

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS



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ANNUAL REPORT 1972



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OF THE RED CROSS



GENEVA 1973

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12 AV. DE LA PAIX
1201 GENEVE

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

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I. OPERATIONS

Africa

In 1972, the ICRC kept up its two regional delegations in Africa, at Yaoundé and Addis Ababa, which cover the countries in West Africa and East Africa respectively. Questions relating to North Africa, southern Africa and Portugal's African Territories were dealt with direct by Geneva headquarters.

At the end of February, Mr. Georges Hoffmann, ICRC delegate-general for Africa, went to the Sudan, in order to attend a conference in Khartoum on the relief and resettlement of displaced persons and refugees in the three southern provinces.

In April, he went to southern Africa on a mission which took him first to South West Africa where he visited the local Red Cross. He later proceeded to Rhodesia and made a series of visits to five places of detention there.

In August, Mr. Jacques Moreillon took over from Mr. Hoffmann as ICRC delegate-general for Africa and left on 15 September on a mission to seven countries that lasted until 15 October. The countries visited were Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Senegal and Sierra Leone. The purpose of Mr. Moreillon's voyage was, on the one hand, to introduce himself to the government authorities and National Red Cross Society leaders of those countries and, on the other hand, to visit the two regional delegations in Addis Ababa and Yaoundé. In November, Mr. Moreillon went to Portugal.

In March and April, the ICRC sent two of its jurists to thirteen African countries on a twofold mission: to inform Governments of the work carried out by the ICRC for the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law and to get them to send representatives to the second session of the Conference of Government Experts.¹

¹ For further details, see page 99 of this report.

West and Central Africa

ICRC REGIONAL DELEGATION FOR WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

The regional delegation of the ICRC for West and Central Africa has two delegates on its staff. In 1972, one was Mr. Ulrich Bédert; the other, Mr. André Tschiffeli until August 1972, when he was replaced by Mr. René Weber.

The regional delegates pursued their contacts with the Governments of various West African countries and with National Red Cross Societies, including recognized and emergent Societies. They visited seventeen countries, some of them several times: Cameroon, Chad, the People's Republic of the Congo, Dahomey, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo, Upper Volta and Zaire. In all these countries, they worked to encourage the dissemination of the four 1949 Geneva Conventions and of the principles of the Red Cross among members of the armed forces and youth. In three countries—Cameroon, Gabon and Senegal—they organized, in close co-operation with the National Society, lectures on the ICRC and the Red Cross movement, and in five countries—Cameroon, the People's Republic of the Congo, Gambia, Sierra Leone and Zaire—they visited detainees.

Cameroon

Lecture tour: In the second quarter of 1972, Mr. Bédert conducted an information campaign that took him to about forty towns and villages. In each, in co-operation with local Red Cross branches, he spoke on the ICRC and the Red Cross movement.

Contacts: In the course of his mission in Africa, Mr. Moreillon, ICRC delegate-general, was in Yaoundé, where the ICRC regional delegation for West and Central Africa has its headquarters, from 21 to 24 September. Besides Cameroon Red Cross leaders, he met the Ministers of Education, Justice and Foreign Affairs, the Secretary-General of the Presidency, and representatives of the Ministries of Health and of the Armed Forces. The talks dealt mainly with

Cameroon's participation in the development of humanitarian law and the information to be given to its armed forces in this field.

Visit to a place of detention: In November, Mr. Weber obtained the Cameroon Government's authorization to visit penal law prisoners and persons detained for political reasons or offences at the Kondengui Central Prison near Yaoundé. The regional delegate handed to the prison doctor a number of medicaments sent by the ICRC for the detainees.

Chad

Mr. Bédert was on mission in Chad on 3 and 4 April. He conferred with the authorities and with the provisional committee of the Chad Red Cross then being formed. He took the opportunity, while in Fort Lamy, of giving a conference and projecting films on the ICRC and the Red Cross movement at the Chad Culture Centre.

Medical aid: Towards the end of the year, the ICRC allocated 30,000 Swiss francs for the supply of medicaments to Chad.

People's Republic of the Congo

Portuguese military prisoners: On 7 June, a Portuguese helicopter, flying from Cabinda, fell into the hands of the Congolese authorities at Banga, 75 km. from Pointe-Noire. A short time later, the ICRC was requested by the Portuguese Government to intervene on behalf of the two members of the armed forces who were on board the helicopter. Mr. Bédert made the customary approaches, within the framework of the Geneva Conventions, to the authorities concerned.

Dahomey

Mr. Bédert was in Cotonou from 22 to 30 November and again on 7 December. He had a series of talks with the authorities on the

dissemination of the principles of the Red Cross and of the Geneva Conventions among members of the armed forces and youth and was received by Mr. Kerekou Mathieu, President of the Republic, who gave his consent to visits to places of detention in the first half of 1973. Mr. Bédert was in touch also with National Society leaders.

Gabon

Lecture tour: From 10 to 26 June, Mr. Bédert, together with the emergent National Red Cross Society, went on an information campaign throughout Gabon, giving talks in a dozen different places on the ICRC and the Red Cross movement.

Gambia

Visit to a place of detention: Mr. Weber was in Gambia from 16 to 19 October, in order to get in touch with government authorities and with leaders of the emergent Gambia Red Cross. He obtained authorization to visit the Bathurst Central Prison, containing some 120 detainees for whom various relief supplies were provided.

Following this visit, the ICRC sent the Gambia Red Cross a parcel of medicaments for the detainees.

Ghana

From 24 to 28 September, the ICRC delegate-general for Africa, with Mr. Weber, was in Accra, where they got in contact with leaders of the Ghana Red Cross. Mr. Moreillon was received by the Head of State, Colonel Y. K. Acheampong, the Commissioners for Education and Health, and the Head Secretary to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The main subjects discussed were ICRC assistance to persons held for political reasons or offences, and the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions and of the principles of the Red Cross among members of the armed forces and youth.

Ivory Coast

The ICRC delegate-general for Africa was in Abidjan from 28 September to 3 October, together with Mr. Weber. Besides seeing Red Cross leaders in the Ivory Coast, Mr. Moreillon was received by the President of the Republic, Mr. Felix Houphouët-Boigny and by the Ministers of the Armed Forces and Civic Services, of Health and of Public Services and by representatives of the Minister of Education. In the course of these talks, several questions were brought up, including the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions and Red Cross principles among members of the armed forces and youth, and the visit to the ICRC by President Houphouët-Boigny in 1973.

Liberia

Accompanied by Mr. Weber, the ICRC delegate-general for Africa was in Monrovia from 8 to 11 October. Besides seeing Liberian Red Cross leaders, Mr. Moreillon was received by the President of the Republic, Dr. William J. Tolbert Jr., and by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, National Defence and Education. In the course of these talks, several questions were brought up, including the matter of ICRC assistance to detained persons and the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions and of Red Cross principles among members of the armed forces and youth.

In November, the ICRC sent by air to the Liberian Red Cross in Monrovia a parcel of medicaments for places of detention.

Niger

Assistance to refugees: Following a visit by Mr. Bédert to the authorities and Red Cross Society of Niger from 8 to 16 December, the ICRC sent the National Society the sum of 4,000 Swiss francs for the purchase of foodstuffs for the Bilma Refugees. The ICRC also sent aid to the Society in the form of a cash gift of 2,500 Swiss francs.

Senegal

Propaganda campaign: From 12 to 21 January, Mr. Tschiffeli, visiting four local committees of the Senegalese Red Cross at Dakar, Koalack, St. Louis and Thiez, gave lectures on the ICRC and its activities.

Contacts: Accompanied by Mr. Weber, the ICRC delegate-general for Africa, Mr. Moreillon, went to Dakar where, from 12 to 15 October, he conferred with Mr. Rito Alcantara, President of the Senegalese Red Cross Society and Vice-President of the League of Red Cross Societies. He was received also by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Health and Education, a representative of the Ministry of Defence, the Secretary-General of the Presidency of the Republic, and the First President of the Supreme Court. The discussions related mainly to the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions and of Red Cross principles in the armed forces and among youth. He also met a representative of the PAIGC (African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde).

Medical aid to PAIGC: Towards the end of 1972, the ICRC allocated 30,000 Swiss francs to the purchase of medicaments for the Ziguinchor hospital in Senegal, in which casualties in the conflict with Portugal are treated. The medicaments were delivered to the hospital, which is operated by the PAIGC medical service, by Mr. Bédert, regional delegate, during a mission he undertook in Senegal from 23 to 28 December.

Sierra Leone

The ICRC delegate-general, accompanied by Mr. Weber, was in Freetown from 3 to 8 October. He had various discussions with the leaders of the Sierra Leone Red Cross and was received by Dr. Siaka Stevens, President of the Republic, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Social Affairs, Information, and Education, and a representative of the Ministry of Health. The main subject of their talks was ICRC assistance to persons detained for political reasons.

Visit to a place of detention: Mr. Weber returned to Sierra Leone on 20 October, where he stayed until 1 November. He went to the

Pademba Road Prison in Freetown and delivered to the Ministry of Health medicaments sent by the ICRC for the benefit of detainees with whom, contrary to normal practice, he did not talk in private.

Togo

Assistance to the National Society: From 30 November to 6 December, Mr. Bédert, during a mission to Togo, handed 2,000 Swiss francs to the Togo Red Cross to assist it in its activities.

Upper Volta

Aid to the National Society: During his visit to Upper Volta from 16 to 23 December, in order to renew contacts with government authorities and with the Upper Volta Red Cross, Mr. Bédert handed over to the National Society the sum of 5,500 Swiss francs in aid of its activities.

Republic of Zaire

Portuguese military prisoners: In Zaire, from 1 to 6 May, Mr. Tschiffeli contacted the leaders of the National Society then being formed, government officials and GRAE (Revolutionary Government of Angola in Exile). As in previous years, the ICRC regional delegate was authorized to visit the nine Portuguese military prisoners, but they had been transferred from Kinkuzu to Kinshasa.

On 6 December, the GRAE informed the ICRC that it had decided to release two of the nine, who could be handed over to the ICRC in Kinshasa. The ICRC directed Mr. Weber to go there, and the two prisoners were officially handed over to him on 13 December. One was taken by road to Noqui, on the Angola border, where he was released to the Portuguese authorities. The second flew to Lisbon via Geneva. On landing at Geneva he was met by the ICRC delegate-general for Africa, by Mr. Tschiffeli who had visited him several times during his detention at Kinkuzu, and by a representative of the Portuguese Permanent Mission in Geneva.

Burundi and Angolan refugees: Mr. Bédert went on mission to Zaire from 5 to 7 September and from 30 September to 5 October,

in order to enquire into the situation of Burundi refugees concentrated in the Bukavu region and of Angolan refugees in the Bas Zaire province. He conferred with representatives of the Red Cross of the Republic of Zaire, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, and various other organizations including the GRAE.

Towards the end of 1972, the ICRC allocated 50,000 Swiss francs as assistance in the form of medicaments and medical vehicles to the GRAE medical service for the benefit of Angolan refugees in Zaire.

East Africa

ICRC REGIONAL DELEGATION IN EAST AFRICA

In the course of the year, Mr. Roger Santschy and Mr. René Weber were replaced by Mr. Frank Schmidt and Mr. François de Rougemont, respectively, as regional delegates in East Africa.

Like their counterparts in West Africa and Central Africa, they applied themselves to developing contacts with East African Governments and Societies. They visited fourteen countries: Botswana, Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. In each country, attention was focused on the role of the ICRC and the importance of disseminating the Geneva Conventions. They visited detainees in two of the countries—Rwanda and Zambia.

Burundi

After the attempted coup d'état in Bujumbura, on 29 April, and subsequent unrest, the ICRC offered the Burundi Government its services in aiding the victims of those events. The Government accepted the offer, and in mid-May the ICRC sent Mr. Weber and Mr. de Rougemont, its regional delegates in East Africa, and a doctor-delegate to Bujumbura. They were joined by a liaison officer from the League of Red Cross Societies.

On their arrival, the ICRC delegates contacted the government authorities and the Red Cross Society of Burundi. After consultations with the Society, they proposed to the authorities that an ICRC medical team be sent to the southern area, which held most

of the victims, including a great many injured and sick scattered in the bush. In order to study the situation at first hand and make an estimate of the requirements, the ICRC doctor-delegate went south on 30 May, in a helicopter provided by the government authorities.

Meanwhile the President of the Red Cross Society of Burundi and the League liaison officer had come to Geneva. With the information obtained, the League had on 26 May, at the request of the ICRC and the Burundi Red Cross, appealed to a number of National Societies to contribute funds and relief supplies.

Moreover, the President of the ICRC had on 23 May asked the President of the Republic of Burundi to lend the ICRC delegates support in their mission of assistance and protection.

The recommendations made by the ICRC and League delegates regarding a medical team being sent to the stricken area were not, however, adopted by the Government of Burundi. The ICRC doctor-delegate therefore returned to Geneva on 14 June. During his stay in Bujumbura, he visited the city hospital, an orphanage and a number of ailing refugees, who were provided with medicaments.

As several Societies had responded to the League's appeal and announced that they would donate blood plasma, medicaments, dressings, food, clothing and blankets, the ICRC, in co-operation with the Burundi Red Cross and the League, continued its efforts to ensure the distribution of the relief supplies to the civilian population of the stricken areas. Mr. André Beaud, Head of the Relief Service, went to Bujumbura on 21 June.

No sooner had they secured their laissez-passer than Mr. Beaud and Mr. de Rougemont proceeded south, by road, and with a representative of the Burundi Red Cross visited the main centres. On their return to Bujumbura, they put forward a programme of assistance which would enable Burundi Red Cross relief workers, who would be trained by a technician from the League, to render the victims, who were mainly women and children, the aid of which they obviously stood in great need.

The authorities agreed to the proposed Red Cross action, which would be integrated in the national relief plan, and a further international appeal was launched by the League, at the ICRC's request, on 4 July. At the same time, the ICRC sent out a relief team comprising a doctor, a transport expert and an administrator.

The ICRC and League delegates co-ordinated their preparations with the action of Caritas, the Catholic Relief Services and representatives of United Nations specialized agencies. With the purchases made locally, the material already received from several Societies and the transport facilities hired in Bujumbura, the first convoy was ready to leave. Five Burundi Red Cross teams were available for the distribution of the relief supplies with the assistance of the delegates who had come from Geneva. The Government, however, did not deem it feasible to have representatives of the ICRC and the League present at the distribution, to see for themselves what use was made of the donations received. In the circumstances, the ICRC considered it preferable to suspend its relief action, and its delegates left Burundi at the end of July.

The League, for its part, maintained a liaison officer with the National Society. The President of the Red Cross Society of Burundi, early in August, suggested to the League that they carry out a joint relief action, whereupon the ICRC decided to transfer responsibility for the operation to the League, on 17 August.

Ethiopia

The ICRC delegate-general for Africa stayed in Addis Ababa from 15 to 21 September, to visit the seat of the ICRC's regional delegation in East Africa and to contact the Ethiopian authorities and Red Cross Society. Besides the Red Cross leaders, Mr. Moreillon was received by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and H.E. Ato Aberra Jembere, Minister of State to the Prime Minister's Office and Honorary Secretary General of the Ethiopian Red Cross. He also conferred with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the Under-Secretary General for Political Affairs.

Kenya

During his mission to Kenya, from 15 to 22 October—to introduce himself to the government authorities and Red Cross leaders as the new regional delegate—Mr. Schmidt co-operated with the representative of the High Commissioner for Refugees, in Nairobi,

in arranging for the return to Mozambique of two Portuguese nationals who had taken refuge in Kenya.

Lesotho

Assistance to National Society: Mr. de Rougemont was in Lesotho from 18 to 23 December, where he approached the government authorities and the Lesotho Red Cross Society. He handed over the sum of 5,000 Swiss francs to assist the Society in its activities.

Madagascar

Assistance to National Society: In view of the disturbances which had occurred in Madagascar in mid-December, particularly in Tamatave province, the ICRC sent 10,000 Swiss francs to the Red Cross Society of Madagascar for assistance to the victims. Mr. de Rougemont had visited Madagascar from 14 November to 9 December, and had then had occasion to appreciate the Society's activities throughout the country.

Rwanda

Visits to places of detention: Two regional delegates, Mr. Weber and Mr. de Rougemont, and a doctor-delegate were on mission in Rwanda from 30 April to 5 May. First Mr. Weber introduced Mr. de Rougemont in the various ministries and to officers of the emerging Red Cross Society. The ICRC team then visited the Ruhengeri prison, where medicaments and toilet articles were distributed to the inmates.

Mr. de Rougemont was on mission in Rwanda from 24 September to 22 October. He was able to visit the eleven places of detention for which the Penitentiary Administration Service was responsible, namely Kigali, Nyanza, Butare, Gikongoro, Byumba, Kibungo, Cyangugu, Ruhengeri, Gisenyi, Kubuye and Gitarama. Altogether the ICRC regional delegate saw more than 2,000 detainees—including some seventy held for offences or reasons of a political nature—and was able to talk with them without witnesses.

After the visits, the ICRC donated a sum of 75,000 Swiss francs, mainly for medical aid in co-operation with the Rwanda Red Cross, to the eleven prisons mentioned.

Burundi refugees: In the context of ICRC action in Burundi¹, Mr. de Rougemont twice stayed in Rwanda, from 22 to 24 July and again from 27 to 30 July, to secure information about the position of Burundi refugees.

Mr. Bédert was on a mission to Rwanda from 23 to 30 September for the same purpose, and visited the Rilima refugee camp, lying 80 km from Kigali, near the Burundi frontier. At the time, the camp was sheltering 3,000 Burundi refugees (as against some 5,000 at the end of 1972), who received relief from the Rwanda Red Cross with the assistance of delegates of the League of Red Cross Societies.

In October, the ICRC sent the Rwanda Red Cross some minor surgery equipment for its dispensaries in the Rilima refugee camp, and at the end of 1972 it handed the League the sum of 10,000 Swiss francs for the refugees.

Sudan

On 6 December 1971, a Sudanese civil aircraft crashed in the south, and the following morning the survivors made contact with representatives of the Anya-Nyas liberation movement. On 20 December, the Southern Sudan Association, in London, asked the ICRC to act as intermediary in the transfer of the survivors, numbering about thirty, to representatives of the Khartoum authorities.

The ICRC sent Mr. Santschy to Kampala, where a representative of the movement was residing. At the same time, Mr. Weber left for Khartoum, and later for Juba and Mundri in the south (province of Equatoria), to contact the Sudanese authorities concerned.

Communications with Anya-Nyas leaders in the field proved particularly difficult, and the two ICRC regional delegates remained at their respective posts for several weeks. Early in February 1972, however, the surviving passengers having been released and having

¹ See page 12 of this report.

reached Mundri by their own means, the ICRC decided to put an end to the operation.

Assistance to displaced persons: Soon after the events described, negotiations in Addis Ababa between the Sudanese Government and the Anya-Nyas ended the unrest in the south.

Concomitantly, the Government of Sudan convened a conference in Khartoum, from 21 to 23 February, for the relief and resettlement of displaced persons and refugees in the southern provinces. At the invitation of the Sudanese Government and Red Crescent, Mr. Hoffmann, delegate-general for Africa, and Mr. Weber represented the ICRC.

Mr. Weber made two further visits to Sudan, from 27 to 29 May and from 5 to 13 August, to enquire about the distribution of the 306 tons of powdered milk donated by the European Economic Community and sent to Port Sudan by the ICRC in August 1971. The regional delegate ascertained that, in accordance with the programme agreed upon with the Sudanese authorities and Red Crescent¹, the milk was being distributed to the needy population of Red Sea Hills, Tokar and the Baraka delta, and to displaced persons in the three southern provinces of Bahr El Ghazal, Upper Nile and Equatoria.

During his last visit to Sudan, in August, Mr. Weber was accompanied by Mr. Schmidt, whom he introduced to the officers of the National Society and to the various Sudanese ministries.

In mid-November, the ICRC shipped 2,635 tons of flour, a gift from the European Economic Community, to the Sudanese Red Crescent.

Swaziland

Assistance to National Society: Mr. de Rougemont visited government authorities and the new Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross Society from 11 to 16 December. He presented the Society with the sum of 5,000 Swiss francs as a contribution to its activities.

¹ See Annual Report 1971, page 9.

Uganda

During the second half of 1972, the Ugandan Government ordered the expulsion of all non-Ugandan residents of Asian origin. To help those who were stateless or of undetermined nationality, and who therefore had no identity papers to which a potential country of refuge could affix a visa, the ICRC proposed to the Government of Uganda, on 10 October, that an " ICRC Travel Document " be used.

This document, which is valid for three months, enables a refugee who lacks identity papers to proceed to a country of asylum which will supply him on arrival with the documents necessary for him to settle there. The " travel document " is then returned to the ICRC.

In the general negotiations between the United Nations and the Ugandan Government, it was concluded that the ICRC document was the most appropriate in the special circumstances. The ICRC, whose regional delegate, Mr. Schmidt, had meanwhile arrived in Kampala, was asked to take the necessary steps to ensure that the document was issued to the persons concerned. Consequently, in the last week of October, four members of the Central Tracing Agency left Geneva for Uganda. They co-operated closely with the delegates of the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM) and the United Nations, who were responsible for organizing the Asians' departure for countries of refuge.

From 25 October to 9 November, the five ICRC delegates issued 2,950 travel documents to 4,200 persons who were thus able to leave by the date set by the Ugandan authorities. The delegates also co-operated in the installation and administration of United Nations departure centres, which for three days accommodated some 600 Asians who were due to leave. In co-operation with the delegate of the League of Red Cross Societies in Kampala, they gave special attention to persons who were disabled, hospitalized or under detention, whom they helped with departure formalities.

The evacuation operation ended on 10 November. Mr. Schmidt, however, remained in Uganda for some days further, to issue the requisite travel document to the few stateless Asians who were still in that country.

Zambia

Portuguese prisoners: On 2 March, a Portuguese aircraft from Tete, Mozambique, made a forced landing in Zambia. The aircraft was seized and the three occupants were detained by the Zambian authorities. On 17 March, the Portuguese Government requested intervention by the ICRC, which sent Mr. Weber to Zambia.

On his arrival in Lusaka, on 21 March, the regional delegate contacted the Zambian authorities to propose that the three Portuguese nationals be exchanged for two Zambian nationals detained by the Portuguese authorities in Mozambique since February 1971. The Zambian authorities agreed, and Mr. Weber was authorized to visit the three Portuguese on 27 March and again on 6 April.

The President of the Republic of Malawi having offered his good offices for the exchange to be made in that country, the regional delegate proceeded to Blantyre to work out with the Malawi authorities and the Portuguese Embassy ways and means of carrying out the operation.

He finally left for Tete, where he talked with the two Zambian detainees in private before taking them to Blantyre, on 11 April. The three Portuguese, accompanied by the Zambian High Commissioner to Malawi, arrived in Malawi on the same day. The exchange took place in Blantyre on 12 April.

Contacts: Mr. Schmidt stayed in Lusaka from 27 November to 7 December, to introduce himself and establish preliminary contacts with the Zambian authorities and Red Cross. He also conferred with representatives of various African liberation movements.

Southern Africa and Portuguese Territories in Africa

Rhodesia

Visits to places of detention: With the agreement of the Minister of Justice and Law and Order, two rounds of visits were made to places of detention in Rhodesia in 1972, the first by Mr. Hoffmann

and a doctor-delegate at the end of April, and the second by Mr. Santschy, deputy delegate-general, from 18 November to 29 December. The ICRC delegates went to five places—the Salisbury, Marandellas, Gwelo, WhaWha and Gonakudzingwa prisons—which held persons detained under the Emergency Regulations. At the time of the second round of visits, the number of detainees was ninety. The ICRC delegates talked privately with detainees, to whom they gave various relief supplies. As usual, the reports on the visits were sent by the ICRC to the detaining authorities.

South Africa

In April, Mr. Hoffmann carried out a mission to South Africa. After contacting the South African Red Cross in Johannesburg, he went to S. W. Africa. The purpose of the visit was the development of the local Red Cross and, above all, of first-aid training for Africans. The ICRC delegate-general for Africa took the opportunity of his stay in South Africa to have talks with government authorities.

Portuguese territories in Africa

From 19 to 22 November, Mr. Moreillon, accompanied by Mr. Santschy, was in Lisbon to contact the Portuguese authorities and Red Cross. The purpose of the visit was to introduce himself as the new ICRC delegate-general for Africa and to obtain permission to visit places of detention in Mozambique.

Mozambique

Visits to places of detention: The Portuguese Government having agreed to the visits to places of detention in Mozambique, Mr. Santschy was in that country from 26 November to 17 December. He visited eleven prisons—at Machava, Ponta Mahone, Nampula, Porto Amelia, Ibo, Tete (two), Vila Cabral, Beira, Quelimane and Nicoadala—and saw some 1,780 political detainees. He was able to talk privately with detainees of his choice and distribute supplies. As usual, the ICRC sent the detaining authorities reports on the visits.

Latin America

In 1972, the ICRC maintained its permanent regional delegation in Caracas. Mr. Eddi Leemann, regional delegate for Central America and the Caribbean, remained at his post throughout the year, while Mr. Jacques Moreillon, regional delegate for South America, left at the end of the first half of 1972 to take up other duties at ICRC headquarters in Geneva.

To carry out the proposed programme of visits to South American countries, the ICRC sent out Mr. Robert Gaillard-Moret, a delegate, during the second half of 1972. In September he was joined by Dr. Roland Marti, Chief Medical Officer of the ICRC.

Mr. Serge Nessi, ICRC delegate-general for Latin America, carried out two missions to different countries in Central and South America and the Caribbean, in February and October.

Altogether, the ICRC delegates visited twenty countries in 1972, some of them several times, namely: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela. In each country they had fruitful talks with government authorities regarding the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions and the principles of the Red Cross among the armed forces and the young, and other matters. By establishing close contact with Red Cross leaders and visiting numerous regional committees, they strengthened the links between the ICRC and National Societies. ICRC delegates attended the Fifth Regional Meeting of Presidents of the National Societies of Central America, which was held in Panama in February, and the meeting of the Regional Training Institute, held in Colombia in November.

Having received permission to visit places of detention in nineteen countries, the ICRC delegates went to almost ninety prisons. They saw several thousand detainees, several hundred of whom were held for offences or reasons of a political nature.

The ICRC sent a large volume of relief supplies to Latin America, particularly for detainees in the prisons visited by the delegates and for National Red Cross Societies.

Argentina

From 7 to 26 June, Mr. Moreillon was in Buenos Aires, where he had several talks with the competent Argentine authorities with a view to visiting places of detention. On 22 June he was joined by Mr. Gaillard-Moret, who—apart from a brief stay in Uruguay from 2 to 14 July—remained in Argentina until 18 September.

Visits to places of detention: During his mission to Argentina, Mr. Gaillard-Moret visited twelve places of detention, namely five in Buenos Aires and La Plata, three in Rosario, and the remainder in Coronda, Resistencia, Corrientes and Rawson. He saw almost 7,000 detainees, several hundreds of whom were being held for reasons or offences of a political nature. As usual, the visits were covered by reports which the ICRC sent to the detaining authorities.

Contacts: In the course of his stay in Argentina, the ICRC delegate had numerous contacts with government authorities regarding such matters as visits to places of detention, the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions among the armed forces and the young, and ICRC radio communication.

He also conferred with Argentine Red Cross leaders in Buenos Aires and visited several provincial chapters.

Bolivia

Visits to places of detention: ICRC action in Bolivia following the events of 22 August 1971¹ ended on 14 January 1972. Towards the end of his mission, Mr. Gaillard-Moret, ICRC delegate, made a final round of visits to the Viacha camp, Achocalla prison and the DIN² in La Paz. He proceeded to Oruro, where he visited the DIN and the "Cárcel Pública". Relief supplies were distributed to all the detainees visited.

Before leaving La Paz, the ICRC delegate provided the Bolivian Red Cross with a stock of medicaments and a credit which would allow continued medical assistance for detainees.

¹ See Annual Report 1971, p. 13.

² *Departamento de Investigación Nacional*: national interrogation centre.

In August, the ICRC sent an additional supply of medicaments to La Paz by air, to complete the stock left at Bolivian Red Cross headquarters.

Two further ICRC missions to Bolivia took place in 1972: the first was carried out by Mr. Moreillon from 13 to 23 April, and the second by Mr. Gaillard-Moret and Dr. Marti from 14 to 20 October. The ICRC delegates visited six places of detention in October: the San Pedro prison (Panóptico Nacional), the DIN in La Paz, the Achocalla and Chonchocoro prisons, the DIN in Cochabamba and the island of Coati. They saw a great number of detainees, several hundreds of whom were held for reasons or offences of a political nature, and they distributed nearly 400 blankets, 120 pallets, clothing, foodstuffs and medicaments. The customary reports on the visits were sent to the competent authorities by the ICRC.

Brazil

The ICRC delegate-general for Latin America was in Brazil from 22 February to 3 March, and conferred with government authorities and Brazilian Red Cross leaders about the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions among the armed forces and also about the continuance of Red Cross medical action for the Indian population of the Brazilian Amazon region.¹ In Brasilia, Mr. Nessi discussed the latter point with the President of the National Indian Foundation (FUNAI), who agreed that the action should be pursued.

In view of this agreement, the ICRC drew up and submitted to the Brazilian authorities and to the Brazilian Red Cross a draft five-year programme. When their acceptance was confirmed, the programme was sent to a number of interested Governments and National Societies, with a view to securing financial support and personnel. By the end of 1972, several Governments and National Societies had announced their intention of making substantial financial contributions, and it was decided that the "Amazonia" programme should start during 1973.

¹ See Annual Report 1970, pp. 16 and 17.
Annual Report 1971, pp. 14 and 15.

Chile

Mr. Leemann was in Chile from 10 to 26 October and met government authorities and members of the Chilean Red Cross. The matters discussed included the government milk distribution programme and visits to places of detention.

Alimentative assistance: Following the visit of the ICRC delegate-general for Latin America, in July 1971, the ICRC shipped three consignments of powdered milk, in February, April and September 1972, to the Chilean Red Cross, which was to participate in the government milk distribution programme. These shipments consisted of donations of 200 tons from the European Economic Community (EEC), 20 tons from the Swiss Confederation, and 135 tons from EEC.

Mr. Leemann took the opportunity of his mission to Chile, in October, to visit a number of warehouses where the powdered milk sent by the ICRC was stored, to witness the arrival of the last consignment of 135 tons, and to attend the distribution carried out by Chilean Red Cross voluntary workers at different schools.

