

Vietnam

Several National Societies have given assistance to victims in the Republic of Vietnam. The *International Review* mentioned in its number of September 1966 that the Red Lion and Sun Society of Iran had sent a medical team. The Swiss Red Cross has also installed a team in that country. In addition, wishing to contribute towards improving ways of caring for sick and wounded South Vietnamese children there, it has recently had built a pediatric hospital of simple but practical design at Da-Nang. This hutment, attached to the local civilian hospital, and just completed, comprises ten dormitories, treatment rooms and dispensaries. Fixtures and fittings have been provided by UNICEF, the United Nations children's aid organization. One hundred and twenty children, previously treated in extremely bad conditions in a ramshackle hospital with poor installations, have been lodged in this new building. In accordance with the custom of the country, they are accompanied by their mothers, brothers and sisters who live in the hospital and look after them.

In order to give the best possible treatment to these young patients, the Swiss Red Cross sent out, in October 1967, a medical team consisting of a children's doctor and two nurses. This team runs the new hospital and instructs the Vietnamese medical staff.

The installation of the pediatric hospital at Da-Nang and the making available of Swiss personnel, is a useful adjunct to the work which has been carried out by the Swiss Red Cross at Kontum on the high central plateau of South Vietnam, where a medical team of ten has, since April 1966, developed the civilian hospital's surgical service and gives medical assistance to the sick living in distant mountain villages.