

C R A L O G

SINCE THE first CRALOG shipment arrived in Bremen in April 1946, 10,727 tons of voluntarily-contributed supplies have reached the American Zone for distribution to the needy without discrimination as to race, religion, political, or social status. Through CRALOG the American people have extended a helping hand to virtually every community in this zone, with gifts of food, clothing, and medicine.

What is CRALOG?

CRALOG is the Council of Relief Agencies Licensed for Operation in Germany. It came into being by presidential directive on 19 February 1946, and 15 American volunteer agencies cooperated in its launching.

The principal shipping agencies include the American Friends Service Committee, Brethren Service Committee, Church World Service, International Relief and Rescue Committee, Labor League for Human Rights (AF of L) Lutheran World Relief, Mennonite Central Committee, National Catholic War Relief Service, and Unitarian Service Committee. Each of these agencies also carries on an independent worldwide relief program. In CRALOG they cooperate for a joint effort in relief to Germany.

These donor agencies have a network of organizations in the United States to receive from church and civic groups gifts of food, clothing, and money for the purchase of

supplies. Dotting the country are relief depots where supplies are assembled for overseas shipment. The Department of the Army, in recognition of the importance of these voluntary relief contributions, re-

Robert Kreider, who prepared the story on CRALOG's activities, arrived in Germany in April 1946 with the first CRALOG group. He has served as one of their representatives in Wiesbaden, Berlin, and Stuttgart. Pictures accompanying this article were provided by CRALOG.

cently arranged for free ocean transport.

The basic steps by which relief supplies from America reach the

needy Germans may be found in an agreement signed by OMGUS and CRALOG. This agreement, while giving assurance to the American donor that his gift will be distributed efficiently and without discrimination, places full responsibility on the Germans for the actual distribution.

The German Central Distribution Committee was created to fulfill this function. It is a US zonal agency organized by the Laenderrat and composed of representatives of German private welfare agencies. It bears the weighty title: "The German Central Committee for the Distribution of Foreign Relief Supplies under the Laenderrat." The four participating agencies are Caritas Verband (Catholic), Evangelisches Hilfswerk (Protestant), Arbeiter Wohlfahrt (Workers Welfare), and Laender Red

VOLUNTEER workers of the Evangelisches Hilfswerk mend and alter CRALOG-donated clothing at a Stuttgart clothing center in preparation for relief distribution.



Cross Societies. Central Committee headquarters for the zone are located in Stuttgart.

When relief shipments arrive in Bremen they are received by an agent of the German Central Distribution Committee, while a CRALOG shipping expert is on hand to supervise the operation. From Bremen to the final recipient the work of warehousing, transporting, and distributing the welfare gifts is the responsibility of the committee. All transports of supplies into the zone are escorted by special guards, with the result that losses from Bremen to the ultimate consumer have been reduced to .004 percent.

IN MOST CASES the supplies are consigned directly to one of the four German agencies by their American counterparts. Some supplies, however, come to the German Central Committee undesignated, and their allocation and distribution is subject to joint agency action.

The bulk of CRALOG supplies are distributed to needy Germans in an individualized way in all the cities and villages of the American Zone. The procedure for selecting the needy is similar among the several welfare agencies. Individual cases of need—the bombed out, the refugees, the returning prisoner of war, the tubercular, the aged—are analyzed by social workers and assistance personally given.

The gifts are distributed free of cost to the recipients. More than half of the supplies available so far have been used for aiding the expellees from the east. A share of these supplies is used for institutional assistance to hospitals, homes for the aged, orphanages, rehabilitation homes for war injured, and summer camps.

The four German agencies have also pooled their supplies for certain cooperative projects. Notable in this was the child feeding program of 1946-'47 when approximately 200,000 of the most undernourished school children were fed in the major cities of the American Zone. Children were selected on the basis of medical examinations. The general pattern

was for the child to receive a 400-calorie meal six days a week. When this cooperative program was terminated in April 1947, the number of meals served totalled 20,204,700. The final medical surveys indicated an average weight increase of four pounds during the six-month-period in which the program was in effect.

APPROXIMATELY 80 percent of the CRALOG arrivals in Bremen have consisted of food in the following order or volume: flour, cereal, powdered milk, canned vegetables, canned milk, canned meat, soya beans, and fats. CRALOG has shipped 2,253 tons of new and used clothing, bedding and shoes.

Several special projects have been sponsored by CRALOG. In answer to an emergency request from the chief of Public Health, OMGUS, the donor agencies contributed 27 million units of insulin during the past year to meet the most urgent diabetic requirements in the American Zone. OMGUS has recently given permission to CRALOG to serve as a channel for recreational, cultural, and educational materials useful in the democratic reorientation of German life. Supplies go to such projects as the Quaker community center programs at Darmstadt and Frankfurt.

The CRALOG staff in the American Zone consists of eight representatives, two with headquarters in Berlin, the remainder at Munich, Stuttgart, Bremen, and Wiesbaden. Their responsibilities are varied: supervising distribution by the German welfare agencies, counseling regarding distribution problems, preparing reports for CRALOG agencies in the United States, making recommendations to the American agencies relative to critically-needed supplies, and serving as liaison between the German agencies and military government.

CRALOG has also operated for more than a year in the British and French Zones, and since April 1947 in Berlin. During 1947 the shipments to the American Zone have accounted for 28 percent of the total volume of shipments to Germany. The largest flow of supplies has been directed to the populous British Zone.

Berlin Sector Has Chest Fund Drive

The American Sector of Berlin is going through the intensified treasure hunt that characterizes Community Chest drives back home. Minute men speak wherever five people gather, solicitation teams scour the neighborhoods, pledge teams call at every office, lobbies and street corners blossom out with pretty girls and contribution boxes. There are benefits galore and even the old familiar thermometer shows the rising temperature of giving.

While the drive, which began on 22 November and will continue for one week, is spearheaded by the Women's Club, all other regularly-organized American clubs and institutions have been invited to participate. The democratic principles of the American community chest to relieve suffering and want wherever found will govern the use of the funds. The funds will be used for Americans, Germans, and displaced persons. For the first time, the American community will have a fund ready to aid Americans in emergencies.

Most of the money will be used to help Berlin children particularly to get through the winter.

Monthly MG Reports

The semi-monthly reports of the OMG's of the four Laender will become monthly publications with the issue covering the calendar month of November. These reports cover all the operations and activities of the respective Land and serve the same purpose of official record and information as the Monthly Reports of the Military Governor for the entire US occupied area.

The OMG reports originally were issued weekly until they became semi-monthlies last May. With the latest change to monthly, the control symbol becomes MG/CG/1/F Nov. 47, according to OMGUS letter AGO 14.1 (CO), "Change in Frequency of Semi-Monthly OMG Report from Semi-Monthly to Monthly," dated 13 November.