

## SESSION II.

1918.

NEW ZEALAND.

# ARMISTICE BETWEEN GERMANY AND THE ALLIED POWERS

(DETAILED TERMS OF).

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*Laid on the Table of the House of Representatives by Leave.*

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COPY of TELEGRAM, dated London, 11th November, 1918 (received 8 p.m., 12th November, 1918), from the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES to the GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF NEW ZEALAND.

*A. Clauses relating to the Western Front.*

1. CESSATION of operations by land and in the air six hours after the signature of the Armistice.

2. Immediate evacuation of invaded countries—Belgium, France, Alsace-Lorraine, Luxemburg—so ordered as to be completed within fourteen days from the signature of the Armistice. German troops which have not left the above-mentioned territories within the period fixed will become prisoners of war. Occupation by the Allied and United States Forces jointly will keep pace with the evacuation in these areas. All movements of evacuation and occupation will be regulated in accordance with a Note (Annexure 1).\*

3. Repatriation, beginning at once, to be completed within fourteen days of all inhabitants of the countries above enumerated (including hostages, persons under trial or convicted).

4. Surrender in good condition by the German Armies of the following equipment: Five thousand guns (two thousand five hundred heavy, two thousand five hundred field); thirty thousand machine guns; three thousand minenwerfer; two thousand aeroplanes (fighters, bombers, day and night bombing-machines). The above to be delivered *in situ* to the Allied and United States troops in accordance with the detailed conditions laid down in the Note (Annexure 1).

5. Evacuation by the German Armies of the countries on the left bank of the Rhine. These countries on the left bank of the Rhine shall be administered by the local authorities under the control of the Allied and United States Armies of occupation. The occupation of these territories will be carried out by Allied and United States garrisons holding the principal crossings of the Rhine (Mayence, Coblenz, Cologne), together with bridge-heads at these points of a thirty-kilometre radius on the right bank, and by garrisons similarly holding the strategic points of these regions. A neutral zone shall be set up on the right bank of the Rhine between the river and a line drawn ten kilometres distance, starting from the Dutch frontier, to the Swiss frontier. In the case of inhabitants, no person shall be prosecuted for having taken part in any military measures previous to the signing of the Armistice. No measure of a general or official

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\* Annexures not yet received.

character shall be taken which would have as a consequence the depreciation of industrial establishments or a reduction of their personnel. Evacuation by the enemy of Rhineland shall be so ordered as to be completed within a further period of eleven days, in all twenty-five days after the signature of the Armistice. All movements of evacuation and occupation will be regulated according to the Note (Annexure 1).\*

6. In all territory evacuated by the enemy there shall be no evacuation of inhabitants; no damage or harm shall be done to the persons or property of the inhabitants. No destruction of any kind to be committed. Military establishments of all kinds shall be delivered intact, as well as military stores of food, munitions, equipment not removed during the periods fixed for evacuation. Stores of food of all kinds for the civil population, cattle, &c., shall be left *in situ*. Industrial establishments shall not be impaired in any way, and their personnel shall not be moved.

7. Roads and means of communication of every kind, railroads, waterways, main roads, bridges, telegraphs, telephones shall be in no manner impaired. All civil and military personnel at present employed on them shall remain. Five thousand locomotives, one hundred and fifty thousand wagons, and five thousand motor-lorries in good working-order with all necessary spare parts and fittings shall be delivered to the Associated Powers within the period fixed for the evacuation of Belgium and Luxemburg. The railways of Alsace-Lorraine shall be handed over within the same period, together with all pre-war personnel and material. Further, material necessary for the working of railways in the country on the left bank of the Rhine shall be left *in situ*. All stores of coal and material for upkeep of permanent-way, signals, and repair-shops shall be left *in situ* and kept as far as the means of communication are concerned in an efficient state by Germany during the whole period of the Armistice. All barges taken from the Allies shall be restored to them. The Note appended as Annexure 2\* regulates the details of these measures.