The first consignment of 200 tons of milk was distributed between 15 June and 15 December, and nearly 118,000 children benefited from that assistance. In the case of the second consignment of 20 tons, one-half was delivered to paediatric hospitals in Santiago and Valparaiso in November and December, and the other half was used at the Chilean Red Cross children's centres. Distribution of the last 135 tons started in December.

Visits to places of detention: Mr. Leemann was able to visit two places of detention in Santiago, where he saw almost a thousand detainees.

Colombia

From 6 to 27 November, Mr. Leemann represented the ICRC at the meeting of the "William H. S. Dabney" Training Institute for Red Cross officers, convened by the League of Red Cross Societies and the Colombian Red Cross at Fusagasugá. Mr. Nessi, who was in Colombia at the time, attended the meeting for two days.

Mr. Gaillard-Moret and Dr. Marti were on a mission to Colombia from 20 November to 14 December. They had various talks with Colombian government authorities and the Colombian Red Cross regarding places of detention and the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions.

Visits to places of detention: The ICRC delegates also obtained from the Ministry of Justice a general authorization to visit the prisons for which his ministry was responsible. They visited eleven such prisons: two in Bogotá, two in Bucaramanga, and others in Cali, Tunja, Mesa, Facatativá, Cúcuta, Medellín and Popayán.

Costa Rica

Mr. Leemann, ICRC regional delegate for Central America and the Caribbean, was in Costa Rica from 27 February to 5 March. He conferred with representatives of the different ministries concerned about places of detention, the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions among the armed forces, and Costa Rica's possible participation in the second session of the Conference of Government Experts on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law.¹ The regional delegate also contacted the Secretary-General of the University of Costa Rica and professors in the Faculty of Law with a view to having a course on international humanitarian law introduced. He also visited the Costa Rican Red Cross headquarters in San José, and delivered lectures on the ICRC and the Geneva Conventions before local Red Cross committees at Cartago, Guadalupe, Heredia and Alajuela.

Mr. Nessi, delegate-general for Latin America, was on a mission to Costa Rica from 7 to 9 November. He saw the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the competent government authorities about medical assistance in places of detention, the dissemination of Red Cross principles among the young, and ICRC radio communication. He also conferred with Costa Rican Red Cross leaders and visited the San Isidro auxiliary committee.

Visit to a place of detention: Following a talk he had with the General Directorate of Social Adjustment, in the Ministry of the

¹ See page 98 of this report.

Interior, in February. Mr. Leemann visited the " La Reforma " rehabilitation centre in San José.

In November, the ICRC despatched to the Costa Rican Red Cross a consignment of medicaments for detainees.

Dominican Republic

Mr. Leemann was in the Dominican Republic from 6 to 14 December. He was in touch with the Dominican Red Cross regarding the dissemination of the Red Cross principles in schools, and learnt of the Society's main activities. Mr. Leemann conferred with the competent government authorities about visits to places of detention and ICRC radio communication. Lastly, he met the Dean of the Faculty of Law of the University of Santo Domingo, with whom he discussed the introduction of a course on international humanitarian law.

Visits to places of detention: Mr. Leemann visited the preventive detention prison of Santo Domingo and the " La Victoria " national penitentiary, where he saw some 1,650 detainees including more than 250 held for offences or reasons of a political nature.

After these visits, the ICRC supplied the Dominican Red Cross with medicines for the places of detention.

Ecuador

On his way to Bolivia, the regional delegate for South America made a stop-over in Quito from 8 to 10 April. He had talks with Ecuadorian government authorities and Red Cross leaders on the subject of places of detention, the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions among the armed forces and youth, and Ecuador's possible participation in the second session of the Conference of Government Experts on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law.

Mr. Gaillard-Moret and Dr. Marti were on mission to Ecuador from 9 to 20 November. Having received permission to visit prisons, they went to five places of detention: three in Quito, one in Guayaquil and one in Ambato. Altogether they saw about 3,000 detainees,

about thirty of whom were held for reasons or offences of a political nature.

The ICRC delegate-general for Latin America made a brief stay in Quito at the end of November. He met several professors of international law, with whom he discussed the feasibility of introducing a course on international humanitarian law in their respective universities in Quito, namely the Catholic University of Ecuador and the Central University, and of himself conducting a course on the Geneva Conventions during a subsequent mission. He had similar talks regarding a course of international humanitarian law for the armed forces, specially for senior officers of the International Police Institute, the War Academy and the Air Academy.

Guatemala

The ICRC regional delegate for Central America and the Caribbean carried out a mission to Guatemala from 9 to 21 April. He approached the authorities concerned regarding visits to places of detention. He also met the Director of the Military Academy and a professor of public international law at the National University of San Carlos, with whom he discussed the teaching of international humanitarian law in their respective institutions.

Visits to places of detention: Having received permission from the Ministry of the Interior to visit places of detention, Mr. Leemann went to seven—four in Guatemala City and the others at Frejanes, Escuintla and Salamá. The medicaments which had been sent by the ICRC at the beginning of the year were handed over to the health services of the various places of detention, which held several hundred detainees, including about twenty for reasons or offences of a political nature. As usual, the reports on the visits were sent by the ICRC to the detaining authorities.

Contacts: Before proceeding to Panama in February¹, the ICRC delegate-general for Latin America had made a brief stop-over in Guatemala to confer with government authorities and officers of the National Society.

¹ See page 32 of this report.

Mr. Nessi was again in Guatemala from 24 to 28 October. He was received by the Ministers of the Interior and of Education, the Chief of General Staff and the Vice-Minister of Telecommunications, with whom he conferred about matters relating to visits to places of detention, the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions and of the Red Cross principles among the armed forces and youth, and ICRC radio communication. The delegate-general also met National Society leaders and took part in a meeting of the governing body at which he made a statement on ICRC activities in Latin America.

Donation to National Society: In May, the ICRC sent the National Society five first-aid kits.

Guyana

In the course of his mission to Latin America in February, Mr. Nessi, ICRC delegate-general, made a brief stop-over in Georgetown, where he met Guyana Red Cross leaders, government authorities and members of the General Staff of the Armed Forces.

Donation to National Society: The ICRC sent the Guyana Red Cross 250 kg of baby food in April and 2 tons of powdered milk in October (a donation from the Swiss Confederation), to support the Society's programmes of assistance.

Haiti

The ICRC delegate-general for Latin America visited Haiti on mission from 26 November to 3 December 1972. He had talks with Haiti Red Cross leaders, who informed him of the Society's various activities. On 30 November he attended the inauguration at Les Cayes of a Red Cross blood transfusion centre, the equipment for which had been bought with a sum allocated from the Empress Shoken Fund. Government representatives and National Society leaders were also present at the inauguration.

Mr. Nessi conferred with the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, of the Interior, Health, Public Works and Communications, mainly on questions relating to Red Cross activities in Haiti, visits to places of detention and ICRC radio communication.

Medical and food aid: In 1972, Haiti suffered two disasters: in May the southern part of the island was ravaged by floods, while in August several thousand people were rendered homeless by a huge fire in Port-au-Prince.

The Haiti Red Cross participated in the relief programmes for the victims. In order to bring its support to the National Society's activities, the ICRC sent, in August and October, consignments totalling 715 kg of medicines, dressing material, stretchers, and first-aid kits, as well as 20 tons of powdered milk.

Honduras

There were two ICRC missions to Honduras in 1972. The first was carried out by the regional delegate for Central America and the Caribbean from 12 to 18 March, and the second by the delegate-general for Latin America from 19 to 24 October.

At government level, Mr. Leeman had talks with the authorities concerned on the possible participation by Honduras in the second session of the conference of government experts. He also met the Director of the Military Academy and the Dean of the autonomous National University at Tegucigalpa to consider the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions among the armed forces and the teaching of international humanitarian law.

In October, Mr. Nessi was received by the Minister of Health, the Vice-Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Education, the Chief of Staff of the armed forces and various other leading figures in civilian and military circles. The main subjects dealt with were visits to places of detention, ICRC radio communication and the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions. The delegate-general gave a lecture on this last subject at the General Francisco Morazan Military College in Tegucigalpa.

The ICRC delegates had talks with National Society leaders, enquired about the Society's various activities and visited several of its local branches.

Medical and food aid: A short time after its delegate left Honduras, the ICRC received an appeal from the National Red Cross Society for assistance in a vaccination campaign to fight a measles epidemic that had started to spread in the country. On receipt of the appeal,

the ICRC immediately sent to Tegucigalpa 1,500 doses of measles vaccine and asked Mr. Leeman, who was in one of the neighbouring countries, to return to Honduras.

On 21 April, the ICRC regional delegate was back in Tegucigalpa to discuss the anti-measles campaign with the Director-General of the National Society and the Director-General of Public Health. On the basis of his reports, the ICRC decided to finance the purchase of 4,000 extra doses of vaccine.

In October, the ICRC sent 5 tons of powdered milk, donated by the Swiss Confederation, to the Honduran Red Cross for an aid programme in Tegucigalpa, San Pedro Sula and La Ceiba.

In addition, the ICRC despatched in November fifty first-aid kits.

Visits to places of detention: In the course of his October mission, Mr. Nessi visited the Tegucigalpa central penitentiary and the San Pedro Sula penal centre. He saw a total of several thousand detainees.

Following these visits, the ICRC despatched to the Honduran Red Cross a consignment containing 285 kg of medicaments for the detainees.

Jamaica

The ICRC regional delegate for Central America and the Caribbean stayed in Jamaica from 28 August to 5 September. He had talks with the authorities concerned on places of detention, the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions among the armed forces and ICRC radio communication.

He also had numerous contacts with Jamaica Red Cross leaders, who acquainted him with the Society's different activities, and he visited the St. Ann's Bay local committee.

Visits to places of detention: After obtaining authorization from the Ministry of Youth and Community Development, Mr. Leemann visited two places of detention, namely, Kingston General Penitentiary and, at Spanish Town, the St. Catherine District Prison, where he saw more than 1,700 detainees. As is customary, the prison reports were transmitted by the ICRC to the detaining authorities.

Gift to the National Society: In October, the ICRC sent three and a half tons of powdered milk, a gift from the Swiss Confederation, to the Jamaica Red Cross in support of its aid programmes.

Nicaragua

The regional delegate of the ICRC for Latin America and the Caribbean, Mr. Leeman, stayed in Nicaragua from 6 to 11 March. He was in touch with the National Society and lectured on the Geneva Conventions, the ICRC, the League of Red Cross Societies and the International Red Cross to more than a hundred members of the Junior Red Cross, representing the ten secondary schools of Managua. He also handed over to the Nicaraguan Red Cross a quantity of medicaments for the places of detention visited by the ICRC in previous years and conferred with various government officials and with representatives of the Law Faculty of the Central American University in Managua on the subject of the teaching of international humanitarian law.

The ICRC delegate-general for Latin America, Mr. Nessi, had already made a brief stay in Managua in February, before going to Panama.¹ He again visited the Nicaraguan capital from 2 to 6 November and saw, besides Red Cross leaders, the Minister of the Interior, the Vice-Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Education as well as other leading figures with whom he discussed questions relating to places of detention, the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions and of the principles of the Red Cross, and ICRC radio communication.

Managua Earthquake: Immediately when the ICRC received news of the earthquake that struck Managua on the morning of 23 December 1972, it made available to the League of Red Cross Societies and the Nicaraguan Red Cross its telecommunication service, as well as a radio operator and all the equipment required for establishing links between Managua and Geneva. The radio operator left on 1 January 1973 for Managua and initial contact was made direct with the Nicaraguan Red Cross on 5 January. In November 1972, the ICRC had set up a radio station in the National Society building, which was, however, completely destroyed in the earthquake.

¹ See p. 32.

The ICRC also contacted the European Economic Community in order to arrange for food supplies to be provided for the victims.

Panama

The Fifth Meeting of Presidents and Technical Seminar of the National Societies of North America, Mexico, Central America and Panama was held in Panama from 8 to 11 February. The ICRC was represented by its delegate-general for Latin America and its regional delegate for Central America and the Caribbean.

Visits to places of detention: Mr. Nessi left Panama at the end of the Meeting of Presidents, while Mr. Leemann stayed on until 26 February in order to visit four places of detention for which authorization had been granted to him. Three of these places were in Panama and one on Coiba Island, and the regional delegate saw about a thousand detainees, a small number of whom were held for political reasons or offences. He took the opportunity to hand over to the medical services of the various establishments visited some parcels of medicines sent by the ICRC to Panama the previous month.

Besides government officials, Mr. Leemann conferred with Faculty of Law professors at the University of Panama on the teaching of international humanitarian law.

He also had talks with National Red Cross leaders and spoke on "The ICRC and the Geneva Conventions" before an audience of about fifty members of the Junior Red Cross, representing eleven Panama colleges.

Contacts: The ICRC delegate-general for Latin America went from 10 to 15 November on a second mission to Panama, in the course of which he conferred with the Vice-Ministers of the Interior and of Foreign Affairs and with the Director of the Press and Radio Department at the Ministry of the Interior. The main subjects considered were the continuation of assistance to detainees and ICRC radio communication.

Mr. Nessi also visited Red Cross Central Headquarters in Panama and the Chiriquí Provincial Committee at David.

Kampala: issue of ICRC travel documents to Asians forced out of Uganda.
Photo Bojilov/ICRC



Visiting a place of detention in Latin America.
Photo ICRC



Paraguay

Two missions were carried out in 1972 by the ICRC to Paraguay. The first, by the regional delegate of the ICRC for South America, Mr. Moreillon, took place between 24 April and 24 May, and the second, by Mr. Gaillard-Moret and Dr. Marti, from 25 September to 10 October.

The delegates of the ICRC conferred with officials of the various ministries concerned regarding the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions and of the principles of the Red Cross among members of the armed forces and youth and also about the question of ICRC radio communication. They also met a number of professors from the National and Catholic Universities to discuss the teaching of international humanitarian law and saw several times leaders of the Paraguayan Red Cross, to which the ICRC despatched medicaments.

Visits to places of detention: While in Paraguay, Mr. Moreillon was received in audience by the President of the Republic, General Alfredo Stroessner, who authorized him to visit places of detention. The regional delegate was thus able to go to the " Penitenciaría Nacional " and to nine police commissariats in Asunción.

Following these visits, the ICRC sent two consignments of medicines to the Paraguayan Red Cross for the inmates of those places of detention. When Mr. Gaillard-Moret and Dr. Marti were in Asunción in September, they went to the commissariats for a further round of visits to detainees and handed over the medicaments to the medical services.

Peru

On his way to Bolivia, the regional delegate for South America stayed in Lima on 11 and 12 April and met officials of the various ministries concerned with Peru's possible participation in the second session of the conference of government experts on the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law and with the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions among members of the armed forces.

Visits to places of detention: Mr. Gaillard-Moret and Dr. Marti were on a mission to Peru from 23 October to 9 November. They visited four places of detention: three in Lima and one on Frontón Island. Of the total of over 5,000 detainees seen, ten were held for political reasons or offences.

El Salvador

The regional delegate for Central America and the Caribbean went on a mission to El Salvador lasting from 19 March to 8 April. He had talks with officials of the ministries concerned on the possible participation of El Salvador in the second session of the conference of government experts on the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law and on the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions among members of the armed forces. On this latter subject he also saw the Director of the Military Academy and conferred with the Catholic University concerning the teaching of international humanitarian law.

Mr. Leemann conferred several times with El Salvador Red Cross leaders and attended two meetings of the National Society's Supreme Council. He also visited its branch delegations of San Miguel and Santa Tecla.

In the course of his Central American mission at the end of 1972, Mr. Nessi stopped at San Salvador from 29 October to 1 November. He was received by the Ministers of Justice, Defence, the Interior and Foreign Affairs, with whom he discussed various matters, including visits to places of detention, the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions among members of the armed forces and ICRC radio communication.

The delegate-general for Latin America met members of the new Supreme Council of the El Salvador Red Cross. Principal subjects broached related to the Society's activities, the work of the ICRC and the dissemination of the principles of the Red Cross among youth. Mr. Nessi also visited the local branch at San Miguel.

Visit to a place of detention: An abortive coup d'état took place in El Salvador on 25 March, while the ICRC regional delegate was still in the country. Mr. Leemann straight away approached the authorities and visited, that same day, about fifty people arrested

in connection with the events and interned at National Police General Headquarters. A second visit took place on 6 April, and the ICRC regional delegate returned to El Salvador on 24 April for a third visit.

In the course of his October visit, Mr. Nessi again visited National Police General Headquarters, where six people were still being held in connection with the March events.

Uruguay

ICRC delegates went several times to Uruguay: in May, June, July, September and October. They had numerous meetings with government officials concerning visits to places of detention, the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions among members of the armed forces and ICRC radio communication. They saw, too, Faculty of Law professors of the Republic University at Montevideo to discuss the introduction of the teaching of international humanitarian law and also met Uruguay's Red Cross leaders on the subject of the dissemination of the principles of the Red Cross among members of the armed forces. They enquired about the National Societies, different activities and visited the San José local Red Cross Section where they gave talks on the ICRC and the Geneva Conventions.

Visits to places of detention: In June, Mr. Moreillon was granted authorization to visit places of detention under the control of the Ministry of the Interior. He went to four prisons in Montevideo: the " Colonia Educativa de Trabajo ", the women's prison, Miguelete Prison and Punta Carretas Prison.

In October, Mr. Leemann was allowed access to places of detention under the control of the Ministry of Defence. He visited the military hospital and No. 1 Military Prison at La Libertad, and later made a further visit to Punta Carretas Prison.

The ICRC delegates saw in all some 200 detainees held for political reasons or offences.

Venezuela

In 1972, the ICRC kept up its regional delegation headquarters for Latin America at Caracas.

When, at the beginning of 1972, the ICRC delegate-general for Latin America went on his mission to South American countries, he also stopped in February in Venezuela, where he conferred several times with government officials and with National Society leaders.

Mr. Gaillard-Moret and Dr. Marti also stayed in Caracas at the end of their mission which led them to several South American countries in December.

The ICRC regional delegates kept close contact with the Venezuelan authorities, who granted them a general authorization to visit places of detention, and with the National Red Cross Society, regarding, in particular, aid for detainees and the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions.

Visits to places of detention: ICRC regional delegates went to twelve places of detention, some of which were visited several times: three at Caracas, two at San Juan de Los Morros and the others at Bolívar, Dorado, La Pica, Los Teques, Maracaibo, San Cristóbal and Tucuyto.

About 9,000 detainees in all were seen, of whom some 200 were being held for political reasons or offences.

Asia

In Asia, the ICRC's two main fields of activity during 1972 were Indo-China and the Asian sub-continent.

Mr. Jean Ott, ICRC delegate-general for Asia and Oceania, went on a mission which, from 4 March to 12 April, took him to Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand, and also to the countries of the Indo-China peninsula and Hong Kong. In the first four, the chief purpose was to contact government authorities and National Societies. In Indo-China, the delegate-general raised questions outstanding between the ICRC and the authorities such as prisoners of war, persons detained as a result of the events, medical relief, and so forth. In Hong Kong, he studied the feasibility of an agreement under which medical relief would be provided throughout Indo-China.

There were also ICRC missions to Malaysia, the Philippines and Singapore.

Indo-China

Through its delegations in Saigon, Vientiane and Phnom Penh, the ICRC fulfilled its traditional duties to prisoners of war and displaced persons in Indo-China.

On 8 May, following the recrudescence of hostilities, the ICRC sent a message to all the parties to the conflict—the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRVN), the Government of the Republic of Vietnam (RVN), the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam (PRG), the Government of the Kingdom of Laos, the Lao Patriotic Front, the Government of the Khmer Republic, the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia (GRUNC) and the Government of the United States of America—reminding them that the ICRC "is and always remains at the disposal of all parties to the conflict for the establishment and supervision of hospital zones, security zones, neutralized zones and approach routes to those zones, for the protection of civilian and military wounded and sick and of civilian populations not taking part in the hostilities . . .".

On 17 July, the ICRC sent a note verbale to the Permanent Mission of the United States of America making "an urgent appeal to the Government of the United States to suspend bombardments over Vietnam susceptible of harming the civilian population, of destroying buildings, facilities, equipment or property of all kinds essential to the population's survival". The note was not accepted by the United States Government.

When the approaching conclusion of a cease-fire agreement was announced in October, the ICRC, the League of Red Cross Societies and some National Societies took steps to ensure the most effective possible fulfilment of the duties with which they might be confronted after the cease-fire entered into effect.

Following renewed bombing north of the twentieth parallel by American aircraft, on 18 December, the ICRC made the following appeal to the four parties to the Vietnam conflict—the DRVN, the RVN, the PRG and the USA—on 29 December:

“ The International Committee of the Red Cross had placed great hopes in the negotiations for a cease-fire in Vietnam.

The ICRC is therefore dismayed to see that, instead of ceasing, the war has intensified to an extent never before equalled in the history of this conflict.

The International Committee of the Red Cross makes a most pressing appeal to all parties to the conflict to put an end to hostilities, in order that the civilian population and the goods and services necessary to their survival may be spared, and that military and civilian detainees held by all parties may be released.

The International Committee of the Red Cross reminds the parties engaged in the conflict that it is their duty to respect the humanitarian principles laid down in the Geneva Conventions and which are intended to relieve the suffering of war victims. Those principles demand that the wounded, the sick, the prisoners and the whole civilian population shall be afforded protection.”

Republic of Vietnam

In 1972, the ICRC maintained a delegation in Saigon composed of a head of delegation, two delegates and two doctor-delegates.

The delegate-general for Asia and Oceania carried out a mission to the Republic of Vietnam (RVN) from 18 to 25 March. In Saigon he was received by the South Vietnamese Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Defence and a number of United States representatives. He also conferred with officers of the National Red Cross Society.

Application of the Conventions: The ICRC sent a note to the Australian and New Zealand Governments reminding them of their residual responsibilities regarding prisoners of war when they withdrew their armed forces from the Republic of Vietnam. The Government of New Zealand assured the ICRC that it was aware of its responsibilities under Article 12 of the Third Geneva Convention and had taken appropriate measures to ensure that they were fulfilled.

Prisoners of war: During the period covered by this report, ICRC delegates carried out forty-six visits to camps, military hospitals and other places of detention. They regularly visited six prisoner-of-war camps, and latterly three, twelve army hospitals and three correctional institutions (civilian prisons) where prisoners of war accused of offences or crimes under ordinary penal law were held. They also had access to the " Combined Military Intelligence Center " in Saigon. On the other hand, they no longer went to the screening centres or interrogation centres visited in previous years. As United States troops started to withdraw, most of the centres closed down. The ICRC delegation in Saigon made various fruitless attempts to obtain from the South Vietnamese Ministry of Defence an up-to-date list of places where prisoners of war were held.

With the recrudescence of hostilities, on 31 March, the ICRC approached the authorities in the Republic of Vietnam to ascertain whether arrangements had been made to ensure the protection of prisoners of war. The authorities informed the ICRC that the Pleiku, Da Nang and Qui Nhon camps had been evacuated and that the prisoners of war had been transferred to the three remaining camps of Phu Quoc, Can Tho and Bien Hoa. By the end of June, the prisoners of war totalled about 37,000, including 30,000 in the Phu Quoc camp.

During their visits to prisoner-of-war camps, the ICRC delegates noted a marked improvement in material conditions (toilet articles and clothing distributed by the authorities, increased daily rations, etc.) and in the treatment of prisoners. Moreover, following the ICRC's request that those opting for the " new life " ¹ be separated from other prisoners of war, the Government of the Republic of Vietnam stated that the separation had been carried out.

ICRC delegates supplied the prisoners of war visited with toilet articles, mats, medicaments and even school material.

They were present at a number of trials, in the Can Tho military court, where prisoners of war were accused of committing offences or crimes under ordinary penal law during captivity. They asked the South Vietnamese authorities to be allowed to interview prisoners before they were tried, but were not granted permission to do so.

¹ " *Candidats au ralliement* ".

Civilian detainees: The ICRC again asked that visits to national prisons and correctional institutions be subject to the same conditions as visits to prisoner-of-war camps, namely that only a few days' notice be required and that detainees be interviewed privately.

In January and February, the ICRC delegates visited the correctional institutions of Pleiku, Ban Me Thuot, Qui Nhon and Nha Trang, where the provincial authorities authorized the head of delegation to talk to detainees without any witness. The Saigon authorities, however, had not replied to the ICRC's request when the 31 March offensive was launched and visits to correctional institutions were provisionally suspended. Later the delegation submitted a new programme of visits to correctional institutions—including the Tan Hiep national prison—and again asked to be allowed to speak to detainees without witnesses. The request was turned down by the authorities, whereupon the ICRC decided to suspend visits to civilian detainees until the restrictions on its activities were removed.

Medico-social assistance: One of the principal consequences of the 31 March offensive was an increase in the number of displaced persons. The ICRC delegation in Saigon offered its services, and particularly those of its doctors, to the Red Cross of the Republic of Vietnam, and so it came about that ICRC doctor-delegates joined the National Society in some of the visits it made to displaced persons at Hué, Long Thanh and Da Nang. The ICRC made a donation of 50,000 Swiss francs to the RVN Red Cross for the benefit of such displaced persons.

The doctor-delegates visited a number of orphanages in Saigon and its surroundings every week. About ten institutions were supplied with medicaments, rice and items of furniture.

Democratic Republic of Vietnam

In April 1972, the ICRC wrote to the Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRVN) again offering its services for assistance to victims of the conflict and stating its desire to carry out the activities laid upon it by the Geneva Conventions.

Parallel to that offer, the Central Tracing Agency wrote to the DRVN Red Cross requesting a list of prisoners held in that country.

In the matter of prisoners, the DRVN confirmed its position as described on page 40 of the Annual Report for 1970.

In June, the ICRC offered the DRVN authorities and Red Cross relief supplies for the victims of hostilities. The offer was accepted, and during the second half of 1972 the ICRC carried out eight despatches to Hanoi, by air, representing more than 4 tons of medicaments and medical supplies for the DRVN Red Cross.

The various problems outlined above were also discussed with DRVN representatives in Paris and Vientiane.

Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam

In April 1972, the ICRC wrote the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam (PRG) a letter similar to that sent to the Prime Minister of the DRVN (see above).

The ICRC also maintained contact with PRG representatives in Paris.

Kingdom of Laos

During 1972, the ICRC had a delegate in Vientiane, seconded by a doctor-delegate, according to circumstances and particularly in the case of visits to places of detention.

Prisoners of war: On 25 May, ICRC delegates visited Samkhé prison, in Vientiane, and distributed toilet articles to the 130 prisoners of war held there. A further visit was made on 14 July.

Political detainees: On 9 March and 15 July, the delegates also had access to Chinaimo prison, in Vientiane, which held some fifty political detainees.

The ICRC delegates managed to interview prisoners of war and political detainees privately. As usual, the ICRC sent reports on the visits to the detaining authorities.

Displaced persons: At the Laotian Government's request, the ICRC contributed to defraying the cost of transport, from Bangkok to Vientiane, of a large consignment of clothing donated by Japan.

The distribution was planned by the ICRC delegation with the Laotian Ministry of Social Welfare and the Japanese Embassy in Vientiane. Early in the year, the delegate proceeded to Houei Sai, Luang Prabang, Van Vieng and Paksé, with representatives of the Ministry and the Embassy, to organize the distribution. Altogether 21,000 displaced persons received clothing.

In co-operation with the Lao Red Cross and the Ministry of Social Welfare, the delegate distributed 60 tons of rice to 3,000 displaced persons in the Vientiane plain during May.

In June, 4,200 flood victims in the Paksane area were supplied with clothing and 30 tons of seeds. In villages where recently displaced persons were to be found, the delegate distributed more than 5 tons of salted fish and 12 tons of rice.

During the second half of the year, 6 tons of rice, 8 tons of padek and 4 tons of pimento were distributed in the Vientiane plain and at Savannakhet, in addition to the medicaments delivered to various welfare organizations for distribution to displaced persons at Champassack, Borikhane, Paksane, Luang Prabang, and the Van Vieng and Paksé leprosaria.

Lao Patriotic Front

The ICRC continued its contacts with the Lao Patriotic Front (Neo Lao Haksat).

In addition to the supplies sent during the preceding year for the wounded, the sick and civilians in territory under Pathet Lao control, in April the ICRC shipped 1.3 tons of medicaments and surgical kits to Hanoi for the Pathet Lao medical services.

Two consignments of various pharmaceuticals, by air in June, totalled 669 kg. In November, the ICRC sent the Pathet Lao 2.7 tons of school equipment.

Khmer Republic

In Phnom Penh, the ICRC maintained a delegation composed of the head of delegation and a doctor-delegate.

The ICRC delegate-general for Asia and Oceania visited Phnom Penh from 25 to 30 March. He had talks with the Khmer Red Cross and government authorities.

Prisoners of war: At the beginning of the year, the head of the delegation at Phnom Penh renewed the ICRC's approaches to the Khmer Government and the request that it apply the Third Geneva Convention and grant prisoner-of-war status to any combatants captured by the Khmer national forces. The head of delegation also asked the Khmer Government for a list of such prisoners of war and of Khmer civilians and servicemen reported missing and presumed to be held by enemy armed forces. Lastly, in February and March, he intervened on behalf of about a dozen prisoners who had been sentenced to death by military courts. The sentences were finally commuted to life imprisonment.

In a declaration dated 29 March, the Khmer Government announced that persons of foreign nationality who had been captured by the Khmer authorities would henceforth be regarded as prisoners of war. Those sentenced would be granted amnesty, interned in accommodation centres and treated in the manner laid down in the Third Convention.

Marshal Lon Nol personally confirmed the declaration in an audience granted to Mr. Ott during his visit to Phnom Penh. The delegate-general had access to prisoners of war in the central prison. He interviewed nine prisoners, including five of the men who had been sentenced to death and whose sentence had been commuted to that of life imprisonment.

In June, the Prime Minister again assured the ICRC of his Government's resolve to abide by the Geneva Conventions.

In September, the Khmer Government published a decree (*kret*) instituting an "accommodation centre for prisoners of war". Since the Ministry of the Interior was responsible for installing the camp at Koh Kong, the head of delegation maintained contact with representatives of that Ministry. However, the installation was not completed by the end of 1972, and the prisoners of war were still being held in the Phnom Penh central prison, which ICRC delegates were not allowed to revisit.

Displaced persons: The ICRC delegation in the Khmer Republic also pursued its activities on behalf of persons displaced by reason of the hostilities. It carried out various fact-finding missions in the provinces—particularly in Prey Veng, Svay Rieng, Kompong

Cham, Preah Vihear and Battambang—where it visited refugee centres and hospitals. It inquired into the needs of displaced persons and, where necessary, supplied medicaments and food. Further, the doctor-delegate, assisted by the mobile medical team provided by the municipal authorities, regularly visited the sick in Phnom Penh's thirty-two accommodation centres. Yet efforts focused mainly on the three principal centres, Chrui Changwar, Pochentong and Cao Dai, sheltering 1,800, 600 and 570 persons, respectively.

