

Relief actions

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V. Relief Actions

In 1952 the International Committee carried out relief actions, in cash and in kind, to a total value of

Sw. Fr. 1,138,305

on behalf of various categories of war victims : disabled, prisoners of war, civilian internees, wounded and sick, orphans and refugees, in some 27 beneficiary countries.

The assistance given to the *war-disabled* will be found in the report in Chapter II, entitled " Assistance to the Disabled " ¹.

For prisoners and internees the assistance described in Chapter III under the heading " Visits to Places of Detention " ² was supplemented by the distribution of relief parcels, particularly in South Korea, where prisoners of war have received recreational supplies and books.

In regard to other war victims, *wounded and sick, orphans, displaced or repatriated persons*, assistance consisted of funds placed at the disposal of the Italian and Japanese National Red Cross Societies, of medicaments (especially for tuberculosis sufferers in Austria, Bulgaria, Italy and Poland) and of clothing parcels for displaced or repatriated persons in Hungary and Italy.

The ICRC distributed relief in cash and in kind to new refugees who had taken shelter in Austria and Germany, and considerable quantities of foodstuffs, medicaments and clothing to various classes of the population, particularly in Greece where the cost of assistance amounted to Sw.Fr. 472,314 ³.

¹ See above, pages 26 and 27.

² See above, page 28.

³ See below, *Part II*, Chapter I, page 45.

It may be mentioned that the ICRC gave its services for the alleviation of distress caused by famine in Southern India, a volcanic eruption in the Philippines and an earthquake in Turkey. In the first case it distributed medicaments and in the two others it gave cash donations.

The ICRC received and examined over twelve thousand requests for individual relief. As far as its resources allowed it gave favourable consideration to the most deserving requests, particularly those received from the war-disabled¹; in a certain number of cases, of which the majority concerned persons who had taken refuge in Austria, Germany, Italy and Switzerland, it applied to National Red Cross Societies and other relief organisations for purposes of investigation and assistance.

The following table gives details, classified by countries and categories, of the beneficiaries of these relief actions, including those for the disabled.

¹ See below, *Part II*, Chapter I, page 45.

RELIEF SUPPLIES DISTRIBUTED OR TRANSMITTED BY THE ICRC
DURING 1952

Countries	BENEFICIARIES	Totals by beneficiaries		Totals by Countries	
		kgs	Frs	kgs	Frs
ALBANIA	Greek nationals	330	1,665	330	1,665
AUSTRALIA	War-disabled	7	2,502	7	2,502
AUSTRIA	Civilian population	86	3,340	—	—
	Repatriates	95	3,093	—	—
	Refugees	163	2,731	—	—
	War-disabled	54	3,938	398	13,092
BULGARIA	Civilian population	123	1,478	—	—
	War-disabled	255	1,616	378	3,094
FINLAND	War-disabled	234	4,013	234	4,013
FRANCE	Refugees	—	2,000	—	—
	War-disabled	34	8,159	—	4,500
	War-disabled refugees	—	2,500	34	8,159
GERMANY Federal Republic	Civilian population	179	228	—	—
	Displaced persons	164	509	—	—
	Refugees, German-speaking minorities	—	23,500	—	—
	East Germans	82	5,442	—	—
	War-disabled	—	97	—	—
	War-disabled	—	2,682	—	—
	War-disabled refugees	16	54	—	—
	Totals	—	23,597	—	—
		441	8,915	—	—
Democratic Republic	Civilian population	1,914	84,694	—	—
	War-disabled	28	7,305	—	—
	War-disabled	—	1,048	—	—
	Totals	—	1,048	—	24,645
		1,942	91,999	2,383	100,914
GREECE	Civilian population	33,568	214,060	—	—
	Prisoners and exiles	37,940	255,765	—	—
	Refugees	500	1,856	—	—
	War-disabled	30	633	72,038	472,314
HUNGARY	Civilian population	15	1,076	—	—
	Displaced persons	8,253	93,450	—	—
	War-disabled	—	148	8,268	94,674
INDIA (Madras)	Civilian population	852	38,585	852	38,585
INDO-CHINA	Civilian population	—	385	—	—
	Wounded and sick	250	2,100	250	2,485
INDONESIA	Civilian population	23	2,280	23	2,280

Countries	BENEFICIARIES	Totals by beneficiaries		Totals by Countries	
		kgs	Frs	kgs	Frs
ITALY	Repatriates	2,700	37,500		
	Refugees	—	<i>5,000</i>		
	Refugees	142	2,219		
	Tuberculous war victims	994	41,021		<i>5,000</i>
	War-disabled	—	321	3,836	81,061
JAPAN	War victims	—	<i>102,177</i>	—	<i>102,177</i>
	Civilian population	100	3,800	100	3,800
JORDAN	War-disabled	—	1,770	—	1,770
KOREA (SOUTH)	Prisoners of War	—	36,508	—	36,508
PAKISTAN	Refugees from Cashmere	2,464	26,210	2,464	26,210
PHILIPPINES	Civilian population	—	6,555		
	Japanese military detainees	—	3,125	—	9,680
POLAND	Civilian population	760	26,933		
	German detainees	12	301		
	War-disabled	18	8,220	790	35,454
RUMANIA	Civilian population	10	544		
	Displaced persons	167	1,495		
	War-disabled	—	155	177	2,194
SWITZERLAND	War-disabled in treatment in Switzerland	—	<i>9,107</i>	—	9,107
TRIESTE	Refugees	—	3,400	—	3,400
TURKEY	Civilian population	—	<i>15,800</i>	—	<i>15,800</i>
USSR	Japanese detainees	306	1,530	306	1,530
YUGOSLAVIA	Civilian population	67	2,833		
	German detainees	456	3,224		
	War-disabled	2,896	19,551	3,419	25,608
VARIOUS COUNTRIES	Civilian population	73	2,297		
	War-disabled	—	99		
	Sundry	—	<i>2,254</i>		<i>2,254</i>
	Sundry	16	1,434	89	3,830
				96,376	<i>173,163</i> 965,412
	GENERAL TOTAL ¹ . . .				1,138,305
	Total value of relief supplied by other donors				624,071 514,234
	Total value of relief supplied by the ICRC				1,138,305

¹ Remarks: The figures in italics represent relief in cash. Weights are not indicated in the case of special relief items (special drugs, or orthopaedic supplies, individual and intellectual relief, etc.)