# **International Review of the Red Cross**

Objekttyp:	Group
Zeitschrift:	Annual report / International Committee of the Red Cross
Band (Jahr):	- (1967)
PDF erstellt a	am: <b>05.08.2024</b>

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Visitors.—The visitors section received and enlightened more than 4,000 people, with lectures, films of missions carried out, and conducted tours of the Central Tracing Agency etc.

Many of the visitors belong to National Societies. Others came from universities, cultural and occupational associations, in Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Great Britain, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Scandinavia, Switzerland and the USA. There were 1,500 American students.

The many questions which visitors raised and the letters of thanks subsequently received were eloquent evidence of the general interest in the work of the ICRC, particularly its activity today.

#### 5. INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF THE RED CROSS

The International Review of the Red Cross, published by the ICRC, is issued each month in English and French. In addition, there are two monthly supplements in German and Spanish giving the most important articles which appear in the Review itself as well as news on ICRC missions and the dissemination of knowledge on the Geneva Conventions.

Among the leading articles in 1967 concerned with major humanitarian problems of past and present, one by Mr. J. Chenevière, Honorary Vice-President of the ICRC, recalled memories of the International Prisoner of War Agency, a section of which he directed during the First World War. Mr. H. Beer described the tasks carried out today by the League of Red Cross Societies, of which he is the Secretary-General. Mr. R. H. Gluns gave an account of the organization and increasing activities of the Canadian Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service.

The remarkable work of the women air medical assistants of the Italian Red Cross was described by General T. Lomonaco, while Mr. J. Meinich's article informed readers of the Norwegian Red Cross Society's initiative in training social workers to provide aid and comfort to prison inmates. A well documented study by Mr. E. de No Louis analyses the historical background over the centuries of Spain's contribution to humanitarian law in war.

As the annals of ICRC actions, with news from many National Societies, reports on humanitarian work and meetings, book reviews and photographic illustrations, the review is a vivid, consistently topical periodical.

It continues to be a chronicle of major national and international events affecting the Red Cross movement. For instance, one long article reported on the International Red Cross meetings which took place in The Hague in September, quoting not only the opening speeches and the reports by the commissions, but also the most important resolutions adopted. The VIII Inter-American Red Cross Conference which took place in Bogota was also thoroughly analysed, as well as the seminars organized by the League in Latin America and East Africa.

One of the review's regular features is a country by country account of ICRC activities and missions in regions torn by war, e.g. the Middle East, the Yemen, Vietnam and Nigeria. It has devoted several articles giving details of interventions which the International Committee was called upon to carry out. A case in point was the ICRC's work in the Congo and Rwanda. These chronicles, bearing witness to the institution's determination to assist victims everywhere, are well illustrated and in most cases quote the appeals launched by the Red Cross in order to safeguard humanitarian principles.

## 6. RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS

Emergency radiocommunications.—Already in 1966 the ICRC had equipped its mobile medical teams in the Yemen with portable radios to enable them to maintain contact with each other and with HBC 88, the central station in Geneva. This network operated daily without failure throughout 1967. Radio contact was sometimes made as frequently as three times in a single day.

Since October 26, 1967, a new radio link has been maintained with the ICRC mission in Nigeria, through a relaying station on Fernando Po, which also helped in maintaining regular communication with the Yemen by relaying urgent messages when conditions