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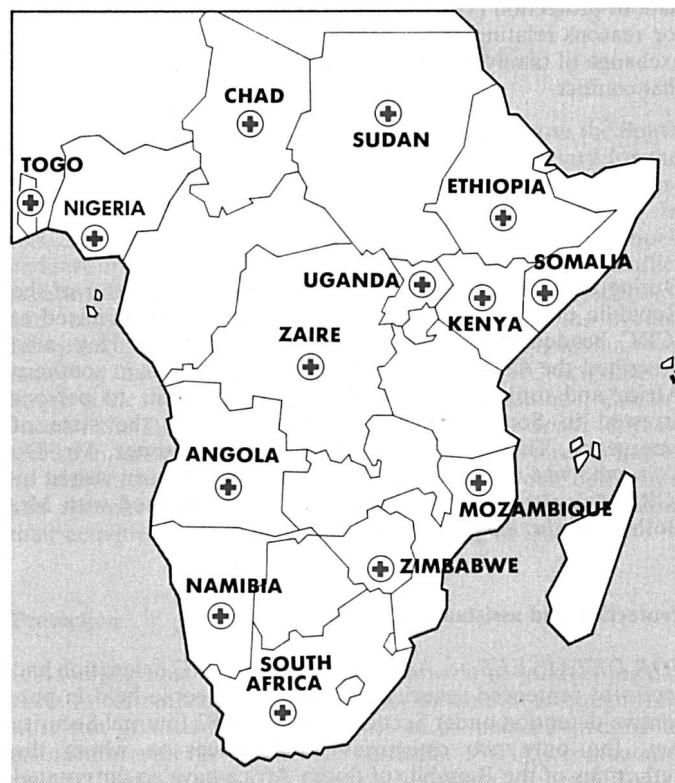
AFRICA

In 1986, Africa continued to be the scene of numerous armed conflicts, internal disturbances and tensions. As a result, the ICRC was obliged to deploy almost half of its staff on the continent, i.e. some 200 delegates and more than a thousand local employees, in nine delegations (Addis Ababa, Kampala, Khartoum, Luanda, Maputo, Mogadishu, N'Djamena, Pretoria and Windhoek) and five regional delegations (Harare, Kinshasa, Lagos, Lomé and Nairobi).

Through its 14 delegations, the ICRC was able to provide regular protection and assistance for hundreds of thousands of victims of conflicts on the African continent; the cost of these activities in 1986 was estimated at 270 million Swiss francs.

In view of the balance available from the previous period (1985) (424,000 Swiss francs) and the value of donations in kind (91,652,000 Swiss francs), the ICRC launched an appeal to raise 178,166,000 Swiss francs. In response to this appeal, by 31 December 1986 the ICRC had received 135,010,000 Swiss francs in cash and 39,661,000 Swiss francs in kind and services from governments, the European Economic Community (EEC), the World Food Programme (WFP), various other organizations and National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

The position adopted by the African States represented at the Organization of African Unity (OAU) summit meeting in Addis Ababa on 25 July, when the forty-fourth ordinary session of the OAU Council of Ministers unanimously adopted a resolution supporting the ICRC, was a considerable encouragement for the Committee.



oners and their families with as effective assistance and protection as possible were temporarily interrupted when, on 28 October, the South African authorities requested the ICRC to withdraw its delegation from the country by 30 November at the latest. This measure was taken in reaction to the decision by the Twenty-fifth International Conference of the Red Cross to suspend the South African government delegation from participating in the Conference (*see the section on "Co-operation within the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement" in this report*). The ICRC immediately made a series of representations, both to the Permanent Mission of South Africa in Geneva and to the authorities in Pretoria, which the delegate-general for Africa visited in mid-November. The South African authorities finally revoked their decision, informing the ICRC on 26 November that they had reconsidered their position and that ICRC delegates could remain in the country. The ICRC took note with satisfaction and endeavoured to build up its delegation in South Africa again during the last month of the year in order to resume all its activities in the country in early 1987.

Southern Africa

SOUTH AFRICA

Greatly concerned by the internal disturbances prevailing in South Africa, the ICRC, invoking its statutory right of initiative, made further representations to the government in Pretoria in an attempt to discharge the duties assigned to it in such circumstances (visits to persons arrested in connection with the state of emergency and detainees held for questioning; assistance and protection for people affected by the disturbances).

The deterioration of the situation also prompted the ICRC to increase its presence in the black urban communities and its collaboration with and support for the South African Red Cross. However, its efforts to keep a close watch on the situation in the "townships" and provide victims of the disturbances and pris-

In connection with the continuing armed clashes in northern Namibia between South African forces and combatants from SWAPO (South West Africa People's Organization), the ICRC continued its negotiations with the South African government, seeking an agreement that would enable it to discharge its mandate of protection (visits to all persons imprisoned and interned for reasons relating to the conflict, tracing of missing persons, exchange of family messages) and of assistance to the victims of that conflict.

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During a stop-over in Switzerland the Foreign Minister of the Republic of South Africa, Mr. R. F. Botha, was received at ICRC headquarters on 14 February by President Hay, who described the Committee's activities and concerns in southern Africa and took up the problem of ICRC visits to persons arrested in South Africa in connection with the state of emergency. The case of the South African prisoner, Mr. Du Toit, who was detained in Luanda and had just been visited by ICRC delegates on 5 February, was also discussed with Mr. Botha (*see also the section on Angola*).

Protection and assistance activities

FOR DETAINEES. — As in the past, the ICRC delegation had access to sentenced security prisoners and people held in preventive detention under Section 28 of the 1982 Internal Security Act, the only two categories of detainees to whom the authorities of the Republic of South Africa have so far granted the ICRC access.

As it has done every year since 1969, the ICRC thus carried out an annual series of visits: between 8 and 25 September, five delegates including a doctor from Geneva went to seven places of detention, where they met 304 security prisoners. At the end of this series of visits, the detainees were provided with material assistance worth 14,000 Swiss francs.

In addition to its protection work, the ICRC continued its assistance programme on behalf of former security detainees and security detainees' families in need. Some 200 families benefited from this assistance operation every month. Relief supplies worth 82,460 Swiss francs were provided in the form of food parcels and blankets. The ICRC also paid travel expenses for people visiting close relatives in detention (a total of 237,580 Swiss francs), as well as financing medical treatment.

— The state of emergency proclaimed on 21 July 1985 was lifted on 7 March 1986 without any favourable reply from the South African authorities to the ICRC's repeated requests for permission to visit all persons arrested for security reasons. On 10 April the Pretoria delegation received a negative reply from

the South African authorities to the ICRC's request for access to persons sentenced for public violence in connection with the internal unrest.

— On 13 June, the day after proclamation by President Botha of the new general state of emergency, the head of the Pretoria delegation submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for the attention of the competent authorities, a further offer of services for visits to persons arrested in this connection. During his mission to South Africa the Director of Operations, Mr. Pasquier, discussed this subject with the Minister of Justice, Mr. H. J. Coetzee and the Minister of Law and Order, Mr. L. Le Grange, on 8 and 9 September respectively. The latter Minister confirmed to the ICRC representative that for the time being the South African government's negative reply concerning ICRC access to persons detained on account of the state of emergency remained unchanged.

— As in previous years, the Pretoria delegation also took care of security detainees in **Venda, Ciskei, Bophutatswana and Transkei**. In Ciskei, 14 sentenced security prisoners at Middeldrift prison were visited for the second time on 1 and 2 September. On 3 September, delegates visited two security prisoners in Venda.

ON BEHALF OF THE BLACK COMMUNITIES IN THE "TOWNSHIPS". — In view of the intensifying internal disturbances, the size of the ICRC delegation was gradually increased, rising from four delegates in mid-1985 to 20 one year later. These delegates, together with their South African field officers, were active not only in Pretoria but also in the Cape Province, Orange Free State, Port Elizabeth, East London, Durban, northern and southern Transvaal where they strove to develop contact with the population in the "townships", the regional authorities and sections of the Red Cross Society.

From June 1985 onwards, the Pretoria delegation began to contact the Ministry of Foreign Affairs each time it received reliable, corroborated reports of excessive acts committed by the security forces in the "townships". The police agreed to receive these reports from the ICRC. In addition, in May 1986 the police department placed a liaison officer at the delegation's disposal and as of July ICRC delegates were authorized to make direct contact with police officials in the various provinces.

ON BEHALF OF REFUGEES FROM MOZAMBIQUE. — The ICRC delegation in Pretoria continued to provide supplementary assistance to Mozambican refugees who had fled from certain troubled regions in Mozambique to Gazankulu and KaNgwane. In Gazankulu, the ICRC pursued the operation undertaken in 1985, supplying, in collaboration with a number of local voluntary agencies, supplementary aid to over 15,000 beneficiaries (regular distributions of food, soap and essential items to new arrivals).

In KaNgwane, the ICRC began organizing and co-ordinating assistance and protection work for refugees with effect from May 1986 (approximately 2,500 beneficiaries).

Tracing Agency

In co-operation with the South African Red Cross Society, the Pretoria delegation dealt with around one hundred tracing requests and requests for repatriation, transfers and the reuniting of families: 31 family messages were exchanged during the year.

Dissemination and co-operation with the National Society

At the end of 1985 the South African Red Cross, with support from the ICRC, launched a programme of action to expand its activities in the "townships" and make the Red Cross better known there. This project necessitated the recruitment of "community organizers" from within the "townships" themselves. After a training course organized jointly by the ICRC and the National Society, the community organizers were subsequently posted in the black communities with a mandate to identify needs in areas covered by Red Cross activities, take the necessary steps to meet those needs, disseminate knowledge of the principles of the Red Cross and promote the extension of humanitarian activities and the establishment of local sections. A first training course lasting four weeks was held in January, followed by a second in April, with the result that 46 such organizers had taken up their duties throughout the country in May.

— On 18 February, during the disturbances in the "township" of Alexandra, the South Transvaal branch of the South African Red Cross was able to provide victims with emergency medical assistance, thereby implementing ICRC recommendations.

— On 18 May, serious incidents occurred at Crossroads in the Cape Province. Under the programme to expand the National Society's activities in the "townships", the South African Red Cross, with ICRC support, immediately organized emergency medical relief (evacuation of the wounded, establishment of first-aid posts) and provided assistance to victims of the events (distribution of foodstuffs and 15,000 blankets, erection of 200 large tents to provide temporary accommodation for the homeless).

— In Soweto, again with ICRC support, the South Transvaal Red Cross set up about a dozen first-aid and ambulance posts to be able to cope with needs should disturbances flare up again.

Throughout the year, during their missions to the "townships" and the "homelands", delegates explained the role and work of the ICRC as well as the Movement's guiding principles.

Finally, the ICRC drew up a joint programme with the National Society for the dissemination of international humanitarian law within the South African army.

