Malaysia

THE ICRC VISITS INDONESIANS CAPTURED IN THE FIGHTING

Although the Malaysian Government does not accept the Geneva Conventions as being applicable to the armed conflict in which Indonesia is opposing it, the International Committee of the Red Cross has been authorized to carry out its humanitarian activity on behalf of the Indonesian victims of that conflict. Its general delegate for Asia, Mr. André Durand, has just completed a visit to a number of Indonesians who have fallen into the hands of the Malaysian authorities.

During his stay in Kuala Lumpur, Mr. Durand was received by Tunku Abdul Rahman, the Prime Minister, and by other government representatives who promised him all facilities to visit the Indonesian prisoners and transmit their mail. These are not considered to be prisoners of war within the meaning of the Geneva Conventions. However, on the intervention of the ICRC delegate, two Indonesian nationals under sentence of death have had an indefinite stay of execution.

The prisoners visited by the delegate were at Saremban, Johore Bahru and Singapore, as well as in Sarawak and Sabah in North Borneo. They are all detained in prison following on sentences by the courts or by reason of the legal provisions relative to national security. During the course of his visit, Mr. Durand collected some 200 letters for the prisoners' families. Thanks to the intermediary of the Red Cross Society of the Federation of Malaya, this mail was despatched, via Bangkok, to the Indonesian Red Cross which will forward it to the families concerned.
Before going to Kuala Lumpur, the delegate of the ICRC had stopped in Djakarta where he was cordially welcomed by the leading members of the Indonesian Red Cross. He noted that that Society had been called upon to give instruction in the Geneva Conventions to several groups of volunteers engaged in the fighting against Malaysia.

The ICRC remains at the disposal of both sides to pursue its humanitarian task on behalf of all victims of the conflict.

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**Viet Nam**

**REPRESENTATIONS IN FAVOUR OF AMERICAN PRISONERS HELD IN THE JUNGLE**

As part of its activity on behalf of the victims of the conflict in Viet Nam, the International Committee of the Red Cross attempted over Christmas to send parcels destined to several American military held in the jungle by the Vietcong. The ICRC is trying to assure itself that these despatches really reached their destination.

This is the second Christmas running that some of these Americans had passed in captivity.

The ICRC has already made repeated approaches on behalf of military and civilians captured by the forces of the National Liberation Front of South Viet Nam". So far it has received no official reply.

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**Yemen**

**THE HEAD OF THE ICRC DELEGATION RETURNS TO GENEVA**

Mr. André Rochat, head of the ICRC delegation in the Yemen, has returned to Geneva to report on his activities and to discuss the future of the Yemen mission with the Committee. During the same period, the ICRC delegates continued to visit prisoners held on both sides, Republican and Royalist. The delegation has continued to take steps with a view to their exchange and repatriation.
Mission in the fighting areas

Twice within a month the doctor delegates and male nurses of the Uqhd hospital went to areas close to the fighting in order to bring aid to prisoners of war, supply the local Yemeni population with medical material and investigate the condition of the sick and wounded who could not be moved. They were able to speak with prisoners and hand them mail. On the other hand, an ICRC delegation, coming from Sanaa, passed through desert regions, often crossing the firing lines, in order to discuss with the tribal chiefs exchanges of prisoners, which the ICRC always attempts to achieve. They also reviewed problems concerning the International Committee's humanitarian action with several leading Royalist personalities.

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Congo

THE ICRC CARRIES ON

Visits to detainees

Mrs. Jeanne Egger, ICRC delegate in Leopoldville, accompanied by a member of the Swiss medical unit in the Congo, visited the Ndolo and Makala prisons, not far from the capital. Relief supplies were distributed to the detainees, thanks to the "Entraide protestante".

Assistance to the Stanleyville population

The value of relief supplies delivered to Stanleyville by the ICRC delegates before and for several days after the taking of the town by the Congolese National Army, amounted to Sw.Frs.47889,-. The main consignment (medical, surgical and hospital supplies for the most part) worth Sw.Frs. 28,450,-, arrived on September 25 by air in a plane chartered by the ICRC, when the rebels were still in possession of the town.

The courage of the Congolese Red Cross

In difficult and often dangerous circumstances, the Congolese Red Cross first-aiders displayed admirable devotion to their task, frequently intervening courageously to check brutality during the strife afflicting their country. Several Congolese first-aid workers have lost their lives while carrying out their work. In the Bunia region, three of them were killed and eight have been posted as missing.
In Stanleyville and the troubled Kindu province, the Congolese first-aiders, according to reports from the ICRC delegation in the Congo, have been carrying out a magnificent job, tending the wounded and sick and assisting the population.

Apart from its other tasks, the Stanleyville team helped in parcel distribution at Christmas.

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MISSION IN THE BALKANS

Mr. H.G. Beckh, ICRC delegate, has just returned from a mission in Rumania and Bulgaria. On the way back he stopped in Yugoslavia and Austria. He was able to visit the National Red Cross Societies in these four countries and to have discussions with their leaders.

In the framework of his mission, he dealt with a number of humanitarian questions relating to the reuniting of families and the Geneva Conventions.

In Bucharest, Mr. Beckh was received by Professor Grigorâ Germanu, Secretary of the Rumanian State Council, and in Sofia by Mr. Atanas Voynov, First Deputy Minister of Justice.

Whilst in Bulgaria, the ICRC delegate was authorized to visit the Stara Zagora prison, where political detainees are held. He was able to interview ten prisoners of his own choosing without witnesses, the authorities and the Red Cross having given him every facility to enable him to make this visit. The delegate was also made acquainted with arrangements for the maintenance of contact between the detainees and their families.

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The Central Tracing Agency

AFTER NINETEEN YEARS, A FAMILY IN TOUCH AGAIN

Mrs. D., with her four daughters and one son, lived in a small Ukrainian village until 1943, when the German occupation forces sent the family to Germany, from which country they originated.
Her son was immediately drafted into the army and her daughters had to go their separate ways to earn a living.

After hostilities, one of the girls, Olga, returned to the USSR, married and settled far from her native village. She had had no news from her family since 1945, but at her request and through the intermediary of the Soviet Red Cross, the Central Tracing Agency at the ICRC Geneva headquarters received last March her query "Is my family still alive?"

Painstaking investigation revealed that her sister Martha had emigrated to Canada immediately after the war; she had married and been joined by her mother, her sister Alma and her brother Jonat. She had also kept in touch with the fourth sister who had settled in California.

Thus, in spite of enquiries being hampered by the changed names of three of the daughters, upon their marriage, the sister in the USSR was able by correspondence to renew the family ties which had been severed for nineteen years.
CONTINUATION OF THE ICRC'S HUMANITARIAN WORK

The situation in the Yemen where, in spite of the cease-fire agreement concluded last November, hostilities have broken out again in various areas, is obliging the International Committee of the Red Cross to continue its humanitarian activity which started in 1962 on behalf of the victims of the conflict. Mr. André Rochat, head of the ICRC mission, has returned to the Arabian peninsula after a fortnight's stay in Geneva, during which he examined with the institution's directors methods of continuing its work in the Yemen. It has now been decided that the ICRC will continue, for the time being, to give medical aid to the wounded and sick. It will therefore maintain its field hospital at Uqd in North Yemen for some time longer, as well as the mobile medical teams working in the interior of the country near the fighting areas.

Visits to Royalists interned in the Republic

The ICRC representatives are continuing to give assistance on both sides to prisoners of war and other persons detained on account of the events. Mr. André Tschiffeli and Mr. Marcel Boisard, delegates in the Arab Republic of the Yemen, were thus authorized to visit some ten Royalist personalities interned at Ta'iz in South Yemen. To these they gave relief supplies and mail.
Swedish clothing for the Yemeni population

The Swedish Red Cross recently offered 20 tons of clothing to the ICRC for the Yemen. Six sewing-machines were also added to this contribution. This consignment, which arrived on December 31, in Aden, is at present on its way to Hodeida, the Yemen's principal port on the Red Sea. The ICRC delegation at Sanaa has completed its plans for distributing this relief which will benefit the population in both the Republican and Royalist zones.

Aid to the war disabled

The ICRC is continuing its aid to the war disabled in the Yemeni Republic, an action which is being carried out in close collaboration with the Red Crescent Society of the United Arab Republic. Amputated cases returned to Sanaa on January 9, after having been fitted with appliances at the orthopaedic hospital in Cairo. On January 13, a further group of war disabled left the Yemeni capital for Cairo. In addition, the ICRC delegation in Sanaa disposes of a stock of crutches and wooden legs as provisional aid to the war disabled.

Malaysia

COMPLETION OF THE ICRC's VISITS TO DETAINNEES

Mr. André Durand, General Delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross for Asia, has completed his round of visits to Indonesian combatants held by the Malaysian authorities. Mr. Durand's programme was accomplished most rapidly and he was able to visit no less than 11 places of detention in 11 days, involving some 2,500 miles of travel.

On January 13, Mr. Durand had a meeting in Kuala Lumpur with officials of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Federation of Malaysia.
Viet Nam

AMERICAN PRISONERS

The American Red Cross has transmitted to the International Committee of the Red Cross several further requests for inquiries concerning Americans posted missing in South Viet Nam.

In addition, the ICRC has received letters for missing American nationals presumed to be in the hands of the National Liberation Front. The ICRC has inquired of the Cambodian Red Cross whether it has any means of forwarding this correspondence to the persons concerned.

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Ceylon

THE PRESIDENT OF THE ICRC VISITS THE HEAD OF THE GOVERNMENT

During a stay in Ceylon, Mr. Samuel A. Gonard, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, paid a visit to the leaders of the Ceylon Red Cross who described the activities of their Society (see our Press Release No. 800b). On January 22, Mr. Gonard was received in audience by Mrs. Bandaranaike, Prime Minister, who expressed her own and the Government's interest in the universal movement and humanitarian work of the Red Cross.

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Congo

RELIEF

Mrs. Jeanne Egger, ICRC Delegate, visited 248 detainees in Luzumu prison (Leopoldville) on January 20. In particular she distributed blankets donated by private relief organizations in Leopoldville.

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**Brazil**

**REPRESENTATIONS ON BEHALF OF INTERNED CHINESE**

Following on the representations made by Mr. Eric Haegler, ICRC delegate in Rio de Janeiro, the Brazilian authorities have given entry visas to four wives of the nine Chinese nationals who have been interned in Brazil since last April. One member of the Chinese Red Cross and an interpreter, accompanying the detainees' wives have also been authorized to proceed to Brazil.

It will be recalled that three other Chinese wives were given authorization last July, as a result of the ICRC's representations, to visit their husbands detained in Brazil.

Furthermore, Mr. Haegler's requests were successful in enabling the detainees to receive parcels despatched for them by the Chinese Red Cross.

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**Poland**

**FURTHER EXAMINATION OF VICTIMS OF PSEUDO-MEDICAL EXPERIMENTS**

Another mission of the International Committee of the Red Cross recently went to Poland where it examined a further group of 70 victims of pseudo-medical experiments practised in German concentration camps during the world war.

The representatives of the ICRC, Mr. Jean-Pierre Maunoir, delegate and Dr. Jacques de Rougemont, doctor-delegate, in close co-operation with the Polish Red Cross, made a series of investigations which comprised meeting each of the victims concerned as well as the Polish doctors who had given them treatment. They will then have to formulate proposals to the neutral Commission of Experts charged with deciding the amount of compensation to be allotted in each case.

It should be recalled that the ICRC, at the request of the Government of the German Federal Republic has accepted to act as intermediary in transmitting financial assistance which that Government wishes to be given to victims of such experiments resident in countries with which it does not maintain diplomatic relations.

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THE ICRC CONTINUES TO ADMINISTER THE INTERNATIONAL TRACING SERVICE

The Federal Republic of Germany, the United States, France and Great Britain have approved the extension for an indeterminate period of the agreement pursuant to which, since 1955, the administration of the International Tracing Service for investigation into cases of missing persons (ITS) was entrusted to the ICRC.

The ITS, which is located in Arolsen (Federal Republic of Germany), was set up at the end of the war. It has since that time been the most important records centre concerned with the fate of persons displaced, deported or missing during the Second World War in Germany and in former German-occupied countries.

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Czechoslovakia

DEATH OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK RED CROSS

The International Committee of the Red Cross learned with profound sorrow of the death, in an accident, of Dr. Frantisek Janouch, President of the Czechoslovak Red Cross. He had held this office since 1956 and had given great impetus to the Society's activities. He was also active on the international level. In 1961 he organized to everyone's satisfaction the meetings of the Board of Governors of the League of Red Cross Societies and the Council of Delegates of the International Red Cross which were held in Prague. During the Centenary Congress of the International Red Cross in Geneva, in 1963, he presided most competently over one of the four Commissions, the Junior Red Cross Commission.

The ICRC was represented at his funeral by Mr. Jean-Pierre Maunoir, Delegate.

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Mr. Samuel A. Gonard, President of the ICRC, when in Ceylon, visited that country's Red Cross Society. He was received by Mr. Gunawardena, Chairman of the Council and Mr. Samaranayake, Chairman of its Finance Committee. He also visited Mr. Gopallawa, President of the Society and Governor-General of the island. With them he discussed various problems with which the Society is being faced and he expressed to them the ICRC's sympathy for the victims of the recent cyclone.
Viet Nam

THE ICRC OFFERS ITS SERVICES TO THE RED CROSS
OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

After the air attacks on the town and region of Dong Hoi, a few miles north of the 17th parallel, the International Committee of the Red Cross telegraphed to the Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam in Hanoi, offering its aid on behalf of victims in the framework of the First Geneva Convention of 1949. This Convention, to which the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam acceded on June 28, 1957, relates to "the amelioration of the condition of the wounded and sick in armed forces in the field".

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Relief for American prisoners

On January 26, Mr. W. Muller went to Pnom-Penh where he met Dr. Pheng-Kanthel, Vice-President of the Cambodian Red Cross, whom he asked to transmit to the delegates of the National Liberation Front of South Viet Nam the relief parcels sent in December 1964 by the ICRC for the American prisoners held in the bush.
The ICRC has also despatched from Geneva mail which it had received from the United States for these same prisoners. The leaders of the NLF and the Cambodian authorities had previously given their agreement for the transmission of these parcels and for the exchange of correspondence between the detainees and their families.

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Cambodia

WHEN THE ICRC NEWS BULLETIN SAVED A LIFE

A Vietnamese soldier was captured by Cambodian forces on May 8, 1964 during the course of a frontier incident. On December 26, he was condemned to death by a Cambodian military court.

At the request of the Government of the Republic of Viet Nam, Mr. Werner Muller, ICRC delegate in Saigon, immediately went to Pnom Penh in order to obtain a stay of execution of the condemned man.

"From Saigon", Mr. Muller wrote to the ICRC, "I had brought the latest number of the Information Bulletin in which you mentioned that Mr. Durand, general delegate for Asia, had obtained from the Malaysian authorities a sine die stay of execution of two Indonesian prisoners who had been condemned to death. This information... was cyclostyled and distributed to all interested circles....

As a result of reading this, the head of the Cabinet of the Cambodian Ministry of National Defence gave me the assurance that the condemned soldier would not be executed for the time being."

From Geneva, the ICRC had cabled the Cambodian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Pnom-Penh for application in favour of the condemned of article 101 of the Third Geneva Convention relative to the treatment of prisoners of war. This article stipulates a delay of six months between notification to the Protecting Power of the death penalty pronounced on a prisoner of war and his execution.

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Philippines

VISIT TO DETAINEES

Mr. John W. Mittner, Manila delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, on January 6, again visited the political detainees at Fort McKinley. He was accompanied by Dr. T. Calasanz, Secretary-General of the Philippine Red Cross. He distributed relief parcels containing, inter alia, soap, writing paper, disinfectants and cigarettes, and he was able to interview the prisoners without witnesses.

These detainees had been arrested and sentenced pursuant to measures taken by the Philippine Government against the Huks subversion.

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Laos

THE ICRC HELPS THE VICTIMS

After completing his mission in the Federation of Malaysia, Mr. André Durand, General Delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross for Asia, went to Bangkok and then to Laos. He was in Vientiane, with the ICRC delegate in that town, Dr. Jürg Baer, during the coup d'état and the operations which followed.

On February 5, the two delegates delivered anti-tetanus and anti-gangrene sera, as well as blood plasma to the Mahosot hospital.

On the following day they distributed relief supplies to the victims in the capital.

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Japan

REPATRIATION OF KOREANS

The 122nd sailing of Koreans wishing to leave Japan for their country of origin left Niigata on January 22, attended by Mr. Testuz, ICRC delegate.

Since these operations began, in December 1959, the total number of persons repatriated has reached 82,734.
Visit to Omura internment camp

Mr. Harry C. Angst, delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Tokyo, accompanied by Mr. Inoue, Director of Foreign Affairs of the Japanese Red Cross, paid a visit on December 19, to the Omura camp where Koreans entering Japan illegally are held.

As previously, the ICRC representative remitted a cash donation to the camp authorities for the purpose of improving the diet.

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Congo

AN APPEAL FROM THE ALLIANCE OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES OF THE USSR

Professor Gueorgui Miterev, President of the Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the USSR has requested the President of the ICRC to intervene on behalf of a Soviet correspondent, Mr. Khokhlov who was recently arrested by the Congolese authorities in Leopoldville.

The ICRC at once transmitted this request to its delegation in Leopoldville which, as a result of representations it made to the government, visited the detainee on February 13.

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Yemen

IN THE FIELD HOSPITAL AT UQHD

The International Committee of the Red Cross has decided to maintain for some time the Uqhd field hospital which it set up in November 1963.

The ICRC's activities in favour of the victims of the conflict in the Yemen entails monthly expenditure of the order of 200,000 Swiss francs.
Crutches

The thirty pairs of crutches provided by the ICRC are the only ones in existence in the Yemen. They were given to patients at the orthopaedic and Republican hospitals of Sanaa and to other disabled in the town.

A further consignment is on its way to the Republican capital and some of the crutches will go to disabled members of the Royalist tribes.

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Cypr u s

PRESENT POSITION

As a result of appeals launched by the ICRC on September 1 and October 12 last, nineteen National Red Cross Societies had, by February 1, 1965, made a total cash contribution of 1,473,971 Swiss francs, to which should be added a sum of $15,000 offered by the Government of the USA.

The funds thus placed at its disposal enabled the ICRC delegation in Nicosia to make several relief distributions, especially to refugee and needy children.

Thanks to a favourable decision by the Nicosia authorities, foodstuffs which had been despatched at the beginning of December 1964 were able to be freely imported and distributed to those in need with the help of the United Nations forces. Furthermore, the representative of the British and United States Governments recently placed 400 tents at the disposal of the ICRC delegate for the homeless.

Nearly one third of the funds received was used to make local purchases of warm clothing, underclothes and shoes. Whenever possible, these articles were ordered from local merchants and craftsmen rendered wholly or partially unemployed by the events. Purchases are still being made and distributions of clothing take place in Cypriot poor old people's homes in Nicosia, Larnaca, Limassol and Famagusta. Relief will shortly have to be distributed to a thousand displaced and needy Turkish Cypriot children, as well as to a certain number of Greek children victims of the events.

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Brazil

AFTER A VISIT TO THE CHINESE INTERNEES

The delegation of four Chinese wives, which had obtained authorization to go to Rio de Janeiro to visit their interned husbands, arrived in Geneva on February 13, on its return from Brazil.

