
Front Lines

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



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USAID Hot Shots

Those procurement partyers . . .



Azza El-Abd, Karin Kolstrom and Carrie Woehler were among the Office of Procurement staff celebrating the end of FY'94 at their Oct. 1 party.



Photo credits: Reuters, cover; The Jakarta Post, pages 2 and 3; USAID/ Afghanistan, page 4; Clyde McNair, pages 5, 6 and 7.

Cover photo: Hillary Clinton visits with children at a USAID-supported village health services post in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.



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Front Lines

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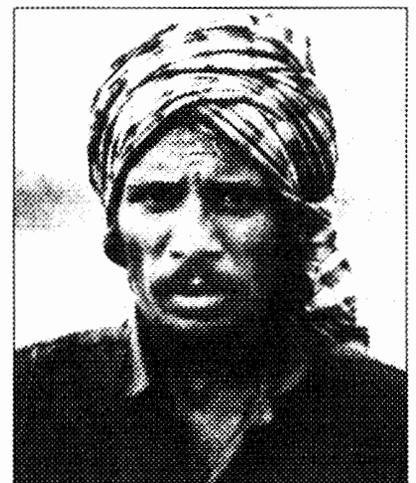
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Hillary Clinton visits USAID/Indonesia projects

"This is something the world should see," Hillary Rodham Clinton said as she held an impromptu press conference in the middle of a Jakarta slum. She was referring to Indonesia's Kampung Improvement Program, one of the country's most successful efforts to alleviate poverty and one supported by USAID's Housing Guaranty program since 1988.

As President Clinton and other world leaders convened for the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) conference in Bogor, Indonesia, in November, Hillary Clinton traveled to local neighborhoods and rural villages to observe firsthand Indonesia's successful development efforts.

Wanting an up-close look at Indonesian development, the first lady left behind the high-rises and boardrooms of downtown Jakarta and ventured into the city's low-income neighborhoods, known as kampungs. Kampungs are home to more than half of Indonesia's urban dwellers, roughly 24 million people. These unplanned, informal neighborhoods often lack such essential services as clean water, public sanitation facilities and solid waste collection. To help meet these basic needs, the Indonesian government launched the Kampung Improvement Program (KIP) in 1969.

KIP uses an integrated approach to develop basic infrastructure in the kampung with maximum community involvement. The program has been operating in more than 300 cities, directly benefiting about 6 million people. Recently KIP was recognized by urban development experts as one of the most successful neighborhood revitalization programs in the world.

Clinton's first stop was an East Jakarta kampung that had not yet been improved under the KIP program. The mayor of East Jakarta and USAID officer Bill Frej explained how the neighborhood's lack of clean water and sanitation affects the health

and welfare of the residents. From this first site, Clinton proceeded to one of the many kampungs in Jakarta that have benefited from the KIP program.

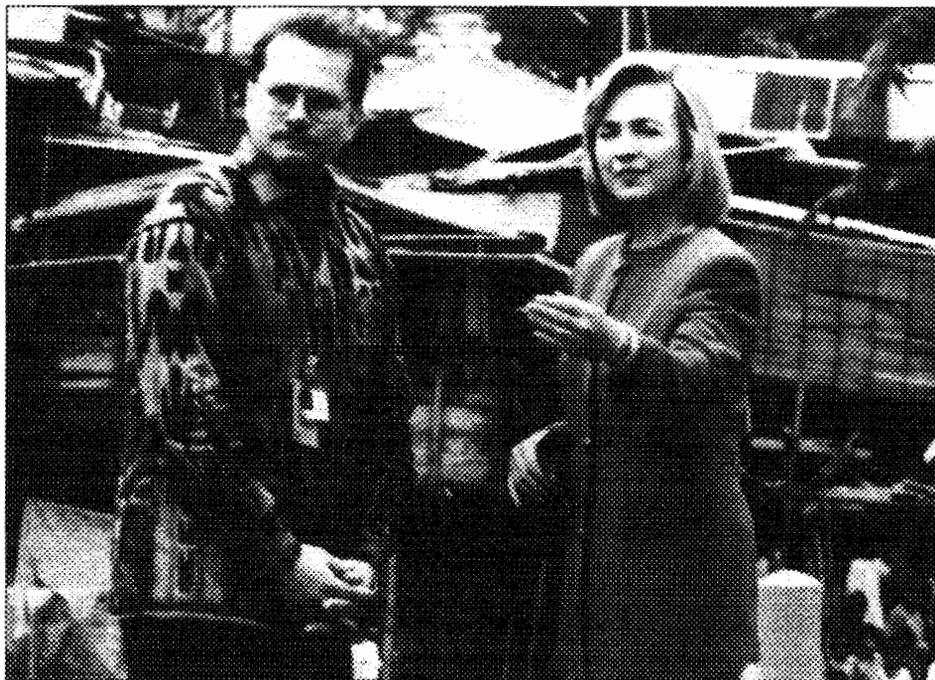
USAID/Indonesia Mission Director Fritz Weden joined a host of Indonesian dignitaries in greeting Clinton and describing the improvements made to the neighborhood through KIP, including a clean water system, footpaths, access roads and a drainage system. The first lady observed improvements that residents had made to their own homes. By establishing the kampung as a formal, permanent neighborhood, KIP encourages residents to invest their own resources to improve the area. It is estimated that every dollar provided through KIP generates about two dollars in private improvements.

USAID/Indonesia has supported KIP through its Municipal Finance Project, which guarantees loans from the U.S. capital

market to the Indonesian government through the Housing Guaranty Program. The Municipal Finance Project was implemented from 1988 to 1993 and provided \$120 million in resources that were successfully used to support urban infrastructure programs, including KIP, throughout the country. Based on the success of this initial project, USAID recently approved the Municipal Finance Project for Environmental Infrastructure with resources totaling \$125 million.

Clinton praised the program for both its impact on urban residents and its use of U.S. private sector resources through USAID's Housing Guaranty Program.

From Jakarta, Clinton's concern for the health and well-being of children led her to Yogyakarta, Central Java. Her first stop was Babarsari Public Elementary School, one of the thousands of schools across the archipelago that reflects Indonesia's commitment



Hillary Clinton and Bill Frej, USAID director of the Regional Housing and Urban Development Office for East Asia, visit a low-income neighborhood in Jakarta. Indonesia's efforts to provide urban environmental infrastructure have improved the social and economic well-being of the urban poor.

to public education.

