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INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF THE RED CROSS

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AN IMPORTANT TASK FOR THE ICRC

INDEMNIFICATION OF FORMER ALLIED PRISONERS OF WAR IN JAPANESE HANDS *

II

V. LISTING OF FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR ENTITLED TO BENEFIT

The bases for division had thus been clearly defined even before the amount of funds available for distribution was known. However, the number of claimants in each of the beneficiary countries had also to be determined so that the amount of the share for each individual and, consequently, the sum which the ICRC would have to pay to each of the national agencies, could be calculated.

To carry out the census of former prisoners of war qualifying under the terms of Article 16 and the relevant decisions of the Executive Committee proved to be the most complex of all duties entrusted to the national agencies and the ICRC. It was also the one which required the longest time.

1. Lists submitted by States

Japan had not acceded to the Geneva Convention of 27 July 1929 relating to the treatment of prisoners of war. It was therefore not subject to any formal obligation, as provided for in that Convention, to communicate to the ICRC Central Prisoners of War

* The first part of this Report—which is followed by Annexes not reproduced here—appeared in last month's issue.

Agency the names of all enemy military personnel captured during hostilities. It is true that the Government in Tokyo did supply some information to the Central Agency, but those lists were incomplete and quite inadequate to permit the identification of all allied prisoners of war in Japanese hands. Nationals of some countries were not included in those lists and no distinction was made between prisoners of war and interned civilians.

That omission by the Detaining Power could not unfortunately be remedied by information from other sources. ICRC delegates had not been authorized to visit camps regularly, so that a great many prisoners were not covered by the delegates' supervision. Consequently the Central Agency could not supply a full list of prisoners entitled to benefit.

Under these conditions it was for the Powers in whose armed forces the prisoners had served to give their number to the ICRC. The International Committee therefore, on 16 November 1953, asked the States concerned to provide it with lists indicating in respect of each serviceman:

- the name, first name, date and place of birth;
- military unit, rank and number;
- nationality;
- where held captive by the Japanese.

As these lists were a long time forthcoming, the ICRC repeated its appeal four times. In February 1955, that is, when the Japanese funds were about to be transferred to it for distribution among the POWs, it had still not received all final lists. Three States had sent none.

The Executive Committee was informed of this situation and prolonged the deadline for despatch of these lists first to 30 April 1955 and then to 31 May 1955. It decided that thereafter Powers which had not submitted the requisite lists would not be entitled to benefit by the provisions of Article 16. However, a large number of new lists and supplementary lists continued to be received after 31 May 1955. In addition, some countries, including the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, had received further information from Japan which they wished to compare with the lists already drawn up. Part of the Pakistan lists were, moreover, lost between Karachi

and Geneva. Several countries had not been able to contact in time all their former prisoners of war to enable them to register.

Under these conditions, the ICRC suggested that the Executive Committee should postpone the final deadline until 30 April 1956. The Executive Committee so decided on 14 March 1956, adding that, consistent with the ICRC proposals, no name submitted after 30 April 1956 could be considered for computation of the amount of the national share. It was also understood at the same time that the ICRC would ask the States to constitute a reserve fund to meet claims of former prisoners of war whose names had not been known or had been omitted at the time the lists were drawn up.

In the meantime, Indonesia decided not to ratify the San Francisco Peace Treaty and was, therefore, no longer one of the Powers to benefit from the provisions of Article 16.

2. ICRC check of lists

The purpose of examining the lists received in Geneva within the time limit prescribed by the Executive Committee was to ensure uniform application of the provisions of Article 16 and thereby to guarantee equality of treatment among all servicemen concerned. For that purpose the ICRC checked that the qualifying criteria had been observed and that names of former prisoners of war had not been included in the lists of a country more than once or in the lists of several countries.

The check on qualifying criteria, as the lists reached the Central Agency, revealed omissions and inaccuracies in respect of which the ICRC asked the States concerned for clarification.

For example, the list submitted by Australia had opposite some names the words "presumed dead" without indicating whether these persons were servicemen killed in action or dead in captivity.

The Pakistan list mentioned "presumed prisoner of war" which did not make it clear whether the person concerned had been a prisoner of war or not. The nationality was sometimes missing; some of the prisoners of war listed were shown as being of Indian nationality.

The International Committee also compared the lists received from the Allied Powers with the information which the Japanese

Government sent it during the war, in order to check that no prisoner of war of whom it had been officially informed by the Detaining Power had been omitted from the lists drawn up by the Powers of which the prisoners were nationals.

The ICRC deemed it expedient furthermore to examine in the countries concerned the documents which had been used for the drawing up of these lists. That examination consisted of spot-checks of all cases whose qualifications appeared doubtful.

In Pakistan, the ICRC delegate had for that purpose to travel some 3,000 miles. In other countries, records were fortunately more centralised.

To check that names did not appear twice in the lists, the ICRC drew up a single alphabetical list for each country which had supplied several lists, in order to ensure that there were no repetitions. This proved to be necessary, particularly in respect of lists supplied by the United Kingdom, Pakistan and Vietnam. The IBM punched-card system was used for these verifications. It was also found that some names were included on several lists, such as those of New Zealand nationals on the British and Australian lists, those of Australians on the British lists, and Belgians on the French, British and Netherlands lists. That check showed moreover that nationals of the Grand-Duché of Luxembourg who had been prisoners in Japanese hands had all been members of the French armed forces. They were shown as such on the French lists; the Grand-Duché was in any case not a Party to the San Francisco treaty.

The various verifications carried out resulted in the elimination of 9,747 names from the lists received by 30 April 1956. At the end of 1956 those lists were final for all the beneficiary Powers except for the Philippines and Vietnam. Subject to adjustment in respect of those two countries they covered a total of 153,933 former prisoners of war in Japanese hands.

3. Philippines

(a) As has already been pointed out, the Government of the Philippines only decided after a long delay to ratify the Peace Treaty with Japan. The registering of former Philippine prisoners

of war was therefore not started until most of the other beneficiary Powers had submitted their lists. In addition, it appeared that the listing of Philippine beneficiaries encountered considerable difficulties so that operations were likely to be protracted.

In order to avoid keeping those former prisoners of war whose claims had already been recognized, in the other countries, waiting unduly, it was decided to distribute the Japanese assets in two phases: the first distribution was to enable compensation to be made to the beneficiaries of the other countries without further delay, after placing a lump-sum in reserve from which the Philippine share would ultimately be drawn. The second distribution would then be made between all the beneficiary Powers from the balance of funds remaining from the reserve earmarked for the Philippines, after determining the exact number of Philippine beneficiaries and paying the national share thus due to the Philippines.

(b) Before reaching this step, the ICRC attempted to come to a compromise solution with the Government of the Philippines with a view to speeding up the remittance of indemnities to the Philippine beneficiaries.

The International Committee had in fact seen that it was not possible to accept, just as they were, as a basis for distribution, the lists which the Philippine authorities had submitted to it and which contained 66,217 names. After eliminating 6,541 cases given on these lists as "civilians", there only remained 59,676 names; the question was to discover how many of these applied to former prisoners of war fulfilling the conditions of qualification under Article 16.

This checking encountered insurmountable difficulties. Some pages of the manuscript list were illegible, so that it was impossible to verify whether names had not been written down several times over. Furthermore, the same person's name sometimes figured on different lists, either because it had been transcribed in several ways, or else because it was classified under the heading of the first name and elsewhere under the family name.

In these conditions, the Governments of the other beneficiary Powers decided to propose to the Philippine Government an overall

reduction of the number of cases on the lists submitted to the ICRC. An International Committee delegate went to Manila in May 1954 when he proposed to take the number of 40,000 men as a basis of calculation for the Philippines' share.

The Government of the Philippines did not accept this proposal. It insisted on maintaining the figure of 60,000, although it declared itself prepared to take every step to draw up lists which could be checked.

(c) The lists of former Philippine prisoners of war had consequently to be drawn up again on other bases.

From the files of the armed forces of the Philippines it was not possible to discover the names of all former Philippine prisoners of war in Japanese hands, with the result that enquiries had to be undertaken in each case. The United States for its part was unable to supply the necessary details for the drawing up of a complete list.

It therefore only remained to contact the beneficiaries themselves. The Red Cross of the Philippines having then been appointed the national agency for the distribution of funds under Article 16, it had henceforward to carry out this heavy task. The ICRC instructed its delegate in Manila to assist the National Red Cross Society in the execution of the mandate entrusted to it.

In April 1957, the Philippine Red Cross sent out an appeal through the press and radio asking all former prisoners of war or their surviving heirs to register with the local branch of the Red Cross nearest their homes. The individual files thus drawn up for each case and the lists made out on this basis were then sent to the headquarters of the Society which had opened a special section for the compilation of the results of the appeal and to draw up national lists.

Taking into account the difficulties of communication between the capital and the many islands in the archipelago, as well as the illiteracy of a large number of claimants, the date of registration had to be extended until 31 March 1958.

(d) Meanwhile, it was discovered that an appreciable number of Philippine nationals had belonged to the American armed forces during the war, and if the United States Government was entitled to waive for its own nationals claim to benefit from Article 16 of the

Treaty of San Francisco, it could not do the same for military personnel having served in its armed forces, but who had Philippine nationality at the time of their captivity.