The delegation, led by Mr. Wang Min, Assistant Secretary-General of the Chinese Red Cross, expressed to the representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross who welcomed it all its appreciation for having made the journey possible. The Chinese delegation was particularly grateful to Mr. Eric Haegler, honorary delegate of the ICRC in Rio de Janeiro, who had greatly facilitated its stay in Brazil and had accompanied it on several occasions during visits to the interned Chinese.

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Czechoslovakia

FOR THE VICTIMS OF CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Mr. J.P. Maunoir, delegate, visited Prague on January 22, where he had a further meeting with a representative of the Alliance of Czechoslovak Fighters against Fascism. This body is responsible for registering the names of Czech nationals, victims of pseudo-medical experiments practised in German concentration camps during the Second World War.

The German Federal Government had informed the International Committee of the Red Cross in 1961 that it hoped, through its intermediary, to give financial aid for Czechs who had been subjected to pseudo-medical experiments as had already been effected for Hungarian and Polish victims. By June 30, 1964, the Alliance had received nearly one thousand replies.

The German Federal Government has not, however, yet made its decision known concerning the procedure to be adopted in dealing with these claims.

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VIENNA WILL BE HOST TO THE XXTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF
THE RED CROSS

The XXth International Conference of the Red Cross will be held in Vienna from October 2 to 9, 1965. It will be preceded, from September 27, by a series of preparatory meetings.

The Austrian Red Cross, which has offered to receive the Conference and organize it with the help of the international institutions of the Red Cross, has recently sent the provisional agenda and programme to participants.

The Conference will be held in the Hofburg Palace, one wing of which has been specially arranged to accommodate international conferences and possesses all the necessary installations for such meetings.

The XIXth International Conference was held at New Delhi in 1957.

It should be recalled that the International Conference is the supreme deliberative body of the International Red Cross. It is composed of representatives of the National Red Cross Societies, the international institutions of the Red Cross and delegates of the States parties to the Geneva Conventions.

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AMERICAN RED CROSS PRESIDENT VISITS GENEVA

General James F. Collins, recently-elected President of the American Red Cross, left Geneva today after his first official visit to the headquarters of the International Red Cross.

General Collins visited in turn the League of Red Cross Societies and the International Committee of the Red Cross.
The American Red Cross President was introduced by League Secretary General Henrik Beer to the different League activities, which include the development programme for new National Societies, relief in time of natural disaster, health and social welfare, nursing, Junior Red Cross, information and public relations.

At the International Committee headquarters, General Collins was greeted by the Committee's President Samuel A. Gonard. He was shown all the present actions in which the ICRC is performing its rôle as mediator in time of conflict and defender of the Red Cross Principles and the Geneva Conventions. He heard reports by delegates on their work in the field. General Collins also visited the Central Tracing Agency (formerly the Central Prisoners of War Agency).
Viet Nam

MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

The general delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross for Asia, Mr. André Durand, arrived in Saigon on February 13.

Together with Mr. Werner Muller, delegate, he was received by Dr. Phan-Huy-Quat, President of the National Council. The two delegates discussed with the head of the new Government the ICRC's relief action on behalf of the victims of the conflict.

Routing of parcels and mail for the American prisoners

The Cambodian Red Cross announced that it had, on February 12, handed to the Secretariat of the National Liberation Front of South Viet Nam at the Indochinese Peoples Conference held at Phnom-Penh, parcels and mail which the International Committee of the Red Cross had despatched to it for the American prisoners in the hands of the NLF and whose capture had been confirmed.

These items would be conveyed by the "Red Cross of Liberation" to their recipients.

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THE LAOTIAN RED CROSS TAKES OVER

Dr. Jürg Baer, delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, charged until now with distributing relief received from the League of Red Cross Societies to the victims of the events in Laos, left Vientiane on February 27, in order to rejoin, in South Viet Nam, Mr. André Durand, general delegate of the ICRC for Asia and Mr. Werner Muller, resident delegate in Saigon.

Before leaving, Dr. Baer handed over undistributed relief stocks to the Laotian Red Cross with which he had most effectively worked for more than six months.

Refugees from all the accessible provinces had benefited from this action.

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Yemen

DISTRIBUTION OF RELIEF SUPPLIES IN REPUBLICAN TERRITORY

Since the beginning of the year, the International Committee of the Red Cross delegation in the Yemen Arab Republic, has distributed relief supplies of food (whole milk, cheese, tuna, sardines, soap, cigarettes etc.) to various hospitals. The main beneficiaries were the inmates at the Soukh el Bagharr dispensary, the orthopaedic hospital, the Republican hospital, the girls school, the hospital and dispensary at Hodeida, the El Kalea prison, the school for orphans, the school for nurses and laboratory assistants, and the WHO dispensary as well as the Association of Yemeni Women.

In February, at Soukh el Bagharr, two ambulances with red cross markings (donated by the USSR) were made available to the delegation. They are in daily use in the poorer quarters of the town for the distribution of milk, cheese and soap. An ambulance also goes each day to various hamlets near Sanaa. In this manner the ICRC has distributed each day food for 200 outcasts of fortune.

Twelve months ago, the ICRC was distributing 500 kgs of milk each month in Sanaa. Today, the quantity amounts to 2 tons per month. The population highly appreciates the milk, and the cheese even more so.
Swedish clothing for the Yemeni

The Swedish Red Cross has despatched 20,000 kgs of clothing to Hodeida. Eleven tons were immediately forwarded to Sanaa and the remaining nine will be distributed in Hodeida and Taiz.

During the course of a visit to Hodeida, the Minister of Health of the Yemen Arab Republic expressed sincere thanks to the ICRC.

A medical team installed in a village

An ICRC medical team, comprising Dr. Peter Moehr and nurse Josef Arnold, has installed itself on Republican territory in the locality of Wadi-Dahr, where the Ramdan tribe lives. The inhabitants of this place, where there is a former palace of the Imam, constructed on a rocky escarpment, have never before seen a doctor. Already on the day following the medical team's arrival 400 people came for consultation. Confronted with such numbers, it was decided that the medical team would attend to men in the morning and to women in the afternoon. The ICRC representatives also distributed milk and clothing to the great satisfaction of the population.

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Cyprus

AID TO THE NEEDY AND HOMELESS

Thanks to contributions offered by twenty National Red Cross Societies, the delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Cyprus is continuing its relief action on behalf of the victims of the events. The beneficiaries are chiefly Turkish and Greek Cypriot orphans and needy children. In February, more than 1100 children of displaced persons or of the unemployed concentrated in villages near Nicosia and Kyrenia also received clothing. A similar action will be undertaken in Louroudjina, Paphos and Lefka.

Several distributions of clothing have also been made to the aged in old people's homes in Nicosia, Famagusta, Larnaca and Limassol. These were highly appreciated by the beneficiaries and the local authorities.
An incubator, offered by the Canadian Red Cross, was presented to the Turkish hospital in Nicosia, in compliance with its request.

In addition to the 400 tents, placed at the disposal of the ICRC delegation by the representatives of the British and US Governments in Nicosia, and distributed to displaced homeless persons, the delegate also handed to these beneficiaries 1100 mattresses offered by the United States.

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At the Central Tracing Agency

WITHOUT NEWS OF HIS RELATIVES FOR FORTY-SEVEN YEARS

The Central Tracing Agency at ICRC headquarters in Geneva, received a request from Mr. V., living in Paris, who had been without news of his family since 1918. He had left his parents, four brothers and two sisters in Russia.

He finally approached the consulate of the USSR in Paris which advised him to communicate with the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The Central Tracing Agency immediately sent a message to the address he had indicated. It was a neighbour who replied, informing him that his parents were dead, two of his brothers had been killed in the war, but that the two other brothers as well as his sisters were alive. They had left the village. As a result of further enquiries, the ICRC received a letter from one of the brothers expressing his joy at knowing at last that V. was alive and asked him to write to him, which he did.

Searches undertaken in March 1964 were satisfactorily completed on June 24 of the same year. Recently the ICRC received a letter from Mr. V. of which the following is an extract:

"I am writing to the International Red Cross, not to ask for anything, but to express my gratitude, since, this year, you helped me to find traces of my family living in the USSR and of whom I had heard nothing for nearly fifty years. Thank you! And I thank you also for all the trouble you have taken and for your goodwill!"
FROM KHARKOV TO AMERICA VIA GERMANY AND GENEVA

Mrs. E.Z. of Kharkov, in the USSR, addressed a request to the Central Tracing Agency of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva to find her daughter by her first marriage who, born on March 8, 1922, left her native village in August 1943.

The Agency immediately contacted the International Tracing Service in Arolsen, Germany, an institution which is also administered by the ICRC. The ITS found that according to its records Miss K.P. emigrated to the United States in 1949.

The American Red Cross was then consulted and it was able to trace the young woman. On December 15, 1964, it informed the ICRC of her present name (she had married in the meantime) and of her address. The American Red Cross added that she was extremely surprised and delighted to learn that her mother was still alive and she was eager to correspond with her.

The Central Tracing Agency has just received a letter from Kharkov written by the mother, Mrs. E.Z., who stated, inter alia: "Your humanitarian mission is a beacon in the world. Everybody who turns to you in despair is comforted and grateful. I extend my best wishes for the noble organization of the Red Cross.
Viet Nam

ICRC DELEGATES CALL ON VIETNAMESE AUTHORITIES

The general delegate of the ICRC for Asia, Mr. André Durand and Mr. Werner Muller, delegate in Saigon, continued their representations at the end of February to members of the Government of the Republic of Viet Nam concerning visits to places of detention and the dissemination amongst the armed forces of the provisions of the Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949 on the protection of the victims of war.

On March 1 they were joined by Dr. Jürg Baer, doctor-delegate who had arrived from Vientiane.

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Federation of South Arabia

ICRC VISITS TO ADEN AND RADFAN

In February, Mr. André Rochat, head of the ICRC mission in the Yemen, spent a fortnight in Aden in order to make contact with the Government of the Federation of South Arabia and, amongst others, with its Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Mohamed Farid Aulaqi, as well as with the local British authorities.

During the course of this visit, the ICRC delegate was able to go to the Radfan area, North of Aden, where trouble had broken out several months ago. He there met several of the Radfan tribal chiefs.
Mr. Rochat also saw the policlinic service, available to the civilian population, at work in various places. He visited hospital establishments at Aden after having met Dr. Jones, Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Public Health and Dr. Studzienski, Head Doctor of hospital establishments in the Federation. He could observe that a large proportion of patients are of Yemeni origin, from South Yemen. These benefit entirely free of charge from medical care and surgical treatment, in the same way as the local population.

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Yemen

AT THE ICRC HOSPITAL AT UQHD

The activity of the ICRC hospital at Uqhd for the war wounded has again been intensified over the past few weeks. The number of patients admitted to hospital has remained constant with about 50, a third of whom have been direct victims of the war. From mid-February to March 10, 540 persons were given treatment in the policlinic.

An epidemic checked

Between February 21 and March 4, Dr. Staebler and Sister Violette Bernhard left Uqhd and made a tour of inspection of villages in North Yemen where the outbreak of an epidemic had been reported.

On his return the doctor stated that this had been virus pneumonia but the epidemic could now be considered as suppressed.

Visits to prisoners in the eastern sector

Mr. Urs Amiet and male nurse Paul Holdener have made a series of visits to prisoners in the eastern sector. They handed relief to these, consisting mainly of clothing and cash.

They also gave 157 consultations to Yemenis as a result of which 13 sick were sent to the Uqhd hospital.

The ICRC and the western sector

The head of the ICRC mission in the Yemen is continuing his representations on behalf of the Egyptian prisoners at present held in the Washa area.
A medical team, consisting of Dr. Rheinhold Wepf, surgeon, and a male nurse has again been installed in the western sector.

Sanaa

A medical team under canvas

At the same time, another medical team headed by Dr. Peter Möhr has been installed in tents to the Northwest of the capital of the Arab Republic of the Yemen.

During the forthcoming weeks this team will continue its activity in other localities in accordance with a plan drawn up jointly by the Minister of Health of the Yemeni Arab Republic and the ICRC delegation at Sanaa.

Transfer of the disabled

A further group of war disabled will be flown to Cairo on March 27. There they will be hospitalized and receive the necessary artificial limbs.

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Gabon

DECLARATION OF CONTINUITY

The Republic of Gabon has confirmed its participation in the Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949, by a declaration of continuity.

Gabon is the 104th State to be a party to the Geneva Conventions, the 103rd being Jamaica.

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ICRC TRAINING COURSES

From March 22 to April 2, the International Committee of the Red Cross organized its first training course for certain of its staff and a limited number of Swiss students prepared to make themselves available for service to the ICRC, in particular for missions abroad.
The courses are given in French by various senior members of the ICRC personnel. The general procedure is for each aspect of the ICRC's mission to be dealt with theoretically in a lecture followed by a discussion group and practical exercises. A number of delegates temporarily in Geneva also give talks to the students on the role which they are called upon to fulfill.

This course, held at ICRC headquarters, is being attended by some 40 people.

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GUESTS OF THE ICRC

During 1964, the Visitors' Service of the ICRC received some 2,500 persons.

Many of these were members of National Societies of the Red Cross, Red Crescent and the Red Lion and Sun, representing more than 50 different nations: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Congo, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Korea, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Rumania, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, the United States, Upper Volta, Uruguay, the USSR and Yugoslavia.

Members of several governments and a number of diplomatic representatives to Geneva honoured the ICRC with a visit.

Youth groups displayed a lively interest in the films illustrating the ICRC's activities and in the guided visit to the Central Tracing Agency. Students from various Red Cross schools took part, as for example the members of schools for welfare workers, nurses, etc, as well as university students from Switzerland and abroad, Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, the Canadian Young Workers movement, and scholarship winners sponsored by such international organizations as UNESCO and WHO.
Cambodia, Viet Nam and Laos

ICRC's REPRESENTATIONS AT PHNÔM-PENH

The General Delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Asia, Mr. André Durand, went on mission to Cambodia from March 8 to the beginning of April.

At Phnom-Penh he was received by Princess Norodom Rasmith Sobhana, President of the Cambodian Red Cross and by its directors. He was also received by Prince Norodom Kantol, Prime Minister, as well as by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. He discussed with them in particular the aid which the ICRC had been asked to bring to the victims of the frontier dispute between Cambodia and the Republic of Viet Nam.

Mr. Durand, on the other hand, handed to the delegation of the National Liberation Front of South Viet Nam (NLF) a request for information concerning American prisoners and missing. He expressed the wish that mail and parcels for the latter be facilitated.

We would recall that the ICRC's action is not restricted to interventions on behalf of prisoners in the hands of the NLF, but also includes the protection of prisoners and political detainees in the hands of the Saigon authorities.

Mr. Durand and Dr. Jürg Baer, doctor-delegate, also studied the possibility in Phnom-Penh of acting on behalf of the victims of events in North Laos.

* * * * *
Malaysia

INDONESIAN PRISONERS

The Indonesian Red Cross has informed the International Committee of the Red Cross, in Geneva, that it has prepared parcels and family mail for Indonesians held in Malaysia. These consignments will be despatched through the intermediary of the ICRC delegation in Bangkok.

The Indonesian Red Cross has so far received 305 messages from Indonesian detainees for their families.

*C * * * * *

Congo

VISIT TO N'DOLO PRISON

The delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross on March 30 last, visited N'Dolo prison at Leopoldville where are interned, in addition to a group of military, 63 civilians who had taken part in the rebellion and 24 Angolese of whom 4 are civilians. The delegates made certain representations with a view to improving conditions for the detainees, especially as regards nourishment.

*C * * * * *

Yemen

VISIT TO PRISONERS OF WAR

At the end of March, two delegates of the ICRC, of whom one was a doctor, visited prisoners of war held by Royalist tribes in Northwest Yemen.

The ICRC Doctor naturally examined all the prisoners. Generally speaking, their health was considered to be satisfactory.

The ICRC representatives handed 117 letters to the prisoners from their families. The latter in their turn entrusted further family messages to the representatives of the ICRC.
Work at the Uqhd hospital

During the last few weeks, the ICRC field hospital at Uqhd has known a recrudescence of activity as a result of military operations.

In order to take this situation into account and in view of the report recently submitted by the head of its mission in the Yemen, the ICRC has decided to extend its medical aid until the end of July, both at the Uqhd hospital and by its mobile medical teams working on the Royalist as well as on the Republican side.

Televised reporting

One of the largest television networks in the USA, the National Broadcasting Company, has informed the ICRC that it had used in one of its televised programmes, with an audience of 7 to 8,000,000 viewers, extracts from a recent film reporting of the ICRC's activity at Sanaa and in the central region of the Arab Republic of the Yemen. The film was produced by Mr. J. Santandrea, a member of the ICRC's delegation.

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Cyprus

AID TO THE VICTIMS OF THE EVENTS

The ICRC delegation in Cyprus has continued its distribution, especially of clothing and shoes for civilians, above all for women and children.

As a result of the appeal launched by the ICRC on October 12 last to all National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, 21 National Societies have responded. Total contributions have amounted to 212,161 Swiss francs, to which certain donations in kind should be added from other sources.

* * * * *
Central Tracing Agency

FATHER AND DAUGHTER MEET EACH OTHER AFTER
25 YEARS' SEPARATION

Mrs. Z., of Silesian origin, married and living in Australia, had had no news of her father since 1940 when he had enlisted in to the German army. Shortly afterwards, her mother divorced and then remarried. She herself, whilst still a child, had been sent to Germany.

On reaching adult age, she made several attempts to find traces of her father, but without success.

After settling in Australia, she approached the Red Cross of that country. In May 1963, that National Society informed the ICRC of Mrs. Z's case.

The Central Tracing Agency at ICRC headquarters opened enquiries by obtaining information in Silesia. It was thus able to trace Mr. Alois K., Mrs Z's father. He had in fact emigrated to America, and after numerous wanderings which the ICRC succeeded in piecing together, returned to the German Federal Republic with his second wife. He was able to be identified through an exchange of correspondence. Thus, after 25 years of separation, father and daughter were able to be put in touch with each other through the intermediary of the Red Cross.

* * * * * *

International Red Cross

DISTRIBUTION OF SHÔKEN FUND REVENUES

The Joint Commission entrusted with the distribution of the revenues of the Empress Shôken Fund met in Geneva on March 18, 1965. Composed of representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross and of the League of Red Cross Societies, the meeting was also attended by a representative of the Japanese Red Cross, H. E. Ambassador Morio Aoki.

The Commission noted requests for allocations submitted for the forty-fourth distribution of revenue. Observing the disadvantages caused by too small allocations, which generally do not permit the financing of projects envisaged, it granted allocations to two Societies which had made applications of sums generally in excess of amounts previously allocated.
Allocations made were as follows: Red Cross of the Congo: 10,000 francs for the purchase of a jeep-ambulance; Syrian Red Crescent: 12,000 francs for the purchase of a blood-collecting vehicle.

* * * * *

Poland

COMPENSATION FOR VICTIMS OF PSEUDO-MEDICAL EXPERIMENTS

The neutral Commission, appointed by the ICRC to determine claims of the victims of pseudo-medical experiments practised in German concentration camps to whom the German Federal Republic had decided to allocate compensation, met on April 8, 9 and 10.

The Commission was composed of Mr. Jean Graven, President of the Supreme Court of Appeal and Professor at the Faculty of Law 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. Götz, an expert in matters of compensation, also attended as an observer.

