

Nutrition-health
center offers hope

Drought relief
encourages many

Life within a
"postcard"

February-March 1985

World Vision®

Dr. Tony Atkins comforts a young Ethiopian refugee at World Vision's nutrition-health center in Alamata.



Readers write

Questions answered

"Seeing World Vision at work in Africa was a life-changing experience for me. All of my questions about how an organization could bring effective relief and hope to a desperate situation were answered. Seeing World Vision's staff in action—whose mission was undeniably to serve the poor in the name of Christ—added integrity to the organization's reputation in my eyes."

Grace Nelson
Wife of U.S. Representative
Bill Nelson (D-Fla.)

Firsthand glimpse

I have just come back from the Philippines, where I had an opportunity to meet World Vision staff members. While working in the squatter villages with adults and children, it was exciting to see Jesus at work in the lives of those who had turned their lives over to Him. I was especially impressed by children sponsored by World Vision as I saw their eagerness to learn of Jesus and the Bible, and the hope they have gained because of the financial, educational and spiritual help they get. I met a young woman who had been sponsored through school and who now works as a bookkeeper in the World Vision office. Praise God! I want to sponsor a child in the Don Estaban barrio of the Iloilo City area.

Joan Peterson
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Food sharing

I am 87 years old and my income is well below the poverty line, so although I wish I could contribute a lot, I just don't have it. Here is my \$1. It can give one child food for one day.

Ethel Ellard
city and state unknown

Encouragement in Kenya

This being my first time to read the WORLD VISION magazine, I'm very amazed and have felt encouragement in a wonderful way how the Lord has saved and helped His people through World Vision ministry. I am with you praying in faith for the Lord to supply abundantly every moment His spirit allows. Brother Engstrom, with people like you and God on our side we shall be able to proclaim His love and many hearts will turn to Christ.

Michael B. Simati
Bungoma, Kenya

For those with even less

Greetings from the inner city of Los Angeles. Although our needs are heavy at this time of the year, we are also mindful of the outstanding work World Vision is doing to minister to those in the hurting and starving country of Ethiopia. Because of the extreme need in that country, it fell upon our hearts to also contribute to your efforts in that area.

On Thanksgiving day we felt moved to translate that concern into visible help. During our Thanksgiving worship service we looked at the options available to those on skid row and to those in Ethiopia. We had shelter, we had friends who cared for each other, and we were about to partake in a Thanksgiving feast. True, the Thanksgiving meal would not be typical and in many cases would be the only meal a person receives that week. But the options to those in Ethiopia were even less.

To express our concern, we offered all those at the service an opportunity to contribute to the Ethiopian relief fund. The response was amazing. Many stood and dropped their loose change into the donation box. Others quietly slipped the quarters and nickels they had available in the offering plate as it went by. Truly, they were concerned about those who are even less fortunate than themselves. Many of the staff also contributed to this offering. It taught the lesson of the widow's mite.

Therefore please accept this check [\$175] from those on skid row. It isn't a lot, but it demonstrates a deep concern from those in the inner city of Los Angeles.

Lee Holtbus
Executive Director
Union Rescue Mission of Los Angeles

When the larder is full

It's the second day of the month. Yesterday was payday. This morning at the grocery I spent an amount I hope my husband never notices in the checkbook.

Except for twinges from the size of that check, I am replete with good feeling. The pantry is full, the chickens are cut up, the hamburger patties are shaped, the freezer is bulging. The fruit bowl, replenished, stands where the boys will see it when they get home from school. A special satisfaction fills a homemaker whose larder is full.

Beneath that satisfaction, however, my conscience nags me vaguely but relentlessly. I can't escape the knowledge that

millions of homemakers never experience this particular kind of satisfaction. There are women who never worry what to fix for supper; there's only one concoction to stir up—and never enough of that. There are children who will never know the pleasure of sinking healthy teeth into a crisp, tart apple. There are those who will never sit with pride at a table laden with food they've provided for their families.

I wish I'd never learned the word *triage*. I'm appalled by the idea of a deliberate decision to let some die in order to save others. Surely Jesus was not recommending a resigned acceptance of an intolerable situation when he said, "You always have the poor with you."

In our world many a child whimpers with hunger; many a woman weeps in frustration; many a man sighs in despair. I cannot say I've done my duty.

Norma G. Williamson
Starkville, Mississippi

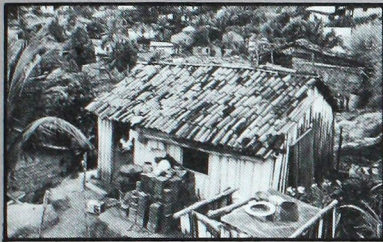
What about the Philippines?

Normally I like WORLD VISION magazine. This month I like it except that you did not mention the destruction in the Philippines. A friend of mine works in World Vision's Metro Manila office and she sees every day—close up and personal—the misery in her native land. She wonders why you do not tell more of that country's plight, and so do I.

David Boothby
Los Angeles, California

Attention to the far larger disaster in Africa has crowded out most of the news from the Philippines and more than 70 other countries in which World Vision conducts vital ministries every day. This we regret. To communicate at least highlights from some of those countries in each issue, we plan to devote a few pages each month to short items from various representative locations. Please see "Recent Developments" on pages 20 and 21 of this issue.

World Vision®



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WORLD VISION.

WORLD VISION magazine is published bimonthly by World Vision, a nonprofit Christian humanitarian organization with business offices at 919 West Huntington Drive, Monrovia, California 91016. Subscription is free. Founded by Dr. Bob Pierce in 1950, World Vision is an interdenominational outreach of Christians concerned for the physical and spiritual needs of people throughout the world. It is dedicated to serving God by ministering to children and families, providing emergency aid, developing self-reliance, furthering evangelism, strengthening Christian leadership and challenging Christians to become involved in missions. □ WORLD VISION magazine is a member of the Evangelical Press Association. While the editors are responsible for the contents, viewpoints of authors are not necessarily those of World Vision. The editors assume no responsibility for return of unsolicited manuscripts or photos unless accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Contents of this magazine may be reprinted or excerpted freely unless otherwise noted, but credit to WORLD VISION is requested. □ Send all editorial correspondence and changes of address to WORLD VISION magazine, 919 West Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016. Please send changes of address at least 30 days before you move. Enclose the address label from a current copy and your new address. Copyright © 1985 by World Vision Inc.

As soon as you've read it yourself

What do you do with this magazine when you've finished reading it? I hope you use it to open other eyes to the privilege of being part of God's solution to world hunger.

You might be surprised how little some of your own friends know of what God is doing in Ethiopia and elsewhere through the prayers and help of World Vision partners like yourself. One way to spread the news is to lend this magazine to one person or family at a time. Another way (and some copies get a lot of mileage this way) is to place it where people sit and read while waiting for a haircut or a tooth filling or a laundromat load.

Despite the self-centeredness of

many Americans today, a growing number care about hungry people. And an encouraging number are responding to opportunities to become part of God's solution. Your sharing of this magazine may open someone's eyes widely. It may also double or triple the number of needy people you (through new partners you influence) help year-round in the name of Christ. Please share this issue as soon as you've read it yourself. Thank you. *David Olson*

PHOTOS: Cover, pp. 4, 5, 6 (upper and lower right), 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 20: David Ward; p. 6: Doug Kelly; pp. 13, 14, 15: David Cullen; p. 17: Jerry Sweers; p. 21 (upper): Jerry Madison; p. 21 (Lower): Sim Bayron.



