Africa

Katanga

The delegate of the ICRC in Southern Rhodesia, Mr. Geoffrey C. Senn, who had gone to Elisabethville on December 21, 1962 (see communiqué No 775b), has continued his activities in Katanga. He has in particular endeavoured to maintain contact, as far as possible, with the authorities in office, UNO forces, the Katanga Red Cross and with the Southern Rhodesian Branch of the British Red Cross. He visited the various places where refugees were concentrated, especially near the Rhodesian frontier and intervened for their assistance and supplying. He has organized convoys under the auspices of the ICRC for these refugees to return to their homes.

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The ICRC opens a general delegation in Sub-Equatorial Africa

The ICRC has recently appointed Mr. Georg Hoffmann to the post of Delegate General in Sub-Equatorial Africa, where he will reside permanently. His mandate will extend to the following countries: Congo (Leopoldville including Katanga), Ruanda, Burundi, Uganda, Kenya, Zanzibar, Tanganyika, Angola, Mozambique, Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, Madagascar, Republic of South Africa, with the territory of South West Africa, Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland, Reunion Island, Mauritius, the Comoro Islands and the Seychelles - these latter with the country whose dependencies they are.
In view of the general position of certain of these countries and their development, the ICRC considers that an important action could usefully be put into operation there for the future of the Red Cross.

Generally speaking, the aim of the mission entrusted to Mr. G. Hoffmann by the ICRC is to establish and maintain direct and close contact with the Authorities and the Red Cross Societies of these countries, to help in the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions and to watch over their application, and to facilitate the creation and development of National Red Cross Societies in these States.

Mr. G. Hoffmann will also carry out, on behalf of the ICRC and with the co-operation of regional delegates, any humanitarian action in conformity with the traditional principles of the Red Cross and of the Geneva Conventions.

In the event of conflicts, he will take any measures which he judges appropriate to help and protect military and civilian victims.

Mr. Hoffmann took up his new post at the beginning of the year and arrived in Salisbury (Southern Rhodesia) on January 11, where he has established his residence for reasons of a practical nature.

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Near East

ICRC MISSION IN THE NEAR EAST

From November 14 to December 20, Mr. Pierre Gaillard, delegate, accompanied by Mr. Ibrahim Zreikat, Arabic interpreter of the ICRC, went to Cairo, Baghdad, Damascus, Beirut and Amman. In the last mentioned capital King Hussein of Jordan received them in audience.

In the first place they made a study on the spot of the possibility and the ways in which the ICRC could assist the victims of the conflict in the Yemen: the wounded and prisoners of both sides.

In Baghdad, the delegate, during the course of a meeting with Mr. Hachim Jawad, Minister of Foreign Affairs, confirmed the ICRC’s offers of service on behalf of Iraqi prisoners in Kurdish hands.

The ICRC’s plans, aiming at limiting the risks incurred by the civilian population in the case of conflict, were also discussed with various leading Arab personalities.
Finally, the delegate's proposals regarding the diffusion of ICRC broadcasts on Red Cross activities on the occasion of the Centenary by Arabic transmitters were everywhere very favourably received. One can therefore count on these broadcasts taking place shortly.

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ICRC MISSION IN THE YEMEN

Following on representations made by the previous mission of its delegate in the Near East and an appeal by the representative of the Imam of the Yemen in New York, the ICRC has sent a mission to the Command of the Royalist forces in the Yemen. Consisting of Dr. Rubli and Dr. Pidermann, its immediate task was to obtain all available information on the extent and the nature of medical requirements.

After talks with the delegates, the Imam El Badr declared that he was prepared to have the essential provisions of the Geneva Conventions relative to the treatment of the wounded and military prisoners in the case of conflict applied by his troops.

Passing through Riyadh, Dr. Rubli and Dr. Pidermann were received by Prince Feisal, Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia, with whom they examined various questions relative to the accession of that country to the Geneva Conventions and to the creation of a National Red Crescent Society.

On the other hand, in answer to an invitation by the Republican Government of the Yemen, a second ICRC mission is at present on its way to Sanaa. Its task will also be to inform itself of the eventual need for the ICRC to assist the victims of the conflict.

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Asia

THE AFTERMATH OF THE SINO-INDIAN CONFLICT

At the end of last December, Mr. André Durand, ICRC Delegate General for Asia, visited camps for Indian refugees in Assam, in North-East India. He was able to talk with representatives of several groups and he estimated that there are about 15,000 victims to be resettled. There are numerous mountain people from the North-East Frontier Agency among them, and even Tibetans who have been displaced once again.
The donations which the Indian Red Cross has received from National Red Cross Societies, particularly following the appeal launched on December 4 by the League of Red Cross Societies, in co-operation with the ICRC, will enable part of the refugees' needs to be met.

On December 31, a further 108 wounded and sick Indian prisoners of war were released and handed over to the Indian Red Cross in the North-East Frontier Agency; this brings the total of repatriations effected to date to 715. The Indian Red Cross has also received lists of names for 1,131 of the 2,000 or so Indian prisoners of war remaining in Chinese hands. On December 19, the Indian Red Cross handed over to the Chinese Red Cross 2,000 parcels of foodstuffs and 2,000 parcels of clothing intended for these prisoners.

The ICRC is continuing its attempts to obtain permission to visit these prisoners of war.

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LAOS

On December 27, the ICRC delegate, Mr. Jacques Ruff, made a further visit to the camp of Dong-Dam-Douane in the Savannakhet region where about 300 Laotian civilian and military prisoners are detained.

The ICRC delegate obtained permission for the prisoners to correspond with their families on forms drawn up by the Central Tracing Agency of the International Committee. The Laotian Red Cross is looking after the forwarding of these messages and the replies of the families concerned. At the end of his visit, Mr. Ruff passed on his observations to the Laotian Authorities and requested the improvements in the internment conditions which appeared to him to be necessary.

The International Committee's delegate was received on December 30 by Prince SouvannPhouma, Prime Minister, to whom he explained that the ICRC had decided to terminate its relief action set up at the request of the Vientiane Government, in favour of Laotian refugees. The ICRC will continue its other activities on behalf of the victims of the conflict in Laos by means of temporary missions.

On December 31 and January 1, Mr. Ruff went to Paksé and Saravane where he distributed some relief supplies to refugees and among them members of the Kha tribe.

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INDONESIA

Continuing the action which the Netherlands Government requested it to undertake from the end of 1961, the ICRC recently paid a sum of 525,000 Swiss francs to the Indonesian Red Cross. These Netherlands funds are destined to pay pensions and allowances to Dutch nationals resident in Indonesia.

The ICRC thus carries out, in the humanitarian field, the activity of neutral intermediary in the absence of diplomatic and consular relations between the Netherlands and Indonesia.

PHILIPPINES

The ICRC delegate in Manila, Mr. J. W. Mittner, visited the internment camp for political detainees in September and December last. Accompanied by Dr. T. Calasanz, he handed over relief to the detainees.

GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF AUGUST 12, 1949

Ratification situation on 31.12.1962

By December 31, 1962, 91 States had expressly bound themselves (by ratification or accession) to the four Geneva Conventions of 1949. To this number should be added 18 States, recently independent, which, although not having deposited any instrument of ratification or accession, are nevertheless bound to the 1949 Conventions, by virtue of their ratification by the State which had held sovereignty over their territory. There is therefore now a total of 109 States bound by the Conventions of 1949.

Amongst the States not yet parties to these texts, 6 remain however bound by the 1929 version of these Conventions, 3 by their version of 1906 and 1 by the original Convention, the first, that of 1864.

Three States are still not bound by any treaty of international humanitarian law: Nepal, Saudi Arabia and the Yemen.

* * * *
FOUR NEW REPRINTS OF THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS IN PICTURES

In continuation of one of its principal tasks, the development of humanitarian Law and the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions, the International Committee of the Red Cross has just published its third edition of the Geneva Conventions in pictures.

It will be remembered that these booklets, already well known in Red Cross circles, include thirty illustrated pages, pocket size, each one giving commentaries in nine languages. The choice of these languages is made, in the four groups, according to geographical criteria and following an arrangement dictated by typographical considerations. In alphabetical order, these languages, divided into groups of nine in the four editions, are as follows: Arabic, Cambodian, Chinese, English, French, German, Hindi, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Kikongo, Lingala, Luba, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Swahili and Urdu.

The ICRC is pleased to see that out of 89,500 copies printed, 71,500 have been ordered. Its Information Service is at the disposal of Red Cross Societies, as well as governments, institutions and educational establishments to examine any questions relative to this booklet.

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Communiqué issued to the press

THE ICRC IN KATANGA

No 775b of January 8, 1963

In view of the fighting which has broken out again in Katanga, the International Committee of the Red Cross has undertaken as a matter of urgency the necessary measures of protection and assistance.

As soon as he arrived on the spot on December 21, 1962, Mr. G. C. Senn, delegate of the ICRC, made arrangements with the armed forces of the United Nations to enable the Katanga Red Cross and ambulance men to carry out their action, especially by the issuing of passes to its personnel and by registering ambulances at road-blocks.

On December 27, the ICRC delegate organized, with UNO and the Katanga ambulance men, the partial evacuation of the Golf district in Elisabethville. On January 3, he intervened with the authorities so that they would maintain order and prevent disturbances breaking out between tribes. These measures should encourage refugees, who find themselves, on roads leading to Rhodesia, to return to their homes. According to the ICRC delegate, the supplying of the civilian population seems assured and refugees on the Rhodesian frontier are receiving the necessary assistance, thanks to the help given by the Rhodesian Red Cross.
Continuation of the model course by Mr. Henri Coursier

the Geneva Conventions (Part, 20)

THE WOUNDED AND SICK

(First and Second Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949)

(continued)

This Convention signed on August 22, 1864 by the representatives of 12 countries (Baden, Belgium, Denmark, France, Hesse, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Prussia, Spain, Switzerland, Würtemburg) established the fundamental principle that "wounded or sick combatants, to whatever nation they may belong, must be collected and cared for" (art. 6); it safeguards and confers respect of military hospitals and ambulances, and of the personnel and equipment belonging to these units, and recognizes the red cross emblem as the protective sign for these persons and objects.

The First Geneva Convention played an important rôle in the building up of contemporary humanitarian law. As Louis Renault (Actes de la Conférence de Genève, 1906, p. 243), the French legal expert, wrote "the Geneva Convention was important and unique since it aimed at regularizing in a permanent manner a situation which until then had only been haphazard". In fact by the end of the century the Geneva Convention, multilateral and open to the accession of all the Powers, had become the expression of universal international law, whether through ratification or accession.

This Convention was revised in 1906 and again in 1929 in the light of actual experience during war. It was once more revised and completed after the Second World War, to become the First Geneva Convention of August 12, 1949.

While undertaking this revision, the plenipotentiaries of the Powers decided to reincorporate in the Geneva Laws - with the necessary amendments and additions - The Hague Convention of 1907 for the Adaptation to Maritime Warfare of the Principles of the Geneva Convention of 1906, which thus became the Second Geneva Convention of August 12, 1949 for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea.

Generally speaking this Convention is a replica of the First Convention. The same principles govern the two texts and the same rules apply to the persons and objects protected, taking into account the different conditions prevailing on land and on sea. They can therefore quite justifiably be studied together.

(to be continued)
THE ICRC CELEBRATES ITS CENTENARY

In February 1863, the Public Welfare Society of Geneva appointed a committee to study the means by which practical effect could be given to the suggestions contained in "A Memory of Solferino", the book by Henry Dunant, which had been published some months before and which had stirred the conscience of Europe. In addition to Dunant himself this Committee included General Dufour, Commander in Chief of Swiss Federal army, Gustave Moynier, a lawyer, and two doctors, Louis Appia and Théodore Maunoir.

The Committee met on February 17, 1863 and decided to set itself up as an autonomous body to be called the International Committee for the Relief of Wounded Combatants. On that day was born the organization which was to become the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The ICRC commemorated the centenary of this memorable event with a ceremony in the Aula of Geneva University. Numerous Red Cross personalities were present, as were representatives of the Swiss authorities, of various foreign governments and of international institutions. The presence of all members of the staff of the ICRC gave the event the character of a family celebration.

The President of the ICRC, Mr. Léopold Boissier, made a speech the text of which will be found at the end of the present number of this bulletin. Mr. Pierre Boissier, who is at present completing a History of the ICRC, gave a lecture on the beginnings of the Red Cross.

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A mission of the International Committee of the Red Cross has recently visited Sanaa. This is the first time that representatives of the ICRC have been to the capital of the Yemen, where they were given a warm and friendly welcome.

The delegates of the ICRC, Mr. Roger Du Pasquier and Mr. Joseph Gasser, were received by Marshal Abdallah Sallal, President of the Arab Republic of the Yemen, who undertook to have the principles of the Geneva Conventions respected. The Chief of State in principle agreed to transmit to Geneva lists of prisoners taken by his troops.

The delegates had lengthy discussions with other representatives of the Yemeni authorities, to whom they handed documentation on the Geneva Conventions. They visited the hospital of Sanaa in which treatment was given to a number of men wounded during the course of the military operations. They also had the opportunity of visiting several political detainees undergoing treatment at the hospital, amongst whom was a former Minister of the Royal Government.

The ICRC's mission in Sanaa was also intended to establish contact with the Red Crescent Society of the Yemen, which has just been constituted. The delegates had a number of talks with Mr. Mohamed Abdel Wasaa Hamid, Director General of the Society, whom they informed on the universal movement of the Red Cross, its principles and organization. The Director of the New Society showed real enthusiasm for the humanitarian ideals of the institution. The President of the Society is Mr. Ali Mohamed Safd, Minister of Health; local branches are in the process of formation at Taiz and Hodeida. A first collection of funds for the youthful Red Crescent has already given most encouraging results.

One of the mission's most important aims was to collect information on the urgent relief supplies, especially of a medical nature, which the Yemeni Republic hoped to receive by reason of the present events. In this connection the delegates observed that whilst the number of doctors was adequate, there often was an acute shortage of pharmaceutical products and medical equipment. They brought back with them to Geneva a list of medicines and equipment which the Sanaa authorities hoped would be rapidly despatched, in order to be able to care for the increasing number of victims of the fighting in the northern and eastern areas of the country.

During their mission, the delegates stopped in Cairo, where they had cordial talks with Mr. Asfahany, Secretary-General, and with other leading members of the Red Crescent of the United Arab Republic. They also called at Aden, where they were welcomed by the local branch of the British Red Cross.

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Yemen
Medical Mission to the Royalist side

Meanwhile the ICRC has maintained its contacts with the Royalist Yemeni authorities opposed to the Republican regime in Sanaa, with a view to bringing medical assistance to the wounded on the northern frontiers of the Yemen. After the first mission of two representatives of the ICRC, Dr. Rubli and Dr. Pidermann, who had gone at the end of December to the Yemeni - Saudi Arabian border to assess needs, a further mission proceeded to Saudi Arabia, where it made contact with Prince Abderrahman ben Yahya, a cousin of the Imam El Badr, with Mr. Ahmed El Shami, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and other representatives of the Royalist Government. The Yemeni personalities who met the ICRC delegates, confirmed their intention to transmit to Geneva the customary information regarding prisoners captured in the fighting. This mission, which consisted of Mr. Pierre Gaillard, delegate, Dr. Bruno Beretta, doctor, and Mr. Ibrahim Zreikat, interpreter, studied the possibility of sending medical teams to the Royalist forces of the Yemen, which have hitherto been entirely devoid of medical services. The delegates of the ICRC also had talks with Mr. Omar Sakkaf, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia, who promised to grant all the necessary facilities to the Red Cross mission.

Dr. Beretta subsequently went to Najran, a village in Saudi Arabia, near the Yemen frontier, in which a hospital is located. He was accompanied by Dr. Mahmoud Amr, of the Jordan Red Crescent, a Society which is considering supplying a medical team.

An appeal by the ICRC on behalf of Yemen

Following on these various missions, the ICRC has just sent out to several Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, an appeal on behalf of the victims of the present conflict in the Yemen. The appeal is aimed at obtaining the co-operation of a number of medical teams who might work on the Royalist side. It also asks for contributions, financial or in kind, in order to be able to have sorely needed medicines and medical equipment sent to the Republican side. The ICRC is considered sending a further mission to Sanaa in order to assure the distribution of this relief.

A blank has been filled in on the map

This intervention by the ICRC in the Arabian peninsula marks an important date in the history of the Red Cross movement. In fact until now Saudi Arabia and the Yemen were amongst the very few countries of the world which had not acceded to the Geneva Conventions and did not possess a National Red Cross or Red Crescent Society. Now, not only does a Red Crescent Society exist henceforth in the Yemen, but during the course of the ICRC missions,
both Marshal Sallal as well as the Imam El Badr have declared their willingness to respect the principles of the Conventions. Furthermore, the Emir Faisal, Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia, also expressed to the representatives of the ICRC his intention to accede to the Geneva Conventions and to form a Red Crescent Society in his country. Thus, one blank which hitherto existed on the world Red Cross map is in the process of being filled in.

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Sino-Indian conflict

ICRC STEPS ON BEHALF OF INDIAN PRISONERS

The Indian Red Cross has recently sent the ICRC Central Tracing Agency a further list of Indian prisoners in Chinese hands with the information that 1,131 prisoners had been captured by Chinese troops up to November 16, 1962. 2,188 Indian soldiers were captured subsequent to this date and the Chinese Red Cross has begun sending the relevant lists. To these figures must be added 716 wounded and sick handed over to the Indian Red Cross, with the bodies of 13 other Indians. More than 3,000 Indian troops would still appear to be detained by China.

On February 7, 1963, the President of the ICRC sent a telegram to Marshall Tchen-Yi, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, asking him to authorize ICRC delegates to visit Indian prisoners, in conformity with the Third Geneva Convention, to which China is a party. On this occasion the President pointed out that the ICRC delegate had been authorized to visit Chinese detained on Indian territory and that relief had been sent to them by the International Committee.

The Chinese Minister for Foreign Affairs replied on February 18, giving the ICRC some information on the measures taken by China to ensure good treatment for Indian prisoners. While protesting against the internment of various Chinese nationals in India, the Chinese Government declared that all problems concerning Indian prisoners must be settled direct between the two countries.

It appears however that although diplomatic relations have been maintained, representatives of the Indian Embassy in Peking have not yet been able to visit Indian prisoners of war. Similarly Chinese diplomats accredited in India have not visited Chinese civilian internees.

The ICRC, while noting with satisfaction the information supplied by the Chinese authorities, has renewed its request for the delegates to visit Indian prisoners.

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Laos

DISTRIBUTION OF RELIEF SUPPLIES TO CHILDREN

From India, the delegate general of the ICRC in the Far East, Mr. André Durand, has travelled to Vientiane, capital of Laos, and then to South Viet Nam. Mr. Jacques Ruff, delegate in Laos, visited Plaine des Jarres, during January and distributed relief to children gathered in a mission. He also sought information on missing persons.

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Japan

REPATRIATION OF KOREANS

On January 28, the 102nd boat-load of Koreans wishing to leave Japan for their country of origin, sailed from Niigata. There were 228 people on board. 78,504 people have now been repatriated under the auspices of the ICRC.

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Congo

THE ICRC DELEGATE GENERAL IN LEOPOLDVILLE
AND ELISABETHVILLE

Mr. Georges Hoffmann, ICRC Delegate General in Equatorial and Southern Africa, who is stationed in Salisbury (Southern Rhodesia), has been to Elisabethville and Leopoldville. He was received by the authorities and contacted the directors of the local Congolese Red Cross and was thus able to make a useful study of Red Cross methods of action in the Congo.

Military and political prisoners visited

Mrs. Jeanne Egger, ICRC representative in Leopoldville has received permission to visit N'Dolo prison near the Congolese capital, where amongst others, several former members of the South Kasai Government are being held.
The ICRC delegate in Katanga, Mr. Geoffrey C. Senn has received permission to visit prisoners captured by the Katangan forces during their recent withdrawal. Amongst other places, he visited the prison at Kolwezi at the end of January, where he obtained the release of 15 military and 9 civilians detained for political reasons. Mr. Senn has also visited the prison of Kasapa.

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Poland and Czechoslovakia

ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS OF PSEUDO-MEDICAL EXPERIMENTS

A further mission of the International Committee of the Red Cross, consisting of Mr. Jean-Pierre Maunoir, delegate, and Mr. Jacques de Rougemont, doctor-delegate, went to Poland in January, to examine a new group of victims of pseudo-medical experiments practiced in German concentration camps under the Nazi regime. It will be recalled that the ICRC, at the request of the government of the German Federal Republic, accepted to act as intermediary in the transmission of financial assistance which that government wishes to have reach the victims of such experiments residing in countries with which it does not maintain diplomatic relations.

The new group of victims examined by the delegates had been previously selected by the Polish Red Cross. In close co-operation with that Society, Dr. de Rougemont examined each case in that group, namely about a hundred in all. He expressed his opinion upon the merits of the claims submitted and drew up a report for the neutral commission which will meet in Geneva in March to determine the amount of compensation in proportion to the extent of suffering caused by these experiments and of damage still being incurred as a result.

Mr. Maunoir then visited Prague where he studied with the Czechoslovak Red Cross and the National Association of War Veterans the possibility of transmitting similar indemnities to Czech victims of pseudo-medical experiments.

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Communiqué issued to the press

ICRC MISSION TO ALGIERS

No 776b of February 18, 1963

The International Committee of the Red Cross has instructed one of its vice-presidents, Mr. S. Gonard, former army corps commander, to go to Algiers. The aim of Mr. Gonard's mission is to fix, in agreement with the Algerian Government, the action which the ICRC might undertake to clear up the fate of persons missing in Algeria since March 19, 1962, and also on behalf of persons presently detained following the conflict.

The ICRC representative will be received by Mr. Ben Bella, President of the Algerian Government. He will be accompanied on the trip by Mr. Jacques de Heller, assistant-delegate.
CENTENARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
OF THE RED CROSS

Speech by President Boissier at the Ceremony on February 18, commemorating the meeting of the Committee of Five

The International Committee of the Red Cross wishes to thank the large number of persons who have responded to its appeal and have come here to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of its foundation.

Mr. Pierre Boissier will shortly be describing to you how this work began, reminding you how much the whole world owes to the five men of Geneva who created the Red Cross. Did they not accomplish, with astonishing courage and tenacity, the two great ideas of their colleague Henry Dunant: the declaration of legal principles leading, on the one hand, to the protection of the victims of war and, on the other hand, to the forming of National Societies whose task it was to assist the Army Medical Services in the theatre of hostilities? Furthermore, by constituting themselves as an International Committee, they foresaw that it could carry out the dual rôle of a neutral and impartial body which would propagate and develop humanitarian law and also send delegates to places in which fighting was taking place who would see to the application of this law. The principles and the action would thus be complementary.

Our century has given itself over with relentlessly weakening sometimes even destroying those noble ideas which had ripened in the previous hundred years, the inevitable arrival of democracy and the respect for the individual, universal brotherhood, the necessary sequel to scientific progress, a general peace assured by arbitration and by the rule of law.

But the basic ideas carried into effect by the Red Cross have been neither forgotten nor treated with contempt. On the contrary, they have survived every catastrophe, they have been affirmed in the face of all obstacles, they have imposed themselves on governments and, above all, they
have made it possible to meet countless appeals from suffering humanity. The
impulse given to the movement by Dunant and his friends has never halted.

Protection was given first of all to combatants in the field by
the Ist Geneva Convention signed in 1864, then in 1899 to combatants at sea,
to prisoners of war by the IIIrd Convention in 1929, and finally, after revision
in 1949, this was extended to civilian victims of all conflicts.

Modesty prevents me from calling it the Red Cross triumphant
in the face of tasks constantly being renewed. Two world wars have multiplied
these tasks beyond all expectation. Then, after the turmoil of great battles,
the present disorder and instability have created new situations, generating
revolutions, internal conflicts, encounters which have often degenerated into
strife in which countless lives have been lost. Here again the International
Committee has intervened, whether appeals have been made for its services,
or whether it has acted by virtue of a right of initiative universally recognized.

In many cases, the Committee's mission consists in bringing aid
to men who have rebelled against a government which regards itself as
legitimate and considers that it is within its rights in repressing with severity
attempts made at overthrowing the established order. However, these rebels,
these insurgents, are not handed over to the mercy of the authorities. The
International Committee sees to it that a minimum of guarantees is accorded
to them, so that, in spite of the charges made against them, they may enjoy
humane treatment. By interposing itself between a government and its
nationals, the International Committee may thus penetrate the sovereignty
of a State and open up hopeful perspectives to civilised conduct and to the
rules of international law.

I can only mention here some of the countries on whose territory
the Committee's delegates have taken action:

In Africa, Algeria, the Congo, Kenya; in Asia, the Lebanon, the
Yemen, India, during the division of the peninsula into two separate States,
in North and South Viet Nam, Korea, Indonesia and in several States of Central
America.

