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INDONESIA

ICRC activities in Indonesia and the Southern Moluccas in particular ¹ continued during the first months of 1951. The relief supplies sent from Geneva by air for civilian victims of the blockade and hostilities in the island of Amboina continued to be distributed under the supervision of the ICRC delegates.

Dr. Pflimlin, delegate of the ICRC, visited on several occasions the Amboinese prisoners captured by the Indonesian troops; and in June he made a stay of several weeks in the Southern Moluccas to enquire into the situation of the civilian population.

KOREA

Early in 1951 the President of the International Committee offered to make a personal visit to North Korea to discuss the various problems relative to prisoners of war and other victims of hostilities, and especially the question of safety zones, in regard to which approaches had been made on several previous occasions. This offer was renewed on January 24 and March 19. No reply was received.

The renewal of the armistice talks in Korea, which had been suspended for several weeks, raised the prospect of the repatriation of prisoners of war. On December 15, 1951 the ICRC made an approach (with a reference to previous requests) to the Commander in Chief of the Republic of Korea forces and to General Nam II, Chief of the North Korean Armistice Commission, suggesting that delegates should be sent out at once to deal with the exchange of prisoners. At the same time the ICRC requested the Chinese and Soviet Governments to grant transit visas to its delegates. No reply reached the ICRC.

On December 19 the Head of the ICRC delegation solicited an interview with General Nam II.

On several occasions, but always without success, the ICRC

¹ See ICRC Report for 1950, pages 80 to 87.