



Treaty Series No. 39 (1939)

Protocol

modifying the Anglo-Soviet Agreement
of July 17, 1937

for the

Limitation of Naval Armament

London, July 6, 1938

[With Exchange of Notes regarding the Russian text]

*Presented by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs
to Parliament by Command of His Majesty*

LONDON

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PROTOCOL MODIFYING THE ANGLO-SOVIET AGREEMENT
OF JULY 17, 1937, FOR THE LIMITATION OF NAVAL
ARMAMENT.

London, July 6, 1938.

WHEREAS by Article 4 (1) of the Anglo-Soviet Agreement for the Limitation of Naval Armament and the Exchange of Information concerning Naval Construction, signed in London on the 17th July, 1937,⁽¹⁾ it is provided that no capital ship shall exceed 35,000 tons (35,560 metric tons) standard displacement;

And whereas by reason of Article 4 (2) of the said Agreement the maximum calibre of gun carried by capital ships is 16 in. (406 mm.);

And whereas on the 31st March, 1938, the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland gave notice under paragraph (2) of Article 25 of the said Agreement of its decision to exercise the right provided for in paragraph (1) of the said Article to depart from the limitations and restrictions of the Agreement in regard to the upper limits of capital ships of sub-category (a);

And whereas consultations have taken place as provided in paragraph (3) of Article 25, with a view to reaching agreement in order to reduce to a minimum the extent of the departures from the limitations and restrictions of the Agreement;

The undersigned, duly authorised by their respective Governments, have agreed as follows:—

1. As from this day's date the figure of 35,000 tons (35,560 metric tons) in Article 4 (1) of the said Agreement shall be replaced by the figure of 45,000 tons (45,720 metric tons).
2. The figure of 16 in. (406 mm.) in Article 4 (2) remains unaltered.
3. The present Protocol shall come into force on this day's date.

In faith whereof the undersigned have signed the present Protocol.

Done in duplicate in London the 6th day of July, 1938, in the English language. A Russian text will be drawn up as soon as possible and agreed between the Contracting Governments, and both texts will then be considered equally authentic.⁽²⁾

For the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland:

ALEXANDER CADOGAN.

For the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist
Republics:

S. CAHAN.

⁽¹⁾ "Treaty Series No. 17 (1938)," Cmd. 5679.

⁽²⁾ See the Russian text and Exchange of Notes following.

ПРОТОКОЛ

Ввиду того, что статьей 4 (1) Англо-Советского Соглашения об ограничении морских вооружений и об обмене сведениями о сооружаемых кораблях, подписанного в Лондоне 17 июля 1937 г., предусмотрено, что ни один линейный корабль не будет иметь стандартного водоизмещения выше 35.000 тонн (35.560 метрических тонн);

И ввиду того, что в силу статьи 4 (2) названного Соглашения максимальный калибр орудия на линейных кораблях установлен в 16 дюймов (406 мм);

И ввиду того, что 31 марта 1938 г. правительство Соединенного Королевства Великобритании и Северной Ирландии сделало, согласно пункта (2) статьи 25 названного Соглашения, сообщение относительно его решения осуществить предусмотренное в пункте (1) названной статьи право отступления от ограничений и рамок Соглашения в отношении верхних лимитов линейных кораблей подкласса (а);

И ввиду того, что, как это предусмотрено в пункте (3) статьи 25, переговоры имели место с целью достижения соглашения о доведении до минимума пределов отступлений от ограничений и рамок Соглашения;

Нижеподписавшиеся, надлежащим образом на то уполномоченные их соответствующими правительствами, условились о нижеследующем;

1. С сегодняшнего дня цифра 35.000 тонн (35.560 метрических тонн) в статье 4 (1) названного Соглашения будет заменена цифрой 45.000 тонн (45.750 метрических тонн).
2. Цифра 16 дюймов (406 мм) статьи 4 (2) остается без изменений.
3. Настоящий Протокол войдет в силу с сегодняшнего дня.

З удостоверение чего нижеподписавшиеся подписали настоящий Протокол.

Составлен в двух экземплярах, в Лондоне, 6 июля 1938 года на английском языке. Русский текст будет составлен возможно скорее и согласован между Договаривающимися Правительствами, после чего оба текста будут считаться аутентичными.

**За Правительство Союза Советских
Социалистических Республик—С. Каган**

**За Правительство Соединенного
Королевства Великобритании
и Северной Ирландии—Александр Кадоган**

EXCHANGE OF NOTES.

No. 1.

*M. Maisky to Viscount Halifax.*Sir, *January 11, 1939.*

ON the 8th December last, Mr. Cahan forwarded to Mr. Holman the Russian text of the Protocol regarding capital ships signed in London on the 6th July, 1938. Subsequently Mr. Beith of the American Department of the Foreign Office telephoned to the effect that the Russian text of the Protocol mentioned above was quite in order except for one typing error which occurs at the bottom of the first page, where 45,750 metric tons are shown instead of 45,720 metric tons, which correction we, of course, accept.

In view of the above I would greatly appreciate if you would inform me as to whether the United Kingdom Government is prepared to consider the Russian text of the Protocol referred to above as authentic for all purposes.

Accept, &c.
J. MAISKY.

No. 2.

*Viscount Halifax to M. Maisky.*Your Excellency, *Foreign Office, February 10, 1939.*

I HAVE the honour to refer to your Excellency's note of the 11th January in which you were so good as to enquire whether, subject to the correction of the small typing error mentioned in your note, His Majesty's Government were prepared to consider as being authentic the Russian text of the Protocol governing escalation in capital ships which was signed in London on the 6th July, 1938.

2. In reply, I have the honour to inform you that His Majesty's Government are prepared to accept the Russian text of the Protocol, enclosed in M. Cahan's letter to Mr. Holman of the 8th December, as equally authentic with the English text, subject to the correction of the typing error mentioned above.

I have, &c.

(For the Secretary of State),
(Signed) J. V. PEROWNE.