

**Zeitschrift:** Annual report / International Committee of the Red Cross  
**Herausgeber:** International Committee of the Red Cross  
**Band:** - (1964)  
  
**Rubrik:** Latin America

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Mr. Durand then undertook a tour of prisons in which were detained Indonesians who had been captured during the course of military operations. He proceeded for that purpose to Negeri Sembilan, Johore Bahru and Singapore, as well as to Sarawak and Sabah in North Borneo.

All the prisoners were held as a result of sentences by courts or by reason of legal provisions relating to national security. The ICRC representative, during the course of his visits which were prolonged until early 1965, collected some 200 letters for the families of the Indonesian detainees. Thanks to the intermediary of the Malaysian Red Cross, this mail was despatched via Bangkok to the Indonesian Red Cross which it transmitted for handing to the recipients.

## **Japan**

The repatriation operations were continued throughout 1964 of Koreans resident in Japan who wished to proceed to the place of their own choosing in their country of origin. We would recall that this repatriation is effected under the auspices of the Japanese Red Cross in the presence of ICRC delegates who ensure that none leaves against his will.

In 1964, eight vessels left Niigata for Chong Jin in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. On board were carried 1,822 persons, which brought the total number of Koreans repatriated since the beginning of the operations in December 1959 to 82,665. ICRC representatives present at embarkations were Mr. Michel Testuz, delegate, and Miss Elsa Casal, assistant delegate, then Mr. André Durand, general delegate for Asia.

The earthquake of June 16, which caused havoc in one part of the Japanese Archipelago, seriously damaged the port of Niigata. In consequence, the repatriation operations were interrupted for three months and could not be resumed until September 22.

## **4. LATIN AMERICA**

### **Brazil**

On April 14, 1964, the Chinese Red Cross in Peking requested the ICRC to concern itself in the position of nine delegates of the

Chinese People's Republic who were in Brazil during the change of regime in that country in which they had been interned. The ICRC immediately instructed its honorary delegate in Rio de Janeiro, Mr. Eric Haegler, to request the Brazilian Government to authorize his visiting these nine persons in question. At the same time it sent him family message forms to enable them to send their news to their relatives.

On May 6, Mr. Haegler was able to visit the interned Chinese who seemed to him to be in good health. He gave them some funds to enable them to purchase personal items. The ICRC delegate visited them on subsequent occasions.

Again at the request of the Chinese Red Cross, Mr. Haegler made representations with the authorities for three of the wives of the interned Chinese to be given permission to visit their husbands. The Brazilian Government having given its agreement, the three women in question arrived in Rio de Janeiro on August 24, accompanied by a representative of the Chinese Red Cross. They were immediately able to go to see their husbands in prison and made repeated visits on subsequent days.

## **5. EUROPE**

### **Germany**

As in previous years, representatives of the ICRC and in particular Mr. H. G. Beckh, delegate, on several occasions visited the headquarters of the German Red Cross in the Federal Republic, as well as the "Länder" Red Cross branches. Mr. Beckh was received by Mr. von Lex, President, and Mr. Schlögel, Secretary-General, and other leading members of that National Society.

In the course of the various contacts he made in Germany, the delegate broached the problem of family visits and pleaded the cause with both sides of the hundreds of thousands of persons prevented from meeting members of their families as a result of the division of Berlin. The ICRC delegate had a series of official, unofficial and even private talks with leading government personalities on the subject.