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International Law Documents

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the U.S. Department of the Navy or the Naval War College.

to be without effect Decrees Nos. 11038 of August 4, 11066 of August 12, 11092 of August 24, 1914; 11984 of March 10 and 12171 of August 29, 1916, for the observance of our complete neutrality in the war of France, Russia, Great Britain, Japan, Portugal, and Italy against the German Empire, and revoke any dispositions to the contrary.

BULGARIA.

Circular announcing defensive sea area, Bay of Bourgas, September 5, 1916.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC WORSHIP,
Sofia, September 5, 1916.

CIRCULAR NOTE. }
No. 1197. }

The Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs has the honor to inform the legation of the United States of America that the entry and the exit of the Bay of Bourgas has been forbidden until further orders to all ships, without exception, whatever flag they fly.

This measure is imposed by considerations of highest importance.

To the LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
SOFIA.

Terms of armistice signed with Allied Powers, September 29, 1918.¹

I. Immediate evacuation, in conformity with an arrangement to be concluded, of the territories still occupied in Greece and Serbia. There shall be removed from these territories neither cattle, grain, nor stores of any kind. No damage shall be done on departure. The Bulgarian Administration shall continue to exercise its functions in the parts of Bulgaria at present occupied by the Allies.

II. Immediate demobilisation of all the Bulgarian armies, save for the maintenance on a war footing of a group of all arms, comprising three divisions of sixteen battalions each and four regiments of cavalry, which shall be thus disposed:—two divisions for the defence of the Eastern frontier of

I. Évacuation immédiate conformément à un arrangement à intervenir des territoires encore occupés en Grèce et en Serbie. Il ne sera enlevé de ces territoires ni bétail, ni grain, ni approvisionnement quelconque. Aucun dégât ne sera fait au départ. L'Administration bulgare continuera à fonctionner dans les parties de Bulgarie actuellement occupées par les Alliés.

II. Démobilisation immédiate de toutes les armées bulgares, sauf en ce qui concerne le maintien en état de combattre d'un groupe de toutes armes comprenant trois divisions de seize bataillons chacune, quatre régiments de cavalerie qui seront affectés, deux divisions à la défense de la fron-

¹ Hostilities ceased noon, Oct. 30, 1918.

Bulgaria and of the Dobrudja, and the 148th Division to the protection of the railways.

III. Deposit, at points to be indicated by the High Command of the Armies of the East, of the arms, ammunition, and military vehicles belonging to the demobilised units which shall thereafter be stored by the Bulgarian authorities, under the control of the Allies.

The horses likewise will be handed over to the Allies.

IV. Restoration to Greece of the material of the IVth Greek Army Corps, which was taken from the Greek Army at the time of the occupation of Eastern Macedonia, in so far as it has not been sent to Germany.

V. The units of the Bulgarian troops at the present time west of the meridian of Uskub, and belonging to the XIth German army, shall lay down their arms and shall be considered until further notice to be prisoners of war. The officers shall retain their arms.

VI. Employment by the Allied armies of Bulgarian prisoners of war in the East until the conclusion of peace, without reciprocity as regards Allied prisoners of war. These latter shall be handed over without delay to the Allied authorities, and deported civilians shall be entirely free to return to their homes.

VII. Germany and Austria-Hungary shall have a period of four weeks to withdraw their troops and military organisations. Within the same period the diplomatic and consular representatives of the Central Powers, as also their nationals, must leave the

tière est de la Bulgarie et de la Dobroudja, 148^e Division pour la garde des voies ferrées.

III. Dépôt en des points à désigner par le Haut Commandement des Armées d'Orient, des armes, des munitions, véhicules militaires appartenant aux éléments démobilisés, qui seront ensuite emmagasinés par les soins des autorités bulgares et sous le contrôle des Alliés.

Les chevaux seront également remis aux Alliés.

IV. Remise à la Grèce du matériel du IV^e Corps d'Armée grec pris à l'armée grecque au moment de l'occupation de la Macédoine orientale, en tant qu'il n'a pas été envoyé en Allemagne.

V. Les éléments de troupes bulgares actuellement à l'ouest du méridien d'Uskub et appartenant à la XI^e Armée allemande déposeront les armes et seront considérés jusqu'à nouvel ordre comme prisonniers de guerre; les officiers conserveront leurs armes.

VI. Emploi jusqu'à la paix par les Armées alliées des prisonniers bulgares en Orient sans réciprocité en ce qui concerne les prisonniers de guerre alliés. Ceux-ci seront remis sans délai aux autorités alliées et les déportés civils seront complètement libres de rentrer dans leurs foyers.

