Register of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. China Office. Records, 1943-1948

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Prepared by:
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Date Completed:
June 1976

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Descriptive Summary
Title: United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. China Office. Records,
Date (inclusive): 1943-1948
Collection number: XX288
Creator: United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. China Office
Collection Size: 39 manuscript boxes (16.3 linear feet)
Repository: Hoover Institution Archives
Stanford, California 94305-6010

Abstract: Reports, manuals, bulletins, correspondence, and administrative orders, relating to social and economic conditions in China, and to United Nations relief activities in China

Language: English.

Access
Collection open for research.
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Acquisition Information
Acquired by the Hoover Institution Archives.

Accruals
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Access Points
Chinese National Relief and Rehabilitation Administration
On November 9, 1943, the agreement establishing the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) was signed by 44 Allied Nations, including the United States, to provide supplies and services to areas under occupation by the Axis Powers. The largest project undertaken by UNRRA was the China program which had a total estimated cost of $658.4 million dollars. Approximately 72% of UNRRA's fund was contributed by the United States, or $474 million dollars for the China Program.

The China Office was opened in Shanghai at the end of 1944, and operated until the official termination of the office on December 31, 1947. Final work and responsibilities were finished by March, 1948. The four directors of the China Office from 1944 to 1948 were:

- Benjamin H. Kizer (Oct. 24, 1944 - May 15, 1946)
- J. Franklin Ray, Jr. (Acting director, May 16, 1946 - August 26, 1947)
- Major General Glen E. Edgerton (August 27, 1946 - May, 1947)
- Harlan Cleveland (May 1, 1947 - February 24, 1948).

In January, 1945 the Chinese National Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (CNRRA) was created by the Nationalist Government, as a special agency to administer and coordinate UNRRA operations in China. Prior to the breakdown in the interparty peace negotiations between the Nationalists and Chinese Communists in 1946, the Chinese Communists established the Communists Liberated Areas Relief Administration (CLARA) which distributed UNRRA supplies delivered to Communist territories.

The 2nd Resolution on Policy of the First Session of the Council of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, adopted in 1943, states the following:

That, in any area where relief and rehabilitation operations are being conducted through the employment, in whole or in part, of the Administration's resources, relief and rehabilitation shall be distributed or dispensed fairly on the basis of the relative needs of the population in the area, and without discrimination because of race, creed, or political belief.

The provinces of the North, which had been under the longest occupation by the Japanese, were also the areas of Chinese Communist guerrilla activity. After the Japanese surrender, these territories fell under Chinese Communist control. Difficulties arose in the distribution of aid due to the reality of civil war. The official history of the Administration estimates that 2-3% (by weight) or 4-5% (by value) of all UNRRA supplies were distributed to Communist-held territories. The UNRRA program was conceived as a short-term program, but long-range goals to remove the causes of necessity in war-devastated areas were also present. Food, medical supplies and clothing were distributed as relief, and projects undertaken as part of industrial and agricultural rehabilitation were of great importance for long-range economic development.

The Records included in this collection were sent to the Hoover Institution by a U.S. Army Intelligence officer named Pardee Lowe. Obtained from the Shanghai Office prior to its closing, the Records do not constitute the complete office file of the Administration. These Records are located in the UN Archives in New York City and occupy 8,500 linear feet. The most comprehensive file in the collection at the Hoover Institution relates to the Agricultural Rehabilitation Division.

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<th>Box Box No. 1-9</th>
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<td>Resolution, minutes of staff meetings, regional reports, and special reports, arranged by subseries as listed.</td>
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<td><em>Program and Estimated Requirements for Relief and Rehabilitation in China</em>, presented by the National Government of China, September, 1944.</td>
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<td>UN Economic and Social Council: Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East.</td>
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<td>Acting director's morning staff meeting minutes, August 1-26, 1946.</td>
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<td><em>Status Sheet Number Twenty Five</em>, prepared by the Office of the Director, March 15, 1947.</td>
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Kwangsi, February 1946-March 1947.
Kwagtung, October 1946-July 1947.
Shanghai, March 1947.

Box 8.

Taiwan, June 1946-February 1947.
Taiyuan, February 1947.
Tientsin, March-December, 1946

Box 9.

Weekly regional operations reports, December 1946-February 1947.
Regional news summaries.
Personnel regional reports.
Conference report on run-down and closure of regional offices (February 1947).

Special reports.

Agricultural Rehabilitation in China During the UNRRA Period, July 31, 1947.
Physical Description: Mimeograph copy.

Agriculture in Manchuria, n.d.
Physical Description: Carbon copy.

Physical Description: Mimeograph copy.

Delivery and Distribution of Supplies to Communist Areas in North China, December, 1946.
Physical Description: Mimeograph copy.

Physical Description: Mimeograph copy.

List of Watercraft Delivered to China as of 10 March 1947.
Physical Description: Mimeograph copy.

Physical Description: Mimeograph copy.

Physical Description: Mimeograph copy.

Physical Description: Carbon copy plus handwritten sheet.

Physical Description: Typewritten plus carbon copies.

Physical Description: Mimeograph copy.

Physical Description: Mimeograph copy.
General Administrative File.

Box 10.
General.
  Administrative orders.
  Field administrative orders.
  General bulletins.
  Headquarters administrative orders
  Miscellaneous bulletins.
  Functional organization charts.

Box 11.
Basic field manuals and transmittal memoranda.

Box 12.
Basic field manuals and transmittal memoranda.
Office practices manuals.
Field missions supply catalogs.

Box 13-15.
Forwarding orders.

Miscellany File.

Box 16.
UNRRA speaker's kit.
CNRRA: Its Purpose, Functions, and Organization, 1946.
War Department information pamphlets.
China Press Review.
Printed matter.

Box 17.
Duplicate copies of Report on Activities Relating to Communist Areas.

Box 18-38.
Unprocessed.