

Relations with International Organizations

Objekttyp: **Group**

Zeitschrift: **Annual report / International Committee of the Red Cross**

Band (Jahr): **- (1960)**

PDF erstellt am: **23.05.2024**

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Cross and Mr. K. Watanabe, of the Department of Foreign Relations of the Japanese Red Cross.

Administration of Funds

The ICRC administers a number of funds whose receipts are intended to be used for humanitarian purposes. In 1960, it distributed a sum of 28,000 Swiss francs, representing the receipts of the Empress Augusta Fund, among thirteen National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Moreover, at its annual meeting, in February 1960, the Joint Commission of the Empress Shôken Fund, which is composed of representatives of the ICRC and the League, allocated the annual receipts of this fund to the National Societies which had submitted circumstantial applications. The beneficiaries were the National Societies of Ceylon, India, Jordan, Libya, South Africa and Thailand.

RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

United Nations

As in previous years, the ICRC continued to remain in close contact with the United Nations Organization and in particular with those of its specialized agencies whose activities are of a humanitarian character. It was therefore in constant touch with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. It also sent observers to the following meetings and conferences held in Geneva during the year :

- 25th and 26th sessions of the Executive Board of WHO ;
- 16th session of the UN Commission of Human Rights ;
- 3rd and 4th sessions of the Programme Committee of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees ;
- 13th World Health Assembly ;
- 30th session of the UN Economic and Social Council.

Other organizations

The ICRC also maintains relations with some international governmental organizations not connected with the United Nations.

Among these, mention should be made of the International Committee of Military Medicine and Pharmacy, at whose Congress the ICRC was represented by one of its members¹ and the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration.

Among the non-governmental institutions with which the ICRC had contacts, we should quote, in the first place, the International Committee for World Refugee Year, which groups various voluntary agencies working on behalf of refugees. The ICRC continued to place premises at its disposal. It also took part in the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations interested in Migration and continued to preside over the Liaison Committee of that Conference. Moreover, it delegated a representative to the General Assembly of the European and World Associations for the Study of the Refugee Problem, held at the end of September in Weggis (Lake of Lucerne).

Finally, the ICRC was represented at the following meetings and conferences :

Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations for the Freedom from Hunger Campaign (Rome) ; 12th and 13th sessions of the Council of the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (Naples and Geneva) ; World OSE Union (Paris) ; International Symposium of the International Civil Defence Organization (Geneva).

INFORMATION AND PUBLICATIONS

The Information Department endeavours to spread a better understanding of the ICRC and its work, as well as of the ideals and principles of the Red Cross. Its relations with public opinion mainly take the form of contacts with the Press, the publication of press releases, articles and pamphlets, the distribution of photographs, the production and distribution of films, radio and television broadcasts, replies to requests for documentary material, talks and lectures.

Moreover, the Information Department is also responsible for several other activities such as the participation of the ICRC in exhibitions, support for its annual collection, historical studies, con-

¹ See p. 19.