When Indonesia gained independence in 1945, only 10 percent of its population could read and write. Since then the government has worked hard to expand educational opportunities. Under the leadership of President Soeharto, and with planning and policy guidance from USAID, the government has succeeded in increasing literacy rates to 85 percent for men and 75 percent for women. Near-universal enrollment in primary school has been achieved, and enrollment at secondary and post-secondary institutions continues to rise.

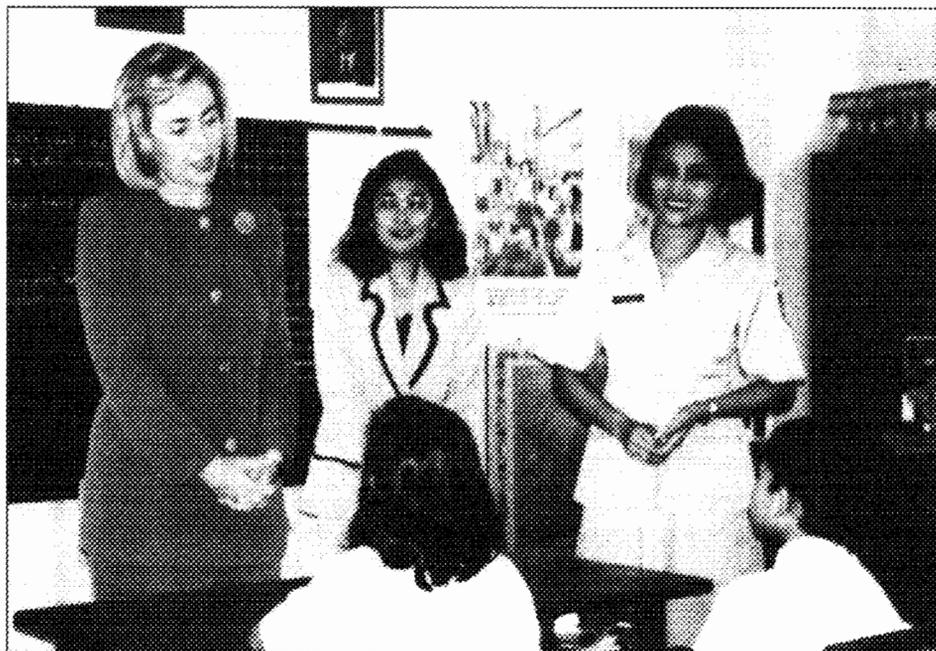
Forty uniformed students stood at attention and sang welcoming songs as Clinton entered the school grounds. The many female voices in the choir reflect Indonesia's success in involving girls in education. Almost half of primary school students are girls, and more than half of all teachers at the primary level are women.

This equity in education has shown benefits that go far beyond the classroom. Educated women in Indonesia have proven to be more productive contributors to social and economic development, as well as more effective users of family planning and health services. And children, especially girls, are significantly more likely to attend and stay in school if their mothers attended.

Encouraged by these successes, the government of Indonesia began work to expand compulsory schooling from six to nine years. In 1993 the Ministry of Education requested USAID assistance in planning this expansion. The mission responded with two cost studies that laid the groundwork for financing the expansion. USAID/Indonesia continues to work closely with the Ministry of Education toward its goal of universal education through the ninth grade.

Next on the first lady's agenda was the nearby village of Taman Agung, where she was introduced to Indonesia's community-based approach to health care and family planning. Minister of Population Haryono Suyono and Minister of Health Sujudi welcomed Clinton and explained the operations of a village health services post or posyandu.

The posyandu is the backbone of



Hillary Clinton answers students' questions at the Babarsari Public Elementary School in Central Java.

Indonesia's child health care delivery system, an indispensable tool in reaching a population spread across 13,000 islands. Organized and run by local volunteers, these posts are set up one day each month in more than 200,000 villages nationwide to provide basic maternal and child health care and family planning services to millions of people.

Clinton observed mothers and infants receiving their monthly checkups at the posyandu's five stations: registration and weighing of infants; immunization of infants and pregnant women; basic antenatal care; referrals to local hospitals; and education in health, nutrition and family planning.

Community-based efforts such as the posyandu have helped Indonesia reduce its infant mortality rate from 132 per 100,000 births in 1971 to 68 per 100,000 births in 1991. USAID/Indonesia has supported the posyandu system by training local leaders and volunteers through the \$20 million Private Sector Family Planning Project, testing and demonstrating new preventive techniques and pilot projects for distribution of vitamin A and oral rehydration mixes.

A community-based approach also undergirds Indonesia's highly successful family planning program. USAID has been the largest single supporter of this program,

which operates through a network of 500,000 village family planning volunteers and 300,000 local groups.

This network has allowed Indonesia to achieve a rapid increase in contraceptive use, from fewer than 10 percent of married women in 1971 to over 50 percent today. Largely due to this increase, fertility rates dropped by almost half over the same period, from 5.6 births per woman in 1971 to an estimated 2.9 births per woman in 1994.

Indonesia's family planning program has become a model for many developing nations. Officials from 80 countries have come to Indonesia to study the program, which aims to reach a fertility level of 2.1 births per woman by the year 2010.

Clinton's visit did more than highlight the successes of Indonesia's development efforts. Her visit also raised awareness among Indonesians of the importance of their country's development programs. As one local newspaper wrote, "If the first lady of a superpower pays such serious attention to these programs, shouldn't we all?" ■

Carignan is an editorial consultant for USAID/Indonesia.

Leaving a lasting impression

Afghan program close-out offers valuable lessons

The dusty Bedford trucks, piled high with bulky sacks, grind to a halt in Herat, Afghanistan, after the four-day trip from Peshawar, inside Pakistan. The doors are wrenched open, and solemn Afghan men begin to unload the long-awaited cargo.

Food? Medical supplies? No. The trucks are loaded with schoolbooks for children.

Thanks to USAID's Education Sector Support Project (ESSP), the last of 3 million elementary and secondary schoolbooks were delivered to the far reaches of Afghanistan without a day to spare.

