REPORT 1978-1980 COLLECTION CICR CI (1981)/776

DANISH RED CROSS

REPORT 1978-1980

.

,

;

•

• 🖛

The organization of the Danish Red Cross

The Danish Red Cross was founded on 27th April, 1876, and recognized by the Danish Government on 26th June, 1876.

Her Majesty Queen Ingrid is the Patron of the Danish Red Cross.

His Royal Majesty Highness the Prince Consort is Commissioner of the Danish Red Cross.

Mr. Erik Stampe, Advocate of the Supreme Court, is President of the Danish Red Cross.

The highest authority of the Danish Red Cross is the General Assembly, which convenes every two years.

The activities of the Danish Red Cross are directed by the Central Committee, the number of members of which partly depends on the number of members of the Danish Red Cross as a whole.

The Central Committee, which convenes twice a year, comprises

the President

- 28 county district chairmen and members elected by the county district committees
- 8 individual members elected by the Central Committee with special view to their expertise
- the Chairman and 2 members of the Central Teaching and National Preparedness Committee

The Chairman of the First-Aiders Committee	
the Chairman of the Social	
Committee	
the Chairman of the Youth Committee	
one representative of the Faroe	
Branch	
one representative of the Greenland	
Branches.	

The President is elected by the Central Committee.

The President holds office for 4 years and may be reelected. The President is elected with af view to his particular social and humanitarian experiences and achievements.

The Central Committee elects 2 Vice-Presidents among the chairmen of the county districts and 1 Vice-President among the 8 individual members of which the lastmentioned will act as substitute for the President.

Imminent fundamental questions may be decided upon by the Presidency, i.e. the President and the 3 Vice-Presidents. Such decisions must be put before the Executive Committee at its next meeting.

The members of the Central Committee are elected for a four-year-period.

The Central Committee has appointed the following committees:

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE COMPRISING:

- the President (chairman)
- the Vice-Presidents
- the Chairman of the Financial Committee
- the Chairman of the Central Teaching and National Preparedness Committee
- 8 other members of the Central Committee.

THE FINANCIAL COMMITTEE COMPRISING:

3 members of the Central Committee.

THE CENTRAL TEACHING AND NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE COMPRISING:

8 members whereof 4, among which the chairman, are elected by the Central Committee, while the other 4 are the chairman of the sub-committees for first-aid, social work, nursing and Red Cross Youth.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMIT-TEE COMPRISING:

5 members.

THE INFORMATION COMMITTEE COMPRISING: 8 members.

4 THE COMMITTEE FOR RULES OF PROCEDURE AND CONSTITUTIONS COMPRISING: 4 members.

International Activities



Training of Delegates

The Danish Red Cross has this year restructuralized the training programmes for future delegates. The Danish Red Cross receives constantly applications from persons who are interested in being delegates, but only those who seem to possess the necessary qualifications for potential delegates are asked to complete an application form and will consequently be included in the delegate-roster. From this roster suitable candidates will be selected to participate in a basic weekend-course, where the following items will be discussed:

The organization and activity of the League, of the ICRC, and of the national society. Furthermore, short briefings about the recruiting, sending out, and situation of a delegate, development problems, personal health preservation, nutrition – sanitation problems, UN and other voluntary organizations, practical knowledge and basic guide-lines in connection with relief actions, and problems in connection with

Due to the drought and famine situation in Ethiopia the Danish Red Cross was asked by the League to send out several relief delegates. The photo shows Major Hans Møller from the Danish Defence.

supplies and transport. Concurrently with the course, interviews will be made with each participant in order to determine whether he/she is suited for being a delegate.

After having gone through this week-end course, some of the candidates will be selected for participation in a course of five days duration, in which abovementioned subjects will be studied more thoroughly. Candidates who have completed this course will be considered as delegates qualified to be recruited for a leading post in a relief action or will be attached to a development project.

5

At present the delegate-roster of Danish Red Cross contains approximately 150 medical doctors, 250 nurses, end 150 others.

The Medical Advisory Group

As an assistance in questions relating to medical affairs, a medical advisory group was established several years ago. The group consists of 3 medical doctors with different educational background, but all former Red Cross delegates with a broad experience from relief work.

