No. 4655

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS and AFGHANISTAN

Treaty (with annexes and Protocols) concerning the regime of the Soviet-Afghan state frontier. Signed at Moscow, on 18 January 1958

Official texts: Russian and Persian.

Registered by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on 3 February 1959.

UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES SOVIÉTIQUES et

AFGHANISTAN

Traité (avec annexes et Protocoles) relatif au régime de la frontière soviéto-afghane. Signé à Moscou, le 18 janvier 1958

Textes officiels russe et persan.

Enregistré par l'Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques le 3 février 1959.

[TRANSLATION - TRADUCTION]

No. 4655. TREATY¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN CON-CERNING THE REGIME OF THE SOVIET-AFGHAN STATE FRONTIER. SIGNED AT MOSCOW, ON 18 JAN-UARY 1958

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Royal Government of Afghanistan, desiring to determine means for maintaining the regime of the Soviet-Afghan state frontier and preventing incidents thereon and, if such incidents arise, for their rapid investigation and settlement, have resolved to conclude this Treaty and for that purpose have appointed as their plenipotentiaries:

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics :

A. A. Gromyko, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR ;

The Royal Government of Afghanistan:

His Excellency Abdul Hakim Shahalami, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the King of Afghanistan in the USSR,

who, having presented their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed as follows :

PART I

LINE OF THE FRONTIER, MAINTENANCE OF FRONTIER MARKS AND CLEARINGS

Article 1

The frontier line between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Afghanistan from Zulfikar to Lake Zor-Kul is determined in the Agreement concluded between the USSR and Afghanistan on 13 June 1946,² in the demarcation documents dated 29 September 1948 and in the re-demarcation documents dated 29 September 1948 and drafted on the basis of the Demarcation Protocol of 1885-1888.

From Lake Zor-Kul to the junction of the frontiers of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Afghanistan and the Chinese People's Republic the frontier shall be determined in accordance with the Demarcation Protocols of 1895.

¹ Came into force on 5 October 1958, as from the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification at Kabul, in accordance with article 49.

² United Nations, Treaty Series, Vol. 31, p. 147.

The demarcation and re-demarcation documents are :

1. The Descriptive Protocol relating to the frontier between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Afghanistan in the sector extending from Zulfikar to Khamiab, as redemarcated in 1947-1948;

2. Maps of the frontier between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Afghanistan in the sector extending from Zulfikar to Khamiab, as redemarcated in 1947-1948;

3. The protocols, with sketch-maps on the reverse side, relating to frontier marks in the sector from Zulfikar to Khamiab, as redemarcated in 1947-1948;

4. The Descriptive Protocol relating to the frontier line between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Afghanistan in the sector extending from Khamiab to Lake Zor-Kul, as demarcated in 1947-1948;

5. The maps of the state frontier between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Afghanistan in the sector extending from Khamiab to Lake Zor-Kul, as demarcated in 1947-1948;

6. The Protocols, with sketch-maps on the reverse side, relating to frontier marks in the frontier sector extending from Khamiab to Lake Zor-Kul, as demarcated in 1947-1948;

7. The documents and maps relating to frontier demarcation in the Pamirs dated 1895;

8. The documents signed at Serakhs on 30 June 1947 relating to the triangular frontier mark placed at the junction of the frontiers of the USSR, Afghanistan and Iran at the time of the demarcation and re-demarcation of the Soviet-Afghan frontier.

9. Such other annexes and additions as may appear during the term of this Treaty.

The frontier line determined in the said documents shall also divide vertically the air space and the sub-soil.

This line is referred to in this Treaty as the "frontier", the "frontier line" or the "State frontier line".

Article 2

The Contracting Parties undertake so to maintain the frontier marks marking the frontier line between the USSR and Afghanistan, and the frontier clearings that the situation, nature, form, size and colour of the frontier posts and the width and cleanness of the clearings meet all the requirements set forth in the frontier demarcation and re-demarcation documents.

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Article 3

The maintenance of frontier marks and clearings shall be shared by the Contracting Parties as follows:

(1) The USSR shall maintain those frontier posts and that portion of the frontier clearings which are in the territory of the USSR.

(2) Afghanistan shall maintain those frontier posts and that portion of the frontier clearings which are in Afghan territory.

(3) The two Parties shall be responsible for the maintenance of concrete and timber frontier-mark centres and stone pyramids situated on the frontier line itself as follows: Afghanistan shall maintain frontier-mark centres and stone pyramids bearing even numbers and the USSR shall maintain frontier-mark centres and stone pyramids bearing odd numbers.

(4) The single reinforced concrete frontier post, situated on the south bank of the Boz-aryk Canal 17.1 metres from frontier mark No. 74, shall be maintained by the USSR.

Article 4

1. Surveys of the condition and situation of the frontier marks and the condition of the frontier clearings shall be made by the competent authorities of the Contracting 7 Parties at their discretion and in accordance with the preceding article. In addition to unilateral surveys, an annual joint control survey shall be made of the frontier marks and frontier clearings.

2. The joint control survey of frontier marks and frontier clearings shall be made annually in September. The competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties shall agree on the date when each joint control survey shall begin.

3. Should it become necessary to make an extra joint control survey of frontier marks or frontier clearings in any year, the competent authorities of one Contracting Party shall give written notice to that effect to the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party. The extra joint control survey of frontier marks or frontier clearings shall be made not later than ten days after such notice has been given by the competent authorities of one Contracting Party.

4. Should the survey prove that the measurement figures contained in the demarcation document do not fully coincide with the figures of the joint measurements on the spot, the measurement figures indicated in the demarcation and redemarcation documents referred to in article 1 of this Treaty shall be considered definitive.

5. Amendments and additions to the frontier demarcation and redemarcation documents shall be made by agreement between the Contracting Parties on the basis of the documents referred to in article 1 of this Treaty and shall be annexed to the said documents.

