

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE'S ACTION IN CYPRUS

The action which has been undertaken for more than two months by the ICRC in Cyprus, in accordance with article 3 of the Geneva Conventions relative to conflicts not of an international character, has recently achieved some appreciable success.

In fact, thanks to the intermediary of the International Committee and to its delegation in Cyprus, under the direction of Mr. A. de Cocatrix, the 49 hostages, whose release had been decided upon by Mgr. Makarios, were set at liberty. Having come from various parts of the island, they were taken to police headquarters in Nicosia, where they were officially handed over to the ICRC delegation. The hostages, amongst whom there was one woman, were then transported in three lorries, preceded by the vehicle of the ICRC, as far as the Turkish quarter of the Cypriot capital. There they were welcomed and acclaimed by a crowd of some three thousand.

Shortly before this, Mr. Kutchuk, leader of the Turkish community, had informed Mr. de Cocatrix of his intention to make a similar gesture for Greek hostages.

In addition to the release, already mentioned, of 49 hostages belonging to the Turkish Cypriot community, the delegates of the ICRC succeeded, between January 1 and the beginning of March, in visiting 110 prisoners (101 Turkish Cypriots and 9 Greek Cypriots) in sixteen places of detention and were able to secure the release of 34 of these.

After these positive results, the ICRC is now facing great difficulties due to the extremely tense situation existing in the island. The delegates are nevertheless attempting to win acceptance for the humanitarian values of the Red Cross in an atmosphere which is so often charged with hatred.

Mr. Albert de Cocatrix, Head of the delegation, has returned to Geneva, where he reported to the ICRC. He has now been replaced by Mr. Max Stalder.



Accompanied by the President of the Red Cross of the Republic of Viet Nam, Mr. Durand, ICRC delegate, pays a visit to the men's dormitory...

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... and the infirmary at Phu Loi Camp, in the Republic of Viet Nam.





Geneva. — At the ICRC headquarters, Mr. L. Boissier receives a visit from Miss S. Nayar, Chairman of the Indian Red Cross.

Morocco. — Co-operating with the Moroccan Red Crescent, Mr. Muralti, ICRC delegate, distributes relief supplies to Algerian prisoners.

