

TENTATIVE REPORT OF ICEF MISSION ON HONGKONG

Since the reoccupation by the British the population of HongKong has increased enormously due to influx of people from China. Malnutrition is widely prevalent among the poorer classes, there is much over-crowding and deaths from malaria and tuberculosis have increased.

A Social Welfare program has been inaugurated and relief by supplementary feeding is given to needy pregnant and nursing mothers, infants and children through infant welfare centers, orphanages, youth clubs and free food kitchens. Much however remains to be done before health and nutrition state can be brought to pre-war level.

PROGRAM; The Mission discussed with the authorities the various forms of aid from I.C.E.F. The authorities emphasized the necessity for extending existing feeding program. Medical supplies are reasonably adequate and no aid is requested. There are very few suitable local persons with sufficient basic training for training abroad in Child health and welfare. Training program is therefore not contemplated at present. Supplementary feeding is the most urgent need and the Mission agreed that the entire allotment from ICEF be utilized for this purpose. Authorities estimated that the current feeding scheme can be extended to 4,000 pregnant and nursing mothers, 7,000 infants under one year and 6,000 children. Limited funds will not permit covering so many. The Mission suggested that estimates be based upon approximately \$25,000. A detailed request for aid could not be obtained before the Mission left the country.

Administration of the feeding program will be jointly by department of Social Welfare and Health Department. Voluntary organizations - Society for the protection of children, Social Welfare Council and Catholic Missions - will collaborate.

B.C.G. Discussed B.C.G. vaccination with a Dane who was well informed on the methods. Because of lack of source of supply of vaccine no plans for BCG program can be made at present.

Provision of supplementary foods being requested. If balances of fund

remain after requirements of Far Eastern countries have been appraised the Mission would recommend an increase in the amount to \$50,000.

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