

MAY 1962

**INTERNATIONAL REVIEW**  
**OF THE**  
**RED CROSS**

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**INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS**  
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# INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF THE RED CROSS

SECOND YEAR — No. 14

MAY 1962

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## A GLANCE THROUGH THE REVIEWS

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## FRENCH EDITION OF THE REVIEW

The French edition of this Review is issued every month under the title of *Revue internationale de la Croix-Rouge*. It is, in principle, identical with the English edition and may be obtained under the same conditions.

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## SUPPLEMENTS TO THE REVIEW

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### SPANISH

Décimoctava concesión de la medalla Florencia Nightingale.

### GERMAN

Achtzehnte Verleihung der Florence Nightingale-Medaille.

## THE INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF THE RED CROSS

*is published each month by the  
International Committee of the Red Cross*

7, Avenue de la Paix, Geneva, Switzerland  
Postal Cheque No. I. 1767

Annual subscription : Sw. fr. 20.— Single copies Sw. fr. 2.—

Editor : JEAN-G. LOSSIER

# INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

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## EIGHTEENTH AWARD of the FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE MEDAL

*The Florence Nightingale Medal is awarded every two years by the ICRC, after being proposed by the National Societies, in order to honour nurses who, by their example, their attachment to Red Cross principles, continue to work in the defence of humanity throughout the world. They appear to be animated not only by a sense of duty towards others, but also by the desire to help, without exception, all those they encounter, both physically and morally. We therefore have pleasure in presenting to our readers the thirty-four recipients who, through their self-sacrifice, obtained the award in 1961.*

*A large number of National Societies organised ceremonies for the bestowing of this high award in keeping with the occasion, thus showing their appreciation of those who help others with such devotion. The photographs reproduced here show all the pride, the pleasure and the dignity which these ceremonies occasioned.*

*The International Review wishes to thank the National Societies which were good enough to accede to the ICRC's request by supplying it with information for the publication and illustration of this article. Unfortunately, owing to the postponement of the ceremonies in some countries to a later date, and to the fact that some of the National*

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*Societies concerned have not yet replied to our request, our article is not as complete as we would have wished. We regret this, but still very much hope to receive details which will enable us to complete our information on the subject in due course. We would once more recall the importance of Florence Nightingale and the rôle which she played in improving nursing and in recognising the dignity of the nursing profession in all countries.*

*"A hundred years have passed since that great-hearted woman, Florence Nightingale, brought salvation and comfort with her small lamp to the unfortunate sick and dying, victims of the Crimean war, in the old Turkish military hospital at Scutari. Its flame even penetrated the offices in which dusty papers had accumulated. Its gleam indeed overcame the old-fashioned ideas then current concerning the tasks and abilities of women. Florence Nightingale's feeble lamp has now become a flaming torch and has ensured the final triumph of the modern idea of nursing which was to be considered from then on as a profession and as an art." <sup>1</sup>*

## AUSTRALIA

The ICRC selected two nurses from that country to receive the Florence Nightingale medal in 1961. These were : Squadron Officer *Margaret Jean Moloney*, registered nurse, midwife and Deputy Matron, and Miss *Jean Evelyn Headberry*, registered nurse, midwife and Dean of the Royal Melbourne Hospital, health inspector and visiting nurse.

The presentation of this award took place on July 21, 1961, at the headquarters of the Australian Red Cross in Melbourne. The President of this National Society, Dr. G. Newman Morris presented the decoration to each of the recipients during the course of a ceremony reported in the press, which published photographs and the records of services of the two nurses.<sup>2</sup> This was the information given on this occasion :

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<sup>1</sup> Anna and Josi von Segesser, *Streublumen aus dem Krankendienst*, Bucher, Luzern, 1961.

<sup>2</sup> *Plate.*

Miss Margaret Jean Moloney has participated, since 1943, in the tasks of the Royal Australian Air Force, totalling seventeen years in that service, during which she carried out, amongst others two missions overseas as Head Nurse, one in the Admiralty Islands in 1953 and the other in Penang, Malaya, from 1955 to 1957. She showed great professional capacity and deep devotion. She rendered memorable service to personnel of the armed forces and to their families in tropical regions under extremely difficult conditions.

Her high qualities earned her the esteem of all those whom she met during a long and selfless career.

Miss Jean Evelyn Headberry carried out her activity until 1940 in the civilian nursing service, when she became an instructress in one of the largest hospitals in Australia.

Enrolled by the Australian Army Nursing Service, she distinguished herself in the Middle East in ambulance transports at sea. At the end of the war she attended a year's course on nursing administration in London. On her return to Australia she was appointed Deputy Director of a hospital for contagious diseases. Thanks to her efforts and to her competence, she developed an intensive programme of instruction in that field, which was adopted by other hospitals.

In 1950 she became a member of a committee formed for the purpose of establishing an independent school of nursing. She was appointed Dean of that school, in which she created an extremely efficient nursing service. Her work has been highly appreciated in official quarters and her competence in the field of nursing has been everywhere recognised.

## CHILE

The Chilean Red Cross solemnly celebrated the award of the Florence Nightingale Medal to Mrs. *Paulina Perelman de Wilhelm* and Mrs. *Blanca Luarte de Cavieres* at Concepción and Temuco, headquarters of two of its regional committees.

In Concepción on October 6, 1961, in the presence of the President of the National Red Cross, Dr. Agustin Inostrosa, large numbers of people had foregathered on that occasion to pay tribute

to Mrs. Paulina Perelman de Wilhelm, President of the Regional Committee. Amongst those present at the ceremony which took place in the hall, filled with flowers, were representatives of the civilian and military authorities, members of the University world, doctors, colleagues of the Concepción Committee, as well as delegations of Red Cross Committees from various parts of the country.

The choir of the University of Concepción opened the ceremony by singing the national anthem; then, as is customary, the President of the National Society made a speech, in which he drew attention to the work which had been accomplished by the International Red Cross and the sister Societies on behalf of suffering humanity. After recalling the distinctions which the Chilean Red Cross had already received through some of its most distinguished nurses, he then mentioned the recipient's qualities who had worked for the past thirty-one years for the good of the community. The President especially recalled her relief activities during the natural disasters in Chile and Ecuador, and also during the earthquake and tidal wave in 1960 at Concepción, when she organised the general relief services. Finally, he bestowed the award upon her, expressing his congratulations and good wishes.<sup>1</sup>

Other speeches were then made, in particular by the Chief of the ninth public health zone, and by the President of the Nursing Committee. The latter spoke of Mrs. de Wilhelm and recalled that the Florence Nightingale medal indeed signified a tribute paid to a work of peace, of love and co-operation under the sign which "covers suffering humanity in its folds". Finally, the Vice-President of the Concepción Regional Committee said how proud that town was to be able to number the second recipient of this award amongst its members, the first having been Mrs. Victoria Bianchi y Bianchi. She concluded by saying that Mrs. de Wilhelm had received the highest distinction which the ICRC could bestow on a nurse.

The recipient in her reply first expressed her gratitude to her Red Cross companions whose co-operation had been so valuable to her. She referred to the rôle which the Red Cross should play by defending and efficiently increasing the well-being of the community. She then recalled the figures of Florence Nightingale and Henry

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<sup>1</sup> *Plate.*

Dunant, and expressed her pleasure at being one of the recipients in Chile of the awards conferred by the ICRC.

After being warmly applauded, she then heard congratulatory messages from numerous public and private institutions, in particular from the University and town authorities of Concepción. A concert then took place which terminated with the playing of the Chilean Red Cross tune.

A similar ceremony took place two days later in the Theatre of Temuco in honour of the second Chilean recipient of the award, Mrs. Blanca Luarte de Cavieres, President of the Toltén Regional Committee. As at Concepción, large numbers of people were present : the President of the National Society, the representatives of the religious, civilian and military authorities, of the diplomatic corps, university circles, and members of Red Cross Committees who had all come to render homage to the heroine of the day, and to demonstrate, by their presence, the nation's solidarity with the Red Cross. The ceremony began with the national anthem sung by the regional university college choir. The President of the Red Cross, after making a speech, bestowed the medal on the recipient amidst general applause.<sup>1</sup> In his speech he recalled that the Florence Nightingale medal represented the highest distinction which any nurse could receive ; he then praised the recipient for her tireless activity during the course of many years in the service of the Red Cross. He referred especially to her work in 1960, a year of tragedy, during the earthquake and the floods, mentioned above, to her remarkable presence of mind, her courage and her energy, which had so impressed the victims. " It is this conduct in the face of disaster which the ICRC has kept as an example ", he added, " and, it is for this reason that the President of the Toltén Regional Committee adds her name today to the list of Chilean Red Cross women who have received this distinction during the course of the past thirty years ".

The President of the Regional Committee of Temuco then spoke. She brought out the recipient's moral and spiritual qualities, her love of others, her serenity, and she concluded by expressing the pride felt by the Temuco Regional Committee to see the medal

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<sup>1</sup> *Plate.*

bestowed on this nurse in memory of the self-sacrifice of one who devoted herself to the wounded and sick of the Crimean war with such deep feelings of humanity.

In her reply, Mrs. Blanca Luarte de Cavieres said that whilst progress could be observed in certain fields, there was also disunity and discord which could have disastrous consequences on the whole world. She laid stress on the necessity, in the face of this disturbing situation, of maintaining moral principles which are the inspiration of the Red Cross movement. After mentioning all those who had directed her to this ideal which she had herself chosen, and who had helped her to serve it, she ended by stating that the medal would encourage her in the struggle for humanity which she would pursue.

The ceremony, which terminated with a concert, was given wide publicity in the press, broadcasting and television services.

#### DENMARK

On July 3, 1961, the Danish Red Cross handed the Florence Nightingale medal to one of the outstanding figures of modern nursing, Miss *Ellen Johanne Broe*, director of the Florence Nightingale Education Division of the International Council of Nurses: Dr. Tage Christiansen, Vice-President of the Danish Red Cross presented the medal to Miss Broe.<sup>1</sup>

The ceremony took place at the Danish Red Cross Headquarters, and the pleasure of handing over this award was made the greater by Miss Broe's presence, because her duties frequently take her abroad. The nursing services were well represented and several holders of the award were present, Miss Broe being the seventh recipient.

The Danish Press gave a great deal of space to this event and there were numerous articles about Miss Broe and her outstanding services, of which here are a few of the principle passages: Miss Broe's work as nurse and chief nurse in the hospitals and clinics was interrupted only by study courses. For ten years she occupied

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<sup>1</sup> *Plate.*

the position of director of the School of Nursing cadres at Aarhus University. After the Second World War she was appointed chief nurse of the hospital of one of the biggest refugee camps on the German-Danish frontier. There she rendered outstanding services, as much from the organisational point of view as in the sphere of nursing patients.

As director of the Florence Nightingale Education Division of the International Council of Nurses, she is a great help to the nursing associations of various countries through her wide experience and her range of activities is extensive. Her task is to give advice in matters connected with nursing training and related problems in the world today. Her qualities of heart, allied to her professional qualifications, her competence and her energy make her a worthy successor to Florence Nightingale.

#### FINLAND

Honour was paid on June 14, 1961, to the Finnish Red Cross, when the President of Finland, Dr Kekkonen, bestowed the Florence Nightingale medal on Miss *Anne Marie Krohn*, who was the ninth Finnish nurse to receive this high distinction. The impressive ceremony took place in the Presidential Palace, at which the President of the National Society was present.<sup>1</sup>

Here are some of the recipient's activities, who is also a public health nurse, and who, as can be seen, was judged by the ICRC as rightly deserving the award: after working in various hospitals, she was first of all appointed welfare officer at the Foundation for the Disabled, of which she subsequently became the director. She was entrusted with these posts after very intensive study in this field.

Member of the International Council of Nurses and of the Association of Nurses in the Scandinavian countries, she was secretary of the Association of Finnish nurses, then of the nursing reserve of the Finnish Red Cross. She was also for several years Assistant Director of Nursing Services of that Society. She has devoted a great part of her life to the disabled in her country.

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<sup>1</sup> *Plate.*

In her work she has been the living symbol of those qualities of heart and mind of which Florence Nightingale set the example for future generations of nurses. Furthermore, she has given proof in the performance of her duties of remarkable organising ability, especially in her activity on behalf of the disabled.

**GERMANY**  
**(Federal Republic)**

In 1961, three registered nurses of the German Red Cross in the Federal Republic were awarded the Florence Nightingale Medal: "Oberin" *Marianne Petersen*, DRK—Schwesternschaft Rheinisches Mutterhaus, Essen; "Oberin" *Maliese von Bechtolsheim*, DRK—Schwesternschaft "Georgia-Augusta", Göttingen, and "Oberschwester" *Benigna Niggel*, of the Red Cross Nursing School, Munich.