The Commission, at its fifth session, had to decide on a further 70 claims presented by Polish victims. The files had been prepared by the Polish Red Cross and examined by Dr. J. de Rougement and Mr. J. P. Maunoir, delegate of the ICRC. They had previously visited Poland to meet the victims and have discussions with the Polish doctors who had given them treatment. The Commission asked for further information concerning several of these cases.
Viet Nam

ACTIVITIES OF THE ICRC ON BEHALF OF PRISONERS

After an interruption of nearly 6 years, the ICRC was able, in February 1964, to resume its visits to Vietnamese prisoners held by the authorities of the Republic of Viet Nam (South) as a result of the conflict. This action, undertaken jointly with the Viet Nam Red Cross of Saigon, also enabled distributions of relief to be made.

At the same time, the Central Tracing Agency of the ICRC in Geneva received several enquiries concerning foreign nationals, chiefly American citizens, missing in South Viet Nam since 1962 and the International Committee intervened with the National Front of Liberation of South Viet Nam with a view to tracing them. The NFL delegates with whom the ICRC communicated in Algiers and Prague have not, however, so far been in a position to reply to these requests. On the other hand, the NFL in its publications and broadcasts has confirmed the capture of several Americans.

Having learnt that the NFL had agreed in early 1964 to prisoners' receiving parcels and being able to exchange news with their families through the intermediary of the Cambodian Red Cross, the ICRC sent parcels and mail which it had received to that National Red Cross Society. These consignments were duly handed over on February 12, 1965, to the secretariat of the NFL delegation to the Indochinese People's Conference at Phnom-Penh. Distribution was to be made by the "Red Cross of Liberation of South Viet Nam".

Meanwhile, one of the American pilots whose aircraft had been shot down during the bombing raids in North Viet Nam in August 1964 was taken prisoner by the forces of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. At the family's request, the ICRC made contact with the Viet Nam Red Cross at Hanoi which undertook to transmit family messages and parcels to the prisoners. The Central Tracing Agency has also transmitted mail from the families of American airmen captured at the beginning of 1965.
Yemen

THE UQHD HOSPITAL

During the first fortnight of April, as a result of the departure of pilgrims to the Mecca the number of patients at the Uqhd hospital declined from 50 to 44. During the same period, the polyclinic treated 792 cases of which 215 were new.

As a result of violent wind and sand-storms, seven tents have been damaged.

Medical mission in the Jauf region

Dr. Giovanni Bass, ICRC doctor delegate, accompanied by male nurse Ernst Zuberbühler, carried out a medical mission in the Jauf region from April 5 to 9.

The two men visited 20 Egyptian prisoners of war detained at Hajlah to whom they handed clothing, medicaments, foodstuffs and mail. They medically inspected not only the prisoners but also a number of Yemeni, before proceeding on their way to Oquaba, Boa and El Changer where they treated some local inhabitants and detainees. They then returned via Hajlah to their base at Uqhd.

The Sheik of Bahrein gives support to the ICRC action

The Head of the International Committee of the Red Cross mission to the Yemen, Mr. André Rochat, has just visited the Sheikdom of Bahrein (an archipelago in the Persian gulf), where he was officially received by the Sovereign, H.H. Sheik Khalifah bin Sulman al Khalifah. He explained to His Highness the ICRC's main activities in the Middle East, particularly in the Yemen. The Prince expressed his lively interest in the work of the Red Cross in Arab countries and by way of encouragement decided to make a special financial contribution.

Upon the invitation of H.H. the Sheik, Mr. Rochat visited government hospitals and also the hospital at the prison where persons wounded during recent riots in Bahrein were undergoing treatment.

* * * *
The Central Tracing Agency

BROTHER AND SISTER UNITED AFTER THIRTY YEARS

In May 1964, Mrs. Olga K. of Leningrad (USSR) approached the Central Tracing Agency, at the headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross, in Geneva, in an effort to trace her brother, Dr. Pavel S., born in 1898 at Saint-Petersburg (now Leningrad). She had been without news from him since 1933, when he lived in Zagreb (Yugoslavia).

The Central Tracing Agency instituted enquiries and communicated with the International Tracing Service in Arolsen (Federal Republic of Germany) which is an institution managed by the ICRC and of which the main activity concerns former concentration camp detainees and other persons displaced during the Second World War. The ITS's records enabled it to establish the fact that Dr. S. had been in a displaced persons camp in Austria, from where he emigrated in 1948 to the Argentine. The Central Tracing Agency in Geneva then undertook enquiries in the latter country and traced Dr. S. in the province of Buenos Aires. This elderly doctor declared his pleasure at receiving news from his sister of whom he had heard nothing for 30 years. Mrs. K., who soon received her brother's address from Geneva, has just written the Central Agency to express her delighted thanks, stating that she could not find words adequate to express her joy.

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At the ICRC headquarters

A VISIT FOLLOWED BY TANGIBLE RESULTS

Among the many visitors who arrive almost daily at the headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross, there was in the autumn of 1964 a group of American and Canadian wives of International civil servants and businessmen working in Geneva. They displayed a keen interest in the activities and ideals of the Red Cross which were explained to them, and several of them who were qualified nurses expressed the desire to serve the institution on a voluntary basis. As the ICRC does not engage in any hospital activity in Geneva itself, it contacted the Geneva section of the Swiss Red Cross to inform it of these visitors' generous offer. Following this the cantonal hospital organized an adaptation course for them.

Since that time, the American and Canadian ladies work regularly in the cantonal hospital of Geneva and have shown themselves to be remarkably efficient and dedicated. Their contribution is particularly
appreciated at this time when the shortage of nursing personnel is acute in Switzerland.

* * * * *

TRAINING COURSE ON THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS

On April 28, 1965, the International Committee of the Red Cross received at its headquarters a group of some fifty Swiss Army officers headed by Brigadier Jean Schindler; they came to take part in an introductory course on the Geneva Conventions, organized with the assistance of the ICRC.

After being welcomed by Mr. Gonard, President of the ICRC and former Swiss Army Corps Commander, the officers heard a number of lectures in German and in French on the Institution's activities in time of war. This was followed by a visit to the Central Tracing Agency.

This was the first time the Swiss Army has organized such a course on the Geneva Conventions.

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In Geneva

INSTITUTION OF A CHAIR IN HUMANITARIAN LAW

AT THE UNIVERSITY

On Tuesday, April 27, 1965, Mr. Jean S. Pictet, Director for General Affairs of the International Committee of the Red Cross, gave an inaugural lecture at Geneva University, which has recently created the first chair in international humanitarian law. This event attracted the attention it deserved and several well known personalities were present.

Mr. Pictet, who has been in our institution's service since 1937, and was appointed Director in 1946, is known for a number of publications dealing with the doctrine of the Red Cross and the Geneva Conventions.

Before assuming the chair, Mr. Pictet, replying to a newspaper reporter's questions, expressed the hope that other universities would institute courses on the same subject. The dissemination of the Geneva Conventions is indeed an obligation undertaken by States on accession to those Conventions and the subject is therefore one which should be included in military and civilian programmes of instruction.
Twentieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War

ASSISTANCE OF THE ICRC TO THE VICTIMS OF THE CONFLICT

The twentieth anniversary of the end of hostilities in 1945 gives the Red Cross a welcome opportunity to recall the activities undertaken under its flag to allay sufferings caused by the greatest cataclysm which has yet affected the human race. The International Committee of the Red Cross which is called upon to assume heavy responsibilities in case of war has wished to put on record here some aspects of its action as neutral intermediary in favour of all the victims of the world conflict.

In war-time the basic activities of the Red Cross are carried out first and foremost by National Societies, working on the front or behind the lines, wherever hostilities cause human sufferings. The ICRC functions as a channel or as a bridge. It is often the last remaining intermediary through which relief can be sent and is the only way for people to correspond.

In the struggle against the distress and suffering caused by the hostilities and their consequences, the ICRC obtained remarkable results, with the assistance of its many collaborators, who numbered almost 4000 at the end of the war. Of course, there were failures. But the International Committee of the Red Cross had only very limited means at its disposal. Also it had to face all too often the lack of understanding by belligerents. Nevertheless, the International Committee tried repeatedly to do all it could to fulfil its mission and to satisfy the expectations of the innumerable victims of the war for whom it was the only remaining hope.

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The following figures will help to illustrate the scope of its activities:

- The ICRC conveyed to camps for war prisoners, civilian internees and deportees 430,731 tons of relief supplies to a total value of about 3,312,000,000 Swiss francs, or approximately 36 million parcels.

- Civilian detainees and concentration camp inmates received 6,836 tons of relief supplies (about 1,631,000 parcels).

- Relief to war prisoners in Japanese hands which amounted to 7,000 tons of relief and 19 million Swiss francs in cash for local purchases, is not included in the above figures.

- Thanks to the Joint Relief Commission of the International Red Cross (ICRC - League of Red Cross Societies), the Red Cross was able to assist civilian populations suffering from the war; 165,256 tons of relief supplies (total value 314 million Swiss francs) were distributed to them.

- The ICRC had at its disposal 43 ships (of which 3 were its own); they made 507 sea crossings, covering a distance of nearly one million miles. After the destruction of the German railway system, the ICRC used 474 lorries which covered a total of nearly two million miles.

During the war and the months which followed the end of the hostilities, the ICRC was represented in various parts of the world by 76 delegations. Their personnel of 340 made 11,175 visits to prisoner camps.

All these activities involved a great deal of office work, as shown by the following figures, covering the period between September 30, 1939 to June 30, 1947:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mail items received and despatched</td>
<td>120,669,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telegrams received and despatched</td>
<td>567,251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total index-cards</td>
<td>36,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official lists of prisoners of war (pages registered)</td>
<td>3,565,869</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civilian messages forwarded</td>
<td>24,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photostat copies made</td>
<td>3,719,914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp visits</td>
<td>11,175</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The World Veterans Federation, which held its XIth General Assembly in Lausanne, May 1 - 6, wished to express to the International Committee of the Red Cross its gratitude for the immense work accomplished on behalf of the victims of two world wars and other conflicts.

In the course of a ceremony which took place on May 3 at the headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross in the presence of members of the Committee and several hundred veterans, Mr. W.Ch.J.M. Van Lanschot, President of the World Veterans Federation (W.V.F.), presented to Mr. Jacques Freymond, Vice-President of the ICRC, a bronze plate "as a token of gratitude" from veterans of fifty-one countries.

Following the ceremony, the members of the Executive Bureau and the delegates of the World Veterans Federation visited the Central Tracing Agency (formerly the Central Prisoners of War Agency) and saw a film on the history and work of the ICRC.

In the speech he made on this occasion, M. Van Lanschot said:

"Vice-President Freymond, Members of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Secretary General of the League of Red Cross Societies, distinguished guests, my comrades in the World Veterans Federation, ladies and gentlemen.

The Eleventh General Assembly of the World Veterans Federation is being held in Switzerland to enable us to join in the celebration of International Cooperation Year and, on the Twentieth Anniversary of the Founding of the United Nations, to pay tribute to that organization which we believe constitutes the focal point of man's struggle for a world of peace and freedom.

Neither our visit to Switzerland nor our recognition of achievement in the field of international cooperation would, however, be complete if we did not on this occasion also give expression to our gratitude to the International Committee of the Red Cross. The common interests and objectives of our two organizations have produced a close and valued collaboration, and have enabled us in the WVF to understand and appreciate the many, fundamental contributions made by the Red Cross in support of humanitarianism and cooperation throughout the world."
We are honored to have with us today the distinguished representatives of the League of Red Cross Societies. In many countries, the member associations of the WVF enjoy productive relationships with the national Red Cross societies, and we are grateful for the League's success in making the ideals of the Red Cross effective through international, national and local organizations and programs.

The millions of veterans and war victims who make up the World Veterans Federation claim a special competence in evaluating the significance of the ideas which underlie the Red Cross and the work which results from those ideas. In war, we have had intimate knowledge of the humanitarian services carried out under your famous symbol, and many of us here today will never forget the hope, the comfort, the preservation of life itself which has come to us as a result.

We have given in our own work special attention to the Geneva Conventions, which are at the heart of the Red Cross idea. During the 100 years since the signature of the first of these international agreements, a new humanitarian element has found its place in the realm of conflict. To the extent the Conventions have been observed, suffering has been reduced, compassion and reason have been given opportunity to work even in the midst of the tragedy and the unreason of war. For more than a century there has been an increasingly universal respect for the principles set forth in the Conventions. As we seek to promote the further development of international agreement and integrity as necessary bases for peace, we regard the Geneva Conventions as essential evidence that success is possible; they exist, they are realistic, they are when applied, effective. It is certain, therefore, that the history of these inspired examples of international cooperation, and their future impact, are among mankind's greatest successes in its quest for peace.

Today, as we strive together to give voice to the forces of reason and progress, we rejoice in the persistent confluence of ideas and action as carried out by the Red Cross and the WVF. Whether we speak of the propagation of the principles embodied in the Geneva Conventions, of the protection of the rights of prisoners of war and other deported or detained persons, of the rehabilitation of the disabled, of improved respect for human rights in general, of economic and social development in general -- we are speaking of ideas and of actions which are basic components of the work of the Red Cross and of the WVF -- we are speaking of ideas and actions which are basic components of peace and of human freedom.
The World Veterans Federation is, compared to the Red Cross, a young organization. This year, we will celebrate our fifteenth anniversary; whereas the Red Cross spans more than a century. We know, however, that the inspiration which has motivated our membership in this generation has its roots in the experience of the veterans and the victims of all wars. I am confident, therefore, that we speak not only for ourselves, but also for all men and women of goodwill who, having experienced the horror and suffering of war, pay homage to those who work for peace. We speak for those who, having seen the torment of a world plagued by tyrannical concepts which deny the value of the individual, are resolved to strive relentlessly for the protection of human rights, and who give thanks to all who join in this effort.

For these reasons, Mr. Vice-President and all your colleagues who work tirelessly for the success of the international Red Cross, we will be honored if on the occasion of our Eleventh General Assembly, you will accept this plaque. In grateful remembrance of what you have done, with faith in what the future contributions of your great movement will be, we say with all the sincerity those words can contain, "In Gratitude".

M. Freymond's speech is attached.
Address by Mr. J. Freymond, Vice-President of the ICRC in reply to
the speech by Mr. W. Ch. J. M. van Lanschot, President of the M.V.F.

Mr. President,
Mr. Secretary-General,
Members of the Executive Bureau,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the International Committee of the Red Cross,
I would first and foremost like to express our institution's gratitude.
The tribute paid to us today by the World Veterans' Federation and
its twenty million members is a pleasure and an honour for us.

Many are the veterans of the two world wars, and of numerous
other conflicts, whose names are contained in the records of the Central
Tracing Agency, in the lists of the wounded and the sick, and of victims
of all sorts. For all of them, the Red Cross has endeavoured to alleviate
their suffering. We would have liked to do much more. There were
many men whose suffering we were unable to relieve and many perished
for want of that protection which in spite of all our efforts we were unable
to grant them in view of the modest resources available. When conflicts
break out our action in the midst of unleashed fury too often meets
obstacles which are more political and psychological than material.

Your presence here today, along with other testimony, and
the thoughts which you have been kind enough to express, justify our
belief that in spite of this accumulation of difficulties the Red Cross has
not failed in its mission during times of distress. And, when I say the
Red Cross, I do not mean only the International Committee, but also
the League and the National Societies of many countries.
You rightly said, Mr. President, last year, on the occasion of the commemoration of the Centenary of the First Geneva Convention, that "no one is better placed than the veterans to testify to the genuine and profound significance of the Geneva Conventions and the efforts of the Red Cross to prevent and relieve suffering". That is why the testimony of their gratitude which you bring us today moves us most deeply.

In a number of fields where the Red Cross carries out its work of relief, the World Veterans Federation, from its very early days, has co-operated with us to seek practical means of implementing joint humanitarian action, whether connected with humanitarian law, the tracing of missing persons or the bringing of aid to certain categories of war's victims. In all circumstances, you have shown that in principles and action on behalf of mankind, you are akin to us, and that you work for an ideal which in many ways is parallel to our own. Like you, we realize that "it is more than ever necessary to act intelligently, creatively and practically in order to strengthen the principles of international co-operation and to give new impetus to the progress of humanity towards a world in which peace, liberty and justice are the universal objective".

This sentence, Mr. Secretary-General, taken from your report to the eleventh General Meeting of the World Veterans Federation, seems to me perfectly to express the spirit which animates us all here.

The International Committee has the permanent mission of maintaining the spirit of the Red Cross on the international level and even more of bringing relief to victims throughout the world wherever they may be. We are pleased to know that you are at our side and that you are ready to support the action undertaken by the International Committee of the Red Cross as a modest neutral intermediary. At the present time of awesome industrial and scientific development when everything seems concerted to lead humanity to a new world where man is in danger of becoming no more than a mere number lost in the multitude, without individual personality, in the midst of increasing
anarchy, it is comforting to know that the veterans of the whole world, together with the 188 million human beings of the Red Cross movement, are resolved to remain faithful to the principles which guide us and to make their beneficial influence effective.

Your support is essential to us. We are profoundly grateful for it.

Santo Domingo

THE ICRC VISITS DOMINICAN PRISONS

The representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Santo Domingo, Mr. Pierre Jequier, general delegate for Latin America, made contact on his arrival in the island with leading members of the Dominican Red Cross (see page 9 press release No.806b). He was then received by General Imbert Barreras, head of the Government Junta, who gave him assurances as regards the application of the Geneva Conventions and authorization to visit all detainees arrested for political reasons.

Mr. Jequier also requested to be received by Colonel Francisco Caamano, head of the Constitutional forces. The meeting has, however, not yet taken place because of the military situation, which makes the crossing of the demarcation line extremely difficult.

On the resumption of fighting, the ICRC delegate is trying to obtain from both sides the conclusion of a truce to enable the wounded to be evacuated. It does not seem, however, that this proposal has so far been accepted.

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Laos

VISITS TO HOSPITALS AND DISTRIBUTIONS OF RELIEF

On the occasion of the Laotian New Year which took place from April 16 to 19, Mr. Jürg Baer, delegate of the ICRC, together with leading personalities of the Laotian Red Cross, visited various hospitals.

400 sick and wounded then benefited from relief, consisting of food and mosquito nets, to which the ICRC contributed.

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Japan

THE REPATRIATION OF KOREANS

The 123rd and 124th vessel transporting Koreans, wishing to leave Japan to go to places of their choosing in their country of origin, left the port of Niigata respectively on March 27 with 191 persons on board and on April 23 with 192.

The total number of persons repatriated under the auspices of the Japanese Red Cross, in the presence of ICRC delegates, since the start of operations in December 1959, has now reached 83,117.

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Yemen

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH RECEIVES THE ICRC DELEGATES

A few days after his appointment, Mr. Hussein al Majdami, Minister of Health of the Yemen Arab Republic, convened the delegates of the ICRC in Sanaa, with whom he desired to make personal contact.

Discussions centered on the various ICRC activities in the Yemen, notably assistance to Yemeni war disabled who have been fitted with artificial limbs under the terms of an agreement between the ICRC and the Red Crescent Society of the UAR. More than half of those scheduled to benefit from this scheme have
already been in hospital in Cairo for the fitting of artificial limbs. A further group of disabled is about to leave for the Egyptian capital.

The Minister personally thanked the ICRC on behalf of the Yemeni population for its relief in the form of food which it has continuously been giving since the beginning of hostilities.

In addition, the ICRC mobile teams in the Yemen Republic are still visiting regions where medical requirements are sometimes considerable and where inhabitants have often not seen a doctor for months or even years.