The urgency to deliver the books began late last year, when the staff of the cross-border assistance program for Afghanistan learned that USAID had to close out its programs in six months as a result of the agency's rightsizing exercise. The Education Division of the Office of Afghan Field Operations resolved to leave a lasting investment for Afghanistan's future—more schoolbooks.

So, in the midst of job hunting, writing final reports and packing up offices, the Education Division and its ESSP partners—the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) and the International Rescue Committee (IRC)—embarked on a bold plan: to print 2 million elementary and secondary schoolbooks in Peshawar and truck them, and an additional million books already awaiting distribution, to schools and provincial education warehouses throughout Afghanistan. If successful, the project's final activity would fill much of Afghanistan's schoolbook needs for the next two or three years. But all activities had to be completed by the end of April 1994.

The IRC printing presses in Peshawar worked around the clock from mid-January until the last week of April printing and

binding the books. The UNO staff worked long hours bagging and sorting the books for distribution to dozens of locations throughout Afghanistan. Simultaneously, the staff worked furiously to get the numerous border transit permits issued, at a time when the Pakistani government had closed the border to slow Afghan refugees arriving from Kabul.

The first convoy of book-laden trucks departed Peshawar at the end of January. The final convoy left for Herat, in far western Afghanistan, the last week of April.

Regional Legal Adviser Mark Ward, who served as chief of Afghan field operations for the last year of the program, had visited Peshawar to help load the last convoy of trucks and to shake a lot of tired hands at IRC and UNO.

Ward then traveled to Herat to see firsthand how the books were being used and to call attention to USAID's assistance in the region. He reported that despite the terrible destruction of war in Herat, he saw enthusiastic children everywhere walking to and from school, book bags on their shoulders.

The children proudly displayed their books, new or old. Ward said he was surprised to see that even three-year-old books were still in good condition, a sign of the obvious care they got from the students and their parents.

The success of ESSP also lives on through the graduates of its teacher training program. ESSP had developed a national curriculum and provided textbooks, teacher training and other instructional materials throughout the country. In just seven years, the project printed and distributed 15 million Dari and Pushto schoolbooks and provided nearly 4,000 teachers with a four-week training course.

The Afghan program was one of the first USAID programs to close overseas, and the experience offers some lessons. The extra effort and determination that got the schoolbooks printed and distributed in only four months' time can be a model for every closeout mission. ■

Kelly was a summer intern in the ANE Bureau.



USAID's Education Sector Support Project has enriched the lives of millions of Afghan children who attend elementary and secondary schools.

Help me if you can, I'm feeling down. . .

The December holidays bring joy, fun and good cheer to most people. Expectations are at an all-time high for the year. While many prepare for the good times, others find the holidays stressful.

"Holiday stress can be as traumatic as fatigue, family feuds and job problems," said USAID's licensed clinical social worker, Martha Rees.

Rees, who works in the Career Development Branch of the Office of Human Resources, counsels USAID employees and their families in Washington and overseas. Her priority recommendation is: "Take care of yourself." She encourages employees to reach out for help during the holidays or when facing problems at home or at work.

"A stiff upper lip gets you in trouble," she said. "This often makes a situation worse for you and others."

During the holidays, people often have unrealistically high expectations, she said. Holidays disrupt the normal routine and often bring on excessive activity. To help everyone cope, Rees offers some tips for holiday stress: decide on your priorities; don't get in debt; and don't feel you have to do it all.

Throughout the year, the most common problem Rees encounters is depression. "With depression comes a feeling of helplessness and loss of control, which lowers morale," she said.

USAID's constant changes in programs and personnel take a heavy toll on employees and their families. "People don't like change, even if that change is good. They often are stressed out because they are operating in the unknown," Rees emphasized. Change always produces stress, followed by a need to adapt to the situation, she said.

"People in USAID get caught up in what they are doing—helping save lives in Rwanda and elsewhere, trying to do more

with less, working longer hours and neglecting their own physical and emotional health," she said. "No one will take better care of you than you. It is a sign of strength to seek help when needed."

Rees meets with employees in her office, room 1108, SA-1, or any other appropriate location. Her consultations with individuals remain strictly confidential, and there is no financial cost to employees. Rees does not take notes and nothing goes into personnel files. The only time anyone will know of the meeting is either when the employee chooses to make it known or when the employee's situation has deteriorated to the point that it becomes a danger to the employee or to others.

Rees offers workshops, seminars and retreats for USAID employees on a variety of topics including stress management and team building. She facilitates courses at the Overseas Briefing Center, including Crisis in Management for the Security Overseas Seminar. She also works closely with State's Family Liaison Office, the Employee Consultation Service and the Drug and Alcohol Awareness Program. These



Martha Rees is USAID's licensed clinical social worker.

services, available to USAID employees, help families deal with job stress, marital difficulties, substance abuse, illness and death.

Some employees simply want to discuss changing careers and looking at options that more closely reflect their interests. Rees uses the Meyers Briggs Type Indicator and the Self-Directed Search to help employees better determine their interests and abilities.

Rees works not only with USAID direct hires, but also with Foreign Service Nationals, USAID contractors and with the greater official American community, including the U.S. Embassy, Peace Corps and the local international school. Her overseas requests often revolve around close-out mission stress or critical incidents that may affect all employees. This year she traveled to Chad, Ethiopia, Senegal, Mali and Benin to counsel employees and their families. Individuals serving overseas may call or E-mail with specific questions or concerns.

Rees came to USAID in January 1991 during the middle of the Gulf War. Before joining the agency, she worked for the Shady Grove Counseling Center in Maryland, providing individual, couple and family counseling. Rees also served as a consultant and trainer for Cross Cultural Associates, whose clients included the Overseas Briefing Center and the Foreign Service Institute.

She has worked overseas, first in Surrey, Great Britain, for five years as a marriage guidance counselor and then in the Philippines for eight years as the counseling coordinator for the In Touch Foundation Inc., a small mental health agency in Manila. Rees has a bachelor's degree in political science from Pennsylvania State University and a master's in social work from the University of Wisconsin.

Individuals and offices are encouraged to call Rees at (202) 663-1368. ■



Carner heads Nicaragua mission

George Carner, a career Foreign Service officer of 23 years, was sworn in as USAID mission director to Nicaragua on Oct. 5.

