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# AFRICA

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In 1983, Africa continued to be the scene of numerous armed conflicts, internal trouble and unrest. The ICRC had nearly one third of its staff on this continent: about 125 delegates in 14 delegations and three sub-delegations.

The ICRC delegates visited prisoners of war and security detainees in Ethiopia, Somalia, Chad, Namibia, South Africa, Rwanda, Zaire and Cape Verde. Food was distributed in areas of conflict in Ethiopia where the population's plight was further aggravated by persistent drought. In Angola, the efforts of the ICRC to help displaced civilians were hampered because of the impossibility of obtaining the authorities' agreement and because of the danger in the areas where the victims most needed help. In Uganda, the ICRC resumed its operations in October with the authorities' agreement, after having had to suspend them in March 1982. It launched a programme of assistance in collaboration with the Ugandan Red Cross and the League, for displaced civilians in three districts to the north of Kampala. The ICRC continued to give medical aid to the orthopaedic centres run by the local Red Cross in Angola, Mozambique and Ethiopia.

In Chad, following the fighting which took place in July, medical teams were immediately dispatched to treat the wounded.

To finance its humanitarian programmes, the ICRC appealed in February for 72,800,000 Swiss francs, to cover all its activities in Africa during the year. The appeal was accompanied by detailed reports describing programmes under way and the budgets for further activities. The ICRC also drew the attention of donors (and in particular the governments and the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies) to its need for funds not earmarked for a particular country, to enable it to intervene rapidly where the needs of victims were particularly urgent. By 31 December 1983 the ICRC had received, in response to this appeal, contributions or promises of contributions in cash and goods totalling 63,544,000 Swiss francs from twelve governments, the EEC (European Economic Community), Oxfam, WFP (World Food Programme) and various other donors, as well as sixteen National Societies.

## Southern Africa

### Angola

In Angola the ICRC was faced with many difficulties when carrying out its humanitarian mission which was nevertheless

indispensable owing to the fighting at the Namibian border, between the South African forces and those of the FAPLA (Angolan army) and the SWAPO (South West African People's Organization), and the fighting in the centre and south-east of the country, where armed units belonging to UNITA were operating.

The ICRC continued the assistance programmes begun in 1980, for displaced persons in the highlands of the provinces of Huambo, Bié and Benguela (Planalto) and those begun in the south in 1981 to assist the civilian population living in the region between the Cunene river and the Namibian border where the South African forces were operating.

The activities of the ICRC in the Planalto had to be interrupted after the serious incidents on 25 September 1982 (ICRC premises attacked in Katchiungo, see *Annual Report 1982*), and were resumed only after sufficient assurance of safety for delegates and premises had been given by UNITA. But these activities had barely resumed when the "Angolan Red Cross" contested the agreement governing all ICRC action in the Planalto, so much so that in July the ICRC was forced to reduce its operations once again. Its attempts to draw up a new agreement with the "Angolan Red Cross" having failed, it put its large stocks of relief supplies at the disposal of various organizations which distributed them. Extremely concerned about the deteriorating condition of the civilian population the ICRC reminded the Angolan authorities that it was ready to provide immediate aid and submitted a memorandum to this effect on 9 November. The ICRC had received no reply by the end of the year, whereas the nutritional condition of the population of Planalto (provinces of Huambo, Bié, Benguela and Huila) continued to deteriorate.

### **Mission of the ICRC President and the delegate-general for Africa**

The ICRC President, Mr. Alexander Hay, accompanied by the delegate-general for Africa, Mr. Jean-Marc Bornet, visited Angola from 6 to 10 April, where he had talks with government representatives particularly with the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, Health, Defence, State Security and Provincial Co-ordination. On this occasion Mr. Hay informed the Angolan authorities that, amongst other things, the ICRC wished to protect security detainees.

Apart from the above-mentioned trip, the delegate-general for Africa carried out two other missions in Angola in 1983: one in the beginning of February, to draw up a programme with the ICRC delegation to resume its assistance activities in

the Planalto, and the other, early November, to hold discussions with the Angolan authorities about the difficulties which had arisen at the end of July and which had hampered the ICRC's assistance activities.

### Material assistance

*TO DISPLACED PERSONS IN THE PLANALTO.* — Following the negotiations at the end of 1982 with the "Angolan Red Cross" and Caritas (see *Annual Report 1982*), the ICRC handed over relief supplies from its stocks to both organizations for immediate distribution, pending the resumption of its own assistance activities. The required guarantees of safety having been obtained from UNITA in January, the delegates resumed work in the Planalto in Huambo. In the beginning of February they invited about 300 village chiefs (traditionally known as *sobas*) of the Bié province to meet in Kuito to report on the nutritional and medical condition of their village populations.

Thanks to this information and on the basis of a survey made in the villages of this province, the ICRC decided, in March, to supplement the locally available food and to provide seed in the southern part of the province, since the needs of the population did not call for any emergency action. But two months later, in May, the situation having deteriorated, supplies of "fuba" and salt were given in addition to large quantities of seed to the entire province of Bié.

As mentioned earlier, most of the ICRC assistance activities had been stopped at the end of July. Only some seed (corn and "fuba") was distributed to "non-residents" in the Kuito area in September and October. The beneficiaries were chosen on the basis of information given by the *sobas*, the provincial delegate of agriculture and the Municipal Commissioner's office. A total of 52,000 people thus received 145 tonnes of corn seed and 391 tonnes of corn semolina. During the last three months of the year, the ICRC delegates directed distributions to the towns of Kuito, Huambo and Benguela and the areas which the ICRC could not reach for danger reasons or because the authorities had not given their agreement, received the ICRC relief supplies through the "Angolan Red Cross" or Caritas. Aid was also given to religious institutions, sanatoriums and orphanages. Since it was impossible to foresee each new action, the ICRC stocks were not renewed and had almost been exhausted by the end of the year.

In 1983, approximately 4,403 tonnes of relief supplies, to an estimated value of nearly 6.7 million Swiss francs, was distributed in the Planalto.

*TO THE CIVILIAN POPULATION IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE COUNTRY.* — At the end of 1981, two sub-delegations had been opened in Lubango and in N'Giva to provide assistance to the civilian population who had suffered as a result of the hostilities in the southern part of Angola. The activities carried out were mainly of a medical nature or involved the Tracing Agency (see below), as the nutritional

condition of the population was satisfactory. In 1983, the delegate based in Lubango paid several visits to the camps of displaced persons in the surrounding area in order to evaluate their needs. In N'Giva, soap, salt and seed were distributed monthly to about one hundred lepers in Omanduda. For the protection of civilian populations living south of the river Cunene, the ICRC, consistent with the Fourth Geneva Convention, approached the South African authorities several times in the course of the year.

The N'Giva sub-delegation faced the same supply difficulties as the year before, as a considerable number of flights from Luanda had to be cancelled because of danger. To overcome this difficulty, road transport was organized which enabled the delegates of Lubango and N'Giva to meet, in April, on the Cunene river. Moreover, supply flights were organized from Botswana.

### Medical assistance

*TO DISPLACED PERSONS IN THE PLANALTO.* — Medical assistance, like other ICRC activities in the Planalto, had been interrupted in September 1982 and was resumed when guarantees of safety were received. In mid-February a special feeding centre was opened in Kuito (capital of the province of Bié) for children suffering from malnutrition from 150 surrounding villages. After an influx of serious cases at the beginning of the action, the situation had already improved by the end of March. In July, when the ICRC was forced to cut down its activities in the Planalto, the food shortage in the region of Kuito was no longer serious. The centre was therefore closed, the last serious cases having been transferred to the central hospital in Kuito for treatment under the supervision of the ICRC medical personnel.

After evaluating the food situation in February-March in the suburbs ("barrios") of Huambo, the ICRC set up five feeding centres. These centres received their supplies from one main kitchen, were medically supervised and provided the children with three meals a day. By the end of March, about 500 children were being fed in three centres and, by May, five centres were assisting nearly 1,500 children. As elsewhere in the Planalto, the overall food situation had improved temporarily in June-July, so much so that the five centres were gradually closed, and a few serious cases were transferred to a nutritional rehabilitation centre set up in June in Huambo. At the end of July, this centre also had to be closed down and, as in Kuito, the last serious cases were transferred to the provincial hospital.

Throughout the year, the ICRC supplied medicine, medical equipment and bandages to the hospitals of Kuito, Bailundo, Katchiungo and Huambo, and also to dispensaries and religious missions. Since it had become difficult for its personnel to travel, especially after July, the ICRC sent its donations from the sub-delegation in Huambo, using the regular shuttle services provided by the employees of these health centres.

*TO THE CIVILIAN POPULATION IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE COUNTRY.* — During the first four months of the year, an ICRC nurse was able to travel around the outskirts of N'Giva and visit eight dispensaries. He supplied medicine and carried out consultations in collaboration with the local employees trained by the ICRC (an average of 4,000 consultations per month). From the month of May, however, travel became too dangerous and until the end of the year the dispensaries continued receiving their supplies of medicine and bandages from N'Giva thanks to the shuttle services carried out regularly by the 18 local employees. The average number of consultations in those dispensaries varied between 200 and 500 per month.

In the N'Giva dispensary, about 1,500 consultations were given every month to the sick who came from the surrounding areas.

*BOMBA ALTA ORTHOPAEDIC CENTRE (HUAMBO).* — During the ICRC's absence, that is from September 1982, the orthopaedic centre for war amputees was run solely by local employees, members of the "Angolan Red Cross". After the visit of an expert from Geneva, in March 1983, who came to evaluate the situation, the ICRC decided to detach two "expatriate" technicians again, and from the 1st June, two orthopaedic technicians worked at the orthopaedic centre, in collaboration with 32 local employees. On the 1 August, the "Angolan Red Cross" withdrew from the Bomba Alta centre which was then staffed by the Ministry of Health. This withdrawal, however, did not bring about important changes in the running of the centre. Like the year before, the prostheses made in Bomba Alta were adjusted on the patients either on the spot, or at a centre set up at the Kuito hospital. This was done to avoid creating undue transport problems for the amputees of that area.

