

The law and juridical considerations

Objektyp: **Group**

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

Band (Jahr): - **(1987)**

PDF erstellt am: **23.09.2024**

Nutzungsbedingungen

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

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

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

Haftungsausschluss

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

Respect for and development of international humanitarian law

The primary concern of the ICRC is to ensure that existing international humanitarian law is respected and effectively applied during armed conflicts. To this end, it strives to publicize international humanitarian law as widely as possible and ensure that as many States as possible become party to the instruments of humanitarian law (the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and Additional Protocols of 1977). Finally, it also examines aspects of the law which might need revising or developing.

As it has done since 1984, the ICRC continued to consult experts from various countries who contribute, in a personal capacity, to the Committee's studies on respect for international humanitarian law. In 1987, as agreed between the ICRC and the previous experts, two meetings were held in Geneva with a new group of experts, on 9-10 February and from 30 November to 2 December. Several subjects were discussed at the meetings, such as the outcome of the Twenty-fifth International Conference of the Red Cross, the application of international humanitarian law and measures which the ICRC may contemplate in the event of violations thereof, operational and doctrinal problems and ratification of the Additional Protocols.

Overtures to encourage accession to the Geneva Conventions of 1949

A mission was conducted from Geneva to the Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam in November to present the Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols thereto to the country's authorities and invite them to accede to those instruments.

Overtures to encourage ratification of the Additional Protocols of 1977

The sustained efforts deployed by the ICRC to induce all States to become party to the Additional Protocols of 1977 are an essential component of its general endeavour to increase awareness of international humanitarian law, strengthen the credibility of international humanitarian

law and encourage better respect for it.

1977 saw the **tenth anniversary of the Additional Protocols**. To mark the occasion, a letter from the President of the ICRC was addressed in June to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the 165 States party to the Geneva Conventions, either encouraging them to ratify the Protocols or — for those already party to the texts in question — reminding them of their duty to urge other governments to ratify them. The President's letter highlighted the progress which the Protocols constitute in the field of international humanitarian law and the need for the texts to be universally accepted. The National Societies, whose support in this sphere is invaluable, were informed of this action. The President's letter elicited several substantive replies.

The May-June 1987 issue of the *International Review of the Red Cross*, the official publication of the ICRC, was devoted to the Additional Protocols. In addition, several jurists and experts in international humanitarian law from all over the world were invited to publish articles on the Protocols in the press of their respective countries. Finally, the ICRC issued a press release to mark the tenth anniversary of the Protocols on 8 June.

Several members of the Committee and ICRC legal experts attended the international symposium organized by the Law Faculty of the University of Geneva from 11 to 13 June entitled "The Protocols of 1977 additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 — ten years later". The symposium focused on three main topics: acceptance of the Protocols, their application, and future prospects.

Apart from these specific representations and commemorative events, the ICRC continued to remind States regularly of the existence and importance of the Protocols and to maintain a dialogue with them in order to promote adoption of the texts. This dialogue was established both by the ICRC delegations with the authorities of the countries in which they are stationed, and through missions carried out from Geneva and discussions with numerous officials received at ICRC headquarters. Likewise, the President of the ICRC raised the subject during his various missions last year, in Brazil, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the USSR. The ICRC legal adviser, who has special responsibility for the question of the Protocols and thus maintains regular contact with a great number of States on the subject, carried out missions to Brunei Darussalam, the

Federal Republic of Germany, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, the United Kingdom and the United States (seminars on customary law and the Protocols, see the section on "Europe and North America").

Within the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the Eighteenth Conference of Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross Societies also urged the Arab States to ratify the Protocols. The Thirteenth Inter-American Conference likewise firmly encouraged implementation of the resolution of the Twenty-fifth International Conference of the Red Cross calling for the Protocols to be ratified.

The ICRC also raises the question of the Additional Protocols in various **intergovernmental and non-governmental bodies**. In 1987, the Andean Parliament (6th ordinary session, in March) and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (1 July) adopted resolutions supporting the ICRC's work and calling *inter alia* for ratification of the Protocols.

In addition to its efforts to promote ratification of the Protocols, the ICRC remained available to give States who have become party to those texts advice on **implementation** thereof in compliance with their commitments.

State of ratifications and accessions to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols of 1977

Four States deposited their instruments of ratification of the two Additional Protocols with the Depository State, the Swiss Confederation, namely **Iceland**, on 10 April; the **Netherlands**, on 26 June; **Guatemala**, on 19 October; and **Burkina Faso**, on 20 October. **Saudi Arabia** acceded to Additional Protocol I on 21 August. The Additional Protocols enter into force for those States six months after the above dates. It should be noted that the instruments of ratification deposited by Iceland and the Netherlands included acceptance of the competence of the International Fact-Finding Commission provided for in Article 90 of Protocol I. Belgium, which had ratified the Protocols in 1986, also made a declaration in 1987 announcing its acceptance of the Commission's competence.

