HEARING
BEFORE THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND MOVEMENTS OF THE
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
EIGHTY-NINTH CONGRESS
FIRST SESSION
ON
H.R. 8715
TO AUTHORIZE A CONTRIBUTION BY THE UNITED STATES TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS
JUNE 7, 1965

Printed for the use of the Committee on Foreign Affairs
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III
The Subcommittee on International Organizations and Movements met, pursuant to notice, at 10 o'clock in room 2200 Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Dante B. Fascell (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Mr. Fascell. The subcommittee will come to order.

We shall this morning consider H.R. 8715, a bill to authorize a contribution by the United States to the International Committee of the Red Cross.

(The text of H.R. 8715 follows:)

[H.R. 8715, 89th Cong., 1st sess.]

A BILL To authorize a contribution by the United States to the International Committee of the Red Cross

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, an annual sum of $75,000 as a contribution on the part of the United States toward the expenses incurred by the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Mr. Fascell. Our principal witness this morning will be Mr. George L. Warren, Adviser on Refugee and Migration Affairs, Bureau of Security and Consular Affairs, Department of State. Also present this morning is Mr. Elmer M. Falk, Director, Office of Refugee and Migration Affairs, Department of State.

Mr. Warren. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I have a rather brief statement which I would like to read, if I may.

Mr. Fascell. You may proceed.

STATEMENT OF GEORGE L. WARREN, ADVISER ON REFUGEE AND MIGRATION AFFAIRS, BUREAU OF SECURITY AND CONSULAR AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Mr. Warren. Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee, I appreciate this opportunity to appear before your committee to discuss the administration's proposal that legislation be passed authorizing appropriations for an annual contribution to the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva to assist in defraying the expense of that organization.
I have personally known the operations of the International Committee of the Red Cross over a number of years and have had direct contact on special occasion with some of its individual operations and services. No request to the Congress for authorization for an appropriation has been previously made.

The International Committee of the Red Cross, founded in Geneva in 1863, is the mother organization of all Red Cross societies and Red Cross principles. It is formally recognized in the texts of the Geneva conventions of 1949 as the agency to supervise the application of the provisions of the conventions, to which the United States is a party. The specific conventions are:


The specific role of the International Committee of the Red Cross is to maintain the fundamental principles of the Red Cross, namely:

(a) Impartiality, action independent of any racial, political, religious, or economic considerations, the universality of the Red Cross and the equality of the national Red Cross societies;
(b) To recognize any newly established or reconstituted national Red Cross society which fulfills the conditions for recognition, and to notify other national societies of such recognition;
(c) To undertake the tasks incumbent on it under the Geneva conventions;
(d) To take action as a neutral organization, in case of war, civil war, or internal strife, to endeavor to insure that military and civilian victims of such conflicts receive protection and assistance, and to serve, in humanitarian matters, as an intermediary between the parties;
(e) To contribute to the development of medical personnel and medical equipment, in cooperation with Red Cross organizations, the medical services of the Armed Forces, and other competent authorities;
(f) To work for the continual improvement of humanitarian international law;
(g) To accept the mandates entrusted to it by the international conferences of the Red Cross.

Those conferences occur every 3 or 4 years, and are attended by all the national Red Cross organizations. The next conference will be in Vienna, I believe, next year.

More specifically, the International Committee of the Red Cross serves continuously and impartially in the troubled spots of the world to protect both military and civilian sufferers from military actions, including those resulting from internal and civil conflicts.

The services of the International Committee of the Red Cross have over the years since World War I been a great help to the U.S. Government, the U.S. Armed Forces, and American civilians.

The 20th anniversary of the end of hostilities of World War II in 1965 recalled many services of the International Committee of the Red Cross to the victims of that conflict. With the help and cooperation of the national Red Cross societies and many individual volunteers,
the International Committee of the Red Cross conveyed to camps for POW's, civilian internees, and deportees 430,731 tons of relief supplies, approximately 36 million parcels, valued at over $800 million. Civilian detainees and concentration camp inmates received 6,836 tons of relief supplies, over 1,631,000 parcels. In addition, 7,000 tons of relief and $5 million in cash for local purchases were furnished to POW's in Japanese hands. Forty-three ships were at the disposal of the International Committee of the Red Cross in conducting these relief operations, 3,505,869 pages of names of POW's were registered, and over 24 million civilian messages were forwarded to those detained.

