

1971

1092 bis et 1121

COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL

DE LA
CROIX-ROUGE

SERVICE DE PRESSE ET D'INFORMATION
7, AVENUE DE LA PAIX
CH - 1211 GENÈVE



INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

OF THE
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TÉL. 33 30 60 - TELEX : 22 269

PRESS RELEASE

Press release No. 1092 b¹s

13 January 1971

VISIT TO DETAINEES IN THE KHMER REPUBLIC

Geneva (ICRC) - On 4 January 1971, the delegates of the International Committee of the Red Cross in the Khmer Republic visited the Prey-Sâr military prison in the Kandal province. They saw 950 detainees, including 27 Vietnamese prisoners of war and persons imprisoned for political reasons.

This was the first ICRC visit to a place of detention in the Khmer Republic since the start of military operations in that country.

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PRESS RELEASE

2 February 1971

Press release No. 1093b

SAUDI ARABIA AND DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR REPUBLIC OF THE YEMEN
EXCHANGE POW'S

Geneva (ICRC) - On 31 January 1971, the 37 Saudi and 24 South Yemeni prisoners of war captured during border incidents in November 1969 were repatriated under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Two aircraft took the former prisoners, accompanied by ICRC delegates, from Riyadh and Aden to Cairo where the exchange took place.

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PRESS RELEASE

Press release No 1094 b

1 March 1971

OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE OF RED CROSS EXPERTS AT THE HAGUE

Geneva (ICRC) - On Monday 1 March 1971, the Conference of Red Cross experts on the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflict opened at the Peace Palace in The Hague. The Conference, which will continue until Saturday, 6 March 1971, was convened by the International Committee of the Red Cross and organized in co-operation with the Netherlands Red Cross Society. Some 80 delegates, representing 37 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, are participating in the session.

The opening meeting, under the Chairmanship of the Jonkheer Kraijenhoff, President of the Netherlands Red Cross Society, took place in the main hall of the International Court of Justice, in the presence of H.E. Mr. C.H.F. Polak, Minister of Justice, Mr. V.G.M. Marijnen, Burgomaster of The Hague, Mr. Marcel A. Naville, President of the ICRC, Mr. Marc Schreiber, Director of the U.N. Human Rights Division, Mr. Nedim Abut, Assistant Secretary-General of the League of Red Cross Societies, and many diplomatic representatives.

The main objective of the Conference is a wide exchange of views on the subjects dealt with in the reports on the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law submitted by the ICRC to the International Conference of the Red Cross at Istanbul in September 1969. The National Societies attending the Conference may thus discuss the problems which, due to the armed conflicts and tension which have been occurring in recent years, are of increasing concern to the Red Cross and often confronts a number of National Societies with great responsibility for, inter alia, the protection of the wounded and the sick, the strengthening of protection for civilian

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population against the dangers of hostilities, the protection of victims of non-international conflicts, the status of combatants and the problem of guerilla warfare, and measures intended for the strengthening of the application in armed conflict of existing international humanitarian law.

The conclusion of the Conference of Red Cross experts which has just opened in The Hague will be communicated to the Conference of government experts which will take place three months later in Geneva, from 24 May to 12 June 1971, and which will be attended by some forty governments.

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PRESS RELEASE

Press release No 1095 b

3 March 1971

ICRC PRESIDENT MEETS NETHERLANDS PRIME MINISTER

Geneva (ICRC) - On the occasion of the Conference of Red Cross experts on the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts, being held at The Hague until 6 March 1971, Mr. Marcel A. Naville, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, accompanied by Mr. R. Gallopin, member of the ICRC, and Mr. A. van Emden, Director-General of the Netherlands Red Cross, called on 3 March 1971 upon Mr. P.J.S. de Jong, Prime Minister of the Netherlands Government.

Their talks centred essentially on the current work of the Conference as well as on the studies carried out by the ICRC in view of the forthcoming Conference of government experts to be held in Geneva from 24 May to 12 June 1971.

