

conditions, particularly at the field hospital at Uqhd in the desert. They realized that, in the field, only thorough knowledge allied to moral courage enables Red Cross delegates to solve the complex problems with which they are faced.

The course would not have been complete without a visit to the League of Red Cross Societies, where the students were welcomed by Mr. Beer, the Secretary General, and his principal colleagues. Thanks to the lectures on the actions of the Federation of National Societies and to the films they were able to see, the participants realized the important place of the League in the International Red Cross and its rôle in various fields of humanitarian action.

The Swiss Red Cross, for its part, delegated from Berne its assistant Secretary-General, Mr. J. Pascalis, who gave an account of the important work being carried out in a number of fields on the national level.

At the conclusion of the course the ICRC President, Mr. S. A. Gonard, gave an address in which he stated how pleased he and his colleagues were in the interest displayed by participants in this first training course and he expressed the hope that some of them would subsequently serve the Red Cross, whose tasks are ever-increasing in the world today.

Compensation for victims of pseudo-medical experiments

The Neutral Commission, appointed by the ICRC to determine claims by the victims of pseudo-medical experiments practised in German concentration camps and to whom the German Federal Republic had decided to allocate compensation, met on April 8, 9 and 10 in Geneva.

The Commission was composed of Mr. Jean Graven, President of the Supreme Court of Appeal and Professor at the Faculty of Law of the University of Geneva, who presided, of Dr. Alex F. Muller, Professor of Physiopathology at the University of Geneva, and of Dr. Sylvain Mutrux, Medical Assistant of the Psychiatric Clinic of Bel Air, Geneva. Two representatives of the Polish Red Cross were present at the meeting as observers: Miss Danuta Zys, Head of the External Affairs section, and Dr. Jerzy Nowkunski, medical delegate. Dr. Götz, an expert in matters of compensation, also attended as an observer.

The Commission, at its fifth session, had to decide on a further 70 claims presented by Polish victims. The files had been prepared by the Polish Red Cross and examined by Dr. J. de Rougemont and Mr. J. P. Maunoir, delegate of the ICRC. They had previously visited Poland to meet the victims and have discussions with the Polish doctors who had given them treatment. The Commission asked for further information concerning several of these cases.

At the Central Tracing Agency

Mrs. Z., of Silesian origin, married and living in Australia, had had no news of her father since 1940 when he had enlisted in the German army. Shortly afterwards, her mother divorced and then remarried. She herself, whilst still a child, had been sent to Germany.

On reaching adult age, she made several attempts to find traces of her father, but without success.

After settling in Australia, she approached the Red Cross of that country. In May 1963, that National Society informed the ICRC of Mrs. Z's case.

The Central Tracing Agency at ICRC headquarters opened enquiries by obtaining information in Silesia. It was thus able to trace Mr. Alois K., Mrs. Z's father. He had in fact emigrated to America, and after numerous wanderings which the ICRC succeeded in piecing together, returned to the German Federal Republic with his second wife. He was able to be identified through an exchange of correspondence. Thus, after 25 years of separation, father and daughter were able to be put in touch with each other through the intermediary of the Red Cross.
