

**VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE ICRC TO THE NATIONAL
RED CROSS SOCIETIES IN THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA**

Accompanied by Mr. H. G. Beckh, delegate, Mr. Léopold Boissier visited the German Red Cross in the German Democratic Republic from March 24 to 30, 1963.

He received a warm and friendly reception in Dresden from the President of the National Society, Dr. Werner Ludwig, members of the executive committee and his colleagues, and was able to appreciate that Society's intense activity in the most varied fields.

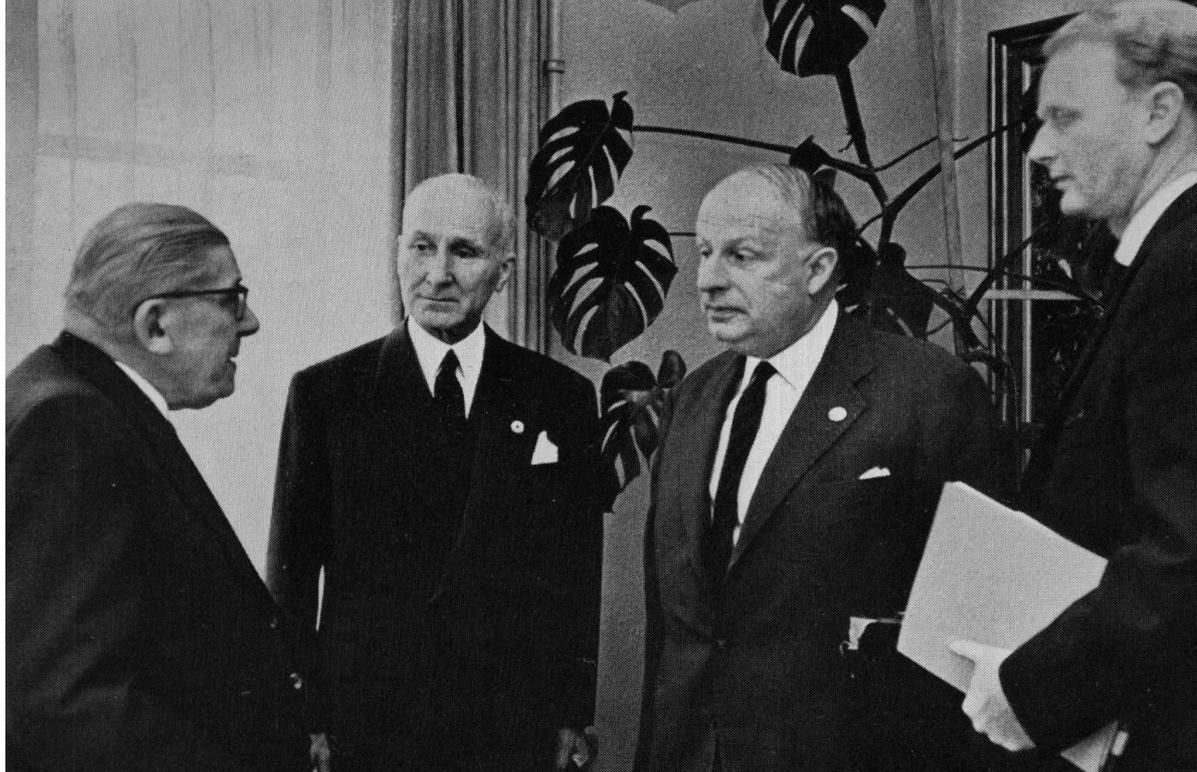
He attended an exercise carried out by young girl first-aiders attached to the hospital of Arnsdorf¹.

The President of the ICRC had long discussions with Dr. Ludwig, his colleagues and others, who gave him some useful information about the efforts being made in the German Democratic Republic as regards hygiene and the struggle against occupational illness. He also paid a visit to the "Museum of Hygiene", an institution which is unique of its kind, in which are exhibited, most ingeniously, methods for relieving suffering and preserving health.

Mr. Boissier and Mr. Beckh subsequently went to Berlin, where the President of the ICRC was received successively by Mr. Max Sefrin, Minister of Health, Dr. Lothar Bolz, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and by Mr. Walter Ulbricht, Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic.

These leading personalities enthusiastically manifested the esteem in which they hold the ICRC and its activities. They

¹ *Plate.*



In Dresden, at the headquarters of the German Red Cross in the German Democratic Republic. **From left to right:** Mr. Buchwitz, Honorary President of the National Society, Mr. Boissier, President of the ICRC, Mr. Beckh, delegate of the ICRC, Mr. Ludwig, President of the National Society

The President of the ICRC at Arnsdorf in the German Democratic Republic during an exercise by Red Cross first aid workers





IN PRAGUE

The President of the ICRC delivering a speech at the central headquarters of the Czechoslovak Red Cross. (On the right, Mr. Janouch, President of the National Society).

MANILA

At the headquarters of the Philippine Red Cross, Mr. Mittner, delegate of the ICRC, unveiling a portrait of Henry Dunant on the occasion of the Centenary



discussed at length the German Democratic Republic's attitude towards the problems created by the present state of affairs in Berlin, an attitude which conditions every humanitarian activity in that city.

Mr. Boissier and Mr. Beckh then stopped in Prague. Dr. Frantisek Janouch, President of the Czechoslovak Red Cross, assisted by Dr. Karel Blaha, Director of that National Society's External Affairs section, had organized a meeting to which had been convened his colleagues on the Society's executive committee, members of the staff and large numbers from government and intellectual circles of the country. Mr. Boissier thus had the privilege of describing the ICRC's present activities and of replying to questions which were put to him.¹

During their brief stay in Prague, Mr. Boissier and Mr. Beckh were the object of much attention.

¹ *Plate.*