The doctor-delegate also saw patients daily in the Khmer Red Cross dispensary, where medicaments were distributed. He regularly visited the Kau Tonsay nursery for orphans. The ICRC financed the hospitalization of a number of those children. The doctor-delegate was in close touch with WHO experts and doctors in the various Phnom Penh hospitals, who were supplied with medical equipment.

To bring the various tasks to a successful conclusion and comply with the requests of the authorities and the Khmer Red Cross, the ICRC made several despatches of medicines and medical supplies to Phnom Penh. In addition, the delegation made direct local purchases of medicaments, food and blankets.

Vietnamese residents: As it had done in previous years, the ICRC concerned itself with the lot of Vietnamese nationals living in camps. In addition to the Cao Dai camp in Phnom Penh, the delegates went to Battambang several times to ascertain the conditions under which some 4,000 Vietnamese nationals were being held in three different camps.

Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia

The ICRC maintained its relations with the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia (GRUNC). It had various contacts with its representatives in Paris, whom it supplied with additional up-to-date lists of civilians reported missing since the outbreak of hostilities in Cambodia and American soldiers presumed to be held by the National United Front of Kampuchea (FUNK). The ICRC also handed over letters which the American Red Cross had received for those men.

STEPS TAKEN BEFORE THE CEASE-FIRE

With the announcement, in October, of an early cease-fire in Indo-China, and particularly in Vietnam, the ICRC, the League of Red Cross Societies and some National Societies considered it necessary to co-ordinate the activities of the various Red Cross institutions with a view to aligning their aims and carrying out with the utmost efficiency any tasks that might arise after the cease-fire.

Mr. Olof Stroh, Secretary-General of the Swedish Red Cross, was initially entrusted with responsibility for establishing contact with the parties concerned—the DRVN, the RVN, the PRG, the Government of the Kingdom of Laos, the Lao Patriotic Front, the Government of the Khmer Republic, and GRUNC—and surveying with them possible requirements in case of a cease-fire. To ensure the mission's success, Mr. Stroh was supported by a group named Indo-China Liaison Group (ILG), composed of officials of the ICRC, the League and various National Societies. The ICRC offered the Liaison Group hospitality, particularly by providing premises and technical installations.

Parallel to this, an information meeting was being held at ICRC Geneva headquarters on 3 November. It was attended by some twenty experts from different National Societies.

ILG undertook to estimate the work which would have to be done—in the twofold field of protection and relief—as well as staff, equipment, transport and financial requirements. The ICRC delegations in Saigon, Vientiane and Phnom Penh were instructed to inquire of the authorities and the National Societies concerned regarding the needs which the Red Cross would have to meet after the cease-fire. Contact was also made with representatives of the DRVN, the PRG, the Lao Patriotic Front and GRUNC, in Vientiane and in Paris. Thus programmes relating essentially to the resettlement of displaced persons and the tracing of the missing were transmitted to ILG.

From 27 November to 23 December, an expert from the Geneva Central Tracing Agency went to Saigon, Vientiane and Phnom Penh to help the three National Societies set up tracing bureaux. At the close of that mission, three Agency officials were sent out to the Red Cross Societies of the Republic of Vietnam, the Kingdom of

Laos and the Khmer Republic, to provide assistance and advice.

On 8 December, the ICRC and the League concluded the following agreement regarding international Red Cross assistance to Indo-China:

" In the perspective of a cease-fire in Vietnam and the further steps which may follow towards peaceful developments in Indo-China, the ICRC and the League recognize the need to mobilize, in particular by a common appeal, and co-ordinate the employment of the full resources of the Red Cross, in order to assure the most effective protection and assistance to those in need.

Motivated by the spirit of their Agreement of 1969, the ICRC and the League have therefore agreed to establish an integrated staff, to be called the Indo-China Operational Group (IOG), which will be responsible for the formulation of plans and their execution.

The ICRC and the League will jointly nominate the Director (DIOG) and his Deputy. The DIOG will select his own staff from personnel made available to him by the ICRC, the League and National Societies ”.

Mr. Stroh was appointed DIOG and Mr. Ott his Deputy. ILG became IOG. By the end of 1972, IOG's planning had reached as complete a stage as possible in the matter of protection and relief, staff, logistic infrastructure, etc. On 17 December, a further information meeting was held at ICRC headquarters for National Societies and Voluntary Agencies.

Conflict in the Asian sub-continent

In the Asian sub-continent, the ICRC endeavoured to provide protection and assistance for prisoners of war, civilian internees and civilian minorities on both sides. For that purpose it set up permanent delegations in Islamabad, New Delhi and Dacca. By the end of 1972, the Islamabad delegation comprised seven persons (the head of delegation, three visiting delegates, one Agency delegate, one administrator and one radio operator); the New Delhi

delegation fourteen (the head of delegation, nine visiting delegates, one Agency delegate, two secretaries and one radio operator), and the Dacca delegation twenty-eight (the head of delegation, fourteen visiting delegates, one female nurse, one Agency delegate, three secretaries, one accountant, one administrator and six radio operators). These figures do not include local staff.

Mr. Enrico Bignami, ICRC Commissioner for activities in the Asian sub-continent, went twice to Islamabad, New Delhi and Dacca—from 8 to 20 January and again from 25 February to 14 March—for talks with Pakistan, Indian and Bangladesh government authorities about various human problems which remained unsolved.

Mr. Jean-Pierre Hocké, who took over from Mr. Bignami in April, carried out a mission to the three countries from 4 to 15 July.

From 1 December 1971 to 18 April 1972, the ICRC co-ordinated its joint relief action with the League of Red Cross Societies in Bangladesh.

PRISONERS OF WAR AND CIVILIAN DETAINEES

Early in the conflict, from 3 to 16 December 1971, one of the primary duties of ICRC delegates in Islamabad, New Delhi and Dacca was to approach the authorities concerned with a view to obtaining lists of prisoners of war and securing permission to visit them and bring them family mail.

Bangladesh: On 28 December 1971, the ICRC delegates in New Delhi made a preliminary visit to a military hospital, where they saw four Pakistani prisoners of war.

At the time, however, most Pakistani prisoners of war (76,000) and civilian detainees (17,000)—altogether about 93,000 persons—were in Bangladesh. From their internment in Bangladesh, at the end of December 1971, until their transfer to India, on 15 January 1972, permission was granted for visits by ICRC delegates, who went to the Dacca, Chittagong and Sylhet transit camps.

A great many Pakistani civilians, especially destitute women and children, sought refuge in the Dacca camp. The ICRC delegates supplied them with such essentials as clothing, blankets, soap, pots, and powdered milk. A medical team was there to examine the sick.

At the request of Pakistani prisoners of war and civilian detainees, the ICRC delegates launched an operation to trace persons reported missing or who were dispersed in the country. With the assistance of Indian armed forces and local volunteers, several hundred persons were thus found and reunited with their families before being transferred to India.

The ICRC took part in the transfer by air of wounded prisoners of war and sick civilians whose state of health would not have stood up to the long journey by train and boat. In three flights, 269 persons were transported from Dacca to Lucknow.

In September, however, the Bangladesh Government informed the ICRC that several dozen Pakistani prisoners of war had been found in prisons in different parts of the country. As fifty-six of them had been taken to the Dacca central prison, the ICRC delegates visited them three times in 1972.

As is customary, the visits were covered by reports sent by the ICRC to the detaining power and the prisoners' own government. The ICRC delegates inquired into detention conditions. They brought family mail and parcels prepared for the prisoners by their own folk or the Red Cross Societies of the parties to the conflict. These remarks hold good for Pakistani prisoners of war and civilian detainees in India as well as for Indian prisoners of war and civilian detainees in Pakistan.

India: On 4 February, the Indian Government authorized the ICRC to visit Pakistani prisoners of war and civilian detainees. The first round of visits started on 8 February and ended on 22 April. Visits were made to fifty camps in fourteen different places along the basin of the Ganges, and to twenty hospitals. By the end of 1972, the ICRC delegates had totalled more than 270 visits to the places of detention and had on average visited most of them four times.

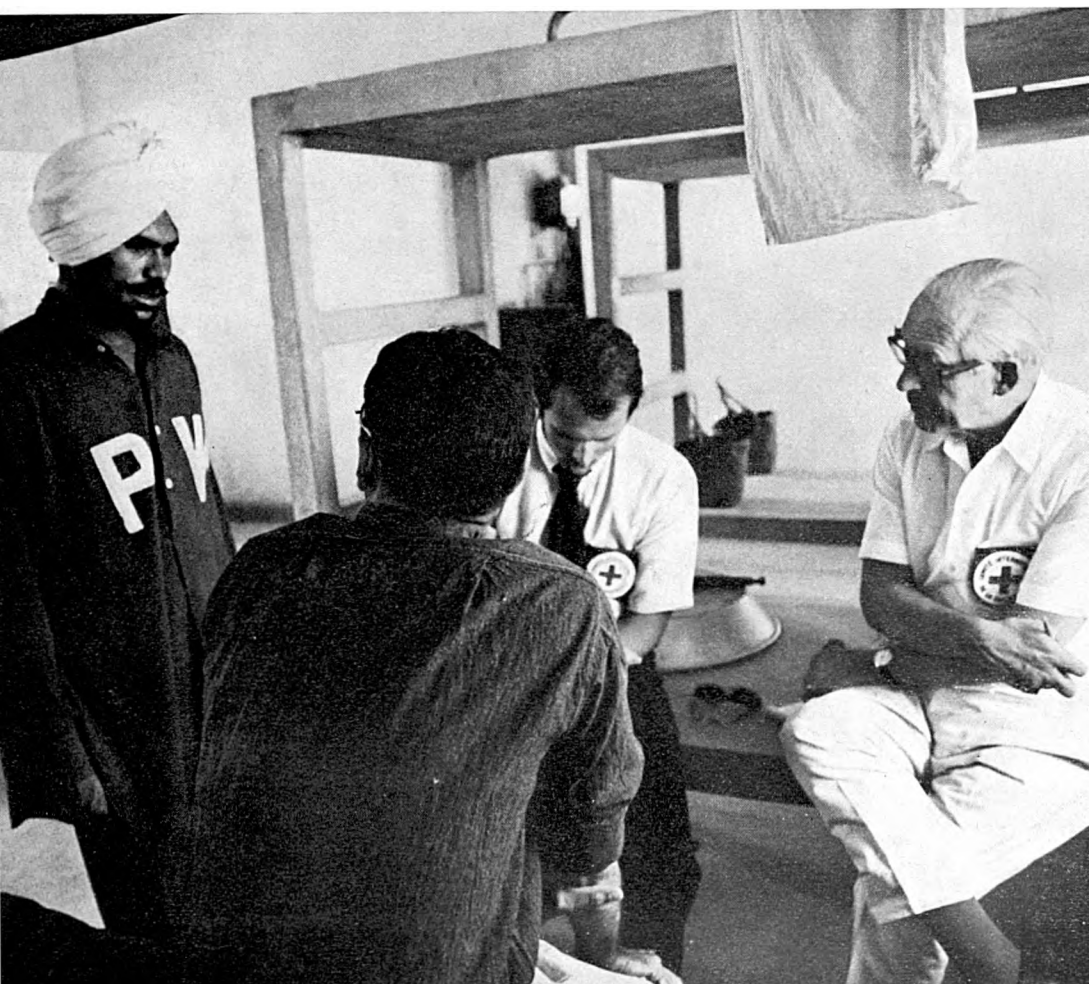
During the visits made, ICRC delegates inquired more particularly about the wounded, the sick and civilians. They organized a relief operation for civilians by distributing multivitamins and supplementary food to several thousand persons, mostly old people and children.

In March 1972, prolonged captivity began to create growing tension among the Pakistani prisoners of war. There were riots and

An ICRC doctor-delegate visiting a Saigon orphanage.
Photo Barbey/ICRC



Pakistan : talking in private with an Indian prisoner of war.
Photo Kurz/ICRC



some attempts to escape, particularly during March, October and November; tens of prisoners of war were killed, and others were wounded. The ICRC delegates immediately proceeded to the camps. The statements made by the prisoners and the camp authorities responsible for supervision were embodied in the reports sent to the detaining power and the prisoners' own government.

The Government of Pakistan protested and asked the ICRC to approach the Indian Government in order to prevent a renewal of such incidents and ensure repatriation of the wounded and of the bodies of those killed. The ICRC transmitted the requests to the Indian Government. It also approached the Indian authorities through the Indian Permanent Mission in Geneva and the head of the ICRC delegation in New Delhi, expressing its deep concern, asking that security measures which might have contributed to increased tension in the camps be cancelled, and urging that adequate instructions be issued so as to ensure that such events did not recur.

Pakistan: The Government of Pakistan authorized the ICRC delegates to visit Indian prisoners of war as from 4 January 1972. The prisoners, of whom there were 657, were held in two camps, at Rawalpindi and Lyallpur, while the wounded were in six army hospitals. On 2 August, the Lyallpur camp closed down and all able-bodied prisoners of war were transferred to the Rawalpindi camp. From 4 January to 1 December, when the general repatriation of Indian prisoners of war took place,¹ the ICRC delegates made thirty-four visits to the different places of detention mentioned, including eleven in the Lyallpur camp. The ICRC delegates also inquired about some 270 Indian civilians who had been captured by Pakistan armed forces on the western front and interned in Harrapa camp. They visited them twice, in July and again in August.²

Negotiations regarding the repatriation of prisoners of war and civilian detainees: Under Article 118 of the Third Geneva Convention of 1949 relative to the treatment of prisoners of war, the ICRC made repeated approaches to the governments concerned with a view

¹ and ² See following page.

to securing the repatriation of prisoners. The Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 (Article 133) contains similar provisions regarding civilian internees.

The ICRC drew the Indian Government's attention to the matter on 23 March 1972. In a reply dated 25 April, the detaining power stated that the Pakistani soldiers had surrendered to the Joint Command of Bangladesh and India and that decision as to repatriation therefore rested with those two countries. On 25 May, the ICRC again communicated with the Indian Government. It pointed out that the existence of a joint command constituted an understanding between India and Bangladesh which concerned those two countries alone and could have no effect on India's obligation to repatriate the prisoners of war held.

The Government of Pakistan, to whom representations were also made under Article 118, on 1 December repatriated all Indian prisoners of war (617) save one who had just undergone surgery and who was subsequently transferred to India. Simultaneously, the Indian Government repatriated 542 Pakistani soldiers captured on the western front. The twofold operation was carried out at the Wagah frontier post, in the presence of ICRC delegates. This ended ICRC activities on behalf of Indian prisoners of war in Pakistan, while the ICRC pursued its activities on behalf of some 92,000 Pakistani prisoners of war and civilian detainees in India.

As in the case of prisoners of war, the ICRC approached the governments concerned regarding the release and repatriation of civilian detainees.

On 16 September, in the presence of ICRC delegates, the Government of Pakistan repatriated at Wagah 273 Indian civilians who had been interned in Harrapa camp. On 18 and 19 September, the Indian Government in turn repatriated some 700 Pakistani civilians detained by Indian armed forces on the western front.

Neither the Indian nor the Pakistan Government agreed to grant members of crews of the merchant marine, who had been captured on either side, the prisoner-of-war status to which they were entitled under Article 4 of the Third Convention. In India, the ICRC delegates were permitted only one visit to members of a Pakistan crew, in February 1972. In Pakistan, ICRC delegates were to begin visits to Indian seamen early in 1973.

Seriously wounded prisoners of war: Pending general repatriation at the end of hostilities, the ICRC laid special stress on seriously wounded prisoners of war and the seriously sick. From 26 February to the end of 1972, six repatriation operations took place. Some 600 Pakistani prisoners (550 soldiers and forty-one civilians) and about forty Indian prisoners who were wounded or sick were thus able to go home. They were transported in the aircraft based in Bangladesh which the Swiss Government had made available to the ICRC.

Numerous members of the medical personnel having been captured by Indian armed forces during the hostilities, the ICRC also asked that any doctors or orderlies not assigned to Pakistani prisoners of war be repatriated by the Indian Government, in accordance with Article 30 of the Third Geneva Convention. By the end of 1972, the detaining power had not deemed it possible to comply with the request.

CIVILIAN POPULATION

Besides prisoners of war and civilian detainees, the ICRC concerned itself in Pakistan and Bangladesh with the civilian population, especially with minorities.

Pakistan—Bengali minorities: With the consent of the Pakistan Government, ICRC delegates inquired into the economic conditions and security surrounding Bengali communities, principally at Hyderabad, Islamabad, Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar and Rawalpindi. On three occasions, the ICRC delegation detached delegates from Islamabad and sent them to Karachi, which had a larger Bengali community. There they spent seven to eighteen days in districts where Bengalis were living.

Soldiers of Bengali origin and who had served in the Pakistan armed forces having been disarmed and assembled in repatriation centres, the ICRC asked to be allowed to visit those centres. The Government of Pakistan agreed, and in May the ICRC delegates began to visit some fifteen repatriation centres holding several thousand unmarried soldiers of Bengali origin. They also saw married soldiers living with their families in houses they had

initially been assigned in cantonments in different parts of the country.

Bangladesh—(a) Relief action: Before the outbreak of hostilities, the ICRC set up a joint action group with the League of Red Cross Societies and made contact with a number of National Societies in case emergency medical action should prove necessary in the Asian sub-continent.

Towards the end of December 1971, in response to the ICRC appeal, six surgical teams—provided by the Danish, Finnish, Netherlands, Norwegian, Swedish and Swiss Red Cross Societies—arrived in Bangladesh to work under ICRC co-ordination. The forty-five members of the team were distributed in hospitals in Dacca, Chittagong, Sylhet, Mirzapur, Khulna and Chuadanga, where they applied themselves to treating both civilian and military victims of the events. From January to mid-March, when they left Bangladesh, the teams dealt with about a thousand cases a day. Altogether they carried out around a thousand operations, and they vaccinated tens of thousands against cholera and measles.

In view of the extent of the requirements, however, the ICRC held an information meeting in Geneva on 7 January. Representatives of the League and of about a dozen Red Cross Societies were invited to the meeting. The ICRC submitted a three-month plan of relief action in Bangladesh which would provide for medico-social teams and food distribution to half a million persons.

On 15 January, Mr. Enrico Bignami, ICRC Commissioner for activities in the Asian sub-continent, submitted a plan of action to the Bangladesh Government, which accepted it.

To supplement the agreement concluded with the Government, a document on the implementation of the plan of action was signed on 24 January by the ICRC and the emerging Bangladesh Red Cross Society. The plan was designed to aid the more needy sectors of the population, whether Bengali or non-Bengali, without any discrimination.

As soon as the agreement with the Government of Bangladesh was concluded, the ICRC appealed to National Societies, Governments and a number of organizations for funds, food, medicaments, blankets, means of transport, and so forth. National Societies were also asked to provide medico-social teams.

In response to the appeal, the ICRC received donations valued at 37,468,000 Swiss francs, including 7,951,000 Swiss francs in cash. Donations in kind consisted of goods and equipment (mainly medicaments, medical supplies, food, blankets, tents, prefabricated houses, ambulances, motorboats, aircraft, etc.).

From 1 February to mid-April, fourteen medico-social teams—provided by the Red Cross Societies of Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, the Federal Republic of Germany,¹ Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom, and representing about 160 persons—were operating under the auspices of the ICRC in Bangladesh. They were distributed throughout the country to help Bengalis returning to Bangladesh after seeking refuge in India as well as “non-local” communities and the 2,000 Pakistani civilians who had remained in Bangladesh.

Altogether, 10,000 tons of relief supplies, including food, medicaments, blankets, and so forth, were distributed to the needy population.

For Bengali refugees, the ICRC delegates set up eleven transit camps in which 987,000 spent the night and were provided with two days' food rations.

To ensure an effective relief operation, sixty-seven Red Cross delegates (provided by the ICRC, the League and National Societies) worked under the auspices of the ICRC, in addition to the six surgical teams and fourteen medico-social teams. There were 330 local employees.

The relief supplies sent to the ICRC went by air to Dacca or Calcutta, or else by sea to Chittagong, Khulna or Calcutta, where the ICRC had warehouses. An ICRC office was installed in Calcutta to ensure that transit goods were forwarded to Dacca by air. Pending the arrival of a ship with food supplies, most of the items were obtained locally. The Government of Bangladesh and the United Nations Relief Operation Dacca (UNROD) made 7,000 tons of grain available to the ICRC out of their stocks.

To carry relief supplies from Calcutta to Dacca, and from Dacca to inland areas where many bridges, roads and railway lines had been destroyed or damaged, the ICRC had two DC-6 aircraft (pro-

¹ Two teams.

vided by the Swiss Government), one Hercules aircraft (from the New Zealand Government) and three helicopters (received from the Governments of Sweden and the Federal Republic of Germany through the National Societies of those countries). There were approximately 150 other vehicles such as trucks, jeeps, Land Rovers, ambulances, and so forth.

On 8 March, the Bangladesh Red Cross Society wrote to the ICRC asking that responsibility for the supervision of the relief action be transferred to it. On 18 April, the ICRC and the Society signed an agreement under which the ICRC, having ascertained the donors' wishes, handed over to the Bangladesh Red Cross relief supplies (food, medicaments, tents, blankets) plus some fifty vehicles, thirty prefabricated houses, etc., valued at 4,833,000 Swiss francs.

The ICRC then concentrated on its traditional activities on behalf of prisoners of war and civilian minorities.

On 6 December 1972, the ICRC and the European Economic Community signed an agreement on the supply of 18,543 tons of wheat flour for Bangladesh. The consignment left Europe between 21 October and 30 December 1972.

(b) " Non-local " communities: As it had done in the case of Bengalis in Pakistan, the ICRC acted on behalf of the " non-local " communities in Bangladesh in two ways: by extending protection and assistance.

On 28 December 1971, the ICRC sent notes to the Governments of India and Bangladesh with a view to securing genuine protection for " non-local " communities in the latter country. On 1 January 1972, the blockade to which the communities were subjected was raised and about a dozen teams of ICRC delegates inquired into the conditions prevailing as regards food and health. Cholera symptoms having been detected, Red Cross medical teams carried out a general vaccination campaign in the Dacca districts affected, Food and medicaments were distributed to those who stood in greatest need.

Early in February, teams of ICRC delegates were distributed wherever " non-locals " were to be found. They were estimated at around 700,000 mainly in Dacca (300,000), Saidpur (200,000), Chit-

tagong (50,000), Khulna (50,000) and Ishurdi/Rajshai (20,000), with some minor groups in various other districts. Central Tracing Agency offices were opened in a number of settlements. They were responsible for transmitting family messages to and from Pakistan and for drawing up a list of the names of all " non-locals " living in the settlements.

The ICRC delegates frequently asked the Bangladesh authorities to take every possible step to ensure the protection of " non-locals ". In the case of persons who had lodgings and were to be turned out, the ICRC delegates approached the authorities and generally succeeded in preventing the tenants' eviction, at least temporarily. Again, they urged on the authorities the importance of gradually bringing the " non-local " communities back into the country's economic life.

In the context of the aforementioned relief action, the Red Cross teams supplied and cared for more than 400,000 " non-locals ". In January, the food stocks and purchasing power of a great many " non-locals ", who had no prospect of finding employment, were already virtually exhausted.

Following the relief action and up to the end of 1972, supplementary food supplies, which UNROD had made available to the ICRC and the Bangladesh Red Cross Society, were being distributed to " non-locals ".

In April, the ICRC delegates submitted to the Government of Bangladesh a programme providing for the construction of bamboo shelters for the homeless before the monsoon. The Government agreed and made land available for the project. The operation started in May and ended in August. Thus shelters were provided throughout the country for 48,700 " non-locals ", namely 30,000 at Mohammedpur (Dacca), 1,000 at Adamjee (Dacca), 2,000 at Bogra, 4,000 at Khulna, 8,000 at Navabganj, 1,700 at Saidpur and 2,000 at Chittagong. In November, several thousand shelters were again being constructed in different places, including Mymensingh.

As from September, the ICRC undertook to pay a monthly salary to some fifteen Bengali doctors and medical students working in the Mohammedpur, Mirpur and Adamjee " non-local " camps. The dispensaries and hospitals in those settlements were regularly supplied with medicines.

To help the economic reinstatement of " non-locals ", the ICRC supplied sewing machines with which workshops might start operating. It also concluded an agreement under which a local contractor was granted a credit for the purchase of material that would provide work for 525 " non-local " cobblers.

Parallel to their activities on behalf of " non-locals ", the ICRC delegates turned their attention to some 2,000 Pakistani civilians who had remained in Bangladesh, about a thousand of whom were accommodated in the " Dogra Red Cross Camp ", at Chittagong, under the auspices of the ICRC.

Negotiations regarding the repatriation of the civilian population on either side: Early in 1972, the ICRC approached the Governments of Pakistan and Bangladesh with a view to effecting the transfer of civilian minorities on either side, whether Bengalis in Pakistan or Pakistanis or other " non-locals " in Bangladesh.

In January, the ICRC sent the Governments of Pakistan and Bangladesh a message in which it proposed, *inter alia*, that the two parties should formally declare:

- that they were prepared to permit, facilitate and carry out the transfer from one country to another of individuals and families who desired it, without any discrimination and without any injury to relatives who might decide to stay behind;
- that steps would be taken to ensure that persons who elected to leave were able to take their belongings with them.

Moreover, the ICRC offered its good offices, if need be, to facilitate such transfers.

On his second mission to the Asian sub-continent, at the end of February and early in March, Mr. Bignami took with him a draft agreement on the repatriation of civilian minorities on either side.

While the parties concerned agreed in principle to repatriation and in the following weeks accepted the text of the proposed agreement, subject to some amendments, it became increasingly obvious that a general repatriation of civilian minorities, like the repatriation of prisoners of war, was bound up with political developments.

Meanwhile, the ICRC delegates were drawing up lists of the more urgent cases in which repatriation was necessary for humani-

tarian reasons, and endeavouring to organize a preliminary transfer of 1,000 persons on either side.

Owing to the precarious position of most civilians in the three countries of the Asian sub-continent, in June the ICRC again urged the Governments of Pakistan and Bangladesh to repatriate certain groups of persons who were ready to leave and whose names had been submitted to the Governments of Pakistan and Bangladesh. The ICRC also called upon India to repatriate the more seriously afflicted Pakistani civilian internees.

The question was also discussed in an interview between Mr. Marcel A. Naville, President of the ICRC, and Sheik Mujibur Rahman, Prime Minister of Bangladesh, in Geneva on 1 September.

Towards the end of the year, the Government of Pakistan announced that it was prepared to allow 15,000 Bengalis to return to Bangladesh, while the Indian Government offered to repatriate 6,000 Pakistanis, mainly women and children. Although in 1972 there was no general mutual repatriation of civilian minorities, a number of partial repatriation operations were nevertheless carried out under the auspices of the ICRC.

On page 50 of this report, we have already mentioned the operations conducted at Wagah in mid-September, enabling several hundred Pakistani and Indian civilian internees to go home. Between 7 and 11 November, 184 Pakistani civilian internees and seriously wounded prisoners of war were repatriated in the aircraft which had been made available to the ICRC.

A few days later, the aircraft returned to Bangladesh some 160 Bengali pilgrims who had been held up in Pakistan. Seven Pakistani orphans were repatriated by the same means.

In February, July and December, the ICRC repatriated by air about 420 Afghan nationals who had been held up in India and Bangladesh.

POLITICAL DETAINEES

Bangladesh: In January and February 1972, ICRC delegates visited approximately fifteen prisons in the interior of Bangladesh. They saw some 14,000 detainees (including 4 to 5,000 " non-locals "), whom they provided with medicaments, food and blankets. The

visits were suspended, however, by a decision of the Dacca authorities.

Pakistan: Late in 1972, the ICRC delegates in Islamabad were authorized in principle to visit certain categories of Bengali detainees in Pakistan.

CENTRAL TRACING AGENCY

The Central Tracing Agency forwarded five million letters addressed by Indian and Pakistani prisoners of war to their families in India and Pakistan, while 1.5 million family messages were exchanged between the civilian population of Pakistan and Bangladesh. The Agency also received 6,000 inquiries regarding missing civilians and servicemen; 3,000 of them elicited a favourable reply.

In order effectively to fulfil its various duties, including the registration of prisoners of war and civilian detainees, whether Pakistani or Indian (the card index for the Asian sub-continent contained over 300,000 cards), the Central Tracing Agency had to increase its Geneva staff by ten. It detached experts for the tracing bureaux opened in Islamabad, New Delhi and Dacca, which had a staff of about five, ten and fifty each, including a large number of local employees.

Indonesia

Early in 1972, the ICRC approached the Indonesian Government with a view to making further visits to places of detention.¹ The Indonesian Government replied that, owing to technical reasons, it would prefer the visits to be postponed to a later date.

Malaysia

Visits to places of detention: Mr. Bernard Daniel, an ICRC delegate, was in Malaysia from 3 to 23 April. With the agreement of the competent authorities, he visited six places of detention—namely, the preventive detention centres at Kuching (Sarawak), Kota Kinabalu (Sabah), Muar (Johar), Taiping (State of Perak),

¹ See Annual Report 1971, page 26.

Batu Gajah (State of Perak), and the " correctional centre " in the island of Jerjah (State of Penang)—where he saw more than 1,940 political detainees. As usual, reports on the visits were sent to the competent authorities.

Installation of a regional delegation: At the end of 1972, the ICRC requested permission of the Malaysian Government to open a regional delegation in Kuala Lumpur. The Malaysian Government agreed to the installation of such a delegation, which besides Malaysia would cover Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and Burma.

Mr. Daniel, who had gone to Malaysia for that event, attended a Red Cross Youth information course held jointly by the Malaysian and Singapore Red Cross Societies at Kota Kuala Bharu (State of Selangor), from 26 November to 2 December. He spoke about the ICRC's organization and activities.

Philippines

In May, Mr. Daniel went on a mission to the Philippines. First he attended a seminar of the Disaster Preparedness and Relief Assistance Institute, organized by the Philippine National Red Cross, in co-operation with the League of Red Cross Societies, for the benefit of National Societies in Asia and the Pacific. He addressed the seminar on the subject of assistance to victims of international and non-international armed conflicts.

The delegate also conferred with government authorities during his stay in the Philippines. He secured permission to visit Camp Crame, holding twenty-two political detainees with whom he was able to talk privately. Lastly, Mr. Daniel went to the island of Mindanao, south of the Philippines, where disturbances had broken out between the Christian and Muslim communities.

Singapore

The ICRC sent a delegate to Singapore to attend a regional meeting of the International Friendship and Training Camp for the Red Cross Volunteers from Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Singapore, from 7 to 14 April.

