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relief supplies sent by the Turkish Red Crescent to the Turkish-Cypriot community. They managed to obtain authorization for some of the cargo to be discharged from the Turkish ships.

A number of special cases were also entrusted to the ICRC representatives. These they endeavoured to resolve in accordance with their function as neutral intermediaries. They frequently negotiated, for instance, on behalf of Greek or Turkish-Cypriots wishing to emigrate, or of children who had been separated from their parents by the events. To quote one example : the head of the ICRC delegation, towards the end of summer, had to find two missing Greek Cypriot youths aged 13 and 15. He learned they were held by the Turkish Cypriot community, the leaders of which soon agreed to release the two youths and hand them over to the ICRC delegate. The release took place shortly after in the presence of an officer of the UN police force. The delegate took the two youths to the Greek sector and delivered them to their parents.

By autumn the presence of ICRC delegates was no longer permanently required and the delegation withdrew at the end of November.

The delegation was headed in 1965 first by Mr. Jacques Ruff and later by Mr. Max Stalder. Since the delegation's departure, ICRC intervention on the island, when required, has been made direct from Geneva.

### 3. AFRICA

#### **Congo**

ICRC activity in the Congo consisted mainly of visits to prisons where people were held for taking part in the rebellion. At the beginning of the year its delegate went to the prisons of Ndolo, Makala and Luzumu, near the capital ; he distributed relief supplies to detainees, particularly blankets. He later returned to Ndolo where there were not only civilians and soldiers who took part in the rebellion, but also a group of Angolans. For their benefit, the ICRC delegation made weekly deliveries of food, in co-operation with the Congolese Red Cross. It also made representations to the authorities for an improvement in conditions of detention in general.

In addition, the ICRC accomplished similar missions at the Stanleyville central prison, where there were 747 detainees, mostly political, and at the Paulis prison, with its 133 detainees.

Mention should also be made of the ICRC's intervention, at the request of the Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the USSR, in favour of a Soviet press correspondent arrested by the Congolese authorities in Leopoldville. The ICRC delegate visited him and arranged for him to receive medical attention before his release and departure from the Congo.

The ICRC decided to withdraw at the end of December its Leopoldville delegation which had been active since the beginning of the disturbances in the summer of 1960. It nevertheless maintained close contact with the Congolese Government through its roving delegates in Africa.

### **Southern Rhodesia**

In May and June, the ICRC carried out a series of visits to Southern Rhodesian detention centres where political detainees were being held. After contacting the local Red Cross in Salisbury and meeting various officials, particularly the Minister of Justice, the ICRC delegate went to the Marandellas prison and then to the Gatooma prison for women where there were 157 women held as political prisoners undergoing sentences of one to two years. They had been transferred to Gatooma from Marandellas, which became overcrowded during the state of emergency. The ICRC delegate interviewed several of them without witnesses. He also visited two prisons at Gwelo.

Visits were also made to restricted areas for persons under open arrest, such as Wha Wha (70 persons) and Gonakudzingwa (500 persons). The ICRC took up with government officials the problem of the plight of the families of these people deprived of their freedom.

### **Burundi**

In the course of a mission carried out in February and March to gather information for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees

on the plight of Congolese refugees in the Kingdom of Burundi, the ICRC delegate in Central Africa, Mr. G. C. Senn, visited the Mbimpa central prison in Bujumbura, where there was a number of political detainees. The delegate increased his visits to Burundi prisons after the unsuccessful revolt of October 18. He went several times to the Muramwya prison in the region where the trouble occurred. There were over 800 political detainees held in overcrowded conditions liable to cause the outbreak of an epidemic. The ICRC delegate intervened to have sick prisoners evacuated and he obtained medical supplies for them. He then returned to the Mbimpa prison in Bujumbura where 265 of the 1,385 prisoners were political detainees. He also went to other detention centres, such as the Gitega prison, where he was concerned for the plight of 85 political prisoners. At each visit he negotiated for improved detention conditions.

### **Uganda**

At the request of the United Nations Commissioner for Refugees, the ICRC authorized its delegate in Central Africa to go to Uganda to investigate conditions for Congolese refugees and to study the possibility of arranging for their repatriation. As there were no diplomatic relations between the Congo and Uganda, the ICRC acted as neutral intermediary and helped them to reach agreement on repatriation of the refugees.

### **Portuguese Guinea**

Following the disturbances, the ICRC delegate-general for Africa Mr. G. Hoffmann, was authorized to go to Portuguese Guinea, where he stayed from August 24 to September 1. He visited a number of political detainees and military prisoners.

### **General missions**

In Africa as a whole, the ICRC endeavoured to strengthen its relations with governments, Red Cross institutions and the press and radio. Mr. Hoffmann directed his mission to that purpose. In 1965 he visited : Senegal, Gambia, Mali, Guinea, Sierra Leone,

Liberia, the Ivory Coast, Upper Volta, Ghana, Togo, Niger, Dahomey, Chad, Nigeria, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Spanish Guinea and Gabon. He had many interviews with government and National Red Cross Society representatives. One of his main objectives was to stress the importance of the Geneva Conventions and the necessity of making them widely known to the armed forces and the public.

The head of the ICRC Nursing Personnel Section, Miss A. Pfirter, went on a special mission, from February to May, which involved visiting National Societies and officials in Ghana, Togo, Dahomey, Nigeria, the Ivory Coast, Upper Volta, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Senegal, Guinea, Gambia and Mali. In four of these countries she was accompanied by Miss Y. Hentsch, directress of the League's Nursing Bureau.

The ICRC representative, who was welcomed wherever she went, examined in conjunction with the National Red Cross Societies the possibility of organizing voluntary nursing services in each country. She visited many Red Cross establishments, hospitals, dispensaries, nursing schools, nurseries, orphanages, maternity and child welfare centres. She also attended first-aid demonstrations and Junior Red Cross meetings. During her discussions with officials of the National Society and of the authorities, she observed that the training of nursing personnel constitutes one of the major problems besetting the new African States.

In addition, the ICRC was represented by Miss Pfirter, Mr. Hoffmann and Mr. Laurent Marti, assistant to the Executive Director, at the seminar organized by the League at Abidjan (Ivory Coast) for West African Red Cross Societies. They addressed the participants on the ICRC's rôle in the event of conflict and they emphasized the need to know and apply the provisions of the Geneva Conventions.

#### **4. LATIN AMERICA**

##### **Dominican Republic**

At the outset of military operations in the Dominican Republic, the ICRC informed the Red Cross of that country that it was