Former Philippine prisoners of war who had belonged to the "Philippines Scouts" in the land or sea forces of the United States were therefore qualified to benefit from compensation as laid down by Article 16, even if they had since acquired American citizenship.

A further appeal was therefore made to this category of beneficiary. For former prisoners of war resident in the United States, the last appeal was broadcast on 11 January 1959 with an expiry date for registration on 15 March in the same year.

(e) In order to verify the results of these registrations in the Philippines and the United States, the ICRC first of all made checks in the Philippines on the basis of military archives. When information drawn from this source was lacking or was too incomplete, the International Committee based itself on other data, either to establish that the claimant had really undergone war captivity (attestations made by companions in captivity), or for the purpose of showing the existence of ties of relationship between deceased former prisoners of war and claimants. About a third of the beneficiary prisoners had died.

Lists were drawn up in this way by the IBM Agency in Manila.

In the United States, requests for registration submitted by former Philippine prisoners of war having served in American units and resident, some in the Philippines and others in the USA, were sent for verification to the United States Defence Department.

A final check was carried out in Geneva on the basis of an overall list drawn up by IBM in March 1960. These checks established that 44,055 former Philippine prisoners of war could be considered as being beneficiaries. It was on the basis of this figure that the Philippines' share was determined for the first distribution.

(f) In view of the fact that 60,000 shares had been placed in reserve, the 15,945 remaining shares were then available to be distributed, in accordance with the Working Party's decision, to all the beneficiary Powers in proportion to the number of former prisoners of war recognized as being beneficiaries.

In spite of the long delay in drawing up the definite list of Philippine former prisoners of war, a large number asserted their claims after the expiry date of 31 March 1958. The Philippine Red Cross nevertheless accepted their claims for registration and presented additional lists which were subjected to checking similar to that described above. They were in addition compared with the basic list of 44,055 beneficiaries, with a view to discovering possible errors and duplications. When these checks were made, the total number of Philippine beneficiaries amounted definitely to 55,124, and the Philippine Red Cross drew from the national share in the second distribution the necessary funds for the compensation of these late claimants.

In the other countries, the lists had been drawn up by the national authorities and the cost which this work had incurred was defrayed by each of the Powers concerned. Expenses incurred by the ICRC in drawing up and verifying the list of the Philippines were therefore charged against the national share reverting to that country.

4. Vietnam

Vietnam did not possess documentation capable of serving as a basis for the drawing up of a list of former prisoners of war in Japanese hands. The beneficiaries were therefore called upon to register individually with the central or local authorities.

At the time of the entry into force of the Peace Treaty of San Francisco, the Government of the Republic of Vietnam only controlled the southern part of the country. Certain regions over which the authorities of South Vietnam still exercised control at the beginning of the operations for the registering of beneficiaries, had passed into the hands of North Vietnam before the definitive list could be drawn up. In these conditions the list submitted to the ICRC showed:—

2,690 registered beneficiaries under the control of the Government of the Republic of Vietnam (South).

525 registered beneficiaries under its control at the time of registration were resident in areas which, since then,

had passed under the control of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (North).

1,285 beneficiaries as an estimate by the Saigon authorities of persons who had been unable to register because they were resident in the part of the country already controlled by North Vietnam at the time of registration. The list showed no names for these cases.

4,500: Total of the Vietnam list.

The authorities of the Republic of Vietnam proposed that the shares of the prisoners of war resident in North Vietnam should be held in reserve for them.

The problems resultant from such a situation far surpassed the framework of a technical checking of the lists. The ICRC therefore asked the advice of a legal consultant in international law, Prof. P. Guggenheim, with whom it raised the following questions:

(a) Have former POWs, regularly registered on lists by the Saigon authorities, but at present resident in North Vietnam and not therefore able to receive their indemnity from the South Vietnamese Government, acquired a lasting right to such benefit?

(b) Can former POWs not registered on lists by the Saigon Government because they have at all times been resident in a zone outside its control, be represented by the Hanoi Government as successor in North Vietnam to the Saigon Government and as such bound by the Treaty of San Francisco? If so, should these former prisoners be excluded from benefitting from Article 16, not being registered within the time limits? If this is not the case, is the claim of the Saigon Government that a reserve be constituted justified in law?

On 8 December 1956, Prof. Guggenheim replied to these questions as follows:

(a) Former POWs whose names were transmitted within the prescribed time limits have acquired a lasting right to benefit under Art. 16. Amounts due to them should be held in reserve until they can be distributed.

(b) The Government of North Vietnam cannot be regarded as successor to the Government of South Vietnam. On the other hand, the claim of the Government of South Vietnam asking for the constitution of a reserve to cover the case of former POWs not registered on the lists, because they had at all times been resident in territory outside its control, is justified in law, as the Government had already, on the conclusion and entry into force of the Peace Treaty with Japan, had its claim over the entire territory of Vietnam recognized by the co-signatories. It would therefore seem fitting that a reserve be constituted until its utilization is possible, or until it proved impossible for the Government of South Vietnam to exercise control over the whole of Vietnamese territory, in which case it would lose all rights to the reserve.

On the basis of Prof. Guggenheim's conclusions, the ICRC proposed to the beneficiary States to pay the Republic of Vietnam the share corresponding to the 2,690 former prisoners of war identified by and accessible to the Saigon Government (Vietnam I share), and to hold in reserve the amount earmarked for the 525 beneficiaries who could not be reached (Vietnam II reserve), and for the 1,285 unregistered prisoners of war (Vietnam III reserve).

The Working Party of the beneficiary States, at its meeting on 12 March 1957, gave its agreement to this manner of proceeding.

In December 1959, the situation in Vietnam had not changed. The country was still divided into two States by the provisional demarcation line established by the 1954 armistice agreement.

It was therefore decided that the Vietnam II and Vietnam III reserves would be handed over to the Government of the Republic of Vietnam.

It was, however, understood that the national agency of that country would hold these for five years, distributing during that period the share due from reserve II to beneficiaries presenting themselves in the South, and paying out of the funds of reserve III indemnities to former prisoners of war who, arriving from the North, had not had the opportunity of registering at the time when the lists were drawn up. Should their numbers exceed the 1,285 cases expected on the constituting of the reserve, they should be paid out of the funds of the second distribution.

On the expiry of the 5-year period, funds not utilized would be devoted to a general aid action for former prisoners of war already compensated, or for their dependants. This action would be carried out on the basis of an agreement between the national agency of the Republic of Vietnam and the ICRC.

VI. FUND DISTRIBUTION

1. Share-out among national agencies

When—for the reasons already explained—it appeared necessary to distribute the Japanese assets in two stages, the ICRC examined, in co-operation with the governments of the beneficiary Powers, what sums should be first distributed and how they should be remitted to the claimants.

The International Committee bore the following criteria in mind:

(*a*) In all countries where the number of former prisoners of war in Japanese hands had been determined definitively, that number should be the basis for deciding the amount of the national share.

(*b*) In respect of countries where their number had not been finally determined, reserve funds would be set up, taking into account the maximum estimate submitted by the national agencies of those countries. The ICRC would retain those funds until such time as the number had definitively been determined.

(*c*) With due allowance for the foregoing, the sums earmarked for the first distribution would be as large as possible.

(*d*) The ICRC having received the Japanese assets half in Pounds Sterling and half in US Dollars, payment of the national shares would also be made in those two currencies.

(*e*) The individual share would be determined by dividing the total funds entrusted to the ICRC by the total number of former prisoners of war shown on the national lists (including the provisional figures used for computing the reserves). It would then suffice

to multiply the individual share thus arrived at by the total number of beneficiaries shown on each national list in order to calculate the amount due to each country.

(f) This initial distribution would not include the interest accumulated since the Japanese assets were made available to the ICRC and invested. It was arranged that the yield on that capital would be allocated to cover the expenditure incurred by the ICRC in the discharge of its mandate. Any balance thereof remaining would be added to the funds for the second distribution, after determination of the Philippines' share in the first distribution.

The Working Party of the beneficiary Powers having given their agreement to this procedure, the ICRC began, in November 1956, to pay out the national shares due under the first distribution.

Total of funds received:	£ 2,696,428/11/5
and	\$ 7,542,500.—
Total of registered prisoners:	
— final national lists	153,933
— Philippines' reserve	60,000
— Vietnam shares I, II and III	4,500
	<hr/>
Total	218,433

Individual share: £ 12/6/10½ + US\$ 34.53

The work carried out by the Philippine Red Cross showed, in 1960, that the figure of 44,055 former prisoners of war could be considered the total for all claimants in that country. Consequently the 15,945 shares remaining from the 60,000 which had been kept in reserve permitted consideration being given to the possibility of a second distribution among all beneficiary Powers. Those shares which became available represented, in round figures:

£ 184,000 and
\$ 512,000.

The interest accumulated up to the time of the first distribution of national shares (1956) was increased, to a more modest degree,

thanks to the yield on the reserve fund. After deducting the ICRC's expenses, this interest account showed the following balance:

£ 269,000 and
\$ 440,000.

The total funds available for the second distribution amounted therefore to the following:

Balance of the Philippines reserve—	£ 184,000 + \$ 512,000
Balance on interest account	£ 269,000 + \$ 440,000
Total	£ 453,000 + \$ 952,000

These amounts were paid to the national agencies in 1961 in proportion to the number of claimants in each country, i.e. for each claimant,

about £ 2 and
about \$4.

