

Africa

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I. OPERATIONS

Africa

In 1972, the ICRC kept up its two regional delegations in Africa, at Yaoundé and Addis Ababa, which cover the countries in West Africa and East Africa respectively. Questions relating to North Africa, southern Africa and Portugal's African Territories were dealt with direct by Geneva headquarters.

At the end of February, Mr. Georges Hoffmann, ICRC delegate-general for Africa, went to the Sudan, in order to attend a conference in Khartoum on the relief and resettlement of displaced persons and refugees in the three southern provinces.

In April, he went to southern Africa on a mission which took him first to South West Africa where he visited the local Red Cross. He later proceeded to Rhodesia and made a series of visits to five places of detention there.

In August, Mr. Jacques Moreillon took over from Mr. Hoffmann as ICRC delegate-general for Africa and left on 15 September on a mission to seven countries that lasted until 15 October. The countries visited were Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Senegal and Sierra Leone. The purpose of Mr. Moreillon's voyage was, on the one hand, to introduce himself to the government authorities and National Red Cross Society leaders of those countries and, on the other hand, to visit the two regional delegations in Addis Ababa and Yaoundé. In November, Mr. Moreillon went to Portugal.

In March and April, the ICRC sent two of its jurists to thirteen African countries on a twofold mission: to inform Governments of the work carried out by the ICRC for the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law and to get them to send representatives to the second session of the Conference of Government Experts.¹

¹ For further details, see page 99 of this report.

West and Central Africa

ICRC REGIONAL DELEGATION FOR WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

The regional delegation of the ICRC for West and Central Africa has two delegates on its staff. In 1972, one was Mr. Ulrich Bédert; the other, Mr. André Tschiffeli until August 1972, when he was replaced by Mr. René Weber.

The regional delegates pursued their contacts with the Governments of various West African countries and with National Red Cross Societies, including recognized and emergent Societies. They visited seventeen countries, some of them several times: Cameroon, Chad, the People's Republic of the Congo, Dahomey, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo, Upper Volta and Zaire. In all these countries, they worked to encourage the dissemination of the four 1949 Geneva Conventions and of the principles of the Red Cross among members of the armed forces and youth. In three countries—Cameroon, Gabon and Senegal—they organized, in close co-operation with the National Society, lectures on the ICRC and the Red Cross movement, and in five countries—Cameroon, the People's Republic of the Congo, Gambia, Sierra Leone and Zaire—they visited detainees.

Cameroon

Lecture tour: In the second quarter of 1972, Mr. Bédert conducted an information campaign that took him to about forty towns and villages. In each, in co-operation with local Red Cross branches, he spoke on the ICRC and the Red Cross movement.

Contacts: In the course of his mission in Africa, Mr. Moreillon, ICRC delegate-general, was in Yaoundé, where the ICRC regional delegation for West and Central Africa has its headquarters, from 21 to 24 September. Besides Cameroon Red Cross leaders, he met the Ministers of Education, Justice and Foreign Affairs, the Secretary-General of the Presidency, and representatives of the Ministries of Health and of the Armed Forces. The talks dealt mainly with

Cameroon's participation in the development of humanitarian law and the information to be given to its armed forces in this field.

Visit to a place of detention: In November, Mr. Weber obtained the Cameroon Government's authorization to visit penal law prisoners and persons detained for political reasons or offences at the Kondengui Central Prison near Yaoundé. The regional delegate handed to the prison doctor a number of medicaments sent by the ICRC for the detainees.

Chad

Mr. Bédert was on mission in Chad on 3 and 4 April. He conferred with the authorities and with the provisional committee of the Chad Red Cross then being formed. He took the opportunity, while in Fort Lamy, of giving a conference and projecting films on the ICRC and the Red Cross movement at the Chad Culture Centre.

Medical aid: Towards the end of the year, the ICRC allocated 30,000 Swiss francs for the supply of medicaments to Chad.

People's Republic of the Congo

Portuguese military prisoners: On 7 June, a Portuguese helicopter, flying from Cabinda, fell into the hands of the Congolese authorities at Banga, 75 km. from Pointe-Noire. A short time later, the ICRC was requested by the Portuguese Government to intervene on behalf of the two members of the armed forces who were on board the helicopter. Mr. Bédert made the customary approaches, within the framework of the Geneva Conventions, to the authorities concerned.

