

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

The activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross continued to be both important and diverse throughout 1963. *The Annual Report for 1963*,¹ produced by the ICRC, contains much information on the subject, one of the most prominent activities being that which has been and is still continuing to be undertaken in the Yemen.

As in previous numbers, the *Annual Report* is divided into two parts, the one dealing with practical and the other with general activities. As regards the former, it can be seen that the ICRC's tasks, here grouped geographically by regions, extended to many countries and several continents. On the other hand, the specialized services, such as the Central Tracing Agency in Geneva, the International Tracing Service at Arolsen, the Medical Personnel and the War Disablement Sections, continued to be most active in 1963. To quote figures for the Central Agency alone, this in fact received 47,580 communications and despatched 50,300, which, in comparison with the previous year, represented a considerable increase.

Tasks of a general character are mentioned at length, as for example, the events of the Red Cross Centenary. We only make reference to these, as the *International Review* has already given an account of the subject on a number of occasions. The Report, however, gives detailed information on the implementation and the development of humanitarian law. Amongst others can be quoted the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions, the application of the said Conventions by the United Nations forces, the extension of medical international law and the protection of the civilian population.

Finally, the last chapter of the Report gives a series of facts relating to the ICRC's financial position and its administration of special funds, part of which are shown in this publication.

¹ ICRC, Geneva 1964. This report has appeared in French, English and Spanish. A mimeographed edition has been produced in German.



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President of the International Committee of the Red Cross.
(Mr. Gonard took up his duties on October 1, 1964)