Attached hereto, as appendix II, is a table showing the first distribution, and as appendix III a table showing the second distribution. Appendix IV shows the available balance as at 31 December 1970.

Part of the assets being represented in Swiss franc accounts, and the expenditure still being incurred by the ICRC for the winding up of the problems in abeyance in some of the beneficiary countries also being booked in Swiss francs, it is in that currency that the balance is expressed, viz. :

Swiss francs 496,464.65

The ICRC was holding this sum available for the Powers concerned.

2. Payment to claimants

(a) The national agencies had responsibility for the distribution of sums received from the ICRC to former prisoners of war whose claims had been recognized.

When making these payments they were not bound by the uniform value individual share, which was merely a system adopted

for computation of the amount of each national share. In other words, each beneficiary Power was free to remit the funds as it deemed fit to the persons who qualified under the terms of the treaty and of the Working Party's decisions. Most did distribute the funds in equal shares. Some, however, endeavoured to individualize the indemnities by adapting them as far as possible to the degree of suffering inflicted on the claimants.

This procedure was adopted, for instance, in the Republic of Vietnam and in France.

In Vietnam it was planned to distribute half of the overall amount equally among all former prisoners. The other half was to be used to pay a supplementary benefit to the heirs of deceased former POWs or to surviving POWs whose captivity had had lasting repercussions. This supplementary indemnity should have amounted to twice, thrice or even four times the amount of the basic indemnity. In the event of there being a balance available after payment of these two distributions, it would be divided among all prisoners in proportion to the length of their captivity.

In France the national share was divided as follows:

- the heirs of POWs who died in captivity received a sum equal to two individual shares;
- surviving POWs suffering from a disability of 80% or more received one and a half shares;
- other former POWs received one share.

This method necessitated the compiling of more complicated individual files than in other countries and it considerably delayed payment to beneficiaries of sums calculated according to this scale. Consequently, it was not until December 1960 that a start was made on the distribution to former French POWs in Japanese hands of the funds paid by the ICRC to the French national agency in January and May 1957.

However, it so happened that the French franc was twice devalued in the meantime and the International Committee expressed the hope that the authorities would take that fact into account when calculating indemnities. This suggestion was not acted upon. Nor did it appear possible to credit claimants with the interest earned by the funds kept in reserve during those four years.

(b) The payment from 1957 on of the first distribution of indemnities revealed two contrasting phenomena:

Except for those countries which claimed for only a few former prisoners of war in Japanese hands, many others found they were unable to reach all claimants included in the lists approved by the ICRC. Some had changed addresses without notifying the national agency and the authorities were unable to trace them. Other claimants had died without descendants. Others omitted to respond to the repeated appeals sent to them or were unable to do so.

When confronted with this problem, the Working Party accepted the suggestion that it invite national agencies to place shares not paid out in the first distribution into a reserve fund for two years, starting on 1 January 1960. It was understood that during those two years the national agencies would take all steps likely to lead to the tracing of claimants who did not collect and to permit the greatest possible number of remittances to be made. At the end of the two years, viz. after 31 December 1961, the balance of any undistributed shares would be added to the funds set aside for the second distribution.

On the other hand, the start of the payments induced a number of former prisoners of war not included on the lists to put forward claims for indemnity. Consequently, in spite of the care taken by the national agencies to draw up lists of the persons intended to benefit from Article 16 of the San Francisco Peace Treaty, and although the time limit for that work was several times extended, it became clear that the census had not always been complete. The upheavals of the war, and the difficult circumstances which followed it in most of the countries concerned explained this state of affairs to a great extent. There could be no question of rejecting these late claims and debarring those who submitted them, for by the very fact of their having been prisoners of war in Japanese hands they had acquired a right to the indemnity provided for in Article 16 of the Treaty. On the other hand, the national shares had been calculated on the basis of lists approved by the ICRC. It was no longer possible to change the shares paid out in the first distribution.

The existence of the balance remaining for the second distribution and the funds comprising the shares not paid out during the

first distribution fortunately provided the national agencies involved with the means of meeting this unexpected situation.

The supplementary lists which they sent to the ICRC were examined and controlled in the same way as the basic lists.

(c) These changes in the number of claimants were a considerable burden in several countries and a reduction in the relative value of the balance of funds available for the second distribution.

Except in the cases of countries which had only a few former prisoners of war, it could reasonably be asked whether for such small amounts an equal distribution per person was justified or whether it would not be preferable to use the balance for relief limited to those ex-POWs or their heirs who were in the greatest need. Such a procedure would, of course, not benefit all former prisoners whose claims had been duly recognized. At least a more substantial aid could be provided to those in the poorest circumstances.

Faced with the difficulty of finding satisfactory criteria for selection, many countries adopted the first solution, which was undoubtedly also the simplest, at least when distribution was by equal shares. The available balance (funds from the first distribution and undistributed shares of the first distribution, after deduction of indemnities paid to late claimants) was paid out in those countries in individual amounts calculated according to the same principles as for the first distribution.

Other countries, however, chose to attribute the balance of Japanese assets to specific objectives, in the interest of certain categories of former POWs. For instance, Canada, Pakistan, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, in agreement with the ICRC, founded special funds (trust funds) whose use—consistent with the objectives of Article 16 of the Treaty—was specified in byelaws. Sums drawn from these funds were intended to assist those former POWs, or their families, who were in particularly difficult circumstances. They were used, in some cases, to supplement the assistance already being granted by the authorities, such as in the form of housing assistance to elderly, sick or convalescent former POWs, or in the form of scholarships, help to purchase prostheses for disabled former POWs, and so forth.

In the Philippines the national agency adopted a similar solution. After consulting the ICRC, it devoted the balance of funds to the supply of prostheses, wheel-chairs, crutches and spectacles for disabled POWs. It also granted financial aid to some POWs whose state of health demanded medical or surgical treatment. In addition, in some cases it granted allowance for funeral services. This programme was to continue until the funds, plus the interest earned from investments made by the national agency, were exhausted.

A similar solution is now being adopted in the Republic of Vietnam, following agreement between the national agency and the ICRC.

VII. CONCLUSION

The reader of this report cannot fail to be struck by the long lapse of time between the signing of the Peace Treaty at San Francisco and the payment of indemnities to the former prisoners specified in Article 16. The generous intentions expressed in September 1951 by the representatives of the Powers parties to the Treaty were thus, in many cases, put into effect only belatedly; so much so, indeed, that the beneficiaries were often not the persons who had suffered the particularly harsh conditions of wartime captivity, but were their spouses or descendants. The prudent provision for the payment of the indemnities to the families of deceased former prisoners of war was therefore more widely applied than could have been expected at the time the Treaty was signed.

The two main causes of this state of affairs were the problems involved in the collection of the funds to be distributed and the drawing up of the lists of claimants.

The International Committee of the Red Cross avails itself of this opportunity to express its thanks to the authorities and National Red Cross Societies which made a decisive contribution to the solution of those fundamental problems. It is particularly grateful to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Kingdom and to the national agencies appointed in each country to apply Article 16

for their understanding and for the support they gave it in the discharge of the mission entrusted to it. In spite of the long time which the beneficiaries had to wait, it was undoubtedly due to these combined efforts that it was possible to carry out the indemnity operations in almost all the countries concerned.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES

Delegate-general's mission to Latin America

From 9 to 23 June 1973, the ICRC delegate-general for Latin America and the Caribbean took part in the regional training institute for Red Cross senior personnel, organized in Jamaica by the League and mentioned later in this issue.

Mr. Nessi's mission next took him to Haiti where he arrived on 24 June. He had a number of talks, mainly on the activities of the Haiti Red Cross and the ICRC, with National Society leaders and with representatives of the Government, including the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister of the Interior and Defence, the Minister of Health and the Minister of Co-ordination and Information.

The delegate-general also attended a meeting of the planning committee of the Haiti Red Cross and was present at a ceremony in the course of which diplomas were presented to the National Society's first-aiders.

On the last stage of his mission, he returned to the Bahamas, arriving there on 30 June. He conferred at Nassau with the Governor designate of the Bahamas, the Minister of Labour and Social Welfare and the Chief of Police.

Mr. Nessi attended a meeting of the steering committee of the Bahamas Red Cross Society at which the statutes and future activities of this emerging society were discussed.

The delegate-general was back in Geneva on 7 July.

Colombia

In Colombia, where he arrived on 8 June, one of the ICRC regional delegates for South America was authorized to visit the prisons controlled by the Ministry of Justice. In the last fortnight of June he went to "La Ladera de Medellín", to the prison for women, to the "Cárcel Modelo" at Bucaramanga, and to the Neiva prison. On 1 July, accompanied by a representative of the Colombian Red Cross, he went to the penitentiary island of Gorgona, where he provided medical supplies for the detainees.

To the Red Cross committees at Medellín and Bucaramanga he gave a talk on ICRC activities.

Mexico

The ICRC regional delegate for Central America and the Caribbean continued his mission in Mexico. He visited several places of detention, including the "Centro Femenil de Rehabilitación Social", the "Penitenciaría del Distrito Federal Santa Marta" and the "Cárcel Preventiva Lecumberri", where he saw some 5,000 detainees.