Europe

Mr. Melchior Borsinger, delegate-general for Europe and North America, attended the Conference of Red Cross Experts on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law held in Vienna from 20 to 24 March 1972. He took that opportunity to contact the authorities and the Austrian Red Cross.

From 5 to 8 June he was in London, where he had talks with the British Red Cross and government authorities.

From 24 June to 2 July, Mr. Borsinger went with Mr. Marcel A. Naville, President of the ICRC, to Austria and subsequently to Hungary, where they were guests of the Hungarian Red Cross. He also accompanied the President of the ICRC on a visit to the German Democratic Republic from 14 to 21 October.¹

Moreover, Mr. Gustav Heinemann, President of the Federal Republic of Germany, visited the ICRC on 29 September. He was accompanied by Mr. Walter Scheel, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Federal Councillor Kurt Furgler, Head of the Department of Justice and Police.

Cyprus

Since early 1964, the ICRC has transmitted to the Cypriot authorities every three months a list drawn up by the Turkish authorities of doctors and nurses appointed to take over from those working in the Turkish Red Crescent hospital in Nicosia, in order that the requisite visas and permits might be issued.

Northern Ireland

In May, and again in December, an ICRC delegate and a doctor-delegate visited the Long Kesh internment centre, which has been renamed "Maze Prison". The delegates were able to see all the inmates—about 550 in May and 270 in December—and interview persons of their own choice without any witnesses. As is customary, the reports on the visits were sent by the ICRC to the British Government through the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

¹ See page 118.

Assistance to victims of pseudo-medical experiments

In 1972, the ICRC continued to act as intermediary for the remittance of compensation to the victims of pseudo-medical experiments carried out in the concentration camps of the national-socialist regime. In accordance with a decree of 26 July 1951 concerning that category of former deportees, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, in 1961, asked the ICRC to remit to surviving victims residing in some Eastern European countries funds designed to contribute to the recovery of their health.

Dr. Albert Leupin, doctor-delegate and rapporteur, and Miss Françoise Perret, delegate, went to Poland in January 1972 to consider a new group of applicants. The meetings took place in Warsaw, in the presence of a judge delegated by the Ministry of Justice Central Committee on War Crimes in Poland, members of the Polish Red Cross Medical Commission, and representatives of the National Society's tracing service.

The Neutral Commission of Experts, appointed by the ICRC to decide on Polish claims for compensation, held three sessions—from 6 to 8 January, on 4 and 5 May, and on 17 and 24 June—attended by the ICRC rapporteurs and by Polish and German observers. It approved financial compensation for 164 victims. Compensation amounting to DM 4,605,000 was paid by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany to the ICRC, which relayed it to the persons in Poland to whom it was due. This brought the total paid to 1,357 Polish victims since the inception of relief action in 1961 to DM 39,435,000.

On 16 November 1972, the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany and of the Polish People's Republic signed an agreement providing for payment of a lump sum in respect of any outstanding cases. Under the agreement, which ended the ICRC's activities as neutral intermediary in the matter, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany will pay the Polish Government DM 100 million in addition to the financial aid of DM 39,435,000 already mentioned.

At a ceremony held at the ICRC's headquarters in Geneva, the agreement was signed by the representatives of the two Governments, in the presence of the Presidents of the ICRC, of the German

Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany, and of the Polish Red Cross.

Middle East

The ICRC continued its action for prisoners of war, civilian internees and detainees, and for civilian populations who were suffering as a result of the conflict between Israel and the Arab countries. It maintained delegations in Israel and the occupied territories, the Arab Republic of Egypt, Jordan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Lebanon. It had twenty-one delegates in the field and a large local staff.

In the Arabian Peninsula, the ICRC concerned itself with the well-being of prisoners of war, refugees and political detainees in the Yemen Arab Republic.

From 20 to 23 April, Mr. Jean-Pierre Maunoir, Assistant Director and acting delegate-general for the Middle East, went to Israel to study current problems and the solutions thereto with the government authorities.

In July, Mr. Jean-Pierre Hocké was appointed delegate-general for the Middle East, succeeding Mr. Maunoir who became acting director of the ICRC Operations Department. In renewed approaches to all States parties to the Geneva Conventions, with a view to increasing ICRC resources, several financial prospecting missions proceeded to the Middle East. The first, from 24 November to 20 December, covered Kuwait, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia. It later went to Qatar and Oman, where government authorities were contacted regarding those two States' accession to the Geneva Conventions and the establishment of National Red Crescent Societies.

Conflict between Israel and the Arab countries

ICRC as substitute for Protecting Power

In December 1971, three members of the ICRC, Mr. Max Petitpierre, Mr. Frédéric Siordet and Mr. Victor Umbricht, were in the

Middle East. The first went to the Arab Republic of Egypt, the second to Jordan, Syria and Lebanon, and the third to Israel. They informed government authorities in the countries visited that the ICRC was prepared to offer all States parties to the Middle East conflict its services as a substitute for the Protecting Power, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 10 common to the First, Second and Third Geneva Conventions, and Article 11 of the Fourth Convention.

The President of the ICRC confirmed and explained the ICRC's position in the matter at the second session of the Conference of Government Experts on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law, early in June.

In September 1972, the ICRC sent the five Governments concerned a note in which, after stressing that the procedure for supervising the application of the Conventions was not yet being put into effect, it drew the attention of the parties to the conflict to the hardship which this omission caused the victims and formally offered its services as the Protecting Powers' substitute.

PRISONERS OF WAR

The ICRC continued its assistance to prisoners of war in Israel, the Arab Republic of Egypt, Syria and Jordan.

Its delegates visited prisoners of war regularly, on average twice a month. They were able to talk with the prisoners without any witnesses. They distributed books, games, food and cigarettes, inquired about their personal needs, and transmitted family mail.

The ICRC constantly reminded the various governments concerned of the obligation to repatriate any prisoners of war still held on either side, in accordance with the spirit and the letter of the Third Geneva Convention.

Israel

At the beginning of 1972, there were 105 Arab prisoners of war in Israel, namely sixty-two Egyptians, forty-two Syrians and one Jordanian.

In March, with no prospect of an early repatriation of prisoners of war held on either side, and as some had developed physical

and psychological ailments as a result of prolonged captivity, the ICRC proposed to the Israeli, Egyptian and Syrian Governments that the prisoners be visited by a doctor-delegate or a joint medical commission such as provided for in the Third Convention.

The Government of Israel having responded favourably to the proposal, an ICRC doctor-delegate was in Israel from 25 to 29 April. His report was conveyed to the detaining power and to the prisoners' own governments.

On 16 April, three Syrian prisoners of war escaped from a military prison camp. One of them was recaptured on the same day. The ICRC delegates asked to be allowed to visit him on 16 April. They were authorized to do so on 19 April.

On 18 April, during a riot of Egyptian prisoners of war, a prisoner was killed. His body was repatriated under the auspices of the ICRC, at El Qantara on 21 April. On the day following the riot, ICRC representatives went to the prison and heard statements about the incident from the prisoners and the authorities responsible for supervision. A further visit was made on 23 April. The delegates' report was promptly communicated to the two governments concerned. The ICRC subsequently transmitted to the prisoners' own government the official report on the inquiry carried out by the detaining Power, and to each government the communications which it had received from the other.

On 21 June 1972, five Syrian senior officers, one Lebanese officer and one soldier, and three policemen, were captured during a foray into Lebanese territory. Immediately after the event, the ICRC sent the governments concerned various proposals regarding the repatriation of prisoners held on either side. The proposals were not accepted.

The matter was brought before the United Nations Security Council, which adopted resolution 316 of 26 June 1972.

The positions of the Governments of Syria and Israel differ with regard to the status of the prisoners taken by the Israeli armed forces on 21 June. The ICRC, for its part, is not qualified to settle a dispute which has been referred to an international body. It will be recalled that Article 4 of the Third Geneva Convention relative to the treatment of prisoners of war confers prisoner-of-war status

and treatment, *inter alia*, to members of the armed forces of a party to the conflict who have fallen into the power of the enemy.

On 19 September 1972, five members of the Lebanese armed forces including one officer were captured by the Israeli army in the course of a raid on Lebanese territory. The ICRC delegation in Tel Aviv visited them immediately and then informed the Israeli military authorities that, under the terms of the Convention relative to the treatment of prisoners of war, such army men should be repatriated.

On 27 December, the Israeli authorities asked the ICRC to repatriate three Egyptian prisoners of war for health reasons.

At the end of 1972, there were 114 Arab prisoners of war in Israeli hands, namely fifty-eight Egyptians, forty-six Syrians and ten Lebanese.

Arab Republic of Egypt

ICRC delegates made fortnightly visits to the ten Israeli prisoners of war interned in the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Under the provisions of Articles 109 and 110 of the Third Geneva Convention, the ICRC approached the Egyptian authorities to request the repatriation of an Israeli prisoner of war wounded at the time of capture, in December 1969, and suffering ever since from the sequelae of his wounds. By the end of the year the ICRC had received no reply to its request.

Syria

During the first half of the year ICRC delegates visited once a month the three Israeli prisoners of war in Syrian hands. In the second half, they made two visits a month. On each occasion they interviewed the prisoners privately although, despite their efforts, they did not have access to the actual detention quarters.

Jordan

During the first three months of 1972, ICRC delegates continued to visit, in the Zerka military camp, the four Israelis who had been granted prisoner-of-war status by the Jordanian authorities. The

ICRC acted as intermediary between the governments concerned in the repatriation of the four Israelis across the Allenby Bridge, on 17 April. The Jordanian prisoner of war held by the Israelis was repatriated on the same day.

FOURTH GENEVA CONVENTION

Application of the Fourth Geneva Convention

During his talks with Israeli authorities, in December 1971, Mr. Umbricht had again stated the ICRC's position, namely that the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 was applicable in occupied territory. The Government of Israel, for its part, again declared that it left the question of the applicability of the Fourth Convention in occupied territory open.

In the circumstances, while maintaining its position, the ICRC continued its pragmatical approach, from one case to another, to ensure as complete as possible an implementation of the provisions of the Fourth Convention. Thus, in several matters, the facilities granted by the Israel authorities enabled the delegates, as in the past, to intervene on behalf of the victims of the conflict.

In some other cases, however, as mentioned further on in this chapter, owing to the stand taken by Israel, the ICRC failed or only partly succeeded in obtaining satisfaction. Its action, therefore, has been confined to remedying for protected persons the effects of measures taken by the Israeli authorities.

CIVILIAN DETAINEES AND INTERNEES

Arab civilian detainees in Israel and occupied territory: ICRC delegates continued to visit some 2,500 Arab civilian detainees in thirteen places of detention in Israel and occupied territory. They made six rounds of visits, reports on which were sent by the ICRC to the detaining Power and the prisoners' own governments.

At the end of the period of interrogation, usually limited to a month after arrest, the delegates were able to see and talk privately with so-called security cases—whether sentenced, charged or

in preventive custody—and with prisoners sentenced or charged under ordinary law.

The ICRC delegates contacted the Israel authorities in various matters connected with detention conditions. With regard to medical care, they supplied dentures, artificial limbs, spectacles, etc. They recommended a larger number of workshops and courses of tuition in places of detention. They continued to supply the necessary books, copy-books and pens, and introduced a method for teaching illiterates. The Israel authorities, for their part, largely complied with the ICRC's recommendations.

The ICRC delegates continued their monthly distribution of parcels to detainees who received no family visits. In 1972, the number of parcels (containing 5 kg of fruits, biscuits, cigarettes and soap) exceeded 7,000. Winter parcels (underwear, towels and footwear) were given to all detainees who were nationals of Arab countries or whose family was unable to supply such a parcel. After numerous approaches, the delegates secured permission to transmit individual parcels sent by the Egyptian Red Crescent for civilian detainees in Israel and occupied territory.

The ICRC continued to provide transport once a month for detainees' families. It organized and largely financed more than a thousand bus trips and thus enabled some 39,000 relatives to visit detainees.

ICRC delegates arranged for the repatriation of a number of civilian detainees to neighbouring Arab countries. Before proceeding with the repatriation operations—fourteen to Jordan, one to Syria, one to Iraq and seven to Lebanon—they made sure that the persons concerned wanted to return home.

While the Israel authorities did not consider themselves bound by the provisions of the Fourth Convention in regard to notification, owing to their stand in the matter of the applicability of that Convention, they nevertheless agreed to inform the ICRC delegation, after an eighteen-day inquiry, of the names of Arab nationals arrested by the army or the police. The ICRC delegates visited them in prisons in accordance with the procedure described above.

Palestinian combatants: With the capture of further Palestinian combatants during Israeli armed raids into Lebanon, in September,

the head of the ICRC delegation in Tel Aviv renewed his approaches to the Israeli authorities and asked that the combatants be granted prisoner-of-war status or, failing that, treatment such as was laid down in the Third Geneva Convention. The Israel authorities refused to comply, deeming that Palestinian combatants, even if captured wearing a uniform and openly carrying weapons, did not belong to one of the parties to the conflict or conduct their operations in accordance with the laws and customs of war, in the manner laid down in Article 4 of the Third Convention. The ICRC considered that it should nevertheless pursue its approaches.

Civilian infiltrators in Israel and Lebanon: The ICRC delegates arranged for the repatriation of various civilian infiltrators who had crossed the frontier between Israel and Lebanon.

Israel civilian detainee in the Arab Republic of Egypt: The ICRC approached the government authorities in the Arab Republic of Egypt and requested permission to visit an Israeli imprisoned in Cairo.

REUNITING OF FAMILIES

In December 1971, Mr. Umbricht reminded the Israel authorities that the ICRC attached great importance to the reuniting of families and that such operations should be actively pursued. He suggested that the criteria adopted by the Israel authorities in the matter be broadened and that the procedure be speeded up.

The proportion of cases submitted by the ICRC in which permission for repatriation was granted was not, however, in keeping with the assurances received by the ICRC representative.

Arab Republic of Egypt and Gaza-Sinai: In 1972, six family reuniting operations between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the occupied territories of Gaza and Sinai were organized under the auspices of the ICRC. They enabled some 400 persons from Egypt to join their families in the Gaza Strip and Sinai, and 520 from the Gaza Strip and Sinai to join their people in Egypt.

Lebanon and the occupied territories: In August 1972, the ICRC arranged for the transfer, via Ras Nakoura, of fourteen persons from the West Bank of the Jordan to Lebanon, to join their relatives.

Syria and the Golan Heights: In 1972, thirty-six persons were able to join their families on the Golan Heights through four operations organized at El Quneitra (Ahmedia) under the auspices of the ICRC.

Jordan and the West Bank: As in previous years, the ICRC's action was confined to endorsing those applications made to the Israel authorities which were of special humanitarian interest and which had failed under the normal procedure. Fifty-five persons benefited under the hardship procedure during 1972. It should be noted that during the second half of the year the ICRC delegates observed a marked drop in the ratio of acceptances; out of the fifty-six applications submitted, only ten were accepted. In the circumstances, the ICRC decided to resume its study of the other cases with the Israel authorities.

STUDENT TRAVEL

Arab Republic of Egypt and Gaza Strip: The ICRC succeeded in organizing the passage into the Arab Republic of Egypt of several hundred students from Gaza who, after graduating in occupied territory and intending to continue their studies in Egyptian universities, had been granted the requisite permission by the Arab Republic of Egypt and Israel. Students already enrolled in Egyptian universities and allowed to return to their families in Gaza for the holidays or on completion of their studies also crossed the Suez canal under ICRC auspices.

Five operations took place at El Qantara from 3 to 26 July, enabling 1,652 Palestinian students to spend their summer holidays in Gaza. In four operations conducted between 29 August and 20 September, 1,601 students returned to the Arab Republic of Egypt, while 779 new students went to Cairo on 27 September and 5 October to take up study at the university.

Syria and Gaza Strip: In the middle of June, the ICRC delegates made arrangements at El Quneitra (Ahmedia) for 175 Gaza students to cross over into Syria to attend Damascus university.

Lebanon and Gaza Strip: Again, on 11 January the ICRC delegates arranged for forty-seven Gaza students to cross over into Lebanon

to attend Beirut university. They returned to Gaza on 7 August for their summer holidays.

ACTIVITIES OF CENTRAL TRACING AGENCY

In 1972, the ICRC transmitted some 100,000 family messages between Arab countries, on the one hand, and Israel and the occupied territories, on the other. By the end of the year, the number of messages exchanged since June 1967 had reached 1.7 million.

Some 200 inquiries about army men or civilians missing during or following the June 1967 hostilities were taken up with the competent authorities and National Societies. More than thirty persons sought by relatives were found during that period.

STUDY OF HEALTH SITUATION IN THE GAZA STRIP AND SINAI

From 27 August to 16 September, an ICRC doctor-delegate made a survey of the medical situation in the Gaza Strip and Sinai. In the Gaza Strip, he visited four hospitals administered by Israel authorities: Shifa Hospital, Khan Younis Hospital, Nasr Hospital and Eye Hospital (formerly Fever Hospital). One of the purposes of the mission was to analyse the steps taken by the Health Services to remedy the shortage of medical and para-medical personnel and the obsolescence of hospital installations.

The doctor-delegate's mission to Sinai comprised the following tasks:

- in Northern Sinai, first and foremost a survey of health conditions at El Arish, followed by surveys at Massoura, Sheikh Zwayed and places visited by the mobile clinic;
- in Central Sinai, four-day trips by mobile clinic to El Bakna, Tamad, Bir el Hissi, Khassam, Taref, El Sura, Ain Furtaga and Wasset;
- in Southern Sinai, visits to medical installations at Abu Rodeis, Sharm El Sheik and St. Catherine, and a trip to Wadi Firan with the doctor in charge of the mobile clinic.

The observations and recommendations made by the ICRC doctor-delegate regarding the installation and modernization of

some hospitals, the establishment of infirmaries and the need to remedy the shortage of nurses, were embodied in a report sent to the two Governments concerned.

ACTION FOR THE DISABLED

The German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany having made a further financial contribution to Magen David Adom (MDA), the ICRC delegates in Israel pursued their activities on behalf of the disabled in the territory occupied in March 1972.

RELIEF

Under its relief programmes, in April the ICRC shipped 300 tons of flour donated by the Swiss Government for civilians on the West Bank of the Jordan—in the Jenin, Tulkarm, Nablus, Ramallah, Jericho, Bethlehem and Hebron areas. Some 30,000 needy persons (old people, sick persons, pregnant women, widows and orphans) received 10 kg each.

A further 300 tons of flour from the Swiss Government was shipped in September, and 200 tons of unskimmed powdered milk from the same donor left for Ashdod in November.

In December, the ICRC sent 2,000 tons of flour, a gift from the European Economic Community, to the civilian population of Jordan.

In September, two donations of the Egyptian Red Crescent, totalling 650 tons of food and 40,000 metres of fabric, were transmitted by the ICRC to the Gaza Strip and Sinai. They were distributed to the needy population during the following month.

EXPULSIONS

While the ICRC received no assurances in response to repeated requests to the Israel authorities to put an end to the expulsion of nationals of occupied territories suspected of activities against the State's security, no further cases were brought to its notice after July 1972.

Earlier, delegates in Jordan had access to provisional internment centres for those expelled. They visited the Mahatta prison, in Amman, and the Ma'an and Zerka prisons nine times. The ICRC delegation in Israel dealt with one case after another to ensure that persons expelled were allowed to return to their families in occupied territory.

EXPROPRIATIONS

In its concern regarding the principle and the human implications of expropriation, the ICRC repeatedly drew the attention of Israel civil and military authorities to the effect of expropriating land under cultivation or fixed property and establishing Israel settlements in the occupied territories.

As the Government of Israel declared that it did not want to enter into any discussion in the matter, the ICRC delegates were compelled to submit human problems to the authorities as and when they arose.

DESTRUCTION OF HOUSES

The position of those victimized by the Israel Army's destruction of houses in occupied territory was a matter of continued concern for the ICRC, which regarded such action as being contrary to Articles 33 and 53 of the Fourth Convention.

In February, the delegation learnt that twenty-eight families had been evicted in an operation involving the destruction of forty-three houses lying near the El Arish Military Governorate.

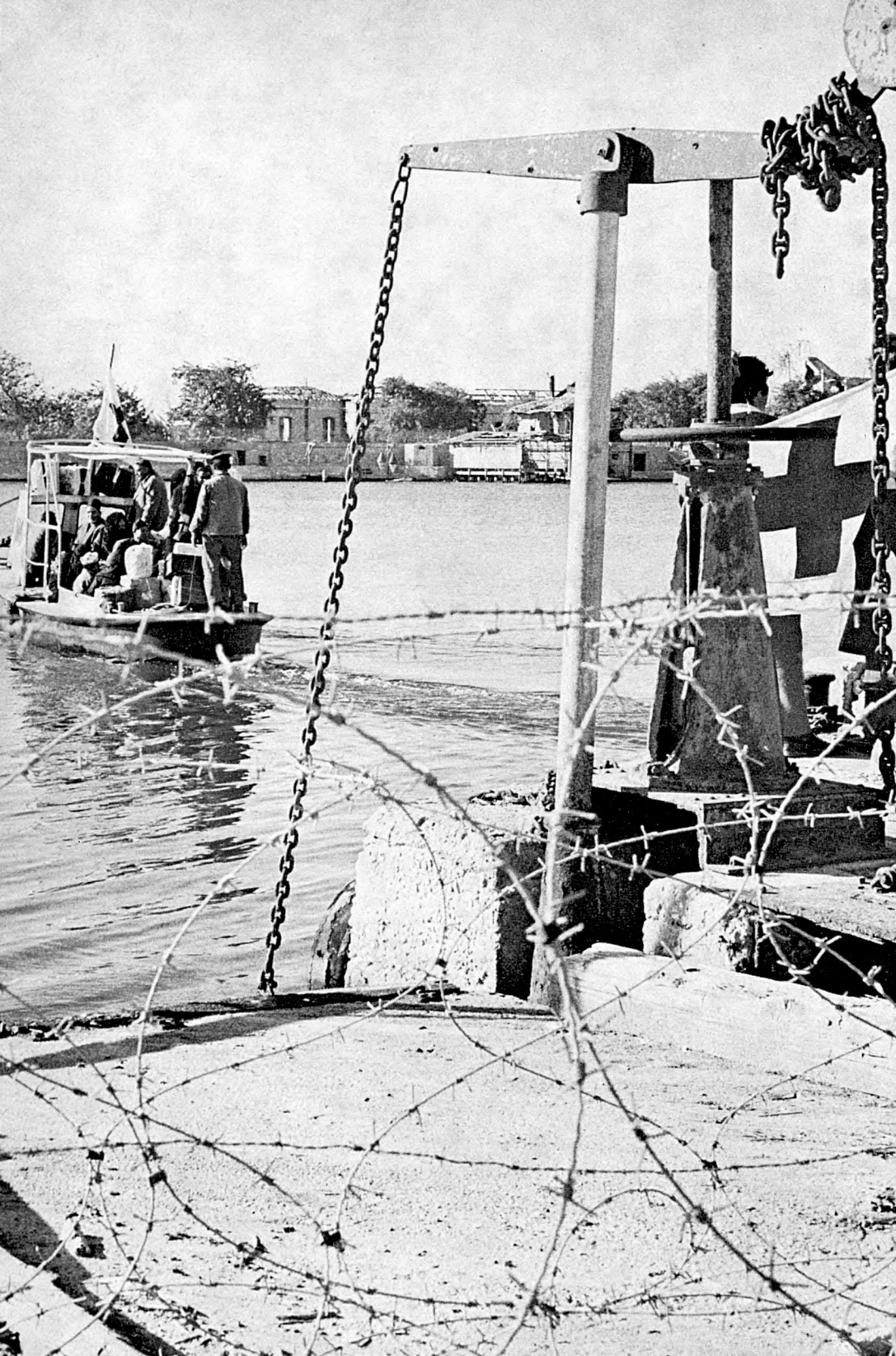
On numerous occasions, the delegation expressed its serious concern about the destruction and asked the Israeli authorities to ensure that adequate steps were taken to provide the victims with alternative accommodation.

In 1972, some twenty cases of destruction designed to counter subversive activities and affecting almost 170 persons, were reported to the ICRC delegates in Gaza. On the West Bank of the Jordan, fifteen destruction operations affecting about a hundred persons were reported.

As the position of the Israel authorities remained unchanged, the ICRC delegates concentrated on assistance to the victims. In

Repatriation of severely wounded Pakistani prisoners of war.
Photo Kurz/ICRC





1972, with the agreement of the Israel Ministry of Social Welfare, forty-seven tents and 525 blankets were distributed to the homeless.

TRANSFER OF POPULATION

Sinai: Early in February, the ICRC delegation received many complaints about population transfers from the Massoura and Sheikh Zwayed areas to Rafah, in the north-eastern part of Sinai. Fourteen Bedouin tribes, a population of around 10,000, were affected.

A few days later, the delegation learnt that in January twelve tribes living in the Kusseima area (Central Sinai) had been forced to move to a rocky zone further south. The transfer, involving about 6,000 persons, had been due to Israel army manoeuvres in the area. Despite the assurances they had been given, the tribes were not allowed to return to their land when the manoeuvres ended.

Following the transfers, a number of approaches were made through Israel's permanent mission in Geneva and the ICRC delegation in Tel Aviv. The ICRC expressed deep concern about the plight of the displaced tribes and the hope that they would soon be allowed to return to their land. Further, it asked that tribes whose dwellings and cisterns had been destroyed should receive adequate compensation and be provided with new means of subsistence.

The Israel authorities replied that the transfers had been necessary for security reasons, adding that those expropriated would be compensated and helped to settle elsewhere. After a talk between the Israel Minister of Defence and an ICRC representative, on 22 April, the 6,000 Bedouins from Central Sinai were allowed to return to their land.

ICRC delegates made several visits to the displaced Bedouin tribes. They continued their efforts, particularly on behalf of the 10,000 Bedouins from Rafah who were not allowed to return to their land.

West Bank of the Jordan; The ICRC delegates endeavoured to improve living conditions for a Bedouin tribe of about 260 who, in December 1971, had been moved from an area near the Dead Sea to the Bethlehem district. The delegates noted that the Israel

authorities had provided them with materials for the construction of permanent dwellings.

HIJACKING OF AIRCRAFT TO LOD AIRPORT

In the afternoon of 8 May, four members of a Palestinian resistance organization hijacked an airliner to Lod airport (Tel Aviv). At the Palestinians' request, the ICRC agreed to act as intermediary between the two parties, and the Israel authorities did not object. Members of the ICRC delegation in Tel Aviv therefore proceeded to Lod airport in the night of 8 to 9 May and began to transmit proposals and counter-proposals regarding the release of the hostages. In the afternoon of 9 May, however, Israeli armed forces boarded the aircraft by surprise and took control.

Following the event, the ICRC stated its position in a press release issued on 10 May and quoted below:

“The International Committee of the Red Cross was asked to act on behalf of the passengers and members of the crew of a Boeing of the Sabena airline held as hostages by a Palestinian commando at Tel Aviv airport. With the agreement of the Israeli authorities and the Palestinian commando and solely with the purpose of coming to the aid of innocent persons threatened with death, it agreed to serve as an intermediary between the two parties.

The intervention of the Israeli armed forces took the delegates by surprise. The ICRC cannot admit that anyone should use its humanitarian action for military or political ends.

The ICRC therefore firmly rejects both the attempts to manoeuvre it and the accusations that it willingly lent itself to such a manoeuvre.

Finally, it once again severely condemns acts of air piracy, the taking of hostages and any other attempts at blackmail that imperil the lives of innocent human beings.”

In September 1972, after reconsidering its position regarding the taking of hostages, the ICRC adopted the following line of conduct:

1. The ICRC condemns acts which violate the principles of law and humanity, particularly acts which destroy or threaten in-

nocent lives. In this, as in every other sphere, it is guided solely by the interest of the victims and its desire to aid them.

2. ICRC delegates may, if need be, render material assistance or, by their presence, moral comfort to hostages. As a general rule, however, the functions of delegates do not include participating in negotiations between the authorities concerned and the authors of such acts.
3. If the victim's interests should require it and provided there is no direct contact or any other intermediary, the ICRC may, as an exception, deal with the matter at the request of one of the parties concerned and with the agreement of the other parties. The parties concerned must undertake not to resort to force, take any steps detrimental to the hostages or hamper delegates in their freedom of action, for as long as contacts are established between them.
4. The delegates shall request full facilities in assisting the victims and shall ask that, wherever possible and advisable, those in need of special care (wounded or sick persons, children, etc.) be removed to safety.
5. Whether delegates take part in negotiations or merely serve as intermediaries, the parties concerned shall alone be responsible for any proposals transmitted, decisions taken or acts committed. The delegates shall not guarantee the execution of the decisions or of the conditions fixed by the parties.

Jordan

ACTIVITIES OF CENTRAL TRACING AGENCY

ICRC delegates in Jordan continued to visit all refugee camps on the east bank of the Jordan twice a month, to maintain contact and perform the various duties of the Central Tracing Agency, such as tracing missing persons, reuniting families and, above all, transmitting family messages. For the same purpose, the delegates made weekly visits to Zerka and Irbid, in the north, and monthly visits to Ma'an, Karak and Aqaba, in the south. In these activities it co-operated with the Jordan Red Crescent.

As the ICRC delegates on the West Bank regularly sent the Amman delegation a number of permits for visits, the latter informed recipients in Jordan or any other Arab country that such permits were deposited with it.

PERSONS DETAINED OWING TO THE EVENTS

The ICRC delegates again asked the Jordanian authorities for permission to see persons detained as a result of the events. On several occasions, they sent the competent services parcels, items of clothing and family messages for detainees in the Mahatta Jafr and Irbid prisons.

In December, they were authorized to distribute 250 standard parcels direct to detainees in the Jafr prison.

The ICRC delegation in Amman endeavoured to secure permission to visit detainees regularly. The Amman delegation made arrangements for about thirty bus trips for families who could not afford the fare to visit detained relatives. This action, which started in June 1972, provided free travel for 1,500 relatives of detainees.

ACTION FOR THE DISABLED

The residue of the funds for relief action undertaken at the time of the September 1970 events was used for financing the extension of the Cheshire Home orthopaedic centre for the disabled, in Amman.

A project for the extension of the premises was drawn up with the aid of a Finnish expert, and on 5 November an agreement on the project was signed by the Jordanian Ministry of Health, the ICRC and CARE.

The agreement provides that:

- the Ministry of Health shall be responsible for the construction of the centre and shall, if need be, meet any expenditure exceeding the estimates;
- the ICRC shall make a financial contribution of up to 20,000 Jordanian dinars to the construction of the centre;
- CARE shall supply building material.

