Subject files Regarding Social Welfare
Relief and Rehabilitation
C/SOC/520 - Aid Programmes, Co-ordination and Co-operation with Different Field Offices

08/12/1960 - 17/02/1961

8/7

PLEASE RETAIN
ORIGINAL ORDER

c/soc 530 Kikuchi

Letter Hamitatu (?)

removed by Mr. Sale.

ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES
AU CONGO

UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION
IN THE CONGO

BOITE POSTALE 7248
LEOPOLDVILLE
REPUBLIQUE DU CONGO
CABLE : ONUC, LEOPOLDVILLE

Registry

6/Doc 520 Kikwit

17 February 1

Chief, Movement Control (Attention: Major Mahommed)
F.W. Tooby, Deputy Chief Refugee Relief Coordinator
Food Relief for Leprosarium, Mosango, Nr. Kikwit

We have received information that 450 lepers are suffering from acute starvation in the above-named institute.

We intend to provide ten tons of food - sufficient to feed the inmates for two months - out of the stocks now lying at N'Djili airfield.

Confirming our conversation with Major Mahommed, we wish to send this load to Kikwit on the aircraft assigned to lifting Moroccan troops from there, on 18, 19 and 20 February. It is understood that the load will be carried on the second shuttle of 18 February. Major Mahommed has kindly said that he will be goind on the first flight and will arrange for offloading the aircraft.

The load is to be assigned to the Bishop of Kikwit, Mgr. Lefevre, who will arrange for transport to be at the Kikwit airfield at 11.00 local, 18 February.

Mr. Alec Duncan-Smith will be at N'Djili to designate the foods which are to be airlifted. He will contact Movement Control, N'Djili, to arrange this.

The weights involved are:

15,000	lbs.	rice
3,000	"	dried fish
3,000	"	milk (powder)
1,000	"	sugar
22,000	lbs.	Total

FWT/lm

Registry

e/soc #520 KIKWIT

Ce 11 février 1961

Monsieur le Président,

J'ai l'honneur d'accuser réception de votre lettre du 3 février, No Cab. 90/168/441 ayant trait à l'aide à apporter à la population de Kikwit.

Je me suis entretenu de cette question avec le Coordinateur des secours aux réfugiés, l'un des collaborateurs de mon service, et je suis très heureux de vous faire connaître que nous sommes en mesure de mettre à votre disposition de la farine de maïs, du lait écrémé en poudre, du sucre et du poisson séché. Nous ne disposons malheureusement pas pour le moment de viande fraiche ou de poisson frais mais nous pensons recevoir ultérieurement du riz.

Les quantités dont nous disposons à l'heure actuelle sont assez limitées, et je vous serais reconnaissant de bien vouloir m'indiquer à combien de personnes environ s'adresserait cette distribution de vivres dans la région de Kikwit. Nous nous proposons de déterminer les quantités nécessaires sur la base d'un régime journalier de 1500 calories par personne, soit 300 grammes de farine de maïs ou de riz, 60 grammes de poisson séché et 30 grammes d'huile de palme. Nous supposons que l'on peut trouver de l'huile de palme dans la région. Le lait écrémé en poudre devrait être distribué à raison de 40 grammes par jour et par personne.

Je crois savoir que vous pourriez assurer vous-même le transport de ces vivres.

Je tiens à vous signaler également que nous avons reçu du Secrétaire général de Caritas une demande de secours en vivres pour la léproserie de Masango. Il semble que les 450 malades qui y sont hospitalisés sont démunis de vivres depuis déjà quelques jours.

Nous avons accepté de leur fournir quelques 10 tonnes de farine de maïs, de poisson séché, de sucre et de lait en poudre, soit du ravitaillement pour un mois sur la base du régime alimentaire journalier indiqué ci-dessus. Etant donné l'urgence de leurs besoins et les circonstances assez exceptionnelles dans lesquelles se trouvent ces malades, nous avons convenu de leur envoyer ces vivres par avion à Kikwit et les adresserons à Mgr. Lefevre, évêque de Kikwit, comme nous l'a recommandé Caritas. Nous avons pris ces dispositions en supposant à priori qu'elles auraient votre accord.

