

C. 596. 1923

Council Document

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Geneva, September 8th, 1923.

Application of Article 107 of the Treaty of
Lausanne.

Note by the Secretary-General.

The Secretary-General has the honour to communicate to the Council the following letter from the British Government in regard to the application of Article 107 of the Treaty of Lausanne:

FOREIGN OFFICE.

29th August, 1923.

Sir,

I am directed by the Marquess Curzon of Kedleston to request that the attention of the League of Nations may be drawn to Article 107 of the Treaty of Peace signed with Turkey at Lausanne on the 24th ultimo. This Article provides for the freedom of traffic over the sections of the railway lying between the Greco-Bulgarian frontier near Adrianople and the Greco-Turkish frontier near Kueli-Burges, and that such freedom shall be ensured by a commissioner selected by the Council of the League of Nations.

2. The Article further provides that a Greek and a Turkish representative shall be attached to the commissioner and that the commissioner shall refer to the Council of the League of Nations any question which he may have been unable to settle, the Greek and Turkish Governments undertaking to carry out any decision given by the majority vote of the Council.

3. The salary of the commissioner, as well as the expenses connected with his work are to be borne in equal parts by Greece and Turkey.

4. The Mixed Railway Commission at Karagatch, which under Article 4 of the armistice of Ludania is at present controlling these sections of the railway, will come to an end on September 15th next, and, in the opinion of His Majesty's Government, it is important that the commissioner appointed by the League of Nations should take up his duties before that date. It is moreover to be observed that the treaty of peace and other instruments

signed with Turkey at Lausanne have already been ratified by Greece and Turkey, and that upon ratification by Bulgaria, the Thracian Frontier Convention will come into force.

5. In these circumstances, the Secretary-of State hopes that the Council of the League of Nations will be so good as to select a commissioner in accordance with Article 107 of the Lausanne Treaty.

(Signed) LANCELOT OLIPHANT.