Venezuela

One of the ICRC regional delegates for South America, continuing his visits to places of detention in Venezuela, went on 12 June to the "Centro Penitenciario Nacional" at Valencia. On the following day he went to the "Cárcel Nacional" at San Cristóbal. In all he saw some 2,300 detainees, of whom a dozen had been arrested for political reasons.

Cameroon

The ICRC regional delegate for West Africa conferred on 18 June with the Cameroon Minister of Territorial Administration and with the Director of Prisons Administration in Cameroon. Having obtained authorization to carry out a further series of visits to places of detention, he and his colleague visited those at Bafio, Yoko, Garoua and Maroua.

Thailand

The ICRC regional delegate based in Kuala Lumpur was on mission in Thailand from 8 to 16 June. He was received by Thai Red Cross leaders and had several talks with representatives of the Ministry of the Interior.

He was authorized to visit the correctional centre in the town of Ubun, where he met some twenty detainees.

Asian Sub-Continent

Pakistan

Transfer of Bengali civilians. — From 11 to 13 July 1973, 452 persons of Bengali origin were transferred from Pakistan to Bangladesh. While the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees arranged the flight by chartered aircraft, the ICRC drew up lists of the persons to be transferred and ascertained that they were leaving for Bangladesh of their own free will. In its capacity as a neutral intermediary, the ICRC sent the lists to Pakistan and Bangladesh and prepared an ad hoc identity paper on which the exit and entry visas were apposed.

On 15 June 1973, eight Bengali civilians who were being repatriated from Pakistan to Bangladesh crossed the Indo-Pakistan frontier at Wagah, under the auspices of the ICRC.

Visit to Bengali civilians. — ICRC delegates have recently visited several thousand Bengali civilians in expatriation centres and some in several prisons.

Bangladesh

On 27 June, ICRC delegates visited Pakistani prisoners of war held in the central prison of Dacca. They were able to talk to them privately. On the same day, they went to the internment camp known as "Kilo Camp", holding 456 Pakistani and 44 Afghan civilians.

India

Repatriation of prisoners of war. — On 11 July 1973, 438 wounded or sick Pakistani prisoners of war were repatriated through Wagah, on the Indo-Pakistan border. The operation, which took place in the presence of ICRC delegates from New Delhi and Islamabad, and representatives of the Indian and Pakistani authorities and National Red Cross Societies, was the outcome of protracted ICRC negotiations with the Detaining Power.

Visit to prisoners of war. — Last month, ICRC delegates in India visited twenty-two prisoner-of-war and civilian internee camps. They saw 31,494 persons, 2,448 of whom were civilian internees.

On 15 and 16 June, 23,320 parcels for Pakistani prisoners of war and civilian internees, plus 1,193 school books from Pakistan, were handed to the Indian authorities for distribution.

Middle East

Visits to prisoners of war

ICRC delegates in Israel and in Arab countries continued their visits to prisoners of war, with whom they were, as usual, able to talk privately.

In Israel, the fifty-seven Egyptian prisoners of war were visited on 20 June, and in the *Arab Republic of Egypt*, the ten Israeli prisoners of war were visited on 2 July 1973.

Family Reuniting

Two family reuniting operations took place on 28 June, under the auspices of the ICRC. The first, at El Qantara, enabled 183 persons to cross the canal from west to east and 185 to cross in the opposite direction. In the second, three children crossed over from Lebanon to Israel, at Roshanikra.

Student travel

On 5 July, a hundred students from Gaza studying at Damascus University crossed the cease-fire lines at Ahmedieh (Golan

Heights), under the auspices of the ICRC, to spend the holidays with their families in occupied territory.

Northern Ireland

In agreement with representatives of the British Government and the authorities in Northern Ireland, two delegates of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) visited detainees. They went to the Maze Prison on 18 and 20 July, and to the Armagh and Crumlin Road Prisons on 19 July 1973. All facilities were extended to the representatives of the ICRC for the accomplishment of their mission and they were able to speak freely and alone with all detainees of their choice.

As is customary, a report will be sent to the British Government.

IN GENEVA

Presidency of the International Committee

Last month International Review announced the election as President of the International Committee of the Red Cross of Dr. Eric Martin.¹

Born in Geneva in 1900, he studied medicine in the Universities of Geneva and Strasbourg, and took in-service courses in Paris and Vienna. From 1927, for over nineteen years, he worked in the Geneva Medical Clinic as assistant, clinical instructor, head of laboratory, and senior assistant. From 1946 to 1970, he was Professor in charge of the Geneva University Policlinic, twice Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and, from 1960 to 1962, Rector of Geneva University. Since 1970 he has been an honorary professor of that University.

Widely known abroad as a specialist in internal medicine, Dr. Eric Martin carried out a very large number of projects, some concerned with geriatrics and social aspects of modern medicine. He is a member of many Swiss and foreign medical associations and academies and is Doctor *honoris causa* of the University of Aix-Marseilles.

For several years Dr. Martin was President of the Geneva section of the Swiss Red Cross and a member of the Swiss Red Cross Central Committee, which he represented at the XVIIth International Conference of the Red Cross at Stockholm in 1948.

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¹ *Plate.*



Photo Pricam/ICRC

Dr. ERIC MARTIN

President of the International Committee of the Red Cross



Photo ICRC

Mr. ROGER GALLOPIN
President of the ICRC Executive Board

Presidency of the Executive Board

As already announced, the duties of the ICRC are henceforth divided between two distinct organs: the Assembly and the Executive Board. The latter is presided over by Mr. Roger Gallopin,¹ who assumed his functions at the beginning of July.

The *International Review* has already had occasion to refer to his co-operation in Red Cross activities since 1936. Mr. Gallopin, who was appointed a member of the International Committee in 1967, was for a time Director-General of the institution. In the past year he participated in the work of the Presidential Council.

*

New ICRC Members

The International Committee of the Red Cross has elected four new members with effect from 1 July 1973, namely Mr. Pierre Boissier, Mr. Gilbert Etienne, Dr. Ulrich Middendorp and Miss Marion Rothenbach.

Mr. Pierre Boissier was born in Geneva in 1920 and graduated in law at the University of Geneva. He joined the ICRC in 1946 and was delegate in Paris until 1963. From 1963 to 1966, he was legal adviser at ICRC headquarters in Geneva.

Between 1963 and 1972, Mr. Boissier carried out several missions in the field, in Cyprus (1964), Israel (1967), Lebanon (1971) and India (1972).

Since 1966, Mr. Boissier has been Director of the Henry Dunant Institute. He has published a large number of works on the Red Cross and has lectured in several European university towns. Mr. Boissier has also helped to run seminars for training future ICRC delegates.

Mr. Gilbert Etienne was born at Neuchâtel in 1928. He studied at his home-town university, which conferred upon him the doctorate of laws, and at Paris University where he obtained a diploma in oriental languages.

¹ *Plate.*

At the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva and at the Geneva African Institute, Mr. Etienne lectures on the economics of development. He gives part-time courses in various institutes in Paris.

Since 1951, Mr. Etienne has been studying problems of economic development, with particular reference to Asia. He has been several times in the Asian sub-continent, South East Asia and China and has also spent some time in some of the countries of the Middle East and Africa.

Mr. Etienne has written a number of books on Afghanistan, India, Pakistan and China.

Mr. Ulrich Middendorp was born in 1928 at Klosters (Canton Graubünden). He studied at Geneva, Paris and Zurich and graduated as doctor of medicine from Zurich University in 1954.

Since 1970, he has been senior surgeon at the cantonal hospital at Winterthur. He is also lecturer at the Faculty of Medicine of Zurich University and at the Department of Military Science of the Federal Polytechnical School.

Dr. Middendorp went on his first mission for the ICRC in 1963 when he went as doctor-delegate to Yemen and set up and directed a field hospital there. Later, he carried out several other missions for the ICRC as well as for the Swiss Red Cross, again in Yemen and in the Republic of Vietnam. His experience in the field led him to take special interest in the problem of medical assistance in situations of disturbances and he was among those who contributed to the foundation of " *Medicus Mundi Suisse* ".

Miss Marion Rothenbach was born at Olten and attended the *Ecole d'études sociales*, Geneva, where she obtained in 1953 the diploma of social welfare assistant.

In 1953 she went on a mission for the ICRC to Trieste, after which she was with the Swiss Red Cross from 1956 to 1958.

Miss Rothenbach was also engaged by the United Nations on several missions as an expert in social welfare training and was sent as such to Zaire from 1962 to 1965 and to the Republic of Vietnam from 1967 to 1971.

At present, Miss Rothenbach is lecturer at the *Ecole des Sciences sociales et politiques* at the University of Lausanne.

The International Committee is pleased to be able henceforth to rely on these four new members, whose wide experience of present-day social, intellectual and humanitarian problems is thus available to serve the Red Cross cause.

*

Appointment to Executive Board

This Board, comprising four members of the ICRC, namely Mr. Gallopin, Mr. Umbricht, Mrs. Bindschedler-Robert and Dr. Ulrich Middendorp, has added to its membership by appointing Mr. Gottfried de Smit.

He was born at Vlissingen (Netherlands) in 1915 and studied at Lyon, Basle and Mannheim. He specialized in the shipping business in Switzerland, Germany, Belgium, Netherlands and France.

In 1949 he became manager of the new Mannheim branch of Lloyd AG in Germany.

