

Ci

RESTRICTED — Not to be released outside the General

Accounting Office except on the basis of specific approval

by the Office of Congressional Relations, a record of which

is kept by the Distribution Section, Publications Branch PAS

COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

RELEASED

13-0390

6

97

B-173240

APR 9 1973

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
Chairman, Subcommittee on
Foreign Operations
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The enclosures show the relationship of U.S. Government contributions to total worldwide contributions for humanitarian assistance to disaster victims in Bangladesh and India from July 1, 1971, through December 31, 1972. This information supplements the data we provided to the Subcommittee on June 9, 1972, and January 30, 1973.

This information was requested in the Senate Committee on Appropriations September 27, 1972, report, "Foreign Assistance and Related Programs Appropriation Bill, 1973" and in our discussions with your Subcommittee's office. According to a February 1972 conference report on the 1972 foreign assistance appropriations, the United States should try to limit the funds for obligation to not more than 40 percent of all contributions provided for assistance to Bangladesh. As the enclosures show, U.S. Government contributions are well within this limit.

The contributions of the U.S. Government are those authorized and provided--or those expected to be provided--and represent actual or estimated delivered costs. Contributions pledged by other donors were obtained from summary reports prepared by the United Nations, the Department of State, and the Agency for International Development. We did not independently verify the correctness of the pledges other than those of the U.S. Government. U.S. officials said they considered the pledges to be valid international obligations and knew of no reason--except for minor adjustments--why the obligations would not be honored.

904465 089192

, 2

RY

We have not obtained agency comments on this letter.

We have sent a copy of this letter to the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Appropriations. We believe that the information would also be of interest to other committees and Members of Congress. However, we will not distribute this letter further unless you agree or publicly announce its contents.

Sincerely yours,

3,100

Comptroller General of the United States

Enclosures - 2

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR RELIEF ASSISTANCE TO

DISASTER VICTIMS IN BANGLADESH

JULY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1972

July through September (notes a and c)	October through December (note c)	Total (notes b and c)	Percent of total contri- butions
(oud omitte	a)———	
\$ 41,382	\$ 67,194	\$108,576	24
145,170	203,410	348,580	76
\$186.552	\$270.604	\$457.156	<u>100</u>
	through September (notes a and c) 41,382	through October September through (notes a December and c) (note c) ———————————————————————————————————	through October September through Total (notes a December (notes b and c) (note c) and c) ———————————————————————————————————

^aFrom a GAO report of January 30, 1973, corrected to include certain donations of private contributors.

bReports from the United Nations Relief Operation Dacca (UNROD) show contributions have been made by three international organizations—the World Food Program, the United Nations Children's Fund, and the International Development Association—from their regularly budgeted funds. Because the United States provides a large portion of these organizations' budgets, their contributions have been reclassified and are included with those made by the United States (\$45.9 million) and by other governments (\$68.9 million).

^CFood donations are included in U.S. contributions at the actual or estimated delivered cost to the U.S. Government. Food donations of other governments and private contributors appear to be valued at world market prices which are somewhat lower than U.S. costs. The effect of using these different bases of valuation on the relationship of U.S. assistance to worldwide contributions is not significant.

dThe amounts shown in the UNROD reports for July through December 1972 do not fully separate the contributions of other governments and private contributors.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR RELIEF ASSISTANCE TO DISASTER VICTIMS IN INDIA AND BANGLADESH

FISCAL YEAR 1972

Donors	Amount (notes a and b)	Percent of total contributions
	(000 omitted)	ville V
U.S. Government (note c) Other governments (notes c and d) Private contributors	\$ 401,929 949,921 134,368	27 64 <u>9</u>
Total contributions	\$ <u>1,486,218</u>	<u>100</u>

^aFrom a GAO report of January 30, 1973.

bFood donations are included in U.S. contributions at the actual or estimated delivered cost to the U.S. Government. Food donations of other governments and private contributors appear to be valued at world market prices which are somewhat lower than U.S. costs. The effect of using these different bases of valuation on the relationship of U.S. assistance to worldwide contributions is not significant.

CReports from UNROD show a contribution was made by the World Food Program from its regularly budgeted funds. Because the United States provides a large portion of the World Food Program budget, the contribution has been reclassified and included with those made by the United States (\$765,000) and by other governments (\$735,000).

dIncludes the Government of India's estimate of its \$320 million contribution for relief of Bengali refugees in India.