date both with relief stocks and with longterm opportunities for Hungarians. All contact between the teams and headquarters went through the Field Supervisor's office and all bulletins were sent out in both German and English, the languages of the operation.



Lastly a telex system was introduced into all camps linking them with relief headquarters and linking Vienna with much of the Red Cross world. This was probably the first relief operation to make extensive use of the teleprinter system which for both speed and recording purposes proved ideal. Like all novelties it was not without its amusing incidents, particularly in the early days. Once a message to one camp and a message to all camps got crossed. The former read: "Meet the Chief Nurse at Wörgl Station"; the latter: "Send in your budget for February". Quickly the queries came in: "Why should we meet the Chief Nurse". Quickly the cancellation went out: "Don't meet the Chief Nurse". One last query came in: "Must we or must we not meet the Chief Nurse". It was from the team who was to have been at Wörgl Station and who had now received both original and cancellation wires.

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In the camps the government leader remained in charge of general administration. It was he who was first informed of arrivals and departures, who registered refugees and who planned accommodation. In Austria the Hungarians were free to come and go from camps at any hour and to change camps practically at will, provided they showed their grey registration card to the policeman on duty. In some places the government leader also took charge of the employment of all additional staff and the coordination of voluntary agencies working in the camp.

The League team was responsible for the administration of the relief care itself. Generally there was, under the team leader, one member in charge of each of the following duties: catering, clothing distribution, medical services, nursing care, welfare projects and book-keeping. The average number in a team was seven, though there were teams with four and teams with twelve members. In the former case one member took charge of all supply matters, medical services were rendered by a local doctor, and bookkeeping was done by an Austrian secretary. This smaller team was deliberately made the standard when the Austrian Red Cross took over the League operation between July and September. But this happened when much of the work had become routine and the camp population stabilised. Earlier, a bigger team could cope more easily with the different problems arising every day, especially as authority could not be delegated to the transient Hungarians. Some of the larger teams also had Red Cross workers

who did little more than prepare food, sort clothing, and act as drivers, store hands and general handymen.

But in many camps routine physical work became the charge of Austrian and refugee personnel. Where work entailed responsibility and permanence, Austrians were usually employed, as in kitchens and offices. Even so it was the policy to use refugee skills as much as possible, and many Hungarian doctors, nurses, school and games instructors worked closely with the Red Cross teams. Skilled refugees received a daily wage, while manual workers received either a wage or extra rations and cigarettes.

In most camps regular meetings were held between team members, government camp leaders and representatives of the Hungarian. These representatives were appointed by barrack prefects who were in turn chosen by the occupants of floors and dormitories. In some camps, a Hungarian Office was established, together with its own "police force". As a further contact with the refugees, many teams lived in the camps, eating the same food as the Hungarians, if not always with as much hot seasoning!

Supplies

Contributions in kind to the League action in Austria were valued at over \$12 million and amounted to 19,000 tons, enough to pack a line of ten-ton railwagons 12 miles long. Over half the supplies by weight and more than threequarters by value were contributed by Red Cross Societies. Included in the total tonnage is the thousand ton gift of lignite made to the League for camps in Austria by the European Coal and Steel Community.

The basic foodstuffs, such as flour, milk, rice, cheese and lentils, used in Red Cross relief, were given directly to the League by the International Cooperation Administration, the American Government agency responsible for foreign aid programmes including the use of bulk food surpluses. Under yet another of the many agreements made with the world Red Cross federation, ICA undertook to meet the basic food requirements of 50,000 refugees between March and June. Even before this, in fact in the first days of November, it had released for Hungarian relief 2,000 tons of supplies from stocks in Austria.

The basic foodstuffs were supplemented by gifts from National Societies. In response to specific appeals by the League Relief Bureau in Geneva large quantities of meat, fish, sugar and fats were

SUPPLIES SENT FOR LEAGUE HUNGARIAN REFUGEE RELIEF
IN AUSTRIA

<i>Red Cross Society</i>	<i>Food</i>	<i>Textiles</i>	<i>Medical</i>	<i>Miscell.</i>	<i>Total Tonnage</i>	<i>Estimated \$ value</i>
<i>(in metric tons)</i>						
Argentina	71	51	—	.6	122.6	62,100
Australia	—	7.5	—	—	7.5	1,400
Austria	300	776	31	117	1,224	1,300,000
Belgium	130	10	6	32	178	120,580
Brazil	—	1.4	1.3	—	2.7	11,854
Canada	14.1	64.8	6.1	16.5	101.5	461,890
Chile	.1	.2	.1	—	.4	425
Colombia	7	—	—	—	7	7,000
Denmark	800	5	—	20	825	514,019
Finland	310.3	40.4	13.5	98	462.2	492,200
France	29.3	3.4	.1	2	34.8	45,843
Fed. Germany	1,413.7	381.6	13	265.9	2,074.2	1,853,398
Greece	9.1	—	.3	—	9.4	6,205
Guatemala	—	.7	—	—	.7	1,800
Iceland	10	1.8	12.5	—	24.3	22,000
India	—	—	—	1.1	1.1	840
Indonesia	—	—	—	2.2	2.2	994
Ireland	10	—	—	—	11	28,944
Italy	450	—	3	58.1	511.1	363,600
South Korea	—	3	—	—	3	14,708
Liechtenstein	1	3	—	—	4	3,000
Luxembourg	—	—	—	.1	.1	100
Monaco	.1	.4	.1	—	.6	230
Netherlands	904.6	25.8	1	473.2	1,404.6	483,837
Nicaragua	2.7	—	—	—	2.7	2,000
Norway	520	60	45	—	625	1,050,000
Portugal	95	5	2	—	102	85,164
Spain	33.6	8.1	4.3	—	46	130,605
Sweden	444	227	33.3	85	789.3	1,107,300
Switzerland	848.1	282.6	3.8	49.1	1,183.6	627,546
Turkey	—	1	—	—	1	700
United Kingdom	470	23.5	21	200.5	715	360,108
United States	175.3	14.8	9.3	60	259.4	237,900
Uruguay	4.9	2	.3	.2	74	3,500
Venezuela	44	—	.5	—	44.5	37,000
ICA	7,097.9	2,000	208.5	1,481.5	10,787.9	9,438,790
ECSC	7,606	350	—	150	8,106	3,232,890
UNHCR	—	—	—	1,000	1,000	10,000
Private Sources	140	13	—	—	153	78,549
Less forwarded to Yugoslavia	—	—	—	17	17	8,500
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>1,3933.9</i>	<i>2,262</i>	<i>198.5</i>	<i>2,594.5</i>	<i>18,988.9</i>	<i>12,118,729</i>

sent to Vienna, together with such supplementary items as baby food, jam, coffee, tea, chocolate, vegetables and fruit.

The warehousing of all these supplies presented a formidable obstacle in a city short of most kinds of housing space. The best that could be done originally was to put the bulk of supplies in one public warehouse in Vienna, with the rest in others outside the capital. The advantage of this was that the central warehouse chosen was modern and on a railway siding, the disadvantage that it was closed over weekends and stock control was out of the hands of League staff.

This situation had become unbearable by February and it was decided to lease space in a former aeroplane factory at Liesing, on the southern edge of Vienna. Under the supervision of the Deputy Director, the considerable task of centralising all supplies was virtually completed within eight days. Methods based on the use of pallets, fork lifts and other modern equipment were introduced, as was later a system of refrigeration. Even the despair produced at the sight of hundreds of tons of unsorted clothing was alleviated, by the introduction of a conveyor belt.

The early confusion in the warehousing situation had its effect in the League camps. Apart from basic food and used clothing, there was little knowing when requisitions would be filled. Later a delivery system of check and counter check was initiated and teamleaders acquired more confidence. Exact detailed stock records were sent out to camps and it became easier to increase the standard of care without necessarily resorting to local purchases.

Transport

What can be said about warehousing in the early days can similarly be said about transport. Without money or vehicles of its own the League had to resort to a commercial transport firm, but the service was so bad that the contract was prematurely ended. Thanks to the generosity of Societies once again, it was possible to organise a road transport fleet of some 30 lorries, supplemented later by the purchase of trailers. Supplies for March were delivered in five days by the League fleet as opposed to the twelve days needed by the commercial transport firm.