The group has proved to be a great asset to the work of the Danish Red Cross and is called for advice in medical problems, which appear in relief and development actions. Beyond this, the group acts as connection to trade organizations and medical scientific societies, and the group also as-

The Danish Red Cross-clinics in the Ethiopian bush were often very primitive – but of primary importance

6

sists in the selection of suitable medical delegates.

Furthermore, the group has been very much involved in the preparation of the standard medical kit which has been very useful for the Danish Red Cross in relief actions, and which is permanently kept in a supply of 50 for use in emergency situations.

Agreements of Cooperation

Since 1970 the Danish Red Cross has had an agreement of cooperation with the Civil Defence. According to this agreement the Danish Red Cross can have officers from

for the survival of the famine-stricken population.



the Civil Defence at its disposal for sending out as a relief delegate.

The Danish Red Cross has furthermore the possibility of purchasing the supplies which the Civil Defence has stored for use in war and relief situations.

The civil Defence is also assisting the Danish Red Cross in packing and preparation of relief supplies.

During the period of 1st of January 1977 to 1st of July 1981, 13 delegates have been sent out in various missions under this agreement.

A similar agreement with the Danish Defence was signed in December 1977, according to which the Defence can release personel for assisting the Danish Red Cross in relief actions. The Danish Red Cross will include this personel in its basic training courses. Thus, 10 officers have been provided by the Defence since the signing og the agreement for serving as Red Cross delegates.

The agreement furthermore enables the Danish Red Cross to buy and make use of various material from the Defence. In relief actions quick transport is often a great problem, but due to this agreement, it will be possible for the Danish Red Cross to make use of the Hercules-planes of the Defence, and thus secure immediate transportation of relief goods.

The Assistance of the Danish Red Cross in Connection with League Actions

During the period 1977 to 1981, the Danish Red Cross has canalized aid as indicated in the following survey regarding assistance. A great part of this aid has been rendered in form of cash transfers, either as a supplement to the operation budget of the League or as earmarked contributions.

Having realized the fact that delegates required for relief work must to a large extent be specialists, not least within the medical area, as all-round delegates can be covered locally, the Danish Red Cross has built up a roster of very qualified personnel, medical delegates as well as transport and administrative delegates. During the period under review, the Danish Red Cross has sent out a total of approximately 45 delegates of different background to League actions around the world.

In most cases, assistance given to League actions will be given as cash contribution to the League, in order to avoid delays and overlapping supplies. In disaster situations, however, the Danish Red Cross has in several cases been asked by the League to supply urgent relief consignments, most often consisting of medicaments, tents, and blankets directly from Denmark in concurrence with the League's action.

The above-mentioned standard medical kit, made up in cooperation with the medical advisory group, has proved to be of great value, as it is always ready to be dispatched and will secure medical treatment for approximately 3000 people in 30 days. The latest urgent relief directly sent from the Danish Red Cross was a consignment of tents, blankets and campbeds, which was dispatched in October 1980 to the earthquake stricken areas in Algeria. The consignment reached the area 2 days after the disaster occured.

As from ultimo 1980 the Danish Red Cross has been actively involved in the League's East Africa Task Force which has set up a three-phased relief/development programme for the six countries in East Africa. The Danish Red Cross has already earmarked 9 million Danish kr. to the programme, and has so far provided 15 delegates, medicine, blankets, food-stuff, and kitchen utensils. At present, possibilities for supporting long term programmes in the countries are being looked into.

The Assistance of the Danish Red Cross to ICRC Actions

Besides the assistance in the form of cash contributions and material, the Danish Red Cross has at several occasions during the period under review been able to respond to ICRC's request for qualified personnel, of which the great majority has been medical.

Funds Used in International Relief Operations

	1978	1979	1980
in Danish kroner	12,991,934	19,280,274	30,366,083
Which is the equivalent of			
Swiss Frcs.	3,533,777	5,244,192	8,259,084
US \$	1,719,647	2,551,988	4,019,335

Delegates sent out in the Period 1978-1980

1978	1979	1980
5	9	16
2	18	26
2	1	6
1	0	0
4	11	25
14	39	73
	2 2 1 4	592182110411

In 1976 quite a substantial assistance was given to the ICRC Field Hospital in Lebanon, 18 delegates were during the year provided by the Danish Red Cross. The assistance was phased out in 1977, where only one nurse was sent to the hospital.