In one of Ethiopia's nutrition-health centers

DESPERATE CRIES ARE BEING HEARD

by Steve Reynolds

media producer for
World Vision International Communications

I always try to listen to the sound of cries out in the compound," said Nancy Sandberg, an American nurse working at the World Vision nutrition-health center in Alamata, Ethiopia. "There is a distinct difference between the cries of sick children, hungry children and distressed children. I always try to investigate the distressed cries. As I was going over some papers one day, I heard outside a cry of this kind and went to see what it was.

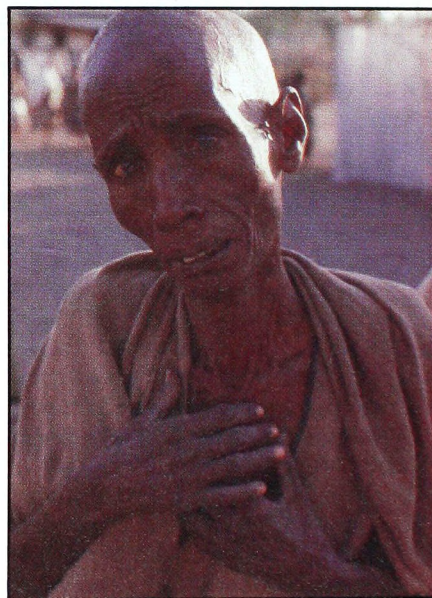
"I found a little boy sitting all by

himself in the middle of the compound with nobody else around. He was crying desperately. I went out, put my arm around him and asked him what his problem was. Through his tears he tried to choke out a response.

"Finally he calmed down enough to tell me what had happened to him. He said he was from the village of Chercher, which is about an eight-hour walk from Alamata over very rugged terrain. He had come to Alamata with some people from his village two days ago. We asked him where his mother was, and he told us his mother had died the day before he left the village. He had no father, brothers or sisters—nobody. He was six years old and all alone in Alamata. He didn't have any clothes on except for a little tattered cloth that hung down to about his waist. That cloth was his sole possession."

Stories like this one are becoming increasingly common in Ethiopia. Here in Alamata, I have seen perhaps the greatest diversity of human

I have seen malnutrition before, but nothing like the complete desperation which we see now in Ethiopia."



With the focus of the intensive feeding program on children under five, many adults, such as this woman, have had to go hungry. Thankfully, a soup kitchen in Alamata is now serving 6000 to 8000 meals a day to older children and adults.

conditions I've ever observed. Among these are children who have just arrived and have not eaten solid food in months. Their toothpick limbs and shrivelled skin are a familiar sight to the staff workers who have been here for the past four months. It seems as though the children are always the ones who must pay the greatest price in this



(above and left) Weary children and parents await relief food at the World Vision nutrition-health center in Alamata.

(right) Malnourished children under five, each accompanied by a parent (usually a lactating mother), make up the 6000 to 8000 who gather at least twice a day for World Vision's intensive feeding program at Alamata. The most severe cases receive feedings as many as six times a day.



Nurse Nancy Sandberg

dry and dusty land.

As in most parts of Ethiopia, the problem in Alamata is lack of food. As one drives through the main street, thousands of people crowd around the vehicle and beg for food or money. It is estimated that about 20,000 people are crowding into a town that normally houses about 12,000 residents. All of them are hungry. All of them have sold everything they have to get here. They are completely "without."

In Alamata, as in other government distribution centers, providing enough food for the thousands of hungry refugees becomes more difficult every day, says Kenyan Dr. George Ngateri who heads up World Vision's nutrition-health center there. An indefatigable worker who considers rest a necessary evil, Dr. Ngateri was, as usual, moving fast when I caught up with him one day. He was on his way to a new project site to do some planning for the new



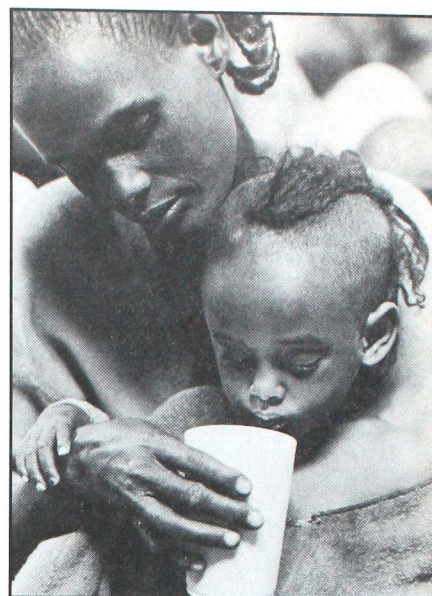
Our main concern is nutrition, but there are many sick people here too."

nutrition-health center World Vision is building in cooperation with the Ethiopian Relief and Rehabilitation Commission. "One day for us is like a week for most Westerners," the doctor said with a smile. "A week for us is like a month."

As we drove to the project site, Dr. Ngateri offered some insight as to what World Vision is doing in Alamata. "We are trying to improve the nutritional status of the people of the community," he said. "We are also trying to improve health conditions. There is a big correlation between malnutrition and ill health. Our main concern is nutrition, but there are many sick people here too. You can't ignore them. But we have discovered that malnutrition affects



This little boy clutches his weight-for-height card, his "diploma," received upon exiting World Vision's intensive feeding program. Every two weeks children like him are weighed and measured to make sure they have not become malnourished once again. And their families are given an extra ration of food (in addition to the Ethiopian Relief and Rehabilitation's dry rations).



(left) While the death rate has dropped sharply at Alamata, famine still claims one or two victims a week, like the child of this woman. (above) A child gets a helping hand in the intensive feeding program.

children under five most severely," said Dr. Ngateri. "So we consider them a priority group in the program."

The painful situation in Alamata is currently being duplicated in many parts of this famine-stricken nation. Normal rains have not fallen in Ethiopia in at least three years, and in some parts of the country no rain has fallen in ten years. Farmers here watch the skies hoping to see the clouds that will bring rain, the clouds that used to bring rain . . . in

better times.

Nurse Nancy Sandberg has been assigned to Alamata for less than two weeks, at this writing, but already she has come face to face with the worst human suffering she has encountered in her 18 years as a nurse in Ethiopia.

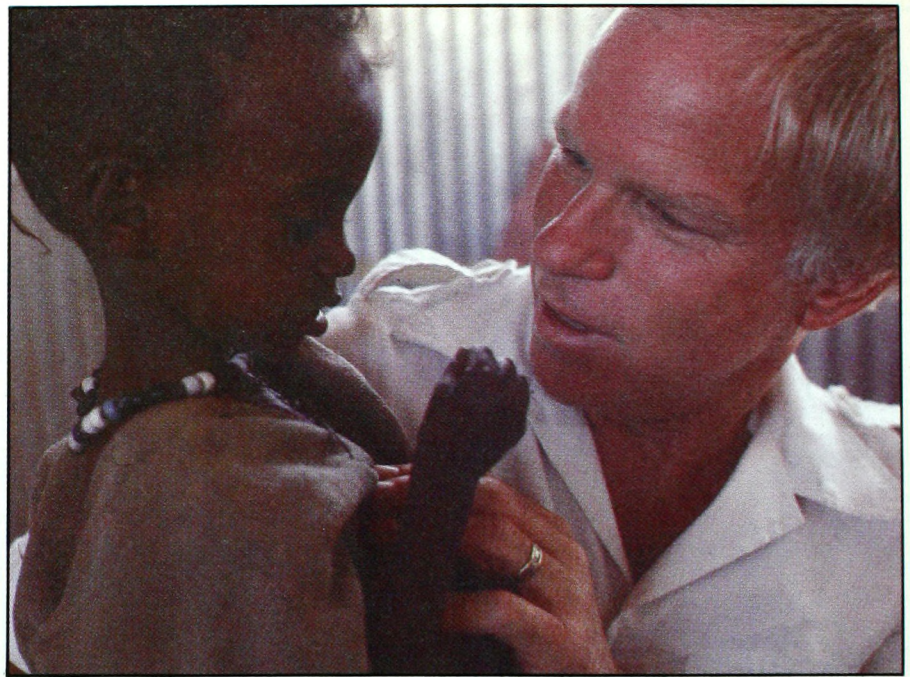
"I've never seen anything like it," said Ms. Sandberg. "I have seen malnutrition before, but nothing like the complete desperation we are finding now in Ethiopia. Sometimes when you see malnutrition it's because the people don't know how to feed them-