In fact by the beginning of April it mattered little that the new League warehouse was without a railway siding. In the first place most of the incoming supplies had already been received, and in the second it was found possible and easier to deliver all supplies by road, by the League transport system.

Rail transport within Austria throughout the operation was provided free by the Federal Government, and in Europe by the railways of the transit country until April. After that date freight charges from ports of entry to Austria was also paid by the Federal Government. Some idea of the value of free freight can be obtained from figures made available by the Federal German Railway Administration. Between 1 November 1956 and 31 March 1957, railways in West Germany provided free transport, worth \$650,930, for 10,454 Red Cross relief shipments, not only for supplies from the Federal German Red Cross, but also for those in transit through Germany from Societies in other countries. In the early stages of relief, many supplies were brought free or at a reduced charge by the international airlines. But many more, particularly from outside Europe, had their transportation costs paid by the Societies of the country of origin.

The larger camps and camps far from the railway, were provided with their own pickup. All camps had passenger vehicles, sometimes provided by National Societies but for the most part bought by the League. A total of 15 light trucks and 78 passenger cars, of which 4 and 19 were provided by Societies, were used by teams and Field Service. One or two Societies loaned ambulances, but such services were always given elsewhere by the Austrian Red Cross. Some 130 vehicles were used for the League operation, 50 of them provided directly by National Societies. To service this fleet, a filling station and a repair shop were established. The staff and drivers needed to operate the League supply system were provided by the Red Cross of the Netherlands and Federal Germany.

Finance

Anticipating a short term coordinating action, the League transferred to Vienna 10,000 Swiss francs, to a savings bank! It was difficult to foresee then that the League would soon be responsible for spending twice as much in a month at Vienna as she does in a whole year at Geneva. Money contributions in those early days were, however, very hard to come by from National Societies and it was thanks to a contribution of \$413,000 from the UN High Commissioner that the League operation did not get too near the red in the first months. Later the fund drives by Societies proved so successful that it became possible to operate during the period March to September on Red Cross money only.

Nearly \$2,650,000 were spent by the League for its relief operation in Austria. Over \$250,000 of this was used by the Relief Bureau of the

Geneva Secretariat for making bulk purchases of supplies more easily obtained in other European countries. The greatest part was used in Austria itself to cover operational expenses. Fresh food accounted for one third of these: judged by value, one tenth of all food eaten by the Hungarians was fresh. Ten percent of expenditures represent the purchase of new clothing and medical supplies. Transportation costs, including the purchase of eighty vehicles, account for 15 and warehousing for 7 percent; camp labour for 17 and camp equipment for 11 percent. Welfare projects, including the free transmission of refugee mail and telegrams, represent 7 percent of expenditures. Up to 6 December the League allowed one telegram to 8,500 of the newly arrived refugees. After that all Hungarians in League camps were allowed to send one aerogram a month and one piece of surface mail a week.

Thanks largely to the loan of key personnel by National Societies, administrative expenses added only 7 percent to total outlay.

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Control over spending was at first completely centralised. All camp requisitions had to be approved by two department heads in Vienna. In January, however, each camp was given its own budgetary allowance, divided into definite categories, within which team leaders could purchase supplies and equipment at their own discretion. Allowances were fixed so that services to refugees could be standardised in all camps.

To avoid making cash payments for the large recurring operational expenditures in the camps, team leaders were given disbursing orders with which to buy goods. These could then be redeemed by merchants from Vienna headquarters. To defray non-recurring operational expenditures, each camp was given a small petty cash fund. Commitment records were also introduced, providing team leaders with an instrument to plan local purchases more carefully.

This was the first time that a decentralised system of budgetary allowances had been tried in a League relief operation, and as such it was not uniformly successful. This was owing partly to lack of experience and partly to the fact that by the time allowances were brought into line with actual population rather than capacity, team leaders had become too accustomed to liberal spending. Chiefly because eight more camps were taken on when the population of other camps had fallen by a sixth, the daily operational cost per refugee more than doubled between February and June.

III

CAMP CARE

Housing

The 44 camps taken over by the League stretched from Kaisersteinbruch in the east to Imst in the west, a distance of 350 miles, and from Bad Kreuzen in the north to Karawankenhof in the south, a distance of 125 miles. Even so, half the camps were within two hours drive of Vienna and a quarter within the same time from Linz. Of the 44 camps, 16 were groups of wooden huts, 15 stone barracks, 3 castles, 3 hospitals, 3 resort hotels, 2 orphanages, 1 restaurant and 1 block of civil servants houses.

One half of them had been used to accommodate occupation forces, one quarter still housed old refugees. Having been heavily dismantled at the Allied withdrawal and not yet made ready for the new Austrian army, most of the camps were in a very bad state of repair in November 1956. It was usually necessary to restore plumbing and heating, aside from putting in beds and kitchens. From its first offer on 7 November, the League began to provide cutlery and blankets, beds and cooking ranges. Gradually though, the government took complete responsibility for providing camp equipment.

The barracks for the most part provided dormitory accommodation, the huts family rooms. Originally the refugees slept on pallets but later double-tiered beds were everywhere introduced and pressed paper board provided by the League for dividing up dormitory space. Washrooms and lavatories always left room for improvement. One notable achievement was the sending of a *sauna* steambath from Finland for a camp run by that National Society in Wiener Neustadt.

With the steady fall in camp population, more and more dormitory space was given over to recreation purposes, and in this the barracks with their larger rooms came off best. Gradually too it became possible to get the refugees to use diningrooms instead of taking food up to dormitories where they would store it and reheat it on stoves.

With the aid of the Hungarians, recreation huts were put up in some camps, while in all of them walls were painted and rubble cleared. When spring came, work programmes were started everywhere to surround huts and barracks with gardens.

Feeding

The aim in feeding was twofold: to make sure the refugees received enough good nourishment and to cater for the special Hungarian tastes.

The first aim was quickly achieved. From the beginning the refugees received food with a daily nutritional value of 2,658 calories, 258 more than stipulated in the official contract:

Basic food	Calories per 100 grams	Grams per Person per Day	Calories per Person per Day
Flour	330	450	1,114
Meat	200	100	200
Fat	881	40	352
Lentils	305	57	174
Sugar	400	28.5	114
Rice	350	107	374.5
Cheese	200	32	64
Dried milk	480	55	266
	3,146	869.5	2,658.5

Later the fat ration was doubled and the sugar ration brought up to 40 grams a day with an additional 40 for children. From the beginning children under 14 received extra milk and children under 4 fresh milk. Expectant and nursing mothers were also given special food. All Hungarians received fresh meat three times a week and in the season plentiful salads and vegetables. There is little doubt that the refugee ate better than the average Austrian.

Bread was baked from League stocks of flour, with the payment for baking made in kind. Macaroni and similar products were also made from stocks of flour as were the pastries and biscuits given twice a week in all camps. Chocolate was made with stocks of powdered milk, and even the disliked processed cheddar cheese was later turned into cream cheese spread.

The more fundamental way of catering for tastes of the Hungarians, however, was in the planning of meals. Standard 21-day menus were sent out to all camps and gradually the cooks got out of the habit of making "all-in-one" dishes. Menus were planned so as to give two hot meals five days a week, either soup or hot drinks with the main meals, roast beef or pork on Sundays. The Hungarians specially

ONE WEEK'S MEALS FOR HUNGARIAN REFUGEES

(From a 21-day menu used in League camps)

	BREAKFAST	LUNCH	SUPPER
<i>Sunday</i>	Tea with Lemon Roll and Jam	Beef Noodle Soup Roast Beef with Gravy Rice Pickled Beets	Cheese Dripping Sardines Stewed Fruit
<i>Monday</i>	Tea with Milk Roll and Butter	Vegetable Soup Corned Beef Green Peas Fresh Fruit	Meat Noodles Pickles Coffee with Milk
<i>Tuesday</i>	Hot Chocolate Roll and Jam	Fresh Beef Goulash Rice Stewed Fruit	Bean Noodle Soup Cheese Onions Chocolate Bar
<i>Wednesday</i>	Tea with Milk Roll and Butter	Tomato Rice Soup Ham Noodles White Cabbage Salad	Paprika Bacon Bean Salad Pastry
<i>Thursday</i>	Coffee with Milk Roll and Butter	Split Pea Soup Fresh Carrots Poppy Seed Noodles	Spiced Sausage Potato Salad Fresh Fruit Tea with Milk
<i>Friday</i>	Hot Chocolate Roll and Butter	Veal Cutlet Tomato Sauce Potatoes	Rice Pudding with Raisins and Cinnamon Dripping Tea with Lemon Chocolate Bar
<i>Saturday</i>	Coffee with Milk Roll and Butter	Potato Soup Canned Beef Stew Fresh Carrots Macaroni Fresh Fruit	Luncheon Meat Onion Pastry Ovomaltine

liked well seasoned meat dishes, so considerable ingenuity was put into the preparation of goulash of all varieties. It was said, though never proved, that one team once put medicine into its goulash!

