

Head of Polish Red Cross Training Service visits ICRC

The Central Tracing Agency had the pleasure of receiving a visit by Mrs. Sztomberek, head of the Polish Red Cross Tracing Service, who was in Geneva during the first week of October. The purpose of Mrs. Sztomberek's visit was to carry out with the Central Tracing Agency a detailed investigation of the various technical problems connected with the many thousand captivity certificates provided to former Polish prisoners of war. The Polish Red Cross and the Central Tracing Agency are working together closely in this extensive enterprise.

The meetings proved to be particularly fruitful and the CTA was fortunate in having thus been able to take advantage of Mrs. Sztomberek's vast experience in this field of activity.

At the same time, the head of the Polish Red Cross Tracing Service was able, while in Geneva, to examine thoroughly the working parts of the Central Tracing Agency's complex mechanism.

The CTA sets great store by its meetings with leaders of National Society tracing services. Such contacts are useful in that they generally lead to more efficient co-ordination of the activities they have to perform together and to the harmonization of their methods of work.

League President at the ICRC

On 2 November, the new President of the League of Red Cross Societies, Mr. J.A. Adefarasin, was received by the ICRC Assembly at its headquarters in Geneva. He was welcomed by Mr. Alexander Hay, President of the ICRC, who extended the good wishes and congratulations of the ICRC on the important new office to which he was recently elected in Bucharest by the International Conference of the Red Cross.

Mr. Adefarasin cordially thanked the ICRC. He then attended part of the ICRC Assembly meeting, at which plans were discussed for the celebration, in May 1978, of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Henry Dunant. The ICRC Assembly invited Mr. Adefarasin to stay for dinner.

The ICRC Assembly was pleased to meet the new President of the League and to welcome him at its headquarters, feeling that this marked an auspicious start to a working relationship that promised to be close, friendly and fruitful.

Mr. Adefarasin, who stayed several days in Geneva while working with the Secretariat of the League of Red Cross Societies, was also received by the Genevese authorities.

Resignation of a Committee member

Mr. Gottfried de Smit, a member of the International Committee of the Red Cross, has resigned. The ICRC accepted his resignation with regret and expressed its gratitude to Mr. de Smit for his services to the institution. Mr. de Smit became a member of the Executive Council in 1973 and a member of the Assembly at the beginning of 1974.