selves properly. They have food, but don't really know how to use it. But in Alamata, the people have nothing left . . . nothing," Ms. Sandberg explained that the people of Alamata are in a state of complete malnutrition, a condition in which the body is not getting any of the nutrients it needs to produce tissue. "In other parts of Ethiopia we've seen Kwashiorkor, which is thought to be caused by a lack of protein," she said. "But this is just complete malnutrition, which means lack of protein, lack of calories, lack of everything. In addition they don't get enough fluids, so the children begin to look like withered up old men. Their skin doesn't have anything underneath. They literally waste away."

Mercifully for many children like the boy from Chercher, starvation is being kept at bay at Alamata. The orphaned youngster nurse Sandberg told about was admitted to World

The painful situation in Alamata is being duplicated in many parts of the nation.

(right) World Vision Executive Vice President Bill Kliewer makes a new friend while visiting Alamata. (below) A mother and child await the next feeding.



Vision's intensive feeding program. When he was measured and weighed, he was only 68 percent of normal weight for his height; below 70 percent is considered to be critical. Immediately he began receiving six meals a day of fortified Faffa porridge. Salt and sugar are added to the porridge so his body can more readily absorb the nutrients. Oil is added to give desperately needed calories. In a few weeks he can start eating some of the protein-fortified biscuits provided by World Vision of Australia and flown in directly from Melbourne. Perhaps soon one of the families from the village will take him in and bring him up as their own.

World Vision is furiously working against time to meet the needs in Ethiopia. The expansion of the center at Alamata and the addition of a new center in Lalibella, about 45 miles away, will enable World Vision to extend help to an additional 7000 to 10,000 people every day.

Obtaining an adequate amount of water for cooking and hygiene at the nutrition-health center in Alamata was a problem until recently, when the camp was given permission to tap into the town's main water source. In Lalibella, water will be pumped from two springs to a storage tank on a nearby hill, then piped to the nutrition-health center.

"Right now what we have to do is feed these people."

"Right now what we have to do is feed these people," says Ms. Sandberg. She was quick to add, however, that the needs don't stop once they are fed. "We also need an overall plan so that we move quickly toward rehabilitation—that is, helping people to function once again as normal, productive human beings with a restored self-respect. It is important to realize that in dealing with famine, more is involved than the immediate disaster; we must help people to *help themselves* out of the crisis and into lives that have been stabilized on a long-range basis."

Perhaps the most accurate report that can be made about the future of Ethiopia is that it is uncertain. But with the help of World Vision and other relief agencies, and with the direct involvement of governments, Ethiopia will be able to weather the current drought and begin producing enough grain. Perhaps then the desperate cry of a lonely orphan will be replaced by laughter and singing. But it is obvious to those here now that the scars left by this famine in Ethiopia will last for at least a generation. □



A nutrition-health center staff member cradles a teetering stack of cups to be washed.

To help World Vision workers respond to the desperate cries in Ethiopia, please use the return envelope in this magazine.

'Nobody ever gave us anything before'

DROUGHT RELIEF ENCOURAGES MALIANS

by David Ward

*Project Officer,
World Vision International*



The first impression was a good one: Except for the maze of hard-packed footpaths zigzagging every which way, the village of Ntena was carpeted with bright green vegetation. From a distance, its two-dozen little mud houses were nearly hidden by knee-high grass and shoulder-high millet stalks. A shimmering blue sky. Singing birds. Big mango trees here and there. Not bad.

I thought they were sending me to a drought-stricken place!

First impressions can be misleading. It wasn't long before I realized, something *is* seriously wrong here in the West African country of Mali. One clue: those conical thatched roofs poking above the tops of the millet all look old and shabby. It has been a long time since there was enough rain to grow the special variety of tall grass suitable for thatching.

The granaries—those large, basket-like structures perched on stilts—are in even worse repair than the houses; it has been a long time since the families of Ntena had enough grain to be concerned about storage. In fact, some of the more-recently-constructed family compounds don't even *have* granaries.

And the children, look at them. Many are naked. Others are barely

With the rainy season nearly over, the toil of these villagers over late-planted crops may all be for naught.



Ntenan farmer Zan Diarra

covered by their dingy, ragged second-hand clothing. All the children are thin. All seem sluggish and dull, even more sluggish and dull than one would expect on such a hot afternoon. These youngsters have *never* had adequate food and clothing.

Yes, something is wrong at Ntena.

Not surprisingly, drought is the main topic of conversation among the adults. The weather issues these people face are matters of life and death.

"I'm glad you've come to visit us in the middle of our farming season," said Zan Diarra. "This will help you understand our suffering." We walked through Zan's little farm—about two acres of millet fields, with some beans and okra growing here and there. Many of the millet stalks stood taller than Zan. Some had begun to flower. "Exactly one year ago, the rain simply stopped," he explained. "The crops were looking good, even better than the ones you see now. But then, without warning, two months early, they stopped. Almost everything dried up. Our only harvest last year came from the few crops that were planted very early on the very best land."

With no stored reserves from



previous harvests to fall back on, the people of Ntena found themselves facing the coming year with less than half the necessary amount of food.

It has been a long year of suffering. And it could easily happen again.

Even in the best of times, Ntena is a desperately poor place. Home for 53 people, this little settlement of subsistence farmers is nestled between two larger, slightly better off villages of subsistence farmers: Tienko (pop. 340) and Tamani (pop. 2300). It is an 11-mile walk from Ntena to the nearest two-lane dirt road.

As severe as Ntena's drought has been, it would be inaccurate to suggest that lack of rainfall is the only major problem here. Rather, the people of Ntena are typical victims of the culture of poverty; Africa is full of them. Drought is but the latest on a long list of interrelated problems—the one that has pushed them closer

Our responsibility here is to pray for those far-away people who are helping us, and to work hard to make good use of all we've been given."

to the margin of life than they've ever been before.

Zan told me that the present good appearance of his fields is misleading. Although the rainy season began normally this year, a sudden dry spell withered all the seedlings. When it finally rained again he found enough seed to replant, but again all the young millet died.

The *third* planting grew comparatively well. But the stalks' height



This well near a stream a mile from the village is the only source of potable water for the 53 residents.

school. Schooling is free in Mali, and the school in Tamani is open to anyone. But here again, circumstances discriminate against the poorest of the poor. Even if a family at Ntena somehow could manage without a particular child's contribution of labor at home and in the fields, it would be quite impossible to find the hundred-or-so dollars required for that child's annual school-related

It has been a long year of suffering. And it could easily happen again.

expenses: The cost of paper, pencils, books, a uniform.

