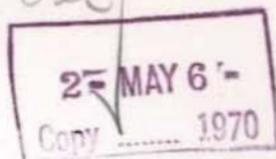


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TENTH YEAR - No. 108



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international review of the red cross



INTER ARMA CARITAS

GENEVA
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS
FOUNDED IN 1863

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INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF THE RED CROSS

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**SUPPLEMENTS
TO THE REVIEW**

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GERMAN

Hans Meuli : Die Ärzte und das Rote Kreuz — Anerkennung des Botswanischen Roten Kreuzes — Das Internationale Komitee stellt seine Aktion in Nigeria ein — Welttag des Roten Kreuzes (8. Mai 1970).

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CIVIL WAR

by A. Schlögel

It is known that the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross voted a resolution (No. XVII) relative to the protection of the victims of non-international armed conflicts and by which it "asks the ICRC to devote special attention to this problem within the framework of the more general studies it has started to develop humanitarian law". However, before the meeting at Istanbul, the author of the following article had already written a study on the subject entitled "Der Bürgerkrieg", which is of topical interest and of which we now give extracts at some length in our own translation (Ed.).

Preliminary observation

In this study we will be examining above all, from the legal angle, the aid which the Red Cross can bring in time of civil war. This implies both a limitation of the subject, as there is no intention of raising many questions connected with international law, and also an extension of the subject, because going beyond problems of pure law, discussion will be made of the concrete aspects of humanitarian activity. It is proposed to discover how the present situation could be improved, a situation which is generally considered to be far from satisfactory.

CIVIL WAR IN THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS

I. Historical background

1. There have been civil wars ever since States existed, the established order finding itself constantly in danger, it was often restored or modified by force. However, it has only relatively recently been seriously pre-occupying international law. One can easily see why. As international law is always connected with relations between States, there is no place there for rebellion against the established power. It was international humanitarian law, that is to say the branch of international law which is dependent on the principles of humanity in cases of conflict which also led to the broaching of this important aspect of the subject. International humanitarian law starts from the premise that the individual has a legitimate right to be protected and given aid irrespective of the State to which he belongs.

The first attempt at an International Conference of the Red Cross to deal with the subject of civil war was made in 1912 in Washington. An American motion was submitted on that occasion. This concerned the role of the Red Cross in the case of civil war or uprising which already comprised a draft international Convention some of whose provisions we now give below for their interest:

6. Such Red Cross Societies of other countries extending their assistance in time of such disturbances shall confine their aid strictly to the care and nursing of the sick and wounded, as provided in the Geneva Conventions and in the Hague Conventions for the Adaptation to Naval War of the principles of the Geneva Convention, or to relieving the suffering of non-combatant inhabitants of the country, and such societies shall render such aid and assistance with the utmost impartiality as between the members of the opposing factions. In rendering assistance to the sick and wounded or to non-combatant inhabitants such societies must in no way interfere with the operations of the armed forces either of the established government or of the disturbing elements. They shall extend such assistance at such places and at such times as the appropriate military authority of the respective parties shall indicate. But such forces shall under no circumstances appropriate in any form the food which is necessary for

the sustenance of the personnel of the volunteer service, nor the clothing and shelter necessary for such personnel.

10. Aid extended by such societies to non-combatant persons outside the line of operations either of the established government or of the disturbing elements, shall not be regarded as assistance to combatants . . .

General Yermolow, representing the Tsar of Russia, opposed discussion of this motion. He justified his attitude in the following way, which was characteristic of the times: " I consider, in addition, that the Red Cross Societies should have no duty towards insurgents or bands of revolutionaries whom the laws of my country regard as criminals ". This statement met with such general approval that it was not possible to have a mere exchange of views on the subject.

Although subsequently the International Committee of the Red Cross showed itself active in various civil wars, its efforts had no legal basis. In consequence these attempts often met with fierce opposition and considerable obstacles. However, two cases deserving our special attention then presented themselves. These were the ICRC's activity in Russia during the Bolshevik Revolution in 1918-1919 and the Hungarian Revolution in 1919. These events led the Committee to submit to the Xth International Conference of the Red Cross, meeting in Geneva in 1921, a draft which resulted in a resolution some of whose provisions were as follows:

The International Red Cross Committee, having assured itself of the consent of the government of the country in which the civil war is raging, should organize relief work by appealing to the foreign relief organisations.

If the government in question refuses its consent, the International Red Cross Committee shall make a public statement of the facts, supported by the documents relating thereto. (General Principles IIIb)

The Tenth Conference, inspired by the painful experience had by the Red Cross in the countries in which civil war is raging, calls the attention of all peoples, governments and political parties, national or otherwise, to the fact that the state of civil war cannot justify the violation of international law, and that the international law must be safeguarded at every cost. (Resolution 4)

The Tenth Conference condemns the system of political hostages and insists upon the non-responsibility of families and especially of

CIVIL WAR

children, for the acts of the heads and other members of families. (Resolution 5)

The Tenth Conference deploras the boundless sufferings to which prisoners, and those interned in countries in which civil war is raging, are often subjected, and considers that the political prisoners, in time of civil war, should be regarded and treated by the belligerent parties as prisoners of war; that is, according to the principles of the Hague Convention of 1907. (Resolution 6).

Two months only after its adoption the resolution was to come under fire. Civil war broke out in Upper Silesia. The delegates of the International Committee, on the basis of that resolution, obtained authorization to accomplish their mission, visit prisoner of war camps and care for the women, children and the aged. The two sides went even further. They in fact undertook to apply the Geneva Convention throughout the duration of hostilities. Upper Silesia was thus the first case in history where, thanks to the ICRC's intervention, two opposing parties in a civil war considered themselves explicitly bound to the Geneva Convention.

The ICRC was less fortunate during the Irish civil war in 1921-1922, both sides rejecting the Committee's offers of aid as being hostile.

Matters were more satisfactory in the Spanish civil war. The subject has been comprehensively described by Marcel Junod, the ICRC's well-known delegate.¹ He encountered various difficulties but succeeded however in obtaining most positive declarations from the two adversaries, in Madrid and Burgos respectively. The two Parties undertook to respect the Geneva Conventions thus enabling aid to be brought to thousands of persons. Whilst civil war was still raging in Spain, the XVIth International Conference of the Red Cross, meeting in London in 1938, on the ICRC's proposal, adopted a revised resolution as follows:

The XVIth International Red Cross Conference requests the International Committee and the national Red Cross Societies to endeavour to obtain :

¹ Marcel Junod, *Le Troisième Combattant*, Lausanne, 1947, Paris, 1967, with an English translation, *Warrior without weapons* by E. Fitzgerald, Jonathan Cape, London, 1951.

- a) *the application of the humanitarian principles which were formulated in the Geneva Convention of 1929 and the Xth Hague Convention of 1907, especially as regards the treatment of the wounded, the sick, and prisoners of war, and the safety of medical personnel and medical stores,*
- b) *humane treatment for all political prisoners, their exchange and, so far as possible, their release,*
- c) *respect of the life and liberty of non-combatants,*
- d) *facilities for the transmission of news of a personal nature and for the re-union of families,*
- e) *effective measures for the protection of children.*

This resolution went a long way and anticipated the application of all the provisions of the Geneva Conventions in civil wars.

2. When, after the Second World War, the ICRC was preparing fundamental revision of the Geneva Conventions, it concerned itself from the outset with civil war. It first of all submitted the question to the preliminary Conference of National Red Cross Societies, which was held in Geneva in 1946. The ICRC there proposed that, in the case of civil war in the interior of a State, the opposing parties be invited to declare that they would apply the principles of the Convention, under the reservation of reciprocity.

The preliminary Conference of National Red Cross Societies went considerably further than this suggestion and chose the following text:

In case of armed conflict in the interior of a State, the Convention shall be equally applied by each of the adverse Parties, unless one of these expressly declares its refusal to conform thereto.

This draft went a long way.

The preliminary Conference of 1946 was followed in 1947 by the Meeting of Government Experts which proposed a new formula:

In case of civil war, in any part of the home or colonial territory of a Contracting Party, the principles of the Convention shall be equally applied by the said Party, subject to the adverse Party also conforming thereto.

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The essential difference here, in relation to the 1946 text, lies in the fact that mention is no longer made of applying the whole Convention, but only its principles. On the other hand, more emphasis is placed on reciprocity than in 1946. On the basis of the above, the International Committee drew up its draft for the International Conference of the Red Cross which was to be held in Stockholm in 1948. It is understandable that it based itself more on the suggestion made by the Red Cross Societies than on that of the Government experts. The text of this draft ran as follows:

In all cases of armed conflict which are not of an international character, especially cases of civil war, colonial conflicts, or wars of religion, which may occur in the territory of one or more of the High Contracting Parties, the implementing of the principles of the present Convention shall be obligatory on each of the adversaries. The application of the Convention in these circumstances shall in nowise depend on the legal status of the parties to the conflict and shall have no effect on that status.

This was confirmed by the International Conference of the Red Cross of 1948, merely deleting the superfluous terms: *especially cases of civil war, colonial conflicts, wars of religion...*

3. This text which, with minor variations¹, was intended for the four drafts of the Convention, and was received in very diverse ways during the discussions at the Diplomatic Conference, meeting in Geneva in 1949, and led to heated arguments. At the basis of these discussions was, on the one hand, opposition for reasons of State and on the other hand, there was the equally legitimate humanitarian interest of the individual. Some saw in such a provision an encouragement of anarchy, the disintegration of the State and a support of banditry. Others, however, replied that one had often regarded as bandits those who were in fact patriots fighting for the independence and dignity of their country. The conduct of the Parties to the conflict would show whether they were criminals or real soldiers, deserving of the application

¹ For these minor differences see F. Siordet, *The Geneva Conventions and Civil War*, supplements to the *Revue internationale de la Croix-Rouge*, Vol. III, Nos. 8, 9 and 11, Geneva, August, September and November 1950.

of the Conventions. Furthermore, the distress of the population would be the same in an international conflict as in a civil war.