The International Committee of the Red Cross maintains in Geneva the Central Tracing Agency, which even to this day continues researches and inquiries concerning POW's and civilians missing since World War II.

During 1964 the Central Tracing Agency in Geneva received 43,883 inquiries concerning POW's and missing persons and dispatched 35,491 replies. During the same year new dossiers were opened with respect to 15,515 missing persons. Of these, 4,297 were located during 1964. Also, the Central Tracing Agency transmitted 5,182 messages to POW's still under detention and delivered 4,795 certificates of captivity to former POW's.

The committee also conducts the International Tracing Service at Arolsen, Germany, under the direction of eight Second World War Allied Governments and Germany, acting as an organizing committee to trace persons lost, missing, or separated from relatives in Central Europe during World War II. From January to June 1964, some 110,726 inquiries were received by the International Tracing Service in Arolsen for information concerning missing persons, certificates of death, photocopies of documents and certificates used in indemnification proceedings and requests for statistical data. Over 82,000 reports were supplied during the same year, of which 1,305 were made in response to inquiries originating in the United States. The International Committee of the Red Cross operates the International Tracing Service at and under the direction of the Committee of Governments. The cost of administration is borne by the German Government.

Currently, the International Committee of the Red Cross is carrying out many activities and services in foreign countries which are of special interest to the United States. From August to November 1964, five American consular personnel and several American missionaries were among large numbers of foreigners held as hostages by rebel forces in Stanleyville in the Congo. The International Committee of the Red Cross, by untiring efforts, managed to fly a planeload of medical supplies and medical personnel into Stanleyville on September 25, 1964, and to bring out some 864 personal messages from the hostages. The constant pressure exerted by the International Committee of the Red Cross throughout the period of rebel control was a central factor in restraining the rebels from taking more severe action against many of the hostages.

Early in 1964, after the outbreak of hostilities in Cyprus, the International Committee of the Red Cross assumed the function of facilitating the clearance and distribution of sorely needed relief supplies sent into Cyprus from abroad in behalf of the refugees. This task was successfully accomplished at a time when the question
of the shipment and distribution of supplies to refugees in Cyprus was a highly charged political issue. The International Committee of the Red Cross is continuing this function as a measure of assistance to the overall efforts of the United Nations forces in Cyprus, and has helped significantly in stabilizing the current political situation.

After the arrival of Tibetan refugees in Nepal in 1959, the International Committee of the Red Cross was the only international agency admitted to that country and initiated a program of assistance to the refugees from its own resources. Subsequently, the U.S. Government provided Public Law 480 agricultural commodities to meet the minimum food needs of the refugees and to prevent starvation. These supplies have been distributed by the International Committee of the Red Cross in Nepal, which has proved to be the only acceptable channel through which such feeding could have been accomplished.

At the request of the United States, the International Committee of the Red Cross has sought to promote the welfare of several U.S. military and civilian personnel detained by the Communist Pathet Lao in Laos. Through the International Committee of the Red Cross intervention, mail has been delivered to detainees, and additional efforts in their behalf through the provision of medical supplies are being continued.

At the request of our Government, the International Committee of the Red Cross has made persistent efforts in North Vietnam (sometimes successfully), to enable several U.S. military personnel detained in North Vietnam to establish contact with relatives and friends in the United States. Similar efforts are made to assist American personnel detained in South Vietnam by the National Liberation Front. More recently, through the helpful services of the Cambodian Red Cross, relief packages have also been dispatched to the detainees.

In the Cuban crisis of 1962 at the request of the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross was prepared to conduct certain impartial inspections, the necessity for which did not materialize.