NAMIBIA/SOUTH WEST AFRICA

The military operations which continued to oppose the South African forces and SWAPO in 1986 made it necessary for the ICRC to continue its protection and assistance for security prisoners held in Namibia and civilians affected by the conflict. In this context, the ICRC delegation based in Windhoek endeavoured to maintain a constant presence in the conflict area in the north of the country, particularly in Ovamboland, and to help the population there suffering from the events. However, these plans to step up work in northern Namibia were indirectly hampered by the suspension of ICRC activities in South Africa following the Twenty-fifth International Conference of the Red Cross (*see also the section on South Africa*). Unlike in South Africa, where the delegation had already had to be withdrawn, the infrastructure of the Windhoek delegation had remained intact and delegates were thus able to resume their activities in the field from the beginning of December.

Protection

As in previous years, delegates were able to conduct regular visits to certain categories of security detainees, although they were not granted systematic access to all persons arrested in connection with the conflict (in particular SWAPO combatants captured bearing arms). In January, May and October delegates had access to a total of six detainees arrested under Decree No. 26 issued by the Administrator General (AG 26), who were released in April, to sentenced security prisoners and to certain others awaiting trial, in Windhoek and Gobabis prisons.

In view of the increase in the number of persons arrested under Decree No. 9 issued by the Administrator General (AG 9) on 26 November 1985 the ICRC had repeated its request for unrestricted access to persons arrested under AG 9, as well as those detained under section 12B of the 1950 Internal Security Act. By a note dated 24 June 1986, the authorities in Windhoek again refused to accede to this request.

At the same time, again without success, the delegates continued making representations, both in Windhoek and Pretoria, to obtain access to all security prisoners, including detainees under interrogation.

Tracing Agency

In 1986, the Tracing Agency in the Windhoek delegation received 461 requests concerning tracing, repatriation and fam-

ily reunification. Of these, 385 related to the conflict with Angola; 162 cases were resolved and 481 family messages were exchanged through the delegation, 415 of them with Angola.

Assistance

The ICRC continued its aid programme for the families of detainees and recently released detainees along the lines of a similar operation undertaken in South Africa.

In the north of the country (Ovambo, Kavango, Kaokoland and Caprivi), supplementary food assistance continued to be provided through hospitals and mission dispensaries, chiefly for undernourished children in Kavango and Caprivi.

In Ovamboland, foodstuffs were distributed on a monthly basis to civilians directly affected by the conflict (persons injured by mines, needy families of prisoners, etc.), in collaboration with the Department of Health.

In July, an ICRC medical delegate took part in a survey in the north of the country which confirmed the need to step up medical aid, especially in Ovambo. However, implementation of the scheduled projects was delayed until the beginning of 1987 due to the suspension of the delegation's activities from late October to late November.

Dissemination

ICRC delegates gave many lectures, frequently illustrated by films, in schools, hospitals and police stations throughout the country and supported the National Society's projects for greater dissemination of international humanitarian law.

ANGOLA

The ICRC continued its programmes of assistance for the civilian population affected by the conflict in the central highland provinces of Huambo, Bié and Benguela (Planalto), where government forces are operating against UNITA (Union for the Total Independence of Angola) armed forces.

As in previous years, the ICRC also endeavoured to carry out the protection tasks assigned to it by the Geneva Conventions in connection with the sporadic clashes in southern Angola on the border with Namibia, between South African forces and combatants of the FAPLA (Angolan army) and SWAPO.

In spite of interruptions due not only to seasonal fluctuations but also to poor security conditions and certain difficulties with the regional authorities, an average of some 190,500 persons benefited each month from the assistance programmes undertaken on the Planalto in 1986. Delegates kept in steady contact

with the regional and central authorities to inform them of ICRC activities in the field and of any problems encountered, the main issue being regular access to towns in Huambo. This matter was raised, in particular, in discussions between the President of the ICRC and the Director of Operations with the Angolan head of state, Mr. Dos Santos, during the summit meeting of the Non-Aligned Countries in Harare (Zimbabwe) at the beginning of September.

The Angola Red Cross, which was officially recognized on 1 October 1986 (see also the section on "Co-operation within the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement"), regularly participated in ICRC assistance, tracing and dissemination work.

At the end of 1986, the ICRC delegation in Angola consisted of 43 persons, attached to the Luanda delegation and the sub-delegations in Huambo, Kuito and Lobito. There were 470 locally recruited employees.

Finally, the ICRC was assisted during 1986 by 24 professionals (doctors, nurses, relief workers, sanitary engineers, etc.) made available by the National Red Cross Societies of the Federal Republic of Germany, France, the Netherlands, Denmark, Belgium, Sweden, Portugal, Canada, Austria, Finland and Ireland.

Protection

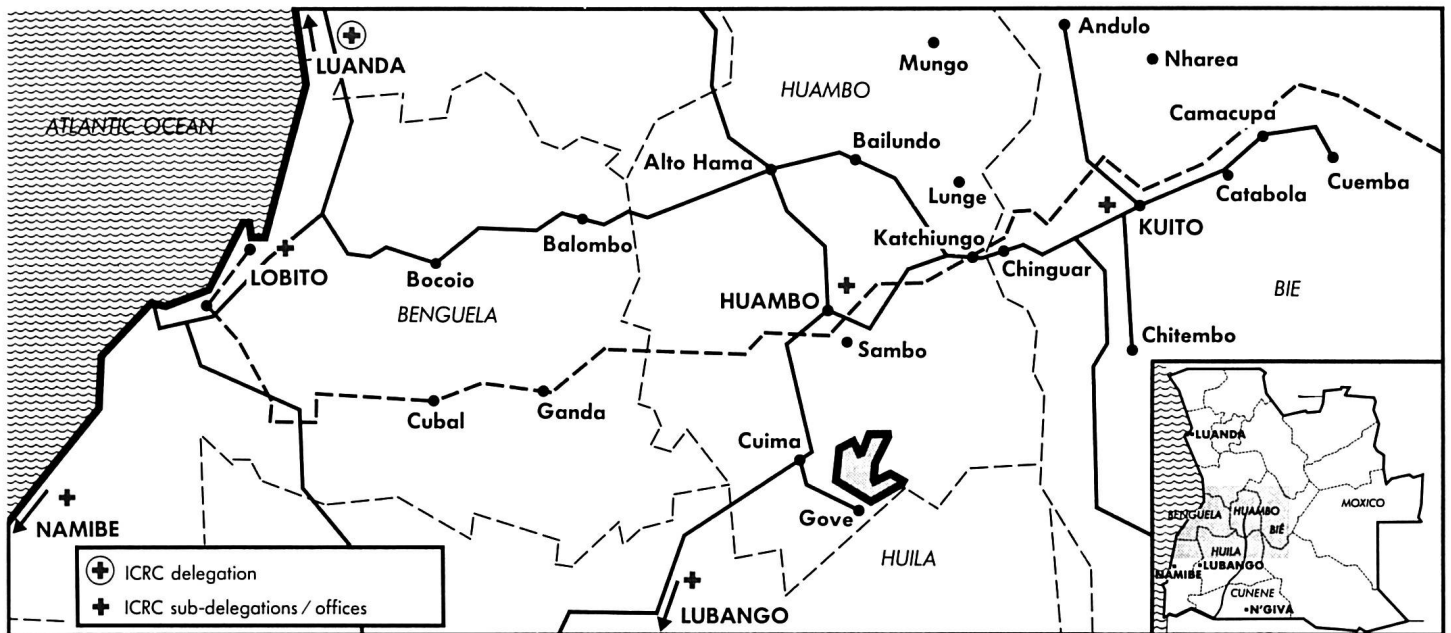
In connection with the international conflict primarily affecting the south of the country, on two occasions (5 February and 15 November) the ICRC visited a South African captain captured by the Angolan forces in May 1985 in Cabinda province. However, despite the delegation's requests and contrary to the provisions of the Third Geneva Convention, the delegates were not allowed to see the prisoner in his usual place of detention, as he had been transferred for the visits to another location in Luanda.

The question of extending ICRC visits to other persons of Angolan or foreign nationality detained under the State security law was again raised several times with the Angolan government in 1986. At the end of the year, the Angolan government had not yet replied to the ICRC.

The Angolan authorities, including the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Van Dunem M'Binda, during talks with the head of delegation on 17 November, were also reminded that the ICRC remains willing to continue acting as a neutral intermediary between Angola and South Africa, with a view for instance to the possible release of prisoners.

Tracing Agency

The ICRC Tracing Agency in Angola continued its activities, frequently in close collaboration with the Angola Red Cross. Its efforts to restore family ties between Angolan refugees who



have lived for many years in Namibia and their families still in Angola bore fruit, on 7 October, when seven Angolan refugees were repatriated with the help of the Windhoek, Pretoria and Harare delegations.

In co-operation with the National Society, the Tracing Agency delegate was able to travel to provinces not covered by the ICRC's activities, visiting Uige and Menongue (Cuanda-Cubango province).

In 1986, the ICRC Tracing Agency office in Angola received 1,112 requests (843 tracing requests, 268 requests for family reuniting and one for repatriation); 731 cases were resolved. The delegates also distributed 434 family messages and organized two family visits to the South African captain detained by the Angolan government.

Assistance programme and logistics — fluctuations

As in previous years, ICRC activities on the Planalto were marked by sharp seasonal fluctuations. Activity was most intense at the end of 1985 and beginning of 1986, before easing off considerably from April until October owing to the significant improvement in the food supply of the recipient population. In previous years, the lull had lasted only from June to September. This progress is attributable to several factors, including the food assistance provided by the ICRC and in particular the harvests obtained after the seed distributions which took place at the beginning of the rainy season in October 1985.

Apart from seasonal fluctuations, the ICRC emergency operation on the Planalto was also hampered quite considerably by security incidents temporarily halting activities, or by political restrictions, which in particular ruled out any operations in most of Huambo province for several months:

- in Bailundo (Huambo province), the house of a local ICRC employee had been attacked on 30 December 1985 (*see 1985 Annual Report*). At the authorities' request, ICRC activities in the town had to be suspended and were only resumed in May 1986;

- only in March were delegates able to resume their activities in Katchiungo (Huambo province), where work had been halted since the beginning of the year;

- as from 12 June, the provincial authorities suspended ICRC airlifts to six of the eight towns which in the Committee's view still required assistance at the beginning of the "good season" in Huambo province; Bailundo, Alto Hama, Katchiungo, Mungo, Lunge and Sambo were closed to delegates, with only Cuima and Gove remaining accessible. As security reasons had been invoked to justify this suspension, the ICRC had initially hoped on the basis of past experience that only a short break in activities would be involved. However, it was only in September, after three months of stoppage, and a host of representations by delegates to the provincial and central authorities, that work was finally able to resume in the towns in question;

— for reasons of security, as from August delegates could no longer go to Cuemba (Bié province).

In a country where most of the roads and railways are often impassable because of hazardous conditions, where airport runways are sometimes damaged and the ports congested, each year the ICRC finds itself faced with enormous difficulties in regularly forwarding relief supplies from the Atlantic coast, where they arrive by boat, to the distribution points on the Planalto.

