IN GENEVA

Offer by the ICRC

The International Committee of the Red Cross contacted the Czechoslovak Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva on August 23, requesting him to convey to the President of the Czechoslovak Red Cross an invitation to come to Geneva or to delegate the National Society's Head of External Affairs. The purpose of the invitation, extended in agreement with the League of Red Cross Societies, was both to enquire whether the Czechoslovak Red Cross had need of any assistance as a result of current events, and to enable one of its leading members to take part in the meetings of National Red Cross Societies which have been scheduled to take place in Geneva for months past.

Further Accession to the Geneva Conventions

In our last issue we mentioned that 119 states were parties to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949. The International Committee of the Red Cross was recently informed by the Federal Political Department, Berne, of Guyana's accession.

This took the form of a Declaration of Continuity received by the Swiss Authorities on 22 July, 1968.

Guyana's declaration brings to 120 the number of States expressly bound by the Geneva Conventions.

New ICRC film

The ICRC has just produced a new colour film (16 mm.): Nigeria-Biafra—War and Famine. It shows the ICRC teams bringing relief to the wounded and to the population, both in Nigeria and Biafra. It gives an insight into the dedication of the doctors and their assistants and of the ICRC delegates working under trying conditions to alleviate the widespread suffering and organizing and supervising what relief supply distributions, particularly to children, have been possible.

After seeing this twenty-minute film you cannot but be determined that this ghastly horror of famine's ravages must not prove to be a task to which the combined efforts of the Red Cross and other humanitarian institutions are unequal.

Available with French, English or German commentary from the ICRC Information Service.