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National Headquarters
Washington, DC 20006

USAID/OFDA Grant No. AOT-1032-G-00-2150-00
Somalia: ARC Delegates to ICRC
Final Report

Program Objectives

The objective of the USAID/OFDA grant of \$132,410 was to support five American Red Cross delegates to work for one year with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Somalia. The grant period was August 7, 1992 through August 6, 1993. The American Red Cross (ARC) delegates supported by the grant were assigned to the ICRC's Somalia relief program, outlined by a special ICRC appeal released on July 9, 1992 (see Attachment 1); which revised the ICRC 1992 budget for Somalia to \$150 million. Under the appeal, the ICRC, in cooperation with the Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS), planned to carry out a massive food distribution program, which provided daily hot meals to over 1 million beneficiaries through feeding kitchens in locations throughout Somalia; medical relief, including a mobile surgical team, support to Keysaney Hospital for war-wounded, and health posts; a veterinary assistance program; and tracing services. In response to the appeal, ARC provided funds to the ICRC to support 42 ICRC kitchens, operating costs and medical supplies for Keysaney Hospital, and an in-kind donation of medical supplies. USAID/OFDA support was requested by the ARC to cover the costs of five ARC delegates to lend technical assistance to the ICRC in achieving its objectives in the water/sanitation, health, and food relief/logistics components of the overall relief program. The delegates were to fill the following specific positions:

- **Sanitation Technician (1 delegate)**
Duties: to rehabilitate boreholes and small water treatment plants; to monitor drilling and installation of submersible pumps on newly installed boreholes; to rehabilitate and repair submersible pumps and borehole generators providing water to livestock; to supply water to ICRC field kitchens and vector control program; and to organize sanitation programs in cooperation with the Somali Red Crescent Society.
- **Field Nurse (2 delegates)**
Duties: to supervise Somali medical workers; to oversee assistance to ICRC-assisted hospital and other health structures in assigned area; to assess health standards and conditions in areas outside of assigned area; to oversee dispensaries in camps for displaced people; and to perform other medical-related duties as assigned.
- **Ward Nurse (1 delegate)**
Duties: to evaluate, define, and implement medical assistance to war casualties; to train and supervise local staff for treatment of war-wounded; and to perform other medical-related duties as assigned.

- **Relief Administrator (1 delegate)**

Duties: to supervise relief staff; to implement and maintain financial reporting and control systems as requested by headquarters; to prepare budget and programs in collaboration with ICRC headquarters and the relief coordinator; to prepare reports detailing movements of relief stock; and to communicate allocation requests to ICRC headquarters.

Accomplishments under the Grant:

As stated in its objective, the American Red Cross applied USAID/OFDA grant funds to support the following five delegates to support ICRC relief operations in Somalia:

- Alfred Petters served an assignment as a **water/sanitation technician** with ICRC/Somalia from September 1, 1992 through July 31, 1993. Based in Nairobi, Kenya, Alfred travelled to various locations throughout Somalia according to need. He began his assignment in southern Somalia--in Kismayo, he initiated a city sanitation program and began construction of wells and latrines for the displaced in camps located in and around the city. He initiated the rehabilitation of wells in the town of Afmadu and in the districts of Bedade and Jelib. In Garoe, Alfred assisted in contract negotiations and provided technical advice for the renovation of Garoe hospital. Between December 12 and May 1993, Alfred spent most of his time in south Mogadishu. His accomplishments during that time include arranging for the construction of hand dug wells and latrines in displaced camps, drilling a well at Lafoola hospital, and procuring and installing hand pumps on wells. He began city cleaning programs in both north and south Mogadishu, creating an income generating program for approximately 1000 people. Alfred introduced energy conserving stoves to the ICRC kitchen program in Kismayo and Mogadishu South, which saved 50% of stove fuel in exposed, windy areas. In north Mogadishu, Alfred began the construction of wells in the city and two septic tanks for Keysaney Hospital. As the nutritional status of many Somalis began improving and people began moving back to their former towns and villages, the ICRC began scaling down its operations in Somalia in April and May of 1993 in order to concentrate on those functions more central to its mandate. ICRC Feeding kitchens and health posts were closed or turned over to other organizations, thus reducing the need for water/sanitation activities. Upon completing his assignment, Alfred debriefed with the ICRC in Geneva and returned to ARC for a debriefing.

As planned under the USAID/OFDA grant, Alfred began his ICRC assignment with a six month contract. The ICRC requested that he extend his contract for an additional six months, and ARC then applied grant funds to cover a portion of this extension and used ARC funds to cover the balance (see below under "Problems Encountered/Solutions Proposed").

- Herminia Miller, from the Greater Kansas City Area Chapter of ARC, served a three month assignment as a **field nurse** with ICRC/Somalia from August 24 through November 30, 1992. She was assigned to the region surrounding the city of Merca. During her mission, Herminia and another ICRC field nurse opened a total of ten healthposts and assisted in two training seminars led by the Somali Red Crescent Society for local nurses. Of the ten health posts opened, she closely monitored seven of these which received an average of 6,188 patients per week. Typical problems included malaria, skin infections, anaemia, parasites, and chest

infections. Herminia reported that the health benefits from newly opened feeding kitchens and healthposts were noticeable after 3-4 weeks in some areas, with fewer reported cases of malnutrition and visible improvements in the physical condition of children. Emphasizing the need for health education, she initiated a plan to improve the standard of care in the healthposts and added a health education plan directed toward local health care providers.