In 1986, the ICRC received 10,500 tonnes of foodstuffs, seed, fuel and sundry relief items at the ports of Lobito and Namibe. These relief supplies were gradually transported inland to the airports of Huambo, Kuito and Gove on board a cargo aircraft with a capacity of 20 tonnes (two aircraft at peak times). The foodstuffs and fuel were then unloaded and stored until such time as they could be loaded onto smaller aircraft, which carry a maximum of 1.6 tonnes per flight to the various towns (five small aircraft at peak times). Stocks were accumulated in these towns until delegates were able to distribute them. This air fleet was also used to transport over 20,000 passengers (ICRC staff, but also the sick and war casualties evacuated).

Food and material assistance

Frequent distributions of foodstuffs were organized in about a dozen towns in the provinces of Huambo, Bié and Benguela during the first few months of the year, until the first harvests in April. In January, the ICRC was assisting 243,000 displaced persons whereas during the slack period in June the number of beneficiaries had fallen to only 37,458. Even in this relatively favourable period, however, pockets of malnutrition were detected and continued to require considerable assistance.

In addition, when assistance work eased off, delegates endeavoured, in collaboration with the National Society, to extend their surveys of the requirements of the civilian population suffering from the conflict situation to other regions which had never or rarely been visited — north-east of Luanda near the border with Zaire (Uige province), the east (Moxico province) and the south-west (Huila province). These surveys confirmed that there were hardly any urgent requirements in the places visited.

In 1986, a total of around 9,500 tonnes of foodstuffs and 1,500 tonnes of seed were distributed to an average of 140,500 persons per month.

In addition to food aid, material assistance (clothing, blankets, soap) was distributed during the cold season (May to August) to particularly vulnerable groups of people and to a number of institutions (hospitals, orphanages and paediatric centres).

SEED DISTRIBUTION PROGRAMME. — Launched in 1985, the first ICRC seed distribution programme in Angola

bore fruit in 1986. On the whole, the harvests yielded in March and April were very satisfactory. In order to consolidate these promising results and press on with attempts to reduce the volume of urgent food aid required by increasing the harvests, a further seed distribution programme (maize, beans, sorghum) was carried out between mid-September and the end of October in the three provinces on the Planalto.

In all, 1,560 tonnes of seed were distributed to 601,816 beneficiaries in two provincial capitals and 18 towns.

Medical assistance

TO DISPLACED PEOPLE ON THE PLANALTO. — ICRC medical teams made every effort to conduct regular visits to towns in the provinces of Bié, Benguela and Huambo in order to monitor the food situation and to reassess assistance programmes under way and the needs of dispensaries and hospitals.

In order to strengthen existing medical facilities, the teams also concentrated on pursuing the training programmes for local health centre and hospital personnel, above all by giving lessons on the most common ailments.

Medicines and medical material were transported to the provincial and municipal capitals for the Ministry of Health, as requirements emerged. Medicines and dressings were also given out to local dispensaries on a case-by-case basis.

In view of the results of the regular surveys to monitor the nutritional status of assisted children, the ICRC had previously opened some 10 therapeutic feeding centres on the Planalto and offered its support to the paediatric services of several local hospitals. The number of children in the centres reached its peak in February, when nearly 3,000 were being treated. By June, the figure had fallen to about a thousand and in August, considered to be the most favourable month, only the feeding centre in Chinguar (Bié province) was still open.

Even during these months of relative self-sufficiency, however, pockets of malnutrition were detected in the areas to which the ICRC had access. In May, for example, a therapeutic feeding centre had to be opened in Sambo (Huambo province), and by the end of 1986 the needs of the Planalto population were again growing, necessitating a corresponding increase in distributions of foodstuffs and the opening of a therapeutic feeding centre in Bailundo (Huambo province), in addition to the existing ones in Sambo and Chingar.

In 1986, in close co-operation with local medical personnel, ICRC medical teams gave 10,414 consultations; at the same time, several tens of thousands of patients were examined by their Angolan colleagues in the villages.

TO THE WAR WOUNDED AND AMPUTEES. — The ICRC endeavoured to help the war wounded in all the zones where it was working by evacuating them by air to provincial civilian or military hospitals. A total of 1,283 war wounded and seriously ill persons were transferred in this way.

In conjunction with the Ministry of Health, which took over from the Angola Red Cross in August 1983, the ICRC has been running the prostheses centre in Bomba Alta (a suburb of Huambo) since 1979. In 1986, the centre continued to increase its operational capacity: 704 patients were fitted and crutches and wheelchairs were manufactured or repaired. The convalescent home familiarly referred to as «abrigo» continued to admit patients, giving them shelter and care until they become sufficiently autonomous to return to their villages.

Finally, another orthopaedic workshop was opened in Kuito in June 1986. By the end of the year, 97 disabled persons had been fitted with prostheses manufactured there.

SOUTH-EAST ANGOLA. — Following a medical survey carried out in 1984, the ICRC launched a medical assistance campaign in May 1986 at Luangundu hospital (surgical operations, training of local staff, provision of medicines and medical material).

Dissemination and information

In order to make the military and civilian authorities and the population more aware of Red Cross activities and of the respect due to its emblem, an ICRC dissemination delegate organized, in conjunction with the Angola Red Cross, information meetings with films, photographs and brochures in a large number of towns in the three provinces on the Planalto.

Students also received tuition on the basic rules of international humanitarian law as part of a course lasting several weeks at the Luanda and Huambo law faculties.

Relations with UNITA

Security problems encountered by delegates in the field were regularly discussed with UNITA representatives in Europe and Africa in order to obtain the guarantees indispensable for the continuation of ICRC activities in the conflict regions.

In addition to its medical assistance work in south-east Angola (*see above*), the ICRC took part in the release of 196 foreign nationals captured by UNITA on 1 March in the region of the Andrada diamond mine (Luanda Norte province). The prisoners (nationals of the Philippines, Portugal, Angola, Germany, Britain, Canada, Cape Verde, Romania and Sao Tome) were transported to Zaire on 15 March and thence repatriated. During their period of captivity, the ICRC Tracing Agency in Angola maintained permanent contact with the representatives of their respective countries in Luanda.

During missions to southern Angola, ICRC delegates also arranged for two Brazilian nuns and two Portuguese nationals to return to their countries in March, followed, in August, by a Spaniard, a German and two Portuguese nationals. Upon release, these persons were handed over by UNITA to the

ICRC, which arranged transport to Johannesburg, where the consular authorities of their respective countries took charge of them.

MOZAMBIQUE

A serious security incident on 31 July 1985 (*see 1985 Annual Report*), had forced the ICRC temporarily to suspend its activities in the field. At the end of 1986, work had still not been resumed for lack of sufficient safety guarantees.

Nevertheless, regular contact was maintained with the Mozambique Red Cross, in particular in dissemination.

Medical assistance

The project to assist Mozambican war disabled undertaken in 1981 by the ICRC in collaboration with the Ministry of Health continued to expand. The ICRC team, composed of three specialists, co-ordinated the work of the Mozambican technicians, eight of whom completed their training in 1986. A total of 321 prostheses, 1,351 pairs of crutches and 14 wheelchairs were manufactured in the Maputo workshop, which again increased its output capacity.

Prosthesis maintenance and repair workshops continued to operate in Beira, Quelimane and Nampula with technical support and material backing from the ICRC.

In addition, two new so-called "emergency" prosthesis manufacturing centres were inaugurated in Beira and Quelimane on 10 and 17 December respectively. Each centre is scheduled to produce 23 to 30 prostheses per month in 1987.

Three Mozambican technicians (two in Quelimane and one in Beira), who have completed a six-month training course focusing on the manufacture of emergency prostheses, are henceforth in charge of production in these new centres, with the ICRC providing the necessary materials.

Following the plane crash in which President Machel and his colleagues were killed, an ICRC doctor and an interpreter sent specially from Geneva carried out a medical visit on 27 October to a surviving Soviet crew member who had been hospitalized in South Africa.

Dissemination

Thanks to the presence until June 1986 of a dissemination delegate, the ICRC delegation actively helped with the preparation and implementation of dissemination projects relating to international humanitarian law and the principles of the Red Cross, in particular for members of the National Society. Contacts

were also established with the Ministry of Defence with a view to launching dissemination programmes among the armed forces and in certain ministries.

Protection

In 1984, the ICRC offered its services to the Mozambican government to visit persons arrested in connection with the conflict situation. The offer was renewed in 1985, but was not taken up by the Mozambican authorities in 1986.

An operation involving the release and repatriation of foreign nationals detained by RENAMO ("Mozambique National Resistance Movement") in Mozambique took place in December 1986, under ICRC auspices, on the border between Malawi and Mozambique.

A first group of 57 persons (43 Portuguese, 10 Pakistani, two Cape Verde and two Mauritian nationals) was released and handed over to an ICRC delegate on the border on 17 December. Subsequently, a second group (one Briton, four Portuguese and one German with his family) was released on 22 December at another location on the border, also in the presence of an ICRC delegate. After being escorted by the delegates to Blantyre, they were subsequently repatriated to their home countries or the countries of their choice, after a stop-over of a few days in Maputo.

ZIMBABWE

The regional delegation in Harare which, in addition to Zimbabwe itself, also covers Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Swaziland and Zambia, continued to play an important role as a logistic base for the ICRC's emergency operation in Angola. The delegation also participated in the operation for the release of prisoners in the hands of the "Mozambique National Resistance Movement" (*see also the section on Mozambique*).

In Zimbabwe, the ICRC continued to seek permission to visit persons detained because of the internal situation. At the end of 1986, no definitive reply to the offer had yet been received from the government.

The Harare delegation also distributed relief to the persons displaced within the country and to Mozambican and South African refugees who were not receiving assistance from any other organization. In addition, it assisted Mozambican refugees in Malawi (*see also under "Other countries"*). Finally, the ICRC provided material assistance to former detainees in need and their families.

As in the past, the regional delegation centred efforts on the implementation of dissemination programmes on international

humanitarian law and the principles and work of the Red Cross, in particular for the armed forces and National Societies of the countries of the region (*see the sections on those countries*).

Medical assistance

The orthopaedic workshop in Bulawayo, the capital of Matabeleland, set up in conjunction with the Ministry of Health and the National Society, came into operation in June 1985. Its activities continued to expand in 1986: four ICRC orthopaedic technicians, assisted by locally recruited technicians, fitted 236 patients with prostheses, and 1,400 pairs of crutches were also manufactured. Furthermore, a two-year programme for the training of local staff was launched.

Support for the National Society

A co-operation agreement was signed on 9 June between the ICRC and the Zimbabwe Red Cross, in order to contribute to the development of the National Society, in particular as regards information and the dissemination of international humanitarian law and the principles of the Movement, tracing activities and the establishment of first-aid teams. On 29 June, an additional delegate was assigned to Harare in order to help implement the agreement.

A talk was given at the University of Harare in July, and a course held in December for cadets.

Finally, on the occasion of the summit of the Non-Aligned Countries, which took place in Harare in September, the President of the ICRC contacted officials of the Zimbabwe Red Cross.

OTHER COUNTRIES

— In **Botswana**, the ICRC specialists based at the orthopaedic workshop in Bulawayo (Zimbabwe) assisted the Ministry of Health in developing its projects for the rehabilitation of war amputees in Botswana. Equipment was supplied and locally recruited future technicians began to receive training.