Its delegates have everywhere accomplished the most varied
tasks: to care for the wounded and sick, to visit and give comfort to prisoners,
to obtain the release of hostages, reunite dispersed families, assure medical
treatment to stricken populations, lend their help to refugees to enable them
to lead decent lives and, if possible, for them to return to their homes, in
short, to do everything which is in line with their heavy duties.

For, so many principles affirmed, so many appeals made to
the solidarity of peoples, so many approaches made to governments, finally
lead to something which is very concrete, something which one can see, touch
and hear, men, women and children who are suffering and to whom the envoy
from Geneva brings healing and solace. The consequence of this is that those
who should testify today, much more than I myself or my colleagues, are
those countless beings who have seen the doors of their prisons half-opened, a
hand offering them bread or milk, a look restoring some hope to them.

Ladies and Gentlemen, if the International Committee of the
Red Cross has been able to do what it has done for the past hundred years,
it is thanks to the support it has found throughout the world and which one
should not forget.

Gentlemen, representatives of the Cantonal authorities, you
should know what a debt the Committee owes to the Swiss people which has
constantly given it such moral and material support, supplying it with devoted
personnel and its delegates who have often sacrificed themselves as far as
death itself, serving the two crosses at the same time, the white on red and
the red on a white ground.

Gentlemen, diplomatic and consular representatives of foreign
States, it was on your territories upon which the Committee was called upon
to act. Your governments have understood that our institution was inspired
by three fundamental principles without which it would remain without force
and without authority, namely, independence, impartiality and neutrality.
That is why the Geneva Conventions have nearly everywhere found their
benevolent application. Did not the United Nations only recently, during the
Cuban crisis, ask the Committee to help them preserve the world from the
horrors of an atomic war?

Gentlemen, representatives of international institutions
established in Geneva, I have pleasure in asserting that the International
Committee has had sympathy and understanding from you, and when this was
required, most fruitfull co-operation. Your efforts to ensure a lasting peace and to build a better world fully/accord with the United Nations Charter which is itself an act of vigilance and faith.

Finally, may I thank the National Red Cross Societies, recognized one after another by the Committee, and their federal body the League of Red Cross Societies, for the help they have given the Committee and the ever-expanding work which they are accomplishing.

I have said enough. We are celebrating today an anniversary which all peoples without exception can commemorate without ulterior motives. The work continues and history will inscribe the names of new victories on its banner which has remained immaculate.
Yemen

REPRESENTATIONS ON BEHALF OF PRISONERS

The International Committee of the Red Cross has just received from the Saudi Arabian authorities a further list of prisoners captured by the Royalist Yemeni forces fighting to re-establish the Imam El Badr on the throne of Sanaa. This list comprises the names of 24 Egyptian military personnel. These, after having been captured on Yemen territory, were handed over to the Saudi Arabian authorities who interned them in conformity with international practice. Dr. Beretta, delegate of the ICRC, to whom the list was handed, took steps to enable him to visit these prisoners.

On the Republican Yemeni side, Mr. Abdel Wasaa Hamid, Director General of the Red Crescent recently founded in Sanaa, informed the ICRC that he had made further representations in order to obtain from all military commanders lists of Royalist fighters captured by the Republican forces. During the ICRC's recent mission in Sanaa, he declared to its delegates that most of the prisoners taken in action had been released and that it was therefore difficult to draw up lists. He has now informed Geneva that the three prisoners of Saudi Arabian origin, whose names he had given to the delegates, had also been allowed to leave the prison at Sanaa, and were able to move freely in the Republican capital.

Contributions to the ICRC relief action

In response to the appeal which it recently launched on behalf of the victims of the conflict in the Yemen, the ICRC has received favourable replies from eight National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. These have declared themselves prepared to make contributions in cash or in kind available to the International Committee, which will make possible the despatch of medicines.
and bandaging equipment. There is, on the other hand, still a lack of medical personnel for the wounded in the Imam's forces.

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Saudi Arabia

THE FORMATION OF A RED CRESCENT SOCIETY
IN SIGHT

As we have previously mentioned, the Saudi Arabian authorities had informed the ICRC representatives of their intention to promote the creation of a National Red Crescent Society in the Kingdom. This would seem to be likely to materialize in the near future. In fact, the "Saudi Weekly Newsletter", issued by the Directorate General of Broadcasting, Press and Publications, has recently announced that the establishment of a Red Crescent Society was being studied at Djeddah.

The Society, states the Newsletter, will work to improve public health in the country. "Its mission will be the same as that carried out by similar institutions in the world.

"Amongst other things, it will establish a "Blood Bank" and offer first aid in cases of emergency. If all goes well, it may join the International Red Cross in the future.

"The idea of establishing a Red Crescent in Jedda has had a favourable echo in other parts of the country. In Riyadh, scores of letters have been pouring to the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs asking for a Red Crescent being established in the city as soon as possible. On his part the Minister pledged to offer every help possible to realise this objective. On the other hand, quite a number of well-to-do people expressed their wish to contribute their share towards this scheme. In Dammam, the population were not less enthusiastic. Signs are suggesting that before long, a Red Crescent Association will see the light in the province".

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Algeria

SETTING UP OF A SPECIAL ICRC DELEGATION

Following on the agreement made between the Algerian Government and the International Committee of the Red Cross, the latter has appointed
Mr. Claude Pilloud, Deputy Director for General Affairs, as head of its special mission in Algeria to set the action on foot. From the beginning of April the special delegation of the ICRC will be directed by Mr. B.R. de Halle. As has been stated in a previous communiqué (see p. 8), the ICRC concluded an agreement with Mr. Ben Bella's Government during the visit to Algiers by its Vice-President, Mr. Samuel Gonard.

Mr. Pilloud has just been to Algiers, where he has prepared the setting up of the special delegation. This will comprise some twenty members, some of whom have already started to arrive. Meanwhile, the ICRC, to which the recently concluded agreement has entrusted the task of visiting places of detention in Algeria and of trying to discover the fate of persons missing after the cease-fire, continues to receive numerous enquiries concerning persons whose relatives have lost trace of them.

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Sub-Equatorial Africa

THE ICRC DELEGATE GENERAL IN THE CONGO AND SOUTH AFRICA

The International Committee's Delegate General in Sub-Equatorial Africa, Mr. Georges Hoffmann, recently went to Leopoldville to contact the Congolese authorities. He was received by Mr. Cyril Adoula, Head of the Government, and by Mr. Justin Bomboko, Minister for Foreign Affairs.

After a short stay in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, Mr. Hoffmann left for the Republic of South Africa. He visited the chief towns in the country where he made contact with the directors and members of the South African Red Cross. At Cape Town, he met several members of the Government, among them Mr. Eric Louw, Minister of External Affairs.

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Congo

VISITS TO MILITARY AND POLITICAL DETAINEES

Accompanied by two doctors, one appointed by the Congolese Government and the other belonging to the Swiss Medical Unit in the Congo, Mr. Geoffroy C. Senn, Delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, recently visited former members of the constabularies of Katanga and South Kasai detained in N'dolo prison in Leopoldville. The delegate also visited some political detainees at Makala prison. The ICRC Delegate then went to Stanleyville where he visited Katangan military prisoners detained
in the prison of Kongo-Kongo 3 miles from the town. He also visited Stanleyville Central Prison.

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Laos

THE END OF THE ICRC's RELIEF ACTION

The International Committee of the Red Cross has just terminated the relief action which it has been carrying out in Laos since December 1960. On that date, Mr. André Durand, Delegate General for South-East Asia, intervened on behalf of the victims of the hostilities which had broken out in Vientiane.

Subsequently, the ICRC, acting at the request of the Royal Laotian Government, undertook from July 1961 onwards, a large relief action on behalf of different groups of victims of events, and particularly of refugees who had left the danger areas. At the beginning of this year, the ICRC Delegate, Mr. Jacques Ruff, realized that the Laotian authorities were now in a position to deal themselves with the refugees who, in any case no longer raise such a serious problem as hitherto. The ICRC has therefore decided to terminate this activity.

However, before leaving Laos, Mr. Ruff carried out various other important tasks and in particular, visited numerous political prisoners to whom he handed over relief supplies. He obtained permission for them to correspond with their families and to receive parcels from them. Shortly before his departure, he also visited Dong Dam Douane internment camp in Savannakhet.

Just before leaving Laos, Mr. Ruff received a letter of thanks from Prince Souvanna Phouma, the Prime Minister. We quote the principal passages:

"Allow me, before you finally leave Laos for your native country, to pay tribute to the humanitarian and welfare actions you have accomplished here over several months and, through you, to express the sincere thanks and the profound gratitude of the Government and of the Laotian people to the International Committee of the Red Cross, which by its active presence, by its moral and material help, has alleviated the suffering of refugees and of the innocent victims of hostilities.

I sincerely hope that the International Committee of the Red Cross may be able to continue its traditional activities in Laos since the situation there has not completely returned to normal.

To you, yourself, I say farewell and a pleasant journey. I hope you will take with you happy memories of my country where you have done so much and where, by your work, your kindness and your courage, you have
attracted much sympathy and friendship".

Mr. Quinim Fholsena, Minister for Foreign Affairs, wrote a letter to Mr. Ruff saying, among other things:

"The suffering engendered by the war on our soil has been greatly relieved thanks to the efforts which you have made on behalf of the International Committee of the Red Cross. We know the difficulties which you have encountered and we are all the more appreciative of the task which you have accomplished".

The Laotian Red Cross organized a "baci" in the ICRC Delegate's honour. This is a typically Laotian celebration, intended to express the affection felt for someone whose departure is regretted. This celebration, which took place at the residence of Dr. Oudom Souvannavong, President of the Laotian Red Cross, was the occasion for the members of the Society, to show their attachment to Mr. Ruff and to the ICRC.

From now on the ICRC will send temporary missions to Laos. Its representatives will thus continue to visit political detainees and help the Laotian Red Cross and to direct other activities such as tracing missing persons and resettling families.

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THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRAL TRACING AGENCY IN 1962

During the past year, the Central Tracing Agency of the International Committee of the Red Cross received 44,000 communications and sent out 35,000. It dealt with 60,500 cases and opened 15,700 enquiries with National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, government offices, Civil Service Departments, the International Tracing Service, etc., about 42% of which led to positive results.

Amongst the cases dealt with, a certain number still concerned victims of the Second World War. As is known, it is a question, on the one hand, of finding traces of civilians and military persons missing during the conflict, of establishing proof of their death and of finding where they are buried, and on the other hand, of supplying those who ask with certificates of captivity, hospitalization or decease.

The Central Agency has also had to deal with tasks imposed upon it by current events and it has thus continued its enquiries in North Africa to trace missing civilians and military. In the same way, the events in the Congo, Laos, Indonesia, Goa, the Middle East etc., have necessitated opening enquiries and transmitting family messages. The number of messages transmitted has risen to more than 10,500.
It should be added that the Central Agency has continued, as in previous years, to devote a great deal of its attention to family resettlement in Europe and in countries overseas.

This rapid summary only gives a rough picture of the multiplicity of the Central Agency’s complicated and delicate tasks. But it should be emphasized that it is greatly encouraged by the results obtained, thanks, particularly to the co-operation of National Societies.

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THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES GIVES THE ICRC A GRAMOPHONE RECORD

Mr. Léopold Boissier, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, was the first person in Geneva to receive the "All Star Festival" record from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. This record, the profits of which are for refugees, was handed to the President of the ICRC by Dr. P. Weiss, Legal Adviser, and Mrs. Bierens de Hahn, on behalf of the High Commissioner.

The "All Star Festival" long-playing record was made by front-line stars who gave their services free: Louis Armstrong, Bing Crosby, Maurice Chevalier, Nat King Cole, Doris Day, Ella Fitzgerald, Mahalia Jackson, Nana Mouskouri, Patti Page, Los Paraguayos, Edith Piaf, Ann Shelton, Caterina Valente. This unique group of great artists was selected by Yul Brynner, who has already shown his devotion to the cause of refugees on a number of occasions. The fact that the President of the ICRC was the first person to receive the record can be interpreted as a tribute to the Red Cross for the activities which it has been carrying out for so long on behalf of refugees in the most varied regions of the world. The ICRC wishes this remarkable effort by the United Nations High Commissioner for refugees all the success which it deserves.

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ICRC Centenary

THE ICRC CONFERRED ITS COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL ON THE NATIONAL SOCIETIES

On the occasion of the Centenary of its foundation, the International Committee of the Red Cross has conferred its silver-gilt medal on the ninety National Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies. This medal has a bass-relief representing male-nurses tending the wounded, and the motto "Inter Arma Caritas". It is 6 cms. in diameter and weighs 100 grammes net.

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BBC Television film

"THE THIRD FRONT"

THE STORY OF THE CENTENARY OF THE RED CROSS

The British Broadcasting Corporation has just published the following communique:

"The Third Front" (BBC-tv, Sunday, March 10) is a documentary programme telling the story of the first hundred years of the International Red Cross. The commentary has been written by journalist Wilfred Greatorex who has written several drama documentaries for the BBC, and is spoken by David Dimbleby. The producer is Alan Sleath who with Greatorex visited the headquarters of the International Red Cross in Geneva and spent some time on research. The History of the Red Cross up to the present time is told with the aid of stills, early documents and some rare archive material; two versions have been made, a sixty minute version which will be shown on BBC-tv, and a fifty minute international version for dubbing in foreign languages to be available to the rest of the world.

The title of "The Third Front" derives from "Le Troisième Combatant", the autobiography of the famous Red Cross Delegate, Dr. Marcel Junod, whose work took him into Ethiopia and Spain in the 1930s and across many frontiers during the Second World War. He writes in his book; "There are never more than two adversaries engaged in battle. But these adversaries are apt to find that suddenly in their midst is a third combatant - a warrior without weapons,"

Today the Third Front, numbering over 127 million people of different races, religions and beliefs, is in action nursing, feeding, clothing and housing the victims of disaster wherever they may be.

The founder of the Red Cross was Henri Dunant, a young Genevese banker who set out to see Napoleon III on a private matter and came on the Battle of Solferino. The horror and misery he saw inspired a book, in which he wrote of a dying sergeant who told him "If I had been looked after sooner, I might have lived. And now by evening I shall be dead". Thenceforth Dunant determined to campaign for adequate medical services in the field and an organisation "which will automatically go into action in every conflict - everywhere".

From Dunant's idea sprang the International Committee of Swiss citizens, whose work has included the promotion of the humanitarian laws of war, the Geneva Conventions, of which the Committee is guardian, and which have had a considerable influence on most countries in the terrible wars of the twentieth century.

While the International Committee concerns itself with Acts of War, its sister body, the League, concerns itself with Acts of God. The League was founded in 1919 to co-ordinate peacetime activities. Almost 100 National Societies are federated into the League of Red Cross, Red Crescent, and Red Lion and Sun Societies situated in Geneva. Also in Geneva is the Prisoner of War Tracing Agency, still at work nearly twenty years after the last war, and in Germany, the International Tracing Agency, dealing with queries about deported and displaced persons from World War II. "For a hundred years" says
Wilfred Greatorex, "the Red Cross has been caring for the wounded, for the sick, feeding and sheltering the hungry and homeless, and reuniting families. To many the symbol of the Red Cross has meant life - thousands of men, women and children have lived because they were looked after soon enough".

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Communique issued to the press

NEW TASKS ENTRUSTED TO THE ICRC IN ALGERIA

No 777b of February 26, 1963

Mr. S. Gonard, commanding an Army Corps, Vice-President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, returned on February 25 from Algiers, where, accompanied by Mr. Roger Vust, resident delegate and Mr. Jacques de Heller, assistant-delegate, he had a series of talks with Mr. Ben Bella, President of the Algerian Government, and with several of his ministers. These talks dealt with the ways in which will be carried out the forthcoming tasks entrusted in Algeria to the ICRC, which will visit persons detained for acts committed in connection with the recent conflict and will attempt to discover the fate of those who have disappeared since the cease-fire.

After these discussions, Mr. Ben Bella and Mr. Gonard signed an agreement by which the Algerian Government undertook to give the ICRC every facility for the accomplishment of its task. The head of the government gave the assurance that the teams of the ICRC would be able to circulate freely on all Algerian territory. This ICRC mission follows recent Franco-Algerian talks as well as representations which the ICRC itself had been making since last autumn. It will start as soon as possible.

As a preliminary measure and with the special authorization of Mr. Ben Bella, Mr. Gonard was able to visit the Maison-Carrée prison near Algiers on February 21. He spoke freely there with large numbers of detainees.

The representatives of the ICRC also met Mr. Mustapha Kermia, President of the Algerian Red Crescent, with whom they reviewed the various problems facing the new National Society in the process of formation and examined methods of helping it in its development.

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Continuation of the model course by Mr. Henri Coursier

the Geneva Conventions (Part, 21)

1. Protection of the Wounded and Sick

a) PROTECTION AND CARE

In both Conventions Article 12 lays down "members of the armed forces and other persons mentioned in the following Article", who are wounded, sick or shipwrecked, "shall be respected and protected in all circumstances. Who are these "other persons"? They are first of all those who follow the armed forces without directly belonging to them, such as the civilian members of military aircraft crews, journalists, war correspondents, contractors, members of labour units or of services responsible for the welfare of soldiers or sailors. But to enjoy this protection, all these persons must have been authorized by the armed forces to accompany them. Armed civilians generally known as "partisans" are also included.

Furthermore, the inhabitants of a non-occupied territory, who on the approach of the enemy, spontaneously take up arms to resist the invading forces, without having had the time to form themselves into regular armed units, also come under the Convention, provided they carry arms openly and respect the laws and customs of war.

There is no definition of the words "wounded" and "sick" in any part of the Convention. From the time of the First Geneva Convention, this was left to common sense and good faith. A definition of these terms is given in the Commentary on the First Convention. They refer to persons "who have fallen by reason of a wound or sickness of any kind, or who have ceased to fight and laid down their arms as a consequence of what they themselves think about their health (Cases are frequent of soldiers who have heroically continued to fight in spite of serious wounds. It goes without saying that in so doing they renounce any claim to protection under the Convention), It is the fact of falling or laying down of arms which constitutes the claim to protection. It is only the soldier who is himself seeking to kill who may be killed. The abandonment of all aggressiveness should put an end to aggression. (Commentary I, p. 136)

The wounded and sick who have laid down their arms become prisoners of war, (I, 14 - II, 16). They thus benefit at one and the same time by the provisions of the First Convention and the Status of Prisoners of War (Third Geneva Convention of August 12, 1949).

In virtue of humanitarian principles, they are to be treated and cared for, i.e., it is prohibited to murder or exterminate them, to subject them to torture, or to biological experiments, wilfully leave them without medical assistance and care, exposed to the risk of contagion or infection.
They will be cared for on the principle of equality, i.e., without
discrimination as regards nationality, race, political or other opinions. Only
urgent medical reasons authorise priority in the order of treatment to be
administered and women are to be treated with all the consideration due to
their sex.

(to be continued)
Algeria

THE ICRC SPECIAL MISSION HAS STARTED ITS ACTIVITY

The special mission of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Algeria has started its work which consists in visiting places of detention and enquiring into the fate of persons missing since the cease-fire. Most of the twenty or so members are already in position. Mr. Claude Pilloud, deputy director at the ICRC, who is provisionally leading the delegation, has sent a team of delegates to Orléansville and another to Oran. Practical work has already begun in these two towns.

As soon as all teams have been placed in position, Mr. Pilloud will return to Geneva. Mr. Bertrand de Haller, Judge at the Court of First Instance in Lausanne, has been appointed to succeed him.

The delegation's task is likely to be extremely difficult from the outset. Indeed, searches are very complicated, due to the fact that these are being made many months after disappearances. However, the delegates will spare no effort to obtain positive results, and the Algerian authorities, on their side, are determined to give their full support to the ICRC.
Yemen

THE ACTION OF THE ICRC ON BEHALF OF THE VICTIMS
OF THE CONFLICT

Some ten National Societies have responded positively to the ICRC appeal on behalf of the victims of the conflict in the Yemen. The Red Lion and Sun Society of Iran and the Swiss Red Cross have each offered a medical team. Other National Societies have offered contributions in cash or in kind and, in particular, considerable quantities of medicaments.

From the Royalist side, Dr. Bruno Beretta, doctor-delegate of the ICRC is continuing his preparations for the relief action to the wounded, who have so far been entirely lacking in medical attention. He has made arrangements for the forthcoming reception of the first medical teams.

On the Republican side, another ICRC doctor-delegate, Dr. Jürg Beer is expected to arrive shortly. He has just left Geneva for Sanaa, taking with him a consignment of emergency medicaments. He will work in the Yemeni capital in close co-operation with the Red Crescent which has recently been founded under the prompting of Mr. Mohamed Abdel Wasaa Hamid, Director General. The latter, since the first ICRC mission arrived a few weeks ago in Sanaa, has remained in regular contact with Geneva and has already shown the attachment of his young Society to the ideals of the universal Red Cross movement.

We would also mention that a medical team of the Red Crescent of the United Arab Republic, composed of two doctors and two male nurses, has already arrived in Sanaa with one lot of medicaments and medical equipment.

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Irak

OFFER OF SERVICE BY THE ICRC TO THE IRAQI
RED CRESCENT

Recent events in Irak have prompted a number of requests for intervention by the International Committee of the Red Cross. It has, according to custom, offered its services to the Iraqi Red Crescent in Baghdad. However, that National Society replied to the
ICRC to the effect that its intervention was not necessary for the time being.

* * *

**Congo**

**RELEASE OF DETAINED MILITARY AND CIVILIANS**

During the course of a recent visit to the prison of N'dolo, Mrs. Egger, representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross, was able to note that, as a result of repeated interventions, all military personnel and civilians from Katanga, as well as two politicians from South Kasai detained in that prison had been released.

The representative of the ICRC also made representations on behalf of several European military in the service of Katanga held by UNO forces. Of these, six have recently been released.

It is hoped to be able to be present at further releases in Stanleyville shortly. In fact, following on the visit which he has just made to the prison of Kongq-Kongq, near that town, Mr. G.C. Senn, ICRC delegate, has made approaches to the Congolese authorities for the release of Katanga gendarmes who are at present being held there.

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**Mozambique**

**VISIT BY THE DELEGATE GENERAL OF THE ICRC**

Mr. Georges Hoffmann, delegate general of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Sub-Equatorial Africa, has recently arrived in Mozambique. The object of his visit is to make official contact with the Portuguese authorities of that territory, as well as with the leading personalities of the local Red Cross branch. Several weeks ago, Mr. Hoffmann stopped in Lisbon where the authorities assured him that he would be extremely welcome in the Portuguese African territories.

* * *
FOR THE DISSEMINATION OF THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS

THE ICRC ORGANIZES A COMPETITION IN AFRICA

The International Committee of the Red Cross has decided to publish an illustrated pamphlet on the Geneva Conventions especially adapted to the African mentality. This publication will comprise some fifteen illustrations dealing with the most important precepts of the Conventions. So that the pamphlet conforms as much as possible to African minds, the ICRC has decided to entrust the illustrations to an African artist. It has therefore opened a competition from amongst students of the Leopoldville School of Arts and from the equivalent establishment in Brazzaville. Each competitor has been asked to submit three drawings and the winner will then illustrate the whole work.

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Nepal

THE ACTIVITY OF THE ICRC ON BEHALF OF TIBETAN REFUGEES

The International Committee of the Red Cross is continuing, in accordance with the various programmes it has drawn up, its activity on behalf of Tibetan refugees in Nepal which it is preparing to terminate at the end of May. Other institutions will then take its place.

Latterly, the ICRC delegation in Nepal has recorded a certain decrease in the number of refugees under its charge. Thus at the handicraft centre at Katmandu there were 342 persons of whom 200 were working actively at the end of February. Medical aid and food were given to 318 refugees, as opposed to 750 in October 1962, at the Hyangja-Pokhara reception and transit camp. Work is progressing satisfactorily at the agricultural settlement of Dhor Patan. 170 persons have been permanently established so far on its 50 acres of reclaimed land, growing wheat, oats, barley, potatoes and vegetables. At Chialsa-Solu (East Nepal) 340 children are at school, 86 persons are employed in a handicraft centre and regular feeding is given to 98 sick, old people and children, who are incapable of working.

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New situation on the Indian frontier

In January 1963, the delegation had to face a new situation. Having been informed of the sudden arrival of several thousand Tibetan refugees on the Indian frontier in the Terrai (Bhairawa-Buwal region), it sent its delegates to the spot. Since it was a question of persons who had never previously requested aid from the Red Cross, and observing that their situation was most precarious, the ICRC decided to come to their assistance. It drew more than 30,000 kgs. of food supplies (oil, beans, flour, powdered milk) from surplus stocks placed at the disposal of the International Committee by the United States Government and distributed them to the neediest of the refugees. This aid will continue as long as the situation demands it, until food stocks are exhausted.