The presentation took place on June 29, 1961, at Bonn in the buildings of the Red Cross Parent Establishments' Association, in front of a large gathering which had come from all parts of the Federal Republic, from Berlin and even from Austria.<sup>1</sup>

"Generaloberin" von Oertzen, who received the award in 1959, made a speech in which she paid tribute to the records of the three nurses selected by the ICRC, which can be summarized as follows:—"Oberin" Petersen, whilst performing her duties as "Feldoberin", both during and after the Second World War, demonstrated her courageous activity on behalf of those who needed care, without any distinction, under particularly difficult conditions, and gave valuable support to all.

With the reconstituting of the Red Cross Parent Establishments in the British zone, the recipient resumed her work with our institution and subsequently directed the Rhine Parent Establishment in Essen. The work which she carried out there unceasingly, still bears the mark of her indefatigable zeal and of her self-sacrifice.

Thanks to her efforts and to the sympathetic understanding of the town of Essen, it was possible to build a parent establishment and a retirement home for nurses, as well as a hostel for nurses and trainees.

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<sup>1</sup> *Plate.*

“Oberin” von Bechtholsheim directed the large military hospital in Prague, for whose administration she was entirely responsible. The position there became more and more difficult, especially at the end of the war, but her energy enabled her to deal with every situation.

She then, successively, directed the Nursing Associations (Schwesternschaften): was called upon to organise the children’s “Georgia-Augusta” hospital at Göttingen in 1954, and to train nurses.

Apart from her exemplary conduct in time of peril, she has, as director of various Nursing Associations (Schwesternschaften), showed remarkable organising ability.

“Oberschwester” Niggel was an instructress in 1942, then nurse in charge of the Nursing School in Munich in 1945. She showed outstanding courage during the air attack in which the hospital was completely and the Parent Establishments and Nursing Schools were partly destroyed in that town.

She showed special qualities both in her capacity as a teaching and as a directing nurse, and she actively took part in the development of the school. Her intelligent and considered ideas for teaching programmes met with the approval of many other schools, of which they remain as models. She carried out her duty in the spirit of Florence Nightingale.

Amidst lively applause, other speakers also thanked the recipients of the award, and this moving ceremony was concluded with songs by the choir of the Bonn Nursing Corps.

#### GREAT BRITAIN

Two nurses from that country were chosen by the ICRC to receive the Florence Nightingale medal: Sister *Olive Laura Colquhoun*, M.B.E., midwife and health visitor, and Miss *Marjorie Eadon Craven*, R.R.C., midwife and Matron-in-Chief of the British Red Cross.

The ceremony of the presentation of the award, which took place on July 20, 1961, was in honour of the latter, since the former was serving overseas at the time. We hope, however, to be shortly

## INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

in possession of information concerning the tasks which she too has carried out.

The Chairman of the Council of the British Red Cross Society, H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester, bestowed the decoration on the recipient for whom, as can be seen by the photograph, the occasion was both moving and impressive.<sup>1</sup>

The ceremony was followed by a reception which was attended by H.R.H. The Princess Royal, Commandant-in-Chief of the British Red Cross Society, and the Countess of Limerick, Vice-Chairman of that Society's Council, as well as by numerous other personalities from Red Cross circles.

We summarise the record of service for which Miss Craven merited this high award. She rendered eminent services during the two world wars. In her capacity of Matron-in-Chief, she dealt with all problems connected with nurses and with the Registered Nurses Department of the British Red Cross. She also accomplished two other tasks, undertaken in Great Britain by the British Red Cross : namely, the recruiting of nurses at home and overseas, and the supervision of their work in hospitals.

She has never spared herself any effort throughout her long and brilliant career with the British Red Cross. She is recognised as being an outstanding personality in the nursing world in many other countries besides Great Britain.

## JAPAN

On September 26, 1961, the Japanese Red Cross had the satisfaction of handing the Florence Nightingale medal to three of its registered nurses : Miss *Haru Shinozaki*, midwife, head nurse and director of the Nursing Department of Musashino hospital ; Miss *Hideko Yamazaki*, head nurse and director of the Nursing Department of Tottori hospital, and Miss *Yaé Ibuka*, head nurse of Fukusei hospital.

The ceremony, which was particularly impressive, took place in the National Headquarters Auditorium of the Japanese Red

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<sup>1</sup> *Plate.*

Cross in Tokyo. In the presence of Princess Michiko, Princess Chichibu and Princess Tokamatsu, the President of the Japanese Red Cross, Prince Shimadzu, the President of the House of Representatives, the President of the Japan Nursing Association, Mr. Angst and Mr. Ruff, Honorary Delegate and Acting Head of the ICRC's special mission respectively, and other Japanese and foreign dignitaries, Her Majesty, the Empress of Japan, presented the medal to each of the recipients ; she then gave them a message of congratulations and encouragement, in which she expressed the hope that the example of these three nurses would be followed by those who succeeded them, so that they might be worthy of the confidence of everybody, in Japan and abroad.

The President of the Japanese Red Cross and several official personalities also made speeches, amongst them the ICRC Honorary Delegate, Mr. Angst. After saying a few words about the value and the meaning of this medal, Mr. Angst recalled that it perpetuates the memory of Florence Nightingale and also of Henry Dunant. Then, after a few words to the Empress, who personally presented the decorations to the recipients, he conveyed the congratulations of the President of the ICRC and finished with these words : " Today more than ever the world stands in need of persons like these three nurses willing to dedicate their best efforts towards serving those who are dependent on selfless devotion by others ".

After one of the recipients had said a few words of thanks, a choir sang some appropriate songs. This ceremony was admirably organised, given wide publicity and carried out in a dignified atmosphere and manner.

We give below accounts of the careers of the three new holders : since obtaining her diploma, Miss Haru Shinozaki has devoted herself to the civilian sick and wounded for 39 years. She particularly distinguished herself during the Sino-Japanese war and the Second World War, caring for the wounded with the greatest devotion and ensuring their evacuation during air attacks. Then, under the auspices of the Ministry of Education, she organised with the greatest success, the Health Service in the primary schools of Japan and she now holds the post of Director of the Nursing Department of the Musashino Red Cross hospital. There, she works to improve the professional training of nurses.

## INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Miss Hideko Yamazaki has given an example of 37 years of exceptional devotion to duty in war and in peace time. She particularly distinguished herself on board a fighting vessel during the Sino-Japanese war, then in the Japanese military hospitals in China, caring not only for the Japanese wounded but also for the Chinese civilian population and ensuring the protection of her patients from air attacks. Of outstanding intelligence, she is living proof of the purest unselfishness, is loved and admired by all the patients and is an example to all the nurses of the Red Cross hospital where she works at the moment.

Miss Yaé Ibuka has devoted her life for 37 years to the care of lepers at Fukusei hospital with an exceptional devotion to duty and a spirit of charity. The services which she has rendered to the most unfortunate of them in extremely difficult conditions have been recognised on the international level. She helps not only the sick but also the members of their family. Gifts received by her personally, as well as a large part of her own resources, were handed over to the patients who consider her as their mother.

### **KOREA** (Republic of)

The nursing service of this National Society, recognised by the ICRC in 1955, was this year honoured by the bestowing of the award on two registered nurses : Miss *Young-Jin Kim*, director of nursing services at the St. Joseph Hospital, Seoul, and Miss *Sin-Eun Choi*, midwife, director of nursing services at the Central Hospital of Rural Sanitation Research Centre of Cholla-Pudko, Hwa Ho.

Miss Young-Jin Kim has been a professional nurse for the past twenty-three years, seven of which she served as an army nurse in military hospitals and on the battlefield, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. During this latter period she was mentioned six times for courage and for devotion to duty in action. She holds an important post at present in her country's nursing services.

Miss Sin-Eun Choi has worked for thirty-eight years to improve medical conditions in the remotest villages in Korea. She is still ceaselessly pursuing this task to which she has devoted her whole life with remarkable selflessness, bringing aid to an incalculable

number of the poor. She also carried out her benevolent action for five years in Manchuria as a public health nurse.

### NEW ZEALAND

In 1961, the New Zealand Red Cross had the pleasure of seeing two of its volunteers who have worked under the Red Cross flag for many years, receive the Florence Nightingale medal: Mrs. *Edith Mary Rudd*, R.R.C., registered nurse and formerly Matron of the Wairau hospital, and Miss *Doris Ogilvy Ramsay*, voluntary aid, Centre Commandant of the Otago V.A.Ds.

These ceremonies took place at Blenheim, for the first recipient and at Dunedin, for the second, and the Chairman of the National Society, Sir Alexander Gillies, honoured both with his presence.<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Rudd was handed the medal at the Blenheim R.S.A. club before more than 140 people from Red Cross circles, allied organisations and the medical profession. On her arrival, Mrs. Rudd was met by a guard of honour of Voluntary Aid Detachment members, and was "piped" into the hall of the club. Several speeches were made recalling the many years hard work and the great merits of the recipient.

Then the Chairman of the New Zealand Red Cross made a short speech during which he said: "This award is not just given or presented, it has to be earned. I have had many duties in Red Cross but none has given me greater satisfaction than my duty tonight". Sir Alexander Gillies finished by expressing his thanks to the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva.

In her reply, Mrs. Rudd had some moving words of thanks for those to whom she owed this award and also for the people who work with her. This award was the crowning at the end of her career, she said, and she recalled with humour her first day as a nurse when she was given the task of cleaning lights; this work was hardly designed to speed her career but, as can be judged from the services she has given, she had the tenacity which comes from a sense of true vocation.

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<sup>1</sup> *Plate.*

The ceremony was interspersed with items sung by a choir and the function concluded with supper.

On July 12, 1961, there was a similar ceremony at the Annual Meeting of the Dunedin Sub-Centre in honour of its Vice-President, Miss Doris Ogilvy Ramsay. Here again, it was the Chairman of the New Zealand Red Cross who, after the citation had been read, handed the medal to the recipient. The Chairman then said a few words of congratulations and expressed the very great pleasure which it gave him to present, on behalf of the ICRC, the latter's highest award to Miss Ramsay who, "by the use of her hands, heart and head, has proved herself a master-builder".

Miss Ramsay said a few words in reply and expressed her gratitude to Sir Alexander Gillies for coming from Wellington to present the medal to her. She also expressed the thanks of the V.A.D. and V.A.D. cadets, "because it is their medal as well as mine—indeed it belongs to the whole of Otago." Her thanks were also for the ICRC for remembering two centres in the South Island of New Zealand. Finally, she recalled three incidents in her Red Cross life, which will always remain with her as beautiful memories: the presentation of the Sub-Centre's colours to the then Governor General; the trip to Solferino and the present wonderful evening when she was so honoured.

At the end of the ceremony, the wife of the President of the Dunedin Sub-Centre gave Miss Ramsay a bunch of flowers, on behalf of all the Red Cross members.

To finish, we would like to outline the careers of the two recipients: after several years of hospital activity, Mrs. Edith Mary Rudd served on board a hospital ship, from 1915 to 1918. She became a Matron in 1921, and during the Second World War, served on board a hospital ship from 1941 to 1945. Following this, she held several important positions on local Committees of the New Zealand Red Cross, and today, is still very active, showing the greatest devotion to duty.

During the First World War, Miss Doris Ogilvy Ramsay worked in a home for war wounded. After the re-organisation of the Dunedin Sub-Centre, she steadily climbed the ladder and today

# FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE MEDAL

(18th AWARD)

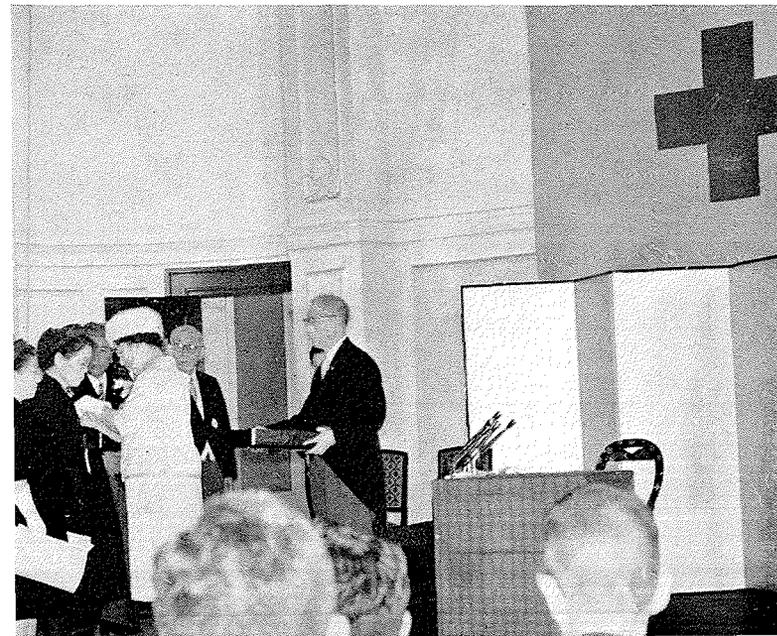
## GERMANY (Federal Republic)

