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Full Item Register Number [auto] **CF/RAI/USAA/DB01/HS/2004-00127**

ExRef: Document Series/Year/Number

Record Item Title

**UNICEF Biography 'Mr. Maurice Pate, Executive Director, UNICEF**

Date Created / on Item  
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Fd1: Type: IN, OUT, INTERNAL?  
Fd2: Lang ?Sender Ref or Cross Ref  
F3: Format

Container Record  
Container Record (Title)

N1: Numb of pages  
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N2: Doc Year  
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N3: Doc Number  
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Notes

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UNICEF

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# UNICEF

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND • FONDS DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENFANCE

UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK

Mr. Maurice Pate

Executive Director, UNICEF

Maurice Pate has been Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Fund was created in 1946 by the UN General Assembly.

Since then under Mr. Pate's directorship UNICEF whose original purpose was to help meet the emergency needs of children in war-devastated countries, principally of Europe, has expanded its activities to the underdeveloped countries of Asia, the Eastern Mediterranean, Africa and the Americas, where it is helping governments build basic, permanent health services for children and their mothers.

In 1959, for instance, the Fund helped over 365 child care projects, — more than one for every day of the year, — in nearly 110 countries and territories around the world: bringing to some 55 million children and mothers a measure of protection from malnutrition and disease.

Born in the middle west of the United States, in Nebraska, 65 years ago, Maurice Pate has engaged in a variety of welfare activities since his graduation from Princeton in 1915. The year after finishing his studies he gave up business projects and accepted appointment to President Hoover's Commission of Relief in Belgium. His travels round Europe after the First World War brought him into contact for the first time with multitudes of hopeless and hungry human beings. He was particularly struck by the plight of the children. Pate showed an immediate administrative ability, played an active part in the success of the Commission and was subsequently appointed Director of Child Feeding Operations with the American Relief Administration in Poland from 1919 to 1921.

After a business career representing American oil interests in Poland between wars, Mr. Pate took over direction of Polish Relief in New York from 1939 to 1941, and was later, from 1942 to 1946, appointed Director of Relief to American and Allied war prisoners with headquarters in Washington.

Soon after the war's end, in mid-1946, he accompanied his former Chief Herbert Hoover on a three months food survey of 38 countries, studying relief needs and child welfare operations.

A few months after their return, as a result of their report and with powerful backing from Congress in Washington as well as such private individuals as Fiorello La Guardia then Mayor of New York and head of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Agency, the United Nations General Assembly voted to establish UNICEF, and Maurice Pate was unanimously elected its Executive Director.

Perhaps the best tribute that can be paid to this kindly world humanitarian, whose achievements can never be measured in money, although in the past 12 years he has managed to direct many millions of dollars towards the suffering and needy children of the world, is to be found in the citation with which his old University Princeton last year made him an Honorary Doctor of Philanthropy.

"Maurice Pate, -- samaritan to the suffering, inveterate foe to all famine, in the wake of two wars, he has mightily worked, carrying the benison of milk and bread to well over fifty millions of the world's under-nourished children. That "hungry mouths look up and are not fed" can never be affirmed in the presence of one who by his untiring labours seeks always to ensure that the children of today shall be fully equipped to face the rigorous challenge of tomorrow".

Last year (October 1959) Mr. Pate was among the 4 medical scientists and three laymen to receive the annual awards from the Lasker Foundation and the American Public Health Association. The award was given for his "notable work in directing UNICEF programmes against childhood diseases and suffering."