6. On completion of a control survey a record shall be drawn up by the representatives of the competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties in two copies, each in the Russian and Persian languages.

Article 5

1. If frontier posts are removed, destroyed or damaged, they shall forthwith be restored or repaired by the competent authorities of the Party in whose territory the frontier posts are situated or which is responsible for their maintenance. The competent authorities of one Contracting Party shall notify the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party in writing, at least ten days before work on the restoration or repair of frontier posts begins.

2. The restoration of removed, destroyed or damaged frontier posts shall be effected by the competent authorities of one Contracting Party in the presence of representatives of competent authorities of the other Party. When a frontier post is restored the representatives of the competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties shall draw up a record in two copies, each in the Russian and Persian languages. Replaced frontier posts must conform to the specifications laid down in the Soviet-Afghan frontier demarcation and redemarcation documents of 1947-1948.

3. When a frontier mark or frontier post is restored, care shall be taken not to change its position. For this purpose the demarcation and redemarcation documents referred to in article 1 of this Treaty should be used as a guide and the particulars contained therein must be verified on the spot by check measurements.

4. On water sectors of the frontier, when frontier posts which have been damaged or destroyed by floods are restored or re-erected, it shall be permissible to change their former site, but not the actual course of the frontier line, and to re-erect them at points which will ensure their preservation. Such changes in the sites of the frontier posts on a water sector of the frontier shall be made with the agreement of both Contracting Parties. Frontier posts may also be transferred to new sites if necessary in ravine sectors of the frontier line, but the course of that line may not be changed.

The representatives of the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall set forth the results of such restoration, re-erection or transfer of a frontier post in a protocol with a sketch map showing the frontier mark, which must both correspond exactly in form and content with the other demarcation and redemarcation documents referred to in article 1 of this Treaty and be annexed to them.

5. Repair work on a frontier post, which under article 3 of this Treaty one of the Contracting Parties is responsible for maintaining, shall be performed by that Party without participation by the representative of the competent authorities of the other Party.

6. The competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties may, by agreement, erect additional frontier marks on the frontier line if necessary, but shall not thereby change the course of the frontier line; they shall then draw up documents in respect of the said frontier marks as specified in paragraph 4 of this article. Additional frontier marks erected along the frontier must conform to the specifications adopted at the time of the demarcation and redemarcation of the Soviet-Afghan frontier in 1947-1948.

7. If the representatives of the competent authorities of one Party observe that a frontier post in the territory of the other Party has been destroyed or damaged, they shall notify the competent authorities of the other Party thereof. The representatives of the competent authorities of the Party in whose territory the frontier post observed to have been removed, destroyed or damaged is situated, are required to restore or to repair it.

8. The Contracting Parties shall take measures for the protection of frontier marks and shall prosecute any person found guilty of moving, damaging or destroying a frontier mark. In such a case a frontier mark damaged or destroyed by residents of one Party shall be restored at that Party's expense.

Article 6

1. A frontier clearing eight metres wide (four metres on either side of the frontier line) shall be cut through all forests, bushes, tall reeds and grass along the entire length of the frontier line. The clearing shall be maintained in good order and when necessary cleared of bushes and shrub obscuring it.

In this clearing the land may not be ploughed and no structure or building may be erected. Persons found guilty of doing so shall be prosecuted.

The Contracting Parties are required to arrange for the gradual removal of existing structures and buildings from the frontier clearing and to prohibit the erection of new ones. The competent authorities of the Parties may by mutual agreement make exceptions in the case of structures and buildings intended for the protection of the frontier.

2. Each Party shall clean the frontier clearing on its own territory. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall notify each other at least ten days before work on the cleaning of a frontier clearing begins. Representatives of the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party are entitled to be present during such work.

PART II

Regulations governing the use of frontier waters and of main roads intersecting the frontier line

Article 7

1. The term frontier waters in this Treaty means those waters along which the frontier line runs in accordance with the Soviet Afghan frontier demarcation and redemarcation documents of 1947-1948.

2. The Contracting Parties shall take measures to ensure that in the use of frontier waters, and of the waters of rivers which flow to the frontier or into frontier waters, the provisions of this Treaty and the special agreements between the Government of the USSR and the Government of Afghanistan are observed and the mutual rights and interest of both Contracting Parties are respected.

3. In accordance with the general principles of international law, paragraph 2 of this article shall not apply to those waters of the Contracting Parties which are national internal waters and which are covered by the national legislation of the Contracting Parties.

Article 8

1. Both Contracting Parties shall be allowed free use of frontier waters up to the frontier line.

2. Where the frontier line runs along the middle of the main navigation channel of a frontier river, vessels (large and small ships and boats) of both Contracting Parties shall be entitled to navigate freely in the navigation channel, regardless of how the frontier line runs.

3. Vessels (large and small ships and boats) of either Contracting Party may tie up to the other Party's bank only if in distress (storm, shipwreck, etc.). In such case the competent frontier authorities shall assist those in distress as necessary.

4. Vessels (large and small ships and boats) of both Contracting Parties shall be entitled to navigate in frontier waters at all times.

5. All vessels navigating in frontier waters shall fly their national flag. They shall be marked on both sides with clearly visible white or black painted numbers and display lights at night.

6. Vessels passing along the main navigation channel in frontier waters may not anchor in the middle of that channel unless obliged to do so.

7. Vessels of one Contracting Party, navigating along the main navigation channel of a frontier river and complying with the regulations set forth in paragraph 5 of this

article, may not be detained by the authorities of the other Contracting Party or compelled to anchor or tie up or to undergo a search or document check.