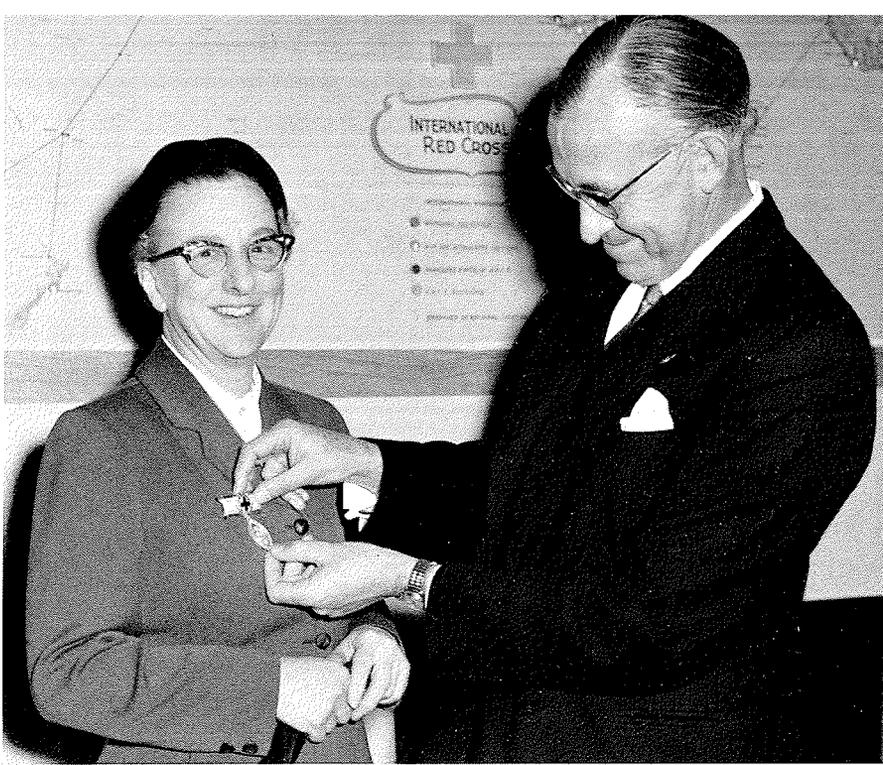
*The three recipients of the award: "Oberschwester" Benigna Niggel, "Oberin" Mahese von Bechtolsheim, "Oberin" Marianne Petersen (from left to right)*



## JAPAN

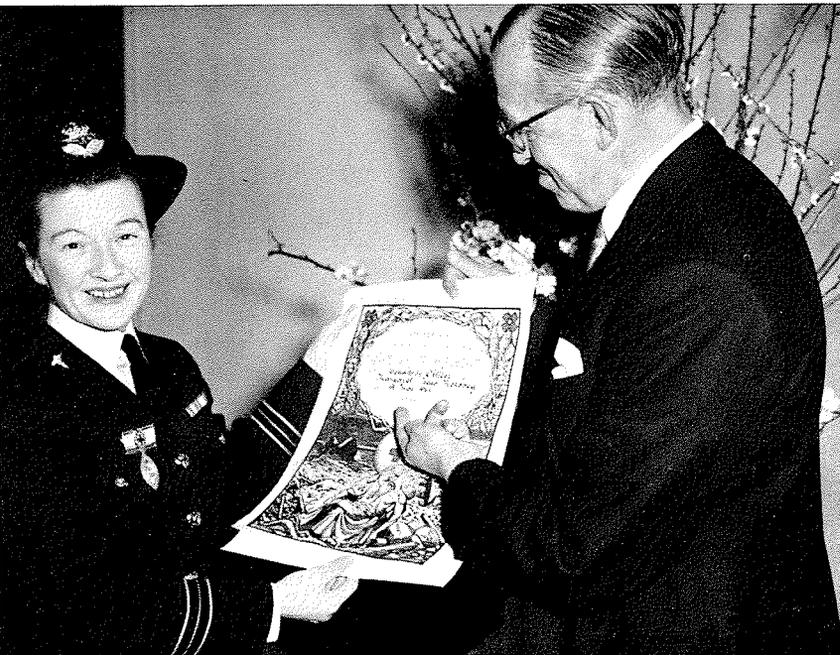
*H.I.M. The Empress bestowing the medal on Miss Haru Shinozaki, Miss Hideko Yamazaki and Miss Yaé Ibuka.*





*Dr. G. Newman  
Morris decorating  
Miss Jean Evelyn  
Hendberry.*

## AUSTRALIA



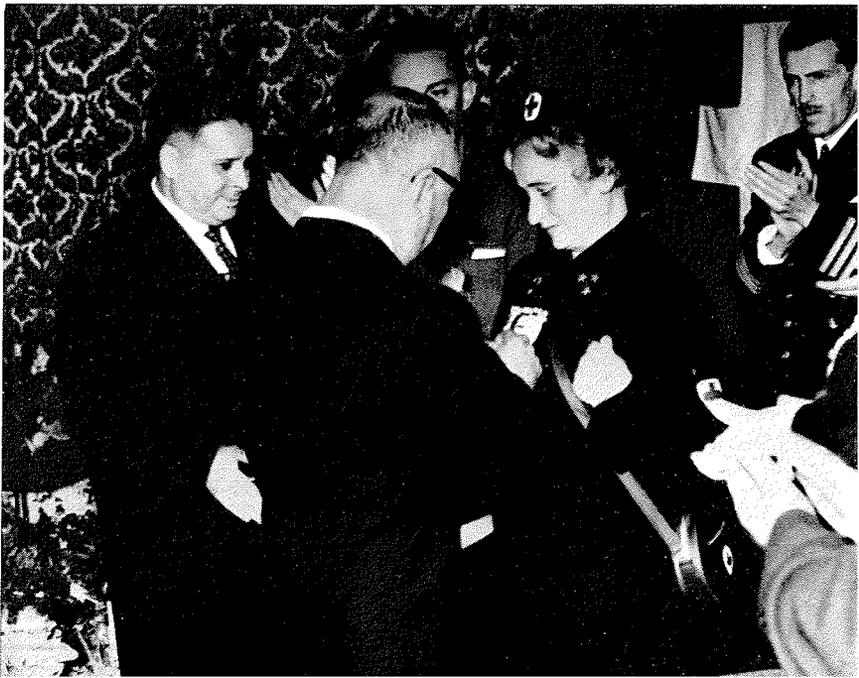
*... and presenting  
the diploma to  
Miss Margaret  
Jean Maloney.*



*Dr. Agustín  
Inostroza bestowing  
the medal on  
Mrs. Blanca  
Luarte de Cavieles.*

CHILE

*... and on  
Mrs. Paulina  
Perelman  
de Wilhelm.*





**DENMARK**

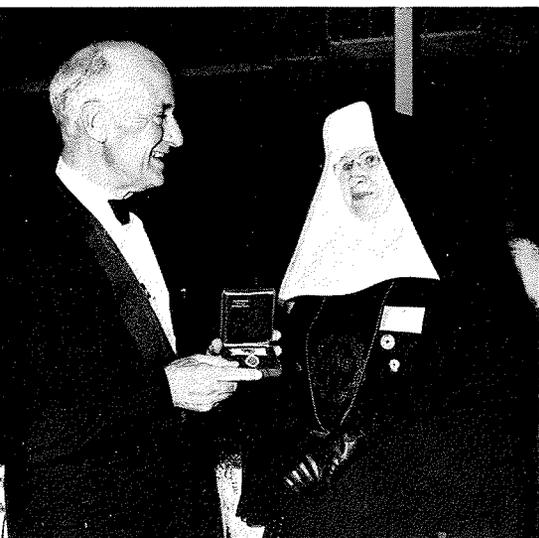
*Miss Ellen Johanne Broe and  
Mr. T. Christiansen.*

**FINLAND**

*The President of Finland, Dr. Kekkonen, congratulating Miss Anne Marie Krohn after presenting her with the medal and the diploma.  
(On left, Mr. Martola, President of the Finnish Red Cross).*



*Mr. E. Roland Harriman presenting the medal to Miss Pearl McIver...*



UNITED STATES

*... to Sister Charles Marie (Frank)...*

*... and to Miss Cecilia H. Hauge.*





**GREAT  
BRITAIN**

*Miss Murjorie  
Eadon Craven and  
H.R.H. The Duke  
of Gloucester.*

**NORWAY**

*The Norwegian  
Consul General at Hong Kong  
bestowing the medal on Sister  
Annie Margareth Skau.*



*Sir Alexander Gillies  
presenting the medal to  
Miss Doris Ogilvy Ramsay...*



**NEW ZEALAND**

*... and to Mrs. Edith Mary  
Rudd.*





## PHILIPPINES

*The recipient, Miss Julita V. Solejo, receiving the congratulations of the wife of the Vice-President of the Philippines (Behind her, Mr. Mithner, ICRC delegate).*

## SWEDEN

*The Florence Nightingale medal being handed to Mrs. Emma Dagmar Stenbeck by H.R.H. The Duchess of Västerbotten, Princess Sibylla, honorary member of the Swedish Red Cross.*



is Vice-President of the Sub-Centre. In 1942, she was appointed Assistant Centre Commandant of the V.A.D., and is now Centre Commandant. During the Second World War, she was also in charge of the prisoner of war records and was responsible for interviewing next-of-kin. She was also on transport duty for the Red Cross and since 1945 she has looked after the interests of V.A.D.s in their peace time work, instituting many new activities in this sphere. Her perseverance and her indefatigable spirit of service make her one of the most devoted members of the New Zealand Red Cross.

### NORWAY

The award of the Florence Nightingale medal was the occasion of a ceremony which must have been very moving in many respects because it took place not in Norway as one might have expected, but in a country very far away and very different. In fact, in 1961, this award was conferred on a Norwegian nurse who had given many years' service first in China and then in Hong Kong, Sister *Annie Margareth Skau*.

The Norwegian Consul-General in Hong Kong, Mr. Kaare Ingstad, presented the medal and, as he wrote: "in spite of a storm which resembled a hurricane", the seamen's Church was filled to capacity on July 2, 1961, when the medal and diploma were presented to Sister Annie Skau, accompanied by a message from the President of the Norwegian Red Cross, Mr. Ulf Styren.<sup>1</sup> "It was a great evening", the Consul General went on to say "and we in Hong Kong were especially happy and proud of the fact that one of "ours" was the recipient of this rare and important decoration".

Speeches were made, to which Sister Annie Skau replied in moving terms; then the ceremony finished with some songs sung by a Chinese choir composed of nurses from the "Haven of Hope" Sanatorium.

In his speech, the Consul General outlined Sister Annie Skau's outstanding activities. He recalled her work as a missionary and

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<sup>1</sup> *Plate.*

nurse, first in China and then in Hong Kong. He stressed the creation of the tuberculosis sanatorium, which is entirely her work, and said: "Everybody who has paid a visit to Haven of Hope Sanatorium has, without a doubt, left the place with a feeling of having experienced something rich and strong, where self-sacrifice and brotherly love is realised to the utmost". He finished his speech by quoting the words of the great Norwegian poet Björnsterne Bjørnsen on his death-bed: "Good deeds save the world", and the words which Fridtjof Nansen was particularly fond of: "Love of our neighbour is the only practical policy".

A clergyman also made a short speech, in which he instanced several episodes bearing on the recipient's work in the sanatorium which she had created. He called to mind the young blind refugee for whom everything appeared to be hopeless. It was at "Haven of Hope" that he regained his confidence and learnt to smile. One more case amongst so many others holds the attention. A young mother in a refugee camp developed tuberculosis; she had several small children and tried to hold out as long as possible for her children's sake. She was admitted to the "Haven of Hope" and here she met someone who not only was interested in her sickness but also in her worries and difficulties; one who not only was interested in her, but gave practical help to the home and children, so that the mother could rest and recover. There are other equally eloquent examples, where anguish and physical and moral misery have found appeasement.

Sister Annie Skau is a registered nurse and "Matron". After taking missionary courses and a course in tropical medicine, she was a nurse for 13 years in China, then in a refugee camp in Hong Kong. There she set up and directed "Haven of Hope", a convalescent home, an institute of rehabilitation and, finally, a nursing school.

In spite of unfavourable circumstances, without aid from anybody, except for voluntary donations, she opened a sanatorium where she took in 11 sick children and 4 women, helped by 2 Chinese nurses. This institution has developed and she has been able to add a school for young refugees. Amongst so many nurses who have served in an unselfish and even heroic manner, she has accomplished a truly exceptional work.

## PAKISTAN

On October 27, 1961, a special investiture ceremony was held in the Governor's House, Lahore, organised by the Pakistan Red Cross in honour of a nurse of great merit, recognised by the ICRC as being worthy of wearing the Florence Nightingale medal. This was awarded to Mrs. *Amy Sajjad*, registered nurse, midwife, Sister-Tutor and Nursing Superintendent, Nishtar Hospital, Multan.

The Governor of West Pakistan himself bestowed the award on the recipient.

