



Reference Number: **2016.0057**

Collection/Series Title: **INTERNATIONAL PROJECT FILES**

Creator	Australian Red Cross Society, National Office
Creator's Activity/Occupation	Community organisations - Charities

Creator's Historical Note

Note: University of Melbourne Archives holds records of the Australian Red Cross National Office and the Victorian Division of the Australian Red Cross. Records of other state Divisions are not held by the University of Melbourne.

Red Cross began in Australia on the 13th August 1914 in response to the start of the First World War nine days earlier. Modelled on the British Red Cross Society and initially established as a branch of that Society, it formed at the instigation of Lady Helen Munro Ferguson, wife of the Governor-General. Vice-regal patronage and a predominantly female membership continued to be features of the Red Cross throughout the twentieth century. The Australian society was recognised by the International Committee of the Red Cross as a national society in its own right in 1927 and was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1941.

In keeping with the international Red Cross movement of which it is a part, and the Geneva Conventions which govern and vest its wartime role, the Australian Red Cross primary objectives are to alleviate human suffering and protect life and health, especially during armed conflicts and other emergency situations. Principles of humanity, impartiality and voluntary service guide its programs, which have evolved over the years in response to international and domestic needs.

The organisations development throughout the twentieth century has been extensively documented (see references at the end of this note), however the following points may assist researchers wishing to use Red Cross records held by the University of Melbourne Archives.

The organisations initial structure, still largely in place in the early 21st century, included three tiers of administration and activity. Its National Headquarters (later known as National Office) has been based in Melbourne since 1914. Divisions were established in all states and territories, most of them within weeks of the formation of the national body, and these operated with substantial autonomy until at least the 1950s and continued to be the locus of much of the organisations emergency and social services program delivery beyond this date. A Papua New Guinea Division also operated between 1940 and 1973 and subsequently became an independent national society. The third tier of the Red Cross is the extensive network of local branches which also commenced during World War I. These have been particularly active in wartime and it is through these branches that large numbers of Australians engage with and support the work of the Red Cross.

The scope and dates of operation of some distinctive Red Cross programs are:

Voluntary Aid Detachments (VADs, later known as Voluntary Aid Service Corps or VACs) were first formed in 1915 to provide nursing and domestic services in Australian military hospitals and convalescent homes. In peacetime this largely female volunteer labour force has assisted during natural disasters and other emergencies. As an organisational entity VACs were phased out by the 1970s, however volunteer service continues to be integral to the organisation's delivery of many of its programs.

Services to trace the whereabouts of missing and wounded service personnel were also first established in 1915. These services operated during both World Wars and after World War II evolved into services for tracing civilians displaced from their homelands in the aftermath of war and civil unrest. By the 1960s, with the growth of Red Cross role in disaster management, registration and enquiry services were set up to respond to inquiries about people displaced by natural disaster. The units responsible for this work and have been variously known as the Wounded and Missing Inquiry Bureau, Tracing Bureau, and the National Registration and Inquiry System. Like many Red Cross programs, administration of tracing services has gradually been centralised from state Divisions to national management. Note that Wounded and Missing Enquiry Bureau records from World War I are held by the Australian War Memorial.

Blood transfusion services were first established in 1929 in the Victorian Division and soon after in other states. These continued to be primarily state based services until 1996 although during the Second World War a level of national coordination was introduced to facilitate the supply of blood to the armed forces. In 1996, largely in response to the AIDS epidemic, the divisional services were amalgamated to form the Australian Red Cross Blood Service, a separate operating division of the Australian Red Cross.

References and Further Information

Melanie Oppenheimer: *The Power of Humanity: 100 Years of Australian Red Cross 1914-2014* (Sydney, Harper Collins, 2014)

Australian Red Cross web site: www.redcross.org.au (accessed June 2015)

Australian Red Cross Blood Service web site: <http://www.donateblood.com.au/about-us> (accessed June 2015)

Australian Red Cross has donated 100 years of archives to the University of Melbourne:

<http://www.redcross.org.au/gift-to-the-nation.aspx> (accessed June 2015)

Australian War Memorial, First World War Red Cross Wounded and Missing Files:

https://www.awm.gov.au/people/roll-search/wounded_and_missing/

Australian Womens Register entry for the Australian Red Cross:

<http://www.womenaustralia.info/biogs/AWE0715b.htm> (accessed June 2015). See also Register entries for individual women prominent within the Red Cross.