— The regional delegate based in Harare went twice to **Lesotho**, at the beginning of April and at the end of July, to maintain contact with the National Society and, in July, to participate together with a legal delegate in a seminar on international humanitarian law organized in collaboration with the National Red Cross Society.

— In **Malawi** a one-week training course for senior army officers was given from 9 to 13 July by the ICRC delegate to the armed forces who had travelled from Geneva for the purpose.

The regional delegation in Harare also took care of Mozambican refugees recently arrived in Malawi. A delegate went to the country at the beginning of November to assess the situation on the spot and launch an emergency food assistance operation in co-operation with the National Society. The operation began on 14 November. At the end of the year, some 55,000 refugees in four camps had received assistance on three occasions. The League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, which had sent staff, took over from the ICRC at the end of 1986.

— On 24 and 25 July, the regional delegate based in Harare and a legal delegate from Geneva participated in a seminar organized by the National Society in **Swaziland**, the main purpose of which was to present the work of the ICRC and the basic principles of international humanitarian law to senior government, administration and police officials.

— During a mission to **Zambia** from 18 to 21 February, the regional delegate based in Harare had talks with representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Defence, the Interior and Health, raising in particular the question of access to security detainees, Zambia's accession to the Additional Protocols of 1977 and the dissemination of international humanitarian law among the armed forces and at the university.

On 19 and 20 July, a seminar organized by the National Society with the participation of a delegate from Geneva and a representative of the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies introduced a wide audience (members of the government, police, administration, etc.) to the work of the Red Cross and international humanitarian law.

East Africa

ETHIOPIA

While continuing its traditional activities against the background of the conflict in the Ogaden and its consequences, the ICRC continued to assist the victims of the internal conflicts and of the severe drought in 1984-1985.

A whole series of missions were carried out to Addis Ababa from Geneva. In particular, the Vice-President of the ICRC, Mr. Maurice Aubert, accompanied by the delegate-general for Africa, attended the Organization of African Unity (OAU) summit from 27 to 30 July (*see also the introduction to the "Africa" section*). At this summit, the ICRC delegation met with the highest Ethiopian authorities as well as the President of

the National Red Cross. At the end of September, the ICRC Director of Operations, Mr. André Pasquier, accompanied by the delegate-general for Africa, went to Ethiopia for meetings, in particular with the Minister of the Interior, Mr. Endale Tessema, and with Mr. Taye Gurmu, who is in charge of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC). The discussions focused on problems relating to ICRC assistance work and questions of protection.

At the beginning of December, without prior consultation with the ICRC, the Ethiopian high authorities officially issued new guidelines requiring the ICRC to conduct its assistance programme in the provinces of northern Ethiopia (Eritrea, Tigre, Gondar and Wollo) according to new procedures.

The effect of the new government guidelines was to give the National Red Cross Society and Ethiopian authorities the sole responsibility to decide on ICRC activities, thereby undermining the principles of independence and neutrality which must at all times and in all circumstances govern the ICRC's action in favour of the victims which it is its duty to assist and protect.

The ICRC having informed the Ethiopian authorities that it could not agree to perform its activities according to the new guidelines, the necessary travel authorizations for its delegates were not renewed by the competent authorities. This led to total suspension of all of the food and medical assistance programmes which had been conducted since 1984 by the ICRC for the civilian populations in the northern provinces of Ethiopia suffering the combined effects of the drought and internal conflicts. At the end of 1986, discussions were still under way with the Ethiopian authorities with a view to finding a solution acceptable to both the Ethiopian government and the ICRC.

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At the end of the year, the ICRC delegation in Ethiopia had a staff of 32, plus 267 local employees. In addition, in 1986 the ICRC was assisted by 34 persons (doctors, a sanitary engineer, an agronomist, nurses, mechanics, administrators, etc.) made available by 13 National Red Cross Societies, namely Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany (Federal Republic), Iceland, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Sweden, United Kingdom.

Assistance

The ICRC and Ethiopian Red Cross joint relief operation (JRO) was continued until December in the five provinces of Eritrea, Tigre, North Wollo and to a lesser extent Gondar and Hararge.

OVERALL IMPROVEMENT OF THE SITUATION.— As from the end of 1985 harvests were relatively good thanks to the

improvement in the climatic conditions. With the abundant rains, the ICRC seed distribution programme yielded generally satisfactory harvests, thereby adding momentum to the improvement in the nutritional condition of populations which had also benefited from regular distributions of foodstuffs. Under the combined effect of these factors, a significant drop in malnutrition rates was recorded, and the last of the ICRC's nine therapeutic feeding centres was closed in February 1986.

Throughout the year, joint ICRC and National Society medical teams nevertheless continued regular and systematic monitoring of malnutrition rates in all the provinces concerned.

In general, the medical personnel in charge of this vast operation (six nurses and a doctor from the ICRC and 11 teams from the Ethiopian Red Cross) carried out checks when populations were assembled for relief distributions. The teams thereby examined an average of 20,000 to 30,000 children and studied the living conditions of 7,000 to 8,000 families each month. These medical nutritional surveys revealed considerable disparities between the various regions. Whereas the situation steadily improved in most of the areas covered by the joint relief operation, large groups of displaced persons, in particular in central Tigre, northern Wollo (Sekota region) and Gondar (Ibnat and Humera) and above all in a number of remote areas of Hararge, still displayed a relatively high malnutrition rate. From February onwards, therefore, the ICRC endeavoured to assist these groups of particularly destitute persons who were not receiving assistance from any other organization on account, in particular, of the security conditions, access difficulties and lack of logistic resources. In the town of Sekota, for instance, which is inaccessible by road for most of the time for security reasons, around 40,000 persons received regular food supplies, dropped as of February by low-flying aircraft.

The groups of populations already assisted under the joint relief operation and displaying moderate malnutrition rates continued to receive appropriate assistance and constant attention.

RELIEF DISTRIBUTIONS.— As a general rule, food distributions were organized on a monthly basis along the main roads, at pre-arranged locations on precise dates known to the beneficiaries. One advantage of this distribution method, called the "landbridge" system, is that it does not uproot people by obliging them to assemble in camps. It also ties in well with seed distributions, obviating the need for families to abandon their arable land. This agricultural rehabilitation programme, launched in 1985, was pursued in 1986 under the supervision of an ICRC agricultural engineer. Two rounds of seed and agricultural tool distributions were organized, at the beginning of each rainy season, first in March-April and then from July to September. In this way, in 1986 the ICRC distributed 4,112 tonnes of seed as well as hoes, forks and scythes to 221,000 families. In spite of the damage caused by plagues of crickets and locusts, about 115,000 tonnes of cereals and vegetables were grown, thereby covering around 11% of the population's needs. Although these results were deemed satisfactory, in particular in Tigre, the programme should be pursued in 1987.

For logistic purposes, the regions assisted continued to be divided into two zones, as in 1985. The northern zone covering Eritrea and Tigre was supplied from the port of Massawa; the southern zone, including northern Wollo, Gondar and southern Tigre, as well as Hararge, was supplied from the port of Assab. Once unloaded from the boats, the relief supplies were transported by road convoy or by air to the main ICRC warehouses in Addis Ababa, Asmara and Dessie. From there, they were routed to depots near the distribution points. The storage capacity of these depots varied according to the programmes under way at the time; for example, they had fallen from 50,000 tonnes in June to 30,000 at the end of December.

Apart from 164 vehicles (including 78 lorries), the ICRC had permanent use of a Hercules cargo plane (as well as a second wide-bodied aircraft for five months of the year) and a fleet of three to four Pilatus Porter and Twin Otter light aircraft.

HYGIENE AND WATER PROGRAMMES.— In September 1985, under the supervision of a sanitary engineer assisted by members of the Ethiopian Red Cross, the ICRC launched an operation for the purification and supply of drinking water (sinking of new wells or protection of existing wells and springs) in the most disadvantaged rural areas. Initially designed for Eritrea, where 20 villages affected by drinking water shortages were assisted, the programme was extended from September 1986 onward to Tigre, where four projects were undertaken in the last quarter of the year.

In addition, an education campaign was launched to teach the rural communities how to maintain their wells themselves.

Lessons in hygiene were also given by ICRC nurses, and in the regions without medical centres local volunteers were taught to treat a number of everyday illnesses.

TREATMENT OF THE WOUNDED AND SICK.— Throughout the year, medical relief (basic medicines, dressing materials, etc.) was distributed by the ICRC medical teams in certain hospitals and medical centres in the vicinity of the distribution points.

The medical teams also gave first aid and evacuated the wounded. In mid-November, for example, following an attack on the town of Sekota, they treated some 400 wounded and evacuated them in a series of groups to the town of Korem which was under the control of the government forces.

ASSISTANCE FOR THE DISABLED.— The rehabilitation centres (fitting of prostheses and physiotherapy) opened in Harar and Asmara in 1982 continued to operate under the supervision of the Ministry of Work and Social Affairs and the Fund for the Disabled, with ICRC technical backing. In 1986, 12 amputees were fitted and 160 prostheses and five wheelchairs manufactured.

Protection activities

CONSEQUENCES OF THE CONFLICT IN THE OGADEN.

— In 1986, the ICRC again made representations to the Ethiopian government to secure permission to carry out further visits under the Conventions to Somali prisoners of war detained in connection with the conflict in the Ogaden. The series of visits scheduled for the beginning of January was postponed by the Ethiopian authorities, with the result that the ICRC was unable to conduct a series of visits to Somali prisoners of war until the period from 23 to 27 October. The previous visit dated back to May 1985. In accordance with the ICRC's criteria, delegates, including a doctor, visited a total of 229 Somali prisoners of war detained at the regional prison and at the military police headquarters in Harar (Hararge) and at Awasa prison (Sidamo). Four prisoners of war captured in 1984 were registered for the first time, and medical and material assistance (foodstuffs, toiletries, leisure articles) were distributed to the prisoners. A few months earlier on 24 June a medical visit had been conducted to Harar, after which basic medicines, foodstuffs, hygiene and leisure items were supplied for the prisoners.

As in previous years, the ICRC approached the Ethiopian and Somali governments, requesting them to repatriate all prisoners of war, giving priority to the repatriation of the seriously injured and sick, pursuant to Articles 109, 110 and 118 of the Third Convention. It should be borne in mind that many of these prisoners of war have spent nearly 10 years in captivity.

On 27 February, the President of the ICRC again made representations in writing to the two heads of state of Ethiopia and Somalia, proposing a repatriation operation, with or without ICRC assistance, in two stages: to begin with, repatriation of 23 Ethiopian prisoners of war and 26 Somali prisoners of war, all seriously ill and wounded, followed a few weeks later by general repatriation of all prisoners of war. The Somali government indicated that it was willing to allow such an operation to take place. On 30 November, therefore, the ICRC conveyed to the government in Addis Ababa the Somali proposal for the release and simultaneous repatriation of wounded and sick Ethiopian and Somali prisoners of war. At the end of the year, the proposal had not elicited any reply from the Ethiopian authorities. In addition to the ICRC's repeated approaches in accordance with Article 1 common to the Geneva Conventions, a number of governments have also been urging the parties to the conflict to find a speedy solution to this serious humanitarian problem which has remained unsolved for far too long.

