

No. 576

POLAND
and
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Convention concerning the procedure for the settlement of frontier disputes and incidents (with annexes, protocol, and final protocol). Signed at Moscow, on 8 July 1948

Polish and Russian official texts communicated by the Permanent Representative of Poland to the United Nations. The registration took place on 13 September 1949.

POLOGNE
et
UNION DES REPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES SOVIETIQUES

Convention relative au mode de règlement des conflits et incidents de frontière (avec annexes, protocole et protocole final). Signés à Moscou, le 8 juillet 1948

Textes officiels polonais et russe communiqués par le représentant permanent de la Pologne auprès de l'Organisation des Nations Unies. L'enregistrement a eu lieu le 13 septembre 1949.

TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION

No. 576. CONVENTION¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE POLISH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS CONCERNING THE PROCEDURE FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF FRONTIER DISPUTES AND INCIDENTS. SIGNED AT MOSCOW, ON 8 JULY 1948

The Government of the Polish Republic and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, being desirous of obviating any disputes or incidents that might arise on the frontier established by the Agreement of 16 August 1945² between the Polish Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the Soviet-Polish frontier, and, if such disputes or incidents should arise, of ensuring for their prompt investigation and settlement, have resolved to conclude the present Convention for that purpose and have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries the undersigned, who, having exchanged their full powers, found to be in good and due form, have agreed as follows:

Article I

The Government of the Polish Republic and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall each appoint Frontier Commissioners whose duty it shall be, in accordance with article V of the present Convention, to take appropriate steps for the prevention of frontier disputes and incidents, for their investigation and, in appropriate cases, for their settlement.

Each Frontier Commissioner shall, in co-operation with the Frontier Commissioner of the other Contracting Party, perform the functions arising out of the provisions of the present Convention within the limits of his sector of the frontier.

Article II

The number of Frontier Commissioners, the sectors in which they will operate and the places of their official residence shall be laid down in the Protocol attached to the present Convention.

¹ Came into force on 15 March 1949 upon the exchange of notes at Warsaw, in accordance with article XIX.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Volume 10, page 193.

The surnames and first names of the Frontier Commissioners and their Deputies shall be reciprocally notified through the diplomatic channel.

Article III

Each Frontier Commissioner shall be entitled to appoint the necessary number of assistants and to call in experts.

The Frontier Commissioners shall notify one another of the surnames, first names and places of official residence of their assistants.

The Deputies shall enjoy all the rights conferred on the Frontier Commissioners.

The extent of the powers and functions of the assistants shall be specified in the commissions issued to them by the Frontier Commissioners.

Article IV

Credentials in the languages of the two Parties shall be issued to the persons mentioned in article III of the present Convention, namely:

To the Frontier Commissioners of the Polish Republic and their Deputies, by the Chief Inspector of the Frontier Guard;

To the Frontier Commissioners of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and their Deputies, by the officer commanding the Frontier Forces of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics;

To Assistants, by the Frontier Commissioners concerned.

Article V

It shall be the duty of the Frontier Commissioners of the two Contracting Parties:

(A) To take the necessary steps to obviate any disputes or incidents that might arise on the frontier.

(B) To investigate, and, where appropriate, to settle all frontier disputes and incidents, including cases:

1. Where shots are fired across the frontier at persons or on the territory of the other Contracting Party.

2. Where persons on the territory of either Contracting Party are killed or wounded as the result of shots fired across the frontier, or where such persons

suffer bodily injury, damage, interference, or other injury to their health or acts of violence.

3. Where the frontier is illegally crossed by official persons in the course of their official business or in connexion therewith. In such cases the Frontier Commissioners must hold an immediate enquiry and, if it is established that the frontier was crossed unintentionally, the persons concerned should be sent back to the territory of the State from which they came.

4. Where the frontier is unintentionally crossed by private persons; in such cases the Frontier Commissioners must specify how such persons are to be returned to the territory of the State from which they came.

5. Where persons settle illegally on the territory of the other Party.

6. Where the frontier is crossed by river or sea-going vessels or boats, or by aircraft, at points other than the points of entry established by the relevant agreements.