USAID is working to strengthen Nicaragua's fragile democracy by enhancing democratic institutions, broadening civil society and assuring respect for human rights. Carner oversees a development program that focuses on economic growth, with an emphasis on microenterprise development and private investment.

Before this assignment, Carner was USAID mission director to Madagascar, where he reorganized the mission to



accommodate a doubling of the aid budget to nearly \$50 million a year and a fourfold expansion in staff to more than 125 people.

From 1988 to 1991, he served as mission director to Tunisia. During this period he

organized the evacuation of 44 officers and their families while he remained on post during the Persian Gulf War.

Carner also has served in Washington and overseas in Senegal, the Philippines, Afghanistan and Morocco. He received the agency's Superior Honor Award for his leadership as deputy program officer in Afghanistan.

Carner has a bachelor's degree in international affairs from the University of North Carolina and a master's in international affairs from George Washington University. ■

USAID/Bulgaria welcomes new director

John Tennant was sworn in Sept. 14 at the State Department as USAID representative to Bulgaria.

Tennant directs programs in Bulgaria involving joint efforts with other U.S. government agencies and non-governmental organizations in a range of areas



including economic restructuring and financial sector reform, promoting free enterprise and strengthening the agricultural sector.

Tennant is a Foreign Service officer who has served with the agency for two decades. Before assuming his new position, he was director of program and project development in Jamaica.

He joined USAID in 1974 and has served in Vietnam, Pakistan, Thailand, the Philippines and Washington. He received USAID's Meritorious Honor Award in 1992.

Tennant began his career as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Philippines. He has a bachelor's degree from the University of

Maryland and a graduate degree in economics and business administration from George Washington University.

Born in Annapolis, Md., Tennant is married with two grown children. ■

Schofield directs mission in the Philippines

Kenneth Schofield was sworn in as USAID mission director to the Philippines on Nov. 9.

Schofield oversees the agency's \$60 million program in the Philippines that focuses on building democracy, stabilizing population growth, increasing economic growth and protecting the environment.

A veteran Foreign Service officer, Schofield has served in Honduras, Guatemala, Morocco and Nicaragua, where he was the deputy director. In Washington, Schofield served as the desk officer for Egypt; special

assistant to the counselor for the agency; and, before his new assignment in the Philippines, director of the Office of Democratic Initiatives, which is responsible for promoting democratic ideals and strengthening democratic governance in the Western Hemisphere.

Schofield has a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin and a master's in development economics from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. ■



Test Your

ETHICS IQ

Barbara Wyre, optimistic project officer, simply loves the holidays. Her supervisors don't share her sentiments. In fact, they get extra grumpy during the season. Barb thinks she could spread cheer by hosting a holiday dinner party and inviting the bosses. If Barb Wyre throws the party, will she get snagged on the ethics rules?

ANSWER: No! While the general rule is that you cannot give gifts to your superiors, there is an exception that will get Barb off the hook. On an occasional basis, including times in which gifts are traditionally given, an employee may give a gift of personal hospitality at a residence of a type and value customarily provided by the employee to personal friends.

Onward and upward!

Administrator Brian Atwood congratulates Elizabeth Brockie at the Nov. 9 reception honoring recent USAID retirees. Brockie joined the agency in 1977 as a clerk stenographer. In June she retired as a program analyst in the ENI Bureau. ■



Gifts help Foreign Service Nationals

During this festive season, you may want to give tax-deductible gifts that will greatly benefit Foreign Service Nationals (FSNs) and their families.

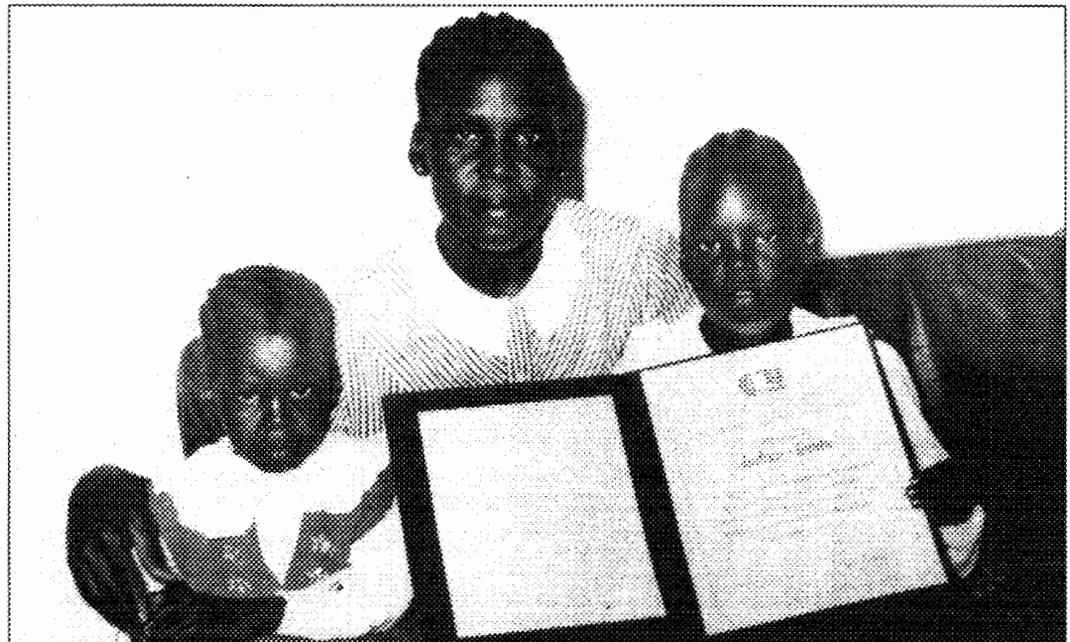
To help pay for the education of children of FSNs killed while serving the United States, USAID established a memorial fund with the cooperation of the State Department. Tax-deductible contributions to the scholarship fund, managed by the American Foreign Service Association, should be made

payable to the Department of State and sent to State/FMP, attn: Donna Bordley, room 7427 NS, for acknowledgment.