Recently in the outbreak of hostilities in the Dominican Republic the International Committee of the Red Cross Latin American representative proceeded to the Dominican Republic where he has been instrumental in assisting to arrange the cease fire. He is still active in attempting to protect the welfare, in accordance with Red Cross principles, of those detained by either side.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has been active in a number of other areas, such as Yemen, where conflict is continuing. The International Committee of the Red Cross maintains a field hospital in Yemen which is practically the only medical service available to those injured in the hostilities. The lives of two American newsmen were saved recently by the services provided by the hospital and the efforts of the Committee to evacuate them successfully.

The annual expenditures of the International Committee of the Red Cross over many years has approximated $1,150,000 to $2 million. Actual expenditures in 1963 were $1,086,704 and in 1964 they were $1,045,728.
The 1965 budget amounting to $1,146,210 is broken down as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Relief and other services in the field, that is, in other countries away from Switzerland</td>
<td>$487,724</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General costs, headquarters expenses</td>
<td>$321,932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative costs at headquarters</td>
<td>$336,554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,146,210</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Toward the annual budget in 1964, 59 governments contributed $471,821 and 56 National Red Cross societies, including the American Red Cross, contributed $133,059, or a total of $604,880 out of total expenditures of $1,045,728. The balance of expenditures was covered by donations from the general public in Switzerland and other countries, income from invested funds and reimbursements and contributions toward relief operations in prior years.

The present proposal that the U.S. Government contribute $75,000 annually to the administrative and other costs of the International Committee of the Red Cross is modest and related to the contributions of other governments. The largest contribution from any government is that of $231,054 annually from the Government of Switzerland. Other substantial contributors among the governments are Australia, Canada, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

The proposed U.S. contribution will reflect the appreciation and immeasurable benefits received by the U.S. Government and the American people from the varied services of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Mr. Fasell. Thank you, Mr. Warren.

As I understand, the proposed authorization of $75,000 is an agreed amount which has been deemed reasonable by the Department?

Mr. Warren. Agreed among ourselves. The contribution is purely voluntary. We think that particular amount is appropriate in amount among the contributions of all the governments. I do not think we can ever pay adequately for all the services which the Red Cross performs. They do go in, whether they have the money or not, and act on the spot and as quickly as possible and do perform a remarkable service.

Mr. Fasell. I am sure of that, Mr. Warren, and we all agree with that. Since this is the initial authorization for a contribution by the U.S. Government, what change in facts or thinking has brought this about?

Mr. Warren. Up to this year, Mr. Chairman, we more or less depended on the contribution of $25,000 from the American Red Cross to the Committee to cover the responsibilities of the American people toward their efforts. The number of trouble spots throughout the world seems to be increasing. The costs of the Committee are increasing. As you can see, the contributions of all the governments and all the Red Cross societies account for only half of the income to cover the expenditures. Even with interest from invested funds, they have been running deficits for the last 7 or 8 years from $125,000 to $150,000 a year which they have to scrape up from wherever they can get it. When they really get into trouble, they just put the burden on the Swiss people themselves.
Mr. Fasce11. I think it always has been assumed that the contributions by the American people to the American Red Cross were in such amount and such nature that they would adequately cover any international participation. Would it be anticipated that the contribution by the American Red Cross itself would continue to the international committee?

Mr. Warren. Yes, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Fasce11. With this authorization you would have two contributions. One would be from the American Red Cross, and the other would be through the Government.

Mr. Warren. Yes. You see, among the contributors are 59 governments and 58 national Red Crosses essentially in the same countries. So, the duality of contribution is quite normal. Fifty-nine governments contribute in that manner, and their Red Crosses do, also.

Mr. Fasce11. Mr. Gross.

Mr. Gross. Mr. Warren, the American Red Cross has been making a $25,000 contribution in the past.

Mr. Warren. That is true.

Mr. Gross. The organization somehow or other has been able to get along without a Federal contribution up to this point all through the years, is that not true?

Mr. Warren. Yes. The situation now is that there are more trouble spots and the costs are increasing.