Article 9

1. The location and direction of frontier watercourses shall as far as possible be preserved unchanged. For that purpose the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall jointly take the necessary measures to remove such obstacles as may cause changes in the courses of frontier rivers, streams or canals or impede the flow of water along them. Where joint operations are undertaken by common consent of both Parties on the basis of this Treaty, the competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties shall decide the programme of work and shall agree to share the cost equally unless some other agreement is concluded.

2. In order to protect the banks against damage and to prevent displacement of the beds of frontier rivers, streams or canals, their banks must be strengthened wherever the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties jointly consider it necessary. These operations shall be executed and the relevant expenditure defrayed by the Party to which the bank belongs.

3. Neither Contracting Party shall cause an artificial displacement of river beds.

Should the bed of a frontier river, stream or canal be displaced as a result of natural phenomena (earthquakes, etc.), the Contracting Parties shall agree on a basis of equality to correct the bed by joint action. Such operations may be executed, in accordance with an agreement between the two Parties, by mixed commissions of the Contracting Parties, which shall decide on the programme of work, the recruitment of labour, the purchase of the necessary materials and also the manner of reimbursement of expenditure.

Article 10

In accordance with the rules of international law and international practice, a displacement of the bed of a frontier river, stream or canal shall not change the course of the frontier line unless the Contracting Parties conclude a special agreement to that effect. In the event of a displacement of the river bed, ships and boats of both Contracting Parties may use the main navigation channel for navigation, irrespective of the position of the frontier line as determined in the documents referred to in article 1 of this Treaty.

Article 11

1. The Contracting Parties shall take measures to prevent deliberate damage to the banks of a frontier river.

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2. Where one Contracting Party occasions material loss to the other Contracting Party by failing to comply with paragraph 1 of this article, compensation for that loss shall be paid by the Party responsible therefor.

Article 12

1. Frontier watercourses shall be cleaned out on the sectors where such work is jointly considered essential by the competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties. The cost of cleaning in such cases shall be equally divided between the two Contracting Parties unless otherwise agreed.

2. In cleaning out frontier waters, the earth, stones, trees and other objects removed shall be thrown out to such a distance from the bank or levelled down in such a way as to avoid any danger that the banks might fall in, or the river bed be polluted, and so as to prevent the flow of water from being obstructed in time of flood.

3. The cleaning of those sectors of frontier water which are situated wholly in the territory of one of the Contracting Parties shall be carried out by that Party as it sees fit and at its own expense.

Article 13

The competent authorities of both Contracting Parties shall take the necessary measures to protect the frontier waters from pollution by acids and waste products and from fouling by any other means.

Article 14

Nationals of the two Contracting Parties shall be entitled to water their livestock at frontier rivers. Livestock brought for watering must not however cross into the territory of the other Party. Should livestock stray to the other side of the frontier, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall take steps to ensure that the livestock is returned without delay.

Watering places shall be determined by frontier commissioners who shall notify the frontier commissioners of the other Party thereof.

Article 15

Should unidentified objects be observed by one Contracting Party in frontier waters or on the bank of a river, stream or canal, the competent authorities of that Party shall take steps to establish ownership of the said objects.

The identity of human corpses observed in frontier waters or on the bank of a river, stream or canal, and the ownership of animal carcasses, shall be established

jointly by representatives of both Contracting Parties. Human corpses, when identified, shall be returned to the Party to which they belong. Animal carcasses shall by agreement between the representatives of the competent authorities be buried when ownership has been established.

Article 16

Questions concerning the use of waters that are connected with frontier waters shall be governed by special agreements between the Contracting Parties.

Article 17

The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall exchange as regularly as possible such information concerning the level and volume of water in frontier rivers and also concerning precipitation in the interior of the territory of the two Parties as might avert danger or damage from flooding. The competent authorities shall as necessary also agree on a mutuel system of signals during periods of high water.

Article 18

1. No structures or buildings may be erected by or near a river which, in time of flood, would obstruct or impede, to the detriment of the other Party, water that has overflowed the banks from returning by natural drainage to the main river bed.

2. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall agree on a system of drainage into frontier waters, the diversion of water and on other matters associated with the use of frontier waters.

Article 19

1. Existing bridges, dams, dikes and other similar structures on frontier watercourses shall be preserved and may be used.

2. Bridges, dams and other similar structures likely to hinder navigation or influence the flow of water shall not be erected on frontier watercourses except by agreement between the two Parties.

3. New dikes which might affect the flow of water and the state of the banks, and also cause damage thereto, may not be erected on frontier watercourses except by agreement between the two Parties.

4. Should the need arise for reconstruction or demolition of any installations on frontier rivers that might change the water level of those rivers, the necessary work may not be undertaken without the consent of the other Party.

Article 20

1. Matters relating to communication by main roads and waterways that intersect the frontier and to the frontier transit points on such roads and waterways shall be regulated by special agreements between the Contracting Parties.

2. At points where the frontier line is intersected by main roads and waterways each Contracting Party shall erect special signs and barriers on its territory and shall maintain them in proper condition.

3. The Contracting Parties shall take steps to ensure that the main roads and waterways which intersect the frontier and which are open to traffic are maintained in proper condition.

Article 21

1. Bridges which intersect the frontier and are open to traffic shall be maintained in good order and repair by each Contracting Party at its own expense up to the frontier line, which shall be marked on the bridge, except as otherwise provided by special agreements. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall agree in advance on the organization, dates and nature of such repairs.

2. Traffic on frontier bridges, fords etc. shall be regulated by agreement between representatives of the competent authorities.

3. The erection of new bridges and foot-bridges and the construction of ferryboats on frontier watercourses shall be governed by special agreements between the Contracting Parties.

4. Each Contracting Party may as necessary make a technical inspection of the section of the frontier bridge situated in the territory of the other Party; the competent authorities of that Party shall be notified of the proposed inspection and the time at which it is to begin not less than forty-eight hours in advance and shall be informed of the results of that inspection when it is completed. The inspection shall be made in the presence of representatives of the competent authorities of that Party.

