

New Generation Starts Life Knowing Only Displaced Living

By GARY HAMPTON
United Press International
 For 14 years, since they fled their homes in what is now Israel, more than 1,000,000 Arabs have lived as refugees with no place to go — often without food or proper housing, mostly without work. And worst of all, until recently, virtually without hope.

Among the displaced, a whole new generation has begun life knowing nothing else. About half of the refugees are under 17 years of age. Even those who are now in their later teens or early 20's have little or no memory of the homes in which they were born.

The only thing that has made life bearable or even possible for these homeless ones has been the care and feeding provided them by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA). It has fed and housed them, established schools and hospitals for them, found work for some, tried to make some kind of life for all.



RECEIVE MEAL—Children receive a hot mid-day meal at this Debayeh Camp, Lebanon, food station. For 14 years, since they fled their homes in what is now the young Israeli nation, more than 1 million Arabs have lived as refugees with no place to go.

Vote To Extend UNRWA

The UN General Assembly voted Dec. 20 to extend the life of UNRWA until June 30, 1965. The United States resolution, approved 100-2, also called on the Palestine Conciliation Committee to continue seeking peace between Israel and the Arab countries, which would be an important element in any final solution of the refugees' plight.

By the end of 1962 the cost of this gigantic mercy operation will have totalled, by United Nations figures, about \$455,080,000. The United States has contributed roughly 65 per cent of this, or \$292 million. Britain's contribution has been nearly \$75 million.

With the exception of Yugoslavia, the Communist states have contributed nothing.

The host Arab states — Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the

United Arab Republic — have contributed approximately \$11,500,000 in cash and some \$45 million in such direct services as providing water and land, and police, educational and medical services. The balance of roughly \$32 million has come from about 40 other regularly contributing UN member countries.

About 44 per cent of the

total cost has been spent providing 870,000 of the refugees with food at 10 cents per day. There are in all, today, nearly 1,200,000 registered refugees. The UAR-occupied Gaza strip holds 265,000; Jordan has 633,000; Lebanon 143,000 and Syria 121,000. The exact number of refugees is not known since there are others, uncounted and not under UN-

RWA care, in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Aden and the truce Shiekhdoms of Qatar, Oman and Abu Dhabi.

The approximately one-third of the refugees who do not depend on food handouts are self-supporting. A few were former professional people in Palestine — doctors, lawyers, teachers. But most of the "self-supporting" scratch

a hard living as day laborers. There are a minority who work as skilled clerks, store assistants and the like.

What is to become of these people?

Grapple With Problem

This is the problem with which the United Nations has been grappling since 1948 against the unending — and also virtually insoluble — background of bitter Israeli-Arab strife. None of the problems that sent the refugees fleeing from their homes in the first place has been settled.

The one thing the UN has done is improve considerably the condition of the refugees. They are fed and housed, they are provided clothing. There are schools, hospitals and medical centers, workshops and playgrounds. This is progress, is not salvation, but many who fled from their homes and farms with little more than the clothes on their backs.

The United Nations sees some hope for turning the explosive problem of the Arab refugees into a spearhead of progress throughout the Middle East, by giving them training and schooling. As it is now, there is a real threat to Middle East peace — even world peace — posed by more than one million restless, homeless Arabs cast adrift in countries that offer them little more than asylum.

Turn From Homeland

In human terms the education and health programs are turning many disinherited "unemployable" peasants away from their own land into cadres of skilled workers who gradually are being welcomed into factories and businesses as the Middle East edges slowly forward into industrialized 20th century life.

The major problem now is the middle aged and old among the refugees. These cannot be trained to a new

life, and it is they who depend most on charity for their very existence.

What prevents any final solution of the problem of the refugees is the existence of a state of war between Israel and her Arab neighbors. A virtual battle of extermination between Jews and Arabs closed out British rule over Palestine in 1948. No peace treaty followed the 1949 armistice and both sides still live ready to fight. For 14 years, Arab-Israel border clashes or aerial duels occur almost weekly, and there have been major outbreaks, as during the "Suez War" in 1956.

Expected To Return

When the refugees first fled Palestine, they expected to return within weeks behind Arab armies sworn to sweep the Jews and their state into the sea. But the Arabs were held back. The involvement of Western and Communist powers — which strengthened and supported the Israelis on the one hand and armed and encouraged the Arabs on the other — heightened the existing Arab-Israeli military stalemate.

Became More Healthy

Under UNRWA care the refugees have, by and large, become more healthy than the average citizen in the host countries. They live longer, and their birth rate has increased. This has continually added 30,000-a-year to the numbers of unemployed.

In 1960 UNRWA launched a three-year program to provide as many of the young as possible with an education and job training.