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PRESS RELEASE

Press release No. 1096b

6 March 1971

RED CROSS EXPERTS CONFERENCE CLOSING SESSION

Geneva (ICRC) - The Conference of Red Cross experts on the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts came to a close on Saturday morning, 6 March 1971. During the six day meeting some 80 experts, representing about 40 National Societies, exchanged views on the problems which, due to the armed conflicts and tension of recent years, are of the greatest concern to the Red Cross.

Bearing in mind particularly the changing techniques of modern conflicts and their effects in the realm of human rights, the experts were unanimous in recognizing the necessity and urgency of reaffirming and developing international humanitarian law. They considered that any effort to do so was also a contribution to the promotion of the spirit of peace throughout the world.

In the quest for a balance between idealism and realism, the experts shared the ICRC opinion that the 1949 Geneva Conventions should not be revised but supplemented and given greater precision by additional protocols.

The Conference recognized the importance of disseminating existing law among the armed forces, youth and the public at large. In this in particular all Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies had an essential role to play in their respective countries.

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PRESS RELEASE

Press release No. 1097 b

19 March 1971

ICRC DELEGATION VISITS SPAIN

Geneva (ICRC) - A delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has just returned from a four-day visit to Madrid from 15 to 18 March. The delegation, headed by Mr. Max Petitpierre, a former president of the Swiss Confederation and a member of the Committee, went in response to an invitation from the Spanish National Red Cross Society.

Mr. Petitpierre was accompanied by Mr. Raymond Courvoisier, Director of Operations at the ICRC, and Mr. Jean-Pierre Hocké, Delegate.

The delegation was received in audience by H.R.H. the Prince of Spain and by the Vice-President of the Spanish Government. It also had talks with the Ministers of Justice, Interior, Armed Forces and Education, as well as with the Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

These various meetings allowed, on the one hand, problems of mutual concern to be approached and, on the other, gave the opportunity for matters to be discussed regarding the new forms of combat adopted in armed conflicts such as guerilla warfare and, in a general manner, concerning the activities of revolutionary and liberation movements.

The ICRC delegation found that the government authorities which it met considered that the efforts made by the International Committee of the Red Cross for the reaffirmation and development of International Humanitarian Law as necessary and highly positive. The delegation was assured that they desired to participate actively in the Committee's work at the conference of government experts concerning non-international conflicts to be held in Geneva in May-June next.

This visit, in addition, permitted the ICRC delegation to carry out with the leaders of the Spanish Red Cross a thorough exchange of views regarding the problems facing currently the Red Cross world and to lay down with Conde de Toreno, President of the National Society, the details for even still closer co-operation with a view to an increasingly extensive dissemination of the Geneva Conventions and of the Principles of Humanitarian Law.



LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES / INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

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ICRC - 1096

LORCS - General 1971 - 8

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday 23 March 1971

FIFTIETH DISTRIBUTION OF REVENUES OF THE EMPRESS SHŌKEN FUND

The Joint Commission of the Empress Shōken Fund met in Geneva on 23 March under the Chairmanship of Mr. Roger Gallopin, member of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and in the presence of His Excellency Mr. Hideo Kitahara, Ambassador of Japan, and Mr. Henrik Beer, Secretary General of the League of Red Cross Societies.

The revenues distributed this year will permit five National Red Cross Societies of Asia, Africa and Latin America to improve their equipment and develop their activities in the fields of blood transfusion and emergency relief.

The Empress Shōken Fund was created in 1912, by a gift of Her Majesty the Empress of Japan. It is intended to facilitate the humanitarian action of the Red Cross at the international level, particularly in peacetime.

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PRESS RELEASE

Press release No. 1099b

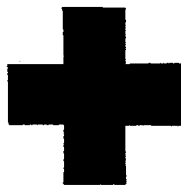
6 April 1971

ICRC VICE-PRESIDENCY

Geneva (ICRC) - Mr. Hans Bachmann's and Mr. Jacques Freymond's terms as Vice-Presidents of the International Committee of the Red Cross having expired, in accordance with the rules of procedure, the March plenary meeting of the ICRC decided to extend them until the end of June. After that date Mr. Harald Huber, federal court judge, and Mr. Jean Pictet, Chairman of the ICRC Legal Commission, would assume office as the new Vice-Presidents. However, Mr. Jacques Freymond, who was not present at the March meeting, declined the extension of his term in office, so that his place will be taken by Mr. Pictet with immediate effect.