The outstanding services which she rendered and still renders to her country from a strictly professional as well as from an administrative point of view, singled her out naturally for this distinction. In fact, from an early age, she showed an uncommon maturity of spirit and a sense of humanity in facing the different tasks which she had already undertaken throughout her brief career, in the following manner: At present responsible for the nursing services at Nishtar Hospital, Multan, as well as for the teaching of nurses and aids, she is endowed with remarkable administrative qualities and animated by a very high ideal of her profession. She developed the hospital services in which she is now serving and has made that hospital the second in importance in Pakistan. She has created a model School there for nurses and midwives.

## PHILIPPINES

The Fourth Biennial National Convention of the Philippine Red Cross was held on August 27, 1961, in one of the leading hotels in Manila. It was on this occasion that the Florence Nightingale medal was presented to Miss *Julita V. Sotejo*.

The wife of the Vice-President of the Philippines, Mrs. Diosdado Macapagal, bestowed the award on the recipient and congratulated her. Also present were General Alfred M. Gruenther, President of the American Red Cross, and the ICRC delegate, Mr. John W. Mittner. The latter made the customary speech, recalling the

## INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

recipient's numerous merits and read out congratulatory messages from the International Committee in Geneva.<sup>1</sup>

Miss Sotejo then spoke briefly in moving and joyful terms. She thought that the award of the medal to her was one way in which the ICRC showed its interest in the development of nursing in the world and its desire to see that this was always inspired by the spirit of service. Although she was only acting as an intermediary, she was bound to accept this distinction, not only for herself, but also for all those nurses who had ensured progress in nursing in the Philippines, and also for those who might have need of care in that country. She concluded by expressing her gratefulness and thanks to all who had singled her out for this high award.

It should be recalled that Miss Sotejo has always distinguished herself by her energy and her determination. She worked for eleven years as a nurse and instructress at the Philippine General Hospital, constantly making improvements there. She has always shown throughout her whole career her concern in improving the treatment of the sick and in raising the standard of nursing. Like all innovators, she encountered difficulties, a lack of understanding and indifference, but she triumphed through her energy and courage placed in the service of a fine cause.

During the Second World War she cared for sick members of the armed forces in a Chicago hospital and, refusing offers of important posts, she devoted herself to caring for the wounded and sick, and then to the continuous development of the nursing profession in her own country. Thus, at the end of the war the nursing school having closed down, Miss Sotejo arranged for its reopening in 1948, thoroughly reorganised it, gave it its present status and introduced new teaching facilities. She had the idea of creating a College of Nursing in the University of the Philippines, a project which was finally officially accepted.

## POLAND

During the course of an impressive ceremony Dr Irena Domanska presented the Florence Nightingale medal to two registered nurses, Miss *Maria Stencel*, Director of the School of Nursing at Lodz,

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<sup>1</sup> *Plate.*

and Mrs. *Wanda Lorenczuk*, Inspector of Nurses, Gdansk. Amongst those attending were not only the members of the Central Committee of the Polish Red Cross, but also the President of the public health workers' trade union, the representative of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, delegates of the Central Committee of the Polish Nursing Association, as well as trainee-nurses of the Polish Red Cross and members of the directing Staff of nursing training of the Central Committee. Representatives of the local press and radio were also present.

Mrs. Domanska made a speech in which she stated notably : " I do not think that there is any work more humanitarian or more bound up with the fate of those in distress, than that of a nurse ". Then, stressing the prime importance of nursing training, thanks to which it is made possible for a nurse to " give valuable work to the Health Service " and to face ever-increasing responsibility in fields becoming more and more specialised, she observed, however, that mere knowledge was not sufficient. The heart must also play its part : " The aptitude required to exercise this profession is dependent upon humane conduct and burning devotion ".

Mrs. Domanska recalled the way in which the Red Cross had developed in Poland and its action in the field of public health ; she then referred to nurses : " There are now nearly eight times as many nurses as before the war, and there are never enough " ; and this in spite of the thirty-nine thousand candidates which that National Society has trained for seventeen years, now registered with the Red Cross and to whom the President was expressing her gratitude in her name and in that of the Presidential Council. Finally, Mrs. Domanska paid tribute to the two recipients of the award and, after having recalled the memory of Florence Nightingale and explained the significance of the medal bearing her name, she said that the bestowing of this high distinction on two Polish nurses was proof of esteem for work which had been done and concluded by congratulating them, wishing them further success in their professional and social work.

Miss Maria Stencel worked first of all as an instructress then, from 1930 to 1939, in a military hospital, assuming the duties of head of the auxiliary nurses of the Polish Red Cross. She then became director of emergency services.

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During the Second World War, she organised a relief action to young nurses who were threatened with deportation. She has been directing a school of nursing in an exemplary manner since 1946. An outstanding instructress, she has trained numerous nurses who have subsequently become devoted voluntary aids of the Polish Red Cross.

Miss Wanda Lorenczuk worked from 1920 to 1939 as a ward nurse and in the social insurance services. Then, during the war she served in field hospitals. She was imprisoned, but in 1945, almost immediately on release, she was a member of the first team to be sent to Gdansk by the Polish Red Cross, where she organised relief to repatriates from the concentration camps, as well as to French, Italian and British prisoners of war. Until 1949, she was in charge of the Tracing Bureau of the Polish Red Cross.

She has distinguished herself in all relief actions and has always shown remarkable courage and outstanding devotion. Like Miss Stencel, she continues to take part in humanitarian actions and in all aspects of Red Cross instruction, to whose ideal both have given service with intelligence and faithfulness.

## SWEDEN

The Annual General Meeting of the Swedish Red Cross took place on October 20, 1961, in the Concert Hall in Stockholm. On this occasion, the Florence Nightingale medal was presented to Mrs. *Emma Dagmar Stenbeck*, voluntary aid, and President of the Committee for Auxiliary Nurses.

The presentation was made by H.R.H. The Duchess of Västerbotten, Princess Sibylla, Honorary Member of the Swedish Red Cross to the recipient, who was proud to see the results of so many years of devoted service to others thus rewarded.<sup>1</sup> Many Red Cross auxiliaries (we should here point out that Sweden is the country in which there is the largest number of auxiliary nurses) had come to applaud the success of their Committee's President, whose organising capabilities and dynamism has without doubt influenced not a few vocations.

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<sup>1</sup> *Plate.*

We can best judge her qualities by her record of service, which is as follows: Mrs. Emma Dagmar Stenbeck has filled several leading posts during the course of her long career. She was responsible for forming the Corps of auxiliary nurses of the Red Cross in Sweden.

During the Russo-Finnish War, she was in charge of a detachment of auxiliaries of the Swedish Red Cross in Finland and, later, in Poland. She organised aid to disabled Finns in Sweden, enrolling five hundred auxiliary nurses for the purpose, whilst others, under her direction, cared for thirty thousand former concentration camp detainees. In 1957 she also organised aid to the victims of an influenza epidemic in Sweden, thus once again demonstrating great energy and deep devotion.

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

In 1961, the American Red Cross Annual Convention coincided with the day on which the Red Cross is honoured throughout the entire world, May 8. As usual, on this occasion the Chairman of the American National Red Cross, Mr. E. R. Harriman, handed the Florence Nightingale Medal to the new recipients chosen by the ICRC. Three registered nurses were honoured: Miss *Cecilia H. Hauge*, Director of the "Veterans Administration Nursing Service"; Sister *Charles Marie (Frank)*, C.C.V.I., Dean of the School of Nursing and Professor of nursing education at the Catholic University of America, and Miss *Pearl McIver*, formerly Chief of Public Health Nursing Services.

The ceremony took place during the National Convention dinner attended by some 1,800 people and was most impressive and dignified, not only because of the number of people present but because of the outstanding qualifications of the new recipients.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Harriman made the presentation speech in which he said: "No facet of Red Cross probably is more endeared to the hearts of the American people than that of Red Cross nursing services . . . and it is our great privilege to pay tribute to these splendid women

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<sup>1</sup> *Plate.*

## INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

who receive the Florence Nightingale Medal for the extraordinary service to their communities and their nation in the honoured profession of nursing". Then, after recalling briefly the exceptional character of this high award, he went on to say: "It is a symbol of personal achievement and of unflinching devotion". He continued by saying: "This year, three American nurses are to be so honoured. It is a very pleasant task indeed to represent the International Committee of the Red Cross in presenting these rewards".

Mr. Harriman then spoke about the careers of the three recipients.

Miss Cecilia H. Hauge began her career in 1939, and rose steadily from nurse through chief nurse, sister and instructor to assistant lecturer. From 1942 to 1946, she served with the U.S. Army Nurse Corps as Principal Chief Nurse. She holds the bronze star for meritorious services. On her return to civilian life, she accepted a five-year engagement with the Veterans Administration, as chief of the Branch Nursing Service, and was then transferred to Chicago to become Director for Veterans Administration Nursing Services, where she deals with the care of over one hundred thousand veterans each year.

She showed an outstanding organisational ability in the sphere of nursing care of officers and soldiers during the Second World War, and, later, of veterans. One of her principal jobs was to draw up new study programmes with a view to improving the lot of veterans, by perfecting nursing care.

Sister Charles Marie (Frank) has made a rich and varied contribution to her profession as Director, educator, writer and consultant, an outstanding example of what the ideal of service can accomplish. In 1944 and 1945, she was a member of the National Committee on Recruitment for National Nursing Council for War Service. From 1950 to 1953, she fulfilled the functions of Special Consultant to the U.S. Public Health Service, National Institute of Mental Health and from 1953 to 1956, was Nursing Consultant to the 4th Army. From 1956 to 1959, she was Lecturer to the Army Medical Field Service School, where she had an especial influence on her pupils and following this, she was appointed Consultor General and Supervisor of hospitals and schools of nursing for the Congregation of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word of

San Antonio and Visiting Professor of Nursing Education of the University Nursing College at Catholic University's School of Nursing, of which she is at present Dean. She also takes an active part in the improvement of study programmes for nurses in South America.

With intelligence and perseverance, she has always sought the means of adapting teaching methods to the needs of the masses and the post which she holds at the moment allows her to exercise an enormous influence which is felt in many ways by many people.

Miss Pearl McIver's career, stretching over 38 years, has included nursing in hospitals and maternity homes, but has been concerned principally with Public Health. In this respect, Mr. Hariman recalled that Miss McIver was the first nurse to hold a consultative and administrative position in the United States Public Health Service. She carried out these duties until her retirement in 1951.

She has rendered outstanding services to her country in the organisation and development of Public Health Service, and in the training of nurses needed by these services. During the Second World War, she drew up a public health programme in several States and more than two hundred nurses were employed to carry it out. Finally, on the international level, she chose and gave guidance to Public health nurses in her capacity as consultant for United States' technical assistance programmes to countries in course of development and she took part in several assemblies of the World Health Organisation.

#### U.S.S.R.

Two voluntary aids were recipients of the Florence Nightingale medal on the proposal of the Executive Committee of the Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the U.S.S.R. These were Mrs. *Irina Nikolaievna Levtchenko*, of Moscow, and Mrs. *Lydia Philippovna Sautchenko*, of Leningrad. Their work of aid carried out under most difficult conditions can be quoted by way of example.

After having attended a course for members of medical teams and obtained the diploma of the Red Cross, Mrs. Levtchenko,

whilst still at a young age, left for the front in 1941 as a voluntary aid. She devoted herself to the full limit of her strength and found herself constantly in attendance in the operating theatre, so great was the surgeon's need of assistance. She went without food and sleep in order to care for the wounded endlessly arriving.

Subsequently, she had to transport the wounded herself from the battlefield to hospital, give them first aid and even arrange for their evacuation to the rear. When she later recalled those dramatic days, she remembered the unfortunate sick and wounded stretching out their hands to the "sisters" in whom they had entirely entrusted themselves.

But the voluntary aids themselves took great risks, and she was wounded five times during the course of the war, taking up her duties each time with the greatest courage.

We should furthermore point out that Mrs. Levtchenko is also a writer and that she recalled those days in a book entitled "The courage of the young women of the medical teams during the great national war", in which she paid tribute to the work accomplished by her comrades and in which, as has been seen, she so greatly participated.

The second recipient also carried out exemplary duties during the war. In 1940, Mrs. Savtchenko who was already a member of the medical team of the factory in which she worked, attended a Red Cross course and obtained a voluntary aid diploma. When war broke out she joined the rank of the people's militia and left for the front where she became a medical instructress. On the battlefield, under enemy fire, she gave first aid to the wounded whom she transported to the rear with the greatest courage.

During the bombardment of a station she organised the evacuation of the seriously wounded from burning trucks, thus saving two hundred lives. On another occasion, she brought food and medicaments under enemy fire to the wounded who could not be moved. But she too, like Mrs. Levtchenko, lived in constant danger. She was seriously wounded in 1942, but no sooner had she left hospital than she returned to the front to resume her duties. Later she worked as an assistant in the operating theatre in a medical battalion, without allowing herself any rest, and gave her blood seventeen times for transfusion to the wounded.

