

985 TIMES TRIBUNE

Friday, July 19, 1985—A-15



Dear Reader,

On Wednesday, July 10, the freighter, "Columbia Star" sailed from the Oakland Harbor carrying 612,000 pounds of sugar purchased with your donations to Airlift: Africa. The ship's cargo was a response to the World Food Program's recent urgent request for sugar to supplement the feeding program for the millions of starving famine victims in Sudan, Africa.

Sugar is being used in three critical ways during the current famine: in the general food rations to refugees; as an essential medical ingredient in the oral rehydration process; and, in providing energy-storing food in supplementary feeding clinics.

The departure of the Columbia Star represents the conclusion of the Times Tribune's participation in the Airlift: Africa project.

We have achieved our initial goal to provide supplies and to tell you the story of the delivery of those goods. As you may recall, our first shipment was an airlift in March of nearly 100,000 pounds of food, medicine, blankets and other survival equipment.

In March and April, Times Tribune staffers Loretta Green and Sam Forencich witnessed first-hand the work of the World Food Program in distributing food to the Ethiopian and Sudanese refugees in Sudan. They also saw lives being saved through the heroic work of the Bay Area-based Medical Volunteers International which includes doctors and nurses from our own communities.

We are confident that these organizations will continue to serve the needs of the famine victims.

Thank you for your enthusiastic and generous support of Airlift: Africa which has raised approximately \$650,000 to produce the airlift and seallift.

Remaining funds will be used to support the ongoing work of Medical Volunteers International and the World Food Program during this continuing African crisis.

We hope that you will continue your interest in world hunger. Please direct any future contributions to the famine relief organization of your choice or to:

Medical Volunteers International
1215 6th Ave.
San Francisco, Ca. 94122
(For information telephone Dr. Maria Eitz, (415) 661-8666).

With deepest gratitude,

Thomas J. Culligan,
President, Publisher

Loretta Green,
Reporter aboard the airlift

Michael G. Kidder,
Editor

Sam Forencich,
Photographer aboard the airlift

Times Tribune