Date Range of Collection/Series	1954-2005
Size/Extent	7 units (1.19m)
Access Conditions	Access: Open

Scope and Content of Collection/Series

[Red Cross Archives series reference: N017]

Comprises files relating to international projects where the Australian Red Cross responded to a humanitarian crises by providing assistance in the development of health plans; engineering and technical support in medical building projects; medical expertise and equipment; logistical advice regarding agriculture, water resources and sanitation. Other programs include health education programmes; first aid; the prevention of STDs; care and counselling for HIV/AIDS infections; English language programs; refugee support at transit camps and services for displaced and vulnerable persons. These programmes were managed by the Australian Red Cross, National Office - International Department. See also: Reports on project impacts in Africa and the Asia Pacific and Region <http://www.redcross.org.au/program-impact.aspx>
<http://www.womenaustralia.info/biogs/AWE0722b.htm>

These files typically contain legal agreements, correspondence, memoranda, studies, interim and final project reports including financial expenditure, publications, posters; some files contain photographs of project progress. Project locations include - but is not limited to - Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Kenya, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Botswana, Nigeria, Burundi, Senegal, Rwanda, Zaire, Sudan, Libya, Mauritania, Mali, Sri Lanka, India, Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Indonesia, China, Nepal, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Bougainville, East Timor, Panama, Lebanon, Afghanistan and East-Jerusalem.

Researchers should note that under the Geneva Conventions Act 1957 protections govern the use of the Red Cross emblem. For further information see Archives staff.

2016.0057: INTERNATIONAL PROJECT FILES		The University of Melbourne Archives
Collection Category	Community and Political, organisations	
This document dated	6/04/2017	

