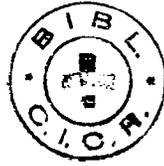


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Activity Report  
of the  
Japanese Red Cross Society  
to the  
XXIII International Conference of the Red Cross  
in  
Bucharest, 1977



1977

## I BRIEF HISTORY

- 1877 (May 1) The Society was established under the name of the “Hakuaisha” or the “Philanthropic Society” during the battles of the Southwestern Rebellion at the initiative of Count Tsunetami Sano.
- 1886 (Nov. 15) The Japanese Government adhered to the Geneva Convention of 1864.
- 1887 (Sept. 2) The Philanthropic Society changed its name to the Japanese Red Cross Society and was recognized by the International Committee of the Red Cross as an official member of the International Red Cross.
- 1912 H. M. the Empress Shōken contributed ¥100,000 to the International Red Cross to encourage peacetime services of the Red Cross around the world and the Empress Shōken Fund was established.
- 1919 (May 5) The League of Red Cross Societies was born and the Society participated in it as one of the five founding members.
- 1926 The Society hosted the Second Oriental Red Cross Regional Conference in Tokyo.
- 1934 The Society hosted the 15th International Conference of the Red Cross in Tokyo.
- 1952 The new Japanese Red Cross Law became effective on August 14 and the new Japanese Red Cross Statutes on October 31.
- 1970 “KONNICHWA 70” Technical Seminar for the South East Asian and Pan-Pacific Region in the Field of Red Cross Youth was hosted by the Society.
- 1977 (May 26) The Society celebrated its centenary.

## II ORGANISATION

The Society is a corporate juridical body organised in accordance with the Law governing the Japanese Red Cross Society (Law No. 305 of 1952), and composed of members. The Society is operated based on the fundamental principles of the Red Cross, and in view of its characteristics its autonomous status is to be respected. It stipulates in its Statutes 1) object, 2) name, 3) seat of office, 4) members, 5) officials, 6) activities, 7) assets and finance, and 8) public notification. The modification of the Statutes shall be made only with the approval of the Welfare Minister. The Society shall not be dissolved unless it is done based on the law. The structure of the Society is shown on page 2. In addition, there are a variety of groups which are either directly or indirectly associated with the Society: volunteer groups, blood donors' clubs, JRC groups, associations of big contributors, etc. Most of them have their own organisations.

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Note: Explanation of the Crest of the Society on the Front Cover

On the occasion in 1887 when the title of the Society was changed from “Hakuaisha” to “Japanese Red Cross Society”, the then President Count Sano asked the Empress Shōken to suggest a crest for the Society. She graciously responded with the gift of her ornamental hairpin decorated by sculpture of a phoenix with paulownia and bamboos. The crest of the Society was taken from that design.

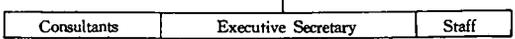
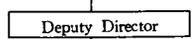
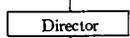
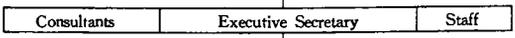
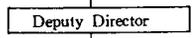
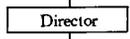
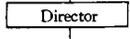
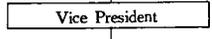
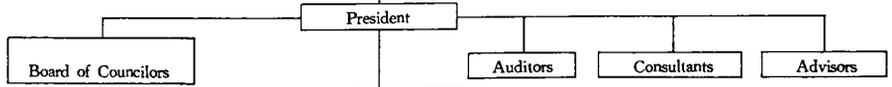
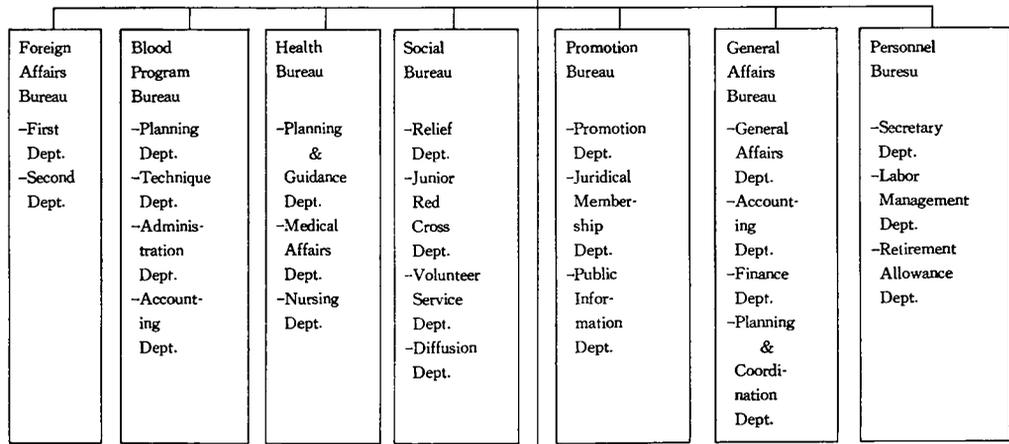
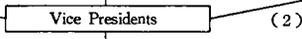
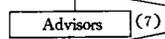
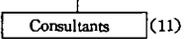
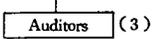
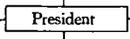
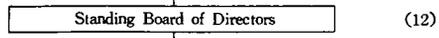
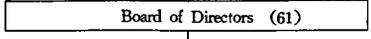
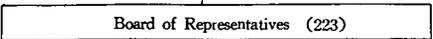
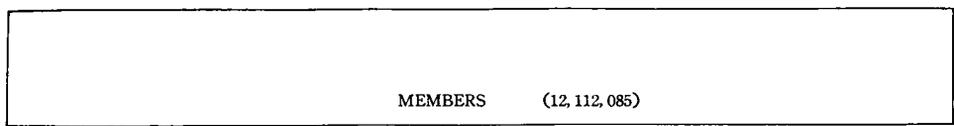
Members