However, from October, it became too dangerous for the ICRC "expatriate" employees to travel from Huambo to Kuito. The patients in Kuito were thus deprived of the benefits of this activity unlike those treated in Bomba Alta.

From 1 June to 31 December 1983, 166 patients were fitted with prostheses and the Bomba Alta centre manufactured 275 pairs of crutches.

### Protection

The ICRC approached the Angolan authorities in order to gain access to persons detained for security reasons, to carry out an action of protection and, if necessary, of material assistance in the prisons. During his visit to Luanda in April, the ICRC President especially made this request to the Angolan authorities. A memorandum specifying the procedure of the ICRC protective action was given to them shortly after, but the difficulties with which the ICRC was confronted during the second half of the year had a negative influence on this issue also, which had still not been settled by the end of the year.

Moreover, during the repatriation operation of prisoners and mortal remains which took place in November 1982, via Lusaka, only two bodies of South African soldiers, and not three as expected, were repatriated to South Africa (see *Annual Report 1982*). For reasons of hygiene the third body could not then be repatriated. It was finally transported from Luanda to Pretoria, via Lusaka, by the ICRC on 28-29 June 1983.

### Relations with UNITA

The safety problems encountered in the course of 1982, especially the resulting suspension of material assistance to displaced persons in the Planalta, led the ICRC to discuss this problem with UNITA in order to obtain the guarantees indispensable to the delegates' action. During a meeting in January 1983, the ICRC representatives not only asked UNITA to grant the delegates the freedom of action necessary to accomplish their tasks of assistance in conflict zones, but also expressed the wish to visit the prisoners held by UNITA. In addition, they once again offered the services of the ICRC as a neutral intermediary for the liberation of persons held captive by UNITA. After receiving the assurance of the UNITA authorities—who on this occasion expressed their willingness to conform with the fundamental principles of international humanitarian law—the ICRC decided to resume its activities in the Planalto (see above).

In the course of the year, ICRC delegates went to the southern part of the country four times (in February, June, September and December). These missions resulted in the liberation by UNITA of 136 persons. Twelve Angolans (amongst whom were three local employees of the ICRC, abducted in the province of Cunene on 18 October 1982) were freed on the spot, whereas the remaining 124 people were repatriated by the ICRC with the help of the Pretoria delegation. Most of the captives who were freed (52 Portuguese, 2 Canadians, 2 Spaniards, 1 Cape Verdean, 1 Uruguayan and 1 Brazilian) were handed over to their diplomatic representatives in South Africa, whereas the 45 Czechoslovakians (including 38 women and children) were taken on board a plane chartered by the ICRC, to Kinshasa (Zaire) where they were handed over to the consular authorities of their country.

During two of these missions, the delegates visited 20 Czechoslovakians and a number of Angolan combatants (FAPLA) detained by UNITA.

### Tracing Agency

In 1983, the volume of work of the ICRC Tracing Agency in Angola was less than in former years. The setting up of "letter-boxes" in the areas around the Lubango and N'Giva sub-delegations enabled displaced persons wanting to contact their family to entrust the ICRC with family messages which were centralized in Luanda before being distributed.

Following the repatriations of 1982 and 1983 (see below), the number of Angolan prisoners of war visited in Namibia diminished; this further reduced the Agency's work.

In 1983, 2,643 family messages were transmitted by the ICRC Tracing Agency, which also handled 244 enquiries; eight families were reunited.

### Dissemination—Information

In 1983, efforts were made to disseminate knowledge of the Red Cross principles and the basic rules of international humanitarian law.

The first conference, for national youth secretaries of the PMLA (People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola), took place in January. Following this, a conference programme was set up for Luanda and the provinces of Huambo, Bié, Huila and Benguela. At another meeting in October, the delegates lectured on the world of the Red Cross and international humanitarian law, to about a hundred future teachers.

Two other conferences were held at the University of Luanda before officials of the Ministries of Defence, State Security and Foreign Relations.

Other sessions were organized for the authorities of the province of Huila, for the military and civilian authorities of Cunene (in Lubango) and for the health workers.

In N'Giva, on several occasions, the delegate gave lectures on the Red Cross and international humanitarian law to local Red Cross employees and to the South African officers and soldiers in the area.

### Personnel

During 1983, there was very little change in the ICRC "expatriate" personnel: maintained at about 25 persons during an almost inactive period (in the hope of resuming activities rapidly), the staff was increased to about 40 persons between April and July. The number of local employees who worked in the dispensaries, nutritional rehabilitation centres or feeding centres and the ICRC offices varied between 100 and 150 and were increased, during periods of activity, by a hundred more people employed on a daily basis.

### South Africa

At the beginning of the year, the ICRC delegate-general for Africa spent a few days in South Africa discussing ICRC activities in the area with the South African authorities and the delegation based in Pretoria.

The logistical role played by the delegation in Pretoria in connection with the missions carried out in the southern part of Angola was more important than before, especially regarding the liberation of prisoners held by UNITA and the supplying of the sub-delegation in N'Giva (see above).

### Protection

The ICRC delegation based in Pretoria continued visiting the convicted security prisoners and the persons held in preventive detention under section 28 of the Internal Security Act of 1982. These are the only two categories of prisoners whom the authorities of the Republic of South Africa allowed the ICRC to visit. As each year since 1963, the ICRC paid a series of visits: from 29 August to 16 September, 3 delegates and a medical delegate from Geneva visited 10 places of detention where they met 374 convicted security prisoners and one person held in preventive detention. A meeting with the Minister for Justice, Mr. Coetzee, ended this series of visits.

As in previous years, the ICRC renewed its efforts to gain access to the other categories of security detainees, i.e. persons detained under sections 29 and 31 of the Internal Security Act of 1982, and detained persons awaiting trial. Once again, the ICRC's offer of its services was rejected. In addition, the ICRC repeated its request to be allowed to visit security prisoners condemned to death and to talk with them without witness in accordance with the usual procedure. The latter request was not accepted by the South African authorities.

The agreement in principle given in July 1983 by the Prison Commissioner, for the ICRC to visit persons convicted under the Intimidation Act of 1982, did not lead to any visits.

The Pretoria delegation likewise inquired into the condition of security detainees held in the "homelands". In *Venda* the delegates visited the main prison in Thohoyandou, where they saw, in May, one convicted security prisoner. In May again, an offer of the ICRC services was also addressed to the *Transkei* authorities, and the delegates carried out two missions in this "homeland", in August and in November. They discussed the procedure of ICRC action with the authorities, in particular with the Prime Minister, Mr. Matanzima, but no visits were made. In the course of the year, steps were also taken to gain access to *Ciskei* security prisoners. Two delegates visited this "homeland" at the end of November and met the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Pityi, and the Minister for Justice, Mr. Takane. No reply to the offer of their services had been received by the ICRC delegates at the end of December.

As before, the Pretoria delegation also visited, in September, the Namibian prisoners held in the Republic of South Africa, and 42 convicted security prisoners at the Robben Island prison.

In June, the mortal remains of a South African soldier killed in Angola were repatriated from Luanda to Pretoria, via Lusaka by the ICRC in collaboration with the Zambian Red Cross. It had been intended to include this repatriation in the operation of simultaneous repatriation of prisoners of war and mortal remains, carried out in November 1982 (see *Annual Report 1982*). This last repatriation had been delayed for reasons of hygiene.

### Assistance

In addition to its protective activities, the ICRC continued its programme of assistance to former detainees and to

families of security detainees in distressed circumstances. The number of recipients of such assistance increased during the year, totalling 448 in December. The aid supplied took the form of food parcels (4,990 parcels, of an estimated value of 321,100 Swiss francs) and blankets. The ICRC also paid the travel costs of persons visiting close relatives in detention (1079 transport vouchers to a total value of 270,550 Swiss francs). The ICRC also financed medical treatment for 22 patients.

Following the series of visits carried out in September, the ICRC was authorized to supply prisoners with aid equivalent to 14,000 Swiss francs.

The ICRC delegation in Pretoria also inquired into the condition of refugees from Lesotho in the Transkei. Two missions to evaluate the situation in February and in August, resulted in aid in the form of blankets, clothing and food to a total value of 24,800 Swiss francs.

### **Tracing Agency**

The Pretoria delegation handled approximately one hundred requests for enquiries, repatriation, transfers, and the reuniting of families, in co-operation with the South African Red Cross. About 500 family messages were exchanged during the year.

## **Namibia/South West Africa**

Military operations continued in 1983 between the South African forces and the Angolan army or SWAPO. The Windhoek delegation continued its activities on behalf of Angolan prisoners of war and of security detainees in Namibia. In addition, six missions were carried out in the northern part of the territory—in which the majority of the Namibian population lives—to make contact with families of detainees and ex-detainees and also to disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law among the armed forces.

### **Protection**

As in 1982, the ICRC delegates were authorized to visit the persons detained in the Mariental camp under the Administrator General's proclamation No. 9 (AG 9). Visits were made on four occasions, in January, May, August and November. Of the 140 AG 9 detainees in January, there remained 131 in November, the others having been released. However, the ICRC was not allowed to visit the other AG 9 detainees held in other prisons. Efforts were made to obtain authorization for the detainees of Mariental with families in Namibia, to receive visits from the latter; permission was granted from case to case.

On two occasions (in February and May), the delegates were authorized to visit a detainee awaiting trial at the Windhoek

prison; after the judgment, the ICRC visited him and six other convicted security detainees at the same place of detention (the latter were visited three times, in March, June and October).

At the same time, the delegates persisted in trying to gain access to all security detainees including persons under interrogation, but in vain.

Furthermore, 14 Angolan prisoners of war, captured during the clashes in the southern part of Angola in February and August 1982, were imprisoned in the Mariental camp at the end of December 1982. The South African authorities informed the ICRC about this and authorized it to visit these prisoners. These 14 Angolan prisoners of war were visited at the same time as the AG 9 detainees in January, May, August and November 1983. On the basis of Articles 69 and 70 of the Third Geneva Convention, the ICRC pointed out to the Detaining Power the time-limit concerning the notification of captures.

