

Publications and information

Objekttyp: **Group**

Zeitschrift: **Annual report / International Committee of the Red Cross**

Band (Jahr): **- (1953)**

PDF erstellt am: **25.04.2024**

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Inhalten der Zeitschriften. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern.

Die auf der Plattform e-periodica veröffentlichten Dokumente stehen für nicht-kommerzielle Zwecke in Lehre und Forschung sowie für die private Nutzung frei zur Verfügung. Einzelne Dateien oder Ausdrucke aus diesem Angebot können zusammen mit diesen Nutzungsbedingungen und den korrekten Herkunftsbezeichnungen weitergegeben werden.

Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. Die systematische Speicherung von Teilen des elektronischen Angebots auf anderen Servern bedarf ebenfalls des schriftlichen Einverständnisses der Rechteinhaber.

Haftungsausschluss

Alle Angaben erfolgen ohne Gewähr für Vollständigkeit oder Richtigkeit. Es wird keine Haftung übernommen für Schäden durch die Verwendung von Informationen aus diesem Online-Angebot oder durch das Fehlen von Informationen. Dies gilt auch für Inhalte Dritter, die über dieses Angebot zugänglich sind.

Commission on Migrations (ICCM) and the relief agencies mentioned on page 27.

In particular; the ICRC submitted a memorandum on the subject of the ratification of the Geneva Conventions to the associations meeting in Geneva, in July 1953, under the auspices of the International Union for Child Welfare. The associations were the Young Men's Christian Association, Young Women's Christian Association, Associated Country Women of the World, International Catholic Childhood Office, World Jewish Congress, International Council of Women, World Council of Churches International Co-operative Women's Guild, International Union of Catholic Women's Leagues and the League of Red Cross Societies.

IV. — PUBLICATIONS AND INFORMATION

1. PUBLIC INTEREST IN THE WORK OF THE ICRC

As indicated in former reports, the ICRC replied to a steady flow of enquiries concerning its general work and on special aspects of its activities, emanating from the most varied official or private sources. The requests for information greatly increased during the past year ¹. When replying, extensive documentation was circulated concerning the history of the Red Cross, the origin, statutes and work of the ICRC, the drawing up and implementing of the Geneva Conventions, relations with National Red Cross Societies and various organisations concerned with humanitarian problems, emphasis being laid, in each case, on the principles which inspire the work of the ICRC.

2. REVUE INTERNATIONALE DE LA CROIX-ROUGE

The *Revue* is the official organ of the ICRC and incorporates the International Bulletin of the Red Cross Societies (founded in 1869 by decision of the IInd International Red Cross Conference).

¹ The number of visitors for 1953 was greater than in previous years. Some days as many as ten visits of the Central Prisoners of War Agency had to be organised.

The issue for December gives a table of articles which appeared during the year in the *Revue* (thirty-fifth year) and the Bulletin (eighty-fourth year).

The main articles, dealing with traditional activities and fundamental principles of the ICRC, and with humanitarian law, were translated and published in the English, German and Spanish supplements to the *Revue*. The table of contents for the Supplements also appears in the December number.

The ICRC also published a special number in Arabic.

The fundamental principles of the Red Cross are an integral part of a vast movement of thought and action ; the *Revue* has endeavoured to show this. In 1951 it began the publication of studies contributed by scholars, professors and thinkers. This effort, which was intended to bring out in the philosophies of Moslem countries, India and the Far East the importance of the idea of disinterested aid to the suffering, whether friend or foe, was continued in 1952 and 1953. Several leading personalities from the intellectual world of the East responded favourably to the *Revue's* appeal. In the future the latter would particularly like, also in this connection, to secure relations with National Red Cross Societies who would be willing in contributing articles on points of doctrine or history, to help in the study of these general problems which are of greater interest today than ever before.

The *Revue* also published juridical analyses concerning the new Geneva Conventions and articles on " La Croix-Rouge et la paix ". A number of those editorials have been reprinted in the publications of National Red Cross Societies during the past months.

3. LECTURES

Reference has already been made in this report to the series of lectures at the Academy of International Law, The Hague, as well as to addresses, speeches and messages of the President of the ICRC.

MM. F. Siordet, R. Olgiati and Dr. Junod, Members of the Committee gave lectures describing the work of the ICRC and

the International Red Cross, and giving analyses of some of the provisions of the Geneva Conventions. M. R. Bovey, Head of the Information Department, gave some twenty lectures on the work of the ICRC.