As at 31 December 1987, 165 States were party to the Conventions, 71 to Protocol I and 64 to Protocol II) (see table, pp. 107-110 of this report).

Withdrawal of a reservation

On 16 February Finland informed the Swiss Confederation that it withdrew the reservation which it had formulated with respect to paragraph 4 (i) of Article 75 when ratifying Protocol I.

Development of international humanitarian law

In its Resolutions III (*identification of medical transports*) and VII (*work on international humanitarian law in armed conflicts at sea and on land*), the Twenty-fifth International Conference of the Red Cross requested the ICRC to follow up these matters and keep it informed.

Pursuant to Resolution III (operative paragraph 4), in 1987 the ICRC began work on a technical manual to facilitate the practical application of the Second Convention.

The ICRC attended, as an observer, the World Administrative Radio Conference for the Mobile Services (WARC-Mob-87) convened to carry out a partial revision of the Radio Regulations with a view to forthcoming implementation of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System. The Conference decided to retain in its entirety Section II of Article 40 of the Regulations (relating to medical transports). It also adopted a recommendation inviting the International Radio Consultative Committee (CCIR) to study the question of the identification and location of medical transports by means of standard maritime radar transponders and inviting the national administrations to provide the CCIR with information on this question.

In consultation with the ICRC, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) incorporated regulatory provisions in the Airworthiness Technical Manual which provide for the use of a flashing blue light to identify medical aircraft protected under Article 36 of the First Convention, Article 39 of the Second Convention, subparagraph (m) of Article 8 and paragraph 5 of Article 18 of Protocol I and Article 6 of Annex I thereto. In so doing, the ICAO gave effect to Resolution 17 of the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law of 1977.

Finally, ICRC staff took part in two meetings on the law of war at sea, namely: the round table on international humanitarian law applicable to armed conflict at sea, organized in San Remo from 15 to 17 June by the International Institute of Humanitarian Law, the Institute of International Law of the University of Pisa and the University of Syracuse (United States) for academic and government (Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defence) representatives of various countries; and a symposium entitled "Law of the sea, law of war and humanitarian law" organized in Brest on 15 and 16 October by the French Institute of Humanitarian Law and Human Rights and by the University of Western Brittany, for French academic circles and the French navy.

The aim of the above meetings was to identify the present main legal and technical problems with regard to arm-

ed conflict at sea. The ICRC representatives took the opportunity to raise the problem of the identification of vessels protected under the Second Convention, drawing attention to the difficulties encountered during the conflict in the South Atlantic in 1982 and highlighting the need to improve the identification and marking system for medical transports. The round table in San Remo adopted a resolution listing the basic humanitarian principles which are important in the conduct of hostilities at sea and which deserve further thought as to appropriate rules of application.

As regards the protection of the individual in *situations of internal disturbances and tensions* (situations not covered by international humanitarian law), the ICRC had made its thinking on the matter public at the Twenty-fifth International Conference of the Red Cross (see the 1986 Annual Report, page 88).

In 1987, the ICRC and the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights organized a seminar in Mexico from 16 to 20 March on "International legal protection of human beings in exceptional situations", following on from the seminar held in Buenos Aires in 1985 (see the 1985 Annual Report, page 87). Twenty-five people in senior positions (judges, experts on human rights, government representatives) from 16 Latin American countries took part in the meeting. The ICRC delegation was led by the Director General of the ICRC.

An ICRC official also attended a seminar organized by the Norwegian Institute of Human Rights in Oslo from 15 to 17 June. This Workshop on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law in Internal Conflicts brought together some twenty representatives from academic and government circles, from the United Nations Centre for Human Rights and from various humanitarian organizations. The ICRC representative gave an account of the ICRC's lines of thought on the protection of persons affected by the consequences of disturbances and tensions, explaining the reasons why the ICRC had decided to refrain from submitting a draft declaration on the principles to be applied in such situations to the Twenty-fifth International Conference.

Law relating to the conduct of hostilities: prohibition or restriction of the use of certain conventional weapons

Under the mandate entrusted to it by the International Conference (Resolution IX of the Twenty-fourth Conference and Resolution VII B of the Twenty-fifth Conference), the ICRC continued to concern itself with the question of the use of certain conventional weapons,

maintaining contact on the subject with military advisers and experts.

The prohibition or restriction of the use of certain conventional weapons was enshrined in a Convention adopted on 10 October 1980 (the "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects"), which was accompanied by three Protocols on non-detectable fragments, mines and booby-traps and incendiary weapons. As at 31 December 1987, 27 States were bound by those instruments: Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Byelorussia, China, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, the German Democratic Republic, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Japan, Laos, Mexico, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, the Ukraine, the USSR and Yugoslavia.