Headquarters

Secretariat  
Chapter  
(Prefectural level)

Branch  
(city level)

Branch  
(town and village level)



### III MEMBERSHIP

The Society is composed of members. There is no discrimination against race, nationality, creed, sex, social origin or birth when becoming a member or with regard to the rights and obligations of members. There are two kinds of membership: individual and corporate. Members are those who pay ¥ 300 or more per year as a membership fee. For those who paid a large sum as membership fee (¥10,000 or more or rendered an especially distinguished service to the activities of the Society, the title of "special member" is conferred. For those whose important relationship with the Society is recognized, the title of "honorary member" is conferred by the decision of the Board of Directors. Each member has the following rights:

- 1) to elect officers and members of the Board of Representatives and to be elected by them.
- 2) to receive annual reports on the activities and the settlement of accounts of the Society.
- 3) to express their opinions to the Society about the management of programmes through members of the Board of Representatives.

A member may withdraw from the membership at any time.

Membership as of March 31, 1976 stands as follows:

Individual Members	12, 112, 085
Corporate Members	<u>222, 509</u>
Total:	12, 334, 594

### IV FINANCING

The main source of income of the Society is membership fees. May is the month for the "Membership Drive" which is undertaken throughout the country. Each year National Headquarters explains to Prefectural Chapters the policies and ideas related to the annual Membership Drive, and Prefectural Chapters do the same to City Branches, City Branches to Town, Ward and Village Sub-Branches. Usually, the Presidents of Chapters and Directors of Branches and Sub-Branches are heads of local public bodies, and local Government officials together with Red Cross volunteers assist the Society in collecting membership fees based on the list of members. They recruit new members at the same time. During the Membership Drive people sometimes contribute less than ¥ 300 which is not sufficient for membership. The funds thus raised are registered as supporting fees.

Next comes contributions from individuals as well as corporate members. For raising funds from them the Society mails its prospectus and other information materials to those of large income, sends canvassers and encourages those who have already made big contributions to organise an association with the aim of inviting more contributors.

Big contributors are entitled to the following awards:

- 1) The Japanese Red Cross Silver Order of Merit is awarded to those who contributed ¥100,000 or more and less than ¥200,000.
- 2) The Japanese Red Cross Golden Order of Merit is awarded to those who contributed ¥200,000 or more.
- 3) If a winner of the Golden Order of Merit further contributes a large amount of

money, he/she is awarded a large, middle or small sized silver cup according to the amount.

- 4) For those who have contributed one million yen or more, the Society may apply to the Government for the award of the Konju Hoshō or the Blue Ribbon Medal.

They are also entitled to the following privileges in taxation:

- 1) All the money which a Corporate Member contributed to the Society's specific programmes between April 1 and September 30 is counted as a pecuniary loss.
- 2) If a corporate Member contributes money to the Society, an amount twice as much as that legally admitted as pecuniary loss is allowable.
- 3) The amount of an individual's contribution to the Society after deducting ¥10,000 is exempted from his total annual income which is liable for income tax.
- 4) The amount contributed to the Society by an inheritor is deducted from his total inherited income which is liable for inheritance tax.