7. Where fishing boats and tackle are discovered to have been driven by the elements on to the territory of the other Party.

8. Where frontier or fairway marks indicating the main channel are moved, damaged or destroyed.

9. Where photographs are taken of the frontier territory of the other Party.

10. Where State or other property on the frontier territory of the other Party is stolen, destroyed or damaged.

11. Where the frontier is crossed by domestic animals or poultry.

12. Where fires spread across the frontier into the territory of the other Party.

13. Where conversations are conducted across the frontier unless they are held between officials authorized for that purpose.

14. Where other frontier disputes and incidents arise which do not require settlement through the diplomatic channel.

(C) To investigate and settle any compensation claims lodged by one of the Parties in consequence of a frontier dispute or incident.

When settling a frontier dispute or incident in accordance with paragraphs 6, 7, 10 and 11 of the present article, the Frontier Commissioners shall also settle questions concerning the procedure for the return of property left in the territory of the other Contracting Party.

Article VI

The Frontier Commissioners shall take all the steps in their power to settle frontier disputes and incidents arising on the frontier. Each Frontier Commissioner shall be entitled, at his discretion, to submit any matter which is of particular gravity for settlement through the diplomatic channel after informing the Frontier Commissioner of the other Party.

Frontier disputes or incidents of particular gravity, as, for example, cases of homicide or grievous bodily injury, must always be submitted for settlement through the diplomatic channel.

Nevertheless, in all such cases, the Frontier Commissioners must make the necessary enquiries into the dispute or incident in question and record the results of the investigation in a minute of the meeting. Disputes and incidents on the settlement of which the Frontier Commissioners have failed to agree, shall be settled through the diplomatic channel.

Article VII

Decisions taken conjointly by the Frontier Commissioners in definite settlement of a particular frontier dispute or incident shall be final.

Decisions on compensation for damages, where the amount of the latter exceeds US \$500, shall be subject to confirmation by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Polish Republic and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR. A detailed reckoning of the sums due to each Party on the basis of agreements reached in respect of compensation for damage shall be made by the Frontier Commissioners on 31 March, 30 June, 30 September and 31 December of each year.

Questions on which no agreement has been reached between the Frontier Commissioners shall be referred for settlement through the diplomatic channel.

Questions on which no agreement has been reached between the Assistants shall be referred to the Frontier Commissioners for settlement.

Article VIII

The Frontier Commissioners and their Assistants shall carry out their joint duties at meetings or interviews. For each meeting of the Frontier Commissioners or of their Assistants minutes shall be drawn up summarizing the proceedings of the meeting and the decisions taken. Simultaneously with the adoption of decisions, time limits shall be fixed for their implementation.

The decisions of the Frontier Commissioners and their Deputies shall be deemed to be final and binding for 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 insists that the matter in question be considered at a meeting.

For each interview between the Assistants a record shall be drawn up setting out in detail the action taken by them and, where necessary, recording the conclusions drawn and the proposals made.

The minutes of meetings of the Frontier Commissioners and the records of interviews between their Assistants shall be drawn up in two identical copies, each in the official languages of the two Parties. Decisions taken by the Assistants shall come into force only after they have been confirmed by the Frontier Commissioners.

Article IX

Meetings or interviews between the Frontier Commissioners shall be held on the proposal of either of them and as far as possible on the date mentioned in the proposal. The reply to the proposal must be given as far as possible without delay, and in any case not later than forty-eight hours after its receipt. If the proposed date suggested for the meeting or interview is unacceptable, another date should at once be proposed in the reply.

The Frontier Commissioner of either Contracting Party must personally attend a meeting or interview to which he is invited by the Frontier Commissioner of the other Contracting Party, unless he is absent for valid reasons (illness, absence on business, leave of absence). In this case the functions of Frontier Commissioner shall be discharged by his Deputy, who must give notice thereof beforehand to the Frontier Commissioner of the other Party. By agreement between the Frontier Commissioners meetings and interviews may also be held between their Deputies.

Interviews between the Assistants shall be held only on instructions from the Frontier Commissioners.