As a reflection of these divergences, proposals for making modifications varied considerably between each other. A Canadian suggestion was to suppress the entire proposal. The opposite view was taken by a Hungarian suggestion for the deletion of the clause on reciprocity. Between these two extremes, various suggestions were made to attempt to determine the conditions of application. One motion (Australia) was above all based on the question of discovering whether the legal government had recognized the adverse party as a belligerent Power and asked whether the conflict should not have been submitted to the Security Council of the United Nations as constituting a threat to peace. Another proposer (France), insisted that the adverse party possesses armed forces organized on a military basis and responsible authority over a defined area of the national territory and having the means to have the Conventions respected. The delegation of the United States laid down, in addition, the condition that the insurgent civilian authorities explicitly recognize the Geneva Conventions. In conclusion, a working party attempted to find a formula reconciling all the points of view expressed. It is evident that such an attempt could not achieve success.

France, basing itself on previous Italian proposals, was to give a new direction to the discussions by suggesting a further limitation to the applicable provisions. The little legal protection from which the victims of civil war benefited was the logical outcome of the impossibility, for governments, to agree on what should be demanded of the rebel party for it to have recognition of equal rights under the Geneva Conventions. This problem must be closely considered, as it still exists today, and will have a decisive influence on all future discussions.

Matters were then to move fast. Those taking part in the discussions were all obviously relieved to have found a solution. There was no need to define the few principles which were applicable as formulation of these, it was considered, had fortunately been

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made in the preamble proposed by the International Committee for the four Conventions. This preamble now being superfluous, as one wanted to avoid any preamble, its contents were to be essentially embodied in article 3. After a certain amount of deliberation the definite text, originating from the Joint Committee reads as follows:

In the case of armed conflict not of an international character occurring in the territory of one of the High Contracting Parties, each Party to the conflict shall be bound to apply, as a minimum, the following provisions :

1. Persons taking no active part in the hostilities, including members of armed forces who have laid down their arms and those placed hors de combat by sickness, wounds, detention, or any other cause, shall in all circumstances be treated humanely, without any adverse distinction founded on race, colour, religion or faith, sex, birth or wealth, or any other similar criteria.

To this end, the following acts are and shall remain prohibited at any time and in any place whatsoever with respect to the above-mentioned persons :

- a) violence to life and person, in particular murder of all kinds, mutilation, cruel treatment and torture ;*
- b) taking of hostages ;*
- c) outrages upon personal dignity, in particular humiliating and degrading treatment ;*
- d) the passing of sentences and the carrying out of executions without previous judgment pronounced by a regularly constituted court, affording all the judicial guarantees which are recognized as indispensable by civilized peoples.*

2. The wounded and sick shall be collected and cared for.

An impartial humanitarian body, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross, may offer its services to the Parties to the conflict.

The Parties to the conflict should further endeavour to bring into force, by means of special agreements, all or part of the other provisions of the present Convention.

The application of the preceding provisions shall not affect the legal status of the Parties to the conflict.

II. Commentary on article 3 of the four Geneva Conventions ¹

1. It is evident that if one starts off with the idea that States intended to provide a minimum legal protection in all national conflicts and thereby, if possible, avoid raising the question of the qualification of the rebel party, interpretation of the notion "not of an international character" should be extremely wide and flexible. The fact that the rebel party possesses or does not possess armed forces organized on a military pattern with responsible authority, exercises its authority over a defined area or not, is recognized or is not recognized as a belligerent, or the fact that the conflict has or has not been submitted to the Security Council or the General Assembly of the United Nations, etc. is quite immaterial. What is demanded is the respect for a few rules whose essentials have always been recognized by civilized States and given legal sanction by their own internal laws.

2. What is more problematical is what has happened to the fact that all Parties to the conflict should apply these provisions? This concerns the State as well as its adversary. That the two Parties should be taken into consideration should not lead to imposing a certain reciprocity as a condition. The fundamental rules figuring in article 3 are absolute. There can be no limit in their application or absence of application in the form of reprisals. On the other hand, the rebel party has also great interest in rigorously respecting these rules so as to avoid being suspected of banditry or terrorism.

The difficulty experienced in approaching rebels is readily overestimated. As a general rule, negotiations are no more difficult to effect with them than with the "legal" government.

3. *Subject matter of the obligation.*—As has already been pointed out, the text of article 3, paragraph 1 (1) goes back to the preamble proposed by the ICRC. These terms are formal, but take no account of the particular characteristics of civil wars. It should

¹ Cf. J. Pictet, *Commentary on the Geneva Conventions*, vol. I, pp. 38-61 (comments on article 3 were edited by Mr. F. Siordet).

CIVIL WAR

not, however, be overlooked that the definition, shortened to the principles enunciated therein, does in fact facilitate the putting into concrete form of the idea upon which it is based. Attention should be given to the fact that sub-heading (1) deals with three groups or persons:

- a) *persons taking no active part in the hostilities* ;¹
- b) *members of the armed forces who have laid down their arms* ;
- c) *those placed hors de combat by sickness, wounds, detention, or any other cause.*²

Two requirements are stipulated as regards persons: humane treatment and the prohibition of any discrimination.

Concentration should be made on the words "treated humanely" and any attempt to give embodiment to article 3 should start with this term. Humane treatment is indeed not only the fundamental principle of the Red Cross, it is also that of the Geneva Conventions. Going further, it is the basic idea of human rights and of love of one's neighbour. It is obvious that the enumeration of the four absolute prohibitions which follow (article 3, sub-heading (1), a)—d) is thoroughly incomplete and, as such, highly dangerous for their omissions. Such prohibitions explicitly stated are to be met with in many various places in the Geneva Conventions. It cannot be doubted that they are right and just in themselves. However, they can be criticised for those enumerated here, as grave breaches of these provisions, frequent also in civil wars, are not those which cause the worst suffering to the civilian population in time of war. Experience of nearly all civil wars has shown that the greatest harm is done in other spheres. Questions of supply (food and other items of prime necessity), expulsions, forced labour, long periods of detention for political opponents in conditions contrary to human dignity, and many other things besides: these are the burning questions in a civil war. It appears to us that the funda-

¹ This is a general concept, covering the two following sub-headings. It should however be pointed out that it is essentially civilians who come under this definition.

² Thought is here also given to members of the armed forces. This refers to persons who, in case of international conflict, are included amongst those given protection under Conventions I, II and III.

mental defect of article 3, which has, moreover, an unsystematic structure, lies in the lack of balance between the principle figuring in heading 1 and the enumeration as examples of particular violations under sub-headings a) to d).

4. An equally difficult problem is raised in the paragraph which concerns the International Committee of the Red Cross and confirms its right of initiative. It " may " offer its services to the Parties to the conflict. We do not consider this to be sufficient. In fact, it is impossible for the ICRC to lend the slightest weight to this unilateral offer. Whilst a number of passages allocate tasks to it which it can assume from the outset during international conflicts, article 3 only gives it the possibility of a unilateral offer, there being no corresponding obligation for the Party to a civil war to follow this up, nor is there even a recommendation to that effect.

Experience has shown that this provision is inadequate. The only progress made in comparison with previous law lies, according to Mr. F. Siordet, in the fact that the ICRC's offer can no longer be regarded as being an unfriendly act. In our opinion, the game would not be worth the candle!

In this connection yet another question is raised, which was also broached during the preliminary discussion of article 3. Should a Protecting Power be appointed in civil wars as article 8 does in case of international conflict? Criticisms made of this idea are not, in my opinion, convincing. Experience of Protecting Powers (Switzerland and Sweden in particular) during international conflicts speaks so clearly in favour of such institution that the possibility should also be considered for civil wars of long duration.

In the present state of affairs, the provision under paragraph 1 falls to the ground, as the bodies which, during international conflicts, have the task of ensuring respect for the humanitarian provisions, are not here considered, or else depend completely in their action on the goodwill of the Parties to the conflict.

Unfortunately, wide interpretation is not sufficient to counter this inadequacy of article 3.

5. The penultimate paragraph is most important. According to it " the Parties to the conflict should further endeavour to bring into

CIVIL WAR

force, by means of special agreements, all or part of the other provisions of the present Convention ". This stipulation could appear to stand by itself, but this is not so. In fact this way has been chosen in various cases. However, the inadequacy of this rule should not escape attention. It is based on the completely free decision of the Parties involved.

6. Finally, the last paragraph reflects the position of all governments, namely that " the application of the preceding provisions shall not affect the legal status of the Parties to the conflict." This is moreover aimed at all the previous paragraphs. Even an agreement on the application of all the Geneva Conventions is not equivalent to recognition of belligerency, within the meaning of international law.

Dr. Anton SCHLÖGEL

Secretary-General of the German Red Cross
in the Federal Republic of Germany

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

Recognition of the Botswana Red Cross Society

GENEVA, 5 FEBRUARY 1970

Circular No. 477

*To the Central Committees of the National Red Cross, Red Crescent
and Red Lion and Sun Societies*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

We have the honour to inform you that the International Committee of the Red Cross on 5 February 1970 officially recognized the Botswana Red Cross Society.