I spoke with Isiaka, one of the area's petty traders. His stock on hand—a dust-covered assortment of bicycle parts, salt, flashlight bulbs, anti-malarial tablets, canned tomato paste and bars of soap, among other things—barely covered a single small tabletop. "Business has been *terrible* these past two years," he told me. "*Nobody* has money to buy clothes.

At Ntena there is one transistor radio, but we don't hear it much anymore; the owner can't afford to buy batteries. And you know," he said, trying to make a joke, "we have here two kinds of bicycles: the ones that work, and the ones that don't work. The number of broken ones is many more than the others because there is no money for buying spare parts now. Every available franc is used for buying food."

For the people of Ntena, virtually the only way to earn money these days is by selling a goat or a sheep or a chicken. Most families still have a few, but the animals are being sold at a much quicker pace than the flocks can replenish themselves. The more I learned about Ntena, the more depressing this picture of chronic poverty plus prolonged drought became. No one was willing to discuss it with me, but not much imagination is needed to guess

is a month behind normal. And it is likely that Ntena's rainy season will have ended before the crops reach maturity.

"Why do we suffer so much?"

Maybe God is punishing us," mused an old man. "I don't understand what is happening, but I do know that when I was a young man we never had problems like this. Now it seems that every year is full of difficulty."

Repeated crop failure is not the only difficulty at Ntena. The village is dotted with open, hand-dug wells, some as much as 50 or 60 feet deep. About ten years ago they all dried up during the worst of the '73/'74 Sahel drought. Despite repeated attempts to deepen them, all those wells have been useless ever since. Fortunately for the people of Ntena, a little

stream flows about a mile from the center of the village. A new well near that stream usually gives water sufficient to meet the needs of 53 people.

Although many little streams like the one at Ntena flow through this part of Mali, their existence is a mixed blessing. Yes, they bring life-sustaining water to most of the people most of the time. But the rocky places in those streams are ideal breeding grounds for the tiny black flies that carry onchocerciasis—river blindness.

At Ntena and surrounding villages, blindness is the grim reward for reaching old age (and in rural Mali, 40 or 45 is old). Lifelong exposure to the bites of the black fly almost always leads to permanent, irreversible damage to the eyes. Every old person I met during my three-day visit was helplessly blind.

No child from Ntena attends

where Ntena got its name. In the Bamanakan language of the Bambara people, "Ntena" means "I wouldn't come there."

But World Vision has come there.

To help stave off hunger till the harvest later this year, a relief shipment of rice from World Vision arrived here during July. Each Ntena family (and many in Tienko and Tamani) received about a month's supply. (The Southern Baptists also distributed PL-480 maize in the same area during August/September 1984. It arrived just as the rice was nearly used up. PL-480, "Public Law-480,"

These youngsters have never had adequate food and clothing.

refers to a U.S. government program to share surplus commodities.)

And in cooperation with Mali's Association of Evangelical Churches and Missions, World Vision is supporting a small, three-year project to help improve local production of basic food: thirty-six farmers from Ntena, Tienko and Tamani have organized themselves in order to cultivate cooperatively a large field of maize and peanuts.

The men are grouped into three work teams, each spending one day a week in their new field. World Vision provided three oxploughs and six oxen, two ox-drawn planters, hand-tools, and sufficient quantities of maize seed and peanut seed. On workdays, the project provides the workers with a hot midday meal of rice, beans and sometimes a sauce made of dried fish. And the project's ox-drawn implements and hand-tools are available for use on family plots when not required for the cooperative work.

Thanks in part to the World Vision-supported project, the total acreage under cultivation this year in Ntena is twice the size of the area cultivated in 1983. The members of the cooperative have begun discussing the possibility of building community grain storage facilities in order to



begin saving surpluses for future "lean times."

"Before this project began, nobody ever gave us *anything*," Zan said to me. "This is very encouraging. We don't quite understand why you are doing this, but we are very thankful. We know that our responsibility here is to pray for those far-away people who are helping us, and to work hard to make good use of all we've been given. We hope to be strong

enough one day so that we, too, can help others in such a way."

Good news. But still, it all depends on rain. *Our* responsibility is to continue praying that there will be enough, that it will be consistent, and that it will come at the right time. □

Before it slips away . . .

LIFE WITHIN THE PICTURE POSTCARD

by Sally Adams

The view from Maria José's house overlooking the Vale do Jordão in Brazil is pure picture postcard. Little houses sit snugly between coconut palms and banana trees. The sun shines. At a fleeting glance it's picturesque.

Turn around for a closer view. The house is so small it could fit inside most American living rooms. The front is



Hundreds of homes cling precariously to the sandy hillside in the Vale do Jordão.

partly cement (color-washed a pale turquoise) and partly rough mud and bare wood. An ominous bulge protrudes from one wall. A narrow path leads round to the back.

Come inside. Daylight is visible through the walls and the roof. Altogether there are four tiny rooms: two bedrooms, a kitchen and a living room. The inside partitions provide a small amount of privacy but do not reach up to the roof.

Maria José invites you into her kitchen, the heart of any home. By the back door there's a gas stove with a red pom-pom doily on top. That's because she can't use it for cooking.

Maria José's husband Ulisses has lost his job as a construction worker. Brazil is suffering from an economic recession under crippling foreign debt repayments, and building work has virtually stopped. When Ulisses goes out looking for odd jobs, he's competing with hundreds of thousands of other unemployed men in

Maria José now cooks on a wood fire: outside if it's dry, but inside when it rains.

the great northeastern seaport of Recife. His findings are few—and often small.

With no wages coming into the house, the couple had to raise money by selling their precious bottled gas canister. Maria José now cooks on a wood fire: outside if it's dry, but inside when it rains. In a wooden house that's dangerous, especially when there are children.

A single roof tile has been moved aside. It may not let the rain in much, but it will let some of the smoke out. The bare walls are smoky.

Three beds are crammed into the eldest boy's bedroom. Only two can be used, however, because one

mattress got ruined, so two boys share the same bed. An old orange crate serves as a wardrobe.

The living room has chairs and a table, with the boys' schoolbooks scattered about. Maria José has done her best to make it pretty, tacking up pictures on the walls. This is where she sits to watch life passing close by in this hillside *favela*—a shantytown which some would call a slum.

This same room is where the family will sit tonight when they eat. The children who go to school will have had their main meal of the day there: perhaps a bowl of bean and rice soup, perhaps a stew made with soybean protein.

They probably won't eat the few beans that Maria José has left over from lunch, which she may make into a thin soup with a little rice and water. Alas, their mother's cooking won't be as tasty as the meals at school; she can't afford such good ingredients.

On weekends, when they all eat at



home, the youngest ones will have to sit on the dirt floor to eat; there are only three chairs in the house, all home-made. Seven people live here: Maria José, her husband Ulisses and their five sons: Wilson, 15; Wellington, 11; Marcos Antonio, 10; Fernando, 5; Flavio, 2. Soon there will be another mouth to feed. A baby is due in ten weeks.

There's no running water in the house. The family's water supply is all carried up the hill in salvaged oil tins. It's a weary climb up steep, winding steps cut into the sandy soil where it's easy to slip and lose your balance.

The water costs ten cruzeiros a can. They need about seven cans a day—more in the hot season when temperatures go as high as 40°C (104°F), and more on washday.

Washday itself involves another problem. Maria José has an injured finger so can't do the washing. (On Sunday her husband did it. Not quite the macho image of the Brazilian

male—he grumbled, but he did it. That's unusual for a man in Brazil.)

Even the outhouse, with its rough plank walls open to the sky, poses another problem. Its cesspool connects with that of a neighbor, and when the neighbor's drain malfunctions, sewage overflows both outhouses.