In 1978 Danish Red Cross had a medical team of three in Rhodesia and one physiotherapist in Somalia.

In 1979 the medical team in Rhodesia/ Zimbabwe increased its number to 5, and in the end of the year the Nordic Red Cross Society assistance to ICRC's relief work in the refugee camps in Thailand started. This involved one of the biggest operations ever as regards delegates sent out from the Danish Red Cross. During 1979 three medical doctors, 17 nurses, one midwife and three technical delegates were working in Thailand, and in 1980 a further number of five medical doctors, four nurses, 3 midwives, two pharmacist-assistants, and five technical delegates were sent to the area.

In 1981 the Danish Red Cross has so far provided two medical doctors, four nurses and one technician to ICRC's relief programme in Thailand.

Development Assistance

The Danish Red Cross finds that it is very much desired to change the present general opinion of the Red Cross as a disaster relief organization, and consequently that more attention should be paid to the development aspect of its work. In a developing country the national Red Cross Society could be very suitable for playing a great role in the development procedure especially as concerns the building up of a basic health service system. Upon this idea the League's Southern African Programme is building its work in 9 South African countries.

Denmark has supported this programme actively from the start, and has now, in accordance with the League's Development Programme, started a cooperation with the Malawi Red Cross with the purpose of assisting the society in its own development and its future development projects.

Since June 1979 the Danish Red Cross has continuosly had one delegate attached to the Malawi Red Cross on a one year contract, the third delegate has consequently started his assignment in June 1981. The main project of the Malawi Red Cross



The Danish Red Cross is at present involved in two development projects in Uganda. A Danish Red Cross-doctor examines a patient. is a strengthening of the Under-Five Clinics in the country. This is achieved mainly by training of volunteers, who will be attached to the clinics.

In Uganda the Danish Red Cross has signed an agreement with the Uganda Red Cross and the Ugandan Government concerning two development programmes as an initial phase scheduled to last for two years. One project is aiming at reestablishing the health service in the Sebei district, and at restoring the district hospital, Kapchorwa hospital.

For this purpose, two medical doctors and two nurses have been sent to Uganda and placed in Kapchorwa for one year. The other project is a rehabilitation project of the medical supply system in Uganda, and in order to assist this project in its first phase two pharmacists are now working in the Central Medical Store in Entebbe, also on a one year contract.

As a last point, the East Africa Task Force's Development Programme shall again be mentioned, as the Danish Red Cross has earmarked substantial funds for this purpose, and its first involvement will probably be a support to a Primary Health Care Programme in Uganda, coordinated by the League and Uganda Red Cross.



In Malawi the Danish Red Cross is involved in a development project consisting partly in the establishment of a great number of Under-Five Clinics.



The Danish Red Cross sent a large number of doctors and nurses to care for the thousands of Kampuchean refugees living in camps in Thailand.

The National Activities

Districts and branches

The basis of the national organization of the Danish Red Cross is the local branches, which are placed all over the country. 15 count districts cover 235 local branches. Each district has its own county committee, which is established in order to coordinate and support the work carried out in the branches. The local branches are responsible for the activities carried out in their district.

Since 1970 the basic structure of the organization has been adapted to the public administrative structure of the country according to which it is the aim of the Danish Red Cross to establish local branches in all municipalities – totally 275.

New branches are established every year. In 1980 8 new branches were established in different districts all over the country. This work was coordinated by the county committees and the permanently employed district advisers.

The National Headquarters

The national and international work of the Danish Red Cross is directed from the Headquarters in Copenhagen.

The Secretary General is in charge of the Headquarters, which has a staff of 50 persons – inclusive of 7 district advisers, who among other things take care of the daily contact with the county committees and the branches.

The Headquarters is divided into the following departments:

the General Secretariat the Administration Department the International Assistance Department the National Department the Information Department



The National Headquarters of the Danish Red Cross.

