

Office of Public Information and International Activities Committee of the New York State Chapter of the American Red Cross, Westchester County.

The ICRC was also privileged to receive several groups of visitors including Congolese students, on grants from the United Nations in Geneva, students from the School of Social Studies which has its headquarters in Geneva, and German students attending the Begeman School in Geneva.

## GENEVA CONVENTIONS

The International Committee of the Red Cross has received from the Federal Political Department in Berne, duly certified copies of the instruments by which the Governments of Paraguay and Colombia have ratified the Geneva Conventions of 1949. These two ratifications will take effect on April 23, 1962 for Paraguay and on May 8, 1962 in the case of Colombia.

Furthermore, the Republic of Upper Volta has confirmed to the Federal Political Department the participation of that State in the Geneva Conventions, by virtue of their having been ratified by France on June 28, 1951. That State has therefore been bound by these agreements since acceding to independence, namely on August 5, 1960.

The Governments of Dahomey, Ivory Coast and Togoland have also for their part declared the Geneva Conventions to be applicable to these three Republics, by virtue of their previous ratification by France. The dates of the entry into force of the Conventions are those on which these States acceded respectively to independence ; August 1, 1960 for Dahomey, August 7, 1960 for Ivory Coast and April 27, 1960 for Togoland.

There are thus eighty-seven States now formally participating in the 1949 Conventions.