

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

Two new members of the ICRC

At its meeting on 16 February 1984, the Assembly of the International Committee of the Red Cross elected Mr. Pierre Keller as a member of the Committee.

Mr. Keller was born in Zurich in 1927. He graduated in law at the University of Geneva and went on to gain the degrees of Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy in international relations at the University of Yale. On completing his studies, Mr. Keller spent some time at a New York bank and then several years in the Swiss diplomatic service, initially at the office of Switzerland's permanent observer at the United Nations in New York, then at the Department of Foreign Affairs in Berne, and finally in the Swiss delegation to the European Free Trade Association in Geneva. Mr. Keller returned to banking in 1961, and since 1970 has been a partner of a Geneva banking establishment, where he is now vice-chairman of the board. He is a member of the administrative council of the Swiss Association of Bankers, of the council of the International Center for Monetary and Banking Studies, and also of the International Banking Research Institute.

During its meeting of 20 October 1983, the ICRC Assembly appointed a new member of the International Committee, Mr. Raymond Probst, who will take up duties in the Committee on 1 May 1984.

A citizen of Langnau (canton of Berne), Mr. Probst was born in Geneva, in 1919. He holds a doctorate in law from Berne University. In 1942, he started work with the Federal Political Department first in the Foreign Affairs Division, and subsequently with the press section. At the end of 1947, he was transferred to the Swiss Legation in Athens and in 1952 to the economic section of the Swiss Legation in Washington. On his return to Berne at the end of 1956, he joined the legal section, then the political section of the Federal Political Department. He undertook several missions to foreign countries, especially in America and Africa. In September 1966, the Federal Council appointed him to the

post of delegate for commercial agreements, with the title of Minister Plenipotentiary, then, in 1968, that of Ambassador Plenipotentiary. He was Swiss Ambassador in the United States of America from 1976 to 1980 and, from then until March 1984, Secretary of State in the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, in Berne.

These two new members will play a valuable part in the activities of the ICRC, which takes great pleasure in welcoming them.

ICRC President in Hungary

The President of the ICRC, Mr. Alexandre Hay, went on a brief visit to Budapest, from 6 to 8 March 1984, at the invitation of the President of the Executive Committee of the Hungarian Red Cross and Vice-Chairman of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross, Mr. János Hantos. The ICRC President was accompanied by Mr. Jacques Moreillon, member of the ICRC Directorate and Director for General Affairs, and by Mr. Thierry Germond, regional delegate for Europe.

During this visit, the President of the Hungarian Red Cross, Professor Dr. Pál Gegesi Kis, conferred on Mr. Hay the gold medal of the Hungarian Red Cross, and on Mr. Moreillon its silver medal, in recognition of outstanding services rendered to the Red Cross movement. The ceremony was attended by several persons of rank and representatives of the Hungarian authorities.

The ICRC delegation, accompanied by the President of the Executive Committee of the Hungarian Red Cross, was received also by Mr. Istvan Sarlós, Deputy Chairman of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic.

In the talks with the Hungarian Red Cross a number of current issues relating to the Red Cross movement were discussed. Mr. Hay also gave a press conference for Hungarian journalists.