

I. Collection of information

The tracing service must endeavour to gather in the shortest possible time from appropriate bodies all information that may be necessary for replying to requests for news submitted to it.

Nature of information to be obtained :

- a) **in the case of displaced persons and refugees** (mass movements of inhabitants following disasters and military or political upheavals)

Surname :

First names :

Place and date of birth :

Previous domicile :

Present address :

Maiden name and surname of wife :

Names of children :

Are the wife and children at present living together with the head of the family ?

State of health :

- b) **in the case of military prisoners, internees or civilian detainees**

Military prisoners	Internees or civilian detainees
surname	surname
first names	first names
first names of father *	first names of father
place and date of birth *	place and date of birth
rank and serial number	profession
	previous domicile
date and place of capture	date and place of capture or arrest (on what charge)
place of detention	place of detention or imprisonment
state of health	state of health

Military prisoners

place and date of entry into hospital

transfer to another place of detention

death : place, date and cause of death

place and date of burial

date of release

family address *

* (subject to article 17 of the Third Geneva Convention, which provides that prisoners may refuse to give information on their place of birth and family)

Internees or civilian detainees

place and date of entry into hospital

transfer to another place of detention

death : place, date and cause of death

place and date of burial

date of release

family address

(for women, indicate date, place of birth and name of children born during the mother's detention)

(The National Society's tracing service may find it well worthwhile to carry out itself the registration of displaced persons by training suitable teams at the collecting centres to fill in descriptive identification cards containing the data listed above.)

Note. Descriptive identification cards made out for persons displaced owing to natural disasters are to be filed in the tracing service's card-index. This does not apply to capture cards filled in by military prisoners and internment cards entered by civilian internees; these must be sent direct to the ICRC Central Tracing Agency.