In 1964 he was appointed general manager of the Lloyd Group and since 1972 has been chairman and managing director of Lloyd Holding SA in Basle.

Mr. de Smit has been on numerous study and business trips in Africa.

In 1969, he was head of the ICRC mission at Lagos (Nigeria).

*

Death of Mr. Paul Logoz, an honorary member of the ICRC

It was in 1921 that Mr. Paul Logoz was elected to membership of the ICRC, and it was in 1943, upon his appointment as a Federal Court Judge, that he resigned and was designated an honorary member.

He was a professor of penal law at the University of Geneva, one of the co-authors of Swiss penal law, and an outstanding jurist who rendered signal service to the Red Cross cause by assuming important functions within the institution. He was a member of the executive for many years, Vice-President in 1936, and carried out various missions for the Red Cross.

Mindful of the invaluable service which he gave it, the International Committee will always remember and be profoundly grateful to Paul Logoz.

*

Development of international humanitarian law

A second meeting of experts on the use of such conventional weapons as may cause unnecessary suffering or have indiscriminate effects was held at ICRC headquarters from 12 to 15 June 1973. At this meeting, experts had an opportunity to comment on the report issued after the first meeting, held in Geneva from 26 February to 2 March 1973.

Experts from about fifteen countries, from the United Nations, WHO, and SIPRI (Stockholm International Peace Research Institute), with the aid of ICRC lawyers, agreed on a text which it is proposed to circulate to governments, National Red Cross Societies, and the international governmental and non-governmental organizations concerned.

The study does not cover all so-called conventional weapons but only some of them, such as fragmentation projectiles, plastic projectiles, mines and booby traps. Incendiary weapons such as napalm, regarding which there are already reports drawn up by international or intergovernmental organizations, are not dealt with in the report.

*

ICRC Appeal

The International Committee of the Red Cross on 16 July 1973 made an urgent appeal to twenty governments and twenty-five National Red Cross Societies for funds to enable it to continue its work in the Asian Sub-Continent.

*

Since the end of hostilities over eighteen months ago, the ICRC has been unceasingly concerned for the victims. In India, it has been

visiting some 75,000 prisoners of war and 15,000 interned civilians for whom, during that time, it has conveyed 13 million messages to their families in Pakistan, where some 150,000 Bengalis are in receipt of ICRC assistance. In Bangladesh, the number of non-locals or persons of Pakistani origin dependent on ICRC assistance runs into hundreds of thousands. It is obvious that this work must go on for many months to come and the organization must continue to operate in the Sub-Continent at least until the end of 1973.

The staff on the spot consists at present of 29 delegates, 3 Central Tracing Agency experts assisted by 43 local employees, 3 administrators, 4 radio operators, 3 secretaries, as well as locally engaged field officers, storekeepers, drivers and so forth. In addition, operations in the Asian Sub-Continent occupy 3 delegates, 2 secretaries and 8 employees of the Central Tracing Agency at the ICRC headquarters in Geneva.

From December 1971 to July 1973, the ICRC has received for its operations in Bangladesh, India and Pakistan a total of 16.89 million Swiss francs in cash, inclusive of private donations. By the end of August there will be no cash left. Donations of goods and services such as transport are not included in the 16.89 million francs: the value of such contributions from various sources in the three countries concerned far exceeds 60 million francs.

The ICRC feels that it is in duty bound to carry on this large-scale humanitarian mission and hopes that the funds to enable it to do so will be forthcoming.

**NEW STATUTES
OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
OF THE RED CROSS**

As announced in our previous issue, the International Committee, on 21 June 1973, adopted new statutes, the text of which we give below.

Article 1. — International Committee of the Red Cross

1. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), founded in Geneva in 1863 and formally recognized in the Geneva Conventions and by International Conferences of the Red Cross, shall be an independent organization having its own Statutes.

2. It shall be a constituent part of the International Red Cross.¹

Article 2 — Legal Status

As an association governed by Articles 60 and following of the Swiss Civil Code, the ICRC shall have legal personality.

Article 3 — Headquarters and Emblem

The headquarters of the ICRC shall be in Geneva.

Its emblem shall be a red cross on a white ground. Its motto shall be *Inter arma caritas*.

¹ The International Red Cross comprises the National Red Cross Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies. The term "National Red Cross Societies" includes the Red Crescent Societies and the Red Lion and Sun Society.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Article 4. — Role

1. The special role of the ICRC shall be:

- (a) to maintain the fundamental principles of the Red Cross as proclaimed by the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross;
- (b) to recognize any newly established or reconstituted National Red Cross Society which fulfils the conditions for recognition in force, and to notify other National Societies of such recognition;
- (c) to undertake the tasks incumbent on it under the Geneva Conventions, to work for the faithful application of these Conventions and to take cognizance of any complaints regarding alleged breaches of the humanitarian Conventions;
- (d) to take action in its capacity as a neutral institution, especially in case of war, civil war or internal strife; to endeavour to ensure at all times that the military and civilian victims of such conflicts and of their direct results receive protection and assistance, and to serve, in humanitarian matters, as an intermediary between the parties;
- (e) to ensure the operation of the Central Information Agencies provided for in the Geneva Conventions;
- (f) to contribute, in view of such conflicts, to the preparation and development of medical personnel and medical equipment, in co-operation with the Red Cross organizations, the medical services of the armed forces, and other competent authorities;
- (g) to work for the continual improvement of humanitarian international law and for the better understanding and diffusion of the Geneva Conventions and to prepare for their possible extension;
- (h) to accept the mandates entrusted to it by the International Conferences of the Red Cross.

2. The ICRC may also take any humanitarian initiative which comes within its role as a specifically neutral and independent institution and consider any question requiring examination by such an institution.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Article 5. — Relations with other Red Cross Institutions

1. The ICRC shall maintain close relations with the National Red Cross Societies and such representatives as they may accredit to it, and also with the League of Red Cross Societies. It shall cooperate with the latter in matters which concern the activities of both organizations.

2. Contact between the ICRC and the League shall be ensured by a meeting at least once a month of representatives of the two organizations. Such contact may furthermore be assured by a representative of the ICRC accredited to the League and a representative of the League accredited to the ICRC.

Article 6. — Membership of the ICRC

1. The ICRC shall co-opt its members from among Swiss citizens. It shall comprise fifteen to twenty-five members.

2. The rights and duties of members of the ICRC shall be laid down in internal regulations.

3. Members of the ICRC shall be subject to re-election every four years. They may be re-elected for two terms of four years. As an exception, they may be re-elected for further terms of four years by a three-fourths majority of ICRC members.

4. The ICRC may elect honorary members.

Article 7. — Assembly

1. The supreme policy-making body of the ICRC shall be the Assembly, which shall be of a collegial character. It shall lay down principles and general policy and supervise all ICRC activities.

2. The Assembly shall be composed of members of the ICRC. Its President and its two Vice-Presidents shall be President and Vice-Presidents of the ICRC.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Article 8. — **Executive Board**

1. The Executive Board, a collegial body, shall be responsible for the general conduct of affairs. It shall exercise direct supervision over the administration of the ICRC.

2. The Executive Board shall comprise not more than seven members who may or may not be members of the ICRC.

3. The Assembly shall elect the members, President and Vice-President of the Executive Board.

Article 9. — **Directorate**

1. The Directorate shall be responsible for management in accordance with the Executive Board's general directives.

2. The Directorate shall be composed of the Directors of three Departments, namely:

- (a) the Operations Department;
- (b) the Department of Principles and Law;
- (c) the Administrative Department.

3. The administrative organization shall be laid down in regulations.

Article 10. — **Financial commitments**

All documents involving commitments on the part of the ICRC towards third parties must bear the signature of two persons duly authorized for the purpose by the Committee. Nevertheless, as an exceptional measure, it may give one of its members or delegates power to involve the ICRC in a financial commitment by his signature alone.

Article 11. — **Assets and financial verification**

1. The principal assets of the ICRC shall be the contributions of National Red Cross Societies and of Governments, such gifts and bequests as it may receive and its income from securities.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

2. These assets, and such private funds as it may have at its disposal, shall alone, to the exclusion of any personal or collective liability of its members, guarantee commitments entered into by the ICRC. The utilization of the assets and funds shall be subject to independent financial verification.

3. Even in case of dissolution, members shall have no personal right to the assets of the ICRC, which shall be used solely for humanitarian purposes.

Article 12. — **Rules of Procedure**

The Assembly shall provide for the implementation of the present Statutes, *inter alia*, by establishing internal regulations.