In every camp kitchen a Hungarian served in the capacity of "taster", and in many camps there were special feeding committees. In other camps Hungarians were asked at random to comment on meals served that day.

In less spectacular ways also the Red Cross teams catered to Hungarian tastes. Lemons were given with tea, dripping was served with bread and caraway seeds were frequently added for flavouring. On special occasions the Hungarians were given special food. On Christmas Eve the traditional meal of fish fried in deep fat was served, and on Easter Sunday and Monday cooked smoked ham. Special menus were given on 15 March to celebrate the 1848 Revolution. On Friday fish was served as far as possible, and in 18 camps near Vienna this was fresh fish, thanks to a local arrangement made by the Norwegian Red Cross. Later, in the camp at Korneuburg, Orthodox Jews were given facilities with which to prepare food in their own special way.

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The chief difficulty of feeding administration in the early days had to do with the use of gift parcels, full of small assorted tins of food, which were not designed for mass feeding. It also surprised some team members to find that the word "Gift" was not always German for "Poison"!

Catering was usually done on a local basis. The notable exception was bread; 60 per cent of the bread used in League camps was baked by a Vienna firm, while in other places teams were given specific instructions on how to make favourable contracts with local bakers. Fresh meat, milk and salads were bought locally, though such long-keeping vegetables as onions were bought centrally, as were spices and seasonings.

Clothing

If it had not been for the amazing patience of Red Cross staff and their hundreds of Austrian and Hungarian helpers, there would have been practically no clothing service at all. The patience was needed to sort the tons and tons of unsorted used clothing which choked both central warehouses and camp storerooms, a task which was completed

only in the second last month of the League operation. A good third of this stuff from all over the world was useless and to buy the badly needed new clothing had to be sold to a paper mill. One third was new or in good condition. Another third could be made wearable with repair. What is said about clothing can also be said about shoes.

Not that the trouble ended once the clothing was distributed. Much of it found its way into local secondhand shops, owing partly to the desperation with which teams unchoked their storerooms and partly to the Hungarians' habit of going round from one relief agency to another on the scrounge.

Generally there was a shortage of underwear, shoes and men's trousers. These were made good partly by gifts from Societies — and here the gift of new children's clothing by the Canadian Red Cross, new women's underwear by the German Red Cross and new shoes by the British Red Cross can be cited — and partly by central purchases. Bulk orders are in an obvious way more economical, but the arrival of a load of new clothing usually led to a queue of unwarranted demands. For most articles, therefore, it was found cheaper in the long run to buy locally on the basis of individual needs.

Distribution within the camps, as for everything the Red Cross gave out, was made according to a card system, whereby all items were entered on each individual's clothing card, coloured differently for men, women and children. This was as successful as could be hoped for in a relief operation where refugees could go at will from one camp to another and from one relief agency to another. Apart from underwear and shoes, the refugee usually got as much clothing as he needed.

Medical and Nursing

The health of the refugees was always good, in fact excellent. The preoccupation of doctors was one of prevention rather than of cure. A Red Cross doctor would spend much of his time visiting washrooms and lavatories, supervising the disinfection of rooms and bedding, checking on the preparation of food and cleanliness of kitchens, and teaching refugees the ways of minimising the danger of infection. Isolated cases of scarlet fever, typhoid and polio did occur, but the patient was always removed to the local hospital and the disease never caught on. In some camps refugees were immunised against smallpox and typhoid in preparation for movement to countries requiring this precaution.

Another important aim of the League medical service was to build up a minimum of medicines and dispensary equipment in every camp. Here, what was said earlier about used clothing can also be said about medical supplies. Too many of the drugs and medicines sent for refugee relief were too old or had no date stamp on them. Too many were sent without dosage instructions, or with instructions in a language which team doctors could not understand. In the beginning, the medicines most needed, for simple head, chest and stomach troubles, were hardly sent at all.

Later, however, well-stocked dispensaries were established in all camps, and it was an easy matter to refurnish them from the League pharmacy in Vienna. Even then it was left to government doctors to remark, on taking over the camps, that they were not stocked with camomile tea!

Attached to the dispensaries in most camps were infirmary wards and diet kitchens. In one or two of the League camps, miniature hospitals were established. Usually though, camp sickbeds were empty. Apart from the one or two old people and children whose chests did not stand up to the winter cold, the principal groups needing care were refugees depressed at the emigration slowdown and, especially in the latter part of the operation, expectant and nursing mothers.

Throughout the operation, even when medical care was given by government doctors, each camp had at least one trained Red Cross nurse.

One special enterprise could well be mentioned here, and that was the mobile dental van provided by the Norwegian Red Cross. The teeth of Hungarians were in very poor condition, the result of many years neglect. It was out of the question for the Red Cross to take on full responsibility for dental care in a relief operation and the government recognised this in the second contract. Even so, many Red Cross doctors provided this form of treatment on an individual basis, and the Norwegian Society supplied a dental van which after April went on a tour of camps. During the first six weeks of operation, over 300 patients were treated and 107 extractions and 811 fillings made by the van's three member staff.

IV

SOCIAL WELFARE

Junior Red Cross Donations

From the start a full and balanced welfare programme was considered an essential part of Red Cross refugee relief. As soon as the longterm plan of organisation was drawn up in November, National Societies were asked to send welfare workers in their teams.

When the Red Cross teams arrived there were not many shopping days to Christmas. Fortunately, the most welcome of all presents, clothing for children, had already been planned by young Red Cross members round the world. Early in December Juniors in four continents had collected enough money to enable every Hungarian child in a refugee camp in Austria—and there were over 6,000 of them—to receive a new outfit of warm clothing, including a pair of shoes, stockings, gloves, a scarf, a woollen bonnet and a one-piece winter suit. The present was made in the form of a gift-coupon so that the Hungarian children could go to the shops and choose the clothing themselves. The young refugees arriving on Christmas Eve received special treatment, for they were met in the border villages by Austrian Red Cross Juniors with small haversacks full of toilet articles, a knife, fork and spoon, and some biscuits and sweets. The overwhelming response to the Christmas appeal also made it possible to supply summer wear and recreational materials in three Austrian Red Cross homes for Hungarian children.

Meanwhile, still in December, Juniors in Belgium, Canada, Denmark and Turkey collected posters or painted pictures for camp rooms, while Red Cross children in the Netherlands, Federal Germany and American schools in Europe sent a caravan full of toys round the camps in Austria.

It was thus made possible at Christmas for the refugees to forget their recent upheaval, for a little while. At Camp Wöllersdorf for example, the Hungarian children gave a Nativity play. At Bad

Kreuzen, they danced czardas in appreciation of the gift parcels from Red Cross Juniors in Norway. In the old artillery barracks at Wiener Neustadt they listened to a carol service, attended by the Canadian Ambassador. In Schloss Liechtenstein, an old castle housing many families, presents were obtained for every child, but they were first handed to the parents so that they might give them to their children.

With Christmas over, the task began of planning longterm welfare programmes for education, work and leisure. It was not easy in the early months with rooms lacking, equipment inadequate, population unstable and weather wintry.