Tracing Agency

The 229 Somali prisoners of war detained in Ethiopia and their families in Somalia continued to benefit from the services of the Tracing Agency. In 1986, 373 messages were exchanged between the Somali prisoners of war and their families. Over

the same period, 693 messages were exchanged between Ethiopian prisoners of war detained in Somalia and their families in Ethiopia. In addition, the Tracing Agency continued to process requests concerning Ethiopians reported missing in the course of the Ogaden conflict. Such tracing activities are becoming increasingly difficult owing to the duration of the conflict, and only two cases could be resolved out of the 55 submitted to the ICRC.

Following population transfers to the south-west of the country organized under the governmental resettlement programme, many children found themselves abandoned in camps of ICRC therapeutic feeding centres. Seriously concerned about the plight of these orphans, delegates set in motion a new type of operation with a view to reuniting families. After determining where unaccompanied children came from, delegates transported them, more often than not by air, to the sites of general food distributions where they were shown to the crowd of recipients in the hope that a member of their family would recognize them and take them in.

In view of encouraging early results, the programme was expanded from February onwards and other humanitarian organizations, in particular the English section of the Save the Children Fund (SCF/UK) played an active part. The project had to be broken off in November, when the RRC announced that it wished to take over management of the operation with the assistance of Save the Children Fund/Sweden.

In 1986, 1,478 unaccompanied children or orphans presented in this way in Tigre and Wollo found homes again thanks to the ICRC-SCF/UK campaign.

Finally, despite repeated representations, the ICRC was not authorized to enter the resettlement camps in 1986 to assess the humanitarian implications of the population movements (families separated) and try to trace persons reported missing, on the basis of requests received in their home provinces (Tigre, Wollo and Gondar) by delegates and the National Society.

Dissemination and information

Throughout the year, the ICRC and National Society teams based in Addis Ababa, Harar, Asmara and Dessie organized meetings to disseminate the basic principles of the Red Cross and of international humanitarian law for National Society staff and various other audiences, including government and Party officials, the armed forces, the police, medical personnel, teachers and the general public. In 1986, the meetings were attended by over 300,000 people, including 8,000 members of the armed forces. It is worth noting that World Red Cross Day (8 May) was celebrated throughout the country as part of the joint ICRC/National Society dissemination campaign.

Finally, the Addis Ababa delegation organized information meetings and field trips for representatives of donor countries and journalists.

SOMALIA

Since 1982, the ICRC has had a permanent delegation in Mogadishu and, against the background of the conflict in the Ogaden, has been endeavouring to fulfil the mandate entrusted to it under the Conventions.

Protection and assistance

Despite repeated requests, in 1986 the ICRC delegates in Mogadishu had still not received authorization to visit, in accordance with the procedures laid down by the Geneva Conventions, Ethiopian prisoners of war and a Cuban national detained in Somalia. Nor were they given permission to interview each detainee without witnesses, as prescribed in Article 126 of the Third Convention. However, as in previous years, delegates were granted regular access to three places of detention: the camp in Gezira and main prison in Mogadishu, where 174 and 38 Ethiopian prisoners of war were visited, respectively, and Afgoi where a Cuban prisoner of war captured in January 1978 is being held. Assistance visits were carried out twice a month (regular distributions of fruit, vegetables and occasionally leisure and toilet articles). Regular medical visits were also conducted with the help of a local doctor and, in April, an ICRC medical delegate specially sent from Geneva to examine the prisoners of war.

The delegation also provided prison administrations with basic food supplies (a total of 23 tonnes of maize, rice, powdered milk, etc.), as well as providing medicines and medical material to prison dispensaries on the basis of requirements detected.

Medical assistance was also provided to dispensaries in two orphanages and to two hospitals in the capital and on the Ethiopian border.

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An account of the steps taken by the ICRC in 1986 to secure repatriation of the prisoners of war is given in the "Ethiopia" section of this report. The Somali government's proposal for simultaneous repatriation of the wounded and sick was submitted to the Ethiopian government by the ICRC on 30 November. By the end of 1986, however, no reply had been received.

Tracing Agency

The Tracing Agency in Mogadishu continued its activities, concentrating on the processing of tracing requests concerning Ethiopians and Somalis missing in connection with the Ogaden

conflict and on the distribution of family messages written by Somali prisoners of war detained in Ethiopia. Somali families were located thanks to the assistance of the Somali Red Crescent.

In 1986, 373 family messages were thus delivered to the families of Somali prisoners of war detained in Ethiopia. Messages and parcels were also transmitted to the Cuban prisoner of war. Finally, out of 106 new tracing requests concerning missing Somali nationals, only four persons were located.

Dissemination

In conjunction with the Somali Red Crescent Society, the ICRC delegates helped to arrange and organize talks and seminars on the principles and work of the Movement, both in the capital and in the provinces.

SUDAN

The ICRC continued its assistance operation in favour of the victims of the conflict and drought in Eritrea and Tigre. It also intensified its efforts to perform its humanitarian duties in connection with the conflict in southern Sudan, operating from Khartoum and from its delegations in Addis Ababa, Nairobi and Kampala. In this connection, the delegate-general for Africa and his deputy conducted numerous missions to Sudan as well as to Kenya and Ethiopia. In particular, on 3 June the delegate-general was received by the Sudanese Prime Minister, Mr. Sadiq el Mahdi. Discussions focused mainly on the ICRC's work in Sudan and the Horn of Africa. The deputy delegate-general and the head of the ICRC delegation in Khartoum also held talks with the Sudanese authorities on many occasions in 1986, in particular concerning development of the ICRC assistance operation in southern Sudan and access to persons detained in connection with the internal situation. Meetings also took place with representatives of the opposition movements in southern Sudan (SPLM/Sudan People's Liberation Movement).

At the end of the year, however, despite the numerous representations to these parties and several attempts to undertake practical work in the field, the ICRC had not obtained the necessary guarantees to carry out an assistance programme for the civilian population affected by the conflict.

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At the end of December, the ICRC delegation in Sudan comprised a staff of 30 (five of them provided by the National

Societies of Austria, Canada, Denmark and the Federal Republic of Germany) assigned to Khartoum, Kassala, Port Sudan and Gedaref; 342 local recruits were also employed.

In addition, at the end of 1986, 20 delegates engaged in the ICRC operation in southern Sudan (six of them provided by the National Societies of France, Ireland, New Zealand, Sweden and the United Kingdom) were based in Nairobi and Lokichokio, along with 36 local recruits.

Assistance

TO ERITREAN AND TIGREAN CIVILIANS. — The medical, food and material assistance programmes undertaken in 1984 for Eritrean and Tigrean civilian victims of the conflict and drought were continued in 1986 from the Port Sudan, Kassala and Gedaref sub-delegations.

Throughout the year, in spite of logistic problems and security incidents which sometimes ruled out all travel for periods of several weeks, the ICRC managed to provide relief in the form of foodstuffs, blankets and kitchen utensils to recipients in Eritrea (approximately 600 tonnes distributed every month to some 30,000 beneficiaries) and Tigre (around 800 tonnes a month to nearly 50,000 beneficiaries). Seed and agricultural tools were also supplied to the population of the two regions. These distributions, which were subject to periodical checks by ICRC delegates and medical personnel, were carried out with the Eritrean Relief Association (ERA) in Eritrea and the Relief Society of Tigre (REST) in Tigre.

In addition, the ICRC assisted some 80,000 Tigrean refugees leaving Sudan to return to their villages in Ethiopia. They too received seed and agricultural tools.

TO THE DISABLED. — The orthopaedic centre in Kassala, which was opened in 1984, continued to fit Eritrean, Tigrean and Sudanese war amputees.

In 1986, 139 patients were fitted with prostheses and 43 with orthoses. The centre's workshop, run by two ICRC specialists backed by five local staff, manufactured 153 prostheses and 21 pairs of crutches. In addition, a training programme for local staff continued throughout the year.

Assistance to the populations of southern Sudan

The efforts deployed by the ICRC in 1986 to help civilian victims of the conflict in southern Sudan ran into a whole series of difficulties. As well as attempting to take action in the towns situated in the three southern Sudanese provinces, the ICRC also set up a parallel assistance programme for the civilian population in southern Sudan, conducted from the Kenyan border. Time and again, assistance operations ready to be implemented had to be cancelled at the last minute, on account of opposition to ICRC intervention expressed by one or other of the parties to the conflict.



ACTION IN WAU. — The ICRC delegation in Wau, in Bahr el Ghazal province, was confronted with a host of problems. The town, cut off by the conflict, had received no supplies since June, the main roads having become impassable for security reasons. On 31 July, after receiving the necessary authorizations and security guarantees from both parties to the conflict, a team of seven delegates (including two nurses and a radio operator), joined soon after by two additional delegates, went to Wau to assess needs and embark upon an assistance programme in favour of some 50,000 displaced persons. Road transports were impossible, and the ICRC had to organize an airlift from Entebbe (Uganda).

After completing three flights on 14 and 15 August, the Hercules aircraft chartered by the ICRC had to discontinue its shuttle service on account of the threats proffered on 16 August by the SPLM/SPLA, which announced that any civil aircraft flying over southern Sudan would be shot down. On 17 August, a Sudanese plane was actually shot down in the region of Malakal. Numerous written and oral communications have been addressed to SPLM/SPLA officials by the ICRC, both from

Geneva and on the spot, in order to obtain the guarantees necessary for resumption of the airlift.

On 18 September, the ICRC published a press release publicly expressing its concern at being unable for this reason to assist civilian victims in southern Sudan. Despite this solemn appeal, followed up by further intensive approaches, the ICRC had not been able to resume its operations in Wau by the end of the year. As a result, the ICRC delegates were stranded in Wau for over three months without being able to assist the population; it had only been possible to fly in and distribute 40 tonnes of maize at the beginning of the operation. In view of the situation, the ICRC team, apart from two delegates who remained on the spot until 3 December in the hope that action might become possible again, were obliged to leave Wau on 23 October.

ACTION CONDUCTED FROM KENYA. — After having received the necessary authorizations, a delegate and a nurse from the ICRC conducted a preliminary survey at the end of March in north-west Kenya (Lodwar, Kakuma and Lokichokio) and south-east Sudan (Narus, about 20 km from the Kenyan border). On 2 April, a sub-delegation was opened in Lokichokio to serve as a logistic base for ICRC activities in the southern Sudan region.

Formerly nothing more than a water hole, since the end of 1985 Narus has become a meeting place for thousands of civilians displaced by the fighting, belonging to the semi-nomadic Toposa tribe. At first, thanks to the fact that other humanitarian organizations were present in the Narus region, the ICRC was able to concentrate on therapeutic feeding of seriously undernourished children. The number of children admitted to the feeding centre rose from 150 in April to 600 in June, before falling off gradually. In December, 200 children were still receiving treatment. The centre's paediatric dispensary also gave medical treatment to an average of 30 or so children per day (mostly for measles, diarrhoea and lung infections).