RELIEF

In February, the ICRC shipped 500 tons of flour, a gift from the European Economic Community, to Aqaba. It was distributed to needy families by the Jordan National Red Crescent Society.

Syria

In March, the ICRC sent medical supplies including 100,000 Mexaform tablets to Syria for persons displaced from the Golan Heights. In August, 540 tons of wheat donated by the Swiss Government were shipped to Latakia, for distribution by the Syrian Red Crescent to some 54,000 persons displaced from Golan as a result of the June 1967 conflict.

Lebanon

Following raids which Israel armed forces carried out in Lebanese territory, the ICRC handed over medical supplies, in particular to the Lebanese Red Cross, in support of its action on behalf of the victims.

In September, the ICRC received two complaints from the Lebanese Government regarding the Israel army's violations of the law of war and, in particular, of the 1925 Geneva Protocol prohibiting the use of poisonous substances for military purposes. In reply to the second communication, the Israel authorities categorically denied that their troops had used such substances.

ICRC delegates in Lebanon visited several refugee camps to ascertain medical and other needs and make the family message system better known. Medical supplies were provided for dispensaries operated by the "Palestinian Red Crescent".

Iran and Iraq

At the end of 1971, the Iranian Government and the Red Lion and Sun Society asked the ICRC to intervene on behalf of some 50,000 Iranians who had been driven out of Iraq.

In January 1972, the ICRC sent a delegate to Iran to inquire into the position of persons expelled, who had been provided with

shelter in camps set up by the Red Lion and Sun Society, and particularly about families who had been separated.

On the basis of the information obtained, the ICRC sent a delegate to Baghdad in February, with instructions to contact the Iraqi authorities and Red Crescent and to propose a meeting between the Iraqi Red Crescent and the Iranian Red Lion and Sun Society.

A preliminary meeting of officials of the two Societies took place at ICRC headquarters in Geneva, on 12 May. During the meeting, which an ICRC delegate attended as an observer, the problem of some 600 separated families was discussed. To work out ways and means of reuniting the families, the two Societies decided to meet again in Baghdad at the end of July.

Arabian Peninsula

In 1972, the ICRC maintained a delegate in Aden, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. When the artificial limb workshop in Sana'a was taken over by the Government of the Yemen Arab Republic (see below), a visiting delegate was put in charge of relations with that country.

Yemen Arab Republic

On 28 March, the ICRC officially turned over to the Government of the Yemen Arab Republic the artificial limb workshop established in Sana'a two years earlier. During that time, 306 disabled persons had received treatment and the workshop had produced 240 prostheses. The orthopaedic expert, who had been sent to Sana'a by the ICRC and who was henceforth attached to WHO, pursued his activities for a few weeks after the handing over of the workshop, to ensure smooth operation during the transition period. Further, in November 1972 the ICRC sent to Sana'a materials required for the manufacture of orthopaedic appliances and the renewal of basic material. It was able to do so through a financial contribution by the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief (OXFAM).

The ICRC visiting delegate carried out three missions to Sana'a: the first from 28 March to 8 April, the second from 11 to 22 July,

and the third from 17 September to 9 December. During the first two missions, the ICRC delegate contacted government authorities and officers of the emerging Yemen Red Crescent. He discussed with the various ministries concerned the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions and the principles of the Red Cross among the armed forces and youth, as well as the development of international humanitarian law. He also inquired about several thousand refugees in the Yemen Arab Republic.

The ICRC delegate returned to the Yemen Arab Republic in mid-September to look into the position of refugees and study their needs. With the agreement of the authorities, he drew up a list of several thousand refugees and went to see them in various places including the Ta'iz and Hodeida areas. Some food distribution took place, even though the mission was essentially for the purpose of fact finding. Early in November, the ICRC sent out a second delegate to support the first. He went to about ten villages in the south-east and south-west, where several thousand refugees were to be found.

A few days after the arrival of the ICRC delegate in the Yemen Arab Republic, in September, fighting broke out on the frontier with the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. The ICRC instructed its delegate to offer its services to the Government of the Yemen Arab Republic in aiding the victims.

After having contacted the competent authorities, the ICRC delegate sent a preliminary estimate of requirements to Geneva. During the second half of October, the ICRC sent two batches of medical supplies totalling almost a ton to Tai'iz, by air. From 6 to 18 November, an ICRC doctor-delegate was in the Yemen Arab Republic to survey the country's hospital and medical infrastructure.

During fighting on the frontier and in Kamaran Island, late in September and at the beginning of October, armed forces of the Yemen Arab Republic captured a number of South Yemen soldiers and civilians. The ICRC delegate obtained a list of the prisoners and secured permission to visit them at Hodeida (seventeen prisoners), Sana'a (fifteen), in a hospital near the fighting areas (one) and at Ta'iz (five). As usual, the visits were covered by reports which the ICRC sent to the detaining Power and to the prisoners' own government.

Lastly, the ICRC delegates secured permission to visit three Sana'a prisons holding political detainees. They had access to the citadel and to the Rada prison, where they saw about 417 detainees, including some who were being held for offences or reasons of a political nature, and to whom they gave relief supplies and medical care.

People's Democratic Republic of Yemen

Towards the end of January, the ICRC shipped to Aden 20 tons of maize flour donated by the European Economic Community. The flour was distributed to needy families in Socotra Island, Kamaran Island and various provinces of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, as well as in places of detention.

When fighting broke out between the two Yemens at the end of September, the ICRC delegate in Aden approached the Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and offered the ICRC's assistance to the victims. He was authorized to visit about thirty North Yemen soldiers who had been captured and interned in the Aden military camp. The visit was made early in November, and the covering report was sent to the detaining Power and the prisoners' own government.

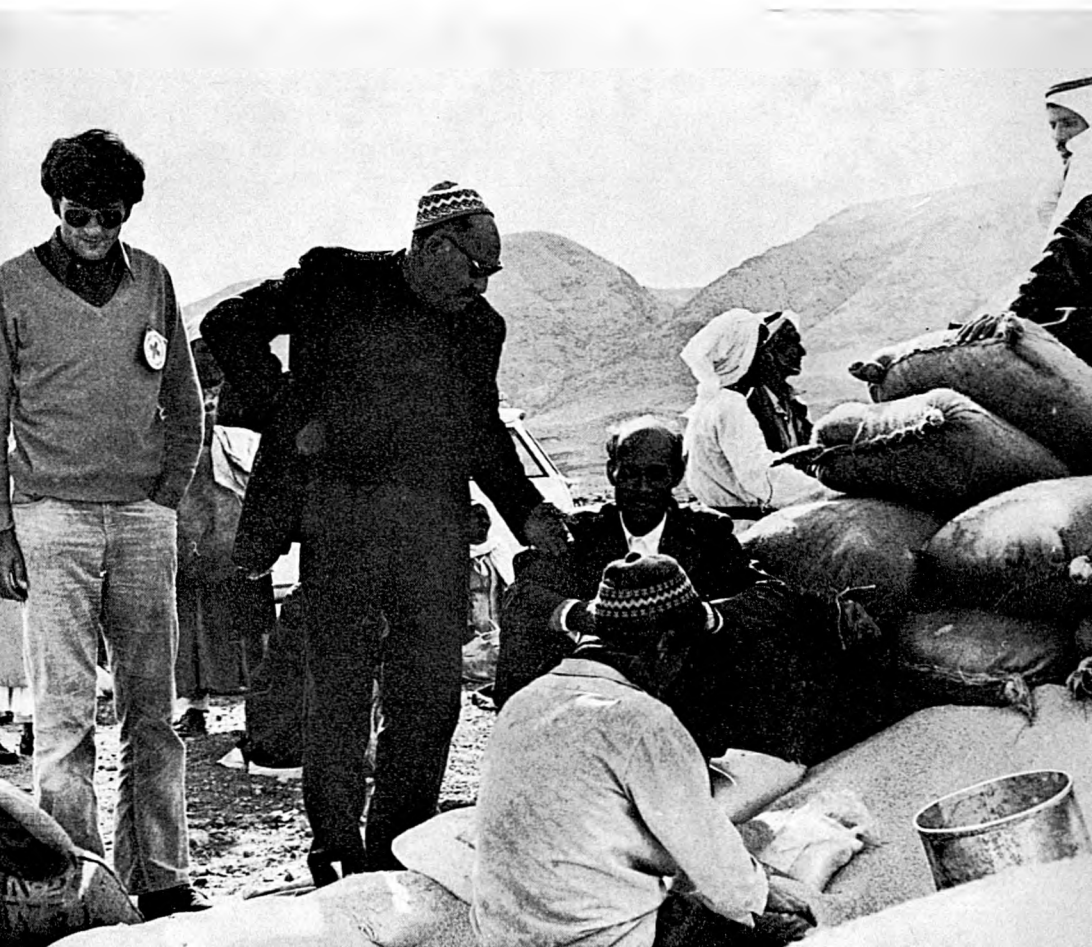
Lastly, relief supplies were sent to Socotra Island for the inhabitants of the flood-stricken area.

CENTRAL TRACING AGENCY

During 1972, the Central Tracing Agency received 82,587 requests and communications (47,198 in 1971) and sent out 79,296 letters (50,799 in 1971). This considerable increase in the volume of work was due mainly to the conflict in the Asian sub-continent.

The principal tasks of the Central Tracing Agency consist in obtaining from the competent authorities any information available about their captives and about enemy combatants found dead at the front; registering such data in its card index; informing the casualties' governments and families; opening enquiries where information is lacking; ensuring, or helping to ensure, the trans-

Distributing food to displaced Bedouins in the Sinai.
Photo Bory/ICRC



Presenting the " Soldier's Manual " to the Upper Volta armed forces.
Photo Jolliet/ICRC



mission of messages between prisoners and their families and between civilians separated by the events; issuing certificates of captivity, hospitalization or death, and reuniting families, in co-operation with National Societies.

In 1972, the Central Tracing Agency received 641 lists containing names of prisoners of war, civilian internees or other detainees consisting of a total of 7,788 pages and 196,824 names, 68,720 capture cards and 94 death certificates.

It opened 12,951 enquiries, addressed to National Red Cross Societies, delegations of the ICRC, the International Tracing Service at Arolsen and other competent bodies and closed 14,810 files, with a positive result in 7,686 of them. It transmitted 32,106 family messages, but this does not include messages exchanged direct between the ICRC delegations on the spot numbering 49,103 messages in the Middle East and about 1.1 million in the Asian sub-continent. The Central Tracing Agency issued 1,880 certificates of captivity.

In the field, the Central Tracing Agency bureaux in Islamabad, New Delhi and Dacca continued their work.¹ Towards the end of the year, the Agency also sent some of its qualified staff to the Red Cross of the Republic of Vietnam and to the Lao and Khmer Red Cross Societies in order to aid them to set up tracing bureaux in their own country.²

INTERNATIONAL TRACING SERVICE (AROLSEN)

In 1972, the International Tracing Service (ITS), which the ICRC has operated since 1955, received 145,743 inquiries, 17,871 more than in 1971.

There was a marked increase in the number of requests for incarceration and residence certificates (59,403) relating to the Compensation Act which came into effect in the Federal Republic of Germany in 1953, and in requests for death certificates (4,948), for photocopies (2,231), for information with a view to obtaining an income or pension (4,305), for tracing persons (10,559) and,

¹ See page 58 of this Report.

² See page 45 of this Report.

above all, for information for the preparation of books dedicated to the memory of those deported (43,991 as against 11,686 in 1971). On the other hand, requests submitted by attorneys-general (11,805 as against 38,133 in 1971) and, to a lesser extent, requests for documents relating to cases of sickness (2,857), inquiries from record offices and publications (3,452), and requests for historical and statistical information (1,176), decreased. The remainder (1,016) were requests for miscellaneous information.

After scrutinizing all the requests received, the ITS sent out 184,907 replies in 1972. They took the form of incarceration and residence certificates, death certificates issued by the special registry office also situated in Arolsen, documents relating to sickness, reports, affirmative and negative replies, explanatory letters and photocopies.

In 1972, as in earlier years, the ITS acquired many more documents from the Koblenz Federal Archives, the Auschwitz State Museum, the Speyer State Archives, the Majdanek State Museum, the Dachau Commemorative Museum, and the Upper Austrian branch of the Austrian Red Cross, at Linz. With substantially increased facilities for supplying information, a large number of incarceration certificates or extracts from documents could thus be provided in response to earlier requests which, for lack of documents, had not been complied with.

Under the heading "Concentration camp documents", more than 10,000 names of detainees, men and women taken to the Auschwitz concentration camp from Warsaw in August and September 1944, were listed. They were a part of the convoys of persons deported to the Auschwitz concentration camp, after the Warsaw uprising. As the ITS had no documents on the subject, this fills an important gap in the concentration camp archives.

The processing of documents on concentration camps and places of detention continued in 1972. The provisional catalogue of concentration camps entitled "*Vorläufiges Verzeichnis der Konzentrationslager und deren Aussenkommandos sowie anderer Haftstätten unter dem Reichsführer SS in Deutschland und den deutsch-besetzten Gebieten 1933-1945*", published in 1969, can thus be completed. Preparatory work on a list of places of detention also started in 1972.

DELEGATION SERVICING

In 1972, the Delegation Servicing Section dealt with some 350 offers of services.

Co-operating with the Henry Dunant Institute, it organized four introductory courses, each lasting several days, at the *Centre de rencontres de Cartigny*, near Geneva. The courses were attended by 108 applicants, thirty-nine of whom were members of the "International Missions Group" (IMG), directed in Berne by Mr. René de Watteville. Four other courses, particularly geared to ICRC activities in the Asian sub-continent, were attended by thirty-two persons, while a seminar on Indo-China was attended by fourteen.

Such courses are held in order to acquaint delegates with the organization of the ICRC and the nature of the missions they may be required to undertake, and to impart general information on the Geneva Conventions and their practical application.

The attitude of delegates at the seminars, the interest they take in the problems outlined and the talks they have with ICRC senior officials allow a selection to be made; appointments have to be confirmed during the first six months delegates spend in the field.

Sixty-seven delegates thus trained (including four doctors), twenty-six who had already been on one or more missions (including seven doctors) and eighteen IMG members (including fifteen doctors) went out on missions in 1972.

TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICE

In March 1971, the ICRC and the League sent all National Societies a joint memorandum on Red Cross radio-communication and the setting up of a national and international emergency network. By the end of 1972, the National Societies of the following twenty-five countries had obtained a radio designator with permission to use ICRC frequencies where necessary: Bangladesh, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Israel, Jordan, Khmer Republic, Laos, Lebanon, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Spain, Syria, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yemen Arab Republic.

The National Societies of eight countries informed the ICRC that they had set up an internal radio-communication network of their own. The countries were Austria, Federal Republic of Germany, Iran, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, Spain and the United Kingdom.

The ICRC installed transmitter-receiver sets at National Society headquarters in the following seven countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and Venezuela.

In February 1972, the Swiss Federal Air Ministry agreed that the ICRC might use the fixed aeronautical telecommunication service network, a service which ensured the transmission of messages regarding the movement of aircraft, flight plans, and information about loading, search or relief operations.

An agreement was concluded with the Swissair personnel service whereby former radio navigators would be made available to the ICRC.

Main station in Geneva (HBC-88): The Telecommunication Service has two main stations in Geneva, one of them equipped with two radio ham-type transmitter-receivers and the other with professional equipment that can provide a 24-hour service, plus a 1-kW fully automatic RF-201/102 transmitter-receiver. Messages can be sent by radio-telegraphy, radio-telephony or radio-teleprinting, on frequencies ranging from 2 to 30 megacycles.

In 1972, the main station in Geneva underwent the following alterations:

- Installation of a new directional antenna beamed to the Far East and the Middle East, thereby improving communication with Dacca, Islamabad, Amman and Beirut.
- Installation of two Redifon stations between the telex office and the radio station for the exchange of radio-teleprinting messages between the two services.

As regards the proposed transfer of the radio station from ICRC Geneva headquarters to Versoix,¹ plans for the premises and technical installation have been drawn up.

¹ See Annual Report, 1971, page 61.

In 1972, the ICRC kept or installed radio stations in the following areas:

Far East: About 18,700 telegrams or over a million words were exchanged over the radio network established in the Asian sub-continent. Following the conflict in the sub-continent, in December 1971, the ICRC installed radio stations in Islamabad, New Delhi and Dacca, and an internal network in Bangladesh.

Early in 1972, the ICRC set up a radio station at its delegation's headquarters in Phnom Penh.

Middle East: Radio connections between Amman, Beirut and Damascus, and between Amman and Geneva, continued to operate normally.

On the other hand, the radio connection with the Yemen Arab Republic ceased, as the ICRC removed its delegation from Sana'a early in 1972.

Latin America: The radio link with the ICRC delegation in Caracas was maintained.

The number of telegrams exchanged in 1972 between the ICRC's HBC-88 station and the field totalled 24,457, or around 1,291,110 words.

RELIEF SERVICE

ICRC Relations with the European Economic Community

On 6 December 1972, the European Economic Community and the ICRC signed an agreement on the attribution of 28,000 tons of grain (18,543 tons wheat flour) to the population of Bangladesh. Conditions governing the submission of tenders to supply had been worked out by the Commission of the European Communities by 25 August 1972, and before the end of the year it proved possible to ship the whole quantity (see table of relief supplies).

The ICRC allocated in 1972 the full 7,000 tons of grain supplied under the agreement signed on 13 July 1971: 2,635 tons of wheat

flour went to the Sudan and 2,000 to Israel (see table of relief supplies).

In Latin America, the Chilean Red Cross received two large consignments of skimmed milk powder in 1972 (see table of relief supplies). Both consignments (200 tons and 135 tons) were drawn from the 3,000 tons to be provided under an agreement signed on 25 March 1970.

A shipment of 500 tons of wheat flour was also sent to the Jordan Red Crescent (see table of relief supplies).



Table I

SUMMARY OF RELIEF SUPPLIES FORWARDED OR DISTRIBUTED
BY THE ICRC IN 1972

AFRICA	Value Sw. Fr.*
Burundi	
June	
400 kg of powdered milk, to the Red Cross Society of Burundi, by air, a gift from the Swiss Confederation	2,400.—
July	
298 kg of medicaments, by air, to the ICRC delegation	17,000.—
Cameroon	
July	
10 first-aid kits, by air, to the ICRC delegation in Yaoundé (for distribution to different National Societies)	950.—
October	
40 kg of medicaments, by air, to the ICRC delegation	2,560.—
Ethiopia	
July	
10 first-aid kits, by air, to the ICRC delegation in Addis Ababa (for distribution to different National Societies)	950.—
Gambia	
November	
33 kg of medicaments, by air, to the Gambia Red Cross	1,730.—
Lesotho	
December	
Cash donation to Lesotho Red Cross Society	5,000.—
Liberia	
November	
45 kg of medicaments, by air, to the Liberian National Red Cross	2,400.—

* exclusive of freight

	Value Sw. Fr.
Madagascar	
December	
Cash donation to Tamatave Red Cross for victims of disorders	5,000.—
December	
Cash donation to the Red Cross Society of Madagascar, Majunga and Diego Suarez chapters, for victims of disorders	5,000.—
Mali	
December	
Cash donation to the Mali Red Cross for the purchase of a vehicle and medications	15,000.—
Niger	
December	
Cash gifts for Bilma refugees and the Red Cross Society of Niger	6,500.—
Rwanda	
October	
2 kg of surgical material, by air, to the Rwanda Red Cross for the Rilima dispensary	560.—
Senegal	
March	
3 tons of powdered milk and 80 kg of milk for infants to the Senegalese Red Cross Society, St. Louis branch	21,500.—
December	
Cash donation to the Senegalese Red Cross Society	2,000.—
Sierra Leone	
October	
57 kg of medicaments, by air, to the Sierra Leone Red Cross Society	4,030.—
Sudan	
November	
2,635 tons of flour, an EEC gift, to the Sudanese Red Crescent	1,317,500.—
Swaziland	
December	
Cash donation to the Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross Society	5,000.—
Tanzania	
December	
Cash donation to the Tanzania Red Cross Society	10,000.—

	Value Sw. Fr.
Togo	
December	
Cash donation to the Togolese Red Cross Society	2,000.—
Upper Volta	
December	
Cash gift to the Upper Volta Red Cross	5,500.—
GRAE (Revolutionary Government of Angola in Exile)	
December	
Purchase of an ambulance for GRAE's medical services in Kinshasa	26,650.—
PAIGC (African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde)	
December	
568 kg of medicaments, by air, for the PAIGC Hospital at Ziguinchor (Senegal)	25,000.—
LATIN AMERICA	
Argentina	
November	
First-aid kit, by air, for Resistencia chapter	150.—
Bolivia	
August	
42 kg of medicaments, by air, to the Bolivian Red Cross	2,300.—
Mexaform	1,430.—
Chile	
February	
200 tons of powdered skimmed milk, an EEC gift, to the Chilean Red Cross	800,000.—
April	
20 tons of powdered unskimmed milk, a gift from the Swiss Confederation, to the Chilean Red Cross	140,000.—
September	
135 tons of powdered skimmed milk, an EEC gift, to the Chilean Red Cross	540,000.—
Costa Rica	
November	
387 kg of medicaments and dressings to the Costa Rican Red Cross, for places of detention	8,560.—
Mexaform	1,785.—
Dominican Republic	
December	
136 kg of medicaments to the Dominican Red Cross, for places of detention	5,000.—
Mexaform	3,570.—

	Value Sw. Fr.
Guatemala	
January	
476 kg of medicaments to the Guatemalan Red Cross	12,120.—
Mexaform.	3,570.—
February	
29 kg of medicaments, by air, to the Guatemalan Red Cross	450.—
June	
12 first-aid kits to the Guatemalan Red Cross.	2,040.—
Guyana	
April	
250 kg of baby food to the Guyana Red Cross	1,200.—
October	
2 tons of powdered milk, a gift from the Swiss Confederation, to the Guyana Red Cross	14,000.—
Haiti	
August	
715 kg of relief supplies (dressings, litters, medicaments and blankets), by air, to the Haiti Red Cross	12,350.—
Mexaform.	14,200.—
October	
20 tons of powdered unskimmed milk, a gift from the Swiss Confederation, to the Haiti Red Cross	140,000.—
Honduras	
April	
1,500 doses of measles vaccine, by air, to the Honduran Red Cross	7,500.—
October	
5 tons of powdered unskimmed milk, a gift from the Swiss Confederation, to the Honduran Red Cross	35,000.—
November	
285 kg of medicaments, by air, to the Honduran Red Cross	3,200.—
Mexaform.	1,785.—
December	
50 first-aid kits to the Honduran Red Cross.	2,650.—
Jamaica	
October	
3 tons of powdered milk, a gift from the Swiss Confederation, to the Jamaica Red Cross Society	21,000.—
Nicaragua	
February	
238 kg of medicaments to the Nicaraguan Red Cross	5,400.—
Mexaform.	3,570.—

	Value Sw. Fr.
Panama	
January	
57 kg of medicaments, by air, to the Panamanian Red Cross	3,300.—
Mexaform.	1,785.—
Paraguay	
May	
130 kg of medicaments, by air, to the Paraguayan Red Cross	2,000.—
Mexaform.	3,570.—
July	
412 kg of medicaments to the Paraguayan Red Cross	13,000.—
Venezuela	
July	
10,000 packets of cigarettes to the ICRC delegation in Caracas (for distribution during prison visits)	not stated

ASIA

Bangladesh	
January to December	
Approximately 10 tons of medicaments and medical supplies, by air, to the ICRC delegation in Dacca	160,000.—
October	
6,000 tons of wheat flour, an EEC gift.	3,000,000.—
November	
6,000 tons of wheat flour, an EEC gift.	3,000,000.—
December	
6,543 tons of wheat flour, an EEC gift.	3,271,500.—
India	
February	
One ton of powdered milk, by air, a gift from the Swiss Confederation, to the Indian Red Cross	7,000.—
March	
350 parcels for prisoners, by air, to the ICRC delegation in New Delhi	35,000.—
Khmer Republic	
January	
113 kg of serum and vaccines, by air, to the ICRC delegation	25,000.—
June	
Direct despatch by the Australian Red Cross of 8 cartons of various medical supplies	12,800.—
July	
645 kg of medicaments and dressings, by air	10,000.—
Mexaform.	21,400.—

	Value Sw. Fr.
October	
13 kg of suture material, by air, to the ICRC delegation	2,300.—
November and December	
446 kg of surgical supplies, by air, to the ICRC delegation.	25,800.—
Laos	
June	
98 kg of Mexaform, by air, to the ICRC delegation.	21,400.—
November	
100 kg of Mexaform, by air, to the ICRC delegation	21,400.—
Lao Patriotic Front (Neo Lao Haksat)	
April	
1,365 kg of medicaments and first-aid kits to the Lao Patriotic Front Information Bureau, in Hanoi	83,000.—
June	
669 kg of medicaments, by air, to the Lao Patriotic Front Information Bureau, in Hanoi	21,200.—
Mexaform.	21,400.—
November	
2,669 kg of school equipment, by air, to the Lao Patriotic Front, in Hanoi . . .	8,000.—
Democratic Republic of Vietnam	
August to December	
Eight despatches of medicaments, totalling more than 4 tons, by air, to the Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, Hanoi.	81,500.—
Republic of Vietnam	
April	
31 kg of various medicaments, by air, to the ICRC delegation	1,350.—
December	
408 kg of medicaments, by air, to the ICRC delegation	13,900.—

EUROPE

Hungary

January to December	
Medicaments to the Hungarian Red Cross	21,870.—

Poland

January to December	
Medicaments to the Polish Red Cross	3,270.—

	Value Sw. Fr.
Romania	
January to December	
Medicaments	5,800.—
Miscellaneous	
January to December	
Medicaments to various countries	1,600.—

MIDDLE EAST

Arab Republic of Egypt

May	
26 kg of Mexaform, by air, to the Egyptian Red Crescent Society	5,400.—

Israel and occupied territories

April	
300 tons of wheat flour, a gift from the Swiss Confederation, for the West Bank population	150,000.—
September	
300 tons of wheat flour, a gift from the Swiss Confederation, for the West Bank population	150,000.—
650 tons foodstuffs and cloth (donated by ARE Red Crescent for population of Gaza and Sinai)	not stated
November	
20 tons of powdered unskimmed milk, a gift from the Swiss Government, for the West Bank population	140,000.—
December	
2,000 tons of wheat flour, an EEC gift, for the West Bank population	1,000,000.—

Jordan

February	
500 tons of wheat flour, an EEC gift, to the Jordan National Red Crescent	250,000.—
March	
2 ambulances, a gift from the Belgian Red Cross, to the Jordan National Red Crescent	not stated
April	
23 kg of Mexaform, by air, to the ICRC delegation.	5,350.—
September	
210 kg of powdered milk and 176 kg of corned beef	1,000.—

Lebanon

June	
48 kg of Mexaform, by air, to the Lebanese Red Cross	11,700.—
September and October	
2.9 tons of antibiotics and medicaments to the Lebanese Red Cross	54,900.—

	Value Sw. Fr.
" Palestinian Red Crescent "	
May	
Various medicaments	78,200.—
June	
48 kg of Mexaform	11,700.—
Syria	
March	
47 kg of Mexaform, by air, to the ICRC delegation.	10,250.—
August	
540 tons of wheat flour, a gift from the Swiss Confederation, to the Syrian Red Crescent	270,000.—
People's Democratic Republic of Yemen	
January	
20 tons of cornflour, an EEC gift, to the ICRC delegation	10,000.—
March	
Anti-haemophilic serum, by air	330.—
April	
200,000 cigarettes and 71 kg of Mexaform to the ICRC delegation	18,000.—
June	
Anti-haemophilic serum, by air	330.—
5 tarpaulins, by air, to the ICRC delegation	250.—
July	
10 litters, by air, to the ICRC delegation	1,500.—
Yemen Arab Republic	
May	
53 kg of Mexaform, by air, to the ICRC delegation.	12,800.—
October	
409 kg of medical supplies, by air, to the ICRC delegation	4,680.—
306 kg of medical supplies, by air, to the ICRC delegation	4,350.—

Table II

**SUMMARY OF RELIEF SUPPLIES PURCHASED AND DISTRIBUTED
IN THE FIELD BY ICRC DELEGATES IN 1972**

	Value Sw. Fr.
AFRICA	
For distribution to prisoners and detainees in various countries	7,800.—
LATIN AMERICA	
Bolivia	
Food, medicaments and blankets for detainees	7,800.—
Nicaragua	
Medicaments for detainees	8,550.—
Panama	
Medicaments for detainees	2,865.—
Peru	
Medicaments for detainees	115.—
ASIA	
Khmer Republic	
Food, medicaments, clothing, etc. for refugees	27,000.—
Laos	
Food, medicaments, clothing, etc. for displaced persons	100,300.—
Republic of Vietnam	
Food and clothing for civilian detainees	5,300.—
Purchase and distribution of various relief supplies for prisoners of war . . .	8,200.—
Medicaments and food for hospitals and orphanages	12,700.—
Cash donation to the Red Cross of the Republic of Vietnam	50,000.—

MIDDLE EAST**Value
Sw. Fr.****Arab Republic of Egypt**

Assistance to prisoners of war 59,200.—

Israel and occupied territories

Assistance to prisoners of war 73,100.—

Aid to local sections of the Jordan National Red Crescent 66,700.—

Assistance to civilian detainees and the civilian population, and various relief supplies 266,300.—

Jordan

Assistance to detainees, and various relief supplies 17,850.—

Lebanon

Various relief supplies 2,800.—

Syria

Assistance to prisoners of war, and various relief supplies 1,900.—

People's Democratic Republic of Yemen

Aid to political detainees and their families 11,180.—

Aid to Dhofar refugees 5,500.—

Yemen Arab Republic

Sana'a artificial limb workshop 50,200.—

Various relief supplies 6,600.—

II. PRINCIPLES AND LAW

LEGAL DIVISION

As in previous years, by far the greater part of the Legal Division's activities in 1972 was devoted to work relating to the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts.

CONFERENCE OF RED CROSS EXPERTS

(Vienna, March 1972)

From 20 to 24 March 1972, the second session of the Conference of Red Cross Experts on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts was held in Vienna. It was convened by the ICRC at the invitation of the Austrian Red Cross. Almost a hundred delegates represented the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the following thirty-six countries: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Burundi, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Arab Republic of Egypt, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Jordan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, USA, USSR, Republic of Vietnam and Yugoslavia. The League of Red Cross Societies was also represented.

