

# Operations support services

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At the beginning of the year the ICRC closed its Dacca and Islamabad delegations, but maintained offices in Dacca and Rawalpindi. These were manned by locally recruited staff in order to attend to outstanding cases to be dealt with by the Pakistan authorities.

There were problems of two kinds inherited from the 1971 conflict:

- the transfer from Bangladesh to Pakistan of people who, under the New Delhi Agreements of 28 August 1973, had been granted the authorizations required to emigrate but who had not been able to depart before the end of the transfer operations in July 1974 and had since then not been able to pay their fares;
- appeals and repatriation of people who, having been refused entry into Pakistan, were entitled to appeal under the New Delhi Agreements of 8 April 1974.

At the end of the year there were still 1,700 appeals awaiting decision by the Pakistan authorities to whom, in 1974 and 1975, the ICRC had submitted about 30,000 applications.

In all, the number of people entitled to migrate to Pakistan was estimated at 15,000.

Of that number, 643 who could afford the fare left Bangladesh for Pakistan in 1976. As in previous years, the ICRC issued travel documents.

The ICRC transferred seven people from India to Pakistan. They had unlawfully entered India from Bangladesh and had been arrested before reaching Pakistan. The plight of such people was distressing, inasmuch as no country recognized them as its nationals.

The regional delegate also went to Afghanistan, Burma, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

In Sri Lanka he visited three places of detention in which there were some 1,200 prisoners, including 300 political detainees. Relief valued at 7,200 Swiss francs was delivered to the prisoners.

## Europe

### Portugal

In February/March and May/June the ICRC regional delegate visited six places of detention and a penitentiary hospital in Portugal.

The number of political detainees visited during the first mission was 431. At the time of the second mission there remained 28; the others had been released.

With the Government's agreement and the National Society's help, the ICRC continued its assistance to the more needy families of detainees. The cost of this programme amounted to 31,500 francs during the year.

## Middle East

As mentioned in the introduction to this chapter, the Middle East countries in which the ICRC has no permanent delegation are covered by a regional delegate from Geneva.

He and the general delegate for the Middle East, and other ICRC officials, went to the Yemen Arab Republic, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

In the *Yemen Arab Republic*, where the ICRC had access to places of detention, the regional delegate visited two places of detention in which there were some 300 prisoners, about fifty of whom were political detainees. The previous year the regional delegate had visited twelve places of detention.

The ICRC continued providing material assistance to all prisoners. This aid, to a value of 21,600 Swiss francs, consisted mainly of the regular provision of drugs prescribed by a visiting doctor.

In February and September the ICRC repatriated from Ho Chi Minh City 130 nationals of the Yemen Arab Republic. The regional delegate was on the spot to co-operate with the newly formed National Red Crescent in the reception of the repatriates. The ICRC donated 30,000 Swiss francs to the National Society for distribution among the repatriated families.

In the *People's Democratic Republic of Yemen*, where he went twice, the delegate discussed with the authorities and leaders of the new Red Crescent Society a number of topics, including the country's accession to the Geneva Conventions.

He also met several times representatives of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman who authorized the ICRC to transmit family messages to an Iranian prisoner held by the Front.

The ICRC sent the new National Society 100 tons of flour donated by the Swiss Confederation and 5,400 Swiss francs worth of medical supplies for the Dhofar refugees (see table on p. 31).

In *Kuwait* and in *Saudi Arabia* the delegates conferred with the authorities on the ICRC work of protection and assistance in Lebanon.

## OPERATIONS SUPPORT SERVICES

### Relief supplies

The tables in the following pages show the work of the ICRC in forwarding to 48 countries relief supplies to a value of 71.9 million Swiss francs.

In *actions financed by special funds* (see below), some of which were undertaken by the ICRC alone (Angola, Chile, Cyprus, Lebanon, Western Sahara) and others jointly by the ICRC and the League (Indo-China), or with the support of governments, National Societies or various organizations, the value of relief supplies of all kinds sent either by the ICRC or by donors under ICRC supervision came to 37.2 million Swiss francs.