The new Society formally applied for recognition by the International Committee by letter received on 14 October 1969. Its request was accompanied by various documents including a copy of its Statutes and of the Ordinance of 1 March 1968, together with a statement of adherence to the Statutes of the International Red Cross and a report on the Society's activities in 1968.

These documents, which were examined jointly by the International Committee and the Secretariat of the League of Red Cross Societies, showed that the ten qualifying conditions for recognition of a new National Society had been fulfilled.

This recognition which the International Committee is pleased to announce, brings to 113 the total number of member Societies of the International Red Cross.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

As the representatives of the International Committee and the League of Red Cross Societies were able to observe during their visits in 1968 and 1969, the Red Cross of Botswana is active throughout the territory. It is concerned, amongst others, with instruction in first-aid and the rules of hygiene, with infant care, blood transfusion and aid to refugees.

The Government of the Republic of Botswana acceded to the 1949 Geneva Conventions on 29 March 1968. The autonomous character of the Society is provided for in the Statutes and is guaranteed by the above-mentioned Ordinance. The President of the Society is Lady Khama. Its headquarters are at Gaborones.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has pleasure in welcoming the Botswana Red Cross to membership of the International Red Cross, in accrediting it and commending it, by this circular, to all other National Societies, and in expressing sincere good wishes for its future and for the success of its humanitarian work.

FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
OF THE RED CROSS

Marcel A. NAVILLE

President

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE ENDS ITS MISSION IN NIGERIA

The civil war in Nigeria is now ended. That does not mean, however, that this gloomy page of African history has been turned. The secessionist zone enclave being cut off from the outside world, the effect of the war on the civilian population was particularly deadly.

From the outset both parties recognized the ICRC's role as a neutral intermediary and assured it of their determination to respect the Geneva Conventions. For the first time in Africa, the Federal Military Government drew up and issued to the troops a code of conduct based on the principles of those Conventions.

As early as July 1967 and throughout the conflict the ICRC worked in the territories of both parties to the war to carry out the duties incumbent on it under the Geneva Conventions: prisoners of war were visited; hundreds of personal messages were forwarded from one side of the front to the other through the Central Tracing Agency; the wounded and sick on both sides were given medical care.

Concomitantly, going beyond the normal scope of its duties under the Geneva Conventions, the ICRC set up one of the largest relief organizations in Red Cross history. This was made necessary by the growing needs in food and medical supplies of the civilian populations. The operations developed in spite of difficulties, thanks to the assistance of governments, National Red Cross Societies, governmental and private agencies and a great number of individual donations. In this respect the ICRC makes a point of expressing its gratitude to all who co-operated in its action, and of paying tribute to the delegates and pilots who lost their lives whilst on operations.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

No less than 120,000 tons of foodstuffs and medical supplies were provided by the ICRC; 91,000 tons in Federal territory—particularly in those regions near the fighting areas where refugees and war victims were numerous—and 29,000 tons in the former secessionist area. The relief consisted of foodstuffs, medical supplies and equipment to a value of almost 500 million Swiss francs. Expenses for personnel—delegates, doctors, specialists, local employees and labourers, numbering at one time as many as 1,820—amounted to almost 50 million francs.

This personnel was essential for the forwarding and distribution of supplies, for the smooth operation of the ICRC's medical programme and for the running of hospitals set up by the International Committee in the stricken region and which continued their work throughout.

These efforts as a whole provided daily assistance through 909 distribution centres to almost a million people in federal territory and almost a million and a half in the secessionist area.

To carry out the medical programme, consistent with the First Geneva Convention, the ICRC, as early as the summer of 1967, sent surgical teams to both sides of the front. By the end of June 1969 it was co-ordinating the work of 45 medical teams on loan from various charitable agencies and National Red Cross Societies. It set up five hospitals, an orthopaedic workshop and 53 sickbays. With assistance from local Red Cross sections, its vaccination campaign had, by the beginning of 1970, enabled 2,524,411 persons to be inoculated against smallpox, 893,131 against measles and 246,586 against tuberculosis.

In June 1969, for reasons which it is not for the ICRC to judge, the Federal Military Government's attitude changed. Following the shooting down of a Swedish aircraft on a mercy flight under ICRC control and responsibility, and when the Nigerian Government no longer tolerated night flights to the former secessionist area, the International Committee decided to discontinue its night airlift.

Being bound by the Geneva Conventions and as it was also working for the benefit of the population in territory under federal control, the ICRC had no alternative but to negotiate with both

parties to try to reach an agreement on an airlift during daylight. Unfortunately the belligerents could not agree on practical arrangements for such flights.

On 30 June 1969 the Federal Military Government decided to transfer from the ICRC to a government body in liaison with the Nigerian Red Cross the role of co-ordinator for relief actions in federal territory. Thanks to large scale technical assistance which had been provided for several years by Scandinavian Red Cross Societies, the Nigerian Red Cross was able to work throughout the whole territory.

At the request of the Nigerian authorities, however, the transfer took place only on 30 September 1969. The ICRC then handed over to the Nigerian Red Cross almost 20,000 tons of equipment and stores stocked near the front, inter alia at Enugu, Calabar, Port Harcourt and Koko. It also handed over medical supplies and loaned 98 vehicles, ships, inflatable warehouses and a fully equipped radio network.

During the transitional period from 30 June to 30 September 1969, and even beyond that date, the ICRC drew on its reserves to assume the financing of relief actions which had fallen to the Nigerian Red Cross which had practically no funds of its own. Thanks to these transfers and the technical and financial assistance given the Nigerian Red Cross during the transitional period, the National Society was not without resources during the final months of the war and when the resistance of the former secessionist zone collapsed.

The Red Cross in the secessionist area, moreover, was reintegrated into the National Society, and this lightened the task.

When the collapse came, the ICRC, thanks to the aircraft it had kept operational for that purpose, was ready to forward to the stricken region some 6,000 tons of foodstuffs and medical supplies stocked at Cotonou. This final operation seemed the more essential as it had to alleviate the suffering of victims during the hiatus between the breakdown of organised relief distribution in the former secessionist area and the arrival of emergency relief after hostilities.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

The Federal Military Government having decreed that all relief and reconstruction operations should be in Nigerian hands and, in particular, co-ordinated by the Ministry of Economic Development, the ICRC's further efforts came up against various obstacles which the Federal Military Government agreed to remove only for a few flights to take medical supplies and food-stuffs and, in one flight, to evacuate some serious casualties to Kaduna. It should be pointed out that, jointly with the League of Red Cross Societies, the ICRC had, the day following the end of hostilities, submitted to the Nigerian authorities and Red Cross an offer of assistance and co-operation and of ICRC transport potential.

However, simultaneously with its new proposals, the ICRC placed on record that the cessation of hostilities should be followed by its gradual withdrawal as a neutral organization within the meaning of the Geneva Conventions, as its presence would no longer be required.

This fact and the observation that its intervention was no longer considered indispensable led the International Committee of the Red Cross to decide to withdraw. It is now for the Nigerian authorities and Red Cross to complete the work of assistance to the tens of thousands of people still in need.

*EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES***Middle East**

Visits to civilian detainees.—The ICRC delegates in Israel, on 14 January 1970, visited 35 Egyptian fishermen who had been captured by the Israeli armed forces towards the end of December 1969. On 25 January they visited another eleven Egyptian fishermen captured on January 13.

At each visit the delegates interviewed the prisoners without witnesses and enquired into detention conditions. Reports as usual are sent to the detaining authorities and to the detainees' own government.

Visits to prisoners of war.—Nine Egyptian prisoners of war—out of 62 captured on Chedouan island by the Israeli armed forces—in the Sarafand military hospital were visited by ICRC delegates on 29 January 1970. They handed family messages to the delegates. The other 53 prisoners at the Sarafand camp were visited on 13 February.

Reports on these visits are sent to the Detaining Power and the prisoners' own government.

Visits to prisons.—The sixth series of visits to prisons in Israel and the occupied territories, which began on 14 December 1969, was completed on 27 January 1970.

The ICRC delegates went to thirteen prisons and saw more than 3,100 Arab detainees. They were able to talk in private with the prisoners of their choice. They distributed standard ICRC parcels of fruit, biscuits and cigarettes in eight prisons to 560 detainees—218 more than during the previous distribution in December 1969.

Prisoners are allowed to send two messages a month to their families.

Repatriation of bodies.—On 22 January, on the Suez Canal, and 5 February at Kuneitra, the ICRC arranged for repatriation of the bodies of two Israeli pilots whose aircraft had been shot down, the first on 16 January by the Egyptian armed forces and the second on 2 February by the Syrian armed forces. In addition, on 12 February, the bodies of two Egyptian servicemen killed in recent fighting on the Suez Canal were repatriated via El Qantara.

Jordan

The ICRC representatives, on 20 January, talked in private with the Israeli civil guard who had been captured on 1 January. He then wrote messages to his family. An ICRC delegate visited him a second time on 10 February.

People's Republic of South Yemen

Visit to Political Detainees.—Towards mid-January 1970, Mr. A. Rochat, ICRC Delegate-General for the Middle East, and his colleagues again paid a routine visit to political detainees at the Mansoura prison in Aden. They enquired into detention conditions and talked in private with the detainees. They also distributed clothing and individual parcels (toilet requisites, cigarettes etc.). The report on the visit will be sent by the ICRC to the detaining authorities.

Visit to Saudi Prisoners of War.—The ICRC delegates in the People's Republic of South Yemen on 14th January visited 37 Saudi prisoners of war captured by the South Yemeni forces during border skirmishes at Wadihia (4th and 5th Provinces) towards the end of November 1969.