Dissemination of international humanitarian law and the principles and ideals of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

Dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law and the principles and ideals of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement is a vital part of the ICRC's constant effort to promote knowledge of the law and thereby foster respect for it and to publicize the history, principles, ideals and work of the Movement. The ICRC's efforts in this regard are based in particular on the Third Programme of Action, adopted by the Twenty-fifth International Conference and covering the period 1986-1990. Like those preceding it, this third programme, which also concerns the League and the National Societies, is centred on the following four objectives:

- to encourage ratification of the Additional Protocols of 1977;
- to analyse the legal implications and implementation of these texts;
- to disseminate and stimulate dissemination of international humanitarian law in various circles (National Societies, governments, the armed forces, universities, etc.);

- to integrate the dissemination of the principles and ideals of the Red Cross in all the activities of the Movement.

In its Resolution 4, the Council of Delegates (at its 27 November session) urged the National Societies which have not yet done so to appoint officers responsible for dissemination. Furthermore, it invited the entire Movement to continue and expand its dissemination activities.

Dissemination is one of the tasks which all ICRC delegations have to perform. It is also the subject of many missions sent out from headquarters to maintain relations with the National Societies and governments, or to organize or participate in seminars. In addition, the ICRC has continued to provide refresher courses in Geneva for persons capable of promoting knowledge of international humanitarian law. In 1987, for instance, seventeen National Society representatives actively engaged in dissemination work and university teachers, from all the continents, attended a course at ICRC headquarters.

As described below, for dissemination activities the ICRC co-operates not only with the League, the National Societies and the Henry Dunant Institute, but also with bodies which are not part of the Movement (general dissemination activities according to the various target groups are described below: an account of activities specific to each country is given under "Action in the field").

Finally, at the proposal of the Hungarian Red Cross during the 1986 Council of Delegates, in 1987 the ICRC embarked upon a study on respect for and dissemination of its fundamental principles. As part of the study, which is still under way, it consulted leading members of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement at a meeting held in Budapest on 13 and 14 October.

Dissemination in the armed forces

In times of war, it is the armed forces which are responsible for the practical application of humanitarian rules; they are therefore one of the main target groups for the ICRC, which endeavours not only to familiarize them with the international humanitarian law applicable during armed conflicts but also and above all to encourage its teaching in military training schools. Special responsibility for this task is entrusted to a "delegates to the armed forces" service at ICRC headquarters; the service is supported by the ICRC delegations throughout the world.

Four "central" courses (with international participation) devised and directed by that service were held in 1987, namely the 21st, 22nd and 23rd *International Course on the Law of War* organized in San Remo (Italy) by the International Institute of Humanitarian Law, and the

Seventh Course on the Law of Armed Conflicts for Senior Officers in Military Medical Services organized in Geneva by the International Committee of Military Medicine and Pharmacy.

The San Remo courses (three in 1987 for the first time), intended for army, navy and air force commanders, officers holding staff college certificates, officers responsible for teaching the law of war and military jurists, took place from 11 to 22 May (in French and Spanish), 28 September to 9 October and 12 to 23 October (both in English). They assembled a total of 75 participants from Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Cameroon, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Gabon, the Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States and Zambia. The course for military doctors, held from 15 to 28 November, was attended by 16 participants from the Federal Republic of Germany, Indonesia, Iraq, the Netherlands, Qatar, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates. The courses linked theory (presentation of legal instruments) and practice (rules to be observed in the conduct of military operations, attitude to be adopted vis-à-vis civilian and military victims).

In addition to these "central" courses, the delegates to the armed forces gave several national courses on the law of war: for officers in Sudan (Khartoum, February), Swaziland (Mbabane, April), Zambia (Lusaka, May), Honduras (Tegucigalpa, July) the Dominican Republic (San Domingo, July) Botswana (Gaborone, November), Lesotho (Maseru, December). In Switzerland too, the ICRC helped with lessons on the law of war in a number of military schools and during courses organized by the Swiss *Office fédéral de l'Adjudance*.

In 1987, the ICRC published a *Handbook on the Law of War for Armed Forces*, written by Mr. Frédéric de Mulinen, delegate to the armed forces. The handbook is designed to answer questions which may arise for senior officers in various military situations involving problems of international humanitarian law. It is aimed above all at commanders of large units and commanders of units with a staff command. Apart from legal material, the handbook contains rules to guide behaviour during operations and a model instruction programme. It is used as a basis for the structure of the "central" courses, and will also be published in French and Spanish.

Dissemination to National Societies

The National Societies are a particularly important target group, since they must in their turn disseminate

knowledge of international humanitarian law to other groups, acting as a driving force in this respect in their country. The ICRC therefore helps them to establish and implement dissemination programmes and participates in the training of their senior staff.

As well as many local training seminars, the ICRC organized regional courses:

□ with the collaboration of the Red Cross Society of Saint Lucia and the League, the second training course for information and dissemination officers from the National Societies of the Caribbean, Belize, Suriname and Guyana, held in Castries (Saint Lucia), from 2 to 8 August, in English;

□ with the collaboration of the Nicaraguan Red Cross and the League, the third course for information and dissemination officers from the National Societies of Central America, Mexico, Cuba and the Dominican Republic, held in Managua, from 16 to 26 August, in Spanish;

□ with the collaboration of the Burkina Be Red Cross, a training seminar for group leaders, followed by a workshop on the fundamental principles of the Red Cross as a contribution to peace, for Red Cross group leaders from Burkina Faso, Togo, Benin and Nigeria, held in Ouagadougou in March.