As a result of agreements concluded with the European Economic Community (EEC) and the Swiss Confederation, the ICRC sent *food*, to a value of 33.8 million Swiss francs, to twenty-three countries.

Nearly 588,000 Swiss francs was spent on helping *detainees*—mainly political—and *detainees' families* most in need (excluding Chile).

The ICRC continued helping *National Societies*; to a score of them it provided various forms of assistance totalling 96,000 Swiss francs.

*Medical aid* valued at 195,000 Swiss francs was given to the health services or humanitarian bodies of a number of liberation movements.

**ACTIONS FINANCED BY  
SPECIAL FUNDS  
(relief supplies in kind) 37.2 million Swiss francs**

	Swiss francs
Angola	5,800,000
Chile	1,348,500
Cyprus	1,240,000
Eritrea	570,700
Indo-China	10,200,000
Lebanon	16,800,000
Western Sahara	1,285,000

These items do not include the food aid sent by the EEC and the Swiss Confederation (see next table on p. 30).

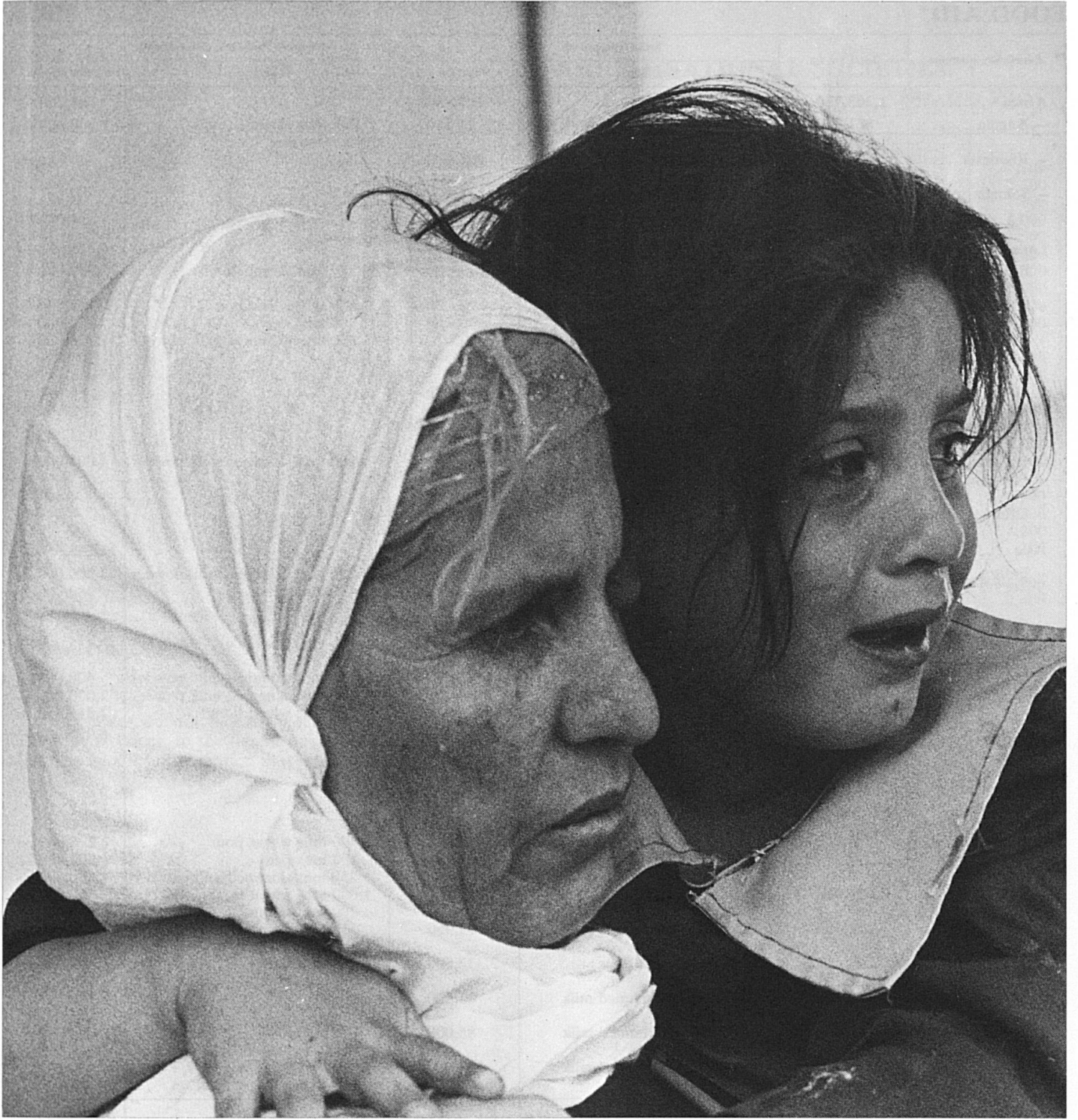
The amounts mentioned above represent the value of *gifts in kind provided* by governments, National Societies and miscellaneous donors and the value of the *supplies purchased* by the ICRC or the Indo-China Bureau with cash donations.

