28 July 1953

TO: All Civil Defense Coordinators and Directors

SUBJECT: Canned Water and Dry Packaged Foods

1. The State Civil Defense Department does not promote the interests of any commercial enterprises but occasionally learns of products that are good answers to Civil Defense problems. If other sources of supply are determined you will be informed.

2. The Multiple Breaker Company, 918 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts, has successfully perfected a method of canning drinking water. The water is packed in 12 oz. cans (10 2/3 oz. of water, 1/3 qt.) Twenty-four cans are packed in a carton. The carton measures about two-thirds cubic feet and weighs about 24 pounds. It may be stored indefinitely. Quoted test by the Navy indicates that this water will remain good in the unopened can for at least 10 years; great quantities have been ordered by the Armed Services. Head space in the can allows for freezing of the water without rupturing the can and it can be thawed without danger. When opened, the water should be poured from one container to another several times to aerate it, otherwise the taste is flat. For Civil Defense use, the cartons sell at $3.15 each in lots of 100 cartons F.O.B. Lancaster, Massachusetts. This would be a valuable addition to the 3 day foodshelf.

3. The Multiple Breaker Company also puts up canned Food Rations for use in emergencies. These rations are of high caloric and low protein value, supplying nourishment without provoking thirst. Each can of rations contains 14 ounces of Ration C Sunshine Biscuits, 7 one-ounce Hershey Tropical Chocolate Bars and 7 ounces of Horlick Malted Milk Tablets. It offers a survival ration that will suffice a person for one week under emergency conditions. Eight key-opening cans are packed in a carton with a total weight of 22 lbs. The cans of rations sell for $1.50 each, F.O.B. Lancaster, Massachusetts.

4. Bernard Food Industries, Inc., 559 W. Fulton Street, Chicago 6, Illinois puts out a dry food package called Kamp Pack. It contains 3 meals for 4 people. All that is required to add is water before cooking. The dry pack articles are in heavy paper, aluminum lined, and thoroughly sealed against air and dampness. The paper packages can be safely soaked in water for long periods without damage to the contents. The menus are: Breakfast—butter milk pancakes, maple syrup, jelly, corned beef hash, hot chocolate; lunch—chicken noodle soup, miniced pork barbecue, hot biscuits, peanut butter, fruit punch, chocolate custard; dinner—clam chowder (or beef-rice soup), potato pancakes, miniced beef barbecue, hot rolls, banana cream pudding. The wholesale price of the four-man Kamp Pack is $6.00 each, and they come packed 6 to a case. They also have a two-man Kamp Pack which is $4.00 each, and they also come packed 6 to a case. This might appeal to some people as part or all of the 3 day foodshelf. It is compact for storage, 12-24 meals fit in one foot square 3 inches deep.

Sincerely,

J. M. Garrett, Jr.
Director