The funds raised during 1975 fiscal year are as follows:

1) From individuals:			
Membership fees	¥3,752,575,309		
Supporting fees	¥ 159,631,647		
Contributions	¥ 844,694,504	Sub total	¥4,756,901,460
2) From Corporate Members		¥2,299,240,188	¥2,299,240,188
			Grand total ¥7,056,141,648

The ordinary budget of revenues for the 1975 fiscal year was ¥25,482,518,520 and that of expenditures ¥22,581,863,570, of which ¥6,206,684,294 was appropriated for direct activities as follows:

For: Social welfare activities	¥1,742,810,768	28.1%
Branch activities	¥ 843,556,680	13.6%
Public relations	¥ 755,315,137	12.2%
Disaster relief	¥ 713,957,981	11.5%
Blood programme	¥ 487,639,496	7.9%
International activities	¥ 394,689,348	6.3%
Three training courses	¥ 295,809,494	4.8%
Training of nurses	¥ 230,240,500	3.7%
Volunteer activities	¥ 218,943,242	3.5%
JRC activities	¥ 214,678,596	3.4%
Medical activities	¥ 154,799,563	2.5%
Health education	¥ 105,418,352	1.7%
Mobile clinic	¥ 48,825,137	0.8%
Total		¥6,206,684,294 100.0%

Red Cross Hospitals and Blood Centres are financed separately by Special Budgets. Total revenue of Red Cross Hospitals in the 1975 fiscal year was ¥148,137,145,116 and that of Red Cross Blood Centres ¥13,477,540,144.

## V PRESENT ACTIVITIES

### 1) Disaster Relief

The National Disaster Relief Law (Law No. 118) of 1947 provides that "the Red Cross shall cooperate with the Government in relief activities, and the Government may have the Society coordinate the cooperation offered by organisations other than local public bodies or individuals under the direction and supervision of the Government. The Governor of every prefecture may entrust to the Society matters necessary for the execution of relief or its assistance, and shall refund the sum payed by the Society in carrying out the entrusted activities".

Examples of the role of coordination are: 1) organisation of volunteer corps to assist relief operations, 2) collection of contributions in cash or kind and 3) coordination of medical and midwifery services. For executing this role effectively the Red Cross was obliged to elaborate upon a plan of coordination with other relevant agencies such as social welfare organisations, medical institutions, youth organisations, women's associations and news media.

The agreement concluded between the Red Cross and the Ministry of Health and Welfare in 1948 set the sphere of activities with which the Red Cross might be entrusted by the Governor of a prefecture i.e. medical treatment, midwifery service and dealing with bodies. Each prefectural chapter of the Red Cross was accordingly given responsibility to make readily available a minimum of five relief teams.

However, the Society never limited itself to such roles and activities as provided by the Law and always felt free to render assistance in other forms such as shelters, temporary accommodation, food, clothing, daily necessities, etc. Administrative and operational details were given shape in the Red Cross relief regulations of 1955 for carrying out these duties.

The National Fundamental Law for Disaster Preparedness (Law No. 223) of 1961 provided guiding principles for administration of disaster preplanning, disaster prevention, disaster relief and reconstruction and rehabilitation, and warranted the establishment of a Disaster Prevention Council at both national and prefectural levels. The Society was represented in these Committees and obliged to make its own disaster preparedness plan in harmony with the plans of other agencies.

The Society keeps 453 medical relief teams on stand-by at Red Cross hospitals all over the country. Each team consists of 6 members: a doctor, 3 nurses, an administrator, a driver-cum-assistant. Total number of personnel to be mobilized is 11,748. There are also 1,104 medical relief teams who are, on prior arrangement, recruited locally and work on the disaster site until Red Cross Standing Medical Relief Team arrives. Each team is composed of a doctor and two nurses. Personnel registered for these teams number 2,995. Besides there are 20 relief teams with 1,399 volunteer personnel trained for disaster relief. 86 amateur radio volunteer groups with 5,819 members and 451 flying volunteers with 74 aircraft also assist the Society in time of disasters.

### 2) Medical Services

The Society runs 92 general hospitals, 2 maternity hospitals, 2 hospitals specializing

in treatment of atomic-bomb victims, 8 clinics and 4 hospital-homes for crippled children. The total number of beds at these institutions is 34,342 and that of payed workers 24,936. During 1975, 10,086,766 in-patients (average 27,546 per day) and 13,780,439 out-patients (average 46,687 per day) were given treatment at these institutions.

