

## Recent missions by the President of the ICRC

In November and December 1986, the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross went on several missions which took him to London, Brussels, The Hague and Brasilia.

In *London*, the President had a meeting with Lady Limerick, Chairman of the Council of the British Red Cross Society, to discuss the work of the Twenty-fifth International Conference of the Red Cross and the ICRC's current activities.

On 27 November, the President went to *Brussels*, accompanied by Mr. M. Convers, Deputy Director of Operations, and Mr. P. Schoch, Deputy Head of the Financing Division.

Mr. Hay and Mr. Convers had talks with the Prime Minister, Dr. Wilfried Martens, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Tindemans, the Minister for the Budget, Scientific Policy and Research, Mr. Verhofstart, and Prof. V. Leysen, President of the Dutch-speaking community of the Belgian Red Cross.

The topics discussed included the Twenty-fifth International Conference of the Red Cross, the operations of the ICRC in South Africa, southern Sudan, Ethiopia, Zaire and the Philippines, and the financing of the ICRC's regular budget.

Furthermore Dr. Martens, H. R. H. Prince Albert, President of the Belgian Red Cross, and the President of the ICRC attended the opening ceremony of a symposium on the implementation of the Additional Protocols, organized on 27 and 28 November by the Belgian Red Cross.

The object of the symposium was to examine all the measures to be taken by Belgium in peacetime to implement the Protocols which it recently ratified.

In the course of the mission, the President of the ICRC had a meeting with members of Parliament to whom he gave a talk on the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in general, on the Fundamental Principles, the ICRC's objectives and the Twenty-fifth International Conference.

On 28 November, in *The Hague*, the President of the ICRC had a discussion with the leaders of the Netherlands Red Cross: H.R.H.

Princess Margriet, member of the Committee, Mr. Van der Weel, Chairman, Dr. Herrema, General Director, and Mr. Tjittes, Head of International Affairs. They talked, *inter alia*, about the situation in Suriname and the ICRC's potential activities in that country.

At government level, the President of the ICRC met Mr. Bukman, Minister for Development Aid and Co-operation, Mr. Hoekmann, Director General of Development Aid Services, and Mr. Ringolda, Director of the Division for International Organizations. Among the topics discussed were the financing of the ICRC's regular and special budgets, and the ICRC's objectives for 1987.

From 15 to 17 December 1986, Mr. Hay, accompanied by Mr. Serge Nessi, Head of the Financing Division, and Mrs. Sylvie Junod, regional delegate in Buenos Aires, went to *Brazil* to discuss with the Brazilian authorities and the Head of State the ICRC's financing and operational activities and the Additional Protocols.

On 17 December, the ICRC President had a meeting with Mr. José Sarney, President of the Republic. Others present included the Brazilian President's adviser on Foreign Affairs, Mr. Rubens Ricupero, and Mrs. Mavy Harmon, President of the Brazilian Red Cross.

After thanking Brazil for supporting the OAS resolution, Mr. Hay talked about the ICRC's current operations throughout the world, in particular in Central America. He later had a meeting with Mr. Rubens Barbosa, the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in charge of multilateral and special political matters.

The President of the ICRC and Mrs. Harmon also attended the concert given on 16 December in Rio de Janeiro by the World Philharmonic Orchestra (WPO) in aid of the Red Cross.

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### **Appointment of two new honorary members**

At its session of 21 January 1987, the ICRC Assembly took leave of two of its members: Dr. Jacques de Rougemont, who is withdrawing for health reasons, and Mr. Henry Huguenin, who did not wish to renew his mandate. The Assembly expressed its grati-