

## SEVENTH REGIONAL MEETING OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES IN MANAGUA

The Seventh Meeting of Presidents and Technical Personnel of North American, Mexican, Central American and Panamanian National Societies was held in Managua, from 2 to 5 May 1976. Organized by the Nicaraguan Red Cross Society and sponsored by the League of Red Cross Societies, it was a follow-up to the meeting which took place in Honduras in 1974. Delegates from the following National Societies attended: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and the United States of America. The League was represented by Dr. H. Acevedo, Head Physician, and the ICRC by Mr. C. du Plessis, Regional Delegate. The inauguration of the Nicaraguan Red Cross Society National Blood Transfusion Centre—donated by the National Societies of the United States and Spain—coincided with the Meeting and was attended by the participants who were joined by the President of the Spanish Red Cross, the Marquesa de Santa Cruz.

At the opening ceremony, Mr. Jorge A. Cárdenas, President of the Nicaraguan National Society, welcomed the delegates, several of whom then took the floor, including the ICRC representative who described the work done in Latin America by the International Committee since the Sixth Meeting. To conclude his address, he assured the delegates that the ICRC was resolved to continue its permanent activities in Latin America, particularly in Central America and the Caribbean, in the years to come. He said that the ICRC's dearest wish was to continue always co-operating with the National Societies of the region, as it had for many years, for the benefit of the Red Cross community.

Between two plenary meetings, six commissions sat: Presidents of National Societies, Voluntary Women Workers, First Aid, Disaster Relief, Health and Social Welfare. Resolutions which had been prepared at various seminars were adopted on agenda items, and it was decided that the next meeting would be held at San José, Costa Rica, in 1978.