Dahomey

Mr. Bédert was in Cotonou from 22 to 30 November and again on 7 December. He had a series of talks with the authorities on the

dissemination of the principles of the Red Cross and of the Geneva Conventions among members of the armed forces and youth and was received by Mr. Kerekou Mathieu, President of the Republic, who gave his consent to visits to places of detention in the first half of 1973. Mr. Bédert was in touch also with National Society leaders.

Gabon

Lecture tour: From 10 to 26 June, Mr. Bédert, together with the emergent National Red Cross Society, went on an information campaign throughout Gabon, giving talks in a dozen different places on the ICRC and the Red Cross movement.

Gambia

Visit to a place of detention: Mr. Weber was in Gambia from 16 to 19 October, in order to get in touch with government authorities and with leaders of the emergent Gambia Red Cross. He obtained authorization to visit the Bathurst Central Prison, containing some 120 detainees for whom various relief supplies were provided.

Following this visit, the ICRC sent the Gambia Red Cross a parcel of medicaments for the detainees.

Ghana

From 24 to 28 September, the ICRC delegate-general for Africa, with Mr. Weber, was in Accra, where they got in contact with leaders of the Ghana Red Cross. Mr. Moreillon was received by the Head of State, Colonel Y. K. Acheampong, the Commissioners for Education and Health, and the Head Secretary to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The main subjects discussed were ICRC assistance to persons held for political reasons or offences, and the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions and of the principles of the Red Cross among members of the armed forces and youth.

Ivory Coast

The ICRC delegate-general for Africa was in Abidjan from 28 September to 3 October, together with Mr. Weber. Besides seeing Red Cross leaders in the Ivory Coast, Mr. Moreillon was received by the President of the Republic, Mr. Felix Houphouët-Boigny and by the Ministers of the Armed Forces and Civic Services, of Health and of Public Services and by representatives of the Minister of Education. In the course of these talks, several questions were brought up, including the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions and Red Cross principles among members of the armed forces and youth, and the visit to the ICRC by President Houphouët-Boigny in 1973.

Liberia

Accompanied by Mr. Weber, the ICRC delegate-general for Africa was in Monrovia from 8 to 11 October. Besides seeing Liberian Red Cross leaders, Mr. Moreillon was received by the President of the Republic, Dr. William J. Tolbert Jr., and by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, National Defence and Education. In the course of these talks, several questions were brought up, including the matter of ICRC assistance to detained persons and the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions and of Red Cross principles among members of the armed forces and youth.

In November, the ICRC sent by air to the Liberian Red Cross in Monrovia a parcel of medicaments for places of detention.

Niger

Assistance to refugees: Following a visit by Mr. Bédert to the authorities and Red Cross Society of Niger from 8 to 16 December, the ICRC sent the National Society the sum of 4,000 Swiss francs for the purchase of foodstuffs for the Bilma Refugees. The ICRC also sent aid to the Society in the form of a cash gift of 2,500 Swiss francs.

Senegal

Propaganda campaign: From 12 to 21 January, Mr. Tschiffeli, visiting four local committees of the Senegalese Red Cross at Dakar, Koalak, St. Louis and Thiez, gave lectures on the ICRC and its activities.

Contacts: Accompanied by Mr. Weber, the ICRC delegate-general for Africa, Mr. Moreillon, went to Dakar where, from 12 to 15 October, he conferred with Mr. Rito Alcantara, President of the Senegalese Red Cross Society and Vice-President of the League of Red Cross Societies. He was received also by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Health and Education, a representative of the Ministry of Defence, the Secretary-General of the Presidency of the Republic, and the First President of the Supreme Court. The discussions related mainly to the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions and of Red Cross principles in the armed forces and among youth. He also met a representative of the PAIGC (African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde).

Medical aid to PAIGC: Towards the end of 1972, the ICRC allocated 30,000 Swiss francs to the purchase of medicaments for the Ziguinchor hospital in Senegal, in which casualties in the conflict with Portugal are treated. The medicaments were delivered to the hospital, which is operated by the PAIGC medical service, by Mr. Bédert, regional delegate, during a mission he undertook in Senegal from 23 to 28 December.

