

*IN GENEVA***For Victims of Pseudo-Medical Experiments**

The Commission of neutral experts appointed by the International Committee of the Red Cross to examine cases of victims of pseudo-medical experiments practised in concentration camps under the Nazi regime, to whom the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany is prepared to pay indemnities, again met at ICRC headquarters in Geneva on November 8 and 9. The Chairman was Mr. William Lenoir, Judge at the Geneva Court of Justice. He was assisted by Professor Pierre Magnenat, assistant doctor at the University Clinic of the Nestlé Hospital in Lausanne and by Dr. Sylvain Mutrux, Deputy Medical Director of the University Psychiatric Clinic of Bel-Air in Geneva. The Hungarian Red Cross was represented by Mrs. Sandor Böde, Dr. Pal Bàcs and Mr. Imre Pásztor, whilst Dr. E. Götz had been sent by the Red Cross of the German Federal Republic.

The files of a further group of 75 Hungarian victims were submitted to the Commission which accepted 57 of these, rejected 9, asked for additional information on 7 and left 2 cases temporarily in abeyance.

The Hungarian Red Cross had drawn up these files in co-operation with an ICRC mission consisting of Dr. Felix Züst, doctor-delegate of the ICRC and Miss Lix Simonius, delegate.

A new ICRC film

The International Committee has just produced a new film (16 mm.) entitled "Rescue" on the relief action which it has been pursuing for many months in Nigeria and in the seceding province of Biafra, in co-operation with a large number of National Societies and international relief organizations mentioned on several occasions

in the *International Review*. Of 20 minutes duration, the film is in colour and can now be obtained from the ICRC Information Department in French, English or German versions.

In a number of striking sequences and with a restrained commentary, it describes the terrible sufferings of the population in Biafra and the aid brought by Red Cross delegates and medico-welfare teams with a view to enabling these starving women and children to survive. The flight of civilians from war areas on tracks followed haphazard is also depicted. The Red Cross finds all its *raison d'être* in the work of assistance carried out by these doctors who examine, bandage and give comfort and the delegates who distribute dried fish and milk which aircraft, risking the dangers of night flights, deposit on makeshift airfields on which is marked the red cross emblem, as it is on their wings.

Course for officers

An introductory course in the law of war and the Geneva Conventions was held in Geneva from November 19 to 22, 1968, for officers of the Swiss army.

This course, attended by some fifty participants of all arms and ranks, took place in accordance with the programme given in the *International Review* in its number of April 1968.

Further Accession to the Geneva Conventions

The October 1968 issue of *International Review* mentioned that 121 States were parties to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949.

The ICRC has now been informed by the Federal Political Department in Berne of the accession of Barbados to these Conventions. It took the form of a declaration of continuity dated 20 August 1968, with effect from 30 November 1966, the country's Independence Day.

The number of States expressly bound by these Conventions is now 122.