Mr. Gross. I am surprised to hear that, because I thought with all of the things that we were doing around the world, with aid programs of all kinds, contributions to all kinds of international organizations, foreign aid at the rate of anywhere from $3.5 to $6 or $7 billion a year, we were supposed to be doing pretty well by way of contributing, and there are those who say that this has held down trouble throughout the world. I am a little bit surprised to hear you say this morning that we now have to embark upon another contribution and dig into the pockets of the taxpayers of this country for a contribution to another international organization.

Mr. Warren. This is a different situation, Mr. Congressman—and we are very much interested in resolving this—in which no national government, including our own, can intervene. The International Committee is in a very unique position and can intervene because of its well-known reputation.

Mr. Gross. Thay have been doing this through the years, have they not?

Mr. Warren. Yes; they have.

Mr. Gross. And without a contribution from the Treasury of this country which, incidentally, is in serious trouble. We are about to be called upon to again hike the debt limit in this country. I just do not understand why we have to come in at this time with a Federal contribution when you say it has been successfully operating all through the years.

I would not say that you were exactly modest in starting this off at $75,000. The history of all these things is that they increase as time goes on. Would you anticipate that there would be an increase next year?

Mr. Warren. I would not; no.
Mr. Gross. You might not anticipate it, but you would not be surprised if there was an increase, would you?

Mr. Warren. That is always possible, Mr. Congressman, but we do not anticipate it.

Mr. Gross. Who is the chairman of the American Red Cross?

Mr. Warren. General Collins, I believe.

Mr. Gross. General Collins?

Mr. Warren. Yes.

Mr. Gross. Who is the president of it?

Mr. Warren. I am sorry.

Mr. Gross. General Gruenther is no longer the chairman?

Mr. Warren. He has retired, and I think he has been succeeded by General Collins.

Mr. Gross. Is he living in that house just off Massachusetts Avenue?

Mr. Warren. He has been only recently appointed by the President. It is possible he may be living there. I do not know specifically.

Mr. Gross. Is he getting a $35,000 a year salary, or do you know?

Mr. Warren. I do not know what the salary is.

Mr. Gross. And a rent-free house worth $75,000 or so?

Mr. Warren. I believe the American Red Cross owns the house.

Mr. Gross. Yes; they do, and they give it to him rent free, as I understand it, along with a Cadillac and a driver.

Mr. Warren, I think we can very well go on with the American Red Cross donating $25,000 a year. Surely this organization is in a position to make a contribution to the International Committee. I think we can very well go on, on that basis.

Incidentally, did the International Red Cross supply the planes for transporting whatever material it was that they shipped into Stanleyville?

Mr. Warren. Yes.

Mr. Gross. Or did the Air Force of the United States supply the planes?

Mr. Warren. No; the Red Cross supplied the planes.

Mr. Gross. Where did they get the planes?

Mr. Warren. Switzerland.

Mr. Gross. In Switzerland?

Mr. Warren. Yes. They flew from Basle.

Mr. Gross. The international headquarters is in Switzerland?

Mr. Warren. The international headquarters are in Geneva.

Mr. Gross. That is a lovely place to have an international headquarters, they tell me. Nowadays, about every international organization eventually has a conference in Switzerland. I can understand why the Swiss would put up $250,000 as a contribution to the International Red Cross. They do very well, apparently, on their take from the international headquarters of the Red Cross.

That is all I have at this time, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Fraser. Mr. Fraser.

Mr. Fraser. Mr. Warren, could you tell me something about how the International Committee is perpetuated? That is, who is on it?

Mr. Warren. It is composed of 25 Swiss citizens. That number of Committee is maintained from year to year.

Mr. Fraser. Do the 25 Swiss citizens make up the board?
Mr. Warren. Make up the Committee; yes.

Mr. Fraser. They elect their successors?

Mr. Warren. Yes. When there are resignations, the Committee nominates and elects successors. Their delegates who conduct these missions in these trouble spot areas are all Swiss. The great asset of the Committee is its reputation for impartiality and neutrality.

