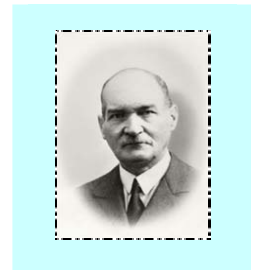


MAURICE DE MADRE FRENCH FUND – info (MMFF)



ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAST WISHES OF COUNT MAURICE DE MADRE USING THE PROPERTY HE BEQUEATHED TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS ON HIS DEATH IN 1970 FOR:

STAFF MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS
WHO HAVE SUFFERED INJURY IN THE COURSE OF
THEIR WORK WITHIN THE MOVEMENT

STAFF MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS
SUFFERING FROM AN ILLNESS RELATED TO THEIR
WORK WITHIN THE MOVEMENT

FAMILIES OF STAFF MEMBERS AND
VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES IN
THE COURSE OF THEIR WORK WITHIN THE
MOVEMENT

EDITORIAL

The world of the Red Cross and Red Crescent can often be dangerous for National Society volunteers and staff members, who frequently risk their lives and health while serving others. And these “others,” by definition, lack means, protection and assistance, and are usually in exceptional situations, as in a tsunami, earthquake, flood, war, or other upheaval. Nearly every day, somewhere in the world, there are Red Cross men and women who fall ill or lose their lives furthering their cause. Yet many National Societies simply do not have the means to insure or otherwise cover the risks run by their staff and *especially* their volunteers. The aim of the MMFF – to the extent its limited resources allow – is to help National Societies provide material assistance (especially towards medical fees) for victims “in the line of duty” or their descendants. These victims are usually referred to the MMFF by ICRC or Federation delegations.

The MMFF has distributed a total of Sfr 2,711,750 to some 1,640 beneficiaries in 85 countries since its creation in 1974.

While the average sum per beneficiary of Sfr 1,650 is modest, in most cases it is enough to truly “make a difference” for those concerned.

This is all the more remarkable considering it is first and foremost the result of the effective and responsible management by the ICRC and its banks of the MMFF’s funds, *which totalled just over Sfr 2 million at the outset and which today amount to more than Sfr 5 million, even after distributing Sfr 2.7 million.* The MMFF Board will endeavour to maintain these funding and distribution levels.

Jacques Moreillon
Chairman

PRACTICAL ASSISTANCE



An ICRC field officer visiting a woman whose husband, a Tajikistan Red Crescent volunteer, died serving the Movement. The staff of ICRC and Federation delegations act as vital intermediaries for the MMFF.

In November 2004, two men blocked by heavy snow on Shahrston Pass in northern Tajikistan left their car engine running overnight in order to stay warm. They died asphyxiated by the exhaust fumes.

These two Tajikistan Red Crescent volunteers were returning from a coordination meeting organized by the ICRC as part of a programme to prevent mine accidents. Both men were married, with four children.

This was a hard blow to their families, who were left in dire financial straits, having neither insurance nor other resources to cover their needs. The MMFF stepped in to provide swift and direct support, helping both widows to provide for their families and reorganize their lives.

THE FUND

With constant and invaluable support from ICRC and Federation delegates in the field, in 2005 the MMFF continued to provide practical assistance for some 400 staff members and volunteers of Movement components or for their families. In addition to the 43 requests still pending from previous years, the MMFF handled 33 new requests – 76 requests in all – covering 147 individual cases (see graph 1).

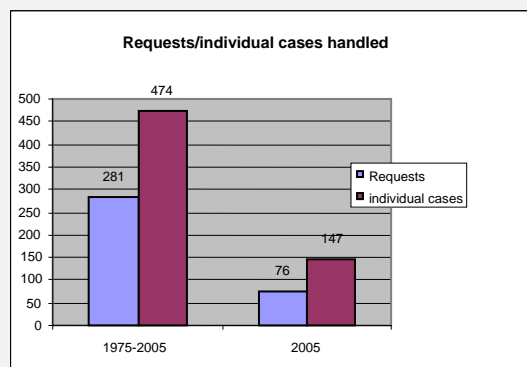
The high number of beneficiaries is explained by the fact that a request can cover one or more individual cases – for example, when several persons fall victim to the event (accident, armed attack, etc.) that prompted a request.

Owing to the Movement's presence worldwide, the vast network of ICRC and Federation delegates, and greater awareness in recent years of the MMFF, requests have been submitted from every geographical area. Nevertheless, since the Fund's creation, the majority of requests have come from Africa (see graph 2).

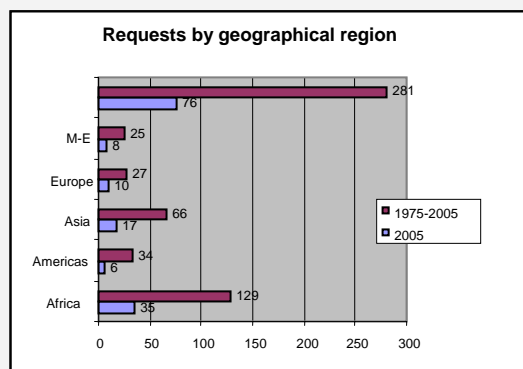
A study revealed that since the first benefit was awarded in 1975 the main grounds for requests have been the death of a staff member or volunteer resulting from an act of violence or from an accident that has left the family in need of assistance. The next most frequent grounds have been injury or disability resulting from accident (see graph 3).

The study also showed that a majority of applications are submitted from National Societies which have many more staff members and volunteers than do the ICRC or the Federation, but which cannot all offer insurance coverage for their staff or volunteers.

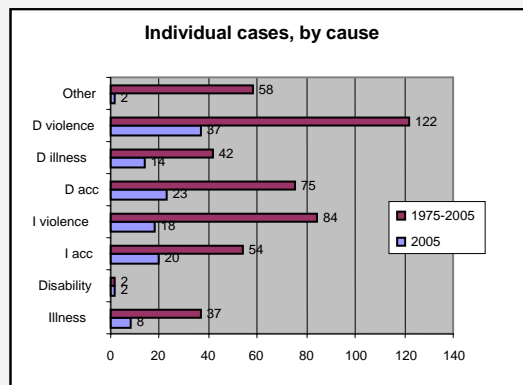
GRAPH 1



GRAPH 2



GRAPH 3



D = Death; I = Injury

MAURICE DE MADRE FRENCH FUND

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Ms M.-C. de Navacelle
Ms B. Diop
Ms E. Eriksson
Ms J. Hugentobler

Former member, adviser:
Mr A. Chavan

FROM 1975 TO 2005, THE MMFF HANDLED:

- ↪ 281 requests
- ↪ 474 individual cases
- ↪ 1,640 beneficiaries
- ↪ grants totalling Sfr 2,711,750