

Refugees Denied UN Aid Because Reds Not Member

By ARTHUR J. DOMMEN
United Press International
HONG KONG — One of the paradoxes of the cold war is that the thousands of destitute Chinese refugees pouring into Hong Kong and Macao would be eligible for United Nations assistance if Peiping instead of Taipei held membership in that world organization.

At present, these refugees are denied such assistance and the burden of housing, feeding and clothing them falls heavily on the Hong Kong government and the Taipei-sponsored mainland relief association, both with only limited financial resources.

The Hong Kong government, in an effort to stem the flow of an estimated 7,000 to 8,000 refugees per month joining the one million already in this tiny colony, has recently stepped up land and sea patrols.

Appeals Are Made
Appeals have been heard here for other nations to take part of the burden of caring for and resettling some of these refugees, many of whom arrive here with only the clothes they wear.

Under present statutes, Chinese refugees in Hong Kong, unlike refugees in the Middle East and the Congo, cannot expect much relief from the United Nations, the international body best equipped to provide such emergency aid.

According to Articles 6 and 7 of the statute of the office of the United Nations high commissioner for refugees, aid can be given only to those who have fled their countries because of racial, religious or political persecution and who are unable or unwilling to return to their respective countries and receive their government's protection.

The United Nations considers that Chinese refugees who do not meet the description of being "unable or unwilling to return" since the Nationalist Chinese government in Taipei claims to exercise its sovereignty over the mainland population as well as over the population of Formosa.

Published in Report
This conclusion was published in a report prepared for the United Nations high commissioner for refugees by Dr. Edward Hambro.

The report is dated 1954. According to independent information here from a variety of sources, its principal legal conclusions remain valid to this day.

"It has thus been established that it is doubtful whether any large number of the Chinese refugees fulfill the positive criteria for eligibility as refugees within the high commissioner's mandate, because they can be protected by their own government," the report said.

The report also makes it clear that the refugees could receive United Nations aid if the only government claiming sovereignty over the inhabitants of the mainland were the Peiping government.

Be Little Doubt
If there had been only one government in China, in Peiping, there would be little doubt that this particular group of refugees would come within the terms of the statute of the United Nations high commissioner for refugees," the report said.

Although the United Nations does not legally recognize state or governments, the report said it would be "very difficult" for the high commissioner to act as if the mainland were considered as one state and Taiwan as a separate one.

However, both Peiping and Taipei have maintained their uniform contention that China is one indivisible country. Peiping has condemned President Kennedy's alleged "two Chinas policy." Both Peiping and Taipei regard the civil war as continuing, with the "front" running in the 1,000-yard-wide channel off Quemoy Island.

A COLD CASE
Indianapolis, Ind. — The Service Inc. of Evansville, Ind., has filed a \$250,000 lawsuit against the Indiana Telephone Co. because the name of the ice making firm was left out of the phone book.

COULDN'T SAVE MONEY
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Education Center
Set Up At University

Eugene — An International Education Center has been established by students at the University of Oregon to provide financial assistance to students who have been accepted for foreign travel and study programs.

The Center was established by the Associated Students of the University of Oregon. The program will be guided by a joint faculty-student board. Students accepted for foreign travel and study are usually provided with financial aid. Their residence abroad, but must meet travel costs and other expenses themselves. Three university students have already been accepted for foreign programs during the 1962-63 year.

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