

ICRC

FACTS AND FIGURES

OCTOBER 2001

**EMERGENCY ACTION OF THE RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT
MOVEMENT FOR THE NORTH CAUCASUS
AND THE SOUTH OF RUSSIA**

**INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS, RUSSIAN
RED CROSS, INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION**



CHILDREN WASHING THEMSELVES IN A SHOWER COMPLEX, ONE OF 16 INSTALLED BY THE ICRC IN IDP CAMPS IN INGUSHETIA

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an impartial, neutral and independent organisation whose exclusively humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of war and internal violence and to provide them with assistance. It directs and co-ordinates the international relief activities conducted by the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in situations of conflict. It also endeavours to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening international humanitarian law and international humanitarian principles. Established in 1863, the ICRC is at the origin of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.



HIGHLIGHTS

The President of the International Committee of the Red Cross Jakob Kellenberger visited Moscow on 29 and 30 October 2001.

During this two day visit Jakob Kellenberger met with Deputy Prime Minister Valentina Matvienko, Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov, Justice Minister Yuri Tchaika and the Minister in charge of the economic and social development of Chechnya Vladimir Yelagin, First Deputy Interior Minister Vladimir Vassiliev, the First Deputy Head of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation Yuri Baluevsky, the Deputy Prosecutor Vladimir Davidov as well as the Vice Chairman of the Duma, Vladimir Lukhin.

The aim of President Kellenberger's meetings was to discuss ongoing humanitarian activities of the ICRC in the North Caucasus, in particular in Chechnya. In addition to the food and non-food assistance to displaced Chechens in Ingushetia and the vulnerable population in Chechnya, discussions were also held on the visits by ICRC delegates to persons detained for reasons related to the current situation in Chechnya. The visit reinforced the clear understanding of the ICRC by Russian authorities, and their continued support for its work in the Russian Federation.

In October a co-operation agreement was signed between the ICRC and the Ministry of Labour and Social Development of the Russian Federation which will enable the ICRC to further implement its orthopaedic programme in the RF. The ICRC committed itself to train Chechen prosthetists who will work at the Grozny orthopaedic centre and to provide equipment for this centre.

BUDGETARY NEEDS

In its annual appeal for 2001, the ICRC requests nearly 34 mln dollars to finance its activities in the Russian Federation. Of this, about 27 mln dollars are planned to be used for relief operations in the North Caucasus.

THE RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT, SPEARHEADED BY THE ICRC, PROVIDED IN OCTOBER 2001 FOOD AND NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE IN THE NORTH CAUCASUS AND THE SOUTH OF RUSSIA FOR OVER 127,000 IDPs

OVERVIEW

CHECHNYA

The month of October found the ICRC working at a reduced rate in light of security concerns in the Chechen Republic. Following new and regular discussions with both the Chechen administration and various ministries of the Republic, the ICRC was given renewed security guarantees, improved the notification of its various assistance programmes and was able to fully resume its operations as the month closed.

Non-food assistance

Since December 1, 2000 the ICRC, which rehabilitated pumping station No 1 in Grozny, has started distribution of chlorinated water to the population of the city from two water tanks (75 m³ each) with a present daily output of around 900 m³ which covers the needs of almost 45,000 people. In September 27,800 m³ of water were provided.

Medical assistance

In October, despite the above mentioned reduction of activities, the ICRC continued to support the visiting nurses programme of the RRC in Chechnya though on a reduced scale. Normally, 720 bedridden elderly are regularly assisted by 57 nurses and provided with fresh and dry food on a monthly basis and with hygienic kits every 6 months.

Mine awareness

The number of landmine and unexploded ordnance victims among the civilian population in Chechnya is of particular concern for the ICRC. As a result a mine-awareness programme has been initiated there with a special focus at children who run the highest risk of being maimed and killed by these weapons. The aim is to limit this risk by informing children of the dangers landmines and unexploded ordnance represent and by teaching them some basic rules of behaviour. To this end a puppet show "The Danger of Landmines - the New Adventures of Cheerdig" has been launched together with a Chechen puppet theatre, like it has already been done with a puppet theatre in Ingushetia. In October 28 performances of the show were made in 11 schools of Grozny for about 5,500 children and 72 school teachers.

