

Times of transmission vary with wave-length conditions and places. Frequencies allotted are in the 10, 15, 20, 40 and 80-metre bands, in the immediate neighbourhood of the radio amateur wave-bands. In case of need, Red Cross messages may easily be picked up by these radio amateurs who, in the field, can provide valuable assistance in that they often have sensitive sets and more powerful antennae than those with which the portable transmitter-receivers are equipped. On several occasions, when the ICRC delegate was on mission in Bolivia, he was able to communicate with Geneva through a Swiss radio amateur living in La Paz, who had obtained permission from the Bolivian authorities to transmit for the ICRC.

It is in this way that the voices of men coming, through the Red Cross, to the assistance of those in distress, are carried swiftly and efficiently over the air.

---

## Relief Section Activities

During the third quarter of the year, the ICRC's Relief Section despatched the following consignments.

*To Africa:* 298 kgs of medicaments to a value of 17,000 Swiss francs were sent by air in July to Burundi. In the same month, 10 first-aid kits (1,900 francs) were sent to each ICRC regional delegation at Yaoundé and Addis Ababa, for distribution to various National Societies.

*To Latin America:* In July two consignments sent by sea, one to Venezuela, the other to Paraguay, comprised mainly medical supplies for detainees visited by the ICRC, valued at 13,000 Swiss francs. In August, 42 kgs of medical supplies, worth 2,300 Swiss francs, were sent by air to Bolivia for distribution by the ICRC doctor-delegate during his visits to prisons. The ICRC also sent

## INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

415 kgs of dressing material, stretchers, medicaments and blankets (23,000 Swiss francs) to the Haiti Red Cross. In September, 135 tons of powdered milk, donated by the European Economic Community and valued at 540,000 Swiss francs, were shipped by the ICRC to Chile.

*To Asia:* During the last three months, medical supplies (12,000 Swiss francs) were sent to the Khmer Red Cross and the ICRC delegation in Dacca. Recently, 1,807 kgs of medicaments, dressings and surgical equipment were air-freighted to Hanoi for the Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam; the total value was 50,000 Swiss francs.

*To the Middle East:* 540 tons of wheat flour (270,000 Swiss francs) donated by the Swiss Government were sent by sea to the Syrian Red Crescent. Switzerland has also provided 300 tons of flour (150,000 Swiss francs) for distribution to the population of the Israeli-occupied West Bank of the Jordan.

The Lebanese Red Cross, in October, following the recent events in the south of the country, received antibiotics and other emergency medical supplies to a value of 60,000 Swiss francs.