Unit/Box	Item Number	Title	Date Range
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00001	Tanzania ARC International Project	1977
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00002	Sri Lanka International Project	1979
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00003	Aids for the handicapped, International Project Fiji	1981
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00004	International Project Ethiopia (A disaster Study)	1984
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00005	Ethiopia - Report on visit and development plan	1986-1989
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00006	Child Alive, International Project	1985
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00007	The Winning Hand, International Project	1986
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00008	Botswana Red Cross Youth Project	1987
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00009	The New Road of Life, International Project	1988
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00010	Surgery for survival, International Project Ethiopia	1991
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00011	A partnership for better health, International Project Cambodia	1993
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00012	Halpim Pikinini (Helping Children) International Project Papua New Guinea	1994
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00013	Helping Hands: Reach out for PNG, International Project	1995
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00014	Panama First Aid and Training Project	1991-1994
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00015	Vietnam Project - National Health Education	1991-1996
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00016	Vietnam Project - Vocational Training for Handicapped	1992-1996
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00017	Relief team - Indo-China [Vietnam]	1954
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00018	Bougainville Project - Displaced Villagers, Contracts	1992
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00019	Senegal Project - Agricultural Development Project, Thiemping	1992-1996
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00020	Nigeria - Water resources and sanitation education	1993-1995
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00021	Burundi Project - Community Health	1993-1996
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00022	Bare Hands and compassionate hearts, ARC responds to AIDs in Asia	1997
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00023	Bare Hands and compassionate hearts /2, ARC responds to AIDs in Asia	2001
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00024	Partnerships to an HIV/AIDS response in Asia	2000
2016.0057 Unit 1	2016.0057.00025	Operation Crossroads, International Project Malaysia	1989
2016.0057 Unit 2	2016.0057.00026	Completion Report - Oudong District Health Service Development Project	31 March 1999
2016.0057 Unit 2	2016.0057.00027	Assistance to Vietnamese boat people at Sungei Besi Camp, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	1992-1994
2016.0057 Unit 2	2016.0057.00028	Participative HIV/AIDS/STD's Peer Education program - Laos	1992-1995
2016.0057 Unit 2	2016.0057.00029	Commune and Village-Level Health Services Survey and Infrastructure Support Project - Cambodia	1992-1996
2016.0057 Unit 2	2016.0057.00030	Oudong District Hospital - Technical Assistance Project (TAP), Cambodia	1992-1996
2016.0057 Unit 2	2016.0057.00031	Assistance to Vietnamese boat people at the Cheras Transit Camp, Malaysia	1993
2016.0057 Unit 2	2016.0057.00032	Vietnamese Boat People English Language Program, Malaysia	1994
2016.0057 Unit 2	2016.0057.00033	Greater Mekong Sub-Regional HIV/AIDS Network	1994-1996
2016.0057 Unit 2	2016.0057.00034	Myanmar HIV/AIDS Peer Education Program	1994-1997
2016.0057 Unit 2	2016.0057.00035	Myanmar HIV/AIDS Youth Peer Education Program and associated projects	1994-1997
2016.0057 Unit 2	2016.0057.00036	Meeting of ARC delegates working on HIV/AIDS projects in Southeast Asia	1995
2016.0057 Unit 3	2016.0057.00037	CDC - Vietnam participatory HIV/AIDS prevention, counselling and care project	1993-1998
2016.0057 Unit 3	2016.0057.00038	Hospital Engineering Project, Cambodia	1994-1997
2016.0057 Unit 3	2016.0057.00039	HIV/AIDS Youth Peer Education Program, Yunnan, China	1994-1998
2016.0057 Unit 3	2016.0057.00040	East Jerusalem YMCA Rehabilitation Program, completion report	May 1997-June 1998
2016.0057 Unit 3	2016.0057.00041	Technical and social rehabilitation of rural water supplies, N215/03: Aid - Rwanda and Zaire	1997
2016.0057 Unit 3	2016.0057.00042	Medical Equipment for Health Centres, Lebanon	1998
2016.0057 Unit 3	2016.0057.00043	Project Reports - ICRC Orthopaedic Program Cambodia, EOL: N215/004	June 1997
2016.0057 Unit 3	2016.0057.00044	Famine Sickness - Let's cure it. A manual written by Noel Flint	1968-1969
2016.0057 Unit 3	2016.0057.00045	India Earthquake Gujarat Eol (05978/42)	2001
2016.0057 Unit 3	2016.0057.00046	HIV/AIDS Programme Strategic Plan East & South East Asia	2000-2003
2016.0057 Unit 3	2016.0057.00047	OTC Phone-A-Friend Project	1985
2016.0057 Unit 3	2016.0057.00048	ARC Greater Involvement of Vulnerable People Workshop Rayong Thailand	28 August 2000-30 August 2000
2016.0057 Unit 3	2016.0057.00049	End of Mission Report Kabul Afghanistan	September 1992-December 1992
2016.0057 Unit 3	2016.0057.00050	Official Record of the Unveiling of the Mount Lamington Memorial Popondetta Cemetery, Papua	1954
2016.0057 Unit 4	2016.0057.00051	Report on relief action in Mbaise Division, Owerri Area, Nigeria	February 1970-April 1970

