Zeitschrift: Annual report / International Committee of the Red Cross

Herausgeber: International Committee of the Red Cross

Band: - (1956)

Rubrik: Financial position

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. Mehr erfahren

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. En savoir plus

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. Find out more

Download PDF: 25.12.2025

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, https://www.e-periodica.ch

VII. FINANCIAL POSITION

The following report of the auditors entrusted with the revision of the annual accounts of the ICRC as on December 31, 1956, gives a brief commentary on the financial position to which Tables I to IV refer. Table A gives a list of the contributions received in 1956 from Government and Red Cross Societies, and Table B a summary of estimated ordinary expenditure and receipts for 1957.

REPORT

OF THE AUDIT OF THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS
AS ON DECEMBER 31, 1956

Mr. President, Gentlemen,

In execution of the task entrusted to our Society (auditors accredited by the Swiss Federal Council and the Commission fédérale des banques), we have verified the annual accounts for 1956 of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Geneva.

This auditing has been done in accordance with the regulations and principles governing the verification of accounts. We have carried out numerous checks on the correctness and accuracy of the figures entered in the books for the year 1956, assuring ourselves, in particular, that the expenditure was proven by the relevant documents.

We then checked the figures of the general balance of accounts as on December 31, 1956, which served as a basis for drawing up the

Balance Sheet for 1956 and the General Income and Expenditure Account for 1956. These two documents (Tables I and II of the present report) give a true picture of the financial position of the ICRC as on December 31, 1956.

In Table III we give a summary of the Reserves and Provisions Account in 1956, showing a total of Fr. 8,982,570.14 as on December 31, 1956. This account includes, in particular, extraordinary commitments and expenditure, as well as sundry receipts and refunds placed in 1956 to the "Reserve for General Risks", of which the balance as on December 31, 1956, amounted to Fr. 701,307.09, after carrying over the deficit for 1956 (Fr. 703,976.96) resulting from the General Account of Ordinary Income and Expenditure (Table II).

Moreover, Table IV gives a summary of the General Account for Relief Actions in 1956, of which the total as on December 31, 1956, Fr. 2,987,977.56, is divided as follows:

Funds not yet assigned					Fr. 828,945.38
Funds earmarked					" 384,631.42
Funds for current relief actions		•	•	•	" 1,774,400.76
To	otal	•	•	•	Fr. 2,987,977.56

As a result of our audit we are in a position to declare that the annual accounts of the ICRC as on December 31, 1956, are in accordance with the books submitted for our inspection. The existence of the assets has been proved and we have ascertained that the amounts shown as receipts for 1956 have been duly received. All documents and information necessary for our work were made available and were found to be entirely satisfactory.

We have also verified the annual accounts for 1956 of the various special funds entrusted to the ICRC, i.e.

Fund for the ICRC Foundation Augusta Fund Empress Shôken Fund Florence Nightingale Medal Fund

The existence of assets constituting the capital of those funds was proved and on February 7, 1957, we certified that the balance sheet and accounts on December 31, 1956, were correct for each Fund concerned.

Geneva, June 24, 1957.

Société fiduciaire romande OFOR S. A.

BALANCE AND GENERAL ACCOUNTS

	Fr.	Fr.
ASSETS	*	
AVAILABLE AND REALISABLE	45 210 00	
Cash in hand	45,319.98 37,182.53	
Swiss francs	2,746,367.04 251,287.55 11,139,166.60	14,219,323.70
,	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	, ,
FUNDS EARMARKED Advanced to ICRC Delegations and Delegates abroad	476,278.97	
National Red Cross Societies, Governments and official organisations Sundry debtors, advances and repayable costs, temporary assets	115,592.32 777,346.19	27
Stocks for relief purposes	54,589.35 181,263.05	1,605,069.88
OTHER ASSETS (nominal)		
OTHER ASSETS (nominal) Capital share in the "Foundation for the Organisation of Red Cross		
Transports "	1.— 1.—	2.—
		15,824,395.58
Trust Fund		
Funds received in connection with the Peace Treaty with Japan (assets		
in foreign currency)		22,713,409.96
Memo Account		
Allocation to ICRC Personnel Provident Fund	1,021,583.34 400,000.—	1,421,583.34
		39,959,388.88