Je tiens à vous redire, Monsieur le Président, que nous demeurons à votre entière disposition pour vous venir en aide dans la mesure de nos moyens qui sont malheureusement limités, et nous espérons avoir le plaisir de vous lire dans un proche avenir. Si vous préférez, vous pouvez téléphoner directement au Service de coordination des secours aux réfugiés, au Royal, poste 105, et exposer vos problèmes à M. Grun, Chef de ce service, ou à M. Tooby, son adjoint.

Je vous prie de bien vouloir agréer, Monsieur le Président, l'assurance de ma considération distinguée.

A. Balinski,
Chef des Opérations civiles par interim.

M. C. KAMITATU
Président du Gouvernement
de l'Etat de Léopoldville

ROUTING SLIP

TO Mr. Sein

	APPROVAL		NOTE AND RETURN
	SEE ME, PLEASE		YOUR COMMENTS
	YOUR SIGNATURE		YOUR INFORMATION
	NOTE AND FILE		FOR ACTION

Let's discuss it urgently!

DATE

FROM

C/SOC 520 KIKWIT

RÉPUBLIQUE DU CONGO

Léopoldville, le 3 février 1961.

NºCab.90/168/441.

CABINET
DU
PRÉSIDENT DU GOUVERNEMENT

Réf. nº

Annexe :

Objet :

Au Docteur LINNER
Chef des Opérations Civiles aux Nations-Unies Congo
B.P.7248
à LEOPOLDVILLE.

Monsieur le Docteur,

Je me permets à nouveau de vous remercier pour l'effort que les Nations-Unies ont fourni en vue d'apporter une aide substantielle aux populations de Kikwit qui ont été victimes des incidents douloureux.

Cette aide a été fort ressentie par les populations spécialement en ce qui concerne le domaine médical.

Lors de ma dernière visite dans ces régions il y a 8 jours, j'ai pu me rendre compte de la difficulté d'approvisionnement d'alimentation qui existe encore à un point aigu dans la cité de Kikwit et dans certains autres territoires.
De mon côté, je viens d'entamer une action destinée à assurer l'approvisionnement des populations.

Je me permets par la présente d'introduire auprès de vos services une demande tendant à obtenir pour ces mêmes populations une aide accrue portant sur une alimentation de base pour Kikwit et pour les territoires environnant.
Cette aide je la résume dans les produits des plus nécessaires et dont je vous fournis la liste :
- du riz;
- de lait;
- du sucre;
- du poisson frais;
- de la viande;
- du poisson salé.

Plusieurs maisons ayant fermé leurs portes par manque des licences d'importation, d'autres maisons commerciales ayant été pillées pendant les incidents, le ravitaillement devient très difficile.
Je ne me doute pas de votre bonne volonté, je me rends compte de certaines difficultés techniques qui pourront surgir dans l'exécution de cette demande.
Si certaines difficultés s'offraient pour des raisons quelconques, je suis à votre disposition pour discuter les modalités d'application.

./..

Comptant sur votre souci humanitaire d'apporter l'aide matérielle nécessaire aux populations déshéritées, j'ose espérer que vous réserverez à la présente une suite favorable et si possible urgente pour empêcher l'éclatement de la famine dans ces régions.

Je vous prie d'accepter, Monsieur le Docteur, l'assurance de ma considération très distinguée.

Le Président du Gouvernement
de l'Etat de Léopoldville,
C. KAMITATU.

c/SOC 520/KIKWIT

ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES
AU CONGO

UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION
IN THE CONGO

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Seen - thanks Dayal 14/12

14 December 1960

A: (1) Mr. Dayal
(2) Dr. Linner

DE: J. Grün (Room 340, Ext.116)

OBJET: The Kikwit Emergency

1. I refer to Mr. Micuta's memoranda of 8 and 9 December concerning the situation in Kikwit and to Dr. Linner's manuscript instructions to Monsieur Dumontet.

