

† JEAN-PIERRE SCHOENHOLZER

The International Committee of the Red Cross has recently suffered a severe shock in the loss of Jean-Pierre Schoenholzer, who died suddenly in Cyprus on January 22, 1964. He had arrived a few days previously to carry out a mission on behalf of the victims of recent events.

Having entered the service of the ICRC in 1940, he at once showed his value, thanks to his personal qualities and his wide knowledge. He was first of all engaged in the administration and editing of reports on visits to camps in which millions of prisoners of war were interned. He then specialized in medical law and in the legal protection of the wounded and sick, on which subjects the *International Review* published several important studies of his. In 1949 he acted as Secretary to the Diplomatic Conference which led to the signing of the four new Geneva Conventions. He was also one of the principal organizers of the Centenary Congress of the International Red Cross which was held last year.

With courage and enthusiasm, he successfully accomplished several missions in circumstances which were often delicate. He went to the Sierra Maestra, in Cuba, during the civil war which preceded the fall of the Batista regime, and was then sent to Indonesia, to the Congo and to various other countries.

At his funeral which took place in Geneva, Mr. L. Boissier, President of the ICRC, paid a moving tribute to his qualities and to his devotion. Mr. J. Pictet, Director for General Affairs of the ICRC, then stressed all that J.-P. Schoenholzer had been for his colleagues, the intelligence and sensibility he had shown in practical, as well as in theoretical matters. Finally, Mr. Beer, Secretary-General of the League, recalled the many services he had rendered to the National Societies as well as to their federation, and the grateful memory they will always keep of him.

The sorrow which everyone felt on hearing of Jean-Pierre Schoenholzer's sudden and so untimely end is proof of the friendship which he knew how to create around him. The International Committee feels this cruel loss of one who had devoted his forces to humanitarian work.