	Fr.	Fr.
LIABILITIES		
	w w	
COMMITMENTS		Ŧ
Funds for relief actions Funds not yet assigned	828,945.38 384,631.42 1,774,400.76	2,987,977.56
Creditors ICRC Delegations and Delegates	122,020.10 192,215.64 539,612.14 3,000,000.—	3,853,847.88 6,841,825.44
Reserves and Provisions Guarantee Fund	3,000,000.— 5,000,000.— 701,307.09 181,263.05 100,000.—	8,982,570.14 15,824,395.58
TRUST FUND Funds in connection with the Peace Treaty with Japan		22,713,409.96
MEMO ACCOUNT Allocations to ICRC Personnel Provident Fund (to be refunded by annual allocations to the Reserve for General Risks)	1,021,583.34 400,000.—	1,421,583.34 39,959,388.88

GENERAL ACCOUNT OF ORDINARY INCOME

	Fr.	Fr.
EXPENDITURE		
		2
Oversian Everyana an Crypya Hear Ova Prepa	Dec.	
OVERHEAD EXPENSES AT GENEVA HEADQUARTERS	1,915,886.80	
Allowances, salaries and wages	389,440.60 69,568.28 150,793.82 17,625.90 19,758.10 40,420.68	2,603,494.18
Special Expenses		,
Publication, information and documentation Allowances for expenses, Members of the Presidential Council Red Cross Conferences and Meetings Commission of Experts Missions from Geneva	184,352.78 48,832.— 29,130.30 18,765.10 77,948.33	359,028.51
Missions from Geneva	11,540.55	000,020.01
		0
Delegations Abroad		
Delegates' salaries, allowances and insurance	137,477.53	*
Delegates' travelling expenses and maintenance, overhead expenses of delegations	121,103.16	258,580.69
		3,221,103.38
w		
	-	
I and the second	1	1

AND EXPENDITURE FOR 1956

	Fr.	Fr.
RECEIPTS		
	*	
CONTRIBUTIONS AND GIFTS TOWARDS THE FINANCING OF THE GENERAL WORK	8	-
Contributions by Governments	1,176,438.40 378,111.78 294,871.75	1,849,421.98
		91
Income from Investments		
Income from Public Securities and Bank Interest	126,031.05 26,962.65	152,993.70
	* e	
SUMS RECOVERED AND SUNDRY RECEIPTS		
Sums recovered	495,598.18 19,112.61	514,710.79
Total Receipts	1	2,517,126.42
Deficit for 1956		
written off by withdrawal from Reserves for Genera! Risks		703,976.96
		3,221,103.38

Table III

SUMMARY OF THE RESERVES AND PROVISIONS ACCOUNT IN 1956

Guarantee Fund	Fr.	Fr.	Fr.
Balance as on December 31, 1955 (unchanged)			3,000,000.—
RESERVE FOR ACTION IN CASE OF CONFLICT Balance as on December 31, 1955 (unchanged)			5,000,000.—
RESERVE FOR GENERAL RISKS Balance as on December 31, 1955	14	252,929.25	ψ.
plus Receipts and refunds in 1956 :		_	
Remittance from the Government of the German Federal Republic for the refund of costs incurred by the ICRC during the last world conflict on behalf of German nationals, i.e.:	625 000		
balance of yearly payment for 1955 on account of yearly payment for 1956	635,000.—	1,270,000.—	
Fifth annual amortization of funds allocated to the ICRC Personnel Provident Fund (included in the Expenditure Account for 1956 under the heading "social charges")		68,100.—	
Fifth and last annual amortization of calculating machines purchased in 1952 (included in the Expenditure Account for 1956)	e e	11,000.—	
Total as on December 31, 1956 of the amount (capital and income) accruing from the "Sevastopoulo" donation received in 1955, of which the balance, Fr. 433,855.20 was included in the Reserves and Provisions Account under the heading "Special Fund not yet allocated"		494,888.39	
Gain on exchange	e	436.60	
less Expenditure and commitments in 1956:		2,001,004.24	
Compensation for termination of employment paid to ICRC personnel	260,526.25		
Remittance to insurance company "La Genevoise-Vie" (additional premium for readjustment of insurance contributions)	106,587.20		
c/f	367,113.45	2,097,354.24	8,000,000.—