The prisoners wrote messages to their families and the delegates undertook, in co-operation with the Saudi Arabian Red Crescent, to forward them to the addressees. The report on the visit will be sent

by the ICRC to the prisoners' own government and to the detaining authorities.

Milk Distribution.—Continuing its programme of relief distribution in co-operation with the Red Crescent Society of the People's Republic of South Yemen, the ICRC delegation in Aden distributed rations of milk powder to some 1,000 families, or about 8,000 people, 4,000 of them young children.

Saudi Arabia

Mr. Rochat on 22 January also visited 24 South Yemeni prisoners held in Riyadh. They had been captured during the Wadihia incident by the Saudi armed forces.

The ICRC representative enquired into detention conditions and the prisoners handed him messages for transmission to their families in the People's Republic of South Yemen.

United Arab Republic

The ICRC delegate in the United Arab Republic visited, on 31 January 1970, an Israeli prisoner of war captured on 14 December 1969 and being treated in an Egyptian hospital.

Several family messages were written by the detainee and forwarded by the ICRC to his relatives in Israel. The report on the visit is sent by the ICRC to the Detaining Power and to the prisoner's own government.

Republic of Vietnam

School equipment for young prisoners of war.—Last year the International Committee allocated 15,000 Swiss francs to its Saigon delegation to make provision for the schooling of young prisoners of war in the Bien Hoa camp.

On 22 January 1970, the material—60 tables and benches, three daises, three desks and three blackboards—were handed over.

All the material was made by prisoners with wood purchased by the ICRC.

In addition, each of the young detainees has been provided with a slate and working material which will be renewed by the ICRC for six months.

Visits to places of detention.—ICRC delegates in the Republic of Vietnam went to six places of detention in December 1969. They visited the prisoner of war camp at Cantho, administered by the Vietnamese Armed Forces; the collecting points of Bong Son, North of Qui Nhon, and of Phuoc Vinh, both controlled by the American army; and the interrogation centres of Mytho, Sadec and Bagi near Qui Nhon, all three controlled by the Vietnamese.

In January 1970 ten places of detention were visited by the ICRC delegates: six collecting points at Phu Bai, Dan Tieng, Quang Tri, Cu-Chi and Da Nang, two military hospitals in Da Nang and the interrogation centres at Duc Hoa and Xuân Lộc.

The ICRC delegates enquired into detention conditions and their reports are as usual submitted to the detaining authorities.

Relief for War Victims.—The Swiss private humanitarian organization “La Chaîne du Bonheur” donated to the ICRC 100,000 Swiss francs which it had collected to provide relief to war victims in Vietnam.

The ICRC remitted half of this amount to the Swiss doctor Mrs. J. Beguin, who is in charge of medical care for the civilian population in the Kontum region in the centre of Vietnam.

The remaining half was split by the ICRC delegation to Saigon between two relief actions it is undertaking in co-operation with the League of Red Cross Societies and the Red Cross of Vietnam, namely the founding of a boarding school for young refugees at Cua and the distribution of relief to women, old people and children at the Hoi-An refugee camp where there are 5,000 people, about 3,000 of them children. More than one thousand blankets and 1,130 raincoats—830 for children and 300 for adults—have been distributed, as well as sacks of rice in co-operation with the League and the Vietnam Red Cross.

Laos

The ICRC delegation in Laos, comprising a doctor and a delegate, is concerned mainly with providing assistance to the Lao Red Cross for the distribution of relief provided by National Societies.¹

These supplies are distributed to displaced persons fleeing the regions where fighting is going on, to seek refuge in the Mekong basin.

This assistance programme began several years ago and the Lao Red Cross and the ICRC have made several distributions since the beginning of 1970.

The President of the National Society and the International Committee delegates went to Samthong, taking with them 1,000 blankets, 505 straw-mats, 20 cases of clothing and various other supplies. After visiting the new refugee reception centre at Lat Khai, where they provided the 1,800 refugees with some clothing, they continued to Lat Sen, where they distributed to the more than 8,000 persons there, clothing and school material for the children. They then went to Khang Si centre where there are another 8,000 refugees.

In the Southern provinces of Luang Prabang and Houa Kong, the Lao Red Cross and the ICRC have distributed relief, including agricultural instruments to enable the refugees to settle in an area which is new to them.

The International Committee delegates also took part in a relief distribution organized by the Lao Red Cross, which is responsible for the implementation of Unicef's programme for maternal and child welfare. At the same time clothing and toilet articles provided by the American and Canadian Red Cross Societies were distributed.

¹ *Plate.* — The ICRC delegate helping to distribute relief organized by the Women's Committee of the Lao Red Cross for refugees, in December 1969 in Vientiane to whom hot soup is also being distributed.

Chad

Following a mission to Chad by Mr. Georges Hoffmann, ICRC Delegate-General for Africa, at the end of 1969, the ICRC sent a consignment of relief for the benefit of the needy population in that country.

On 23 January 1970 one of the Committee's aircraft left Cotonou (Dahomey) for Fort Lamy with 13½ tons of powdered milk. On 27 January another aircraft landed in Fort Lamy with a consignment of 3½ tons of medical supplies, including antibiotics, drugs against diarrhoea, sulfamides, vitamins and emergency surgical kits.

Bolivia

Mr. Serge Nessi, ICRC Delegate-General for Latin America, on 28 January 1970 visited the San Pedro prison and the women's prison at La Paz (Bolivia). He talked in private with 25 political detainees. As customary the visits were strictly humanitarian, for the purpose of examining detention conditions irrespective of the reasons for detention.

The report on these visits is transmitted to the detaining authorities.

Greece

In its issue of last December, *International Review* gave the text of the agreement reached between the ICRC and the Greek government last November authorizing ICRC delegates to visit Greek political detainees and give greater assistance to their families. The ICRC began this mission under the agreement on 24 November, as already reported. We continue with the following account of the activities of our delegation in Greece:

The International Committee of the Red Cross continued the mission it began on 24 November 1969 consistent with the agreement it concluded with the Greek government.

Its delegates successively visited in January the Oropos camp (police), the Averoff and Korydalos prisons (Athens police), the

Varibobi and Drossia hotels (military police), the Nea Ionia and Bouboulinas street police stations, the Kalami prison and Alikarnassos camp (both in Crete and under police control), the section for political detainees at the Athens General Hospital (police), the Piraeus police station, the Piraeus police lock-up and the Eptapyrgion prison at Salonica (police).

They also went to the Leros-Lakki and Leros-Partheni camps to see what steps had been taken against the influenza epidemic.

They were also authorized to visit, at the Royati military prison, a detainee sentenced for attempted murder of the President of the Council.

In all these places of detention the ICRC delegates had full liberty of movement and were able to talk in private without any time-limit with the detainees of their choice. The doctor-delegate examined sick detainees brought to his attention during the visits. Special reports to the government were made on the more serious cases.

During the same period, 285 persons called at the ICRC's offices for news of their relatives. 980 needy families received material assistance as provided for in the agreement of 3 November.

The delegation at the end of February comprised Mr. Laurent Marti, the Head of the delegation, two other delegates and a doctor-delegate, all of Swiss nationality.

The general report on visits carried out between 24 November 1969 and the end of the year was as usual submitted to the Greek authorities.

*IN GENEVA***Delegation Heads Meet**

On 2 February 1970 a seminar on ICRC activities in the Middle East started in Geneva.

The meetings, which finished on 6 February, were directed by Mr. André Rochat, delegate-general. They were attended by the heads of the six International Committee delegations in that part of the world, namely Mr. Boisard (United Arab Republic), Mr. F. Isler (Saudi Arabia, Arab Republic of the Yemen, People's Republic of South Yemen), Mr. E. Koch (Jordan), Mr. J. Moreillon (Israel and the occupied territories), Mr. J. Ott (Iran and Irak), and Mr. P. Reynard (Lebanon and Syria), as well as by the Geneva executives for current operations in that area, namely Messrs M. Martin, F. Payot and M. Convers.

The reports by each delegation and the plan of action for the year ahead were discussed during the meetings.

A South Korean Approach

A delegation of the families of passengers aboard the South Korean aircraft which was diverted on 11 December 1969 to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea came from Seoul to Geneva to discuss with the ICRC the possibilities of arranging repatriation of the 47 passengers and 2 of the crew members.

The delegation consisted of a delegate of the Red Cross of the Republic of Korea, three representatives for the families concerned. The conversations took place at International Committee headquarters on 27 January 1970. The ICRC made it clear that it had immediately contacted the Red Cross of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea asking for news of the 51 persons aboard the aircraft which landed at Sun-Duk near Won-San.

The International Committee has also sent Pyongyang a list of the persons concerned. Having been requested by the families to try to arrange repatriation, it urged the Red Cross of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to take the matter up with its government, consistent with Resolution No. XIX (Reuniting of dispersed families) of the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross. On 22 January 1970 the Red Cross of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea replied that after making enquiries of the authorities it had ascertained that the crew and passengers were in good health. It added that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea had decided to repatriate the persons who were aboard this aircraft which was diverted by the pilot and co-pilot, and had proposed direct talks between the representatives of civilian organizations in North and South Korea.

After consulting the Red Cross and government of the Republic of Korea, the ICRC cabled the Red Cross of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea that it also considered the repatriation could be settled by direct contact between the parties. In view of the humanitarian nature of this affair, the ICRC suggested to the National Red Cross Society that it organize the transport of the people to Panmunjom. In that town, a delegate of the Red Cross of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea could hand over these persons to a delegate of the Red Cross of the Republic of Korea who would be there to meet them.