Mr. Fraser. It is really entirely a Swiss operation——

Mr. Warren. It is a Swiss operation.

Mr. Fraser. In the sense of personnel and direction, although it is international in its support and activities.

Mr. Warren. Yes. The League of Red Cross Societies, whose members are the National Red Crosses, and the International Committee, which is an independent committee, a Swiss committee—those two organizations cooperate in developing the National Red Cross Societies throughout the world, encouraging them, helping them, training their people, and spreading the Red Cross principles of service.

Mr. Fraser. Are these 25 board members otherwise engaged in full-time work unrelated to the Red Cross?

Mr. Warren. Yes. They are prominent Swiss persons who are elected because of their outstanding status in the country.

Mr. Fraser. Could you tell me just a little bit about the staff they have—who heads it, how many people they have, and so on?

Mr. Warren. I know the head of the staff, Mr. Gallopin. The staff varies, of course, from time to time. The headquarters staff is more or less constant. I do not know the exact number. The entire operation at headquarters from the administrative point of view costs around $300,000 a year. That gives you some idea of it. I can get that number and supply it later.

Mr. Fascell. Will you supply that for the record, please?

Mr. Warren. Yes.

(The requested information follows:)

The ICRC permanent staff totals 197. Directing officers are:
Roger Gallopin, executive director.
Jean Picquet, director for general affairs.
Claude Pilloud, deputy director for general affairs.
Pierre Basset, chief of administration and finance.

Volunteers for service abroad total 111. They receive no payment while in standby status. When serving abroad they receive per diem allowances and modest salaries.

Mr. Warren. They maintain a group of responsible individuals who volunteer to perform missions abroad. I think they sign up for 2 years, and they volunteer as individuals. Most of them are men, of course, doctors, lawyers. They receive training and they commit themselves to 6 weeks' service abroad in the field operation.

It would be impossible to maintain a staff to do the fieldwork, because the load varies from time to time. They have used this device. It is somewhat on the order of our Peace Corps, really. They are responsible and trained persons who undertake to serve over a period of 2 years for at least 6 weeks' service. Sometimes they get stuck and cannot come home at the end of 6 weeks.

Mr. Fraser. Does the $75,000 which is being requested, originate from the international office? In other words, are they looking for increased support from the various national societies?
Mr. Warren. Yes. They are constantly pressing our National Red Cross Society and all the governments to increase their contributions. We have considered that in comparison with the contributions of other governments, $75,000 is a reasonable amount for us to contribute.

Mr. Fraser. You have indicated that the Swiss themselves contribute $250,000.

Mr. Warren. Yes.

Mr. Fraser. What is the next highest contribution, do you know?

Could we get for the record a list of the contributions?

Mr. Warren. I could give you for the record a list of the contributions of the governments, and also the National Red Cross contributions, in 1963. The financial report for 1964 has not yet been received but we will try to get the information. But it will not vary very much.

Mr. Fascei. Would you supply for us, please, Mr. Warren, both lists of contributions. That would be very helpful.

Mr. Warren. Yes, sir.

(The requested information follows:)

Contributions to the ICRC from governments and Red Cross societies in 1963 and 1964

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<tr>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>1963</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Governments</td>
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1 The annual American Red Cross contribution is $25,000. In addition, the Red Cross from time to time makes special contributions to specific projects particularly the Yemen Hospital.

Mr. Fraser, I want to thank Mr. Warren for being willing to come here and testify today. I am very sympathetic with his request. I think the International Red Cross has done a wonderful job for us all.

Mr. Warren. They do very unique things. For instance, under the Peace Treaty with Japan, they were given the function of distributing $12 million to former prisoners of war held by the Japanese who did not receive any reparations from their home governments. They are distributing money supplied by the German Government to sufferers from medical experiments by the Nazis in countries where the German Government has no diplomatic relations and can make no diplomatic agreement. I could go on listing things like that.

Mr. Fasceill, Mr. Derwinski.