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PRESS RELEASE

Press release No 1100b

19 April 1971

ICRC PRESIDENT VISITS UNITED STATES

Geneva (ICRC) - In response to an invitation from the American National Red Cross, the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Mr. Marcel A. Naville, accompanied by senior ICRC officials, left Geneva for the United States on Saturday, 17 April 1971. Mr. Naville will visit Washington and New York and will meet Mr. William Rogers, USA Secretary of State, and U Thant, United Nations Secretary-General.

The ICRC President's stay in the United States will last about a week.

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PRESS RELEASE

Press release No. 1101b

6 May 1971

NEW ICRC MEMBER

Geneva (ICRC) - In plenary session on 6 May 1971, the International Committee of the Red Cross welcomed a new member, Mr. Pierre Micheli.

Mr. Micheli was born in Geneva in 1905 and studied law at several European universities. In 1933 he joined the Swiss Foreign Affairs Department and has since represented Switzerland in a number of countries. From 1956 to 1961 he was Ambassador to France, after which, until the end of 1970, he discharged the important functions of Secretary-General of the Foreign Affairs Department and Head of the Political Division.

Throughout his long career he has had some connection with the work of the Red Cross. In particular, he was Secretary-General to the 1949 Geneva diplomatic conference which drew up the four Geneva Conventions, the basis of ICRC activities.

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PRESS RELEASE

Press release No. 1102b

24 May 1971

CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENT EXPERTS OPENS IN GENEVA

Geneva (ICRC) - An official ceremony marked the opening, on 24 May 1971, in Geneva, of the Conference of Government Experts on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law.

The Conference, which was convened by the International Committee of the Red Cross, and at which over 200 experts delegated by 40 governments are taking part, will meet until 12 June 1971.

At the opening ceremony, addresses were delivered by Mr. Marcel A. Naville, President of the ICRC, Mr. Willy Donzé, President of the State Council of the Republic and Canton of Geneva, and Professor Willem Riphagen, Director of the Legal Department of the Royal Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Mr. Jean Pictet, Vice-President of the ICRC, and Mr. Marc Schreiber, the United Nations Secretary-General's representative, also sat at the official table.

At the first plenary meeting, the Conference elected Mr. Jean Pictet as its Chairman. Mr. Riphagen (Netherlands), Mr. Cristesco (Roumania) and Mr. Gonzalez-Galvez (Mexico) were elected Vice-Chairmen.

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TÉL. 33 30 60 - TELEX : 22 269

PRESS RELEASE

Press Release No. 1103 b

26 May 1971

CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENT EXPERTS : COMMITTEES

Geneva (ICRC) - Today after a general discussion lasting 2 days, the Conference of Government Experts on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law formed four committees. These are being chaired by Mr. Singh (India), Mr. Lee (Canada), Mr. Dabrowa (Poland) and Mr. M'Baye (Senegal). The first committee is to study the "protection of the sick and wounded", the second the "protection of victims of non-international armed conflicts" and the "rules applicable in guerrilla warfare", and the third the "protection of the civilian population against dangers of hostilities" and the "rules relative to behaviour of combatants". The fourth committee, which had not originally been envisaged, will deal with "measures intended to reinforce the implementation of the existing law" a subject, the importance of which was stressed by many delegations during the general discussion.

These four committees, which will sit simultaneously in the EFTA and ITU buildings, will probably have completed their work in about 15 days' time, and the points covered will then be taken up in the plenary meeting which will last until the end of the present conference, that is, 12 June.

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TÉL. 33 30 60 - TELEX : 22 269

PRESS RELEASE

Press Release No. 1104b

9 June 1971

PRESIDENT OF SENEGAL VISITS ICRC

Geneva (ICRC) - During his stay in Geneva for the International Labour Conference, H.E. Mr. Léopold Sédar Senghor, President of the Republic of Senegal, visited the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The President of the ICRC, Mr. Marcel A. Naville, with members and senior officials of the International Committee, welcomed their distinguished visitor, who was introduced by H.E. Mr. Cissé, Ambassador of Senegal in Geneva. This meeting was attended also by Mr. Henrik Beer, Secretary-General of the League of Red Cross Societies, and by Mr. Robert Vieux, Head of Protocol of the State of Geneva.