Apart from institutional care, these medical institutions along with Prefectural Chapters of the Society organised the following activities during 1975:

mobile clinic	381 days	466 places	17,483 persons
group examination	264 times	248	48,610
mobile health consultation	253	252	90,364
free treatment	65	65	1,481
mothers' class	1,692	1,533	30,936
safe delivery class	194	217	4,305
health guidance	14,884	13,392	21,475
other services	11,813	11,914	366,463

These institutions through different medical services made a profit of ¥148,137,145,116 in total during the 1975 fiscal year. In the 1974 fiscal year 13.5% of national medical care cost was covered by public expenses based on laws such as the Daily Life Security Law, Tuberculosis Control Law, Mental Health Law and the Law for the Welfare of the Aged, 73.1% by different social insurance schemes and 13.4% by patients.

Medical doctors working at Red Cross institutions form a Red Cross Medical Academy. During 1975 the Academy met for two days and some 100 papers were submitted.

### 3) Training of Nurses

The number of nurses who have graduated from the Red Cross nursing schools since 1890 amounts to 63,070. The Society currently operates two junior colleges of nursing and 36 schools of nursing which are attached to Red Cross hospitals. As of 1976 there are 5,298 student nurses and they are also trained in disaster relief. Training cost is covered by Red Cross Prefectural Chapters and Red Cross hospitals. Administrative expenses are partly covered by government subsidies.

Those nurses who are to become head-nurses are given, after a certain period of practical experience, post-graduate training at the Red Cross Institute for Post-Graduate Nurses in Tokyo for one year.

The Society also trains midwives at its three schools of midwifery. There are at present 63 student midwives.

### 4) Three Courses

#### 1. First Aid

During 1975 1,212 courses for first-aiders were organised and 42,256 people were trained. 35 courses for instructors were organised and 1,093 people were trained. The total number of first-aiders trained since 1949 amounts to 401,060 and that of instructors, 15,725.

In addition, 4,257 short courses for first-aid were held for 28,128 people and 1 course for ski-patrol for 90 people during 1975.

## 2. Water Safety

During 1975, 182 courses for life-savers were held for 7,081 people and 20 courses for 403 instructors. Since 1947, 118,521 life-savers and 5,671 instructors have been trained. 1,126 short courses were held for 72,779 people in 1975.

In 1975, 8 persons and since 1947, 1,484 persons were awarded recognition for saving lives.

## 3. Home Nursing

The Home Nursing Course is composed of three parts: part one is for prevention of accidents and illness, first-aid, early detection of diseases, etc; part two is for pregnancy, child birth, raising babies, care for handicapped children, etc; part three is for care for the aged. In 1975, 13,765 people attended one of the three parts of the course. Each part takes 12 hours. In addition, 114,983 people attended short-courses.

# 5) Social Welfare Activities

## 1. Child Welfare

The Society runs 8 Baby Homes with the total capacity of 260 babies who are orphans, abandoned, with sick parents, etc.; 3 Day Nurseries with a total capacity of 500; a Home for Dependent, Neglected and Abused Children with a capacity of 40; a Home for Physically Weak Children with a capacity of 64; and 4 Hospital-Homes for Crippled Children with a capacity of 447. There are currently 1,311 children in these institutions.

## 2. Welfare for the Aged

The Society runs a Nursing Home for the Aged with a capacity to accommodate 50 and to look after those people of 65 years or older, who, because of their serious physical or mental defects, are in need of constant nursing care, and who found it difficult to receive such nursing care at their own homes.

## 3. Welfare for the Physically Handicapped

The Society runs a Light Centre for the Blind. With the assistance of Braille Volunteers (40 groups, 2,581 members) and Recording Volunteers (16 groups, 458 members), the Centre published during 1975, 3,221 books in braille and 2,312 recorded tapes. The total number of books in braille in its possession amounts to 34,086 of which 19,131 were utilized in the course of the year. Likewise the total number of recorded tapes reached 3,416 which were utilized 22,112 times in the year.

# 6) Blood Programme

Currently there are 58 Red Cross Blood Centres with their 116 branches equipped with 184 blood-mobiles and 461 transport vehicles, and manned by the staff of 2,338. During 1976, 4,098,890 people or 3.8% of the entire population donated blood through these centres. 80.3% was used as whole blood and 19.7% for processing into blood components and plasma derivatives.