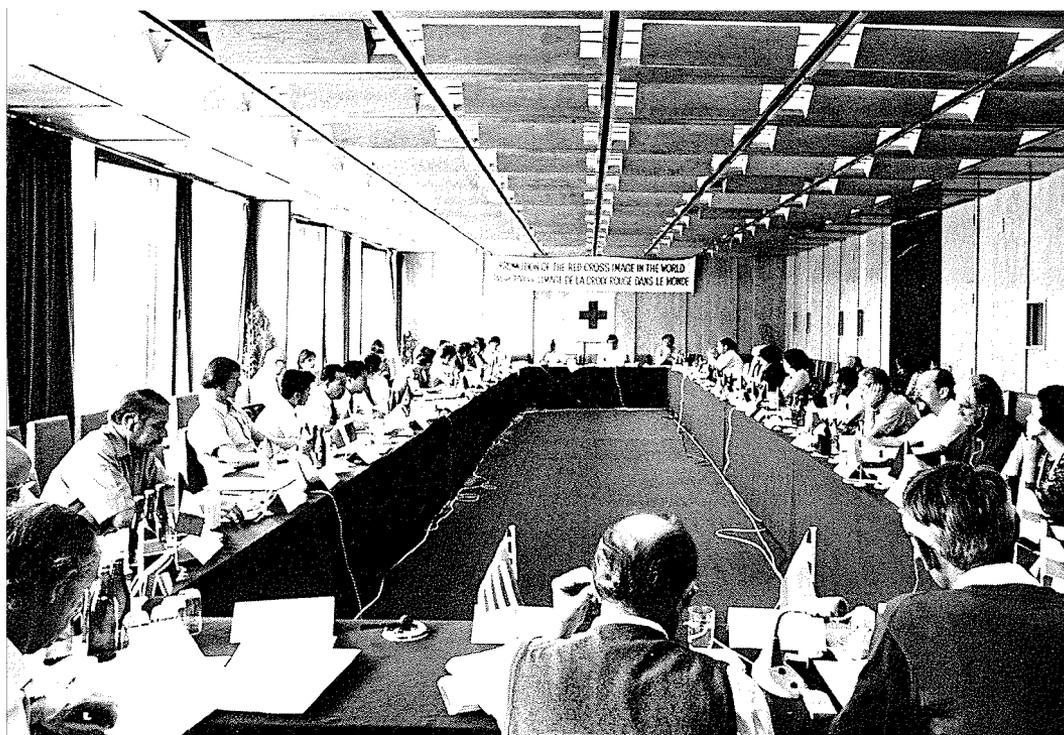
Article 13. — **Revision**

1. The Assembly may revise the present Statutes at any time. Revision shall be the subject of discussion at two different meetings, on the agendas of which it shall be an item.

2. Amendment of the Statutes must be accepted, in the final voting, by two-thirds of the members present at a meeting attended by at least half the members of the ICRC.

Article 14. — **Coming into force**

The present Statutes shall replace the Statutes of the International Committee of the Red Cross of 25 September 1952 and shall take effect as from 1 July 1973.

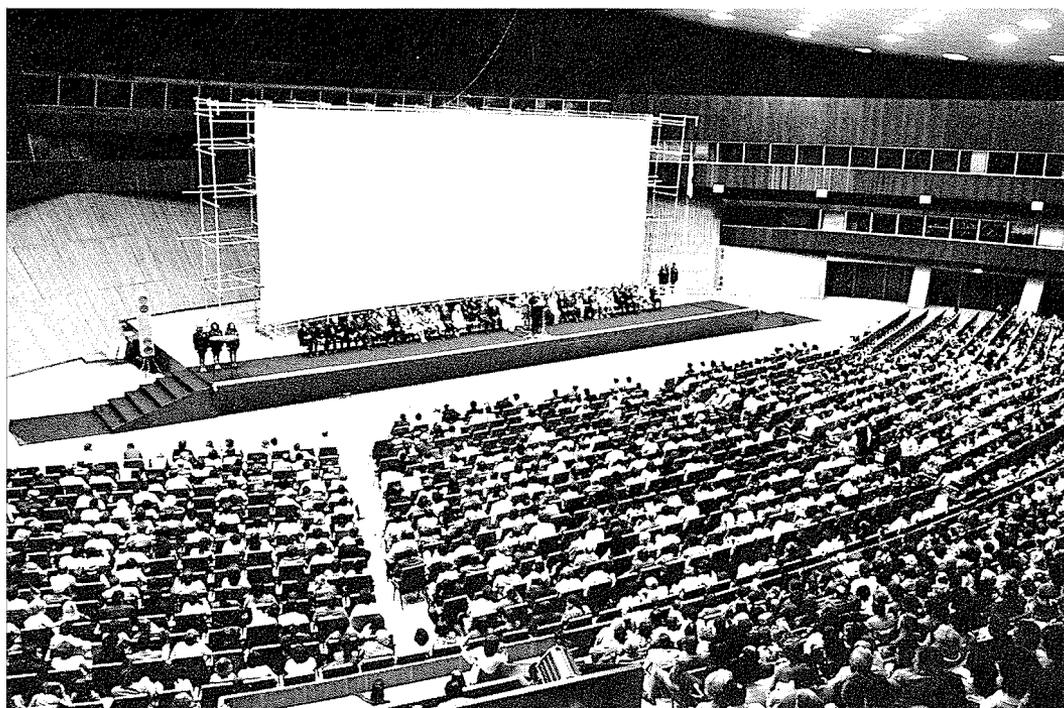


Third Meeting of Heads of Information and Public Relations Services of Red Cross, Red Crescent, Red Lion and Sun Societies.

VARNA

Photos Jean Zbinden/Geneva

The opening ceremony at the Fifth International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films.





Monrovia: The Liberian Red Cross gives army officers a course based mainly on the ICRC's booklet the « Soldier's Manual ».

Tegucigalpa: The Honduran Red Cross has combined a hygiene programme with its milk distribution scheme.



IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

THIRD MEETING OF HEADS OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Third General Meeting of Heads of Information and Public Relations of National Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies took place in Varna, Bulgaria, from 12 to 17 June 1973. It was attended by representatives of the ICRC, the League and the Societies of the following countries: Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Federal Republic of Germany, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Monaco, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Senegal, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom, United States of America and Yugoslavia. Editors of Red Cross publications in the socialist countries of Europe also took part in the meeting, the theme of which was *Promotion of the Red Cross image in the world*.¹

The meeting, which was organized jointly by the ICRC and the League following those held in Geneva in 1967 and 1970, was inaugurated in the presence of Mr. Kiril Ignatov, President, and Mr. George Gospodinov, Vice-President of the Bulgarian Red Cross. The discussions were conducted by Mr. Alain Modoux, Head of the ICRC Press and Information Department, and Mr. Marc Gazay, Director of the League's Information Bureau.

There were various subjects on the agenda, including ways and means of developing the infrastructure of Red Cross public relations and information services at national and international level. The meeting laid stress on the need not only to encourage the setting up of information services by those National Societies which had

¹ *Plate.*

IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

none—and over eighty Societies do already have them—but to provide those in charge of those services with working conditions that would closely associate them, at decision-making level, with the work carried out by the various Red Cross organs. It was realized that what the Red Cross was doing was worth while only if understood and supported by the public, and that was where the role of information was of paramount importance.

The meeting also studied the need to propagate the Red Cross principles and disseminate humanitarian law, particularly the Geneva Conventions. Here the ICRC representatives described the practical means already developed among youth, university students, the armed forces and the medical profession. As they pointed out, National Societies nevertheless had to shoulder an increasingly heavy responsibility in informing the public through the mass media.

The meeting considered a number of technical questions having a bearing on information. It was agreed that there should be closer bilateral and multilateral co-operation between National Societies and between those Societies and international Red Cross institutions, to ensure a more rational use of the means available and to make the best possible use of the experience of one and all. Several representatives urged the need to hold regional meetings, which would allow an interchange of ideas and experiences among National Societies confronted with comparable problems arising from the social, economic or cultural context in which they pursued their activities. Such meetings—and some had recently been held in Latin America while others were planned in different parts of the world, particularly in Europe and the Far East—would be extremely useful in finding practical solutions to problems such as fund raising, membership recruitment, the quest for support from the major information media, the use of new audio-visual methods, public opinion polls, etc.

There were very full discussions on the subject of co-operation between the ICRC and League information services and those of National Societies at times of major international relief operations such as had taken place in Nigeria, Jordan, Bangladesh, Nicaragua or Indo-China. While they fully realized the difficulties surrounding those emergency operations, the representatives of National Societies

again asked to be kept informed as rapidly and completely as possible, so as to be able to respond to national information requirements in the same way as the international institutions—whether the ICRC or the League or both together—informed the international press in Geneva.

Some special questions were raised during the discussions. They included the commemoration of World Red Cross Day, relations with regional radio and television bodies, and the promotion of publications by the international Red Cross institutions and their dissemination in the world.

FIFTH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF RED CROSS AND HEALTH FILMS

The biennial Festival was an occasion to see the best films dealing with the Red Cross and questions of health which National Societies, film companies, universities, research institutes, health organizations and television had produced in recent years.¹ It was held by the Bulgarian Red Cross at Varna from 18 to 27 June, under the patronage of the World Health Organization and the League of Red Cross Societies.² This year there were 250 entries from forty countries.

The official closing ceremony, in Varna's spacious Palace of Sport and Culture, was presided over by Dr. Kiril Ignatov, President of the Bulgarian Red Cross, who had beside him Mr. José Barroso, Chairman of the League's Board of Governors. Also present were the Vice-Ministers of Public Health and National Education of Bulgaria and the Director-General of the Bulgarian Film Industry. The Festival awards were read out.

¹ The Varna Festival was inscribed for the first time this year among the great world Film Festivals, by reason of its recognition by the International Federation of Film Producers' Associations and the International Film and Television Council.

² *Plate.*

IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

In the category of Red Cross films, the Grand Prix offered by the President of the Bulgarian Red Cross was attributed to a recent co-production of the League of Red Cross Societies, the Bulgarian Red Cross and the Hungarian Red Cross, *Blood is Red all over the World*, produced by Dr. Georgy Karpati (Hungary).