At the end of the war, she established in the factory in which she was working an organisation based on the Red Cross, which is at present the best in Leningrad. She has prepared thousands of persons for courses on first-aid, hygiene, contagious diseases, entitling them to display the initials "GSO". The women workers call her "our little sister" to whom they go for instruction in first-aid. Mrs. Savtchenko, as can be seen, thus demonstrates the same humanitarian spirit in time of peace as in time of war.

The review which is published by the Alliance in Moscow (No. 1, 1962) devoted an article to the Florence Nightingale medal and to the merits of the two recipients. The author also stressed that the ICRC, which makes the award, considers, as Mr. Boissier, its President has stated, that this distinction represents a testimony to outstanding moral and professional qualities.

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*In all countries, as one has been able to see, the Florence Nightingale medal was received with gratitude and wherever it was awarded it was made the occasion of observing what are the duties of a nurse and what high qualities it demands.*

*For the International Committee of the Red Cross, the numerous applications which it received are proof that the spirit of service is living in the world, and that our movement gives it the possibility of demonstrating it in the most varied circumstances. And the name alone of Florence Nightingale, like that of Henry Dunant or of other great humanitarian figures, recall devotion to others in its purest form indeed, but with it also go firmness and courage.*

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SUNDRY ACTIVITIES

**News Items**

**Prisoners and the Evian agreement**

The provisional Government of the Algerian Republic after having informed the International Committee of the Red Cross, has released three members of the French armed forces. These three men had been captured during the course of operations along the fortified protective zone adjoining the Algero-Tunisian frontier in the spring of 1961. They were part of a group of five prisoners of whom two had been released at the end of December 1961 in Tunis, and handed over to an ICRC representative.

On the other hand, two other French military prisoners captured in February 1961 at Klaa in Kabylie, were released on April 26 by the ALN and placed into the hands of the local armistice Commission at Tizi-Ouzou.

In Morocco the ICRC charged its delegate, Mr. C. Vautier, to investigate the position and eventually obtain the release of a French soldier captured by the ALN on the Algero-Moroccan border in 1959, whose name had been communicated to the delegate. At the end of that year, the FLN had released two of his comrades.

The French Government, for its part, has just sent a further list to the ICRC of detained Algerians taken in arms. This concerns 115 names of persons interned in South Algeria. A total of 3,600 names of Algerian prisoners has thus been communicated to the ICRC by virtue of the Evian agreement. The French authorities also supplied information at the end of April about arrangements for the forthcoming release of these prisoners and for their return home.

**Following the "cease-fire" in Algeria**

The permanent delegate of the ICRC in Algeria has received many requests about the fate of Algerians of European origin arrested or interned as a result of events subsequent to the "cease-fire". The ICRC approached the French authorities during April in order to obtain that this new category of prisoners should benefit from the help of the Red Cross, according to the custom prevailing in such cases.

### **Aid to the regrouped populations**

The two delegates of the ICRC, who arrived in Algeria at the end of March, working in close co-operation with the French Red Cross, have inspected distributions of relief in regroupment centres. Among other areas they have visited Tablat and the southern part of the Oran province.

In view of the importance of the needs of these populations, the permanent delegate of the ICRC in Algeria, Mr. Roger Vust, and one of the field delegates, Mr. J.J. Muralti, have got in touch with the new authorities in Algeria in order to work out, in agreement with them and with the French Red Cross, a programme of distribution which will enable regrouped populations to return gradually to their villages. Mr. Muralti was recalled to Geneva in April in order to help speed up the preparation of the ICRC relief plans. The United States Government has offered the ICRC important quantities of surplus food.

During a recent tour in South Oran, Mr. Jacques de Heller, delegate of the ICRC, visited several resettlement centres accompanied by Miss Tanguy, in charge of mobile teams of the French Red Cross in the departments of Algiers and Oran. His visits in particular included Ain Sefra, Mecheria and Tiaret, and Marnia, further to the north. The delegate was able to see the three mobile teams at work which, besides medico-social tasks, distributed relief sent by the ICRC, consisting chiefly of powdered milk, sugar and ophthalmic drops.

The ICRC delegate then continued his tour in the Grande Kabylie in particular to Fort National and Dra el-Mizan. He also had the opportunity of seeing the two other mobile teams of the French Red Cross at work.

### **The ICRC Delegate in Rhodesia**

Mr. Geoffrey C. Senn, ICRC resident-delegate in the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland interrupted his special mission in Katanga to return to Salisbury in Southern Rhodesia early in March.

He was received by the Secretary of State for Justice of the Federal Government and discussed with him the activities in favour of persons arrested during disturbances. Mr. Senn, later, visited the Salisbury prison where he was able to converse with a number of detained persons.

The ICRC delegate will later resume his regular visits to penal establishments in Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

Following an appeal made previously to a U.S. charitable institution, the delegate will shortly receive a relief shipment for

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detainees, including several thousand books, specially text-books for study.

### **Baluba refugees**

At the request of the United Nations administration in the Congo, Mr. G. C. Senn, Delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross took part in the work of the Investigation Commission set up to study the possible repatriation of Baluba refugees from the Elisabethville region, and their resettlement in Kasai. These refugees number about 25,000. Mr. Senn took the opportunity of the Commission's visit to Bakwanga, in Kasai, to see over the town prison, following which he had a meeting with the authorities over the application of detention conditions.

### **Mission in West Africa**

The International Committee was invited by the Togolese Red Cross to take part in the celebrations the latter organised in Lomé for World Red Cross Day on May 8, and was represented by Mr. François de Reynold, Head of the Liaison Service. This was the first time that the Togolese Red Cross, recognised by the ICRC on September 7th, 1961, had celebrated May 8. The celebrations organised for the occasion included the setting-up of 3 new local Red Cross Committees, first-aid and nursing demonstrations, a Fair, a football match, a torchlight procession, a dance and a Red Cross film show. At the same time, there was a relief action on behalf of the needy of the capital, Lomé, and layettes were distributed to newly born babies. The man behind these celebrations is Mr. Boniface T. Dovi, Secretary-General of the Togolese Red Cross, who in October, 1961, came to Geneva for a study visit to the ICRC and the League.

Mr. de Reynold stopped at Dakar en route for Togo, where he was warmly received by representatives of the Government of Senegal and persons interested in setting up a National Red Cross Society. He then went to Abidjan, capital of the Ivory Coast, where he was given an equally warm welcome.

### **Visits to Indonesians interned in new Guinea**

During his visit to New Guinea, where he organized the repatriation of Indonesians captured following the clash on January 15 between Indonesian and Dutch forces, Mr. André Durand, Chief delegate of the ICRC in Asia, was able to visit other Indonesians

interned in that country. They had infiltrated in New Guinea individually or in groups in 1960 and 1961 and had been captured by the Dutch, in some cases after fighting had taken place.

### **Thanks from the Indonesian Government**

Following the repatriation of 51 Indonesian military personnel, captured by Dutch forces in New Guinea after the naval engagement of January 15, the International Committee of the Red Cross received from the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs a telegram of thanks, which 'reads in part as follows: "Djakarta-wish on behalf of Indonesian Government and people to express to you and your staff my warm feeling of gratitude for your invaluable assistance in returning fifty-one members of Indonesian matjantutul from westiran stop on March 11, they arrived safely at Djakarta and have since joined their families."

The repatriation of the 51 Indonesians was arranged mainly through the intervention of Mr. André Durand, Chief delegate of the ICRC in Asia.

### **Family messages**

As earlier stated<sup>1</sup> the Central Agency organised an exchange of family messages between Indonesia and Holland after the interruption of postal relations between the two countries.

It will be recalled that these messages are written on standard forms established by the ICRC and put at the disposal of the public by National Societies. These forms, on the back of which space is provided for reply, are transmitted through the channel of National Societies.

From January 15 to the end of March, the Central Tracing Agency transmitted 1,842 messages from Holland to the Indonesian Red Cross and sent the Netherlands Red Cross 269 messages received from Indonesia.

### **Cooperation between the ICRC and the Indonesian Red Cross**

Mr. Pierre Vibert, ICRC delegate, arrived in Djakarta in March. He was able to discuss with the Indonesian Red Cross the procedure for sending pensions and allowances paid by the Netherlands Government to some Dutch nationals in Indonesia. A first payment was made in December 1961 and a new distribution is now in progress. Funds given for this purpose by the Netherlands

<sup>1</sup> *International Review*, February 1962

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Government were transmitted at the beginning of April to the Indonesian Red Cross which will transmit them to the beneficiaries. The amount of the second payment is about 125,000 dollars.

### **Moves by the ICRC in India**

In April 1962, the International Committee of the Red Cross handed over to the Indian and Portuguese Governments the reports on the visits made by its Delegate in Goa, and requested repatriation of Portuguese military prisoners still detained by the Indian authorities.

In taking this step, the ICRC refers to Article 118 of the Third Geneva Convention of 1949. Under the terms of this Article, prisoners of war shall be released and repatriated without delay after the cessation of active hostilities.

Several wounded or sick prisoners have already returned to Portugal.

### **Repatriation of Koreans**

The 90th convoy of Koreans residing in Japan who have asked to return to their homes in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has now left Niigata for Chonjin with 233 persons. The total number of Koreans who have left Japan since December 1959 to return to their homeland is now 75,290.

### **Successful ICRC inquiries**

The Chinese Red Cross in Peking requested the ICRC to investigate the fate of 20 fishermen from Hainan, of which no news had been received for some time. The ICRC investigations have now given some results. The fishermen are in Da Nang, in Central Vietnam and Mr. Werner Müller, ICRC delegate, has been authorized to visit them. The ICRC is now trying to arrange their return to China. The ICRC delegate has reported that the 20 men were in good health.

### **Relief to Laos**

The International Committee of the Red Cross has recently supplied fishing nets to the Laotian refugees from the fighting areas who have settled on the banks of the Mekong which will enable them to provide for their own needs. Dr. Jurg Baer, ICRC doctor delegate in Laos, has also handed over further relief supplies comprising textiles, medicines (particularly multivitamins), foodstuffs and soap.

From reports reaching the ICRC, recent months have seen a big increase in the number of "river-side" refugees. In August 1961, when the ICRC began its action, there were about 6,000. By the end of the year, the figure had risen to 10,000, and it is estimated that it now stands between 30,000 and 35,000. To date about 17,000 Laotian refugees have received emergency relief supplies from the Red Cross.

The ICRC delegate has also visited the camp at Savannakhet, where he talked freely with several detainees. Since his previous visit, certain improvements have been made in the treatment of internees, who have been given permission to receive newspapers and parcels. The prisoners' situation has also improved with regard to medical care. The delegate distributed blankets, mats, soap, medicines and cigarettes. He has continued his visits to camps where troops are detained as a result of the events.

### **Return of Georges Olivet's mortal remains**

At the end of April, the Institute of Forensic Medicine in Vienna finished examining the bodies of the victims of the Elisabethville tragedy in December 1961, where three servants of the Red Cross lost their lives, Mr. Georges Olivet, delegate of the International Committee, Mrs. Vroonen and Mr. Smeding of the Katanga Red Cross. Two of the bodies have been repatriated, those of Mr. Olivet to Geneva, and of Mr. Smeding, who was of Dutch nationality, to the Netherlands. The body of Mrs. Vroonen, who was Belgian, was transported to Elisabethville, where it was buried.

Brief and simple ceremonies marked the return of Mr. Olivet's coffin to Geneva on April 27. Mr. Léopold Boissier, President of the ICRC, together with some of his chief colleagues paid respects to the coffin draped in the Red Cross flag on its arrival at Geneva airport. On the following day a religious ceremony took place in one of the Geneva churches, the body then being buried at Jussy, Georges Olivet's birthplace. Beside the grave, the President of the ICRC spoke a few words to the family of the deceased whose sacrifice the Red Cross will never forget.

### **The Commission of Inquiry into the death of G. Olivet**

The Commission entrusted with inquiring into the circumstances in which Georges Olivet and his two companions died, met once more in Vienna, after examinations had been made by Professor Leopold Breitenacker, Director of the Institute of Forensic Medicine. It should be recalled that the two other members of the Commission are Judge Björn Kjellin (Sweden) and Colonel Hans Roost (Switzerland).

### **Meeting of the three Presidents**

The President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, M. Léopold Boissier, Mr. John MacAulay, Chairman of the League and the President of the Standing Commission, Mr. André François-Poncet, met on April 9, 1962, at the ICRC headquarters in Geneva. The meeting was presided by Mr. François-Poncet.

The three presidents discussed relief actions in Algeria, preparatory work for the 20th International Conference of the Red Cross, due to take place in Geneva in 1963, and the Centenary of the Red Cross which will be celebrated the same year.