Blood products are as follows:

WHOLE BLOOD	BLOOD COMPONENTS	PLASMA DERIVATIVES
Preserved blood	Packed red cells	Human immune globulin
Fresh blood	Resuspended red cells	Human serum albumin
Heparinized blood	Resuspended fresh red cells	Vaccinia immune globulin
	Washed red cells	Anti-HB globulin
	Leucocyte-poor red cells	Zoster immune globulin
	Blood for exchange transfusion (ABO)	
	Platelet concentrate	
	Fresh frozen plasma	
	Cryoprecipitate	

Cost of blood per unit (200 cc) is ¥3,480 and covered completely by health insurance schemes. For the family members only 70% of the cost is covered and the Society has a system to pay back the remaining 30% at the request of the recipient of the blood.

Through the blood programme the Society had an income of ¥13,477,540,144 during the fiscal year 1975.

#### 7) Junior Red Cross

The Junior Red Cross is organised in elementary (6-11 year old), junior high (12-14 year old) and senior high (15-17 year old) school student groups. In the elementary and junior high schools, the enrollment of the pupils into JRC is done on a school or a classroom basis. While in the senior high school, JRC activities are made one of their club activities. Those JRC activities are under the guidance of teacher-sponsors as JRC leaders. There are 1,100,353 members from 4,372 schools as at March 1976. JRC members find their activities in various fields: training and practice of First Aid, Water Safety and Home Nursing, surroundings cleaning services in the community, consolatory visit to institutions for the aged, voluntary services in baby homes and institutions for the handicapped, and exchange of friendship albums and greeting cards between the sister Societies.

In addition, leadership training centres are held on a prefectural level and training centres for JRC teacher-sponsors and study centres for senior high school students are held by Headquarters. Exchange of JRC members and leaders with sister Societies has been becoming increasingly active. The Society also organises a group tour for JRC leaders with the aim of providing them with the opportunity of studying JRC activities abroad.

The Society issues "Junior Red Cross Magazine" four times a year and "Teacher-sponsors Journal" three times a year.

#### 8) Volunteer Services

There are three types of volunteer groups: those organised at the community level (2,372 groups, 3,718,101 members), those composed of students and youth (143 groups, 3,917 members) and those with special ability or skill (310 groups, 25,469 members).

The Specific Volunteer Service Corps provides services in fields such as radio communication, braille translation, tape-recording, ski patrolling, First Aid, Water Safety, disas-

ter relief, public entertainments, acupuncture, moxocautery, massage, home nursing, ocean patrol, transport, sewing, services at hospital, language, etc.

The Youth Volunteer Service Corps and the Community Volunteer Service Corps are active in visiting hospitals and social welfare institutions, the blood donation campaign, fund-raising campaign, disaster relief, welfare services to the aged, cleaning of public places, assistance to JRC activities, organisation of accident prevention courses, assistance to other humanitarian organisations, etc.

## 9) International Activities

### 1. International Relief

	No. of countries assisted	Value of assistance (¥)			
		Red Cross budget	Contribution	Govt. subsidy	Total
73	19	43,793,267	241,104,895	184,659,863	469,558,025
74	17	6,589,517	148,273,790	199,760,517	354,623,824
75	11	6,300,528	37,912,618	64,716,448	108,929,594
76	20	10,407,730	178,988,296	299,528,494	488,924,520

### 2. Development Programme

	No. of countries assisted	Value of assistance (¥)			
		Red Cross budget	Contribution	Govt. subsidy	Total
73	12	2,362,224	6,220,700	20,455,560	29,038,484
74	14	3,370,633	33,217,106	0	36,587,739
75	14	20,081,058	16,679,301	26,300,590	63,060,949
76	18	450,770	33,173,831	25,987,880	59,612,481

### 3. Other Activities

The Society has assisted Koreans in Japan in their repatriation to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with which the Japanese Government has no diplomatic relations. Since the beginning of the operation in 1959, 92,852 people were repatriated.

The Society has been providing medical and other types of assistance to Indochina refugees in Japan whose number stands about 520 as at mid-July 1977. It cooperates closely with UNHCR office in Tokyo and religious organisations which are also active in assisting these refugees.

## VI PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Society keeps in regular contact with mass media at national and prefectural levels, and when something important occurs, it issues a news release asking for their cooperation. It also issues periodicals such as the following:

Red Cross Journal .....61,000 (monthly)	Red Cross Photo News .....10,000 (monthly)
Annual Report ..... 950	World RC Day poster .....108,000
Leaflet for World RC Day ...325,000	Current Activities.....18,000 (monthly)
JRC Magazine .....168,000	Pamphlet (16 pages)..... 7,000
Teacher-sponsors Journal .....54,000	

On special occasions such as the centenary in 1977, it issues postal stamps, photo albums, medallions, badges, stickers, posters, leaflets, etc.