All these had changed by April, the change in the amount of equipment being in large part thanks to new donations by National Junior Red Cross Sections. To begin with, funds were provided by Juniors in the United States for equipping each camp with washing and sewing machines. Then, a special appeal in the New Year brought in school and art material from Juniors in Belgium, paints and brushes from Denmark, games from India, sewing materials from Italy, carpentry kits from the Netherlands, musical instruments from Sweden, footballs and sportswear from the United Kingdom and school chests from the United States. Cash donations from Juniors in Australia, Canada, Lebanon, New Zealand and Thailand made possible the purchase of radiogramophones, long-playing records, basketballs, gym shoes and football boots.

In all, Red Cross Juniors in 22 countries responded to the special appeals for Christmas and the New Year including, in addition to those mentioned above, children from the National Sections of Finland, France, Luxembourg, Monaco and Switzerland. Donations in cash alone totalled \$135,000, while the value of gifts in kind were nearer the \$200,000 mark.

Education

One of the first welfare projects undertaken was the setting up of nurseries. In the larger camps this was done in cooperation with members of the International Union for Child welfare, in the smaller camps it had to be undertaken by the Red Cross teams themselves. Alongside the nurseries several teams established kitchens from which special light meals were served, thus encouraging parents to bring their children to the nurseries. Other teams established children's washrooms. At Karawankenhof for example, the Austrian Red Cross team set up a "Cleanliness Corner" where each child could put its coloured towel, toothbrush and soapbox, and be taught to use them regularly.

For the older children, in the many places where they could not go to local schools, classes were held in the camps, sometimes at both elementary and secondary level. Here a good opportunity was provided for furthering a longstanding Junior Red Cross aim, the exchange of art work with children of other lands, while in another special project, the children painted the hardboiled eggs given in all camps for breakfast on Easter Sunday morning.

For adults, language classes were held from the very beginning, either in association with the World YMCA or by teams themselves. Many Societies provided multilingual vocabularies, of which the most ambitious was the 8-language one sent to Austria, and indeed all over the world, by the Netherlands Red Cross. With two-thirds of the Hungarians going to countries speaking English, the greatest stress was placed on teaching that language. German was taught almost as much, though many of the older generation knew it already. As one out of ten refugees intended going to French-speaking countries and one out of twenty to Scandinavia, it was not surprising to find that certain Red Cross teams were determined to get in their own languages, even if it had to be edgeways. When at last prospects became real of emigrating to Latin America, Spanish was taught in some camps and special Hungarian-Spanish dictionaries distributed.

Some advanced and interesting educational projects were developed later in the operation, when it became obvious which groups of refugees seemed likely to stay the longest in camps. The groups in question were the unaccompanied teenagers and professional people, both of whom were accepted by other countries only with difficulty. For them vocational training was provided. At Reid and Kaiser-Ebersdorf, camps in which French Red Cross teams worked wonders, instruction was given in driving and engineering, dressmaking and typewriting, while discussion groups were held for intellectuals. At Camp St. Martin the Canadian team started classes in electronics, while in the Swedish Camp at Traiskirchen there was always a score of refugees busy in the photo laboratory.

Every help was given to priests, ministers and rabbis found among the refugees to carry out their duties. In very many camps rooms were set aside as places of worship.

Work Projects

Throughout the League operation in Austria, there were always some 3,000 Hungarians in regular outside employment. There were many more who found temporary jobs such as clearing snow and

working on the land. Within the camps the Hungarians were kept busy in three ways.

In the first place, they helped in camp administration as medical assistants and nurses, interpreters, cooks and storemen, and in welfare projects as teachers and games instructors.

Secondly, many skilled individuals were given the tools with which to practise their trade. Refugee barbers and hairdressers, tailors and cobblers, decorators and carpenters, electricians and plumbers were found in all camps. But the variety of other skilled tradesmen put to work ranged from a watchmaker in Judenau to a film technician at Klosterneuburg, a manicurist at Korneuburg to a bookbinder at Traiskirchen. Also within this category come the individual artists who were kept busy, the silk painter at Kagranerkaserne, the sculptors at Wiener Neustadt and Albrechtskaserne, the cartoonists and mural workers in most places.

Thirdly, and on this the greatest stress was laid, the refugees participated in group work projects. For women there were sewing, embroidery, crochet and knitting classes, for men craftshops, for both adults and children gardening. Wherever possible skilled tradesmen were asked to take on youths as apprentices. A survey of League camps in April would have found that the American team at Imst had organised a knitting group of eighteen, a crochetwork group of four, and a cross-stitching group of eight. In the French camp at Kaiser-Ebersdorf, ten women joined three times a week in a group sewing project and twenty every day in a group embroidery class, fifteen men met daily for a handicraft class, while twenty worked in the hobbyroom and fifteen in the gardens. Six Hungarians were making pottery at Traiskirchen, twenty-five were learning the locksmith's trade at Hirtenberg, and five carpenters were engaged in building the swings, seesaws, and sandpit for the children's playground in the Canadian camp at Wiener Neustadt. Easter had stimulated the Hungarians to decorate the camp chapels, dining and recreation rooms, and for the holiday special hats had been made at Imst, a project in which fifty refugees participated.

With so much activity it is not surprising that the Hungarians often held exhibitions of work. The first was organised by the French Red Cross team at Ried, in mid-March. It was visited by 3,000 of the town's inhabitants. Exhibitions followed in many other places giving Hungarians the chance to show their skill in needlework and weaving, woodwork and model making, sculpture and painting. Visitors to camps when there were no exhibitions could always be taken to see the Hungarian murals, of which outstanding examples were

found in the diningroom at Wöllersdorf and in the nursery at Traiskirchen.

In several camps hens were kept and in one camp a dozen pigs. The story goes that when one of these pigs developed a cough, it was unanimously decided to give it an injection. The man with the needle, however, quickly came back for a refill. When asked why one dose was not enough, he replied that he now had to give a dozen because he could not find the pig that was coughing!

Leisure Activities

The need to get the refugees out of barrack rooms into the open air was the first consideration in planning recreation programmes. The Hungarians needed no encouragement to play soccer and hardly any to play not so familiar ball games, such as basketball, volleyball and croquet. It is not on record that the British Red Cross teams introduced cricket, but there is no doubt that the American team at Feffernitz started baseball, with one nine called the Budapest Lions and the other Detroit Tigers. Needless to say the latter, whose very name gave them an unfair start, won the opening match, though it may surprise even Michigans to know that the score was 44-17!

Athletics were almost as popular as ball games and here again variety was evident. Apart from the normal track events, there were in different camps opportunities for skiing and tobogganing, putting the shot, javelin throwing, fencing and boxing. Even archery took place in one camp, at Hyrtl'sches Waisenhaus, while another American team, at Imst, introduced the game of horseshoes.

Once these games had been established it became the policy of Red Cross staff to organise competitions inside or between camps, with cigarettes sent by Societies given as prizes. There was considerable success also in getting local clubs to play the Hungarian teams, on which occasions the refugees wore colours fashioned in camp sewing rooms. Competitions were also arranged for players of indoor games, such as chess, ping-pong, and badminton. Some teams organised quiz evenings, and elsewhere bingo proved very popular.

Other indoor activities centred around the recreation rooms with their radiogramophones and small libraries. Books in Hungarian were always difficult to obtain, though school texts and a set of classics had been distributed to each camp by March. The *Bécsi Magyar Híradó*, or *Vienna Hungarian News*, a twice-weekly subsidised in part by the League, also circulated among the camps, and here the chance was used to inform the refugees on possibilities of migration. In some camps

television sets were hired, and on 8 May, the refugees were able to see and hear the internationally diffused programmes commemorating World Red Cross Day.

Among the Hungarians who fled there was a surprising number of actors, variety artists and gypsy musicians, so that in most places it was not difficult to form a camp troupe or a camp band. These artists gave two very useful services, that of passing on their knowledge to others and that of entertaining the whole camp. Even by the end of January when only 24 camps were being operated, ballet classes were being given in four of them and folk dancing in nine, while theatre groups and orchestras had each been formed in eleven camps. Later when musical instruments were sent in, it was quite common to find the Hungarians dancing one or two nights a week to their own band, or arranging a concert and variety show for the public.