The ICRC delegates informed the Minister of the forthcoming arrival of a fresh team under Dr. H. Steiner, to replace Dr. Peter Möhr's team. It will work for several days among the Beni Ma'tar tribe at Hada and will then go to Damahr, south-south-east of Sanaa. As in previous actions the less serious cases will be treated on the spot and the patients with more severe illnesses will be taken to hospital in Sanaa.

The Minister of Health thanked the ICRC delegation for its dedication to its task and gave his assurance of support for the continuation of the ICRC mission.

Shortage of medical supplies

"There is an immense need of medical supplies in the Yemen" wrote an ICRC delegate. The situation seems particularly acute in the Medressa el Aitam school for orphans, where the ICRC has been distributing powdered milk for over a year. The well equipped infirmary is efficiently operated by an intelligent and dedicated young Yemeni; however, it is almost completely lacking in the supplies it needs to care for the children in the school.

The shortage of medical supplies is also being felt at the Republican hospital in Sanaa, which has requested the ICRC to help.

Milk distribution

In the month of March alone, the ICRC distributed 900 kilos of milk to hospitals, schools and dispensaries in Sanaa.

Prison visits

On April 20, Mr. Marcel Boisard, ICRC delegate, went to the El Kalaa Prison (citadel of Sanaa) where he delivered correspondence to prisoners, who handed him mail for distribution to their families.
On April 27, he visited the El Rahda prison, which forms part of the walls surrounding Sanaa. There are 65 political prisoners held here, all of Yemeni nationality. The delegate handed medical supplies of prime necessity to the infirmary.

Two American newspaper reporters injured in the Yemen

Mr. Dana Smith of the "New York Times" and Mr. John Rigos of the "Christian Science Monitor" were injured when they had an accident in their jeep in the Yemen on May 6.

Mr. Rigos is suffering from concussion of the brain and Mr. Smith from a fractured arch of the second cervical vertebra. Both were immediately hospitalized in the Red Cross hospital set up at Uqhd in the desert by the International Committee, and from where they cabled to their families. In conjunction with the U.S. Embassy in Jeddah, the ICRC delegation arranged for their evacuation.

An aircraft marked with the red cross took the two casualties to Jeddah on May 12. Mr. Rigos' condition is satisfactory but Mr. Smith's is still critical.

The work of the field hospital

The Uqhd field hospital weekly statistics showed for the week ending May 1, 66 admissions to hospital, 44 of them being war wounded.

The daily average consultations at the policlinic amounted to 130.

Relief of medical staff

The present head of the desert hospital is Dr. Ulrich Middendorp; he had already been at Uqhd at the end of 1963 and beginning of 1964 together with his wife, who is also a doctor and who is again working with him.

Mr. Rainer Siegenthaler has been appointed surgeon in charge of the second medical team in Sanaa; he left Switzerland on May 19.

Two new delegates in the Yemen

Following the training course at the ICRC headquarters in Geneva, last March, two new delegates, Mr. Armand Josi and Mr. Hubert Bettin, have just enlisted under the ICRC standard. The former is stationed in Jeddah in Saudi Arabia while the second is in the eastern sector in the interior of the Yemen.

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Congo

PRISON VISITS

Mr. G.C. Senn, ICRC delegate, visited the Central Stanleyville prison on April 6; 747 detainees, mostly political, are held there.

On April 16, he went to the Central Prison at Paulis (133 detainees).

At the N'Dolo prison, the ICRC delegation, with the help of the Red Cross of the Congo, organized a weekly distribution of foodstuffs to prisoners from Angola.

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THE PRESIDENT OF THE ICRC IN PAKISTAN AND INDIA

In the course of his trip to the Far East, Mr. Samuel A. Gonard, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, accompanied by Mr. Jean-Pierre Maunoir, delegate, stopped for a few days in Pakistan, where he was joined by Mr. André Durand, general delegate for the Far East. On May 5, the members of the ICRC mission were received in Karachi by the Executive Chairman of the Pakistan Red Cross, Syed Wajid Ali Shah and by members of the Central Committee and on May 7, they were received in Lahore by the begum Vigar-un-Nisa Noon, Chairman of the western branch of the Pakistan Red Cross. The mission studied the activities undertaken by the Pakistan Red Cross and visited a number of relief institutions. On May 6, the President of the ICRC and the members of the delegation were received in audience by the head of the State, H.E. Marshal Ayub Khan. The limited time at their disposal, to their regret, did not allow them to visit the eastern branch of the National Red Cross Society.

The ICRC mission left for New Delhi on May 8, where it was received by General C.K. Lakshmanan, Secretary General of the Indian Red Cross and by leading members of the National Society. Mr. Gonard was received on May 10 by the President of the Indian Republic, H.E. Mr. Radhakrishnan and on the same day had a discussion with Mrs. Lakshmi Menon, Minister for Foreign Affairs. The ICRC President also visited the central office of the Indian Red Cross and that of the Red Cross for the Delhi district. He also met a group of the Junior Red Cross and was shown a number of Indian Red Cross activities.
In both countries President Gonard and the delegation were received with warm welcome; they were able to establish and renew useful contacts with the leaders of the Red Cross Societies and with official circles in an atmosphere of mutual confidence. The ICRC President left New Delhi on May 12 for Bangkok.

NEARLY EVERY STATE IN THE WORLD IS A PARTY TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS

Canada has just ratified the Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949, thus bringing up to 105 the number of States officially bound by these treaties, either by ratification, accession or declaration of continuity. In the latter case they acknowledge the validity of ratification by the Power from which they took over on achieving independence.

The ICRC has always held that these successor States are bound to the Geneva Conventions by the accession of the Powers which they succeeded, unless they expressly repudiate these Conventions. There are 12 States still in this position, i.e.: Burundi, Central African Republic, Gambia, Congo (Brazzaville), Guinea, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Sierra Leone, Chad, Zambia.

The ICRC earnestly hopes that the governments of these twelve States will soon, by a declaration of continuity or by accession, confirm their adhesion to the Geneva Conventions so that there will be no ambiguity.

Taking the foregoing into consideration, the number of States bound by the Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949 is 117.

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Four States are bound by the 1929 Geneva Conventions; they have not yet ratified or acceded to the 1949 Conventions. The four countries in question are: Bolivia, Burma, Ethiopia, Iceland.

Three States are bound by the 1906 Conventions: they are not parties to the 1929 or 1949 Conventions, i.e. Costa Rica, Honduras, Uruguay.

One State, the Republic of Korea, is still bound only by the 1864 Convention.

The Yemen is bound by none of the Geneva Conventions, whilst Kuwait is in an ambiguous position. The situation is that when the United Kingdom ratified the Conventions in 1957, it declared...
it would apply them in the British Protectorates of Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar and the Trucial States, in so far as it was in Her Majesty's Government's power to do so.

It will be recalled that in order for a National Red Cross, Red Crescent or Red Lion and Sun Society to be recognized by the ICRC and admitted to the League of Red Cross Societies, it is necessary that the country in question be a party to the 1864, 1906, 1929 or 1949 Geneva Conventions relative to the condition of the wounded and sick of the armies in the field.

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A FRESH SERIES OF COLOUR SLIDES ON THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS

The ICRC has just published a new series of slides on the Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949. The series consists of thirty pictures illustrating the main rules and prohibitions laid down in these Conventions to which practically every country in the world has adhered. The illustrations were taken from original paintings by an artist well known to the Geneva public, Edouard Elsingre.

These slides are intended for members of the armed forces and also for youth and they are accompanied by explanatory comments in French, English, German or Spanish.

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XXth FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE MEDAL AWARD

Every two years the Special Commission of the ICRC awards the Florence Nightingale Medal to nurses and voluntary nursing auxiliaries who have distinguished themselves by exceptional dedication. This year, the Commission awarded the Medal to twenty-seven candidates presented by fifteen National Red Cross Societies.

The winners were:

- Australia: Miss Lucy Wise MacIntosh; Miss Mary Dorothy Edis, Matron, M.B.E.;
- Chile: Mrs. Inés Yuraszek Cantín de Schmidt;
- Republic of Korea: Mrs. Chung-Sun Kim; Mrs. Bo-Shin Lo;
- France: Mrs. Lilia de Vendeuvre;
- Great Britain: Mrs. Harald Folke, M.B.E.;
- Hungary: Miss Irène Komarik;
- India: Lt.-Col. F. St. Claire Watkins;
- Japan: Miss Kikuyo Uchiyama; Miss Kyio Ushioda; Miss Kise
Makita; New Zealand: Miss Muriel Jessie Jackson; Philippines: Major Honorata P. Seraspi, Miss Basilia Hernando, Mrs. Maria M. Concepcion; Poland: Mrs. Wladyslawa Steffen, Mrs. Luba Blum-Bielicza; Federal Republic of Germany: Frau Oberin Gertrud Baltzer, Diplomierte Schwester Irene von Scheel; Czechoslovakia: Mrs. Anna Knapčoková; South Africa: Miss Victoria M. Freeman; U.S.S.R.: Miss Marie Dmitrievna Serdiouk, Mrs. Faïna Khoussainovna Tchanycheva, Mrs. Z. Mikh. Toussnolobova Martchenko; Mrs. M. Savelievna Chkarletova, Mrs. Agnia Ivanovna Kharlova.

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Communiqués issued to the Press

April 30, 1965 No. 804b

NEW ICRC MEMBER

The International Committee of the Red Cross, Geneva, has elected as a new member Mr. Adolphe Graedel, former national councillor, Secretary-General of the International Metal Workers Federation.

May 3, 1965 No. 805b

VETERANS PAY TRIBUTE TO THE ICRC

In the course of a ceremony which took place today at the headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross in the presence of members of the Committee and several hundred veterans, Mr. W.Ch.J.M. van Lanschot, President of the World Veterans Federation (W.V.F.), presented to Mr. Jacques Freymond, Vice-President of the ICRC, a bronze plate "as a token of gratitude" from veterans of fifty-one countries.

Following the ceremony, the members of the Executive Bureau and the delegates of the World Veterans Federation visited the Central Tracing Agency (formerly the Central Prisoners of War Agency) and saw a film on the history and work of the ICRC.

The World Veterans Federation is at present holding its 11th General Meeting in Lausanne.

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ICRC MISSION IN SANTO DOMINGO

The International Committee of the Red Cross has decided to send its general delegate for Latin America, Mr. Pierre Jequier to Santo Domingo. He will be charged with giving his assistance to the Dominican Red Cross which has requested the aid of the ICRC in view of the numerous tasks imposed upon it by the present events.
Santo Domingo

PROLONGATION OF THE TRUCE OBTAINED BY THE RED CROSS

Thanks to the joint initiative of Mr. Pierre Jequier, delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and the Dominican Red Cross, a truce was concluded in Santo Domingo, and was able to be prolonged, thus putting an end to the fighting which had caused so much loss in human lives and material. These efforts on the part of the Red Cross were supported by the United Nations and the Organization of American States.

The first objective of the suspension of arms was to collect the wounded, a certain number of whom had remained without treatment, to supply hospitals and remove the dead. These tasks were carried out by Dominican Red Cross teams. For his part, the ICRC delegate, continued his representations with a view to prolonging the truce. He received encouragement from the leaders of the two opposing forces who assured him of their support in his work of aiding the victims of the events. He has already made several visits to prisoners held on both sides.

Owing to the size of the task, the ICRC has decided to reinforce its delegation in Santo Domingo. With the agreement of the Dominican Red Cross, it has appointed Mr. Serge Nessi, member of the ICRC's Legal Department, as assistant-delegate charged with seconding Mr. Jequier. Mr. Nessi arrived in Santo Domingo on May 28.

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Viet Nam

JAPANESE PRISONERS FREED BY THE ICRC

On April 28, four Japanese nationals, delegates on the UN Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, were captured by guerilla forces in South Viet Nam.

At the request of the Japanese Red Cross, the ICRC succeeded in obtaining the exchange of correspondence between the prisoners and their families, whilst it also took steps with a view to their being released. This has just been accorded and they have now been set at liberty.

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Yemen

ACTIVITY OF THE ICRC FIELD HOSPITAL

Although the International Committee of the Red Cross has in the past few months been able to make slight reductions in personnel working in the field hospital at Uqhd in North Yemen, which has resulted in a little less medical activity, the number of patients still remains considerable. If, during the first months, the number of persons hospitalized sometimes exceeded one hundred, even to reach a maximum of 130, it stands at present at about 70, amongst whom are still included the direct victims of military operations.

Most recent statistics indicate that from November 19, 1963, the day on which the hospital started functioning, to the end of April 1965, the number of patients having made a prolonged stay at Uqhd has reached a figure of 1,148. The hospital doctors have given a total of 44,500 consultations to about 13,000 persons. In the operating unit, called the "Clinobox", 1,299 surgical operations were performed.

In addition, mobile medical teams leaving Uqhd gave 10,200 consultations to about 5,600 persons. Thus in all, in North Yemen, around 18,600 persons received treatment from the ICRC doctors during the course of 54,700 consultations.

This activity has cost a sum of 2,700,000 Swiss francs, covered by donations amounting to 1,500,000 francs, the rest being on charge to the ICRC. These figures do not include expenses incurred by the ICRC's general activity in the Yemen, nor by relief in Republican territory.
Action on behalf of Radfan refugees

In the framework of its relief action for the victims of events in the Yemen, the International Committee of the Red Cross has had five tons of milk, two tons of cheese and one ton of soap despatched for refugees having come from Radfan and who have taken refuge in South Yemen. These are some thousands in number who lack food as well as medicaments. This relief action has been realized with the agreement of the two parties involved, the Yemen Republic and the Government of the Federation of South Arabia of which Radfan forms a part.

Furthermore, the ICRC has decided to deploy its medical team, already allocated to the Yemen Arab Republic, in areas in which the refugees are to be found.

A Journalist who owes his life to the ICRC

The ICRC has received the following letter from Mr. Arthur-O. Sulzberger, President of the New York Times:

"I have just been informed in detail of the great care and attention given to our correspondent Dana Adams Schmidt, when he was taken to your hospital at Uqhd in northern Yemen, and the remarkable and arduous effort that was made to remove him safely to the hospital of the American University of Beirut.

We hear from Beirut that Mr. Schmidt is very lucky to be alive. He surely owes his survival to the excellent treatment he received at Uqhd and to the great care that was taken to transport him back to Beirut.

We express our deepest gratitude to the International Committee of the Red Cross and to all who participated in this wonderful lifesaving enterprise, which was in the highest tradition of your organization. Please express our thanks to all concerned."

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Southern Rhodesia

VISIT TO DETENTION CENTRES

In the course of his recent tour in Southern Rhodesia, Mr. J. C. Senn, delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, went on May 17 to the Marandellas prison where there are 171 political and penal law prisoners. He had interviews with several of them without any witnesses.
On May 20 he visited 160 female prisoners at the Gatooma detention farm.

The delegate plans to go to other detention centres at Gwelo and Wha Wha.

Mr. Senn contacted the local Red Cross in Salisbury, the Rhodesian capital. He was also received by various officials, in particular by the Minister of Justice and his senior staff. He held discussions with them concerning Red Cross principles.

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ICRC PRESIDENT'S FAR EAST TOUR

Mr. Samuel A. Gonard, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, is continuing his Asian voyage accompanied by Mr. A. Durand, general delegate for Asia and Mr. J.-P. Maunoir, head of the ICRC Far East Section in Geneva. The party, after leaving India, went to Thailand. It was joined by Mr. W. A. Trueb, delegate in Bangkok, and visited the various departments of the Thai Red Cross, accompanied by the National Society's Vice-President, Phra Tiranasarvisavakarm.

The ICRC President visited the Chulalongkorn Hospital, the institution for the preparation of snake poison sera and the serpentarium which is directed and administered by the National Red Cross Society.

The delegation of the International Committee was received by Marshal Thanom Kittikachorn, Prime Minister, and the ICRC President and delegates were invited to lunch by Their Majesties King Phumiphol, Honorary President, and Queen Sirikit, President of the Thai Red Cross. The King himself made a point of showing the model village in which he is personally interested for research into ways and means of improving social and economic conditions for the Thai rural population, fishing communities and craftsmen.

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The ICRC President and delegates then proceeded to the Philippines, where they were welcomed by Mr. A. Abello and by Dr. T. Calasanz, respectively President and Secretary-General of the Philippine Red Cross, together with their senior staff and the ICRC delegate in Manila, Mr. J. W. Mittner.
The ICRC President visited the headquarters of the National Society in Manila and also went to several local sections where he attended demonstrations of Red Cross activities, notably the collection of blood. He also took the opportunity to congratulate the nurses who had just been awarded the Florence Nightingale Medal. The President of the International Committee, at various meetings, and also on the radio, gave talks on the ICRC's activities in disturbed areas and in its efforts for the promotion of international humanitarian law. He had a discussion with the Vice-President of the Philippines, Mr. E. Pelaez, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. M. Mendez, Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces, General Santos, and with General Romulo, Rector of the Philippines University and former President of the United Nations General Assembly. He also met Dr. Dy, Assistant Regional Director of the World Health Organization, Western Pacific region; he visited the regional headquarters of the WHO with which the International Committee maintains the best of connections throughout the world.

The ICRC delegation, which left Manila on May 22 for Japan, was received both in Thailand and in the Philippines in the most cordial manner. The National Societies' leaders spared no pains to show their visitors as much as possible of the various local activities and clearly displayed their zeal to co-operate with the ICRC in the humanitarian work of the Red Cross. These numerous contacts served to strengthen bonds of long standing and provided opportunities for very useful discussions on the work of National Societies and of the International Committee.
THE ACTION OF THE ICRC IN SANTO DOMINGO

Extracts from a delegate’s diary

In the afternoon of May 16, 1965, on arriving at the Dominican Red Cross, its President, Dr. Luis F. Fernandez Martinez submits a draft appeal to me which he wants to broadcast to the sides opposing each other in Santo Domingo, in order to obtain the cessation of fighting for a few hours.

This truce would enable volunteers of the Dominican Red Cross to go to the North part of the town to collect the wounded and sick and remove the corpses.

I am personally of the opinion that its intervention would have more value, if it were based on the Geneva Conventions which lay down the precise methods for an agreement between belligerents for the obtaining of a truce, as well as for the creation of hospital and safety zones. At my request, the President adds to the text which he had drawn up a paragraph pointing out that his appeal is in fact based on the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and that it is approved of by the ICRC delegate on special mission in Santo Domingo.

On Monday, May 17, the broadcasting station transmits this message which remains unheard, since fighting continues unabated. At midday I am received personally by General Imbert whom I try to convince of the necessity for a ceasefire. His answer is negative.

In the afternoon of Tuesday, May 18, I go, together with the President of the Dominican Red Cross, to Colonel Caamano’s headquarters in the zone controlled by the Constitutional Government. I take this opportunity of reminding the Colonel of the existence of the Geneva Conventions and hand him a summary of the articles in Spanish, stressing those relating to a ceasefire and to the creation of a neutral zone. Colonel Caamano declares that he agrees, in principle, to consider a truce of 12 hours.
The following day, Dr. Mayobre, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, receives me in company with the President of the Dominican Red Cross, as well as with the WHO representative.

Noting the identity of our views, he suggests that we draw up a document fixing the principles and the methods of a truce. Shortly before this interview we intervene once more with General Imbert. He asks us if we think a two hours' truce would be sufficient. The President of the Dominican Red Cross points out to him that such a period would only enable him to sketch out the proposed action and that 12 hours would be the minimum time-limit. General Imbert agrees with our reasoning.