### **Assistance**

The ICRC continued its assistance programme for detainees' families and for recently released detainees, organized along lines similar to the programme in South Africa. Despite the difficulties encountered in contacting the families, some of which lived in areas difficult to reach, the volume of the programme increased in 1983.

The detainees, and prisoners of war visited, received material assistance enabling them to partake in manual or intellectual activities. The ICRC also paid for correspondence courses for 34 detainees in the Mariental camp.

Travel vouchers were also given to detainees' families thereby facilitating their visits to detained relatives either in Robben Island prison in South Africa or in Namibia.

### **Tracing Agency**

A total of 1,404 family messages went through the Windhoek Tracing Agency. Most of them were exchanged between detainees and Angolan prisoners of war and their families, in co-operation with the ICRC delegation in Angola. The Windhoek Tracing Agency also handled about one hundred requests for enquiries.

## **Mozambique**

The delegate-general for Africa went to Maputo on two occasions, in September and at the end of December. He discussed the activities of the ICRC within the country with representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Health, and also with the President and Secretary General of the "Mozambique Red Cross" which was being set up.

The Mozambique Health Minister, Mr. Macumbi, was received by the ICRC President during his visit to Geneva on 11 May.

At the beginning of August, the ICRC delegate in Maputo gave a talk on the institution and its activities at a training seminar for the staff of the National Society attended by members of eight provinces, which was held in Xai-Xai. The President of the "Mozambique Red Cross", Mr. Funzamo, visited ICRC headquarters in August.

### Medical assistance

The ICRC activities to assist Mozambique war disabled which began on 1 April 1981, with the opening of the orthopaedic centre at the main hospital in Maputo, continued, and the technical co-operation agreement concluded between the Ministry of Health and the ICRC was renewed for one year, i.e. until 31 March 1984.

In 1983, eight additional local employees received training as orthopaedic technicians and passed the corresponding examinations in August. This brings the number of local employees trained in this field to 24. From the beginning of the action to the end of 1983, 292 patients were fitted with prostheses manufactured and adjusted at the centre, using locally available raw materials.

### Assistance to civilian populations

From 16 January to 3 February, three ICRC delegates, one of whom was a doctor, carried out a survey in the provinces of Inhambane, Gaza, Sofala, and Manica, accompanied by the Secretary General of the "Mozambique Red Cross" to see whether the civilian population required any medical and food assistance. On this occasion, 30 kits of medicine worth 10,000 Swiss francs were distributed to the hospitals visited, for the benefit of victims of military operations. Then, in May, the ICRC submitted "the ICRC project of assistance to civilian populations affected by armed conflict".

A second survey was made in Vilanculos and in Inhambane (Inhambane province) in July. In spite of the emergency situation, not a single action of assistance was undertaken, because the authorities did not let the ICRC, contrary to the usual procedure, participate in the distribution of relief supplies and check their destination.

After a South African air-raid on Matola (suburb of Maputo), on 23 May, the ICRC delegate visited the site with representatives of the Mozambique Red Cross. He gave material aid (blankets, kitchen utensils) to families, victims of the raid.

### Protection

As in 1982, and since the Mozambique national resistance movement (RNM) had abducted a number of foreigners of

various nationalities, the ICRC, in response to requests from the families and/or representatives of the countries of origin of the persons abducted, took active steps to ascertain what had become of them. It served, in particular, as an intermediary, transmitting family messages.

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In November and December, the ICRC delegation based in Mozambique went on two short missions to *Swaziland*, in order to renew contact with the authorities and the National Society.

## Regional delegation in Harare

### Zimbabwe

In addition to his activities in Botswana, Malawi, Zambia and, from the month of August, Lesotho, the ICRC regional delegate based in Harare maintained regular contact with the authorities in Zimbabwe, especially concerning the events in Matabeleland early in the year.

During a visit to Harare at the end of March, the delegate-general for Africa, Mr. Bornet, was received by President Banana and the Labour Minister and Minister of Social Affairs, Mr. Kangai. At the meetings the main point of discussion was the situation reigning within the country and the ICRC's willingness to undertake an action of assistance and protection. (Concerning the latter point, the regional delegate was received by the Minister of Justice, Mr. Mubako, in July.) Various steps were taken by the ICRC in the course of 1983 with the hope that the authorities in Zimbabwe would accept its services for persons detained or held because of the events. These steps had not met with success by the end of 1983.

The regional delegation in Harare lent its support also to other actions in southern Africa.

In matters relating to the Tracing Agency, the delegation helped with the work done by the National Society. It handled a few requests for enquiries and transmitted family messages from or to other countries in southern Africa.

### Assistance

The ICRC provided aid to about 200 displaced persons, mostly children, who had taken refuge in the religious missions situated in the districts of Tsholatho and Lupane (province of Matabeleland). Food and blankets, totalling 67,560 Swiss francs, were distributed to the missions by the "Catholic Commission on Social Service and Development" of Bulawayo.

Aid was also given to detainees, or to their families, and to victims of the freedom war, assisted by the "Zimbabwe project", a government undertaking.

## **Botswana**

The regional delegate based in Harare visited Botswana from 7 to 9 June to renew contact with the authorities and the National Society.

At the government's request, financial aid (50,000 Swiss francs) was granted by the ICRC to the "Botswana Council for Refugees" in order to rebuild a clinic in the Dukwe refugee camp since the old one, built by the ICRC, no longer sufficed.

## **Malawi**

The regional delegate in Harare was in Malawi from 3 to 7 October and again on 23 and 24 November, to discuss the possibility of co-operation with the National Society on questions relating to the Tracing Agency, dissemination and preparations for disasters. Aid of 4,000 Swiss francs was granted to renovate the Dowa first-aid training centre.

## **Zambia**

The ICRC regional delegate based in Harare visited Lusaka from 21 to 23 February to hold discussions on the Angolan refugees in Zambia with the Zambian authorities and organizations concerned. He also conferred with the Zambian Red Cross on the dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law and the principles of the Red Cross.

Furthermore, the Zambian Red Cross helped in the repatriation of the body of a South African soldier from Angola on 28-29 June (see above).

## **Lesotho**

The delegate based in Maputo and an ICRC doctor visited Lesotho from 8 to 12 February to maintain contact with the National Society and to resume negotiations with the authorities on pending matters, especially in the field of protection (12 convicted security prisoners had been visited in October 1982). The efforts to obtain access to detained persons under interrogation had still not succeeded at the end of 1983.

Activities in Lesotho, undertaken by the ICRC delegation in Mozambique until August 1983, were then taken over by the Harare delegation.

## **East Africa**

### **Ethiopia**

The ICRC's main concern in this country was to provide aid to the victims of the armed conflicts, whose condition was often further aggravated by drought, and to give protection to the Somali prisoners of war.

The ICRC activities were discussed and carried out in co-operation with the Ethiopian Red Cross, with whose leaders close relations were maintained in the country itself and in Geneva. Dr. Dawit Zewdie, President of the National Society, was received at ICRC headquarters on 8 February. Apart from the joint programme of assistance whereby the Ethiopian Red Cross can develop its operational capacity, the ICRC shared with it the task of transmitting correspondence between prisoners and their families and examined with it the procedure for the implementation of a programme to disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law and the principles of the Red Cross.

The ICRC delegate-general for Africa went on a mission to Ethiopia from 31 May to 8 June to re-evaluate the overall action with the Addis Ababa delegation. He went back there from 9-13 August, accompanying the ICRC President, Mr. Alexander Hay, who met the minister Fikre-Selassie Wogderess, Secretary General of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, member of the executive committee of the COPWE (Commission for Organizing the Party of the Working People of Ethiopia), and Vice-president of the council of ministers, and Mr. Goshu Wolde, Minister of Foreign Affairs. These talks enabled the ICRC President to give the Ethiopian authorities an account of the institution's action and in particular to emphasize the question of protection (action carried out and development possibilities). Furthermore, President Hay encouraged the Ethiopian authorities to become party to the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions. During his mission he also met the leaders of the Ethiopian Red Cross and the person in charge of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission.

On 8 April, the head of the ICRC delegation in Ethiopia had the opportunity of discussing the action of protection with General Tesfaye Gebre Kidan, the Defence Minister.

### **Protection**

In connection with the conflict in Ogaden and its consequences, the Ethiopian Government authorized the ICRC to resume its visits to the Somali prisoners of war held in Harar. These visits had been discontinued from July 1981. In February, it visited, in line with ICRC criteria, 203 prisoners at the regional prison of Harrarge and at the military police headquarters; 207 prisoners were seen in December at the regional prison where they had been regrouped (seven prisoners were new and three had died since February). In the

meantime, three visits were made in March, May and June. A doctor-delegate participated in three of the five visits.

Following these visits, the ICRC submitted a formal request to the Ethiopian authorities for the repatriation of wounded or sick prisoners under Article 110 of the Third Geneva Convention. This request was repeated during President Hay's trip in August, but no reply was received by the end of the year.

The ICRC attempted to extend its visits to all the Somali prisoners of war in Ethiopia and to get information systematically on every new capture. In spite of the assurances given by the Ethiopian authorities, no such visits had taken place by the end of December.

On the basis of the agreement in principle obtained in December 1980, giving it access to all the Ethiopian places of detention, the ICRC reminded the authorities, during the presidential mission in August, that it wished to spread its action of protection to all persons detained as a result of the events, particularly the conflict situation prevailing in the northern part of the country. The ICRC offer again received a positive response in principle, but its practical implementation was still under discussion at the end of 1983.

### Tracing Agency

In February, a delegate was sent to Addis Ababa to open a Tracing Agency in the ICRC delegation and to help the Ethiopian Red Cross to set up a similar service, thus encouraging a new form of co-operation between the ICRC and the National Society.

From September, the Ethiopian Red Cross took over the distribution of family messages coming from the Ethiopian prisoners of war held in Somalia (225 messages came from Mogadishu) and collected the replies. A memorandum, signed on 23 August, clearly defined the competence of both the ICRC Tracing Agency and the Ethiopian Red Cross. It was renewed at the end of December for a period of six months.