With the summer came the opportunity for hikes and excursions. The refugees in the country could enjoy the benefit of their Alpine surroundings, the refugees in the cities could take advantage of the wealth of art which is Austria's. One example of what was done in this way is provided by the Swiss Red Cross team at Rothschildspital, a condemned Vienna hospital whose life was extended a few months to serve as a shelter for Hungarians. The dining and washing facilities were very poor and opportunities for recreation non-existent. So the Swiss Red Cross team started taking the refugees out. Visits were made to the Schönbrunn Palace, the Concert House and the Spanish Riding School in Vienna. Adults were taken to a shoe factory and the children to the zoo. And in a full day's excursion, a return visit was made to the border province of Burgenland, this time to see the castles, storks and sailing boats that silhouette the sunset over calm Neusiedler Lake.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Visitors

The League camps and relief headquarters were constantly visited by heads of state, government ministers and ambassadors. The Vice President of the United States, the Governor General of Northern Ireland and the United Nations High Commissioner were among those who observed the Red Cross operation.

Camp and headquarters staff were also encouraged by the visits of heads of National Societies. Leaders from all Societies with teams in Austria visited the camps as did leaders from the Japanese, South African and Venezuelan Red Cross and from the Turkish Red Crescent.

There were others too who came to the camps, often bringing gifts with them. There were the Canadian airmen who collected over 15 tons of toys and presents at their base in France and then drove them 700 miles so as to reach the refugee camps by Christmas. There was the wife of the Swedish Ambassador in Prague who came to Vienna headquarters bringing cheques from various embassy staffs. And there was the American comedian Bob Hope who, after finding the Hungarian children (with some exceptions) to be one of his best audiences, bought them a new camp nursery.

Information

Camps and relief headquarters were also visited by many journalists, most of them from Europe and North America but others from as far afield as Egypt and Israel. Film teams came from Canada and the United States, television teams from the United States and Italy. On two occasions large groups of journalists were taken round camps: on the first a group from German newspapers and on the second an international group of feature writers touring under the auspices of the High Commissioner.

Press releases were sent regularly to the international news agencies, and occasionally press conferences called, as on the return of the League Chairman from Budapest and on the opening of a Red Cross driving school for refugees in Kaiser-Ebersdorf camp. Both the Director of Operations and the League Secretary General made broadcasts from Vienna, while the farewell reception for Red Cross teams was filmed for Austrian television.

Most of the time of the League Press Office in Vienna was taken up with providing information material for Societies to enable them to report to the public on the use of funds. In January and February a writer and photographer from the American Red Cross visited at least one camp run by a team from each of the 13 National Societies with staff in the field. Articles were written, pictures taken and tape recordings made in the language of the team for sending back to the Society's headquarters.

In February and March, different camps run by teams from all Societies were visited, this time by cameramen. In each of the 13 camps about 600 feet of film were used, providing the basis for a 13½-minute documentary on the League operation. The resulting film, called "Humanity's Crusade", was given a commentary in English or French or German interspersed with Austrian and Hungarian music. Two copies were provided free to all Societies with personnel in Austria and extra copies made available to others at \$20 each. Extracts from the film were used in the television programme shown in many countries on World Red Cross Day, 8 May 1957.

The footage not used for the League documentary was given to National Societies. Those of Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Federal Germany, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom made their own films on Hungarian relief, some using the material supplied by the League along with scenes of transport and resettlement in their own countries.

Eventually photographs were taken of all 44 camps and of most special ceremonies, such as Hungarian concerts and exhibitions, Red Cross meetings and awards. Selections of these pictures were made from time to time by the League Secretariat in Geneva for sending on to all donor Societies.

The first of these is the fact that the Red Cross is a voluntary organization. It is not a government agency, and it is not a part of the military establishment. It is a humanitarian organization, and its primary concern is the relief of suffering. This is why it is able to operate in areas where the government is unable or unwilling to do so.

The second fact is that the Red Cross is a non-partisan organization. It does not take sides in political or military conflicts. It is impartial, and it treats all people equally, regardless of their race, religion, or political beliefs. This is why it is able to gain the trust and cooperation of people from all backgrounds.

The third fact is that the Red Cross is a universal organization. It is present in every country in the world, and it is recognized by all governments. This is why it is able to coordinate relief efforts on a global scale.

The fourth fact is that the Red Cross is a humanitarian organization. Its primary concern is the relief of suffering, and it does so in a way that respects the dignity and rights of all people. This is why it is able to operate in even the most difficult and dangerous circumstances.

The fifth fact is that the Red Cross is a voluntary organization. Its members are volunteers, and they do not receive any payment for their services. This is why it is able to operate in areas where the government is unable or unwilling to do so.

PART TWO

Red Cross Responsibilities in Yugoslavia

Red Cross relief to Hungarian refugees in Yugoslavia was in many ways similar to that given to refugees in Austria. They are chiefly the differences which are noted in the following pages.

I

LEAGUE ASSISTANCE

CAN LEAGUE OR MEMBER SOCIETIES HELP YOU WITH RELIEF HUNGARIAN REFUGEES YOUR COUNTRY. So ran the telegram sent to the Yugoslav Red Cross on 5 November 1956, one day after the mass exodus from Hungary began. But with only one or two hundred refugees coming across in each of the next six weeks, there was no call for outside help.

When the mass influx did begin the League again offered assistance and this time the Yugoslav Society cabled back a request for clothing, bedding, soap and disinfectants. On 21 January five railwagons with 40 tons of clothing and 5,000 blankets were assembled from relief stocks in Vienna for despatch to Belgrade, to be followed before the end of the month by another wagon containing nearly 5 tons of textiles from the League warehouse in Marseilles.

At the end of January and in early February the Secretary General of the Yugoslav Red Cross visited League headquarters in Geneva where it was suggested that the Yugoslav Society assume responsibility for the care of a fixed number of refugees, in this case 10,000. It was also agreed that a League delegate visit camps and centres in Yugoslavia.

It was during the League delegate's visit, which took place from 12 to 27 February, that the Federal Government asked the Yugoslav Red Cross to consider the possibility of assisting not only 10,000 but all the 17,000 Hungarians then in the country. Specifically, this meant the provision of all food and clothing, together with assistance in medical and sanitary measures in camps.

In order to carry out these responsibilities the Yugoslav Red Cross turned to the League. Thanks once again to the support of ICA and National Societies, the League was able to guarantee to the Yugoslav Red Cross the supply of all basic foods (flour, rice, fats, lentils, cheese and dried milk) needed by Hungarian refugees between 1 March and 30 June. The League also undertook to help provide the necessary

supplementary foodstuffs, clothing and bedding, medical supplies, camp equipment and vehicles, and to cover Yugoslav Red Cross operational and administrative expenses, including a fresh food allowance of 2,000 dinars per refugee per month. No foreign Red Cross teams came to work in Yugoslavia, but in order to coordinate reception and distribution of supplies, a special delegate of the League was seconded to the Yugoslav Red Cross for the period of the operation.

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The assuming and defining of responsibilities did not delay the flow of relief from National Societies into Yugoslavia. During February clothing and blankets had come from Argentina, sugar from France, meat, sugar and new clothing from the United Kingdom, and disinfectants, bedding, cutlery, powdered milk and tinned fish from Norway.

But the full effect of League aid in basic commodities was felt only in March and April with the forwarding of hundreds of tons of foodstuffs from Vienna. Altogether nearly 2,900 tons of food, 300 tons of clothing, 100 tons of medical supplies, 250 tons of camp equipment and 33 vehicles were sent to Yugoslavia by the League and National Societies. In addition some 600 tons of supplies were given by voluntary agencies to the Yugoslav Red Cross through the special relief committee formed by the Federal Government, the Red Cross and the High Commissioner, the committee through which all supplies were distributed.

The value of Red Cross supplies is estimated at over \$2 million. In addition over \$50,000 was used by the League Relief Bureau for making purchases of supplies for sending to Yugoslavia, and \$300,000 was spent in that country itself to cover operational expenses, particularly those of fresh food. This money received a favourable exchange, at double the official rate. The administrative expenses incurred by the Yugoslav Red Cross during their relief action were met partly by the League and partly by direct grants from the British, Federal German and Swedish Societies.

