

N° 2314.

FRANCE
ET GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET IRLANDE DU NORD ET
ÉTAT LIBRE D'IRLANDE

Accord pour la réparation des dommages de guerre. Signé à Paris, le 2 août 1929.

FRANCE
AND GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND
AND IRISH FREE STATE

Agreement for the Compensation of War Damage. Signed at Paris, August 2, 1929.

¹ TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

No. 2314. — AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENTS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND IN THE IRISH FREE STATE FOR THE COMPENSATION OF WAR DAMAGE. SIGNED AT PARIS, AUGUST 2, 1929.

French official text communicated by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the French Republic and His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in Great Britain. The registration of this Agreement took place April 14, 1930.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC, for the one part, and THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND and OF THE IRISH FREE STATE, for the other part, being equally desirous of securing compensation for certain material and direct war damage, have decided for this purpose to conclude the following agreement :

Article 1.

The Contracting Parties undertake to grant, according to the terms defined by the present agreement, to their respective nationals referred to in articles 2 and 3, sufferers from war damage on the territories referred to in these articles, compensation for this damage under the conditions laid down by the laws or regulations there in force.

The nationals of each of the Contracting Parties shall produce documents to prove their personal status and calling. These documents shall be forwarded through the diplomatic channel accompanied by an attestation that the parties concerned are French nationals or British nationals of the territories referred to in the preamble to the present agreement.

Article 2.

British nationals who have suffered on French home territory such war damage to property as is referred to in French legislation, exclusive of the damage mentioned in article 6 below, shall be admitted to the benefit of the said legislation.

As regards real property and appurtenances or professional equipment, the benefit of the French legislation shall not accrue to the parties concerned unless they allocate or have allocated to the reconstitution or putting into order of the damaged property or, if the war sufferer is not in a position to effect this reconstitution, to the reconstitution of properties for similar use, a sum equivalent to the total compensation paid by the French State.

¹ Traduction du Foreign Office de Sa Majesté britannique.

¹ Translation of His Britannic Majesty's Foreign Office.

Article 3.

French nationals who have suffered in the territories of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland or of the Irish Free State damage other than that mentioned in article 6 below, shall be compensated by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland or by the Government of the Irish Free State, as the case may be, under the conditions applied by the " Royal Commission on Compensation for Suffering and Damage by Enemy Action " to British nationals.

Article 4.

As regards, in particular, household effects, if they have not been reconstituted in the country where the damage occurred :

(a) The British nationals referred to in article 2 shall receive in France the amount of the actual loss (1914 value) after deduction of the sums which they have already received from their Government for the same damage ;

(b) In the same case the French war sufferers referred to in article 3 shall have the right in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and in the Irish Free State to a compensation allocated according to the rules laid down by the " Royal Commission on Compensation for Suffering and Damage by Enemy Action " for British nationals.

In the event of the reconstitution having been effected in the country where the damage occurred, each of the Contracting Parties undertakes to treat the nationals of the other in the same conditions as its own nationals.

Article 5.

The benefit of the provisions of the preceding articles is likewise granted to private or joint-stock companies constituted in the territories referred to in articles 2 and 3 under the provisions of the legislation of the Contracting Parties.

The said companies shall be required to prove their situation by the production of conclusive documents transmitted under the conditions defined by the second paragraph of article 1.

Article 6.

No right to the compensation provided for in the present agreement shall exist in the case of :

- (1) Fines and pecuniary penalties inflicted by the enemy ;
- (2) Damage relating to the housing of troops of the Allied Powers on the march or in billets, to military intended supplies and requisitions ;
- (3) Damage relating to securities and coupons and bearer certificates of all kinds, including cash.

Article 7.

The amount of the compensation already paid to the British subjects referred to in article 2 by the Governments of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of the Irish Free State on account of war damage suffered in France shall be deducted from the amount of the payments to be made by the French Treasury for the same damage on the basis of the rate of exchange at the time when the payments were made by the British authorities. The amount and the date of the payments shall be notified to the French Government within a period of six months from the date of the official publication of the present agreement.

Article 8.

The settlement of the compensation shall be effected in France for the benefit of the British nationals referred to in article 2 under the conditions and according to the terms of payment applicable to French war sufferers.

Reciprocally the settlement of compensation shall be effected in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and in the Irish Free State for the benefit of the French nationals referred to in article 3 under the same conditions and according to the terms of payment applicable to British war sufferers.

Article 9.

The compensation to be paid by the French Government shall not, however, bear interest under the conditions provided for by the French war damage law, except as from the 1st January, 1925.

Article 10.

The claims of the British subjects referred to in article 2 shall only be receivable if they have been already lodged with the competent French authorities or with the competent British authorities within the limits of time prescribed by the laws or regulations of one or other of the Contracting Parties.

Claims for compensation on the part of the British subjects referred to in article 2, which have been addressed directly to their authorities, shall be forwarded within a period of six months from the official publication of the present agreement to the French Government, which shall submit them to the organisations for assessment provided for by French legislation.

The French nationals who have suffered war damage in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland or in the Irish Free State shall be allowed a period of six months from the official publication of the present agreement to place their claims for compensation in the hands of the British authorities through the French Embassy in London.

In faith whereof the undersigned, duly authorised to that effect, have signed the present agreement and have affixed thereto their seals.

Done at Paris, the 2nd August, 1929.

For the Government of the French Republic :

(Signed) A. BRIAND.

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

(Signed) TYRRELL OF AVON.

For the Government of the Irish Free State :

(Signed) P. MCGILLIGAN.