In addition, the Addis Ababa Tracing Agency handled the registration of the prisoners visited and the facts concerning them. It also made enquiries for persons missing as a result of the conflict in Ogaden.

### Relief

*IN THE REGIONS AFFECTED BY HOSTILITIES.* — As in the past, the ICRC continued its programme of assistance jointly with the Ethiopian Red Cross to help the displaced civilian populations in the war-stricken regions. Since some of these areas were also hit by drought in 1983, the ICRC, in agreement with the League, had to increase its relief programme to cover the most needy sections of the population. The action carried out by the Ethiopian Red Cross mainly consisted in distributing food but other forms of relief (blankets, clothing, soap) were also given.

These distributions were made in six districts in Eritrea (reaching 75,000 people), in Tigre, only in the Mekele locality

(10,000 people), in the north of Gondar (5,000 people), in Balé and Sidamo (12,000 people in regions affected in Genale and Sidama) and in Harrarge (3,000 people). A feeding centre was opened at Chiry Ballo, in Sidamo, in November for infants suffering from malnutrition.

As the ICRC was authorized to travel around the regions assisted, it was able to evaluate the needs and supervise the distributions regularly, more so because it had received, in 1983, for the first time, the permission to base its delegates permanently in the country. Apart from its delegation in Addis Ababa, the ICRC had a delegate in Asmara from January, another in Goba from March, who was joined by two nurses, a third in Harar from April. Furthermore, the ICRC sent a doctor and a dietician to Eritrea and Gondar from 20 March to 4 May.

*TO PRISONERS OF WAR.* — Action of assistance was also undertaken for Somali prisoners of war held in Harar. The ICRC gave them food, clothing, toilet articles, recreation material, kitchen utensils, camp beds and medicine. It also saw that the cells were repaired in order to improve hygiene.

*STATISTICS.* — The entire relief action of the ICRC (regions affected and prisoners of war) in 1983 represented 5,650 tonnes of goods totalling 8.3 million Swiss francs. The major part of this relief consisted of food, i.e. 5,375 tonnes, worth 7.3 million Swiss francs. Relief action to prisoners of war amounted to 79,000 Swiss francs.

### Medical assistance

*CENTRES FOR THE CIVILIAN DISABLED.* — In 1982, an agreement was signed between the ICRC and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs to set up two rehabilitation centres (for the fitting of prostheses and physiotherapy) for the civilian disabled, victims of the hostilities. One centre—located in Asmara—opened its doors in November 1982, the other, in Harar, received its first patients in March 1983. Since the beginning of the project, until the end of 1983, 180 patients were treated in the two centres. This action was carried out by four ICRC orthopaedic technicians (two in each centre), assisted by twenty local employees.

Just as it had for similar projects, particularly in Debré Zeit (see *Annual Reports* from 1979 onwards), the ICRC established its programme for the civilian disabled by training local personnel and by making optimum use of locally available material for the manufacture of prostheses. The ICRC received co-operation from the Addis Ababa Fund for the Disabled which depends on the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. This organization made parts for artificial limbs, according to the ICRC models. However, material was also sent from Geneva for the establishment of the centres in Asmara and Harar. The technicians of Asmara and Harar undertook the training of local personnel, and a fifth technician and an expert gave a training course (theory and practice) to the personnel of the Fund for the Disabled.

*REGIONS AFFECTED BY THE CONFLICTS.* — As part of its joint action with the Ethiopian Red Cross, the ICRC distributed, as the need arose, medicine kits and medical equipment to the hospitals and clinics in the regions affected by the disturbances or conflicts: Balé, Eritrea, Gondar, Harrarge and Tigre. The doctors sent from Geneva made an evaluation of the medical situation in Eritrea and in Gondar, in March and April, and in Balé in December.

The total value of the ICRC medical assistance in Ethiopia in the above-mentioned areas and to the civilian disabled totalled 267,550 Swiss francs in 1983.

## **Somalia**

The presence of the ICRC in Somalia was the subject of an agreement signed on 11 August 1983 by the Government of the Somali Democratic Republic and the ICRC regarding a permanent ICRC base. Since 1977 the ICRC had carried out several missions in the country because of the Ogaden conflict but it was only from August 1982 that the Somali authorities accepted the permanent presence of ICRC delegates in Mogadishu.

The President of the ICRC, accompanied by the delegate-general for Africa, went on an official visit to Mogadishu in August. The main purpose of this trip was to evaluate the action of protection with the Somali authorities. Between 12 and 16 August, Mr. Hay met President Siad Barre, Head of State, General Mohamed Ali Samater, first Vice-president and Defence Minister, and the Commander-in-Chief of the Custodial Corps and deputy minister for Foreign Affairs. Talks were also held with the leaders of the Somali Red Crescent.

### **Protection**

Three series of visits were made to places of detention in Somalia: in May, July and November. They were made to a Cuban prisoner of war (visited on several occasions since 1979) and to two groups of Ethiopian prisoners of war held in two different places: 193 at the Gezira camp and 16 others (two of whom were registered in November) at the main prison of Mogadishu, detained by the Army Security Services.

In addition to the efforts made by its delegates, the ICRC took the opportunity, during a mission of the deputy delegate-general for Africa in April, and the presidential mission in August, to remind the Somali authorities of the nature of its role under the Geneva Conventions regarding the protection of prisoners of war, asked to be allowed to visit all prisoners detained in Somalia, and to work out a procedure for notification of and visit to all new prisoners taken during the Ogaden conflict. Furthermore, the ICRC President requested the release and the repatriation of the Cuban prisoner for health reasons and made a similar request for certain Ethiopian prisoners, a request which had been submitted to

the authorities at the beginning of the year. At the end of 1983, none of these steps had proved successful.

### **Tracing Agency**

The ICRC Tracing Agency in Mogadishu registered the prisoners visited in Somalia and transmitted, to the Somali authorities, official information concerning the Somali prisoners in Ethiopia.

Through the services of the Central Tracing Agency in Geneva, it transmitted to Addis Ababa nearly 200 Red Cross messages filled in by the Ethiopian prisoners for their families. The Somali authorities were approached on several occasions to allow the distribution of messages written by Somali prisoners in Ethiopia to their families. During his mission, the ICRC President stressed the humanitarian importance of this action, but at the end of the year not a single message had been transmitted to the Somali families.

The Agency also received requests to trace a number of persons coming from Ethiopia and got in touch with the government organization in charge of refugees in Somalia, in an attempt to carry out enquiries. At the end of the year, however, very few cases had been solved.

### **Medical assistance**

An ICRC doctor participated in the visits to prisoners of war in May and November. Medical relief was provided to the dispensaries of the places of detention visited. The ICRC also took over the treatment of some prisoners suffering from tuberculosis.

Following the survey conducted in November 1982, medical equipment was supplied, at the beginning of the year, to hospitals in the capital and in Belet Huen where persons wounded in the war were receiving treatment.

### **Relief**

The Ethiopian prisoners of war received fruit, vegetables, recreation material, books and mattresses. This action, in 1983, represented a value of 16,170 Swiss francs.

### **Dissemination and information**

Talks were given on international humanitarian law and the ICRC to collaborators of the Somali Red Crescent and to students. In December, the ICRC, in co-operation with the Somali Red Crescent, organized a seminar on international humanitarian law and the fundamental principles of the Red Cross movement for the representatives of the armed forces, police and local media.

## Sudan

As in the past, the relief and tracing activities of the ICRC in Sudan concerned refugees. Aid was also sent to Tigre and Eritrea for the victims of the conflicts and drought, through other aid organizations.

The ICRC maintained close relations with the Sudanese authorities. Its activities were discussed during a meeting with the first Vice-president of Sudan.

The delegate-general for Africa went to Khartoum in June and had discussions with the delegation.

### Relief

The ICRC endeavoured to give aid to the most vulnerable categories of the civilian population (the aged, mothers and children, orphans, the handicapped) and to prisoners of war in Tigre.

From the month of June, it provided them mainly with food but also with blankets and various other articles and utensils. The REST (Relief Society of Tigray) took charge of the transport by road, from Sudan, and saw to the distribution. This relief action consisted of 1,070 tonnes of goods to a value of 1,327,140 Swiss francs.

In January, the ICRC supplied 495 tonnes of food worth 525,000 Swiss francs to the ERA (Eritrean Relief Association) for the most vulnerable sections of the civilian population.

In December, the ICRC, after evaluating the needs, granted some food aid to refugees from Ethiopia in the Gedaref region, in the eastern part of Sudan. The government organization, Sudanaid, took charge of the distribution.

### Medical assistance

The ICRC received the consent of the Sudanese authorities to open an orthopaedic centre in Kassala for civilian and military war invalids, victims of the Eritrea and Tigre conflicts. Medical relief was handed to the REST and ERA.

### Tracing Agency

The work of the Khartoum Tracing Agency was mainly related to the refugees from Uganda and Ethiopia with the assistance of its correspondents established in Gedaref, Kassala, Port Sudan, and in southern Sudan at the Ugandan border.

Most requests for the tracing of missing persons dealt with by the Khartoum Agency concerned Ugandan nationals (672 enquiries in 1983); 84 enquiries concerned Ethiopian nationals. The Agency exchanged family messages, especially with Uganda. It transmitted copies of school attendance certificates to Ugandan refugees.

Some children were able to join their families in the United States or in Europe after the Agency, in response to requests from abroad, had made the necessary enquiries.

### Dissemination and information

Talks on international humanitarian law, the organization, activities and intervention procedures of the ICRC were given, in collaboration with Sudanese military lawyers on 14 November, to 75 senior officers of Sudan, the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait.

## Uganda

Following the decision of the Ugandan authorities, the ICRC had to stop its activities of protection and assistance in Uganda and close down its delegation in Kampala on 31 March 1982 (see *Annual Report 1982*). It later tried to get permission to resume its visits to places of detention (suspended on 14 December 1981) and offered its services for this to the Ugandan Government on 13 August 1982. Since there was no reply to this offer, the ICRC continued its efforts, through its regional delegation in Nairobi, to gain access to detained persons.