The principal aim of the conference was to afford the participants an opportunity for a wide discussion of the draft texts prepared by the ICRC for the second session of the Conference of Government Experts.¹

Most of the participants approved the fact that the ICRC, for the sake of simplification, had not drawn up several Additional Protocols but had dealt with all subjects in two Additional Draft Protocols, one relating to international armed conflicts and the other to armed conflicts not of an international character.

¹ See page 98.

The experts were interested particularly in matters directly affecting Red Cross Societies, such as medical transport, the protection of civilian medical personnel, the use of the red cross emblem and the protection of civilian medical establishments. Measures for the safeguard of the population against the dangers arising from hostilities were also discussed, the predominating topics being the distinction between military objectives and civilian objects, respect for civilians and civilian property, and reprisals.

The relief which Red Cross Societies might be called upon to provide for conflict victims was a question which received the experts' full attention, as did the role of National Societies in the development and propagation of international humanitarian law.¹

Throughout the proceedings the experts displayed keen interest in the subjects discussed, and many suggestions were put forward for submission to the second session of the Conference of Government Experts.

CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENT EXPERTS

(Geneva, May-June 1972)

Owing to the fact that the first meeting of government experts, which the ICRC had convened in Geneva from 24 May to 12 June 1971, had been unable to consider all the subjects before it, a second session was held from 3 May to 3 June 1972.

Participation: In view of the opinion of a large number of experts who at the first session had urged the advisability of increasing the number of participating States, on 27 September 1971 the ICRC wrote a letter to all States specifically bound by the 1949 Geneva Conventions, inviting them to send experts to the second session of the Conference of Government Experts.

Documents: Early in 1972, all the States invited were sent the basic documents necessary to the experts attending the second session of the Conference, namely:

— *the additional Draft Protocol to the four Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949;*

¹ See page 110.

— *the additional Draft Protocol to Article 3 common to the Geneva Conventions of 1949.*

In addition, there was a Draft Resolution on Disarmament and Peace, to be appended to the Final Act of a possible Diplomatic Conference.

These two Protocols and the Draft Resolution were assembled in a volume entitled " Basic Texts ".

Each of the articles in " Basic Texts " was covered by brief comments, in two volumes entitled " Commentary ".

Missions to Africa: At the first session, some African delegates expressed the wish that the ICRC organize a seminar in Africa in order to enable the Governments of that continent to play a more active part in the work of the second session. Two seminars were to be held, one in Addis Ababa and the other in Yaoundé, the respective seats of the two ICRC regional delegations in Africa. The preliminary steps taken by the ICRC regional delegates, however, showed that such seminars would not achieve the proposed aim. Financial difficulties appeared to hamper a number of African States and prevent them from sending experts to the seminars. The ICRC therefore thought it advisable to replace the two seminars by itinerant missions carried out by qualified jurists, who, in the principal African States, would have easier access to the government officials concerned.

Consequently, from 19 February to 10 March, Mr. Jean Mirimannoff-Chilikine, legal adviser, accompanied by Mr. Ulrich Bédert and subsequently by Mr. André Tschiffeli, regional delegates, went to the capitals of the following eight countries: Cameroon, Dahomey, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal and Zaire.

The second mission, from 3 to 20 March, was entrusted to Mr. René Wilhelm, Assistant Director, accompanied either by Mr. Roger Santschy or Mr. René Weber, regional delegates. The following five countries were visited: Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda.

In each country, the ICRC representatives conferred with the ministers concerned and with National Society officers. They explained the work which the ICRC was doing, particularly the draft instruments to be submitted at the second session, for the reaffirm-

ation and development of international humanitarian law, and endeavoured to prevail upon the countries visited to participate in that session.

SECOND SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE

About 400 experts, delegated by seventy-seven Governments, attended the second session of the Conference of Government Experts on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Law in Armed Conflicts, held in Geneva from 3 May to 3 June 1972. The proceedings were also followed by United Nations representatives, nine technical experts (specializing in medical transport problems), ten observers from non-governmental organizations, the League of Red Cross Societies and a number of National Societies.

The opening of the Conference was marked by an official ceremony, at which addresses were delivered by Mr. Marcel A. Naville, President of the ICRC; Mr. Henri Schmitt, President of the Council of State of the Republic and Canton of Geneva, and Mr. Marc Schreiber, Director of the United Nations Human Rights Division, representing the UN Secretary-General.

Three plenary sittings were held, in the course of which the Conference elected its bureau as follows: Mr. J. Pictet (ICRC), Chairman; Mr. W. Riphagen (Netherlands), Mr. A. Cristesco (Romania) and Mr. P. Matagan (Cameroon), Vice-Presidents, and Mr. P. Gaillard (ICRC), Secretary General. The two additional Draft Protocols to the 1949 Geneva Conventions, drawn up by the ICRC, were then studied by four Commissions.

Commission I: Commission I was concerned with the protection of the wounded and the sick in international armed conflicts. At the close of its work, it produced a complete text comprising provisions relating to the three main items: protection of civilian medical personnel, units and institutions, to be provided with the same immunity as granted to military medical personnel and units under the Geneva Conventions; medical air transport, and, lastly, the position of National Red Cross Societies and other relief bodies.

The principle of extending protection to civilian medical personnel and all kinds of civilian medical institutions—whether per-

manent or temporary, public or private—was accepted and considered as one of the principal additions to the Geneva Conventions.

The experts approved the proposal that medical institutions enjoying protection should be duly recognized by the competent authorities of the State within whose territory they operated, in order to avoid any abuse. The question of marking medical institutions in time of peace and in time of war, concerning which tests had been carried out, was also discussed.

The Commission also considered the question of protection for the individual. The experts felt that any act endangering health (physical mutilation, medical and scientific experiments, including the grafting or removal of organs), not justified by medical treatment, should be prohibited.

Protection for the medical mission was a matter which was considered by the experts, who largely accepted the principle of immunity, i.e. that a person should not be punished for having carried out medical activities, whoever benefited by it, or be compelled to commit acts contrary to the ethics of duty.

The question of medical air transport was carefully studied. Here again, the Commission and the experts in air navigation and signalling succeeded in drawing up complete regulations which should allow the resumption of operations by medical aviation immune from attack.

Lastly, the Commission considered the position of National Red Cross Societies and other bodies performing humanitarian and impartial activities, for which provisions were drawn up to ensure special facilities.

Commission II: Commission II dealt with *non-international armed conflicts*. The victims of such conflicts are at present protected by Article 3 common to the four Geneva Conventions of 1949.

The ICRC submitted to the experts for their consideration an additional Draft Protocol developing Article 3 and consisting essentially of provisions based on those of the 1949 Geneva Conventions. The need for the development of Article 3 was accepted. Most of the experts expressed the hope that the specific nature of that type of armed conflict would be borne in mind and appropriate rules established in a separate Protocol.

The definition of armed conflict not of an international character was one of the questions discussed. Differing views were voiced.

All experts were agreed on the need to give captured combatants humane treatment throughout their captivity. This was an important step forward, because Article 3 made no provision in that respect.

Relief was a question of special importance. In the course of a great many armed conflicts not of an international character, hunger had sometimes been cruelly felt, and the wounded and the sick had not always received timely care. The ICRC was therefore expressing the concern of the international community as a whole in formulating provisions designed to facilitate humanitarian assistance and to strengthen the action of National Red Cross Societies and other relief organizations. On the whole, the ICRC proposals were welcomed.

Commission III: Commission III dealt with three subjects:

- (1) *protection of the civilian population against dangers of hostilities;*
- (2) *combatants;*
- (3) *protection of journalists engaged in dangerous missions.*

The protection of the civilian population against dangers of hostilities (as they stand, the Geneva Conventions protect civilians against arbitrary action by the enemy authorities in whose power they happen to be, for instance, in the case of occupation) is closely linked with the use of weapons. Many experts considered that there should be an express prohibition. The proposals put forward revealed various tendencies ranging from a specific prohibition of ABC weapons to a prohibition of new conventional weapons (liable to cause needless suffering or particularly cruel). It was held desirable that a meeting of experts (scientists, army experts, doctors and jurists) should be convened within the next few months, to study technical data relating to those categories of weapons.

The definition of civilian population and of objects of a civilian character gave rise to prolonged discussion. The experts reaffirmed that attacks against the civilian population were prohibited, but with regard to civilians indirectly exposed to danger (if in the vicinity of such military objectives as barracks, arms factories, etc.), different

viewpoints were expressed about the measures of precaution recommended by the ICRC. Lastly, most of the experts supported the idea of developing the "open city" concept.

The experts also dealt with the question of civil defence organizations. It was considered that those bodies should be able to fulfil their duties, not only in occupied territory, but in areas of military operations as well. It was hoped to find, for those bodies, an internationally recognized emblem which might be used both in international and in non-international armed conflicts.

The second subject concerned *combatants* and was related to the reaffirmation and development of certain rules limiting the methods and means of warfare and safeguarding the condition of combatants placed *hors de combat*. As regards the treatment of captured guerrilleros, the Commission largely agreed with the ICRC's proposals that the conditions laid down in international law regarding recognition of prisoner-of-war treatment should be made more flexible.

Finally, Commission III discussed *the protection of journalists engaged in dangerous missions*, a question on which the United Nations wished to know the views of the government experts. Most of the experts considered that, if the majority of States favoured special protection, suitable rules should be drafted and the United Nations supported in its efforts.

Commission IV: Commission IV considered measures intended to reinforce the implementation of the law.

In the first place, the Commission considered questions related to international assistance in the application and the supervision of application. It was of the opinion that it was necessary to reinforce the international machinery designed to ensure and facilitate impartial supervision of the implementation of the Geneva Conventions. It considered it advisable, in particular, to specify the system for the appointment of Protecting Powers and their substitutes. Many experts thought it would be advisable to fix a time-limit within which a Protecting Power or substitute would be appointed or accepted. As the substitute for the Protecting Power, some experts favoured the automatic appointment of the ICRC, while others thought it would be preferable to appoint a substitute—whether it be the ICRC or some other humanitarian body—with the agreement of the Parties

concerned. A third view was to set up a permanent body, in the United Nations for instance, to act as substitute.

The Commission also dealt with the provisions on penal sanctions in the Conventions and in the Additional Protocol which was being prepared. In particular, the inclusion of a provision allowing a subordinate to refuse to obey an order that would entail committing a breach of the Conventions was examined.

The experts reaffirmed the need for a wide and effective dissemination of the Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols.

The Commission also studied the application of humanitarian law in armed struggle for self-determination. By a large majority, the experts turned down a preliminary draft Declaration on the subject. Some considered such a struggle to be an international conflict and hence covered by the Geneva Conventions as a whole, while others regarded it as a non-international armed conflict covered by Article 3 and the Additional Protocol to that article.

* * *

At the close of the second session of the Conference of Government Experts, the Swiss representative announced that his Government intended to call a Diplomatic Conference early in 1974.

The President of the ICRC addressed the closing meeting and outlined future work regarding the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts. He said:

... First of all, the ICRC will draw up a full report on the work of this second session. The most important part of this document will consist of the texts presented to you and the reports of the four Commissions...

Secondly, the ICRC will draw up the texts of new Additional Protocols in the light of all the views expressed at the present session of the Conference of Government Experts.

The drafting of some of these texts, for example those concerning subjects discussed by Commission I, is almost completed.

For some of the other subjects, however, the ICRC will have to make a selection, and it will be necessary to draw up new texts. The questions studied in Commissions II, III and IV fall into this category.

In this connection, the ICRC plans, where necessary, to undertake further consultations either by calling together a small number of experts in Geneva or by consulting certain experts individually. Naturally, it will keep in close touch with the United Nations on those matters of which the United Nations has been asked to make special studies.

In any event, the ICRC intends to present the new Draft Protocols to the Swiss Government as the Depository State of the Geneva Conven-

tions some time next spring, for communication to the governments of the States Parties to the Conventions. In this way these governments will be able to examine them before the Diplomatic Conference meets. The Draft Protocols will also be presented to the XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross to be held in the autumn of 1973.

Report on the Work of the Conference

The Report on the Work of the Conference of Government Experts on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts, drawn up by the ICRC, was issued in September 1972. It was published in English, French and Spanish in two volumes: Volume I, consisting of 209 pages, contained the list of participants at the Conference, a report on the initial and final plenary meetings, and the reports of the four Commissions which studied the different subjects under discussion. Volume II contained the proposals and amendments put forward by the experts.

The Report on the Conference was sent to all Governments Parties to the 1949 Geneva Conventions and to all National Red Cross Societies. In addition, several hundred copies were sent to the United Nations for the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly, for the Commission responsible for studying the question of respect for human rights in armed conflicts.

Consultations with experts

With a view to drafting new texts of additional Protocols for submission to the Diplomatic Conference, the ICRC convened the following meetings of experts scheduled to be held early in 1973:

- Advisory Group of Government Experts
- Meeting of Experts on Markings for Civil Defence Services
- Meeting of Experts on Penal Law
- Meeting of Experts on Signalling and Identification Systems for Medical Transports by Land and Sea.

These meetings, which were suggested to the ICRC by several government experts, were meant to help the ICRC make a selection among the solutions proposed at the second session of the Conference of Government Experts, regarding various important questions.

In addition, it is planned to call a meeting of experts on the use of such conventional weapons as may cause unnecessary suffering or have indiscriminate effects, the Government Experts having asked the ICRC to make a special study of that subject.

RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

Meeting of Experts on Napalm : In resolution 2852 (XXVI) adopted at its twenty-sixth session, the General Assembly of the United Nations requested the Secretary-General to prepare as soon as possible, with the help of qualified governmental consultant experts, a report on napalm and other incendiary weapons and all aspects of their possible use.

The first session of the group of experts was held at United Nations headquarters in New York, in May. Although invited to send a representative, the ICRC was unable to accept the invitation because the Conference of Government Experts was being held at that time. It was, however, able to send Mr. Giorgio Malinverni, legal adviser, as an observer to the second session, also held in New York, from 24 July to 4 August, and to the third session, held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, from 28 August to 1 September.

Twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly: The proceedings of the twenty-seventh session of the United Nations General Assembly, which took place in New York from 19 September to 19 December 1972, were followed by Mr. A. Dominique Micheli, ICRC delegate to international organizations.¹ Mr. Claude Pilloud, Director, was present at the discussions regarding " Respect for human rights in armed conflicts ".

The General Assembly had before it a report of the Secretary-General on the work of the second session of the Conference of Government Experts. On the recommendation of the Sixth Committee, which was able to give only limited time to an examination of that agenda item, the General Assembly adopted a resolution which is quoted below in full.

¹ See page 122.

RESOLUTION 3032 (XXVII)

Respect for human rights in armed conflicts

The General Assembly,

Conscious that only complete respect for the Charter of the United Nations and general and complete disarmament under effective international control can bring about full guarantees against armed conflicts and the suffering caused by such conflicts, and determined to continue all efforts to these ends,

Conscious that the development of many weapons and methods of warfare has made modern armed conflicts increasingly cruel and destructive of civilian lives and property,

Reaffirming the urgent need to ensure full and effective application of existing legal rules relating to armed conflicts and to supplement these rules by new ones in order to take into account the modern developments in methods and means of warfare,

Noting with concern that the existing legal rules and obligations relating to human rights in armed conflicts are being frequently disregarded,

Recalling the successive resolutions adopted by the United Nations relating to human rights in armed conflicts, in particular General Assembly resolutions 2852 (XXVI) and 2853 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971, and resolution XIII adopted by the twenty-first International Conference of the Red Cross, held at Istanbul in 1969, concerning the reaffirmation and development of the laws and customs applicable in armed conflicts,

Noting with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on the results of the second session of the Conference of Government Experts on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts, which was held at Geneva from 3 May to 3 June 1972 at the invitation of the International Committee of the Red Cross,

Having taken cognizance of the report prepared by the International Committee of the Red Cross on the work of the Conference of Government Experts,

Expressing appreciation to the International Committee of the Red Cross for its dedicated efforts to promote the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts,

Emphasizing the importance of continued close collaboration between the United Nations and the International Committee of the Red Cross,

Welcoming the progress achieved at the second session of the Conference of Government Experts,

Noting with concern, nevertheless, that agreement has not emerged among government experts on drafts concerning a number of fundamental issues, such as:

(a) Methods to ensure a better application of existing rules relating to armed conflicts,

(b) Definitions of military objectives and protected objects, in order to counter the tendency in armed conflicts to regard ever growing categories of objects as permissible targets for attack,

(c) Definitions of protected persons and combatants, responsive to the need for improved protection of civilians and of combatants in modern armed conflicts,

- (d) The question of guerrilla warfare,
- (e) Prohibition of the use of weapons and methods of warfare which indiscriminately affect civilians and combatants,
- (f) Prohibition or restriction of specific weapons which are deemed to cause unnecessary suffering,
- (g) Rules facilitating humanitarian relief in armed conflicts,
- (h) Definition of those armed conflicts of a non-international character which should be subject to rules additional to those contained in the Geneva Conventions of 1949,

Considering that substantial progress on fundamental issues such as those enumerated above is indispensable if the efforts to supplement international humanitarian law by new rules are to become significant for the alleviation of the suffering brought by modern armed conflicts,

Welcoming the readiness of the Swiss Federal Council, as communicated to the Secretary-General, to convoke a diplomatic conference on the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts,

Believing that the further preparations for that conference as well as its organization must be such that substantial progress is achieved on fundamental issues which are as yet unresolved,

Expressing its appreciation to the International Committee of the Red Cross for undertaking a series of consultations to ensure the complete preparation for the conference,

1. *Urges* all Governments and invites the International Committee of the Red Cross to continue to seek through consultations to achieve a rapprochement in the positions of Governments to ensure that the diplomatic conference envisaged will adopt rules which will mark substantial progress on fundamental legal issues connected with modern armed conflicts and which will contribute significantly in the alleviation of the suffering brought by such conflicts;
2. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflicts to observe the international humanitarian rules which are applicable, in particular the Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907, the Geneva Protocol of 1925 and the Geneva Conventions of 1949, and, to this end, to provide instruction concerning these rules to their armed forces and information concerning the same rules to the civilian population;
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to encourage the study and teaching of principles of respect for international humanitarian rules applicable in armed conflicts;
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session on relevant developments concerning human rights in armed conflicts and to prepare, as soon as possible, a survey of existing rules of international law concerning the prohibition or restriction of use of specific weapons;
5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its twenty-eighth session the item entitled " Human rights in armed conflicts: respect for human rights in armed conflicts ".

RELATIONS WITH VARIOUS INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

In 1972, the ICRC took part in the following meetings. In co-operation with the Henry Dunant Institute, it conducted special courses on the law of armed conflict, in the context of the courses on human rights held in July every year by the International Institute of Human Rights (René Cassin Foundation) at the University of Strasbourg. Under the general heading of "International Protection of Human Rights", Mr. Jean Pictet, Vice-President of the ICRC, gave a course on "Humanitarian Law and the Protection of War Victims", while four other courses were conducted by different speakers on "Human Rights and the Law of Armed Conflict".

Mr. Claude Pilloud, Director, and Mr. Antoine Martin, assistant to the head of the ICRC Legal Division, attended as observers the congress of the International Society for the Study of Comparative Public Law, held in Geneva from 15 to 18 August. The theme was: "The necessity of amending national public law in the area of war crimes, crimes against the peace and crimes against humanity, to honour fully a nation's obligations under the Geneva Conventions and developing international law".

Mrs. Danièle Bujard, legal adviser, represented the ICRC at the fifth General Assembly of Amnesty International, held at Zeist, near Utrecht, from 8 to 11 September, to consider problems relating to torture, the death penalty and the implementation of minimum rules for the treatment of detainees.

The Sixth International Seminar for Young Army Doctors was held at Libourne, near Bordeaux, from 18 to 28 September. The ICRC was represented by Mr. Frédéric de Mulinen, Head of Division, who read two papers, one on "The ICRC and the Army Medical Services" and the other on "Signalling and Identification of Medical Personnel and Material".

The International NGO Conference on Disarmament was held in Geneva from 25 to 29 September. The ICRC attended as an observer.

From 3 to 5 October, Mr. Philippe Eberlin, technical adviser, was in Mainz, where he attended the International Symposium on the Role of Helicopters and Aeroplanes in Search and Rescue, organized by Professor R. Frey, Director of the Institute of Anaesthesiology of Mainz University Clinic.

Lastly, Mr. Jean Pictet, Vice-President; Mrs. Denise Bindschedler, member of the ICRC, and Mr. Michel Veuthey, legal adviser, represented the ICRC at the Seminar on the Teaching of Humanitarian Law in Military Institutions, held by the San Remo International Institute of Humanitarian Law from 6 to 18 November.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Further accessions to the Geneva Conventions

In 1972, two States formally became parties to the Geneva Conventions of 1949. They were Bangladesh (declaration of continuity dated 4 April 1972) and the United Arab Emirates (accession on 10 May 1972).

The dates are those on which the official instruments were received by the Swiss Federal Council.

Thus, by the end of the year 133 States were parties to the Geneva Conventions of 1949.

Recognition of National Societies

On 14 September, the ICRC announced the official recognition of the Bahrain Red Crescent Society, which brought the number of National Societies to 116.

DOCUMENTATION AND DISSEMINATION DIVISION

DISSEMINATION OF PRINCIPLES AND CONVENTIONS

Plan of Action to be Applied by National Societies in Spreading Knowledge of and in Developing International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts

In the context of the Conference of Red Cross Experts on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts, held in Vienna from 20 to 24 March 1972, one of the topics considered was the role of National Societies in the propagation and development of international humanitarian law and the assistance which they could give the ICRC at that meeting. In view of the recommendation of the National Societies during the meeting at The Hague in February 1971, the ICRC drew up a plan

of action which it sent on 27 February 1972 to the National Societies taking part in the Vienna Conference.

The plan, which was submitted to the Conference by Mr. Pierre Gaillard, Assistant Director in charge of the Documentation and Dissemination Division, was published in the March 1972 issue of *International Review of the Red Cross*. It comprises two distinct parts, each of which supplements the action of National Societies, namely:

(I) the role of National Societies in spreading knowledge of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and

(II) the role of National Societies in developing international humanitarian law.

Concerning the former, the plan envisages direct National Society action to reach public opinion and youth, and indirect action through universities, the armed forces and the medical profession.

In respect of the second of these roles, the plan views the action of National Societies in two phases, namely before and after consultations with government experts.

The plan was also sent to National Societies which did not attend the Vienna Conference. It was accompanied by a report on the discussion of the subject.

In *International Review of the Red Cross*, a new section entitled "Dissemination of the Geneva Conventions" was introduced. It includes information provided by National Societies on their projects and achievements under that heading.

Memorandum on the Implementation and Dissemination of the Geneva Conventions

On 15 August 1972, the ICRC sent the governments of States parties to the Geneva Conventions a memorandum requesting them to inform it before February 1973 what measures had been taken since 1969 for the propagation of the Geneva Conventions among their armed forces and populations. The replies will serve to draw up a report which will be presented to the XXIInd International Conference of the Red Cross.

National Societies were informed of this approach to governments and invited also to report their own activities in this field to the ICRC.

Teaching of International Humanitarian Law

Following up the action taken in 1971 with a view to promoting the teaching of international humanitarian law in universities, and on the basis of the resolution adopted by the Council of Delegates in Mexico City on 8 October 1971, the ICRC sent all National Societies on 20 January 1972 the outline of a model course. This is a compendium of the main topics to be dealt with in a course on international humanitarian law.

In addition, the ICRC has issued a detailed commentary elaborating on the outline course, a kind of memento and guide for professors of international public law who wish to draw inspiration from it.

The ICRC regional delegations in Africa and Latin America have supported the action taken in this field by the Documentation and Dissemination Division, which published English and Spanish versions of the model course outline in the second half of 1972.

The same Division also issued, particularly for university libraries and professors, a general bibliography of ICRC publications devoted to international humanitarian law and the principles of the Red Cross.

Dissemination of the Geneva Conventions among Armed Forces

In 1972, the ICRC had 150,000 further copies published of the new edition of the *Soldier's Manual*, which had been issued the previous year in English, French, Spanish and Arabic. Six thousand copies of a Portuguese version also came off the press.

More than half the governments and National Societies to which specimen copies of the new edition in pocket-book format were sent in July 1971 replied to the ICRC, which reacted as follows:

Africa: The ICRC sent thirteen countries, at their request, several tens of thousands of copies of the *Soldier's Manual* for distribution among the armed forces. The countries concerned were: Cameroon, People's Republic of the Congo, Gambia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Uganda and Zaire.

One country, Kenya, had the *Manual* printed in Swahili.

Latin America: At their request, the ICRC sent Guyana and Honduras copies of the *Manual*.

The Costa Rican Red Cross issued 3,000 mimeographed copies of the *Manual* and, with the agreement of the Ministry of Public Security, distributed them to members of the Civil Guard and to army barracks.

The Ecuadorian Red Cross informed us that the *Soldier's Manual* had been reproduced in the official newspaper of the country's armed forces.

The Brazilian Red Cross having expressed the desire to have the *Manual* printed, we sent it the photolithographs of the Portuguese version. The Brazilian army having declared itself in favour of using the *Manual*, it is planned to publish 100,000 copies.

Asia: The ICRC has sent copies of the *Manual* to two countries which have asked for them: Nepal and Indonesia.

In India, the army has had 60,000 copies of a Hindi version printed, with financial assistance from the ICRC.

In the Khmer Republic, too, the military authorities have had the *Manual* translated and have had 25,000 copies of the Khmer version printed with financial assistance from the ICRC.

Middle East: Three Middle East countries, Kuwait, Lebanon and the Yemen Arab Republic requested and received copies of the *Manual* from the ICRC.

The Arab Republic of Egypt, for its part, is having the *Manual* printed.

SCHOOL TEXTBOOK AND TEACHER'S MANUAL

Africa: As far back as 1969, the ICRC sent 220,000 copies of the school textbook *The Red Cross and My Country* and the *Teacher's Manual* to twenty-five African countries. Several of them having requested more, and others having agreed to introduce the textbook into their schools—particularly after the approaches made by the ICRC regional delegates in East and West Africa—the ICRC appropriated funds for the printing of 550,000 copies of a new edition for Africa.

This new edition of 400,000 copies of the school textbook for Africa, in English and French, and 150,000 copies in Arabic for the

Arab States of Africa, was published at the beginning of 1972. In the first six months, 510,000 copies were sent to the Societies of twenty-three countries: Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, People's Republic of the Congo, Dahomey, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Upper Volta and Zaire—and to the Red Crescent Societies of Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco, Sudan and Tunisia.

Later in the year, copies were sent also to the Malawi Red Cross and the Somali Red Crescent, when those two countries agreed to introduce the textbook into their schools.

Subsequently, the Ministries of Education of several countries expressed their satisfaction with these books and assured the ICRC that they would be put to good use.

Middle East: In 1971 the ICRC had 95,000 copies of the Arabic version of the textbook printed. Fifty thousand were sent to the Jordan Red Crescent.

At the beginning of 1972, 30,000 copies were sent to the Egyptian Red Crescent, which distributed them among 1,480 schools. Iraq, the Yemen Arab Republic and Abu Dhabi also made known their intention of introducing the textbook in their schools, and copies were sent to those three countries in 1972.

At its own expense, Kuwait had 20,000 copies of the textbook printed and offered the ICRC 10,000 copies to meet demand in other countries of the Arabian Peninsula.

Asia: The Swiss Confederation having granted it a further special credit to continue and extend the dissemination of the school textbook in Asia¹, the ICRC contacted the Indian and Pakistan Red Cross Societies to prepare dummies for the printing in Hindi and Urdu. At the end of 1972, the Hindi version was about to come off the press in New Delhi, and the dummy in Urdu had been completed by the Pakistan Red Cross.

Editions in other Asian languages had also been prepared.

On its own initiative, the Afghan Red Crescent sent the ICRC a copy of the Afghan version which it had had printed.

¹ See *Annual Report 1971*, p. 86.

Latin America: The ICRC having no funds for the printing of a Latin America edition of the school textbook, its regional delegates in that part of the world continued their negotiations with several governments and National Societies with a view to the publication of national editions.

In response to a request from the ICRC, the Canadian Red Cross generously donated 2,000 dollars collected by the Junior Red Cross, as a contribution to the publishing of a Central America edition to be printed in El Salvador in 1973.

DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS

Exhibitions: In 1971 the Documentation and Dissemination Division produced as posters the sixteen panels of the mobile exhibition "The ICRC Today". In 1972, 200 extra copies were printed to enable the ICRC to send a set to each National Society which had not previously received one, and to meet the orders received by the ICRC.

These posters were on display during the Vienna Conference of Red Cross Experts on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law from 20 to 24 March, and at the Conference of Government Experts in Geneva from 3 May to 3 June.

They were also shown at the Lebanon Red Cross exhibition, in Beirut from 8 to 15 May; the Regional Training Institute, in June at Nairobi, organized by the League of Red Cross Societies; the Red Cross day in the Swiss Watch Industry Trade Fair, at Montreal in August; the International Institute of Humanitarian Law seminar, at San Remo in November; and the League of Red Cross Societies' Regional Training Institute, at Ibadan from 1 to 20 December.

In addition, the Documentation and Dissemination Division provided the material necessary for an exhibition on the Geneva Conventions in the International Red Cross Museum at Castiglione delle Stiviere (Italy) from 25 June to 30 October.

Documentation: The Documentation and Dissemination Division answered many enquiries from National Societies, various institutions and individuals, on activities bygone and recent.

Audio-visual material: Adapting to up-to-date techniques and replying to a demand from National Societies, the Documentation

and Dissemination Division, in 1972, produced the following audio-visual material:

- Six thousand posters reproducing the cover of the Africa and Arabic versions of the school textbook. The posters being intended for display in schools using the textbook, they were sent to the National Societies of all countries which had introduced the book in their teaching programmes. Several National Societies asked for additional stocks.
- Seven thousand posters, in six languages, illustrating the three main themes of the Geneva Conventions, i.e. the protection of the wounded, the protection of prisoners of war, and the protection of civilians. These posters were sent to Defence Ministries and National Societies with a recommendation to purchase them for display in barracks and police stations. Several countries—Australia, Jordan, the Netherlands, the Philippines, South Africa and the Republic of Vietnam—ordered them.

The Documentation and Dissemination Division began work on a film dealing with the Geneva Conventions and by the end of the year was preparing two new series of colour slides on the *Soldier's Manual* and the Geneva Conventions.

Publications: The year 1972 was the year of publication of:

- The Geneva Conventions, a summary for the armed forces and the public, in Italian;
- Annual Report 1971, in English, French, Spanish and German;
- Report on the work of the second session of the Conference of Government Experts on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts, in English, French and Spanish;
- *Manuel du Délégué*, in French;
- Signalling and Identification of Medical Personnel and Material, by F. de Mulinen, in English, French and German (offprint from *International Review of the Red Cross*).

