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Nota di contenuto	BETWEEN BOMBS AND GOOD INTENTIONS; CONTENTS; FOREWORD; PREFACE; INTRODUCTION; 1. SWITZERLAND, THE ICRC AND THE RED CROSS MOVEMENT AT THE TIME OF THE ITALO-ETHIOPIAN WAR; 2. AN AFRICAN SOLFERINO: THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL RELIEF OPERATION IN ETHIOPIA; 3. RED CROSS WORK CHALLENGED: THE RESPECT OF THE EMBLEM; 4. THE HEART OF THE MATTER: ENSURING THE PROTECTION OF THE EMBLEM; 5. PRISONERS OF WAR: PROPAGANDA PREVAILS OVER REALITY; 6. 'RAIN THAT KILLS': THE ICRC AND FASCIST ITALY'S CHEMICAL WARFARE; SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION; APPENDICES; BIBLIOGRAPHY; INDEX
Sommario/riassunto	The wars in Afghanistan and Iraq have highlighted again the precarious situation aid agencies find themselves in, caught as they are between the firing lines of the hostile parties, as they are trying to alleviate the plight of the civilian populations. This book offers an illuminating case study from a previous conflict, the Italo-Ethiopian war of 1935-36, and of the humanitarian operation of the Red Cross during this period. Based on fresh material from Red Cross and Italian military archives, the author examines highly controversial subjects such as the Italian bombings of Red Cross field hospitals, the treatment of Prisoners of War by the two belligerents; and the effects of Fascist Italy's massive use of poison gas against the Ethiopians. He shows how Mussolini and his ruthless regime, throughout the seven-month war, manipulated the

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) – the lead organization of the Red Cross in times of war, helped by the surprising political naïveté of its board. During this war the ICRC redefined its role in a debate, which is fascinating not least because of its relevance to current events, about the nature of humanitarian action. The organization decided to concern itself exclusively with matters falling under the Geneva Conventions and to give priority to bringing relief over expressing protest. It was a decision that should have far-reaching consequences, particularly for the period of World War II and the fate of Jews in Nazi concentration camps.

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Sommario/riassunto

Communications Medicine is a selective open access journal from Nature Research publishing high-quality research, reviews and commentary across all clinical, translational and public health research fields. Primary research papers published by the journal represent significant advances in preventing, diagnosing or treating human disease of relevance to a specialized field. The journal is equally interested in publishing in well-established as well as emerging areas of medicine and public health.