Sierra Leone

The ICRC delegate-general, accompanied by Mr. Weber, was in Freetown from 3 to 8 October. He had various discussions with the leaders of the Sierra Leone Red Cross and was received by Dr. Siaka Stevens, President of the Republic, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Social Affairs, Information, and Education, and a representative of the Ministry of Health. The main subject of their talks was ICRC assistance to persons detained for political reasons.

Visit to a place of detention: Mr. Weber returned to Sierra Leone on 20 October, where he stayed until 1 November. He went to the

Pademba Road Prison in Freetown and delivered to the Ministry of Health medicaments sent by the ICRC for the benefit of detainees with whom, contrary to normal practice, he did not talk in private.

Togo

Assistance to the National Society: From 30 November to 6 December, Mr. Bédert, during a mission to Togo, handed 2,000 Swiss francs to the Togo Red Cross to assist it in its activities.

Upper Volta

Aid to the National Society: During his visit to Upper Volta from 16 to 23 December, in order to renew contacts with government authorities and with the Upper Volta Red Cross, Mr. Bédert handed over to the National Society the sum of 5,500 Swiss francs in aid of its activities.

Republic of Zaire

Portuguese military prisoners: In Zaire, from 1 to 6 May, Mr. Tschiffeli contacted the leaders of the National Society then being formed, government officials and GRAE (Revolutionary Government of Angola in Exile). As in previous years, the ICRC regional delegate was authorized to visit the nine Portuguese military prisoners, but they had been transferred from Kinkuzu to Kinshasa.

On 6 December, the GRAE informed the ICRC that it had decided to release two of the nine, who could be handed over to the ICRC in Kinshasa. The ICRC directed Mr. Weber to go there, and the two prisoners were officially handed over to him on 13 December. One was taken by road to Noqui, on the Angola border, where he was released to the Portuguese authorities. The second flew to Lisbon via Geneva. On landing at Geneva he was met by the ICRC delegate-general for Africa, by Mr. Tschiffeli who had visited him several times during his detention at Kinkuzu, and by a representative of the Portuguese Permanent Mission in Geneva.

Burundi and Angolan refugees: Mr. Bédert went on mission to Zaire from 5 to 7 September and from 30 September to 5 October,

in order to enquire into the situation of Burundi refugees concentrated in the Bukavu region and of Angolan refugees in the Bas Zaire province. He conferred with representatives of the Red Cross of the Republic of Zaire, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, and various other organizations including the GRAE.

Towards the end of 1972, the ICRC allocated 50,000 Swiss francs as assistance in the form of medicaments and medical vehicles to the GRAE medical service for the benefit of Angolan refugees in Zaire.

East Africa

ICRC REGIONAL DELEGATION IN EAST AFRICA

In the course of the year, Mr. Roger Santschy and Mr. René Weber were replaced by Mr. Frank Schmidt and Mr. François de Rougemont, respectively, as regional delegates in East Africa.

Like their counterparts in West Africa and Central Africa, they applied themselves to developing contacts with East African Governments and Societies. They visited fourteen countries: Botswana, Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. In each country, attention was focused on the role of the ICRC and the importance of disseminating the Geneva Conventions. They visited detainees in two of the countries—Rwanda and Zambia.

Burundi

After the attempted coup d'état in Bujumbura, on 29 April, and subsequent unrest, the ICRC offered the Burundi Government its services in aiding the victims of those events. The Government accepted the offer, and in mid-May the ICRC sent Mr. Weber and Mr. de Rougemont, its regional delegates in East Africa, and a doctor-delegate to Bujumbura. They were joined by a liaison officer from the League of Red Cross Societies.

On their arrival, the ICRC delegates contacted the government authorities and the Red Cross Society of Burundi. After consultations with the Society, they proposed to the authorities that an ICRC medical team be sent to the southern area, which held most

of the victims, including a great many injured and sick scattered in the bush. In order to study the situation at first hand and make an estimate of the requirements, the ICRC doctor-delegate went south on 30 May, in a helicopter provided by the government authorities.

Meanwhile the President of the Red Cross Society of Burundi and the League liaison officer had come to Geneva. With the information obtained, the League had on 26 May, at the request of the ICRC and the Burundi Red Cross, appealed to a number of National Societies to contribute funds and relief supplies.

Moreover, the President of the ICRC had on 23 May asked the President of the Republic of Burundi to lend the ICRC delegates support in their mission of assistance and protection.