The ICRC proposed that the date and time of repatriation be decided by mutual agreement between the Armistice Commission Liaison Officers who meet regularly at Panmunjom.

The ICRC also expressed the hope that this operation—consistent with the standpoint of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the aforesaid Resolution of the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross—may take place as soon as possible.

IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

8 MAY 1970

WORLD RED CROSS DAY

No doubt World Red Cross Day will be celebrated with brilliant success throughout the world on 8 May next, for its theme is of particular importance: *Protect Man ; Thwart War*. It was the International Committee which, in full agreement with the League, undertook to prepare the documentary material to be offered to National Societies for this event. Some time ago a sample of that material was sent to the National Societies so that they might choose the documents which they wished to order.¹ Through this material, they will be able to inform the general public in their countries about the essential principles of the Geneva Conventions and about Red Cross humanitarian action in time of war.

The kit of samples contained: *a)* the 8 May messages from the Presidents of the international institutions of the Red Cross; *b)* articles of general interest; *c)* colour slides and photographs illustrative of the Geneva Conventions and Red Cross work to protect the victims of war; and *d)* promotional material such as a poster, a badge, stickers and a key-ring bearing, as required, the sign of the red cross, red crescent, or red lion and sun.

To ensure that the Red Cross message is disseminated as widely as possible, the mass media must also be used. Recordings for broadcasting are planned as well as film sequences for television. These will be available to National Societies which, it is hoped, will make extensive use of them.

*

¹ *Plate*. Material available to National Societies. The kit of samples includes twenty colour transparencies illustrating the Geneva Conventions.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has produced a strick-on label as part of the documents on the theme *Protect Man—Thwart War* for the World Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Day for 1970.

The label shows the design chosen for the World Day: a hand blocking another bearing a sword. The emblem of the red cross or red crescent is also shown on the label, which is in black and red.¹

*

The ICRC and the League—pursuant to a resolution of the XXth International Conference—have also had printed a two-colour poster. Distinctive in presentation, it gives the text of the principles adopted at Vienna. With a view to the 8 May celebration, this poster² is available to National Societies as an aid to the diffusion of those principles by displaying it not only in their own premises but also whenever possible in school and hospital establishments.

*

The ICRC hopes that the World Day this year will not only be a testimony to our movement's universality but also to the importance of the Geneva Conventions, as explicitly recommended by the XXIst International Red Cross Conference resolution No. IX.

¹ Date of issue 26 January 1970.

Design by Claude Falbriard—printed by offset—89,880 copies with red cross and 89,922 with red crescent (in sheets of 42).

² The poster is available, from the ICRC or the League, in a *de luxe* edition at Sw. fr. 0.50 per copy, and at Sw. fr. 0.25 for the standard edition.

Germany Democratic Republic

The German Red Cross in the German Democratic Republic had prepared for the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross a summary report on its present work. Mention is made of several activities in particular fields and the figures given show how far they have developed.

Ambulance and rescue service. In 1953, ambulance transport which, up to that date, had been under the control of various institutions, was centrally taken over by the German Red Cross. This meant increased service: the fleet was considerably extended, improved and unified. In many districts, ambulance cars can be reached by VHF equipment and consequently can be employed more rapidly. Upon a physician's direction, all transport service is made completely free of charge to the patient, this being an obligation of the central Social Insurance.

The ambulance drivers are well educated for their tasks. Not only are they reliable and disciplined drivers, but they also have comprehensive medical knowledge.

In overcrowded regions "urgent medical help" service is gradually set up together with the State Health Service. In those cases, ambulance cars are stationed at big hospitals, a physician being among the crew. So they are employed in situations of danger to life, such as accidents, cardiac infarction, gas-poisoning, whereby the endangered can be given immediate medical help.

Travellers Aid. Another task of our organization in the field of health protection is health and social care of our population on travel. It is accomplished by the German Red Cross travellers aid.

These centres have been established at all important stations and are particularly welcomed by mothers with infants and all old travellers who need help. Great responsibility for all members of the GRC travellers aid results from health and social care of

8 MAY 1970
WORLD RED CROSS DAY



Material available to National Red Cross, Red Crescent, and Red Lion and Sun Societies.



Documentary material for World Red Cross Day includes twenty colour transparencies illustrating the Geneva Conventions. Two examples are shown here.

children and youth during the summer months where holiday projects are carried out on a very large scale in our Republic.

To carry out those tasks, recreation rooms, rooms for first aid, specially equipped rooms for mothers with infants, kitchens, and at major stations, overnight accommodation are provided in all travellers centres.

Special services. Work has been done for years by the German Red Cross special services of water and mountain rescue service at holiday times and during week-ends.

In 1968, 27,400 life-saving swimmers served for more than one million watching hours and saved 1049 persons from death by drowning. In the same year mountain rescue men served for 80,600 hours and saved 146 persons from danger in the mountains.

Continuous work is done in the improvement and modernizing of the equipment of our organization's special services.

Liberia

This country's National Society has sent the ICRC details on its present activities which demonstrate the vitality in Liberia of our common ideal.

One expression of that vitality is the construction of a building in Monrovia as the society's central headquarters. A special effort is being made to prepare youth in a spirit of service. Young people may become members of the Junior Red Cross after a ceremony in which they promise to join with all those in the world who help the sick and distressed. The National Society organizes first-aid courses to provide them with training and exercises to prepare them as useful first-aid workers.

The Red Cross is active in a number of realms but the readers' attention is drawn especially to the National Society's work to disseminate in Liberian primary schools, with government support,

IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

the school textbook *The Red Cross and My Country*. National Society officials visit schools, distribute the manual and with the assistance of the teachers give instruction on its content.¹ The pupils in this way learn the ideals of the Red Cross and the general principles of the Geneva Conventions.

Sweden

The importance of the drug problem to-day in many countries is common knowledge and the Red Cross movement, always on the look-out for new tasks, cannot be indifferent to it. *Panorama*² has published an article on the initiative taken by the Swedish Red Cross which is participating in a campaign launched, under government auspices, against the abuse of drugs by young people. It is no doubt one of the first National Societies to take an active interest in this problem and its contribution consists of a series of courses for Red Cross workers on drug-addiction. The League's publication gives the following interesting details:

“ . . . Its eventual aim is to train one official in every Red Cross district in the country. He or she will serve as a “ middleman ” for drug problems. advising on what help is available and where it can be obtained.

The courses are being backed by a Sw. kr. 10,000 government grant and are organised by the Swedish Red Cross in co-operation with the national council against the misuse of medicaments.

Thirty-five officers from Red Cross branches across the country took part in the first course—a series of lectures and group sessions led by a former drug addict, a social worker, a hospital almoner, a police officer, a school counsellor and a writer specialising in drug

¹ *Plate*. — “ The Red Cross and My Country ” text-book is in use in primary schools where it is discussed by teachers and Red Cross workers.

² Published by the League of Red Cross Societies, Geneva, 1969, No. 7.

problems. The programme covered the socio-economic and socio-psychological aspects of drug abuse, different kinds of therapy and the role of the police and the customs and closed with a look at counter-measures: action by youth organisations, information problems and the use of the school system for publicity."

Turkey

A joint Turkish Government and Red Crescent report on the diffusion of the Geneva Conventions in Turkey was submitted to the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross at Istanbul. Our readers might be interested in this very full document dealing with important questions.

Turkey has ratified Conventions concerning the Law of War. Conventions can be cited by the order of date of ratification as follows:

1. Declaration Prohibiting the Use of Asphyxiating Gases (The Hague, 1899).
2. Declaration Prohibiting the Use of Expanding Bullets (The Hague, 1899).
3. Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or other Gases and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare (Geneva, 1925).

Turkey, which has abided by the International Declaration of 1899 and the Convention of 1925 on the prohibition of the use of asphyxiating and poisonous gases, has never resorted to these weapons. Turkish Armed Forces have never used gases or bacteriological methods of warfare. Furthermore, neither the use in the Armed Forces nor the manufacturing in military or civilian factories of expanding bullets has taken place.

IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

4. Turkey has ratified the Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War of 1929 and the Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded and Sick in the Armed Forces in the Field, dated 1929.