On Thursday, May 20, after having drawn up, as requested, two separate documents for each of the opposing sides, we return to the headquarters of the government together with two representatives of the United Nations. The truce which we propose is fixed for tomorrow Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mr. Mayobre then speaks recalling that the Security Council is awaiting to hear with the keenest interest the decision which will be taken. General Imbert replies that his Government can take no decision without first referring to the military leaders. The President of the Dominican Red Cross then insists on the absolute necessity for this truce to enable his Society to carry out an essential humanitarian work. I, for my part, remind General Imbert that the Dominican Republic is signatory to the Geneva Conventions. General Imbert maintains his point of view, namely that the military leaders must be consulted. No answer will be forthcoming until 4 p.m. today.

After leaving General Imbert's office, we then go and visit Colonel Caamano. He, together with his staff, receives us immediately and makes no objections to our proposals. He signs the agreement for a truce, after being assured by the President of the Dominican Red Cross that the document will be destroyed should the adverse party refuse to agree to the conditions.

At 3.45 p.m. we leave Colonel Caamano's headquarters for the rendez-vous arranged by General Imbert. After a short interval, we are taken to an office in which there are all the members of the government, as well as five Generals and Colonels of the Dominican army. General Imbert at once informs us that the military leaders do not consider that there is sufficient time to warn all the army outposts before the following morning by 6 a.m. He proposes postponing the decision by 24 or 48 hours. Mr. Mayobre then draws the government's attention to the unfortunate effect which his hesitation would produce on the Security Council. I personally propose that account should be taken of the military leaders' arguments. Since they find it physically impossible to arrange for a ceasefire by dawn tomorrow, let us postpone the beginning of the truce by a few hours. It is essential that the work of the Red Cross be carried out without incident.
Finally, agreement is given to a cessation for 24 hours instead of the 12 hours suggested, but which will start the next day at noon. The document is signed by General Imbert on behalf of the government of National Reconstruction.

We all know the sequel. The truce has been respected and the Geneva Conventions applied by both sides. The time-limit of 24 hours as laid down has already expired and hostilities have not been renewed.
Santo Domingo

VISITS TO PRISONS ON BOTH SIDES

The delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Santo Domingo, which had successfully negotiated the humanitarian truce of May 21, also brought its aid to civilian and political prisoners.

One of the ICRC representatives in Santo Domingo, Mr. Pierre Jequier, general delegate for Latin America, visited prisons of the "Constitutional Government presided over by Colonel Francisco Caamaño Deno and of the "Government of National Reconstruction" of General Antonio Imbert. There were no restrictions placed by either on visits.

On the Constitutionalist side, the ICRC delegate, accompanied by the President of the Women's Committee of the Dominican Red Cross, went on May 24 to the Palace of Justice, partially transformed into a place of detention, in which 15 officers and 3 non-commissioned officers of the National Police were interned.

He also visited the Salome Urena School, where the children had been replaced by 125 soldiers of the National Police. The detainees all receive news and are visited by their families.

In the districts of the town under the control of the Government of National Reconstruction, Mr. Jequier visited national Police Headquarters, where, in addition to the administrative services of that body there is a prison. The ICRC delegate requested that the 200 men detained there should be given regular permission to go out in groups in the yard.

In another place of detention, the penitentiary of La Victoria, police and the armed forces of the National Reconstruction Government have interned suspects arrested during the street fighting which took place in the industrial quarter of the northern part of the town. General Imbert's forces having now occupied the whole of this area, separated from the southern districts by the neutral corridor held by the U.S. army, rigorous controls have been imposed on the population and most of the men were subjected to identity checks. As a result of these police...
operations, the penitentiary now holds 2,082 men and 25 women considered to be political prisoners. The ICRC delegate brought the attention of the Co-ordinating Commission of the OAS, which included all institutions and the Ministry of Health, to the prisoners' conditions, in order to obtain the necessary assistance in food and medicaments for them.

On completing these visits, Mr. Jequier at once made representations with the two governments concerned for detention conditions to be improved. These left much to be desired, especially at the overcrowded penitentiary of La Victoria.

As a result of representations made by the ICRC delegation, the cells of the Victoria are less full, numbers still remaining too high (800), in spite of the daily release of 60 to 80 persons by the Purging Commission. This number of detainees remaining constant can be explained by the fact that the police continues to make further arrests and that persons held at the Palace of Justice are transferred to La Victoria whenever shortage of space demands it.

M. Nessi, assistant delegate, insisted on their being given more hygiene and medical facilities.

Mr. Jequier also visited the military camp of San Isidro, 12 miles from the capital. The prisoners, some fifty soldiers and forty civilians are held there by air force troops allied to General Imbert.

The ICRC delegate also visited not far from there a camp situated in a property called Hainamosa, once belonging to the Trujillo family. The internees, all civilians, are released at intervals after examination of each particular case.

Mr. Jequier then went to the camp of San Francisco de Macoris and to Santiago. He continued to be given all the necessary facilities for his activity on behalf of the victims of the events.

Mr. Nessi, assistant delegate, visited the American camp at a place called Sans Souci, where 154 civilians and 12 military were interned. They were under canvas and could move freely inside the camp. They corresponded and received mail and visits were allowed three times a week. These internees have since been released.

Misuse of the red cross emblem

The ICRC delegation has warned the Dominican public and the forces opposed to each other against misuse of the red cross emblem. At its request, the national broadcastong station also warned listeners that all such misuse would be punished.
Yemen

THE TRAVELS OF A MEDICAL TEAM IN THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS

The mobile medical team of the ICRC, carrying out its activity in central Yemen, recently visited the territory of the Naham tribe, loyal to the Royalist cause. Before its departure the ICRC delegation in Sanaa accordingly officially informed the headquarters of the armed forces and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of the Yemen. The first stage to be reached was Gerbet-et-Talh in the highlands.

Dr. Rainer Siegenthaler and male nurse Josef-Hans Arnold at once set up an infirmary in a large cave. A sheikh, placed at their disposal by the Prince, the head of the tribe, guarded the entrance to prevent patients rushing in a disorderly manner to the morning consultation.

On the second day, the medical team had already saved the life of an Nahmi soldier who had received a bullet in the head. As soon as the wounded man was in a condition to accompany Dr. Siegenthaler, he was taken to Sanaa, capital of the Republic, where he was admitted to hospital. The projectile was extracted successfully and the doctor was then able to return to the Naham mountain area.

Since then, wounded and sick have continued to pour in, often walking for many hours in order to be given treatment.

The afternoons were devoted to visiting homes in the villages neighbouring Gerbet-et-Talh.

The second stage of the medical team's journey was Beni Nass'as, where the doctor and his male nurse arrived with their medical equipment mounted on camels and donkeys lent by the Sheikh. A home was placed at their disposal in the village itself.

The third stage was Marab where the members of the team stayed with the ICRC delegation's appointed messenger, a Yemeni called Ali Rachid O'far.

In mid-July, the team returned to Sanaa whence, after a short spell of rest, it left for the Arhab tribal region, where medical needs are equally urgent.

A dramatic situation

The Minister of Health of the Yemen Republic has just appealed to all diplomatic representatives at Sanaa, begging them to intervene with their respective governments so that medicaments be sent, as a matter of urgency, to the Yemen Republic.
The Swedish Red Cross had already forestalled this appeal, informing the ICRC delegation in Sanaa of a despatch of medical supplies. However, in view of the extent and urgency of the needs this relief will soon be exhausted.

In this connection, the delegate of the ICRC in the Yemen Republic, M. Marcel Boisard, described the situation as being "really dramatic".

Visits to prisoners of war in Naham tribal territory

In early June, Mr. Marcel Boisard and Mr. Edmond de Palézieux, delegates, visited prisoners of war held by the Naham tribe at Garbet-et-Talh.

Since their last visit, six months previously, they noted a considerable improvement in the conditions of detention. Small houses have been built to accommodate the detainees. Prince Abdallah Ibn/assured the ICRC representatives that a further building would be arranged for them, thus releasing a cave which had become too small for the numbers contained. The delegates then effected an exchange of mail and distributed 137 letters from the detainees' families. They received the assurance that each prisoner would be authorized to write at least four times a month to his family.

Exchange of prisoners.

The two ICRC representatives brought a Royalist prisoner, who had been detained in Sanaa, to Gerbet-et-Talh in exchange for an Egyptian who had been wounded and evacuated. The delegates had themselves to decide upon the choice of a Royalist prisoner to make the exchange. They opted for one detainee whose health seemed to them to be precarious. This man was treated by Dr. Siegenthaler, before being handed over to the Prince at Gerbet-et-Talh. He then returned to his own village.

Southern Rhodesia

VISIT TO A WOMAN'S PRISON

Mr. G.C. Senn, delegate of the ICRC, is continuing to visit various camps and prisons in Southern Rhodesia, where detainees are held in conditions of semi-liberty.

On May 20, he went to Gatooma prison, whose numbers at present total 157 women, considered to be political prisoners and who are undergoing sentences of from one to two years reclusion. They had been transferred from the Marandellas centre, which had become too small after the declaration of the state of emergency, to Gatooma.
In accordance with the new regulation in force, mothers are allowed to keep their infants with them. They are allocated a daily supplementary ration.

The ICRC delegate, after visiting the buildings, huts and medical installations, then talked without witnesses with several of the detainees. He noted that these receive lessons in hygiene, education and dressmaking.

Visit to persons under assigned residence

Mr. Senn then went to Wha Wha camp situated in an agricultural area on the Gwelo-Fort Victoria road. Mr. Georg Hoffmann, general delegate of the ICRC for Africa, had already visited it in June 1964. The number of persons known as "restrictees" (persons under assigned residence) reached a total of 71.

At the Gonakudzingwa centre (on the Bulawayo-Lourenço Marques railway), which Mr. Senn also visited, the restrictees who the same time last year numbered 8, exceeded 513 in June of this year.

The position of persons under assigned residence is extremely difficult, since a family rarely enjoys other resources than those of the husband. It thus finds itself deprived from one day to the next of all sources of gain and it generally possesses no reserves.

Mr. Senn discussed this problem with the Minister of Justice and he counts on bringing the matter up with the Minister of Social Welfare. He was also able to talk without witnesses with the representatives of the communities about the conditions of their residence.

The President of the ICRC in Japan and Korea

The President of the ICRC stayed one week in Japan with Mr. Durand, general delegate for Asia, and Mr. Maunoir from headquarters in Geneva. He was accompanied by Mr. Angst and Mr. Testuz, ICRC delegates in Japan.

Mr. Gonard visited the head office of the Japanese Red Cross in Tokyo. He was present on the departure at the port of Niigata of 200 Koreans repatriated at their own request by the Japanese Red Cross with the help of the ICRC. He then went with the delegation to Hiroshima, where he visited the Red Cross hospital in which more than a hundred persons are still being treated for the after-effects of the first atomic explosion in 1945. He placed a wreath at the foot of monuments erected in memory of the inhabitants and of the members of the Japanese Red Cross missing during the course of that tragic day. He then saw provincial branches of the Red Cross at Hiroshima, Kyoto and Nava.
The President and Mrs. Gonard were received in audience by Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress. Subsequently, Mr. Gonard had talks with the Prime Minister, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the Minister of Health. He also had an interview with the President of the Supreme Court of Japan, with whom he discussed the teaching and dissemination of the Geneva Conventions.

The President and the delegation then spent several days in the Republic of Korea. After having met leading members of the Red Cross of the Republic of Korea at its headquarters in Seoul, they visited, near Inchon, a sanatorium for tubercular cases who are treated by up-to-date methods. They then visited one of the hospitals in Seoul. Both these establishments are entirely run by the Red Cross. Medical and nursing personnel is also Red Cross, as are the female volunteers and members of the Junior Red Cross assisting it. Mr. Gonard and the delegates had talks with the Prime Minister, the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Mayor of Seoul and they were also received by the President of the Republic, Pak Chong Hi. They took the opportunity of expressing the ICRC's point of view as regards accession to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their dissemination. Taking part in the ceremony of the Korea Association of International Law, Mr. Gonard gave an account of present tendencies in the evolution and development of humanitarian international law, a subject which will be one of the principal themes of the forthcoming International Conference of the Red Cross which will be held in Vienna this autumn.

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VISIT TO MEXICO

The President of the ICRC, Mr. Samuel A. Gonard, accompanied by Mr. Pierre Jequier, general delegate for Latin America, stayed several days in Mexico. He visited the organizations of the Mexican Red Cross in the capital and in Guadalajara. Mr. Gonard and Mr. Jequier were warmly welcome by leading members of the Mexican Red Cross, with whom they had some useful talks, as well as with several members of the government. They were also received by the President of the Mexican Republic, Mr. Gustavo Diaz-Ordaz.

The President of the ICRC observed that under the impulse of the Board of Directors and especially of the National President, Mr. D. José Barroso Chavez, the Mexican Red Cross is most active in many different fields. It is in the process of building a new, large and modern hospital in Mexico City. It is also attempting to have the Geneva Conventions better known and benefits in this respect from effective support from the authorities.

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NURSES AND THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS

The XIIIth Quadrennial Congress of the International Council of Nurses which was held from June 16 to 24 at Frankfurt-am-Main voted, unanimously and by acclamation, the following text to be included in the "International Code of Nursing Ethics": "It is important that all nurses are aware of the principles of the Red Cross and the privileges as well as the obligations of nurses by the terms of the Geneva Conventions of 1949". Miss Anny Pfirter, head of the medical personnel section, representing the International Committee of the Red Cross, guardian of the Red Cross principles and promoter of the Geneva Conventions, was given an ovation on that occasion by the participants.

The International Council of Nurses consists of more than fifty countries. The meeting in Frankfurt was attended by some five thousand nurses.

In Bangkok

A HENRY DUNANT STREET

The municipal authorities of Bangkok, following up a suggestion made by the Thai Red Cross, has just given the name of Henry Dunant to one of the main arteries of the capital. The ceremony took place on May 8, World Red Cross Day and the anniversary of the birth of the movement's promoter in 1828.
AN APPEAL BY THE ICRC FOR RESPECT TO BE GIVEN
TO THE RULES OF HUMANITY IN VIET NAM

The International Committee of the Red Cross has addressed to the governments of the Republic of Viet Nam, of the Democratic of Viet Nam and of the United States of America an appeal urging them, in the conduct of the present hostilities, to respect the humanitarian provisions of the Geneva Conventions to which these States have acceded. One is now facing the existence of an armed conflict to which all these Conventions must apply.

In this appeal to the governments concerned, the ICRC draws their attention to the fact that they have pledged themselves to respect the Geneva Conventions and that these should be applied in the case of declared war or any other armed conflict. It reminds them of their obligations devolving from these Conventions, and in particular of the necessity of enabling the ICRC to accomplish its rôle of neutral intermediary.

The ICRC recalls in particular that all combatants captured in uniform or bearing a sign clearly indicating that they are part of the armed forces must have their lives spared and, as prisoners of war, be given humane treatment. Lists of members of the armed forces captured must be communicated without delay to the Central Tracing Agency at ICRC headquarters in Geneva.

Furthermore, the parties to the conflict are bound, during the course of their operations, to respect and spare civilians not taking part in the hostilities. They are not permitted to direct attacks against such persons nor carry out any acts of violence against them.

The ICRC stresses finally that it is at the disposal of all authorities concerned to co-operate in the faithful application of the Conventions "conceived by the community of nations to alleviate the hardships engendered by war".
The ICRC has sent the same appeal to the "National Front of Liberation of South Viet Nam".

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RESPECT FOR HUMANITARIAN RULES IN ARMED CONFLICTS

When signing and ratifying the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 for the protection of the victims of war, States formally undertook to observe certain humanitarian rules in any armed conflict. These Conventions are today binding on 106 States and they thus possess a universal character. Some of their essential provisions are now recalled.

The Conventions apply "to all cases of declared war or of any other armed conflict which may arise between two or more of the High Contracting Parties, even if the state of war is not recognized by one of them" (art. 2 common to the four Conventions).

In the case of civil war and other internal disturbances the following rules at least should be applied (art. 3. common). This means to say that these should a fortiori be observed in armed conflicts of an international character. The following acts are thus prohibited:

"a) violence to life and person, in particular murder of all kinds, mutilation, cruel treatment and torture;

b) taking of hostages;

c) outrages upon human dignity, in particular humiliating and degrading treatment;

d) the passing of sentences and the carrying out of executions without previous judgment pronounced by a regularly constituted court, affording all the judicial guarantees which are recognized as indispensable by civilized peoples."

The Geneva Conventions prohibit all measures of reprisals against persons under their protection (46/47/13/33).

Wounded or sick members of the armed forces shall be "respected and protected in all circumstances. They shall be treated humanely and cared for by the Party to the conflict in whose power they may be, without any adverse distinction founded on ... nationality, political opinions or any other similar criteria" (1, 12).

Protection extends to hospitals giving them shelter and which shall be duly marked with the red cross sign and these "may in no circumstances
be attacked" (I, 19). This also applies to civilian hospitals (IV, 18).
Protection is extended equally to the treatment of the wounded (I, 24).

"Prisoners of war must at all times be humanely treated and . . .
protected against acts of violence or intimidation" (III, 13).

"No physical or mental torture, nor any other form of coercion may
be inflicted on prisoners of war to secure from them information of any kind
whatever" (III, 17).

"Information concerning prisoners of war shall be transmitted as
rapidly as possible to the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva
(Central Tracing Agency)" (III, 123)

Representatives or delegates of the Protecting Powers (neutral
countries representing the interest of a belligerent with his adversary) shall
have permission to go to all places where prisoners of war may be . . . The
delegates of the International Committee of the Red Cross shall enjoy the
same prerogatives (III, 126).

 Civilians are entitled, in all circumstances, to respect for their
persons, their honour, their family rights . . . They shall at all times be
humanely treated, and shall be protected against all acts of violence or
threats thereof" (IV, 27).

"The High Contracting Parties specifically agree that each of them
is prohibited from taking any measure of such a character as to cause the
physical suffering or extermination of protected persons in their hands"
(IV, 32).

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Yemen

RELIEF DISTRIBUTIONS IN REPUBLICAN TERRITORY

Since the beginning of the year, the ICRC delegation in the Arab
Republic of Yemen has made various distributions of food, pharmaceutics
and clothing. The Swedish Red Cross contributed to this relief action with
a donation of 35,000 frs. comprising medicaments, clothing, articles of
bedding and five sewing machines. The Swiss Red Cross sent 12,000 francs
worth of clothing, whilst the ICRC obtained the following items for the
victims of the events in Republican Yemen: 4,600 pairs of slippers, 400
jackets, 100,000 cigarettes, 208 sheets, 5,000 kgs. of soap and 28,000 kgs.
of milk products. It spent 37,000 francs in medicines, medical articles
and surgical equipment for its mobile medical teams.
THE REFUGEE PROBLEM IN THE SOUTH

In view of the urgent needs of the refugees installed on the borders of the Yemen and of the Federation of South Arabia, the ICRC is in the process of organizing a relief action in that area. A medical team attached to the Sanaa delegation has gone amongst the refugees for that purpose and a special consignment of powdered milk, cheese, soap and medicaments has been despatched from Geneva.

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Cyprus

Situation in the island

One of the present main difficulties in Cyprus is the impossibility for certain elements of the population to circulate freely.

The ICRC delegate, Mr. Max Stalder, has often therefore to intervene on behalf of persons separated from their families, such as that little Turkish girl to whom he handed over clothing and some money from her mother in the Greek sector.

