

Chile

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105,000 Swiss francs were supplied to the following movements: PAIGC, MPLA, FNLA, FRELIMO, COREMO, ZAPU, FROLIZI and ANC.¹

At Kinkuzu and Kinshasa (Zaire), on 30 July and 3 August and again on 17 and 20 December, the ICRC visited two Portuguese prisoners who had been captured by the FNLA forces. As usual, the ICRC delegates saw the prisoners in private. They rendered them material assistance and brought them mail from their families, to whom they may write through the Central Tracing Agency.

Chile

Before the events of 11 September 1973, the ICRC had already taken steps to ensure that it would be able to act promptly if any emergency should arise.

On a special mission to Santiago, from 28 August to 4 September, the delegate-general for Latin America studied with the authorities and Chilean Red Cross leaders the practicability, if need be, of Red Cross action under the provisions of Article 3 common to the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and resolution 2 of the Ninth Inter-American Red Cross Conference.

He urged the National Society to make speedy preparations in both personnel and supplies, and purchased locally large quantities of first-aid material—antibiotics, disinfectants and dressings—to supplement existing stocks. At the same time, the ICRC made ready in Geneva several urgent consignments of pharmaceuticals weighing 3,235 kg, which went to Santiago by air.

¹ PAIGC African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde
MPLA People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola
FNLA National Front for the Liberation of Angola
FRELIMO Mozambique Liberation Front
COREMO Mozambique Revolutionary Committee
ZAPU Zimbabwe African People's Union
FROLIZI Zimbabwe Liberation Front
ANC African National Congress

Deeming communications to be of vital importance in an emergency, the delegate-general obtained permission from the Chilean authorities to use ICRC radio frequencies and instal at the Society's headquarters a radio station brought from Geneva. Lastly, the ICRC regional delegate for South America was instructed to be ready to leave for Chile at short notice.

No sooner did the events of 11 September take place than the regional delegate left for Santiago, where he was joined by two delegates from Geneva. The frontiers were closed, and despite all the approaches made, the ICRC delegates entered Chile only on 20 September. They had talks with the new military authorities and were permitted to visit all places of detention in Chile, to talk with detainees of their choice without witnesses, and to provide them with material assistance. On 22 September, the first visit was made, a visit to the National Stadium in Santiago. Until it was closed on 9 November, it was visited seventeen times owing to the large number of detainees there (as many as 7,000) and the human problems involved. In close co-operation with the Chilean Red Cross, a large quantity of material relief was distributed and a family message transmission service was set up.

Visits were not however, confined to the National Stadium in Santiago. The ICRC decided to direct its chief effort to detainees and to visit as many places of detention as possible. Between 22 September, the date of the first visit, and 31 December 1973, the ICRC delegates made 114 visits to sixty-one places of detention and met more than 19,000 detainees held by the military authorities.¹

The visits were distributed as follows:

Area	Visits	Places of detention	Detainees
South	36	24	5,170
Centre (including Santiago)	65	29	11,500
North	13	8	2,634

¹ This total contains cumulative figures, i. e. some detainees had been in more than one place of destination.

The size of the task—the sixty-one places of detention visited up to 31 December were not all—made it necessary to increase the ICRC delegation without delay, and by 31 December it numbered ten delegates. Eight of the delegates, including three doctors, concentrated on visits to places of detention and were distributed as follows: four in Santiago and the central area; two in the north (Antofagasta sub-delegation), and two in the south (Temuco sub-delegation).

The delegates from Geneva were assisted by technical personnel provided by the Chilean Red Cross or locally recruited, and who, by the end of December, were six in number.

Improvements in detention conditions were noted during the second round of visits made in November—sometimes in fact marked improvements. They may be regarded as the direct result of the comments and recommendations made in the reports on ICRC visits. All human problems, however, were by no means solved. At the end of November, therefore, a special mission was assigned to Mr. M. A. Naville, former president of the ICRC, and the delegate-general for Latin America. They conferred with the government authorities about a number of specific problems, including certain aspects of detention conditions and the problem of executions. On this latter point, the mission again voiced the ICRC's plea for a *sine die* adjournment of the death sentences passed by the military tribunals. The various subjects discussed and the ICRC's position were confirmed in a note handed to the Military Junta in December.