Mr. Derwinski, Mr. Chairman, may I ask that for the record we also be supplied with not only the amount of contributions that the various countries have provided in past years, but the
anticipated amount that they would be contributing this year. Evidently there has been some agreement reached that the $75,000 is to help meet the budget and this is a suggested figure. Obviously, other countries also have been the recipient of such suggestions. Would it be out of order to make that request?

Mr. FasceI. Of course it is not out of order. It is just a question of whether Mr. Warren can supply that information.

Mr. Warren. I can supply that. I have a report of what has been contributed so far this year by certain governments. I have the total contributed in 1964 by the governments and by the national Red Crosses, but not broken down by individual countries.

Mr. FasceI. You have the 1965 budget?

Mr. Warren. I can give you the 1965 budget.¹

Mr. FasceI. Can you give us the information which Mr. Derwinski has requested with respect to the anticipated contributions?

Mr. Warren. I would have to request the International Committee to provide that information. We haven’t it here.

Mr. FasceI. Thank you, sir.

(The requested information follows:)

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In the requested information follows:

Increased contributions from governments to International Committee of the Red Cross from 1960 to the present

[U.S. dollars to nearest hundred]  

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¹(See p. 5.)
Mr. Derwinski. Mr. Warren, on page 6 of your prepared testimony you indicated that the annual budget of the International Red Cross has varied from $1,150,000 to $2 million.

Mr. Warren. Million, $1,086,704 in 1963.

Mr. Derwinski. The figures you gave for 1963 and 1965 both indicate a minimum type figure within your range that you gave us. Could you give us, for example, the budgeted expenditures for years previous to 1963 so that we have an idea of how the cost fluctuates?

Mr. Warren. I think I could get them.

Mr. Derwinski. At the time you submit this other material.

Mr. Warren. I can tell you the actual expenditure figure for 1964. It is $1,045,728.

Mr. Derwinski. My question was directed——

Mr. Warren. It is very close.

Mr. Derwinski. You indicated that the range was from $1,150,000 to $2 million. All the figure that you quoted us are very close to the $1,150,000. I am curious as to what the expenditures have been for a number of years prior to 1963.

Mr. Warren. I will get that.

(The requested information follows:)

Annual expenditures by International Committee of the Red Cross for the past 5 years have been as follows:

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The $2 million figure of expenditures referred to in the testimony applied to earlier war years.

Mr. FasceI. Do you happen to know the largest budget in recent years? That is what he is after.

Mr. Warren. No, I don't.

Mr. Derwinski. Mr. Warren, we are advised that your title is Adviser on Refugee and Migration Matters.

Mr. Warren. Yes, sir.

Mr. Derwinski. I assume this means you are on a per diem basis at the State Department?

Mr. Warren. No, no.

Mr. Derwinski. What is your status?

Mr. Warren. I am on the staff of the State Department.

Mr. Derwinski. Permanent staff?

Mr. Warren. Permanent staff, and I have been there since 1943.

Mr. Derwinski. Mr. Warren, in answer to a question from the chairman, do we assume that since we are making this contribution we are asked to make—this contribution of $75,000—that the American Red Cross will continue making its $25,000 contribution. I would like to know if this is an absolute fact or are we operating on merely assumption?

Mr. Warren. I am quite confident that that is so. If the committee would be interested to have some statement to that effect I think I can secure it.

(The following letter was subsequently provided:)
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS


HON. ABB A P. SCHWARTZ, Administrator, Bureau of Security and Consular Affairs, Department of State, Washington, D.C.

DEAR ABB A: This is in response to your letter of June 10 concerning the annual contribution of the American Red Cross to the International Committee of the Red Cross.

For many years the American Red Cross has followed the practice of making an annual contribution of $25,000 to the International Committee to help defray their general administrative expenses and program activities. We enjoy a close and mutually beneficial relationship with the Committee and it is our intention to continue to make a similar contribution each year in the future.

From time to time we have made additional contributions to the International Committee to help finance special projects of that organization. It is also our intention to continue this type of special support where it is necessary and to our interests.