5. Turkey has also ratified four post-World War II Conventions, enacted in Geneva, in 1949, namely:

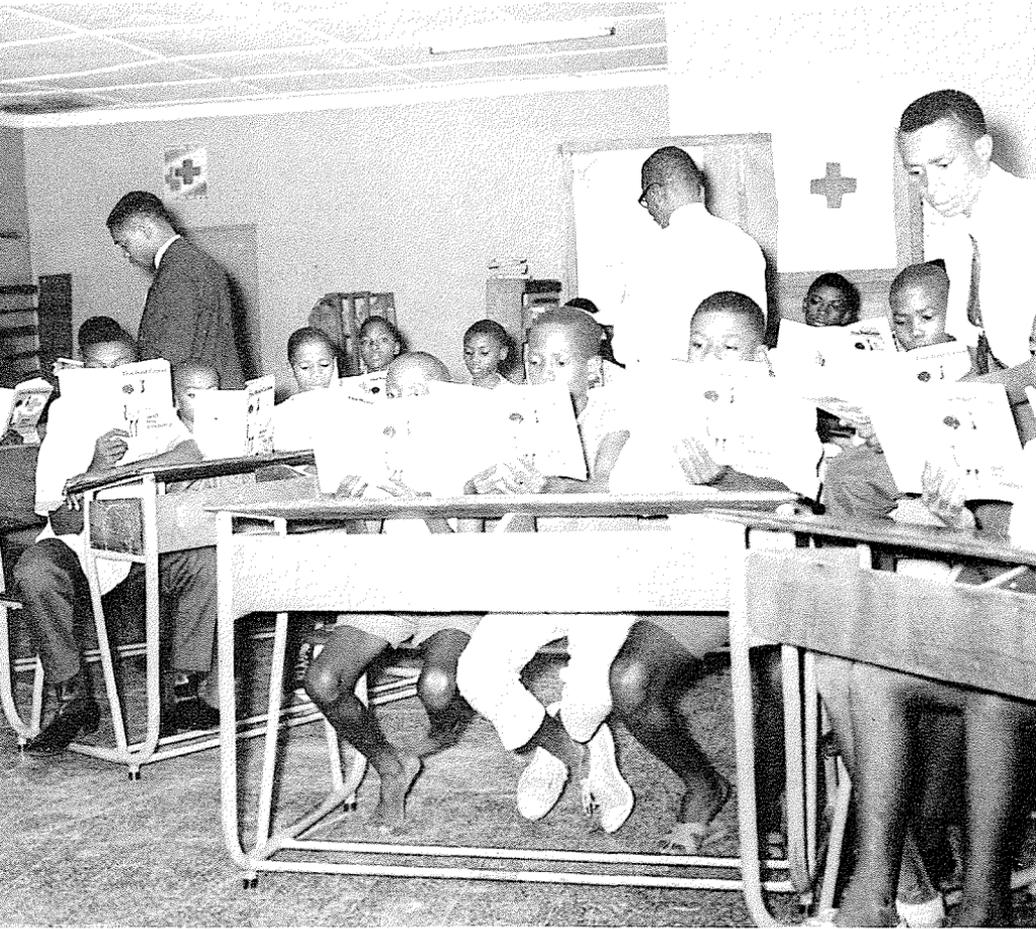
- a) Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field;
- b) Convention for the Amelioration of the Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea;
- c) Convention Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War;
- d) Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War.

Turkey has strictly fulfilled its obligations under the aforesaid Conventions. In brief:

The provision relating to the dissemination of the text of these Conventions and the study thereof has been fully implemented in programmes of military and civil institutions of instruction. Copies of the Conventions in Turkish have been made available to all concerned in numerous publications. The provisions and principles of the Conventions are taught at War Academies, where staff officers are trained, at Military Colleges, institutions for the education of cadets, at schools of non-commissioned officers, at Replacement Training Centres as well as at Military Units. The stipulations of the Geneva Conventions have been published and disseminated in the army in the form of manuals. In addition, military medical personnel, nurses and auxiliary personnel, educated or trained at the Gülhane Military Medical Academy are also acquainted with the said Conventions. Civilian doctors are familiarised with the stipulations of the Conventions during their military service.

Courses on the Geneva Conventions have been included in the programmes of Nursing Schools. The Turkish Red Crescent Society has initiated activities for the dissemination and the propagation of the principles and the spirit of the Geneva Conventions. To that effect, the text of Conventions, regulations and resolutions have

LIBERIA



"The Red Cross and my Country" text-book is in use in primary schools where it is discussed by teachers and Red Cross workers.



The ICRC delegate helping to distribute relief organized by the Women's Committee of the Lao Red Cross for refugees, in December 1969 in Vientiane...



LAOS

... to whom hot soup is also being distributed.

been brought together and published under the title of "The International Sources of the Red Crescent and Red Cross". Furthermore, a great number of pamphlets about the implementation of the Geneva Conventions have been published and disseminated by the Turkish Red Crescent Society. The Turkish Red Crescent Society, has included the familiarization of the public with the Geneva Conventions in the conferences, seminars and training programmes held on various occasions.

Detailed information on the Conventions is given in the Faculties of Law and Political Sciences of State Universities within the frame of the Law of War.

The implementation of the sanctions of the Geneva Conventions relating to the guiding principles of human behaviour is further emphasized at the national level by law. Thus:

Some acts committed against civilians and goods in time of war are deemed a crime under Chapter 7 of the Military Penal Code. Those offences are as follows:

a) Those who leave their unit in order to collect booty or take possession of any good, subject to Law of Booty, under the name of Booty, shall be sentenced to prison up to three years (Article 122).

b) Pillage is prohibited. Article 123 of the Military Penal Code defines pillage as: Unjust seizure of goods of civilians by exploiting the fear and horror caused by war or abusing military power; or to compel someone to submit his riches, or to collect money or belongings from civilians without being authorized. Military Penal Code states that the destruction of the goods of any person or even the cutting down of trees or damaging the crop unless the circumstances of war necessitate, is an offence.

c) Military Penal Code (Article 127) theft from the dead, the sick and the war prisoners on the battle-field. Destruction and pillage of the establishments of the Red Crescent and the Red Cross or incitement thereto are serious offences under Article 127.

d) Under Article 253 of the Turkish Penal Code it is a crime to use the symbol and signs of the Red Crescent without its consent. In addition, to use the initials of the World Health Organization for commercial or other purposes is also an offence.

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e) According to an Act of Parliament effective since 1941, foreign combatant officers who take refuge in Turkey will be afforded due care and respect for their rank by the Turkish Government and the Red Crescent. Although Turkey is not bound by any international commitment to this effect, it has provided, by an Act of Parliament, that refugees shall be treated in a manner proper to their rank and status.

f) The Convention for Prisoners of War stipulates that prisoners of war shall not be punished before being tried. A regulation for the implementation of this Convention, the Turkish Organisation and Procedure of Military Courts Act (Article 14e) provides that prisoners of war shall be tried by Turkish Military Courts. In case of need, translators are employed; and prisoners of war enjoy the full rights of defence recognised to Turkish officers. Only those proved guilty under the above-mentioned procedure and principles shall be punished.

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

GANDHI AND THE RED CROSS

Over twenty years ago the *International Review* recalled Gandhi's constant interest in Red Cross work.¹ His interest was not only in ideas but also in practice: after having been a lawyer in Bombay he went to South Africa and, as described in a recent issue of the *UNESCO Courrier* ²;

“... He fought for the rights of Indians in South Africa.

Yet when the whites were in a painful predicament during the Boer War he organized a Red Cross team and served in the most dangerous battle zones. Again, when the Zulus rose in rebellion he nursed the wounded Zulus and whites....”

In 1899 and again in 1906, Gandhi wore the khaki uniform and Red Cross armband of the medical corps, thus acquiring first-hand experience of assistance on the battlefield, and giving effect to his ideal of active charity. Later, his attention was directed to the problems of social and international tensions, just as today the Red Cross counts the problem of peace among its major concerns. In the same issue of the *UNESCO Courrier*, the Indian writer and educator Humayun Kabir wrote in this connection:

“... Searching for causes, Gandhi concluded that injustice and inequality among individuals and nations are the basic causes of tensions and hatred. The State seeks to reduce causes of internal tension by ensuring equality of all in the eye of law. Progressive taxation to reduce inequalities in wealth is intended to serve the same purpose.

The growing contacts among nations demand the application of similar methods to ensure justice and reduce glaring inequalities. It is a paradox of the modern age that the more the world is coming together through technological advances, the more barriers are being set up by States to prevent the free intercourse of men.

¹ See *International Review*, August 1949.

² UNESCO, Paris, October 1969.

MISCELLANEOUS

The world is irresistibly impelled towards unity today but two conditions must be satisfied before a world order can emerge. The first is the guarantee of full cultural autonomy and freedom to even the smallest constituent unit of mankind. One of the most fascinating developments in the last fifty years has been the emergence of giant powers accompanied by an insistent demand for greater autonomy by smaller and smaller constituent units. The second condition is the creation of a body of enlightened opinion throughout the world. Civil authority gained in power as its impartiality was increasingly recognized. The world authority will also acquire greater acceptance by ensuring justice and equitable consideration for all.

Gandhi was a revolutionary who sought to transform human nature itself. He was also a realist and knew that people would judge his recipes by their results. He therefore began with the individual and sought to change him first. He believed that the smallest beginning may lead to the most far-reaching consequences....”

CONFERENCE ON BIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL WARFARE

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom held a conference in London from 21-23 November on biological and chemical warfare. The ICRC was represented with observer status by Mr. Jean Mirimanoff, lawyer, member of the Legal Department. This question was one which the ICRC was requested to give particular attention by the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross in its Resolution XIV on weapons of mass destruction.

The authors of the papers submitted at the London conference, some of them eminent scientists from various countries, aimed especially at analyzing the report of the United Nations Secretary-General on biological and chemical weapons and their effects,¹ and also considered the position of governments in relation to warfare of this kind.

¹ A/7575, 1.7.1969. The question of general and full disarmament : Secretary-General's report on chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons and their effects.

Several resolutions were adopted, one of which invited governments to subscribe to the three propositions contained in the foreword to U Thant's report, urging the U.N. Member States:

1. To renew the appeal to all States to accede to the Geneva Protocol of 1925;
2. To make a clear affirmation that the prohibition contained in the Geneva Protocol applies to the use in war of all chemical, bacteriological and biological agents (including tear gas and other harassing agents), which now exist or which may be developed in the future;
3. To call upon all countries to reach agreement to halt the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical and bacteriological (biological) agents for purposes of war and to achieve their effective elimination from the arsenal of weapons.

It was also decided to set up a committee for the promotion of the movement against biological and chemical weapons.