At the end of July, the other humanitarian organizations having been obliged to withdraw from Narus following a number of security incidents, the ICRC took over assistance activities for all of the 20,000 or so Toposas settled in Narus and in the camps at Lolim, Lopua and Kalacha. Delegates systematically registered beneficiaries and twice-monthly distributions were arranged in Narus up to the end of the year.

The ICRC also prepared a rehabilitation programme involving the distribution of seed and agricultural tools to encourage recipients to return to their places of origin before the next rainy season (March 1987).

In addition, to ward off the danger of epidemics which is ever-present when there is a large concentration of people in one place, with effect from mid-October a sanitary engineer detached to the ICRC by the Norwegian Red Cross began to draw up a programme to cleanse existing water holes.

Narus also operated as a sorting and first-aid centre for war wounded arriving from the combat areas. The seriously injured

were evacuated by ICRC vehicles, with the agreement of the Kenyan authorities, to the hospitals at Lokichokio, Kakuma and Lodwar. All these hospitals received support from the ICRC in the form of medical equipment and medicines. In October, a surgeon from the Finnish Red Cross and two nurses took charge of treatment for the wounded there.

ACTIVITIES IN OTHER REGIONS. — Other evaluation missions were carried out by ICRC delegates elsewhere in southern Sudan, as well as in the province of Kordofan. These field surveys revealed that in most of the places visited the population was not suffering from any serious malnutrition, at least for the time being. However, in view of their lengthy isolation owing to the conflict situation, needs emerged in certain areas (medical, health, rehabilitation).

Protection

The ICRC continued its efforts to obtain access to the persons detained in Sudan on account of the internal situation. Following several sets of talks with the relevant authorities, in particular during the visit to headquarters on 28 February by the Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Mr. Omer Atti, an initial offer of services was submitted to the Sudanese government in March. Following a change of government one month later, the head of the delegation in Khartoum contacted the new authorities to whom a memorandum was addressed in July, but without success. On 19 November, a further offer of services based in particular on Article 3 of the Geneva Conventions and the right of initiative which it confers on the ICRC was transmitted to the Ministry of Defence. That offer of services was rejected in December 1986.

RELEASE AND REPATRIATION OF PRISONERS. — On 12 February, after two and a half years of detention in Chad, 14 Sudanese prisoners were released and repatriated under ICRC auspices (*see also the section on Chad in this report*).

Two Italian monks who had been captured in March by the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) were handed over to the ICRC delegation in Addis Ababa on 18 August. The ICRC subsequently entrusted them to representatives of the Holy See in Ethiopia.

Tracing Agency

The Tracing Agency office in Khartoum was involved mainly with refugees from Uganda and Ethiopia, with the help of its offices in Port Sudan, Kassala, Gedaref, Juba and Yei. In 1986,

the Agency received a total of 872 requests for the tracing of missing persons and the reuniting of families concerning, among others, 461 Ugandans and 411 Ethiopian citizens; 702 cases were resolved. In addition, 600 family messages were distributed. Finally, at the request of the Sudanese Red Crescent, a project was developed with a view to setting up a tracing service within the National Society.

Dissemination

Throughout the year, talks, film shows, exhibitions, etc. were organized in collaboration with the Sudanese Red Crescent in the central, eastern and western areas of the country, with the participation of some 1,800 persons in all. In addition, television programmes and press articles describing the ICRC's work in Sudan and other countries were regularly produced and, like the event organized to mark 8 May, reached a wide audience.

UGANDA

After the change of government which took place in January 1986, Uganda went through periods of relative calm punctuated by renewed tensions and disturbances, in particular in the north of the country where the military belonging to the former government army had collected.

Until April, the fighting necessitated emergency assistance work (evacuation of wounded, supply of medical material), chiefly in the north of the country in the hospitals near the front line. During the same period, the ICRC endeavoured to extend its protection activities by visiting places of detention country-wide. In collaboration with the Uganda Red Cross Society, it assisted as many as 100,000 civilians resettled in their home villages in the so-called "Luwero triangle" region.

From April onwards, the country enjoyed a period of relative calm until September, when new clashes broke out, most particularly in the north of the country, between the National Resistance Army (NRA), which had become the government army, and the forces of the former government, the Uganda National Liberation Army (UNLA). The ICRC thus had to step up its operations, in particular as regards emergency medical assistance, in the Gulu and Kitgum districts.

Protection

FROM JANUARY TO MAY. — Before the seizure of Kampala, which fell on 25 January 1986, the NRA had authorized ICRC delegates based in Kasese to visit the detention centres located

in the regions under its control at the time. Up to the end of January 1986, about thirty visits were thus conducted to various places of detention and military barracks, during which more than 3,000 prisoners in the hands of the NRA were seen and assisted. Concurrently, at the beginning of January, in response to representations made to Mr. Okello's government, the ICRC delegation in Kampala had received authorization to enter the government's military barracks to carry out assistance activities.

Immediately upon acceding to power, on 31 January 1986 President Museveni confirmed to the ICRC his agreement to allow delegates to visit the persons detained on account of the conflict. Hence, up to the end of May delegates had access to 36 places of detention (prisons, police stations and military barracks) placed under the jurisdiction of the Ministries of the Interior and Defence and scattered throughout the country. In all, over 8,000 prisoners were visited during this period.

FROM JUNE TO DECEMBER. — As of June, despite numerous representations made by the delegation to the authorities in Kampala and in spite of the agreement in principle renewed by the head of state, Mr. Museveni, in talks with the Director of Operations during the 8th Non-Aligned Summit in Harare on 3 September, the ICRC was refused access to persons detained under the direct responsibility of the NRA in the north and west of the country. On 26 September, the head of delegation addressed a note to President Museveni accompanied by a list of places under the authority of the NRA which the ICRC wished to visit. However, at the end of 1986 the ICRC had still not been able to resume its activities in these places of detention under army control.

Nevertheless, a series of visits was carried out to several prisons and police stations under the jurisdiction of the civilian authorities, in the north of the country between Lira and Arua. On completion of the visits, the ICRC submitted reports to the Ministries of the Interior and Defence on 2 October.

Finally, frequent visits, during which medical assistance was given and family messages were distributed, were conducted to Luzira Upper prison in Kampala where most of the sentenced security detainees were being held. Visits were also made to 33 detainees in the women's prison.

Assistance

TO DETAINEES. — On the basis of needs observed by ICRC delegates and medical teams, assistance — in particular in the form of medical materials, medicines, hygiene requisites (buckets, soap, etc.) and leisure articles — was provided to the places of detention visited. Aid was also given to detainees' families in need.

Finally, a seminar for the medical personnel of the Ugandan penitentiary service was organized from 28 July to 2 August to train 28 participants selected from among the specialists and officials of various regional prisons.

TO THE CIVILIAN POPULATION. — The stabilization of the situation prompted the large-scale return of displaced persons to their home villages. Some 1,500 persons, most of whom had been displaced for over two years and had been assisted by the ICRC during the conflict, were transferred from their transit camps to around 40 different destinations, after receiving basic assistance from the ICRC. The Kibisi and Nakasi transit camps were closed in April, followed by the "Yellow House" near Kampala at the end of May. As soon as this return movement began, all the persons wishing to go back to their home villages were given a medical check-up; serious cases were admitted to hospital and monitored by ICRC medical personnel.

During a survey conducted as of February north and north-west of Kampala in the "Luwero triangle", a region which had been under particularly severe pressure over the past two years, delegates noted that around 100,000 persons (20,000 families) had returned to this sector. Since these people lacked resources to resume a normal life, in collaboration with the National Society the ICRC set up an emergency rehabilitation programme restricted to a maximum duration of two months. Until the end of May, thanks to the presence of teams from the Uganda Red Cross, 20,000 recipient families were registered and received assistance in the form of seed, agricultural tools, blankets, pans and soap for an overall value of 972,000 Swiss francs.

TO HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES. — From January to April, the ICRC medical teams were frequently called upon to provide emergency assistance to the wounded and meet the needs of hospitals and dispensaries in terms of medicine and medical supplies:

- the NRA's entry into the capital on 24 January gave rise to violent clashes lasting three days; the wounded were brought first to the delegation, before being transferred to hospital;
- in February and March, the clashes which hit the north of the country prompted the ICRC to provide regular medical aid to the medical establishments near the front line. In February, a team led by the ICRC chief medical officer evaluated their requirements and immediately distributed basic materials to the hospitals in Mbale, Gulu and Lira. As the hospital in Mbale had been abandoned during the clashes, an ICRC doctor stayed on there to provide treatment and reorganize the local medical staff. Another team also went to Masindi and Hoima where assistance was again distributed to hospitals. Also in February, when the area in question was still under the control of the forces of the former government, assistance was provided to the hospital in Arua;
- in Gulu on 7 March the ICRC declared Lacor hospital 4 km outside the town to be a neutralized locality, enabling around a thousand civilians to take refuge there during the

height of the fighting. After securing the approval of both parties, the ICRC flew in equipment and an ICRC team, which remained on the spot until the situation returned to normal towards mid-March.

The first emergency phase of the ICRC's medical assistance came to an end when fighting stopped in April. The ICRC teams then concentrated on improving the medical infrastructure which had been seriously disrupted by years of disturbances. Thus the ICRC helped to reorganize local medical staff, supplied spare parts to repair damaged apparatus and provided medicines and basic medical materials.

From September up to the end of 1986, after a period of relative calm, new clashes occurred in the regions of Gulu, Kitgum and Lira. The ICRC once again provided emergency medical assistance to the hospitals near the conflict areas. Kitgum hospital, inaccessible by road, had to be supplied by air; between October and December, in co-operation with other humanitarian organizations working in the region, the ICRC transported 573 kg of medicines to the town.

Tracing Agency

As part of the delegation's work in places of detention in Uganda, the Tracing Agency delegates registered new detainees, processed tracing requests and regularly distributed family messages between prisoners and their close relatives.

The Tracing Agency thereby continued to operate as a network for the transmission of messages, not only between detainees and their families but also, in collaboration with the Uganda Red Cross, between families separated by the fighting. The volume of work nevertheless fell when the situation returned to normal. The network functioned by way of a multitude of "letter-boxes" installed country-wide and regularly cleared by volunteers (for instance, members of the National Society, missionaries).

A total of 1,862 Red Cross messages were distributed in 1986.

The Tracing Agency also helped to transfer civilians wishing to return to their villages (registration of those leaving, organization of transport for the disabled, pregnant women or old people).

Finally, family reunifications and a programme to trace the parents of children from the "Luwero triangle" who had been placed in orphanages were organized. Launched in November/December, the programme had restored nine children to their families by the end of 1986.

Dissemination and co-operation with the National Society

As in assistance and tracing work, the delegation's activities for the dissemination of the fundamental principles of the Red

Cross and international humanitarian law were carried out in close collaboration with the Uganda Red Cross. In May, a national information and dissemination workshop was organized jointly by the ICRC and the National Society in order to train regional dissemination specialists within the Uganda Red Cross. By the end of the year, with the assistance of the ICRC the branches of the National Society in the country's main towns had started up dissemination programmes for schoolchildren, members of the Uganda Red Cross and the general public.

