

# HOW THE ROAD HAULAGE HELPING BANDDAID FEED



HUNDREDS, possibly thousands, of lives have been saved through the generosity of hauliers, vehicle manufacturers and others working in the transport industry. By giving their services free, or at greatly reduced cost, they have allowed money which would otherwise have been tied up in transport to be spent directly on aid.

The story of the industry's direct involvement in the Bandid project is still in its first chapters. When early this year singer Bob Geldof, with £8.5 million in the bank from sales of the hit "Do They Know It's Christmas?" said trucks were one of his major priorities, *Motor Transport* assistant advertising manager Dee Flower volunteered to find him some.

It soon became obvious, once

the most important areas of concern were recognised, that not only were trucks needed, but also help within the UK was wanted to transport all the vegetable oil, high-protein biscuits and medical supplies from the factories to the aircraft and boats bound for Africa.

Costs would have to be held to a minimum, as Bob had pledged that every penny from the record sales should go to aid — none to administration. So Dee appealed for help from the pages of *Motor Transport*.

GLC had given Bandid a warehouse opposite Euston station, London, and Truckrent donated a lorry to bring office furniture up from Bournemouth. Then work began on organising four flights at the beginning of March to carry emergency supplies to the Sudan and Ethiopia.

The more bulky long-term supplies like grain would go later by boat. Trailerrent delivered tonnes of high-protein biscuits to Gatwick, free, where they would be put on a Nigerian freight airline Gasair Boeing 707, another gift. Unicorn Deliveries brought 5 tonnes of vegetable oil from Leeds to Stansted Airport, for the next free flight, while 16 tonnes of more high-protein biscuits were delivered by Overdrive, with Mercedes supplying the tractor and TIP the trailer. Not a penny had been spent on distribution.

Part of the cargo for the four aircraft were ten Land Rovers, supplied to Bandid at highly competitive prices by Land Rover of Solihull. The 500-gallon water-tank trailers also flew to Africa.

Help then came from Alan Harris of Exeter who reduced his prices to take milk to the airport.

*Motor Transport's* Dee Flower and Peter Acton stand with Boomtown Rats singer Bob Geldof in front of the Bandid boat.

Four Land Rover station wagons, specially adapted for African operations, are lifted on board.



An Iveco 682 is secured to the deck. The trucks are bound for the remotest areas of the Horn of Africa.



Bandid songwriter and Ultravox singer Midge Ure (left) greets *Motor Transport's* Peter Acton at the opening of the Bandid warehouse, donated by GLC. Truckrent organised free delivery of the office furniture for the warehouse.





# INDUSTRY IS THE WORLD

While the flights were leaving weekly from Gatwick and Stansted, one of the Bandid volunteers, shipping consultant **Ken Martin**, came up with a plan which would revolutionise the business of aid-transport. Bandid would rent a number of boats for six months at a cost of £1M and use them to ferry not only its own supplies but aid from other agencies like **Save the Children**.

The considerable sums of money which these agencies would have spent on ferrying supplies between Tilbury and Port Sudan or Assab (Ethiopia) would now be spent directly on aid. The savings run into millions.

The first Bandid ship left Tilbury in late April, the second is due to sail around May 23. Some 86 tonnes of milk powder were delivered by Burgoyne's of Lyons; Dartford Warehousing

