

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.