The ICRC also participated in the events organized by the National Society to celebrate World Red Cross Day (in particular, organization of an exhibition and the showing of a series of Red Cross films in the Luwero district).

Finally, throughout the year, the ICRC delegation endeavoured to promote knowledge of the Red Cross among the public at large by way of radio programmes, designing posters in schools, showing films, etc.

OTHER COUNTRIES

— The ICRC regional delegation in **Kenya** served as a logistic base for assistance activities in Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda and Somalia.

On 14 March, the delegate-general for Africa was received in Nairobi by President Arap Moi, discussions focusing chiefly on the situation and the ICRC's activities in East Africa.

Starting in April, the ICRC supplied medicines and medical material to three hospitals in north-west Kenya where Sudanese victims of the conflict situation prevailing in southern Sudan were being treated. The whole assistance programme set up from Kenya to help civilian victims of this situation is described in the section on Sudan in this report.

In addition, the delegates based in Nairobi maintained regular contacts with the authorities and the National Societies in the countries covered from Kenya (the Comoros, Djibouti, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles and Tanzania) in order to promote international humanitarian law and develop co-operation with the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in these countries.

In 1986, the Tracing Agency office in Nairobi handled 77 tracing requests (74 resolved) and forwarded 85 family messages.

As regards dissemination, the delegates gave talks to instructors in the Kenyan armed forces, senior police officers, university circles and staff of the Kenya Red Cross Society. Efforts were also deployed to reach the general public on a more regular basis (radio and television programmes, ICRC films, newspaper articles).

In order to maintain and develop the ICRC's relations both with National Societies and with governments, and to make international humanitarian law and the Red Cross Movement and its fundamental principles more widely known among diverse target groups (armed forces, police, academic and diplomatic circles, National Society staff, journalists), the ICRC delegates based in Nairobi carried out several missions to the **Comoros** (July), **Djibouti** (December), **Madagascar** (May and November), **Mauritius** (April and November), **Seychelles** (April and November) and **Tanzania** (July, October and November).

In the Comoros, the procedure for recognition of the emerging National Red Crescent Society was also discussed. The Djibouti Red Crescent was recognized in October 1986. In Kenya, Madagascar and Djibouti, the only countries of the region which have still not ratified the Additional Protocols of 1977, delegates also raised this matter with the authorities.

Central and West Africa

The ICRC continued to increase its presence in Central and West Africa, in particular by opening a new regional delegation at the end of 1986 based in Lagos (Nigeria).

With effect from December, with a number of countries henceforth covered from Lagos, the regional delegations in Central and West Africa were responsible for covering the following countries:

- **regional delegation in Lomé:** Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea (Conakry), Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Togo;
- **regional delegation in Lagos:** Cameroon, Gambia, Ghana, Equatorial Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone;
- **regional delegation in Kinshasa:** Burundi, Central African Republic, Congo, Gabon, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe and Zaire.

Finally, in Chad, where the ICRC has been active since 1978, the delegation in N'Djamena continued its activities in 1986.

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Mr. Richard Pestalozzi, member of the Committee, accompanied by a colleague from headquarters and the regional delegates concerned, travelled in turn to **Nigeria, Benin, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Senegal** from 6 to 26 July. This mission, in line with the ICRC's policy to intensify its relations and dialogue with the National Societies, provided an opportunity to review various subjects of general interest for the future of the Movement.

CHAD

The ICRC has been active in Chad since 1978, endeavouring in the course of the conflict there to discharge the mandate of protection and assistance entrusted to it by the Conventions. To this end, many representations were made in 1986 both from headquarters and from the delegation in N'Djamena to all the parties concerned, namely the government of Chad, the GUNT ("Gouvernement d'union nationale de transition") and the Libyan government, in order to obtain access to all prisoners of war.

Despite its approaches to the GUNT and Libya with a view to assisting all the victims of the conflict, the ICRC was not able to resume its activities in the north of the country which had been suspended in Borkou, Ennedi and Tibesti (BET) since May 1984.

Protection

Until 20 June, the delegates based in the capital continued to visit, in accordance with ICRC criteria, a total of 662 prisoners of war detained in N'Djamena and Abéché. From 16 to 20 June a last full visit to the prison in N'Djamena took in 548 prisoners of war already seen twice the previous year, as well as four sick prisoners who had been transferred to the central hospital.

In April, 24 prisoners of war were also visited for the third time at the military base in Adji Kossei, near the capital; these persons were subsequently transferred to N'Djamena.

In Abéché, three series of visits were carried out (January, March, June) to the prison and the territorial military police station. During the last visit by delegates, 64 prisoners of war remained (as against 86 at the beginning of the year), following releases, transfers or escapes.

Throughout the year, the ICRC continued its efforts to visit all prisoners from Chad and Libya captured during the fighting in 1986. Repeated representations were made to this end to the authorities in N'Djamena and contacts were established with the Libyan authorities and the GUNT. In February, after fighting intensified in northern Chad, delegates went to the region of Mao (Kanem) and visited 36 new prisoners, 14 of them

wounded, detained by the Chad government forces. No further visits to these prisoners were possible, however. The ICRC was unable to undertake any protection activities in favour of Libyan prisoners of war in 1986. Despite extremely numerous representations, the ICRC was not authorized to visit them, since the government in N'Djamena demanded a reciprocal arrangement allowing the ICRC also to visit its own soldiers captured by the GUNT and Libyan forces, to whom the ICRC was unable to obtain access in 1986.

Finally, a last group of 14 Sudanese prisoners of war interned in Chad since 1983 and regularly visited by delegates at the prison in N'Djamena were released and repatriated to Sudan under ICRC auspices on 15 February. The preceding repatriation dated back to October 1984. At the end of 1986, only one Sudanese prisoner of war was still detained in Chad.

Tracing Agency

The Tracing Agency office in N'Djamena registered the prisoners of war who had been visited and handled official information concerning their transfer, release, etc. In all, 710 Red Cross messages were exchanged between the prisoners and their families, either directly or through the National Society, religious missions or humanitarian organizations. In 1986, the Agency consolidated its message distribution network in the field and numerous rounds were made to about a dozen prefectures in Chad.

Assistance

TO PRISONERS OF WAR. — Although visits to prisoners of war were suspended throughout the second half of the year, the medical and food assistance programme undertaken by the ICRC in 1984 at the prison in N'Djamena (supply of foodstuffs, clothing, toiletries) was continued, on a weekly basis. On the medical side, detainees received proper dental treatment for the first time in three years of captivity. Assistance was also provided as and when needed to Abéché prison.

TO WAR AMPUTEES. — An ICRC orthopaedic technician was placed at the disposal of the Kabalaye orthopaedic centre for war amputees for the whole of 1986. The centre, run by "Secours catholique et développement" (SECADEV), fitted 49 patients and manufactured 51 prostheses and 194 pairs of crutches during the year.

TO DISPLACED CIVILIANS. — Following the violent clashes which occurred at the end of 1986 in the BET, in

November and December delegates went to the area around the 16th parallel in the north of Biltine province (Kalait, Kouba Oulanga, Bao Bilia, Kaoura), to investigate the state of displaced civilians. Their condition was not considered to be particularly worrying and the ICRC provided limited aid (basic medicines and dressings for civilian dispensaries, blankets, mats).

Dissemination and co-operation with the National Society

In co-operation with the Red Cross of Chad, ICRC delegates continued their dissemination programmes in schools and for members of the National Society, the armed forces and civilians. With effect from August 1986, the Red Cross of Chad began to broadcast a weekly radio programme on the national radio station. A programme for dissemination of the principles of the Red Cross and international humanitarian law for the armed forces has been developed and is scheduled to be launched in 1987. Finally, during a visit to Geneva on 10 December by the Minister of Education, Mr. Mohamed Senoussi Khatir, draft programmes for schools and the university were drawn up for 1987.

TOGO

The ICRC regional delegation in Lomé continued to operate, focusing mainly on co-operation with the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, in particular for dissemination of the principles of the Red Cross and international humanitarian law.

The question of ICRC access to security detainees in Togo was raised during an interview granted to the regional delegate on 17 September by the head of state, Mr. Eyadema. A few days later, following the attempted *coup d'état* of 23 September, the ICRC offered its services to visit recently arrested persons.

At the beginning of October, the Committee received the Togolese government's consent for it to visit the persons who had participated in the *coup d'état*. Thus on 11 October two delegates, including a doctor sent from Geneva, visited 20 persons arrested in connection with the attempted *coup d'état*, 17 of them detained in the National Police Force camp and three wounded in hospital.

ZAIRE

Protection

During the first six months of the year, ICRC delegates visited a total of 203 persons detained in Kinshasa, Kasai Oriental

(Mbuji Mayi), and Shaba province (Kalemie, Lubumbashi, Moba) for acts prejudicial to state security. They had access to 36 places of detention administered by the "National Documentation Agency" (AND/SDI, formerly CNRI), the National Police Force (B2; S2), Military Security (SRMA, formerly G2; T2), the Zairian Armed Forces (military prison in N'Dolo) and the Department of Justice (Makala prison, main prisons in Shaba, Kalemie and Mbuji Mayi). In most cases, these visits were carried out on a regular basis (monthly, bi-monthly or three-monthly) and generally took place in accordance with ICRC criteria.

However, the ICRC was not allowed access to places of detention in Zaire throughout the second half of the year. The delegation was informed on 16 June by the Office of the President of this decision to suspend its activities.

Despite numerous written and oral approaches, particularly in Addis Ababa during talks with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Mandungu Bula Nyati, during the OAU meetings and in Kinshasa during the delegate-general's mission from 21 to 27 November, the suspension of ICRC activities in places of detention in Zaire was still maintained at the end of the year.

The ICRC supplemented its detention activities with distributions of relief supplies (foodstuffs, medicines, medical material) to detainees and their families, for a total cost of 66,000 Swiss francs.

Tracing Agency

The Tracing Agency office in Kinshasa registered the new security detainees who had been visited, informed families when their relatives were being held in detention and forwarded Red Cross messages between the detainees and their families. During the year the Kinshasa office received 169 tracing requests from Zaire and other countries covered by the regional delegation; 64 cases were resolved.

Finally, the Tracing Agency office opened in Aru (Haut-Zaire) in 1981 to take care of the Ugandan refugees flooding into the region was closed at the beginning of September, as the volume of work on their behalf had become very small in 1986.

A training seminar on the Tracing Agency was given from 9 to 13 June to a dozen members of the National Society, in the presence of a specialist sent from Geneva for the purpose.

Dissemination and co-operation with the National Society

The delegation in Kinshasa maintained close contacts with the Red Cross Society of the Republic of Zaire. Throughout the year, talks were given by the National Society's disseminators (trained in 1985 by the ICRC), in the capital and in the provinces, in order to inform an extremely broad public (medical personnel, students, teachers, members of the National Society) about the Red Cross Movement, its guiding principles and international humanitarian law.

OTHER COUNTRIES

— In connection with the border conflict which broke out on 25 December 1985 between **Burkina Faso** and **Mali** (see the 1985 Annual Report) the ICRC, in close collaboration with the Burkina Be Red Cross Society and delegates of the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies based there under programmes to assist victims of the drought, contributed to the purchase of medicines, food supplies and blankets which were transported to the front (provinces of Yatenga and Soum).

