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1907.

ACCESSION

OF

TURKEY

TO THE

CONVENTION SIGNED AT GENEVA,
JULY 6, 1906, FOR THE
AMELIORATION OF THE CONDITION OF
THE WOUNDED AND SICK IN ARMIES
IN THE FIELD.

August 24, 1907.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November 1907.*

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No. 1.

The Swiss Chargé d'Affaires to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received
September 10.)

*Légation de Suisse, Londres,
le 9 Septembre, 1907.*

M. le Secrétaire d'État,

PAR note du 24 Août dernier, dont une copie est annexée à la présente, le Gouvernement Impérial Ottoman a informé le Conseil Fédéral Suisse que la Turquie adhéraît à la Convention de Genève du 6 Juillet, 1906, pour l'amélioration du sort des blessés et malades dans les armées en campagne, sous la réserve qu'elle se servira dans ses armées de l'emblème du croissant rouge pour protéger ses ambulances.

Il est bien entendu toutefois, ajoute la note précitée, que le Gouvernement Impérial Ottoman respectera scrupuleusement l'inviolabilité du drapeau de la Croix Rouge.

Les États représentés à la Deuxième Conférence de la Paix ayant dernièrement admis que la Turquie pourrait employer le croissant rouge et la Perse le lion et le soleil comme signes distinctifs du service sanitaire de leurs armées dans les guerres sur mer, le Conseil Fédéral estime qu'il y a lieu d'accorder à ces Puissances la même faculté pour les guerres sur terre.

En portant, sur l'ordre de mon Gouvernement, ce qui précède à la connaissance de votre Excellence, je lui serais fort obligé de vouloir bien consentir à m'en donner acte, et je vous prie, &c.

(Signé) PROBST.

(Translation.)

*Swiss Legation, London,
September 9, 1907.*

M. le Secrétaire d'État,

BY a note dated the 24th August last, of which a copy is annexed hereto, the Impérial Ottoman Government informed the

Swiss Federal Council that Turkey acceded to the Geneva Convention of the 6th July, 1906, for the amelioration of the condition of the wounded and sick in armies in the field, with the reservation that she would use in her armies the emblem of the red crescent for the protection of her ambulances.

The note referred to adds that it is nevertheless well understood that the Imperial Ottoman Government will scrupulously respect the inviolability of the Red Cross flag.

The States represented at the Second Peace Conference having recently admitted the use of the red crescent by Turkey and of the lion and sun by Persia as distinctive emblems of the sanitary service of their armies in naval warfare, the Federal Council conceive that it is necessary to accord to these Powers the same faculty as regards war upon land.

In informing your Excellency, by direction of my Government, of the preceding, I should be obliged by receiving from you an acknowledgment of the same, and I beg, &c.

(Signed) PROBST.

Inclosure in No. 1.

Tevfik Pasha to the President of the Swiss Confederation.

*Sublime Porte, Ministère des Affaires
Étrangères, le 24 Août, 1907.*

M. le Président,

D'ORDRE de Sa Majesté Impériale, mon auguste Souverain, je viens informer votre Excellence que le Gouvernement Impérial adhère à la Convention pour l'amélioration du sort des blessés et malades dans les armées en campagne, conclue à Genève le 6 Juillet, 1906, sous la réserve qu'il se servira dans ses armées de l'emblème du croissant rouge pour protéger ses ambulances.

Il est bien entendu, toutefois, que le Gouvernement Impérial respectera scrupuleusement l'inviolabilité du drapeau de la Croix Rouge.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) TEVFIK.

(Translation.)

*Sublime Porte, Ministry for Foreign
Affairs, August 24, 1907.*

M. le Président,

BY command of His Imperial Majesty, my august Sovereign, I beg to inform your Excellency that the Imperial Government accede to the Convention for the amelioration of the condition of the wounded and sick in armies in the field, concluded at Geneva the 6th July, 1906, with the reservation that their armies will make use of the emblem of the red crescent for the protection of their ambulances.

It is nevertheless well understood that the Imperial Government will scrupulously respect the inviolability of the Red Cross flag.

Accept, &c.
(Signed) TEVFIK.

No. 2:

Sir Edward Grey to the Swiss Chargé d'Affaires.

Sir, *Foreign Office, October 12, 1907.*
I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 9th instant, stating that on the 24th ultimo Turkey notified its accession to the Geneva Convention of the 6th July, 1906, for the amelioration of the condition of the wounded and sick in armies in the field, with the reservation that the emblem of the red crescent would be used for the protection of Turkish ambulances.

You add that, in view of the fact that the States represented at the Second Peace Conference have recognized the right of Turkey and Persia to make use respectively of the red crescent and the lion and sun as distinctive signs for the sanitary service of their armies in naval warfare, the Swiss Federal Council are of opinion that the same faculty must be accorded to them as regards warfare on land.

I have taken due note of this communication, and have, &c.
(Signed) E. GREY.