Mr. Senghor visited the Central Tracing Agency, where he saw his name mentioned in several lists of prisoners of war.

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PRESS RELEASE

Press Release No 1105b
11 June 1971

END OF THE CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENT EXPERTS

Geneva (ICRC) - After three weeks of work, the Conference of Government Experts on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law, which has been meeting in Geneva on the invitation of the International Committee of the Red Cross, drew to a close on 11 June 1971.

At the closing Ceremony, Mr. Marcel-A. Naville, President of the ICRC, announced that a second meeting of experts was to be called for next spring in order to continue the work started during this session.

The complete report of the Conference, consisting in the main of the reports of the four Commissions, is to be sent to all Governments, parties to the Geneva Conventions, to all National Red Cross Societies and to the United Nations.

All the experts were greatly pleased by the valuable work done by the Conference and by the excellent spirit in which it carried out its duties.

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PRESS RELEASE

Press release No. 1106b
30 July 1971

A MEMBER OF THE ICRC IN INDIA AND PAKISTAN

Geneva (ICRC) - Mr. Victor Umbricht, member of the Presidential Council of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and Mr. Jean Ott, ICRC Delegate-General for Asia, have just returned from the Indian sub-continent.

In New Delhi, Mr. Umbricht met the President of the Republic of India, Mr. V.V. Giri, on 24 July. Two days later he was received by the President of Pakistan, General Yahya Kahn, who stated during their discussion that he viewed with favour a humanitarian operation by the ICRC in East Pakistan.

In both capitals, Mr. Umbricht met several government officials and National Society leaders who assured him of their support for the ICRC.

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TÉL. 33 30 60 - TELEX : 22 269

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PRESS RELEASE

Press release No 1107b
19 August 1971

AN ICRC MISSION TO PAKISTAN

Geneva (ICRC) - Following the agreement given on 26 July by General Yahya Khan, President of Pakistan, to Mr. Victor Umbricht, member of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the ICRC has sent to East Pakistan a mission comprising Dr Otto Lehner, head of delegation, and Mr. Nicolas Vecsey, assistant head of the Central Tracing Agency.

The mission, which left Geneva on Thursday, 19 August, will concentrate mainly on the setting up, in close co-operation with the Pakistan Red Cross, of a tracing service to seek missing persons and to put them in touch with their families.

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PRESS RELEASE

Press release No 1108b
20 August 1971

OPENING OF AN ICRC REGIONAL DELEGATION IN LATIN AMERICA

Geneva (ICRC) - The International Committee of the Red Cross, on 19 August 1971, opened a regional delegation for Latin America in Caracas (Venezuela), with two delegates, Mr. E. Leemann and Mr. J. Moreillon.

With these two permanent delegates in the field, it will be possible to step up the already authorized visits to detention centres in more than a dozen countries, and to ensure the better dissemination of those humanitarian principles which underlie the ICRC mission.

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TÉL. 33 30 60 - TELEX : 22 269

PRESS RELEASE

Press release No 1109b
24 August 1971

ICRC PRESIDENT TO GO TO PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Geneva (ICRC) - Having expressed the wish to go to the People's Republic of China, the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross has been invited by the Red Cross Society of China to carry out a visit from 14 to 25 September 1971. The President will be accompanied by Mr. Michel Barde, ICRC Presidential Attaché.

The purpose of this visit is to strengthen the ties that link the Red Cross Society of China and the International Committee of the Red Cross and to promote further mutual understanding between the two institutions.

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TÉL. 33 30 60 - TELEX : 22 269

PRESS RELEASE

Press release No 1110b
26 August 1971

ICRC ASSISTANCE TO BOLIVIA

Geneva (ICRC) - Following the recent events in Bolivia, the International Committee of the Red Cross has asked its regional delegate for South America, Mr. J. Moreillon, to proceed to that country and take the necessary steps, in agreement with the Bolivian Red Cross, to assist the victims of those events.