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Viet Nam

ICRC REPRESENTATIONS AT SAIGON

Mr. André Durand, delegate general of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Asia, has just completed a lengthy stay in Saigon, in order to study humanitarian problems raised by the conflict at present taking place in the Republic of Viet Nam. He concerned himself especially with the position of persons detained by reason of the events, as well as with the regrouping of dispersed families.

The representative of the ICRC was welcomed by Dr. Pham-van-Hat, President of the Vietnam Red Cross and by the principal leaders of that Society. He also had the opportunity of meeting Mr. Vu-van-Mau, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, as well as the Secretaries of State for the Interior and for Health.

Mr. Durand returned to his post in Tokyo during the first fortnight in March. However, the ICRC proposes to continue taking steps in the capital of the Republic of Viet Nam with a view to obtaining authorization to visit persons prosecuted or interned on account of the conflict.

On the other hand, the ICRC has received a series of protests concerning the alleged employment by the Vietnamese armed forces, supported by the United States, of toxic chemicals in the struggle against the insurgents. Acting in conformity with a resolution of the International Conference of the Red Cross of August 1948 at Stockholm, the ICRC has submitted these protests to the Red Cross of Viet Nam. The text of this resolution reads as follows:
The XVIIth International Conference of the Red Cross,

considers that the International Committee of the Red Cross should continue to transmit protests it may receive concerning alleged violations of the Conventions,

emphasizes the duty of national Societies to forward these protests to their Governments,

recommends that National Societies do all in their power to ensure that their Governments make a thorough investigation, the results of which shall be communicated without delay to the International Committee of the Red Cross.

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THE PHILIPPINE RED CROSS BESTOWS ITS SILVER MEDAL ON THE ICRC

To commemorate the Centenary of the universal institution of the Red Cross, the Philippine National Red Cross Society has drawn up an impressive programme including different celebrations which will last until December.

The first of these celebrations was a large reception organized in Manila, on January 29. During the banquet, the ICRC delegate in the Philippines, Mr. John Mittner, was invited to unveil a large portrait of Henry Dunant which will now hang in the Central Headquarters of the National Society. At the same time, the governors of the Philippine Red Cross bestowed their commemorative medal on the ICRC. Mr. Mittner received it on behalf of the Committee. This Commemorative medal is in oxydized silver, and bears the Centenary emblem, and the motto of the Red Cross inscribed in Tagalog. During this reception, the President of the Philippines, Mr. Diosdado Macapagal, officially proclaimed that 1963 would be Red Cross Centenary Year.

The Philippine Red Cross intends to devote each month of this year to one of its activities and its ideals. Thus, January was given over to the memory of Henry Dunant, February, to the principles of the Red Cross, March, to the services of voluntary aids, and so on. All towns have been invited to name a street or a square in their community after Dunant. A big competition has been opened to students who will submit essays on Dunant's work and other aspects of the Red Cross. This programme will doubtless have vast repercussions and beneficial effects upon public opinion in the Philippines.

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The neutral Commission of Experts, charged with assessing compensation to be paid to the victims of pseudo-medical experiments practised in German concentration camps under the Nazi regime, met on March 20 and 21 at the headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva. It is known that the ICRC at the request of the German Federal Republic has accepted to act as intermediary for the transmission of financial assistance which that government wishes to provide for this category of victims residing in countries with which it maintains no diplomatic relations.

The Commission was composed of Mr. Jean Graven, Professor at the Faculty of Law and Rector of the University of Geneva, who presided, of Dr. Alex F. Muller, Professor of Physiopathology at the University of Geneva, and of Dr. Sylvain Mutrux, medical Assistant of the Psychiatric Clinic of Bel Air, Geneva. Two representatives of the Polish Red Cross were present at the meeting as observers: Miss Danuta Zys, Head of the External Affairs section, and Dr. Jerzy Nowkunski, medical delegate. Dr. Jacques de Rougemont, doctor-delegate of the ICRC, acted as rapporteur.

The Commission dealt with 96 cases, whose files had been prepared by the Polish Red Cross and which the ICRC doctor-delegate had examined in January during the course of a mission to Warsaw Poznan. They held all of these, with the exception of one case, for which they requested further information.

The ICRC at once asked the German authorities for the transfer of funds corresponding to the Commission's payment in Poland.

The International Committee intends to delegate another mission in Warsaw to examine a further series of requests for compensation submitted by victims whose files have already been prepared by the Polish Red Cross.
Mr. H.G. Backh, delegate of the ICRC, recently visited Vienna to examine various humanitarian problems and in particular the question of the reuniting of families. On two occasions he met Mr. Sevcik, Secretary-General of the Austrian Red Cross. He also had talks with senior officials of the ministries of Foreign Affairs and of the Interior.

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The Centenary of the Red Cross

TRIBUTE FROM THE ORDER OF MALTA TO THE FOUNDER BODY OF THE RED CROSS

On the occasion of the Centenary of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Sovereign Military Order of the Knights Hospitallers of Malta expressed its greetings and best wishes during a brief ceremony at the headquarters of the Committee in Geneva. The delegation of the Order of Malta was headed by Don Enzo di Napoli Rampolla, Prince Resuttano, Grand Chancellor, accompanied by His Excellency Mr. Armando Koch, delegate of the Order to the international organizations in Geneva, and Count Edouard Decazes, Deputy-Delegate. The following accompanied the delegation:

Mr. Pierre Cartier, Minister of the Order in Switzerland,
Mr. Robert Vernet, President of the Executive Committee of the Order for assistance to lepers and Count B. de Rouge, Vice-President of this Committee and former Secretary-General of the League of Red Cross Societies.

The delegation was welcomed by Mr. Léopold Boissier, President of the ICRC, accompanied by Mr. Jacques Chenevière, Honorary Vice-President, Mr. Martin Bodmer, Vice-President together with members of the directorate and staff. The Grand Chancello read the following message:

"In this year which sees the commemoration of the Centenary of the International Committee of the Red Cross, it is a great privilege and a real joy today, both for our delegation and for myself, to be able, on behalf of His Excellence Frá Angelo de Mojana di Cologny, Prince and Grand Master of the Sovereign Order of Malta, to extend the greetings and
best wishes of the Grand Majestry and of the entire Order to the International Committee.

The ICRC has given universal meaning to the message which Henry Dunant gave the world a hundred years ago. Demonstrating by word and action that fraternity must not disarm when faced with arms, the Red Cross under the enthusiasm of this man of providence and guided by the ICRC, has saved the honour of humanity. The Red Cross motto "Inter Arma Caritas" has today become a principle which every civilized country has adopted, a rule which every developed State has made its own.

Over the last century, the work of the International Committee has been immense. Everywhere where there has been suffering, there also has been the assistance of the Red Cross. The ICRC, the guardian of the Conventions approved by Governments on its initiative, has shown by its action everything that these Conventions represent for the alleviation of the suffering of the wounded and sick on the battlefield, for the prisoners in their camps, and for the civilian population in cases where the evil scourge of war has come to ravage the earth.

The Sovereign Order of Malta, more perhaps than any other institution, is in a position to appreciate the real value of this admirable contribution to the well-being of humanity. Under its first Grand Master, at the beginning of the XIIth century, this military and hospital Order owned and administered the hospice of Jerusalem, where the pilgrims and wounded troops were looked after. Transferred to Cyprus first of all, then to Rhodes in 1310, then to Malta in 1530, the Monastery continued to administer relief and nursing to those who suffered in body and came to it. Over the centuries, and since the establishment of its Grand Majestry in Rome in 1834, the Order has remained faithful to its high traditions of charity on an international level. Since that time, it has frequently co-operated with the Red Cross, in particular in tending the victims of the last two world wars.

The two institutions are inspired by the highest ideal which can guide humanity. By their international organizations, by their Societies and National Associations, they work not only to diminish suffering but also to increase the consciousness which every human being should have of his duties to the unfortunate and of the love which he should bear his fellow men.

In extending its fraternal greetings and best wishes for future prosperity to the International Committee of the
Red Cross, the Sovereign Order of Malta salutes in the entire Red Cross one of the great forces for hope and peace in our most troubled world of today".

Mr. Boissier replied to this message by emphasizing the characteristics which the Order of Malta and the ICRC have in common. One of these characteristics is independence, which enables these two charitable institutions to devote themselves to their work unhampered by governmental pressure, and taking into account exclusively the needs of humanity, Mr. Boissier expressed the thanks of the ICRC to the Order of Malta which has preceded it by several centuries in the noble task of alleviating the suffering of mankind.

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Continuation of the model course by Mr. Henri Coursier on the Geneva Conventions (Part.22)

1. Protection of the Wounded and Sick

(b) SEARCHES ON THE BATTLEFIELD

"At all times, and particularly after an engagement, Parties to the Conflict shall, without delay, take all possible measures to search for and collect the wounded and sick, to protect them against pillage and illtreatment, to ensure their adequate care, and to search for the dead and prevent their being despoiled. (I, 15 - II, 18). The general obligation to care for the wounded is repeated here in view of first-aid to be given on the spot to the seriously wounded. Modern therapy can avail itself of methods which if employed in time and before the wounded person has been transported practically guarantee his survival: transfusion, injections, etc. This is why medical teams on the spot are so important and have been increasingly organised. Statistics afford proof of the effectiveness of these measures. During the First World War 7.5% of the wounded succumbed. This proportion was reduced to 2.9% during the Second World War, and then to 2% in subsequent conflicts, at least in armies organised on modern lines. This constitutes undeniable progress especially in comparison with the frightening figure of 60% who died as a result of their wounds during the Crimean War, only a few years before the Geneva Laws were established (1).

1) Commentary I, p. 137
As regards the dead, the Convention stipulates that:

"Parties to the conflict shall ensure that burial or cremation of the dead, carried out individually as far as circumstances permit, is preceded by a careful examination, if possible by a medical examination of the bodies, with a view to confirming death" (I, 17-II, 20).

Apart from the fact that a personal grave is more in keeping with the respect due to the dead than a collective grave, it is the only formula which permits of future exhumation and hence, eventually proof of death, in the interests of the family. This is why it is urged here, without however being made compulsory, if circumstances do not permit.

(c) RECORDING AND FORWARDING OF INFORMATION

The military authorities record all the particulars by which enemy wounded, sick, or dead who have fallen into their hands can be identified, the Power on which they depend, army number, surname and first names, date of birth, date and place of capture, etc.

This provision shows the value of generalising the use of identity discs, preferably in duplicate, one of which is left on the body. The International Commission for Medical Equipment, set up in 1928 under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross, advocated the use of a disc of this type, and its recommendation was approved the following year by the XIIIth International Conference of the Red Cross. The text of the Convention officially refers to the employment of an identity disc.

"As soon as possible (I, 16 - II, 19) the above mentioned information shall be forwarded to the Information Bureau described in Article 122 of the Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War of August 12, 1949, which shall transmit this information to the Power on which these persons depend through the intermediary of the protecting Power and of the Central Prisoners of war Agency.

Any Articles of estate, will or other articles of value found on the dead are also to be forwarded with this information. Here it should be borne in mind that an article may seem entirely valueless may be of the greatest sentimental value to the next of kin of the deceased.

The Central Prisoners of war Agency will be studied in greater detail when we examine the clauses referring thereto in the Third Convention.
(d) ROLE OF THE POPULATION AND NEUTRAL VESSELS

The military authorities may appeal to the inhabitants to collect and care for the wounded under its direction. In addition civilians and relief societies, especially the Red Cross, are to be permitted to collect and care for the wounded spontaneously, whatever their nationality, even if they are enemy parachutists or partisans. "No one", indeed, "may ever be mclested or convicted for having nursed the wounded or sick" (I, 18) . The same applies in maritime warfare to "neutral merchant vessels, yachts, or other craft" (II, 21) which take on board and care for wounded or shipwrecked persons or collect the dead.

It should be noted that the Convention only speaks of working "under the direction" of the military authorities in cases where they themselves consider it practical to appeal to the inhabitants for assistance. If care is offered spontaneously, are inhabitants who have taken in enemy parachutists for example, obliged to submit to the directives of the military authorities in their respect? This point was discussed at length by the legal experts consulted by the International Committee of the Red Cross before drawing up the draft of the Convention. They concluded that, in order to conciliate the requirements of charity and those of national defence, it should at least be stipulated that the inhabitants could not shield the wounded and sick collected by them from possible control by the military authorities. The Diplomatic Conference showed itself more conciliatory. It refused to link the authorization to care for the wounded spontaneously to the acceptance of military control or of any compulsory declaration, which would be equivalent to denouncement. It pointed out that the absence of any allusion to control in the text did not mean that it was necessarily prohibited and that in actual fact the military authorities could promulgate stipulations of this order, but, as the Rapporteur pointed out : "It was not for a humanitarian Convention to state this"(1).

(to be continued)

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The Yemen

The ICRC's intervention has already had positive results

The intervention of the International Committee of the Red Cross in the conflict in the Yemen has already had various positive results, especially since the two adversaries have undertaken to respect the principal rules of the Geneva Conventions. In a recent report, Dr. Bruno Beretta, delegate of the ICRC with the Royalist forces, has mentioned some examples of the way in which prisoners' lives have been saved thanks to undertakings given by the Imam El Badr.

In order to safeguard the lives of prisoners taken in action, the Imam has insisted that in future all enemy captured by his forces should be brought to him alive. In spite of some opposition, it appears that his orders are now beginning to be carried out.

Adventures of a village Sheikh

In this respect the adventures of a village Sheikh are characteristic. During the course of military operations, this ardent Royalist combatant suddenly found himself face to face with an Egyptian fighting for the Republic. After a brief exchange of shots both were wounded. However, the Sheikh who was the less severely wounded was able to dress his own wound. He then treated the wounds of the man who, a moment before, had nearly killed him. He then led the Egyptian, who had become his prisoner, into his house and handed him over to the Emir commanding the sector, for him to be taken before the Imam.
The Sheikh's family, however, strongly protested against this behaviour unusual amongst proud and warlike mountaineers. Even his own mother covered him with disdainful reproaches. Other fighters went further: "In your place, we would have killed not one prisoner, but ten, if they had fallen into our hands!"

Further representations on behalf of prisoners

The delegate of the ICRC reporting this case, quotes several others showing that prisoners owe their lives to the precepts of the Geneva Conventions which the combatants are beginning to recognize. Groups of prisoners are held in areas which are often very difficult to reach and the delegate has made various representations to the Royalist authorities to have them evacuated and even in some cases for their release. He personally visited a further group of three.

It can also be pointed out that twenty-four nationals of the UAR interned in Saudi Arabia, after having been taken prisoner in the Yemen, have just been repatriated, the delegate of the ICRC himself escorting them as far as Cairo.

During his recent stay in the capital of the UAR, Dr. Beretta was authorized to visit twenty-four members of the Imam's family placed under assigned residence in a villa.

Mission to the Imam’s headquarters

Dr. Beretta recently went to the headquarters of the Imam El Badr, in the interior of the Yemen. He gave treatment there to large numbers of wounded and sick and informed the Imam of the steps being taken to extend the ICRC's humanitarian aid to the victims of the conflict.

At the present moment, two National Societies, the Red Lion and Sun of Iran and the Swiss Red Cross, have accepted to supply medical personnel to care for the wounded on the Royalist side. However, as a result of the latest developments in the Yemen question, and especially in view of the agreement concluded, under the auspices of UNO, between the UAR and Saudi Arabian Governments, the ICRC is at present examining whether there will be any need for it to start such a medical action.

Action on the Republican side

On the Republican side, Dr. Jürg Baer, delegate of the ICRC at Sanaa, was received by Marshal Abdallah Es-Sallal, President of the Arab Republic of the Yemen, as well as by Mr. Ali Mohammed Safd, Minister of Health. Both of these confirmed the Yemen's intention to accede to the Geneva Conventions in the very near future.
The delegate also intervened with the military authorities in Sanaa, in order to obtain the list of Royalist prisoners captured by the Republican forces. Until now, however, the ICRC has not yet received a list further to the one with the names of three prisoners which had been transmitted to it at the beginning of the year.

In the medical sphere, Dr. Baer has started distributing medicines and medical equipment destined for the victims of the conflict. He visited the hospital at Sanaa in which a certain number of wounded are undergoing treatment and continues to transmit information to the ICRC concerning requirements for medicines in this part of the Yemen. Further consignments of medical relief are on their way to Sanaa, in particular a donation from the American Red Cross.

Mention should also be made of the fact that, following on a request made by the British Red Cross, Dr. Baer made enquiries into the fate of three children, whose father is Yemeni and the mother is of British nationality. Accompanied by Mr. Abdel Wasaa Hamid, Director General of the Yemeni Red Crescent, he went to Monkader, a locality difficult of access to the south of Sanaa, where the children are staying. He found them in good health and was able to transmit reassuring news to their parents in Great Britain.

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Sino-Chinese conflict

THE REPATRIATION OF INDIAN PRISONERS

The Chinese Red Cross has informed the ICRC that the necessary arrangements would be made for the repatriation of Indian prisoners of war. A first batch of 144 military personnel, handed over by the Chinese Red Cross, left on April 10. More than 3,000 Indians have now returned to their own country, including the 716 wounded and sick who had been previously repatriated. The two National Societies will remain in contact with each other to arrange further repatriation.

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Japan

REPATRIATION OPERATIONS OF KOREANS

The 105th transport of Koreans wishing to leave Japan in order to return to their country of origin, took place on April 5, 1963 with 190 persons aboard, from the port of Niigata for Chong-Jin in North Korea. This brings the number of repatriated Koreans since 1959 to 78,991. It will be remembered
that the Japanese Red Cross and the Red Cross of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea extended, on November 8, 1962, the agreement signed in 1959 in Calcutta, which stipulated the terms and conditions of departure for Koreans desirous of returning to North Korea.

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Africa

Sub-Equatorial Africa

Within the framework of his information mission, Mr. Georges Hoffman, Delegate General of the ICRC went to Mauritius, Réunion, Madagascar and Kenya. During his visits he had useful talks with the Authorities and the local National Red Cross Societies.

Congo (Léopoldville)

Mr. G. C. Senn, Regional Delegate of the ICRC is now undertaking a mission, which has taken him to Luluabourg, Bakwanga, Elisabethville and to north Katanga. The object of Mr. Senn's mission was to survey the situation locally and to visit prisoners and detainees.

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DISTRIBUTION OF REVENUES OF THE EMPRESS SHÔKEN FUND

In a circular dated April 11, 1963, the Joint Commission of the Empress Shōken Fund, which comprises one representative each of the Japanese Red Cross, of the ICRC and of the League, informed National Societies of the decisions taken as regards the annual distribution of revenues, as well as of the position of that Fund on December 31, 1962. In conformity with its statutes, the date of April 11 marks the anniversary of the death of the Empress (April 11, 1914).

The Commission has decided to make the following allocations: 4,000 frs. to the Burma Red Cross to complete equipment for its blood bank in Rangoon; 5,000 frs. to the Red Cross of the Republic of Korea as a contribution for acquiring X-ray equipment for its hospital at Choon-Chon.

The unused balance, namely 5,651.75. frs., will be added to the revenues available for the next distribution.

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The monthly magazine of the World Health Organization, "World Health" devotes its April number to the Red Cross Centenary. The congratulatory message addressed to the ICRC President, Mr. Leopold Boissier, by Dr. M.G. Candau, Director-General of W.H.O., appears on the inside cover. "WHO" says Dr. Candau, is proud of its association with the great enterprise that sprang from the generous mind of Henry Dunant and expresses the wish that in the centuries to come the Red Cross may continue to exert its efforts which are among the most noble that man has ever pursued."

The Centenary Album reviews in stages the decisive moments in Red Cross history: 1859, Solferino; 1863, Geneva, 16 Nations at the green table; 1870, Paris, the Red Cross penetrates the frontlines; 1899 Transvaal, Herzog orders humane treatment; 1905, Fort Arthur, Japan adopts the Red Cross; 1914, Marne, the Red Cross in the trenches; Prisoners of War; 1919, Cannes, the Red Cross starts peace-time activities; 1936, Madrid, exchange of hostages; 1939 - 1945, the greatest conflict in history; Flight, hunger and fear; 1960, in the Congo, the Red Cross and WHO; 1963, Our troubled World. Each of these chapters has lively descriptions, pleasant to read and illustrated by good photographs. Some, by their very realism, are enthralling; the mud at the Marne, for example, or Dr. Marcel Junod among the political detainees in Spain (1936), or again the most unique photograph taken at Cannes in 1919, at the foundation of the League of Red Cross Societies. After a chapter illustrating the work of the Red Cross in time of peace, the work of the National Red Cross Societies, another chapter passes in review the new dynamism of nursing in the Red Cross movement.

"World Health" is published in English, Spanish, French, Portuguese and Russian.

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In honour of the Centenary

UNESCO BROADCASTING PROGRAMME

The broadcasting services of UNESCO have distributed throughout the world in the series "GREAT ANNIVERSARIES" a recording of the Centenary Foundation of the International Committee of the Red Cross entitled "A Hundred Years of Service".

Three voices, in turn, speak briefly of the principles of the Red Cross; its structure, its aim. Then, two alternating speakers give a narrative account of its historic moments, interrupted by Henry Dunant's voice at Solferino and that of Victor Hugo in exile in Guernsey: "You arm Humanity and you serve Liberty, I commend your noble efforts." A divergent
opinion is expressed by the reading of Florence Nightingale's letter, disapproving of the idea of voluntary aid outside the framework of the armed forces. Next, Gustave Moynier is called upon to read part of the Agenda of the Committee of Five of February 17, 1863: the "Forming of a Permanent International Committee of Aid to the Wounded of the Armies in the Field."

A narrative account is then given by another voice, describing the efforts achieved by the ICRC during the two World Wars, as well as the work of the National Red Cross Societies in time of peace: aid to refugees, relief to victims of disaster, training of cadres etc.

"A Hundred Years of Service" has been realized by Rex Keating, written by Robert Gladwell, who is one of the narrators, the second voice is that of Gordon Heath. Henry Dunant is interpreted by Vernon Greeves.

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"A MEMORY OF SOLFERINO" IN KOREAN

On the occasion of the Red Cross Centenary and as a tribute to the memory of Henry Dunant, the Red Cross of the Republic of Korea has had a translation made of "A Memory of Solferino".

The author of the Korean text is Mr. Choc Eum-Sum, member of the Information Service of the Korean Red Cross and the editor is Mr. Sam Yung Dang from Seoul. At the request of the Korean Red Cross, Mr. Léopold Boissier, President of the ICRC has written a foreword.

"A Memory of Solferino" has now appeared in 13 languages.

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SPEECH DELIVERED BY MR. LÉOPOLD BOISSIER,
PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS, ON MAY 8, 1963, ON THE OCCASION OF THE INAUGURATION OF THE HENRY DUNANT MEMORIAL

A tribute which some might consider to be somewhat tardy, has been paid today to the memory of Henry Dunant. This has been skilfully fashioned out of stone and bronze. It has been designed for future generations which will learn that in this city a man was born whose mission it was to persuade other men that there is a limit to violence, which must be halted and contained.
If soldiers have the duty to fight and to kill, a yet higher duty must oblige them to terminate their fighting once the adversary has been wounded or disarmed. From this injunction, which all can understand, has sprung a fertile harvest of principles, laws and rules which constitute what is known as the Red Cross.

Amidst the different religions, philosophies and social doctrines, the Red Cross has appeared as an appeal, then as an engagement calling upon all human beings, whoever or wherever they may be, to struggle against suffering and against death itself.

Has this struggle been victorious? Certainly the Geneva Conventions, children of that great Genevese, have saved and will continue to save countless more lives. The International Committee of the Red Cross bears witness to this here.

But this victory of which mankind can well be proud is fragile and endlessly menaced. Science has placed to the service of violence weapons whose powers of destruction continue to increase. If a new war were to break out to-morrow, would another Henry Dunant be found to care for the wounded in their distress calling upon compassionate hearts?

I am convinced that the miracle of Solferino would be repeated, since the Red Cross will know how to face the reality of the future. Once again it will win the cause of life and of this those who will look upon this monument of the Bastions will be persuaded.

If Henry Dunant launched his appeal a hundred years ago and if he has been heard, this is because he placed his confidence in man who can and must be stronger than the forces of evil. If his contemporaries did not always understand him and if he sometimes felt himself misunderstood and abandoned, he never once doubted his mission. It is this faith and this courage which he bequeathed to the work which he created. In the fierce encounters which have taken place during the past hundred years, his example must have given comfort to many millions of men.