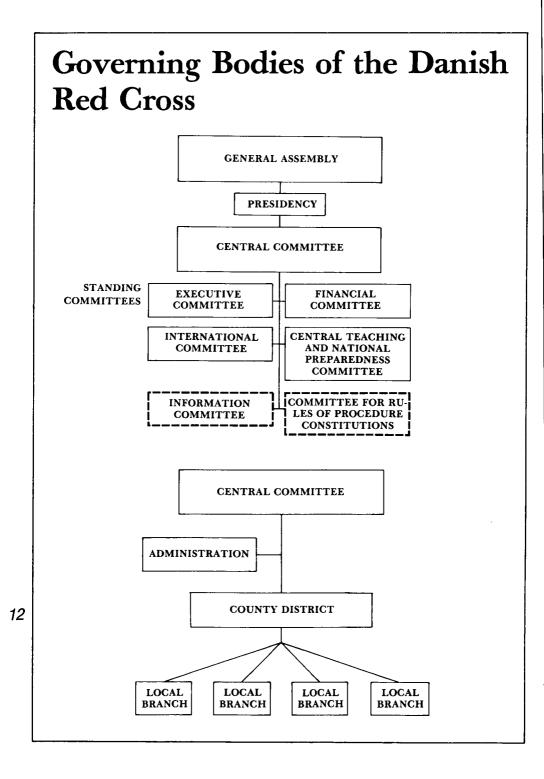
Membership

The Danish Red Cross is based on the idea of membership. The members form the basis of the organization, and run the organization according to the democratic construction.

After some years of considerable decline of the number of members, a nation-wide campaign of recruitment of new members was arranged in 1979 and 1980. These campaigns resulted in af heavy recruitment of new members.

The increase in the number of members appears below:

Total number of members					
1978	1979	1980			
88.312	110.919	130.000			



The members are gathered in local branches, which are responsible for the group of members within their area. The branches are in charge of the recruitment of members, and the collection of membership fee. The membership fee is minimum 20.- Danish kroner annually, but most members pay greater amounts.

Tracing activities

The Danish Red Cross still receives many inquiries regarding assistance in tracing of persons with whom the family has lost contact. Furthermore, exchange of letters between prisoners of war and their relatives is arranged. The wars in Vietnam, the Middle East, Angola, Cyprus, and Lebanon, and the »boat-people« from Vietnam have in periods involved increased activity in this field. The Headquarters receives annually 100-200 inquiries about missing persons.

Education and Preparedness

Simultaneously with a reorganization of the basic structure of the organization in 1970, all local activities were brought directly under the leadership of the branch committee including members representing the different fields of activities, i.e. first aid, nursing and hygiene, visiting service, Junior Red Cross and fundraising. The efforts of the Danish Red Cross in the field of education aim at strengthening the preparedness of the society with a view to first aid and health, towards war and natural disasters as well as every day accidents and illnesses.

The external course activities in first aid The educational first-aid material of the Danish Red Cross is used for almost all first-aid instruction in Denmark. During the period of the report, the Danish Red Cross has carried through the following courses:

- a. Population courses in basic first aid.
- **b.** Population courses in advanced first aid.



The Secretary General of the Danish Red Cross, Eigil Pedersen, was appointed on July 15th, 1981.

- c. Courses in external heart compression.
- d. Courses of first-aid instructors for
 - teachers at technical schools,
 - teachers at specialized worker's schools,
 - primary school teachers.

a. and b. are carried out by about 600 instructors.

c. These courses are carried out by the 100 instructors in external heart compression. The courses are helt only after approval from the Public Health Board for specially selected groups, i.e. electric personnel, professional life guards, professional salvage corps, the police's trafic patrols and medical personnel.

d. The first-aid instructor courses for the different categories of teachers have been carried through by the Danish Red Cross' pedagogical advisers together with a few especially selected instructors.

1.200 teachers have participated in these courses.

The first-aid instructors are recruited through the local branches of the Danish Red Cross.

Totally, the Danish Red Cross has, apart from the education of instructors, had the responsability of giving first-aid instruction of different kinds to about 140.000 persons during the period of the report. The instruction at the above-mentioned courses has been given on the basis of the Danish Red Cross' First-Aid Manual. A manual of disaster first-aid is being prepared in cooperation with the Civil Defence, the Army Medical Corps and the private and public ambulance service.