2. I have discussed the matter with Mr. Micuta. There are a number of aspects to this issue that do not quite make sense. If the situation is as described by Mr. Micuta verbally and in his memos, i.e. that the population have fled the town, then obviously distribution is not practicable. If the situation is no longer so, i.e. that the people have returned, then there seems not much justification for emergency distribution. Also, if the Army continues to terrorize the town and the doctor is restrained from tending the injured, it is unlikely that the Army will permit distribution. However, Mr. Micuta feels that the Commissaire de District could nonetheless achieve some kind of distribution.

3. I have agreed with Mr. Micuta as follows:

(a) We will make 4.5 tons of skim milk and 0.5 tons of sugar available from the Food Coordinator's stocks.

(b) The Food Coordinator will make available 150,000 CF in liquid funds for local purchase of additional foodstuffs.

(c) We will make one DC4 available on Friday, 16th, to airlift the supplies.

.../...

(d) Mr. Micuta (and two provincial officials) will accompany the shipment and organize the distribution personally.

(e) He will ask the Commissaire de District to open a bank account, organize a small "coordinating committee" for the purchases and approval of invoices and instruct the Commissaire de District to submit invoices of all purchases to the Food Coordinator.

(d) Mr. Micuta will himself organize a supply of medicaments - in so far as they are necessary.

4. It is understood that this is a one-time token contribution.

cc: Food Coordinator
Air Operations
Movement Control
Mr. W. Micuta

c/Soc 520 KIKWIT

M. Dumont

Prof. Dayal feels that if we can open line and offset from the Karai problem it might be advisable to give at least a token contribution to Kikwit, since our Mission keeps on being criticized - apparently not without reason - for their inactive attitude

Ambassador R. Dayal

ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES AU CONGO

UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION IN THE CONGO

INTER - OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Seen thanks. Is any relief action contemplated? RD 10/12

9 December 1960

A: Mr. S. Linner S. Linner
Chief, Civilian Operations

DE: W. Micuta W. Micuta
Civilian Operations Officer
for the Province of Leopoldville

OBJET: Concerning the situation in Kikwit

As you know from my urgent note of yesterday, I had the visit of Mr. Sebastien Balongi, Minister of Agriculture in the Provincial Government, and his Secretary, Mr. Maccaire Lamba, who came to see me on behalf of the President of the Provincial Government, Mr. Kamitatu, to ask for help for the distressed population of Kikwit.

I have also a report on events in Kikwit from the Protestant Mission's doctor in Kikwit. This doctor dealt with all injured people and counted himself dead ones. The results of my investigations are the following.

In the last few weeks, there was an increase in animosities between people of Bakongo and people of local tribes living in the Kikwit district. The troubles became when the local youth organizations started to ill-treat people of Bakongo. No one was killed but the doctor had many cases of injured people. To stop the troubles, soldiers were sent from Leopoldville. They disarmed the local police. (I could not get confirmation whether they disarmed also the soldiers who were stationed in Kikwit). To settle the problem, the Provincial Government assigned a commission of sixteen deputies belonging to various political parties. The commission was supposed to leave by air to Kikwit on Friday, 3 December, 1960. The plane was chartered with Sabena. At the last moment, Colonel Mobutu forbidden the departure. However, people in Kikwit arrived in a certain number at the airport to welcome the commission. The social tension went up. In this atmosphere, one Mobutu's officer was attacked, hit with a hammer in the chest and with a long knife (used for agricultural work) in his head. He died in the hospital on Saturday. This put Mobutu's soldiers into fury. They went on killing people and particularly looking for leaders of youth organizations. The commanding Mobutu's officer behave very nastily against the population and against the doctor. He forbade the doctor to go finding the injured and the dead ones. The doctor counted himself 14 dead, all male adults. Many of that number died in

the hospital of their wounds. The number of dead will be certainly higher as there is news about people being drowned and missing. Yesterday afternoon, it was reported to me that there were 7 people seriously injured, 15 injured and 5 slightly injured. After the events, there were two new groups of Mobutu's soldiers, each of 60 men, coming to Kikwit.

