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THE AGENCY'S GAZETTE

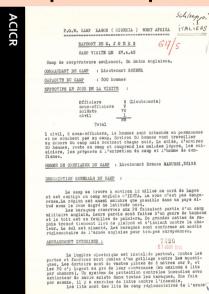
1870-2020

150 YEARS FIGHTING FOR MORE HUMANITY IN WAR

27 April 1945, the first time in...

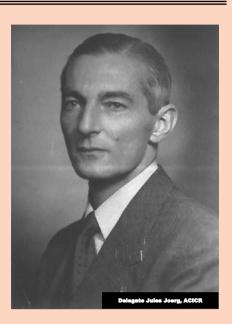
... Nigeria

delayed visit | Switzer-land regularly sent officials to inspect prisoner-of-war camps holding Italians in Nigeria, as the country served as the protecting power for Italy in the British Empire during the war. This explains why the ICRC did not send delegates to the camps until the end of April 1945. When they did, Jules Joerg was sent to a camp near Lagos to visit around one hundred Italian prisoners who had been captured in Ethlopia. All of



Delegate Jules Joerg's report after his visit to the Italian prisoners of war in Lagos

them were soldiers, except for one civilian, a former prosthetist-orthotist at an Addis Ababa hospital who had continued making artificial limbs. Overall, Joerg was very impressed with the camp. This may have been because prisoners were given 35 free cigarettes every week and every six months got a week off!



acaroni and English lessons | Food was abundant, and the cooks were given enough flour to make pasta every day. A glance at the menu auick showed that macaroni served with every meal! The only fly in the ointment was the lack of books in Italian. The detaining authorities tried to make up for this by providing English lessons, but the prisoners were so unenthusiastic about learning the language that eventually the lessons were cancelled.

■ IME, DPM & DGON