INGUSHETIA

The bulk of the ICRC assistance in the North Caucasus is distributed in Ingushetia. The Republic currently hosts about 150,000 officially registered IDPs from Chechnya and this is a heavy burden to bear for the local population. Some 30,000 people are accommodated in IDP camps. But the majority live in temporary settlements and in host families, straining their economic conditions.

Food assistance (dry food and bread)

The ICRC supports IDPs on a regular basis with food (family parcels) and covers almost all IDPs in Ingushetia on a two month cycle basis through more than 50 points of distribution.

CHECHNYA

RED CROSS SET UP IN CHECHNYA

ICRC

61	national staff
25	daily worker
3	vehicles

RRC

83	staff
52	volunteers
11	vehicles

INGUSHETIA

FOOD ASSISTANCE (October 2001)

37,403	food parcels
418,500	loaves of bread

NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE (October 2001)

20,486	hygienic kits
13,863	blankets
508	stoves
722	jerrycans
68,880 m ²	plastic sheeting
156,762	candles

WATER AND SANITATION (October 2001)

Overall:	6,207.3 m ³
Daily:	200 m ³
Showers:	16 (149 cabins)
Bladders:	23
Pits:	10
Water trucks:	10

**THE ICRC PROVIDES
ABOUT 40,000 IDPs WITH
FRESH WATER DAILY.**

MEDICAL CONSULTATIONS (October 2001)

3,871	consultations
1,882	of them for children

In addition to the aforementioned distributions, the ICRC supports RRC programmes, which distributes on an average 3 loaves of bread to 33,000 beneficiaries in IDP camps on a weekly basis.

Non-food assistance

Besides food, the ICRC provided hygienic kits, blankets, jerrycans, stoves, plastic sheeting and candles to IDPs.

Water and sanitation

The ICRC has spared no effort to make drinking water available wherever there are major concentrations of IDPs in Ingushetia. Since summer 2000, when the ICRC made it a priority to improve the hygienic situation in IDP camps, it has started to build shower installations there which were insulated for the winter period. A total of sixteen of them with a capacity of 149 cabins is currently at the disposal of IDPs. In October, the ICRC installed a new 10 m³ bladder, finished the reconstruction of two soak pits, made two new connections with the central water network and looked after the sanitary conditions of the bladders installed.

Medical assistance

Since July this year the ICRC, which used to assist five hospitals in Ingushetia, has concentrated its efforts on increasing its aid to the main hospital of the Ingush republic in Nazran (in October - equivalent to 6,100 USD).

The ICRC also supports two mobile medical teams and one medical post set up by the RRC in order to provide IDPs with basic health care.

The RRC visiting nurses programme is providing bedridden elderly persons (130 people) with basic care. Beneficiaries receive food parcels, wheat flour and medicines on a monthly basis and hygienic kits every 6 months.

Mine awareness

The mine awareness programme has been launched for IDPs in Ingushetia since 1999 aimed at informing them of the danger of landmines and unexploded ordnance and to teach them some basic rules of behaviour in order to limit the risk of accidents when they return home. In October, the ICRC mine-awareness team in Ingushetia gave 40 lessons to 128 IDP children (age group 10-14) in the framework of the "Child to Child" programme aimed to teach them to convey to other children information about the danger of mines and ways to avoid it. Another project called "Child to Child Puppet Theatre", serving the same purposes, has already covered 20 children to whom 20 lessons were given.

DAGHESTAN

In October relief distributions were carried out in the Buinaksk and Novolak regions of Daghestan, covering over 7,000 beneficiaries.

Food assistance (dry food, hot meals and bread)

In Daghestan the RRC runs 3 bakeries, covering the needs in bread of 5,380 IDPs daily, and besides, 1 soup kitchen, providing 500 IDP

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

What's in a food parcel?

720 g of butter, 800 g of tomato puree, 1 kg of cheese, 1 kg of sugar, 3 kg of spaghetti, 2 kg of rice, 1.3 kg of canned chicken, 500 g tea, 200 g of yeast

What's in a hygienic kit?

1.5 kg of washing powder, 1 kg of soap, 200 g of toothpaste, 1 toothbrush, 1l of detergent, 1 l of shampoo, 1 kitchen towel, 1 bath towel

What's in a kitchen set?