PART III

FISHING, HUNTING, MINING, AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

Article 22

1. Nationals of the two Contracting Parties may fish in frontier waters up to the frontier line in accordance with the regulations in force in their respective territories, but are prohibited from :

(a) Using explosive, poisonous or narcotic substances that result in the destruction or mutilation of fish;

(b) Fishing in frontier waters at night. (Daylight shall be understood to mean the time between half an hour before sunrise and half an hour after sunset.)

2. Matters relating to the preservation and breeding of fish in frontier waters, the prohibition of the fishing of particular species of fish in specified reaches, fishing seasons and other economic measures concerning fishing may be regulated by special agreement between the Contracting Parties.

Article 23

1. Each Contracting Party shall ensure that the hunting regulations in force in its territory are strictly observed near the frontier line and that game-animals or birds are not shot or pursued across the frontier during hunting.

2. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall, where necessary, agree on all matters relating to the preservation of game-animals and birds and on identical closed seasons in specified parts of the frontier.

Article 24

1. Mining and the prospecting of mineral deposits and agricultural work in the immediate vicinity of the frontier shall be governed by the regulations of the Party in whose territory the operations are located.

2. Mineral deposits in the immediate vicinity of the frontier line shall be so prospected or worked and agricultural operations so conducted as not to harm the territory of the other Party.

Any blasting or other operations involving the breaking-up or moving of rock and earth near the frontier line may be carried out only after the other Party has been notified thereof not less than forty-eight hours in advance.

During such operations, precautionary measures must be taken to ensure that no harm is caused to the nationals and property of the other Party.

3. In order to safeguard the frontier line, there shall on each side thereof be a belt twenty metres wide within which the work referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article shall ordinarily be prohibited and shall be permitted only in exceptional cases by agreement between the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties.

4. If in any particular case the establishment of the belts referred to in paragraph 3 of this article does not appear to be expedient, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall agree on other precautionary measures.

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Article 25

If trees fall across the frontier line owing to natural causes or through felling, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall take steps to enable the persons concerned of the Party to which the trees belong to cut them up and remove them to their own territory.

PART IV

FRONTIER AUTHORITIES AND REGULATIONS FOR CROSSING THE FRONTIER

Article 26

1. The competent authorities referred to in this Treaty and appointed by both the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Afghanistan shall be: the frontier commissioners and their deputies and assistants.

2. The frontier commissioners and their deputies and assistants referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall co-operate in performing the duties arising out of the provisions of this Treaty. Where matters arising out of the application of this Treaty require the decision of a higher authority they shall notify the appropriate authorities.

Article 27

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Royal Government of Afghanistan shall each appoint frontier commissioners and deputy frontier commissioners.

The number of frontier commissioners, the areas in their charge and their permanent place of residence shall be as specified in Protocol No. 2^1 annexed to this Treaty.

Each Contracting Party shall communicate the names of the frontier commissioners and their deputies to the other Party through the diplomatic channel.

The appointment of frontier commissioners and their deputies shall be made known to the Government of the other Party expeditiously by telegraph.

The deputy frontier commissioners shall have all the powers of the frontier commissioners. They shall perform the duties of the frontier commissioners during the absence of the latter.

The Contracting Parties shall agree through the diplomatic channel on any changes that may become necessary in the number of frontier commissioners, their duties, the areas in their charge and their permanent place of residence as specified in the Protocol to this Treaty.

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¹ See p. 232 of this volume.

Article 28

1. Each frontier commissioner shall be entitled to appoint the necessary number of assistants.

2. The frontier commissioners shall communicate to each other the permanent place of residence of their assistants.

The permanent places of residence of the assistants and the areas in their charge shall be announced by the frontier commissioners at their first meeting after the entry into force of this Treaty.

3. The powers of the assistants shall be defined by the frontier commissioners.

4. The permanent places of residence of the deputies and assistants of frontier commissioners and the areas in their charge may be changed by the frontier commissioners concerned during the term of this Treaty.

5. Each frontier commissioner shall be entitled to call in experts as necessary.

Article 29

Written credentials in the languages of the two Parties shall be issued to the persons referred to in article 26 of this Treaty as follows:

To the frontier commissioners of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and their deputies, by the officer commanding the Frontier Forces of the USSR.

To the frontier commissioners of the Royal Government of Afghanistan and their deputies, by the head of the Chief Directorate of the Gendarmerie of Afghanistan.

To assistants, by the frontier commissioners concerned.

Article 30

When new frontier commissioners, deputies or assistants are appointed, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall take steps to ensure continuity of the work.

Article 31

The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties responsible for giving effect to the provisions of this Treaty shall be in direct communication with one another.

The first meeting of frontier commissioners shall be held not later than thirty days after the entry into force of this Treaty.

Article 32

In dealing with any questions that may arise concerning the organization and conduct of meetings of the competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties, the exchange of information on measures adopted, the discussion of unresolved matters of special importance to be submitted for settlement through the diplomatic channel, the determination of the procedure for crossing the frontier and of the points at which the frontier may be crossed, the exchange of official correspondence, the safeguarding of the personal immunity of representatives of the competent authorities and other officials of the two Parties crossing the frontier for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of this Treaty, and other administrative and technical matters, the competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties shall act in accordance with the relevant articles of this Treaty.

Article 33

The frontier commissioners shall take the necessary steps to settle frontier incidents that are within their competence.

In such cases the frontier commissioners shall by agreement and jointly make the necessary inquiries into the incident and record the results in a minute of the meeting.

Matters on which the assistant frontier commissioners cannot agree shall be referred to the frontier commissioners for settlement.

Incidents on the settlement of which frontier commissioners cannot agree shall be settled through the diplomatic channel. Furthermore, each frontier commissioner may, at his discretion, submit any matter of particular importance for settlement through the diplomatic channel, after notifying the frontier commissioner of the other Party.

