

LÉGATION DE GÉORGIE

RECOMMANDÉE



Monsieur CHAVICHVILI

10 Rue de l'Aubépine

GENEVE

(Suisse)

LÉGATION DE GÉORGIE



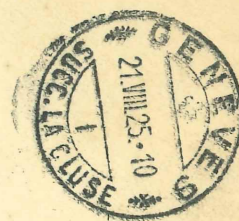
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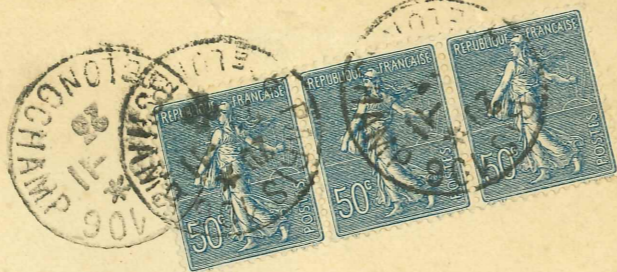
GENEVE

(Suisse)

10-



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Monsieur C H A V I C H V I L I

10, Rue de l'Aubépine

G E N E V E

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LÉGATION DE GÉORGIE

RECOMMANDEE

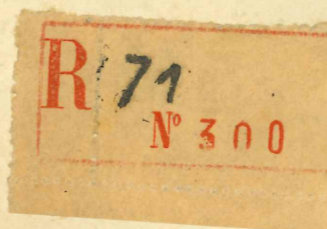


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N 601



18.2 Georgian Legation to France (Légation de Géorgie en France)

On 27 January 1921, together with other countries, France and Great Britain fully recognised de jure the Georgian Democratic Republic as an independent sovereign state (see also Chapter 4.1). On 25 February 1921, Akaki Chencheli presented his credentials at the Elysée Palace as Georgia's Minister Plenipotentiary to the French Republic. That same day Tiflis was occupied by the Bolshevik Red Army and the Georgian Socialist Soviet Republic was installed [38].

The government was exiled via Batumi and Constantinople to Paris and with the consent of the French government, the "Légation de Géorgie en France" (diplomatic representation of the Georgian Democratic Republic in France) was established.

The government bought a 5-hectare property surrounding a hunting lodge in Leuville-sur-Orge, a small town located near Paris and it

was declared the official residence of the Georgian government in exile. Leuville-sur-Orge's cemetery is a burial ground of many prominent Georgian political émigrés who had left Georgia after the Soviet invasion of 1921.

The legation handled consular affairs for Georgian émigrés (travel, identity and family). At the United Nations in Geneva, the legation tried to prevent or delay the admission of the Soviet Union to the United Nations, which eventually took place in 1934 [38]. The Georgian Legation was maintained until July 1933. Thereafter, the French Government authorised the Georgian Government in exile to open the "Office for Georgian Refugees" [39].

Khariton Chavichvili represented the "Légation de Géorgie en France" at the United Nations in Geneva and eight covers from the correspondence between the Georgian parties are recorded. All are sent from Paris to Geneva, between 1923 and 1925. Some bear the cachets (1 and 2).

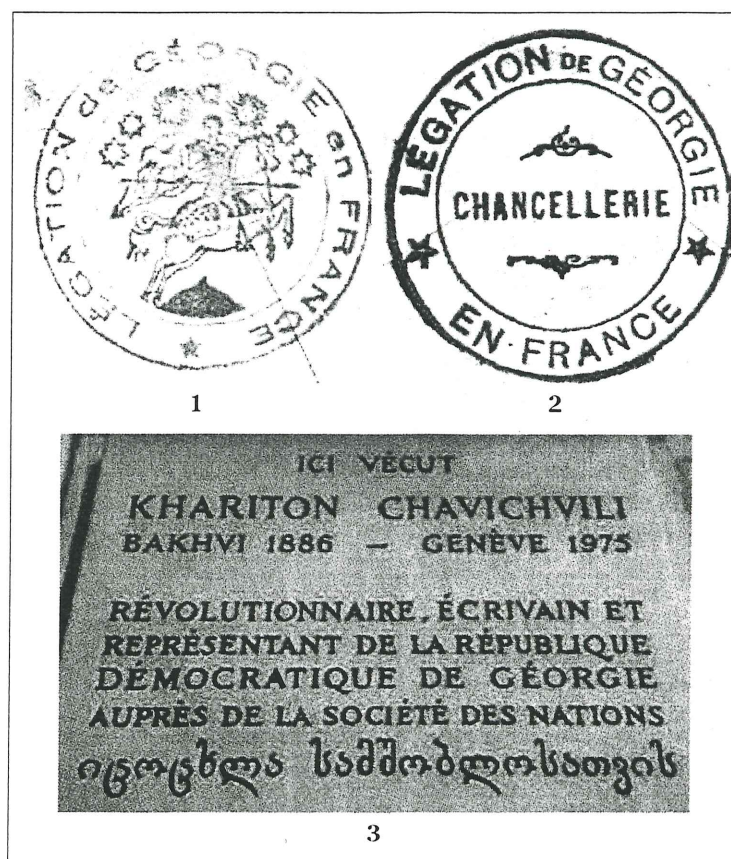


Fig. 18.2.1: 1: Cachet showing St. George crossing the Black Mountain, a national symbol of Georgia (see Chapter 2 and Table 2.3.a); 2: Chancery's cachet; 3: Khariton Chavichvili plaque, Plainpalais, Geneva, Switzerland.