The delegates also had access, in accordance with ICRC criteria, to the prisoners captured during the hostilities: 16 Burkina Be were visited in Bamako; two prisoners of war and 16 civilians were seen in Ouagadougou. The situation having returned to normal, the ICRC was informed that these prisoners had been released at the end of January 1986.

In addition, during his regular missions to Burkina Faso and Mali, the regional delegate gave support to the two countries' National Societies, in particular with respect to dissemination and training.

— Frequent missions were carried out to **Benin** in 1986 from the regional delegation in Lomé, in order to support the National Society's dissemination activities under a programme launched in 1984 on the basis of a co-operation agreement covering an initial three-year phase. Delegates continued to help with the ongoing training of National Society officials, in particular with respect to information. Again in co-operation with the Red Cross of Benin, a first training course on the law of war was held from 6 to 10 January 1986 for instructors from the Benin people's armed forces and was attended by about 30 army instructors.

— In **Burundi**, the regional delegate for Africa and the head of the regional delegation in Kinshasa were received on 4 March by the Minister of the Interior, Colonel Charles Kazatsa, who signified his agreement in principle to an ICRC visit, in accordance with the Committee's procedures, to all the places of detention in the country (the previous visits dated back to 1982).

To begin with, from 8 to 31 July the ICRC team consisting of four delegates, including a doctor, visited five of the eleven places of detention to which they had requested access. The second part of the visit took place from 28 October to 20 November (three delegates, including a doctor), involving six places not yet visited and an additional visit to two prisons (Mpimba and Gitega) already seen in July. On completion of this series of visits, the delegates communicated their observations to the competent authorities and in particular the Ministry of the Interior.

Lastly on 10 November a meeting was organized, attended by the prison directors, to enable the delegates not only to explain the ICRC's protection role but also to go into the visits which had just been effected.

In all, therefore, delegates visited 120 detainees, who received medical and material assistance (blankets, basic items) for a value of 19,000 Swiss francs.

— The regional delegate for Africa based in Geneva and the regional delegate based in Lomé travelled to Conakry (**Guinea**) from 14 to 26 August. The ICRC representatives were received by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, the Interior and Defence and by the Permanent Secretary of the *Comité militaire de redressement national* (CMRN), the ruling military council. On completion of the talks, the ICRC addressed an offer of services to the authorities in Conakry requesting authorization to visit persons detained for security reasons. At the end of 1986, the authorities' reply had still not reached the ICRC. Mention should also be made of the visit to Geneva by Dr. Diallo, Minister of Health and President of the National Red Cross Society which was recognized in October 1986.

— Two missions were conducted to **Guinea-Bissau**, one in July by a delegate sent from Geneva and the second in September by the regional delegate. As well as questions relating to the development and recognition — announced in August 1986 — of the Guinea-Bissau Red Cross, the missions also provided an opportunity to meet the Minister of Justice, Mr. Vasco Cabral, and, in September, to offer the ICRC's services for visits to security detainees. The Committee's request was under study at the end of 1986.

— In **Liberia**, where the ICRC had offered its services in December 1985 for visits to all the persons arrested in connection with the attempted *coup d'état* on 12 November 1985, the regional delegate was authorized to visit 16 detainees (including four civilians) in the main prison in Monrovia on 19 May. At the end of August, the regional delegate again travelled to Liberia to visit three persons recently arrested; they were released on 30 August before the delegate had visited them. The mission nevertheless enabled the delegate to help set up a national dissemination seminar organized jointly with the National Society. The seminar, designed to train officials for the local branches of the National Society, was held from 16 to 21 November in the presence of two ICRC delegates.

— In **Rwanda** an ICRC delegation led by the delegate-general for Africa travelled to Kigali to participate in a seminar on refugees and displaced persons in Africa organized jointly by the League and the National Society. During this mission the delegate-general had talks with the Rwanda authorities, in particular the head of state, Major General Juvénal Habyarimana, to whom he conveyed the ICRC's willingness to carry out visits to all of the country's places of detention, in accordance with its customary working methods.

— The President of the Republic of **Senegal** and current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), accompanied by his wife, honorary President of the National Society, and

four of his Ministers, was received at ICRC headquarters by President Hay on 18 June.

As part of ongoing co-operation with the National Society, a first seminar for training in information techniques for members of the Senegalese Red Cross was organized in Dakar from 15 to 20 November with ICRC assistance.

— In order to maintain and strengthen its relations with governments and National Societies and to encourage and help them to organize dissemination activities, the ICRC regional delegates based in Lomé, Kinshasa and Lagos also carried out several missions to **Cameroon** (in June, and then from 14 November to 5 December to help train the National Society in

tracing activities following the Lake Nyos natural disaster), to **Cape Verde** (June), to the **Central African Republic** (February), to the **Congo** (exhibition “The Red Cross, an idea in action” organized by the National Society and the ICRC in Owando), to **Côte d’Ivoire** (May, July) to **Gambia** (submission in June of the reports of visits conducted in December 1985 and contacts with the National Society), to **Ghana** (May), to **Niger** (April) and to **Sierra Leone** (May).

Finally, the ICRC organized a sub-regional workshop on dissemination techniques and methods in Lomé from 10 to 12 November. The seminar brought together 14 participants from four National Societies (Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea and Togo).

RELIEF SUPPLIES DISTRIBUTED BY THE ICRC IN 1986

AFRICA

Country (in French alphabetical order)	Recipient	Relief		Medical Assistance	Total Sw. fr.
		Tonnes	Value in Sw. fr.	Value in Sw. fr.	
South Africa	Detainees, families of detainees, refugees	161	455,406	12,832	468,238
Angola	Displaced civilians and the disabled	11,251	13,699,175	747,063	14,446,238
Burkina Faso	Displaced civilians	31	59,282	19,336	78,618
Burundi	Detainees	6	19,092	—	19,092
Ethiopia	Displaced civilians, prisoners of war	51,615	44,459,240	272,247	44,731,487
Gambia	National Society	—	—	4,898	4,898
Malawi	Refugees	807	170,444	32,034	202,478
Mali	Displaced civilians	—	—	13,330	13,330
Mozambique	Displaced civilians and the disabled	10	37,171	485,189	522,360
Namibia	Detainees, families of detainees, civilian population	56	51,866	1,193	53,059
Uganda	Displaced civilians, detainees, National Society	567	1,155,095	287,827	1,442,922
Somalia	Prisoners of war and hospitals	42	93,269	5,914	99,183
Sudan (conflict in Tigre and Eritrea)	Displaced civilians, prisoners of war	14,772	15,646,448	367,250	16,013,698
Sudan (conflict in southern Sudan)	Displaced civilians, war wounded	2,442	1,563,841	177,196	1,741,037
Chad	Detainees	253	346,616	120,235	466,851
Togo	National Society	—	—	1,961	1,961
Zaire	Detainees and families	20	53,318	12,711	66,029
Zambia	Refugees and National Society	3	24,793	—	24,793
Zimbabwe	Civilians and the disabled	99	79,594	285,280	364,874
TOTAL		82,135	77,914,650	2,846,496	80,761,146

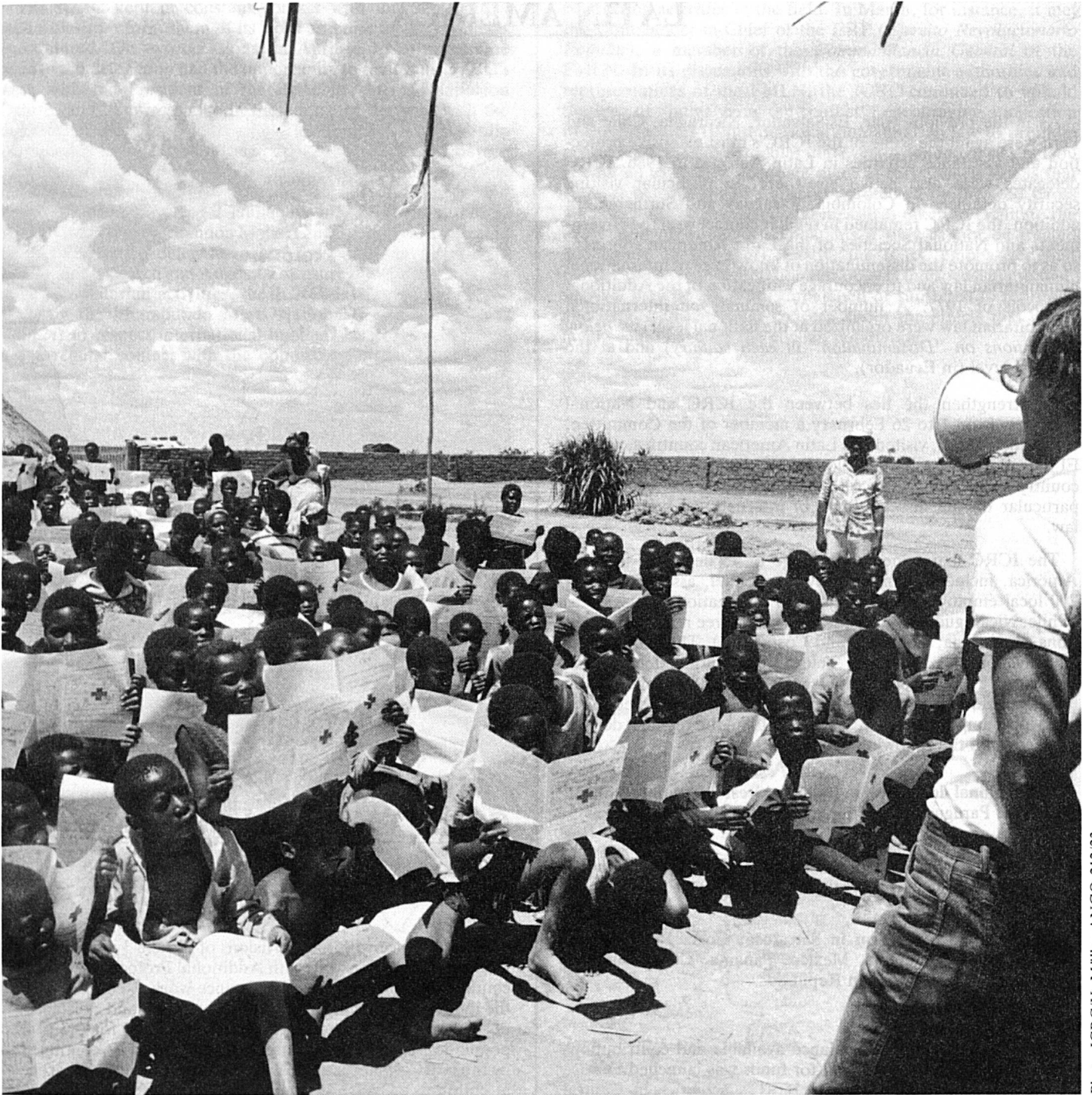


Photo ICRC/Y. Müller ANGO 212/23

Teaching basic humanitarian rules in an Angolan village