The provisions of this article shall not preclude reference back to the frontier commissioner of a matter discussed through the diplomatic channel.

Article 34

Decisions taken jointly by the frontier commissioners in settlement of a frontier incident shall be final.

The amount of compensation due to each Party, on the basis of agreements concerning compensation for loss, shall be calculated by the frontier commissioners immediately after the settlement of the incident. The procedure for further assessments and, where necessary, changes in such procedure shall be determined through the diplomatic channel.

Article 35

The frontier commissioners and their assistants shall ordinarily perform their joint functions at meetings and interviews. For each meeting of the frontier commissioners, minutes shall be drawn up briefly indicating the proceedings of the meeting, the decisions taken and the time limits fixed for their implementation.

Decisions of the frontier commissioners shall be regarded as final and binding on both Parties as from the time of signature of the minutes.

Minor questions may be settled by correspondence between the frontier commissioners, unless either commissioner desires that such a question be dealt with at a meeting.

For every interview between assistants a record shall be drawn up setting out in detail the action taken by them and their conclusions and proposals if any.

Decisions of assistants shall not have effect until confirmed by the frontier commissioners.

Minutes and records of meetings of the frontier commissioners and of interviews between their assistants shall be drawn up in two copies each in the Russian and Persian languages.

Article 36

Meetings or interviews of the frontier commissioners shall take place at the request of one of them and if possible at the time mentioned in the request. The reply to the request shall if possible be given forthwith, and in any case not later than forty-eight hours after its receipt. If the date proposed for the meeting or interview is unacceptable, the frontier commissioner shall propose another date in his reply.

If a frontier commissioner requests a meeting or interview, the frontier commissioner of the other Party shall attend in person, unless absent for valid reasons (e.g. illness, an official journey or leave). In such a case his deputy shall replace him and shall so notify the frontier commissioner of the other Party in good time. By agreement between the frontier commissioners, meetings and interviews may take place between their deputies.

Interviews between assistants may take place only by order of the frontier commissioners.

Meetings or interviews between the frontier commissioners or their assistants may also be attended by secretaries and interpreters and, where necessary, by experts of both Parties.

Article 37

The meetings or interviews referred to in article 36 of this Treaty shall as a rule be held in the territory of the Party which has convened the meeting or interview. Nevertheless, the frontier commissioners or their assistants may depart from this rule when it is expedient to do so.

Meetings or interviews shall be directed by the frontier commissioner or assistant of the Party in whose territory the negotiations are taking place.

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The agenda of the meeting shall be proposed at the time the request for the meeting is submitted or settled beforehand by discussion or correspondence. In exceptional cases, items not on the agenda may be dealt with by mutual consent.

Article 38

In order to ascertain the facts the frontier commissioners and their assistants may by previous agreement conduct inquiries into frontier incidents on the spot. In such cases, the frontier commissioners and their assistants may, where necessary, be accompanied to the site of the incident by experts, interpreters, and witnesses and victims of the incident. Such inquiries shall be directed by the Party in whose territory they are held.

Suitable records or other documents relating to the inquiries shall be drawn up and annexed to the minutes of the meeting. Such records and other documents shall be drawn up in accordance with the rules laid down in article 35 of this Treaty.

Article 39

The frontier commissioners shall inform each other as soon as possible of action taken in accordance with the decisions adopted at a meeting or interview.

Article 40

The frontier commissioners shall by common agreement designate meeting points on the frontier for the exchange of official correspondence and the delivery of persons and property. Such meeting points shall be designated by the frontier commissioners at their first meeting after the entry into force of this Treaty. The number and location of such meeting points may be changed by the frontier commissioners by common agreement.

Persons shall be delivered by the frontier commissioners or their assistants personally.

The frontier commissioners or their assistants shall agree on the place and the time of each delivery. Animals shall be delivered in the district where they cross the frontier. Animals, property and official correspondence may be delivered by the commanders of frontier posts on the instructions of the frontier commissioners.

Official correspondence shall be accepted at any time of the day or night, even on holidays and other non-working days.

The frontier commissioners shall establish by agreement the form of receipts to be given for correspondence, animals and other property. The frontier commissioners shall agree upon the signals to be used to summon the frontier guard of the other Party.

Article 41

The frontier commissioners and their deputies, assistants, secretaries, interpreters and experts may cross the frontier to perform official functions arising out of the provisions of this Treaty.

The frontier commissioners and their deputies and assistants shall cross the frontier by virtue of the written credentials provided for in article 29 of this Treaty. The credentials shall bear the photograph and signature of the holder and a visa of the frontier commissioner of the other Party, which shall be issued to frontier commissioners and their deputies for a period of one year, and to assistants for a period of six months, and may be extended as necessary for a similar period. (For specimen credentials see annexes 1^1 and $2.^2$)

Secretaries and interpreters shall cross the frontier by virtue of certificates valid for six months issued by the frontier commissioner of their Party. The certificates shall bear the photograph and signature of the holder and the visa of the frontier commissioner of the other Party. (For specimen certificate see annex 3.3)

Experts and persons whose presence is required for the clarification of any matter may cross the frontier by virtue of a pass for a single crossing of the frontier in both directions, valid for twenty-four hours from the time of the first crossing. The pass shall be issued by the frontier commissioner of one Party and visaed by the frontier commissioner of the other Party. (For specimen pass see annex 4.4)

Workers may cross the frontier only if accompanied by representatives of the competent authorities and only in the daytime. Workers shall not be provided with separate credentials. Their names shall be entered on a list, which shall be signed by the frontier commissioner of one party and visaed by the frontier commissioner of the other Party.

Article 42

The persons referred to in article 41 of this Treaty shall cross the frontier only at the points mentioned in article 40, unless the frontier commissioners or their assistants have agreed on some other crossing point.