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As with the Austrian operation, the League Executive Committee decided at its meeting in April to prolong the relief action in Yugoslavia for a further three months after 30 June. During this extended period the burden of the National Red Cross Society was considerably lightened, firstly as a result of the closing of camps in Austria and the

SUPPLIES
SENT FOR RED CROSS HUNGARIAN REFUGEE RELIEF
IN YUGOSLAVIA

<i>Red Cross Society</i>	<i>Food</i>	<i>Textiles</i> (in metric tons)	<i>Medical</i>	<i>Miscell.</i>	<i>Total Tonnage</i>	<i>Estimated \$ value</i>
Argentina	—	37	—	—	37	39,150
Austria	—	50	—	—	50	38,830
Canada	—	2.6	—	1.3	3.9	13,439
Denmark	115	—	—	—	115	45,093
Ecuador	—	—	—	.2	.2	389
Finland	25.2	—	—	40	65.2	100,000
France	10	—	—	.2	10.2	4,594
Fed. Germany	—	50.7	3.6	—	54.3	12,544
Haiti	.1	—	—	—	.1	164
Italy	—	1.1	—	—	1.1	4,480
Netherlands	25.8	2	—	.5	28.3	16,602
Norway	225	5	15	5	250	283,000
Sweden	188	30	30	24	272	323,994
Switzerland	17.7	2.8	—	6.6	27.1	20,240
United Kingdom	112	4	38	121	275	179,200
United States	1.5	—	.5	3.5	5.5	15,454
ICA	1,266	—	—	—	1,266	320,063
Private Sources (Geneva)	.3	.5	—	—	.8	2,600
Plus forwarded from Austria	910	101	10	54	1,075	650,000
TOTAL	2,896.6	286.7	97.1	256.3	3,536.7	2,069,836

freeing of much material for despatch to Yugoslavia, and secondly as a result of contributions made after visits by Red Cross leaders.

In some cases, National Societies equipped whole camps. For example the British Red Cross provided beds and kitchen equipment for Ecka, a camp housing upwards of 1,500 people, while the Norwegian Society fitted out and paid a \$100,000 cash grant to maintain a convalescent home for 200 persons at Otesevo near the Greek border, a home which was later moved to Selce on the Adriatic coast.

In addition, six Societies responded to a specific appeal for young Hungarian refugees who had come away without their parents. With contributions received from Red Cross Juniors in Australia, Ecuador, Federal Germany, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom, the 400 and more unaccompanied teenagers in the children's home at Bela Crkva could be given sets of new underwear, sportswear, shirts, suits and shoes. From Juniors in the above countries and from others in Canada, New Zealand, Netherlands, Switzerland and the United States, refugee children in Yugoslavia received toilet kits, toys, games and sports equipment, books, school and painting materials, and chocolate.

The centre at Bela Crkva, where unaccompanied refugee children up to 18 wait for either emigration or repatriation, is receiving special attention by several National Societies. Five prefabricated huts have been supplied by the Finnish Red Cross, one for an infirmary, one for a recreation centre, one for a storeroom and two for workshops. The equipment for the workshops has been provided by the Swedish Red Cross, and two sound film projectors with transformers by the French Red Cross.

II

YUGOSLAV RED CROSS SERVICES

It had originally been intended for one or two active Yugoslav Red Cross workers to be attached to all camps. This proved impossible, because the Society did not have sufficient staff to send to camps and centres which in any case were always opening and closing, increasing and decreasing.

At first most of the refugees, once they had been transported away from the overcrowded border centres, were housed in some 90 seaside and spa hotels, places where they could receive a very high standard of care. But when the tourist season began in April, they were moved out to newly assembled camps, often far away from any town and the usual urban amenities. Conditions in these camps were therefore primitive, and much work, including the boring of wells, had to be done before they could be made habitable. The fact that the camps were so isolated also meant the refugees could not easily get away from depressing conditions around them. However, the situation did improve after May, when mass emigration from Yugoslavia eventually started.

At the end of January there were 36 camps, at the end of March 37 camps, at the end of May 26 camps and at the end of July 17 camps. On 30 September there were still 10 camps open.

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The food supplied to the camps was sufficient to give the refugees the same calorie amount as in Austria, while menus were sent from that country for guidance. Food is relatively inexpensive in Yugoslavia, so the fresh produce allowance was sufficient to provide each person with fresh meat, vegetables and fruit three times a week. This allowance went up by half in July, and at the same time the fat ration was doubled.

Clothing sent to Yugoslavia presented the same problems as in Austria, those of storage, sorting and distribution of what were for a

large part rags. The problem was aggravated in Yugoslavia by the very high cost of warehousing, which meant that the responsibility of sorting was completely passed on to the camps.

Medical care in the camps was given by Yugoslav and refugee doctors, assisted by nurses many of them from the Red Cross. The health of the refugees was excellent and most of the work was taken up with treating simple head, chest and stomach troubles. All camps had a well stocked dispensary and many had sick wards. At Camp Sokolac the Yugoslav Red Cross installed a proper hospital in a special building, with approximately 30 beds.

Infectious cases were always removed to the nearest town, and there were in fact no epidemics. Even so, refugees living in large camps were immunised against typhoid fever. A tuberculosis detection campaign could also be carried on from late May, thanks to a mobile X-Ray unit supplied and staffed by the Swedish Red Cross.

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In the field of social welfare especially, the Yugoslav Red Cross missed the trained personnel which other Societies had sent to Austria. But an intermediary solution was found, that of sending staff to study welfare programmes in Austria after which they would go from camp to camp in their own country. Two groups of three welfare workers visited Austria between July and September, the expenses of their visits being defrayed by the League and the British Red Cross Society.

Refugee committees were set up in the more permanent camps, with responsibilities for hygiene, preparation of food, and organisation of games and social activities. With the tools and materials supplied by National Societies it was possible in several places to set tailors, cobblers and barbers to work.

In particular the children's home at Bela Crkva, a small country town almost on the Rumanian border, became a showplace of camp care in Yugoslavia just as, for example, the camps at Brigittaspital, Klosterneuburg and Reid had become showplaces in Austria. A full programme of games, instruction and work projects was provided. In fact, under the guidance of the camp leader and the Yugoslav Red Cross welfare worker, the boys and girls practically ran the centre by themselves. In August, in the presence of government and international officials, an olympiad was staged in which 300 people took part, an event which was incorporated into the young Hungarians' own film of life at Bela Crkva.

PART THREE

Red Cross Activities in Transport and Resettlement

National Red Cross Societies in more than twenty countries have given assistance of many kinds to Hungarian refugees once they left Austria and Yugoslavia. This assistance is continuing even now.

The following pages attempt no more than a brief survey of the main forms which this assistance took before 30 September 1957.

I

TRANSIT ASSISTANCE

The first country to receive the new Hungarian refugees from Austria was Switzerland: the responsibility for ensuring the necessary transport was given to the Swiss Red Cross. Between 7 November and 12 December, 19 Red Cross-staffed trains left Switzerland, taking supplies and bringing back Hungarians, over 10,000 of them. In addition a special hospital train, staffed with 40 Red Cross volunteers, made two journeys to Vienna, to bring back some 250 sick and wounded with their families.

The second big movement of refugees began on 17 November, in planes chartered by the British Red Cross. Within four weeks over 7,500 Hungarians were taken out of Austria in a total of 170 transports. And not only did the Society's chartered planes bring back refugees coming to live in the United Kingdom, but also others going to Ireland and on by ship to Canada.

Aside from their airlift, the British Red Cross also provided medical and nursing care for Hungarians being transferred by rail. In a special project during February, 5,000 were taken to the United Kingdom in Red Cross-staffed trains, with an average of one escort provided for every hundred refugees.

Meanwhile the third mass movement had begun, after the United States Government raised its quota by 21,500 in early December. Some 7,000 of these were transferred in three large naval transports: each was accompanied by a team of four American Red Cross welfare workers. The remaining Hungarians were transferred by air: to service them the American Society sent staff and supplies to the departure point at Munich. And wherever the planes landed for refuelling, either in Iceland, or in Labrador, or in the Azores, there were American Red Cross field directors to provide sweets and cigarettes and toilet articles.