The work has, however, not ceased to expand. Since 1949 it has extended its protection to civilian populations in enemy-occupied territories, to the victims of civil war and it comes to the aid more and more of persons overwhelmed by natural disasters, floods, earthquakes, fire and famine, The National Societies, ever more active, assisting those in every walk of life, struggle against occupational illness and give protection to children and support the aged.

The Red Cross is everywhere present. Its flag, which this year will fly over five continents, belongs to all who give themselves to Henry Dunant's ideal, that spirit which presses onward towards fresh conquests over suffering. This certainty gives comfort and, above all, hope.
Saudi Arabia

THE GOVERNMENT OF SAUDI ARABIA ACCEDES TO THE GENEVA
CONVENTIONS

Saudi Arabia has now officially acceded to the Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949. It was one of the few countries not yet bound by at least one of the Conventions which have been signed since 1864 at the instigation of the Red Cross. The Royal Government of Riyadh had the instrument of accession deposited with the Swiss Federal Council in Berne on May 10, 1963, Switzerland being the guardian of the Conventions. This accession, free of all reservations, will take effect after a period of six months, i.e. from November 18, 1963 onwards.

With the accession of Saudi Arabia, the number of States explicitly bound to the four Conventions of 1949 is increased to 93. The only States which are not bound in any manner with these humanitarian treaties are Nepal and Yemen. It is true that the republican government of this latter country has undertaken, by a written declaration addressed to the International Committee of the Red Cross, to respect the main principles of these Conventions. An identical declaration was handed to the ICRC delegate by the ex-Imam who, as is known, remains the head of the loyalist troops in the North of Yemen.

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Two new African States confirm their participation

Other States previously under colonial domination are bound to the Conventions by the accession of the power which previously exercised sovereignty over their territory. Several of these States have deemed it opportune to confirm their participation in the Conventions by means of

Reproduction of texts is authorized
official notification, a so-called declaration of continuity. The last two States which proceeded in this fashion were Tanganyika (December 17, 1962) and Senegal (May 31, 1963). Thus, the total number of States explicitly bound to the Conventions by ratification, accession or declaration of continuity is now 94.

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Yemen

THE ICRC CARRIES ON

The International Committee of the Red Cross is pursuing its activity in favour of the victims of events in Yemen. Despite the great difficulties caused by the very nature of the country and the conditions in which this struggle is going on, the Red Cross is anxious to remain on the spot in both camps. Its two Doctor-delegates have just arrived back in Geneva for consultation: Dr Jürg Baer came from Sanaa, capital of the Yemen Arab Republic and Dr Bruno Beretta from the southern regions of Saudi Arabia. The ICRC is examining with them the possibility of arranging further liberations or exchanges of prisoners.

It should be mentioned in this respect that just before leaving Sanaa, Dr Baer visited sixty-five members of the royal family interned in the capital. Furthermore, he also organized important distributions of medical supplies offered by National Societies of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent.

Dr Beretta has pushed on with his arrangements for receiving the medical teams which are awaited in the Royalist camp. He also occupied himself with the fate of several prisoners of war who were captured by the Imam's troops and who are at present undergoing treatment in Saudi Arabian hospitals.

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Algeria

A MINISTER'S THANKS TO THE ICRC

Mr. Bachir Bournaza, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs in the Government of Algiers, and Member of the Algerian Committee of the Red Crescent and leader of his country's Delegation to the International Labour Conference, paid a visit to the International Committee of the Red Cross in order to express his thanks for the humanitarian relief which he personally received like so many of his compatriots, during the recent conflict. His
Excellency, accompanied by the Consul General, Mr. Ould Hocina Cherif, had a discussion with Mr. S. Gonard, Member of the ICRC, Mr. Roger Gallopin, Executive Director and Mr. Pierre Gaillard, Delegate. He recognized the latter as the person who on several occasions brought him relief and comfort from the Red Cross when he was in detention. His discussions at the ICRC Headquarters bore also on the organization of the Algerian Red Crescent which is at present being formed.

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Congo

THE ICRC VISITS TO PRISONERS

In April and May, representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross made several visits to detention camps in the former Belgian Congo. They were in particular preoccupied with the fate of political and military prisoners. The members of the ICRC Delegation at Leopoldville first of all visited, on April 12, the Makala and the Ncolo prisons. They intervened with the authorities in order to have improvements made in the conditions of detention, particularly as regards food, and they were moreover able to obtain freedom for a few military internees. Later, Mr. G. Senn, delegate, visited the Central Prison in Luluabourg, where there were 200 prisoners. He took the opportunity also to visit the hospitals in this town and to enquire about general conditions in the region, and the needs of the population which has been sorely tried by events.

During his stay in Luluabourg, the delegate gave a lecture on the Geneva Conventions to the officers of the Congo National Army stationed in that town.

Following up his previous visit to the prison of Kong-Kongo, some 5 km from Stanleyville, Mr. Senn continued his endeavours for the liberation of 102 members of the Katanga Constabulary who were imprisoned there and who were finally freed on May 14.

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MISSION TO KENYA, TANGANYIKA AND UGANDA

From May 1 to 16, Mr. G. Hoffmann, General Delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Sub-Equatorial Africa, undertook a mission to Kenya, Tanganyika and Uganda. In the course of his visits he made useful contacts with the authorities and the local organizations of the Red Cross.
Indonesia- Malaya

THE ICRC DELEGATE-GENERAL IN DJAKARTA AND SINGAPORE

The Delegate-General of the ICRC in Asia, Mr. André Durand, coming from Tokyo, stopped in Djakarta where he contacted the Indonesian Red Cross. The latter, in close co-operation with the ICRC, has effected the payment of pensions and allowances which the Netherlands Government grants to its nationals resident in Indonesia.

In Singapore, Mr. Durand was received on May 10 by the Prime Minister, Mr. Lee Kuan Yew. Following this meeting, he was permitted to visit the political detainees in the Singapore prisons. Shortly afterwards the Delegate-General returned to Geneva.

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Japan

REPATRIATION OF KOREANS

The 106th. transport of Koreans desirous of leaving Japan for a place of their own choice in their country of origin left the port of Nyigata on May 10. Aboard were 290 persons who disembarked at the North Korean port of Chong-Jin.

Since 1959 the total number of persons repatriated under the auspices of the Japanese Red Cross and the control of the ICRC is 79,281.

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Latin America

THE ICRC VISITS SEVERAL NATIONAL SOCIETIES

The International Committee of the Red Cross delegated Mr. Pierre Jequier for a short mission in several countries of Latin America. Mr. Jequier having been invited to take part in a regional conference in Buenos Aires, organized by the Argentine Red Cross, and to contact the Red Cross in Venezuela, the ICRC desired to complete its delegate's mission by visits to several other
National Societies of the Red Cross with which it had not had the opportunity to make direct contact for a number of years. After his stay in the Argentine, Mr. Jequier will terminate his mission with a visit to Bolivia, Peru and Venezuela.

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**Greece**

**ICRC VISIT TO PRISONERS**

Mr. Germain Colladon, delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, has left for Athens, where he will contact the authorities and the Hellenic Red Cross. He has been entrusted with a further series of visits to prisons where he will bring relief of various kinds to the detainees.

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The death of John XXIII

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE ICRC SENDS HIS CONDOLENCES**

On the occasion of the death of His Holiness the Pope John XXIII, Mr. Léopold Boissier, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, sent the following telegram to the Department of State of the Vatican:

I am profoundly moved by the demise of His Holiness John XXIII of whom I personally shall retain a vivid memory for his beneficent attitude and benevolent support to the humanitarian tasks of the Red Cross. The International Committee of the Red Cross pays homage to the great personality of the Pope John XXIII who worked so intensively for peace. I request you to receive and to convey to the College of Cardinals the expression of my most respectful condolences.

It will be recalled that Mr. Boissier, during a visit to Rome in February 1962, was received in private audience by John XXIII. His Holiness had a thorough discussion with the President of the ICRC for almost an hour.

Cardinal Aloisi Masella, the Cardinal Chamberlain replied by telegram as follows:
I would express the deep appreciation of the college of Cardinals for the delicate tribute to the memory of Pope John XXIII and for the participation of the International Red Cross in the deep mourning of the Holy See.

Furthermore, the ICRC was represented by its Vice-President, Mr. Martin Bodmer, at the pontifical requiem service at the Church of Notre Dame in Geneva, officiated by Monseigneur François Charrière, Bishop of Geneva, Lausanne and Fribourg.

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GENEVA UNIVERSITY HONOURS THE PRESIDENT OF THE ICRC

On a proposal put forward by three Faculties; Arts, Economic and Social Science, and Law, Geneva University has conferred on Mr. Léopold Boissier, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the title of Doctor of Political Science honoris causa. This distinction was bestowed on him on the occasion of the "Dies academicus" of June 5, 1963.

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Congratulations from the League of Red Cross Societies

To mark the occasion, Mr. Henrik Beer, Secretary-General sent the President of the ICRC, Mr. Léopold Boissier, the following telegram:

On the eve of the "Dies Academicus" the League of Red Cross Societies and I myself wish you to find herein our most sincere congratulations for the title of doctor honoris causa which you have just been awarded by the University of Geneva stop All your colleagues in the International Red Cross consider this so well deserved distinction not only as an expression of gratitude from your compatriots but also as a tribute due by everybody in the Red Cross.

* * *
On the occasion of the Red Cross Centenary, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has just published a pamphlet entitled "The Red Cross and the Refugees". This illustrated publication of thirty pages starts off with a message from Mr. Felix Schnyder, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, dedicating this booklet to all the members of the Red Cross "with the gratitude of millions of refugees for whom the Red Cross emblem will always represent the symbol of man's humanity to man".

This booklet traces the activity of the Red Cross in favour of refugees since the end of the First World War and shows the pioneer rôle then played by the National Societies and the International Committee. The latter pursued and intensified its work in this direction during the Second World War and also during the Palestinian conflict. At that time the League of Red Cross Societies intervened effectively also in favour of refugees as it did later on in the Hungarian uprising, in 1956-1957, in the Algerian conflict and also in the various disorders which broke out in Africa. As the booklet makes clear, an ever-increasing co-operation grew up between the Office of the High Commissioner and the various institutions of the Red Cross, leading to continual benefits for the legions of refugees in the most widely varying regions of the world.

In the course of a brief ceremony at the United Nations Palace in Geneva, Mr. Felix Schnyder, the High Commissioner, handed the first copies of the publication to Mr. Léopold Boissier, President of the ICRC and to Mr. Henrik Beer, Secretary-General of the League. In thanking Mr. Schnyder the two representatives of the Red Cross praised the valuable co-operation which prevails between the Office of the High Commissioner and the Red Cross institutions.

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THE SUCCESS OF AN ICRC POSTER

The poster published in 1962 by the International Committee of the Red Cross was a great success at the annual competition organized by the Federal Department of the Interior in Berne. The jury of the competition indeed gave a place to this poster amongst the best for the year 1962.

The poster, depicting a patient supported by a nurse's arm was intended to publicize the ICRC's annual collection for 1962. It is the work of Mr. André Masmocjan and Mr. Walter Schmidt, of Geneva.

It should be mentioned that in 1962 the people of Switzerland gave to the ICRC the sum of Swiss frs. 1,219,618.29 which represents an increase of Swiss frs. 83,026.29 over the figure for 1961. Once more the ICRC thanks all donors most heartily.
Mr. GONARD'S FURTHER MISSION TO ALGERIA

No. 779b of June 10, 1963

Mr. S. Gonard, Vice-President of the International Committee of the Red Cross is going to Algiers to examine the activity carried out by the special mission of the ICRC. It will be recalled that this activity consists on the one hand of undertaking the necessary investigations into the fate of persons missing in Algeria since the cease-fire of March 19, 1962, and on the other hand of visiting detainees arrested for acts committed in connection with the recent conflict.

During his stay in Algiers, Mr. S. Gonard will be received by the Head of the State, Mr. Ahmed Ben Bella, with whom he will examine the results of the work achieved by the special mission up to the present time.

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Continuation of the model course by Mr. Henri Coussier on the Geneva Conventions (Part. 23)

2. The Protection of Personnel and Medical Equipment

(a) Medical personnel

Medical personnel is not considered as part of the fighting forces. It enjoys special protection and is designated as protected personnel. Its members are to carry an identity card and to wear an armband with the Red Cross, they may be armed for their own defence and that of the wounded (I, 22, 40 - II, 42). This personnel comprises:

(1) persons specially and solely entrusted with tending the sounded and sick of the armed forces (doctors, nurses (male and female), stretcher-bearers);

(2) administrative staff in medical units and establishments (administrators, drivers, cooks, etc.);

(3) army chaplains (priests, ministers of any religion).

The various categories of personnel come under the authority of the Army Medical Service (or the Army Chaplains' Service); they may also belong to the National Red Cross Society or any other relief society recognized as an auxiliary of the Army Medical Service and may come either from a belligerent or a neutral country.
Can this protected personnel be detained if its members fall into the hands of the opponent? The experts soon agreed, when they started their work in 1945 for the revision of the Geneva Conventions, that it was necessary to provide for some of the members of enemy personnel to be detained in so far as the number and needs of prisoners demanded this. On the other hand, for years there was heated discussion between the protagonists of two opposite arguments as to the status of such personnel. Some proposed that it should purely and simply be submitted to the same conditions as war captives, while others pointed out that the traditional principles of the Geneva Laws were contrary thereto and, moreover, that prisoners would be better cared for if the members of medical personnel enjoyed a certain freedom and prestige.

The 1949 Diplomatic Conference decided on a compromise between the two. The Convention consequently lays down that members of medical personnel who are detained "shall not be deemed prisoners of war", adding that "Nevertheless they shall at least benefit by all the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War".

While the Convention rules that members of medical personnel will not be considered as prisoners of war, which is a privilege as compared with the wounded themselves, it makes no mention of their being absolved from capture. Capture exists de facto if not de jure (P. des Gouttes, Commentaire de la Convention de 1929, p. 77). The restriction placed on their freedom will be of varying degrees according to circumstances and it can be hoped that belligerents will show particular goodwill towards them, by resorting to measures of supervision and forced residence rather than actual internment, whenever possible. But it is hardly to be conceived that a power would grant entire freedom to members of medical personnel detained and would allow them to travel round in a country at war, thus accepting, in particular, the danger of spying.

Medical personnel will quite naturally be placed under the authority of the Medical Service of the Detaining Power, while chaplains will come under the authority of the Service selected for this purpose (probably the same as that to which the chaplains of the national army are attached). But this administrative authority has its limits, as the members of the personnel in question "shall continue to carry out ...." their duties "in accordance with their professional ethics". The constraint of the detaining authority can only be exercised therefore outside the sphere which is governed by the rules pertaining to the vocation of profession, of chaplains or doctors. Various "facilities" are granted to this personnel in carrying out its duties, authorisation to visit prisoners periodically, facilities for correspondence with medical circles, the Protecting Power, the International Committee of the Red Cross, bodies assisting the prisoners, the latter's families, etc.

It should be added that such personnel cannot be compelled to perform any type of work which is not connected with its medical or religious duties.
As its members are not prisoners of war, one cannot talk of escape or attempts to escape so far as they are concerned. However, the Detaining Power has the right to consider such behaviour as an infringement of the camp discipline to which this personnel is subject (Article 28 c) and hence inflict disciplinary punishment.

Finally, the provisions for the repatriation of the seriously wounded apply to members of medical personnel in the same case. There is no question of hospitalising such personnel in a neutral country and its members must therefore return to their own country when they are no longer able, for reasons of health, to carry out their task of assistance.

Detained members of the above-mentioned personnel will be returned to the Power of which they are nationals if their assistance is not indispensable.

(to be continued)
THE ICRC OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZES FOUR NATIONAL RED CROSS SOCIETIES

The International Committee of the Red Cross has just given official recognition to four National Societies, those of the Federation of Malaya, Cameroon, Congo (Léopoldville) and Algeria. The first three have adopted the emblem of the Red Cross and the last mentioned that of the Red Crescent. Officially recognized National Red Cross Societies now number 94.

The Malayan Red Cross has inherited its organization from the British Red Cross. It carries out its activities in all the Federated States and has an efficient organization at its disposal. It runs several hospital establishments, trains first aid workers and nursing personnel and has organized various services, in particular those of blood transfusion and aid to sick children.

The Cameroon Red Cross has been in existence since 1957. It has formed nine local committees and its Junior Red Cross is in process of formation. It takes part in the maintenance and running of five leper-hospitals and three orphanages. It organizes the distribution of relief to various categories of sick and also, in cases of urgency, to the victims of natural disasters and of disturbances.

The Red Cross of the Congo (Léopoldville), whose statutes have been drawn up in close co-operation with the ICRC delegation, has various medical establishments, hospitals, leper-hospitals, pediatric and blood transfusion centres at its disposal. Its Junior sections are particularly active and well developed. It gives courses of instruction on hygiene and first aid in schools. During the troubled period which the Congo has passed through since independence, it has carried out useful activities in the tracing of missing persons and the transport of the wounded, the despatch of first aid workers and the distribution of milk and food to children. It has
sections in the principal regions of the country.

The Algerian Red Crescent was first of all a body dealing with relief and acting within the National Liberation Front (FLN). Its members worked in the interior of Algeria alongside those who were fighting, as well as among the refugees in the neighbouring countries. It has often co-operated with the ICRC in joint-relief tasks on behalf of the victims of both sides. Since independence, it has progressively extended its organization in most areas of the country, where it increasingly undertakes tasks which devolve on a National Society.

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India

THE ICRC VISITS A CAMP FOR CHINESE INTERNEES

The International Committee of the Red Cross has just effected a second visit to the camp of Deoli, in the State of Rajasthan, where the Indian Government following on the conflict with China had interned a certain number of Chinese nationals resident in its territory. Mr. Max Stalder, ICRC Delegate, went there on June 25 where he saw 924 internees, of whom about 300 were on the point of being repatriated to China. He was accompanied by Mr. B. Singh-Paul, delegate of the Indian Red Cross.

On December 12, 1962, Mr. André Durand, delegate general of the ICRC for Asia had paid a first visit to that camp.

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South Viet Nam

THE GENERAL BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION CALLS UPON THE ICRC

On June 10 last the ICRC received the following telegram from the General Buddhist Association in Saigon:

"Forty Bonzes have been on hunger strike for the past five days - no doctor authorized to visit them - several whose chief aged 80 state of exhaustion - grateful you give them aid."

In accordance with procedure established in similar cases, the ICRC immediately transmitted this appeal to the Viet Nan Red
Cross, which Mr. Werner Muller, delegate of the International Committee in South Viet Nam also approached.

In reply, the Viet Nam Red Cross stated that two doctors of its central branch had given treatment to the Bonzes on hunger strike in their pagoda, and later at the hospital at Hué to which they were transferred.

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Indonesia

TERMINATION OF THE ICRC ACTION

As a result of the recent renewal of diplomatic and consular relations between Indonesia and the Netherlands, the ICRC has just terminated its activities as neutral intermediary in the humanitarian sphere between the two countries.

Following on a request by the Netherlands Government, the International Committee had agreed in 1961 to transmit to the Indonesian Red Cross funds paid by the Dutch authorities, by way of compensation, consisting of pensions and allowances to Netherlands nationals remaining in Indonesia. Since the beginning of the action, the number of beneficiaries amounted to about 800 and funds transferred by the ICRC totalled 557,000 dollars.

Postal relations having also been suspended, the Central Tracing Agency of the ICRC concerned itself in addition with transmitting family messages in both directions between the two countries. The International Committee also facilitated co-operation with the Indonesian Red Cross, the passage of Netherlands nationals who had decided to return to their own country.

Finally, it should be recalled that in March of last year, the ICRC, having accepted a mandate proposed to it by the United Nations Organization, had charged its delegate general for Asia, Mr. André Durand, to deal with the repatriation of fifty-two Indonesian prisoners released by the Netherlands authorities in New Guinea.
The Yemen

DEPARTURE OF NEW ICRC DELEGATES

The International Committee of the Red Cross, which is continuing its activity in favour of the victims of the events in the Yemen, has recently made changes in the personnel of its delegations. Dr. Bruno Beretta and Dr. Jürg Baer, who have during the past few months shown great devotion in carrying out their missions on the Royalist and Republican sides respectively, will be replaced by Dr. Candido Marcoli and Mr. Joseph Gasser.

Dr. Marcoli has just started for Saudi Arabia, accompanied by Mr. Ibrahim Zreikat, interpreter. He will endeavour to assist the victims of the fighting in the areas still controlled by the Imam El Badr and to solve the difficult medical problems arising in this connexion. He has also been instructed to extend his assistance to Egyptian prisoners captured by the Royalist forces.

Mr. Gasser, for his part, will be continuing the relief action started by Dr. Baer and which will consist in distributing medicines and bandaging equipment for the wounded. He will also seek to extend ICRC aid to prisoners captured in action by the Republican forces. Mr. Gasser is already known in Sanaa, capital of the Republic of the Yemen, where he went at the beginning of the year as an assistant delegate, when the ICRC sent out its first mission there with instructions to make contact with Marshal Sallal's government.

Algeria

THE ICRC SENDS MILK TO THE ALGERIAN RED CRESCENT

The delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Algiers has just handed over 10 tons of full-cream powdered milk to the Algerian Red Crescent, which will make use of them within its assistance programme. These relief supplies were found out of surplus milk stock in the Swiss Confederation of which it has placed a certain quantity at the disposal of the ICRC.

In this connection it should be pointed out that the ICRC is now despatching a further relief consignment for harkis who have proceeded to France. It is at present engaged in arranging for the despatch of a second consignment of 3 tons of powdered milk for these former Moslem auxiliaries.
Poland

FURTHER EXAMINATION OF VICTIMS OF PSEUDO-MEDICAL EXPERIMENTS

A new mission of the International Committee of the Red Cross has recently left Poland where it has been instructed to examine 104 further cases of victims of pseudo-medical experiments inflicted in German concentration camps under the Nazi regime. It will be recalled that the ICRC, at the request of the Government of the German Federal Republic, had accepted to act as intermediary for the transmission of financial assistance which that government wishes to provide for that category of victims resident in countries with which it does not maintain diplomatic relations.

The representatives of the ICRC, Mr. Jean-Pierre Maunoir, delegate, and Dr. Jacques de Rougemont, doctor-delegate, will be acting in close co-operation with the Polish Red Cross in enquiries which will comprise meeting each of the victims, as well as the Polish doctors who have given them treatment. They will then formulate proposals for the neutral Commission of Experts charged with deciding upon the amount of compensation to be allocated to the victims of those experiments.

This Commission met for the last time in March 1963 and gave decisions on the cases of 96 Polish victims.

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Greece

THE ICRC VISITS PRISONS AND DISTRIBUTES RELIEF

Mr. Germain Colladon, delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, is continuing his mission in Greece on behalf of certain detainees. After having made contact with the Greek authorities and the Hellenic Red Cross, he visited various prisons, in particular those of Egine, Trikkala and Salonika. During these visits he distributed to the detainees and their families, relief supplies from different sources, notably 1750 parcels of clothing, cheese, powdered milk and medicines.

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In Geneva

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE ICRC

The International Committee of the Red Cross has just bestowed its Gold Medal on its President, Mr. Léopold Boissier, on the occasion of his 70th anniversary. The presentation took place during the course of a brief ceremony at which members and staff of that institution were present.

In handing this testimony of gratitude to Mr. Boissier, Mr. Frédéric Siordet, Vice-President, recalled the manifold and eminent merits acquired by the present President of the ICRC since being appointed to his high position in 1955. Throughout those years, the most delicate humanitarian problems, which often assumed a dramatic turn, had to be faced and which Mr. Boissier knew how to solve thanks to his exceptional qualities of intellect and heart, thanks also to his knowledge and experience of men.

Mr. Siordet's words were widely applauded by those present who have the privilege of serving, under Mr. Boissier's benevolent authority, the great cause of the Red Cross. The President expressed his thanks with emotion and stressed the part played by all those working in the institution for the common cause.

A member of the ICRC, Brigade-Colonel Hans Meuli, former Director of the Swiss Army Medical Service, then presented Mr. Boissier with another medal, that of the Swiss Alliance of Samaritans, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year. That organization, which works in close co-operation with the Swiss Red Cross and under the same emblem, decided in this Centenary year to offer its medal to the President of the ICRC. Mr. Meuli recalled that the Swiss Alliance of Samaritans had bestowed that same decoration in the past to two founders of the Red Cross, Henry Dunant and Gustave Moynier. In expressing his profound gratitude, Mr. Boissier emphasized the fundamental importance of the Samaritans, those indispensable first-aid workers of whose most helpful services we may all have need one day.