VII. L'Allemagne et l'Autriche-Hongrie auront un délai de quatre semaines pour retirer leurs troupes et leurs organes militaires. Dans le même délai, devront quitter le territoire du Royaume les représentants diplomatiques et consulaires des Puissances centrales

territory of the kingdom. Orders for the cessation of hostilities shall be given by the signatories of the present convention.

Signed:

GENERAL FRANCHET
D'ESPEREY.

ANDRÉ LIAPCHEW.

E. T. LOUKOF.

General Headquarters,
September 29, 1918, 10.50 p. m.

Military convention regulating the conditions for the suspension of hostilities between the allied powers and Bulgaria. SEPTEMBER 29, 1918, 10:50 p. m.

SECRET ARTICLES.

1. The eventual passage of the allied military forces on the territory of Bulgaria as well as the utilization of the railroads, roads, rivers, and ports will be the object of a special convention between the Bulgarian government and the High Command of the Army of the East. Negotiations to this effect, will commence after 8 days at most. They will concern also the control of telephone, telegraph, and radio stations.

2. A certain number of strategic points will be occupied in the interior of Bulgarian territory by the great allied powers. This occupation will be provisional and will serve purely as a guaranty. It will give no occasion for coercion nor for arbitrary requisition. The General in chief of the armies gives assurance that, unless for special circumstances, Sofia will not be occupied.

3. The General in Chief reserves the right to exact the absolute

ainsi que leurs nationaux. Les ordres pour la cessation des hostilités seront donnés par les signataires de la présente convention.

Signé:

GÉNÉRAL FRANCHET
D'ESPEREY.

ANDRÉ LIAPCHEW.

E. T. LOUKOF.

Grand Quartier général,
le 29 septembre, 1918,
22 heures 50.

Convention militaire réglant les conditions de la suspension des hostilités entre les Puissances alliées et la Bulgarie. Le 29 septembre 1918, 22 h. 50.

ARTICLES SECRETS.

1° Le passage éventuel des forces militaires alliées sur le territoire bulgare ainsi que l'utilisation des voies ferrées, routes, voies fluviales et ports feront l'objet d'une convention spéciale entre le Gouvernement bulgare et le Haut-Commandement de l'Armée d'Orient. Des négociations, à cet effet, commenceront dans un délai de 8 jours au plus. Elles concerneront aussi le contrôle du téléphone, des télégraphes et des stations de T. S. F.

2° Un certain nombre de points stratégiques seront occupés à l'intérieur du territoire bulgare par les grandes Puissances alliées. Cette occupation sera provisoire et servira purement de garantie. Elle ne donnera pas lieu à coercition ni à réquisition arbitraire. Le Général en chef des armées donne l'assurance qu'à moins de circonstances particulières Sofia ne sera pas occupée.

3° Le Général en chef se réserve le droit d'exiger la cessation abso-

cessation of all relations between Bulgaria and its former Allies in case of necessity.

4. Bulgarian ports will be opened to allied and neutral vessels.

Signed:

General FRANCHET D'ESPEREY,

ANDRE LIAPTCHEW.

GENERAL LOUKOFF.

lue de toute relation entre la Bulgarie et ses anciens Alliés en cas de nécessité.

4° Ouverture des ports bulgares aux navires alliés et neutres.

Signé:

Général FRANCHET D'ESPEREY.

ANDRÉ LIAPTCHEW.

Général LOUKOFF.

CHINA.

Regulations for sojourn of armed merchant vessels, 1917.

[Hongkong Daily Press, Mar. 23, 1917.]

A report states that the Chinese Government has drawn up the following regulations, to which armed merchantmen of all the belligerents entering Chinese ports shall be subject:

(1) Any belligerent merchantman which is armed specifically for the purpose of self-defense shall be permitted to enter and depart from any Chinese port to which the said merchantman had previous regular sailings.

(2) On entering the port the captain of such armed merchantman must declare to the customhouse of the port that the armament of the ship is merely for self-defense.

(3) After report to the customhouse, the authorities thereof shall send officers together with the naval officers of the port to visit the vessel and inspect the armament on-board. Whether the vessel is armed only for self-defense or not shall be determined according to the following circumstances provided:

(a) The number of guns on board the ship, their caliber and ammunition and other armament are adequate only for self-defense.

(b) The number of officers and crew of the ship does not show a marked increase over normal times.

(c) The port the ship touches is one to which the ship has been engaged in trading or had regular sailings.

(d) The food supply on board the ship consists only of such quantity as would be just sufficient to cover the voyage to the next port it is destined to touch.

(e) Goods on board the ship are not suitable for warships or for hostile purposes.

(f) Passengers on board the ship are not in organized units nor of such quality as to be organized into military or naval forces under ordinary circumstances.

After the inspection of the customs and naval authorities, a report on the above circumstances should be made to the Government and the latter thereby shall determine whether the vessel is an armed merchantman or a warship according to the circumstances under which it is armed.