Meetings or interviews between the Frontier Commissioners or the Assistants may also be attended by the secretaries and interpreters and also where necessary by the experts of both Parties.

Article X

The meetings and interviews referred to in article IX of the present Convention must, as a rule, be held on the territory of the Party whose Frontier Commissioner has suggested the meeting or interview.

Nevertheless, the Frontier Commissioners or Assistants may depart from this principle if such departure has a definite purpose.

Meetings or interviews shall be held under the direction of the Frontier Commissioner or the Assistant of the Party on whose territory the negotiations are held.

The agenda of the meeting must be submitted at the same time as the invitation and be settled after preliminary discussion or by correspondence. In exceptional cases questions not on the agenda may, if jointly so agreed, also be considered.

Article XI

In order to clarify the facts of the case, the Frontier Commissioners and their Assistants may, if previously so agreed, conduct enquiries into frontier disputes and incidents on the spot.

Such investigations shall be directed by the Party on whose territory they are held.

Appropriate records or other documents concerning the investigations must be drawn up and annexed to the minutes of the meeting.

These records and other documents shall be drawn up in accordance with the regulations laid down in article VIII of the present Convention.

Article XII

The Frontier Commissioners shall be bound to inform each other at the earliest possible moment of the steps taken in accordance with the decisions adopted at the meeting or interview.

Article XIII

The Frontier Commissioners shall, by common agreement, designate meeting points on the frontier at which their official correspondence shall be exchanged and persons and property handed over in accordance with paragraphs 3, 4, 6, 7 and 10 of article V. Animals shall be handed over in the area where they crossed the frontier.

The Frontier Commissioners or their Assistants shall agree between themselves in each case where and when such handing over shall take place.

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

The handing over of persons must be done by the Frontier Commissioners or their Assistants themselves. The other official duties enumerated in the present article may be performed by the officers commanding the frontier guard on instructions from the Frontier Commissioners and in their absence.

The Frontier Commissioners shall establish by common agreement specimen forms of receipts to be issued on receiving correspondence or taking over animals or other property. The Frontier Commissioners shall agree upon the signals to be used to summon the frontier guards of the other Party.

Article XIV

The Frontier Commissioners, their Deputies, Assistants, secretaries, interpreters and experts may cross the frontier to perform their official duties arising out of the provisions of the present Convention.

The Frontier Commissioners and their Deputies and Assistants shall cross the frontier on producing the written credentials provided for in article IV of the present Convention, which must bear the photograph and signature of the holder and the visa of the Frontier Commissioner of the other Party (for specimen credentials see Annexes 1 and 2).

Secretaries and interpreters shall cross the frontier on producing a certificate issued by the Frontier Commissioner of either Party. The certificate must bear the photograph and signature of the holder and also the visa of the Frontier Commissioner of the other Party (for specimen certificate see Annex 3).

The above-mentioned visas shall be issued for several frontier crossings and for a period of six months.

Furthermore, persons whose presence is essential for the clarification of any matter may cross the frontier on producing a 24-hour pass valid for a single crossing of the frontier in both directions. This 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).

Article XV

The frontier shall be crossed only at the points mentioned in article XIII of the present Convention, unless the Frontier Commissioners or their Assistants have agreed upon some other crossing point.

The day and hour of each crossing must be notified in advance, and in any case not less than twelve hours beforehand, to the nearest frontier guard authority of the other Party, which shall be bound to send its escort to the meeting place.

The Frontier Commissioners and the other persons mentioned in article XIV, paragraph 1, of the present Convention shall be entitled to cross the frontier in uniform and carrying arms.

Article XVI

The Frontier Commissioners and the other persons referred to in article XIV, paragraph 1, of the present Convention, shall be guaranteed personal immunity as well as inviolability for the official documents in their possession.

The above-mentioned persons shall have the right to take with them to the territory of the other Party, duty-free, the articles and means of transport necessary for their work, provided they are re-exported, and also the foodstuffs and tobacco required for their personal consumption.

The persons referred to in article XIV, paragraph 5, of the present Convention may not be held during their stay in the territory of the other Party.