Employees also can give to the FSN Relief Fund, which is used for emergencies. State's Bureau for Management reviews solicitations from field posts before sending a worldwide appeal to the Foreign Service community for charitable contributions. This arrangement improves managing the fund for FSNs in need.

To date, over \$16,000 has been received from posts worldwide, from both Foreign Service officers and FSNs.

For more information, call Donna Bordley in State/FMP, 202-647-5031, or Megan Hill at USAID/AFR/EA, 202-647-9062. Contributions can be sent directly to the FSN Memorial Relief Fund, State/FMP, room 7427 NS, and will be acknowledged for tax-deduction purposes. ■



The wife and children of USAID/Sudan Foreign Service National Andrew Tombe accept a posthumous Superior Honor Award in memory of Tombe, who was killed more than two years ago in the southern town of Juba.

Other FSN families have received financial assistance for emergencies and for their children's education from funds managed by USAID and the State Department.

SECURITY REMINDER:

Don't forget to lock your safe before leaving the office!

Letter from Goma

If ever there was hell on Earth... we have just witnessed it in Rwanda.

Even to those of us in the humanitarian/disaster assistance business, such total disregard for human life is beyond comprehension. Within weeks of the assassination of President Habyarimana and the ensuing chaos that followed, nearly 500,000 Rwandans were massacred by their fellow countrymen and women.

Fearful for their lives, more than 1 million Rwandan refugees fled across the border into Zaire, overwhelming the little town of Goma. Although the international community was poised to assist with a refugee influx from Rwanda, no one could have predicted or prepared for the mass of traumatized Rwandans seeking refuge in this uninhabitable environment at the base of several active volcanos.

Before I arrived in the region in late July, as part of USAID's Disaster Assistance Response Team, I had tried to mentally prepare myself for what I believed I would be faced with. Having been part of USAID's DART team for many years, I thought I had seen just about every form of human tragedy possible, from the Armenia earthquake to the plight of the Kurdish refugees in Northern Iraq, up to the recent anarchy in Somalia... but never could I have prepared myself for the scenes I witnessed in Goma.

The road from the Goma airport to the center of town was swarming with thousands upon thousands of refugees—masses of humanity everywhere. Just getting to the center of town without running over someone was a feat.

By the time I arrived, the cholera and dysentery epidemics had stricken a large portion of the refugee population, killing hundreds if not thousands of people each day. The only hope for controlling the cholera epidemic was to provide clean water to the camps, a task that was taken on, in

most part, by the U.S. government.

At a site on the Lake Kivu shore, USAID contractors, Portable Water Supply Systems, and the U.S. military were pumping and purifying potable water for both the refugee population and the local community to combat the cholera crisis. At the peak of the operation, nearly 800,000 gallons of water were pumped and purified each day.

A water hose was run along the main road into town to provide clean water to the local population. In addition, water tankers

As the days wore on, the cholera epidemic was controlled, but the relief community still had its hands full ...

and trucks equipped with water bladders filled at the Lake Kivu site were transported to the camps. It was truly an impressive operation, and the incredible spirit of the teams at work rekindled my hope that there was still a chance to alleviate the suffering that surrounded us.

As the days wore on, the cholera epidemic was controlled, but the relief community still had its hands full with rising cases of dysentery, not to mention the care of tens of thousands of orphaned and abandoned children who had been traumatized by their ordeal.

Media accounts of the crisis made us stop in our tracks and ask how something like this could happen in today's world. But media coverage could not begin to convey the emotion and smell surrounding Goma. The stench of decaying bodies and smoke

from cooking fires made breathing difficult. Lining the right-hand side of the road were those refugees still able to cope with the horrible conditions of their environment. On the left, however, were those not so fortunate. Bodies were stacked by the hundreds waiting for removal trucks to carry them off to a mass grave just down the road. Periodically, a refugee who had lost the will to live would cross the road in front of our vehicle and lie down next to the bodies and wait to die.

Although tens of thousands of people died during the early days of the Rwandan refugee crisis, history will show that the swift action of the U.S. government, especially USAID and the U.S. military, saved the lives and alleviated the immediate suffering of hundreds of thousands of others.

Following the establishment of a clean water system in the camps, the daily mortality rate dropped from a high of 45 per 10,000 to roughly 1.3 per 10,000 by the beginning of October. By the end of November, the U.S. government, including offices of USAID, the Department of Defense and the State Department's Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration, had contributed about \$260 million in humanitarian assistance for Rwandan refugees and internally displaced persons.

The next step is just as challenging—to improve the conditions and security inside Rwanda so that the more than 2 million Rwandan refugees living in neighboring countries will return to make Rwanda productive and peaceful once more. After being evacuated from Kigali during the violence in April 1994, USAID staff are preparing to return to Rwanda to address this challenge. ■

Bafalis is a USAID senior press officer.



Breakthrough in Zimbabwe prevents threat to U.S. cattle

Most U.S. cattlemen have never heard of a disease called heartwater, but it may be one of the worst threats to the U.S. cattle industry in recent times.

"One infected tick could start the process," explained Michael Burridge, director of the Heartwater Research Project at the University of Florida. "Once the disease was established in the United States, it would spread uncontrollably, affecting cattle, sheep and goats and decimating the deer population."

Heartwater is transmitted by the tropical bont tick, a carrier of the deadly organism, *Cowdria ruminantium*. The disease derives its name from the fluid buildup that occurs when parasites attack the lining of the vascular system.

Heartwater's devastating effects have been apparent in Africa for years. In Zimbabwe, losses from heartwater cost millions of dollars annually. USAID, the government of Zimbabwe and the University of Florida in 1985 began funding the search for technologies to control the disease. Recently, a team of U.S. and Zimbabwe scientists reported two promising breakthroughs—a method of controlling ticks and a first generation vaccine.

"Controlling heartwater is a challenge," said Stuart Hargreaves, director of Zimbabwe's Department of Veterinary Services. "Using acaricides, chemicals that kill ticks, is an environmentally unfriendly and costly business. Animals must be dipped in a chemical bath or sprayed on a regular basis. The costs of chemicals continue to rise; importing them uses

scarce foreign exchange. Even the water needed to mix with the chemicals is often in short supply in our drought-prone country."

