

was seriously wounded and died the following day. Dr. Hylander, the Head of the Ambulance, was also wounded. The nearest troops were 5 kilometres away. In spite of these undisputed facts, to which Dr. Hylander and the representative of the International Red Cross Committee bore witness, Italy has attempted to justify her aggression on the pretext that it was a case of reprisals for the alleged decapitation of an Italian airman. If so, it is hard to see why the Italian airmen should have directed their attacks against an ambulance of the Swedish Red Cross, which was a very long way from the place where the alleged decapitation is said to have taken place. Realising the weakness of its argument, the Italian Government subsequently asserted that only one bomb was dropped. But authentic evidence is available to prove that no fewer than 100 bombs were dropped on the Ambulance. The Italian Government also avers that the bombing was a matter of pure chance. The 450 machine-gun bullet holes in the operating tent made by shots fired at a height of 200 metres, and the fact that there were no troops within a radius of 5 kilometres that could have been the object of the bombing, are sufficient to refute such a contention. The Ethiopian Red Cross need not dwell further on these details, an official report of the attack having been drawn up by one of the representatives of the International Red Cross Committee in Ethiopia. The Ethiopian Red Cross ventures to express a hope that this report will be published and communicated to all national Red Cross societies.

On the same day when these atrocities were committed three Italian aeroplanes flew over and bombarded the Egyptian Red Crescent ambulance at Bulalé and again on the following day, December 31st. Five bombs were dropped near the Ambulance on the first occasion, the farthest being 100 metres away.

Quite oblivious to the disgust created by these attacks on December 30th, the Italian aeroplanes proceeded on January 4th following, i.e. five days later, to bombard No.1 Ambulance of the Ethiopian Red Cross at Dagabur, which consisted of one Egyptian medical officer, one Egyptian orderly, two English attendants and Ethiopian stretcher-bearers. After dropping their bombs the airmen machine-gunned the Ambulance in question. At least fifty bombs were thrown, not only on the Ambulance itself but also on the personnel which had taken shelter in the trenches at a distance from the Ambulance. The pince-nez of one of the doctors which he was holding when he jumped into a trench was pierced by a shell splinter. The Ethiopian Red Cross is in a position to assert that the Ambulance was 2 kilometres away from the town bombed and not near any collection of soldiers; furthermore, no shots were fired from the site of the Ambulance at the aeroplanes before, during or after the bombing.

On January 15th the Liaison Unit of Ambulances No.2, 3 and 5 of the Ethiopian Red Cross was bombed at Waldia. Though there were troops outside Waldia, which is an open town, there were none near the unit nor in the town which was also bombed on the same occasion and on several occasions later.

Three days after this bombardment, i.e. on January 18th, No.3 Ambulance of the Ethiopian Red Cross was bombed south of Makale.