Herminia returned to the U.S. on November 30, 1992 and gave a debriefing at ARC National Headquarters. Upon returning to her home in Kansas City, Missouri, Herminia worked with the local Red Cross chapter to organize awareness-building events and activities focusing on Somalia.

- Bill Alley, of the Los Angeles Chapter of ARC, served as a relief administrator with ICRC for six months from September 16 through March 19, 1993. He was based in Kenya and provided support to ICRC air transport operations within the context of its Somalia relief program. The majority of Bill's assignment was spent in Mombasa, where he was responsible for scheduling ICRC relief flights to various locations in Somalia. During his assignment, the ICRC carried out a massive airlift operation of food, including rice, beans, and oil, using C130 cargo planes hired by ICRC from a commercial company, and also furnished by the governments of Belgium, Canada, and the U.S. Several flights carrying from 9 to 20 MT each were made daily from Kenya to various locations in Somalia. Bill completed his assignment and returned to the U.S. for debriefing at ARC on March 17, 1993. He is currently serving as relief coordinator with the ARC refugee assistance program, funded by USAID, in Armenia.

- Mary Taylor was assigned to ICRC/Somalia as a field nurse from August 24, 1992 through July 24, 1993. She was assigned to the town of Belet Huen, where she assisted in establishing and monitoring health posts for the displaced. She also trained her Somali counterparts in curative health care, and monitored the nutritional status of beneficiaries of the ICRC kitchen feeding program. Mary also provided information and assistance to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (Federation), which was making assessments and planning a mother-child health and rehabilitation program to include the town of Belet Huen. As a result of her efforts, Mary received a Jefferson Award from the American Institute of Public Service. She was also featured in an article in People Magazine and in an interview released by the ICRC Press Office (copies attached).

As planned under the USAID/OFDA grant, grant funds were used to cover a six-month assignment for Mary with ICRC. At the end of the six month period, however, the ICRC requested that she extend her contract for an additional six months. The contract extension was supported by ARC funds. When the ICRC scaled back its program in Belet Huen as a part of a country-wide reduction in food relief activities, health posts in Belet Huen were closed or turned over to other agencies. Mary returned to the U.S. after debriefing at the ICRC in Geneva. After returning to her home in San Francisco, Mary was invited to participate in several presentations on Somalia, including a symposium on "Women in Conflict" organized by the San Francisco Bay Area ARC chapter.

- Steve Eichman served as a field nurse with the ICRC from September 9, 1992 through August 8, 1993. He was posted to several locations, including the Liboi/Doble area, where he assisted in establishing health posts for displaced persons. Toward the end his assignment, Steve

was based at the ICRC delegation in Nairobi, where he was responsible for records and statistics related to ICRC medical relief activities in Somalia. USAID/OFDA grant funds supported Steve's initial six month contract with ICRC/Somalia, which then requested that he be extended for an additional six months. ARC agreed to cover the cost of the contract extension with its own funds. Following the end of his contract on August 8, ICRC again requested that Steve remain on in its Nairobi office for an additional year, to provide assistance with maintaining medical and relief statistics and information for ICRC operations in both Somalia and Sudan. ARC agreed to cover the costs of this new one year contract.

Overall, the ARC delegates funded under the grant made a significant contribution to ICRC relief operations in Somalia at a critical period in the emergency. All five delegates' performance successfully met the objectives set out in the original position descriptions. Several took on duties that went beyond the objectives set out in their job descriptions. Through media coverage of her work in Somalia and surrounding the Jefferson Award, Mary Taylor acted as an important spokesperson in the U.S. for Somalia relief activities. Other delegates, such as Herminia Miller, returned from their assignments to serve as resources for information about Somalia in their communities in the U.S. As noted above, three of the delegates chose to continue working in Somalia when ICRC requested that they extend their assignments. With initial OFDA funding, ARC was able to place well-qualified delegates in key areas of ICRC relief activities at an important point in the emergency. After building its own resource base, ARC was then well-positioned to assume the costs of extending three contracts so that delegates could assist in phasing out their activities and handing these over to other agencies or to the Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Problems Encountered/Solutions Proposed:

During the reporting period, no significant problems were encountered. The following minor adjustments were made, however.

Staffing:

While ARC was able to recruit and place delegates with the ICRC in positions which corresponded to its original proposal to OFDA, Steve Eichman's original position of ward nurse was later changed to that of field nurse. This was a decision taken by the ICRC after Steve arrived in the field in order to fill unmet needs in the relief program.

A second modification in ARC's original proposal to send five delegates for six months each was the three month assignment of Herminia Miller. Herminia had excellent qualifications for an ICRC field nurse position in Somalia, but for personal reasons, she requested a three month contract. The outstanding funds were reprogrammed to fund a portion of the contract extension of Alfred Petters, with the balance supported by ARC funds.

Budget:

The attached final budget indicates the expenditures under the grant. The variances between this budget and the original grant budget are detailed in the interim grant report. The total cost of

sending five ARC delegates to work with ICRC was underestimated by a total of \$3,172. This was mainly due to actual costs of airfares exceeding the original budget (please refer to Interim Grant Report for more detail). As stated in the interim report, this amount has been covered by ARC funds.

Final Budget
 Somalia: ICRC Delegates
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Line Items	Costs (\$)		
Commodities:	Original Budget of OFDA grant	Final Expenditure of OFDA funds	ARC contribution
Salaries	87,500	87,500	2,218
Benefits (15%)	13,125	13,125	737
Airfares	23,435	27,466	187
Processing/passports/ immunizations	2,500	375	0
Physical examinations	750	750	30
Briefings/Debriefings	5,100	3,194	0
TOTAL	132,410	132,410	3,172

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