RELIEF

To cover the more urgent material needs observed on the spot, 100,000 Swiss francs were immediately drawn from the relief budget for Latin America and assigned to action in Chile. Shortly after, early in October, an initial appeal was sent to National Societies eliciting their support. The results of that appeal (donations in cash or in kind) are shown in Table I (page 37).

With the assistance of National Societies, the ICRC was able to purchase and despatch by air and by sea additional relief supplies which by 31 December 1973 totalled 11,509 kg at a net cost of 120,650 Swiss francs (not including transport costs). They consisted

essentially of medicaments and medical equipment. With the assistance of National Societies, the ICRC delegates in Chile were also able to distribute emergency relief supplies purchased locally.

The use made of all the donations, as at 31 December 1973, is described in detail in Table II (pages 39-40), which also indicates local purchases and the manner of distribution.

It will be seen that the major part was allotted to the places of detention visited by the ICRC delegates and to refugees. It should, however, be pointed out that the latter are not covered by the ICRC's terms of reference, but by those of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), which, in co-operation with the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM) and the Chilean Churches, organized the reception, maintenance and departure of a large number of foreign refugees living in Chile.

The ICRC delegation in Santiago maintained permanent working relations with all these institutions from the beginning of the operation, helping to locate refugee detainees and issuing ICRC travel documents to those who had no identity papers. As from 10 October, this specialized work was entrusted to a delegate from the Central Tracing Agency in Geneva whose chief duties are outlined below.

AGENCY

The work done by the bureau of the ICRC's Central Tracing Agency in Santiago may be summarized as follows:

- registration and indexing of lists of detainees visited by ICRC delegates throughout the country;
- receipt and transmission of family messages;
- tracing the missing, written replies to inquiries from abroad (ICRC, National Societies, etc.);
- tracing, oral replies regarding detained or missing persons, refugees or those sheltering in embassies;
- issuing of ICRC travel documents.

By 31 December 1973, the Agency delegate had issued some 450 travel documents and, with the assistance of Chilean Red Cross

employees, established about 9,500 index-cards concerning more than 8,000 individual cases; transmitted 2,000 family messages, and dealt with more than 2,000 specific cases.

Having regard to the large number of human problems in abeyance in Chile at the end of 1973, the ICRC made provision in its programmes for 1974 not only for the continuance but for the extension of activities in Chile. That decision was based on the fact that the ICRC was the only organization authorized by the Chilean authorities to visit places of detention and to provide those detained as a result of the events of 11 September 1973 with material assistance.

To cover the operational costs as from 1 January 1974, the ICRC issued a second appeal to National Red Cross Societies, and through them to Governments, at the end of November 1973. Without special financial contributions, the ICRC would in fact be compelled radically to reconsider its projects and the presence of a permanent delegation in Chile.

By 31 December, the following countries had announced their intention of responding to the second appeal with a view to covering operational costs:

Sweden (Government)	Sw.Fr. 231,050.—
Australia (National Society)	Sw.Fr. 2,364.—
Norway (Government)	Sw.Fr. 138,250.—
United Kingdom (National Society)	Sw.Fr. 14,800.—
Canada (National Society)	Sw.Fr. 15,000.—
Finland (Government)	Sw.Fr. 80,000.—

Further donations, also intended to cover the ICRC's operational costs, were promised by other countries in the first few months of 1974 and will therefore appear in the next Annual Report.

