

*IN GENEVA***Executive Council**

During the meeting of its Assembly in December 1976, the International Committee of the Red Cross constituted as follows its Executive Council for the next four years:

Mr. Alexandre Hay, President  
Mr. Victor H. Umbricht, Vice-President  
Mrs. Denise Bindschedler-Robert  
Mr. Thomas Fleiner  
Mr. Richard Pestalozzi  
Mr. Jean Pictet

The Assembly also paid tribute and expressed its profound gratitude to Mr. Roger Gallopin the retiring President of the Executive Council.

Mr. Gallopin will remain a member of the Assembly and will continue to put at the ICRC's disposal his vast and priceless experience, gained over the forty years which he devoted to the Red Cross.

**New member of the International Committee**

The Assembly of the International Committee of the Red Cross, during its meeting in December 1976, co-opted as a new Committee member Mr. Richard Pestalozzi. Mr. Pestalozzi, who was born in Zurich in 1918, graduated from the University of that city as a Doctor of Laws. In 1944 he joined the Federal Political Department for which he held posts in Berne, New York, New Delhi and Paris. From 1964 to 1971 he was deputy to the Federal Council's delegate to the Swiss organization *Coopération technique*. In 1971 he was appointed Swiss Ambassador to Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Malawi.

From January 1977, Mr. Pestalozzi will be on indefinite leave from the Federal Political Department. In addition to being a member of the ICRC, he will be the Special Assistant to the President of the ICRC,

Mr. Alexandre Hay, in a full-time capacity at ICRC headquarters, starting on 1 February.

The ICRC welcomes this appointment and is glad that it will soon have the benefit of Mr. Pestalozzi's valuable counsel.

## **Mark of gratitude**

On 16 December, the International Committee at its headquarters manifested its gratitude to three members of its staff.

President Alexandre Hay presented the ICRC's silver medal to Mrs. Rose Parmelin and Mr. Jean-Pierre Maunoir for their thirty years of service, and its silver salver to Mr. Joseph Abramiec for his twenty years of service.

Speaking for himself and his colleagues, Mr. Maunoir expressed thanks to the Committee for its recognition of their services.

## **Death of Miss P. Y. Tombet, Director of the ICRC**

The International Committee learnt with deep regret of the death, on 15 December, after a short illness, of Miss Paulette Y. Tombet, a member of the ICRC directorate and Director of the Central Tracing Agency.

Miss Tombet joined the ICRC staff in December 1940 as an employee of the French section of the Central Prisoners of War Agency. In 1947 she was appointed head of the French Service secretariat, and in 1951 head of the Hungarian Service. In 1957 she was promoted assistant head of the Agency directorate. While carrying out these functions she assumed in 1964 the secretariat of the ICRC Presidency and also directed the Protocol service. In 1966 she was appointed Director of the Central Tracing Agency and became a member of the ICRC directorate in 1973.

Paulette Tombet devoted thirty-six years of her life, almost to the day, to the ICRC. Her practical intelligence, constant dedication and untiring selfless efforts were an example to all.

The International Committee is profoundly grateful to her, and her many friends will long remember her winning personality.