The alternative, developed by the U.S.-Zimbabwe team, is a simple tail tag, glued to the animal's tail and replaced every three months. "The tag is a decoy, with a pheromone that attracts ticks and a pesticide that kills them," explained Burridge. "It is inexpensive to produce and easy to apply."

The research team completed registration trials for the tick decoy technology in 1993 and submitted the results to the Zimbabwe Drugs Control Council.

In their search for a vaccine, scientists have used advanced technologies, including genetic engineering. In 1988, they succeeded in culturing *Cowdria* organisms. A first generation vaccine, using culture-derived killed organisms, is now being tested and looks promising.

"Heartwater affects all ruminants—domestic and wild," said Burridge. "Quarantine regulations keep infected animals out of the United States, but infected ticks can move from one country to another on migratory birds."

The tropical bont tick has been found on several Caribbean islands. Recently, bird banding studies confirmed that birds can fly from heartwater-infected Guadeloupe to Florida.

Since the tick decoy technology is low-cost, effective and easy to apply, it has potential importance to numerous countries. Researchers are exploring new applications, such as tail tags to control flies. If the researchers have their way, the threat of heartwater disease will evaporate and tail tags (not heartwater) will become household words. ■

—By Millie Morton, USDA consultant to the Africa Bureau

New spud technology may double India's yield

The health of India's population, which contains 40 percent of the world's most impoverished people, would greatly benefit from increased production of the potato, a nutritious, high yielding crop.

Fortunately, a simple new technology for growing potatoes may revolutionize potato production in India. This environmentally friendly, inexpensive technology involves propagating production by using true potato seed (TPS), the sesame-sized seed contained in the fruit of the potato flower.

"By the year 2000, the per capita availability of grain will be 18 percent lower than it is now," said Mahesh D. Upadhyya, regional director, International Potato Center, New Delhi. "The public will need good potatoes to supplement the food deficit. That's why true potato seed production has a tremendous future in this part of the world."

Potatoes are traditionally propagated by using cut up seed tubers (actual

(continued on page 11)



This farm worker in the Indian state of Punjab is one of the many rural dwellers in India who will benefit from increased food supplies and employment as true potato seed technology takes hold.



An agronomist at the University of Agricultural Sciences hand pollinates a potato in the cross-pollination block. Each flower must be pollinated three times for optimum seed production.

potatoes). Two and a half tons of tubers are needed to sow a hectare field. Current production of certified seed tubers meets only 25 percent of farmer demand. To meet the remaining 75 percent, farmers must pay \$65 per ton for degenerated stocks, which require heavy inputs of fertilizer and pesticides and have low productivity. The true potato seed production costs less than \$20 for a hectare field and the seeds fit in the palm of a hand.

Potatoes grown from TPS are diverse hybrids, almost virus-free and require fewer inputs. The challenge has been to make TPS technology widely available to farmers.

In 1989, USAID helped establish the Center for Technology Development (CTD). USAID supports this non-profit agency with a \$10 million, six-year grant to work with scientific and business communities to develop and improve commercially viable technologies.

CTD cooperates with three research centers in the southern state of Karnataka to produce TPS and develop low-technology potato seedling and potato tuber storage units. CTD also works with entrepreneurs to create private outreach systems.

"Here in Karnataka, farmers cannot produce good quality seed tubers because of the climate," said K.S.N. Murthy, CTD associate director. "Truckloads of seed tubers (60,000 tons every year) have to come from the northern states some 2,000 miles or more away."

"The whole idea is to get the seeds and the technology into private hands, so that people will see this thing really works," said B.G. Rudrappa, retired chairman of the Karnataka Electricity Board and one of 30 CTD volunteers.

"India has one of the greatest scientific

sectors in the world," said Felipe Manteiga, USAID/India, "but the scientific and private sectors are de-linked. CTD is helping to forge that link, essential for India's economic growth."

CTD expects the project will reduce Karnataka's seed tuber requirements by 33 percent by 1995 and create new markets for TPS. This will increase local potato production, farmers' incomes and rural employment. Commercial seed companies will supply most of that market.

Some commercial seed companies already are getting into the act. For example, Kalyani Agro Corporation Pvt. Ltd. (KACL), based in Pune, India, recently signed a producer-distributor joint venture with TPS Products Co., a subsidiary of EscaGenetics Corporation, San Carlos, Calif., to produce high quality, virus-free seedling tubers and seed tubers from TPS using a large-scale farming system developed by TPS Products. USAID/India provided KACL with \$300,000 in venture capital.

"From a commercial end, we believe that this is a project that can stand on its own," said Karl Foord, senior agronomist, TPS Products Co. "But it is always a challenge for a new project like this to become an active, viable commercial business before the funding runs out. That's why USAID's support is great."

India's government hopes farmers will double potato production annually by the year 2000. ■

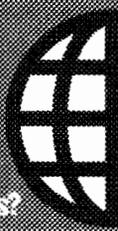
—By **Laura Lorenz Hess**, a freelance writer based in New Delhi



Indian farm workers sort potatoes for packing.

WHERE

In The
World
Are
USAID
Employees?



Moved On

Eidet, Gary, Indonesia
Felten, Sally, COM/REC/SUPV
Gentry, India LaDonna, G/HCD/
FSTA
Goode, Jeffrey, COMP/FS/
REASSGN
Johnson, Patricia, AFR/SD/HRD
Segerson, Joan, ANE/ORA/F
Skogstad, Samuel, ENI/PER/ER
Swift, Peter Van Hanegan, COMP/
NE/OJT

Reassigned

Alejandro, Frank, G/PDSP,
program analyst, to BHR/PPE
Anderson, Grant Jr., AFR/SD,
regional development officer, to
deputy mission director, Tanzania
Anderson, John, COMP/RTS,
supervisory special projects officer,
to project development officer,
ANE/SEA/SPA
Angeles, Hawthorne, COMP/FS/
REASSGN, financial management
officer/financial analyst, to
financial management officer
budget analyst, AFR/DP/OEFM
Becker, John, ENI/ED/AG,
agricultural development officer, to
supervisory agricultural develop-
ment officer, LAC/RSD
Bednar, James, Czech Republic,
program officer, to USAID
representative
Blumbagen, Dan, Burundi, health/
population development officer
physician, to supervisory health
development officer, Niger
Bose, Dehashis David, RIG/A/
Nairobi, auditor, to IG/A/FA
Butler, Letitia Kelly, LAC/CAR,
regional development officer, to
COMP/LWOP
Callen, Pamela, M/FM/CMP,
supervisory financial management
officer/financial analyst, to
controller, ENI/FS