¥ *	Fr.	Fr.	Fr.
b/f	367,113.45	2,097,354.24	8,000,000.—
Allocations for extra-budgetary expenditure	45,971.95		
Allocation to the ICRC Welfare Commission (special cases of termination of employment)	50,000.—	l l	
Experts' fees for re-organisation (balance)	31,373.80		
Legal advisers' fees (abroad)	20,365.60		
Liquidation of Stroemdorfer claim	4,709.50	-	ıl w
Estimated decrease in value of securities and other holdings at the end of 1956	170,209.85		la le
Loss on foreign currency and sale of securities	2,326.04		
Taking over of deficit from the General Account of Ordinary Income and Expenditure (Table II)	692,070.19 703,976.96	1,396,047.15	
Total as on December 31, 1956			701,307.09
Provision for Amortization of Reserve Stocks			
Balance carried forward as from December 31, 1955		242,709.52	
less Supplies drawn from stocks in 1956 for relief actions Total as on December 31, 1956		61,446.47	181,263.05
Provision for the XIXth International Red Cross Conference			
Balance carried forward as from December 31, 1955	-	75,000.—	
plus			
Allocation in 1956 (taken over from the Expenditure Account for 1956)		25,000.—	
Total as on December 31, 1956			100,000.—
Total of Reserves and Provisions Account for 1956			8,982,570.14

Table IV

SUMMARY OF GENERAL ACCOUNT FOR RELIEF ACTIONS IN 1956

	Fr.	Fr.
Balance carried Forward as from December 31, 1956		1,729,769.50
i.e.		
Funds not yet assigned	699,385.92	
Funds earmarked	456,564.21	ω/
Funds for current relief actions	573,819.37	
Total as above	1,729,769.50	
Receipts in 1956		
Funds received by the ICRC or placed at its disposal for relief actions:		
(a) Donations not allocated for specific purposes:		
Net product of the collection in Switzerland (1956)	609,529.82	7
Other gifts and refunds	38,051.39	
	$647,\!581.21$	
(b) Funds received by the ICRC from various donors (communities or individuals) for specific purposes or special actions	2,588,893.85	3,236,475.06
murviduais) for specific purposes of special actions	2,000,000	4,966,244.56
		1,000,011100
Expenditure in 1956	8	(4)
Expenditure incurred in 1956 for relief actions		1,978,267.—
		2,987,977.56
Total as on December 31, 1956		
(Balance of funds for relief actions) apportioned as follows:		
Funds not yet assigned	828,945.38	
Funds earmarked	384,631.42	
Funds for current relief actions	1,774,400.76	
Total as above	2,987,977.56	

TABLES AND FOUNDATIONS AND FUNDS

Table A CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ICRC FROM GOVERNMENTS

AND NATIONAL RED CROSS SOCIETIES IN 1956

Countries	GO	VERNMENT	S	RED CROSS SOCIET		TIES	
Countries	For 1956	For previous years		For 1956	For previou	s years	
	Fr.	Fr.	for	Fr.	Fr.	for	
Australia	48,693.95 10,080.— 10,000.— 6,584.—			38,736.— 2,100.—		e.	
Bulgaria	65,475.— 3,048.60			2,000.— 32,137.50			
Ceylon	8,568.60	8,570.—	1955	2,250.— 10,014.60			
Colombia	14,820.— 10,000.—	1,235.—	1955 bal.	2,000.—	2,141.90	1955	
Dominican Republic Ecuador	2,108.—			600.— 700.—			
Egypt	5,000.—	30,000.—	1954	1,080.28 3,480.—	1,080.—	1955	
France	34,800.—	20,000.—	1954/55	13,000.— 2,280.—		100	
Guatemala	1,800.—	,	,	600.—	:		
Iceland		68,717.25 15,000.—	1955 1955	500.— 1,356.30	E	*	
Iran	8,000.— 5,500.—			2,000.— 2,160.— 1,560.—	6,000,—	1953/55	
Japan Jordan	3,654.—			1,500.	10,000.—	1955	
Jugoslavia	7,000.— 2,500.—			840.—			
Luxemburg	2,000.— 17,150.—	10.000	1055	600.—			
Netherlands	24,400.— 10,000.—	10,000.— 24,400.—	1955 1955	20,000.— 6,053,95 3,000.—			
Pakistan	2,140.—	9,925.— 4,280.—	1955 1954/55	3,840.—	3,840.—	1953	
$\mathrm{c/f}$	303,322.15	192,127.25		152,888.63	23,061.90		