¹ See p. 204 of this volume.

² See p. 210 of this volume.

³ See p. 216 of this volume.

^{*} See p. 222 of this volume.

The date and hour of each crossing shall be notified in good time, and in no case less than twenty-four hours in advance, to the nearest frontier post of the other Party, which shall send an escort to the meeting place.

The frontier commissioners and other persons referred to in the first paragraph of article 41 of this Treaty may cross the frontier in uniform and bearing personal weapons.

Article 43

The frontier commissioners and other persons referred to in the first paragraph of article 41 of this Treaty shall be guaranteed immunity for their persons and for official documents in their possession.

The above-mentioned persons may take with them to the territory of the other party, free of customs duty and other charges, the articles, means of transport and other possessions necessary for their work, provided they are re-exported, and also the food and tobacco required for their personal consumption.

Article 44

Each party shall grant to the persons referred to in article 41 who are in its territory in connexion with the performance of duties under this Treaty any necessary assistance in obtaining transport, lodging and facilities for communicating with their own authorities.

Article 45

The cost of maintaining the staff responsible for giving effect to the provisions of this Treaty shall be defrayed by each of the Parties independently.

Article 46

1. Persons who have left the territory of one of the Contracting Parties by an official route, but who do not possess the requisite documents for entering the territory of the other Party, shall, in the event of their immediate return, be re-admitted by the Party whose territory they have left, notwithstanding the completion of formalities relating to their departure.

2. Possession of the necessary entry documents and their validity shall be decided by the competent frontier authorities of the Party whose territory is entered.

Article 47

In the event of the closure to traffic of the entire frontier or of individual sectors, the right to cross the frontier for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of this Treaty shall be suspended fully or partially, depending on the reasons for the closure, of which the competent authorities of the other Party shall be informed in advance.

PART V

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 48

This Treaty shall remain in force for five years. If neither of the Contracting Parties denounces this Treaty six months before its expiry, or gives notice of a desire to make amendments thereto, the Treaty shall automatically be renewed for successive periods of five years, subject to the same condition of denunciation.

Article 49

This Treaty shall be ratified and shall enter into force on the exchange of the instruments of ratification. The exchange of the instruments of ratification shall take place at Kabul as soon as possible.

Article 50

Protocols $1, 1, 2^2$ and $3, 3^3$ annexed to this Treaty, shall constitute an integral part thereof.

Article 51

This Treaty has been drawn up in two copies, in the Russian and Persian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the plenipotentiaries of the Contracting Parties have signed this Treaty and have thereto affixed their seals.

DONE at Moscow, on 18 January 1958 (28 Jeddi 1336).

For the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics : A. A. GROMYKO For the Royal Government of Afghanistan :

Abdul Hakim SHAHALAMI

¹ See p. 226 of this volume.

² See p. 232 of this volume.

³ See p. 234 of this volume.

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ANNEX 1

SPECIMEN

Page 1

(Size : 10×15 cm)

| CREDENTIAL | |
|--|-------|
| Space for photograph (For frontier commissioner and his deputy) | |
| | |
| | |
| (Signature of holder) | STAMP |

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Page 2 (Russian text)

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, on the basis of the Treaty between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Royal Government of Afghanistan concerning the regime of the Soviet-Afghan State frontier, signed at Moscow on 18 January 1958 (28 Jeddi 1336), has appointed

(Title, surname, first name and patronymic)

(Title, surname)

is hereby empowered to perform the functions provided for in the above-mentioned Treaty, and in connexion therewith is entitled to cross the Soviet-Afghan frontier in the sector indicated and to remain in the frontier zone of Afghanistan

Officer commanding the frontier forces of the USSR

(Title, surname)

1

STAMP

Moscow, _____ 19_____ 13_____

Page 3

(Afghan text of page 2)



1959

ANNEX 2

SPECIMEN

Page 1

(Size : 10×15 cm)

| CREDENTIAL | ₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩ |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Space for photograph (For Assistant Frontier Commissioner) | |
| | |
| | |
| (Signature of holder) | STAMP |

. i.

Page 2 (Russian text)

In virtue of the Treaty between the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Royal Government of Afghanistan concerning the regime of the Soviet-Afghan State frontier, signed at Moscow on 18 January 1958 (28 Jeddi 1336),

(Title, surname, first name and patronymic)

residing at-

(Day, month and year of birth)

has been appointed Assistant Frontier Commissioner for the---sector of the Soviet-Afghan frontier.

(Title, surname)

is hereby empowered to perform the functions provided for in the said Treaty and in connexion therewith is entitled to cross the Soviet-Afghan frontier in the sector-

(Numbers of the frontier marks in the sector in which the frontier may be crossed)

and to remain in the frontier zone of Afghanistan.

FRONTIER COMMISSIONER OF THE USSR

(Title, surname)

STAMP

-----13------) -19----- (-

> Page 3 (Afghan text of page 2)

_____, born on-___

(Title, surname)

STAMP

Page 5

(Afghan text of page 4)

1959

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ANNEX 3

SPECIMEN

Page 1

(Size : 10×15 cm)

| CERTIFICATE | ; |
|--|-------|
| Space for photograph (For secretaries and interpreters) | |
| | |
| | |
| (Signature of holder) | STAMP |

1

Page 2 (Russian text)

In virtue of the Treaty between the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Royal Government of Afghanistan concerning the regime of the Soviet-Afghan State frontier, signed at Moscow on 18 January 1958 (28 Jeddi 1336),

| (Title, surname, | , first name | and | patronymic) |
|------------------|--------------|-----|-------------|
|------------------|--------------|-----|-------------|

residing at _____, born on _

(Day, month and year of birth)

FRONTIER COMMISSIONER OF THE USSR

(Title, surname)

STAMP

Page 3

(Afghan text of page 2)



(Title, surname)

Page 5

(Afghan text of page 4)

ANNEX 4

SPECIMEN

Page 1

(Size : 10×15 cm)

PASS Good for a single crossing of the Soviet-Afghan frontier in both directions (For experts and witnesses)

Page 2 (Russian text)

In virtue of the Treaty between the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Royal Government of Afghanistan concerning the regime of the Soviet-Afghan State frontier, signed at Moscow on 18 January 1958 (28 Jeddi 1336),

(Title, surname, first name and patronymic)

residing at------born on----

(Day, month and year of birth)

is entitled to cross the Soviet-Afghan frontier in both directions in the sector-----

(Name of sector)

and to be present in the frontier zone of Afghanistan.