Carduner, Olivier, COMP/FSLT,
project development officer, to
supervisory project development
officer, Bolivia
Chatman, Melvin, COMP/RTS,
supervisory development training
officer, to G/HCD/FSTA
Coleman, Regina, ENI/DG/PSP,
program analyst, to BHR/PVC/
MGD
Conner, E. Lewis, Guatemala,
financial management officer
budget/analyst, to supervisory
financial management officer,
Ghana
Cowey, Colette Claude, Senegal,
program economics officer, to
supervisory program officer,
Dominican Republic
Crawford, Paul, COMP/RTS,
supervisory agricultural develop-
ment officer, to natural resources
officer, G/ENV
Cusumano, Vincent, COMP/RTS,
supervisory agricultural develop-
ment officer, to program officer,
PPC/PC
De la Rosa, Osvaldo, Dominican
Republic, IDI (administration), to
supervisory executive officer, El
Salvador
Diedrich, D. Thomas, AFR/DP/
OEFM, financial management
officer budget/analyst, to financial
management officer financial
analyst, M/FM/APNP
Downing, Lance, COMP/RTS,
supervisory program officer, to
ENI/PCS/PS
Egan, William, Peru, project
development officer, to COMP/
separation
Eicher, Lawrence, COMP/RTS,
health development officer, to G/
PHN/HN/HIV/AI
Elser, Eleanore, COMP/FS/
REASSGN, executive assistant, to
program officer, ANE/SA/I
Fuller, Kurt, Rwanda, agricultural
development officer, to program
officer, PPC/DC
Gall, Pirie, M/HR/TD, project de-
velopment officer, to ANE/RI/G
Gatti, Bruce, South Africa,
supervisory executive officer, to
M/AS/COOS
Gibson, Ernest, AFR/SD/PSGE,
agricultural development officer, to
supervisory agricultural develop-
ment officer, Senegal
Graham, James, Tunisia, mission
director, to foreign affairs officer,
COMP/FS/REASSGN
Greene, Peter Michael, RIG/A&I/
Nairobi, supervisory auditor, to
auditor, IG/A/FA
Greene, Richard, PPC/DP, program
economics officer, to supervisory
health/population development
officer, Bangladesh
Gupta, Shankar, Egypt, engineering
officer, to COMP/RTS
Handler, Richard, COMP/RTS,
program officer, to AFR/EA
Harvey, Ronald, Cameroon, deputy
mission director, to deputy regional
director, REDSO/ESA/OD
Hemphill, Gregory, controller,
Rwanda, to private enterprise
officer, ENI/PER/NISP
Hoffeld, Joyce, Morocco, supervi-
sory health/population develop-
ment officer, to G/PHN/FPS
Hunter, Mark, REDSO/WCA/IDS,
IDI (financial management), to
financial management officer
budget/analyst, REDSO/WCA/
WAAC
Huxtable, John, Pakistan and
Afghanistan, Food for Peace
officer, to BHR/FFP/ER
James, John Paul, REDSO/WCA,
supervisory health/population
development officer, to COMP/
RTS
Jamshed, Homi, Nepal, controller,
to Indonesia
Jewell, Lee, RIG/A/San Jose,
auditor, to IG/A/FA
Johnson, Victoria, G/EG/CPE,
secretary typing, to secretary
(office automation), A/AID
Karbeling, Michael, M/OP/A/P,
contract specialist, to program
analyst, ENI/PD/PSB
Kellerman, Thomas, G/PDSP,
supervisory program officer, to
program officer, LAC/SAM
Larcom, Joan, Malawi, supervisory
human resources development
officer, to COMP/FSLT
Lawrence, Richard, ENI/FS,
financial management officer,
budget/analyst, to financial
management officer financial
analyst, Hungary
Lawton, Nancy, RIG/A&I/
Singapore, auditor, to IG/A/PSA
Lerman, Charles, COMP/NE/OJT,
IDI (health/population/nutrition),
to Bangladesh
Lewis, John, Paris, development
coordination officer, to supervisory
agricultural development officer,
G/EG/AFS
Luche, Thomas, Burkina Faso,
mission director, to foreign affairs
officer, COMP/FS/REASSGN
Marinopoulos, Daphne, RIG/A/
Dakar, supervisory auditor, to
auditor, RAO/EUR/W
May, Marcia, ANE/US-AEP, writer
editor, to financial operations
specialist, M/AS/COOS
McManus, Sheree, LAC/RSD,
program analyst, to housing/urban
development officer, G/ENV/UP
Mehu, Ellen, Nepal, secretary, to

GC
Mukherjee, Tridib, Niger,
supervisory agricultural develop-
ment officer, to COMP/RTS
Murphy, William, RIG/A&I/
Singapore, auditor, to IG/A/PSA
Navin,
Robert Elwood Jr., ENI/ED/SB,
private enterprise officer, to trade
development officer, LAC/RSD
Negash, Kifle, Cameroon, supervi-
sory program economics officer, to
program economics officer,
Senegal
Nicholson, Owen Parnell, IG/A/
PSA, auditor, to RIG/A/Singapore
Pfeffer, Howard, RIG/A/Singapore,
auditor, to IG/A/PSA
Pierce, Thomas, COMP/FSLT,
program officer, to supervisory
agricultural development officer,
Guatemala
Proctor, Harry, Pakistan &
Afghanistan, supervisory
engineering officer, to engineering
officer, Egypt
Putman, Diana, ANE/SEA/SPA,
project development officer, to
supervisory project development
officer, Tanzania
Simmons, Emmy, REDSO/ESA,
supervisory program economics
officer, to COMP/FSLT
Smither, Barbara, Nicaragua,
secretary, to COMP/RTS
Soos, Helen, Niger, supervisory
general development officer, to
supervisory program officer,
Morocco
Soules, Donald, supervisory
program officer, COMP/RTS, to
program officer, ANE/SEA/IRM
Stryker, Ronald, LAC/RSD, trade
development officer, to supervi-
sory agricultural development
officer, G/EG/AFS/AEMD
Stukel, Thomas Jr., Philippines,
mission director, to foreign affairs
officer, COMP/FS/REASSGN
Tennant, John, Jamaica, supervi-
sory project development officer,
to USAID representative, Bulgaria
Thompson, George, Mali,
supervisory general development
officer, to supervisory agricultural
development officer, Niger
Thompson-Dorman, Randa,
COMP/FS/REASSGN, project
development officer, to ANE/RI/SI
Toh, Kiertisak, Kenya, supervisory
program officer, to deputy mission
director
Vaughan, Gary, COMP/RTS,
private enterprise officer, to trade
development officer, LAC/RSD
Watkins, Marcella, G/PHN/FPS,
program analyst, to program
operations specialist, ENI/EUU/NR
Wiles, John, ENI/PD/PSA,