The voluntary first-aid service

In the period of the report there have been increased activities in the field of the voluntary first-aid service. Thus a voluntary first-aid section has been established in almost half of the local branches, and the total number of active volunteers is now about 2,500.

The voluntary first-aid service has the following tasks in the local area:

- to stimulate the interest of persons who are interested in first aid who want to keep up and improve a previously passed first-aid education,
- to train most possible first-aid volunteers in acting as leaders at great accidents,
- to train most possible volunteers in acting as road-first-aiders and first-aiders in the industry,
- to train volunteers in undertaking first-aid service at beaches and in great sports fields etc.,
- to train groups of first-aid volunteers who on the local level can be at the disposal of the society in case of disaster in peace as well as in war,

14

- to stimulate the interest of the population in and the understanding of the importance of first aid by carrying through exhibitions, exercises, demonstrations etc.



It ought to be mentioned that there exists a growing interest in the extension of the first-aid activities in the industry, because of the new safety and health legislation which took effect in 1977.

The Danish Red Cross has, therefore, in cooperation with the authorities worked out new educational programmes etc. for industrial first-aiders.

Nursing and hygiene

Since 1969 the Danish Red Cross has according to arrangements with the Public Health Board carried through population courses in nursing, hygiene and nutrition.

In 1980 156 courses with totally 2.296 participants have been carried through.

The instructors are nurses, who have gone through a special course for instructors arranged by the Danish Red Cross.

Social work

The task, which the Danish Red Cross is going to undertake in our developed welfare state, where almost every economic and social demand is met, will be within the human fields, e.g. where social reasons and illnesses are causing loneliness.

Actually the Danish Red Cross is in this field busy building up activities to make lo-

During the period under review more than 140.000 persons were given first-aid instructions.



Each summer the Junior Red Cross organizes camps for handicapped children.

nely peoples' lives easier. This is made by the visiting service, which comprises 4.500 volunteers, the telephone chains and as a supplement to the last-mentioned services: the correspondance service.

These activities for elderly, handicapped and lonely people are constantly increasing.

The telephone chains are established in a few branches. Telephone chains are a firm, daily call in a circle of lonely, elderly people. The chain is usually started by a call from an active Red Cross member to the first person in the chain.

The correspondance service consists in writing encouraging and sincere letters to lonely, elderly people. This new initiative can never replace the above-mentioned ones – only supplement.

Having examined the needs in Denmark, the Social Committee of the Danish Red Cross has decided to begin activities in the following fields:

foreigners in Denmark,

visitors service in prisons,

telephone contact with handicapped persons,

hospital service.

The Danish Red Cross notes that good collaboration with the municipal authorities and the social workers of the Red Cross has been established all over the country, and that a positive extension of the activity in the social fields has taken place.

The Junior Red Cross

The work among the youth is represented in the Central Committee of the Danish Red Cross by the Chairman of the Junior Department.

The membership of the youth groups, which are working in connection with the local branches, is limited (40 youth sections with 1.000 members), but a considerable part of the Danish Red Cross' contact with the youth takes place through the schools, the youth organizations, the sports clubs, etc.

The youth groups of the Danish Red Cross have in the period of the report carried through first-aid instruction, fundraising, baby sitting, handicraft, excursions, visiting service, camps for handicapped persons and international contacts.

The visiting service where young persons visit aged persons does only exist in a few branches, but it is very much appreciated here.



Each summer the Junior Red Cross organizes camps for handicapped children.

The camps for handicapped persons are holiday camps for handicapped children and young persons, who are selected in cooperation with the local branches and the social authorities. Of late years 4 camps have been carried through every year with about 300 children and 50 youth members.

The Red Cross Youth arranges 2 condi marches every year in order to celebrate the Red Cross Day on the 8th of May. The income is used in the work for disabled children.

International contacts have been established partly by participation in Red Cross Youth Camps in other countries, partly by the Red Cross Youth Conference arranged by the League of Red Cross Societies.

16

Furthermore, the Red Cross Youth has contributed directly to development and reconstruction projects, as they have supported young persons in the development work in Malawi, and given assistance to the reconstruction of an earthquake stricken area in Italy by delivering material.

Fundraising

The basis of the activities of the Danish Red Cross is of course the presence of sufficient capital. The Danish Red Cross procures most of the means by fundraising activities among the Danish population.