But the area over which Red Cross transit services were given was by no means limited to the northern hemisphere. The 3,000 refugees who travelled via the Cape while the Suez Canal was blocked found

South African Red Cross workers at their port of call with badly needed summer clothing. Others, who flew to Australia, found British Red Cross staff at airports in Cyprus and Singapore ready to hand out extras and to arrange for the care of the sick. Even in North Borneo there were members waiting to give the Hungarians papers and magazines and to post their letters for them. And when they arrived in Melbourne, there were Australian Red Cross voluntary aides to escort them on the seven hour journey to the training centre at Bonegilla.

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During November and December many National Societies had spontaneously serviced trains in transit through their countries. Being spontaneous, these services were frequently duplicated and simple necessities, like water and toilet articles, were often lacking. Milk and baby food were not always provided and, with notice of train schedules so very short, nursing escorts did not always get to Austria in time for departure.

By late December both ICEM and the League had come to the conclusion that this spontaneity must be organised, particularly as most of the trains were now taking refugees on long journeys to ports of embarkation for overseas. The League therefore agreed to staff these transports, each carrying an average of 300 Hungarians, with two nursing escorts, for the most part drawn from the Rudolfinerhaus, the Austrian Red Cross Nursing School in Vienna. Trains were also supplied with toilet articles and a first aid kit, while fresh water and warm milk were put on just before departure. In addition, the League undertook to notify Societies in transit countries of the route and stops of each train and of the number of refugees and babies carried. In this service again, the telex system proved invaluable.

By January of course, half the Hungarians had already gone from Austria, but practically all those who left during 1957 by train and bus and, in the case of Turkey, by air benefited from the League services. They involved provisions for some 190 transports carrying 30,000 refugees, about ten per cent of whom were young children needing special care. From late April onwards all refugees leaving Yugoslavia by rail were also accompanied by nursing escorts, in this case from the Yugoslav Red Cross.

The principal ports of overseas embarkation were Genoa, Le Havre, Liverpool and Trieste, so feeding services in transit were given chiefly by the Societies of Belgium, France, Federal Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom. A complete example of the amount of work in-

volved is provided by the Belgian Red Cross. Until 30 September the Society had serviced 74 transit trains carrying a total of 19,972 persons. Distribution of food had been made chiefly at two centres, at Welkenraedt just after the refugees had crossed from Germany and at Ostend just before they left for England. Belgian Red Cross workers in the former place gave out a total of 38,000 bread rolls, 950 kilos of sausage, 580 of margarine, 120 of coffee, 250 of chocolate and 230 of oranges, together with 1,850 tins of milk and 15,625 cigarettes. For the refugees at Ostend, the Society provided either a dinner of potatoes, butter and bread, or a breakfast of omelette and bread, according to the time the boat was scheduled to depart. The cost of the service at Welkenraedt was \$2,250, that at Ostend \$4,400, though these figures represent less than one twelfth of all that the Belgian Red Cross spent on refugees in their country.

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A more general picture of transit assistance can be obtained by describing a train journey. Just after noon on 29 December 1956, a party of 191 Hungarians left Vienna for Liverpool to embark for Canada. They were joined at Salzburg by another 289 refugees, all members of Sopron University. Coming at the time when ICEM and the League were forming plans for coordination of transit assistance, this journey was undertaken by the League Refugee Transport Service Officer accompanied by an American Red Cross welfare worker and two Austrian Red Cross nurses.

Before the refugees left Salzburg, at 21.00, the Austrian Red Cross stocked the train with bread, butter and sausage, and warm milk for children. The American team at Siezenheim also put on three churns of fresh milk and two large crates of apples.

During the night and following morning, stops were made at Munich, Mannheim, Bonn and Aachen. At each station there were German Red Cross workers waiting to hand out sandwiches, fruit and hot drinks. At Cologne, five Red Cross nurses boarded the train. Three stayed on to Aachen, two as far as Ostend. (Later, a *Blitzwindelwechsel* was introduced between two German stations: German Red Cross nurses would come on with clean nappies at the first, change the babies, and get off with the dirty nappies at the second.)

At 11.00 on 30 December, the train crossed into Belgium. It was an hour late, enough for the passengers to miss the afternoon boat to England, and to have to wait 16 hours for the following boat the next morning. This wait was made more endurable only by the kindness

and efficiency of the local Belgian Red Cross Branch. Its members provided a sandwich lunch and then a hot dinner. They even arranged with railway headquarters in Brussels for the locomotive to stay attached in order to keep the carriages heated, and of course they informed British Red Cross headquarters of the delay. At 3.00 on 31 December the party left for Ostend, to be met by more Belgian Red Cross staff and to have breakfast provided on the boat.

The Channel crossing brought one more worry, that of a woman in advanced pregnancy. Arrangements were made by the League Officer for a doctor to examine the person at Dover. In the event, no birth took place in the shadow of the White Cliffs!

At Dover, packed lunches were given to each refugee by members of local British Red Cross branches, three of whom accompanied the Hungarians as far as Liverpool. On arrival here, the train was again met by the local Red Cross and, while the New Year was being rung in, the Hungarians embarked for Canada.

II

RECEPTION AND RESETTLEMENT

Even before the Sopron students left Liverpool, a list of their names had been received by the Canadian Red Cross. In fact, the National Society received nominal rolls of all Hungarians entering Canada, to transmit them again throughout the country so that the refugees would be welcomed by local Red Cross Branches and other voluntary agencies. There were of course Red Cross teams at all air and sea reception centres in Canada, but the National Society also sent a six member nursing staff to East Brabant to assist the Netherlands Red Cross with the care of the 2,000 refugees who had been given temporary asylum until Canada could more easily assimilate them in the spring.

Earlier the Netherlands Society had received the 3,000 Hungarians who came to stay permanently. Within two days in December the halls of the Industries Fair at Utrecht were transformed into a reception centre, with 1,300 beds taken from 14 disaster warehouses up and down the country.

In fact the Red Cross played a major part in reception in a score of countries. In Chile the President of the Red Cross leads a Committee responsible for reception and integration of Hungarians. In Denmark and Luxembourg some 250 and 100 refugees were accommodated for several months in Red Cross centres. Iceland received over 50 refugees: these were brought from Austria by the Icelandic Red Cross and lodged at the Society's expense until they had found work. Italy, like the Netherlands, also took Hungarians on a temporary basis, in this case in transit for Australia and Latin America. Once again the Red Cross was responsible for care of the refugees, 3,000 of whom were housed in the Society's 16 transit centres. In Ireland also, the Red Cross ran a camp for several hundred refugees waiting to go abroad.

For the first 4,000 who came to Switzerland, the Swiss Red Cross arranged accommodation and a month's allowance until they could draw their initial salary. By 30 September, with the aid of 400 vol-

unteers, the Society had distributed over 80 tons of clothing and toilet articles worth \$150,000, spent \$475,000 on accommodation and resettlement services and committed another \$450,000 for continuing care. In the United States by 30 September, nearly \$1,350,000 had been spent on Red Cross services for the 35,750 Hungarians who went to that country. At Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, through which the vast majority of the refugees passed, over 1,600 American Red Cross volunteers came to work for the Hungarians, distributing 375 tons of clothing, toilet articles, gift boxes and toys, serving coffee and doughnuts, driving the refugees to nearby stations and airports, and handling messages between them and their sponsors.

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Closely connected with the assistance given in reception camps was that given by the Red Cross during the settling-in period when the refugees were moved to more permanent homes. In Iceland, for example, the Red Cross had certain office hours for the Hungarians to come and discuss their problems. Classes in Icelandic were arranged and a special dictionary published.

For those setting up home in South Africa, the Red Cross supplied bedding and arranged letters of credit with which to buy household articles, while the young men employed in the mines were outfitted with new clothing. In Australia also, the Red Cross provided clothing and bedding for the new arrivals, distributing amounts to the value of \$36,000 by 30 September. Meanwhile on the other side of the world, in the Palatinate province of Federal Germany, Red Cross nurses were visiting 50 houses during weekdays to look after children whose mothers had gone out to work.

