



INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

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PRESS RELEASE

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FEDERAL COUNCILLOR ADOLF OGI VISITS ICRC

Geneva (ICRC) - Mr. Adolf Ogi, member of the Swiss Federal Council and Head of the Federal Department of Transport, Communications and Energy, today visited the headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

The Federal Councillor, accompanied by his wife and several members of his staff, was received by ICRC President Cornelio Sommaruga, members of the Committee and leading officials of the institution.

Mr. Sommaruga gave a brief overview of international humanitarian law and ICRC activities, in particular its current operation in Yugoslavia. He stressed the importance of promoting the Protocols additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and of developing international humanitarian law. He also emphasized the ICRC's excellent relations with the Federal Department of Transport, Communications and Energy, and with the Postal and Telecommunications Administration.

Mr. Ogi expressed admiration for the institution and the work of its delegates. He also assured the ICRC of Switzerland's continued support, while emphasizing the institution's independence.

During his visit, Federal Councillor Ogi also visited the ICRC's Telecommunications Centre and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum.

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The **International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)**, together with the League of the Red Cross Societies and the recognized National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, is one of the three components of the International Red Cross. An independent humanitarian institution, the ICRC is the founding body of the Red Cross. As a neutral intermediary in case of armed conflicts or disturbances, it endeavours on its own initiative or on the basis of the Geneva Conventions to protect and assist the victims of international and civil wars and of internal troubles and tensions, thereby contributing to peace in the world.