2016.0057 Unit 4	2016.0057.00052	Completion Report	1 February 1999-31 January 2000
2016.0057 Unit 4	2016.0057.00053	Completion Report - Participative HIV/AIDS/STD's Peer Education Extension Program	1 December 1997-31 March 1999
2016.0057 Unit 4	2016.0057.00054	Assignment in Ethiopia - Public Relations Consultant	25 November 1973-7 December 1973
2016.0057 Unit 4	2016.0057.00055	Visit to Africa (Sudan, Libya, Mauritania + Mali)	September 1985-October 1985
2016.0057 Unit 4	2016.0057.00056	Reports on visits to Zimbabwe, Tanzania + Kenya	March 1985
2016.0057 Unit 4	2016.0057.00057	Report on visit to Ethiopia and a development plan	1986-1989
2016.0057 Unit 4	2016.0057.00058	Final Report for IPSS - Greater Mekong Sub-Regional HIV/AIDS	1996
2016.0057 Unit 4	2016.0057.00059	PNG Red Cross BTS Development Projects - Final Report and Additional Information	April 1997
2016.0057 Unit 4	2016.0057.00060	PNG Red Cross BTS Development Projects - Final Report	April 1997
2016.0057 Unit 4	2016.0057.00061	Correspondence relating to Bougainville (PNG) Crisis	1991-1992
2016.0057 Unit 4	2016.0057.00062	Report on the Expenditure of Aust Govt for Red Cross Development Programmes in the Pacific	1990-1994
2016.0057 Unit 4	2016.0057.00063	End of Mission Report Indonesia	19 November 2004-31 January 2005
2016.0057 Unit 5	2016.0057.00064	East Timor - Red Cross Involvement	1975-1983
2016.0057 Unit 5	2016.0057.00065	Kampuchea/Thailand Medical Team Reports (1)	1980
2016.0057 Unit 5	2016.0057.00066	Kampuchea/Thailand Medical Team Reports (2)	1980-1981
2016.0057 Unit 5	2016.0057.00067	Kampuchea/Thailand Medical Team Reports (3)	1980-1982
2016.0057 Unit 5	2016.0057.00068	International Project Nepal	1980
2016.0057 Unit 5	2016.0057.00069	International Project Nepal (Community Based Health Project)	1983
2016.0057 Unit 5	2016.0057.00070	Nepal Development - Nala and Kirtipur Projects	1984-1987
2016.0057 Unit 5	2016.0057.00071	Assistance at Oudong Hospital, Cambodia	1990-1993
2016.0057 Unit 5	2016.0057.00072	How We Know What's Working - Evaluation of the Lao Red Cross HIV/AIDS/STD Program	1998-1999
2016.0057 Unit 5	2016.0057.00073	Delegate Information Pack (Mission Guidelines) - Disease and Infection	2000-2002
2016.0057 Unit 5	2016.0057.00074	Guidelines for Support Groups - Project Office in Hanoi	June 2003
2016.0057 Unit 5	2016.0057.00075	Reducing Household Vulnerability to HIV/AIDS	2003-2005
2016.0057 Unit 5	2016.0057.00076	HIV/AIDS - Asia Pacific Regional Programs	May 2004
2016.0057 Unit 5	2016.0057.00077	Access for All - Asia Pacific HIV/AIDS Program	January 2004
2016.0057 Unit 6	2016.0057.00078	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital - Report on project to reconstruct and upgrade the Kompong Speu Provincial Hospital, Kampuchea	1986
2016.0057 Unit 6	2016.0057.00079	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital Correspondence I.C.R.C. Geneva	1985-1990
2016.0057 Unit 6	2016.0057.00080	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital Reports	1986-1987
2016.0057 Unit 6	2016.0057.00081	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital Reports	1987-1988
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2016.0057 Unit 6	2016.0057.00083	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital, Correspondence, NT ICRC direct & NT Singapore direct	1986-1987
2016.0057 Unit 6	2016.0057.00084	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital, Correspondence, Correspondence ICRC Bangkok / Phnom Penh	1986-1990
2016.0057 Unit 6	2016.0057.00085	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital Correspondence Croix Rouge Kampuchea	1986-1989
2016.0057 Unit 6	2016.0057.00086	Kampuchea (Kompong Speu Hospital Project) Records/Correspondence	1991-1992
2016.0057 Unit 6	2016.0057.00087	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital Correspondence	1991
2016.0057 Unit 7	2016.0057.00088	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital I.C.R.C. Kamreps	1986-1988
2016.0057 Unit 7	2016.0057.00089	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital Reports/Information	1986-1989
2016.0057 Unit 7	2016.0057.00090	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital Correspondence General	1986-1990
2016.0057 Unit 7	2016.0057.00091	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital Index and memorandums	1987-1988
2016.0057 Unit 7	2016.0057.00092	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital Agreement	1988
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2016.0057 Unit 7	2016.0057.00094	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital Secretary General's Visit	1984
2016.0057 Unit 7	2016.0057.00095	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital Correspondence - League	1984-1985
2016.0057 Unit 7	2016.0057.00096	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital Reports - ICRC/Maryon - Medical Team	1984-1990
2016.0057 Unit 7	2016.0057.00097	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital - Examples of agreements with Croix Rouge Kampuchea	1985-1986
2016.0057 Unit 7	2016.0057.00098	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital Millward - includes reports	1985-1987
2016.0057 Unit 7	2016.0057.00099	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital - Education Kit	1987
2016.0057 Unit 7	2016.0057.00100	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital Medical Team	1988-1990

2016.0057 Unit 7	2016.0057.00101	Kampuchea - Kompong Speu Hospital - Newspaper Clippings	1989
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