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TRIBUTE TO THE ICRC

On the occasion of the forthcoming celebrations of the Red Cross Centenary, the permanent Secretary of the French National Academy of Doctors, Professor Henri Bonard, addressed the following message to Mr. Léopold Boissier, President of the International
Committee of the Red Cross:

"Our Company considers it to be its duty to demonstrate by means of a solemn address its admiration towards the Red Cross. In view of the fact that the profoundly humanitarian work accomplished by that body draws its inspiration from the same ethics as those upon which the entire medical corps has based its rule, the National Academy of Doctors wishes to pay respectful tribute to the memory of Henry Dunant. It associates itself unanimously with the ideal which animates the Red Cross and assures it that it will always have at heart to support its generous efforts."

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ONE SUCCESS AFTER ANOTHER

A year ago the international Red Cross institutions in Geneva had the pleasure of welcoming at their headquarters the winner of a competition organized by the ICRC broadcasting services in Arabic, Mr. Numan Abdel Dayin, a teacher in Jerusalem (Jordan). He has now informed the International Committee that he recently took part in another broadcast competition, organized this time by the French Radio and Television Service and that he had won a ten-day trip to Paris as a prize. This will take place in July and Mr. Abdel Dayin proposes to take that opportunity of once again visiting the Red Cross institutions in Geneva.

Disabled as a result of the Palestine conflict and having previously benefitted from ICRC assistance, he has made every effort to contribute towards disseminating the principles and ideals of the Red Cross in his own country.

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Communiqué issued to the press

MR. GONARD'S MISSION IN ALGERIA

No. 780b of June 26, 1963

Mr. S. Gonard, Vice-President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, has returned from Algeria, where the Committee had charged him with examining the activities of the ICRC delegation and to have an interview on that subject with the President of the Algerian Government, as had been agreed in February of this year.
Mr. Gonard, after having conferred with the head of the delegation, went to the places where the delegates of the ICRC have been carrying out their activities for the past three months, for the most part by teams of two delegates each. He was able to assure himself that, as regards visits to former harkis in detention and also concerning searches for persons missing since the "cease fire" of March 19, 1962, the delegation's activities are proceeding in a normal manner.

All harkis detained in civilian prisons have been visited by the delegates who have been able to speak with each one without witnesses. Out of 2,500 harkis visited; about 1,300 have expressed the desire to be transferred to France. Nominal rolls have been drawn up for the governments concerned. This return having been made, the ICRC hopes that a first batch of 300 harkis will shortly be able to be released, in accordance with statements recently made in Paris by Mr. Bentoumi, Keeper of the Seals and Mr. de Broglie, Secretary of State. It hopes that some hundred detainees under 20 and over 60 years of age who also wish to go to France may be added to this first group.

In the event of the Algerian Government deciding to release this category of harkis, the ICRC in accordance with its humanitarian rôle, has offered the services of its delegates, who could be entrusted with ensuring that such a transfer would be carried out under satisfactory conditions.

As regards places of detention, the ICRC, according to its custom, has regularly kept the appropriate Algerian authorities informed of the observations made by its delegates as a result of their visits. The latter's mission has moreover been facilitated thanks to the excellent contacts and the good relations which they have been able to have with Algerian Civil Justice officials.

As regards missing persons, lengthy and patient negotiations are being very actively pursued. The search for witnesses, relations and for those living in the same building in which the missing person resided is difficult as, since the events of 1962, the movement of the urban populations has been fairly intense, with the result that many traces have been lost. It will not be possible to give information on this subject until the whole of the tracing action has been completed.

The Vice-President of the ICRC has been able to observe the delegates' devotion and diligence, as well as the excellent relations which they maintain with the Algerian authorities, the representatives of France and with the population with whom they are in daily touch both in the towns and in the douars.

The French and Algerian Governments are kept regularly informed of the activities of the ICRC delegation in Algeria and of the progress of its work. To this end, the audience which
President Ben Bella accorded to the Vice-President of the ICRC was most useful in determining the way in which the humanitarian work which has been undertaken may be satisfactorily accomplished.

Mr. Gonard has also informed Mr. Gorse, the French Ambassador, of the observations which he had made during his stay in Algeria with the ICRC delegation.

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Continuation of the model course by Mr. Henry Coursier on the Geneva Conventions (Part. 24)

(2. The Protection of Personnel and Medical Equipment)

b) Medical Equipment

Article 19 of Convention I stipulates that the establishments and units of the Medical Service (including of course those belonging to National Red Cross Societies and other authorised relief societies) are to be respected and protected. These comprise all fixed establishments (hospitals, warehouses, etc.) or mobile units (ambulances, field hospitals, tents, open air installations etc.) intended solely for the assembly and care of wounded and sick members of the armed forces. They are not to be attacked or impaired or prevented from operating, even if they are not sheltering any wounded or sick for the moment.

These medical establishments are to be set up, so far as possible, at a certain distance from military objectives.

Articles 21 and 22 of the First Convention state that the protection due to these establishments and medical units can cease if they are employed for acts harmful to the enemy (e.g. to shelter able-bodied soldiers or set up a military observation post). Protection can only be discontinued even in these circumstances, after due warning naming a reasonable time limit has been given and has remained unheeded.

Equipment (stretchers, surgical instruments and apparatus, medicaments, dressings, etc.) of mobile medical units must continue to be used for the sick and wounded if the enemy takes possession of it.
The real and personal property of Red Cross Societies and other authorities and aid societies are to be considered as private property. The army can however requisition it once care of the wounded has been assured. Article 33, para. 3, states that the material and stores to which it refers "shall not be intentionally destroyed."

This is a provision calculated to prevent a retreating army from destroying its equipment beforehand, in order to prevent its falling into the hands of the enemy (Final Record of the Diplomatic Conference of Geneva, 1949, Vol. II, p. 83), and conforms to the spirit of the Geneva Convention, which aims at "neutralising" a series of persons and things necessary to the wounded, without distinction of nationality. (Commentary, I, p. 277)

Medical vehicles, single or in convoys (ambulances, motor or railway trucks etc.) transporting wounded or sick or medical equipment are to be respected and protected, so long as they are used solely for the transport of the wounded and sick and for medical personnel and equipment.

The same applies to medical aircraft, on condition that they fly at altitudes and times and follow routes "specifically agreed upon between the Parties to the conflict concerned" (II, 39).

Ships chartered for the transport of medical equipment are authorised so long as particulars relating to their voyage have been notified to and accepted by the adversary. (II, 58).

c) Hospital ships

Military hospital ships, i.e. ships built or equipped by the Powers specially and solely to come to the assistance of the wounded, sick and shipwrecked, treat and transport them, are protected by the Convention (II, 22). The same applies to hospital ships employed by the National Red Cross Societies, officially recognized relief societies or private persons.

Hospital ships are exempt from capture. The right of seizure does not hold for them and if they are in a port which falls into the hands of the enemy they are explicitly authorised to leave that port (II, 29). This privileged position is explained by the fact that ships are rare in time of war, especially hospital ships and that the immobilisation of such floating hospitals would be very harmful to the victims of conflicts. Hospital ships moreover are not the only vessels to enjoy this immunity, which is extended to their lifeboats (II, 26), small craft for coastal rescue operations (II, 27), light craft employed by the Medical Service (II, 27) and any vessels
which might be employed by the International Committee of the Red Cross for the accomplishment of its humanitarian tasks.

In virtue of Article 21 of the Fourth Convention, vessels transporting civilian wounded and sick, the infirm or maternity cases enjoy the same privileges.

All the above hospitals, transport vehicles, equipment and personnel protected in this manner by the Geneva Conventions have the right to employ the Red Cross emblem.
A delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Mr. Pierre Jequier, has just completed a mission on the South American continent, in the course of which he visited six countries where he made numerous useful contacts and where he was able to intervene on behalf of victims of internal conflicts. These countries were: Argentine, Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia, Peru and Venezuela. For a long time no ICRC representative had had occasion to go to these countries and to visit the National Societies of the Red Cross.

Mr. Jequier was warmly welcomed everywhere and he observed that the National Red Cross Societies carried out their relief action thanks to the generous co-operation of numerous people entirely devoted to the common humanitarian ideal. The Societies, which are well prepared to render assistance in case of emergency brought about by natural disaster, carry out their work with a spirit conforming to the principles of the Red Cross. The ICRC delegate co-operated with their leaders in studying ways of developing certain activities in new sectors. He stressed the necessity of disseminating knowledge of the Geneva Conventions and of preparing for their implementation in the event of internal conflict. In this respect, he also contacted government circles, in particular in the Argentine, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela.

The ICRC delegate was received in audience by two Heads of State, Mr. Paz Estensoro, President of Bolivia, and General Nicolas Lindley, President of Peru. In every country he visited he had lengthy discussions with members of the government, particularly with Ministers for Foreign Affairs.

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Visit to detainees in the Argentine

The Argentine Government authorized the ICRC delegate to visit persons imprisoned following the political events of the last few months. Mr. Jequier therefore visited civilian detainees in three prisons in Buenos Aires. Shortly after he went to the Military Penitentiary of Magdalena, 72 miles south of the capital. During these four visits the delegate was accompanied by Dr. Francisco J. Marton, President of the Argentine Red Cross. He was able to interview as he wished and without witness the detainees of his own choice and as customary he submitted a report of his visit to the detaining authorities.

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Representations in Peru and Venezuela

In Peru and Venezuela, Mr. Jequier also approached the authorities with the question of persons arrested in connection with political events. These two governments were most receptive to his representations and showed themselves well disposed to the principle of granting the ICRC delegate authorization to visit the places of detention. Mr. Pierre Jequier did not, however, have recourse to their agreement, as he was able to observe that this problem was no longer topical. Indeed, the great majority of persons who had been detained in Peru for political reasons seem now to have been released.

The situation is similar in Venezuela, except that these persons who are still in detention have been condemned for acts of violence which are considered offences punishable in common law.

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Angola

ICRC's VISIT TO THE PORTUGUESE RED CROSS

The General Delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross for Sub-Equatorial Africa, Mr. Georges Hoffmann, went to Luanda, the capital of Angola, where he was given a cordial welcome, especially by Colonel J. V. M. Cabral, Secretary-General of the Portuguese Red Cross. The ICRC delegate discussed various humanitarian problems of common interest, with Colonel Cabral and with the authorities.

Mr. Hoffmann was able to judge for himself the activity carried out by the Portuguese Red Cross in Angola. After visiting Luanda, he left for Lobito and Benguela.

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Yemen

THE ICRC AGAIN REPRESENTED IN THE TWO CAMPS

After a brief interruption due to a change in the personnel of its delegations, the International Committee of the Red Cross is again represented in both of the camps which are carrying on the struggle in the Yemen. The ICRC's humanitarian action will henceforth benefit on the spot from the support of the United Nations Organization, which has confirmed its intention of facilitating the task of the Geneva delegates.

Mr. Joseph Gasser, delegate, arrived at Sanaa, the capital of the Yemen Arab Republic, where in continuation of the work begun by his predecessor, Dr. Jürg Baer, he sees to the distribution of medical supplies sent by various National Societies of the Red Cross and of the Red Crescent. Moreover, he is endeavouring to extend the ICRC's assistance to prisoners captured by the Republican forces and in general to act in close co-operation with the Yemeni Red Crescent, which has recently been established.

On the Royalist side, the new ICRC delegate, Dr. Candido Marcoli, arrived in Jeddah, in Saudi Arabia, where he contacted the representatives of the Imam El Badr. The latter, at the head of his forces, is continuing the struggle in the mountains of the Yemen. Working along the lines laid down by his predecessor, Dr. Bruno Beretta, he is endeavouring to organize effective medical assistance to civilian and military victims of the operations. He is also intervening on behalf of prisoners taken in battle by the Royalist forces.

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Greece

DISTRIBUTION OF RELIEF SUPPLIES TO DETAINED

Entrusted by the International Committee of the Red Cross with a mission in favour of certain detainees in Greece, Mr. Germain Colladon, delegate, acting in co-operation with the Hellenic Red Cross, is continuing his visits to prisons. There he distributes relief emanating from various quarters consisting of clothing, food and medicines. He is ensuring that the prisoners' families also benefit from this relief.

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Laos

FURTHER DESPATCH OF EMERGENCY RELIEF SUPPLIES

The President of the Laotian Red Cross, Dr. Oudom Souvannavong, has just sent an urgent appeal to the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva, with a view to obtaining different sorts of relief supplies of a medical character. He stated the following in particular: "The various hospital establishments at Vientiane, Luang-Prabang, Paksé, Thakhek, etc., are continually receiving large numbers of civilian and military wounded for whom blood transfusions are very often found to be necessary. I would therefore ask you whether certain National Societies might be in a position, as was done by the Netherlands Red Cross Society in 1960, to despatch blood plasma to us".

The ICRC immediately appealed to some National Societies in order to obtain the requisite relief supplies. At the same time it despatched a first consignment by air, followed by a second cargo by sea.

Japan

REPATRIATION OF KOREANS

The 108th sailing of Koreans, wishing to leave Japan to return to the place of their choice in the country of origin, left the port of Niigata on July 5, in accordance with its usual procedure. On board were 296 persons who disembarked at the North Korean port of Chang-Jin.

The number of persons repatriated since 1959 under the auspices of the Japanese Red Cross and the supervision of the ICRC has now reached a total of 79,890.

"Le Troisième Combattant"

RE-EDITION OF A WELL KNOWN WORK

The well known book by Dr. Marcel Junod, "Le Troisième Combattant", has just been re-issued on the occasion of the Red Cross Centenary. It was first produced in 1947 and enjoyed considerable success.
It will be recalled that an English translation of this book entitled, "Warrior without Weapons" was made by Edward Fitzgerald and published by Jonathan Cape, London in 1951. It contained a preface by Max Huber, former President of the ICRC.

The author relates in a particularly vivid manner some of his experiences in the service of the International Committee of the Red Cross, in particular during the conflicts in Ethiopia and Spain, then in the Second World War. In fact Dr. Junod was entrusted with several of the ICRC's most important missions and was the first European to go to Hiroshima after the explosion of the first atomic bomb.

It is in response to numerous requests, often received from National Red Cross Societies, that the ICRC Press and Information Department has taken the initiative of having a re-issue made of this work. This new edition, published by Payot, Paris, includes a preface by Mr. Léopold Boissier, President of the ICRC. Produced as a paper-back, it is on sale for 5 francs.

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At the Central Tracing Agency

A WORK OF PATIENCE AND METICULOUS DETAIL

This year, which marks the Centenary of the Red Cross, the Central Tracing Agency is visited by larger numbers than ever before of people wishing to inform themselves on its activities. Whether it is a question of members of National Societies, groups of university students or of tourists passing through, they are all struck by the sight of millions of index cards and the voluminous archives which still remain an invaluable working instrument for the Central Agency. Indeed the necessary information is extracted daily from these sources for establishing the identity of deceased military personnel, the handing over of attestations of captivity and tracing civilians separated by war etc.

The problem of homonyms

However, the visitor's attention is more especially held by a large board which illustrates better than any long report one of the Central Agency's greatest difficulties. This board shows two index cards in facsimile which at first sight seem identical. In fact these cards, which date from the war years, each contain the same name, the same first name, the same place and date of birth, the same rank and unit, the same family address, the same place and date of capture and the same country of internment. Only closer study reveals a difference in the prisoner's serial number and internment camp number. It could apparently have been a question of the same prisoner
of war to whom the detaining Power had assigned two different serial numbers in error and whose presence it reported in one or other of the camps. Now, as a result of searches, the Central Agency was able to establish that this information really concerned two prisoners whose civil status was identical, with the exception of the name of their mother.

Such similarities are rare, but the index cards of the Central Agency contain very many cases of homonymy which, whilst being less exceptional than that which we have just mentioned, necessitate however special attention, in order to avoid making unfortunate confusion between two persons with the same name and first name, and born on the same date.

If it is a question of a member of the armed forces, his unit or the place of his deportation can generally enable him to be distinguished from his namesake. On the other hand, details supplied about a civilian are often so vague that they render identification extremely difficult.

**A multitude of unique beings**

When addressing themselves to the Central Agency, families often omit to supply it with precise information about the civil status of the missing person. In her anxiety, a mother who has been deprived of news of her son, will search after him as a unique being and cannot realize that the index cards of the Central Agency contain hundreds of missing persons all with the same name and first name as he. She is surprised at being asked to supply additional information, regarding this as some foolish administrative practice, when in fact the Central Agency seeks to avoid at all costs, either in communications to families, or in enquiries which it opens with the information bureaux of the detaining Powers, making mistakes of homonymy whose consequences could be most serious. This may seem strange, but experience has shown this to be the case. There are many families who are unable to discern whether the information given to them concerns the person who is being sought or not. Difference in the date and place of birth are insufficient to undeceive their hopes, since to them these are mere errors in transcription, when it could only apply to the loved one, found at last.

**The most frequent names**

It goes without saying that cases of homonymy assume impressive proportions when one comes across surnames most frequently used. One need only mention that the German card-index at the Central Agency includes in particular 50,000 Müller of which 10% have the first name of Hans. In the British, French and Italian indices, the names of Smith, Martin and Rossi can be counted by tens of thousands.

To try to establish the identity of a man killed during the course of the war with only his name, first name and the year of his birth to base
oneself on - details revealed by studying a cemetery register - becomes one of the most difficult of tasks, when searches have to be made amongst a considerable number of homonyms. This requires much patience, involving the following up of each minute seemingly unimportant detail, but which may lead to cross checking and thence, perhaps, to throwing light on some case which has hitherto seemed insoluble.

Finally, one could add that, if the card-indices of European names present innumerable examples of homonymy, those of prisoners of war and interned civilians of African or Asiatic origin are even more striking. Thus the Korean card-index of the Central Agency comprises 170,000 cards, 40,000 of which bear the name of Kim, in other words, more than a quarter of the total. In view of these examples, one cannot be surprised at the meticulous care with which the Agency must classify its cards and follow up all the information which they contain.

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Continuation of the model course by Mr. Henry Coursier on the Geneva Conventions (Part. 25)

3. The Red Cross Emblem

The Red Cross emblem, as is well known, was instituted by the 1863 Conference, which founded the Red Cross, as a world organisation.

Who suggested this? According to the Conference records, Dr. Appia proposed the adoption of a white armband, and the story goes that General Dufour (who assisted in persuading the Swiss Confederation to adopt the emblem of the white cross on a red ground as its flag) recommended that a red cross be added. This emblem reproducing the Swiss flag itself with the colours reversed was easily agreed to, but the analogy only struck people later.

The Red Cross emblem soon became popular.

We have seen that the First Geneva Convention drawn up by the Conference just mentioned led to the official recognition of the Red Cross emblem.

Article 38 of the First Convention of August 12, 1949 (II, 41), which in the present code of the Geneva Laws, permanently consecrates this emblem states that:

"As a compliment to Switzerland, the heraldic emblem of the Red Cross on a white ground, formed by reversing the Federal colours, is retained as the emblem and distinctive sign of the Medical Service of the armed forces.

Nevertheless, in the case of countries which already use as emblem, in place of the red cross, the red crescent or the red lion and sun on a white ground, those emblems are also recognized by the terms of the present Conventions".
The second paragraph of this Article confirms an exception to this unique emblem, which had been demanded by Turkey as early as 1876. This Power, which in 1875 had acceded to the Geneva Convention without formulating any reservations, was then at war with Serbia. It asserted that "the nature of this emblem upsets Mahometan soldiers". When the Geneva Convention underwent its first revision in 1905, it was declared that the red cross emblem was to be unique but it was stated, on a unanimous vote, that it had no religious significance. The Turkish Government, which did not attend the Conference, however made its accession to the revised Convention subject to the reservation that it would employ the Red Crescent. In the second revision of the Convention in 1929 this reservation was admitted and also that of the Iranian Government in regard to the Red Lion and Sun emblem and thus it was that the text quoted above came to be drafted in 1949.

These exceptions to the universal employment of the emblem have been maintained, contrary to the opinion expressed by the Preliminary Red Cross Conference in 1946, which reminded people that the red cross was an international emblem, without any religious meaning, for which it was illogical to insist on substituting national or religious emblems. It pointed out that this would moreover result in a danger of the emblem being confused with the national flags which, in time of war, are a symbol of belligerency. (Commentary I, p. 300).

Things being as they arc, the red crescent and red lion and sun emblems can only be considered as official emblems which foil the Red Cross but have the same value and the same significance so far the privileges of persons and objects protected by the Convention are concerned. This being established, we can refer hereafter to any protective sign recognized by the Geneva Laws simply as "the red cross emblem".

The red cross emblem is especially reserved for wounded and sick members of the armed forces, medical personnel and equipment, as we have just explained.

In addition, the National Red Cross Societies are free in peacetime to employ the name and emblem of the red cross, in accordance with their national legislation, for their other activities which conform to the principles laid down by the International Conference of the Red Cross. When, however, such activities are carried out in time of war, the conditions for the use of the emblem are to be such that it cannot be considered as conferring the protection of the Convention.

The Governments of the countries Parties to the Geneva Conventions are bound to enact any necessary legislation to punish misuse of the red cross emblem.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has ventured to establish a draft law which legislators could take as a basis, in order to help the Governments in this important and delicate matter. This model-law has nothing to do with the repression of acts which, since they constitute breaches against the rules of war, can only be committed in the event of armed conflict, such as: hostile acts under cover of the red cross emblem, the displaying of
the emblem on premises or property which are not protected by the Geneva Convention, wearing of the emblem by persons who have no right to it in face of the enemy. Violations of the Conventions come under military penal codes and are certainly graver then the misuses with which the model-law is concerned and necessarily call for severe punishment. The purpose of the model-law is to provide uniform knowledge in respect of the red cross emblem in accordance with the Geneva Convention and to define its employment. The text states that this law is valid at all times, without prejudice to the provisions of the military penal code applicable in time of war.

These then are the arrangements provided for time of war by the First and Second Conventions. We have seen that they include an Article common to them both guaranteeing a minimum of humane treatment of victims of armed conflicts which are not of an international character and we have already pointed out its importance. This Article sets forth the principle that the wounded and sick are to be collected and cared for, among other things, but it says nothing about the respect or protection which should be afforded the medical corps and hospital personnel for this purpose. This is obviously an omission which should be repaired.

For this reason the XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross (New Delhi, 1951) considered that Article 3 common to the four Conventions of August 12, 1949, should be completed and recommended that a new provision should be added to these Conventions in order: ... "to minimize the suffering caused by armed conflict of all types.

a) the wounded should be cared for without discrimination and doctors in no way hindered when giving the care which they are called upon to provide in these circumstances,

b) the inviolable principle of professional secrecy be respected,

c) there be no restrictions, other than those provided by international legislation, on the sale and free circulation of medicaments, it being understood that these will be used exclusively for therapeutic purpose".

Various national and international organisations comprising members of the medical profession have proposed that all its members should be permitted to wear the Red Cross emblem in all circumstances. It was however impossible to consider this proposal, as it implied an amendment to the Geneva Convention and it was hardly possible, or even desirable, to convene a new Diplomatic Conference, which alone is authorised to change laws; furthermore, such extended use of the Red Cross and the impossibility of adequate supervision would have involved serious disadvantages. Other solutions had therefore to be found for this problem.

It was therefore decided, on the suggestion of the World Medical Association, to entrust its study to a working party consisting of representatives of that Association, of the International Committee of Military Medicine and Pharmacy and of the International Committee of the Red Cross, a representative of the World Health Organisation acting as an observer. The conclusions reached by this working party after thorough study, were unanimously adopted in March 1961
by the organisations represented. These conclusions entitled: "Draft Rules for the Protection of the Wounded, Sick and Civilian Medical Personnel in Time of Conflict" are in the form of a legal document which can be adopted as it stands, as an international convention, or subsequently incorporated in the First Geneva Convention on the occasion of a future revision (The text of these Draft Rules is annexed to the present document).

This draft lays down that:

(a) civilian medical personnel of all categories shall be entitled whilst carrying out its duties to wear the medical distinctive emblem the staff of Aesculapius red on a white ground, (See Annex); this emblem may also be employed on its equipment, vehicles and premises;

(b) the right to bear the emblem will be conferred by the civil authorities;

(c) the professional associations will supervise its employment;

(d) the members of civilian medical personnel will be delivered an identity card stating the capacity in which they are entitled to wear the emblem;

(e) States will take the necessary measures to prevent any misuse thereof.

These detailed provisions established by the working party can obviously serve as a useful basis for the legislator.

Others could also be included. For instance, it would seem to be indicated to list the categories of medical personnel authorised to wear the emblem; these might be, in addition to various specialists (surgeons, paediatricians, gynaecologists etc.) nurses (male and female), midwives, etc.; the criteria here is to grant the emblem to all members of medical or auxiliary professions whom it would be useful to distinguish by this means.