### **Guests of the ICRC**

During the second half of March and beginning of April, the ICRC received several personalities at its headquarters amongst them Dr. Sécaud, Director of UNICEF in Paris ; Mr. Manuel Tello, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Head of the Mexican Delegation to the Disarmament Conference, accompanied by Mr. E. Calderon Puig, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Mexico in Geneva, Mr. de Werra, Mexican Consul in Geneva and Mr. J.J. de Rueda, Mexican Red Cross Delegate in Europe ; Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Epstein, writers, from New York ; Mr. P. S. Champa, interpreter to the group of Tibetan refugees who have immigrated to Switzerland ; Mrs. MacKenzie, Assistant County Director in charge of Youth and Junior Red Cross in Fife, Scottish branch of the British Red Cross ; Miss Alice Clamageran, President of the International Council of Nurses ; Princess Caroline of Liechtenstein, a member of the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (dealing with migrants and refugees) ; Mr. Ramone S. Eaton, Vice President of the American Red Cross ; Mrs. Margrit Berglund, of the Swedish Red Cross, accompanied by Mrs. G.A. Westling, wife of the Military Adviser to the Swedish Delegation to the Disarmament Conference ; Miss Zackari, Chief Nurse of the Indonesian Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service ; Miss Pat Seater and Miss Marilyn Hopkins of the Australian Red Cross.

During the same period, the ICRC was also visited by several groups : 20 student nurses from " La Source ", a Swiss Red Cross Nursing School in Lausanne, accompanied by their Director, Miss G. Augsburg ; 30 students from the " Lindenhof ", a Swiss Red Cross Nursing School in Berne, accompanied by an instructor, Miss Bachmann ; a group of nurses from Zurich ; Members of the American Red Cross working in Europe, and 20 young men, belonging to the German Association of the YMCA, from the Federal Republic of Germany.

## THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS AND THE TRIAL OF CUBAN PRISONERS

The Geneva Conventions having been invoked in numerous requests for intervention received by the International Committee of the Red Cross concerning the recent trial of Cuban prisoners captured during the invasion attempt in April 1961, it is appropriate to make the following statement :

In an international war, that is to say, in a war between States, a soldier cannot be punished for acts of legitimate warfare which he has committed against the enemy armed forces. If he is captured, he cannot be arraigned for such acts nor be prosecuted by a court. He has the right of the full application of the Third Convention of 1949, relative to the treatment of prisoners of war.

On the other hand, in internal armed conflicts, namely those in which nationals of the same State oppose each other, only article 3 of the Geneva Convention of 1949 is applicable. This is its text :

“ In the case of armed conflict not of an international character occurring in the territory of one of the High Contracting Parties, each Party to the conflict shall be bound to apply, as a minimum, the following provisions :

- (1) Persons taking no active part in the hostilities, including members of armed forces who have laid down their arms and those placed “ hors de combat ” by sickness, wounds, detention, or any other cause, shall in all circumstances be treated humanely, without any adverse distinction founded on race, colour, religion or faith, sex, birth or wealth, or any other similar criteria.

To this end, the following acts are and shall remain prohibited at any time and in any place whatsoever with respect to the above-mentioned persons :

- (a) violence to life and person, in particular murder of all kinds, mutilation, cruel treatment and torture ;
- (b) taking of hostages ;
- (c) outrages upon personal dignity, in particular humiliating and degrading treatment ;

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- (d) the passing of sentences and the carrying out of executions without previous judgment pronounced by a regularly constituted court, affording all the judicial guarantees which are recognized as indispensable by civilized peoples.

(2) The wounded and sick shall be collected and cared for.

An impartial humanitarian body, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross, may offer its services to the Parties to the conflict.

The parties to the conflict should further endeavour to bring into force, by means of special agreements, all or part of the other provisions of the present Convention.

The application of the preceding provisions shall not affect the legal status of the Parties to the conflict ”.

The Diplomatic Conference of 1949, which drew up the text of this article, did not accept the addition of a provision granting impunity to insurgents taken with arms in their hands and who have committed no other crime than that of fighting openly against the armed forces of the Government. It cannot therefore be excluded that, in international law, captured members of armed insurgent forces be brought before the courts and tried, subject to the conditions laid down at *d*) of that article.

On the other hand, it will be seen that, in the case of a conflict not of an international character, this article does not give the ICRC any possibility of intervention other than that of offering its services. This, it has not failed to do in every case of a similar nature which has been submitted to it since the signing of the new Conventions of 1949, as it has also not failed to recall their provisions on each of these occasions. It intervened in this sense with the Cuban Government at the time of the trial of the Cuban prisoners mentioned above.

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## The Koran and the humanitarian Conventions

*The commandment to help those who are suffering is one of the commandments which is to be found in most of the great religions. The Revue internationale has already published several articles in a series of analyses devoted to similar precepts.*

*The idea which gives motive force to the Red Cross, the Red Crescent and to the Red Lion and Sun spring from aspirations deeply rooted amongst most of the peoples throughout the world. It is therefore a good moment to throw light on the writings and on those who have spoken of help which should be given to those more unfortunate than oneself, and to whom one can today look upon as our guides in things of the spirit and in action.*

*We therefore have pleasure in publishing the summary of a study by Mr. M. K. Ereksoussi, Imam of the Islamic Community in Geneva, who shows how certain principles inspiring the humanitarian Conventions have already been accepted and expressed in the Koran<sup>1</sup>. The dignity of man, respect for others and the duties which we have towards each other, friend and enemy alike, are so many ideas which the Islamic religion so clearly defines, thus giving encouragement to those who are fighting to defend human values (Editorial Note).*

\* \* \*

The prophets of the great Semitic religions (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam) teach that God gave preference to Man over all His other creatures; and we may say that it is this which gives Man his special dignity and responsibilities.

This is the principle underlying the Geneva Conventions.

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<sup>1</sup> We would point out that this study has already appeared in the French edition of the *International Review* and has already been the subject of ICRC broadcasts in Arabic.

This idea of the special position enjoyed by Man is brought out on a number of occasions in the Holy Koran. Thus, in Chapter XCV ("The Fig"), we find verse 4: "Surely we created man of the best stature" (Mohammed Pickthall's version). Chapter XVII ("The Children of Israel"), verse 70 runs: "And surely we have honoured the children of Adam . . . and made them to excel highly most of those whom We have created" (Maulana Muhammad Ali's translation).

The Koran represents the angels as exemplary in their submission to the will of God. Nevertheless they, too, have to make an act of submission to Man. This is strikingly brought out in the story of Iblis. Chapter VII ("The Heights") depicts God as ordering the angels to make their submission to Adam. Iblis is alone in his refusal. He says (verse 12): "I am better than he; Thou hast created me of fire, while him Thou didst create of dust." As a result, Iblis is excluded from Paradise.

The Koran, then, and the Geneva Conventions are at one in recognizing the very special status of Man. They go further, by emphasizing the duties this special status implies.

The Koran teaches that Man has certain duties towards himself, and certain duties towards his neighbour.

Thus, in recognition of the special position he occupies in the eyes of God, the faithful Moslem will be scrupulous in self-discipline, avoiding excesses in food and drink, and ostentation in clothing. He will not accord to any man the reverence that should go to God alone. And while alive to the responsibilities which his special status as a man implies, he will at all times display a proper readiness to bow to the will of God.

As regards a man's duties towards his fellow-men, the Koran is at one with the Geneva Conventions. All men are God's creatures, even though they be our enemies; this is why the Geneva Conventions call on combatant powers to give just and equal treatment to all those over whom they may exercise *de facto* jurisdiction, without regard to sex, race, or religious conviction.

Here the Koran tells us (Chapter IV, verse 1): "O people, keep your duty to your Lord, Who created you from a single being, and created its mate of the same kind, and spread from these two many men and women."

There are numerous sayings ascribed to the Prophet, all in the same sense. "O Men, your Father is One, your God is One, you are all sons of Adám, and Adam was created from dust." He is also reported to have said that an Arab was no better than a non-Arab, a black man no better than a white, and the other way round, except in so far as he might be more virtuous. And most emphatically of all : "Men are all equal, like the teeth in a comb."

According to Islam, this basic equality is unaffected by differences in religious belief. In Chapter XVIII, verse 52, God is depicted as addressing the prophets of all the religions in the following terms : "And surely this your community is one community, and I am your Lord, so keep your duty to Me."

In Chapter XXVIII, Pharaoh is condemned for failing to mete out justice to his peoples : "Surely Pharaoh exalted himself in the land and made its peoples into parties, weakening one party from among them ; he slaughtered their sons and let their women live. Surely he was one of the mischief-makers."

Specific rules are given whereby mutual respect between believers can be made manifest in everyday life. "O you who believe ", says Chapter XLIX, "let not people laugh at people, perchance they may be better than they . . . . Neither find fault with your own people . . . Avoid most of all suspicion, for surely suspicion in some cases is sin."

But the Geneva Conventions are more especially concerned with duties towards an enemy. The Koran enjoins justice to enemies in the following terms (Chapter V) :

"O you who believe, be upright for Allah, bearers of witness with justice, and let not hatred of a people incite you not to act equitably. Be just ; that is nearer to observance of duty."

Ties of kinship, and considerations of self-interest, must not be allowed to interfere with this obligation. Chapter IV ("The Women ") says : "O you who believe, be maintainers of justice, bearers of witness for Allah, even though it be against your own selves or your parents or near relatives, whether the case concern a rich man or a poor man."

The Koran specifically enjoins respect for the beliefs of others, even though those beliefs may not concord with the strict monotheism of Islam. Chapter VI ("The Cattle "), while commanding the Faithful to "turn away " from idolaters, nevertheless goes on

to say : “ Had Allah willed, they had not been idolatrous. We have not set thee as a keeper over them, nor art thou responsible for them.” And further : “ Abuse not those whom they call upon besides Allah.”

There must be no attempt to impose a change of religious belief by force. Chapter II (“ The Cow ”), verse 256, flatly states that “ there is no compulsion in religion.”

The celebrated “ History of Nations and Kings ”, by El Tabari, quotes an undertaking entered into by the conqueror Omar Ben El Khattab in relation to the people of Jerusalem : Omar extended his protection to life and property, undertook not to destroy or sequestrate churches, and promised full freedom of worship. This strikingly prefigures Article 53 of the Geneva Convention, with its list of duties incumbent on an occupying Power.

The Koran is in harmony with the spirit of the Geneva Conventions in demanding not only justice, but charity. Chapter XVI, verse 90, says : “ Lo ! Allah enjoineth justice *and kindness*.” Revengefulness is condemned in Chapter LX, in which the Believer is reminded that “ It may be that Allah will bring about friendship between you and those whom you hold as enemies ” (verse 7). Chapter XLI, verse 34 : “ The good deed and the evil deed are not alike. *Repel the evil deed with one which is better*, then lo ! he between whom and thee there was enmity will become as though he were a bosom friend.”

Chapter XLII, verse 40, says : “ And the recompense of evil is punishment like it ; *but whoever forgives and amends*, his reward is with Allah . . . . ”

A tradition tells us that when pagans mutilated his uncle, the Prophet swore to pay back the injury twofold. But he at once received a revelation (Chapter XVI, verse 126) : “ If ye punish, then punish with the like of that wherewith ye were afflicted. But if ye endure patiently, verily it were better for the patient.” And he stayed his hand.

In spirit, therefore, the Koran and the Geneva Conventions are closely akin. In the practical application of the principles which inspire them, moreover, Koran and Conventions show some remarkable similarities.

1. The Conventions set out to protect such persons as are not directly involved in fighting : sick and wounded troops, medical personnel, the shipwrecked, prisoners of war, and civilians. The Koran, too, tells us that the struggle is to be waged only against those who are actually fighting. Chapter II, verse 190, says " And fight in the way of Allah against those who fight against you, but be not aggressive. Surely Allah loves not aggressors."

2. The Geneva Conventions forbid the " improper use of Red Cross hospitals for purposes harmful to the enemy." Before Islam, hospitals were unknown to the Arabs, who had, however, agreed amongst themselves not to fight in certain sacred precincts. Chapter II, verse 191, says : " And fight not with them at the Sacred Mosque until they fight with you in it, so if they fight you in it, slay them . . . . "

3. The Conventions demand that prisoners of war shall be well treated. A tradition tells us that, according to the Prophet : " Prisoners are your brethren. It is by the grace of God that they are in your hands. Since they are at your mercy, treat them as you would treat yourself as regards food, clothing, and shelter. Do not demand of them a labour which exceeds their strength; help them rather in what they have to do."

These words are surely extraordinary, if it be remembered that the Prophet was preaching to the Arabs of the seventh century A.D.

The Islamic attitude to the treatment of prisoners is summed up in the following magnificent verses from Chapter LXXVI of the Koran :

" The righteous truly drink of a cup tempered with camphor, a fountain from which the servants of Allah drink, making it flow in abundance. They fulfil vows and fear a day, the evil of which is widespread. And they give food, out of love for Him, to the poor and the orphan and the captive."