RELATIONS WITH RED CROSS INSTITUTIONS

National Societies

Missions of the President of the ICRC: At the second session of the Conference of Red Cross Experts on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law, which was held in Vienna from 20 to 24 March 1972, President Naville, accompanied by Mr. Melchior Borsinger, delegate-general for Europe, had useful contacts with the Austrian authorities and Red Cross, particularly with Dr. Bruno Kreisky, Chancellor of the Republic, Dr. Rudolf Kirchschräger, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Dr. Hans von Lauda, President of the Austrian Red Cross.

From 24 to 27 April, accompanied by Mr. Claude Pilloud, Director of the Department of Principles and Law, the ICRC President was the guest of the Red Lion and Sun Society of Iran. After being welcomed by the leaders of the National Society, he was received in audience by H.I.M. Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, Shah of Iran.

Mr. Naville and Mr. Pilloud had discussions with the Prime Minister, H.E. Amir Abbas Hoveyda, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, H.E. Abbas Ali Khalatbari, and the Minister of Health, Dr. Manouchehr Shahqoli, in the course of which the ICRC President reviewed the various aspects of ICRC activities.

The President of the ICRC and Mr. Pilloud paid a visit to H.I.H. the Princess Chams Pahlavi, President of the Red Lion and Sun Society. With Dr. Hossein Khatibi, the Society's Director-General, Mr. Naville and Mr. Pilloud discussed at length various problems of common interest. They also met Mr. Jafar Sharif Emami, President of the Senate, and Mr. Abdollah Riazi, President of the House of Deputies; both are Vice-Presidents of the Red Lion and Sun Society.

Accompanied by Dr. Khatibi, Mr. Naville and Mr. Pilloud visited the Society's headquarters and telecommunications centre in Teheran, and the Parliament Palace where, in the autumn of 1973, the XXIInd International Conference of the Red Cross will take place. At Ispahan, the ICRC President and Mr. Pilloud visited the headquarters of the local committee of the Red Lion and Sun Youth section, and the Society's blood transfusion centre.

At the invitation of the Hungarian Red Cross, the ICRC President, accompanied by Mr. Melchior Borsinger, delegate-general for

Europe and North America, stayed in Hungary from 26 June to 2 July. In Budapest he was received by the Chairman of the Presidential Council, Mr. Pál Losonczi, and in the absence of the Prime Minister had talks with Dr. Miklós Ajtai, Deputy Prime Minister, Dr. Karoly Csatordia, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Dr. Bela Toth, Deputy Minister of Health. He also addressed representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Justice, the Interior, and Health. On the same occasion, he presented the Henry Dunant Medal to Miss Katalin Durgo, whose outstanding humanitarian career and merit he described. Miss Durgo is a nurse with more than fifty years of service with the Hungarian Red Cross to her credit.

The leaders of the National Society, including Professor P. Gégesi-Kiss, President, and Ambassador I. Rostás, Secretary-General, welcomed the ICRC President and conducted him on a tour of the Society's installations in the capital, the district committees of Eger, Esztergom and Balatonfüred, and the children's town of Föt, with more than a thousand orphans. In Budapest, the ICRC President spoke on ICRC activities to the quarterly plenary meeting of the Council of the National Society and was presented with the Hungarian Red Cross gold medal.

Invited by the National Society and the authorities of the German Democratic Republic, Mr. Naville and Mr. Borsinger stayed in that country from 14 to 21 October 1972. At Dresden the ICRC President was welcomed by Professor Werner Ludwig, President of the National Society, Dr. Wolfgang Weitbrecht, Vice-President, Mr. Johannes Hengst, Secretary-General, and Mr. Oehring, head of the Secretariat to the Presidency and of International Relations.

The ICRC President and the delegate-general visited Karl-Marx-Stadt, where they met the departmental committee of the Red Cross and saw the activities it carried out. They also had discussions with the district authorities.

On 18 October, Mr. Naville went to Berlin, where he was welcomed by members of the directorate of the Red Cross. He was also received by Mr. Willi Stoph, Prime Minister, Dr. Otto Winzer, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Dr. Ludwig Meschlinger, Minister of Health.

Mr. Naville described to the Red Cross and government representatives the ICRC's activities, work and objectives, particularly in the

development of international humanitarian law and the main operations attendant upon armed conflicts and internal tensions, for the benefit of the victims.

Apart from the missions carried out by the President, the head of the Press and Information Division, Mr. Alain Modoux, was in Abu Dhabi from 18 to 21 March in order to inform the highest authorities of the United Arab Emirates about ICRC activities and to raise the question of the United Arab Emirates' accession to the Geneva Conventions. He was received by the President H.H. Shaikh Zayed Ibn Sultan, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Shaikh Ahmad Khalifa al-Soweidy, and the Palace Counsellor Dr. Adnan Pachachi.

The ICRC President and his directorate staff had the honour of welcoming to ICRC headquarters in Geneva Mr. Kurt Waldheim and the Director-General of the European Office of the United Nations, Mr. Winspeare Guicciardi, on 4 July, and the President of the Federal Republic of Germany, Mr. Gustav Heinemann, on 29 September.

Regional seminars: The Fifth Meeting of Presidents and Technical Personnel of the National Societies of North America, Mexico, Central America and Panama was held from 8 to 11 February. The ICRC was represented by its delegate-general for Latin America, and its regional delegate for Central America and the Caribbean.

Mr. Jean-Pierre Maunoir, assistant director and acting delegate-general for the Middle East, Mr. Alain Modoux, head of the Press and Information Division, and Mr. Antoine Martin, assistant to the head of the Legal Division, represented the ICRC at the annual meeting of Arab countries' National Societies, at Baghdad from 5 to 10 March.

Mrs. Denise Bindschedler, an ICRC member, took part in the VIIth Annual Meeting of the Yugoslav Red Cross, in Belgrade on 28 and 29 March.

In May, Mr. Bernard Daniel attended the " Disaster Preparedness and Relief Assistance Institute ", a seminar organized in Manila by the Philippine Red Cross, in co-operation with the League of Red Cross Societies, for the National Societies of Asia and the Pacific. He delivered a paper on assistance to the victims of international and non-international armed conflicts.

Mr. Raymond Courvoisier, special assistant to the President, and

Mrs. Marion Cherbuliez, a member of the Documentation and Dissemination Division, represented the ICRC at the annual meeting of the Swiss Red Cross, which took place at Solothurn on 18 June.

Mr. Alain Modoux, head of the Press and Information Division, and Miss Michèle Mercier, a member of the same division, represented the ICRC at the European Conference of Red Cross Youth at Varna, Bulgaria, from 11 to 17 July 1972.

In Copenhagen, on 17 and 18 October, a colloquium was held on the initiative of the Swedish Red Cross. Its subject was the role of National Societies in promoting public interest in the Red Cross ideal and their co-operation with the ICRC to that end. The leaders of the Nordic and Federal German National Societies took part in the meeting, at which the ICRC was represented by Mr. Jacques Freymond, a member of the ICRC, Mr. Jean-Louis Le Fort, Secretary-General, and Mr. Alain Modoux, head of the Press and Information Division.

From 6 to 27 November, Mr. Eddi Leemann, regional delegate for Central America and the Caribbean, represented the ICRC at the "William H.S. Dabney" Training Institute, organized by the League of Red Cross Societies and the Colombian Red Cross at Fusagasugá. Mr. Serge Nessi, delegate-general for Latin America, also attended for two days.

Convened on the initiative of the Yugoslav Red Cross and organized jointly by that National Society and the League, a conference of Balkan Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies was held at Opatija, Yugoslavia, from 13 to 18 November. The ICRC was represented by Mr. Harald Huber, Vice-President, and Mr. Pierre Gaillard, assistant director.

Mr. François Payot, a delegate, represented the ICRC at a meeting of the Regional Training Institute, organized by the League and the Tunisian Red Crescent and held in Tunis from 15 November to 5 December, for Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of North Africa and the Middle East.

Mr. Daniel attended a Red Cross Youth information course held jointly by the Malaysian and Singapore Red Cross Societies at Kota Kuala Bharu (State of Selangor, Malaysia) from 26 November to 2 December, and spoke about the organization and activities of the ICRC.

From 1 to 20 December, a special session of the Regional Training Institute for West African National Societies was held in Ibadan (Nigeria). One of the aims pursued was the training of cadres for youth sections. Six West African Societies took part in the meeting, and the ICRC was represented by Miss Françoise Perret, a member of the Documentation and Dissemination Division.

On 26 September, an information meeting was held at ICRC headquarters for the National Societies represented on the League's Executive Committee. It was attended by about a hundred representatives of National Societies. On that occasion, ICRC representatives spoke about the development of international humanitarian law and the ICRC's activities.

Training courses: Members of the Jordan Red Crescent, Republic of Korea Red Cross and Japanese Red Cross attended one-week training courses at the ICRC.

Empress Shoken Fund

On 15 March, the Joint Commission of the Empress Shoken Fund met in Geneva for the fifty-first distribution of revenue from the Empress Shoken Fund. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Roger Gallopin, a member of the ICRC, and attended by the Ambassador of Japan and the Secretary General of the League. For the first time, the revenue exceeded 100,000 Swiss francs, thanks to the contributions made by the imperial family and the Japanese Red Cross in preceding years.

The following National Societies received sums which enabled them to purchase equipment:

Botswana	1 ambulance
Ceylon	1 ambulance
Republic of Korea	1 refrigerator for blood
Pakistan	1 vehicle equipped for blood transfusion
Panama	1 ambulance
Togo	5 motorcycles (for first-aiders)
Upper Volta	first-aid post equipment

Standing Commission

The Standing Commission of the International Red Cross held two ordinary sessions in Geneva, on 11 April and 26 September 1972.

Present at the meeting, which was chaired by Angela, Countess of Limerick (United Kingdom), were the two representatives of the International Committee, Mr. Marcel A. Naville, President, and Mr. Jean Pictet, Vice-President; the two representatives of the League, Mr. José Barroso, President of the Board of Governors, and Mr. Eustasio Villanueva Vadillo (Spain), and the members elected by the International Conference of the Red Cross, namely General James F. Collins (USA), Dr. Hadj Ahmed Djebli-Elaydouni (Morocco), Sir Geoffrey Newman-Morris (Australia) and Dr. N. Troyan, President of the Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, who was deputizing for Professor Miterev (USSR). The Red Lion and Sun Society of Iran—which will receive the forthcoming International Conference of the Red Cross—was represented by H.E. J. Sharif Emani, Vice-President; H.E. Dr. H. Khatibi, Director-General, and Mrs. P. Shahidi, Liaison Officer to international Red Cross organizations. Mr. T. W. Sloper, the Commission's Adviser, also attended the meeting.

The Standing Commission was mainly concerned with the organization of the XXIInd International Conference of the Red Cross, to be held in Teheran from 7 to 15 November 1973, following the session of the League's Board of Governors.

RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

During 1972, Mr. A. Dominique Micheli, ICRC delegate to international organizations, in close co-operation with the Department of Principles and Law and the Operations Department, continued his contacts with the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies, as well as with the Council of Europe and non-governmental organizations.

With the members of the Legal Division, Mr. Micheli followed the question of the development of international humanitarian law, dealt with by the United Nations as " Respect for Human Rights in Armed Conflicts ".

Other points, such as the protection of journalists engaged in dangerous missions, the work of the UN Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories, racial and decolonization problems (Southern Africa), and terrorism, also received his attention and required repeated personal contact with the United Nations officials in charge of those matters.

In his contacts with senior members of the United Nations secretariat, the ICRC delegate to international organizations had occasion to concern himself with a number of problems relating to the Operations Department, such as the situation in Burundi, the expulsion of Asians from Uganda and the situation in the Asian sub-continent.

In New York, Mr. Micheli was assisted part of the time by Mr. Louis Jaquinet.

Regional organizations

From 23 to 26 January, Mr. Micheli attended the third part of the twenty-third ordinary session of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe, in Strasbourg.

Non-governmental organizations

The delegate to international organizations represented the ICRC at the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council, held in Geneva from 26 to 28 June.

With Mr. Malinverni, legal adviser, he also attended the proceedings of the International NGO Conference on Disarmament which took place in Geneva from 25 to 29 September.

United Nations and its specialized agencies

From 14 February to 3 March, Mr. Micheli represented the ICRC at the twenty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in Geneva.

As an observer, he attended the twenty-eighth session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, in New York from 6 March to 4 April.

He also followed the proceedings of the twenty-fifth World Health Assembly, in Geneva, from 9 to 26 May.

From 3 to 28 July, Mr. Micheli attended the fifty-third session of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, in Geneva.

He was in New York from 27 September to 19 December, following the proceedings of the twenty-seventh session of the United Nations General Assembly.

III. INFORMATION

PRESS AND INFORMATION DIVISION

News

Press: ICRC operations, particularly in certain regions such as the Middle East, South East Asia or the Asian sub-continent, were of constant interest to the press, radio and television. Apart from the Press Division's regular contact with resident press representatives in Geneva, whether through press conferences, interviews or telephone calls, the ICRC continued in 1972 its fortnightly bulletin *The ICRC in Action*. Published in French, English, Spanish and German, its circulation exceeds 4,000. Not only is it handed out to the press, but also to governments, National Red Cross Societies, international organizations, many political, economic and cultural groups and associations, and to several hundred private persons who follow ICRC activities. News in *The ICRC in Action*, particularly the leading articles relating to certain special aspects of ICRC action, is often repeated in the mass media.

In December 1972, the Press and Information Division despatched one of its staff to the Lebanon, Israel and the occupied territories. This mission gave rise to a series of articles on ICRC activities in the region, several of which were reproduced in the press, and it permitted the gleaning of a large amount of material for photographic display and radio.

Radio

In 1972, the ICRC made six trial broadcasts via the Schwarzenburg transmitter near Berne. These broadcasts are of two kinds: they are either beam transmission—in French, English and Arabic—to Asia, Oceania, Africa and the Middle East, or circular transmission—in French, English, Spanish, German and Arabic—to Europe, North Africa and North America.¹

¹ See *Annual Report 1971*, p. 96.

General information

Publications: ICRC continued publishing *Aspects*, of which two issues came off the press in 1972; 25,000 copies in German and 20,000 in French.

It also issued a booklet entitled "*Protection et Assistance*" giving information on the activities and the financing of the ICRC. In German, 15,000 copies were issued, and in French 23,200.

Exhibition: From 30 September to 8 October 1972, the ICRC presented at the *Comptoir de Martigny* (Switzerland) a mobile exhibition of an entirely new design intended to make a wide public aware of humanitarian problems and the role of the Red Cross in the international community.

The exhibition, which was visited by several tens of thousands of persons, covers an area of 400 sq.m. and consists of aluminium parts which, once assembled, form a series of interlocking frames with a 3.05 m base and a 2.05 m height. The structure is covered with canvas, conferring a compact appearance to the volume. Inside there are two four-screen multivision rooms, a radio station in direct touch with various ICRC delegations, and corridors in which large photographic panels illustrate the many Red Cross activities and the circumstances in which they are carried out.

The exhibition is intended to be shown in many countries where it will make the Red Cross and its role in the contemporary world better known to the public at large.

Photographic service: In 1972, the person in charge of the photographic service spent several weeks in Bangladesh and Pakistan to cover ICRC activities. In addition, two photographers from large international news agencies went to the Middle East and the Far East. These two missions contributed several hundred photos to the ICRC's photo library and the material necessary for the multivision part of the exhibition mentioned above.

Fund collection: From 25 August to 25 September, as in previous years, the fund collection drive in Switzerland took place, with:

- 600 voluntary collectors from about as many local districts,
- 12,000 cash boxes displayed in shops,

- 800,000 giro-cheques distributed in towns,
- a direct appeal to 10,000 Swiss firms.

Receipts totalled 864,463 francs. The yield from this collection drive goes solely to ICRC relief operations, nothing being deducted for administrative costs.

Visitors: Nearly 4,200 people visited ICRC headquarters in 1972, including many members of National Societies and nurses. They came from all over the globe, individually or in groups, and generally followed a two or three-hour programme covering interviews with senior officials, a conducted tour of the Central Tracing Agency and the radio station, and one or more films of ICRC operations.

INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF THE RED CROSS

The *International Review of the Red Cross* is published by the ICRC and appears monthly in two issues, one French and one English. Supplements in German and Spanish give a monthly round-up of the main articles and information about the work of the ICRC and about the Red Cross movement in general.

Accounts of ICRC external activities, news from the League of Red Cross Societies and from National Societies, articles on the spreading of knowledge of the Geneva Conventions in various countries, reports on important Red Cross meetings and on the work of international institutions, together with the illustrations contained in each issue, resulted in the Review continuing, in 1972, to be a lively periodical, constantly reflecting current affairs in matters humanitarian.

It contained articles on historical, social and legal subjects, just a few of the titles of which will suffice to show their importance and variety:

Red Cross Solidarity (H. Beer)—The Vienna Convention of 1969 on the Law of Treaties and Humanitarian Law (J. Daniel)—The Red Cross and the Problems of Environment (I. Domanska)—The International Red Cross and Peace (J. Freymond)—Henry Dunant and Rudolf Müller (M. Müller)—Red Cross and Youth Education (S. Hashimoto)—Mountain Rescue Operations and Life-Saving at

Sea in Bulgaria (K. Petrov and D. Venov)—Human Rights and Refugees (P. Weis).

Last year, two conferences of experts took place dealing with the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts. The first, held in Vienna by Red Cross Experts, provided several lengthy articles for the Review as, in fact, did the second which was attended by government experts. The worldwide work of the ICRC itself was featured in a number of accounts giving figures for relief aid distributed to war victims and an insight into the activities so effectively carried out by the Central Tracing Agency in Geneva and in various countries, especially following the conflict on the Asian sub-continent.

A radio communication service being necessary for liaison between National Societies, the ICRC and its delegations and, on some occasions, the League, the Review devoted several articles to this, too.

Under the heading "Facts and Documents" articles are given on subjects not directly concerning the Red Cross but which direct attention to international efforts to protect man and to safeguard his basic rights. This is amply supplemented by analyses of publications and extracts from books. Under the heading "In the Red Cross World" the ICRC monthly continues to list the main events, both national and international, of the Red Cross movement.

As may be seen, the *International Review* continues to provide a forum for the exchange of news and views and, through the scope of the information that it contains, to be for National Societies and persons and institutions devoted to helping their neighbour a most useful source of documentation on humanitarian activities around the world today. We should add that the Review is now distributed to the main ministries of nearly all countries and that, in 1972, a considerable effort was made to similarly increase distribution among the main universities and libraries throughout the world of both the English and French versions.

IV. FINANCIAL POSITION

INTRODUCTION

I. In the Annual Report for 1971, the ICRC announced that the presentation of the accounts for 1972 would for the first time reflect the new financial structure. The ICRC has to take into account two imperatives, namely, *continuity* for the financing of its permanent activities and *flexibility* in respect of its fluctuating activities. In order that these two imperatives be reconciled, a financial structure divided into three parts has been adopted:

1. The *permanent structure* consists of the professional personnel required for the ICRC's permanent tasks and of the equipment available to that personnel. If it is to function efficiently, this structure must be contained within strict limits and must be of a high professional standard. Continuity in this case is essential.
2. The *temporary (or supplementary) structure* consists of additional personnel, mainly delegates and staff recruited locally for a fixed period to work in ICRC delegations; a few jurists and translators required for the preparation of texts in connection with the development of humanitarian law also form part of the temporary structure. The fairly quick replacement of delegation staffs confers upon it a certain degree of flexibility and consequently avoids overburdening the permanent structure.
3. The *occasional structure* consists of the special accounts opened by the ICRC when it has to mobilize large-scale resources in order to come to the assistance of victims of sudden emergency situations or to undertake some task which lies considerably beyond its regular activities. In these cases, flexibility is of paramount importance.

The cost of the permanent and temporary structures can be estimated sufficiently ahead for them to be budgeted regularly from one year to the next, with the result that both structures are included

together in our annual accounts. The account for 1972 (Table II) shows expenditure according to departments and structure. Table III shows the comparative annual expenditure for 1971 and 1972, subdivided under the various departments, in addition to the budget estimates for 1973.

The occasional structure is reflected in special accounts opened for the financing of specific activities which, because of their occasional nature, give rise to expenditure that can vary a great deal from one year to the next. In addition, such expenditure is very often quite unforeseeable, with the result that it cannot be included in the annual accounts and has to be covered by special appeals.

The accounts in respect of these activities may be found in Table V.

II. In the course of this first year, the overall expenditure in respect of temporary structure activities was under 5 million Swiss francs, this being the amount to the extent of which this structure is financed by the Swiss Government.

On the other hand, the financing of the permanent structure for the future is not assured. This has meant that efforts to seek further regular financial resources have been pursued in 1972, the general objective being to raise the total annual contributions received from Governments, other than the Swiss Government, from 2.3 million obtained in 1972 to 7.5 million Swiss francs, that is to say, an amount equal to the fixed contribution remitted annually by the Swiss Government.

This general objective should be attained not later than the end of 1972, in order that the actual needs of the ICRC might be met, after taking into account the rise in the cost of living that is bound to take place during this present era of inflation and monetary instability.

III. In 1971, the United States Government granted an extraordinary contribution of one million dollars. Of the equivalent in Swiss francs of this sum, 1.5 million Swiss francs were utilized in 1971, 1.6 million Swiss francs in 1972 and the balance of 900,000 Swiss francs carried over for the financing of the permanent structure in 1973. As a result of this support, the ICRC, as in the previous

year, found it possible to close without any deficit its 1972 accounts in respect of its permanent structure.

ANALYSIS OF BALANCE SHEET AND EXPENDITURE AND INCOME ACCOUNT (Table I)

For the first time in many years, no figure in respect of long-term or middle-term conditional commitments appears in the balance sheet. The account "*Advance from the Swiss Government*", which showed a balance of 10 million francs at 31 December 1971, has been written off, after a vote was passed by the Swiss Parliament in March 1972 converting this advance into a non-recurring subvention. Thus, the account headed "*Relief expenses covered by special advances*" which appeared under Assets as the counterpart of advances received has also been written off.

The permanent structure account having been balanced, current assets, securities in particular, have been kept at their previous values, notwithstanding rising prices, which in some cases were quite considerable, during 1972. This has permitted the creation of a hidden reserve of about 625,000 Swiss francs. For an institution such as the ICRC, whose operations are subject to large and unforeseeable fluctuations in the volume of its activities, the constitution of such a reserve is an elementary precaution.

Under "*Capital Reserve Funds*", the balance carried over from the United States Government's extraordinary contribution received in 1971, amounting to 1.6 million Swiss francs, has been deducted, and the result of the permanent structure account has been added; the balance of "*Capital Reserve Funds*" at 31 December 1972 thus stands at 1,975,017.56 Swiss francs.

To sum up, the balance sheet submitted by the ICRC at 31 December 1972 is among the most favourable it has managed to present for the last ten years, during which period it had to overcome many difficulties.

Statement of Income and Expenditure

It should be pointed out that only the permanent structure can show an accounting result, i.e. an excess of expenditure over income (deficit) or the contrary (surplus). In the case of the temporary

structure, if the expenditure is less than the total advances received, the excess receipts constitute a balance which must be carried over to the following year. This was the case in 1972, and this manner of treating the accounts is in harmony with the nature of financial structures.

Table IV gives supplementary information about the Statement of Income and Expenditure as it lists the total of contributions received or expected from Governments and National Red Cross Societies as they appear in the Statement.

Occasional structure

This structure includes all the special accounts that have to be opened for those activities which, because of their high cost and their occasional, and in most cases unforeseeable, nature, have to be financed by funds raised for that particular purpose.

This was the case in the Nigerian operation in which the ICRC was engaged from July 1967 to January 1970, the outstanding problems concerning which were settled only in 1972. The action undertaken by the ICRC in 1970 in Jordan was definitively brought to a close in 1972. Those two operations therefore still appear in the occasional structure accounts for 1972.

The extraordinary expenses incurred by the ICRC in connection with the second session of the Conference of Government Experts on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law were almost entirely covered by contributions from Governments and National Societies.

During 1972, operations in the Asian sub-continent had particular incidence on the occasional structure. ICRC action in this area was in two phases: at first, joint action was conducted with the League of Red Cross Societies and lasted until 18 April 1972; during the second phase, the ICRC and the League each resumed its own particular activities. The separate ICRC action began on 19 April 1972 and was still in progress at the beginning of 1973.

An essential aspect of the occasional structure may be seen here: the accounts under this heading are not included in the yearly accounts and the expenditure and income relating to them are car-

ried over from one year to the next as long as the activities concerning them are financed by funds assigned to that purpose.

In December 1972, a special account was opened for financing the preparation and implementation of the action stemming from the cease-fire in Indo-China.

Some expenditure arose in connection with the planning of a large-scale operation in the Amazon area, which will start in 1973.

Table V gives details of the expenses and receipts relating to the accounts of the occasional structure in respect of the various actions referred to above.

Funds for relief actions

Table VI summarizes the movement of this Fund which is essentially maintained out of the public collection in Switzerland and by gifts specified by the donors for relief operations. The expenditure shown here was for purchases of medical and material relief supplies to be distributed by delegates in the course of their regular activities.

It should be pointed out, in connection with the Swiss public collection, that the total amount collected was assigned to the special fund for relief actions, without any deduction for overheads.

Other funds administered by the ICRC

As in previous years, the last table shows the balance sheets and the receipts and expenditure accounts of various funds administered by the ICRC and which, under their respective statutes, are available to the ICRC.

Auditors' Report

The accounts have been audited by the *Société fiduciaire romande OFOR SA*, a member of the *Chambre suisse des Sociétés fiduciaires et des Experts-comptables*, which on 30 March 1973, issued the report reproduced hereafter in full.

Balance Sheet as

(In thousands of Swiss francs and

ASSETS	1972	1971
CASH	4,571	4,749
OTHER CURRENT ASSETS		
— Securities	3,574	3,478
— Other investments	4,448	4,018
— Accounts receivable	3,815	1,859
— Accruals and prepaid expenses	700	387
	12,537	9,742
FIXED ASSETS		
— Relief supplies	103	146
— Equipment	347	381
	450	527
ADVANCES TO DELEGATIONS	841	532
RELIEF EXPENSES COVERED BY SPECIAL ADVANCES		
— Yemen	—	2,050
— Vietnam	—	3,036
— Middle East	—	6,014
— Aden	—	723
— Greece	—	763
— Textbook	—	256
— Donation from Swiss Gov't	—	(2,842)
	—	10,000
BALANCE SHEET TOTALS	18,399	25,550
FUNDS IN TRUST		
— Receivable	—	3,244
— Bank Securities	611	536
	611	3,780
SURETY FOR GUARANTEE	—	400

at 31 December 1972

with comparative figures for 1971)

LIABILITIES AND OWN FUNDS

	1972	1971
SHORT-TERM LIABILITIES		
— Sundry creditors	2,783	1,740
— Accrued liabilities	377	556
	3,160	2,296
OTHER DEBTS		
— Advance from Swiss Federal Government	—	10,000
SUNDRY PROVISIONS	2,076	488
FUND FOR RELIEF ACTION		
— Reserve	1,024	806
— Earmarked	5,164	3,402
	6,188	4,208
CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS		
— General Reserve	648	644
— Special Reserve	1,311	2,911
— Excess of income over expenditure	16	3
	1,975	3,558
— Reserve for general conflict	5,000	5,000
	6,975	8,558
BALANCE SHEET TOTALS	18,399	25,550
FUNDS IN TRUST		
— Banks and suppliers	—	3,244
— Others	611	536
	611	3,780
GUARANTEE	—	400

Summary Statement of Income and Expenditure of

in Swiss francs

	Permanent Structure	Temporary Structure	Total
EXPENDITURE - for activities by:			
COMMITTEE, SECRETARIAT OF THE PRESIDENCE	748,196		748,196
SECRETARY-GENERAL	229,805		229,805
DEPARTMENT OF PRINCIPLES AND LAW			
Management, Memorialist, International Review	443,783		443,783
Delegates to International Organizations	150,778		150,778
Legal Division	517,095	131,475	648,570
Documentation & Dissemination Division	1 035,270		1 035,270
	2,146,926	131,475	2,278,401
OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT			
Management, Logistics, Delegations Servicing	980,775		980,775
Europe and North America	572,718	11,923	584,641
Africa	518,654	291,458	810,112
Asia-Oceania	1,201,420	1,567,744	2,769,164
Middle East	542,795	2,290,920	2,833,715
Latin America	475,276	11,250	486,526
	4,291,638	4,173,295	8,464,933
CENTRAL TRACING AGENCY	796,456		796,456
OTHER DIVISIONS			
Press and Information Division	913,962		913,962
Personnel Division	480,378		480,378
Finance and Administration Division	3,502,972	71,070	3,574,042
	4,897,312	71,070	4,968,382
COST OF ACTIVITIES	13,110,333	4,375,840	17,486,173
OTHER EXPENDITURE			
Cost of organizing public collection in Switzerland	166,672		166,672
New installations	250,000		250,000
General organizational study	150,000		150,000
Reserve for future pension fund problems	756,128		756,128
Sundry expenses	47,465		47,465
Deficit Second Conference of Experts	397,534		397,534
	1,767,799		1,767,799
TOTAL	14,878,132	4,375,840	19,253,972
RESULT			
Excess income transferred to General Reserve	16,490		16,490
Excess income carried forward to 1973		412,442	412,442
TOTAL	14,894,622	4,788,282	19,682,904

Departments and Structures in 1972

in Swiss francs

	Permanent Structure	Temporary Structure	Total
INCOME			
CONTRIBUTIONS FROM GOVERNMENTS			
— annual	9,818,070		9,818,070
— complementary from Swiss Government		4,788,282	4,788,282
— extraordinary from US Government (appropriation from)	1,600,000		1,600,000
CONTRIBUTIONS FROM NATIONAL SOCIETIES			
— annual	858,285		858,285
PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS			
	338,090		338,090
OTHER DONATIONS AND LEGACIES			
	162,625		162,625
REVENUE FROM INVESTMENTS			
	958,711		958,711
OTHER INCOME			
— To finance School Textbook and Soldier's Manual	402,713		402,713
— Profit share on insurance premiums	756,128		756,128
TOTAL	14,894,622	4,788,282	19,682,904

Summary Statement of Income and Expenditure for 1972

In Swiss francs

	1971	1972	Budget 1973
EXPENDITURE - for activities by:			
COMMITTEE, SECRETARIAT OF THE PRESI- DENCE	612,415	748,196	796,990
SECRETARY-GENERAL	247,549	229,805	231,395
DEPARTMENT OF PRINCIPLES AND LAW			
Management, Memorialist, International Review	407,476	443,783	567,025
Delegates to International Organizations	118,935	150,778	154,140
Legal Division	1,086,342*	648,570	775,885
Documentation & Dissemination Division	1,315,975	1,035,270	688,390
	2,928,728	2,278,401	2,185,440
OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT			
Management, Logistics, Delegations Servicing	1,085,369	980,775	1,635,690
Europe and North America	321,421	584,641	346,763
Africa	871,732	810,112	1,036,945
Asia-Oceania	2,330,698	2,769,164	1,369,048
Middle East	3,377,122	2,833,715	2,892,912
Latin America	434,524	486,526	669,676
	8,420,866	8,464,933	7,951,034
CENTRAL TRACING AGENCY	666,441	796,456	945,310
OTHER DIVISIONS			
Press and Information Division	608,100	913,962	945,340
Personnel Division	768,871	480,378	677,380
Finance and Administration Division	3,130,884	3,574,042	4,016,735
	4,507,855	4,968,382	5,639,455
COST OF ACTIVITIES	17,383,854	17,486,173	17,749,624
OTHER EXPENDITURE			
Cost of organizing public collection in Switzer- land	145,672	166,672	180,000
New installations		250,000	150,000
General organizational study		150,000	50,000
Reserve for future pension fund problems		756,128	
Contingency reserve			550,000
Provision for salary indexing			300,000
Sundry expenses	129,556	47,465	
Deficit Second Conference of Experts		397,534	
EXTRAORDINARY DEPRECIATION	180,000		
TRANSFER TO SPECIAL RESERVE	410,461		
	865,689	1,767,799	1,230,000
TOTAL	18,249,543	19,253,972	18,979,624
RESULT			
Excess income transferred to General Reserve	3,568	16,490	
Excess income carried forward to 1973		412,442	
TOTAL	18,253,111	19,682,904	18,979,624

with Comparative Figures for 1971 and Budget for 1973

In Swiss francs

	1971	1972	Budget 1973
INCOME			
CONTRIBUTIONS FROM GOVERNMENTS			
— annual	4,641,215	9,818,070	10,000,000
— complementary from Swiss Government	9,100,000	4,788,282	4,104,362
— extraordinary from US Government (appropriation from)	1,432,187	1,600,000	900,000
CONTRIBUTIONS FROM NATIONAL SOCIETIES			
— annual	836,225	858,285	1,000,000
PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS			
	363,860	338,090	375,000
OTHER DONATIONS AND LEGACIES			
	410,461	162,625	165,000
REVENUE FROM INVESTMENTS			
	684,629	958,711	642,800
OTHER INCOME			
— To finance School Textbook and Soldier's Manual	784,534	402,713	
— Profit share on insurance premiums		756,128	
RESULT, appropriation from General Reserve			1,792,462
TOTAL	18,253,111	19,682,904	18,979,624

* Including Conference of Government Experts on humanitarian law: 1st session 1971—
Frs. 462,194.