The League Grand Prix was awarded to the film *Good Deeds* of the Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the USSR. In the category of short and medium length films on medical and health subjects, the Grand Prix of the President of the Bulgarian Red Cross was attributed to the film *To be a Nurse* (France). For feature fiction films, the Grand Prix of the President of the Committee of Art and Culture was awarded to the film *Search for the Man* (USSR), the Gold Medal to *Family Life* (United Kingdom) and the Silver Medal to *Love* (Hungary).

In the category of television films on medical and health subjects, the Grand Prix of the Director of Bulgarian Television was awarded to *Rhesus Factor* (Yugoslavia). Finally, in the category of scientific and educational films of a medical character, the Grand Prix of the Bulgarian Minister of Public Health went to *Techniques of Laparoscopy* (Federal Republic of Germany), the Gold Medal to *Use of Laser Rays in Medicine* (USA) and the Silver Medal to *Implanting a New Urethra in Children* (Poland).

Gold and silver medals as well as special prizes and diplomas of honour were attributed to twenty-one other films.

In the category of Red Cross films, a special diploma of honour was awarded to the film *Pax*, presented by the ICRC, owing to its originality and in recognition of the International Committee's work in the sphere of international humanitarian law

**INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS ASSISTANCE
IN INDO-CHINA**

Mission by Mr. Stroh

Mr. Olof Stroh, Director of IOG (Indo-China Operational Group), left Geneva on 19 June 1973 on a mission which took him to Hanoi, Vientiane, Saigon and Phnom Penh.

In *Hanoi*, he had talks with government authorities and representatives of the Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam mainly on the construction of prefabricated houses for fifty to one hundred thousand homeless persons, and witnessed the preparatory work that was already in progress for the erection of those dwellings. He also conferred with government authorities and officials of the Red Cross of the Provisional Revolutionary Government on the various technical and medical aspects of a project for equipping a 250-bed hospital.

In *Vientiane*, Mr. Stroh met members of the Lao Red Cross and officials in charge of International Red Cross Assistance, with whom he discussed the operation of different relief programmes. He visited Luang Prabang, Pak Lay and Seno where he saw the work undertaken by the various medical teams made available by the British, French, Japanese and Swiss Red Cross Societies. He was also received in Vientiane by representatives of the Pathet Lao.

In *Saigon*, Mr. Stroh conferred with members of the Red Cross of the Republic of Vietnam and with the Head of International Red Cross Assistance concerning relief operations for displaced persons.

In *Phnom Penh*, the final stage of Mr. Stroh's mission, he discussed with Khmer Red Cross leaders the various problems generated by the growing number of refugees and the ways open to the Red Cross to forward aid to them. He also visited the Swiss medical team working at the Phnom Penh pediatric ward and the Belgian Red Cross surgery team at Svay Rieng.

Medical Assistance

On 2 July, a medico-social team, consisting of a doctor, a nurse and a child welfare worker, arrived in Saigon, to work at the orphanages of Go Vap and Phy My. In addition to providing medical treatment, it endeavours to improve conditions for the children and to organize their everyday life. It will also train local personnel to do similar work in the city's other orphanages.

In Laos, four teams are providing medical care for the population: one from the Swiss Red Cross at Luang Prabang, one from the Japanese Red Cross at Pak Lay, and two mobile teams, one from the British and one from the French Red Cross Societies, in the province of Paksane.

In Cambodia, a Belgian Red Cross medical team is at work at Svay Ring and a Swiss Red Cross team in the pediatric hospital at Phnom Penh.

Tracing of missing persons

The three tracing service offices set up with the National Societies at Saigon, Vientiane and Phnom Penh, are continuing to operate, with technical guidance from the Central Tracing Agency at Geneva.

The Red Cross of the Republic of Vietnam has already sent to the Geneva Central Tracing Agency about a thousand requests for enquiries to be made about missing persons. The requests have been transmitted to the Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. The tracing bureau of the Red Cross of the Republic of Vietnam is continuing the registration of displaced persons in Saigon and in the provinces and the recording of their requests for information and for enquiries to be made about missing persons.

The main task of the Phnom Penh tracing bureau consists in the registration of displaced persons. Several thousand names have been recorded so far. Numerous enquiries about civilians and men of the armed forces outside Khmer territory have been forwarded to Geneva.

The Vientiane tracing bureau has distributed several thousand message forms and enquiry forms.

The Governments of Laos and of the Republic of Vietnam have decided to exempt all mail carrying the red cross emblem from inland postal charges.

RED CROSS PHILATELY EXHIBITION

On 10 July 1973, at the International Red Cross museum of Castiglione delle Stiviere, the International Red Cross Philately Exhibition was opened, in the presence of the representative of the Italian Red Cross President, the Verona and Mantova section Presidents, delegates from the Milan section, the syndic of Castiglione, the museum director, and representatives from the ICRC, the League of Red Cross Societies and the Henry Dunant Institute.

After the inauguration ceremony, the assembly visited the exhibition organized by the League and of which we must mention the wealth of exhibits and the vivid presentation. The exhibition is open until 10 October. It displays postage stamps issued for the benefit of the Red Cross in many countries on the occasion of our movement's centenary and to commemorate various events.

There are other items of interest in this international museum, which is in a lovely manor in the very heart of this site so well-known to the members and friends of the Red Cross, as it was there where thousands of wounded were conveyed from the battlefield of Solferino, many of them being tended by Henry Dunant in the Chiesa Maggiore.

RED CROSS REGIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR THE CARIBBEAN

As the *International Review* has announced in previous issues, the League of Red Cross Societies organized jointly with the National Society of the countries concerned two training institutes for Spanish-speaking Societies, one of them in Mexico City in 1970 and the other, two years later, at Fusagasugá, Colombia. A further

IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

regional training institute, this time for English-speaking Caribbean countries, was held at Oracabessa, Jamaica, from 9 to 23 June 1973.

The participants were members of the National Societies of Barbados, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. Canada, Finland and the United States of America also sent delegates, and nine chapters of the British Red Cross were represented, namely, Antigua, Bahamas, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Kitts and St. Vincent. Mr. B. Petterson, Under Secretary General of the League, assisted by several officers of that institution, was present, as was Mr. Nessi, ICRC delegate-general for Latin America.

The first three days were devoted to the International Red Cross, and Mr. Nessi made a statement about the ICRC, the principles of the Red Cross and the Geneva Conventions. The representatives of the League in turn led a discussion which shed light on the operations and responsibilities of that federation of National Societies. Some further subjects were dealt with: Red Cross and Youth, First Aid and Water Safety, Disaster Preparedness, Principles of Public Relations and Advertising, Protocol and Human Relations in Administration.

The active co-operation of all members of the Training Institute ensured its complete success. Delegates of National Societies and of British Red Cross chapters compared their experiences, while discussions in the working groups revealed the work already done and the tasks that still lay ahead.

Honduras

Five tons of powdered milk, which had been made available to the ICRC by the Swiss Confederation, were sent to the Honduran Red Cross in October 1972. The Society organized a distribution programme approved by Mr. Serge Nessi, ICRC delegate-general for Latin America, who was in Tegucigalpa at the time.

Three towns were supplied: Tegucigalpa (3 tons), San Pedro Sula (1 ton) and La Ceiba (1 ton), where the need was greatest.

Relief operations following the Managua earthquake delayed the plan of assistance, which in Tegucigalpa¹ and La Ceiba started only in May, whereas it had started in February at San Pedro Sula.

In its action for a daily glass of milk for undernourished children, the National Society appealed to young volunteers to help. They vied with one another in enthusiasm and in devising ways of making the distribution thoroughly effective for all concerned. To the initial "glass of milk" programme they added other programmes, such as "personal hygiene", and came to the aid of a large number of people.

The campaign was a great success for the Honduran Red Cross, and the ICRC is happy to have been able to contribute.

Spain

The Spanish Red Cross has adopted a new lay-out for its review *Cruz Roja Española*; it will now have more pages, some with coloured illustrations. Writing on this subject in the review's editorial, the National Society President points out that the bulletin which has been giving news of Red Cross activities in the country for over a century has become an effective medium for making humanitarian work known.

Cruz Roja Española is going through an important phase in extending its field and reproducing news on health education at various levels. This first issue contains news on the work of the National Society's Salamanca section and on Red Cross activities in Vietnam, and an article on blood donation and transfusion.

We are pleased to avail ourselves of this opportunity to convey to the Spanish Red Cross review—one of the oldest publications of the Red Cross movement, having first made its appearance in 1870 under that outstanding personality Nicasio Landa—our congratulations and our best wishes.

¹ *Plate.*

M I S C E L L A N E O U S

A CHILD HEALTH CENTRE

Poland has not forgotten the many children who were the victims of the second world war. In memory of those who suffered and died in such tragic circumstances, the Polish people have decided to set up a vast Child Health Centre, and the Polish Red Cross is one of the social organizations promoting that humanitarian venture.

The executive committee of the Centre, which is presided over by Minister Janusz Wiczorek, has sent the ICRC documents regarding its plans. The Child Health Centre will be a large complex for in- and out-patient hospital treatment and "rehabilitation" of sick children, and it will include a research institute. Based on the most up-to-date knowledge and techniques, it will contribute to the development and welfare of children.