The ICRC has already sent medicines, dressings and other forms of relief to Bolivia.

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PRESS RELEASE

Press release No 1111b
29 August 1971

ICRC HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES IN BOLIVIA

Geneva (ICRC) - The regional delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross for South America, Mr. J. Moreillon, arrived on Friday, 27 August, at La Paz, where, in co-operation with the Bolivian Red Cross, he handed over the relief supplies sent by the ICRC to the victims of recent events.

He was also received by government authorities who granted him all facilities in order that the ICRC may discharge its humanitarian tasks in accordance with the spirit of the Geneva Conventions throughout Bolivian territory, and especially for persons detained because of the events.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has also decided to assign temporarily a second delegate to Bolivia; he is Mr. R. Gaillard-Moret who left Geneva in the evening of 29 August for La Paz.

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PRESS RELEASE

Press release No. 1112b

29 September 1971

SWISS CONFEDERATION DONATION
TO ICRC ACTION IN EAST PAKISTAN

Geneva (ICRC) - The Swiss Confederation has made available to the International Committee of the Red Cross the sum of 500,000 Swiss francs for its work in East Pakistan.

The ICRC operations in East Pakistan are conducted by three delegates and are being developed mainly for the tracing of missing persons, reuniting dispersed families, forwarding of family news and visiting detainees.

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PRESS RELEASE

Press release Nr. 1113b
8 October 1971

VISITS TO PLACES OF DETENTION IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Geneva (ICRC) - Following an arrangement made between the Government of Northern Ireland and the International Committee of the Red Cross, the delegates of the ICRC were given the opportunity to visit the different categories of persons held in custody in Ulster.

The Red Cross team, consisting of a delegate and a medical adviser, both Swiss, visited the Crumlin Road prison, Belfast (on Tuesday 5 October), the internment centre at Long Kesh near Lisburn (on Wednesday 6 October), and Armagh prison (on Thursday 7 October). In all of these establishments, the delegates were given complete freedom to converse privately with the internees, detainees and prisoners of their choice. As is a normal practice, the report of the ICRC on these visits will be furnished directly to the Government of Northern Ireland.

A further visit by the delegates of the ICRC has been arranged for the month of December.

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PRESS RELEASE

Press release No. 1114b
10 October 1971

THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF JAPAN AT THE ICRC

Geneva (ICRC) - On the occasion of their European trip, Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan visited the Geneva headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross on 10 October 1971. Her Majesty the Empress, who is honorary president of the Japanese Red Cross, had expressed the wish to call at the ICRC during her visit to Switzerland.

The imperial couple were received by Mr. Marcel A. Naville, President of the ICRC, who in his address recalled the links uniting the ICRC and the Japanese Red Cross and stressed the paramount role which that National Society had played since the early days of the Red Cross.

"This illustrious presence", said Mr. Naville, "provides striking evidence of the unfailing interest which the Imperial Family, the Government and the people of Japan have for almost a hundred years taken in the humanitarian ideal of the Red Cross. And for the International Committee, too, this is an invaluable encouragement to persevere in its efforts to develop activities for the welfare of suffering mankind".

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PRESS RELEASE

Press release No. 1115b

18 November 1971

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND HUMANITARIAN LAW

Geneva (ICRC) - The International Committee of the Red Cross has convened a consultative meeting of non-governmental organizations interested in its work for the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law.

The meeting, which is taking place in Geneva on 18 and 19 November 1971, will enable the NGO's to make known their views and experience concerning problems involved in this undertaking, and to maintain their association in this work of widespread concern.

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PRESS RELEASE

Press release No. 1116b

1 December 1971

PRESIDENT OF DAHOMEY VISITS ICRC

Geneva (ICRC) - During his stay in Geneva for the twentieth anniversary of the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM), H.E. Mr. Hubert Maga, Chairman of the Presidential Council of the Republic of Dahomey, visited the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The President of the ICRC, Mr. Marcel A. Naville, with members and senior officials of the International Committee, welcomed their distinguished visitor, who was accompanied by H.E. Mr. Agboton, Minister of Labour, H.E. Mr. Ewagnignon, Dahomey Ambassador to Bonn, and Mr. Tévoédjré, Assistant Director-General of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

Mr. Maga also visited the Central Tracing Agency.