But there *is* some good news. A new item graces Maria José's house: a clay filter to purify the water and help prevent the spread of round worms and hook worms. This filter reflects the interest the Vale do Jordão project, funded by World Vision, has begun to take in Maria José and her family. Both Wellington and Marcos are sponsored.

Ednalva Maria da Silva Pontes, the project manager, and her helpers can offer the hygiene advice the family needs. Oscar Barros, the World Vision project supervisor, makes the point that the lack of hygiene in the shantytowns, the absence of piped water, and the complete lack of any sewage system holds back the children's development. If they're debilitated by parasites they can't give their full attention at school or benefit properly from what food they do have.

The project is implemented through the Baptist church, where children learn of Jesus' love. There they learn also that they were created in the image of God and that they have dignity—a first step to realizing that they and their families can expect better conditions.

That's where the project can give advice and practical help. Slowly, slowly, as funds allow, they are helping rebuild the worst houses in the slum. Asked what's the one thing she would like to improve about the house, Maria José's reply is imme-

diate: she'd like to be able to strengthen that bowed wall and to reinforce the hillside so the house won't get washed away. At present, less than 30 inches separate the house from a 20-foot drop. Fear of a cave-in gnaws at her actively when the rains come. The drought that has plagued northeast Brazil for the last five years has now broken. When it rains heavily, the hillsides stream with torrents of water that cut deep into the sandy soil. Maria José feels that her house is like a sandcastle built too near the sea.

There is no running water. The family's water supply is carried up the hill in salvaged oil tins.

Recently, one house on the hillside was washed away and people were injured. Part of Maria José's house has already fallen down. In a matter-of-fact way, she recounts how it happened. "We stayed inside until it felt as if the wall was going to fall, and then we left. When the house broke we were lent a house for 15 days while we rebuilt this one."

If the house were to slide down the hill, Maria José would lose the double bed she prizes highly. Unlike much of the rest of the furniture, it is not homemade, though it was most certainly acquired secondhand. There's no doubt, however, that her children, all being helped through World Vision's involvement with the Vale do Jordão project, are her most precious possessions. □

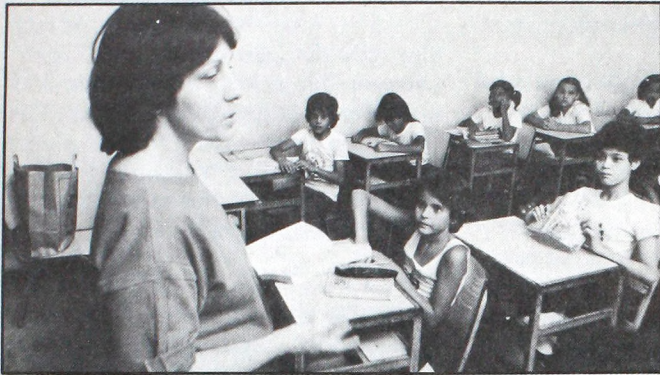
Sally Adams is editor of the British World Vision publication, Window on the World.



(far left) Maria José cooks on a wood stove in her "indoor kitchen" when rain prevents her from preparing meals outside. Behind her the gas stove stands idle because the fuel canister had to be sold to supplement the family's income. (left) Maria José's husband, Ulisses, was out looking for work when this family portrait was taken.

Samaritan sampler

SOME WAYS PEOPLE ARE HELPING
OTHERS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST



A public school classroom in Brazil

25 million New Testaments will be distributed to Brazil's school children over the next five years. Brazil's President Figueiredo has also requested that prisons and the armed forces be included in the Scripture distribution. In an historic first for Brazil, representatives of a number of Protestant denominations and of the Roman Catholic church pledged to work together to complete the distribution by 1990. The endeavor has become international in scope, with publishing and funding aid from Sweden, Canada, Australia and the United States.

Ten thousand Bibles for Russia were trucked to Moscow in 1984. The United Bible Societies (a world partnership which includes the American Bible Society) is handling both production and transportation of the Bibles to the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists in the USSR who have received official permission for their importation.

A new program in urban-ethnic ministry has been inaugurated in Detroit by Missionary Internship of Farmington, Michigan. Wide-ranging opportunities in preparing for urban ministry are available to interns who are placed among

Asian, Hispanic, Afro-American, Arabic or other ethnic groups for two- or four-month periods. The program includes supervision by Internship staff, involvement with urban ministries, reading and discussion of ministry issues. For further information contact Missionary Internship, P.O. Box 457, Farmington, MI 48024; phone (313) 474-9110.

An evangelistic outreach beamed to Spanish-speaking people on five continents is planned by the Luis Palau Team for the last week in March. The core of *Continente '85* will be live radio broadcasts of Palau's San Juan, Puerto Rico crusade. Tie-ins with television, literature, personal contact and follow-up are also included. Palau requests prayer that *Continente '85* will have a major impact on the world's 330 million Hispanics.

Growing old gracefully—and cheerfully and usefully—is the theme of a helpful book by Bartlett and Margaret Hess, *Never Say Old* (Victor Books, 1984). Still pastoring (Bart) and teaching large Bible classes (Margaret), the Hesses are thoroughgoing practitioners of the wide-ranging, down-to-earth how-to's of living that they advocate. Full of examples, biblical guidelines and practical hints, *Never Say Old* is designed for either individual

use or group study. A leader's guide and transparency masters are available.

The goal of Manila '85 is to bring one million people—ten percent of Manila's population—to faith in Christ during 1985. A program of personal evangelism, street witnessing, mass evangelism, telephone outreach and Bible study courses is planned. Cooperating with the campaign's sponsor, Action International Ministries, the International Bible Society and World Home Bible League are supplying a million New Testaments to be used in the campaign.

Christian love in action made a crucial difference for Marie Rothenberg and her six-year-old son David, the subject of one of 1983's most sensational news stories. David's life hung in the balance for months after his father attempted to burn him to death. In a book called *David*, Marie (with writer Mel White) tells the boy's story of courage and endurance, and of the way in which they both came to know God through the concerned love and practical help of people they had never met before the tragedy. *David* (Revell, 1984).

Emergency health supplies for Ethiopia were sent by global health organization MAP International early in November. MAP is calling on pharmaceutical and health suppliers for product donations such as antibiotics, vitamins, bandages, stethoscopes and other items with which they can continue to respond to the critical health needs of famine-stricken Africa. For further information, contact MAP, P.O. Box 50, Wheaton, IL 60187.

25,000 students and leaders are expected at Youth Congress '85 scheduled for July 26-30 in Washington, DC. The goal of co-sponsors Youth for Christ and Campus Crusade for Christ is to include students from every high school across America. Charles Colson, Josh McDowell, Jay Kesler and Bill Bright will be featured speakers. For more information write: Youth Congress '85, P.O. Box 6120, Washington, DC 20044, or Youth Congress '85, P.O. Box 200, San Diego, CA 92131.

Finding compatible career choices is the purpose of IDAK Career Match, a self-administered, computerized analysis that correlates personal characteristics with more than 60,000 possible Christian and secular careers. Recommended for both recent college graduates and adults contemplating career changes, IDAK is *not* a job-matching service. Instead, it presents the participant with a career-potential analysis and a printout of the user's ten best career matches. For information, write to IDAK Group Inc., Banfield Plaza Bldg., 7931 N.E. Halsey, Portland, OR 97213-6755; phone (503) 257-0189.

