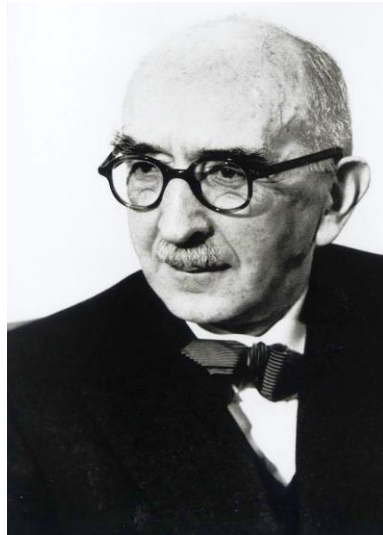


A BRIEF HISTORY OF BAYERISCHES ROTES KREUZ

The origin and subsequent history of the Bayerisches Rotes Kreuz is unclear. From available postal history it is evident that it was an entity throughout WWI and beyond. As one of the principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent movement is that there can only be one such organisation in each nation, and, though The Bavarian Red Cross is one of the largest rescue service providers in Bavaria, Germany and Western Europe, functionally it is a subdivision of the national association.

The German Red Cross was re-established in 1950 with a federal structure and as a registered association. The federation has a General Secretariat, 19 national associations, association sisterhoods as well as district federations, district associations and local associations.

In July 1945, the then Bavarian Prime Minister Fritz Schäffer (* 1888 – † 1967) awarded the BRK recognition as a corporation. The Bavarian Red Cross is the only national association that is a public corporation.



Adalbert Prince of Bavaria (**Adalbert** Alfons Maria Ascension Antonius Hubertus Joseph omnes sancti Prinz von Bayern) (* 1886 – † 1970). 1945 – c.1947, he was the first President of the reconstituted Bayerisches Rotes Kreuz. He was an historian, author and a German Ambassador to Spain.



Princess Pilar of Bavaria (**Maria del Pilar Eulalia Antonia Isabella Ludovika Franziska Josepha Rita Euphrasia von Wittelsbach**, princess of Bavaria) (* 1891 – † 1987) . She was co-author of a 1932 biography, *Every Inch a King*, about her cousin King Alfonso XIII of Spain. Princess Pilar was also an artist and headed the Bavarian branch of the German Red Cross for circa 40 years. She never married and died without issue.

