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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
Total	<u>Fr. 2,987,977.56</u>

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

BALANCE SHEET AS ON

	Fr.	Fr.
<i>ASSETS</i>		
AVAILABLE AND REALISABLE		
Cash in hand	45,319.98	
Postal Cheque Account	37,182.53	
Balance at Banks :		
Swiss francs	2,746,367.04	
Foreign currency holdings	251,287.55	
Public Securities and other deposits	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 . .	115,592.32	
Sundry debtors, advances and repayable costs, temporary assets	777,346.19	
Stocks for relief purposes	54,589.35	
Reserve stocks	181,263.05	1,605,069.88
OTHER ASSETS (nominal)		
Capital share in the "Foundation for the Organisation of Red Cross Transports"	1.—	
Furniture and equipment	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	
Debtor for security	400,000.—	1,421,583.34
		39,959,388.88

Table I

DECEMBER 31, 1956

	Fr.	Fr.
<i>LIABILITIES</i>		
COMMITMENTS		
<i>Funds for relief actions</i>		
Funds not yet assigned	828,945.38	
Funds earmarked	384,631.42	
Funds for current relief actions	1,774,400.76	2,987,977.56
<i>Creditors</i>		
ICRC Delegations and Delegates	122,020.10	
National Red Cross Societies, Governments and official organisations	192,215.64	
Sundry creditors and temporary liabilities	539,612.14	
Swiss Confederation Loan	3,000,000.—	3,853,847.88
		6,841,825.44
RESERVES AND PROVISIONS		
Guarantee Fund	3,000,000.—	
Reserve for action in case of conflict	5,000,000.—	
Reserve for General Risks	701,307.09	
Provision for amortization of reserve stocks	181,263.05	
Provision for the XIXth International Red Cross Conference	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	
Guarantee in favour of the "Foundation for the Organisation of Red Cross Transports"	400,000.—	1,421,583.34
		39,959,388.88

GENERAL ACCOUNT OF ORDINARY INCOME

	Fr.	Fr.
<i>EXPENDITURE</i>		
OVERHEAD EXPENSES AT GENEVA HEADQUARTERS		
Allowances, salaries and wages	1,915,886.80	
Family allowances, insurance and other social charges	389,440.60	
Postage, telegrams, telephone	69,568.28	
Equipment, maintenance and general supplies	150,793.82	
Upkeep of cars and lorries	17,625.90	
Reception of visitors and travelling expenses in Switzerland	19,758.10	
Sundry expenditure	40,420.68	2,603,494.18
SPECIAL EXPENSES		
Publication, information and documentation	184,352.78	
Allowances for expenses, Members of the Presidential Council	48,832.—	
Red Cross Conferences and Meetings	29,130.30	
Commission of Experts	18,765.10	
Missions from Geneva	77,948.33	359,028.51
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
		<u>3,221,103.38</u>

Table II

AND EXPENDITURE FOR 1956

	Fr.	Fr.
<i>RECEIPTS</i>		
CONTRIBUTIONS AND GIFTS TOWARDS THE FINANCING OF THE GENERAL WORK		
Contributions by Governments	1,176,438.40	
Contributions by National Red Cross Societies	378,111.78	
Sundry donations	294,871.75	1,849,421.93
INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS		
Income from Public Securities and Bank Interest	126,031.05	
Income from ICRC Foundation	26,962.65	152,993.70
SUMS RECOVERED AND SUNDRY RECEIPTS		
Sums recovered	495,598.18	
Sundry receipts	19,112.61	514,710.79
<i>Total Receipts</i> . . .		2,517,126.42
DEFICIT FOR 1956		
written off by withdrawal from Reserves for General Risks		703,976.96
		<u>3,221,103.38</u>

