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MESSAGE BY SECRETARY-GENERAL DAG HAMMARSKJOLD  
FOR NANSEN AWARD CEREMONY, GENEVA, 3 SEPTEMBER 1956\*

On the occasion of the Nansen Award Ceremony last year, I paid tribute to the memory of Fridtjof Nansen, and to his great work on behalf of refugees. In the same spirit I wish now to pay tribute to the late UN High Commissioner for Refugees. Two years ago Dr. van Heuven Goedhart instituted the Nansen Medal. His purpose was not only to revive the name of a humanitarian, but also to honor others whose efforts bring justice to people uprooted by war. But no one was more worthy of this recognition than Dr. van Heuven Goedhart himself, a man who believed he must give and expect no return.

At the same time, on behalf of the United Nations, I wish to congratulate Mrs. Dorothy D. Houghton, who has been awarded the Nansen Medal for 1956. As a government official and as a private citizen, she has made a distinguished contribution in alleviating the plight of refugees. In serving so well the cause of refugees, she has also served the cause of peace.

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\* For details, see Press Release REF/94 of 1 August 1956.