There are plenty of examples in the history of the Moslem peoples to show that these generous precepts were applied in practice. The Khalifs were entitled to punish those who infringed the obligation to respect human dignity in oneself and in others,

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even if those others be enemies of the State. The son of Amr Ben El-Aas, conqueror of Egypt, had been convicted of such an offence towards an Egyptian. The Khalif Omar Ben El-Khattab pressed a whip into the hand of a Copt and encouraged him to strike the highly-placed offender, to whose father he wrote, saying " Before you enslaved these people their mothers had born them as free men."

A verse from the Koran (Chapter XLIX : 13) and a saying ascribed to the Prophet, will provide us with a suitable conclusion to this discussion.

The Koran says (and to Moslems, of course, it speaks with the voice of God Himself) : " O ye people, We created you from one man and one woman. And We made you into peoples and tribes, that you might know that the noblest of you in the eyes of God is he who is the most pious." And the Prophet explains what piety entails in the following saying : " All creatures are God's family, and the most beloved of God is he who best serves his family."

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## M I S C E L L A N E O U S

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### AN INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND IN POLAND

The review *Hospitalis* (Zurich, 1961, No. 10) has published an article by Mr. Zoltowski on a Polish society for the education of the blind and there follow a few extracts from this article :

Fifty years ago, a young Polish girl, Rose Czacka, who had lost her sight at the age of 22, gave her fortune on behalf of the blind in Poland. Under her influence, the Society for the Protection of the Blind was founded in 1910.

This work had a very humble beginning. The founder took into her own private apartment seven blind orphan girls, taught them Braille and the professions open to the blind : basket work, cane-bottoming of chairs, knitting. The society also organized the first "patronages", that is to say assistance to the families of the blind living in Warsaw (this was later extended to other towns), set up consulting-rooms for blind children, courses in writing Braille and professional courses for adults, and it also gave certain material help.

This was the first Polish institution of such importance devoted to the welfare of the blind.

After the First World War, the most urgent question was that of setting up a school for young blind people. A place 9 miles from Warsaw was chosen, by the name of Łaski, where the children could enjoy country air, peace and quiet, without losing contact with the intellectual life of the capital.

A wooden hut was built in 1922, where the blind lived with nuns. This was only a beginning and the Institute grew to the extent that it now comprises 36 buildings, the biggest of which are : two schools with boarding-houses, one for boys and one for girls. There are also offices, workshops and accommodation. Between these

buildings there are cultivated fields and orchards, a kitchen garden, a flower garden, an apiary and a farm . . . .

The institute possesses a bakery and a laundry, as well as a big kitchen for the central buildings, and two smaller kitchens for the boarding-houses.

The reason behind the long distances between the buildings (the two schools, for example, are separated by more than 800 yards) was that the founder intended to have the blind trained to develop within themselves a feeling of independence and a capacity for getting about under the supervision of people who are friendly towards them. This means that there is no risk of their being run over by a car or losing their way. A stadium and a swimming-pool have been built in the grounds of the Institute.

*Organization of the schools.* — The Laski Institute possesses a kindergarten, an elementary school, a professional school and a special section for mentally retarded children.

Education in the kindergarten begins at the age of three and there is also a section for the mentally retarded. Future projects, therefore, include the construction of a building for 30 children. The next stage is the elementary school which has seven classes corresponding to the seven classes in schools for those with normal vision, apart from a few modifications essential to the programme. The first class is divided into two years of work with a preparatory class followed by the first class. The work of the primary school is divided according to the "work centre" method.

On leaving the seventh form, the blind pupils go on to the professional school, where their studies last three years. Outside school hours, they learn a profession of their own choice.

At the end of their studies, the students take an examination before a Government commission. Till recently, both boys and girls were prepared exclusively for their chosen profession. Now, the first year of professional school represents a stage in which the students pass through different workshops, so as to be capable, in the end, of choosing a profession in full possession of the facts.

This system was introduced as an experiment during the scholastic year of 1958/1959 . . .

*The workshops.* — Besides the usual professions for the blind, such as brushmaking and weaving, other activities have been taught for some years:

1. Metal work, the construction of metal beds, cages for minks and rabbits, etc.
2. There is also a workshop for the construction of modern metal furniture such as armchairs, tables and various household objects like lamps and ash-trays. In the beginning, the metal work was done solely by hand but now the blind are learning to use machines like lathes and electric machine drills.
3. In the woodwork section these young blind people use milling machines, planing-machines, lathes and machine drills. Furniture is the principal produce here : stools, tables, school desks, work benches for the production of shoe-scrapers, shelves, folding chairs, etc. The Institute sends these products to different State commercial enterprises.
4. Tapestry work is comprised principally of making mattresses and upholstered furniture of various models.
5. Cane-bottoming of wicker furniture was first introduced as an experiment but it has now gained in importance. Under the direction of a professional artist stools and modern armchairs in wood and metal are made.

In principle, people who have suffered amputations learn weaving, which is within the capabilities of even those who have no hands. They work with specially fitted machines, using artificial limbs and special hooks. A person with both hands amputated can make up ten yards of material in eight hours. It is a tradition of the Institute that when they leave school, the pupils always know two crafts, so as to be more independent in later life.

There is a surgery on the spot, where a doctor gives three consultations each week, and close attention is paid to the pupils' state of health. The Institute also has a dental clinic . . .

*Contacts.* — The Institute remains in continual contact with old pupils and its interest is shown by the way it endeavours to

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find them lodgings or work, lend them books from the Braille Library, help them materially and facilitate holidays at Laski for them, often with their families. These old pupils come as often as possible for holidays. In Warsaw, a few years ago, an artistic co-operative of weaving and knitting was organized for them, called " New Work ", where more than 30 blind are employed.

Contacts are also numerous with the associations for the blind of other towns. These associations notify the Institute of blind children who should be received at Laski and, for its own part, the Institute avails itself of their help to find work for its old pupils. Laski is often visited by groups of over 90 blind people.

The young blind people also take part in competitions organized by the associations of the blind, such as recital competitions. One of the old pupils, a pianist, took part in several competitions and international music festivals. School children exchange correspondence with the Institute's blind children and send them parcels, paper, old note-books (which can be used for writing Braille), and food. They invite groups of blind children to community games and visit them at Laski . . . The blind children also take part in games organized by the holiday camps for children with normal vision.

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## A GLANCE THROUGH THE REVIEWS

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**The Legacy of Clara Barton**, by Gertrude Samuels. *The New York Times Magazine*, February 1961.

In April, 1861, a small, calm, sturdy woman in her fortieth year, her thick dark hair bunched back behind her ears, her long, straight dress free of fashionable crinoline and stiffening, moved quietly among the ragged and bloody men of the Sixth Massachusetts Regiment. Some of them were her former pupils. The men had suffered a surprise attack by Southern sympathizers as they passed through Baltimore, and were being quartered in the unfinished Senate Chamber in Washington, and many were wounded.

That night the woman worked tirelessly to nurse and minister to these "well-punished fellows." Next day, she organized her own small army of Negro porters to carry boxes of food, medicine and supplies, bought with her own funds, to the troops from her home state.

Soon after this episode, in the opening days of the Civil War, a unique order from the Military Department headquarters authorized her to "Pass—Daily—over the Bridges & within the lines \* \* \* By order of General Mansfield, Commanding."

Thus there began to unfold a fascinating drama—the single, bold, determined effort of one woman to serve mankind on the battlefield. The woman was Clara Barton, volunteer nurse and founder of the American Red Cross. . .

Born on Christmas Day in 1821 in Oxford, Mass., the daughter of a farmer-soldier who had fought the Indians, Clarissa Harlowe Barton seemed an absolute conformist to tradition. In the nineteenth century when feminine reserve and delicacy were emphasized, she was a painfully shy, lonely, timid New England girl who feared strangers. She fainted when she saw the village slaughterer bludgeon an ox.

One childhood experience had a lasting effect on her life. Her brother suffered injuries during a barn raising, and Clara was his constant nurse between her eleventh and thirteenth birthdays, rarely leaving his side until he was cured, giving him the prescribed leeches and reading to him.

At 18, she became a teacher in North Oxford, and was so terrified at first that she began her classes by reading from the Bible—the Sermon on the Mount—presumably to reassure herself rather than the young people she confronted. She was to love the human race—but not one man enough to marry him. One suitor who made a fortune in the California gold rush begged her to accept \$10,000, which she banked in New York as "too sacred to use," until she drew upon it for the troops.

She was working—pioneering—as one of the women copyists in the Patent Office in Washington when the Civil War broke out. That April of 1861, when she cared for her old schoolboys in the bloody and dragged “Sixth Mass,” she reached the turning point of her life.

Britain then had its Florence Nightingale, the “Lady of the Lamp,” who had fought against angry family and public opposition and gone with a handful of nurses to the Crimean War front in 1854. She had found conditions intolerable for the sick and wounded in the filthy hospital wards; her self-sacrifice and revolutionary methods that brought order, cleanliness and decent treatment for the individual soldier constitute one of the great human events of that time.

It is not known how profoundly Clara Barton was influenced by Florence Nightingale, but the British nurse’s effort must have inspired her since it represented what she yearned to do herself. From early youth Clara had been motivated by a deep need to help people in trouble. Now she responded to American suffering by lighting her own lamp amid the horrors of the Civil War. (The two women never met, although they exchanged “friendly messages.”)

At first Clara had to struggle against her own self-doubts and conquer her innate timidity. When she had overcome her inner struggles, she was faced with detractors. Everywhere Army officials rebuffed her. People were shocked at the idea of a woman going to the front.

Her first success came with a quartermaster in charge of transportation, who was so “pressed and anxious and gruff,” she wrote in her diary, that she burst into tears when he asked what she wanted. To get to the front, she blurted out—with the supplies she had in her lodgings and at a warehouse.

He stared at the tearful, stubborn little woman, then quietly issued an order for wagons and men to load them, gave her a permit, and told her, “God bless you.”

It was the first of many journeys. Often her wagon was ahead of the ammunition. Once as she bent to give a wounded man water, a bullet cut through her sleeve and killed him. She cradled another dying boy who believed she was his sister Mary. The Army surgeons came to depend on her. The men under fire began to watch for their “angel of mercy.” She became known as the “American Florence Nightingale.”

A born nurse, she would instinctively appear in the critical areas, bringing up crucially needed bandages, and cotton lint, stanching or dressing wounds, holding the candle steady while a surgeon operated, administering the chloroform, performing minor operations by removing bullets from surface muscles, even cooking pots of soup, gruel and applesauce for the hungry, homesick boys.

Always there was a tender word to the wounded who waited for help. Sensitive to their psychological needs, she read to them—as she had read to her brother—wrote their letters home, prayed for them. In time, many women joined in her work at the front . . . .

Just before the end of the war, President Lincoln wrote :

" To the Friends of Missing Persons : Miss Clara Barton has kindly offered to search for the missing prisoners of war. Please address her at Annapolis."

For four years, she now worked without compensation, sifting through records to find who " had fallen in battle, were lingering in prisons, or perished in some other way," to bring a measure of peace to thousands of families, to place tablets of honor on the graves of " unknown " soldiers.

She could not realize then that her work on the battlefield was but the prologue to her life work—the creation of a great, nation-wide volunteer organization to succor victims in both war and peace.

In 1869 she went to Europe on doctor's orders for a rest. Instead, she found herself involved, during the Franco-Prussian War, in the preparation of military hospitals. More important, she became fascinated with the work of the newly created International Committee of the Red Cross. Founded by the Swiss humanitarian, Jean Henry Dunant, it was to work for the prevention of suffering and hunger of both victor and vanquished, in war and peace, without distinction of race or creed, and bound nations to an international agreement concerning those wounded in war. (In 1901, Dunant received the first Nobel Peace Prize.)

Twenty-two nations had signed the Treaty of Geneva, which developed Red Cross relief societies in those countries. Clara Barton was deeply moved by the fact that America had not signed, fearing " entangling foreign alliances."

Back home, she was to fight for ten years to convert America to the ideals of the international Red Cross. She fought almost alone, against the hostility of other societies vying for governmental approval. She wrote articles, lectured, advertised in the press, enlisted the churches in her crusade to get the Red Cross story told to the people. State Department doors closed in her face. She badgered politicians, generals, editors and three Presidents. She exhausted her energies and fell ill, but she had won.

On the night of May 21, 1881, assured that America would sign the Treaty of Geneva, she gathered fifty men and women in her parlor on I Street in Washington to found the American Association of the Red Cross. The next year, the Senate ratified the treaty, making her organization the link between the people and their armed forces.

But even before the United States signed the Treaty of Geneva, the Red Cross had gone to work in the Michigan forest fires of 1881, sustaining the dazed survivors and meeting their first needs with food, clothing and medical supplies. Within a few years, Clara Barton extended the work to all national calamities, including pestilence, famine and floods.

" So it was done," she wrote. " I had waited so long and got so weak and broken, I could not even feel glad." But her tenacity soon returned. Her thick brown hair now streaked with gray, she turned in her sixtieth

## A GLANCE THROUGH THE REVIEWS

year, at a time when many go into retirement, to the work that was to absorb her for the next twenty-four years: as the first Red Cross president.