**TRANSPORT 5.02 million Sw.frs.**

The cost of transport arranged and paid for by the ICRC—usually reimbursed from ad hoc funds for special activities—amounted to 5.02 million francs, broken down as follows:

Means of transport	Passengers	Tons	Swiss francs
<b>Scheduled services</b>			
– surface shipments . . . . .	—	453.6	198,585
– air shipments . . . . .	—	192.6	309,595
<b>Chartered transports</b>			
– shipments by sea . . . . .	—	4,314.0	281,250
– air shipments . . . . .	—	572.7	2,028,300
	2,601	—	2,208,000
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>2,601</b>	<b>5,532.9</b>	<b>5,025,730</b>

The ICRC also spent 320,000 Swiss francs to insure shipments.



Two women in a hospital ward, one wearing a white headscarf.

Beneficiary countries	Total Sw. frs.	Swiss Government		European Economic Community	
		Description	Value Sw. frs.	Description	Value Sw. frs.
<b>Africa</b> .....	<b>1,203,750.—</b>		<b>403,750.—</b>		<b>800,000.—</b>
– Angola .....	821,250.—	2.5 tons unskimmed milk powder	21,250.—	200 tons skimmed milk powder	800,000.—
– Rhodesia .....	255,000.—	30 tons unskimmed milk powder	255,000.—		
– Somalia .....	127,500.—	10 tons unskimmed milk powder	85,000.—		
		50 tons wheat flour	42,500.—		
<b>Latin America</b> ...	<b>7,433,000.—</b>		<b>578,000.—</b>		<b>6,855,000.—</b>
– Bolivia .....	960,000.—			240 tons skimmed milk powder	960,000.—
– Chile .....	1,980,000.—	100 tons wheat flour	85,000.—	500 tons wheat flour	425,000.—
				300 tons rice	270,000.—
– Guyana .....	42,500.—	5 tons unskimmed milk powder	42,500.—	300 tons skimmed milk powder	1,200,000.—
– Haiti .....	85,000.—	10 tons unskimmed milk powder	85,000.—		
– Honduras .....	136,000.—	16 tons unskimmed milk powder	136,000.—		
– Panama .....	4,000,000.—			1,000 tons skimmed milk powder	4,000,000.—
– Paraguay .....	144,500.—	17 tons unskimmed milk powder	144,500.—		
– Uruguay .....	85,000.—	10 tons unskimmed milk powder	85,000.—		
<b>Asia</b> .....	<b>12,423,350.—</b>		<b>310,000.—</b>		<b>12,113,350.—</b>
– India .....	6,564,000.—			1,000 tons skimmed milk powder	4,000,000.—
				1,400 tons wheat	980,000.—
				1,760 tons rice	1,584,000.—
– Pakistan .....	140,000.—	200 tons wheat	140,000.—		
– Philippines .....	905,000.—	10 tons unskimmed milk powder	85,000.—	150 tons rice	135,000.—
		100 tons wheat flour	85,000.—	150 tons skimmed milk powder	600,000.—
– Viet Nam .....	4,814,350.—			500 tons skimmed milk powder	2,000,000.—
				3,311 tons wheat flour	2,814,350.—
<b>Middle East</b>	<b>12,817,950.—</b>		<b>3,881,950.—</b>		<b>8,936,000.—</b>
– Algeria .....	42,500.—	5 tons unskimmed milk powder	42,500.—		
– Democratic Yemen .....	85,000.—	100 tons wheat flour	85,000.—		
– Israel + occupied territories .	3,565,000.—			2,700 tons wheat flour	2,295,000.—
				300 tons rice	270,000.—
– Jordan .....	1,650,000.—			250 tons skimmed milk powder	1,000,000.—
				1,000 tons wheat flour	850,000.—
– Lebanon .....	7,152,450.—	128.7 tons unskimmed milk powder	1,093,950.—	200 tons skimmed milk powder	800,000.—
		2,750 tons wheat flour	2,337,500.—	375 tons skimmed milk powder	1,500,000.—
– Mauritania ....	85,000.—	10 tons unskimmed milk powder	85,000.—	200 tons butter oil	1,600,000.—
– Morocco .....	85,000.—	10 tons unskimmed milk powder	85,000.—	690 tons rice	621,000.—
– Syria .....	153,000.—	18 tons unskimmed milk powder	153,000.—		
	<b>33,878,050.—</b>		<b>5,173,700.—</b>		<b>28,704,350.—</b>

