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COLLECTION CICR

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Council of Delegates

Geneva, 3 October 1979

**Report on signatures,
ratifications and accessions
to the Protocols additional
to the Geneva Conventions**

**(pursuant to Resolution III of the
Twenty-third International
Red Cross Conference)**

(Provisional agenda item 4.2)

Interim report submitted by the
International Committee of the Red Cross

Geneva, August 1979

REPORT ON SIGNATURES, RATIFICATIONS AND ACCESSIONS
TO THE PROTOCOLS ADDITIONAL TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS

The Twenty-third International Red Cross Conference, in Resolution III - the text of which may be found in document CD/3/2 - after noting that the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law applicable in Armed Conflicts had concluded its work, expressed the wish that the Protocols be signed and ratified or acceded to as soon as possible so that they might become as universally accepted as the Geneva Conventions.

In the meantime, the following events have occurred:

1. Six months after the signing of the Final Act, the two Protocols were opened for a period of twelve months, i.e. from 12 December 1977 to 12 December 1978, for signature by the 145 parties to the Conventions. During those twelve months, 62 States signed Protocol I and 58 Protocol II.

As a State may accede to both Protocols without being a signatory, one State did so.

2. The two Protocols came into force on 7 December 1978, six months after deposit of two instruments of ratification or accession (ratification by Ghana and accession by Libyan Arab Jamahiriya).
3. Thereupon, the ICRC appealed to all governments of States parties to the Geneva Conventions to become parties to the Protocols. It stated, inter alia:
"By becoming parties to the Protocols, by ratification or accession, governments will demonstrate the importance which they attach to a better observance throughout the world of the fundamental rules of Geneva and will at the same time manifest their determination to ensure that they are implemented. Thereby, they will respond to the desire of the peoples to see the universal acceptance of guarantees which are essential for mankind".
4. By 30 June 1979, eight States were parties to Protocols I and II and one State was a party to Protocol I only. Annex I to this report is a list of States signatories to the Protocols, and annex II a list of States parties to the Protocols as of 30 June 1979.

List of the 62 States signatories to the Protocols
to the Geneva Conventions

Australia	Iceland	Poland
Austria	Iran	Portugal
Belgium	Ireland	Romania
Bulgaria	Italy	St. Marino
Byelorussia	Ivory Coast	Senegal
Canada	Jordan	Spain
Chile	Korea (Rep.)	Sweden
*Cyprus	Laos	Switzerland
Czechoslovakia	Liechtenstein	Togo
Denmark	Luxembourg	Tunisia
Ecuador	Madagascar	Ukraine
Egypt	Mongolia	United Kingdom
El Salvador	Morocco	United States
Finland	Netherlands	Upper Volta
German Dem. Rep.	Nicaragua	U.S.S.R.
Germany (Fed. Rep.)	New Zealand	*Viet Nam
Ghana	Niger	Yemen (Arab Rep.)
*Greece	Norway	Yugoslavia
Guatemala	Pakistan	
Holy See	Panama	
Honduras	Peru	
hungary	*Philippines	

* Signatories to Protocol I only.
(58 States have signed both).

Annex II

Nine States parties to the 1977 Protocols
as at 30.6.1979

Botswana
*Cyprus
Ecuador
El Salvador
Ghana
Jordan
Libya
Niger
Yugoslavia

*Party to Protocol I only.