

activities are centred mostly on the registration of displaced persons in the area of Phnom Penh.

The Tracing Service in *Vientiane*, backed by a strong publicity campaign in the newspapers and over the radio, has extended its distribution of enquiry forms to six provinces. These standard forms for enquiries and messages have been distributed by IOG delegates, the Laotian Red Cross, the Swiss Red Cross medical team and some religious organizations who, through their activities, come in daily contact with a great number of people from many villages. All necessary documentation has also been forwarded to Pathet Lao. Already, before the end of March, 100 requests for enquiries had been collected by the local branch of the Laotian Red Cross in Luang Prabang, a region in the north of the country, and forwarded to Vientiane.

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### RED CROSS TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR ASIA

From 6 to 27 February 1973, a training institute was held in Bangkok for representatives of National Societies in South-East Asia. Concentrating on National Society activities in community welfare work, the institute came within the development programme of the League of Red Cross Societies. The League helped the Thai Red Cross to organize the seminar which was attended by twenty-two people from thirteen countries, namely: Australia, Bangladesh, German Democratic Republic, Hongkong, India, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

The main theme of the institute was "The Role of Red Cross Today in Community Welfare Work". In fifteen sessions a number of subjects were introduced by experts from specialized institutions and from Thammasat University, League delegates, and members of the Thai Red Cross. Some of the subjects were: Current Social Conditions in South and South-East Asia—Red Cross: Its Development Trend and Implication on Welfare Promotion—Community

Welfare Work—Family Planning as a Tool to Promote Rural Welfare—Techniques of Identifying Needs, Developing, Planning, Organizing, Implementing and Evaluating a Programme—Problems encountered by Participants in Carrying Out Red Cross Programmes—Mobilizing Community Resources and Enlisting Public Support and Understanding—Actions to be Undertaken by Red Cross in order to Meet Welfare Needs of the Community—Planning Game for Project Development—Participation of Youth and Adults in Community Welfare Work—Drug Addicts—Fund Raising.

A number of visits had been arranged and several of them (hospitals, blood bank, eye bank, nursing school, rural health centres, etc.) enabled participants to gain an insight of the activities which the Thai Red Cross carries out so generously in its own country under the patronage of H.M. the King and the presidency of H.M. the Queen.

At the closing session, Mr. A. Tschiffeli, ICRC Regional Delegate for South-East Asia, addressed the meeting on the work of the International Committee in various parts of the world and on the efforts being made to disseminate the Geneva Conventions. H.H. Prince Sukhuma Paribatra, Executive Vice-President of the Thai Red Cross, and Mr. Rito Alcantara, Vice-Chairman of the League Board of Governors and President of the Senegalese Red Cross, expressed satisfaction with the results of the institute. Referring to the new activities which the world today required of the Red Cross movement, Mr. Alcantara concluded: "Our work can only be useful and efficient if it is conceived for, planned for and implemented for the benefit of the Community".