Valid from--------- hours----hours------19------

to-----

FRONTIER COMMISSIONER OF THE USSR

(Title and surname)

STAMP

(Place and date of issue)

Page 3

(Afghan text of page 2)

Page 4 (Russian text)

This pass has been presented to me and will remain valid for the period stated on pages 2 and 3.

FRONTIER COMMISSIONER OF AFGHANISTAN





(Afghan text of page 4)

PROTOCOL No. 1

When concluding the Treaty between the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Royal Government of Afghanistan concerning the regime of the Soviet-Afghan State frontier, signed at Moscow on 18 January 1958 (28 Jeddi 1336),¹ the undersigned plenipotentiaries of the Contracting Parties, desiring to prevent the occurrence of incidents on the Soviet-Afghan frontier and, in the event of the occurrence of such incidents, to ensure their rapid investigation and settlement, have agreed that the Frontier Commissioners of the Contracting Parties shall be required, in their respective territories :

I. To take the necessary steps to prevent the occurrence of incidents on the frontier.

II. To take the necessary steps, giving notice thereof, to the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party, to prevent the commission of criminal acts in the territory of the other Party by armed or unarmed persons, and to prevent such persons from crossing the frontier in either direction.

¹ See p. 166 of this volume.

If such criminals violate the frontier and cross from the territory of one Party into the territory of the other, the competent authorities of the first Party shall notify the competent authorities of the other Party accordingly.

III. To take the necessary steps to prevent the preparation of any acts or attempts that might be detrimental to the security and tranquillity of the frontier zone or to the interests of the other Contracting Party, or that might give provocation to the residents of the said zone, and to take action against persons who collaborate in or sponsor illegal crossing of the frontier and who incite residents to migrate from the territory of one Party to the territory of the other.

If it is established that persons guilty of the acts referred to in the first paragraph of this section are in the frontier zone of one of the Contracting Parties, the competent authorities of that Contracting Party shall, either on their own initiative or on information or documents from the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party concerning those persons, or on information regarding their whereabouts, take the necessary steps, in accordance with their national legislation, to prevent such acts from being committed.

IV. To take the necessary steps to prevent smuggling and to remove smugglers from the frontier zone.

V. To take the necessary measures to prevent steppe fires.

If a steppe fire breaks out near the frontier, the Contracting Party in whose territory the fire began shall take all necessary and possible measures to localize and extinguish the fire and to prevent it from spreading across the frontier.

If a steppe fire threatens to spread across the frontier, the Contracting Party in whose territory the threat arises shall forthwith notify the other Contracting Party so that the necessary measures may be taken to stop the fire at the frontier.

VI. To take preventive measures against the spread of epidemics, epizootics and agricultural pests to the territory of the other Contracting Party.

To that end, the competent authorities of the Contracting Party on whose territory the epidemic, epizootic or agricultural pests originate are required to notify the competent authorities of the other Party thereof.

Where an epizootic is suspected among animals due to be transferred from the territory of one Party to the territory of the other, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall take the necessary steps to prevent the spread of the epizootic, in accordance with the health and veterinary control regulations of each of the Contracting Parties.

VII. To investigate and, where necessary, settle all frontier incidents including the following :

(1) Shots fired across the frontier at persons, animals, objects or the territory of the other Contracting Party;

(2) Cases of homicide, wounding, infliction of bodily harm or any other injury to health resulting from shots fired across the frontier or during the crossing thereof, or any acts of violence against the nationals of one Party while they are in the territory of the other Party; (3) Unlawful crossing of the frontier by officials or private persons. In such cases the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall hold an immediate investigation and, if it is established that the frontier was crossed unintentionally, the said persons shall be returned to the territory of the State from which they came. Neither Contracting Party may refuse to re-admit persons who are proved to have crossed the frontier unintentionally;

(4) The forcible introduction of persons into the territory of the other Party;

(5) Manifestations or acts on the frontier that are offensive to the other Party;

(6) Violation of the frontier by aircraft or by boats or other water-borne vessels;

(7) Cases where fishing boats, fishing equipment or other objects belonging to one Party are found on the territory of the other Party as a result of natural causes;

(8) Removal or destruction of, or damage to, frontier marks or other frontier structures, including those on rivers;

(9) Theft or destruction of, or damage to, State, private or other property in the territory of the other Party.

In such cases the State, private or other property which has been stolen or removed, either by accident or deliberately, to the territory of the other Party shall, where possible, be returned to the Party to which it belongs. If such property cannot be returned in its original state, either entirely or partially, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall decide by common agreement whether compensation is payable and the amount due;

(10) Photographing of the frontier territory of the other Party;

(11) Cases where domestic animals or poultry wander or are driven across the frontier. Domestic animals or poultry that have wandered or been driven across the frontier shall, as far as possible, be returned to the Party to which they belong. (Compensation for material loss incurred in this way shall be made in accordance with the regulations set forth in paragraph 9 of section VII of this Protocol);

(12) The spread of fire across the frontier into the territory of the other Party;

(13) Negotiations and other forms of communication across the frontier between officials or private persons without authority therefor;

(14) Other frontier incidents.