From the month of May, since various sources attested that the civilian population to the north and north-west of Kampala was endangered (districts of Luwero, Mubende and Mpigi), the ICRC was further concerned. From then on, it had two objectives: one was to protect detained persons; the other, to act in favour of civilian victims of the conflict between the Ugandan forces and their opponents and which had displaced large sections of the population.

On mission in Kampala from 18 to 23 July, the ICRC regional delegate in Nairobi received from the Ugandan Vice-president and Defence Minister, Mr. Muwanga, authorization to evaluate the situation and needs of the civilian population (this survey was made in August), whereas assurances, if not a formal agreement, were given him for the resumption of visits to places of detention.

At the end of September, Mr. Muwanga and the Prime Minister, Mr. Alimadi, informed the ICRC that it was authorized to open a delegation in Kampala.

### Protection of detained persons

In September, the Ugandan Government, through the Vice-president and Prime Minister, authorized the ICRC to visit civilian places of detention (prisons and police stations) throughout the country, in accordance with the customary procedures of the ICRC; however, military places of detention were not included in this authorization. The ICRC nevertheless agreed to start its action of protection for a probationary period of three months, on condition that talks continued

regarding the military places of detention. The Home Minister, who controls the civilian places of detention, confirmed, on 14 November, the authorization granted to the ICRC and the official list of civilian prisons and police stations was given to the Kampala delegation at the end of the month, thus enabling it to prepare a programme of visits. These were to start early 1984.

### Activities for the displaced civilian population

During the first months of 1983, the displaced persons in the districts of Luwero, Mpigi and Mubende were transferred to camps by the Ugandan authorities which, in May, asked the National Red Cross to assist these people. International and non-governmental organizations joined in this action.

Owing to the situation prevailing in this area, the ICRC was worried about the resulting humanitarian problems. Hence, in July, as wished, incidentally, by other aid organizations also, it offered its services to the Ugandan authorities, who accepted the principle of a survey mission.

Consequently, between 5 and 26 August, the ICRC regional delegate in Nairobi and four delegates sent from Geneva (a doctor, a dietician, a relief expert and a delegate of the Central Tracing Agency) were able to visit 18 camps of displaced persons in the districts of Luwero, Mubende and Mpigi. They had to evaluate the needs of the population for protection and for the services provided by the Central Tracing Agency, as well as the food, medical and sanitary needs, taking into account the aid given by the other organizations. The ICRC delegates held several meetings with the Ugandan Red Cross, the aid organizations present and the Ugandan Health Ministry. They presented their conclusions to the Ugandan Vice-president.

In September, the ICRC undertook a new mission, this time to propose a plan of action to the Ugandan authorities and to define the practical procedure of its implementation. The Ugandan authorities and the aid organizations realized that it was the ICRC's duty to accomplish its traditional tasks (protection and services of the Central Tracing Agency). They also admitted that the final responsibility for assistance lay with the ICRC. In an agreement made on 17 November between the ICRC, the League and the Ugandan Red Cross, it was provided that the ICRC would be responsible for the entire "Red Cross emergency action" with help from the National Society and the League, and that the latter would give the Ugandan Red Cross long-term co-operation and development aid.

The ICRC endeavoured to protect the displaced persons from all armed elements: through the regular presence in the camps of delegates in charge of the distribution of relief, medical treatment and enquiries for missing persons, and by keeping in constant touch with the authorities in Kampala.

Anxious to reunite families which had been separated because of the events, the ICRC set up a tracing office in Kampala, which worked in co-operation with the Ugandan Red Cross. In November and December, it registered requests

for enquiries which came mainly from Kampala, concerning 629 persons presumed to be in the camps, and requests to reunite families dispersed in the camps and Kampala or in different camps (these requests concerned 1,036 persons). The office also transmitted 174 family messages. Finally, at the request of the persons concerned, and with the authorities' consent, the ICRC transferred 53 persons from a demolished camp to their native villages, which were too far for them to get to on their own.

Food distributions (rice, maize, beans, oil) were organized for the entire civilian population which had been displaced. For this purpose, five teams comprising ICRC personnel and personnel of the Ugandan Red Cross served all the camps. In December, the distributions were reaching an average of 88,000 people a week. From the end of October, when the "Red Cross emergency action" started, till the end of 1983, only half-rations were given owing to logistic difficulties. Part of the food was provided by the World Food Programme. In addition to the general food distributions a supplementary food programme was organized for persons suffering from malnutrition and a similar but more intensive programme for very serious cases of malnutrition which had received hospital treatment. The organizations "Oxfam" and "Save the Children Fund" carried out these programmes. During the above-mentioned period, 1,294 tonnes of food was distributed, valued at 731,560 Swiss francs. To a lesser extent, soap, blankets and clothing were also supplied to the displaced persons.

It was also in co-ordination with "Oxfam" and "Save the Children Fund" that the ICRC supplied drinking water to the camps of displaced persons and that it carried out work in five of them. It also started to install sanitary facilities in the old hospital of Mulago in Kampala, which had some displaced persons. A hygienist was lent to the ICRC by the Australian Red Cross.

Six medical teams, composed of Ugandan Red Cross personnel and ICRC doctors and nurses, treated the displaced persons giving more than 46,000 consultations in two months. Moreover, a team of the Ugandan Red Cross, assisted by the League and the "Save the Children Fund" gave the children measles inoculations. The ICRC set up a laboratory and a central pharmacy in Kampala. At the end of 1983, the ICRC medical staff was composed of a doctor in charge of co-ordination, four other doctors, four nurses, two pharmacists and a laboratory technician.

On December 31, the ICRC personnel consisted of 40 persons, 10 of whom had been loaned by the National Societies, i.e. medical personnel (Red Cross Societies of Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, New Zealand and Sweden) and technical personnel (Red Cross Societies of the Federal Republic of Germany, Great Britain and Norway). The Ugandan Red Cross provided 200 volunteers for the emergency action and also put part of its administrative set up at the disposal of the ICRC.

The action for displaced persons was hampered because of the danger which prevailed in the regions assisted. Despite the steps taken by the ICRC to ensure safety in the field, a gloom

was cast over the assistance operation on 24 November, when a Ugandan Red Cross vehicle was ambushed: whilst fulfilling their humanitarian mission, two Ugandan Red Cross collaborators, Mrs. Catherine Musoke, a nurse, and Mr. Ali Musoga, a driver, lost their lives, and the other occupants were wounded.

To provide protection to persons assisted and also to improve safety for all the aid organizations in the field, the ICRC laid the foundations of a programme of information (nature and procedure of the Red Cross action) and of dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law and the fundamental principles of the Red Cross. This programme is intended for the Ugandan armed forces, the local authorities, the population assisted, school children and the National Society staff.

#### **Another activity**

The ICRC gave its support to the tracing section of the Ugandan Red Cross which dealt with requests for enquiries concerning Rwandan refugees in Uganda and Ugandan refugees in Zaire, Sudan and Kenya. The tracing section worked in co-operation with the ICRC Tracing Agencies in those countries.

### **Regional delegation in Nairobi**

In Kenya, the ICRC has a regional delegation which covers not only that country, but also the Comoros, Djibouti, Madagascar, Mauritius, Reunion, the Seychelles, and Tanzania. Before a delegation in Kampala was re-opened, Uganda was also covered from Nairobi. Furthermore, the regional delegation was the logistics base for the actions of assistance in Uganda, Somalia and Sudan. A delegate lent by the Danish Red Cross to the ICRC was sent to Nairobi in November to see to the purchase and transport of relief material destined for Uganda. A delegate, whose main task was to promote knowledge of international humanitarian law and co-operation with the National Societies, joined the regional delegation in Nairobi in March.

The Nairobi Tracing Agency dealt with requests to trace missing persons and transmitted family messages between African and European countries. Most of its activities arose from the situation in Uganda: tracing persons in Uganda in answer to requests coming from Sudan, Zaire and Rwanda or making enquiries in these countries and in Europe on the basis of requests sent from Kampala; exchanging family messages between these countries; transmitting school attendance certificates required by Ugandan refugees. The Nairobi Agency collaborated closely with the Ugandan Red Cross and the ICRC Agencies in Zaire and Sudan. It issued 54 travel documents to Ugandans, Ethiopians and Rwandans who had been authorized to join their families in Canada, Sweden and the United States.

## **Kenya**

In Kenya, the ICRC reminded the authorities of the offer it had made of its services, on 30 August 1982, requesting access to the persons arrested after the attempted *coup d'état* of 1 August. These steps met with no success.

The ICRC tried to make international humanitarian law better known: it reminded the authorities of the existence of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions, to which Kenya had not acceded, and gave talks on this law and on Red Cross activities to senior police officers, to prison administrators, to the Kenyan Red Cross personnel and to the participants of the various training courses organized by the latter. Steps had been taken to disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law among the Kenyan armed forces. Close relations were maintained with the universities, in view of the Naivasha seminar.

## **Djibouti**

A mission was carried out in Djibouti from 16 to 24 April, at the request of the local Red Crescent and the Minister for Labour and Social Welfare. Several meetings were held with the leaders of the Djibouti Red Crescent and with the authorities: the ministers for Health, Home Affairs, Labour and Social Welfare, and with senior officials from the President's Bureau and from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defence.

The purpose of the mission was to present the ICRC and its activities, to recall the existence of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions, to underline the importance of making international humanitarian law known and to study the possibilities of promoting knowledge of it among the armed forces, the police force and the media. The mission also served to review the activities of the Red Crescent and to remind it of the admission procedure for National Societies.

## **Madagascar**

To maintain ICRC relations with the National Society and authorities of Madagascar, a mission was carried out to Tananarive in June. It mainly dealt with the dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law and the principles and ideals of the Red Cross. This consisted in helping the National Society to draw up a programme on the subject, in examining with the Defence Ministry the possibilities of starting a similar programme within the armed forces and, finally, in seeing how international humanitarian law was being taught at the University of Tananarive.

During this mission, two lectures on the history of the Red Cross movement and on international humanitarian law were given to the youth section of the National Society and another

to public law students. Documentary material to promote knowledge of international humanitarian law was provided to the National Society and to the Faculty of Law.