Article XVII

Each Party shall defray all expenses connected with the execution of the present Convention in its territory.

Article XVIII

Each of the Parties shall grant nationals of the other Party who are in its territory in connexion with the performance of their duties under the present Convention, any assistance necessary to enable them to obtain means of transport, lodging, and facilities with their own authorities.

Article XIX

The present Convention shall come into force on the day of the exchange of notifications of its ratification by the Governments of the two Contracting Parties and shall remain in force for five years. If neither of the Contracting Parties denounces the present Convention six months before the expiry of this period or expresses a desire to amend it, the Convention shall automatically continue in force on the same terms for a further five years.

Article XX

The present Convention is drawn up in two original copies, each in the Polish and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

SIGNED at Moscow, on 8 July 1948.

For the Government of the Polish Republic:

(Signed) Dr. A. ŻARUK-MICHALSKI
Vice-Minister

[L. S.]

For the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:

(Signed) A. M. ALEXANDROV
Counsellor

ANNEX No. 1

Specimen

Page 1

(Size 15 x 10 cm)

CREDENTIAL

Space for
photograph

L. S.

.....
Signature of holder

Page 2

The Government of the Polish Republic, on the basis of the Convention between the Government of the Polish Republic and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the procedure for the settlement of frontier disputes and incidents, has appointed

.....
(Title, surname, first names)

as the Frontier Commissioner (Deputy Frontier Commissioner) of the Polish Republic for the

.....
(Name of sector)

sector of the Polish-Soviet frontier between Frontier Mark No. and Frontier Mark No.

.....
(Title, surname)

is hereby empowered to perform the functions provided for in the above-mentioned Convention, and in connexion therewith is entitled to cross the Polish-Soviet frontier on the sector indicated and to remain in the frontier zone of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

CHIEF INSPECTOR OF THE FRONTIER GUARD

.....
(Title, surname)

L. S.

Warsaw, 19

Page 3

(Russian text of page 2.)

Page 4

(Space for the visa of the Frontier Commissioner of the USSR.)

Page 2

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, on the basis of the Convention between the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Government of the Polish Republic concerning the procedure for the settlement of frontier disputes and incidents, has appointed

.....
(Title, surname, first names)

as the Frontier Commissioner (Deputy Frontier Commissioner) of the USSR for the

.....
(Name of sector)

section of the Soviet-Polish frontier between Frontier Mark No. and Frontier Mark No.

.....
(Title, surname)

is hereby empowered to perform the functions provided for in the above-mentioned Convention, and in connexion therewith is entitled to cross the Soviet-Polish frontier on the sector indicated and to remain in the frontier zone of the Polish Republic.

OFFICER COMMANDING THE FRONTIER FORCES
OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE USSR

.....
(Title, surname)

L. S.

Moscow, 19

Page 3

(Polish text of page 2.)

Page 4

(Space for the visa of the Frontier Commissioner of the Polish Republic.)

ANNEX No. 2

Specimen

Page 1

(Size 15 x 10 cm)

CREDENTIAL

Space for
photograph

L. S.

.....
(Signature of holder)

Page 2

On the basis of article III of the Convention between the Government of the Polish Republic and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the procedure for the settlement of frontier disputes and incidents, concluded at Moscow on 8 July 1948,

.....
(Title, surname, first names)

residing at, born on
(Day, month and year of birth)

has been appointed Assistant Frontier Commissioner for the sector
of the Polish-Soviet frontier. (Name of sector)

.....
(Title, surname)

is hereby empowered to perform the functions provided for in the above-mentioned Convention and in connexion therewith is entitled to cross the Polish-Soviet frontier in the area between Frontier Mark No. and Frontier Mark No. and to be in the frontier zone of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

THE FRONTIER COMMISSIONER
OF THE POLISH REPUBLIC

.....
(Title, surname)

L. S.

.....,19....

Page 3

(Russian text of page 2)

Page 4

(Space for the visa of the Frontier Commissioner of the USSR.)