The ICRC helped several National Societies to organize seminars on international humanitarian law for various target groups in their own countries and at regional levels. For instance, the Red Cross of Benin, the National University of Benin and the ICRC arranged a seminar on international humanitarian law for jurists and representatives of the armed forces and academic circles from nine African countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Togo), on the protection of civilian populations during periods of armed conflict, which was held in Cotonou (Benin), from 7 to 10 April.

From 6 to 12 July in Hammamet (Tunisia), the ICRC, the Tunisian Red Cross and the Documentation Centre for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law of the University of Tunis Law Faculty organized the first Maghreb Symposium on International Humanitarian Law. The symposium was attended by dissemination officers from the Algerian, Moroccan and Tunisian Red Crescent Societies, by representatives of the Algerian and Tunisian Ministries of Foreign Affairs and the Tunisian Ministries of the Interior and Health, and by tutors from the law faculties of Tunis, Algiers and Oran. Several topics concerning international humanitarian law and the relationship between this law and human rights were studied.

Dissemination to government and diplomatic circles

The ICRC maintains a constant dialogue with governments in order to make the instruments of international humanitarian law more widely known among them and to remind them that the application and dissemination of these texts is a formal obligation of each State party to the Geneva Conventions.

In connection with its efforts to disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law in diplomatic circles, the ICRC jointly organized with the Law School of New York University the fourth seminar on international humanitarian law for diplomats accredited to the United Nations. The seminar, which was held in New York from 15 to 17 January, was attended by some fifty participants.

In Costa Rica, as in the past, the ICRC gave lectures at the interdisciplinary course on human rights organized in August by the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights. The course brought together around 140 senior officials and judges from 26 Latin American countries, and included an introduction to international humanitarian law presented in connection with the Jean Pictet Chair, a professorship founded in 1985.

The ICRC continued to be associated with the training programme for diplomats organized by the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva. A talk was given to diplomats from the Third World on the role of international humanitarian law in international relations.

The ICRC also gave a lecture on international humanitarian law and public international law to diplomats, senior foreign affairs officials and law teachers from various countries at the XXIIIrd seminar on international law organized in connection with the annual session of the United Nations International Law Commission in Geneva in June.

Finally, in Geneva in August the ICRC organized for the second time an introductory course on international humanitarian law in Arabic for government representatives of the Yemen Arab Republic.

Dissemination in universities

The ICRC endeavours to make international humanitarian law more widely known in universities, where many of those who will ultimately fill posts of responsibility in government and politics are trained. It also strives to promote the inclusion of international humanitarian law in university curricula.

In this connection, summer courses are organized by the ICRC and the Polish Red Cross for advanced law students from Europe and North America, in order to train

specialists in international humanitarian law and consider with them ways in which they could promote dissemination of this law in their universities or in government circles. In 1987, the fifth summer course, held in Warsaw from 17 to 29 August, was attended by around 50 students from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, the German Democratic Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States, the USSR and Yugoslavia. The teaching staff consisted of professors from universities in Poland, Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, Austria and the United Kingdom, and representatives of the ICRC (including Mr. Aubert, Vice-President, and Professor Daniel Frei, member of the Committee), the League, the National Societies of Yugoslavia and Denmark and the Henry Dunant Institute.

The ICRC continued to participate in the teaching of international humanitarian law at the University of Geneva, the International Institute of Human Rights in Strasbourg (eighteenth session in July), the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights and the Henry Dunant Institute. An introduction to humanitarian law was also given to some 20 postgraduate students from various countries at the Inter-University Centre of Postgraduate Studies in Dubrovnik (Yugoslavia) in February.

Co-operation with other organizations on legal and humanitarian issues

The ICRC keeps in touch with various international and non-international organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, on humanitarian issues and questions of international humanitarian law. It thus participates in many meetings organized outside the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, but dealing with subjects of humanitarian interest or related to international humanitarian law, public international law or human rights.

These meetings also offer opportunities for useful contacts with the representatives of the different countries participating.

Activities in this context are arranged by the ICRC's International Organizations Division, by the New York delegation and by other ICRC staff members, in particular lawyers.

United Nations Organization

The ICRC followed the annual meetings of various United Nations bodies and specialized agencies as an observer, including:

- the 42nd session of the United Nations General Assembly (New York, September-December);
- the first and second sessions of ECOSOC (New York, May and Geneva, June-July);
- the 40th World Health Assembly (Geneva, May) and the 79th session of the WHO Executive Board (Geneva, January);
- the 73rd International Labour Conference (ILO, Geneva, June) and the IVth ILO European Regional Conference (Geneva, September);
- the 38th session of the Executive Committee of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the UNHCR round table on the theme "Assistance to refugees: humanitarian action and political considerations" (Geneva, 19 May);
- the 43rd session of the Commission on Human Rights (Geneva, February-March);
- the 39th session of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities (Geneva, 10 August — 4 September);
- the 29th, 30th and 31st sessions of the Human Rights Committee (Geneva, March-April, July and October-November).

