

## Death of Miss Monique Katz

The ICRC has learnt with deep regret of the death on 29 October 1985 of Miss Monique Katz, the former Assistant Director of the Central Tracing Agency and a faithful staff member for nearly forty years.

Miss Katz, who joined the ICRC on 20 October 1940, was first assigned to the French card index, then appointed head of section for Italian internment in Switzerland. She became assistant head of the Agency's Italian service in 1945, then head in 1954. Afterwards she spent part of her time working with the International Review of the Red Cross and in the Information Department.

She was appointed Deputy Director, then Assistant Director of the Agency, which had, in the meantime, become the Central Tracing Agency, and, in her expert capacity, was a member of the ICRC delegation to the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law (1974-1977).

She carried out several missions abroad, especially to Italy, and was made a Knight of the Order of the Italian Republic for her cultural activities and awarded the gold medal of the Italian Red Cross.

At the funeral ceremony, Mr. J. Pictet, Honorary Vice-President of the ICRC, paid a final tribute: « *With her death, a great lady of the Red Cross family has passed away... one of the last witnesses of the humanitarian work accomplished during the Second World War. How many times did her colleagues disturb her, even after her retirement, to get information about that period, information which survives only in the memory of those who actually experienced the events. The world of the Red Cross will never forget this loyal and generous colleague, and I am sure that the thoughts and ideas of this exceptional woman will live on in the publications and studies she has left to us* ».

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