Countries	GO	VERNMENTS	3	RED CI	ΓIES	
Countries	For 1956	For previou	ıs years	For 1956	For previou	ıs years
	Fr.	Fr.	for	Fr.	Fr.	for
b/f	303,322.15	192,127.25		152,888.63	23,061.90	
Poland	20,000.— 8,000.—			12,300.— 132.—	is.	
South Africa	500,000.—	48,900.—	1955	14,650.50 2,500.—		
Thailand	15,463.10	12,000.—	1955	820.75 11,880.—		
London		48,800.— 1,832.25 3,061.25	1955 1954/55 1955	37,720.—		
Northern Rhodesia United States U.S.S.R. Venezuela	p	2,137.60	1955 1955	107,095.— 16,063.—		
venezueia	846,785.25	329,653.15	1000	355,049.88	23,061.90	
	1,176,4			378,111.78		
			ξ		Ю	

Note. — Various contributions for 1956, received after the closing of accounts for that year, will appear in the report for 1957.

SUMMARY ESTIMATE OF ORDINARY EXPENDITURE AND

•	Fr.
ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE	~
Overhead Expenses	
Allowances, salaries and wages Family and cost-of-living allowances, social charges Postage, telegrams, telephone Equipment, maintenance and general supplies Upkeep of cars and lorries Reception of visitors and travelling expenses in Switzerland Sundry expenses	1,400,200.— 326,500.— 65,000.— 105,000.— 14,300.— 17,400.— 42,000.—
Other Expenses	
Publications, information Allowance for expenses, Members of the Presidential Council Red Cross Conference and Meetings Experts Commissions and Consultations Missions from Geneva Delegations abroad Study-visits, translations Brussels Exhibition	166,000.— 41,400.— 28,000.— 10,000.— 100,000.— 290,900.— 12,000.— 15,000.— 2,633,600.—

Note. — The estimates of expenditure have been drawn up and studied with the most careful attention. They do not include any margin for extraordinary expenditure which international circumstances might make it necessary for the ICRC to assume during the budgetary period and would, in that case, be subject to appropriate revision.

RECEIPTS OF THE ICRC FOR 1957

	Fr.
ESTIMATED RECEIPTS	-
RECEIPTS CONCERNING THE CURRENT YEAR	
Contributions from Governments	775,300.—* 338,200.—* 310,000.— 193,000.— 297,600.— 1,914,100.—
RECEIPTS CONCERNING PREVIOUS YEARS	
Contributions from Governments	425,900.— 33,800.— 12,000.— 471,700.— 2,385,800.—
The deficit would thus amount to	247,900.— 2,633,600.—

^{*}Contributions from Governments and National Red Cross Societies for 1957 have been estimated, in principle, at Fr. 1,573,200.—.

Experience has shown, however, that certain contributions are received by the ICRC in the course of the following year.

In order to take these delays in receipt into account, the estimated amount has been reduced to Fr. 1,113,500.—

FUNDATIONS AND FUNDS 1

1. FOUNDATION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

Balance Sheet as on December 31, 1956

Assets	Sw. Fr.	Liabilities	Sw. Fr.
Deposit at the Swiss National Bank .	40,872.12	Inalienable capital	1,028,252.52
Public securities :		Statutory reserve	89,676.45
Credit entered in the Swiss Confederation National Debit Register and public securities deposited at the Swiss National Bank (estimated value as on December 31, 1956)	1,104,169.50 1,145,041.62	Creditor: ICRC	27,112.65

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR 1956

Debit (Expenditure)	Sw. Fr.	Credit (Receipts)	Sw. Fr.
Deposit fees for safe custody of securities, auditing of accounts	235.—	Income from securities in 1956	31,955.75
Statutory allocation to Reserve Fund (15% of the income for 1956)	4,758.10		
Allocation to ICRC: balance of net revenue (Article 7 of the Statutes).	26,962.65		
	31,955.75		31,955.75

¹ These accounts have been audited by the Société Fiduciaire Romande OFOR S. A., Geneva, and certified correct in their report of February 7, 1957.