supervisory project development officer, to project development officer, ANE/RI/SI

Williams, Joseph, COMP/RTS, education development officer, to program officer, ANE/ENA/Y

Wines, Sarah, ENI/EEUD/UDH, housing/urban development officer, to G/ENV/UP

Retired

Anderson, Sydney, AFR/SA, program officer, 12 years

Beckett, Betty, G/EG/AFS, program operations specialist, 19 years

Bolden, Wesley, M/AS/ISS, management assistant, 28 years

Brennan, Dennis, DAC, US representative, 25 years

Brewer, Audrey, G/HCD/ESTA, program operations assistant, 20 years

Brooks, Helen, M/HR/POD/STIII, personnel staffing specialist, 24 years

Chandler, Susie, BHR/OFDA/OS, financial operations specialist, 30 years

Clary, John, COMP/Seperation, supervisory project development officer, 28 years

Coulter, Robert Jr., COMP/RTS, foreign affairs officer, 28 years

Cummings, Randy, Pakistan and Afghanistan, supervisory energy officer, 18 years

Daniels, Gussie III, AFR/SA, program officer, 29 years

Dowd, Winifred, M/HR/POD, file assistant (typing), 16 years

French, Stephen, ENI/HR/TE, human resources development officer, 23 years

Guedet, J. Paul, AFR/EA, supervisory regional development officer, 28 years

Hogan, Raymond, M/OP/E, procurement analyst, 12 years

Hooker, Evelyn, ENI/OS, administrative officer, 29 years

Hunt, Yvonne, G/HCD/POSS, program operations specialist, 25 years

Johnson, Roy, Jordan, supervisory executive officer, 32 years

Jordan, Michael, Ecuador, health/population development officer, 29 years

King, Rosa, M/OP/COM, administrative operations assistant typist, 16 years

Kreger, Alan, G/HCD/POSS, program analyst, 6 years

Kuhn, Ernest, ANE/ME, special

projects officer, 28 years

Lewis, Doris, M/DP/E, procurement analyst, 34 years

Lucas, Kenneth, M/IRM/TCO, telecommunications specialist, 42 years

Marwitz, Harald, M/B/PA, program officer, 28 years

Moore, Roberta Ann, M/AMS, supervisory program analyst, 24 years

Nance, William, Mongolia, USAID representative, 24 years

Porter, Hubert, ANE/ENA, international cooperation specialist, 34 years

O'Donnell, Kevin, GC/CCM, legal officer, 29 years

Renz, Steven, M/IRM/OD, computer specialist, 14 years

Richardson, Gene, IG, assistant inspector general investigations, 10 years

Rosario, Rafael, BHR/FFP/DP, Food for Peace officer, 16 years

Scarborough, Wilbur Earl, AFR/EA, program officer, 20 years

Teague, Aundrae, M/AS/CPC, logistics management specialist, 33 years

Thompson, Clinton, M/ARM/PMA, computer specialist, 25 years

Thompson, Graham, M/HR/POD/CD, regional development officer, 27 years

Wanamaker, William, Philippines, supervisory executive officer, 27 years

Wood, Jerry, Jamaica, supervisory human resources development officer, 28 years

Zarr, Gerald Howard, Bulgaria, USAID representative, 26 years

Years of service are USAID only.

Obituaries

Jessie Bowser, 60, was killed in an automobile accident in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 28. She worked in the Offices of Information Resources Management and Financial Management.

Christine Camp, 65, died Nov. 16 of lung cancer at the Hospice Care Center in Akron, Ohio. She served as deputy director for public affairs for the agency during the Carter administration.

Edward Campbell, 61, died Nov. 3 of leukemia at George Washington University Hospital in Washington. He had worked at the agency since 1963 and served as desk officer for Brazil, Suriname, Guyana, Belize, Jamaica and Barbados.

Claris Lorriss Chevoor, wife of William Chevoor, a retired USAID controller, died in Belmont, Mass., on Oct. 26. She accompanied her husband on his overseas assignments in Europe, Latin America and Asia.

William Goodwin, 48, died of cancer Nov. 30 at George Washington University Hospital in Washington. He was an agricultural economist in the Latin America Bureau and had served with the agency in Honduras, Philippines and Guatemala.

Alice Smith Morrison, 58, died July 31 of cancer at her home in Fairfax, Va. She was a secretary in the Office of the Inspector General until she retired in 1993.

L. Paul Oechsli, 72, died of a cerebral hemorrhage Dec. 1 at Fairfax Hospital in Falls Church, Va. He served in Washington and overseas with USAID and its predecessor agencies in Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador and India from 1957 until his retirement in 1974.

Raymond A. White Jr., 75, died in Miami, Fla. He served with USAID in Africa and Latin America and retired in 1979.

Charles A. Sanders, 67, died of Lou Gehrig's Disease at his home in Goddard, Kan., on Jan. 25. He joined USAID's predecessor agency in 1956 and served in Laos managing the Agricultural Education Office, Tunisia, Nigeria and Washington, where he served until his retirement in 1979.

New USAID video available

The Bureau for Legislative and Public Affairs has produced a new 22-minute video, "Global Connections," which presents an overview of USAID's programs and priorities for the post-Cold War era. The 12-minute version was shown to employees in Washington in November.

Contact Rolanda Savoy in LPA at (202) 647-3910 if you'd like a copy of either version of the video for your office.

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