Another possible clause might stipulate that the emblem can only be worn after the person concerned has pledged himself to adhere strictly to the rules of medical ethics in time of war.
OFFICIAL RECOGNITION BY THE ICRC OF FIVE NATIONAL RED CROSS SOCIETIES

The International Committee of the Red Cross in plenary session, has just declared its official recognition of five National Societies, those of the Ivory Coast, Senegal, Trinidad and Tobago, Tanganyika and Saudi Arabia. The Society of this latter country has adopted the Red Crescent for its emblem. The number of National Societies officially recognized is now 99.

The Red Cross of the Ivory Coast which is organized on a solid footing, has already carried out several relief actions. It works in the first place on behalf of children, lepers and other needy persons. It has developed the training of relief workers, and of instructors in relief and first aid work. It owns and operates a nursery for children and takes an active part in the management of an orphanage. Sections of the Junior Red Cross are being formed.

The Senegalese Red Cross is also organized in an efficient manner. It has set up a "National First Aid Directorate". It trains instructors and gives regular courses. There are ten First Aid teams and a mobile emergency team which travels to the scene of operations by a military aircraft. It operates a social service, four nurseries and is working on the setting up of Junior Red Cross sections.

The Red Cross of Trinidad and Tobago is the heir to the local branch of the British Red Cross. Amongst its many activities, may be mentioned training in first aid and home nursing; blood transfusion; blood bank; mobile dental clinic; emergency relief; nurseries; social assistance; Junior Red Cross (13,000 members).
The Tanganyika Red Cross was also formed and developed under the wing of the British Red Cross. It successfully carries out numerous activities such as a blood transfusion service; social assistance; first aid and hygiene courses; child welfare clinic; assistance to refugees; training of nurses; Junior Red Cross.

The Red Crescent Society of Saudi Arabia previously existed in the form of a Society bringing relief to the pilgrims of Mecca. On this foundation it has the benefit already of experience similar to that of the Red Cross. It is at present preparing to start operating a blood transfusion centre.

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Yemen

Visit to detainees

At the beginning of July, two representatives of the International Red Cross on their way to Jedda, stopped at Cairo, to discuss with the authorities of the United Arab Republic certain questions relating to the Yemen. During their stay they were authorized to visit members of the family of the Imam El Badr who were under assigned residence in Cairo. An ICRC delegate had already visited them in April of this year.

Also during July, the International Committee delegate to the Yemen Republic was likewise authorized to visit a certain number of persons who were detained in the Sanaa Prison as a result of events.

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New medical survey

At the beginning of August, the ICRC strengthened its delegation in Saudi Arabia and in the Royalist Territory of the Yemen by sending one of its staff from Geneva, Mr. Michel Martin. It also sent Dr. Jean-Maurice Rubli, Doctor Delegate, with the particular task of assessing the needs for and the possibilities of supplying medical aid on the borders of the Royalist Territory of the Yemen.

Dr. Rubli took with him medical supplies and equipment to a value of several thousands of francs which will be used to bring relief to the wounded and sick of the Yemeni Royalists.
Laos

Despatch of blood plasma

The first consignment of blood plasma sent by the ICRC in response to the request of Dr. Oudom Souvannavong, President of the Laotian Red Cross has arrived at its destination. These 25 flasks were immediately delivered to the hospital of Louang-Prabang, where many wounded are being treated. A second consignment of 100 flasks is expected in the next few days.

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Yugoslavia

Assistance to the Skoplje homeless

Under the Statutes of the International Red Cross, the task of organizing assistance in the event of natural catastrophe falls to the League of Red Cross Societies. It is therefore the latter which intervened on behalf of the victims of the earthquake at Skoplje and, in close co-operation with the Yugoslav Red Cross, has co-ordinated the help coming from the various National Societies, of which it is the Federation. However, in the face of the vastness of the catastrophe, the International Committee of the Red Cross, which as a general rule acts only in the case of conflicts or disturbances, was nevertheless anxious to express in a material fashion its solidarity with the Yugoslav Red Cross and with this in view has remitted to it the sum of one million dinars.

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THE HISTORY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

JUST PUBLISHED

On the occasion of the Red Cross Centenary, which is at present the occasion for some important events in Geneva and elsewhere throughout the world, the first volume of l'Histoire du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge, by Mr. Pierre Boissier is just coming off the press, edited by Plon of Paris. This work, of some 500 pages, has for a sub-title: "From Solferino to Tsushima".

In fact, this first part of Mr. Pierre Boissier's work covers a much longer period, since the author first of all studies the evolution of the medical services and the law of war
in the course of the centuries which preceded the foundation of the Red Cross. Then, from the battle of Solferino, where Henry Dunant first had his great idea, the author shows in detail the beginnings of the movement. The subsequent chapters illustrate the various events, conflicts of every sort and international Red Cross conferences which stand out as landmarks in history and which were much more lively than is usually thought, up to the period just before the First World War.

Mr. Pierre Boissier's book may be considered the most important publication so far available on the history of the Red Cross. It is the outcome of many years of thorough investigation into the records of several countries. It supplies many new and interesting glimpses of the history of war and of the law of war. It also shows that the history of the ICRC is closely associated with that of the entire Red Cross movement throughout the world.

In the first chapters complete biographies are given of the five founders: Dunant, Dufour, Moynier, Appia and Maunoir. In a most impartial manner the author pays tribute to the merits of each of them.

In describing how the institution has gradually developed, the book enables the reader to understand how the structure of the Red Cross, which may seem so complex at first sight, fulfils the very needs of the action it carries out.

This book will provide the Red Cross world with an opportunity for finding itself, of a thorough examination of its ideas and its principles. It will, in this respect, not only be the most important publication on the history of the Red Cross, but also a contribution to the practical work of that great institution which in one hundred years has spread throughout the entire world.

Mr. Pierre Boissier, who is the nephew of the President of the ICRC, has behind him a long practical experience of service in the Red Cross. As a delegate of the ICRC during and after the war, he has visited many camps and prisons. He has already published various studies and articles on the law of war.

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AT THE ICRC HEADQUARTERS

Rush of visitors

For the year of the Centenary Commemoration, a special team has been set up to deal with the visitors to the
In July, 580 people, individually or in groups, came to visit the ICRC. Since the beginning of August the average number of visitors each day is 50, among whom were, for instance: Mr. J.H. Sullivan, High Court Judge for British Columbia in Vancouver and former President of the Canadian Red Cross; a group of Iranian instructors who had travelled all the way from Teheran by coach, sent by the Red Lion and Sun Society; leaders of the following young National Societies who took part in the Founex Study Centre: Cambodian, Laos, Congo (Leopoldville), Algeria, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Tanganyika, UAR, Somaliland, Australia, Ivory Coast etc. Mention should also be made of the President of the Guadalajara branch of the Mexican Red Cross, Dr. Juan Menchaca as well as Professor Ellzey of Stevens College, Missouri, accompanied by his students.

Many more visitors have announced their arrival between now and the end of October, particularly the Japanese Red Cross which will send a delegation of 120 members to Geneva.

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Continuation of the model course by Mr. Henry Coursier on the Geneva Conventions (Part. 26)

DRAFT RULES

for the protection of wounded, sick and civilian medical personnel in time of conflict

(March 1961)

The present stipulations confirm and complete the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention of August 12, 1949, relative to the protection of civilian persons in time of war, which refer in particular to the wounded and sick and medical personnel.

These apply to all cases covered by Article 2 of that Convention.

They also apply in the case of armed conflict not of an international character occurring in the territory of one of the High Contracting Parties as laid down in Article 3 of that Convention.
2. All persons, military or civilian, who may be wounded or sick as well as expectant mothers or lying-in-cases, young children, infirm and incapacitated persons, will be accorded special protection and respect.

They will at all times be treated humanely and will be cared for with the least possible delay as their condition necessitates without any adverse distinction founded on nationality, race, colour, religion or faith, political opinion, sex, birth or wealth or any other similar criteria.

3. All interference with the health and the physical or mental integrity of persons which cannot be justified on therapeutic grounds are prohibited.

Any experiments on detained persons carried out even with their consent, in particular on prisoners of war or civilians deprived of their liberty or on nationals of enemy or occupied territory, are expressly prohibited.

4. Civilian medical personnel of all categories will in all circumstances be respected and protected whilst in performance of their duties.

All possible assistance will be accorded to that personnel in order that it may be able to accomplish its mission. It will in particular have the right to circulate freely at all times and to proceed to all places where its presence is required within the limits of supervision or security which the Parties to the conflict may impose by reasons of hostilities.

5. Under no circumstances will the performance of duties of a medical character in accordance with the rules of professional conduct be considered as an offence whoever the beneficiaries of such action may be.

6. Civilian medical personnel of all categories in the occupied territory shall not be constrained to depart from the rules relating to professional secrecy existing in that territory.

7. Members of the civilian medical personnel of all categories who may be interned in accordance with Article 79 of the Fourth Geneva Convention of August, 1949, relative to the protection of civilian persons in time of war shall, as far as possible, be authorized to perform their medical duties on behalf of interned civilians, preferably of their own nationality, within the framework of the laws and regulations of the Detaining Power, under their own competent authorities and in accordance with their professional conscience. To this effect they shall benefit in addition to the advantage and to the protection afforded under this Convention, of the following facilities:
a) The detaining authorities shall ensure that their conditions of existence are such as to enable them to perform their normal medical duties and shall place at their disposal sufficient material for the fulfilment of their mission under the best possible conditions.

b) They shall be authorized to make periodical visits to interned civilians who may be in working detachments or in hospitals outside the internment centre and shall be supplied with the necessary transport for the purpose.

c) For all matters connected with their mission they shall be allowed direct access to the competent authorities of the centre. These will accord them the necessary facilities for the carrying out of correspondence relating to such matters.

Interned members of medical personnel shall not be constrained to depart from the rules relating to professional secrecy existing in their own country.

None of the above-mentioned conditions can dispense the Detaining Power from its obligations towards interned civilians from a medical or health point of view.

8. Civilian medical personnel of all categories can at all times, whilst in the performance of their duties, wear a distinctive emblem which shall be the staff of Aesculapius, red on a white ground.

This emblem can also be affixed to the equipment, vehicles and buildings of this personnel.

9. The right to wear the distinctive emblem shall be conferred on members of the different categories of the medical personnel by the competent civilian authorities under the eventual supervision of the professional bodies.

The authorities shall also supply to each member of this personnel an identity card which will lay down in which capacity he is entitled to wear the emblem.

10. The States will take the necessary measures to prevent all abuses in the use of the emblem.

11. The present provisions do not in any manner affect the right conferred on certain categories of medical and health personnel of displaying the distinctive emblem as laid down in Article 38 of the Geneva Convention for the amelioration of the condition of the wounded and sick in armed forces in the field of August 12, 1949.

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THE CENTENARY CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS

Satisfactory Outcome

The Centenary Congress of the International Red Cross having concluded its work and the delegations having returned to their countries, the time is appropriate to issue a provisional report on this meeting.

Judging from the comments of all the participants, this Congress was a fine demonstration of Red Cross unity and universality. Agreement was reached on all points and it is significant that nearly all resolutions were adopted unanimously.

By refraining from asserting points of view which might have been of partisan interest to some delegations, the Red Cross Societies, on the threshold of the movement's second century, sought a common denominator and this they found together in the inheritance passed on to each one of them by Henry Dunant and his colleagues on the Committee of Five.

It was in the field of humanitarian law that the most important results were attained. An urgent appeal was addressed to all States and to the United Nations for full application and dissemination of the Geneva Conventions which constitute the most up to date codification of law for the benefit of the individual. Action on behalf of victims of internal strife, respect for the Red Cross emblem and the protection of civil defence personnel are essential factors on which the Congress laid stress.
At the end of its work it made it clear that the Red Cross must also pursue its efforts to promote the spirit of peace and understanding amongst nations.

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Yemen

THE ICRC'S PREPARATIONS TO INTENSIFY ITS ACTION

At the beginning of autumn 1962, following the death of the Imam Ahmed and the overthrow of his successor, the Imam El Badr, conflict broke out in the Yemen which was to pit the Republican forces under President Sallal, aided by the Egyptians, against the Royalist forces entrenched in the mountainous regions of the country. A year after the beginning of these events fighting is still continuing and the International Committee of the Red Cross is aware that there are still many victims in need of assistance.

In reply to the appeal which it launched at the beginning of the year, the ICRC received from several National Societies of the Red Cross and of the Red Crescent help in cash and in kind which enabled it to distribute medical supplies in the Yemeni Arab Republic to a value of 125,000 Swiss Francs. For the moment, medical supplies appear to be adequate in this part of the country where there are hospitals and where there are doctors carrying out their activities. However, the ICRC is maintaining in Sanaa a delegation which is endeavouring to give assistance, within the framework of the Geneva Conventions, to victims of the events, particularly to military and civil detainees, a certain number of whom he has been able to visit. Steps are at present being taken to extend and develop this type of assistance.

Critical situation on the Royalist side

With the Royalists the situation sets rather different and more difficult problems, for the Imam's forces are carrying on their struggle in regions which are difficult of access and they are almost entirely lacking in any form of medical relief. During the summer the ICRC confided to Dr. Jean-Maurice Rubli, doctor-delegate, the task of surveying the general situation. This work, which took the ICRC representative to the southern border of Saudi Arabia and to the headquarters of the Imam El Badr in the interior of the Yemen, revealed a complete absence of a medical service in the Royalist army and a total lack of doctors and hospitals.

At the present time two doctors made available to the ICRC by the Swiss Red Cross, Dr. Edwin Spirgi and Dr. Anton Wild,
are in that part of the Yemen which is in the hands of the Royalist forces and they are paving the way for a large-scale programme of medical activity. The ICRC is indeed resolved to take further measures on behalf of the victims of the fighting who have so far been without medical care. For this purpose the ICRC intends to increase the number of medical teams working in the interior of the Yemen and to set up a field hospital in the North of the country, near the Saudi Arabian border. One of its delegates, Mr. Michel Martin, is at present in Jeddah studying a plan for such an action.

Sub-Equatorial Africa

THE MISSION OF THE ICRC DELEGATE GENERAL

The delegate general of the ICRC in Sub-Equatorial Africa, Mr. Georg Hoffmann, will soon have finished the first stage of the important mission he has been undertaking in Africa over the last seven months. From Southern Rhodesia, where the delegation has its headquarters, he has travelled to fourteen countries: Angola, South African Republic (which he visited on five occasions), Basutoland, the Congo (Léopoldville), Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Uganda, Northern Rhodesia, South West Africa, Swaziland, Réunion and Tanganyika. In all he has covered some 37,500 miles, mainly by air.

In each of these countries he contacted the authorities and the established or emergent Red Cross Societies. His mission is related to three major questions about which he had numerous discussions, i.e. dissemination of the Geneva Conventions, development of new National Red Cross Societies and the possibility of visiting persons detained as a result of events.

Mr. Hoffmann has yet to go to Bechuanaland, Burundi, the Comoro Archipelago, Nyasaland, the Seychelles and Zanzibar.

For the second part of his mission the delegate general will take up in a more concrete form the study of humanitarian questions broached during his first contacts with the new National Societies and the authorities in the countries which he visited. It can already be said that Mr. Hoffmann's presence in Africa will have enabled headway to be made by the Red Cross idea.
Burundi

VISITS TO POLITICAL DETAINEES

The ICRC delegate in Southern Rhodesia, Mr. Geoffrey C. Senn, visited Burundi recently to acquaint himself with the general situation of the country and to visit the detainees in the three central prisons of Usumbura, Kitega and Rumonge. He talked with some prisoners and asked the authorities to make a number of improvements to their conditions of internment. Mr. Senn also renewed former contacts with the Burundi authorities and with the native and European populations of the area.

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Japan

REPATRIATION OF KOREANS

The 109th sailing of Koreans wishing to leave Japan to return to the place of their choice in their country of origin left Niigata early in August, in the presence of a delegate of the ICRC. There were 278 Koreans on board, which brings the total number of persons repatriated to the North Korean port of Chong-Jin to 80,158.

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Greece

VISITS TO PRISONERS AND DISTRIBUTION OF RELIEF

The mission in Greece, which Mr. Germain Colladon, ICRC delegate, began on 20 June last for the purpose of visiting detainees, ended in August.

In co-operation with the Hellenic Red Cross, Mr. Colladon visited about fifteen Detention Centres, among which those of Amphissa, Patras, Nauplion, Trikkala, Leukade, Chalkis, Kalamion in Crete, Sotiria, St. Paul's Hospital for Detainees in Athens, Mytilene, Eptapyrgion in Salonika, Egina, Alikarnassos at Heraklion and terminating on 1st August with the Averof Prison, a women's Detention Centre in Athens.
The delegate of the ICRC distributed relief to the value of 298,385 Swiss Francs, which included medicines amounting to 10,265 Francs, clothing (given by various National Red Cross Societies) to the value of 244,120 Francs, and foodstuffs (surplus dairy produce from Switzerland, .3 tons of cheese and 5 tons of milk) worth 44,000 Frs. The families of detainees also benefited from such relief.

Belgium

CELEBRATION OF THE RED CROSS CENTENARY

The Centenary of the Red Cross was celebrated at Liége on 15 September in a most befitting manner.

During the commemorative meeting which was held at the Palais des Congrès under the chairmanship of Mr. Jean Pirmez, Provincial President, and Dr. François Migolet, President of the Liége branch, Mr. Jean Pictet, Director of the ICRC, who came from Geneva for the occasion, delivered a talk on the Geneva Conventions and showed the film "Red Cross on a White Ground", which was most successful. Then, Mr. Daniel Godfrind, Director-General of the Belgian Red Cross, dealt with the subject: "One Man, a single purpose and a Hundred Years of Greatness".

Later, an interesting exhibition unfolding one hundred years of activity, was inaugurated at the Town Hall. H.R.H. Prince Albert, President of the Belgian Red Cross, enhanced the event by his presence, which was also attended by civil, military and church dignitaries.

A JAPANESE HONOUR FOR THE PRESIDENT OF THE ICRC

On August 30, Mr. Léopold Boissier was presented with the Medal of the Order of the Sacred Treasure, First Class, by Mr. Akiro Ohye, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan at Berne. The ceremony was held at the Japanese Consulate-General at Geneva, in the presence of the Consul-General and high officials.

Earlier, Mr. Akiro Ohye had been received at the headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross.
Communiciqué issued to the press

MORE THAN A HUNDRED NATIONAL RED CROSS SOCIETIES

No. 781b of August, 23, 1963

The International Committee has just given official recognition to two National Red Cross Societies, those of Burundi and Dahomey. In this year which marks the Centenary of the humanitarian movement inspired by Henry Dunant, it is proud to announce that these are the 100th and 101st National Societies to become members of the International Red Cross.

The Red Cross of Burundi succeeded to the Ruanda-Urundi Branch of the Belgian Red Cross. Created in 1961, it has established reception centres for Congolese refugees and first aid posts. It trains first aiders and comprises a section of the Junior Red Cross.

Originating from the French Red Cross, the Red Cross of Dahomey also trains first aid workers and contributes to aiding Togolese refugees. The Society organizes courses in hygiene, ensures the training of nurses and assists the sick, the disabled and children.

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OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF A NATIONAL SOCIETY BY THE ICRC

No. 782b of August, 29, 1963

The International Committee of the Red Cross has just given official recognition to the National Red Cross Society of Madagascar.

The Red Cross of Madagascar has succeeded to the branch of the French Red Cross in Madagascar. Amongst other activities, it assists children and young mothers, aids victims of disasters (cyclones, floods) and gives instruction in first aid.

The Red Cross of Madagascar is the 102nd National Red Cross Society.

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THE ICRC PRESENTS ITS NEW FILM

No. 782b of September, 4, 1963

In commemoration of the Centenary of its foundation, the International Committee of the Red Cross has produced a new documentary film on its history, bearing the title "Red Cross on a White Ground". In coloured version and running for about twenty minutes, the film was executed by the Swiss film producer Charles Duvanel. Based entirely on authentical documents, it illustrates the humanitarian idea which inspired Henry Dunant and the other co-founders of the Red Cross. It spells out the great stages through which the International Committee passed from 1863 on up to our time. This new film will be officially presented to the Centenary Congress on September 5th in the Palais des Nations cinema, and will be shown later to the general public in movie theatres in Switzerland as well as throughout the whole world.

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Continuation of the model course by Mr. Henri Coursier on the Geneva Conventions (Part. 27)

THE STATUS OF PRISONERS OF WAR

(Third Geneva Convention of August 12, 1949)

Captivity as the result of war is at the origin of slavery. This idea is in a way sanctioned by Justinian's Institutes, explaining: "Servi ex eo appellati sunt, quod imperatores captivos vendere jubent ac per hoc servare nec occidere solent" (Vol. I - Chapter III,2). In all primitive societies, there was a division of labour between freemen, who were warriors, attacked the enemy or defended the city, and slaves, who worked to provide the former with food.

Hence the sentiment of dishonour attaching to war captivity. It will be remember that, at the Pass of Thermopylae, Leonidas and his 300 Spartans preferred death to surrender. And when Hannibal sent three caskets filled with the gold rings of the vanquished horsemen after the Cannae victory, to the Roman Senate proposing to return the prisoners as a guarantee of peace, he met with haughty refusal. Rome preferred to forsake them and free slaves in order to build up a new army.
In the Middle Ages, Christians and Moslems often mutually respected the rules of chivalry. We observed this earlier when we called to mind the attitude of Saladin in authorising the Knight Hospitallers of Jerusalem to care for the defeated Christians. In Spain, exchanges of prisoners between Christians and Saracens were frequent.

In 1179, the Latran Council prohibited reducing prisoners of war to servitude and selling them as slaves, in wars between Christians. It was then that the custom of freeing them in exchange of a ransom came to be instituted.

At the dawn of modern law, Grotius, under the influence of Roman Law and the Latin poets, still admitted that prisoners of war and their descendants became slaves (1). True, he recommended that the conditions of slavery should be made less harsh for them and declared himself in favour of buying back captives, adding that it was not customary between Christians to make slaves.

The Munster Treaty concluded in 1648 is the first international instrument to have laid down modern rules for the treatment of prisoners of war. Article 43 states that prisoners are to be freed by both sides, without payment of ransom and without any exception or reservations.

But still another century was to elapse for the doctrine of Grotius to be superceded. The honour of giving the most striking form to the new ideas reverts to Vattel (2), the Neuchatel legal expert and Jean Jacques Rousseau. The doctrine set forth below was accepted owing to the fame of the Geneva philosopher and of his book "Le Contrat Social". We quote:

"Since the aim of war is the destruction of the enemy state it is legitimate to kill its defenders so long as they carry arms, but the minute they lay them down and surrender, they once more become mere human beings and one no longer has any right over their lives" (3)

Having no right over their lives, it is impossible to reduce them to slavery in return for their safety. Rousseau stresses: "These are not the principles of Grotius", and concludes: "They derive from natural laws and are based on reason".

(to be continued)

(1) "Nam non soli qui se dedunt aut servitutem promittunt pro servis habentur, sed omnes omnino bello solemni publico capti". De jure belli ac pacis (III, 7, I, 2)

(2) E. de Vattel, Le droit des gens ou principes de la loi naturelle appliques à la conduite et aux affaires des nations et des souverains. III, 8, par. 158

(3) Contrat Social - I, 4, 14.
Members of the universal movement of the Red Cross joyfully received the news of the decision taken by the Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Parliament in Oslo to award the Nobel Peace Prize for 1963 to the International Committee and to the League of Red Cross Societies. Upon receipt of this news, Mr. Léopold Boissier, President of the ICRC, made the following declaration in Geneva:

The International Committee of the Red Cross is happy and proud to receive the Nobel Peace Prize which it is sharing with the League of Red Cross Societies. It had already received this prize twice, in 1917 and in 1944, its founder, Henry Dunant, having been the first to share this great honour with Frédéric Passy.

It is clear that the Norwegian Committee has recognized the importance and significance of the work of the ICRC, which has unceasingly brought relief to the victims of all conflicts and by its activity and its dissemination of the Geneva Conventions has demonstrated that solidarity which should unite all men.

Thus, four of the Nobel Peace Prizes, the one awarded to Henry Dunant together with the three received by the ICRC itself, will henceforth be displayed at its headquarters. This is without doubt a unique distinction and is a particularly striking testimony to the persistence with which the Red Cross has worked in the cause of peace.

For its part, the ICRC is conscious of the great value of the distinction with which, in conjunction with its sister institution, the League of Red Cross Societies, it has been honoured and in this award it sees a
powerful encouragement to persevere in its task despite the difficulties with which it is confronted, in particular to muster the financial resources which permit its action to be effective.

It will be recalled that according to Alfred Nobel's will, the awarding of the Peace Prize is entrusted to a Committee appointed by the Norwegian Storting. It is awarded to "whoever has made the greatest or the best contribution to further brotherhood amongst the nations, for the abolition or reduction of standing armies, as well as for the formation and propagation of peace congresses".

