

Indo-China

Republic of Vietnam

Owing to the fighting in the Khmer Republic, some ten thousand Cambodians took refuge in the Republic of Vietnam, in the Ha Tien area. Faced with such a situation, the National Red Cross requested the co-operation of International Red Cross Assistance (IRCA) in setting up an aid programme including relief distribution and medical care. The action which started on 15 May is being carried out jointly by a medical team of the German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany and the National Society.

Two further medical teams are continuing their activities in the Republic of Vietnam. One of them, which is also from the Federal Republic of Germany, is based in Binh Tuy, while the other, composed of French doctors, provides treatment for the Montagnard population in the Phu Bon area. With the further influx of refugees and the needs ascertained, the team's work will need to be extended to the end of July 1974.

Laos

The chemo-prophylactic malaria control programme conducted by a French Red Cross mobile team, in co-operation with the Laotian Ministry of Health and the World Health Organization (WHO), is in its final stage. The programme, which started in the Long Xien area at the beginning of the year, has covered about 160,000 persons.

The other two medical teams are continuing their activities. The Japanese Red Cross team is at work at Pak Lay while the mobile team of the Swiss Red Cross has moved from Luang Prabang to Muong Nam (a few tens of kilometres away) and there launched a vaccination campaign against cholera and smallpox.

Khmer Republic

Two surgical teams of the Swedish and Belgian Red Cross Societies, based at Kompong Chhnang and Svay Rieng respectively, have been replaced by two new teams from the same countries.

Owing to the aggravation of the medical situation at Kampot, with about forty wounded a day, the IOG delegation at Phnom Penh has formed a temporary emergency surgical team composed of a surgeon from the French Red Cross, an anaesthetist from the Belgian Red Cross and a locally recruited nurse. The team was installed at Kampot on 7 May and will work until the arrival of a Canadian Red Cross team.

Lebanon

The Lebanese Red Cross conducted a national Management Training Course, 17–29 March 1974, for some 60 of its personnel, divided into three categories: managers, Red Cross Youth, and volunteers. The Director was Mr. Taoufik Rabah, of the Tunisian Red Crescent, who directed also the Regional Training Institute for the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of North Africa and the Middle East, in Bizerta, Tunisia, in 1972; the *International Review* published an article on that subject in its February 1973 issue.

This was the first national-level training course deriving directly from a series of regional training institutes carried out by the League of Red Cross Societies' Regional Services Bureau as part of its Development Programme. Two members of the Libyan Red Crescent were guest participants of the courses in Beirut. The League's Regional Officer for the Middle East and North Africa provided technical assistance.
