

officials at the naval air station.

The U.S. State Department authorized the Air Force to transport the supplies on a "space available" basis. An Alabama reserve unit of "citizen airmen" volunteered to take the goods to Haiti on one of its regular training missions.

In January 1987, Jack had the opportunity to visit Haiti and see the equipment "in action." He was gratified to find that the supplies—once gathering dust (literally)—were now saving lives.

### A club that listens

When Walter Johnson, a member of the Rotary Club of Amarillo, Texas, U.S.A., passed a young woman standing on the highway beside a disabled car, he drove back to see if he could help. He saw the car's emergency lights were on, and asked what had happened. He received no response. Puzzled, he repeated his question—and still no answer. Then the woman motioned that she was deaf.

For Walter, this incident only underscored the need for a new project recently undertaken by his club. In Amarillo, about 500 hearing-impaired individuals would benefit from a program that would provide special decals for placement on car windshields. The decal would alert police and other emergency personnel that the driver cannot hear.

This idea was first proposed by two officers of the Amarillo Police Department, who presented a design for the decal to Police Chief Jerry Neal and Captain Bob Russell of the Department of Public Safety (both Rotarians). Since neither department had the necessary funding for such a program, the officers approached the Amarillo club for its support. Thanks to the contributions of club members, the decals will be issued to those in the community who qualify.

State Senator Bill Sarpalius was so impressed by the program that he submitted a bill to the state legislature, which would make the decal program mandatory throughout the state and financially supported by the state of Texas. It is the club's hope that this program will be introduced in other states to assist the hearing-impaired in emergency situations.



*A Rotarian cheers on a competitor.*



*Over 2,000 disabled athletes competed in the mini-marathon.*

### Rotarians take off in Taiwan

The Rotarians of District 345 (Republic of China) are stepping up service at all levels. One high point of the year was a mini-marathon for the disabled sponsored by 11 Rotary clubs in North Taiwan. About 2,000 handicapped athletes participated in the event, which drew 20,000 spectators. Wu Pohsiung, the minister of the interior, and Hsu Shui-teh, mayor of Taipei City, also joined the festivities. Rotarians, Rotaract members, youth exchange students, and other volunteers provided encouragement and assistance along the route. Millions of people watched the race in a special program on the Chinese Television Service and on the Taiwan Television Enterprise, Ltd. Proceeds from the event were donated to the Taipei Track & Field Association (which plans to sponsor another marathon) and to the "En-

joy Doing Good Things Program," a feature of Taiwan Television Enterprise, Ltd.

Another project to benefit the disabled was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Taipei Shihmen with the support of the city government. More than 1,000 handicapped athletes from 29 institutions competed in events at the city's stadium, while over 3,000 spectators cheered them on. The purpose of the project was to encourage self-reliance and to promote physical fitness.

In a project to promote scholarship and boost morale, District 345 Rotarians placed public-service announcements in three newspapers to congratulate students who passed the university/college admission examinations, as well as to salute those who failed. The advertisements won a bronze medal in an ad design contest sponsored by the *China Times*.