

# What are those food relief groups up to?

by Linda Everett

With all the uproar about sending food to starving Africa, TV viewers have been saturated with advertisements from the leading food-relief organizations. Surely, these organizations did not just “discover” the starvation crisis. Just who are they, where did they come from, and what are they really up to?

There are six major food relief groups operating worldwide: Catholic Relief Services, Church World Services, Oxfam, Save the Children, UNICEF, and CARE (Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere). Although several of these organizations, in particular CARE and Catholic Relief, are veterans of World War II, the mentality of many of their volunteers is summed up in this quote from a volunteer:

“Hunger is the in-thing of the '80s. . . . Those who were into the environment in the '70s, are now into hunger in the '80s.”

In other words, the dominant outlook of the leadership of these organizations—some of which may have begun with a true humanitarian spirit—is currently *Malthusian*. As environmentalists out to save the trees and “endangered species,” they have now turned their attention to trying to drum into people’s heads the lie that more people mean more starvation. Overseas Development Council

We begin by looking at the overlap between the boards of the leading “food-relief” organizations, and the leading environmentalist institutions. Particularly noteworthy is the linkage between major relief organizations and one of the major environmentalist think-tanks, the Overseas Development Council.

The ODC, founded in 1969 by James Grant, functions as the U.S. arm of the Socialist International’s Brandt Commission. The ODC program is notorious for opposing the transfer of modern, productive technology to developing-sector economies, in favor of labor-intensive slavery. Even more outrageous is the fact that the leading members of the ODC are the chief organizers of the current international food shortage, and the disastrous policy of reducing U.S. agricultural production—the very policies which are at the root of the hideous starvation sweeping Africa, and Ibero-America.

Leading members of the board of the ODC are:

1) **Orville Freeman**, former secretary of agriculture, advisor to the Hubert Humphrey Institute, leading advocate of eliminating the productive family farmers of America and reducing “overproduction” by reducing crop acreage. The Hubert Humphrey Institute is a tool of the major international grain cartel, Cargill, Inc., in its campaign to reduce world food production.

2) **Lester Brown**, president of the Worldwatch Institute, a leading think-tank promoting the idea that the developing sector has already outgrown its “carrying capacity,” and advocating the triage approach for those countries which “can’t make it” because their population has supposedly outstripped their resources.

3) **Thornton Bradshaw**, vice-president of the ODC, is a trustee of the anti-population and anti-technology Aspen Institute and Conservation Foundation.

4) **Robert McNamara**, president of the ODC, is a notorious Malthusian who has used all his public positions, from secretary of defense to head of the World Bank, in order to implement his “belief” that “overpopulation” is the cause of misery, famine, and war.

## Does ODC run the relief agencies?

It is therefore more than worrying that we find the ODC represented on the boards, or the executive, of most major food-relief agencies.

- **Church World Service** is a major “relief” agency, commanding an annual income of over \$41 million, and receiving 36% of its money from the U.S. government. The executive director of CWS is **Paul F. McCleary**, who just happens to be a member of the board of directors of the ODC.

- **CARE** is perhaps the largest of the international relief agencies, receiving an annual income of \$283 million, 47% of which comes from the U.S. government. The executive director of CARE is **Dr. Philip Johnston**, who is also a member of the ODC. Wallace Campbell, president of CARE, USA, is also on the ODC.

- **UNICEF** is well-known as the major agency of the United Nations which is mandated to minister to starving children. Seventy-five percent of UNICEF’s funding, of course, comes from governments and intergovernmental organizations. Yet it is not governments who run UNICEF, but **James P. Grant**, the president of the Overseas Development Council from 1969-80.

- **Africare** is a relatively new relief agency, with an international board and a relatively small budget of approximately \$3.7 million. About 70% of this funding, nonetheless, comes from the U.S. government.

Despite participation of leading Africans, however, the day to day operations of Africare are run by **C. Payne Lukas**, who is also a member of the board of directors of the ODC.

The architects of those ads you see on television are not trying to stop starvation—they are trying to convince you that those children should never have been born.