The recommendations made by the ICRC and League delegates regarding a medical team being sent to the stricken area were not, however, adopted by the Government of Burundi. The ICRC doctor-delegate therefore returned to Geneva on 14 June. During his stay in Bujumbura, he visited the city hospital, an orphanage and a number of ailing refugees, who were provided with medicaments.

As several Societies had responded to the League's appeal and announced that they would donate blood plasma, medicaments, dressings, food, clothing and blankets, the ICRC, in co-operation with the Burundi Red Cross and the League, continued its efforts to ensure the distribution of the relief supplies to the civilian population of the stricken areas. Mr. André Beaud, Head of the Relief Service, went to Bujumbura on 21 June.

No sooner had they secured their laissez-passer than Mr. Beaud and Mr. de Rougemont proceeded south, by road, and with a representative of the Burundi Red Cross visited the main centres. On their return to Bujumbura, they put forward a programme of assistance which would enable Burundi Red Cross relief workers, who would be trained by a technician from the League, to render the victims, who were mainly women and children, the aid of which they obviously stood in great need.

The authorities agreed to the proposed Red Cross action, which would be integrated in the national relief plan, and a further international appeal was launched by the League, at the ICRC's request, on 4 July. At the same time, the ICRC sent out a relief team comprising a doctor, a transport expert and an administrator.

The ICRC and League delegates co-ordinated their preparations with the action of Caritas, the Catholic Relief Services and representatives of United Nations specialized agencies. With the purchases made locally, the material already received from several Societies and the transport facilities hired in Bujumbura, the first convoy was ready to leave. Five Burundi Red Cross teams were available for the distribution of the relief supplies with the assistance of the delegates who had come from Geneva. The Government, however, did not deem it feasible to have representatives of the ICRC and the League present at the distribution, to see for themselves what use was made of the donations received. In the circumstances, the ICRC considered it preferable to suspend its relief action, and its delegates left Burundi at the end of July.

The League, for its part, maintained a liaison officer with the National Society. The President of the Red Cross Society of Burundi, early in August, suggested to the League that they carry out a joint relief action, whereupon the ICRC decided to transfer responsibility for the operation to the League, on 17 August.

Ethiopia

The ICRC delegate-general for Africa stayed in Addis Ababa from 15 to 21 September, to visit the seat of the ICRC's regional delegation in East Africa and to contact the Ethiopian authorities and Red Cross Society. Besides the Red Cross leaders, Mr. Moreillon was received by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and H.E. Ato Aberra Jembere, Minister of State to the Prime Minister's Office and Honorary Secretary General of the Ethiopian Red Cross. He also conferred with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the Under-Secretary General for Political Affairs.

Kenya

During his mission to Kenya, from 15 to 22 October—to introduce himself to the government authorities and Red Cross leaders as the new regional delegate—Mr. Schmidt co-operated with the representative of the High Commissioner for Refugees, in Nairobi,

in arranging for the return to Mozambique of two Portuguese nationals who had taken refuge in Kenya.

Lesotho

Assistance to National Society: Mr. de Rougemont was in Lesotho from 18 to 23 December, where he approached the government authorities and the Lesotho Red Cross Society. He handed over the sum of 5,000 Swiss francs to assist the Society in its activities.

Madagascar

Assistance to National Society: In view of the disturbances which had occurred in Madagascar in mid-December, particularly in Tamatave province, the ICRC sent 10,000 Swiss francs to the Red Cross Society of Madagascar for assistance to the victims. Mr. de Rougemont had visited Madagascar from 14 November to 9 December, and had then had occasion to appreciate the Society's activities throughout the country.

Rwanda

Visits to places of detention: Two regional delegates, Mr. Weber and Mr. de Rougemont, and a doctor-delegate were on mission in Rwanda from 30 April to 5 May. First Mr. Weber introduced Mr. de Rougemont in the various ministries and to officers of the emerging Red Cross Society. The ICRC team then visited the Ruhengeri prison, where medicaments and toilet articles were distributed to the inmates.