## Tanzania

On a visit to Geneva, Mr. Julius K. Nyerere, President of the Republic of Tanzania, was received at the ICRC headquarters by President Hay, on 3 October. The Nairobi delegation kept in touch with the Tanzanian authorities and the Tanzanian Red Cross by visiting Dar-es-Salaam in March and again in August. Amongst the subjects discussed with the Tanzanian authorities, were, the application of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions, to which Tanzania had acceded on 15 February, and the dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law in the armed forces, the police force and the prison administration. Dissemination was also discussed with the National Society, the universities and the local media. Talks on international humanitarian law were given to participants of first-aid training courses, organized by the Tanzanian Red Cross, to law students and future diplomats.

## Central and West Africa

### Chad

During the first two months of 1983, the main activities of the ICRC delegates based in N'Djamena, who had been authorized to travel throughout the country, were the protection of the prisoners of war detained by the Chad authorities and the transmission of news between those prisoners and their families. As those activities considerably subsided after a few weeks, the ICRC decided, in March, to reduce the number of its delegates in Chad by closing its sub-delegation in Abéché.

During May, the general situation in northern and eastern Chad seriously deteriorated, after fighting had broken out again between the FANT (Chad National Armed Forces), belonging to the government in power, and the GUNT (Transitional Government of National Unity). Since then, the ICRC has continually reminded the opposing parties of the nature of its mandate during conflicts and requested access to all the victims, wherever they might be. The ICRC wished to develop its activities in two fields: firstly, to protect those captured during the fighting, notify their families and, where necessary, bring them aid; and, secondly, to give medical assistance to the civilian and military war wounded.

In this way, through its delegates in N'Djamena and several special missions sent from Geneva, the ICRC increased its

approaches to the Chad authorities with a view to developing its work on behalf of the prisoners held by them. In addition, in order to reach all the victims, the ICRC tried to go to northern Chad. A delegate from N'Djamena was sent to Faya, on 23 June, to make an initial survey, but the following day Faya was taken by the forces of the GUNT and it was not until 20 July that a head of delegation, a medical delegate and a radio operator, arriving from Libya, were able to join this delegate. They were followed, on 26 July, by a surgical team, a nurse and a delegate from the Central Tracing Agency. The delegates had scarcely begun their work when Faya again fell into the hands of the government forces who put an end to the ICRC's operation by sending all its delegates back to N'Djamena on 6 August. After new approaches had been made to the leaders of the GUNT, the ICRC sent a team of six delegates to Bardai at the beginning of November.

From July to December, in agreement with the Libyan authorities and with the material support of the Libyan Red Crescent, the ICRC maintained a permanent administrator in Sebha, a locality in southern Libya, which thenceforth served as a logistics base for the ICRC operation in northern Chad. The ICRC kept the authorities in N'Djamena regularly informed of its operation in Faya and Bardai.

The ICRC also returned to Abéché in eastern Chad, where a surgical team worked throughout July.

### Protection

During the first half of 1983, ICRC delegates continued the visits, begun in August 1982, to prisoners of war in the hands of the Chad authorities, i.e. a total of fourteen visits to 280 prisoners in the Borkou and Ennedi regions, and the prefectures of Biltine and Ouaddai. Most of these visits took place in January and February. Subsequently the ICRC delegates noticed on several occasions that some prisoners had been released.

Following up the offer of services it had sent to the Minister of the Interior on 18 November 1982, the ICRC continued its approaches to the authorities to gain access to civilian detainees arrested in connection with the events (former officials and employees of the GUNT). In March, the ICRC deputy delegate-general for Africa, on mission in N'Djamena, was informed that the offer had been rejected. On 16 June, a presidential amnesty was decreed, concerning the detainees, civilians and political refugees.

After the fighting had begun again between the forces of the FANT and the GUNT, the ICRC approached the parties concerned in order to be able to carry out its protection work on behalf of the new prisoners of war and others detained in connection with the events. In addition to the steps undertaken by its delegates in N'Djamena, the ICRC sent representatives several times from Geneva to the Chad capital, including the head of the Operations Department and the delegate-general for Africa (in August and December respectively). An interview also took place with the Head of State, Mr. Hissène Habré, on 17 June. In spite of repeated assurances that its

work would be accepted, the ICRC had not at the end of the year been able to visit the prisoners held by the government.

Similar steps were undertaken with the GUNT authorities. Several interviews took place with Mr. Goukouni Oueddei, who had himself requested the intervention of the ICRC. But the delegates sent to Faya at the end of July were prevented from carrying out their protection work because of the rapid turn of events (see above). It was finally not until the middle of November, once it had set up a delegation in Bardai, that the ICRC was able to begin its visits to prisoners detained by the GUNT. By the end of the year, delegates had visited 117 prisoners of war and ten persons detained on political grounds, in the Tibesti region. The measures taken for extending the protection work to the Borkou and Ennedi regions, in order to gain access to all the prisoners in the hands of the GUNT, had not yielded any result by the end of 1983.

### Tracing Agency

During the first half of 1983, the N'Djamena Tracing Agency registered the prisoners of war visited and processed the official information concerning their transfer or release. The Agency transmitted Red Cross messages between prisoners and their families, either directly or through religious missions or humanitarian organizations. It handled also a few enquiries into the whereabouts of missing persons.

In November, a Tracing Agency was opened at Bardai for the registration of prisoners and the forwarding of family messages.

### Medical aid

During the first two months of the year, an ICRC medical delegate took part in visits to prisoners of war. Where necessary, medical equipment was supplied to the dispensaries of the detention centres. After the intervention of ICRC delegates the authorities concerned allowed some seriously wounded prisoners of war to be evacuated to hospitals.

The medical delegate also undertook a medical and food survey of the civilian population living in northern and eastern Chad, in order to inform the authorities of their current needs. Reports were sent to the Minister of Health and the Minister in charge of combating natural disasters. The post of medical delegate was abolished in the middle of March, consistent with the staff reduction programme.

During the first half of 1983, the ICRC continued to support the work carried out for the war disabled by a priest of the Catholic Mission of Kabalaye in N'Djamena. As in the past, the ICRC put a technician at the disposal of the mission and bought equipment for it. The ICRC ended this support on 30 June, as it considered that the Kabalaye centre was then able to meet the most urgent needs on its own. From the beginning of this co-operation in September 1981 until the end of June 1983, 330 disabled patients had been fitted with artificial limbs.

Because of the worsening situation in northern and eastern Chad, the ICRC sent out two surgical teams in July, one to Abéché and the other to Faya. Each took a stock of medicaments and surgical equipment.

The team based in Abéché, made up of an ICRC surgeon, a Belgian Red Cross nurse and a Norwegian Red Cross anaesthetist, worked in the Abéché central hospital from 15 to 29 July, in co-operation with *Médecins sans frontières*. They treated about a hundred war wounded, mostly civilians, and also some combatants and prisoners of war. They carried out 58 surgical operations and reorganized the operating theatre. Another private organization then took over from the ICRC team. Before going to Abéché, the ICRC surgical team had worked at the N'Djamena central hospital treating combatants evacuated from Abéché.

The surgical team based in Faya was made up of a surgeon, two nurses and an anaesthetist, made available to the ICRC by the Belgian, Danish and Swedish Red Cross Societies, and an ICRC nurse. It arrived in Faya on 26 July, where an ICRC medical delegate had arrived a few days previously. The medical personnel had just settled into the civilian hospital when Faya was recaptured by the FANT. The ICRC immediately neutralized the hospital and offered its services for treating the civilian and military victims of the fighting. Between 30 July and 6 August, the surgical team carried out 84 operations. For humanitarian and safety reasons, the ICRC requested the Chad authorities to evacuate the wounded to the capital as soon as possible. The FANT evacuated its own wounded combatants.

A medical delegate and a nurse were included in the team of delegates which the ICRC sent to Bardai in November. They took part in visits to prisoners of war detained in the Tibesti region, where they also examined the state of health and nutrition of the civilian population, especially of children under five.

### Relief

During the first half of 1983, ICRC delegates visiting prisoners of war also distributed relief to them (clothing, mats, soap, cigarettes, packs of cards, kitchen equipment) for an amount of 14,300 Swiss francs. In addition, a few prisoners, on being released, received the fare for the journey home to their families. Food aid was also provided to some war wounded at N'Djamena hospital.

The prisoners of war in the Tibesti region, visited in November and December, were given blankets.

## Kinshasa regional delegation

The ICRC regional delegation in Kinshasa covers not only Zaire but also Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Congo, Gabon and Rwanda.

## Zaire

As in the past, the ICRC's main work in Zaire was protecting detainees. In addition, the ICRC attached great importance to its co-operation with the Zaire Red Cross, mainly for dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law.

### Protection

In 1983, ICRC delegates visited 149 persons detained for reasons of security, with whom they had 340 interviews without witness, some of the detainees being seen several times. These visits covered fifteen detention centres, i.e. seven prisons belonging to the Department of Justice (one in Kinshasa and the others in the provinces), the buildings of the CNRI (National Centre of Research and Investigation) in Kinshasa, and several places belonging to the Zaire armed forces in the capital. A total of 63 visits took place, mainly to places of detention run by military and security forces. As it had informed the Zaire authorities, the ICRC aimed, in 1983, to protect mainly persons detained on security grounds, making sure that it gained regular and frequent access to them. In Kinshasa, the ICRC was authorized to visit the buildings of the National Police Force and the Military Security Headquarters twice a month, the CNRI buildings once a month and the N'Dolo military prison every two months.

By a decree issued on 21 May, Zaire citizens sentenced or prosecuted for violating the security of the State were amnestied. Nevertheless, the ICRC informed the Zaire authorities that it wished to continue to have access to the military and security places of detention mentioned above. On 3 June, the ICRC President met President Mobutu Sese Seko in Switzerland. This interview made it possible to take stock of the protection work in Zaire.

Following the amnesty of 21 May, the ICRC no longer considered it necessary to visit the detention centres belonging to the Department of Justice, as it had received official notification of the release of the Zaire security detainees held there. On the other hand, it continued its visits to the detention centres belonging to the army and the security forces where, subsequently, new detainees were registered. However, it was no longer possible to visit the CNRI after the month of August.

