

UNITED NATIONS EMERGENCIES UNIT FOR ETHIOPIA

Gode and Kalafo zones
Region 5 (Somali)

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1. Food distribution

A general food distribution took place in Gode between 8-9 August, 1994. Gode town and the camps with the dispersee population and returnees were included in the distribution process. So far, this operation has been handled by the Region 5 Relief and Rehabilitation Bureau (RRB).

The total number of beneficiaries was estimated at 64,831 people including 6,478 heads of families. The registration process was conducted over a period of two days, carried out by 120 personnel supervised by the RRB. In order to avoid any contradiction, the paperwork was handed over to the EPRDF as soon as the registration was completed. (MSF Belgium latest census of April 1994 indicates a total of 24,504 people in both camps as well as 11,919 *new arrivals* who have re-settled in Gode town. The total dispersee population is an estimated 36,423.

742 tons of wheat grain were allocated to Gode and its 5 zones. However, only 731 tons have been received. Due to the high number of beneficiaries, the ration for distributions was 5kgs/person/month instead of 15 kgs/person/month.

The estimated breakdown of food aid allocation in the area is:

- . 325 tons to Gode (completed)
- . 123 tons to the Kilil (stock balance of 6.9 tons)
- . 283 tons to the zones (Kelafo, Ferfer, Imi, Denan and Mustahil)

The RRC in Gode has only four lorries available for the transportation of food aid. In addition, the fuel supply to Gode is periodically poor, and as fuel availability is limited, the price of fuel on the black market may at times reach Birr 7.00 per litre. Therefore, it is impossible to predict the exact time when relief food allocated to the zones in the periphery of Gode will be transported to its destinations.

2. Dismissal of the Region 5 officials in Gode

On Monday, 15 August, all the heads of departments and their deputies from the 24 various governmental bureaux were officially suspended from their positions. This action also applies to the RRB officials. According to some unofficial discussions and different sources, the people of Gode expect new nominations for all the vacated posts within the next week.

3. Security in Gode

Since the murder of the mayor of the town, Mr. Muktar Aden Gedden on the 26 July, no other major incidents (i.e throwing of hand grenades in public areas), have been reported or witnessed. Regarding this assassination, it is still not clear who is responsible as no individual or groups have been indicated.

Following reports from the elders of the *Digeno Ber* village regarding unknown gunmen in this locality, the road between Gode and Kalafo was closed for 4 days from Tuesday, 9 August, to Friday, 12 August to enable the EPRDF to monitor and clear the area.

4. Refugees and returnees in Kalafo

As a consequence of the fighting in Belet Wein/Somalia, from mid-July 1994 an influx of people started to arrive daily at Kalafo until 28 July. The majority of these people belong to the *Hawadle* family who fled the *Habre Gedir* clan (SNA) and now control the town. This group, on their way to Kalafo, had to avoid the Mustahil town which is also dominated by the *Habre Ghedir* clan. Therefore, they are using a transit point, for one or two nights, situated at 40 kms before Kalafo. This transit point is a small village called Shibo and is located in a remote area far from the main road and is currently not accessible due to the overflow of the Wabi Shebelle river.

Due to the number of the new arrivals and the precipitation of their movement, it is difficult to assess the number of returnees and refugees among them. For the time being, they are settled in the proximity of Kalafo town and at a distance of approximately 500 metres from the Wabi Shebelle river. As of 15 August, the population occupied an area of around 6,000 square metres and were building small Somali huts that are large enough to accommodate three people. The approximate number of people in this group varies according to different sources.

The EPRDF in Kalafo have so far registered 1,400 new families and estimate that the total population does not exceed 5,000 people. The Kalafo administration supported by 10 individuals from within the camp are daily recording the newcomers and have provided the following breakdown:

DATE	H.o.F	DEPENDENT	TOTAL
28/07	165	663	828
29/07	141	564	705
30/07	161	644	805
31/07	195	780	975
01/08	209	836	1,045
02/08	171	688	859
03/08	191	764	955
04/08	225	900	1,125
05/08	124	496	620

06/08	181	724	905
07/08	246	774	1,020
08/08	165	663	828
09/08	169	676	845
10/08	233	932	1,165
11/08	243	972	1,215
12/08	221	884	1,105
TOTAL	3,040	11,960	15,000

It is obvious that the administration's numbers are far from reality. According to a discreet evaluation, a reasonable figure may be around 3,000 newcomers. (To confirm this estimation, we could consider that at an average of 3 huts per 20 square metres provides adequate space for 1,350 huts in the resettlement area of 6,000 square metres. Therefore, it may be assumed that if each hut is occupied by 3 people, the number of hut dwellers would be a population of 4,050 people.)

It should be noted that according to the EPRDF, almost the same amount of people are in Shibo and are on their way to Kalafo.

For the moment, the nutritional status of the refugees and returnees seems to be satisfactory. If the existing situation should last longer, a proper nutritional survey and evaluation of the conditions of children under 5 should be conducted. It has been observed that the majority of the new arrivals are women and children.

5. Kalafo Health Unit

In Kalafo town, there is a health centre which was built three years ago, with funding and equipment provided by the Austrian Government. This centre covers the zones of Kalafo, Mustahil and Ferfer and is equipped with one 4x4 vehicle.

This centre offers the following services:

- . OPD (out patient department)
An average of 50 patients/day
- . MCH (anti-natal care, EPI, delivery services,
baby clinic and family planning centre)
- . Laboratory check
- . Sanitation department
- . Minor surgery

- . Pharmacy and isolation room
- . INP (in-patient department) with a capacity for 16 patients
An average of 8 to 10 beds occupied at a time

Medical staff comprised of:

- . 3 doctors, 5 nurses, 16 health assistants, 2 lab. technicians,
2 sanitarians and 15 staff members in charge of administration, cleaning, etc.

Main diseases:

- . Children : Bronchopneumonia/Malaria/Diarrhea/Conjunctivitis
Malnutrition among babies (3 to 6 months)
- . Adults : Malaria/ Pneumonia/ Parasites/ Anaemia in pregnant women.

Only one case of Acute Diarrhoeal Disease was reported two months ago from Ferfer.

The cost of a visit for each patient at the OPD is Birr 1 by registration card, including drug prescription. However, if the patient shows a letter from the administration ensuring that his income is less than Birr 50 per month, the visit and the treatment will be conducted free of charge.

Birr 1,50/person/day for the INP.

Water is delivered from the town, and is stored in a watertank supplied by an electric pump.

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