Table III

SUMMARY OF THE RESERVES AND PROVISIONS ACCOUNT IN 1956

	Fr.	Fr.	Fr.
GUARANTEE FUND			
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		252,929.25	
<i>plus</i> <i>Receipts and refunds in 1956:</i>			
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.:			
balance of yearly payment for 1955	635,000.—		
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)		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		436.60	
Total . . .		2,097,354.24	
<i>less</i> <i>Expenditure and commitments in 1956:</i>			
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.—		
Experts' fees for re-organisation (balance)	31,373.80		
Legal advisers' fees (abroad)	20,365.60		
Liquidation of Stroemdorfer claim	4,709.50		
Estimated decrease in value of securities and other holdings at the end of 1956	170,209.85		
Loss on foreign currency and sale of securities	2,326.04		
	692,070.19		
Taking over of deficit from the General Account of Ordinary Income and Expenditure (Table II)	703,976.96	1,396,047.15	
<i>Total as on December 31, 1956 . . .</i>			701,307.09
PROVISION FOR AMORTIZATION OF RESERVE STOCKS			
Balance carried forward as from December 31, 1955		242,709.52	
<i>less</i>			
Supplies drawn from stocks in 1956 for relief actions		61,446.47	
<i>Total as on December 31, 1956 . . .</i>			181,263.05
PROVISION FOR THE XIXTH INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS CONFERENCE			
Balance carried forward as from December 31, 1955		75,000.—	
<i>plus</i>			
Allocation in 1956 (taken over from the Expenditure Account for 1956)		25,000.—	
<i>Total as on December 31, 1956 . . .</i>			100,000.—
<i>Total of Reserves and Provisions Account for 1956 . . .</i>			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	
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	
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
		4,966,244.56
EXPENDITURE IN 1956		
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	GOVERNMENTS			RED CROSS SOCIETIES		
	For 1956	For previous years		For 1956	For previous years	
	Fr.	Fr.	for	Fr.	Fr.	for
Australia	48,693.95			38,736.—		
Austria	10,080.—			2,100.—		
Belgium	10,000.—					
Brazil	6,584.—					
Bulgaria				2,000.—		
Canada	65,475.—			32,137.50		
Ceylon	3,048.60					
Chile	8,568.60	8,570.—	1955	2,250.—		
China				10,014.60		
Colombia	14,820.—	1,235.—	1955 bal.		2,141.90	1955
Cuba						
Denmark	10,000.—			2,000.—		
Dominican Republic				600.—		
Ecuador	2,108.—			700.—		
Egypt		30,000.—	1954			
Ethiopia				1,080.28	1,080.—	1955
Finland	5,000.—			3,480.—		
France	34,800.—					
German Federal Republic				13,000.—		
Greece		20,000.—	1954/55	2,280.—		
Guatemala				600.—		
Haiti	1,800.—					
Iceland				500.—		
India		68,717.25	1955	1,356.30		
Indonesia		15,000.—	1955			
Iran				2,000.—	6,000.—	1953/55
Iraq	8,000.—			2,160.—		
Ireland	5,500.—			1,560.—		
Japan					10,000.—	1955
Jordan	3,654.—					
Jugoslavia	7,000.—					
Lebanon				840.—		
Liechtenstein	2,500.—					
Luxemburg	2,000.—			600.—		
Mexico	17,150.—					
Netherlands		10,000.—	1955	20,000.—		
New Zealand	24,400.—	24,400.—	1955	6,053.95		
Norway	10,000.—			3,000.—		
Pakistan		9,925.—	1955			
Philippines	2,140.—	4,280.—	1954/55	3,840.—	3,840.—	1953
c/f . . .	303,322.15	192,127.25		152,888.63	23,061.90	

Countries	GOVERNMENTS			RED CROSS SOCIETIES		
	For 1956	For previous years		For 1956	For previous years	
	Fr.	Fr.	<i>for</i>	Fr.	Fr.	<i>for</i>
b/f . . .	303,322.15	192,127.25		152,888.63	23,061.90	
Poland	20,000.—			12,300.—		
Portugal	8,000.—					
San Salvador				132.—		
South Africa		48,900.—	1955	14,650.50		
Spain				2,500.—		
Switzerland	500,000.—					
Thailand		12,000.—	1955	820.75		
Turkey	15,463.10			11,880.—		
United Kingdom :						
London		48,800.—	1955	37,720.—		
Nyasaland		1,832.25	1954/55			
Southern Rhodesia		3,061.25	1955			
Northern Rhodesia		2,137.60	1955			
United States				107,095.—		
U.S.S.R.				16,063.—		
Venezuela		20,794.80	1955			
	846,785.25	329,653.15		355,049.88	23,061.90	
	1,176,438.40			378,111.78		

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

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.

