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Publications

In February 1976, the first number of a new offset publication, the "ICRC Bulletin" was published. This succeeded the "ICRC in Action", which ceased publication at the end of 1975 after seven years of existence. Produced monthly in English, French, Spanish and German, the "ICRC Bulletin" is primarily designed for the press and for National Societies. As a link between the public and the ICRC this new monthly publication is written in a journalistic style and has no official character. Its purpose is to give its readers a variety of information about the many activities of the institution, to promote broader understanding of its principles and methods, and to contribute to clarification of a number of complex questions.

The Press and Information Division also produced four original pamphlets in 1976. The first of these dealt with ICRC operations in Angola and was produced in English, French and Portuguese. The second covered the action in Lebanon and was issued in four languages, English, French, Spanish and German. The third provided general information about the ICRC and, without referring to current events, explained in a few pages, with illustrations, the origins, principles, purposes and structure of the institution. This pamphlet, intended primarily for members of National Societies and for visitors to the ICRC, was produced in English, French, Spanish, German and Arabic. The fourth publication, "Origin and Development of International Humanitarian Law", was prepared jointly with the Press Service of the Diplomatic Conference on the occasion of the third session of the Conference. The original French version was translated into English, Spanish, Arabic, Russian and German.

International Review of the Red Cross

International Review of the Red Cross, the official organ of the ICRC, is the only regular publication in the world dealing fundamentally with the Red Cross movement. This monthly publication seeks to illustrate and clarify the past and the present of the humanitarian movement throughout the world.

As the successor to the *Bulletin international des Sociétés de Croix-Rouge*, established in 1869, *la Revue internationale de la Croix-Rouge* started publication in French in 1919 and in English in 1961. A third edition, in Spanish, started in 1976 replacing the extracts and summaries in that language which had previously been published. A German language pamphlet reproduces the most important articles in the *International Review*.

Among the most important articles published in 1976 we may refer to three on "the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law applicable in Armed Conflicts" (May, July, September); two studies, one on "Humanitarian Law and Traditional African Law" and the other on "African Traditions and Humanitarian Law", written by Mrs. Yolande Diallo (February, August); legal contributions such as "Reservations to the Geneva Conventions of 1949" by Mr. Claude Pilloud (March, April), and "Guerrilla Warfare and Humanitarian Law" by Mr. Michel Veuthey (June);

theoretical articles on the Red Cross such as "Re-appraisal of the role of the Red Cross" (October), "The Red Cross and the Human Environment" (June), and "The International Red Cross" by Prof. Hans Haug (December).

Under the heading "International Committee of the Red Cross", articles were published on "The International Committee of the Red Cross and Torture" (December); several on the Conference of government experts on weapons (February, March, April), and on the use of certain weapons (May); information on international humanitarian law and methods for its dissemination (November), and on the ICRC travel document (March). Regular reports were published about the activities of ICRC delegations in all parts of the world. The *Review* also dealt with the Henry Dunant Institute (January, March, April, August, October), meetings of various institutions of the International Red Cross, the International Red Cross Museum, United Nations resolutions referring to the Red Cross, international covenants concerning human rights, health and human rights, and the teaching of the law of war.

At the end of 1976 Mr. J.-G. Lossier, who had written for the *International Review* since 1946 and had been its editor in chief since 1955, retired and was replaced by Mr. Michel Testuz.

VII. PERSONNEL

The ICRC staff at headquarters remained fairly stable in 1976, varying from 236 to 248, with a monthly average of 240 persons. Of those, about eighty performed work directly related to operations abroad. The duties of the remainder were in connection with the Central Tracing Agency, the Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law, the dissemination of knowledge of the Geneva Conventions, National Red Cross Society relations, information and press, fund-raising operations, administration, etc.

Personnel on mission

The number of ICRC staff on mission abroad did not vary appreciably in 1976. With the termination of the Angola action staff was reduced for a very short period in June, but very soon additional personnel was again engaged when the Lebanon conflict flared up.

In the field, 349 posts were filled at some time or other in 1976:

- 13 heads of delegation
- 15 regional delegates
- 88 delegates
- 50 doctors, including 30 supplied by National Societies
- 65 male and female nurses, including 59 (compared with 21 in 1975) from National Societies

- 14 CTA delegates
- 13 administrators
- 14 secretaries
- 24 radio operators
- 53 technicians, including 12 (compared with 7 in 1975) from National Societies.

It will be observed that National Red Cross Societies increased the number of persons made available to the ICRC to bring aid to the victims of armed conflicts and internal disturbances. Most of them were the physicians, surgeons, pediatricians, anaesthetists and male and female nurses sent to run the ICRC field hospital set up early in 1976 in West Beirut.

On an average there were 78 delegates working at the same moment in the ICRC's various delegations throughout the world, plus 200 local staff.

Delegate recruitment

Of the 575 applications for the post of delegate (521 in 1975) 200 came from non-Swiss persons, who could not be considered for a delegate's post and were advised to apply to their own National Society.

Of the 375 Swiss applicants, 70 were accepted and 305 (81 per cent) rejected.

Training courses: 78 participants

The introductory course for prospective delegates, after which the final selection is made, was held three times in 1976 at the Conference Centre at Cartigny (Geneva). The courses were attended by altogether 78 persons (of whom nine were women) and included:

- the candidates who were short-listed by the Delegations Service;
- some ICRC staff;
- 8 persons invited to the course (2 trainees from the Federal Political Department and 6 voluntary workers in the Swiss Relief Corps in the event of disasters abroad);
- 20 persons from the ICRC Group for International Missions (the GIM, set up in 1962, is responsible for recruiting specialized personnel, such as doctors, radio operators, drivers, etc., who agree to accept missions of at least two months every two years).

One of the courses was designed for training technical personnel (administrators, radio operators, technicians, secretaries, drivers, etc.).

VIII. FINANCE

Fund-Raising

In 1976, the ICRC based its fund-raising campaign on various commitments made on several occasions by the States parties to the Geneva Conventions and by the National Societies:

- At the Diplomatic Conference in Geneva in 1949, the representatives of the signatory governments adopted the following resolution:

“Whereas the Geneva Conventions require the International Committee of the Red Cross to be ready at all times and in all circumstances to fulfil the humanitarian tasks entrusted to it by these Conventions,

the Conference recognized the necessity of providing regular financial support for the International Committee of the Red Cross.”

- In November 1973, the Twenty-second International Conference of the Red Cross unanimously voted a resolution (II) designed to strengthen support for the ICRC. In this resolution, the Conference:

“... recalling the very important task which is being performed by the ICRC and which, in view of the international situation, is constantly increasing,

requests all National Red Cross Societies to support the permanent activities of the ICRC through regular contributions,

urges all Governments signatories of the Geneva Conventions to support more systematically and substantially the regular financing of the ICRC...”

Since the Twenty-second Conference, several conflicts have occurred: Cyprus (1974), Angola (1975), Timor (1975) and Lebanon (1975-1976). The ICRC engaged in large-scale operations and it protected and assisted thousands of victims. During the same period, its delegates in Africa, especially in southern Africa, in Latin America, Asia and the Middle East continued their activities.

While some of these operations were the subjects of special appeals to which the international community responded generously, many others were charged against the ordinary budget of the ICRC. In addition, the need to perfect the training of delegates and develop logistic structures called for considerable expenditure.

However, the States parties to the Conventions made only a minimal response to the appeal launched at Teheran in 1973, with the total of their contributions rising from 9,692,055 Swiss francs to 11,151,950—an increase of 1,459,895 francs, over a period of three years.

In the attempt to balance the budget, special appeals were made to European governments and those of Canada and Japan.