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PRESS RELEASE

Press release Nr. 1117b
5 December 1971

THE ICRC SENDS A MESSAGE TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF INDIA AND PAKISTAN

Geneva (ICRC) - Following the development of hostilities between India and Pakistan the International Committee of the Red Cross, basing itself on the four Geneva Conventions of 1949, which bind these States, has addressed a notification to their two Governments.

These Conventions stipulate, in particular, that the sick and wounded, prisoners of war and civilians shall be protected and treated in a humane manner and that hospitals, ambulances and medical establishments and personnel shall be respected.

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COMMUNIQUÉ DE PRESSE

PRESS RELEASE

Press release No. 1118b
10 December 1971

NEUTRALIZED ZONES UNDER ICRC AUSPICES IN DACCA

Geneva (ICRC) - With effect from 9 December 1971, the Holy Family Hospital and the Intercontinental Hotel in Dacca have been declared "neutralized zones" under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross. An agreement to that effect was reached by the highest Pakistan authorities in Dacca and the ICRC delegates in that town. The neutralization of the two zones has been notified to the parties in conflict.

The Holy Family Hospital is administered by the local Red Cross, which has been assisted by the League of Red Cross Societies since 11 October 1971. The hospital's capacity is 180 beds. The Intercontinental Hotel is occupied by some 400 people, some of whom are United Nations officials awaiting evacuation from Dacca.

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COMMUNIQUÉ DE PRESSE

PRESS RELEASE

Press release No. 1119b
15 December 1971

PROTECTION IN NEUTRALIZED ZONES

Geneva (ICRC) - The International Committee of the Red Cross draws attention to the fact that the Holy Family Hospital and the Intercontinental Hotel in Dacca have been declared "neutralized zones" in pursuance of article 15 of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

That article stipulates that "neutralized zones" are intended to shelter from the effects of war, without distinction, wounded and sick combatants or non-combatants and civilians who take no part in hostilities and perform no work of a military character while they reside in those zones.

The authorities concerned may at any time put an end to a zone's neutral status by written notification. Residents in the zone are then entitled to the general safeguards which the Geneva Conventions provide for war victims and for civilians.

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PRESS RELEASE

Press release No. 1120b
16 December 1971

INDO-PAKISTAN CONFLICT : APPEAL TO OBSERVE THE 1949
GENEVA CONVENTIONS

Geneva (ICRC) - In view of the way in which military operations are developing on the Indian sub-continent, the International Committee of the Red Cross, on 15 December, again reminded the parties to the conflict of their obligations under the 1949 Geneva Conventions.

Those Conventions stipulate that the lives of captured combatants shall be spared, that prisoners of war and interned civilians shall be treated humanely, that the wounded, the sick, the medical personnel and the civilian population shall not be attacked or ill-treated, and that summary executions, reprisals and collective punishment are forbidden.

The ICRC also reminded the belligerents of their duty to respect the red cross sign.

A few days previously, the ICRC had been assured by the parties in conflict that the Geneva Conventions would be applied in all circumstances.

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PRESS RELEASE

Press release No. 1121b
17 December 1971

VISITS TO PLACES OF DETENTION IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Geneva (ICRC) - As arranged with the Government of Northern Ireland, the International Committee of the Red Cross has just made a further round of visits to the different categories of prisoners held in custody without trial in Northern Ireland.

The Red Cross team of two delegates, one of whom is a doctor, and both of whom are Swiss, visited Crumlin Road Prison, Belfast, on 14 December, Long Kesh Internment camp, near Lisburn, on 15 December, and the transit centre on board the depot ship "Maidstone" in Belfast harbour on 16 December. In all those establishments, the delegates were able freely to carry out their task and to converse privately with the internees and detainees of their own choosing. As usual, the ICRC reports on these visits will be sent direct to the Government of Northern Ireland.

A further visit by delegates of the ICRC has been arranged for the month of April.