The ICRC's protection work in Zaire had been the subject of a mission by the ICRC deputy delegate-general for Africa in April. He had had talks with the State Commissioner for Justice, the Chief of the general staff of the police force and the General Administrator of the CNRI.

### Assistance

Concomitantly with its protection work, the ICRC distributed relief to the detainees (individual medicaments where necessary, blankets, soap, etc.) and supplied the dispensaries

of the detention centres. Detainees' families and former detainees in need received food aid.

### Tracing Agency

The Kinshasa Tracing Agency registered the security detainees visited. It informed families of their relatives' detention and forwarded 363 Red Cross messages between the detainees and their families. Where foreign detainees were concerned, the Agency notified the embassies concerned. When dealing with official notifications of the transfer or release of detainees, the Kinshasa Agency verified the information by getting in touch with the former detainees or their families.

The Agency registered and processed requests from families to trace persons in Zaire or other countries. The Agency's subsidiary office in Aru, Upper Zaire, gave its attention to the Ugandan refugees who continued to flock into this region, after having, for the most part, passed through the Sudan. The Agency worked at restoring family ties in the region itself and with foreign countries. It processed 487 tracing requests submitted by the refugees themselves and by families in Uganda and the Sudan. The ICRC Tracing Agencies in Khartoum, Nairobi and Kampala helped in this work.

### Dissemination and information

In order to make the Red Cross movement, its basic principles and international humanitarian law better known, the Kinshasa delegation, in collaboration with the Zaire Red Cross, organized about fifty lectures, in 1983, for members of the Zaire Red Cross, the armed forces (officers and soldiers), schools and various other audiences.

In April, the Kinshasa delegation recruited by competition a number of persons for training as public lecturers on the principles and objectives of the movement in the national language. Eleven candidates were selected for a training course in Kinshasa from 9-30 July. The course was conducted by ICRC delegates and officials of the Zaire Red Cross. A similar course was organized in October in the Shaba region for 25 candidates. Several of the above-mentioned lectures were given in part by these new lecturers.

## Burundi

In three missions to Burundi — in February, September and November — talks were held with Mr. Ndikumusabo, Minister of Justice, Colonel Kazatsa, Minister of the Interior, and with other senior officials at the Ministries of Justice, the Interior, External Relations and Co-operation, and Defence. At the same time the ICRC took the opportunity to strengthen its ties with the Burundi Red Cross.

Following its visits to prisons in 1982, the ICRC made proposals to the Burundi authorities for restoring the

Rumonge central prison sanitary installations to working order through the building of a septic tank. It consequently sent two sanitary experts there, who worked for a whole month, in close co-operation with the authorities (especially with the Department of Prison Administration and Labour) in charge of supplying the manpower from among the detainees. In November, the ICRC regional delegate noted that the new sanitary system was working well.

Other subjects were discussed with the Burundi authorities and the National Society during these missions, including Burundi's possible accession to the 1977 Protocols, and dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law to the armed forces and university and government circles.

## Central African Republic

The ICRC Kinshasa-based regional delegate went in August to Bangui, in the Central African Republic, where he met officials of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Social Affairs, National Defence and the Interior, to whom he presented the role and activities of the ICRC and international humanitarian law.

This mission also made it possible to have talks with the provisional steering committee of the Central African Red Cross. The former steering committee had, in fact, been dissolved by presidential decree on 4 February 1983. The ICRC and the League had immediately approached the authorities, urging on them the need for the National Society to maintain its independence and continue its humanitarian activities according to the fundamental Red Cross principles. The ICRC regional delegate had been to Bangui also in February.

## Congo

The delegates based in Kinshasa went about ten times to the capital of the Congo to have talks with the authorities and the National Society. The main subjects discussed during these talks included the Congo's possible accession to the additional Protocols (and it did accede to them on 10 November) and dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law to the Congolese Red Cross and, with its support, to other circles, such as the armed forces, the university and the general public. Although the authorities and the National Society were favourably disposed to the planned dissemination campaign, nothing was really undertaken in 1983, except about ten lectures to leaders of the Congolese Red Cross, employees of the Foreign Affairs Ministry and students. The ICRC also reminded the authorities that it was prepared to carry out visits to prisons, the previous ones dating back to 1979.

## Gabon

There was a mission to Libreville, in Gabon, in August. Its purpose was to renew ties with the authorities and the Gabon Red Cross, as the last contacts dated back to 1975.

## Rwanda

Having received the consent of the Rwandan authorities to visit detention centres according to the customary norms, ICRC delegates went, in September and again in November, to twelve prisons in which there were 12,316 detainees. They registered 71 security detainees there and informed the embassies concerned of the 78 foreign citizens held in the centres visited. The delegates based in Kinshasa were joined for these visits by the delegate concerned with detention problems, a medical delegate and a sanitary expert from Geneva.

Through the Rwandan Red Cross, the ICRC distributed medical supplies, clothing, leisure articles and various tools and utensils in these detention centres. To improve the sanitary conditions of the prisons, the ICRC, in agreement with the Prison Administration, also had the Rwandan Red Cross distribute insecticides and had a water tank built for the Gitarama prison. In addition, it was agreed that sanitary installations should be provided or repaired in three of the twelve prisons visited. The total amount of ICRC aid in 1983 came to 55,350 Swiss francs.

ICRC delegates and Rwandan authorities, including the Minister of Justice, Mr. Nkurunziza, had several talks on protection work. In addition, once the first visits had ended, the ICRC President and the delegate-general for Africa exchanged views on this subject with General Juvenal Habyarimana, President of the Republic of Rwanda, when he was in Geneva, on 7 October.

ICRC delegates in Rwanda also promoted co-operation between the ICRC and the Rwandan Red Cross. Work sessions took place for organizing and developing the activities of the National Society to trace persons and to disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law.

## Lomé regional delegation

The ICRC regional delegation at Lomé resumed its activities in November 1982. Besides Togo, it also covers Benin, Cameroon, the Cape Verde Islands, the Ivory Coast, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Upper Volta, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal and Sierra Leone.

A regional delegate, a delegate in charge of the dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law and an administrator were based in Lomé.

The general aims of the Lomé regional delegation are:

- to establish and maintain relations with the governments and National Societies of the above-mentioned countries;
- to make known the ICRC's activities, especially its protection work;
- to remind States which have not already acceded to them of the existence of the Geneva Conventions and the additional Protocols;
- to promote the dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law amongst various groups with the aid of the National Societies;
- and lastly, to take part, with the League, in the development of the National Societies, especially in the fields of information and dissemination.

The Lomé regional delegation followed the problem of the deportation, in January, of foreign nationals from Nigeria. It supported the efforts of the National Societies of Ghana, Benin and Togo, which took in some of the deportees, and with the latter two examined how they were prepared to meet emergency situations.

## Togo

The Lomé regional delegation kept in constant touch with the Executive Committee of the Togo Red Cross. It was invited to take part in work sessions on the structure and activities of the National Society (especially the role of a National Society during armed conflicts) and on defining objectives for the period 1983-1986.

ICRC delegates gave lectures on the Red Cross movement and the Geneva Conventions to first-aiders of the National Society and to a group of teachers at a seminar organized by the Togo Red Cross. Other lectures were given, with the collaboration of the National Society, at the École Nationale de Police and to recruits at the École Nationale de Gendarmerie. The ICRC delegation got in touch with the university, armed forces and mass media concerning the dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law and of the principles of the Red Cross. It received the authorization of the Minister of Education to launch a dissemination campaign in colleges and the university.

## Benin

In 1983, about ten missions went to Benin, where the ICRC's main task was to disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law and of the principles and ideals of the Red Cross. The ICRC reminded the authorities of the 1977 Protocols to which Benin is not yet a party. It helped in developing the Benin Red Cross's information service and in drawing up its plan of action concerning information and dissemination for 1983-1984. Twenty-four members of the

local Red Cross sections of Cotonou and Porto Novo were selected for more intensive training in dissemination. ICRC delegates gave several lectures, illustrated with slides, to the staff of the National Society, on the Red Cross movement in general and, more specifically, on its work during conflicts.

The ICRC, in close collaboration with the Benin Red Cross, drew up the outline of a programme of dissemination amongst various groups (local mass media, university, training colleges), which was favourably received by the authorities. Once this had been agreed in principle, several work sessions with journalists took place to prepare an information and dissemination campaign for 1984 in the press and on radio and television. After talks with the Vice Rector of the Benin National University, and with the dean and several lecturers of the law faculty, the ICRC was informed that international humanitarian law would be introduced into the teaching programmes for the university year 1984. The director of the Cotonou Ecole Nationale de Police gave his consent to a series of lectures on the history of the Red Cross movement and international humanitarian law to be given to future policemen and trainee police officers and superintendents. These lectures, which were illustrated with slides, began in October and, by the end of the year, had been attended by 130 persons. A series of lectures was also begun in November for pupils of the Benin Medico-Social Institute.

In December, a mission was carried out with the aim of presenting the ICRC's work of protection of detainees to the Benin authorities. Talks took place with senior officials of the Ministries of Justice, the Interior and the Prison Service.

## Cape Verde Islands

The Lomé regional delegate carried out a mission to the Cape Verde Islands from 3 to 8 August, in order to visit (for the third time since 1982) persons sentenced for violating the security of the State and detained in Mindelo Prison on the island of Sao Vincente. Only one detainee remained, as the eleven others visited in September 1982 had been released in the meantime.

The ICRC delegate had the opportunity of presenting the Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols to the Chief of Staff of the armed forces and of suggesting that they be made known to the armed forces. A lecture was delivered to a score of officers of the armed forces and of the police.

## Ivory Coast

The Lomé regional delegate went to Abidjan, in the Ivory Coast, at the beginning of October, to join the ICRC delegation at the General Assembly of the Association of French-speaking African Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. In addition, he was in touch with the Ivory Coast Ministry of Defence with a view to the teaching of international humanitarian law to the armed forces.