The cost of the second session in 1972 amounting to Frs. 1,401,149.25 was attributed to the occasional structure.

TABLE IV

Contributions to the ICRC from Governments and National Societies for 1972

Countries	In Swiss francs			
	Governments		National Societies	
	received	receivable	received	receivable
Afghanistan	—	—	—	—
Albania	—	—	700	—
Algeria	—	—	—	—
Australia	—	89,895	43,215	—
Austria	24,600	—	14,000	—
Barbados	—	—	—	—
Belgium	—	10,800	12,500	—
Botswana	—	—	—	1,910
Brazil	—	11,700	—	—
Bulgaria	—	6,000	6,250	—
Burma	6,400	—	—	3,000
Burundi	—	—	—	—
Cameroon	—	3,750	—	—
Canada	115,915	—	57,000	—
Central African Republic	—	—	—	—
Chile	—	11,700	6,500	—
China (People's Republic)	—	—	—	—
Colombia	13,625	—	—	—
Congo	—	—	—	—
Costa Rica	—	—	480	—
Cyprus	3,020	—	—	—
Czechoslovakia	—	—	3,000	—
Denmark	82,735	—	—	4,000
Dominican Republic	—	—	3,130	—
Ecuador	1,130	185	3,200	—
Egypt, Arab Republic of	—	39,000	—	—
El Salvador	—	—	2,215	—
Ethiopia	—	—	3,415	—
Finland	27,185	—	3,000	—
France	—	171,515	47,840	—
Gambia	—	—	—	—
German Democratic Republic	—	5,000	6,000	—
Germany, Federal Republic of	355,725	—	67,135	—
Ghana	5,900	—	—	—
Greece	—	15,735	—	14,000
Guatemala	—	—	2,155	—
Guyana	—	—	—	—
Haiti	—	—	2,475	—
Honduras	3,750	—	185	—
Hungary	2,000	—	5,000	—
Iceland	2,500	—	2,000	—
India	—	42,700	—	—
Indonesia	—	15,000	—	3,200

Countries	In Swiss Francs			
	Governments		National Societies	
	received	receivable	received	receivable
Iran	30,000	—	23,115	—
Iraq	—	—	5,025	—
Ireland	10,000	—	5,225	—
Israel	—	15,025	—	—
Italy	81,000	—	—	—
Ivory Coast	—	—	—	—
Jamaica	—	—	—	—
Japan	78,700	—	63,515	—
Jordan	—	10,980	—	2,720
Kenya	—	—	—	—
Khmer Republic (Cambodia)	—	—	—	—
Korea, Dem. People's Republic of	—	—	—	—
Korea, Republic of	—	24,000	8,640	—
Kuwait	—	50,000	—	—
Laos	—	—	—	—
Lebanon	15,470	—	4,220	—
Liberia	18,750	—	—	—
Liechtenstein	—	15,000	—	3,600
Luxembourg	—	4,000	—	5,000
Madagascar	1,875	—	—	—
Malawi	—	—	—	—
Malaysia	—	11,000	—	—
Mali	—	—	—	—
Malta	—	—	—	—
Mexico	—	15,000	—	—
Monaco	—	5,045	3,500	—
Mongolia	—	—	—	—
Morocco	15,070	—	—	—
Nepal	1,525	—	—	—
Netherlands	50,000	—	35,000	—
New Zealand	32,365	—	11,645	—
Nicaragua	—	—	—	—
Nigeria	—	6,000	—	2,700
Norway	28,725	—	—	—
Pakistan	—	—	—	—
Paraguay	—	—	—	—
Peru	—	—	—	4,250
Philippines	—	30,695	21,665	—
Poland	30,000	—	15,000	—
Portugal	—	15,000	—	1,100
Romania	—	—	13,265	—
San Marino	—	2,720	—	2,720
Saudi Arabia	—	—	—	—
Senegal	—	2,000	—	2,000
Sierra Leone	—	5,880	—	—
South Africa, Republic of	26,880	—	12,850	—
Spain	8,000	—	—	12,000
Sri Lanka	2,315	—	—	—
Sweden	—	158,920	10,000	—
Switzerland	7,500,000	—	—	—

Countries	In Swiss francs			
	Governments		National Societies	
	received	receivable	received	receivable
Syria	—	—	2,225	—
Tanzania	—	3,115	—	—
Thailand	18,000	—	6,000	—
Togo	—	—	—	—
Trinidad and Tobago	—	—	—	—
Tunisia	2,000	—	—	3,000
Turkey	—	—	—	16,300
Uganda	—	—	—	—
United Kingdom	150,635	—	30,090	—
United States of America	187,500	—	187,500	—
Upper Volta	—	—	—	—
USSR	—	—	16,250	—
Venezuela	—	—	—	—
Vietnam, Democratic Republic of	—	—	2,205	—
Vietnam, Republic of	—	—	—	—
Yugoslavia	—	2,500	3,000	—
Zaire	—	9,750	—	—
1972 contributions	8,933,295	809,610	771,330	81,500
Settlements for previous years as shown in separate table below	75,165	—	5,455	—
Total of contributions	9,008,460	809,610	776,785	81,500

SETTLEMENTS FOR PREVIOUS YEARS

Countries	Governments Sw. frs.	National Societies Sw. frs.
Australia	(3,160)	
Belgium	135	
Cameroon	3,780	
Canada	34,600	
Chile		785
Colombia		5,070
Ecuador	765	
Gambia	1,000	
India	(2,015)	
Italy	(2,875)	
Japan	11,700	
Kuwait	30,000	
Liechtenstein		(600)
Malta	1,535	
Senegal	1,400	
Tunisia		200
Uganda	(170)	
Upper Volta	380	
Venezuela	(1,910)	
	75,165	5,455

Occasional Structure

SUMMARY OF MOVEMENTS IN 1972

A. Special Accounts	In Swiss francs	
	Expenditure	Receipts
PAST ACTION IN NIGERIA		
Transport and fuel costs (settlement disputed matter) . . .	292,901	
Sundry receipts		77,217
Funds carried forward from 31 December 1971 . . . 329,973		
Transfer various provisions 18,555		348,528
	292,901	425,745
Transfer balance to Special Fund for Relief Actions . . .	132,844	
	425,745	425,745
PAST ACTION IN JORDAN		
Miscellaneous	6,399	
Miscellaneous		115,698
Funds carried forward from 31 December 1971 . . . 66,253		
Allocation to Cheshire Homes, Amman 95,000	28,747	
	35,146	115,698
Transfer of balance to Cheshire Homes, Amman	80,552	
	115,698	115,698

TABLE V
2

Occasional Structure
SUMMARY OF MOVEMENTS IN 1972

	In Swiss francs	
	Expenditure	Receipts
INDIA/PAKISTAN/BANGLADESH		
Joint action from 1.1.72 to 18.4.1972		
Personnel (salaries, travel, subsistence, insurance)	2,851,368	
Operating expenses	1,061,633	
Relief purchases	2,233,864	
	6,146,865	
Distribution of balance of Fr. 1,906,205 (incl. amount bt/fwd from 31.12.71)		
— transfer 50 % to League	953,103	
	7,099,968	
Balance of excess receipts carried fwd to new ICRC action from 19.4 to 31.12.72	833,086	
	7,933,054	
Government contributions	5,849,496	
National Society Contributions	1,720,824	
Contributions from organizations and individuals	46,195	
Other receipts	316,539	7,933,054
New ICRC action from 19.4 to 31.12.72		
Personnel (salaries, travel, subsistence, insurance)	2,500,829	
Operating expenses	483,985	
Relief purchases	1,869,500	
	4,854,314	
Excess receipts carried forward to 1973	1,626,711	
	6,481,025	
Government contributions	4,872,333	
National Society contributions	1,476,744	
Contributions from organizations and individuals	27,038	
Other receipts	104,910	6,481,025
	14,414,079	14,414,079

Occasional Structure

SUMMARY OF MOVEMENTS IN 1972

	Swiss francs	
	Joint ICRC/ League action 1.1.72 to 18.4.72	New ICRC action 19.4.72 to 31.12.72
INDIA/PAKISTAN/BANGLADESH ACTION		
CONTRIBUTIONS IN FAVOUR OF RELIEF ACTIONS		
GOVERNMENTS		
Belgium	705,498	170,245
Canada	962,500	
Netherlands		118,300
Norway	900,000	
Sweden	401,123	
Switzerland		2,000,000
United Kingdom	1,005,375	708,788*
United States of America (USAID)	1,875,000	1,875,000
	5,849,496	4,872,333
NATIONAL RED CROSS SOCIETIES		
Australia	4,567	
Belgium	87,700	
Cyprus	998	
Denmark		549,186
France	154,430	
Germany (Fed. Rep.)	60,675	72,780
Ireland	60,231	
Japan	79,802	
Netherlands	400,000	707,400
New Zealand	68,520	
Norway		145,899
Philippines	1,950	
Portugal	1,000	—
Rhodesia	1,067	546
South Africa	8,164	
Swaziland		933
Switzerland	250,000	
Thailand	1,835	
League of Red Cross Societies	539,885	
	1,720,824	1,476,744
Sundry organizations and individuals	46,195	27,038
Totals	7,616,515	6,376,115

* The third allocation of £100,000 reached us after the closing of the accounts for 1972 and will be shown in the accounts for 1973.

Occasional Structure
SUMMARY OF MOVEMENTS IN 1972

	Swiss francs	
	Expenses	Receipts
INDO-CHINA ACTION (after signature of cease-fire)		
Advances from League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies		30,000
Donation from ICRC		200,000
Cost of preparation for future actions	24,507	
	24,507	230,000
Balance carried forward to 1973	205,493	
	230,000	230,000
AMAZON ACTION		
Sundry expenses	4,058	
Sundry receipts		4,584
Carried forward from 31.12.1971		8,710
	4,058	13,294
Balance carried forward to 1973	9,236	
	13,294	13,294

Occasional Structure

SUMMARY OF MOVEMENTS IN 1972

B. Second session of the Conference of Government Experts on the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law	Swiss francs	
	Expenses	Receipts
RECEIPTS		
Voluntary contributions from the governments of:		
Australia		91,912
Austria		14,634
Belgium		25,731
Canada		58,425
Cyprus		881
Germany (Fed. Rep.)		121,300
Greece		4,000
Israel		2,000
Japan		87,076
Lebanon		2,000
Netherlands		50,000
Norway		50,000
Portugal		2,000
Saudi Arabia		37,500
Sweden		58,000
Switzerland		220,000
United Kingdom		138,956
		964,415
Voluntary contributions from National Societies:		
Canada		5,000
Germany (Fed. Rep.)		24,200
Netherlands		10,000
		39,200
EXPENSES		
Preparatory meetings, consultations with various organizations	85,675	
Documentation, including Report on the Conference	337,169	
Personnel	688,771	
Hire of hall and equipment	227,182	
Miscellaneous	62,352	
	1,401,149	1,003,615
DEFICIT		
Borne by ICRC in the expense of its permanent structure		397,534
	1,401,149	1,401,149

TABLE VI

Special Fund for Relief Actions

		Swiss francs	
		Expenses	Receipts
SUMMARY OF MOVEMENTS IN 1972			
1. BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD FROM 31 DECEMBER 1971			2,551,053
2. RECEIPTS IN 1972			
2.1 Product of public collection in Switzerland	867,799		
2.2 Other donations for specific actions . . .	1,408,635		
2.3 Balance Nigeria action	132,844		
2.4 Balance Jordan action	<u>80,552</u>		
			2,489,830
			<u>5,040,883</u>
3. EXPENDITURE IN 1972			
Purchases and forwarding of relief:			
— Europe	51,478		
— Africa	232,984		
— Latin America	270,569		
— South East Asia	626,568		
— Middle East	1,191,695		
— Sundry relief operations	<u>14,632</u>		
	2,387,926		
— Maintenance of emergency stores	<u>24,045</u>	2,411,971	
Transferred to Amazon action		8,710	(2,420,681)
			2,620,202
4. INDIA/PAKISTAN/BANGLADESH ACTION	*3,079,813		
5. INDO-CHINA ACTION	205,493		
6. AMAZON ACTION	9,236		
7. SPECIAL SCHOOL TEXTBOOK ACTION	<u>273,617</u>		3,568,159
			<u>6,188,361</u>
			<u>6,188,361</u>
* Justification of balance: Balance carried fwd to 1.1.72		620,016	
Surplus receipts:			
— Joint action up to 18.4.72		833,086	
— New ICRC action starting 19.4.72		<u>1,626,711</u>	
		<u>3,079,813</u>	

Special Funds

1. FOUNDATION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1972

ASSETS			LIABILITIES		
	Sw. fr.	Sw. fr.		Sw. fr.	Sw. fr.
Public securities:			Inalienable capital		1,028,252.52
— Swiss Funds (market value Fr. 1,002,800.—)	1,030,000.—		Inalienable reserve:		
— West German Funds (market value Fr. 70,680.—)	<u>64,710.—</u>	1,094,710.—	— b/f from 1971	189,583.10	
Deposit with Swiss National Bank, Geneva		164,286.87	— Statutory allocation of 15 % of net revenue in 1972	<u>8,395.—</u>	<u>197,978.10</u>
Accounts receivable:			Total capital		1,226,230.62
— Administration Fédérale des Contributions, Berne (prepaid tax to be refunded)	11,122.50		International Committee of the Red Cross:		
— German Federal Government (tax deducted at source, to be refunded)	<u>3,682.85</u>	<u>14,805.35</u>	Funds in current account		<u>47,571.60</u>
		<u>1,273,802.22</u>			<u>1,273,802.22</u>

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR 1972

RECEIPTS			
	Sw. fr.	Sw. fr.	
Income from securities		62,485.70	
Income from realization of securities:			
— profit on sales	16,915.—		
— loss on sales	<u>900.—</u>	<u>16,015.—</u>	
		78,500.70	
EXPENDITURE			
Difference between purchase price and nominal value of securities purchased in 1972	15,288.—		
Expenses on dealings in securities	5,897.40		
Safekeeping charges	668.50		
Audit fees	420.—		
Sundry	<u>260.20</u>	<u>22,534.10</u>	
RESULT			
Excess of receipts over expenditure		<u>55,966.60</u>	

STATUTORY ALLOCATION

Statutory allocation to inalienable reserve: 15 % of net revenue (Art. 8 of the Statutes)	8,395.—
Statutory allocation to the ICRC of balance of net revenue (Article 7 of the Statutes)	<u>47,571.60</u>
	<u>55,966.60</u>

2. AUGUSTA FUND

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1972

ASSETS		LIABILITIES	
	Sw. fr.	Sw. fr.	
Swiss and other Government securities	89,000.—		Inalienable capital
Other Swiss securities	<u>23,945.45</u>		Reserve for price fluctuations
Less: Provision for price fluctuations (adjustment of value)	<u>112,945.45</u>		
			<u>14,544.75</u>
			114,544.75
Total market value of securities		110,370.—	ICRC
Cash in banks		7,668.—	— Florence Nightingale Medal Fund, current account
Administration fédérale des contributions, Berne (tax paid in advance to be refunded)			2,311.20
		<u>817.95</u>	— Creditor (allocation to Red Cross of the Republic of Vietnam still to be withdrawn)
		<u>118,855.95</u>	<u>2,000.—</u>
			<u>4,311.20</u>
			<u>118,855.95</u>

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR 1972

RECEIPTS

	Sw. fr.
Income from securities	2,409.25
Interest on bank deposit	10.40
Sundry	<u>377.25</u>
	<u>2,796.90</u>

EXPENDITURE

Auditors' fee	300.—
Safekeeping and bank charges	<u>185.70</u>
	<u>485.70</u>

RESULT

Excess of receipts over expenditure in 1972 allocated to the Florence Nightingale Medal Fund, pursuant to resolution VI of the XX1st International Conference of the Red Cross in 1969 at Istanbul	<u>2,311.20</u>
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3. FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE MEDAL FUND

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1972

ASSETS			LIABILITIES	
	Sw. fr.		Sw. fr.	Sw. Fr.
Swiss Government securities (market value Fr. 30,720.—)	32,000.—		Capital	25,000.—
Deposit at Swiss National Bank, Geneva . .	13,962.90		Reserve:	
Administration fédérale des Contributions, Berne (tax paid in advance to be refunded)	288.—		— Balance brought forward from 1971	22,182.90
ICRC, Augusta Fund a/c	2,311.20		— Excess of receipts over expen- diture in 1972	1,379.20
	<u>48,562.10</u>			<u>23,562.10</u> <u>48,562.10</u>

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR 1972

RECEIPTS

	Sw. Fr.
Income from securities	960.—
Transfer of balance as at 31 December 1972 of Augusta Fund Receipts and Expen- diture Account, pursuant to resolution VI of the XX1st International Conference of the Red Cross, Istanbul 1969	<u>2,311.20</u>
	<u>3,271.20</u>

EXPENDITURE

Safekeeping charge	17.—
Printing charges	1,575.—
Audit fees	<u>300.—</u>
TOTAL	<u>1,892.—</u>

RESULT

Excess of receipts over expenditure in 1972	<u>1,379.20</u>
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4. THE CLARE R. BENEDICT FUND

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1972

(expressed in US\$: appropriations of revenue not included)

ASSETS	\$		LIABILITIES	\$
Securities:			Capital	1,000,000.—
(Market value \$1,217,900)	1,050,096.53		Reserve for market fluctuations	72,111.06
Cash in bank	159,370.08		Receipts and Expenditure Account: balance for distribution	137,355.55
	1,209,466.61			1,209,466.61

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR 1972

RECEIPTS

Income from securities		59,634.32
Interest on bank deposits		5,509.09
Net income on sales of securities:		
— book profit on sales	18,186.75	
— book loss on sales	17,498.49	688.26
		65,831.67

EXPENDITURE

Safekeeping charges, fees and other administrative expenses	4,546.63	
Transfer of net profit on sale of securities to Reserve for market fluctuations	688.26	5,234.89

RESULT

Excess of revenue over expenses		60,596.78
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BALANCE FOR DISTRIBUTION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1972:

Balance bt/fwd from 1971		76,758.77
Excess revenue over expenses in 1972, as above		60,596.78
Balance for distribution as at 31 December 1972		137,355.55

SOCIÉTÉ FIDUCIAIRE ROMANDE OFOR S.A., GENÈVE

COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX - ROUGE

G e n è v e

R A P P O R T

relatif à la vérification des comptes annuels
arrêtés au 31 décembre 1972

En notre qualité d'organe de contrôle du Comité International de la Croix-Rouge, Genève, nous avons vérifié les comptes annuels arrêtés au 31 décembre 1972.

Nous avons constaté ce qui suit :

- le bilan et le compte de résultat concordent avec la comptabilité,
- les comptes sont tenus avec exactitude,
- les comptes reproduits ci-après, dont les notes 1 à 4 font partie intégrante, reflètent bien la situation financière du Comité International de la Croix-Rouge au 31 décembre 1972 et le résultat de ses opérations pour l'exercice en question.

Sur la base de notre examen, nous proposons d'approuver les comptes qui vous sont soumis.

Genève, le 30 mars 1973

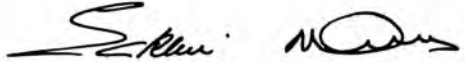
SOCIETE FIDUCIAIRE ROMANDE OFOR S.A.

Annexes :

Bilan au 31 décembre 1972

Compte de résultat pour l'exercice 1972

Notes relatives au bilan au 31 décembre
1972



SOCIÉTÉ FIDUCIAIRE ROMANDE OFOR S.A., GENÈVE

COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX - ROUGE, GENEVE

BILAN AU 31 DECEMBRE 1972

	Fr.
<u>A C T I F</u>	
<u>Disponibilités</u>	<u>4.570.973.--</u>
<u>Actifs réalisables à court terme</u>	
Titres - Note 1	3.574.292.--
Autres placements	4.448.433.--
Débiteurs	3.814.545.--
Actifs transitoires	699.790.--
	<u>12.537.060.--</u>
<u>Actifs immobilisés</u>	
Matériel de premier secours	102.681.--
Mobilier et matériel	347.461.--
	<u>450.142.--</u>
<u>Avances aux délégations</u>	841.033.--
	<u>18.399.208.--</u>
<u>P A S S I F</u>	
<u>Dettes à court terme</u>	
Créanciers	2.783.238.--
Passifs transitoires	376.412.--
	<u>3.159.650.--</u>
<u>Provisions diverses</u>	<u>2.076.180.--</u>
<u>Fonds pour actions de secours</u>	
- disponibles - Note 2	1.023.983.--
- réservés	5.164.377.--
	<u>6.188.360.--</u>
<u>Fonds propres</u>	
Réserve générale - Note 3	648.067.--
Réserve spéciale - Note 4	1.310.461.--
	<u>1.958.528.--</u>
Excédent de revenus par rapport aux charges pour l'exercice 1972	<u>16.490.--</u>
	1.975.018.--
Réserve pour actions en cas de conflit généralisé	<u>5.000.000.--</u>
	<u>6.975.018.--</u>
	<u>18.399.208.--</u>
<u>Fonds fiduciaires</u>	
Avoir en banques à disposition des ayants droit	<u>610.710.--</u>

COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE, GENEVE

COMpte DE RESULTAT DE L' EXERCICE 1972
PAR CENTRE D'ACTIVITES ET STRUCTURES

D E P E N S E S

	<u>Structure permanente</u> Fr.	<u>Structure temporaire</u> Fr.	<u>Structure occasionnelle</u> Fr.
COMITE, SECRETARIAT DE LA PRESIDENCE	748.196.--	-	-
SECRETARIAT GENERAL	229.805.--	-	-
DEPARTEMENT DES PRINCIPES ET DU DROIT			
Direction, Mémorialiste et Revue Internationale	443.783.--	-	-
Délégués organisations internationales	150.778.--	-	-
Division juridique	517.095.--	131.475.--	-
Division diffusion et documentation	1.035.270.--	-	-
Deuxième Conférence experts Droit humanitaire	-	-	1.401.149.--
	<u>2.146.926.--</u>	<u>131.475.--</u>	<u>1.401.149.--</u>
DEPARTEMENT DES OPERATIONS			
Direction, division de logistique, service des délégations	980.775.--	-	-
Zone Europe et Amérique du Nord	572.718.--	11.923.--	-
Zone Afrique	518.654.--	291.458.--	292.901.--
Zone Asie-Océanie	1.201.420.--	1.567.744.--	11.025.686.--
Zone Moyen-Orient	542.795.--	2.290.920.--	6.400.--
Zone Amérique latine	475.276.--	11.250.--	4.058.--
	<u>4.291.638.--</u>	<u>4.173.295.--</u>	<u>11.329.045.--</u>
AGENCE CENTRALE DE RECHERCHES	796.456.--	-	-
AUTRES FONCTIONS			
Division presse et information	913.962.--	-	-
Division du personnel	480.378.--	-	-
Division finances et administration	3.502.972.--	71.070.--	-
	<u>4.897.312.--</u>	<u>71.070.--</u>	-
COUT DES ACTIVITES	<u>13.110.333.--</u>	<u>4.375.840.--</u>	<u>12.730.194.--</u>
AUTRES DEPENSES			
Frais d'organisation de la collecte en Suisse	166.672.--	-	-
Nouvelles constructions	250.000.--	-	-
Etude générale d'organisation	150.000.--	-	-
Provision pour futurs problèmes de retraite	756.128.--	-	-
Autres dépenses diverses	47.465.--	-	-
Déficit deuxième Conférence experts	397.534.--	-	(397.534.--)
	<u>1.767.799.--</u>	-	<u>(397.534.--)</u>
TOTAL DES DEPENSES	<u>14.878.132.--</u>	<u>4.375.840.--</u>	<u>12.332.660.--</u>
Excédent de recettes par rapport aux dépenses des structures temporaire et occasionnelle, reporté à nouveau	-	412.442.--	3.312.533.--
Excédent de recettes par rapport aux dépenses de la structure permanente, affecté à la réserve générale	16.490.--	-	-
	<u>14.894.622.--</u>	<u>4.788.282.--</u>	<u>15.645.193.--</u>

R E C E T T E S

	Structure permanente Fr.	Structure temporaire Fr.	Structure occasionnelle Fr.
CONTRIBUTIONS			
- annuelles régulières gouvernementales	9.818.070.--	-	-
- complémentaires de la Confédération suisse	-	4.788.282.--	-
- extraordinaire du Gouvernement USA (quote-part)	1.600.000.--	-	-
- annuelles régulières des sociétés nationales	858.285.--	-	-
- de source privée	338.090.--	-	-
	<u>12.614.445.--</u>	<u>4.788.282.--</u>	<u>-</u>
DONS ET LEGS NON ASSIGNES			
	<u>162.625.--</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
REVENUS FINANCIERS			
	<u>958.711.--</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
FINANCEMENT STRUCTURE OCCASIONNELLE			
Deuxième Conférence d'experts			
- Gouvernements	-	-	964.415.--
- Sociétés nationales	-	-	39.200.--
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1.003.615.--</u>
Action Indes-Pakistan			
- Gouvernements	-	-	10.603.530.--
- Sociétés nationales	-	-	3.315.867.--
- Autres provenances	-	-	494.682.--
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14.414.079.--</u>
Action spéciale en Indochine			
- Sociétés nationales	-	-	30.000.--
Autres actions spéciales			
- Amazonie	-	-	4.584.--
- Reliquat Nigeria	-	-	77.217.--
- Reliquat Jordanie	-	-	115.698.--
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>197.499.--</u>
AUTRES RECETTES			
- Financement action manuel scolaire et manuel du soldat	402.713.--	-	-
- Participation aux bénéficiaires sur primes d'assurances	756.128.--	-	-
	<u>1.158.841.--</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>14.894.622.--</u>	<u>4.788.282.--</u>	<u>15.645.193.--</u>

 SOCIÉTÉ FIDUCIAIRE ROMANDE OFOR S.A., GENÈVE

COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE, GENEVENOTES RELATIVES AU BILAN AU 31 DECEMBRE 1972

Note 1 - Titres Fr. 3.574.292.--

La valeur comptable des titres en portefeuille se détermine comme suit :

Valeur d'acquisition Fr. 3.933.235.--

Moins :

Provision pour fluctuations de cours
affectée à un dossier particulier Fr. 45.600.--

Provision générale pour fluctuations
de cours " 313.343.-- " 358.943.--

Titres en portefeuille, à la valeur comptable, selon bilan Fr. 3.574.292.--

La valeur boursière de ces mêmes titres s'élève, au 31 décembre 1972, en chiffre rond, à Fr. 3.956.000.-, laissant apparaître une réserve latente de Fr. 382.000.-.

Note 2 - Fonds disponibles pour actions de secours Fr. 1.023.983.--

Les "Fonds disponibles pour actions de secours" ont, entre autres, été crédités du produit intégral de la collecte nationale 1972 de Fr. 867.799.-, sans aucune déduction pour frais généraux.

Note 3 - Réserve générale Fr. 648.067.--

En voici le mouvement de l'exercice 1972 :

Solde au 1er janvier 1972 Fr. 644.499.--

Plus :

Affectation de l'excédent de recettes par rapport aux dépenses
de l'exercice 1971, selon décision du Comité dans sa séance
plénière du 2 mars 1972 " 3.568.--

Total comme ci-dessus Fr. 648.067.--

SOCIÉTÉ FIDUCIAIRE ROMANDE OFOR S.A., GENÈVE

Note 4 - Réserve spéciale

Fr. 1.310.461.--

Le mouvement de l'exercice 1972 de cette rubrique du passif du bilan a été le suivant :

Solde au 1er janvier 1972

Fr. 2.910.461.--

Moins :

Utilisation d'une part de la contribution extraordinaire
du Gouvernement des Etats-Unis, reçue en 1971, pour être
utilisée sur une période de trois ans

" 1.600.000.--

Solde comme ci-dessus

Fr. 1.310.461.--
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Bangladesh 1972: Bihari camp at Chittagong.
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