

SUNDRY ACTIVITIES

News Items

Cyprus

In spite of increasing difficulties, the delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Cyprus, consisting of three, is continuing its representations on behalf of Greek and Turkish Cypriot hostages.

The ICRC was visited at its headquarters by Sir Patrick Renison, Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee of the British Red Cross, accompanied by Miss Evelyn Bark, Director of International Affairs of that Society. Ways of carrying out relief action jointly in Cyprus by the International Committee and the British Red Cross were discussed.

Exchange of prisoners

It will be recalled that an exchange of 376 Algerian and 57 Moroccan POW's took place on April 15, at Oujda, in the presence of an ICRC delegate, Mr. Jacques de Heller.

Mr. de Heller then proceeded to Algiers in order to seek authorization to visit former harkis still in detention.

For Chinese internees

The Chinese Red Cross in Peking has requested the International Committee of the Red Cross to investigate the fate of the nine members of the commercial delegation from the Chinese People's Republic, who were in Brazil at the time of the recent change in the regime and who were interned.

The ICRC immediately transmitted family messages to these internees through the intermediary of the Brazilian Red Cross. It also directed its honorary delegate in Rio de Janeiro, Mr. E. Haegler, to obtain from the new Brazilian authorities, permission to visit these detainees. This authorization having been granted, Mr. Haegler was able in May to speak freely with the nine internees. He noted that their living conditions were satisfactory.

An ICRC publication

The information Department of the ICRC has just issued a mimeographed booklet of 34 pages entitled "The ICRC and the Conflict in the Yemen". It gives an account of the medical and relief activities undertaken by the ICRC since the end of 1962 in favour of the victims of the conflict now ravaging that country.

This illustrated booklet is available in French, English and German and may be obtained from the ICRC at S. Fr. 1.50 per copy.

At the Swiss National Exhibition

The Swiss National Exhibition of 1964 allocated to the International Committee of the Red Cross and its activities a stand describing, by means of show panels and cases, Henry Dunant's experiences on the battlefield at Solferino and the beginnings of the Red Cross as well as some of the great work achieved by the ICRC. The graphic arts have also been used to illustrate the Geneva Conventions, and elsewhere in the same pavillon the activities of the Swiss Red Cross are displayed. A place is also reserved for the Red Cross in the section entitled "The Swiss Way", among the graphic illustrations of the significance and utility of neutrality which, as is stated in the official programme, "far from being merely restrictive, has enabled us to set up on our soil the headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross and to act as intermediary between nations engaged in conflict...".

The ICRC was invited to take part in the official inauguration on April 30, which was attended by the President of the Swiss Confederation. In the absence of our President, Mr. Léopold Boissier, in Poland, the ICRC was represented by Mr. Martin Bodmer, Vice-President.

Streets and squares named in honour of the Red Cross

Last month we published a list of streets, squares and other public places which have been named after Henry Dunant. The Hellenic Red Cross has now sent us a new list of streets and squares which bear the name of the Red Cross itself. It was on the occasion of the Red Cross Centenary that the local authorities decided on their own initiative to pay tribute to our humanitarian movement in this manner and they sent to the Red Cross headquarters in Athens the deeds in which the names are attributed.