4. FILMS AND PHOTOGRAPHS

The supplying of information by means of films and photographs was widely practised.

The ICRC films *Inter arma caritas*, *Homeless in Palestine* and *Brothers all* were lent by request to several National Red Cross Societies.

A great many photographs were supplied for the daily and weekly Press, and for publications of National Red Cross Societies.

5. BROADCASTING

(a) International Red Cross Broadcast.

The fourth International Red Cross Broadcast, *A Century later under the same Flag*, was made by Radio-Genève on May 8, in conjunction with the ICRC, the League of Red Cross Societies and the European Broadcasting Union.

France, Belgium, Monaco, Luxemburg, Italy, Germany, Austria, the Netherlands, Greece, Yugoslavia, Radio-Maroc, Radio-Alger, Radio-Tunis, Radio Fort-de-France (West Indies), France-Asie (Saigon), Canada, Australia and Japan shared in the broadcast, which included moving messages from H. M. Queen Juliana of the Netherlands, Dr. Albert Schweitzer and the Australian, Canadian and Japanese Red Cross Societies.

(b) Relations with national Broadcasting Corporations.

The Broadcasting Section of the ICRC remained in touch with the Radio-Genève *Bureau des activités humanitaires*. A representative of the ICRC was present at the Broadcasting Conference in Monte Carlo, in contact with the competent

UNESCO services, the French Radio and Television Service and the British Broadcasting Corporation.

Radio broadcasts were given by the President of the ICRC, General Guisan, E. Nobs and R. Olgiati, Members of the ICRC, J. de Rueda and M. Wolf, Counsellors of the ICRC, R. Bovey, G. Kuhne, J. de Reynier and M. Borsinger.

During the year 117 broadcasts were given by the ICRC in French, 59 in German and 52 in English; 28 features in Spanish were given by M. J. de Rueda, emphasising the International Committee's relations with National Societies of Spanish-speaking countries and 9 broadcasts were made in Italian; i.e. a total of 265 different broadcasts throughout the year.

For all work in this connection the ICRC remained in close contact with MM. René Dovaz, Director of Radio-Genève, Rodolphe de Reding, Legal Adviser to the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation and Paul Borsinger, Director of the Swiss Short-Wave Service, all of whom act as advisers to the ICRC for broadcasting matters.

6. INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS DAY

In addition to the International Red Cross Broadcast above-mentioned, important celebrations were held on May 8, the *International Red Cross Day*, which co-incided with the 125th anniversary of Henry Dunant's birth.

In response to the speech of the President of the ICRC innumerable tokens of regard for the work of the Red Cross were received, in particular from the laureates of the Nobel Peace Prize, first awarded to Henry Dunant in 1901—and later awarded on two occasions to the ICRC, in 1917 and 1945—members of Governments, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and directors of international organisations. The celebrations, which gave numerous personalities the opportunity of affirming their faith in the Red Cross movement, were held in the majority of the American, Asian, Australiasian and European countries. The following is an extract from the speech of Dr. Raginda Prasad, President of the Republic of India :

The celebration of the *International Red Cross Day* on May 8th, to mark the 125th birth anniversary of Henry Dunant, the illustrious founder of the Red Cross, has a special significance for a country like India which is pledged to a policy of peace, international goodwill and co-operation. The work of this unique institution for the promotion of health, the prevention of disease and the mitigation of suffering, uninfluenced by political, racial or religious considerations, is of great value to humanity and is worthy of universal respect and support.

During an impressive ceremony organised in Berne, on May 8, by the Swiss Red Cross Society, M. Max Petitpierre, Federal Councillor, Head of the Political Department, spoke in honour of the memory of the promoter of the Red Cross movement and the initiator of the Geneva Convention ; M. Max Huber, Honorary President of the ICRC, also gave a comprehensive survey on *the idea of the Red Cross* ; the federal and cantonal authorities, and members of the Diplomatic Corps, were also present at the ceremony.

On the same date a message from the Young Men's Christian Association to the ICRC laid stress on " the prophetic vision, hope and faith of Henry Dunant, co-promoter of the two institutions ".

