

*EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES***Africa****Mozambique**

Following the unrest in Lourenço Marques (Mozambique), and at the request of the Portuguese Red Cross, the ICRC regional delegate for Southern Africa, based on Rhodesia, took part in an emergency relief action which consisted in the despatch from Salisbury to Lourenço Marques, on 12 September 1974, of 700 kg of medicines and blood plasma, valued at 50,000 Swiss francs, for the principal hospital in that town. On the same day, he attended the first meeting between the Portuguese Red Cross, the Portuguese authorities and FRELIMO, with a view to organizing food supplies for the town and its suburbs.

On his return to Salisbury, the ICRC regional delegate, with the aid of the Rhodesia Red Cross, despatched relief in the form of additional food supplies donated by that Society.

Ethiopia

From 19 August to 10 September 1974, two ICRC teams, each composed of two delegates and one doctor, visited nineteen places of detention in Ethiopia, and saw some 17,000 prisoners of all categories. The delegates were able to talk with prisoners of their choice without witnesses, except in the fort of Akaki prison, near Addis Ababa, which is to be visited at a later date.

The following places were visited : Addis Ababa (Akaki prison), Asela, Asmara (Sembel prison, Tsetserat prison and a women's prison), Arba Minch, Awasa, Debre Behran, Debre Markos, Dessie, Goba, Gondar, Harrar, Jimma, Makale, Metu, Nazareth, Nekempt and Robi.

Latin America

Chile

In September and October, the ICRC delegation at Santiago pursued its visits to places of detention and continued its work in assisting detainees and those of their families in need of aid.

With the aim of expanding its assistance, the ICRC has enlarged its Chile delegation, whose staff has been increased from 14 to 18 delegates. The total amount spent on relief during those same two months exceeded 100,000 Swiss francs.

Asia

Mission of delegate-general

From 10 August to 29 September 1974, Mr. J. Ott, ICRC delegate-general for Asia and Oceania, carried out a mission which took him to Indonesia, the Republic of Vietnam, Laos and the Khmer Republic. In each country he conferred with Red Cross leaders and government authorities.

Mr. Ott also made a stay in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, where he met H. E. Nguyen Van Luu, Director of the Department of International Organizations in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. On his way back, he stopped over in Sri Lanka and contacted the National Society.

Indonesia

Three ICRC teams, consisting of one delegate and one doctor each, visited 19,656 political detainees in thirty-six places of detention in Indonesia (including Buru Island) between 22 August and 24 September.

The delegates had private interviews with the detainees chosen by them in all places of detention.

The ICRC reports will, as usual, be sent to the detaining authorities.

Europe

Romania

Mr. P. Gaillard, ICRC Deputy Director, was in Romania from 21 to 25 September 1974.

In Bucarest, he was received by General M. Burca, President, and leading members of the National Society, with whom he conferred on matters of mutual interest. He also visited a school and a hospital where Red Cross teams were at work.

Middle East

Student travel. — As it had done in previous years, the ICRC arranged for Gaza students attending university courses in Cairo and Damascus to go home for the summer holidays. In the course of thirteen operations carried out on the El Qantara road in July and August, 3,145 students returned from Cairo to their families in Gaza. About a hundred students returned to occupied territory from Damascus. From the end of August until the beginning of October, similar operations in reverse enabled the students to return to their studies.

Family reuniting. — Several family reuniting operations have taken place on the El Qantara road, between occupied Gaza-Sinai territory and the Arab Republic of Egypt. Three operations enabled 529 persons to proceed to occupied territory, and 269 to reach the Nile Valley. Furthermore, in the course of three new operations, 526 persons crossed over into occupied territory, and 74 to Cairo.



Sofia: The President of the ICRC, Dr. Eric Martin, being welcomed by the President of the Bulgarian Red Cross, Dr. K. Ignatov, and other senior members of the National Society and by members of the Junior Red Cross.

Photo F. Bory / ICRC

Lucerne: A meeting of the Conference of Government Experts on weapons.





اتفاقيات جنيف

حماية الأهالي المدنيين في أوقات الحروب



One of the colour posters published by the ICRC on the application of the Geneva Conventions.

Photo V. Grönkvist

Release of civilians of Druse origin. — On 3 October 1974, the ICRC arranged for three civilians to return to their families in the occupied territory of the Golan Heights. The men had been captured on the Israelo-Lebanese frontier on 6 August.

Release of Lebanese civilians. — In southern Lebanon, Israel armed forces captured eight Lebanese civilians. The prisoners, who during their detention were visited by the ICRC, were released on 6 October 1974.

Release of a prisoner. — On 2 October, the ICRC repatriated a Syrian prisoner of war who had been captured by Israel armed forces in the occupied territory of the Golan Heights on 16 August. During detention, he was visited by the ICRC several times.

Japan

Mr. Harry C. Angst is returning to Switzerland after acting as ICRC honorary delegate in Japan for more than thirty years. The Red Cross is deeply grateful to him for the great services he has rendered.

In token of the appreciation felt there, the Japanese Red Cross has conferred on Mr. Angst the Golden Order of Merit, and the Japanese Government has awarded him the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Second Class, "in recognition of his contribution in promoting world peace and welfare which are the ideals of Red Cross principles".