Under its program UNRWA has established 11 higher training institutions and subsidized several others. By mid-1963 these institutions are scheduled to graduate some 2,200 skilled workers annually. UNRWA runs or subsidizes about 400 general schools attended by more than 180,000 refugee children. The existing training cen-

ters for men provide instruction in 20 main trades as well as training in Arabic, English and mathematics. For girls UNRWA has established at Ramallah, Jordan, a teaching and vocational school for 600 students. This is a pioneer effort in the Middle East where the idea of a girl learning a trade to support herself was unheard of up to a few years ago.

UNRWA officials say the training programs are highly successful. They report that 90 per cent of graduates from UNRWA training centers find work immediately.

Only 4,400 out of the 30,000 who become adults each year benefit from the program. But UNRWA believes it is on the right track and, until real peace comes to the Middle East, the people being salvaged from the enormous refugee pool will help to build a better life for future generations.

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Californians Looking Forward To Smog Controlling Devices

By MYRAM BORDERS
United Press International
 Los Angeles (UPI)—Among the things Californians are looking forward to this new year is compulsory smog control devices on new automobiles. That is especially true in this metropolis of smog and freeways.

After months of talk, the air pollution control district, state motor vehicle pollution control board, legislators and automobile manufacturers agreed on a device designed to reduce contaminating elements in auto exhaust.

But experts admit it would not solve the problem entirely and certainly not immediately. The device is not 100 per cent effective and there are many contributors to smog other than vehicle exhaust.

From Two Directions

Experts approached the auto smog control device from two directions — the crank case and the exhaust.

One approach is a simple tube which directs fumes from the crank case back into the carburetor for reburning. This is the system which will be required equipment on 1963 cars sold in California.

The other approach involves mounting a device on the exhaust pipe, perhaps in place of the muffler, to burn out hydrocarbons. Or the mechanism can use a catalyst to absorb a required amount of carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons.

Attempts to control eye irritating smog caused by cars will take its first giant step in 1963, backed by legislation requiring anti-smog devices on new cars.

Plans for requiring similar controls on old and used cars were being worked out by the state motor vehicle pollution control board. Enforcement of such laws probably would be aided by making the devices a prerequisite to registration.

Commercial and public transportation firms also were expecting state deadlines with which to conform to use of the control devices.

Robert M. Barsky, public information officer of the air pollution control district (APCD), said air pollution caused by sources other than automobiles were almost negligible. Hydrocarbons dumped into the atmosphere by cars totaled about 1,500 tons a day, Barsky said.

But when the APCD was formed in 1947, stationary sources of smog also presented a problem to experts devoted to "cleaning up" the Los Angeles atmosphere.

Rubbish, industry and emissions from petroleum manufacture and processing were the largest contributors to air pollution next to the automobile.

Since 1947, the "rubbish problem is completely under control," Barsky said. Laws forbid open burning dumps, clearing land by burning and incinerators. All cities in Los Angeles county agreed to eliminate municipal incinerators and the single chamber incinerator was outlawed.

As a result, all rubbish presently is being disposed of by burial.

Attack Pollution Problem

The APCD attacked the industrial air pollution problem by insisting firms install control equipment, such as floating roofs on petroleum storage tanks.

Petroleum processing plants have set up sulphur recovery systems which are taking about 800 tons of sulphur from the atmosphere daily, said Barsky. It is reused for making chemicals. Vapor controls also have been ordered for loading tank trucks.

Another smog source is the power plants. Law forbids the burning of fuel oil at such plants from April 15 to November 15. Natural gas is used during that time. When the APCD predicts moderate to heavy eye irritation from smog during November to March, power plants voluntarily revert to natural gas.

Eventually, smog controlling agencies hope to require the burning of natural gas all year long by power plants. But before that can happen, additional natural gas must be piped into Southern California.

Applicators Course Slated in Valley

A pesticide applicators short course will be held Monday, Jan. 7, at 1:15 p.m. at the Jackson county extension auditorium at the fairgrounds south of Medford.

J. D. Patterson, Oregon state department of agriculture, chief chemist, Bob Every, Oregon State university entomologist, and Dr. A. Erin Merkel, Jackson county Public health officer, will be on the program to answer questions regarding the safe and proper use of pesticides.

Oregon laws pertaining to or affecting use of agricultural chemicals also will be discussed.

"The meeting's purpose is to better acquaint applicators with their responsibility to the public and liabilities arising from misuse of agricultural chemicals," according to Don Berry, county extension agent.

Examinations for the 1963 Oregon state pesticide applicator's license will be given at the end of the meeting. All interested people are invited to attend.

Dennis the Menace



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