VIII. To investigate and settle, within the limits of their competence, claims for all forms of compensation arising out of a frontier incident, submitted by one of the Parties or by persons in its territory.

When settling a frontier incident in accordance with paragraphs 7, 8, 9 and 11 of section VII of this Protocol, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall at the same time settle the matter of returning property found in the territory of the other Party. This Protocol, which forms an integral part of the Treaty, has been drawn up in two copies, in the Russian and Persian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

SIGNED at Moscow, on 18 January 1958 (28 Jeddi 1336).

For the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics :

of Afghanistan : Abdul Hakim Shahalami

For the Royal Government

А. А. Gromyko

PROTOCOL No. 2

In pursuance of article 27 of the Treaty between the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Royal Government of Afghanistan concerning the regime of the Soviet-Afghan State frontier, concluded at Moscow on 18 January 1958 (28 Jeddi 1336), the undersigned plenipotentiaries of the Contracting Parties have decided that the areas in the charge of the frontier commissioners shall be as follows:

For the USSR :

1. The frontier commissioner for the Takhta-Bazar Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the village of Takhta-Bazar, shall be in charge of the area extending from the junction of the State frontiers of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Afghanistan and Iran to frontier mark No. 53.

2. The frontier commissioner for the Kerki Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the town of Kerki, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 53 to frontier mark No. 91.

3. The frontier commissioner for the Surkhan-Darya Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the town of Termez, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 91 to frontier mark No. 112.

4. The frontier commissioner for the Kirovabad Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the town of Kirovabad, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 112 to frontier mark No. 137.

5. The frontier commissioner for the Shuroabad Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the town of Shuroabad, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 137 to frontier mark No. 156.

6. The frontier commissioner for the Kalai-Khumb Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the village of Kalai-Khumb, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 156 to frontier mark No. 173.

7. The frontier commissioner for the Khorog Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the town of Khorog, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 173 to frontier mark No. 215.

8. The frontier commissioner for the Murgab Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the village of Murgab, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 215 to the junction of the State frontiers of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Afghanistan and the Chinese People's Republic.

No. 4655

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For Afghanistan :

1. The frontier commissioner for the Turgundi Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the village of Turgundi, shall be in charge of the area extending from the junction of the State frontiers of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Afghanistan and Iran to frontier mark No. 53.

2. The frontier commissioner for the Andkhui Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the town of Andkhui, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 53 to frontier mark No. 71/2.

3. The frontier commissioner for the Siahgird Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the village of Siahgird, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 71/2 to Aiwaj (frontier mark No. 112).

4. The frontier commissioner for the Hazrat-i-Imam-Sahib Sector, with a permanent place of residence in Hazrat-i-Imam-Sahib, shall be in charge of the area extending from Aiwaj (frontier mark No. 112) to Kala-i-kuf in Badakhshan (frontier mark No. 156).

5. The frontier commissioner for the Darwaz Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the village of Darwaz, shall be in charge of the area extending from Kala-i-Kuf in Badakhshan (frontier mark No. 156) to Kala-i-Wamar (frontier mark No. 179).

6. The frontier commissioner for the Ishkashim Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the village of Ishkashim, shall be in charge of the area extending from Kala-i-Wamar (frontier mark No. 179) to the junction of the State frontiers of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Afghanistan and the Chinese People's Republic.

This Protocol, which forms an integral part of the Treaty, has been drawn up in two copies, each in the Russian and Persian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

SIGNED at Moscow, on 18 January 1958 (28 Jeddi 1336).

| For the Government | For the Royal Government |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| of the Union of Soviet | of Afghanistan : |
| Socialist Republics : | |
| A. A. Gromyko | Abdul Hakim Shahalami |

PROTOCOL No. 3

When concluding the Treaty between the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Royal Government of Afghanistan concerning the regime of the Soviet-Afghan State frontier, signed at Moscow on 18 January 1958 (28 Jeddi 1336), the undersigned plenipotentiaries of the Contracting Parties agreed as follows:

In consequence of the conclusion of this Treaty, the following Agreements shall alone be considered as superseded and no longer in force :

I. Agreements concluded through an exchange of notes between the USSR and Afghanistan :

1. Concerning the settlement of frontier incidents on the Soviet-Afghan frontier, dated 13 September 1932 (22 Sumbula 1311);

2. Concerning changes in the assignment of Afghan assistant frontier commissioners in the Andkhui, Kara-Tepe (Turgundi) and Khamiab sectors, dated 1 August 1933 (10 Asad 1312), No. 2123/1782-8 August 1933, No. 519;

3. Fixing the period of validity of visas issued to the frontier commissioners and deputy and assistant frontier commissioners of both Parties, dated 16 January 1934, No. 55-1 February 1934 (12 Dalv 1312), No. 4708/3923;

4. Concerning the assignment of deputy frontier commissioners and deputy assistant frontier commissioners to sectors in the charge of frontier commissioners and assistant frontier commissioners, dated 13 February 1943, No. 17—13 February 1943 (24 Dalv 1321), No. 1430/536;

5. Changing the date of the annual joint control survey of frontier marks from May to September, dated 21 August 1950, No. 354—31 October 1950 (8 Aqrab 1329), No. 680-314;

6. Concerning the transfer of part of the Khamiab sector to the Andhkui sector dated 9 December 1951 (16 Kaus 1330) No. 790-404-15 March 1952, No. 47;

II. Instructions concerning the regular maintenance and inspection of frontier marks of the State frontier between the USSR and Afghanistan in the sector extending from Zulfikar to Lake Zor-Kul, signed on 7 March 1948 (17 Hut 1326).

This Protocol, which forms an integral part of the Treaty, has been drawn up in two copies, each in the Russian and Persian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

SIGNED at Moscow, on 18 January 1958 (28 Jeddi 1336).

For the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics : For the Royal Government of Afghanistan :

А. А. GROMYKO

Abdul Hakim Shahalami

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