Mr. de Rougemont was on mission in Rwanda from 24 September to 22 October. He was able to visit the eleven places of detention for which the Penitentiary Administration Service was responsible, namely Kigali, Nyanza, Butare, Gikongoro, Byumba, Kibungo, Cyangugu, Ruhengeri, Gisenyi, Kubuye and Gitarama. Altogether the ICRC regional delegate saw more than 2,000 detainees—including some seventy held for offences or reasons of a political nature—and was able to talk with them without witnesses.

After the visits, the ICRC donated a sum of 75,000 Swiss francs, mainly for medical aid in co-operation with the Rwanda Red Cross, to the eleven prisons mentioned.

Burundi refugees: In the context of ICRC action in Burundi¹, Mr. de Rougemont twice stayed in Rwanda, from 22 to 24 July and again from 27 to 30 July, to secure information about the position of Burundi refugees.

Mr. Bédert was on a mission to Rwanda from 23 to 30 September for the same purpose, and visited the Rilima refugee camp, lying 80 km from Kigali, near the Burundi frontier. At the time, the camp was sheltering 3,000 Burundi refugees (as against some 5,000 at the end of 1972), who received relief from the Rwanda Red Cross with the assistance of delegates of the League of Red Cross Societies.

In October, the ICRC sent the Rwanda Red Cross some minor surgery equipment for its dispensaries in the Rilima refugee camp, and at the end of 1972 it handed the League the sum of 10,000 Swiss francs for the refugees.

Sudan

On 6 December 1971, a Sudanese civil aircraft crashed in the south, and the following morning the survivors made contact with representatives of the Anya-Nyas liberation movement. On 20 December, the Southern Sudan Association, in London, asked the ICRC to act as intermediary in the transfer of the survivors, numbering about thirty, to representatives of the Khartoum authorities.

The ICRC sent Mr. Santschy to Kampala, where a representative of the movement was residing. At the same time, Mr. Weber left for Khartoum, and later for Juba and Mundri in the south (province of Equatoria), to contact the Sudanese authorities concerned.

Communications with Anya-Nyas leaders in the field proved particularly difficult, and the two ICRC regional delegates remained at their respective posts for several weeks. Early in February 1972, however, the surviving passengers having been released and having

¹ See page 12 of this report.

reached Mundri by their own means, the ICRC decided to put an end to the operation.

Assistance to displaced persons: Soon after the events described, negotiations in Addis Ababa between the Sudanese Government and the Anya-Nyas ended the unrest in the south.

Concomitantly, the Government of Sudan convened a conference in Khartoum, from 21 to 23 February, for the relief and resettlement of displaced persons and refugees in the southern provinces. At the invitation of the Sudanese Government and Red Crescent, Mr. Hoffmann, delegate-general for Africa, and Mr. Weber represented the ICRC.

Mr. Weber made two further visits to Sudan, from 27 to 29 May and from 5 to 13 August, to enquire about the distribution of the 306 tons of powdered milk donated by the European Economic Community and sent to Port Sudan by the ICRC in August 1971. The regional delegate ascertained that, in accordance with the programme agreed upon with the Sudanese authorities and Red Crescent¹, the milk was being distributed to the needy population of Red Sea Hills, Tokar and the Baraka delta, and to displaced persons in the three southern provinces of Bahr El Ghazal, Upper Nile and Equatoria.

During his last visit to Sudan, in August, Mr. Weber was accompanied by Mr. Schmidt, whom he introduced to the officers of the National Society and to the various Sudanese ministries.

In mid-November, the ICRC shipped 2,635 tons of flour, a gift from the European Economic Community, to the Sudanese Red Crescent.

Swaziland

Assistance to National Society: Mr. de Rougemont visited government authorities and the new Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross Society from 11 to 16 December. He presented the Society with the sum of 5,000 Swiss francs as a contribution to its activities.

¹ See Annual Report 1971, page 9.

Uganda

During the second half of 1972, the Ugandan Government ordered the expulsion of all non-Ugandan residents of Asian origin. To help those who were stateless or of undetermined nationality, and who therefore had no identity papers to which a potential country of refuge could affix a visa, the ICRC proposed to the Government of Uganda, on 10 October, that an " ICRC Travel Document " be used.

This document, which is valid for three months, enables a refugee who lacks identity papers to proceed to a country of asylum which will supply him on arrival with the documents necessary for him to settle there. The " travel document " is then returned to the ICRC.

