

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(77) 229 final

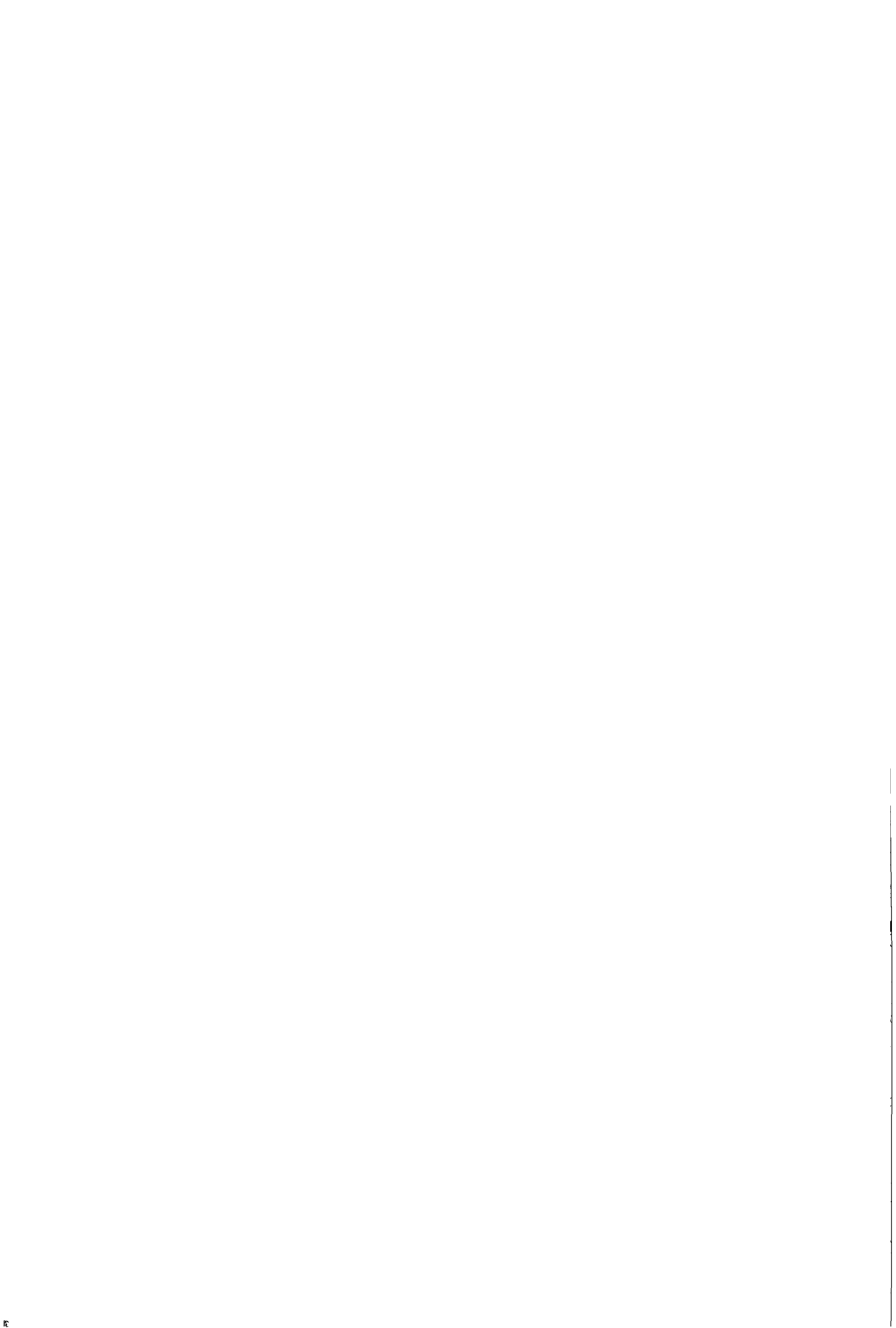
Brussels, 31 May 1977

## COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL

on the supply of food aid in the form of skimmed-milk  
powder to the International Committee of the Red Cross  
(Operation Thailand)

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I. The request from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

1. The ICRC has requested the allocation of 365 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder for a scheme to help Indo-Chinese refugees in Thailand, 115 tonnes of which to be set off against the quantity specified in the framework Agreement concluded on 3 February 1975 with the ICRC (1) on the supply of cereals, butteroil and skimmed-milk powder and 250 tonnes to be set off against the 3 500 tonnes allocated under the 1976 food aid programme (2).

This allocation would use up completely the remaining quantities earmarked for the ICRC under the 1974 and 1976 programmes.

2. The quantity requested would enable the Thai Red Cross to maintain the continuity of the aid programme for Indo-Chinese refugees undertaken with the help of Community food aid (3). The skimmed-milk powder would be distributed by the Thai Red Cross, under the supervision of ICRC delegates, and would go in particular to the most vulnerable categories (some 40.000 women and children) out of a total of 70.000 refugees.

The ration would be 25 g of milk powder per person, per day and so the 365 tonnes would enable the Thai Red Cross to keep up the free distribution to 40.000 people for one year.

3. Given that the distributions are to be made chiefly to children, the ICRC requests that the skimmed-milk powder be enriched with vitamins A and D.

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(1) OJ n° L 75 of 24 March 1975, p. 6

(2) OJ n° L 146 of 4 June 1976, P. 5  
OJ n° L 224 of 16 August 1976, p. 2

(3) On 23 February 1977, pursuant to the Council authorization, the Commission decided to make an initial emergency allocation to the ICRC of 50 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder as food aid (1976 programme)

## II. The Commission's proposals

1. In view of the foregoing considerations, the Commission proposes that the ICRC's request be met and that it be decided to allocate 365 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder. This quantity would be delivered to the port of unloading. Of this quantity 115 tonnes would be set off against the quantities specified in the framework Agreement concluded with the ICRC on 3 February 1975 (1974 programme) and 250 tonnes against the 3 500 tonnes allocated to that body under the 1976 food aid programme.
2. The cost of the operation is approximately 185 000 u.a. but this does not constitute additional expenditure for the Community in that the scheme is covered by programmes and appropriations already decided. The expenditure will be charged to item 9210 of the 1977 budget (appropriation : token entry), to which a transfer will be made from within Chapter 92.

## IN CONCLUSION

The Commission proposes that the Council decide to allocate to the ICRC, for its operation in Thailand, food aid in the form of 365 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder to be delivered to the port of unloading, 115 tonnes of this quantity being set off against the quantity specified in the framework Agreement concluded with the ICRC on 3 February 1975 and 250 tonnes against the 3 500 tonnes allocated to that body under the 1976 food aid programme.