FIRST ICRC APPEAL — OCTOBER 1973¹ TABLE I
(Material assistance to victims of events)

*A. Donations despatched to the ICRC in Geneva or to its delegation
in Santiago*

National Society	Government	Country	Donations in cash (Swiss francs)	Donations in kind² (Value in Swiss francs)
1. ×		Denmark	25,000	
2. ×		Australia	4,451	
3. ×		New Zealand	6,400	
4. ×		Finland	20,000	Vaccines and medicaments (6,000)
5. ×		United Kingdom	3,600	
6. ×		Canada	10,000	
7. ×	×	USA	16,000	10,000 blankets (207,000 including carriage)
8. ×		Ireland	3,675	
9. ×		Federal Republic of Germany	30,000	
10. ×		Sweden	71 750	
11. ×		German Democratic Republic	50,000	Medicaments (1,336 kg)
12. ×	×	Switzerland	30,000	25 tons powdered milk (175,000) *
13. ×		Dominican Republic	4,800	
14. Secours populaire français		France		Toilet items and food (100 kg)
15. Private donations			1,590	

* In addition to the 25 tons shown here, several tons of powdered milk remaining in stock from an earlier donation made through the ICRC to the Chilean Red Cross were also distributed.

(See notes on the following page.)

B. Consignments sent direct to the Chilean Red Cross

National Society	Government	Country	Donations in cash	Donations in kind² (Value in Swiss francs)
16. ×		Colombia		Food and medical supplies (6,945)
17. ×		Bolivia		Pharmaceutical products (not specified)
18. ×		Ecuador		50 cases powdered milk (not specified)
19. ×		Peru		Medical supplies (21,850)
20. ×		Spain		Medicaments (10,560)
21. ×		France		Medicaments (165 kg)
22. ×		Argentina		Medicaments and food (375 kg)
23. ×		Norway		Medicaments (21,050)

¹ Names of donor countries are shown in the order in which replies were received from them. This list does not necessarily include names of countries which sent donations to the Chilean Red Cross without notifying the ICRC. Donations promised but not sent in 1973 are not shown on this list; they will appear in the next Annual Report.

² Where the value or weight of donations in kind is known, the relevant figure is shown in parentheses.

A. RELIEF SUPPLIES DISTRIBUTED IN PLACES OF DETENTION IN CHILE
(20 September-31 December 1973)

Region	Places of detention visited		Description of items							
	Number of places	Total number of visits	Blankets units	Mat-tresses units	Powdered milk kg	Medi-caments Medical supplies Sw. frs.	Toilet items parcels	Food kg	Miscellaneous Sw. frs.	Total value in Sw. frs.
North . . .	8	13	300	800	—	11.—	—	122	—	24,475.—
Centre . .	18	26	1,712	60	450	1,248.50	642	300	—	48,218.—
Santiago .	11	39	3,880	70 (800 kg cotton for mat-tresses)	5,440	6,864.50	500	5,600	1,950	150,840.—
South . . .	24	36	480	—	1,200	—	480	420	350	23,990.—
Total . . .	61	114	6,372	930	7,090	8,124.—	1,622	6,442	2,300	247,523.—

B. RELIEF SUPPLIES DISTRIBUTED TO REFUGEES¹
(20 September-31 December 1973)

TABLE II
(contd)

40

Month	Place of refuge and embassies	Description of item							
		Blankets units	Mattresses units	Powdered milk kg	Medicaments Sw. frs.	Toilet items parcels	Food kg	Miscellaneous	Total value Sw. frs.
October	Padre Hurtado	100		200	1 case				4,300.—
	Francisco Xavier	400	100	140	25	30	124		12,468.—
	Rinconada de Maipo Embassies	225		200					1,520.— 4,905.—
November	C.N.A.R. (Comité Nacional de Ayuda a los Refugiados)	600						300 sheets	13,080.—
	Francisco Xavier Embassies	30	20 5	60				150 cups 100 sheets	898.— 764.—
December	Francisco Xavier Embassies	30	60	60			42	30 plates 30 cups	841.— 3,090.—
Total		1,415	185	660		30	166		41,866.—

¹ In addition to the relief supplies shown above, the following gifts were made direct to the Chilean Red Cross: 60,000 injections Anatoxine Te (Frs. 66,000.—); 7,500 x 10 ml Anatoxal Di-Te-Per (Frs. 127,500.—); items for Chilean National Society's blood bank.