The firm annual fundraising campaign, the Red Cross Week, is carried through in the month of September and involves all local branches, which organize and carry through the campaign. The annual result is important, and e.g. in 1980 the result was 6,4 million Danish kroner.

Other fundraising activities comprise campaigns in connection with recruitment of members and nation-wide lotteries.

From regular subscribers – actually about 34.000 – the Danish Red Cross receives every year considerable support from private persons who want to »ear-mark« the amount for special purposes.

On special occasions comprising fundraising campaigns are arranged in connection with relief operations, e.g. the action, »Afrika Sulter«, in the autumn of 1980, when the Danish Red Cross collected 10 million Danish kroner.

From the following economic survey it appears, how the Danish Red Cross receives and spends the money.

Information

By intensifying the information activities, the Danish Red Cross has in the period of the report tried to live up to its obligations of bringing information to the Danish people about the principles, the tasks and the activities of the Red Cross, and about the provisions of the Geneva Conventions. The Information Department is taking care of the daily contact to the Radio, the Television, the press bureaus and the daily and weekly press by sending out press releases, photos and articles, and through personal contacts.

Special information is given to schools, organizations and societies through exhibitions and through special educational material. At present 7 different school booklets are available, and there is great interest in this material. The school material is worked out in such way that it covers children who have been 6 to 10 years at school. Normally the material is distributed in class sets, but besides it is available at all libraries in the country.

Furthermore, the department works out campaign and propaganda material in support of the different activities of the organization.

Publications

Besides the material for education and courses the Danish Red Cross is publishing the following material:

The magazine »Red Cross-HELP« which is published 12 times a year in a circulation of about 55,000. The magazine is sent to everyone who sends spontaneous contributions to the work of the Danish Red Cross, and to the regular subscribers.

The purpose of this magazine is to give information about the actual tasks, to tell about how the money is changed into practical assistance, and to encourage to further contributions. The total income in the year 1980 was about 4.6 million Danish kroner.

The magazine "Red Cross-INFORMATI-ON", which is published 12 times a year in a circulation of about 5.000 is sent to all libraries and schools and contains among other things information about the application of the means from the Danish Pupils' Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund. Furthermore, it mentions the educational material which the Danish Red Cross can offer.

The magazine *»Red Cross-NEWS*« is sent twice a year in a circulation of 130.000 to all members of the Danish Red Cross. The distribution is arranged through the local branches.

To the above-mentioned publications shall be added special publications which

Fund-raising campaigns are an important task of the Danish Red Cross. During the latest general elections a campaign for the benefit of the Kampuchean refugees in Thailand was organized.



are distributed in connection with campaigns, e.g. publications for nation-wide distribution (2.2 million copies) in connection with recruitment of members.

The magazine *»First Aid«* is sent especially to first-aid interested persons. It appears 4 times a year in a circulation of 4.500. The magazine gives information about news

and progress within the field of first aid.

The Information Department of the Danish Red Cross is also taking care of the production and distribution of films and audio-visual programmes together with the central file and the library function of the national headquarters.

The Danish Red Cross publishes various information material.



Fundraising campaigns, inheritance etc. (46%)
Course activity (2%)
Philately, books (5%)
Contributions from the Danish State (18%)
Interests and profits (8%)
Lottery, Red Cross Week, membership fees etc. (21%)
Consumption of goods, books (2%)
Fundraising costs (8%)
Course material (1%)
International work (58%)
Administration (8%)
Information and recruitment of members (5%)
National work (18%)

Economy

As a private organization the Danish Red Cross is dependent on economic support from private persons. The Danish State only gives a small, annual contribution, but places on application considerable amounts at the disposal of the Danish Red Cross in connection with international relief operations.

The local branches of the organization are in charge of their own economy

through collection of membership fees and fundraising campaigns, but they are obliged to pay a percentage of their revenue to the national league.

A close examination of the accounts of the Danish Red Cross will be impossible in this booklet, but the following figures will give an impression of how the money is received and spent.

The used figures are from 1980.



DANISH RED CROSS

28, Dag Hammarskjölds Allé, P.O.Box 2600 DK – 2100 Copenhagen Ö