

7. If you agree, I should be grateful if you would sign the attached despatch† to the Head of the Canadian Delegation to the World Health Assembly.⁹⁸

J.W. HOLMES

SECTION J

CONFÉRENCE DIPLOMATIQUE SUR LA PROTECTION DES VICTIMES DE LA GUERRE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE FOR THE PROTECTION OF VICTIMS OF WAR

259.

PCO/Vol. 124

*Note du secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
pour le Cabinet*

*Memorandum from Secretary of State for External Affairs
to Cabinet*

Ottawa, March 26, 1949

SUBJECT: REVISED AND NEW CONVENTIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF VICTIMS OF WAR

At the invitation of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Canada participated in an International Conference of government experts in Geneva in April, 1947, for the purpose of preparing:

(a) A revision of "The Convention (revised) for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick of Armies in the Field" concluded at Geneva, July 27, 1929.

(b) A revision of "The Convention Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War" concluded at Geneva, July 27, 1929.

(c) A revision of "The Convention (Xth Hague) for the Adaptation of Maritime Warfare to the Principles of the Geneva Convention" signed at The Hague, October 18, 1907.

(d) A draft text of a new Convention entitled "A Convention for the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War".

Canada is a signatory to the three Conventions referred to in (a), (b) and (c).

2. Following the Geneva Conference, the resolutions and amendments proposed by the government experts were consolidated into revised texts which were submitted to the XVIIth International Conference of the Red Cross at Stockholm in August, 1948. Canada sent a Delegation to that Conference which further revised the texts of these Conventions.

3. The Swiss Government invited Canada to a Diplomatic Conference to open in Geneva on April 21, 1949, for the purpose of preparing the final texts. Participating governments will also be asked to sign the new Conventions. On February 25,

⁹⁸ Note marginale aux paragraphes 6 et 7: /Marginal note to paragraphs 6 and 7:
I agree A H[eeney]