In Woudschoten near Utrecht (Holland), in consequence of a gift of the Austrian people to the Netherlands Red Cross Society, and in conjunction with the Austrian Red Cross Society, a statue of Henry Dunant was inaugurated at a youth centre dedicated to his memory. Extracts are given in the *Revue internationale de la Croix-Rouge* (November 1953) of the addresses given on the occasion by M. van Tuyll van Sijpen, Chairman of the Netherlands Red Cross Society, General Wilkens, Inspector of the Army Medical Service, Vice-Chairman of the Netherlands Red Cross Society, M. Burghard Breiten, Chairman of the Austrian Red Cross Society, and M. Jean Pictet, Director for General Affairs, who represented the ICRC at the inauguration ceremony.

In the United Kingdom the life and work of Henry Dunant inspired a very fine book by Miss Ellen Hart, of which the publication co-incided with the 125th anniversary of his birth, and which has met with a most favourable welcome in English-speaking countries.

7. EXHIBITIONS

(a) Geneva.

In May 1953 the ICRC and the League of Red Cross Societies, in conjunction with the Geneva Branch of the Swiss Red Cross Society and the Geneva University Public Library, exhibited a great many documents on the universal work of the Red Cross at the Geneva Grand Théâtre. The public showed a lively interest in the exhibition.

(b) Zurich.

In October an important exhibition under the title "90 years of the Red Cross" was organised in Zurich by the Grands Magasins Jelmoli. The planning of the exhibition (no doubt on the largest scale ever attempted for the purpose) was due to the writer and publicist Arnold Kubler, who presented a clear and living image of the ideal and achievements of the Red Cross. Documents relating to the past, manuscripts, illustrations and photographic enlargements brought to life the institution's precursors and founders, recalled the innumerable negotiations which finally led to the signature of the first Geneva Convention and gave an outline of the development of relief work of the ICRC and National Red Cross Societies in favour of war victims.

The Swiss Red Cross Society had been requested to demonstrate the activities of a National Society at the present day. Further, a diagram of relief action on behalf of victims of recent earthquakes in Greece showed the extent of the League's action in that field.

The opening ceremony, attended by M. Max Huber, Honorary President, and M. Martin Bodmer, Member, of the ICRC, and representatives of the League and the Swiss Red Cross Society, took place in the city of Henry Dunant's last resting place, in the presence of leading members of the Government, numerous Swiss and foreign personalities, and a delegation of women from Solferino, the descendants of those who were present when the promoter of the Red Cross helped the wounded and dying on the battle-field.

8. PUBLICATIONS OF THE ICRC ¹

440. — **The Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949.** Commentary published under the general editorship of *Jean S. Pictet*. I. Geneva Convention for the amelioration of the condition of the wounded and sick in armed forces in the field — Geneva, 1953 (English version).

441 & 442. — **The Geneva Conventions of 1949.** The Question of Scrutiny by *F. Siordet* (French, English) — Geneva, 1953.

443 to 445. — **Report on the Work of the International Committee of the Red Cross** (January 1 to December 3, 1952 (French, English, Spanish).

446. — **The International Committee of the Red Cross** — Geneva, February 1953, translation in Korean.

447 to 449. — **The Idea of the Red Cross**, by *Max Huber*, Honorary President of the ICRC — Geneva, 1953 (French, English, Spanish).

450 & 451. — **The Doctor in the Geneva Conventions of 1949** — Geneva, 1953, by *J. Schoenholzer* (French, English).

452 to 454. — **Commission of Experts for the Examination of the Question of Assistance to Political Detainees** (Geneva, June 9-11, 1953) — Geneva, 1953 (French, English, Spanish).

455 to 458. — **Medical Personnel assigned to the care of the wounded and sick in the armed forces.** (Training, Duties, Status and Terms of Enrolment) — Geneva, 1953. *Lucie Odier* (French, English, Spanish and German).

459 to 462. — **Civilian Hospitals and their Personnel.** *O. Uhler* — Geneva, 1953 (French, English, Spanish and German).

463 & 464. — **Can the status of prisoners of war be altered?** *R.-J. Wilhelm* — Geneva, 1953 (French, English).

¹The numbers preceding the titles of the publications refer to the ICRC Catalogue.

465. — **The universal movement of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent** — Geneva; International Committee of the Red Cross. Booklet in Arabic.

466. — **The Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949. Brief Summary for Military Personnel and the Public** — Geneva, 1953. Booklet in Arabic.

C. L. 64 & 65. — **Handbook of the International Red Cross.** Tenth Edition. Joint publication of the ICRC and the League of Red Cross Societies. Geneva, 1953 (French and English).
