

*IN GENEVA***Swiss Confederation Donation to ICRC**

At the end of September, the Swiss Confederation made available to the International Committee of the Red Cross the sum of 500,000 Swiss francs for its work in East Pakistan.

The ICRC operations in East Pakistan are conducted by three delegates and are being developed mainly for the tracing of missing persons, for reuniting dispersed families, forwarding family news and visiting detainees.

Participation in the Geneva Conventions

In its issue of October 1970, the *International Review* stated that 128 States were parties to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949. This number has now risen to 129. The ICRC has recently been informed by the Federal Political Department in Berne that the Swiss authorities received, on 9 August 1971, a letter from the Fijian Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs stating that Fiji considered itself bound to the Geneva Conventions of 1949, under the earlier ratification by the United Kingdom.

By this declaration of continuity, Fiji is henceforth bound, as a separate State, to the Conventions as from 10 October 1970, when it became independent.