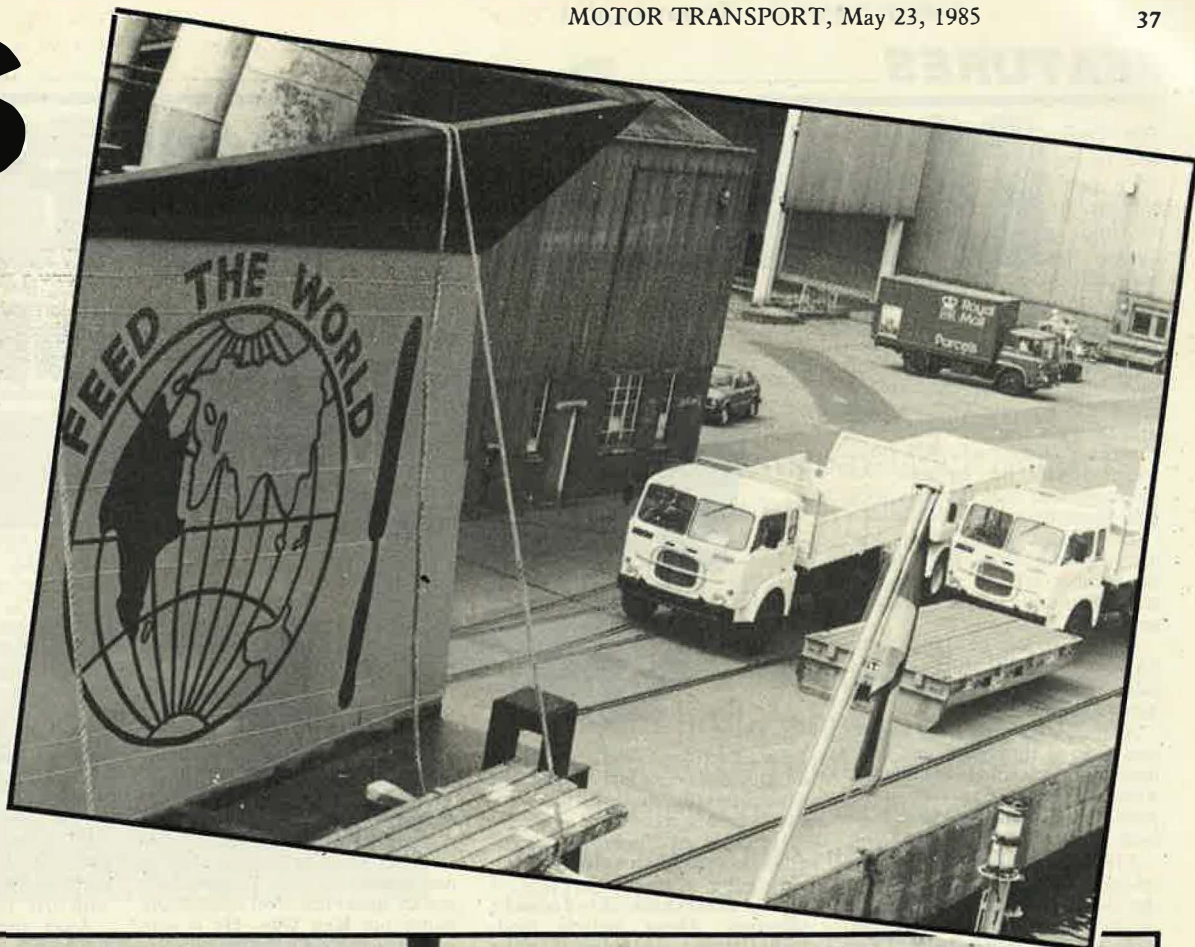
helped with 100 tonnes of vegetable oil from Greenwich.

The ship took on more Land Rovers and picked up four Toyota Land Cruisers from Belgium - organised by Townley Cross Country Vehicles. Also on board were two Iveco 682N3s.

The ship, which should be on the high seas this week, also should contain more 682N3s and four Mercedes LIII3s. These vehicles all have to be especially adapted to African specifications, with bolstered suspension, left-hand-drive and toughened wheels and tyres.

All this would normally have taken manufacturers several months to prepare, but they all came up with offers of near-immediate delivery. Bedford and Leyland both offered their goods at reduced prices, and these are now being processed.

Two Iveco 682s await loading at Tilbury on the newly christened "Bandid One" ship.



BELOW: Land Rover "County" station wagon awaits loading on to a GASAIR Boeing 707 freighter to Addis Abbaba.



Motor Transport's Dee Flower sprays "Love From Bandid" on a Western Trailers 500-gallon water tank trailer. Next stop Ethiopia.



Truckrent also organised free carriage of high-protein biscuits to Gatwick Airport, for the first flight to Addis Ababa.

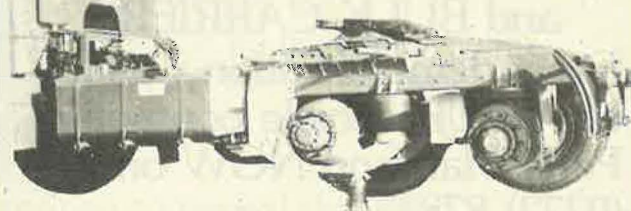
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