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AGAINST THE EXPLOITATION OF PROSTITUTION

International Review, in November 1968, included an article on the humanitarian personality of Josephine Butler who campaigned so courageously in the defence of the human being and human dignity. In the same issue we called attention to the vote by the U.N. General Assembly on 2 December 1949 in favour of an important convention for the Suppression of Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of Prostitution of Others.

On the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of that convention, two international institutions launched an appeal,¹ concluding:

¹ See *Abolitionist Review*, Geneva, October-December 1969.

MISCELLANEOUS

“...The impulse towards the Convention given by the I.A.F. Congresses of 1877 and 1889, to which the International Bureau for the Suppression of Traffic in Persons had given decisive importance by its Congresses from 1899 to 1937, were crowned in the framework of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations in the previous year.

Twenty years have passed. Only 39 States have bound themselves by this Convention, of which two are permanent members of the Security Council. The legislation of numerous others is abolitionist, even prohibitionist; the classic Traffic in Persons has diminished, but it has not disappeared, and the exploitation of Prostitution continues to flourish in numerous countries, for want of an effective campaign against it.

The adhesion to the Convention and the adoption of adequate international laws constitute the conditions of an effective struggle against a curse which, in effect, deprives numerous human beings of their basic Human Rights. That is why, following directly on the International Human Rights Year, the International Bureau for the Suppression of Traffic in Persons and the International Abolitionist Federation address an urgent appeal to all Governments which have not yet adhered to the Convention, inviting them at once to carry out the procedures appropriate to their constitutions to make such an adhesion. The two organisations appeal to Parliaments to authorise such adhesions and to vote effective laws to implement them. They remind all concerned that the United Nations has classed this Convention in the list of international instruments in the field of the Rights of Man and also among the Conventions which tend to abolish Slavery...”

PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

In 1968, for the twentieth anniversary of the United Nations' adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, *International Review* published several studies which educed the relationship existing between efforts to protect essential human rights and the Geneva Conventions. It therefore appears appropriate to men-

tion that the review "*Pensée juridique*", the organ of the Institute of Legal Science of the Bulgarian Academy of Science in Sofia, has devoted two articles to this question. One is entitled "International Law Regulation of Human Rights" by Doctor Sava Penkov, legal adviser to the Bulgarian Red Cross.

This is a monograph which is both historical and critical. In it, Dr. Penkov, after a paragraph on the first treaties granting rights to religious minorities in the XVIIth century, analyses and comments on progress accomplished in the defence of human rights since the foundation of the International Labour Office, the League of Nations and the United Nations Organization. He makes chronological reference to two series of texts on human rights: the treaties adopted by Member States, under the auspices of the Organizations mentioned above, and the Declarations and statutes adopted by those Organizations themselves. He concludes his article as follows:

"If from a purely formal, legal and theoretical viewpoint we consider everything that has been achieved so far in regulations on human rights and freedoms, we observe that considerable progress has been made. The multiplicity of international agreements on human rights and freedoms is sufficient to demonstrate that the progressive development of international law has benefited from a contribution to theory, particularly so far as international humanitarian law and its codification is concerned. It is however evident that additional provisions are essential for further progress. It is for that reason that the United Nations invited Member States to commemorate the International Human Rights Year (1968) by revising various national legislations and bringing them into line with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and with international agreements so far adopted. The Organization also requested its Member States to ratify all Conventions relating to human rights and to lose no time in signing and ratifying all the international agreements. In his speech at the opening of the Human Rights Conference in Paris from 16 to 20 December 1968, the United Nations Secretary-General rightly pointed out that the Member States had all adopted or signed a considerable number of texts aimed at giving concrete form to the provisions of the

MISCELLANEOUS

Universal Declaration, but that the number of ratifications was still too few.

“It is by developing, strengthening and effectively applying the international regulations on human rights that a genuine contribution will be made to guaranteeing those rights, to the development of bonds of friendship among the nations and to the consolidation of the collective security organization, whilst at the same time preserving world peace.”

BOOKS AND REVIEWS

Main trends of research in the social and human sciences, by René Maheu,
UNESCO Chronicle, Paris, 1969, No. 12.

Science and technology have created entirely new conditions of life, opened up unheard of possibilities, given rise to unprecedented problems. The horizon of human experience has thus been appreciably broadened. At the same time, the development of media of expression and communication has brought about a veritable change of scale in our apprehension of all that exists around us. By bringing us close in time and space to events whenever and wherever they occur, it gives individual, social and cultural life a new dimension which is tending to equal that of the world as it now is, while at the same time threatening the quality of precious personal consciousness. More generally, the advances of knowledge transcend the powers of the individual mind, and for the elaboration of knowledge as well as for the continuing task of its reunification the human intellect needs to be supported by machines of its own invention; science, which is causing an upheaval in the current conception of the universe and affording us a new insight into man, is becoming more and more difficult to fit into general culture, save in debased forms.

The speed and magnitude of the changes that are currently affecting the life of all mankind impart a new acuteness to our sense of the transitory nature of the present, to the need for a dynamic interpretation of history in the making and for a reasoned anticipation of the future, which constitute the necessary bases for action properly adapted to the service of man and his values.

Lastly, the widespread assertion of the principles of democracy calls for new forms of political organization and community life. The world's structure has undergone a profound change following the accession of almost all nations to political independence and the establishment, at all levels, of new relations between them. In consequence, mankind, brought face to face with the vast variety of its components, is gradually taking the measure of its inner diversity and discovering a new notion and a new requirement of universality, based on mutual respect for and understanding of differences in a desire for dialogue and reciprocal enrichment. Having equipped himself with the means of attaining to power, man knows that he would henceforth be the instrument of his own destruction if he proved to be incapable of imagining and establishing on a world-wide scale a viable order, conducive to progress and consistent with a common idea of justice.

This situation suggests to the social and human sciences—nay, lays upon them—renewed and more ambitious tasks, while making available

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to them more powerful means of investigation, more extensive information and a strengthened conceptual apparatus. On the other hand, it increases the difficulty of their problems, aggravates some of their uncertainties, jeopardizes man's ability to make use of his knowledge, and calls for a constant effort to reconquer the unity of the life of the mind. It is by facing up to this global situation, by applying themselves to subjects of research that reflect its major aspects, that the disciplines concerned with knowledge of man can assume their rôle in mutual co-operation as truly modern and productive forms of intellectual inquiry.

At the same time, there is a common duty that must be accepted by all with the utmost urgency, namely, the eradication from the face of the earth of poverty, exploitation, ignorance, stagnation and humiliation, which are the lot of the human masses that have been unfairly treated by history. Without a deliberate effort on the part of the whole of man, in all men, these masses are liable to be confined by the ever more rapid movement of that history, become fatality, in the hopeless condition of a sub-humanity—a disgrace to the mind and the heart, doom to any chance of real understanding between peoples, and hence of peace, a negation of humanity itself.

To the task devolving upon the present generation, namely development, in the widest and loftiest acceptation of the term—the economic and social development of communities and the development of man himself—the contribution that can and must be made by the social and human sciences is of capital importance, provided they fulfil their twofold rôle: on the one hand, to contribute carefully verified data and effective operational techniques adapted to economic, social and cultural structures and duly analysed historical situations and, on the other, to help men to make their choices in the light of facts and to ensure that understanding, respect and a feeling of solidarity between men are established on a firmer foundation. This is a twofold function, for which no discipline taken in isolation can suffice but which calls for the widest co-operation between them all. It is a twofold ambition, by which they take it upon themselves to be the diverse but interrelated forms and processes of the same striving for knowledge, the same thinking and the same endeavour...

1970, International Education Year, by Leo Fernig, *The UNESCO Courier*, Paris, January 1970, No. 1.

What is the International Education Year (IEY)? It could be described as a combined effort by all the countries of the world to do something extra or special about their educational problems in order "to mobilize energies and inspire initiatives in education and training" (the phrase

used by the original proposer of the IEY in the United Nations General Assembly).

The IEY is basically a national affair for each country to undertake. The possible types of action comprise any or all of a natural chain of operations: study and reflection about education or about some aspect of education across the nation; the identification of outstanding problems; experimental activities in order to find solutions to such problems; full involvement of the public in the discussion of educational issues; all of these leading finally to changes of educational policies.

For the most part such a national exercise would be focused on the educational provisions within the country itself. However, there are some aspects that go beyond national boundaries...

L'infirmière au chevet du malade (The Nurse at the bed-side) by Helen Palmer; *L'infirmière canadienne*, Ottawa, November 1969.

...The hospital matron's time and energies are monopolised by a multitude of duties. She is responsible for the staff's fulfilment and for discipline in the sector under her supervision; she must answer for the quality of all nursing care; she must organize the administration of prescribed treatment; she is the arbiter for everyone's problems. All too often she really has insufficient time to devote to the exercise of her profession.

The matron's qualities as an administrator and her staying power enable the various departments to function in harmony. Ceaselessly interrupted in her work, she is nevertheless the pillar of the nursing team; investigations have shown that she is consulted every 30 seconds about some question or problem arising in a department where work is in full swing.

A few years ago the Massachussets General Hospital sought a solution to this problem by appointing someone to assume the administrative work. The matron thus relieved of some of her burden may carry out her proper function: nursing.

The department administrator arose from recognition of the fact that the hospital may well function when the administrative and the medical responsibilities are separated. The hospital administrator coordinates functions and enables the medical personnel to concentrate on its essential vocation: the treatment of ailments. The system having proved its efficiency, it was thought expedient to apply it in departments, thereby relieving the matron of non-medical functions.