Visit to Kokkina

The delegate of the ICRC in Cyprus, Mr. Max Stalder, visited Kokkina on June 12, accompanied by General Thimayya, commanding the UNO forces. He observed that the situation there had appreciably improved. The General had just received a letter from President Makarios informing him that henceforth Kokkina would no longer be considered as being a prohibited zone and that food, clothing and medicaments could be sent there without restriction. Certain articles, however, such as building material are still listed as prohibited. The health of the inhabitants of Kokkina is satisfactory, which has been confirmed by the local Turkish doctor. A large number of houses destroyed during the events have been rebuilt and thanks to tents supplied by the British and American Governments last autumn and placed at the disposal of the ICRC delegation in Cyprus, no refugee is without shelter.

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Santo Domingo

THE END OF THE ICRC's MISSION

The representatives of the ICRC in Santo Domingo, Mr. Pierre Jequier, general delegate for Latin America and Mr. Serge Nessi, assistant delegate, again visited all places of detention in which prisoners were to be found and observed that, as a result of the requests they had made to the appropriate authorities, namely the "Constitutional Government" of Colonel Francisco Caamaño Deno and General Antonio Imbert's "Government of National Reconstruction", conditions of internment have been improved, especially in the fortress of La Victoria where there are now less than 200 prisoners, whereas at the time of the first visit 2000 persons were undergoing internment.

The Dominican Red Cross has offered medicaments to the infirmary of this penal establishment in which a woman of Belgian nationality, a former broadcasting announcer, had been detained. The ICRC delegates succeeded in obtaining her release and transfer to a hospital.

The representatives of the ICRC visited prisons (Constitutionalists) which were all concentrated in the Ozama fortress perimeter in better conditions than had previously been the case. Each detainee is in possession of a straw mattress and can receive family visits once a week on a roster system. The prisoners stated that they had not been subjected to ill-treatment.

In view of the general improvement in the situation, and in agreement with the President of the Dominican Red Cross, the ICRC has decided to terminate its activity in the Republic of Santo Domingo.

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Africa

MISSION IN SOUTH AND WEST AFRICA

The general delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross for Sub-Equatorial Africa, Mr. Georg Hoffmann, has continued his visits to government and National Red Cross Societies in South-West Africa during the first seven months of the year. From Nairobi he went to Salisbury, Pretoria, Cape Town and Johannesburg. He then went to West Africa and attended the seminar organized by the League of Red Cross Societies in Abidjan (Ivory Coast). His itinerary subsequently took him to Dakar (Senegal), Bathurst (Gambia), Freetown (Sierra Leone) and Monrovia (Liberia). In May he visited Ghana and Guinea and in June, Nigeria.
Everywhere Mr. Hoffmann went he observed the interest taken by governments for the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions and for their inclusion in courses for colleges and army training schools.

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Federal Republic of Germany

REUNITING OF FAMILIES

From June 9 to 17 Mr. H. G. Beckh, ICRC delegate, held discussions with a number of officials of the German Red Cross in Bonn, Hamburg and Stuttgart. In Hamburg, in conjunction with the head of the Tracing and Family Reuniting Service, he studied the problems arising from inquiries from Rumania, Poland and the Democratic Republic of Germany.

The ICRC is pursuing its efforts to reunite families whose members have been separated as a result of the conflicts and tension which have been and indeed are still going on in various parts of the world.

Visits to detention centres

The ICRC delegate visited eight detention centres in the Federal Republic in which prisoners are held for contravention or alleged contravention of laws for political reasons. He was able freely to interview 13 detainees without witnesses.

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THE ICRC PRESIDENT IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Accepting an invitation from the German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany, Mr. Samuel Gonard, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, was in Bonn from July 18 to 20 where he had discussions with the National Red Cross. Together with Mr. Herbert G. Beckh, delegate, and Mr. René-Jean Wilhelm, Legal Adviser, he had an interview with the President of the German Red Cross, Mr. von Lex and his colleagues during which the National Society's activities were discussed, as well as the forthcoming International Conference of the Red Cross in Vienna in October.

Mr. Gonard inspected a special relief team for emergency action in cases of natural disaster.
Mr. Gonard and the principal officials of the National Society were received by Mr. Luebke, President of the Federal Republic and Honorary President of the German Red Cross. They were also received by Mr. Schroeder, Minister for Foreign Affairs with whom Mr. Gonard discussed questions of common interest to the German Federal Government and the ICRC.

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At the Central Tracing Agency

FROM ESTONIA TO AUSTRALIA; OR HOW A SON TRACED HIS MOTHER

The Central Tracing Agency (previously called the Central Prisoners of War Agency) at the headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva, is still an irreplaceable link between members of families who have been dispersed in all quarters of the globe. Its enquiries and endeavours frequently produce heart-warming results, such as the following example:

In May 1965 the Australian Red Cross conveyed the following message to the Central Tracing Agency: We are seeking the mother of H. K. who was enrolled in the German army when his country was occupied in 1943. At that time he lived in Tallinn, Estonia. He has had no news of his mother since.

After a number of enquiries the Central Tracing Agency discovered Mrs. K.'s new address in Estonia and conveyed the following message to Mr. H. K. through the Australian Red Cross: "My dear son: What a happy day it was for me when I received your message. I am in good health, but your father is dead . . ."
RESPONSES TO THE ICRC APPEAL FOR THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS TO BE RESPECTED IN VIET NAM

Following on the appeal recently addressed by the International Committee of the Red Cross to the parties engaged in the conflict of Viet Nam (Information Note No. 71, July 30, 1965), Mr. Dean Rusk sent the following letter to Mr. Samuel Alexandre Gonard, President of the ICRC:

"I appreciate Mr. Freymond's letter concerning the application of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 to the hostilities in Viet Nam. The United States Government has always abided by the humanitarian principles enunciated in the Geneva Conventions and will continue to do so.

In regard to the hostilities in Viet Nam, the United States Government is applying the provisions of the Geneva Conventions and we expect the other parties to the conflict to do likewise.

Among the particular measures being taken to implement the Conventions at the present time, the United States Government is developing plans to assist the Government of the Republic of Viet Nam to expand and improve facilities and procedures to process and care for an increased number of captives taken in combat. The two Governments are also increasing programs of instruction for personnel in the details of the provisions of the Conventions.

As you are aware, those involved in aggression against the Republic of Viet Nam rely heavily on disguise and disregard generally accepted principles of warfare. From the outset it has therefore been difficult to develop programs and procedures to resolve fully
all the problems arising in the application of the provisions of the
Conventions. Continued refinement of these programs and procedures
in the light of experience will thus undoubtedly be necessary.

The United States Government will cooperate fully and commu­
nicate further with the International Committee of the Red Cross
concerning the performance in Viet Nam of its traditional and
valuable humanitarian mission."

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Viet Nam
in Saigon has handed a letter to Mr. André Durand Delegate General of
the ICRC for Asia, in which he declared that his Government is prepared
to respect the Geneva Conventions and to contribute actively to the efforts
which the ICRC may undertake in order to ensure their application. The
Minister of Foreign Affairs of South Viet Nam added that it is to be hoped
that the adverse party will give proof of a similar regard for humanitarian
conduct. Appropriate measures have already been envisaged by his
Government with a view to speeding up the dissemination of the Conventions.

The Government of the Republic of Viet Nam has also pointed
out that it has, in fact, always applied the Geneva Conventions and that
prisoners have continuously received humane treatment.

The ICRC is still awaiting replies from the Government of the
Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and from the National Front of
Liberation.

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THE ICRC ADDRESSES THE RED CROSS WORLD

In a note sent to all National Red Cross Societies, the
International Committee of the Red Cross explained its action in Viet Nam
and declared itself prepared to transmit donations on behalf of the victims
of the conflict. Principal passages of this communication are as follows:

I. North Viet Nam

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
approached the Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam in
August 1964 with an offer of assistance on behalf of the victims of the
conflict. This offer was renewed in February 1965 and the ICRC proposed
to the Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam that it send
one of its representatives to Hanoi to examine with it the form which
such aid might take.
The National Red Cross Society replied that it would avail itself of these offers of assistance in case of necessity, but this it has not yet done. In view of the extension of the conflict and the doubtless increase in the number of victims, the ICRC has decided to send the sum of 50,000 Sw.fr.s. (drawn from its own relief funds) to the Red Cross of the DRVN, leaving it at the discretion of that Society to make use of that amount for the victims.

The International Committee, on the other hand, has already received and transmitted donations to the Red Cross of the DRVN and declares itself prepared to forward donations which National Red Cross Societies may wish to address to it.

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II. South Viet Nam

1. Territory in the hands of the Government

a) Refugees

At the request of the South Vietnamese Red Cross, the ICRC had an inquiry made by its delegates on the spot into the situation of the civil population victim of the war and of displaced, refugee or regrouped civilians.

From this it appears that 298,000 Vietnamese, half of whom are children or adolescents have left the fighting areas to seek refuge near the main centres of population in Central and South Viet Nam. They are accommodated either with local inhabitants or in reception camps of the Ministry of Social Action, which co-ordinates relief and pays them a resettlement allocation of 3,500 piastres (49 dollars) and of 50 kg. of rice for each family for six months. The refugees in addition draw 7 piastres (0.10 dollar) per head daily.

However, if the measures taken by the Government (which already receives considerable aid from several countries) thus enable basic needs to be met, the delegates of the ICRC have observed that the means available are nevertheless insufficient. Additional aid in the following forms would therefore be most welcome: black or white calico cloth, cotton clothing and under-clothes for children, woollen articles for children, blankets, matting, rice, dried fish, pickling brine (ngoc-mam), sweetened condensed milk, school material (copy books, pencils etc...).

b) War disabled

Only one hundred war disabled can be fitted and rehabilitated each year at the orthopaedic centre in Saigon, to which the ICRC made an initial contribution in 1956 by training Vietnamese technicians and by providing an artificial limb workshop and an ambulance.
Now, it is estimated that, in the present state of affairs, a minimum of 4 to 500 Vietnamese military personnel need to be fitted with appliances annually.

An extension of the present centre, with the construction and equipping of an additional building, enabling larger numbers to be fitted and in particular to begin to come to the aid of disabled civilians, would constitute the first stage of the action to be undertaken.

A sum of one million piastres (14,000 dollars) would be necessary to enable the work to be started.

Donations can be addressed to the ICRC (Société de Banque suisse, Geneva) which will transmit them.

For its part, the ICRC has placed 50,000 Sw.frs. to the credit of these two actions.

2. Territory in the hands of the "National Front of Liberation of South Viet Nam" (NFL)

The ICRC has had its attention drawn by the British Red Cross to a request for relief from the NFL.

Mention has been made of the following requirements:

**Medicaments**: antiseptics, antibiotics, anaesthetics, antipaludism prophylaxes, antidysenterics, dried blood plasma, transfusion material, etc.

**Medical equipment**: surgical kits, instruments of minor surgery, (scissors, lancets, surgical forceps, needles, catgut, syringes) bandaging material, instruments of major surgery (amputations)

Consignments can be despatched to the ICRC, Geneva, which will arrange their onward transmission.

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Yemen

**ACTIVITY AMONG THE TRIBES EAST OF SANAA**

A medical team, comprising Dr. Rainer Siegenthaler and a male nurse, recently spent a month in the territory of the Naham tribe and the surrounding villages. The ICRC delegates, who established their base in a large cave in the Djerbet-et-Tahl gorge, were able to attend
to numerous sick often from very distant regions. Several Egyptian prisoners were permitted to attend for treatment and for thorough medical examination. Visits to homes entailed journeys on foot or by donkey.

In the whole of this region with a population of some 70,000 people, there is not one single doctor. The Red Cross mobile team treated 1,160 patients.

It then went to the Khaulan district, where it gave 100 consultations daily, apart from many visits to homes.

**Medical team in South Yemen**

A mobile team, comprising Dr. Hugo Steiner and a male nurse, went to the Qataba region (South Yemen). Immediately sick people converged upon it from the most remote villages as well as refugees from the Federation of South Arabia. Work for this team is not without its dangers, as fighting is going on in the immediate vicinity of Qataba.

This team will remain on the spot until the end of August, when it will be replaced by another team from Switzerland.

**Donation by the Swiss Red Cross**

Included in the relief supplies being distributed in Sanaa by the ICRC delegation was a consignment of 120 sacks of clothing, 7 cases of babouches, 5 cases of jackets, 90,000 cigarettes and 111 kilos of medical supplies, sent by the Swiss Red Cross.

**Prisoners and political detainees**

Whilst at Djerbet-et-Tahl and Beni-Massar, Dr. Siegenthaler and male nurse Arnold medically examined all the prisoners held by the Naham tribe.

In addition, Mr. Edmond de Palézieux, delegate, on June 26, visited the prison of Bustan-el-Kher in Sanaa where 85 women are held with their children. Most of them have been in detention for 33 months. The ICRC representative delivered 17 letters and a few weeks later received 17 replies for forwarding.

**Medical action in favour of war disabled**

The last pairs of crutches were distributed between June 15 and July 15; a new consignment from Geneva is awaited.

A supply of wooden legs was delivered to the Hodeida hospital on July 12.

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Japan

REPATRIATION OF KOREANS

After the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Mr. Samuel Gonard, in the course of his visit to Japan, attended the embarkation and departure of a number of Koreans being repatriated by the Japanese Red Cross, the International Committee has decided to prolong until further notice its co-operation in this programme which is being carried out so effectively and smoothly.

Since these operations began in December 1959, 127 vessels have sailed from the port of Niigata with 84,005 Koreans.

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Geneva

THE NETHERLANDS OFFERS A SUN-DIAL TO THE ICRC

A sun-dial, built by young Dutch artists and craftsmen and offered to the Red Cross by the Netherlands Committee for the National and International Competitions of Professional Craftsmen, was inaugurated on August 6, 1965 in the grounds of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The ceremony was attended by representatives of the Netherlands' Permanent Delegation to the European Office of the United Nations and the International Organizations, the Consul General of the Netherlands in Geneva, representatives of the Netherlands Donating Committee, of the ICRC, of the League of Red Cross Societies, of the Netherlands Red Cross and of the Geneva Section of the Swiss Red Cross, as well as a number of Swiss and Dutch dignitaries. In the absence of Mr. S. Gonard, President, Mr. Léopold Boissier, member and former President of the ICRC, expressed the Institution's sincere thanks and recalled the close connections which have linked Geneva and Holland for centuries. He also pointed out that the ICRC and the Red Cross itself "were founded thanks in no small measure to the support which the Netherlands citizens gave Dunant from the very beginning".

The sun-dial, built of bricks and cement, is about 5 feet high. On the dial itself, in the form of a concave hemisphere, are engraved not only the hours in Roman figures but also the signs of the Zodiac and the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun emblems.

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The Central Tracing Agency, at the Headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross, received a request in June 1963 from M. M. F. of Zurich, who was trying, in his own name and in that of his cousin in the USSR, to trace his cousin's sister, Mrs. O. S. born in 1898 in St. Petersburg. The latest news from her, in 1941, was that she was living with her husband in Yugoslavia.

Enquiries were immediately undertaken in that country but proved of no avail. The Agency then addressed itself to the International Tracing Service (ITS) - administered by the ICRC - whose records showed that Mrs. O. S. was widowed, had left Yugoslavia and in 1950 was in a camp for displaced persons in Germany. At that time she had expressed a desire to emigrate to England.

Based on this information, the ICRC directed its enquiries towards the United Kingdom and through the British Red Cross succeeded in tracing Mrs. O. S. Her address was immediately communicated to her relatives in the USSR and Zurich.

Mrs. O. S.'s cousin has just written to express his gratitude for the successful efforts which he expected to be hopeless.
The Indo-Pakistan conflict

THE ICRC PREPARES A MISSION TO BOTH SIDES

The International Committee of the Red Cross has offered its services to the Red Cross Societies of India and Pakistan to help them come to the aid of the victims of the conflict which has broken out between the two countries. A delegate of the ICRC has gone to New Delhi and a similar mission is being arranged on the Pakistan side. The ICRC representative has been charged with ensuring the application of the Geneva Conventions. He will also examine the needs of the civilian victims of the events and the possibility of their obtaining relief from abroad.

At the request of the Pakistan Red Cross, the ICRC has sent blood plasma and transfusion units to Karachi, supplied by the Swiss and Netherlands Red Cross Societies.

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Viet Nam

FURTHER REPRESENTATIONS BY THE ICRC FOR THE APPLICATION OF THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS

After the governments of the United States and of the Republic of Viet Nam (South) had given positive answers to its representations concerning the application of the Geneva Conventions for the protection of the victims of war, the International Committee of the Red Cross asked them to provide lists of prisoners held by them and for authorization for its delegates to visit these in accordance with those treaties. Some visits to places of detention had already taken place in 1964 and in early 1965 and relief distributions had been made.

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jointly with the Red Cross of South Viet Nam. The Committee now hopes to be able to pursue and extend this action.

The ICRC has renewed its interventions with the Hanoi authorities and with the National Front of Liberation of South Viet Nam (NFL) whose replies concerning the application of the Geneva Conventions have not yet reached it. It has also made the same requests to them as regards members of enemy armed forces they have captured.

**Deliveries of mail to prisoners**

The ICRC's Central Tracing Agency continues, however, to transmit mail which it receives for prisoners in the hands of the NFL. It has been informed that several letters sent by the prisoners' families had reached their destination, but it has not so far had mail to transmit from prisoners to their families. Some prisoners have however been able occasionally to give their news through other channels.

The despatch of mail for prisoners in North Viet Nam was suspended in May 1965. Only one prisoner had until then been allowed to reply and to receive parcels. The ICRC is endeavouring to have these exchanges of news and deliveries resumed.

**Red Cross Societies contribute to the ICRC's action**

Donations from National Red Cross Societies of the following countries have reached or have been announced to the ICRC as a result of the communication which it made to them on August 11 concerning its action on behalf of the victims of the war in Viet Nam, both North and South:

Australia, Denmark, Ethiopia, Great Britain, Japan, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.

These donations in cash and in kind amount to a total of 329,000 Swiss francs.

It should be recalled that the ICRC had had 50,000 Swiss francs transmitted in August to the Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam (Hanoi) and an equal amount for victims in the Republic of Viet Nam (Saigon). It had drawn these sums from its own relief fund.

**Aid to the wounded and the war disabled**

The delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Saigon has taken measures to make use of the contribution of 50,000 Sw.fr.s which has just reached it from Geneva. Mr. André Tschiffeli, delegate, has studied with the Director of the Rehabilitation Centre of the Military War Disabled,
a programme of action for the treatment and the fitting with appliances of civilians having become disabled as a result of the war.

Aid to refugees

The delegates of the ICRC who went to the provinces of South and Central Viet Nam visited several reception centres opened by the Saigon authorities. They observed that a considerable part of the Vietnamese population in flight from areas where bombing and fighting are taking place, have found temporary shelter. However, it seemed to them that additional aid was required, especially as regards food. They have therefore arranged, as a start, together with the Vietnamese Red Cross, to make distributions of milk in the orphanages.

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Cambodia

SOUTH VIET NAM REFUGEES IN CAMBODIA

The Royal Cambodian Government has asked the ICRC to act to relieve the plight of the South Viet Nam refugees from Duc Co, some 10 km. East of the Cambodian border. There are more than 300 of these refugees, mostly women and children, who have sought safety in Khmer territory following recent fighting in their own district.

The ICRC has agreed to come to the help of these refugees. Mr. André Durand, delegate general of the International Committee for Asia, went for that purpose on September 9 to Phnom-Penh.

