

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE OVER RADIO MALAYA ON CONGO CHEER FUND ON 22ND FEBRUARY, 1961

On behalf of the Government and particularly in my capacity as Minister of Defence, I would like to thank the *Straits Times* and *Berita Harian* very warmly for starting and organising the Congo Cheer Fund.

The fund has been a great success, with thousands of well wishers only too willing to give some money, whether large or small, to help along our troops in the Congo in their arduous duties by letting them feel that everyone in Malaya is thinking of them.

I am sure the donors and the public generally are grateful to those newspapers for the splendid effort they have made in raising more than \$67,000 in seven weeks.

The *Straits Times* and *Berita Harian* have now handed over the control and administration of the fund to the G.O.C. Federation Army, but I would like it to be understood that the fund is not closed.

I feel there are still many people taking up collections or preparing to give and all these may send their contributions to the Ministry of Defence, Gurney Road, Kuala Lumpur.

The *Straits Times* and *Berita Harian* have kindly agreed to acknowledge any further contributions made.

Every little donation will help this worthy cause and ensure that the fund will be able to increase the comfort and welfare of all Malayan troops in the Congo, not only those who are there now but also those who are about to go to that country.