The authorities have donated a 17-hectare, partly wooded, plot of land near Warsaw, on the edge of a forest. The cost of providing treatment for the children and running the Centre will be borne by the Polish Government, while the cost of building and equipping the Centre is to be covered by voluntary contributions by the Polish people and foreign persons and institutions. The Polish Red Cross donated a sum of one million zlotys to the Centre at the end of January 1973. The ICRC, for its part, has decided to allot 20,000 Swiss francs to the purchase of equipment which it will present to the Centre.

At the ceremony for the laying of the foundation-stone, on 3 June 1973, the ICRC was represented by its Vice-President, Mr. Harald Huber. According to forecasts, the Centre may be completed and become operational in 1978. The aim is not only to pay a tribute to the memory of the Polish children who perished in the war, but to found a living institution which will actively and effectively serve children stricken by disease and infirmity, as a symbol of the triumph of life over death.

HIGHER NURSING EDUCATION

The WHO Regional Office for Europe organized a symposium at The Hague to consider how universities and other institutions for higher education could help with the training of the skilled nurses essential to modern techniques of medical care. A number of suggestions regarding ways of improving nursing education were made at the meeting, the following being the more important :¹

(1) Nursing education should be provided within the general education system of the country, and students of nursing should have the same rights and responsibilities as all other students in the educational system.

(2) Young people intending to enter the top ranks of the nursing profession should meet the scholastic requirements for entrance into universities, colleges, academies and/or institutes affiliated with universities.

(3) In countries where a university education for the top ranks of nurses has not already been established, plans should be made to transfer such education to universities, colleges, academies and/or university-affiliated institutes.

(4) Universities that already provide equivalency examinations for mature students with working experience who lack the full admission requirements should be encouraged by the health authorities to extend the same privileges to mature experienced nurses seeking admission to universities.

¹ See *WHO Chronicle*, Geneva, 1973, No. 6.

A WORLD POLICY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Under this title, Professor Lynton K. Caldwell at the University of Indiana (United States), the author of several books on problems of the environment, has written for the Unesco Courier (Paris, January 1973) an article, the concluding part of which is reproduced below. As we have already pointed out on several occasions and as was stressed, too, by Mr. H. Beer, Secretary-General of the League of Red Cross Societies, at the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm (June 1972)¹, the Red Cross movement is taking and will always increasingly take a part in the struggle for the protection of the environment which is in danger today.

At international levels, the diversities among nations require a broad base of deliberation for decisions that affect all or large groups of national states. At national levels (but increasingly at international levels also) there is need to benefit from the contributions of the non-governmental organizations to the decision process. Non-governmental organizations were strongly represented at the Stockholm Conference and made major direct and indirect contributions to official action.

A structure for environmental decision-making is thus emerging, slowly perhaps in relation to need—but rapidly by historical precedent. This structure may in time provide a coherent system for environmental decision-making that links all political levels—local, national, regional, and international, and that provides regular channels for continuous communication among scientists, planners, and decision-makers, as well as between official and non-governmental agencies. But meanwhile, who makes the decisions on environmental affairs?

A superficial answer would be: almost everybody—or in some instances, nobody. The present disorders of our global environment reflect the inadequacy of our decision process at all jurisdictional

¹ See *International Review*, August 1972.

levels. No nation as yet can claim true expertise in environmental management. The so-called developed nations are only a few years ahead of the developing states in awareness and experience.

Environmental protection technologies may be rapidly transferred where receptive conditions exist. Awareness of the need for wise environmental management is rapidly becoming evident among the leadership in many developing countries. Ecologically sound policies are increasingly understood to go hand in hand with effective development. There is indeed ground for optimism that, at least, some developing countries may bring their environmental problems under control more rapidly than will the older industrialized states.

The task of international environmental and developmental policy today is to develop the concepts, criteria, and institutional arrangements which will give the best chances for public action addressed to the broad range of human needs experienced by all mankind.

THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF AUGUST 12, 1949¹

Some Publications

	Sw. Fr
The Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949. 2nd Ed. 1950. 245 pp.	10.—
Commentary published under the general editorship of Mr. J. Pictet, member of ICRC:	
— Vol. 1: Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field — 466 pp.	
bound	40.—
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*

International Red Cross Handbook.² Conventions—Statutes and Regulations—Resolutions of the International Conference of the Red Cross and of the Board of Governors of the League of Red Cross Societies, 11th ed. 1971; 8vo, 607 pp. 40.—

¹ These publications and the full list of ICRC publications may be obtained from the ICRC Documentation Department, 7 avenue de la Paix, CH-1211 Geneva.

² This joint publication can be obtained at the above address or from the League of Red Cross Societies, Case postale 2099, CH-1211 Geneva 19.



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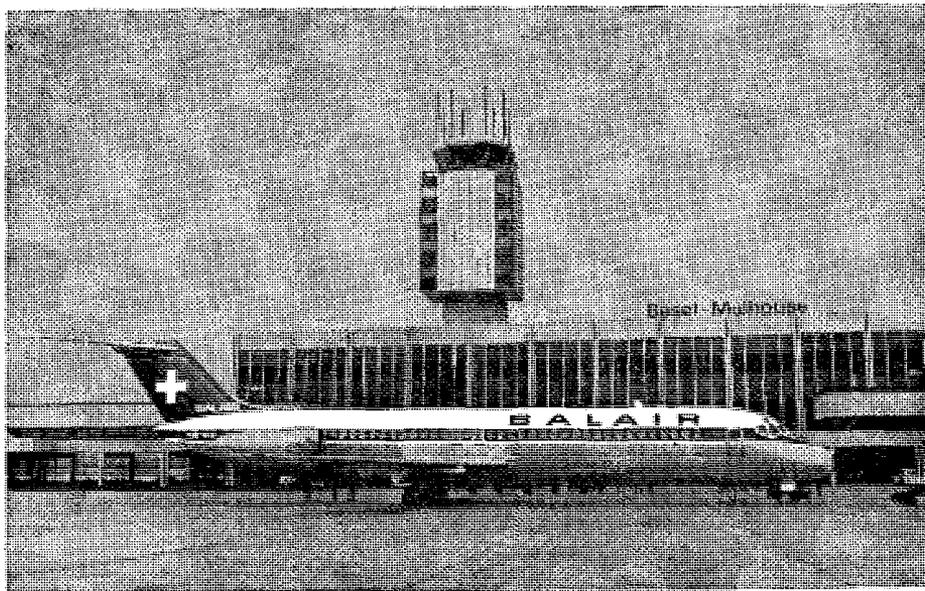
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- AUSTRALIA — Australian Red Cross, 122-128 Flinders Street, *Melbourne 3000*.
- AUSTRIA — Austrian Red Cross, 3 Gusshausstrasse, Postfach 39, *Vienna IV*.
- BAHRAIN — Bahrain Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 882, *Manama*.
- BELGIUM — Belgian Red Cross, 98 Chaussée de Vleurgat, *1050 Brussels*.
- BOLIVIA — Bolivian Red Cross, Avenida Simón Bolívar, 1515 (Casilla 741), *La Paz*.
- BOTSWANA — Botswana Red Cross Society, Independence Avenue, P.O. Box 485, *Gaborones*.
- BRAZIL — Brazilian Red Cross, Praça Cruz Vermelha 10-12, *Rio de Janeiro*.
- BULGARIA — Bulgarian Red Cross, 1, Boul. S. S. Biruzov, *Sofia 27*.
- BURMA — Burma Red Cross, 42 Strand Road, Red Cross Building, *Rangoon*.
- BURUNDI — Red Cross Society of Burundi, rue du Marché 3, P.O. Box 324, *Bujumbura*.
- CAMEROON — Central Committee of the Cameroon Red Cross Society, rue Henry-Dunant, P.O.B. 631, *Yaoundé*.
- CANADA — Canadian Red Cross, 95 Wellesley Street East, *Toronto, Ontario, M4Y 1H6*.
- CHILE — Chilean Red Cross, Avenida Santa María 0150, Correo 21, Casilla 246V., *Santiago de Chile*.
- CHINA — Red Cross Society of China, 22 Kannien Hutung, *Peking, E*.
- COLOMBIA — Colombian Red Cross, Carrera 7a, 34-65, Apartado nacional 1110, *Bogotá D.E.*
- COSTA RICA — Costa Rican Red Cross, Calle 5a, Apartado 1025, *San José*.
- CUBA — Cuban Red Cross, Calle 23 201 esq. N. Vedado, *Havana*.
- CZECHOSLOVAKIA — Czechoslovak Red Cross, Thunovska 18, *Prague I*.
- DAHOMY — Red Cross Society of Dahomey, P.O. Box 1, *Porto Novo*.
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- REPUBLIC OF KOREA — The Republic of Korea National Red Cross, 32-3Ka Nam Sandong, *Seoul*.
- KUWAIT — Kuwait Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 1359, *Kuwait*.
- LAOS — Lao Red Cross, P.B. 650, *Vientiane*.
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- MALAYSIA — Malaysian Red Cross Society, 519 Jalan Belfield, *Kuala Lumpur*.
- MALI — Mali Red Cross, B.P. 280, route de Koulikora, *Bamako*.
- MAURITANIA — Mauritanian Red Crescent Society, B.P. 344, Avenue Gamal Abdel Nasser, *Nouakchott*.
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