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Yemen

ICRC's DIFFICULT MISSION

In the Yemen the International Committee of the Red Cross is confronted with a particularly difficult task. Intervention is required in a country difficult of access, almost completely without modern means of communication and the population of which has long been isolated from the rest of the world. The war which has been going on for over a year continues to produce its harvest of victims which it is up to the Red Cross movement to assist, for the Red Cross was founded one hundred years ago with the primary task of alleviating suffering caused by armed conflict. Yet, in the Yemen today, conditions are such that victims in vast regions of the country are left completely abandoned.

Furthermore, ICRC delegates who agree to go there have to face the most trying difficulties due to lack of communications and to climatic conditions, not to mention the many dangers to which they are exposed. Moreover, needs are so great, particularly on the Royalist side, that the ICRC would be unable to fulfil its task effectively without the support of the international community and, in the first place, the National Societies of the Red Cross. So far, however, contributions have been completely inadequate, probably because international opinion is unaware of the extent of the distress which has struck this small country which for so long seemed to live retired within itself.

Recently, the ICRC launched an appeal to some fifty National Societies of the Red Cross and governments in order to muster the resources in personnel and equipment which would enable it to carry out a really effective medical action. It called for means to put into operation as rapidly as possible a field hospital and the mobile medical teams which its delegates on the spot had observed to be of urgent necessity. However, so far this appeal has met with but little response. Nevertheless, the ICRC hopes shortly to obtain the necessary contributions.
Further preparatory measures

In the meantime, preparations are continuing in the Arab peninsula. Mr. Pierre Caillard, the ICRC general delegate to the Middle East, is in charge of these. He arrived recently in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, after a short stay in Cairo, where he contacted the authorities and the Red Crescent Society of the UAR. He is assisted in Saudi Arabia by Mr. Michel Martin, Mr. André Tschiffeli and Mr. Laurent Vust, as well as by Dr. Edwin Spirgi and Dr. Anton Wild, who have just concluded a lengthy tour in those areas of the Yemen occupied by Royalist troops. Extracts from a report by these two doctors, are given below. They illustrate the gravity, at times catastrophic, of the medical situation in these areas and the urgent necessity for sending out effective relief there.

Distribution of emergency relief

For the moment however, the delegation has means available to enable it to relieve some of the distress. The ICRC has just sent out first aid material and blood plasma. Its delegates are attending to the forwarding and the distribution of these supplies to the interior of Royalist-held Yemen.

The delegation has also agreed to take into custody for distribution in Royalist Yemen, medical supplies, foodstuffs and blankets provided by the Yemen Relief Committee in London.

These supplies were transported first of all to Aden, but in view of the difficulties this organization encountered in effecting the distribution itself, it has entrusted this task to the International Committee of the Red Cross.

In view of the approaching cold season in the mountainous part of the Yemen, a few tons of material could not possibly be adequate to meet the needs of an isolated population whose distress is increasing from day to day, and where the lack of medical facilities is becoming most alarming. Indeed, there is a danger of serious epidemics breaking out at any moment. The first concern of the ICRC remains therefore the establishment of a field hospital and the despatch of mobile medical teams as the only means to remedy this increasingly critical situation.

Relief to prisoners

The ICRC is continuing its work of assistance to prisoners on both sides. The ICRC delegates have had the opportunity to visit Yemeni and Egyptian prisoners held by the Royalist forces under the Imam. On the other hand, Mr. Joseph Gasser, our delegate in the Yemeni Arab Republic, was able to visit several military and civilian detainees held by the authorities in Sanaa. On both sides, the ICRC representatives are endeavouring to ensure respect for the main rules of the Geneva Conventions which Marshal Sallal, President of the Yemen Republic, as well as the Imam El Badr, have undertaken to observe.
Doctor-delegates of the ICRC in the interior of the Yemen

Doctor Spirgi and Dr. Wild have sent the ICRC a long report on their experiences in areas of the Yemen held by the Imam's forces. We now quote some extracts from this report, beginning with a passage concerning a Royalist camp near the Saudi Arabian frontier:

"We have carried out lengthy examinations and have treated over forty sick and wounded. Malaria is rife. We also found a great many cases of chronic dysentery and intestinal worms. Food is lacking in calorie content. The diet is generally rice, dried mutton, which is most unappetizing, very occasionally vegetables, supplemented by tinned food, especially tuna fish.

Next day, a further visit to sick patients. We treated about 30 men for some of whom we had to extract rotten teeth. The patients expressed their thanks with a loud cheer! One warrior even brought us a transistor radio to repair, thinking electricity was a branch of medicine. We found several open cases of medical supplies in a cave: anti-scorpion serum, serum against burns by gas, plasma, tetanus antitoxin, phials of terramycin, fluoton, etc. The lot was covered with sand and dust and no one knew what it was for.

Just before sunset, we left the camp and went westward in our bullet-riddled truck.

In the course of our journey, we found two soldiers lying in the back of a cave seriously wounded by grenade splinters who had been waiting for five days for someone to give them attention. They lay on sheepskins soaked in their own blood and pus. One of the two was in a semi-comatose state. In this stinking cave, there was hardly any water and of course no soap at all. We administered chloromycetin and arranged for them to be evacuated. At the Kharir oasis, we dealt with some 20 patients, some of whom were children. One ten-year old girl had advanced pneumonia; a boy of twelve was dying. We could only treat him symptomatically and request his evacuation to Najran and Jeddah.

The need for a modern field hospital, with all facilities for diagnosis and therapy, is becoming more and more urgent and for us an obsession. We also have in mind pulmonary tuberculosis which spreads so rapidly amongst the women who have to work so hard and amongst the undernourished children.

Two days later, we set off on donkeys. On the way, mothers came to us with their sick children. All we could do was to distribute a few antibiotics and ointment for the trachomatous cases.

After five hours we arrived at a POW camp and we treated some cases. Later, we visited some 20 sick persons amongst whom we dealt with cases of malaria, pneumonia, and an open fracture of the finger. One soldier had been wounded in the thorax by small arms fire. We distributed antibiotics and dressings.
The following day, after crossing a pass of 3000 m., the two doctors made another halt. They continue their account: "The sick await us; they all want to come into our tent at the same time. One man has an injured hand, another has his stomach covered in scars. After treating forty patients, we took advantage of a lift in a vehicle also showing bullet holes. On the way we came across two seriously wounded cases who had been previously treated. They are surrounded by their comrades and are resting at the edge of a "Wadi". One of the two is dead. They had been carried for ten hours.

Over night we went towards the front, across the desert. We see various bombed sites. We are authorized by a Commanding officer to visit the prisoners who have been held for five months. They sleep on the bare rock as do their guards. Here we also distribute capture cards.

Having installed ourselves in a cave - not proof against air raids - we receive our first wounded. Most of them have been victims of grenade explosions. We first treat seven patients who had been wounded the previous day, four of them seriously. One soldier had his knee open and under the dressing we found ascaridæ! Another patient's wound had formed a horrible abscess. We have our hands full. My colleague is sterilizing instruments in a hole in the rock, whilst I extract fragments of metal. We inject megacillin into all of them. Between two operations, some patients suffering from advanced dysentery are brought in, who look at us with feverish eyes. Another poor wretch has a fractured pelvis, with macrohematuria and oliguria, having been run over by a lorry that very morning.

After a few hours sleep, the flood of sick and wounded continues throughout the morning. We treat fractures and make plaster casts. More dysentery cases. A probable typhus case is given blood plasma and physiological serum against a serious exciccosis. At midday, we were given a plate of rice and mutton, swarming with flies, and a little tea. Fortunately, we still have some tinned food.

In the afternoon, we administered our last medical supplies to fifteen patients who were brought to us by lorry and who were victims of war wounds and malaria.

We set off again for Najran, some 260 km. distant. On the way, we pass through a former battlefield where, five months previously, more than a hundred men were killed. Their corpses have been partly eaten by birds and the sand is slowly covering their remains.

In the conclusions to their report, the two doctor-delegates write inter alia:

"War continues in the Yemen as ruthlessly as when it began. Under-nourishment and the chronic shortage of water in these regions is giving rise to an alarming increase in amoebic dysentery. For the same reasons an epidemic of typhus is likely to break out at any moment. Men and animals drink at the same sources of filthy water. They are subject to unremitting bombing..."
As regards medical facilities, the rapid setting up of a field hospital is essential.... Auxillary medical staff is required as well as surgeons. In the western sector, mobile teams of doctors must be made available."

Concerning medical supplies, Dr. Spirgi and Dr. Wild merely write "everything is lacking".

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South Africa

THE ICRC DELEGATE IN PORT ELIZABETH AND PRETORIA

The general delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross for Sub-Equatorial Africa, Mr. Georg Hoffmann, recently went to South Africa to attend the General Meeting of the South African Red Cross in Port Elizabeth. He later went to Pretoria, where he met various government representatives. The discussions he held dealt with the possibility of extending the ICRC's humanitarian activities in the territory of the South African Republic.

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Mexico

INTERVENTION ON BEHALF OF REFUGEES

The International Committee of the Red Cross has received a telegram from the authorities governing the Mexican island of Cozumel, off the coast of the Yucatán province, in which they requested assistance on behalf of a group of 95 Cuban refugees who had recently landed and which included some expectant mothers and sick children.

The ICRC immediately transmitted this request to the Mexican Red Cross which despatched a medical team and emergency relief supplies to the spot. The 95 Cuban refugees were subsequently evacuated to Merida, the capital of the province, where they are being looked after by the Mexican Government.

* * * *
These words heralded a new era. We have already pointed out the part played by the philosophical movement of the 18th century, the American and French Revolutions in the development of humanitarian ideas (See in Lesson I, p. 6, what was said with regard to the Treaty of 1875 between Prussia and the United States. This text lays down very detailed clauses concerning the status of prisoners of war). During the War of Secession, the American Government, in accordance with these same ideas, promulgated very humane regulations, drawn up by the legal expert Lieber (at the time the First Geneva Convention was being drafted). In accordance with the principles of Rousseau and Vattel, the Lieber Laws laid down that prisoners of war, as belligerents, are prisoners of the government and not of the captor (Article 74). They moreover stipulated that "prisoners of war shall be given food in abundance, as far as possible, and shall be treated humanely".

It was logical, in this same spirit, to extend the protection which the Geneva Convention of August 22, 1864 had just conferred on the wounded and sick of the armed forces in the field, to prisoners of war. Dunant had moreover already raised this question at the Conference of Experts in 1863. He reverted to it in 1867, during the first International Conference of Relief Societies (which was to become the International Conference of the Red Cross) and his suggestions were approved by the assembly, without, however, being laid before the Governments.

In 1880, the Institute of International Law proposed in its Oxford Manual, that International regulations closely resembling the Lieber Laws should be adopted for the protection of prisoners of war.

It is in line with this set of ideas that the question of the status of prisoners of war was brought up at The Hague in 1899, at the First Peace Conference. International regulations on this subject, were then established for the first time.

We have seen how these rules, following the practical experience acquired during the First World War, were amended, mainly on the initiative of the International Committee of the Red Cross, to become the Convention of July 27, 1929, constituting the status of prisoners of war.

As a result of experience during the Second World War, and again on the initiative of the Committee, this Convention was revised to
become the Third Geneva Convention of August 12, 1949, which confirms and completes The Hague regulations and thus now constitutes the present international status of prisoners of war.

The Third Convention provides for cases of international conflicts but, as we have noted, its Article 3 lays down that the victims of armed conflicts of a non-international character are entitled to a minimum of humane treatment.

We shall consider these two situations separately, only the first of which involves the obligation of applying the Convention in all its details.

(to be continued)
THE ICRC'S ACTION IN THE YEMEN

The tragedy that was Solferino is repeated in the Yemen

The very year in which it has just celebrated its centenary, the International Committee of the Red Cross is carrying out a large-scale relief action in circumstances which, in a way, recall the experience of Henry Dunant, its illustrious promoter, a hundred years ago on the battlefield of Solferino. The victims today are in the mountains of the Yemen, but like those of the Lombardy plain a century ago, these wounded and sick troops are abandoned to their suffering. In this isolated corner of the Middle East, in an Arabia which can no longer be called a happy land, these unfortunates are forgotten.

The Red Cross, which was founded in the first place to bring relief to the victims of war, could not ignore those who are prey to the long drawn out conflict in the Yemen. In keeping with the dictates of one of its primary principles, its action had to be proportionate to the extent of the distress inflicted, which is at its worst in the highland territory held by the Imam El Badr's royalist forces, where there is not one single doctor and where most of the wounded die from lack of proper attention. The situation is quite different in the Yemen Arab Republic, which has several hospitals and where a medical service is well organized to take care of military and civilian wounded. Nevertheless the ICRC has contributed medical supplies and other relief material which it had been asked to provide. On the other hand, it was, thanks to its neutral status, the only organization able to intervene on the royalist side, and it undertook this arduous task with the conviction that to do so was consistent with the spirit of its founders, whose memory has just been celebrated throughout the world.
The ICRC's action stage by stage

The task now being undertaken by the ICRC is of a unique character: it involves the establishment in the heart of the desert of a field hospital, at first with 50, then later on, 100 beds. However, from the very beginning of the conflict, the ICRC has been endeavouring to succour the victims.

As early as December 1962, it delegated two doctors to the territory occupied by the forces of the Imam El Badr, when it was able to make the first assessment of needs and to bring a measure of relief. It will be recalled that these two doctors were caught in an air-raid whilst they were with the royalist troops. Both were slightly wounded but this nevertheless did not prevent them from caring for and operating on men more seriously injured than they.

Shortly after, two other delegates went to Sanaa where they contacted Marshal Sallal, the President of the Yemen Arab Republic. The first result of these two missions was that the two opposing forces gave their formal agreement to observe the main provisions of the Geneva Conventions. On both sides, the delegates worked to bring relief to civil and military prisoners and arranged for a number of them to be repatriated.

At the request of the Sanaa authorities, the ICRC distributed to the Republican side large quantities of medical supplies, part of which had been provided by various National Societies of the Red Cross and Red Crescent. However, it was not successful in its appeal for medical teams to work with the Royalists, so that the doctor-delegates sent by the ICRC were alone in administering to the sick and wounded. It became more and more obvious that the extent of the distress demanded a much larger relief force with adequate medical equipment to meet the situation. An appeal was therefore launched by the ICRC, requesting National Societies to make mobile medical teams available, as well as a field hospital. With few exceptions, however, the response to this appeal was disappointing, and it proved necessary to seek the requisite resources in Switzerland.

A desert hospital

Thanks to support from the Swiss Federal Council and the active co-operation of the Swiss Red Cross, the ICRC was able to assemble sufficient personnel and equipment to set up the field hospital. This will be on Yemeni territory in the de-militarized zone established for the UN observers, some 30 miles S.E. of Najran in Saudi Arabia. It will have a "clinobox" - an operating unit of the most modern type containing four compartments - a genuine miniature clinic where all the main major surgical operations may be performed. Several tents will be pitched around this centre unit to accommodate fifty patients and the staff. The latter will comprise some 30 persons, including seven doctors recruited by the Swiss Red Cross.
Mobile teams

With this hospital as their base, doctors will travel throughout the North of the Yemen, treating the wounded and arranging for the most serious cases to be evacuated to the field hospital. National Societies have been requested to supply mobile medical teams and several of them hope to be able to make some such teams available very shortly. It is hoped to be able to have these teams working in other regions which are difficult of access, using the field hospital as their base. For the moment only the British Red Cross has supplied a team.

Financial problems

The cost of the programme, as may be appreciated, is considerable. The expenses incurred or planned for the purchase of the material necessary for the field hospital come to about Sw.Fr. 600,000, without allowing for air transport which is estimated at another Sw.Fr. 200,000. The subsequent cost of operating the hospital cannot yet be assessed. The administrative charges incurred by the ICRC for its mission to the Yemen are of the order of Sw.Fr. 50,000 monthly and so far this item has involved an outlay of over Sw.Fr. 250,000 from the inception of the action in the Yemen.

The financial responsibility of this mission will be assumed by the ICRC thanks to the funds which have been advanced by the Swiss Confederation. The ICRC must therefore endeavour to find additional finance elsewhere to alleviate the burden of setting up and operating this field hospital and its other works in the Yemen.

A certain number of National Societies have advised their intention to contribute but so far the total only represents about 10% of the expenses involved.

In conclusion, it might be added that the cost of employment and maintenance of the field hospital personnel (30 persons) is not borne by the ICRC but by the Swiss Red Cross and is estimated at Sw.Fr. 200,000 per month.

First consignments

In the afternoon of November 12, the plane carrying the main items of the field hospital equipment left Geneva-Cointrin airport bound for Saudi Arabia from where on-forwarding to the Yemen was arranged. The plane was a C 124 "Globemaster", the only aircraft big enough to accommodate the operating theatre. It also carried the tents and beds for the patients as well as large quantities of other medical and nursing equipment.
The field hospital personnel left Switzerland by ordinary commercial flight. The head of the ICRC mission in the Arab peninsula, Mr. A. Rochat, delegate, left on November 11. The head doctor of the hospital, Dr. Wolfgang Schuster, left Zurich on the 13th, together with 23 members of his staff.

The adventures of three delegates

In the course of a recent mission in the North of the Yemen, Dr. Anton Wild, delegate, had an unfortunate fall from a mule and fractured a vertebra. He managed with great difficulty, accompanied by Dr. Erwin Spirgi and another delegate, Mr. Laurent Vust, to make his way to the Republican front and was then transported to the hospital at Sanaa. From there, the 3 delegates returned by plane to Jeddah. Dr. Wild's condition has since then appreciably improved.

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Algeria

The Tracing of Missing Persons

At the beginning of this year the ICRC had accepted a mission at the request of the Algerian and French Governments in joint agreement. This mainly involved the tracing of persons having disappeared in Algeria since the cease-fire on March 19, 1962, and in respect of whom the International Committee had received individual enquiries covering some 1,200 cases.

In agreement with the President, Mr. Ben Bella, Mr. Samuel Gonard, the Vice-President of the ICRC, went to Algiers to prepare the ground for this mission. It had been agreed that the Algerian authorities would facilitate the investigations carried out by the representatives of the International Committee and would grant them complete freedom of movement throughout the territory.

From March to September, some 20 delegates from the ICRC travelled throughout the country, questioning local authorities, police officers, relatives, neighbours and witnesses to the events in which the persons sought had disappeared. They also carried out a systematic investigation in penitentiary establishments.

A bureau set up by the Central Tracing Agency of the ICRC in Algiers, sifted the information gathered and this subsequently formed the subject of individual reports to the French authorities, who alone were designated as the proper channel responsible for informing the families concerned.
In most cases, inquiries revealed the person to be dead or that there were serious grounds for presuming death. A few of the missing persons were still alive and were traced.

The ICRC recalled all its delegates at the beginning of September and left to the Algerian Red Crescent the task of settling the few questions which might still arise in connection with these investigations.

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Japan

REPATRIATION OF KOREANS

On September 20, October 18 and November 8, 541 Koreans who wished to leave Japan to return to a place of their own choice in their country of origin, left Niigata by sea for the North Korean port of Chong-Jin.

The first of the three vessels was the 110th sailing, with 224 passengers. The 111th carried 217, the 112th, 104, thus bringing the number of persons repatriated under the auspices of the Japanese Red Cross and in the presence of ICRC delegates, to a total of 80,703.

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Far East

THE ICRC IN LAOS

On November 7, Mr. André Durand, General Delegate of the ICRC in the Far East, left Geneva for South East Asia. He first went to Laos where he was instructed to contact the authorities and the National Red Cross, in order to follow up the various actions undertaken by the ICRC on behalf of victims of the 1961 and 1962 conflicts.

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Australia

COMPENSATION TO FORMER POWs

The Australian Prime Minister announced, at the beginning of November, that former Australian POWs held by the Japanese were to receive an additional payment of £16.10.0. These amounts were to be paid in part out of Japanese funds previously remitted to Australia by the ICRC for the benefit of former POWs, in accordance with Article 16 of the Peace Treaty with Japan, concluded in San Francisco. Beneficiaries had already received the first payment of £86, whereof £31 was provided by funds which had been entrusted to the ICRC.

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THE WORK OF THE CENTRAL TRACING AGENCY

Mother and Son united after eighteen years

Eighteen years after the end of the Second World War missing civilians still form an important part of the tasks incumbent on the Central Tracing Agency at the headquarters of the ICRC in Geneva. Of the thousands of enquiries which it receives, a great many are sent by persons who were separated from their families either during the war or as a result of events following the war.

Of all the files where, with pathetic similarity, the same story is repeated of some poor child who does not know what became of its family, or of some aged mother anxious to trace her son before being departing this life, let us take a look at the case of Grigori Gheorghescu.

When she applied to the Central Agency, his mother could only give very vague information on his presumed whereabouts. Grigori Gheorghescu, who originally came from Rumania, was in Silesia, where he was still living in 1944 with his wife. The couple had apparently been seen by another member of the family at the beginning of 1945 in a train which had stopped in the station at Heidelberg. This person was himself in another train of evacuees and Mr. Gheorghescu had apparently called out to his relative, from the window of his carriage, that he intended to go to his wife's uncle at Nuremberg.

On the basis of this information, vague and calling for caution, the Central Agency undertook enquiries in several directions in various bureaux in Germany. It seemed at first that nothing would be achieved, as the records of the city of Nuremberg had been partly destroyed during hostilities. Nevertheless, thanks to the co-operation of various enquiry offices, Grigori Gheorghescu was traced to his residence in the Rhineland.
At his request, the Central Agency communicated his address to his mother. She replied: "I cannot find words adequate to express the gratitude of a mother who, through the intervention of the Red Cross, has renewed family ties with the son she had sought in vain for eighteen years. I now know the joy of being called 'mother' by my child."

As this story illustrates, no investigation is too difficult or lengthy for the Central Agency, if in the long run it is able to revive for a poor woman the happiness of being again called 'mother'.

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Continuation of the model course by Mr. Henri Coursier on Geneva Conventions (Part. 29)

The status of prisoners of war (cont.)

(a) International conflicts

Prisoners of war, as understood by the Third Convention, are the persons listed in Article 4, namely members of the armed forces and of militias, partisans (members of resistance movements), commanded by a responsible leader, openly carrying arms, having a distinctive emblem, and conforming to the law and customs of war, civilians authorised to accompany the armed forces, and volunteers, in the event of mass uprising; we will not dwell on this enumeration, on which we commented in our previous lesson.

These then are the persons who, having laid down their arms, are entitled to the status of prisoner of war.

We can only give a methodical outline of this status here of which, it goes without saying, thorough and detailed knowledge can only be acquired by careful reading of the Convention itself.

Only the main provisions of this statute will be recalled here, with special emphasis on several matters which call for comment either owing to their importance as doctrine or because the 1949 text denotes progress of special interest as compared with the 1929 Convention, or again because experience since the signature of the 1949 Geneva Conventions has shown that they raise a question of interpretation.

The categories of persons who would be entitled to be treated as prisoners of war in the event of capture (Article 4) call precisely for comment.

The most urgent problem to be settled, and the most difficult, was that of "partisans". Everyone knows the rôle played by the resistance movements organised in the occupied countries during the last world war.
Their rôle would probably be no less important in a future war. These partisans were not considered as regular combatants by the enemy but as snipers, and were the subject of internal repressive measures. The ICRC endeavoured to obtain that partisans who were captured should be treated as prisoners of war so long, of course, as they had satisfied the conditions required by The Hague Regulations. The attitude of the ICRC was in keeping with the Red Cross spirit, which is not concerned with the individual interests of States but solely with the fate of prisoners of war. While the treatment of partisans made prisoners was slightly softened in some ways as a result, their situation nevertheless remained absolutely tragic on the whole.

The Conference considered this problem at length. It was certain that the protection of the Convention could not be contemplated for all those who might term themselves partisans, nor for individuals who make clandestine attacks or engage in sabotage. There will always be patriots who will act as outlaws, with the knowledge that they do so at the peril of their lives; heroism necessarily implies this risk.

It was therefore endeavoured to decide what conditions partisans must fulfil in order to enjoy the status of prisoners of war. During the preparatory work, this status had been provided basically for members of an organisation established in occupied territory to resist the occupying forces, on condition that they complied with the four conditions imposed by The Hague Regulations on militias and volunteer corps. But this would have involved recognizing any organisation as a belligerent even if it did not come under the State or an authority with a minimum of the features of a state body. Not all the delegations were ready to do this, and they insisted on supplementary conditions, namely that the resistance organisation should have a specific territory under its control, or at least that its leaders should have real authority over its members and should be in a position to receive and reply to communications. Others retorted that these supplementary conditions, which were too circumscribed, might be arbitrarily interpreted by the Occupying Power and that they would end up in actual fact by depriving partisans of any protection whatsoever.