A New Testament for each prisoner in the country who will accept one, is the goal of a project undertaken jointly by the International Bible Society and the International Prison Ministry. Special NIV editions of the New Testament were released in early November and will be sent without charge to institutional chaplains, prison ministry groups and individual prisoners on request. Write: Chaplain Ray's International Prison Ministry, Box 63, Dallas, TX 75221; or call (214) 494-2302.

'No Impossibles' for God

MARISA'S SONG

by Jerry Sweers

Marisa is a beautiful young woman. Her thick dark hair and shining dark eyes echo the rich mixture of races that make up the people of Brazil. She sits in a wheelchair behind a table . . . one crippled, bandage-swathed leg propped up to ease the pain of a recent injury.

She welcomes us warmly to the local office of CERTO (Centro Evangelico Reabilitacao Terapica Ocupacional)—Evangelical Center for Occupational Therapy Rehabilitation—and begins, through our translator, to tell us of the organization's work.

In Brazil little thought is given, either privately or publicly, to the special needs of handicapped people. Wheelchairs are expensive. There are few wheelchair ramps, no public transportation provisions, no specially designed restroom configurations, and minimal understanding of the dilemmas of the physically handicapped.

CERTO has begun to address these issues through a newsletter and local chapters that work with government agencies and committees to promote legislation. At this center in Recife there are programs to train, encourage and enable the physically handicapped to live more productive and satisfying lives. Sometimes this involves the provision of a brace or crutches, sometimes training in photography or secretarial skills. Sometimes it just means providing cab fare so a handicapped person who is ill can get to a doctor.

All of this is done by Christians, in

Jesus' name. This basic principle is so clear and so bright that many who are not physically handicapped but are spiritually handicapped, phone or visit the office seeking answers to the ultimate questions of life. At CERTO they hear the "Answer" from those who are living it out under trying circumstances.

I visited the CERTO center with a few other interested people. After a quick tour of the facility, we returned to the reception area and sat for a cup of punch, some cake and Ritz crackers. Marisa took out a small tape recorder and asked if she might sing us a song she had written. We accepted her offer and a hand-lettered copy of these words:

For God There Is No Impossibles

*If you feel sorrow in your soul
And you think in losing your heart
For God there is no impossibles
Our God is coming to release you.*

For God there is no impossibles

*Till lifeless people God can raise up.
If you have a difficult problem
And you think in despairing your life,
For God there is no impossibles
Our God is coming to release you.*

*See now the outstretched hand
Stretched to bless your life.
The hand is not shrunk;
Our God is coming to release you.*

Although the song was written in Portuguese, and the English translation was rough, the roughness was lost in the beauty of the moment as Marisa sang in English, joined on the choruses by a thin young man on crutches. We had tears in our eyes as she finished and we sat thinking of the time when "the crooked shall be made straight" and "God will wipe all tears from their eyes."

We left, as do many others day by day, with joyful hearts and shining faces, with a deep sense of gratitude for Ingrid Neuman,* another paraplegic young woman, whose vision plus a money grant from World Vision was the beginning of CERTO. □

**The April 1984 issue of WORLD VISION featured CERTO founder Ingrid Neuman, relief coordinator for World Vision of Brazil, who shared about her conversion to Christ and her dynamic ministry among Brazilians in Recife. Ingrid, too, works from a wheelchair.*



Jerry Sweers, World Vision's vice-president for Administration, wrote the above in his diary during a recent visit to Brazil.

Spiritual hunger satisfied

I CAME TO CHRIST IN KENYA

by Joseph Muchunu

You were born in Murang'a Hospital," My father once told me, but he could not remember the date. What is known by my parents, neither of whom can read or write, is that I was born during "Imanjeneti" (Emergency), the period of time which the British declared to be a state of emergency in Kenya. Presumably in 1950.

Later I learned that when I was born, my father bought a feeding bottle. When my mother asked him, "Do you think I don't have enough breast milk to feed him?" he told her, "Yes, but I am getting ready in case one day you are late in the fields."

Two weeks later, my mother deserted both me and my father after quarreling with Wanjiru (my father's first wife). So my stepmother, who was barren, brought me up. I loved her and she liked me—until my real mother returned home. By that time I was in grade seven and my father had married two other wives. There were now four wives and several children on the homestead. It was then that I painfully identified my real mother.

I believed that my own mother must have hated me deeply to disown me at two weeks. Feeling rejected, I developed an attitude which led to a restless, hopeless and wretched life. Until 1973.

When I completed high school my mind was set on moving from my parents' rural home to the big city of Nairobi, even if the move should lead to poverty.

With 100 shillings (\$10) which my father reluctantly gave me, I arrived in Nairobi in January 1970. I knew no



Joseph today: president of the graduate student union of the School of World Mission at Fuller Theological Seminary.

Joseph in 1971: "restless, hopeless, wretched."

one in the city. My money was gone in two weeks. I knocked on innumerable office doors seeking work, but no one hired me. I began to experience bitter cold nights on the streets. Pangs of hunger crawled in my stomach for days. Often I slept in kiosks (small open-air vegetable markets), wrapped in old, tattered, stinking sacks.

I remember well how one night as I lay under a kiosk bench, sodden with smelly vegetable juices, stray dogs appeared, running around me, barking fiercely but seemingly afraid to attack me. I felt that my life had been reduced to a spectacle. Even dogs feared me. I wished then to be dead.

In spite of such horrifying experiences, I was determined to stay in Nairobi. I decided never to return home to rejection and hatred. I felt that even though my living conditions

in Nairobi were demoralizing beyond any human conjecture, the city gave me one thing I cherished: freedom. And I took pride in knowing that I could reject anyone who hated me.

It was a whole year before I found my first job. I began shining shoes on the pavement of Norwich Union House on Mama Ngina Street. I was employed by another shoe-shine boy who is still there, doing the same business, almost 14 years later.

Shining shoes from 8 a.m. until 6:30 p.m., I earned between 40 and 50 shillings (\$4-\$5) for my employer. My own share of that was from one-half to one shilling (5 to 10 cents).

After three months I left that job and went to an industrial area where I began cutting grass in a Shell Oil depot. That I left after two weeks because of boils and bruises on my palms.

In November 1972, I secured a job at the General Post Office. The basic salary was not bad compared to the income from the odd jobs I had been doing. At the end of the month I received 340 or, with overtime, 500 shillings (\$50). After paying my house rent and buying groceries, I spent the rest on drinking, smoking and night life. I was soon an alcoholic.

The Bible calls Satan a thief, a liar and the father of all lies. He is. He stole my peace of mind and made my life extremely miserable.

One evening my cousin and her friend passed by the General Post Office and I invited them for tea at the canteen. Over the cup of tea, my cousin's friend told me she wanted to know me better. We agreed to meet at 10 a.m. the following Sunday.

Bashful with girls, I reached the meeting place much earlier, to prepare for the unknown. When my friend arrived, she immediately directed me to a church. It was my first time to be in one.

Because it was a noisy service with some casting out demons at the top of their voices, the experience nearly drove me out of my wits. Yet the music and the outstanding brightness and joy of the members comforted me. I discovered that there were people in this world who enjoyed themselves without drinking alcohol.

From the time I left that church service, my heart was filled with awe

and a multitude of questions. I felt a great urge to attend again on the following Sunday. So when Sunday came I first drank a few beers to be ready for church at 10 a.m. That day—June 10, 1973—became the most memorable milestone of my life.