The report from Kikwit yesterday afternoon stated that the population is still terrorized, a great number of people escaped to the nearby forests and that there is a pronounced shortage of food and medicaments, that the soldiers are robbing the empty houses and started to put fire to them. Mr. Balongi told me that during all these troubles, the local population implored the Moroccan soldiers stationed in Kikwit for protection. The Moroccan soldiers did not give such protection which generated a very bitter feeling of the population against them.

Mr. J. Kelly from Mr. Dayal's office, on my request, carried on investigations through the Moroccan soldiers in Kikwit. This morning I received the following reply from him:

a) It is true that there is urgent need for food and medicaments.
b) It is true that the Congolese soldiers started to burn houses.

In view of this, I would beg you again to give me possibilities to assist the distressed population of Kikwit, as mentioned in my memo of yesterday.

c/soc 500 Original: Duplicate exists

ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES AU CONGO

UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION IN THE CONGO

c/soc 500/Kik

INTER - OFFICE MEMORANDUM

9 December 1960

A: Dr. S. Linner, Chief Civilian Operations

DE: G. Dumontet, Special Assistant

OBJET: Assistance to the population of Kikwit

With reference to Mr. Micuta's memorandum concerning assistance to the population of Kikwit, I wish to submit the following comments:

1. Without doubting the sincerity of the request put to him by Mr. Balongi, further evidence would be needed to establish whether the situation in Kikwit is that of a "distress area" or merely temporarily difficult.

2. "Relief action" on our part to that area, if it were in the form of shipment of food by airlift, could take place only to the detriment of the refugees in South Kasai.

3. What guarantee could be given to us that money put at the disposal of the local authorities will be used to help feed the population.

4. If the real reason for the assistance recommended by Mr. Micuta is that in his own words "we must take some action if we do not want to lose any co-operation with the Government", I submit this is not the adequate way of meeting this political situation.

I suggest that we wait for further information.

cc: Mr. Micuta

C/SOC 510 KIK ~~500~~

9 December 0

Mr. S. Linner
Chief, Civilian Operations
W. Micuta W. Micuta
Civilian Operations Officer
for the Province of Leopoldville

Concerning the situation in Kikwit

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C/SOC ~~500~~ 570 KIKWIT

ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES AU CONGO

UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION IN THE CONGO

INTER - OFFICE MEMORANDUM

8 December 1960

A: Mr: S. Linner
Chief, Civilian Operations

DE: W. Micuta
Civilian Operations Officer
for the Province of Leopoldville

OBJET: Concerning assistance to the population of Kikwit

Today, at 11 a.m., I had the visit of the Minister of Agriculture in the Provincial Government, Mr. Sebastien Balongi, and his secretary, Mr. Macaire Lamba, who came to see me on behalf of the President of the Provincial Government, Mr. Kamitatu. The purpose of the visit was the sincere request to help the distressed population in Kikwit. I will present to you the situation in Kikwit tomorrow in a separate memo after receiving additional information, which I hope to have very soon. However, already now, it is quite clear that distress existing in Kikwit justifies wholly a relief action on our part.

As you know, the affair of Kikwit is the very centre of the Provincial Parliament and Provincial Government's preoccupation and the humane feeling is very tense, particularly in view that the UNO Moroccan troops refused or were not able to defend the local population against the violence of the soldiers. We are directly approached by delegates of the Provincial Government and I feel that we must take some action if we do not want to lose any co-operation with the Government.

Therefore, I suggest that you contemplate the following forms of assitance:

a) shipment of concentrated food, such as powdered milk, dried fish or canned meat.
b) shipment of medicaments and wound dressing materials necessary for injured people.
c) in case, if the two above-mentioned forms of assistance are impossible because of lack of food stuffs and medicaments or because of transport difficulties, I would suggest to put at the disposal of the District Administrator in Kikwit a certain amount of money; say 300,000 Congolese francs; for purchase of food stuffs in the district for the need of the Kikwit population.

~~C/SOC 520~~
C/SOC 520KIK

Mr Balinski
Dumontet

Politically delicate!

8 December 0

Mr: S. Linner
Chief, Civilian Operations

W. Micuta
Civilian Operations Officer
for the Province of Leopoldville

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