In the general negotiations between the United Nations and the Ugandan Government, it was concluded that the ICRC document was the most appropriate in the special circumstances. The ICRC, whose regional delegate, Mr. Schmidt, had meanwhile arrived in Kampala, was asked to take the necessary steps to ensure that the document was issued to the persons concerned. Consequently, in the last week of October, four members of the Central Tracing Agency left Geneva for Uganda. They co-operated closely with the delegates of the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM) and the United Nations, who were responsible for organizing the Asians' departure for countries of refuge.

From 25 October to 9 November, the five ICRC delegates issued 2,950 travel documents to 4,200 persons who were thus able to leave by the date set by the Ugandan authorities. The delegates also co-operated in the installation and administration of United Nations departure centres, which for three days accommodated some 600 Asians who were due to leave. In co-operation with the delegate of the League of Red Cross Societies in Kampala, they gave special attention to persons who were disabled, hospitalized or under detention, whom they helped with departure formalities.

The evacuation operation ended on 10 November. Mr. Schmidt, however, remained in Uganda for some days further, to issue the requisite travel document to the few stateless Asians who were still in that country.

Zambia

Portuguese prisoners: On 2 March, a Portuguese aircraft from Tete, Mozambique, made a forced landing in Zambia. The aircraft was seized and the three occupants were detained by the Zambian authorities. On 17 March, the Portuguese Government requested intervention by the ICRC, which sent Mr. Weber to Zambia.

On his arrival in Lusaka, on 21 March, the regional delegate contacted the Zambian authorities to propose that the three Portuguese nationals be exchanged for two Zambian nationals detained by the Portuguese authorities in Mozambique since February 1971. The Zambian authorities agreed, and Mr. Weber was authorized to visit the three Portuguese on 27 March and again on 6 April.

The President of the Republic of Malawi having offered his good offices for the exchange to be made in that country, the regional delegate proceeded to Blantyre to work out with the Malawi authorities and the Portuguese Embassy ways and means of carrying out the operation.

He finally left for Tete, where he talked with the two Zambian detainees in private before taking them to Blantyre, on 11 April. The three Portuguese, accompanied by the Zambian High Commissioner to Malawi, arrived in Malawi on the same day. The exchange took place in Blantyre on 12 April.

Contacts: Mr. Schmidt stayed in Lusaka from 27 November to 7 December, to introduce himself and establish preliminary contacts with the Zambian authorities and Red Cross. He also conferred with representatives of various African liberation movements.

Southern Africa and Portuguese Territories in Africa

Rhodesia

Visits to places of detention: With the agreement of the Minister of Justice and Law and Order, two rounds of visits were made to places of detention in Rhodesia in 1972, the first by Mr. Hoffmann

and a doctor-delegate at the end of April, and the second by Mr. Santschy, deputy delegate-general, from 18 November to 29 December. The ICRC delegates went to five places—the Salisbury, Marandellas, Gwelo, Wha Wha and Gonakudzingwa prisons—which held persons detained under the Emergency Regulations. At the time of the second round of visits, the number of detainees was ninety. The ICRC delegates talked privately with detainees, to whom they gave various relief supplies. As usual, the reports on the visits were sent by the ICRC to the detaining authorities.

South Africa

In April, Mr. Hoffmann carried out a mission to South Africa. After contacting the South African Red Cross in Johannesburg, he went to S. W. Africa. The purpose of the visit was the development of the local Red Cross and, above all, of first-aid training for Africans. The ICRC delegate-general for Africa took the opportunity of his stay in South Africa to have talks with government authorities.

Portuguese territories in Africa

From 19 to 22 November, Mr. Moreillon, accompanied by Mr. Santschy, was in Lisbon to contact the Portuguese authorities and Red Cross. The purpose of the visit was to introduce himself as the new ICRC delegate-general for Africa and to obtain permission to visit places of detention in Mozambique.

Mozambique

Visits to places of detention: The Portuguese Government having agreed to the visits to places of detention in Mozambique, Mr. Santschy was in that country from 26 November to 17 December. He visited eleven prisons—at Machava, Ponta Mahone, Nampula, Porto Amelia, Ibo, Tete (two), Vila Cabral, Beira, Quelimane and Nicoadala—and saw some 1,780 political detainees. He was able to talk privately with detainees of his choice and distribute supplies. As usual, the ICRC sent the detaining authorities reports on the visits.