

*DISSEMINATION OF
THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS*

GREECE

The Hellenic Red Cross has promoted activities in different circles in order to ensure the widest possible dissemination of knowledge of the Geneva Conventions.

Youth—It has got in touch with the younger members of the Junior Red Cross, now numbering 500,000 children, organized in 32,000 groups, and led by 15,000 teachers. A booklet summarizing the essential provisions of the Geneva Conventions and containing information on the Red Cross and its various organs has been distributed to the teachers who base on it the instruction they give to their pupils on the principles of the Geneva Conventions. In addition, a monthly Junior Red Cross bulletin, of which 300,000 copies are printed, contains articles on the Conventions.

Nurses—Red Cross nurses follow lectures on the Geneva Conventions, based on documentation prepared by the National Society, in the third—and last—year of the course they receive in theoretical and practical nursing. In Athens and other towns in the provinces, this subject is also taught to 10,000 auxiliary aids, and a Greek version of the ICRC booklet, “Rights and Duties of Nurses”, is due to come out this year.

First-aiders—The principles of the Conventions and an introduction to the history and activities of the Red Cross are taught, with the aid of slides, at first-aid courses. The same instruction is given at special first-aid courses for groups comprising members of the police, port services, radio-communication services, etc.

These notions are also outlined in a publication written by the Director of the Hellenic Red Cross Relief Section, which is distrib-

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uted by the National Society to members of the armed forces, in schools and to its different branches and departments. Furthermore, the Society's President and officials often have the opportunity, during their frequent contacts with the public, to speak on the meaning and significance of the Geneva Conventions.

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LEBANON

The Lebanese Red Cross has informed the ICRC of the various measures that it is taking to make the Geneva Conventions known in its country. It has listed them under the responsible sections, as follows:

Red Cross Youth Section

8 to 9 year olds: succinct explanation of the role of the Red Cross on the occasion of disasters and in time of war.

10 to 11 year olds: under the heading " Mutual Aid ", more detailed explanations are given of the four Conventions in the form of informal conversation groups.

12 to 13 year olds: the International Red Cross and its structure, the Geneva Conventions.

14 to 15 year olds: study of the four Geneva Conventions.

15 to 18 year olds: more detailed study of the four Conventions. Use is made of the textbook " The Red Cross and my Country " and the children illustrate certain articles of the Conventions relating to the protection of the sick and wounded and of civilians, by acting out small sketches.

First Aid Section

All first aiders are given a clear and precise insight into the four Conventions, whom and what they protect. A summarised version of the Conventions is used for this purpose.

Volunteer Section

The volunteers are acquainted with the principles governing the Conventions and one member of the Section has written a book for the use of that Section. It is called *La Croix-Rouge pour tous*. One chapter makes specific reference to the ICRC in general and another describes the Geneva Conventions and Red Cross Principles.

Schools for assistant nurses

The Conventions are summarized for the pupils and they all receive the booklet *Rights and Duties of Nurses*.

Nursing Schools

The pupils of the Lebanese Red Cross include both female nurses and trainee military male nurses. The first contingent of the latter to graduate, at the end of three years study, should be receiving their diploma in July 1973. Courses were held on the Conventions and all pupils received the booklet *Rights and Duties of Nurses*.

Furthermore, instructresses give talks on the Conventions in all nursing schools not run by the Red Cross and the booklet is distributed in three languages (Arabic, English and French). The Red Cross nurses themselves occasionally put on sketches to illustrate the articles of the Conventions relating to the protection of the sick and wounded. Slides on the Conventions are shown also.

Military Academy

The ladies of the Central Committee lecture on the Conventions to the students at the Military Academy.

Lebanese University

Mr. George Asmar, Attorney, Member of the Central Committee and Lecturer at the Faculty of Law, has had the Principles of Humanitarian Law, and the Four Geneva Conventions included as subjects in the official syllabus.