The ICRC also attended the International Conference on Children in Situations of Armed Conflict in Africa organized by UNICEF in Nairobi from 6 to 10 July.

It followed the work of the World Administrative Radio Conference for the Mobile Services, organized by the ITU in Geneva from 14 September to 16 October (see the section on development of international humanitarian law above).

It also participated in several information meetings organized by UNDRO.

As it has done for several years past, the ICRC invited the members of the United Nations International Law Commission to its headquarters on 25 June, as well as giving a lecture at a seminar on international law held during the Commission's annual session.

Finally, in Geneva on 19 June President Sommaruga had talks with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, during which various ICRC operational activities were discussed, along with the

tenth anniversary of the signing of the Additional Protocols.

Regional organizations and Inter-Parliamentary Union

The ICRC maintained contacts with:

□ *the Council of Europe*, by attending meetings of the Parliamentary Assembly (38th session, third part; 39th session, first and second part), of the Permanent Commission and of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Demography. Acting on behalf of the Parliamentary Assembly, on 1 July the Permanent Commission adopted a new resolution supporting the ICRC's work, international humanitarian law and the Movement's efforts to secure peace (Resolution No. 881 relating to ICRC activities: 1984-1986). On 30 June, the members of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Demography were received at ICRC headquarters by the Vice-President of the ICRC;

□ *the Organization of African Unity (OAU)*, by attending the 46th ordinary session of the Council of Ministers and the 23rd Conference of Heads of State and Government at Addis Ababa in July (the ICRC delegation to the Conference was led by Mr. Rudolf Jäckli, member of the Committee). At the invitation of the OAU, the ICRC was also represented at the second Conference of African Health Ministers which took place in Cairo in April. Finally, on 9 July the current Chairman of the OAU, H.E. Mr. Denis Sassou Nguesso, was received at ICRC headquarters by President Sommaruga and several members of the Committee;

□ *the Organization of American States (OAS)*, by following *inter alia* the work of the 17th regular session of the General Assembly held in Washington in November;

□ *the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)*, by participating as an observer in the 77th and 78th Inter-Parliamentary Conferences held in Managua (27 April-2 May) and Bangkok (12-17 October), respectively. The agenda of the 78th Conference included an item on the parliaments' contribution to the respect, development and promotion of human rights and to respect for the fundamental principles, treaties and obligations governing relations among nations in order to solve the problem of refugees and displaced persons;

□ *the European Communities* (see also the section on "Europe and North America"), in particular by attending the second plenary session of the European Parliament in

Strasbourg in February and the Subcommittee on Human Rights in Berlin on 25 June;

□ *the Andean Parliament*, by attending for the first time a meeting of its General Assembly, held in Bogotá in March. The Assembly adopted a resolution institutionalizing relations between the ICRC and the Andean Parliament and calling upon Member States to support the ICRC's work and contribute to respect for international humanitarian law (the resolution also invites States which have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the Additional Protocols);

□ *the Latin American Parliament*.

Finally, the ICRC attended the 56th session of the Council of the *Inter-Governmental Committee for Migration (ICM)* on 1 and 2 December in Geneva.

Non-governmental organizations

As it has done in recent years, the ICRC continued to collaborate closely with the *International Institute of Humanitarian Law in San Remo (Italy)*, in particular by participating in the following meetings:

□ international courses on the law of war (see the section on "Dissemination in the armed forces" in this report);

□ the round table on the status of personnel and volunteers of international and national organizations in humanitarian actions, organized with the Monaco Red Cross and the Medico-Legal Commission of Monaco (Monaco, 22-24 April);

□ the IVth seminar on international humanitarian law in the contemporary world, organized with the Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the USSR and the Patrice Lumumba University in Moscow and placed under the auspices of the UNHCR and ICRC (Moscow, 4-6 June). The seminar brought together representatives of National Societies and government and university circles from Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, the German Democratic Republic, Finland, Hungary, Norway, Poland, Romania, Sweden and the USSR;

□ the round table on international humanitarian law applicable during armed conflicts at sea (see the section on "Development of international humanitarian law" above);

□ the XIIth round table on current problems of international humanitarian law, Refugees' Day and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Symposium (San Remo, 2-5 September) attended by some 130 participants (government authorities, academic world, international organiza-

tions, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement); whereas the round table focused on the implementation of international humanitarian law and the Refugees' Day highlighted the problem of their protection, the symposium was devoted to the agreements linking the National Societies with their governments and defining their role as auxiliaries to the armed forces' medical services in times of armed conflict.