The assertion proved to be well founded when the Toronto Childrens Hospital started a one year trial in 1966...¹

¹ Our translation.

BOOKS AND REVIEWS

Computers in Public Health, *WHO Chronicle*, World Health Organization, Geneva, 1969, No. 12.

The period immediately ahead is likely to be one of rapid growth in the medical uses of computers. But, if they are to be exploited to the full, medical personnel should be able to use them without having to learn anything more than the simplest of techniques. Computer operation should be analogous to driving a motor vehicle: it should consist of a number of simple actions that do not depend on knowing the mechanisms involved. The incentive to learn these actions must, as with driving, spring from the obvious advantages to be gained.

Much depends on the further development of terminals that are easy to operate—like the visual-display unit—and relatively cheap, and on other input devices such as the optical character reader that will accept ordinary printed data at a very fast rate—an input in eight hours equivalent to that of a key-punch operator in 100 days is already being forecast. Attempts are being made to produce a form of input based on the human voice. The output from the computer will certainly be much faster with the development of such devices as the microfilm printer plotter, capable of producing 9000 pages of text an hour.

The capital cost of computer installations may preclude the adoption of ambitious schemes, and it may be more advisable for health authorities to adopt a modular approach by developing sub-systems that can later be linked to form a total medical record system. The cost of computer systems can be reduced by means of standard programme packages, which are suitable for use with little or no alteration in many institutions. Apart from reducing costs, standardization makes it easier for the doctor to use different installations and economizes on scarce systems personnel.

The computer is progressively assuming an important place in medicine, and by relieving the doctor of many time-consuming chores it will enable him to make better use of his professional skill.

EXTRACT FROM THE STATUTES OF
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

(AGREED AND AMENDED ON SEPTEMBER 25, 1952)

ART. 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.

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

ART. 2. — As an association governed by Articles 60 and following of the Swiss Civil Code, the ICRC shall have legal personality.

ART. 3. — 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 ".

ART. 4. — The special rôle of the ICRC shall be:

- (a) to maintain the fundamental and permanent principles of the Red Cross, namely: impartiality, action independent of any racial, political, religious or economic considerations, the universality of the Red Cross and the equality of the National Red Cross Societies;
- (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;

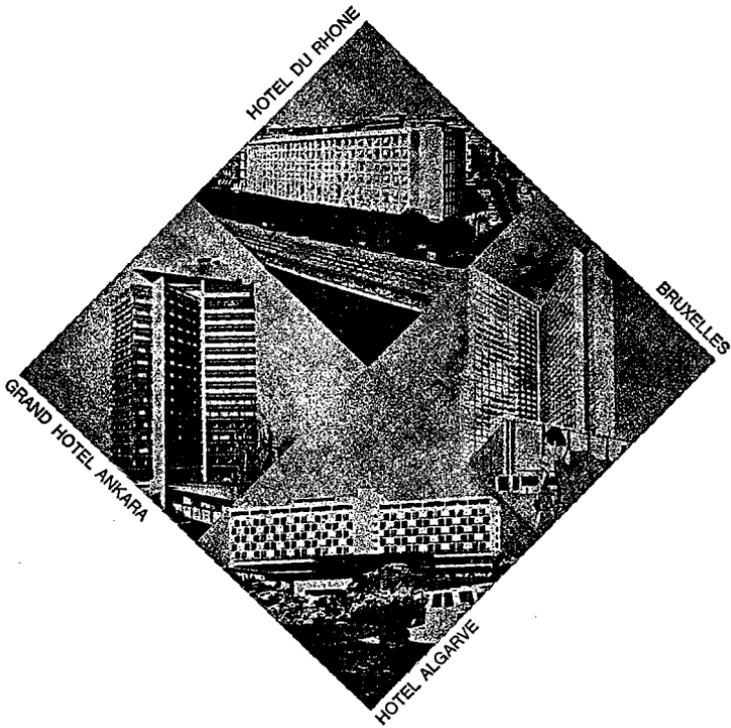
¹ The International Red Cross comprises the National Red Cross Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies. The term " National Red Cross Societies " includes the Red Crescent Societies and the Red Lion and Sun Society.

- (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 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;
- (f) 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;
- (g) to accept the mandates entrusted to it by the International Conferences of the Red Cross.

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

ART. 6 (first paragraph). — The ICRC shall co-opt its members from among Swiss citizens. The number of members may not exceed twenty-five.

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- ALBANIA — Albanian Red Cross, 35, Rruga Barrikadavet, *Tirana*.
- ALGERIA — Central Committee of the Algerian Red Crescent Society, 15 bis, Boulevard Mohamed V, *Algiers*.
- ARGENTINE — Argentine Red Cross, H. Yriogoyen 2068, *Buenos Aires*.
- AUSTRALIA — Australian Red Cross, 122-128 Flinders Street, *Melbourne, C. 1*.
- AUSTRIA — Austrian Red Cross, 3 Gusshausstrasse, Postfach 39, *Vienna IV*.
- BELGIUM — Belgian Red Cross, 98, Chaussée de Vleurgat, *Brussels 5*.
- BOLIVIA — Bolivian Red Cross, Avenida Simon Bolivar, 1515 (Casilla 741), *La Paz*.
- BOTSWANA — Botswana Red Cross Society, P.O. Box 565, *Gaberones*.
- BRAZIL — Brazilian Red Cross, Praça da Cruz Vermelha 12 cz/86, *Rio de Janeiro*.
- BULGARIA — Bulgarian Red Cross, 1, Boul. S.S. Biruzov, *Sofia*.
- BURMA — Burma Red Cross, 42, Strand Road, Red Cross Building, *Rangoon*.
- BURUNDI — Red Cross Society of Burundi, rue du Marché 3, P.O. Box 1324, *Bujumbura*.
- CAMBODIA — Cambodian Red Cross, 17, Vithei Croix-Rouge, P.O.B. 94, *Phnom-Penh*.
- 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 284* (Ontario).
- CEYLON — Ceylon Red Cross, 106 Dharmapala Mawatte, *Colombo VII*.
- CHILE — Chilean Red Cross, Avenida Santa Maria 0150, Casilla 246 V., *Santiago de Chile*.
- CHINA — Red Cross Society of China, 22 Kanmien Hutung, *Peking, E*.
- COLOMBIA — Colombian Red Cross, Carrera 7a, 34-65 Apartado nacional 1110, *Bogotá D.E.*
- CONGO — Red Cross of the Congo, 41, Avenue Valcke. P.O. Box 1712, *Kinshasa*.
- 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*.
- DAHOMEY — Red Cross Society of Dahomey, P.O. Box 1, *Porto Novo*.
- DENMARK — Danish Red Cross, Ny Vestergade 17, *Copenhagen K*.
- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC — Dominican Red Cross, Calle Galvan 24, Apartado 1293, *Santo Domingo*.
- ECUADOR — Ecuadorean Red Cross, Calle de la Cruz Roja y Avenida Colombia 118, *Quito*.
- ETHIOPIA — Ethiopian Red Cross, Red Cross Road No. 1, P.O. Box 195, *Addis Ababa*.
- FINLAND — Finnish Red Cross, Tehtaankatu 1 A, Box 14168, *Helsinki 14*.
- FRANCE — French Red Cross, 17, rue Quentin Bauchart, *Paris (8^e)*.
- GERMANY (Dem. Republic) — German Red Cross in the German Democratic Republic, Kaitzerstrasse 2, *Dresden A. 1*.
- GERMANY (Federal Republic) — German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany, Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 71, 5300 *Bonn 1*, Postfach (D.B.R.).
- GHANA — Ghana Red Cross, P.O. Box 835, *Accra*.
- GREAT BRITAIN — British Red Cross, 9 Grosvenor Crescent, *London, S.W.1*.
- GREECE — Hellenic Red Cross, rue Lycavittou 1, *Athens 135*.
- GUATEMALA — Guatemalan Red Cross, 3.º Calle 8-40 zona 1, *Guatemala C.A.*
- GUYANA — Guyana Red Cross, P.O. Box 351, Eve Leary, *Georgetown*.
- HAITI — Haiti Red Cross, Place des Nations Unies, B.P. 1337, *Port-au-Prince*.
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- IRAN — Iranian Red Lion and Sun Society, Avenue Ark, *Teheran*.
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- IRELAND — Irish Red Cross, 16 Merrion Square, *Dublin 2*.
- ITALY — Italian Red Cross, 12, via Toscana *Rome*.
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- JAMAICA — Jamaica Red Cross Society, 76 Arnold Road, *Kingston 5*.
- JAPAN — Japanese Red Cross, 5 Shiba Park, Minato-Ku, *Tokyo*.
- JORDAN — Jordan National Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 10 001, *Amman*.
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- KOREA (Democratic People's Republic) — Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, *Pyongyang*.
- KOREA (Republic) — The Republic of Korea National Red Cross, 32-3 Ka Nam San-Donk, *Seoul*.
- KUWAIT — Kuwait Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 1359, *Kuwait*.
- LAOS — Lao Red Cross, P.B. 650, *Vientiane*.
- LEBANON — Lebanese Red Cross, rue Général Spears, *Beirut*.

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- LIECHTENSTEIN** — Liechtenstein Red Cross, *Vaduz*.
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- MADAGASCAR** — Red Cross Society of Madagascar, rue Clemenceau, P.O. Box 1168, *Tananarive*.
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- MALI** — Mali Red Cross, B.P. 280, route de Koulikora, *Bamako*.
- MEXICO** — Mexican Red Cross, Avenida Ejército Nacional, n° 1032, *Mexico 10, D.F.*
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