8. The German Command shall be responsible for revealing all mines or delay-action fuses disposed on territory evacuated by the German troops, and shall assist in their discovery and destruction. The German Command shall also reveal all destructive measures that may have been taken (such as poisoning or pollution of springs, wells, &c.), under penalty of reprisals.

9. The right of requisition shall be exercised by the Allied and United States Armies in all occupied territory, save for settlement of accounts with authorized persons; the upkeep of the troops of occupation in the Rhineland (excluding Alsace-Lorraine) shall be charged to the German Government.

10. The immediate repatriation, without reciprocity, according to detailed conditions which shall be fixed, of all Allied and United States prisoners of war; the Allied Powers and the United States of America shall be able to dispose of these prisoners as they wish. However, the return of the German prisoners of war interned in Holland and Switzerland shall continue as heretofore. The return of German prisoners of war shall be settled at Peace preliminaries.

11. Sick and wounded who cannot be removed from evacuated territory will be cared for by German personnel, who will be left on the spot with the medical material required.

#### B. *Clauses relating to the Eastern Frontiers of Germany.*

12. All German troops at present in any territory which before the war belonged to Russia, Roumania, or Turkey shall withdraw within the frontiers of Germany as they existed on the 1st August, 1914; and all German troops at present in territories which before the war formed part of Russia must likewise return to within the frontiers of Germany as above defined as soon as the Allies shall think the moment suitable, having regard to the internal situation of these territories.

13. Evacuation by German troops to begin at once; and all German instructors, prisoners, and civilian as well as military agents now on the territory of Russia (as defined on the 1st August, 1914) to be recalled.

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\* Annexures not yet received.

14. German troops to cease at once all requisitions and seizures, and any other undertaking with a view to obtaining supplies intended for Germany, in Roumania and Russia as defined on the 1st August, 1914.

15. Abandonment of the Treaties of Bucharest and Brest-Litovsk, and of the supplementary treaties.

16. The Allies shall have free access to the territories evacuated by the Germans on their eastern frontier, either through Danzig or by the Vistula, in order to convey supplies to the population of those territories or for the purpose of maintaining order.

*C. Clause relating to East Africa.*

17. Unconditional evacuation of all German Forces operating in East Africa within one month.

*D. General Clauses.*

18. Repatriation, without reciprocity, within a maximum period of one month, in accordance with detailed conditions hereafter to be fixed, of all civilians interned or deported who may be citizens of other Allied or Associated States than those mentioned in clause 3.

19. With the reservation that any future claims and demands of the Allies and United States of America remain unaffected, the following financial conditions are required: Reparation for damage done. While the Armistice lasts no public securities shall be removed by the enemy which can serve as a pledge to the Allies for the recovery or reparation for war losses. Immediate restitution of the cash-deposit in the National Bank of Belgium, and, in general, immediate return of all documents, specie, stock, shares, paper money, together with plant for the issue thereof, touching public or private interests in the invaded countries. Restitution of the Russian and Roumanian gold yielded to Germany or taken by that Power. This gold to be delivered, in trust, to the Allies until the signature of Peace.

*E. Naval Conditions.*

20. Immediate cessation of all hostilities at sea, and definite information to be given as to the location and movements of all German ships. Notification to be given to neutrals that freedom of navigation in territorial waters is given to the Naval and Mercantile Marines of the Allied and Associated Powers, all questions of neutrality being waived.

21. All Naval and Mercantile Marine prisoners of war of the Allied and Associated Powers in German hands to be returned without reciprocity.

22. In order to meet our wishes the text will be modified as follows: Handing over to the Allies and the United States of all submarines (including all submarine cruisers and mine-layers) which are present at the moment with full complement in the ports specified by the Allies and the United States. Those that cannot put to sea to be deprived of crews and supplies, and shall remain under the supervision of the Allies and the United States. Submarines ready to put to sea shall be prepared to leave German ports immediately on receipt of wireless order to sail to the port of surrender, the remainder to follow as early as possible. The conditions of this article shall be carried out within fourteen days after the signing of the Armistice.

