

were concentrated in this region and the ICRC delegate handed them part of the 416 bags of clothing offered by Sweden, Switzerland and Canada. A number of villages in the region were included in the distribution programme.

Mr. Stalder then went to Pakistan where a similar mission awaited him. He plans to attend various distributions of relief in Azad Kashmir under Pakistani control.

IN GENEVA

Exchange of views on the position of prisoners

Ambassador Averell Harriman, personal representative of the President of the United States, was received, at his request, on May 6, 1966 by Mr. Samuel A. Gonard, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross. The meeting bore on the position of prisoners of war in both North and South Vietnam.

The day before, the ICRC President had met U Thant, Secretary-General of the United Nations, who emphasized the importance of the task devolving on the ICRC to improve the lot of prisoners of war in Vietnam.

New participation in the Geneva Conventions

The Federal Political Department in Berne has informed the ICRC that it has received the instrument of accession by the Republic of Honduras to the four Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949. This accession will take effect on June 30, 1966.

This event causes satisfaction to the International Committee and its President has written to the President of the Republic as well as to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Honduras congratulating their country on thus shortly becoming the 109th State formally participating in the Geneva Conventions of 1949.