

[PROCLAMATION NO. 258, February 16, 1956]

**MAKING PUBLIC THE GENEVA CONVENTION FOR THE
AMELIORATION OF THE CONDITION OF THE WOUNDED, SICK,
AND SHIPWRECKED MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES AT SEA OF
AUGUST 12, 1949.**

WHEREAS, the Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded, Sick, and Shipwrecked Members of the Armed Forces at Sea of August 12, 1949, was signed by the authorized representatives of the Philippines and of other countries;

WHEREAS, the Convention provides, among others, that members of the Armed Forces and other persons covered by the Convention shall be treated humanely and cared for by the Parties to the conflict in whose powers they may be, without any adverse distinction founded on sex, race, nationality, religion, political opinion, or any other similar criteria; that Parties to the conflict shall forward to the information bureau described in Article 122 of the Geneva Convention of August 12, 1949, relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of war, all record in respect of each shipwrecked, wounded and sick or dead person of the adverse party falling into their hands; that military hospital ships built and equipped by the Powers especially and solely with a view to assisting the wounded, sick and shipwrecked, to treating and transporting them may in no circumstances be attacked or captured; that religious, medical, and hospital personnel of hospital ships and their crews shall be respected and protected;

WHEREAS, the present Convention replaces the 10th Hague Convention of October 18, 1907, for the adaptation to Maritime Warfare of the principles of the Geneva Convention of 1906, in relations between the High Contracting Parties;

WHEREAS, the Senate of the Congress of the Philippines, by its Resolution No. 80 adopted on May 2, 1952, concurred in the ratification of the aforesaid Convention in accordance with the Constitution of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the instrument of ratification of the Republic of the Philippines was signed by the President on August 21, 1952, and deposited on October 6, 1952, with the Swiss Government; and,

WHEREAS, the said Convention entered into force for the Philippines six months after the said deposit of its instrument of ratification, in accordance with Article 57 thereof;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it known that I, Ramon Magsaysay, President of the Philippines, do hereby proclaim and make public the said Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded, Sick, and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea of August 12, 1949, a copy of which is hereto attached, to the end that the same and every clause and article thereof may be observed and fulfilled with good faith by the Republic of the Philippines and the citizens thereof.