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Mr. de Reynold took part, at the end of April, in the 21st Plenary Assembly of the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA).

In August, Mr. Siordet went to Helsinki to take part in the 14th International Conference of Social Action (formerly International Conference of Social Service) and spoke on the theme "The Red Cross and Human Rights".

Mr. Léopold Boissier, former President of the ICRC, accompanied by Mr. de Reynold, represented the International Committee at the celebration which the Centre of World Peace through Law organized on 16 September 1968 to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights.

Mr. Siordet and Mr. de Preux followed the work of the 6th Congress of the International Confederation of Former Prisoners of War (ICFPW) which was held in Geneva from 1 to 2 November. On that occasion the ICRC had the pleasure of welcoming some sixty congressists, accompanied by their families, at its headquarters. After seeing two films illustrating the ICRC's recent activities, the visitors visited the Central Tracing Agency, where the former prisoners of war were able to see their own registration cards. Mr. R. Nachez, President of the ICFPW, then presented Mr. Siordet with a medal as a tribute to the ICRC for the work it has accomplished for prisoners of war. Furthermore, the ICRC has maintained frequent contact with a number of other non-governmental organizations mentioned in the appropriate sections of this report.

#### **4. INFORMATION**

The Information Service has continued not only to give wide publicity to the ICRC's role and the work it does, but also to have the principles of the Red Cross and humanitarian law better known. As previously, it has attempted to act on two levels: public opinion in general and the National Red Cross Societies. Within the limits of its resources it has publicised all available information on the institution and its work, as well as a considerable amount of written, pictorial and sound documentation.

**Relations with the Press.**—The international press has continued to show interest in the ICRC's activity by making extensive use of matter published in the "Topical Red Cross News" information bulletin, of which eleven issues in four versions (French, English, Spanish and German) appeared in 1968.

The Information Service also sent out 60 press releases, as well as news likely to be of special interest to particular newspapers or agencies. It also had to answer a number of verbal and written questions raised by journalists and representatives of the press and television. It also handed out about 6,000 photographs for newspapers and periodicals of various countries.

**Documents.**—The Information Service replied to numerous requests for information from National Red Cross Societies, different institutions and individuals. This was connected with questions on the ICRC's recent and present activities, but also on events in the past.

In order to answer these requests, the Information Service sent out copious documentation to its correspondents on the origins and history of the Red Cross, the Institution's doctrine and principles and on the Geneva Conventions. It communicated information to university students to enable them to prepare their work, as well as to authors of different publications, in particular of historical works and school handbooks.

It also gave out documents to the many visitors to ICRC headquarters.

**Radio, television and films.**—In 1968, the radio and television services of several countries reserved a place for the ICRC and its activities in their programmes.

Most of the radiophonic recordings, of which 107 were interviews, were carried out in the ICRC's studio itself. In addition, the Information Service sent 96 tape recordings to various radio stations, through the National Societies. Most of these were put on the air.

As regards television, 89 shots and filmed interviews for Swiss and international transmitters took place at the headquarters of the ICRC. The Information Service also received the visits of repor-

ters from the German Federal Republic, France, Great Britain and the USA.

In the sphere of the cinema properly speaking, the ICRC produced two films in colour on its action in Nigeria-Biafra. These two short-length sequences entitled " War and Hunger " and " Rescue " achieved a great success amongst the National Societies, as they have already ordered 19 copies of them.

Films made in previous years, also continued to be widely distributed, especially through the Red Cross Societies and television networks.

In view of the increasing demand for film showings at the ICRC and also in private institutions, schools, clubs, commercial centres, lectures and congresses, it has become necessary to increase the film library.

**Visitors.**—During the year, the Visitors Service received over 2,700 persons, of whom many were university groups, cultural and professional associations, notably from Africa, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain, Vietnam Republic, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States.

Apart from these different groups, the ICRC had pleasure in welcoming several members of National Societies and representatives of international institutions to its headquarters.

## **5. INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF THE RED CROSS**

Published each month by the ICRC, this review is issued in French and English, in principle identical. There are also monthly supplements in German and Spanish in which can be found the more important articles and information on the ICRC's work and the Red Cross movement as a whole.

With descriptions of the ICRC's actions, news of the League and the National Societies, accounts of humanitarian work in the world and initiatives for the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions, reports of important Red Cross meetings, bibliographical items and numerous illustrations, the Review continued to be in 1968 a lively periodical in constant touch with topical news.