The ICRC also maintained relations with the following organizations:

- *the International Institute of Human Rights in Strasbourg* (teaching of international humanitarian law);
- *the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights in San José, Costa Rica* (idem);
- *the American Society of International Law*;
- *the World Veterans Federation (WVF)*: participation in the February meeting of the working group on implementation of the recommendations of the WVF Symposium held in Norway in 1986; participation in March in the meeting of the Standing Committee on Women and in the 45th meeting of the WVF General Council; visit by

the President of WVF to ICRC headquarters on 28 October;

- *the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA)*: participation in various meetings, including the round table on the protection and assistance to be given to refugees and displaced persons held in Geneva on 6 March to mark ICVA's 25th anniversary.

The ICRC attended a number of other meetings of *non-governmental organizations* (NGOs), in particular with regard to the draft Convention on the Rights of the Child: meeting of the *ad hoc* group of NGOs at UNICEF headquarters in Geneva in May and October; NGO meeting organized by the Italian Committee for UNICEF and the Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations on UNICEF in Lignano (Italy) from 11 to 13 September.

Finally, the ICRC attended the first international conference on "Humanitarian law and ethics" organized in Paris from 26 to 28 January by "Médecins du Monde" and the law faculty of Paris-Sud, as well as the VIIth World Congress of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) in Moscow (29 May — 1 June).

**STATES PARTY TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 12 AUGUST 1949
AND TO THE TWO ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS OF 8 JUNE 1977**

Situation as at 31 December 1987

(The names of a number of countries in this list may differ from those countries' official names.)

COUNTRY	GENEVA CONVENTIONS			PROTOCOL I				PROTOCOL II			
	A, R, S ¹	Reservations/ Declarations	Date	Signature	A, R, S ¹	Reservations/ Declarations	Date	Signature	A, R, S ¹	Reservations/ Declarations	Date
Afghanistan	R		26.09.56								
Albania	R	X	27.05.57								
Algeria	A		20.06.60								
Angola	A	X	20.09.84		A	X	20.09.84				
Antigua and Barbuda	S		06.10.86		A		06.10.86		A		06.10.86
Argentina	R		18.09.56		A	X	26.11.86		A	X	26.11.86
Australia	R		14.10.58	X				X			
Austria	R		27.08.53	X	R ²	X	13.08.82	X	R	X	13.08.82
Bahamas	S		11.07.75		A		10.04.80		A		10.04.80
Bahrain	A		30.11.71		A		30.10.86		A		30.10.86
Bangladesh	S		04.04.72		A		08.09.80		A		08.09.80
Barbados	S		10.09.68								
Belgium	R		03.09.52	X	R ²	X	20.05.86	X	R		20.05.86
Belize	A		29.06.84		A		29.06.84		A		29.06.84
Benin	S		14.12.61		A		28.05.86		A		28.05.86
Bhutan											
Bolivia	R		10.12.76		A		08.12.83		A		08.12.83
Botswana	A		29.03.68		A		23.05.79		A		23.05.79
Brazil	R		29.06.57								
Brunei											
Bulgaria	R	X	22.07.54	X				X			
Burkina Faso	S		07.11.61	X	R		20.10.87	X	R		20.10.87
Burma											
Burundi	S		27.12.71								
Byelorussia	R	X	03.08.54	X				X			
Cameroon	S		16.09.63		A		16.03.84		A		16.03.84
Canada	R		14.05.65	X				X			
Cape Verde	A		11.05.84								
Central African Republic	S		01.08.66		A		17.07.84		A		17.07.84
Chad	A		05.08.70								
Chile	R		12.10.50	X				X			
China	R	X	28.12.56		A	X	14.09.83		A		14.09.83
Colombia	R		08.11.61								
Comoros	A		21.11.85		A		21.11.85		A		21.11.85
Congo	S		30.01.67		A		10.11.83		A		10.11.83
Costa Rica	A		15.10.69		A		15.12.83		A		15.12.83
Côte d'Ivoire	S		28.12.61	X				X			
Cuba	R		15.04.54		A		25.11.82				
Cyprus	A		23.05.62	X	R		01.06.79				
Czechoslovakia	R	X	19.12.50	X				X			
Denmark	R		27.06.51	X	R ²	X	17.06.82	X	R		17.06.82
Djibouti	S		06.03.78 ³								
Dominica	S		28.09.81								
Dominican Republic	A		22.01.58								

¹ A = accession; R = ratification; S = declaration of succession.

² States which made the declaration regarding preliminary acceptance of the competence of the International Fact-Finding Commission, as provided for in Article 90 of Protocol I. Belgium's declaration of acceptance was made on 27.03.87.

³ Djibouti's declaration of succession to the First Convention was dated 26.01.78 and not 06.03.78 as for the other three Conventions.

**STATES PARTY TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 12 AUGUST 1949
AND TO THE TWO ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS OF 8 JUNE 1977**

Situation as at 31 December 1987

(The names of a number of countries in this list may differ from those countries' official names.)

