The American Red Cross Field Directors: *At His Side* Mini-Q

Teacher Guide

**Analysis of Source A: Description of American Red Cross Field Director duties**

1. *How were field directors able to form relationships with service members?*

   Any and all of the following will suffice:
   - giving counsel and guidance to service members
   - providing a means of communication between members of the armed forces and their families at home
   - securing reports on family conditions at home and other matters of concern to service members and to military authorities
   - making available financial assistance in the form of loans and grants to meet emergency needs
   - distributing comfort articles and other supplies when needed

2. *Looking at the items listed under Camp Service, arrange them in order of importance.*

   Answers will vary as to students’ personal opinions.

3. *Why would service members appreciate having Clubmobiles?*

   They were equipped for making and serving coffee and doughnuts and for distributing newspapers, chewing gum, and other small items. Some were equipped with record players and loudspeakers to provide music for the troops. A few were outfitted with movie projectors and became known as cinemobiles.

4. *What are three examples of Home Services that a field director would provide?*

   Answers will vary but any of the following will suffice:
   - consultation and guidance in personal and family problems
   - communication between service personnel and family members
   - information and help with government regulations, pensions, and other benefits
   - financial assistance, in the form of loans and grants based on need
   - furnishing the armed forces with reports to aid military authorities in making discharge and furlough decisions

5. *Why would a field director call on local councils?*

   Answers will vary, but should include that employing local councils helps gain volunteers, medical supplies, buildings, food, transportation, and knowledge of the area.
The American Red Cross Field Directors: *At His Side* Mini-Q
Teacher Guide cont.

6. During World War II how many pints of blood did the Red Cross collect?
13.4 million pints

Analysis of Source B: Field Directors in the Philippines

1. Why did the American Red Cross deem it necessary to incorporate the Philippine Red Cross?
Although answers will vary, most of the following should be included:

- The Philippine Red Cross had made extensive preparations for almost any eventuality.
- Large supplies of food, clothing, surgical dressings, and other medical supplies were stored in warehouses, located at strategic points in the city and throughout the provinces.
- Contracts had been made with transportation companies so that buses, automobiles, ambulances, and horses could be made available.
- A large staff of doctors and nurses had been enrolled as volunteers for the ten emergency hospitals.

2. What is important to notice about the placement of emergency hospitals?
Emergency hospitals were placed in close proximity to areas of need, therefore in vulnerable sections of town.

3. Interpret the phrase “properly tagged.”
Students should note that evacuees were tagged so that volunteers who received them would know where to place each member.

4. What Home Service does Mrs. Frances Hobbs provide for the women at Fort William McKinley?
Most importantly, she provides the women with funds so that they will be able to evacuate Manila prior to Japanese arrival, but she also offers them solace and peace of mind during the air raid.

Analysis of Source C: Field Director David S. Oman

1. Is this a primary or secondary document? Explain.
Although the text is in a book about the American Red Cross and a secondary source, the item itself is a journal entry which makes it a primary source.

2. Why did Field Director Oman go ashore at Gavutu?
All field directors are assigned to a specific unit. Oman follows his unit as they attack at Gavutu.
The American Red Cross Field Directors: *At His Side* Mini-Q

Teacher Guide cont.

3. *Describe Field Director Oman’s character as he performed his duties alongside his unit?*
Oman is a man who does not give up. He lost two partners, one fatally, the other to injury, but he kept working alongside his unit. On day two, Oman set up a proper first-aid station in a safer location. He also knew that cigarettes were a comfort to the wounded and did all he could to keep his supplies dry. After the battle subsided, he went onto the battlefield to help injured service members. It is implied that Oman also helped move dead service members.

4. **Analysis of Source D: Field Director “Tiny” Thomas S. Montgomery**

1. *Why did the Red Cross send Field Director Tiny to Quantico?*
   Tiny practiced invasion tactics with the Marines at Quantico.

2. *How does Field Director Montgomery show his resourcefulness?*
   Even though Tiny was only offered one tent, he soon found two others to properly serve the men in his unit. He set one up as the recreational tent, another as the storehouse and workshop, and the third as the office and library. Then Tiny placed a sign on one tent stating ‘The American Red Cross is in this area to assist men of the United States forces in any way possible. Please do not hesitate to call.’ This allowed all service members to know they could count on him at any time.

3. *Explain how Field Director Montgomery provided a Home Service for a service member.*
   If a man worried about his family, Montgomery took back a message and had the Australian headquarters of the American Red Cross cable to the soldier’s hometown Red Cross chapter for an investigation.

4. *Describe how Tiny performs acts of valor while also accomplishing his job as a field director.*
   Tiny never shirked from his duties to deliver supplies to the service members on the front line, often placing himself in danger. Students should notate one of the two examples where this is explained in the narration.