

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The Central Committee of the Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has drawn up a report on the Society's recent activities, and we quote some extracts which bear witness to its useful and effective action in various humanitarian spheres.

“Local Red Cross committees have been organized and are operating in every province, in towns and in the countryside. The Society is also active at international level, as an example of which its work for relief and assistance may be mentioned.

Each time a country suffered from the natural calamities and others our Society rendered a huge amount of the material and financial aids to its sufferers. In recent years it sent the said aids to the numerous countries of the world.

What is more, as regards the Japanese fishing boats which entered ports of our country for shelter from storm, our Red Cross Society delivered a large quantity of relief materials to their seamen including foodstuffs with the co-operation of the authorities concerned and treated them in a humanitarian way.

During the period from July 1972 to August alone, the number of the Japanese fishing boats which enjoyed such benefits is 22 pieces, and seamen 184 persons.

The Society diffuses the Geneva Conventions among the public health and educational establishments, army and Red Cross organizations and sees to it that they observe it.

These Conventions were translated into our national language and published several times.

Work of youth Red Cross,

The work of youth Red Cross, is being conducted briskly in our country.

Medical service corps are organized and operated by the youth and children at schools of all levels and the hygienic knowledge is being widely diffused.

The youth and children strive to keep streets and villages tidy and clean, tend flower beds and plant trees in the fields and mountains.

Publication and report,

Several kinds of publications introducing the activities of the Red Cross are printed in national language. For foreigners pamphlets and materials including bulletin "Red Cross Talks" are published in several foreign languages and distributed.

Our Society also diffuses hygienic knowledge and introduces Red Cross activities through publications, radio, television and so on".

Ecuador

Last year, the Ecuador Red Cross celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its founding and marked the occasion by the publication of a well illustrated booklet.

It begins by recalling two important events in its history—the formation in 1910, in Guayaquil, of a Red Cross Brigade which went to the border to help victims, and the recognition, in 1922, of the National Society by the ICRC in Geneva. It also speaks of the circumstances under which a Society was founded in Quito by Mr. Luis Robalino Dávila who, as the first President of the Society, immediately set to, backed by a broadly representative committee, to enlarge on the work that had been started back in 1922. Sections were founded throughout the country and medical activities developed under the drive of several doctors. Voluntary auxiliary brigades were set up and so were ladies' committees, in the capital and in other towns. Later, first aid and home nursing courses were organised and the enthusiasm of the Red Cross Youth made for the constant renewal of humanitarian activities in Ecuador. For example, as this publication recalls, the Red Cross effectively stepped in during a national disaster in 1940 and, in 1948, the first blood bank in Ecuador was opened under Red Cross auspices.