COUNTRY	GENEVA CONVENTIONS			PROTOCOL I				PROTOCOL II			
	A, R, S ¹	Reservations/ Declarations	Date	Signature	A, R, S ¹	Reservations/ Declarations	Date	Signature	A, R, S ¹	Reservations/ Declarations	Date
Ecuador	R		11.08.54	X	R		10.04.79	X	R		10.04.79
Egypt	R		10.11.52	X		X		X			
El Salvador	R		17.06.53	X	R		23.11.78	X	R		23.11.78
Equatorial Guinea	A		24.07.86		A		24.07.86		A		24.07.86
Ethiopia	R		02.10.69								
Fiji	S		09.08.71								
Finland	R		22.02.55	X	R ²	X	07.08.80	X	R		07.08.80
France	R		28.06.51						A	X ³	24.02.84
Gabon	S		20.02.65		A		08.04.80		A		08.04.80
Gambia	S		20.10.66								
German (Dem. Rep.)	A	X	30.11.56	X				X			
Germany (Fed. Rep. of)	A		03.09.54	X				X			
Ghana	A		02.08.58	X	R ⁴		28.02.78	X	R ⁴		28.02.78
Greece	R		05.06.56	X							
Grenada	S		13.04.81								
Guatemala	R	X	14.05.52	X	R		19.10.87	X	R		19.10.87
Guinea	A		11.07.84		A		11.07.84		A		11.07.84
Guinea-Bissau	A	X	21.02.74		A		21.10.86		A		21.10.86
Guyana	S		22.07.68								
Haiti	A		11.04.57								
Holy See	R		22.02.51	X	R	X	21.11.85	X	R	X	21.11.85
Honduras	A		31.12.65	X				X			
Hungary	R	X	03.08.54	X				X			
Iceland	A		10.08.65	X	R ²	X	10.04.87	X	R		10.04.87
India	R		09.11.50								
Indonesia	A		30.09.58								
Iran	R		20.02.57	X				X			
Iraq	A		14.02.56								
Ireland	R		27.09.62	X				X			
Israel	R	X	06.07.51								
Italy	R		17.12.51	X	R ²	X	27.02.86	X	R	X	27.02.86
Jamaica	S		17.07.64		A		29.07.86		A		29.07.86
Japan	A		21.04.53								
Jordan	A		29.05.51	X	R		01.05.79	X	R		01.05.79
Kampuchea	A		08.12.58								
Kenya	A		20.09.66								
Kiribati											
Korea (Rep.)	A	X	16.08.66 ⁵	X	R	X	15.01.82	X	R		15.01.82
Korea (Dem. People's Rep.)	A	X	27.08.57								
Kuwait	A		02.09.67		A		17.01.85		A		17.01.85
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	A		29.10.56	X	R		18.11.80	X	R		18.11.80
Lebanon	R		10.04.51								

¹ A = accession; R = ratification; S = declaration of succession.

² States which made the declaration regarding preliminary acceptance of the competence of the International Fact-Finding Commission, as provided for in Article 90 of Protocol I.

³ On accession to Protocol II, France made a declaration concerning Protocol I.

⁴ Entry into force on 7 July 1978.

⁵ Entry into force on 23 September 1966, Korea having invoked Arts. 62/61/141/157 (immediate effect).

**STATES PARTY TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 12 AUGUST 1949
AND TO THE TWO ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS OF 8 JUNE 1977**

Situation as at 31 December 1987

(The names of a number of countries in this list may differ from those countries' official names.)

COUNTRY	GENEVA CONVENTIONS			PROTOCOL I				PROTOCOL II			
	A, R, S ¹	Reservations/ Declarations	Date	Signature	A, R, S ¹	Reservations/ Declarations	Date	Signature	A, R, S ¹	Reservations/ Declarations	Date
Lesotho	S		20.05.68								
Liberia	A		29.03.54								
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	A		22.05.56		A		07.06.78		A		07.06.78
Liechtenstein	R		21.09.50	X				X			
Luxembourg	R		01.07.53	X				X			
Madagascar	S		13.07.63	X				X			
Malawi	A		05.01.68								
Malaysia	A		24.08.62								
Maldives											
Mali	A		24.05.65								
Malta	S		22.08.68								
Mauritania	S		27.10.62		A		14.03.80		A		14.03.80
Mauritius	S		18.08.70		A		22.03.82		A		22.03.82
Mexico	R		29.10.52		A		10.03.83				
Monaco	R		05.07.50								
Mongolia	A		20.12.58	X				X			
Morocco	A		26.07.56	X				X			
Mozambique	A		14.03.83		A		14.03.83				
Namibia ³	A		18.10.83		A		18.10.83		A		18.10.83
Nauru											
Nepal	A		07.02.64								
Netherlands	R		03.08.54	X	R ²	X	26.06.87	X	R		26.06.87
New Zealand	R		02.05.59	X				X			
Nicaragua	R		17.12.53	X				X			
Niger	S		16.04.64	X	R		08.06.79	X	R		08.06.79
Nigeria	S		09.06.61								
Norway	R		03.08.51	X	R ²		14.12.81	X	R		14.12.81
Oman	A		31.01.74		A	X	29.03.84		A	X	29.03.84
Pakistan	R	X	12.06.51	X				X			
Panama	A		10.02.56	X				X			
Papua New Guinea	S		26.05.76								
Paraguay	R		23.10.61								
Peru	R		15.02.56	X				X			
Philippines	R		06.10.52 ⁴	X					A		11.12.86
Poland	R	X	26.11.54	X				X			
Portugal	R	X	14.03.61	X				X			
Qatar	R	X	15.10.75		R						
Romania	R	X	01.06.54	X				X			
Rwanda	S		21.03.64		A		19.11.84		A		19.11.84
Saint Christopher & Nevis	S		14.02.86		A		14.02.86		A		14.02.86
Saint Lucia	S		18.09.81		A		07.10.82		A		07.10.82
Saint Vincent & Grenadines	A		01.04.81		A		08.04.83		A		08.04.83