The pastor, Joseph Kayo, made an altar call. Sitting next to my friend, I knew that alcohol had ruined my life. And on several occasions I had attempted—without success—to break a chain-smoking cigarette habit. I wanted to be prayed for, but I had no courage to go to the altar. As I sat there, my inner self wrestling with the devil, my heart beat like a drum. It was only when my friend punched me with her elbow that I rose to my feet, still confused and scared. Then the pastor called me to the front for prayer.

That was a real power encounter in my life. Until that time, Satan had had a mighty stronghold on my life through various local medicine men and witch doctors. Now I was confronted with Jesus Christ. I received Him as my Savior. I spent the rest of the day in a reverie.

At 10 that night my head felt ready to burst. The devil convinced me that nothing but a cigarette could relieve that feeling. I reached out for a half-smoked cigarette which had lain on the table since that morning. No sooner did I puff it than my head began to spin. Kneeling at my bed, I promised God I would never smoke or drink for the rest of my life. It is now 11 years since my deliverance.

Since that day when Jesus Christ became my life's Lord and Savior, I've had to learn much from Him. A Bible verse I've chosen as a guide for my life is Philippians 3:14: "I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

Through the years many people have turned to Christ after hearing my testimony. The Lord has helped me to plant churches in Kenya. I am now enrolled in a school of world mission in California. My vision is to launch a soul-winning project in Kenya through evangelism and church-planting. □

Mini-message

HAVE YOU TASTED GOD'S LOVE?

"God has shown us how much he loves us," wrote a man who knew God well; "it was while we were still sinners that Christ died for us!"

That's love!

And that writer—Paul the Apostle—went on: "By his death [Christ's] we are put right with God" (Rom. 5:8,9, TEV).

The love shown in Jesus' death for sinners is the love we all need more than any other love. And the experience of being "put right" with the God we've shunned—that's the benefit we all need more than any other.

Peace with God, so necessary in both this life and the next, is one of God's great love gifts to each person who simply, penitently seeks Him through the Christ who shed His blood for us and rose to conquer sin and death.

Many people merely know something *about* that love; they have yet

to taste it through personal response. They have not personally responded to the crucified and risen Savior.

Do you know God's love?

If you still lack the relationship with God that spells inner peace, we recommend that you:

- 1) Read and re-read, open-heartedly, Romans 5:1-11.
2. Seek additional counsel through a Christ-sharing church.
3. Write to WORLD VISION magazine (919 W. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016) for a free copy of *Becoming a Christian*, a helpful booklet on knowing God through Jesus Christ.

God wants you to know and benefit from His love now and eternally. Seek that incomparable love in the Lord Jesus Christ. Find it. Taste it. Respond to it—in faith and by giving yourself to Him. You'll be glad you did. So will He. Because He loves you immeasurably. □

Please pray . . .

□ **for rains** of the duration and frequency needed to make agriculture possible again in nations plagued by prolonged drought.

□ **for endurance** and safety for the relief workers bringing food, medical supplies, emergency shelter and spiritual consolation to the victims of Africa's tragic famine.

□ **for foresight** for the development workers seeking the most appropriate ways to enable the survivors of the famine to become able to provide for themselves again in the years ahead.

□ **for the witness** of God's people as they minister to the suffering in Jesus' name and with the good news of life eternal through faith in the Savior.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTES

A meaningful way you can honor the memory of a friend or loved one is through a memorial tribute gift to World Vision.

Why? Because your gift is an investment in the lives of needy people around the world—people who will find hope through your thoughtfulness. It's a gift of life.

When World Vision receives such a gift, a staff member sends a message of comfort to the family of the honoree, informing them of the gift and who sent it.

For information on how to send a memorial tribute gift, write Memorial Tribute, World Vision, Box O, Pasadena, CA 91109.

Recent developments

IN SOME OF THE 70-PLUS COUNTRIES
WHERE WORLD VISION IS AT WORK

IN MALI

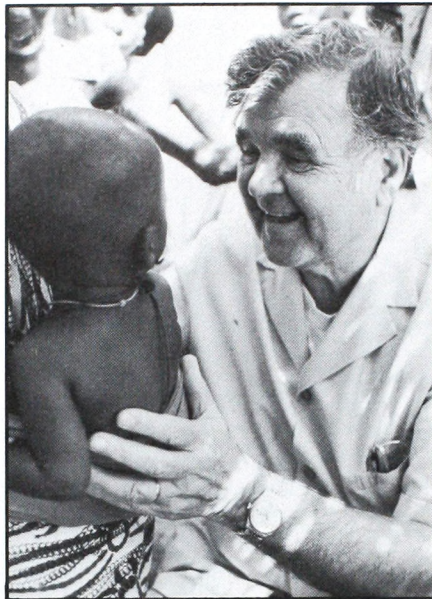
The village of Yrere in Mali might have had good potential for vegetable growing last year, but because of a lack of rain, the crops had been a miserable failure. Many of the village's young people had left to find work in places such as the Ivory Coast and Gabon. Many villagers were dependent on money being sent back from relatives who had left.

Following are excerpts from a conversation that took place recently between the elders in the village of Yrere and visitors from World Vision. The visitors included William Newell, executive director of World Vision Canada; Dr. Ted Engstrom, president, World Vision U.S.; Russ and Kathy Reid of the Russ Reid Agency, and World Vision personnel working in West Africa.

Village spokesperson: "Lack of water has brought hardship here. We are suffering, but it's not because we are not willing to work. Our livestock have all died. Nothing is left to us. Our children, who have travelled to other parts of the world, try to send us something so we can buy food. We need people to help us. We have seen your work and we are thankful.

"Someone who helps like this, even though we do not see them, and then comes to our village—we are grateful. Of those who are sitting here, we all agree on one thing: We are very grateful."

Dr. Engstrom: "We are honored and privileged to be here underneath this tree with you. We know of your struggles. We are all creatures of God and want to serve Him, and we best



Ted Engstrom makes a friend in Yrere.

serve Him by serving each other.

"We've come great distances to be in your village. We are delighted to have this time of sharing. We have been praying for rain for this part of Africa and are grateful for the recent rain that you have had. We pray it will continue. There is a brotherhood of human beings and I want you to feel we are brothers here together. Thank you for the privilege. We pray God's blessings for you and your families, particularly for the little ones. Mr. Newell and I are both grandfathers and we love little children. We want you to give our love to all here in the village. May God bless you."

Village elder: "I also have plenty of grandchildren and many people at home. We pray night and day and depend on God and His prophets, and they depend on you. May God allow us to continue in this fellowship. We remember you day and night and ask you to remember us."

Second village elder: "We could spend a whole day talking and never get bored with you, our visitors. You

have asked us our problems. We are men and women who want to work hard. When the rainy season comes, we see what God gives us; that is what we get. If it doesn't come we must wait."

Q: "What are your crops like this year? Are they any better than last year's?"

A: "Last year we had no crops, not even any dry grass. Already we are better off. We are hoping that if it keeps raining we will have two months of food. But I doubt that we will have any more."

Q: "Last year, were the conditions as bad as in 1973?"

A: "Things were never as bad as they were last year."

We then asked if there was any game to hunt in the area. There *had* been a type of gazelle at one time, but they are all gone now. The last time one was seen was more than ten years ago. Also, all the trees in the area have died. There are only birds left.

They also informed us that they have no problems with wells because a Canadian organization has been operating in the area offering well-drilling services and agricultural assistance.

At this point Wim Bakker from World Vision asked the translator to tell the villagers that he hoped he would never meet them again because that would mean they did not have any serious problems of food or water.