**HELP FOR DETAINEES AND  
THEIR FAMILIES** Sw. frs. 587,600

<b>Africa</b> .....	<b>110,800</b>
Burundi .....	45,500
Mauritius .....	200
Rhodesia .....	24,100
South Africa .....	10,900
Togo .....	100
Uganda .....	30,000
<b>Latin America</b> .....	<b>56,400</b>
Bolivia .....	7,000
Colombia .....	4,000
Ecuador .....	10,000
Haiti .....	10,200
Mexico .....	300
Paraguay .....	7,500
Peru .....	17,400
<b>Asia</b> .....	<b>24,100</b>
Malaysia .....	1,900
Philippines .....	15,000
Sri Lanka .....	7,200
<b>Europe</b> .....	<b>31,500</b>
Portugal .....	31,500
<b>Middle East</b> .....	<b>364,800</b>
Israel and occupied territories .....	339,200
Jordan .....	4,000
Yemen Arab Republic .....	21,600

**AID TO NATIONAL SOCIETIES** Sw. frs. 96,100

<b>Africa</b> .....	<b>27,200</b>
Benin .....	3,300
Burundi .....	500
Cameroon .....	4,000
Mauritius .....	500
Rhodesia .....	5,300
Rwanda .....	2,500
Somalia .....	6,000
Sudan .....	3,600
Uganda .....	1,500
<b>Latin America</b> .....	<b>13,000</b>
El Salvador .....	13,000
<b>Asia</b> .....	<b>24,300</b>
Afghanistan .....	6,000
Burma .....	3,300
Philippines .....	15,000
<b>Europe</b> .....	<b>6,700</b>
Bulgaria .....	2,300
Hungary .....	4,200
Romania .....	200
<b>Middle East</b> .....	<b>24,900</b>
Democratic Yemen .....	2,400
Israel (for local Red Crescent Societies in occupied territories) .....	14,200
Syria .....	2,900
"Omani Red Crescent" .....	5,400

These tables do not include the medical aid, valued at 195,000 Swiss francs, to the health services and humanitarian bodies of a number of liberation movements.

The help provided for detainees and their families in Chile and to the Chilean Red Cross is also not included in the tables, as this action is financed by a special fund.