

run the risk of bombing from the air. He says that Red Cross missions should "be stationed at well-marked points away from places where troops are concentrated," and he adds - perhaps as an excuse for the shameful bombing by Italians of our Red Cross units - that "all the reports of the bombing of medical units from the air start off by being catastrophic, are then reduced by successive denials to much smaller proportions, and end up by admitting that these units were in the vicinity of military works". The President of the Italian Red Cross apparently overlooks the two bombardments of the Swedish Red Cross ambulance, which was five kilometres away from the nearest troops, and, *inter alia*, the two bombardments of No. 1 Ambulance of the Ethiopian Red Cross, which was entirely outside the town of Dagabur and, further, the bombing at Waldia, an open town containing not a single soldier, and of the Liaison Unit of Ambulances Nos. 2, 3 and 5 of the Ethiopian Red Cross. We notice also that the President of the Italian Red Cross has himself destroyed his third argument by admitting in a previous paragraph of his memorandum that "the staff of the Red Cross is not a staff which conceals itself; it is a staff which does its duty at the point where the danger is greatest and the fighting hardest and is, therefore, inevitably exposed."

It is only in a second letter, dated January 16th, attached to the Italian memorandum, that the Italian Government at last comes to deal with the question of violations of the Red Cross. But the Italian Red Cross does not reply to the questions put to it or endeavour to disprove the charges against the Italian forces of committing the violations in question: on the contrary it passes over this issue in silence, while endeavouring to impute other violations to the Ethiopian forces. There are, however, two facts in this annex which are self-evident. The first is the very small number of cases - two, in point of fact, - where the Italian Red Cross accuses the Ethiopian forces of abuse of the Red Cross emblem. The two cases seem insignificant in comparison with the now habitual violations committed by Italy. Moreover, even in the case of the two alleged violations by the Ethiopian troops, it is easy to show that the charges are without foundation.

It is certainly astonishing that the Italian Government should cite as its first case of violation of the Red Cross the bombardment of Dagabur, the very place where Italian airmen ruthlessly bombed and machine-gunned the Ethiopian Red Cross ambulance which was two kilometres away from the nearest troops. It is also astonishing that the Italian Red Cross should venture in the teeth of these established facts to assert that "the airmen abstained from firing in the vicinity of the ambulance". The Ethiopian Red Cross formally denies that "armed Ethiopians" sought shelter in the ambulance encampment, which was in fact at a distance from any bodies of troops.

As regards the second alleged violation of the Red Cross, the Italian Government asserts that to the south of Lake Ashanghi "armed Ethiopians", directly they perceived Italian aircraft, spread on the ground three large Red Crosses and collected round them. In the first place it is impossible for aircraft flying at the height from the ground at which the Italian aircraft were flying to know whether human beings