Table B

RECEIPTS OF THE ICRC FOR 1957

	Fr.
ESTIMATED RECEIPTS	
RECEIPTS CONCERNING THE CURRENT YEAR	
Contributions from Governments	775,300.—*
Contributions from National Red Cross Societies	338,200.—*
Sundry donations	310,000.—
Income from invested funds	193,000.—
Sundry refunds and receipts	297,600.—
<i>Total</i>	1,914,100.—
RECEIPTS CONCERNING PREVIOUS YEARS	
Contributions from Governments	425,900.—
Contributions from National Red Cross Societies	33,800.—
Sundry refunds and receipts	12,000.—
<i>Total</i>	471,700.—
<i>Grand Total</i>	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.—

FOUNDATIONS 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 Confede- ration National Debit Register and public securities deposited at the Swiss National Bank (estimated value as on December 31, 1956) . .	1,104,169.50	Creditor: ICRC	27,112.65
	<u>1,145,041.62</u>		<u>1,145,041.62</u>

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR 1956

DEBIT (Expenditure)	Sw. Fr.	CREDIT (Receipts)	Sw. Fr.
Deposit fees for safe custody of secu- rities, 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		
	<u>31,955.75</u>		<u>31,955.75</u>

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
		Creditors	16,210.75
		Funds available as on December 31, 1956	16,268.40
	<u>147,282.80</u>		<u>147,282.80</u>

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR 1956

DEBIT (Expenditure)	Sw. Fr.	CREDIT (Receipts)	Sw. Fr.
Deposit fees for safe custody of secu- rities, 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		
	<u>50,526.15</u>		<u>50,526.15</u>

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 :	
Swiss Public Securities deposited at the Swiss National Bank (nominal market value on December 31, 1956)	449,255.—	Initial amount Gold Yen 100,000 (1912)	258,000.—
		Second gift of 100,000 Yen (1934)	88,250.—
			346,250.—
		Reserve for exchange fluctuation . .	103,687.80
		Sundry creditors	5,334.60
		Funds available as on December 31, 1956	13,185.40
	<u>468,457,80</u>		<u>468,457,80</u>

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
Credit Balance on December 1, 1956 .	13,185.40	Refund of allocation	1,998.50
	<u>28,180.50</u>		<u>28,180.50</u>

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.—
30,000.—	Federal 3¼% 1949	29,175.—
80,000.—	Federal 3% 1951 May	78,400.—
10,000.—	Credit Foncier Vaudois 3%, 1949, Series 13	9,650.—
4,000.—	Federal 3% 1956	3,880.—
<u>458,000.—</u>		<u>449,255.—</u>

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 value as on December 31, 1956) . .	31,040.—	Funds available	8,547.19
	<u>33,849.19</u>	Creditor : ICRC	302.—
			<u>33,849.19</u>

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 secu- rities, 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		
	<u>9,820.69</u>		<u>9,820.69</u>

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

H. ANGST	<i>Japan</i>
E. ARBENZ	<i>Spain</i>
A. BEHN	<i>Mexico</i>
L. BIAGGI DE BLASYS	<i>Italy</i>
L. BOSSARD	<i>New Zealand</i>
N. BURCKHARDT ²	<i>Germany</i>
P. BURKHARD	<i>Italy</i>
P. CALDERARA	<i>Hong Kong</i>
J. DE CHAMBRIER	<i>Argentine Republic</i>
A. DE COCATRIX ²	<i>Germany</i>
E. DICKENMANN	<i>Thailand</i>
A. DURAND	<i>Vietnam (Democratic Republic)</i>
P. GACON	<i>Bolivia</i>
E. HAEGLER	<i>Brazil</i>
G. HOFFMANN ²	<i>Germany</i>
G. JOUBERT	<i>Austria</i>
H. JUNOD	<i>South Africa</i>
A. LAMBERT	<i>Greece</i>
A. LEUENBERGER	<i>Vietnam (Republic of)</i>
W. MICHEL	<i>France</i>
J. MITTNER	<i>Philippines</i>
J. DE MORSIER	<i>France</i>
E. MULLER	<i>Egypt</i>
H. PFRUNDER	<i>Malaya</i>
W. ROETHLISBERGER	<i>Colombia</i>
G. RUTISHAUSER	<i>Hungary</i>
W. SALZMANN	<i>Thailand</i>
A. SAUDAN	<i>Tangier</i>
H. SCHWEIZER	<i>Australia</i>
G. SENN	<i>British Central Africa</i>
M. THUDICHUM	<i>Egypt</i>
D. DE TRAZ	<i>Lebanon and Near East</i>
C. VAUTIER	<i>Morocco</i>
R. VUST	<i>Algeria</i>

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.