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Japan

ICRC DONATION TO THE HIROSHIMA HOSPITAL

The International Committee of the Red Cross has just remitted Sw.frs. 2,000 to the Japanese Red Cross hospital where the victims of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima are being cared for.

The Japanese National Red Cross Society has decided to devote this sum to the improvement of the technical equipment of this hospital which was visited by the ICRC President in May.

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Yemen

AFTER THE CEASE-FIRE

The announcement of the agreement between King Faisal and President Nasser at Jeddah on a cease-fire in the Yemen has not meant that the International Committee of the Red Cross may yet discontinue its activities in that country, either on the Republican or the Royalist side. Mr. Andr é Rochat, head of the ICRC delegation in Yemen, is expected to arrive in Geneva mid-September to examine with the Committee what steps should be taken for the progressive withdrawal of the ICRC from the Yemen.

Negotiations for a general exchange of prisoners

The ICRC delegation in the Yemen is, in addition, endeavouring to organize the exchange and repatriation of all prisoners of war held in the Yemen, in accordance with the agreement previously concluded by the parties in conflict.

A group of Egyptian prisoners has already been repatriated, after a few days in the ICRC hospital at Uqhd in North Yemen.

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Cyprus

MANY INDIVIDUAL CASES FOR THE ICRC

The events in Cyprus and their sequel continue to make life difficult for a large number of inhabitants. The delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross is constantly being approached to deal with numerous individual cases which it endeavours to settle in its capacity as a neutral intermediary. This involves frequent negotiations in favour of Greek or Turkish Cypriots wishing to emigrate or children who have been separated from their parents by the events.

In this connection the ICRC delegate, Mr. Max Stalder, recently had to investigate the disappearance of two young Greek Cypriots aged 13 and 15. He learned that they were with the Turkish community, the leaders of which soon agreed to release them and to hand them over to the ICRC. The release took place soon after in the presence of a U. N. police officer. The ICRC delegate then took the two youths to the Greek sector where their parents were awaiting them.
Viet Nam

THE APPLICATION OF THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS AND THE BOMBING OF NORTH VIET NAM

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam has in its turn replied, in a letter dated August 31 which has just reached Geneva, to an appeal made on June 11 by the ICRC to the four belligerents concerning the application of the Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949 on the protection of the victims of war.

In its reply, the North Vietnamese Government protests against air and naval bombardments directed deliberately, so it alleges, against non-military objectives, such as hospitals, schools, villages, etc... It therefore considers enemy pilots who are taken prisoner to be war criminals liable to be brought before the courts, although it give the assurance that these are being treated humanely.

The Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam has, for its part, already made protests on several occasions to the ICRC against the bombing of hospital establishments (leper colonies, hospitals) which, it stated, were very clearly marked with the emblems of the Red Cross.

In accordance with practice followed in similar cases (Resolution XXII of the XVIIth International Conference of the Red Cross, Stockholm 1948), the ICRC transmitted these protests to the American Red Cross, which it in turn communicated to the Government of the United States. In its reply the State Department declared that, as a result of the inquiry which had been made, it had collected no evidence that American aircraft had attacked buildings marked with the emblem of the Red Cross. It added that if establishments sheltering the wounded and sick had been damaged, this was because they must have been "situated in or in close proximity to military objectives" contrary to Art. 19 of the First Convention
(wounded and sick) and Art. 18 of the Fourth Convention (civilians). The American Government has therefore suggested that the ICRC undertakes an inquiry on the spot and for its part declared itself prepared to supply it with all the information in its possession.

The ICRC has transmitted this reply to the Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam in Hanoi.

When communicating the letter of August 31 from the Government of North Viet Nam to the South Vietnamese and United States Governments, the ICRC drew their attention to the protection which is due to hospitals and other medical establishments duly marked. It reminded them that the Parties to the conflict are obliged to respect and protect, in their operations, civilians not taking part in hostilities, and that they do not have an unlimited right as to the choice of means of inflicting damage on the enemy.

**Prisoners of war in North Viet Nam**

The North Vietnamese Government declared on the other hand, in its letter of August 31, that prisoners had been given authorization to correspond with their relatives, but that the regulations concerning mail with the exterior having been infringed, the authorities had decided to suspend this for the time being. If the persons concerned were to conform to these dispositions, the Hanoi Government added that the question could be reconsidered.

The ICRC has requested to be informed of these regulations, to receive lists of American and South Vietnamese prisoners and authorization to visit these. In this connection it recalled the proposals already made for the sending of a delegate of the International Committee to Hanoi in order to assist in the application of the Geneva Conventions and in bringing material aid to the victims of the war, especially to the civilian population subjected to bombing.

The Central Tracing Agency has made a further despatch of mail for the American prisoners of war.

**Relief actions**

As a result of its communication of August 11 concerning the relief action on behalf of the victims of the war in Viet Nam, the ICRC received on September 20 donations in cash and in kind to a value of more than 600,000 Swiss francs. These donations have come from the National Red Cross Societies of the following countries: Australia, Denmark, Ethiopia, Finland, Ireland, Japan, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway and Switzerland; from the Governments of Sweden and Switzerland, as well as from the Vietnamese Committee in Finland and Oxfam (Oxford Committee for Famine Relief).
In South Viet Nam, the delegates of the ICRC visited refugee camps where they co-operated in distributions organized by the National Red Cross. In North Viet Nam, the ICRC informed the Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of the amount of available funds, in accordance with the wishes of the donors, for despatching the necessary relief. The North Vietnamese Red Cross was therefore requested to make known the victims' principal needs.

The National Liberation Front of South Viet Nam has, on the other hand, confirmed direct to the ICRC a list of its requirements in surgical equipment and medicaments already previously communicated through the intermediary of the British Red Cross. A first consignment will thus be able to leave Geneva as soon as the problem of routing has been settled.

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THE INDO-PAKISTAN CONFLICT

ICRC missions to both sides

On arrival in New Delhi on September 12, Mr. Roger Du Pasquier, delegate of the ICRC, immediately made contact with the Indian Government in order to obtain lists of Pakistani prisoners of war and authorization to visit them. He also studied with the Indian Red Cross ways of bringing relief to the victims of the conflict.

Mr. Michel Martin, ICRC delegate, arrived in Pakistan on September 22 where he made similar approaches to the Pakistan authorities and Red Cross.

In answer to an urgent request by the Pakistan Red Cross, the ICRC has sent several consignments of blood plasma and transfusion equipment. These deliveries, to a value of about 60,000 Swiss francs, were made thanks to donations from the ICRC, the Netherlands, the Swiss Red Cross and the Swiss Federal Government.

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Cambodia

ICRC RELIEF ACTION FOR SOUTH VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

Mr. André Durand, delegate general of the ICRC for Asia, went to Phnom-Penh on September 9 and visited, on September 13 and 14, four hundred South Vietnamese refugees from the Duc Co region, admitted into Cambodia.
The ICRC has sent 15,000 frs. to the Cambodian Red Cross, which will undertake to allocate and distribute relief set aside for the victims of the events, in accordance with an aid programme prepared in co-operation with the ICRC representatives.

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Africa

MISSION IN SOUTH AND WEST AFRICA

Mr. Georges Hoffmann, delegate general in Afriqua, recently proceeded to Guinea. He visited the Bissau prison and a number of prisoners in the Mansoa area. He then went to Lagos (Nigeria) and to Gabon, where he concerned himself, in particular during the course of that mission, with the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions.

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Communiqué issued to the Press

September 16, 1965

OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF THE 105th RED CROSS SOCIETY

The International Committee of the Red Cross has just given official recognition to the Red Cross of Uganda, which thus becomes a member of the International Red Cross. There are now 105 National Societies.

The Red Cross of Uganda has succeeded the British Red Cross which has worked in that country for many years.
Yemen

GENERAL EXCHANGE AND REPATRIATION OF PRISONERS OF WAR IN THE YEMEN

As is generally known, the Armistice terms concluded a few weeks ago in Djeddah made provision for the general exchange and repatriation of all prisoners of war.

This agreement of principle was the basis for more detailed discussions between the Egyptian and Republican forces on the one hand and the Royalists on the other. Two meetings took place between Egyptian and Yemeni Royalist officers in September, at the Uqhd hospital and under the banner of the ICRC, with a view to specifying the terms and arrangements for exchanges. Most of the releases and repatriation operations took place with the active assistance of ICRC delegates and in liaison with the Mixed Armistice Commission.

The Egyptian and Yemeni Republican prisoners of war in Royalist hands were held in three separate regions of the Yemen: the North-West, the North-East and the East.

The first two groups of Egyptian prisoners from Jauf, the Washa region and Gareh, were released in September and repatriated across Saudi territory by air to Cairo. The group of prisoners from Jauf, incidentally, spent several days near the Uqhd hospital, before proceeding to Saudi Arabia and Egypt.

The release of the third group, detained by the Royalist Nehm tribe in the mountains east of Sanaa, involved an exchange operation not without its difficulties. It was effected by the ICRC delegates in Sanaa, in agreement with representatives of both sides. The group of Egyptian and Republican prisoners of war was exchanged on October 11, with the assistance of the Mixed Armistice
Commission, against Royalist prisoners who had been held in various prisons in the Yemen Republic.

In addition, the Egyptian and Yemeni Republican forces had still several members of the Royal family in their power. In accordance with the agreements concluded at Uqhd the men and children were sent to Djeddah under the responsibility of the Mixed Armistice Commission, whilst the women, who had until that time been held captive in the former Royal Palace of Boustan El Kheir in Sanaa, were authorized to continue residing there, but henceforth at liberty.

Throughout all these operations the ICRC delegation was thankful for the active co-operation of the Egyptian and Yemeni Royalist military authorities as well as of the members of the Mixed Armistice Commission.

These releases brought to an end an important action which had been carried out for more than two years by the ICRC delegates in the Yemen. These delegates have regularly visited the prisoners of war, even in the remotest places; they brought them relief supplies of all kinds and, through the ICRC's Central Tracing Agency in Geneva, had ensured the two-way transmission of family mail. They also saw to it that treatment and internment conditions for these prisoners were in keeping with the humanitarian principles upon which the Geneva Conventions are based.

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**INDO-PAKISTANI CONFLICT**

**Prisoners of War**

Delegates of the International Committee of the Red Cross in both India and Pakistan have been permitted to visit prisoners of war; both governments have demonstrated their intention to apply the Geneva Conventions of 1949 on the protection of victims of war. Mr. Roger Du Pasquier in India and Mr. Michel Martin in Pakistan were therefore given access to several places of internment and were authorized to interview prisoners without witnesses. The delegates' reports were conveyed each time to the Detaining Power and the government of the prisoners' country of origin. Mr. Du Pasquier was also able to see prisoners of war who had been wounded in the course of the fighting.

The prisoners in India have been authorized to write to their families and the first batch of letters and capture cards has been sent to Geneva, from where the ICRC's Central Tracing Agency will transmit them to Karachi. Mr. Du Pasquier has also
transmitted the first lists of Pakistani prisoners and these were immediately forwarded to the Pakistan Embassy in Berne.

In Pakistan, Mr. Martin requested that Indian prisoners be authorized to correspond with their families. At the beginning of October, the Pakistan Red Cross sent some letters to Geneva and these were immediately forwarded to New Delhi. In addition, Mr. Martin has received lists of prisoners of war and interned Indian civilians.

**Refugees**

Military operations and air raids in both countries have given rise to serious population movements. According to information gathered by Mr. Du Pasquier and observations in the course of several visits in the border regions of the Punjab and of Jammu, the number of refugees in India is estimated to be over 200,000.

Mr. Martin too has visited several reception centres set up by the West Pakistan authorities in the border regions where some of the 120,000 civilians fleeing from the fighting zones have been given shelter.

In spite of the measures taken by the authorities and the National Red Cross Societies and despite the generosity of the local population, the plight of these refugees is distressing. They left their homes in haste without any possessions and after several days' journey in the high valleys their clothing was worn to rags. Their homes have been destroyed so that for most of them there is no prospect of returning to their villages in the near future. Approaching winter makes urgent assistance in the form of food, clothing, blankets, tents and medical supplies, all the more necessary. After despatching its first emergency consignments whilst fighting was still going on the ICRC asked the League to appeal to National Red Cross Societies to contribute to the action undertaken by the Indian and Pakistan Red Cross Societies for the benefit of refugees.

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**Viet Nam**

**ACTION ON BEHALF OF REFUGEES IN THE SOUTH**

Mr. André Tschiffeli, delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross in South Viet Nam, went with representatives of the Viet Nam Red Cross on September 30 to the village of Vinh-Kim in the MyTho region, in order to distribute relief supplies of rice, milk, children's food, material and blankets to 200 refugee
families. These families consisted mainly of elderly people, women and children.

A second distribution in the same district took place on October 3 to a further 200 families, also in distress, living in the disused sheds of an abandoned brick works. Some refugees living on the river banks in "sampans" (small boats frequently found in the Far East), were also given supplies.

During these distributions, young men and women from the local Red Cross assisted the doctors and nurses who had come from Saigon with the ICRC delegate, and who, in an ambulance and under canvas, examined and treated many patients.

Relief consignments to the North and to the NLF

The ICRC has sent to Hanoi by air, via Peking, a consignment of relief supplies in the form of antibiotics and dressing material for the benefit of victims of the conflict. This consignment was sent to the Red Cross Society of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, to which the ICRC had already sent Sw.Fr. 50,000 from its reserve funds. Several National Red Cross Societies have announced their intention to participate in this action and have sent donations to the ICRC.

Thanks to the contributions received, the International Committee of the Red Cross has also sent medical and surgical supplies to the delegate in Moscow of the National Liberation Front of South Viet Nam for the benefit of the war victims on territory under NLF control.

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Press Release No. 812b - October 6, 1965

The International Committee of the Red Cross has studied the declaration of the President of the United States of America according to which he has expressed his intention of accepting on American soil Cuban nationals wishing to expatriate themselves. Since its name been mentioned in this declaration, the ICRC wishes to point out the following: if an agreement is realized through diplomatic channels and if the Cuban Government and the Government of the United States desire the cooperation of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the latter would be pleased to contribute, on the strictly humanitarian level which is its own, to the success of the action.

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THE ICRC AND THE XXTH INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS CONFERENCE

Geneva, (ICRC) October 15, 1965 - The XXth International Red Cross Conference was held from the 2nd to the 9th October 1965 in the striking setting of the Hofburg at Vienna. Well organised by the Austrian Red Cross with the help of personnel from the international organisations of the Red Cross, the Conference was cordially welcomed by leaders of the Austrian Government. Mr. Hans von Lauda, President of the Austrian National Society, presided with both authority and tact. The Secretary General was Mr. Hans Sevcik. The Conference was attended by 580 representatives of 92 National Societies and 84 governments.

For its part, the ICRC prepared a basic documentation of 24 bound reports, several of which were very large.

This Conference was of particular importance in that it was the first to be held in eight years. Its results were not disappointing. Those who attended agreed that it was a magnificent demonstration of the unity and universality of the Red Cross. On numerous items of the agenda understanding was quickly established, and the spirit of agreement during the debates resulted in almost all resolutions being adopted practically unanimously.

Most significant results were without doubt achieved in the field of humanitarian law, a subject dealt with by one of the three Conference Commissions. Implementation and dissemination of the Geneva Conventions, as usual, drew a great deal of attention. The belief of the community of nations in the authority of these fundamental charters and the need to ensure their application in all circumstances was never more strongly evident.

In this regard the Conference appealed to all nations to assure the widest possible instruction in the Geneva Conventions among their armed forces, including those made available to the United Nations, and to take appropriate measures to repress violations of the Conventions, particularly by completing legislation to this effect.

Another major field was the protection of civilian populations against the dangers of modern warfare. The Conference encouraged studies by the ICRC in three directions: legal protection of these populations against indiscriminate warfare, the status of civilian defence personnel, and improvement of consideration due to civilian medical and nursing personnel. It was recommended that the ICRC call together one or several important conferences of experts in the very near future.
Meanwhile the Conference recalled some great humanitarian principles which benefit the civilian population and which remain valid despite enormous technical advances. In the present obsolete condition of the laws of war which, as is well known, date from 1907, it is no exageration to consider the rules thus recalled as general principles of common law applicable today. They may be summarized as follows:

- Parties engaged in conflict do not have unlimited choice of methods to inflict damage to the enemy;
- It is forbidden to attack the civilian population per se;
- A distinction must be made, at all times, between persons taking part in hostilities and civilian population so that the latter may be spared as much as possible;
- The general principles of the laws of war are applicable to nuclear and similar weapons.

In so brief a report it is impossible to analyse all the resolutions adopted. They will shortly be published; we would mention here only that they deal also with the protection of victims of internal conflicts, the tracing of military graves, and the training of specialised personnel to supervise the application of the Geneva Conventions.

There was much work done by a General Commission as well as by the Health and Social Welfare and the Junior Red Cross Commissions.

The Conference formally adopted the Declaration of Red Cross Principles which will hereafter be solemnly read at the opening of its sessions. The movement thus possesses a universal doctrine, a humanitarian basis common to all peoples.

"The Red Cross as a Factor of World Peace" is a traditional subject, now more topical than ever. Despite opinions which, at the beginning, appeared divergent, agreement was finally reached on a constructive text in which the Conference "urges all governments to settle their international differences by peaceful means in the spirit of international law" and "encourages the International Committee of the Red Cross to undertake, in constant liaison with the United Nations Organisation and within the framework of its humanitarian mission, all efforts which might contribute to the prevention or settlement of armed conflicts."

Relief actions, radio communications, the creation of the Henry Dunant Institute, reuniting of families, preventive medicine, the donation of blood and nursing care were also among the questions discussed.

The Conference also elected the five members of the Permanent Commission who join the four ex officio representatives of the ICRC and the League. Those appointed for a period of four years are: General Collins, President of the American Red Cross, Mr. von Lauda, President of the Austrian Red Cross, Lady Limerick, Vice President of the British Red Cross, Professor Miterev, President of the Alliance
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the USSR, and Mr. Newman-Morris, President of the Australian Red Cross. During its constitutive meeting, the Commission elected Lady Limerick as its President.

For the location of its next meeting, three National Societies declared themselves ready to act as host. The choice of the Conference fell to Turkey. Thus the XXIst International Red Cross Conference will be held at Istanbul in 1969.
Indo-Pakistani conflict

PROTECTION OF PRISONERS OF WAR AND CIVILIAN INTERNEES

Mr. Roger Du Pasquier, delegate of the ICRC in India, has visited wounded prisoners of war undergoing treatment at the Delhi military hospital, and together with Mr. Jacques Moreillon, assistant delegate recently arrived from Geneva, made a second visit to the Agra camp. On his side, Mr. Michel Martin, delegate in Pakistan, has visited prisoner of war camps at Kohat and Dargai.

The International Committee's representatives have received from both sides nominal rolls of prisoners which have been transmitted by the International Tracing Agency in Geneva. These lists also included the crews of several Indian and Pakistani merchant vessels held in the ports of the adverse Party on the outbeak of hostilities. In addition, 901 family messages from India and 109 from Pakistan have been routed to their recipients by the same channel.

The ICRC delegates have, furthermore, begun to receive lists of interned civilians, but they have continued to urge the Detaining Powers to allow access to camps and places of detention in which civilians are held.

