

IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

STANDING COMMISSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS

An ordinary session of the Standing Commission was held in Geneva on 11 April 1972.

It was chaired by Angela, Countess of Limerick (United Kingdom) and included the two representatives of the ICRC, Mr. Marcel A. Naville and Mr. Jean Pictet, the two representatives of the League, Mr. José Barroso and Mr. Eustasio Villanueva Vadillo, General James F. Collins (USA), Dr. Djebli-Elaydouni (Morocco), Sir Geoffrey Newman-Morris (Australia), and Mrs. Troyan, President of the Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the USSR who was deputizing for Professor G. Miterev. Mr. T. W. Sloper also attended as a consultant. Others in attendance were the representatives of the Red Lion and Sun Society of Iran, Mr. H. Khatibi, Director General, Mrs. P. Shahidy, liaison officer to international Red Cross organizations, and Mr. M. Khosrovshahi.

At the invitation of the Red Lion and Sun Society of Iran, the Commission decided that the XXIInd International Conference of the Red Cross would take place at Tehran from 6 to 14 October 1973. The dates are subject to change if required by the agenda which has still to be drawn up. As usual, the Conference will be preceded from 26 September by various Red Cross meetings.

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As mentioned previously¹, the Standing Commission awarded the Henry Dunant Medal, the highest Red Cross distinction, which

¹ See *International Review*, December 1971.

was founded by the XXth International Conference, to *Mr. André François-Poncet*, former president of the French Red Cross and of the Standing Commission, *Mrs. Sachiko Hashimoto*, president of the Japanese Junior Red Cross, and *Miss Katalyn Durgo*, a nurse of the Hungarian Red Cross. Mrs. Hashimoto, who was present at the meeting, was presented with the medal by the Countess of Limerick. As the other two medalists were unable to come to Geneva, the distinction conferred on them will be presented at some other occasion.

FOR 8 MAY 1972

International Review has already defined the significance of World Red Cross Day and has announced the theme of the event for 1972, namely The Red Cross—Humanity's Bridge. The World Day will be celebrated in many countries and will later be described in our pages.

Mr. J. Barroso, Chairman of the League Board of Governors, delivered the following message for the occasion :

The choice of theme for the 1972 World Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Day was not haphazard.

The "bridge" represents a link between peoples, the gift of self for a common cause, the solidarity of mankind. In a world taking stock, that is said to be on the decline, in a world where any sentiment often remains impassive, where fine words are spoken but never translated into concrete action, it is really heartening to find that there still are people of goodwill, wishing to help not only their relations, their friends, their neighbours, but also human beings entirely unknown to them, brought close by misfortune and suffering.

Answering the call of the Red Cross, an ever growing number of volunteers are giving the best of themselves to mitigate the