## Gambia

The ICRC continued its efforts in Gambia to gain access to persons arrested following the abortive *coup d'état* of 29 July 1981. To that end, the Lomé regional delegate twice went to Banjul, in March and then in July. He had talks with Mr. A. A. Badji, the Minister of the Interior, in charge of security detainees, and with Mr. F. M'Bai, the Minister of Justice. The ICRC's offer of services was repeated. In July, the Gambian authorities, while not being opposed to a protection operation, nevertheless informed the ICRC that it would not authorize interviews with the detainees without witness until they had all been tried. Because of this condition, the ICRC did not visit the detainees.

In addition, the ICRC delegate urged the government to accede to the 1977 Protocols. He delivered lectures on international humanitarian law to police recruits and members of the Gambian Red Cross, and had meetings with leaders of the National Red Cross to take stock of the Society's information and dissemination activities.

## Ghana

As in 1982, the ICRC sought to gain access, in Ghana, to those detained after the *coup d'état* of 31 December 1981 and subsequent abortive *coups d'état*. The ICRC regional delegate went five times to Accra. He reminded the Ghana authorities of the ICRC's role and procedures in the protection of detainees and repeated the ICRC's offer of services. He had talks on this subject with the Ministers of the Interior, of Justice and of Foreign Affairs, with a member of the Provisory National Defence Committee, also President of the Prison Service Council, and with several other officials of that Council, set up by the Ghana authorities in September 1983. The ICRC delegate was assured that the offer of services would be examined, but the ICRC had received no reply to it by the end of 1983. Nevertheless, it was informed of the release of former President Limann and several members of his government.

In answer to an urgent request for aid by the authorities, the ICRC donated twelve units of medical equipment and some insecticides for distribution within the detention centres.

The missions to Ghana were occasions for discussions with leaders of the Ghana Red Cross on the Society's activities and the ICRC's contribution to their development. In addition, the ICRC delegate maintained contact with the armed forces and the university with a view to promoting knowledge of international humanitarian law among them.

## Guinea-Bissau

At the end of February a mission to Guinea-Bissau was undertaken, the main purpose being to resume contact with the authorities and the National Red Cross, as the previous

ICRC mission there had been in 1975. The Lomé regional delegate had interviews with Mr. Victor Saude Maria, the Prime Minister, Mr. Samba Lamine Mané, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Nicandro Pereira Barreto, Attorney General, Colonel Juan da Silva, Chief of Staff, and the leaders of the local Red Cross. The subjects discussed were the ICRC's protection work, the dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law in the armed forces, the possible accession of Guinea-Bissau to the 1977 Protocols and ICRC involvement in the development of the Red Cross Society's activities.

## Upper Volta

The main purpose of the mission to Ouagadougou, in Upper Volta, in May, was to explain the ICRC's protection work to the authorities and to request access to persons detained on account of the events which had left their mark on the country since 1981. However, on 27 May, the Head of State proclaimed an amnesty for all political detainees.

In addition, this mission aimed at strengthening ties with the Upper Volta Red Cross and at studying with it the means of developing its information programme. Discussions with officers in the armed forces and police force focused on introducing instruction on the Geneva Conventions into the military teaching programmes. During an interview with the rector of the university an assessment was made of current teaching of international humanitarian law at university level.

## Liberia

The Lomé regional delegate stayed in Monrovia, from 12 to 20 June, at the invitation of the Liberian Red Cross, with the executive committee of which he took stock of that Society's various activities and helped in defining its aims, especially assistance to prisons and information.

Several interviews also took place with Liberian authorities, including the Ministers of Justice, Foreign Affairs, Defence, Information, Agriculture, Health and Social Welfare. They were reminded of the importance of the 1977 Protocols, with a view to Liberia's accession to those instruments. Relations were also established with the armed forces and university in order to promote knowledge of international humanitarian law.

## Senegal

Several journeys were made from Lomé to Dakar in order to lay the foundation for collaboration with the Senegal Red Cross and finalize with it a programme for the dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law.

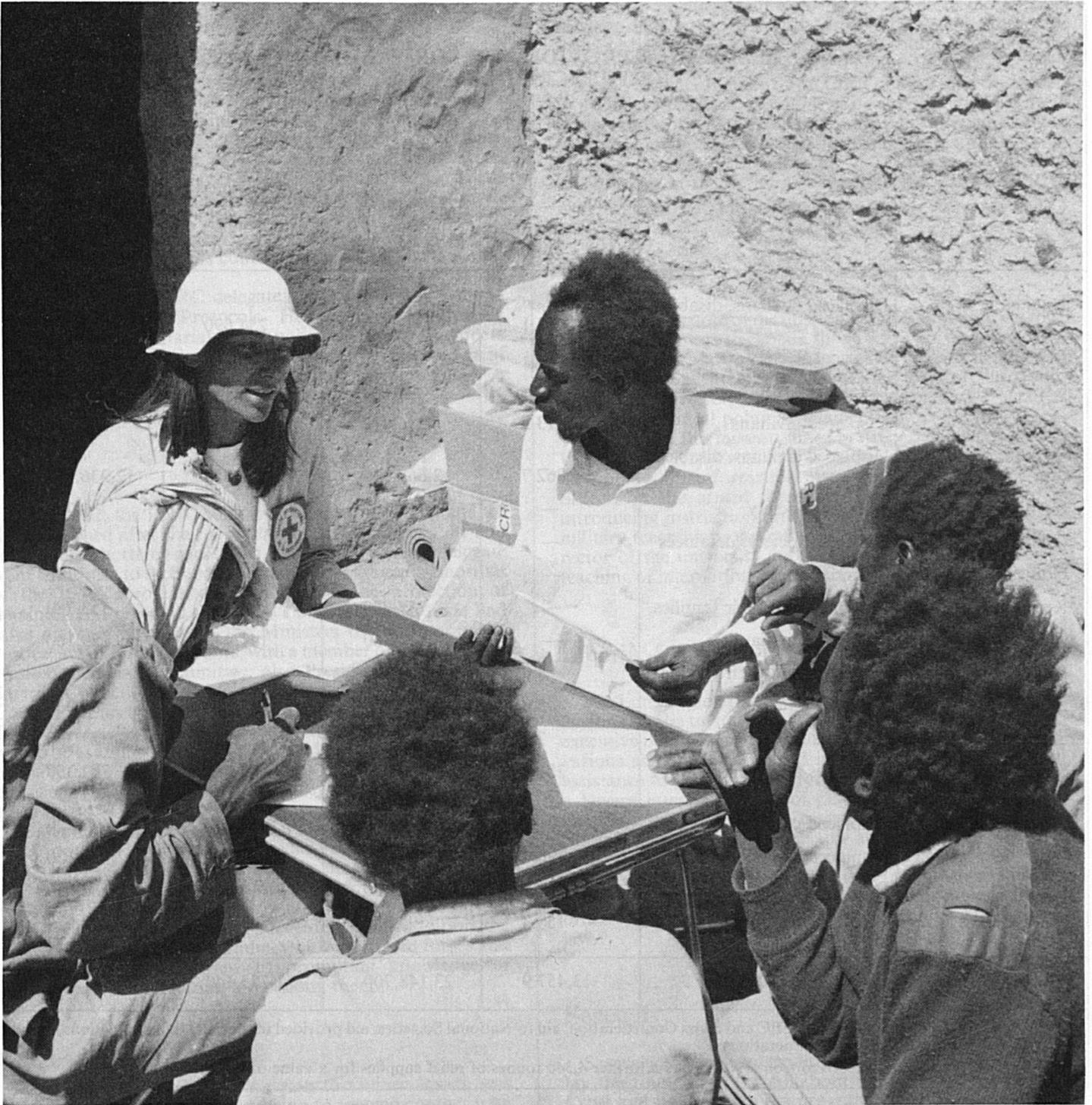
**ASSISTANCE PROVIDED OR FORWARDED  
BY THE ICRC IN 1983 \***

*AFRICA*

Country	Beneficiaries	Relief		Medical Assistance	Total Sw. fr.
		Tonnage	Value in Sw. fr.	Value in Sw. fr.	
Angola . . . . .	Displaced civilians, disabled persons	**63.1	1,167,760	254,690	1,422,450
Benin . . . . .	National Society	—	1,010	—	1,010
Cape Verde . . . . .	Detainees	—	180	—	180
Chad . . . . .	Displaced civilians	13.2	296,010	210,960	506,970
Ethiopia . . . . .	Displaced civilians, disabled persons	6,862.7	12,668,830	267,550	12,936,380
Gambia . . . . .	National Society	—	1,750	—	1,750
Ghana . . . . .	National Society, detainees	—	—	3,600	3,600
Guinea-Bissau . . . . .	National Society	—	—	100	100
Kenya . . . . .	Detainees and their families	—	39,270	14,510	53,780
Mozambique. . . . .	Displaced civilians	—	17,160	141,940	159,100
Namibia . . . . .	Detainees and their families	8.9	59,750	—	59,750
Rwanda . . . . .	Detainees	5.0	32,650	22,700	55,350
Somalia . . . . .	Prisoners of war	3.1	16,170	7,210	23,380
South Africa . . . . .	Detainees and their families	251.4	702,350	—	702,350
Sudan (conflict in Eritrea and Tigre)	Displaced civilians	4,401.0	6,020,900	469,330	6,490,230
Uganda. . . . .	Displaced civilians	1,796.0	1,937,600	182,550	2,120,150
Zaire . . . . .	Detainees and their families	3.2	92,430	14,260	106,690
Zimbabwe . . . . .	Displaced civilians	50.3	94,880	143,740	238,620
<b>TOTAL . . . . .</b>		<b>13,457.9</b>	<b>23,148,700</b>	<b>1,733,140</b>	<b>24,881,840</b>

\* Includes food assistance from the EEC and Swiss Confederation, aid to National Societies, aid provided in specially financed actions, and aid financed by funds for relief operations.

\*\* The civilian population received from 1982 stocks a further 4,340 tonnes of relief supplies for a value of 6,284,000 Sw.fr.



*Registering prisoners of war and filling in their capture cards in the Tibesti region (Chad) (Photo ICRC)*