2. AUGUSTA FUND

Balance Sheet as on December 31, 1956

Assets	Sw. Fr.	Liabilities	Sw. Fr.
Funds in the Swiss National Bank	16,522.80	Inalienable capital	100,000.—
Government Securities deposited at the Swiss National Bank (estimated value as on December 31, 1956)	130,760.—	Reserve for fluctuation in rates of exchange	14,803.65 16,210.75
	147,282.80	Funds available as on December 31, 1956	16,268.40 147,282.80

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR 1956

Debit (Expenditure)	Sw. Fr.	CREDIT (Receipts)	Sw. Fr.
Deposit fees for safe custody of securities, auditing of accounts	257.75	Balance on December 31, 1955, carried forward	46,718.90
9th distribution according to 413th Circular of October 16, 1956	34,000.—	Income from securities in 1956	3,807.25
Balance available as on December 31, 1956	16,268.40		
	50,526.15		50,526.15

3. EMPRESS SHÔKEN FUND

Balance as on December 31, 1956

Assets	Sw. Fr.	Liabilities	Sw. Fr.
Funds in the Swiss National Bank	19,202.80	Fixed capital : Initial amount Gold Yen	
Swiss Public Securities deposited at the Swiss National Bank (nominal		100,000 (1912) 258,000.— Second gift of 100,000	*
market value on December 31, 1956)	449,255.—	Yen (1934) 88,250.—	346,250.—
		Reserve for exchange fluctuation	103,687.80
4		Sundry creditors	5,334.60
		Funds available as on December 31, 1956	13,185.40
	468.457,80	1000	468.457,80

Income and Expenditure Account for 1956

Debit (Expenditure)	Sw. Fr.	Credit (Receipts)	Sw. Fr.
Custody of securities, cost of auditing accounts, printing circulars, etc	495,10	Credit Balance on December 31, 1955, carried forward	12,963.50
35th distribution of income to Red Cross Societies, in accordance with the Joint Commission's decision of April 11, 1956	14,500.—	Income received from securities in 1956	13,218.50 1,998.50
Credit Balance on December 1, 1956 .	13,185.40 28,180.50		28,180.50

Holdings as on December 31, 1956

CAPITAL Sw. Fr.		ESTIMATED VALUE Sw. Fr.
234,000.—	Federal Railway 3% 1938	228,150.—
100,000.—	Federal 3% 1956 May	100,000.— 29,175.—
80,000	Federal 3% 1951 May	78,400.—
10,000	Credit Foncier Vaudois 3%, 1949, Series 13	9,650.— 3,880.—
458,000.—	1 edetat 570 1990	449,255,—

4. FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE MEDAL FUND

Balance Sheet as on December 31, 1956

Assets	Sw. Fr.	Liabilities	Sw. Fr.
Funds in the Swiss National Bank	2,809.19	Inalienable capital	25,000.—
Government Securities deposited at the Swiss National Bank (estimated		Funds available	8,547.19
value as on December 31, 1956)	31,040.—	Creditor: ICRC	302.—
	33,849.19		33,849.19
-			

Receipts and Expenditure Account for 1956

Debit (Expenditure)	Sw. Fr.	CREDIT (Receipts)	Sw. Fr.
Printing costs, Circular No. 412	222.—	Funds available, carried over from 1955	9,024.69
Deposit fees for safe custody of securities, auditing of accounts	91.50	Income from securities in 1956	796.—
Estimated loss in value of securities as on December 31, 1956	960.—		
Credit balance as on December 31, 1956	8,547.19		
ų.	9,820.69		9,820.69

VIII. ICRC DELEGATES AND CORRESPONDENTS AS ON DECEMBER 31, 1956 ¹

H. ANGST Iapan E. Arbenz Spain A. Behn Mexico L. BIAGGI DE BLASYS Italy L. Bossard New Zealand N. Burckhardt² Germany P. Burkhard Italy P. CALDERARA Hong Kong J. DE CHAMBRIER Argentine Republic A. DE COCATRIX² Germany E. DICKENMANN Thailand A. Durand Vietnam (Democratic Republic) P. GACON BoliviaE. HAEGLER BrazilG. Hoffmann² Germany G. JOUBERT Austria H. Junod South Africa A. LAMBERT Greece A. Leuenberger Vietnam (Republic of) W. MICHEL France J. MITTNER Philippines I. DE MORSIER France E. Muller EgyptH. PFRUNDER Malaya W. Roethlisberger Colombia G. RUTISHAUSER Hungary W. SALZMANN Thailand A. SAUDAN Tangier H. Schweizer Australia G. SENN British Central Africa M. THUDICHUM EgyptD. DE TRAZ Lebanon and Near East C. VAUTIER Morocco R. Vust Algeria

¹ The majority of these delegates were recruited locally among the Swiss communities abroad, and give their services voluntarily to the ICRC.

² International Tracing Service, Arolsen.