1 cooking pot (7 l), 1 frying pan, 5 bowls, 5 plates, 5 cups, 5 knives, 5 forks, 5 table spoons

What's in a school kit?

2 copybooks, 2 pens, 1 pad of drawing paper, 1 box of colour pencils, 1 box of water colours, 1 eraser, 1 pencil sharpener

What kind of surgical assistance?

Dressing materials (bandages, cotton, gauze), medicines, medicines for narcosis, sutures, infusions, accessories for infusions (IV sets, tubes, catheters etc.), instruments, X-ray material

What is a mobile medical team?

A team includes two doctors (a general practitioner and a paediatrician), a nurse and a driver. They give basic medical advice and, if needed, distribute medicines. A fixed dispensary team usually includes three doctors (a co-ordinator, a general practitioner and a paediatrician) and a nurse.

DAGHESTAN

FOOD ASSISTANCE (October 2001)

3,254	food parcels
81,350	kg wheat flour
99,900	loaves of bread
13,500	hot meals (portions)

school children (in the Kumtor Kale region) with hot meals on a daily basis.

Non-food assistance

Furthermore, the ICRC distributed among beneficiaries hygienic kits, blankets and plastic sheeting helping them to improve their living conditions.

Medical assistance

The RRC also runs 2 mobile medical units in Daghestan, providing medical services to IDPs since December 1999. Over 33,700 patients, including about 12,000 children, have already benefited from this assistance.

Furthermore, in October the ICRC provided medicine, medical material to the Khasavyurt Central Hospital (for 7,500 USD).

In Daghestan the RRC is also running the home visiting nurses programme for about 220 beneficiaries, mainly bedridden elderly. They receive food parcels, wheat flour and medicines on a monthly basis and hygienic kits every 6 months.

NORTH OSSETIA, KABARDINO-BALKARIA AND THE SOUTH OF RUSSIA

In the southern regions of Russia (Astrakhan, Volgograd, Krasnodar, Rostov, Saratov, Stavropol, Kalmykia, Adygea, Karachayevo-Cherkessia) the RRC, with the ICRC support, provided assistance to over 10,500 Chechen IDPs in October. In Kabardino-Balkaria and North Ossetia over 800 IDPs received non-food assistance.

Food assistance (dry food and bread)

The RRC distributed more than 3,000 food parcels to vulnerable Chechen IDPs in these regions.

As in the other republics of the North Caucasus, the RRC operates a bakery in North Ossetia, providing bread to 1,300 beneficiaries on a daily basis.

Non-food assistance

In the southern regions of Russia, listed above, as well as in Kabardino-Balkaria and North Ossetia, the RRC, with the ICRC support, distributed sets of clothes, shoes, blankets, hygienic kits and kitchen sets to IDPs from Chechnya.

Medical assistance

In Kabardino-Balkaria, North Ossetia, Kalmykia, Adygea, Karachayevo-Cherkessia, Krasnodar and Stavropol regions the RRC, supported by the ICRC, runs the home visiting nurses programme for the elderly (1,269 beneficiaries). They receive food parcels and medicines on a monthly basis and hygienic kits every 6 months.

Psychological and legal counselling

In the South of Russia the RRC, supported by the ICRC and the

NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE (October 2001)

3,254 hygienic kits
10,368m² plastic sheeting
1,728 blankets

MEDICAL CONSULTATIONS (October 2001)

2,217 consultations
800 of them for children
54 psychological
consultations

NORTH OSSETIA, KABARDINO-BALKARIA, SOUTH OF RUSSIA

FOOD ASSISTANCE (October 2001)

3,092 food parcels
35,072 loaves of bread
102,8 t wheat flour

NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE (October 2001)

2,891 hygienic kits
260 kitchen sets
54 blankets
1,152 sets of clothes
23 shoes (pairs)

CONSULTATIONS (October 2001)

1,194 psychological
865 legal

RED CROSS STAFF IN THE NORTH CAUCASUS AND SOUTH OF RUSSIA

ICRC

15 expatriates permanently based in Nalchik and 353 national employees not including those in Chechnya.