23. The following German surface warships, which shall be designated by the Allies and the United States of America, shall forthwith be disarmed and thereafter interned in neutral ports, or, failing them, Allied ports, to be designated by the Allies and the United States of America, and placed under the surveillance of the Allies and the United States of America, only caretakers being left on board, namely: Six battle-cruisers; ten battleships; eight light cruisers, including two mine-layers; fifty destroyers of the most modern types. All other surface warships (including river craft) are to be concentrated in German naval bases to be designated by the Allies and the United States of America, and are to be paid off and completely disarmed and placed under the supervision of the Allies and the United States of America. All vessels of the auxiliary fleet (trawlers, motor-vessels, &c.) are to be disarmed. All vessels specified for internment shall be ready to leave German ports seven days after the signing of the Armistice. Directions for voyage will be given by wireless.

(NOTE.—A declaration has been signed by the Allied delegates and handed to the German delegates to the effect that in the event of ships not being handed over owing to the mutinous state of the Fleet, the Allies reserve the right to occupy Heligoland as an advanced base to enable them to enforce the terms of Armistice. The German delegates have on their part signed a declaration that they will recommend the Chancellor to accept this.)

24. The Allies and the United States of America shall have the right to sweep up all minelands and obstructions laid by Germany outside German territorial waters, and the positions of these are to be indicated.

25. Freedom of access to and from the Baltic to be given to the Naval and Mercantile Marines of the Allies and Associated Powers. To secure this the Allies and the United States of America shall be empowered to occupy all German ports, fortifications, batteries, and defence works of all kinds in all the entrances from the Cattegat into the Baltic, and to sweep up all mines and obstructions within and without German territorial waters without any questions of neutrality being raised, and the positions of all such mines and obstructions are to be indicated.

26. The existing blockade conditions set up by the Allied and Associated Powers are to remain unchanged, and all German merchant ships found at sea are to remain liable to capture. The Allies and United States contemplate the provisioning of Germany during the Armistice as shall be found necessary.

27. All Naval aircraft are to be concentrated and immobilized in German bases to be specified by the Allies and the United States of America.

28. In evacuating Belgian coasts and ports Germany shall abandon all merchant ships, tugs, lighters, cranes, and all other harbour materials, all materials for inland navigation, all aircraft and air materials and stores, all arms and armaments, and all stores and apparatus of all kinds.

29. All Black Sea ports are to be evacuated by Germany. All Russian warships of all descriptions seized by Germany in the Black Sea are to be handed over to the Allies and the United States of America. All neutral merchant ships seized are to be released. All warlike and other materials of all kinds seized in those ports are to be returned, and German materials as specified in clause 28 are to be abandoned.

30. All merchant ships in German hands belonging to the Allies and Associated Powers are to be restored in ports to be specified by the Allies and the United States of America without reciprocity.

31. No destruction of ships or materials to be permitted before evacuation, surrender, or restoration.

32. The German Government shall formally notify the neutral Governments of the world, and particularly the Governments of Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Holland, that all restrictions placed on the trading of their vessels with the Allied and associated countries, whether by the German Government or by private German interests, and whether in return for specific concessions such as the export of shipbuilding materials or not, are immediately cancelled.

33. No transfers of German merchant shipping of any description to any neutral flag are to take place after signature of the Armistice.

#### F. *Duration of Armistice.*

34. The duration of the Armistice is to be thirty-six days, with option to extend. During this period, on failure of execution of any of the above clauses, the Armistice may be denounced by one of the contracting parties on thirty-eight hours' previous notice.

#### G. *Time-limit for Reply.*

35. This Armistice to be accepted or refused by Germany within seventy-two hours of notification.

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*Approximate Cost of Paper.*—Preparation, not given; printing (750 copies), £4.