Sincerely,

JAMES F. COLLINS, General, U.S. Army (Retired).

MR. DERWINSKI. Mr. Chairman, it is my understanding that the only two witnesses that you plan are these two gentlemen from the State Department. Is there any special reason why the Red Cross representative is not here?

MR. FASCCELL. I would assume as a tax exempt organization they would rather not testify, Mr. Derwinski. If you force their hand or you want to subpoena them they might testify.

MR. DERWINSKI. I would not think of carrying the matter that far. I am curious why the State Department is the official spokesman for the American Red Cross in this case.

MR. FASCCELL. Because, actually, as I understand it, this is an authorization request for the International Committee of the Red Cross.

MR. DERWINSKI. Mr. Warren, may I ask you this question, then: Did the American Red Cross approach the State Department and ask for $75,000 or did the State Department suggest to the Red Cross that they help provide $75,000 for this project?

MR. WARENN. No. I want to correct one impression. The figure of $75,000 is not a figure that is agreed upon with the International Committee of the Red Cross. It is a State Department figure. The American Red Cross thoroughly approves this action and this request.

MR. DERWINSKI. At whose suggestion was this idea of $75,000 authorization and appropriation developed? Was that State Department initiative or American Red Cross initiative?

MR. WARENN. It was State Department initiative entirely.

MR. GROSS. Would the gentleman yield?

MR. DERWINSKI. Yes, if I have time.

MR. GROSS. What makes a tax-exempt organization immune from testifying before a committee? Why should they not come in and testify?

MR. FASCCELL. They have not been subpoenaed or invited, nor have they volunteered to testify, Mr. Gross. If you would like to hear from them, fine—but I do not know what the American Red Cross has to do with this. I suppose they could advise us what they think about this but Mr. Warren has already told us that.

MR. GROSS. They have everything to do with it.
Mr. Fraser. Mr. Chairman, I assume there is a problem about lobbying in maintaining tax exempt status.

Mr. Fascell. I assume there is too, but I do not want to get into a legal seminar on that question.

Mr. Gross. Would it be illegal to appear before a committee of Congress?

Mr. Fascell. Mr. Rosenthal.

Mr. Rosenthal. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Warren, I think you have indicated in your testimony that some 58, 59, or 60 governments have contributed to this International Red Cross, is that correct?

Mr. Warren. Yes.

Mr. Rosenthal. Something in the area of 60. Over how long a period of time has that system gone on?

Mr. Warren. For some years, sir.

Mr. Rosenthal. I am curious as to why, if these other governments participated all during that period of time, the U.S. Government had not also participated.

Mr. Warren. Well, perhaps we should have, Congressman. It is a fact, however, that we did depend on the contribution from the American Red Cross, which has been unusual among governments and international Red Crosses, among 60 other governments. Because 59 or 60 other governments——

Mr. Rosenthal. In these 60 other countries, their national Red Cross made a contribution in addition to the federal government contribution?

Mr. Warren. Yes. I think there are 59 governments and 58 national Red Crosses.

Mr. Rosenthal. It would seem to me that we have almost been a little remiss in not meeting our responsibilities.

Mr. Warren. I think one can draw that conclusion, Mr. Congressman.

Mr. Rosenthal. That is the conclusion that I draw. If we want to support international organizations and peacekeeping machineries, and are interested in the welfare of people, certainly no one can argue that the International Red Cross has not done an outstanding job in this field. I really do not understand why we have not willingly joined in this joint international effort before. I am almost willing to take the State Department to task for being so tardy in making this suggestion.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Fascell. Mrs. Bolton.

Mrs. Bolton. No questions.

Mr. Fascell. Mr. Roybal.

Mr. Roybal. No questions, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Fascell. Thank you very much, Mr. Warren. If you will supply the information requested as promptly as possible we would appreciate it.

Mr. Warren. Yes, sir.

(Thereupon, at 10:40 a.m., the subcommittee proceeded with other business.)