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accomplishment of his mission and towards the end of the year he made reconnaissance flights by helicopter over several regions of Nepal in order the better to evaluate the number of refugees and their needs.

China

At the request of the Chinese Red Cross, the ICRC undertook several investigations on the subject of missing Chinese fishermen. One of its representatives was able to talk with some of these fishermen now residing in Taiwan.

EUROPE

Greece

In April, a doctor-delegate of the ICRC, Dr. Jacques de Rougemont, visited the camp for political exiles at Aghios Efstratios in the Aegean, as well as several hospitals at which political detainees were receiving treatment. The ICRC also sent them relief through the Greek Red Cross.

Hungary

In April, two delegates went to Budapest where the ICRC is taking part in equipping a new factory for artificial limbs for invalids.

Furthermore, representations which have been made by the ICRC for the reuniting of dispersed Hungarian families were successful in certain cases, and several children were thus able to rejoin their parents abroad. It was also possible for some heads of families living abroad to transmit allowances for their children who had remained in Hungary.

Finally, the ICRC, through the intermediary of the Hungarian Red Cross, continued to despatch special pharmaceutical products to private individuals.

VISITS TO POLITICAL DETAINEES

As we have stated in previous Annual Reports, the ICRC has continued to visit places of detention in countries where authorities have granted it the necessary facilities. The delegate of the ICRC inspected the detention conditions of persons held, even when no civil war or internal disturbances had taken place. Reports of visits were made on behalf of those governments which, as a result, received impartial observations and facts which were of use to their administrative services. Visits made by the representatives of the International Committee have nothing of an enquiry about them, but are neutral reports whose conclusions are only revealed to the detaining authorities.

Federal German Republic and West Berlin. — In the German Federal Republic, the delegate of the ICRC (Mr. H. G. Beckh) made 15 visits to places of detention and was able to speak without witnesses with 59 detained persons.

The authorities greatly facilitated his task and favourably welcomed all his observations. The Attorney General of the Republic on several occasions discussed the various aspects of the problem which had been raised.

In West Berlin, the delegate of the ICRC was received by representatives of the Law Senate. He visited two places of detention and spoke freely and without witnesses with 30 detainees. He made his observations known to the officials of the penal Service, which were favourably received.

Yugoslavia

The ICRC was also able to continue its activity in favour of political detainees in that country. The State Secretary for Home Affairs and his assistant informed the delegate of the ICRC that the Yugoslav Government was disposed to facilitate his task and allowed him to make a choice of the places of detention which he wished to visit. They stated that the Yugoslav authorities were doing their best to ensure that the conditions of detention fulfilled every humanitarian requirement and conformed to the spirit of the

Geneva Conventions, even if these are not always able to be strictly applied.

The delegate then visited six places of detention, where he spoke individually with some fifty political prisoners. He forwarded his observations to the authorities who agreed to allow the representative of the ICRC to return to Yugoslavia for a new series of visits in 1961.

THE REUNITING OF FAMILIES

Since the end of the last world conflict, the ICRC, as has been frequently stated in previous Annual Reports, has been able to reunite members of the same families dispersed by the war and its aftermath. It has thus been able to return minors to their parents and to help married couples or other members of families to find each other.

This activity has been chiefly carried out in favour of persons of German stock ("Volksdeutsche") and, in 1960, more than 15,000 adults and minors in this category were able to rejoin their families in various countries of Europe and overseas. The total number of persons who have thus been reunited has reached a figure of over 388,000.

This action is being continued in co-operation with the National Red Cross Societies concerned. In certain cases the Societies carry out the actual work and keep the ICRC informed of the results which have been achieved. In other countries a part of the task is undertaken by the International Committee.

Finally, it should be mentioned that the reuniting of "Volksdeutsche" children from Yugoslavia has been successfully completed under favourable conditions. Unaccompanied minors were able to rejoin near relatives abroad, thanks to the Yugoslav Red Cross and to the co-operation of the authorities of that country.

CENTRAL TRACING AGENCY

During the second quarter of 1960, the ICRC informed Governments and National Red Cross Societies that it had decided to redesignate the "Central Prisoners of War Agency", which no