Aid to refugees

On the outbreak of hostilities, the ICRC despatched blood plasma, transfusion kits and medical equipment as a result of requests made by the Red Cross Societies of India and Pakistan. The Swiss and Netherlands Red Cross joined this first phase of the relief action, in which the Red Lion and Sun of Iran and the Turkish Red Crescent also took part by sending medicines and medical supplies to West Pakistan.

After the cease-fire on September 22, the delegates of the ICRC had access to areas affected by the war in which they observed that...
the military operations had led to considerable displacements of the population.

Forced from their homes by air raids and fleeing the fighting areas, the refugees precipitated themselves on the roads, climbed passes often at an altitude of 9000 ft. and crossed steep valleys to arrive barefoot with their clothes in rags in camps hurriedly set up and soon overcrowded. They were often separated from their own families, the aged and children on one side, the parents on the other. Food is inadequate and means of protection, clothing, blankets and tents are lacking. They are threatened by epidemics and hygiene is non-existent. The refugees are suffering from latent tuberculosis, 500 cases have been treated free in Lahore, but prevention and cure must be made on a much wider scale.

In India, the largest concentrations of refugees are to be found in the Jammu area (250,000) and in the Punjab (34,000). To these should be added several thousands of refugees in the eastern States, in Assam and Bengal. In Western Bengal it was estimated on October 20 that there were 204,000 persons displaced as a result of the conflict, chiefly in the Punch, Mirpur, Sialkot and Gujranwala districts, so that one can say that for these two countries aid is needed for nearly half-a-million refugees.

The measures undertaken for their resettlement during the course of these next few months will only be able to affect a small portion of these war victims. Long-term additional assistance has therefore been considered for refugees who will have to remain in the camps. For, neither government assistance nor relief supplied by several other aid organizations would be sufficient for their needs.

The ICRC, after consultations with the League of Red Cross Societies, therefore launched an appeal on November 12 to all Red Cross Societies asking them to demonstrate their solidarity on behalf of the civilian victims of the Indo-Pakistani conflict.

For a start to be made to distributions without waiting for contributions from the donor Societies, the ICRC has drawn an advance of 25,000 frs. from its relief funds which it has placed at the disposal of each of its delegates, namely 50,000 frs. A donation of powdered milk, offered by the Swiss Confederation has also been transported free of charge by Air India to New Delhi and a similar quantity has been sent to the Pakistan Red Cross.

In response to the appeal of November 12, the Canadian and Swedish Red Cross Societies declared that they had already voluntarily despatched donations in kind at the start of hostilities, The Australian, Norwegian, Swiss and German Federal Republic Red Cross Societies, as well as the Swiss Government, have also made known their contributions.

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Viet-Nam

THE PROTECTION OF PRISONERS OF WAR

Through the medium of its assistant delegate in the USSR, the National Liberation Front of South Viet Nam has in its turn taken up a position as regards the application of the Geneva Conventions and replied to the appeal which the ICRC had made on June 11 to the four belligerents. The representative of the South Vietnamese insurrection has declared that the NLF was not bound by the international treaties to which others beside itself subscribed. Whilst therefore rejecting the protest made by the United States Governments as a result of the execution of American prisoners as reprisals, the NLF, however, affirmed that the prisoners it held were humanely treated and that, above all, enemy wounded were collected and cared for.

The ICRC had at that time requested the National Liberation Front to apply the essential principles of the Geneva Conventions which stipulate not only that the life of an enemy laying down his arms shall be spared, but also prohibit reprisals against prisoners, permit them to give their news to their families, receive visits from ICRC delegates and send nominal rolls to the International Committee's Central Tracing Agency in Geneva.

At the same time, the ICRC has continued its approaches to the South Vietnamese and American authorities, so that the promises made by the United States Government and that of the Republic of Viet Nam in August may be put into effect, at least as regards the protection due to prisoners. The representatives of the ICRC have renewed their previous demands concerning the sending of nominal rolls of prisoners of war and authorization to visit them.

The International Committee has taken similar steps with the Red Cross and the authorities of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, which stated that the prisoners had been temporarily deprived of the right of corresponding with their families. The International Committee has asked that this restriction be lifted. Meanwhile, the North Vietnamese Red Cross has forwarded photographs to Geneva of 4 American prisoners and news of the state of health of two of them. These communications have been duly transmitted to the families concerned.

Relief actions

In South Viet Nam, ICRC delegates Mr. Werner Muller and Mr. André Tschiffeli, who have recently been joined by Mr. Alain Modoux, assistant delegate, have continued their distributions of relief for displaced persons. With the help of the Vietnamese Red Cross, they have brought aid
to several groups of refugees who are not sheltered in the government's reception centres.

They have also introduced Mr. Edmond Kaiser and Dr Charles Hahn of Lausanne, directors of "Terre des Hommes" to the South Vietnamese authorities. This organization proposes to evacuate and admit to hospitals outside Viet Nam wounded and sick children and orphans who cannot receive appropriate attention on the spot, in view of the shortage of medical and nursing personnel and the insufficient number of hospital beds.

Whilst "Terre des Hommes" devotes itself to effecting these evacuation projects, the ICRC concentrates its efforts on the amelioration of the condition of the wounded and sick in Viet Nam itself. Its delegates have made contact for that purpose with the local committees of the Vietnamese Red Cross, in order to encourage the organization of training courses for Red Cross nurses in the provinces and not only as hitherto on the national level in Saigon.

Thanks to the active interest shown by several National Red Cross Societies and by the Swiss Government which have sent it contributions amounting at present to US $55,612.00, the ICRC has been able to continue despatching relief which has also been extended to territory controlled by the NLF and to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. Medicines and surgical equipment have been sent to Hanoi. Similar despatches have been made to the NLF.

Several groups which have been formed in Great Britain and the United States, especially in university circles, with a view to bringing humanitarian aid to the victims of the conflict, have asked the ICRC to act as their intermediary. Their cash contributions, which so far only represent a small proportion of all relief received, have been used in accordance with the donors' wishes for the carrying out of relief programmes as described above.

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Yemen

THE UQHD FIELD HOSPITAL - A STATISTICAL SUMMARY

The activity of the medical mission delegated by the International Committee of the Red Cross and installed at Uqhd from November 1963 to November 1965 may be summarized as follows:

1,700 persons admitted to hospital
60,500 consultations to out-patients
2,088 surgical operations.
In addition, 12,000 consultations were given by the mobile medical teams working in the mountain areas in the interior of the Yemen.

174 doctors, male and female nurses and technicians - most of them Swiss - had responded to the pressing appeals sent by the ICRC to the National Red Cross Societies in February, September and November 1963 and in April 1964, for support in material and human resources. Eight teams of twenty to twenty-five persons took turns to operate the field hospital with its modern surgical equipment. They had to carry on a struggle against the suffering engendered by war and against desert conditions (lack of water, wind and sand storms, heat of up to 122°F). The wounded and sick had sometimes to walk for days before reaching the hospital in the heart of the desert.

Although the ICRC mission terminated at the end of October 1965, one doctor and a male-nurse remained behind to operate a clinic service for a few more weeks.

On the other hand, the activities of the ICRC delegation in Sanaa are continuing for the time being.

These activities include medical assistance to the civilian population and distribution of relief in the form of food and clothing to civilian victims of events.

There are also two mobile medical teams continuing to work, one at Dhamar and the other at Beit el Faki.

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THE HENRY DUNANT INSTITUTE

The International Committee of the Red Cross, the League of Red Cross Societies and the Swiss Red Cross have just formed an association entitled the Henry Dunant Institute, its headquarters being in Geneva.

The Institute, which will be available to the three founder organizations, is intended primarily as a centre for research and teaching in all aspects of Red Cross activity.

This Institute was established as a result of a decision made by the three Swiss-based Red Cross organizations during the Red Cross Centenary to equip the universal movement of the Red Cross with a new and lasting working instrument.

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VISIT TO THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS OF PRINCE AND PRINCESS HITACHI OF JAPAN

The International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies welcomed at the headquarters of the ICRC Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Hitachi during their visit to Switzerland.

Mr. Samuel A. Gonard, President of the ICRC, greeted Their Imperial Highnesses in the name of both institutions.

Mr. Roger Gallopin, Executive Director of the ICRC, and Mr. Henrik Beer, Secretary-General of the League of Red Cross Societies, gave brief descriptions of the current activities in the world of these two institutions.

His Imperial Highness expressed the hope that the Committee and the League would pursue their efforts to improve conditions for mankind.

Her Imperial Highness, Princess Hitachi, also expressed keen interest in the work of the Red Cross.

Their Imperial Highnesses were accompanied by Mr. Katsushiro Narita, former Japanese Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, Mr. Aoki, Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the International Organizations in Geneva, and by their suite.

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Press release No 814b
(October 26, 1965)

THE PRESIDENT OF THE ICRC IN THE IRISH REPUBLIC

Following up an invitation from the Irish Red Cross Society, the President of the ICRC and Mrs. Gonard, accompanied by Mr. Borsinger, spent several days in Ireland. They were present at the Society's Triennial Convention which met at Athlone in the centre of the country and which was attended by some hundreds of delegates representing its provincial branches.

The President of the ICRC had the opportunity of describing the Institution's present activities and of commenting on the favourable development of the recent International Conference in Vienna.

The ICRC President, after being received by Mr. de Valera, President of the Republic, paid a visit to the Prime Minister, Mr. Sean Lemass and also to General MacEoin, Chief of the General Staff of the Irish Army.

The ICRC delegation left Dublin for London where it will be meeting various leading personalities of the British Red Cross and will visit one of its hospital centres.
India-Pakistan

EXCHANGE OF PARCELS

On December 3, 1965, two representatives of the ICRC, Mr. Roger Du Pasquier (delegate in India) and Mr. Michel Martin (delegate in Pakistan) accompanied by Mr. Jacques Moreillon (assistant delegate in India) and by members of the National Red Cross Societies of India and Pakistan met between the lines for an exchange of parcels for prisoners of war of the two parties in conflict.

This exchange took place in a sector where the cease-fire line corresponds with the old frontier between the two countries. A neutral zone of almost 500 yards separates the most advanced military outpost from the frontier itself. The Pakistan post is sited the same distance from the frontier.

Liaison was made from the Indian side by a naval officer from Ceylon, an observer to the UNO Control Commission.

Mr. Du Pasquier and Mr. Moreillon then went alone to the frontier line where they were joined shortly afterwards by Mr. Martin and two officers in UNO service.

The ICRC representatives afterwards made an exchange of parcels, 370 for Pakistani prisoners of war and 363 for Indian prisoners. These parcels were distributed by each of the National Societies supervised by the delegates of the ICRC. Recipients signed receipts in each case.

The International Committee hopes to arrange a further exchange of parcels, including those addressed personally to prisoners by their relatives in addition to parcels sent anonymously, in the near future.
Prisoners of war

The ICRC delegates are continuing their efforts on both sides in order to obtain all nominal rolls of prisoners of war.

In India, the delegates have been successful in having arrangements made for Pakistani parachutists, who have been recognized as having prisoner of war status, to begin to be transferred to Agra camp. The ICRC delegates are also concerning themselves actively in India and in Pakistan with the condition of wounded and sick prisoners of war.

First releases of crews

The ICRC had had its attention drawn by the Indian and Pakistani authorities to difficulties encountered by the crews of several vessels of the merchant navy held in ports of the adverse Party when hostilities first broke out. The delegates had obtained nominal rolls of these detainees and had requested authorization to visit them.

The crews of two Indian ships retained in Pakistan have recently been released. Continued representations are being made on behalf of other seamen who are still interned.

Visits to camps and relief for refugees

At the end of November, Mr. R. Du Pasquier, delegate of the ICRC in India, and his assistant, Mr. Jacques Moreillon, went to the Jammu district to visit the Muthi transit camp where there are more than 40,000 refugees and another camp in which there are almost 2,500 persons, to be present at a distribution of milk and blankets.

The refugees, whose numbers in the Jammu, Samba and Udhampur districts alone are estimated at more than 80,000, have been grouped in 9 camps mostly located between 3000 and 6000 feet. These refugees, who will be facing the rigours of a long winter, will require warm clothing and blankets.

National Societies' Solidarity with India and Pakistan

From the outset of hostilities between India and Pakistan, emergency supplies of blood plasma and medicaments were sent by the Netherlands and Swiss Red Cross Societies and by the Swiss Government.

Even before the International Committee had launched its appeal, relief supplies were offered by the Swedish, Swiss and Canadian Red Cross Societies, both for India and Pakistan.
After the appeal, cash donations had, by December 15, been offered by a dozen National Societies, namely: Australia, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Norway, South Africa, Switzerland, Syria, the United Kingdom, the United States. The Swiss Government too contributed in cash, as also did the Order of St. John and the Save the Children Fund through the British Government.

National Societies of six countries, namely Australia, Democratic Republic of Germany, France, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States offered donations in kind. For its part the ICRC made available milk and cheese donated by Switzerland.

The value of these donations in cash and in kind, which were divided equally between the Indian and Pakistan Red Cross Societies, was estimated at over 1,400,000 Swiss francs, and distribution in both countries was effected without delay.

**Vietnam**

**DISTRIBUTION IN THE CENTRAL PROVINCES**

These relief distributions in the Central Provinces of Vietnam have encountered many difficulties because of the renewal of fighting which makes overland travel practically impossible. This region, which has furthermore been undergoing monsoon conditions with continual rain, has considerably hindered the routing of relief. Some refugee camps situated outside villages in fact find themselves completely cut off from the rest of the world. Air transport itself is difficult in view of bad visibility.

Mr. Alain Modoux, ICRC delegate, has been able, however, with the help of the local Red Cross, to arrange distributions of various relief supplies at Da Nang. From there, he went to Huế where half the relief available has been given to the civilian hospital and the other half to refugees. Distribution at Quang Nam started on December 7 and 3000 parcels were distributed by the local Red Cross Committee and the delegate of the ICRC.

An appreciable fall in the temperature, due to the monsoon, decided the ICRC delegates to send what remained of their stocks of blankets without delay from Saigon to the refugees in the country. Further consignments are expected to arrive by river.

At these distributions, the ICRC representatives noticed a serious shortage of medical and nursing personnel in the civilian hospitals whose equipping is in addition harassed by transport difficulties. The Swedish Red Cross has sent the International Committee a sum of 50,000 Crowns (about 41,500 Swiss francs) for the purchase of bandaging material and medicines.
War disabled in South Vietnam

In the framework of aid for refugees and war victims in Vietnam, the ICRC has concerned itself with bringing orthopaedic aid to children who have been mutilated and are in great distress. Thus, one small disabled child who had come from Da Nang for treatment in Saigon has had to have a further operation. Mr. Modoux, ICRC delegate, interested himself in this matter. He was informed that the child had lost his entire family as a result of air raids. Dr. Hat, President of the Vietnamese Red Cross, was called upon to sign the moral undertaking requested by the hospital's director to carry out the operation. The delegation of the ICRC will have this young orphan admitted to one of the private orphanages in Saigon, as soon as he can be transported.

Relief to North Vietnam

The Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam has acknowledged receipt of a first consignment of medicines for the treatment of burns, sent to it by the ICRC. Several National Red Cross Societies had expressed their intention to take part in this relief action which will be continued North of the 17th parallel, through the intermediary of the ICRC.

Mail transmitted by the Central Tracing Agency

The Central Tracing Agency is continuing to send to the Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam mail despatched to it by the American Red Cross from the families of prisoners of war. The ICRC has asked the authorities of North Vietnam to raise the restrictions imposed on American POWs in Vietnamese hands in sending mail.

Release of prisoners of war

On November 28, the National Liberation Front released 22 South Vietnamese and 2 American prisoners of war to whom the ICRC arranged to have parcels and mail sent last March, through the Cambodian Red Cross.

Yemen

RELIEF TO QATABA

At the end of September and the beginning of October, the ICRC delegates in Sanaa, in co-operation with the Yemen Ministry of Health, sent four tons of milk and 1,600 kilos of cheese to Qataba in the south of the Yemen.
Medical Team in Dhamar

The local hospital at this village, situated on a high plateau midway between Sanaa and Taiz, had been without a doctor for several months. In view of the urgent need to remedy this situation, an ICRC medical team attached to the delegation at Sanaa has temporarily taken over at that hospital. This team, headed by Dr. Spreng, assisted by Mr. Meyer, a medical student, and Mr. Haederli, a male nurse, treated 123 in-patients and nearly 700 out-patients in November alone.

In North-West Equatorial Africa

Mr. Georg Hoffmann, ICRC delegate-general for Sub-Equatorial Africa, has continued his visits to governments and Red Cross Societies in north-west Equatorial Africa, which started at the beginning of this year. On November 21 he left Dakar (Senegal) for Togo, Dahomey, Cameroon and the Central African Republic.

Wherever he went the governments made known their interest in disseminating the Geneva Conventions, a task in which the National Red Cross Societies declared their readiness to participate.

Recognition of the Niger Red Cross

The International Committee of the Red Cross officially recognized the Niger National Red Cross on December 2. Its active president is Mrs. Bassy.

The goodwill of its leading members and the activity of its first-aiders is very encouraging. The Niger Red Cross has been methodically organized throughout the country and carries out its work efficiently.

The Niger Red Cross is the 106th Society to receive recognition.

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Arolsen

TWENTY YEARS OF INTERNATIONAL TRACING SERVICE

In 1965, the International Tracing Service (ITS) in Arolsen (Federal Republic of Germany) started its twentieth year. It will be recalled that it is the most important source of information on the fate of persons deported or displaced during the Second World War in Germany and countries which were occupied by the German army. This anniversary coincides with another in the Red Cross: it is ten years since the International Committee of the Red Cross has been represented at Arolsen.
It was in 1955 that the management of the ITS was entrusted to the ICRC. Already at that time it was discharging many and varied tasks on the basis of a vast quantity of records and documents patiently collected and classified since the end of the Second World War.

On June 30, 1965, the ITS staff numbered 234; its 25 million index cards in 1963 have since that time unceasingly increased.

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AUSTRALIAN AWARD TO Mr. LEOPOLD BOISSIER

The Australian Red Cross has awarded Mr. Léopold Boissier, President of the ICRC from 1955 until 1964, its Medal of Honour with citation, the highest distinction granted by this Society, for his work at the head of the Committee at a time when this institution was faced with particularly difficult decisions.

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EMBARGO; 28 December 1965

NEW YEAR MESSAGE

from the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross

Mr. S. A. GONARD
for 1966

The year now ending has not brought that improvement in the world situation which all so ardently desire. Whilst some conflicts calmed down, others broke out or became more intense and old hatreds were rekindled. Suffering and distress is still the lot of countless unfortunate human beings, both combatants and non-combatants.

The Red Cross could not relax its efforts for a single moment. For its part, the International Committee of the Red Cross fulfilled its humanitarian mission in Cyprus, in the Congo, in the Yemen, in the Dominican Republic, in Viet Nam, in India, Pakistan and elsewhere in arduous and often dangerous conditions which are imposed upon it in today's conflicts.

However, in spite of obstacles, refusals and the difficulty of getting accepted everywhere the standards of humanity as laid down by the Geneva Conventions, it is comforting to see that the hopes placed in the Red Cross are constantly increasing. More and more people depend and count upon it, especially when it is a question of preserving peace.
The placing of so much confidence implies continuous and ever-widening responsibilities. All who took part in the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross meeting in Vienna last October, were fully aware of this. Coming from every corner of a world tragically torn apart they knew how to silence that which could divide them, in a common desire to serve the Red Cross.

This active fellowship in the face of human suffering expresses the very spirit of the work. May the coming year bring new and striking examples of this.