Response: "Yes, that's what we are hoping as well. We know you have left your home to come to this difficult place. For that we are happy and God is happy. Please give our blessings to all of the friends who are helping you. Day and night we are thanking them. May God bless you. Seeing you brings us hope and help." □

IN THE PHILIPPINES

Typhoon Undang struck the central Philippines last November 5, leaving nearly 777 people dead and 760,000 homeless. A total of 1.3 million persons are affected, and damage to private and public property is estimated at \$130 million.

World Vision has responded to needs in the wake of Typhoon Undang (Agnes) with a \$152,017 project to provide food, medicine, housing assistance, Bibles and loan assistance to 25,000 persons.

Capiz Typhoon Relief includes a food-for-work project for 100 carpenters. This project pays (in food) the salaries of 100 carpenters for 90 days while they rebuild houses washed away by the typhoon in coastal villages. In addition, the



Villagers carry some of the nipa shingles provided by World Vision to repair their roofs.

project has obtained 50 sets of basic carpentry tools, which will be donated to the Capiz Mobile School and a non-formal education program after the relief operations are completed.

Nearly \$100,000 worth of supplies are being provided, including roofing

and wall materials, rice, salt and bags for repacking food, medicines (anti-diarrheal and antibiotics) and Bibles (25,000 New Testaments in the local dialect). Also being provided are loans to families for seeds, fishing nets and fishing boats needed for earning a living and feeding families.

Typhoon-related illnesses are no longer being reported, so the emergency team of doctors has returned home, and the medicines provided by the project are being distributed at local clinics.

Staff of World Vision's two Development Assisting Centers in the Philippines have carried out emergency relief in both Capiz and Surigao del Norte. Said World Vision Philippines Relief and Rehabilitation Manager Roman Garma of the DAC workers, "They work hard in God's name, and there is no way to stop a team like that. They have purpose, direction and energy." □



Workers from World Vision's Development Assistance Center in Surigao City pack rice and canned goods for distribution to typhoon victims.

As World Vision begins another year . . .

A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

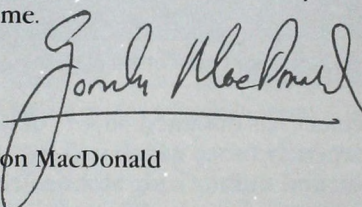
Stunned by reports of extreme suffering in Africa, an unprecedented number of compassionate people have joined in efforts to aid the hungry and shelter refugees. World Vision's directors are thankful that the World Vision team is increasingly prepared to bring the resources of the generous in touch with the pain of the needy.

For 34 years, World Vision has been reaching out to spiritually lost and physically hurting people with a word of hope and a hand of love. The supreme task of the board of directors has been to ensure that this reaching out continues in the same spirit as it was begun through World Vision's founder, Dr. Bob Pierce.

With these concerns in mind, the full board of directors meets four times a year to evaluate what is being done and to study the plans of the World Vision leadership. Between

meetings, an executive committee confers with Dr. Engstrom and his management team when critical matters need immediate attention. Several committees maintain regular contact with internal World Vision matters in the areas of finance, planning, policy and personnel.

The board believes that God has called World Vision into being for *this* time in history, to accomplish His purposes. It is gratified by the commitment, the excellence and the integrity it sees in the World Vision partnership. It pledges to donors that this high quality of ministry in the name of Jesus Christ will be maintained in the years to come.


Gordon MacDonald

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS OF 1984

Where the money came from:

Individuals and families	\$87,877,682	68.9%
Churches	5,325,691	4.2
Gifts-in-kind	24,882,469	19.5
Corporations and foundations	5,774,492	4.5
Planned giving programs	2,465,714	1.9
Investment income and other	1,109,084	1.0
	\$127,435,132	100.0%

How it was spent:

Ministry services		
Relief, development, evangelism and leadership	\$52,147,492	40.9%
Childcare	31,500,000	24.7
Public awareness and education	14,155,841	11.1
U.S. domestic ministries	833,075	0.7
Supporting services		
Management	9,066,981	7.1
Fundraising	17,014,278	13.4
Miscellaneous ministry commitments	2,717,465	2.1
	\$127,435,132	100.0%

A complete financial statement and annual report are available on request to World Vision, Box O, Pasadena, CA 91109

WORLD VISION'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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CHAIRPERSON 1984—
Minister-at-Large, World Vision
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12 Mr. Coleman R. Perry
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14 Dr. Claude W. Edwards
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Retired Chairperson of the Board
Alpha Beta Markets
La Habra, California

15 Mr. Bill Klierer*
Ex-Officio
Executive Vice President
World Vision
Arcadia, California

*Photo not available.

The board of directors meets four times annually, with interim committee meetings.

LIFESHARING, 1984

It was your responsiveness to the world's needs, your faithful prayers and your generous financial gifts that made it possible for World Vision and cooperating agencies to assist more than 12.5 million men, women and children in over 70 countries during 1984. Together, we were able to give lifesharing hope, physical sustenance and good news of Jesus Christ to the needy through more than 3000 projects.

As in its previous 33 years of ministry, World Vision functioned as a channel through which God's abundant love and resources flowed from our supporters to people suffering from famine, drought, spiritual darkness, war, unemployment and a wide array of other problems. For example:

- ☐ In Bangladesh, homeless flood victims were provided with emergency assistance and then guidance for ways to improve community health, sanitation and agriculture.
- ☐ In Brazil, 200 pastors and Christian leaders who met for a World Vision pastors' conference were given a much-needed opportunity for fellowship that crossed denominational lines.

World Vision donors' compassionate response in 1984 saved thousands of lives that otherwise would have been lost.

- ☐ In violence-plagued Lebanon, the homeless were provided with immediate help, and families and communities struggling to rebuild their lives received long-term assistance.
- ☐ On Bolivia's *altiplano* (high plain), drought victims were given life-sustaining food and shelter, and wells were dug.

What weighed most heavily on my heart in 1984 was the plight of the starving people in drought-stricken Africa. In this magazine and in other ways, I have told you of the famine-related deaths and the widespread suffering I witnessed during my travels in that dry continent, and you have generously provided millions of dollars for lifesharing relief there.

Your compassionate response to the crisis in Africa enabled us to feed, clothe and provide medical care for nearly two million hungry Africans during 1984, saving thousands of lives that otherwise would have been lost. I am sure that each of these people who were helped by

your support of our work would gladly echo the words of a mother in Mozambique who said, "We were suffering and dying for lack of food—but now you are helping us. Please tell your people we are thankful!"

Please do accept this woman's thanks—and mine—for your lifesharing partnership. You have enabled people to experience the joy of human life where they otherwise might have known only suffering and death; and some have experienced spiritual life by coming to a personal knowledge of Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Ted W. Engstrom

Ted W. Engstrom
President



This label is to be used on the enclosed envelope.



Have you seen Jesus ... in the eyes of a child?



WORLD VISION
Helping people care

Jesus said, "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

Today Jesus is hungry and thirsty and sick. Without clothes and all alone. You can see Him all over the world, reflected in the eyes of 401 million malnourished children.

By becoming a World Vision child sponsor, you can have a special relationship with "one of the least of these" and provide such things as good food, clean water, clothing and loving care. A monthly gift of \$20 isn't much, but it's enough to change a life forever.

Yes! I'll sponsor a child for \$20 a month. Please send me the name, photo, personal history and mailing address of my child. I understand that my donations are tax deductible.

Enclosed is my first monthly gift of \$_____.

☐ I cannot be a sponsor at this time, but I want to do what I can. Here's my gift of \$_____ to help a needy child.

☐ Please send me more information.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

WORLD VISION
Box O, Pasadena, CA 91109

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