¹ A = accession; R = ratification; S = declaration of succession.

² States which made the declaration regarding preliminary acceptance of the competence of the International Fact-Finding Commission, as provided for in Article 90 of Protocol I.

³ Instruments of accession deposited by the United Nations Council for Namibia.

⁴ With the exception of Convention I, ratified on 07.03.51.

**STATES PARTY TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 12 AUGUST 1949
AND TO THE TWO ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS OF 8 JUNE 1977**

Situation as at 31 December 1987

(The names of a number of countries in this list may differ from those countries' official names.)

COUNTRY	GENEVA CONVENTIONS			PROTOCOL I				PROTOCOL II			
	A, R, S ¹	Reservations/ Declarations	Date	Signature	A, R, S ¹	Reservations/ Declarations	Date	Signature	A, R, S ¹	Reservations/ Declarations	Date
Samoa	S		23.08.84		A		23.08.84		A		23.08.84
San Marino	A		29.08.53	X				X			
Sao Tome & Principe	A		21.05.76								
Saudi Arabia	A		18.05.63		A	X	21.08.87				
Senegal	S		23.04.63	X	R		07.05.85	X	R		07.05.85
Seychelles	A		08.11.84		A		08.11.84		A		08.11.84
Sierra Leone	S		31.05.65		A		21.10.86		A		21.10.86
Singapore	A		27.04.73								
Solomons	S		06.07.81								
Somalia	A		12.07.62								
South Africa	A		31.03.52								
Spain	R		04.08.52	X				X			
Sri Lanka	R		28.02.59 ³								
Sudan	A		23.09.57								
Suriname	S	X	13.10.76		A		16.12.85		A		16.12.85
Swaziland	A		28.06.73								
Sweden	R		28.12.53	X	R ²	X	31.08.79	X	R		31.08.79
Switzerland	R		31.03.50	X	R ²	X	17.02.82	X	R		17.02.82
Syria	R		02.11.53		A	X	14.11.83				
Tanzania	S		12.12.62		A		15.02.83		A		15.02.83
Thailand	A		29.12.54								
Togo	S		06.01.62			R	21.06.84	X	R		21.06.84
Tonga	S		13.04.78								
Trinidad & Tobago	A		24.09.63 ⁴								
Tunisia	A		04.05.57	X	R		09.08.79	X	R		09.08.79
Turkey	R		10.02.54								
Tuvalu	S		19.02.81								
Uganda	A		18.05.64								
Ukraine	R	X	03.08.54	X				X			
USSR	R	X	10.05.54	X				X			
United Arab Emirates	A		10.05.72		A		09.03.83		A	X	09.03.83
United Kingdom	R		23.09.57	X				X			
United States	R	X	02.08.55	X				X			
Uruguay	R	X	05.03.69		A		13.12.85		A		13.12.85
Vanuatu	A		27.10.82		A		28.02.85		A		28.02.85
Venezuela	R		13.02.56								
Viet Nam	A	X	28.06.57	X	R		19.10.81				
Yemen (Arab Rep.)	A		16.07.70	X				X			
Yemen (People's Rep.)	A		25.05.77								
Yugoslavia	R	X	21.04.50	X	R	X	11.06.79	X	R		11.06.79
Zaire	S	X	20.02.61		A		03.06.82				
Zambia	A		19.10.66								
Zimbabwe	A		07.03.83								

¹ A = accession; R = ratification; S = declaration of succession.

² States which made the declaration regarding preliminary acceptance of the competence of the International Fact-Finding Commission, as provided for in Article 90 of Protocol I.

³ With the exception of the Fourth Convention, to which Sri Lanka acceded on 23.02.59. (Sri Lanka signed only the First, Second and Third Conventions.)

⁴ Trinidad and Tobago's accession to the First Convention was on 17.05.63 and not on 24.09.63 as for the other three Conventions.