She got relief to sufferers of the Mississippi and Ohio floods. She went on inspection tours of inundated areas, and developed a rehabilitation scheme for hurricane victims that one general described as the "statesmanship of philanthropy."

She went to Russia and distributed relief to the peasants suffering from famine. She became—at 76—a nurse on the battlefield again during the Spanish-American War, taking her relief supplies and skills to the Cubans. This time she had the help of Red Cross nurses. At President McKinley's request, she set up several Red Cross orphanages in Cuba for children left homeless by the war.

In 1900, the organization formally became the American National Red Cross by an act of Congress. It was operating under a Congressional charter, with the President of the United States as its honorary president. Clara Barton resigned from the Red Cross in 1904, and eight years later she died at the age of 91.

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In her lifetime she had become a legend. It was said that in her old age, she loved to wear her decorations from many lands as she gardened. She left behind forty diaries with her writings and poems. And she left behind something else that she must have known would be handed down for generations to come . . .

Walt Whitman understood what moved those like her. Shortly before the Civil War, the poet, then an editorial writer on *The Brooklyn Times*, later to become, himself, a volunteer nurse in that conflict, wrote:

"The brotherhood of humanity is looked upon as a fine phrase signifying but little or nothing. It may seem so, in the jostle and attrition of conflicting elements that make up the life-battle; it may seem selfishness is the universal rule, and sympathy only the rare exception—but let some great calamity, some overwhelming sorrow, touch the great popular heart with its unutterable pathos, and the phrase will be seen to possess some meaning, after all, despite the sneers of the cynics and the doubters."

In Clara Barton's life and legacy was the proof.

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EXTRACT FROM THE STATUTES OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

(AGREED AND AMENDED ON SEPTEMBER 25, 1952)

ART. 1. — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), founded in Geneva in 1863 and formally recognized in the Geneva Conventions and by International Conferences of the Red Cross, shall be an independent organization having its own Statutes.

It shall be a constituent part of the International Red Cross.<sup>1</sup>

ART. 2. — As an association governed by Articles 60 and following of the Swiss Civil Code, the ICRC shall have legal personality.

ART. 3. — The headquarters of the ICRC shall be in Geneva.

Its emblem shall be a red cross on a white ground. Its motto shall be "Inter arma caritas".

ART. 4. — The special rôle of the ICRC shall be :

- (a) to maintain the fundamental and permanent principles of the Red Cross, namely: impartiality, action independent of any racial, political, religious or economic considerations, the universality of the Red Cross and the equality of the National Red Cross Societies :
- (b) to recognize any newly established or reconstituted National Red Cross Society which fulfils the conditions for recognition in force, and to notify other National Societies of such recognition ;

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<sup>1</sup> The International Red Cross comprises the National Red Cross Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies. The term "National Red Cross Societies" includes the Red Crescent Societies and the Red Lion and Sun Society.

- (c) to undertake the tasks incumbent on it under the Geneva Conventions, to work for the faithful application of these Conventions and to take cognizance of any complaints regarding alleged breaches of the humanitarian Conventions ;
- (d) to take action in its capacity as a neutral institution, especially in case of war, civil war or internal strife; to endeavour to ensure at all times that the military and civilian victims of such conflicts and of their direct results receive protection and assistance, and to serve, in humanitarian matters, as an intermediary between the parties ;
- e) to contribute, in view of such conflicts, to the preparation and development of medical personnel and medical equipment, in co-operation with the Red Cross organizations, the medical services of the armed forces, and other competent authorities ;
- (f) to work for the continual improvement of humanitarian international law and for the better understanding and diffusion of the Geneva Conventions and to prepare for their possible extension;
- (g) to accept the mandates entrusted to it by the International Conferences of the Red Cross.

The ICRC may also take any humanitarian initiative which comes within its rôle as a specifically neutral and independent institution and consider any question requiring examination by such an institution.

ART. 6 (first paragraph). — The ICRC shall co-opt its members from among Swiss citizens. The number of members may not exceed twenty-five.



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## ADDRESSES OF CENTRAL COMMITTEES

- AFGHANISTAN — Afghan Red Crescent, *Kabul*.
- ALBANIA — Albanian Red Cross, 35, Rruga Barrikadavet, *Tirana*.
- ARGENTINE — Argentine Red Cross, Victoria 2068 (R.72), *Buenos Aires*.
- AUSTRALIA — Australian Red Cross, 122-128 Flinders Street, *Melbourne, C. 1*.
- AUSTRIA — Austrian Red Cross, 3, Gusshausstrasse, *Vienna IV*.
- BELGIUM — Belgian Red Cross, 98, Chaussée de Vleurgat, *Brussels*.
- BOLIVIA — Bolivian Red Cross, Avenida Simon-Bolivar, 1515 (Casilla 741), *La Paz*.
- BRAZIL — Brazilian Red Cross, Praça da Cruz Vermelha 10-12, *Rio de Janeiro*.
- BULGARIA — Bulgarian Red Cross, 1, Boul. S.S. Biruzov, *Sofia*.
- BURMA — Burma Red Cross, 42, Strand Road, Red Cross Building, *Rangoon*.
- CAMBODIA — Cambodian Red Cross, 8 Phlaur Ang Nonn, P.O.B. 94, *Pnom-Penh*.
- CANADA — Canadian Red Cross, 95, Wellesley Street East, *Toronto 5*.
- CEYLON — Ceylon Red Cross, 106, Dharmalalapa Mawatte, *Colombo VII*.
- CHILE — Chilean Red Cross, Avenida Santa Maria 0150, Casilla 246 V., *Santiago de Chile*.
- CHINA — Red Cross Society of China, 22, Kanmien Hutung, *Peking, E*.
- COLOMBIA — Colombian Red Cross, Carrera 7a, 34-65 Apartado nacional 11-10, *Bogota*.
- COSTA RICA — Costa Rican Red Cross, Calle 5a Sur, Apartado 1025, *San José*.
- CUBA — Cuban Red Cross, Ignacio Agramonte 461, *Havana*.
- CZECHOSLOVAKIA — Czechoslovakian Red Cross, Thunovska 18, *Prague III*.
- DENMARK — Danish Red Cross, Platanvej 22 *Copenhagen V*.
- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC — Dominican Red Cross, Calle Galvan 24, Apartado 1293, *San Domingo*.
- ECUADOR — Ecuadorian Red Cross, Avenida Colombia y Elizalde 118, *Quito*.
- ETHIOPIA — Ethiopian Red Cross, *Addis Ababa*.
- FINLAND — Finnish Red Cross, Tehtaankatu I A, *Helsinki*.
- FRANCE — French Red Cross, 17, rue Quentin-Bauchart, *Paris (8<sup>e</sup>)*.
- GERMANY (Dem. Republic) — German Red Cross in the German Democratic Republic, Kaitzerstrasse 2, *Dresden A. 1*.
- GERMANY (Federal Republic) — German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany, Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 71, *Bonn*.
- GHANA — Ghana Red Cross, P.O. Box 835, *Accra*.
- GREAT BRITAIN — British Red Cross, 14 Grosvenor Crescent, *London, S.W.1*.
- GREECE — Greek Red Cross, rue Lycavitou 1, *Athens*.
- GUATEMALA — Guatemalan Red Cross, 4a Calle 11-42, Zona 1, *Guatemala*.
- HAITI — Haiti Red Cross, rue Férou, *Port-au-Prince*.
- HONDURAS — Honduran Red Cross, Calle Henry Dunant, *Tegucigalpa*.
- HUNGARY — Hungarian Red Cross, Arany Janos utca 31, *Budapest V*.
- ICELAND — Icelandic Red Cross, Thorvaldsensstraeti 6, *Reykjavik*.
- INDIA — Indian Red Cross, 1 Red Cross Road, *New Delhi 1*.
- INDONESIA — Indonesian Red Cross, Tanah Abang Barat 66, *Djakarta*.
- IRAN — Iranian Red Lion and Sun Society, Avenue Ark, *Teheran*.
- IRAQ — Iraqi Red Crescent, *Baghdad*.
- IRELAND — Irish Red Cross, 25 Westland Row, *Dublin*.
- ITALY — Italian Red Cross, 12, via Toscana, *Rome*.
- JAPAN — Japanese Red Cross, 5 Shiba Park, Minato-Ku, *Tokyo*.
- JORDAN — Jordan Red Crescent, P.O. Box 1337, *Amman*.
- KOREA (Democratic Republic) — Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, *Pyeongyang*.
- KOREA (Republic) — The Republic of Korea National Red Cross, 32-3 Ka Nam San-Dong, *Seoul*.
- LAOS — Laotian Red Cross, *Vientiane*.
- LEBANON — Lebanese Red Cross, rue Général Spears, *Beirut*.

## ADDRESSES OF CENTRAL COMMITTEES

- LIBERIA — Liberian National Red Cross, Camp Johnson Road, *Monrovia*.
- LIBYA — Libyan Red Crescent, Berka Omar Mukhtar Street, P.O. Box 541, *Benghazi*.
- LIECHTENSTEIN — Liechtenstein Red Cross, *Vaduz*.
- LUXEMBURG — Luxemburg Red Cross, Parc de la Ville, *Luxemburg*.
- MEXICO — Mexican Red Cross, Sinaloa 20, 4<sup>o</sup> piso, *Mexico 7*, D.F.
- MONACO — Red Cross of Monaco, 27, Boul. de Suisse, *Monte-Carlo*.
- MONGOLIA — Red Cross Society of the Mongolian People's Republic, 26, Nairamdal Gudang, P.O. 20/26 *Ulan-Bator*.
- MOROCCO — Moroccan Red Crescent, rue Calmette, *Rabat*.
- NETHERLANDS — Netherlands Red Cross, 27 Prinsessegracht, *The Hague*.
- NEW ZEALAND — New Zealand Red Cross, 61 Dixon Street, P.O.B. 6073, *Wellington C. 2*.
- NICARAGUA — Nicaraguan Red Cross, 12 Avenida Nordeste, 305, *Managua*, D.N.C.A.
- NIGERIA — The Nigerian Red Cross Society, 2, Makoko Road, P.O. Box 764, *Lagos*.
- NORWAY — Norwegian Red Cross, Parkveien 33b, *Oslo*.
- PAKISTAN — Pakistan Red Cross, Frere Street, *Karachi 4*.
- PANAMA — Panamanian Red Cross, *Panama*.
- PARAGUAY — Paraguayan Red Cross, calle André Barbero y Artigas, *Asunción*.
- PERU — Peruvian Red Cross, Tarapaca 881, *Lima*.
- PHILIPPINES — Philippine National Red Cross, 600 Isaac Peral Street, P.O.B. 280, *Manila*.
- POLAND — Polish Red Cross, Mokotowska 14, *Warsaw*.
- PORTUGAL — Portuguese Red Cross, General Secretaryship, Jardim 9 de Abril, 1 a 5, *Lisbon*.
- RUMANIA — Red Cross of the Rumanian People's Republic, Strada Biserica Amzei 29, C.P. 729, *Bucarest*.
- SALVADOR — Salvador Red Cross, 3a Avenida Norte y 3a Calle Poniente, 21, *San Salvador*.
- SAN MARINO — San Marino Red Cross, *San Marino*.
- SOUTH AFRICA (Republic) — South African Red Cross, 304, Barclay's Bank Building, 14 Hollard Street, P.O.B. 8726, *Johannesburg*.
- SPAIN — Spanish Red Cross, Eduardo Dato 16, *Madrid, 10*.
- SUDAN — Sudanese Red Crescent, P.O. Box 235, *Khartum*.
- SWEDEN — Swedish Red Cross, Artillerigatan 6, *Stockholm 14*.
- SWITZERLAND — Swiss Red Cross, Taubenstrasse 8, *Berne*.
- SYRIA — Syrian Red Crescent, Damascus.
- THAILAND — Thai Red Cross Society, King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital, *Bangkok*.
- TOGO — Togolese Red Cross Society, Avenue des Alliés, P.O. Box 655, *Lome*.
- TUNISIA — Tunisian Red Crescent, 1, Avenue de Carthage, *Tunis*.
- TURKEY — Turkish Red Crescent, Yenisehir, *Ankara*.
- UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC — Red Crescent Society of the United Arab Republic, 34, rue Ramses, *Cairo*.
- URUGUAY — Uruguayan Red Cross, Avenida 8 de Octubre, 2990, *Montevideo*.
- U.S.A. — American Red Cross, National Headquarters, 17th and D Streets, N.W., *Washington 6, D.C.*
- U.S.S.R. — Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Kouznetsky Most 18/7, *Moscow*.
- VENEZUELA — Venezuelan Red Cross, Avenida Andrés Bello No 4, *Caracas*.
- VIET NAM (Democratic Republic) — Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, 68, rue Bà-Triez, *Hanoi*.
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- YUGOSLAVIA — Yugoslav Red Cross, Simina ulica broj 19, *Belgrade*.