In other countries some very long term resettlement services have been undertaken by the Red Cross. In Switzerland, the National Society has taken responsibility for the care of all unaccompanied refugees under 21 years of age. In Federal Germany, in addition to looking after refugees in over 60 ordinary shelters, the Red Cross provided for more than 1,200 young Hungarians in vocational training centres. The Liechtenstein Red Cross, for its part, supports five young people studying at Zurich, and has found a home in the principality to which they can come back during vacations.

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In all countries of resettlement the Red Cross has taken on its by now traditional responsibilities in tracing and family reunion. Imme-

diately after the mass influx began, the ICRC drew up four-language personal history cards. An effort was made to get all refugees to complete these cards, first in Austria and Yugoslavia and again in countries of resettlement.

In cooperation with the International Committee, both the Austrian and Yugoslav Red Cross operated tracing services, while in other countries National Societies registered the refugees, or provided communication facilities, or even made the necessary intercession with governments to bring about family reunions. In the Netherlands, for example, the Red Cross dealt with 5,000 enquiries during the half year beginning November 1956. Some 2,400 of the persons enquired after were found in Hungary and 300 in the camps in Austria. The League Secretariat in Geneva itself received 600 requests for news, and played a part in the reunion of 50 families.

This kind of work is best illustrated by a personal history. On arriving in Camp Kilmer, at the end of November 1956, a nineteen-year-old girl told a Red Cross worker she had an aunt somewhere in the United States, but she had only the address of a cousin in Ontario, Canada. The American Red Cross wired the Canadian Society to trace the aunt through the cousin and as a result a telephone call from New Jersey came through to Camp Kilmer. It was from the girl's aunt, saying she had been informed of her niece's arrival by the Canadian Red Cross, that she was eager to provide a home for the girl, and that she wanted to know when she could pick her up. The necessary arrangements were made and, on the morning after the original wire had been sent, the girl left the camp for her new home.

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All real resettlement is best told in terms of personal stories, rather than by statistics. Each individual has to be resettled individually, by name rather than by number. And the person-to-person devotion, which led to Red Cross workers going day after day to consulates in Vienna to try and get one tubercular person joined up with a healthy family abroad, is reflected twenty-fold in the countries of resettlement, in the success of the British Red Cross in getting an old mother out to join her daughter's family in England, in the American Red Cross efforts to give a refugee singer the chance of appearing on nation-wide television, in the gift by the New Zealand Society of wedding dresses and suits to Hungarian brides and grooms.

Children show this goodwill even more spontaneously than adults. When the first refugees arrived in Auckland, New Zealand Juniors were there with placards painted in the Hungarian colours of red white

and green, and printed with *Isten Hozta*, the Hungarian words of welcome. In Norwich, British Juniors helped the refugees learn English by making scrapbooks of pictures of all objects usually found in a house. In Ireland on World Red Cross Day 1957, every one of the 150 children in Knockalisheen camp received a gift parcel from Irish Juniors, and the two babies born in that country were each given quilts knitted by young Red Cross members in a girl's school in County Wexford.

"Dear Young Friends", ran a letter addressed to the Red Cross Girl Cadets of Auckland, "I am sorry I cannot speak and write well to you in your native language. Above all, I want to thank in the name of the Hungarians your gifts. In our sorrows it is very good that we are surrounded by an enormous volume of goodwill. We want to say that we love you very much and we want nothing better to build new friendship with the people of this country."

CONCLUSIONS

On 30 September 1957 the League relief actions for Hungarian refugees in Austria and Yugoslavia came to an end. The previous eleven months had seen the most universal demonstration yet of Red Cross relief for a stricken people and certainly the largest operation undertaken by the League, the world Red Cross federation.

Contributions both in cash and kind came from National Societies of 52 countries:

- in Africa, those of Ethiopia and South Africa;
- in Latin America, those of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Nicaragua, Salvador, Uruguay and Venezuela;
- in North America, those of Canada and the United States;
- in Asia, those of Burma, Ceylon, India, Indonesia, Iran, South Korea, Lebanon, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand and South Vietnam;
- in Australasia, those of Australia and New Zealand;
- in Europe, those of Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Federal Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, San Marino, Turkey, United Kingdom and Yugoslavia.

Even this does not fully illustrate the worldwideness of relief contributions, for other countries such as Bolivia and Peru are represented in the gifts made to the League from private sources, while many dependent territories, ranging from Jamaica through Swaziland to the Solomon Islands, contributed through local branches of the British Red Cross Society.

A total of 22,500 tons of relief supplies, valued at \$14,200,000, were sent for Red Cross relief in Austria and Yugoslavia. With cash contributions in addition totalling \$4,300,000 and personnel services \$700,000, the League can be said to have operated relief programmes valued at \$19,200,000. And from information received from Societies, it seems likely that half as much again of this sum had been used in reception and resettlement services by 30 September 1957.

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The enormous scale of contributions, coupled with the fast emigration of the Hungarians, meant that there were several thousand tons of supplies and equipment remaining when the League operation ended. In Yugoslavia this was left in the control of the National Red Cross Society and in Austria most of it was handed over to the Federal Government, in both countries for the continuing care of refugees. The clothing and a small portion of foodstuffs in Austria became the property of the National Red Cross for use in its special programme among refugees, while some of the bedding and medical supplies have been kept by the League for further disaster relief. Already by the end of October, bedding had been sent to Haiti and Bulgaria, and medical supplies to Turkey, Pakistan and Spain for flood victims in those countries.

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This necessity of being prepared for future disasters was the main study of a seminar of delegates from 15 National Societies meeting in Vienna during July under the League Chairman's leadership. It was then resolved, in order for the League to be ready in advance, that National Societies prepare rosters of expert personnel and lists of emergency relief supplies which might be rapidly despatched to areas of disaster at League request, and that the League itself prepare an international manual of relief procedures, with the assistance of additional expert personnel to be attached to Geneva headquarters.

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This meeting in Vienna also provided an opportunity for the Austrian Government to seal previous presentations to Red Cross leaders with the award of the Grand Golden Decoration to the League Chairman, the highest honour normally conferred on a non-governmental representative of a foreign country. Later, in Belgrade, the Chairman also received the Order of the Yugoslav Flag, First Rank, from the Federal Government of that country.

On 13 September 1957 the League became the first organisation to receive an honour previously bestowed only on individuals, among whom have been Mrs Franklin D. Roosevelt and Queen Juliana of the Netherlands. This was the Nansen Medal, awarded in memory of the Norwegian explorer and humanitarian for work on behalf of refugees. The presentation was made by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and the address given by Mr Odd Nansen, the great Norwegian's son, who reminded the audience of the 200,000 Hungarian and other

refugees under UN mandate still in Europe, one quarter of them in camps: "Year in, year out we have watched—or rather closed our eyes to—the sight of thousands of valuable, noble human lives being destroyed so to speak on our doorstep, lives we could have saved. And the process goes on, for the refugee problem is still unsolved, twelve years after the conclusion of the war!"

"We know that the spirit of charity exists, and that it can solve problems. The Hungarian tragedy proved that. A spontaneous wave of sympathy and fellow-feeling produced organised relief on a scale hitherto unknown.

"And yet this aid was not large enough—or perhaps I should say not enduring enough—to solve the *whole* problem. Once the sensational had died down, the wave of sympathy seemed to slacken. There are still thousands of Hungarian refugees living in camps, waiting and hoping for a chance to start their lives afresh, on a basis of respect for human values, in some country willing to accept them.

"These thousands are in addition to tens of thousands of others who have already waited for as much as twelve years for the same opportunity. Twelve years in a refugee camp, ladies and gentlemen, deprived of the everyday joys of a normal family life, crammed together in over-crowded barracks, separated from friends, home and native land, at the mercy of other people's grace and favour.

"Let us rally to the aid of the High Commissioner and our own relief organisations, headed by the Red Cross, and see that they are in a position to complete the splendid work carried out in the year that has gone. Let neither them nor us rest on our oars till the work has been done".

APPENDIXES