In order to get out of this deadlock the problem therefore had to be taken up from another angle. Some people were afraid, as we have seen, of resistance movements not coming under the authority of a belligerent Power, a "party" to the conflict. Others were chary, in addition, about creating a category of belligerents which would not be in line with The Hague Regulations, from which they were anxious to deviate as little as possible. It was finally thought that these apprehensions could be quieted and that a link could be established with the official authorities by relinquishing the idea of placing resistance movements in a separate category but none the less assimilating them explicitly with militias and volunteer corps outside the regular army, settling their case under the same provision. Care was taken to add that militia and volunteer corps could act either outside or inside their territory, even if the latter were occupied, in order to be sure of covering the case of partisans in occupied countries. As a result, resistance movements
are required to belong to a Party to the conflict and must fulfil the four conditions taken from The Hague Regulations.

An important question in the law of war and humanitarian law, which had been the subject of controversy for over half a century, thus seems to have found a satisfactory solution. Nevertheless, it is no use shutting one's eyes to the fact that many members of the resistance movements during the last war would not have come under these provisions. It is to be hoped, precisely because their scope is hence limited, that the Convention will be fully effective as far as concerns the partisans it does cover.

(to be continued)
Yemen

THE ICRC FIELD HOSPITAL HAS STARTED ITS ACTIVITY

Within a remarkably short time, if one considers the extraordinary difficulties of the undertaking, the field hospital, which the International Committee of the Red Cross had decided to place at the disposal of the victims of the war in the Yemen, has been transported to the spot and is now at work. The central element of this hospital, the "Clinobox", an operating block with four compartments, is now installed at Uqhd, a locality in the Yemen near the Saudi Arabian frontier. Medical personnel made available to the ICRC by the Swiss Red Cross has started to care for the sick and wounded which immediately began flowing in.

However, the transporting of the "Clinobox" raised serious problems. In fact the Globemaster aircraft which had brought it from Germany, where it was manufactured, then from Geneva, whence other items of equipment were despatched, was unable to land on the Saudi airstrip at Najran, near Uqhd. The heavy and fragile equipment then had to be transported by lorry from Riadh on very difficult tracks. Thanks to the energy and devotion of all those who took part, this hazardous operation was satisfactorily completed.

The ICRC having chartered two further four-engined aircraft, which reached Najran from Switzerland, the hospital's technical equipment was rapidly completed by further deliveries of medical equipment and food. This enabled Dr. Wolfgang Schuster, the Head Doctor and his staff to deal without delay with the numerous patients who had come from the region as well as from the interior of the Yemen. The ICRC team then had the honour of being visited by Mr. Spinelli, Under Secretary-General of UNO. The field hospital is located in the demilitarized zone under the control of United Nations observers.
Missions to the mountains of the interior

At the same time, the ICRC is making arrangements to extend its activity on the republican side. Its delegate in Sanaa, capital of the Arab Republic of the Yemen, Mr. Joseph Gasser, will shortly be leaving his post for health reasons. Mr. Charles de Blonay has been appointed to replace him. He will be assisted by Mr. Maurice Rouge, a specialist in relief matters, who is already on the spot.

Relief supplies for the ICRC action in this region of the Yemen have already arrived at the port of Hodeida, on the Red Sea. These consist chiefly of powdered milk, sugar and a consignment of tonics and vitamins. This relief, together with other items already on the spot, will be distributed to victims of the events, war orphans and prisoners in particular.

Before leaving the Yemen, Mr. Gasser visited detainees in three prisons at Sanaa and one at Ibb in the south of the Yemen.

All ICRC activities in the Yemen will from now on be under the control of Mr. André Rochat, who has just replaced Mr. Pierre Gaillard. The latter is at present making a brief tour of visits to several Red Crescent and Red Cross Societies of the Middle East, before he returns to Geneva.

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Algeria

NEWS OF A SHIP'S CREW

At the request of shipowners whose headquarters are at Monaco, the ICRC approached the Algerian Red Crescent, in order to obtain news of the cargo "Hassibal", flying the Moroccan flag, which had been seized during the night of October 30 - 31 in the port of Nemours in Algeria.

That National Society in reply informed it that the persons concerned, who had in the meantime been visited by their respective consuls, had been handed over in custody for the purposes of enquiry.

The International Committee has offered its services to that National Society, should the need be felt, to organize an exchange of family messages.

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The sudden death at Casablanca of Mr. Camille Vautier, has deprived the International Committee of the Red Cross of a particularly useful colleague who has rendered it the most distinguished services as delegate in Morocco. He started his activities in 1943 at a time when the ICRC had to carry out extremely heavy tasks on behalf of the victims of war throughout the world. Mr. Vautier made more than 90 visits to prisoner-of-war and civilian detention camps in Morocco. He took at the same time an active part in important distributions of relief organized in favour of German and Italian prisoners in French hands.

From 1947, Mr. Vautier was a voluntary delegate. In this capacity he accomplished several important tasks on behalf of the victims of the events which shook North Africa. He intervened in particular in favour of various categories of detainees and took part in the distribution of relief which the ICRC, from 1957 onwards, had sent to Algerian refugees on Moroccan territory. Further interventions on his part resulted in the release and repatriation of a certain number of military personnel captured in Algeria or Morocco. In all this activity Mr. Vautier displayed remarkable devotion. At the moment of his sudden disappearance, the ICRC was about to entrust him with a further important humanitarian mission.

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Poland

COMPENSATION TO VICTIMS OF PSEUDO-MEDICAL EXPERIMENTS

The neutral Commission appointed by the ICRC to pronounce upon the claims of the victims of pseudo-medical experiments inflicted upon them in German concentration camps, to whom the German Federal Republic had decided to make financial payments, met again at the end of November and the beginning of December.

The Commission consisted of Mr. Jean Graven, President of the Supreme Court of Appeal, Professor at the Faculty of Law and Rector of the University of Geneva, assisted by Dr. Alex. F. Müller, Professor of Physiopathology at Geneva University and Dr. Sylvain Mutrux, Assistant Medical Director of the University Psychiatric Clinic of Bel-Air. The Polish Red Cross was represented by two observers: Miss Danuta Zys, Head of the Foreign Relations Department and Dr. Jerzy Howkumski, medical delegate. The rapporteur was the doctor-delegate of the ICRC, Dr. Jacques de Rouge-mont. In addition, a German doctor, Dr. Götz, an expert in matters of compensation, attended the debates in the capacity of observer.
The Commission had at this fourth session, to pronounce upon a further lot of some hundred claims submitted by Polish victims. The files had been prepared by the Polish Red Cross and examined by Dr. Jacques de Rougemont. The latter had previously gone to Poland to meet the victims and discuss with the Polish doctors who had cared for them.

The Commission discarded only one case and requested additional information for certain others. For all cases which were accepted, it is now for the ICRC to approach the Government of the German Federal Republic with a view to asking for the payment of amounts due to these beneficiaries.

In Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia, the National Red Cross Societies have had an appreciable number of claims for compensation placed before them. These are at present under examination.

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PRESENTATION OF THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE TO THE RED CROSS

SPEECH BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE ICRC

For the third time the International Committee of the Red Cross has been honoured by the award to it of the Nobel Peace Prize, having previously received it for the years 1917 and 1944. In 1963, the Centenary year of the Red Cross, it shared the prize with the League of Red Cross Societies, its sister-institution which is the federation of all the officially recognized National Red Cross Societies. Mr. Léopold Boissier, President of the ICRC and Mr. John A. MacAulay, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the League, received the prize, which was presented to them by Mr. Gunnar Jahn, President of the Nobel Committee in Oslo, in the presence of King Olav V of Norway. Mr. Boissier then delivered the following speech:

"It is my great privilege to express, to the Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Parliament, the deep gratitude of the International Committee of the Red Cross, in Geneva, for the high distinction it has received.

All my colleagues on the International Committee have asked me to tell you that the award of the Nobel Peace Prize is for them, and for all those who work with them, a powerful incentive to pursue their difficult, though stimulating, task.

Allow me to add that, since my youth I have been a witness to the support given, by the Nobel Foundation, to the cause of peace. Having entered the service of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in 1921 already, I knew those unselfish, courageous, apostles of peace, who often braved the distrust of governments, and who were chosen for honour by your illustrious Committee: The Frenchman, Frédéric Passy - who shared the Prize with Henry Dunant -, the Swiss Ducommun and Gobat; the Dane, Frederick Bajer;
the Swede, Branting; the Norwegian, Christian Lange and others also. Behind these leaders, the great masses of the people were also encouraged to pursue the same path and the same ideal.

Did Alfred Nobel foresee, in his generosity, that his admirable gesture would have such remarkable results? I cannot say! But in any case we can now pay to his memory a proper tribute of admiration and gratitude. I wish to associate - in this tribute - the Nobel Institute, whose publications are of the very greatest historical, social and legal value. I shall only mention one of these numerous publications: "The History of Internationalism", the first volume of which was written by my predecessor, at the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Christian Lange, an outstanding representative of Norwegian democracy.

That the International Committee of the Red Cross - already twice distinguished by your Committee - has been called upon to share, with its sister organization, the League of Red Cross Societies, the Nobel Peace Prize for the year 1963, is highly significant. Indeed in 1917 and 1944, the immense task accomplished by the International Committee of the Red Cross and - let us not forget it - by the National Societies also, during the two Great Wars, was known throughout the world. The Nobel Peace Prize symbolized the gratitude of untold millions.

Now, the Prize awarded this year, in 1963, comes as a reward for the tasks accomplished by the International Committee since the end of the last World War. It is a task of which the public is hardly aware, its significance is, however, considerable. Indeed, the International Committee has been called upon to help the victims no longer of major international conflicts but of civil wars which are often crueller still. In order to carry out this task, the International Committee had to intervene between the legitimate governments - or those which considered themselves such - and those which had rebelled against the established order. No government opposed the International Committee on the ground of the sovereignty of the State, none contested the Red Cross the right to go to the relief of the victims of armed conflict.

Thus the principles of our movement have penetrated into fresh fields, where previously only might was right. New barriers have been erected against the resort to violence and new prospects opened to the mission for peace.

I venture to say, without false modesty, that in awarding the Nobel Peace Prize for 1963 to the International Committee and to the League, the Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Parliament, is well deserving of peace."

In addition, on the day of the presentation of the Nobel Prize, Mr. Boissier delivered a lecture entitled "Some aspects of the Mission of the International Committee of the Red Cross", This gave him the opportunity of describing how, in the course of a century, the field of Red Cross activities has extended and how its practical interventions to alleviate suffering constitute acts of peace.

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THE SWISS CONFEDERATION'S GIFT TO THE ICRC ON
THE OCCASION OF THE RED CROSS CENTENARY

The International Committee of the Red Cross learnt with satisfaction and gratitude of the unanimous decision of both Chambers of the Federal Parliament to grant it the sum of 8.8 million Swiss francs for the construction of a building to house the Central Tracing Agency and the Henry Dunant Institute, the latter to be run jointly by the League of Red Cross Societies and the Swiss Red Cross.

In a stirring message concerning the Swiss Confederation's gift to the founder institution of the Red Cross, Federal Councillor Wahlen, Head of the Political Department, told the National Council:

"The whole world participated in the Centenary celebrations of the Red Cross. Everywhere the Red Cross has become symbolic of aid without any conditions attached; the personification of the idea of the Good Samaritan. Those who have put themselves at the service of the Red Cross do not let themselves be influenced by considerations of rank, race or colour, no more than they are concerned to know whether the men to be given relief are friends or enemies, guilty or innocent. Their sole criteria are the distress calling for relief, the wounds to be dressed, the lives to be saved. Although by fortunate destiny we have been able in the course of the hundred years of the existence of the Red Cross to avoid having recourse to its assistance on the battle-field, no nation has greater cause than we Swiss to celebrate the Centenary Year with so much enthusiasm. We may say with pride that it was our compatriots who planted the seed and husbanded the sapling which grew and multiplied to become a forest affording shelter to millions of men all over the world. Although as an international organization, it is entirely independent of the Confederation, the Red Cross does display some typically Swiss features. I have spoken elsewhere of the common origin of the institution and the Confederation, of the same principles inspiring them, of the neutrality of Switzerland, home of the Red Cross and of the International Committee, as well as of this organization's impartiality, which is a pre-requisite both for its independence and its proper functioning. It is therefore fitting that on the occasion of the Centenary Year the Swiss people should erect a memorial to this great work, not a memorial in the usual sense of the term but in a form which will enable this benevolent activity to be carried on, that is the form of the building of which the design and purpose have been explained to you in the message and addresses of the two rapporteurs of the Commission.

It is a particularly fine idea for the Swiss Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies to participate with the International Committee of the Red Cross in this project. But in the last resort the beneficiaries of this donation by the Swiss people will be the millions of men who will have need of the Red Cross in the future as a result of man-made strife or natural disasters. This is the reason why you will - I do not doubt it for a moment - give your unanimous approval to the proposal by your Federal Council and your Commission."
THE ICRC IN THE YEMEN

THE FIELD HOSPITAL IS NOW IN EXISTENCE

Further to the information which we have already given concerning our mission to the Yemen, we reproduce below an article from our delegation describing the activity of this field hospital near the Saudi Arabian border on Yemenite territory held by Royalist forces. We would just add that the ICRC representatives in the Yemen are carrying out their manifold functions in other places besides this field hospital, particularly on Republican territory where they are endeavouring to bring relief to various categories of victims of the events.

What could have been considered as a challenge has now become a factual achievement. Thanks to the personnel supplied by the Swiss Red Cross and the Medical Service of the Swiss Army, the ICRC hospital has been set up in the heart of the desert in the extreme North East of the country in a place where hitherto no European had ever set foot. Its purpose is to succour the victims of this fratricidal war in which the Yemenite republicans are in conflict with the soldiers loyal to the Imam El Badr.

For the International Committee of the Red Cross this new experience in the accomplishment of its humanitarian mission was also a challenge to the desert, to the terrible sandstorms and the isolation from any inhabited area. It was not long before the team under Dr. Wolfgang Schuster, of Zurich, overcame these difficulties. For the past three weeks, Yemenite wounded and sick have been flocking to men they have never seen before, that is to say, to doctors.

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A unique position

Uqhd, the last of the series of rocks preceding the interminable sandy wastes of the Rub' al Khali lies on the tracks leading from the mountains of the Yemen. It was frequented only by Bedouin families and camel caravans. The climate is dry. Although it is more than three thousand feet above sea level, the heat is intense and the slightest wind gives rise to sandstorms, the temperature dropping to about freezing point during the night. It is quite an impressive experience to make the journey by lorry from Najran, the last inhabited locality in the South of Saudi Arabia, leaving behind to the left the camp of the UN observer force, crossing the Yemen frontier and to thrust onwards into the vastness of the desert where only a few thorny bushes can survive, and arriving suddenly, after several hours across the tracks into this haven of civilization and humanity, which is the ICRC hospital.

The camp has been pitched within the horseshoe formed by the craggy rocks of Uqhd. In order to ensure that the camp is obvious from a distance, especially from the air, large red crosses have been painted on the granite rocks.

A difficult installation rapidly performed

It was on the afternoon of November 17 that the advance-party sent by the ICRC arrived at Uqhd. The Arab "communication system" had broke all records, several wounded and sick being already on the spot awaiting to be attended to. This was immediate proof that no action undertaken by the Red Cross was more justifiable than this one.

The small team spent the first few nights in the open until the major part of the equipment for the hospital and its staff arrived by lorry.

The actual setting up of the hospital then began in earnest. In less than a week ten large tents were pitched, two of them sheltering male patients and one, female. Other tents were fitted out for use as a polyclinic, an analytical laboratory, a pharmacy, an X-ray theatre and a store.

A canteen was arranged beneath the overhanging rock and the thirty members of the staff, which is the hospital's present strength, are able to eat there and use it as a rest-room, to meet there for conversation and to listen to music and to rest, sheltered from sandstorms and the burning sun.

The ICRC personnel have settled in at Uqhd in a manner which is relatively comfortable but surprising in consideration of the desolate country by which they are surrounded. Fresh drinks are available at any time from the refrigerator, the food is excellent and good use is made of showers which have been installed.
Operation "Clinobox"

The American Globemaster which transported the "Clinobox" from Geneva could not unfortunately land on the sand airstrip at Najran. This item, a complete clinic in miniature weighing 3 1/2 tons, was therefore landed at Riyadh, the capital of Saudi Arabia. The enormous white crate with red cross markings was loaded onto a lorry and in the care of Mr. Könnecke, mechanic, set off on its 850 mile journey across difficult stony tracks via Taiz and Bishah. Twelve days later, on November 28, after several breakdowns and three tyre-bursts, the "Clinobox" arrived at Uqhd covered in dust, but intact.

A lorry carrying two electric generators by the same route broke down some 250 miles from the hospital and it was only with great difficulty that it was brought to its destination by a team of mechanics who set out to bring it in.

This "Clinobox" is made up of four compartments: for operating, pre-operation preparation, dressing and sterilization. It is fitted with air-conditioning, heating, hot and cold water as well as electric light. For improved insulation it is raised slightly off the sand. By December 9, its installation was complete and three operations were performed on the very same day.

A United Specialized Team

The team sent out by the ICRC comprises seven doctors (including three surgeons) two pharmacists, five female and four male-nurses, a laboratory technician, one radiologist, a quarter-master and his assistant, one cook (from the "Schweizerhof" in Berne!), two wireless telegraphists, one sanitary engineer and four driver-mechanics.

All are in good health and there is a good spirit prevailing in the camp. All, whether doctor, laboratory technician or driver-mechanic, participate wholeheartedly in the thousand and one daily tasks in the running of the camp. Each is imbued with the feeling of being an essential cog in the machine to ensure the success of this unique humanitarian experiment.

The two wireless telegraphists have set up a powerful station on a rocky prominence and are in daily contact with Jeddah, pending direct liaison with Geneva.

Intense medical activity

Over 300 wounded and sick have so far been attended to at the polyclinic at the entrance to the camp. Of these patients, about 100 were...
Bedouin women. Each morning brings in some forty new patients.

Most of the male patients are soldiers who come down from the mountains of the Yemen by lorry or on foot. Malaria and tuberculosis cases are frequent and most of the diseases of the tropics also. The lack of good food and vitamins from which the local population is suffering complicates treatment considerably.

Six surgical operations have already taken place; one amputation of a leg and one involving the extraction of bomb splinters. The analytical laboratory is working to its fullest limits and the X-ray theatre has been operating since December 5.

More than sixty Yemeni nationals - including eight women - have already been admitted to the hospital. This figure exceeds the normal accommodation and the doctors already consider tents and fifty extra beds should be sent out from Switzerland as a matter of urgency. After only three weeks, they have dispensed almost the entire stock of the main medicines and their indents for supplies will have to be doubled.

As a result of the bombing of the regions near the eastern front, there are many cases of shock and nervous breakdown.

Apart from the application of the most elementary principles of hygiene which they have to enforce with men and women accustomed to sanitary conditions hundreds of years behind the times, the hospital staff have another delicate problem which is repeated time and time again; that of inducing the wounded to lay down their arms on arrival in the camp. It is, indeed, essential that no one may dispute the neutrality of the ICRC hospital.

Supply Problem

Preserved food imported from Switzerland is the mainstay of the hospital’s diet, but stocks are dwindling rapidly. The quartermaster was pleased that this food, however, can be supplemented by local produce. Bread, vegetables and fresh fruit are being bought in the township of Najran, whilst passing Bedouin supply mutton and goat meat.

The major provisions problem is the supply of water. This has been satisfactorily solved. From the abundant wells of Najran, water is delivered in tank-lorries freely made available by the local authorities. A modern filtering and disinfecting unit has been in use at the hospital since the beginning of December.

The hospital transport facilities, comprising two vans and a jeep, are as yet inadequate to cope with supplies, maintaining connection with the light aircraft calling at Najran, and the various jobs within the camp.

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Assistance to Prisoners in the Yemen

Besides the medical mission being carried out by the ICRC for the benefit of the wounded and sick, the Red Cross delegates in the Yemen are also concerned with bringing relief to prisoners. The latter are mainly troops of the U.A.R., several of whom have been captured by the royalist tribes and held in small groups in the Yemen.

So far the Imam's forces have not been able to supply the ICRC with a list of prisoners they are holding. A census has therefore been started by the ICRC delegates during their visits to the interior of the country.

As can well be imagined, living conditions for these prisoners are of a very low standard, particularly during the winter, when the climate in this mountainous country can be extremely cold. They are in need of clothing and footwear and their diet leaves much to be desired. The ICRC delegates visit them and endeavour to bring them clothing, blankets and vitamins, but access to these prisoners is very difficult.

The U.A.R. Red Crescent co-operates with the ICRC in organizing relief to these scattered groups of prisoners of war.

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Germany

THE ICRC AND FAMILY GATHERINGS IN BERLIN

Mr. Beckh, delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, has just completed another mission in the two parts of Berlin.

The object of that mission was to continue the efforts, which the International Committee of the Red Cross had started in the autumn of 1961, to enable members of the same family to meet again, having been unable to do so because of the division of the city into two parts.

It having been understood that it would not take part in the negotiations, the ICRC had pleaded for this humanitarian cause with both sides.

The International Committee, which takes pleasure in such a solution found during this holiday period, is pursuing its efforts with a view to obtaining a definite settlement of this humanitarian problem.

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Day after day the Central Tracing Agency at ICRC headquarters in Geneva receives urgent appeals from people who have lost all contact with their families for the past 15 to 20 years.

They had become gradually resigned never to discover the fate of those near to them, when all of a sudden, on reading some article concerning the activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross, or on hearing from a neighbour the satisfactory results obtained from an enquiry made by the Central Agency, they are filled with great hope. They then decide to appeal to the ICRC. Such a step at once causes them much painful impatience. They had for many years bravely borne silence and doubt, but the few weeks which are necessary for the Central Agency to make its enquiries, seem like an eternity to them.

And yet the task is arduous, when it is a question of tracing persons missing after many decades, and then based on information which is often imprecise. It is not unusual for the enquirer himself to be unable to give definite information concerning his own identity. Let us judge this in the light of an individual case, by examining the request presented by Mrs. Eugenia Muller writing from Paris, where she is living with her husband. She believed that she was born on 25.5.1936 in a small village in the Crimea where her family of German origin was living, consisting of her father, Adam Bauer, her mother called Rosa and five children, Rosa, Lina, Adam, Eugenia and Anna. During the course of the war, the village was evacuated and the Bauer family had to take to flight. During these painful travels, the little Eugenia, having been infected with typhus, had to be sent to hospital. On the following night, the military hospital to which the child had been admitted, was obliged to move to the rear with all its patients. In the chaos of war, Eugenia was from then on completely separated from her family concerning whose fate she knew nothing. After having been moved from one place after another she was, at the time of the armistice, taken in and looked after by a French officer who brought her to his own country. In the years which followed, he did everything possible to help her find her parents, but without success.

What did the Central Agency do? It first of all communicated with the appropriate office in Germany, entrusted with the task of tracing persons of German origin, missing in eastern Europe. After checking its files that office informed the ICRC that it possessed no information on a Bauer family having lived in the Crimean village indicated by Mrs. Muller. On the other hand, it took a census of persons with the name of Bauer originating from a locality with an almost similar name, but situated in the Ukraine. Among these, there is a certain Adam Bauer, living in Westphalia, who had made an enquiry of the German Red Cross concerning the fate of his wife and children.

The Central Agency immediately made contact with the German Red Cross in the Federal Republic. The latter soon confirmed that it did
indeed possess a file on the Bauer family, whose composition has many similarities with the facts as supplied by Mrs. Muller. It was then possible to put Mr. Adam Bauer in touch with his wife and three of his children who had returned to the Ukraine. The youngest, Anna, had died during the exodus. As for the young Eugenia for whom his father had been searching for so many years, her date of birth was completely different from that given by Mrs. Muller.

The German Red Cross therefore requested the Central Agency to make contact once more with Mrs. Muller in order to obtain from her, if possible, a photograph of her in children to send to Mr. Adam Bauer to enable him to make a more certain identification.

The photograph in question arrived from Geneva, together with a letter written by Mrs. Muller's husband. The latter pointed out that his young wife was expecting a child and she should be spared any emotion since she was anxiously waiting the result of the enquiries which are on foot. He would not like her to have to be subjected, in her condition, to the shock of cruel disappointment in the event of a confusion between two homonyms occurring.

The photograph upon which all hopes rested was sent to Germany. Mr. Adam Bauer studied it. He seemed to recognize his daughter Eugenia, but did not want to trust to his own impressions. In order to remove all doubt which could still exist, he asked that a photograph of the Bauer family be sent to the young woman.

In the archives of the Central Agency, the file closed with a letter full of happiness from the Muller couple on their return from Westphalia where they have just met Mr. Adam Bauer. In him, they have found a father again.