

1969 ANNUAL REPORT

As usual the ICRC has published a report in which it reviews the work of the previous year.¹

The *Report* first gives a summary of the International Committee's work in the field in many parts of the world: its conventional activities for the benefit of prisoners of war, its organization of the general exchange of Honduran and Salvadorian prisoners and of the general repatriation of prisoners of war in the Middle East,

It describes how, concerned for the welfare of civilian populations, the ICRC went to the assistance of displaced persons in a number of countries, in respect of which some significant statistics are given. Many were the interventions of the ICRC, such as in the Yemen Arab Republic, where food distributions were organized and several medical teams were in action.

Details of the ICRC's general activities give an insight into the development of international humanitarian law in 1969. The *Report* gives an account of the legal work carried on to ensure more effective protection for the victims of war and internal disturbances. It also summarizes the work of the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross and the ICRC's efforts to promote knowledge of the Geneva Conventions.

The last section gives details of the institution's financial situation by means of tables. These are reproduced in this issue of *International Review*.

¹ *Annual Report 1969*, ICRC Geneva, 1970, 126 pages. The report is published in French, English and Spanish and there is a mimeographed edition in German. It can be obtained from the ICRC at a cost of 7 Sw.frs.