

The Society's working groups considered the particular work allotted to them: (1) the committee for the protection of human life in armed conflicts examined the study by Général-Major médecin e.r. E. Evrard on '*Problems in the medical-legal field posed by the concept of sanitary areas and localities and that of security areas and localities in wartime*', and the paper by Mr. D. Fleck, Federal German Minister of Defence, on '*Ruses of War and Prohibition of Perfidy*' (both papers contain many references to the Geneva Conventions and to the Additional Protocols currently being drafted); (2) the working committee for the history of military penal and disciplinary law was absorbed in its research; (3) the committee of military criminology was occupied with '*Lectures on criminology within the framework of officer-training*'.

After concluding its work, the Congress elected Mr. R. Paucot, Avocat général (Paris), as president, to succeed Professor J. Gilissen, Universities of Brussels. It also awarded the Ciardi Prize for 1973 to Mr. F. Kalshoven (Netherlands) for his *Belligerent Reprisals* (published by the Henry Dunant Institute)¹.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF MILITARY MEDICINE AND PHARMACY

The Twenty-First Congress met at Bucarest from 21 to 24 May 1973 and was followed by the thirty-second session of the *Office International de Documentation de Médecine militaire*. The meetings were chaired by Major General Dr. A. Augustin, Senior Medical Officer of the Romanian Army and a member of the Romanian Red Cross. Forty-three countries participated in the Congress, while Dr. R. Marti, Chief Medical Officer of the ICRC, represented both the ICRC and League of Red Cross Societies. Speaking in that capacity, Dr. Marti outlined briefly the present tasks of the international

¹ See *International Review*, April 1971, pp. 183 *et seq.*, pp. 230 *et seq.*

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Red Cross institutions and drew particular attention to the work which the ICRC is carrying out for the development of humanitarian law.

A number of papers, some of them illustrated by films, were presented on the following three themes:

- *Present resuscitation techniques on the battle-field—Methods for the rapid diagnosis, immunoprophylaxis and immunotherapy of contagious diseases in time of war—Role of the Military Medical Corps in the organization of first aid in cases of natural disasters in time of peace.*

With regard to this last item, several of the papers submitted were of evident interest to the Red Cross, especially that dealing with the *Elément médical d'intervention rapide* (Medical unit for quick intervention). Such a unit, known as EMIR in French military circles and which has been set up by the French as a military medical unit, offers today the best solution to the problem of forwarding medical supplies, whether in cases of natural disasters or in armed conflicts.¹

¹ See *International Review*, November 1972.