RUSSIAN RED CROSS

Regular staff, excluding Chechnya - 151 (plus 22 HQ staff in Moscow), rescue service included. RRC can mobilise hundreds of voluntary workers to support its operation in the region.

International Federation, provides IDPs from Chechnya with psycho-social counselling and legal advice. Psychological counselling service has also been organised for IDPs in North Ossetia and Kabardino-Balkaria.

Mine awareness

The ICRC mine-awareness team seized the opportunity to cover by the programme the Chechen children who came to stay in sanatoria in several republics and regions of the North Caucasus as a break from the dire living conditions in Chechnya.

In October, 17 lessons were given to a total of 272 Chechen children in sanatoria in the framework of the "Child to Child" programme. Eleven lessons were given to 160 teenagers on the lines of a similar "Teenager to Teenager" programme. Over 4,600 copies of the comic book "Trying to Find the Magic Water", based on the puppet show about Cheerdig, were distributed together with the game sheet "Find the Safest Way". This material is intended to teach children to avoid the danger of mines. Besides, the ICRC provided nearly 800 children with footwear.

REGIONAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

All over the North Caucasus and the South of Russia (Chechnya, Ingushetia, Dagestan, North Ossetia, Kabardino-Balkaria, Karachayev-Cherkessia, Adygea, Kalmykia, Stavropol and Krasnodar regions) the RRC, with the ICRC's support, assists about 3,800 vulnerable local residents with food parcels and wheat flour on a monthly basis and with hygienic kits - once in 2 months.

OTHER ICRC ACTIVITIES

VISITS TO DETAINEES

Following an agreement with the Russian Government in March 2000, the ICRC was granted access to all people deprived of their freedom in connection with the situation in Chechnya, wherever they are being held.

The ICRC delegates regularly visit detainees in detention places under the responsibility of both the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Justice. Since May 2000, they have visited 42 detention places.

The main aim of ICRC visits is to assess conditions of detention and to ensure that the detainees are treated humanely. The ICRC has developed an active dialogue with the detaining authorities and delegates regularly present to them their observations and recommendations.

Persons who lost contact with their relatives as well as detainees visited by the ICRC are given an opportunity to get in touch with their next of kin by writing Red Cross Messages. These Red Cross Messages are distributed by the ICRC, with the support of the Chechen branch of the Russian Red Cross, inside Chechnya.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION

Delegates and local staff in Moscow offer support to the Russian Red Cross outside the North Caucasus

DETENTION VISITS

NUMBER OF VISITS BY ICRC DELEGATES (October 2001)

In Chechnya:	1
Outside Chechnya:	4
TOTAL:	5

TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS

(Since May 2000)

In Chechnya	37
Outside Chechnya:	86
TOTAL:	123

Number of places visited: 42

PROMOTION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW (IHL)

While the main objective of IHL dissemination to the armed forces in the Russian Federation is to integrate the essential notions of international humanitarian law into the training programme of officers and soldiers, the ICRC makes a special effort to directly address troops engaged in the North Caucasus whenever possible in order to inform them about the basics of the law of war and the ICRC. In October, a 5-day IHL course was held in Vladikavkaz on the initiative of the command of the North Caucasian Military District for 29 officers of the 58th Army based in the region. The course was designed to implement the provisions of the Order of the Minister of the Defence of the RF on Measures to Respect IHL by the Russian Armed Forces.

A travelling exhibition, called "Humanity and War", which presents IHL, the Red Cross Movement, the ICRC and its objectives, is being shown in the regions of the North Caucasus and the South of Russia. It has already been on display in Tuapse (Krasnodar region), Nalchik (Kabardino-Balkaria), Vladikavkaz (North Ossetia), Armavir (Krasnodar region), Maykop (Adygea), Anapa (Krasnodar region) and Nevinnomyssk (Stavropol region). The latest exposition alone was attended by 4,500 people.

IHL PRESENTATIONS TO ARMED FORCES

(October 2001)

- § **Ministry of the Interior: 1 presentation - 110 soldiers, sergeants and junior officers; a 3-day seminar for 25 officers**
- § **Ministry of the Defence: 2 presentations - 210 soldiers and sergeants**
- § **Border Guards: 1 presentations - 130 soldiers and sergeants**
- § **The military chair of the North Caucasus Medical Academy: 1 presentation - 110 students**