

DISASTER
RELIEF

CASE REPORT
Sudan—Floods
September 1975

Agency for International Development
Washington, DC 20523

SUDAN

Floods—September 1975

Monsoonal rains, during early September 1975, caused extensive flooding in central and eastern Sudan where more than 165 million acres of land were inundated. Kassala Town, situated near the Ethiopian border, was the most severely affected area as floodwaters destroyed more than 5,000 houses leaving 45,000 homeless.

As floodwaters began to recede two weeks later and conditions returned to normal, more flooding occurred in Northern Province when the Nile River overflowed its banks. The Government of Sudan estimated 7,000 houses were destroyed and 100,000 people were left homeless.

VALUE OF U.S. GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE \$ 104,850

VALUE OF ASSISTANCE BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY 11,266,120

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT OF SUDAN

Over 100 days of rainfall in neighboring Ethiopia caused the Gash River to overflow its banks flooding Kassala Town and nearby villages. A Government of Sudan (GOS) and United Nations Development Program (UNDP) survey of damages, on September 10, confirmed the number of houses destroyed and number of homeless victims. Sudanese Armed Forces, Government Departments, and Security Forces, along with local citizen groups were organized to as-

sist the flood victims, repair and maintain river embankments, and restore the water system.

The GOS requested the United Nations Disaster Relief Office in Geneva to issue an appeal to donor nations and organizations to support the relief efforts already undertaken by the Government. The Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Program indicated the most urgent needs were food, tents, medical supplies, and kerosene.

A joint United Nations/Sudan Government mission determined quantities of relief sup-

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At a brief ceremony, U.S. Ambassador William D. Brewer (R) presented a check in the amount of \$25,000 to the Deputy Secretary-General of the Sudanese Socialist Union for the local purchase of relief supplies.

plies required and canvassed local markets for availability.

The second flood condition to develop in Northern Province was considered to be more devastating than the floods in Kassala. The GOS urgently requested additional assistance to help cope with this crisis.

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT

On September 7, the Sudan Government appealed for world assistance through the United Nations Disaster Relief Office in Geneva. U.S. Ambassador William D. Brewer responded by declaring a disaster, and on September 13 made a cash donation in the amount of \$25,000 to the GOS for the local purchase of relief supplies.

At the recommendation of Mission that the U.S. Government provide funds to transport 19,489 pounds of medical supplies donated by the United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF), A.I.D.'s Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance arranged for the

chartered airlift of these supplies from Copenhagen to Khartoum. Included in the airlift were 1,498 cooking kits and tents also donated by UNICEF.

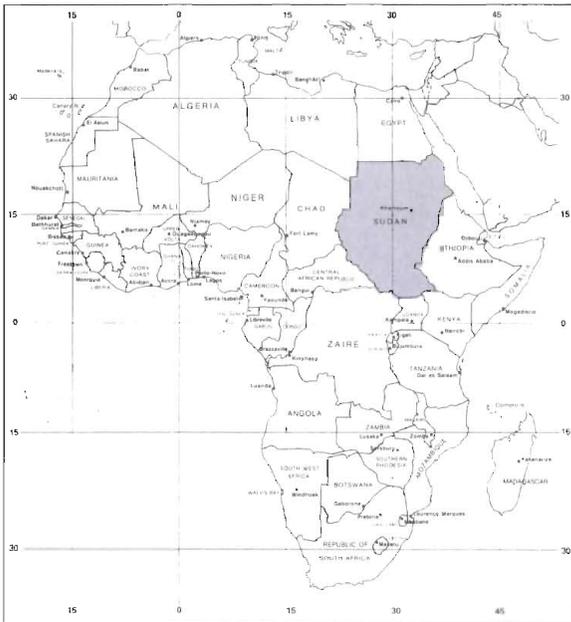
Additionally, 10,000 cotton blankets were released from A.I.D.'s disaster relief stockpile in Leghorn, Italy and shipped on the same aircraft arriving from Copenhagen en-route to Khartoum. Total costs of the airlift of UNICEF supplies and A.I.D. blankets valued at \$31,719 were \$79,850.

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

<i>United Nations System</i>	<i>Value</i>
United Nations Development Program—cash	\$ 20,000
United Nations Disaster Relief Office—cash	10,000
United Nations International Children's Fund—Medicines, tents, cooking kits	60,000
World Food Program—food ..	581,300
World Health Organization—cash	27,000
TOTAL	\$ 698,300

<i>League of Red Cross Societies</i>	<i>Value</i>
Bulgaria	\$ 12,379
Egypt	15,613
Germany (Democratic Rep.) ..	21,287
India	1,629
Iran	26,249
Italy	7,202
Kuwait	1,511
Norway	18,735
Switzerland	4,196
U.S.S.R.	4,145
TOTAL	\$ 112,946

<i>Governments</i>	<i>Value</i>
Libya	\$ 330,000
Saudi Arabia	10,000,000
Switzerland (Government of and Red Cross)	60,675
United Kingdom	64,199
TOTAL	\$10,454,874



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