Page 2

On the basis of article III of the Convention between the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Government of the Polish Republic concerning the procedure for the settlement of frontier disputes and incidents, concluded at Moscow on 8 July 1948,

.....
(Title, surname, first names)

residing at, born on
(Day, month and year of birth)

has been appointed Assistant Frontier Commissioner for the sector
of the Soviet-Polish frontier. (Name of sector)

.....
(Title, surname)

is hereby empowered to perform the functions provided for in the above-mentioned Convention and in connexion therewith is entitled to cross the Soviet-Polish frontier in the area between Frontier Mark No. and Frontier Mark No. and to be in the frontier zone of the Polish Republic.

THE FRONTIER COMMISSIONER OF THE USSR

.....
(Title, surname)

L. S.

..... 19....

Page 3

(Polish text of page 2.)

Page 4

(Space for the visa of the Frontier Commissioner of the Polish Republic.)

ANNEX No. 3

Specimen

Page 1

(Size 15 x 10 cm)

CERTIFICATE

Space for
photograph

L. S.

.....
(Signature of holder)

Page 2

On the basis of article XIV of the Convention between the Government of the Polish Republic and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the procedure for the settlement of frontier disputes and incidents, concluded at Moscow on 8 July 1948

..... residing at
(Title, surname, first names)

....., born on
(Day, month and year of birth)

who is the of the Frontier Commissioner
(Title of office)

of the sector of the Polish-Soviet frontier,
(Name of sector)

is entitled to cross the Polish-Soviet frontier in both directions on the sector (in the area) between Frontier Mark No. and Frontier Mark No. and to be in the frontier zone of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

THE FRONTIER COMMISSIONER OF THE POLISH REPUBLIC

.....
(Title, surname)

L. S.

....., 19....

Page 3

(Russian text of page 2.)

Page 4

(Space for the visa of the Frontier Commissioner of the USSR.)

Page 2

On the basis of article XIV of the Convention between the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Government of the Polish Republic concerning the procedure for the settlement of frontier disputes and incidents, concluded at Moscow on 8 July 1948

..... residing at
(Title, surname, first names)

....., born on
(Day, month and year of birth)

who is the of the Frontier Commissioner
(Title of office)

of the sector of the Soviet-Polish frontier,
(Name of sector)

is entitled to cross the Soviet-Polish frontier in both directions on the sector (in the area) between Frontier Mark No. and Frontier Mark No. and to be in the frontier zone of the Polish Republic.

THE FRONTIER COMMISSIONER OF THE USSR

.....
(Title, surname)

L. S.

..... 19....

Page 3

(Polish text of page 2.)

Page 4

(Space for the visa of the Frontier Commissioner of the Polish Republic.)

ANNEX No. 4

*Specimen**Page 1*

(Size 15 x 10 cm)

P A S S

Good for a single crossing of the Soviet-Polish frontier
in both directions

Page 2

On the basis of article XIV, paragraph 5, of the Convention between the Government of the Polish Republic and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the procedure for the settlement of frontier disputes and incidents, concluded at Moscow on 8 July 1948,

....., residing at

(Surname, first names)

....., born

(Day, month and year of birth)

is entitled to cross the Polish-Soviet frontier in both directions,

.....

(Names of transit points)

and to be in the frontier zone of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Valid from hours 19....

to hours 19....

THE FRONTIER COMMISSIONER OF THE POLISH REPUBLIC

.....

(Title and surname)

L. S.

.....

(Place and date of issue)

Page 3

(Russian text of page 2.)

Page 4

(Space for the visa of the Frontier Commissioner of the USSR.)

Page 2

On the basis of article XIV, paragraph 5, of the Convention between the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Government of the Polish Republic concerning the procedure for the settlement of frontier disputes and incidents, concluded at Moscow on 8 July 1948,

....., residing at

(Surname, first names)

....., born

(Day, month and year of birth)

is entitled to cross the Soviet-Polish frontier in both directions,

.....

(Names of transit points)

and to be in the frontier zone of the Polish Republic.

Valid from hours 19....

to hours 19....

THE FRONTIER COMMISSIONER OF THE USSR

.....

(Title and surname)

L. S.

.....

(Place and date of issue)

Page 3

(Polish text of page 2.)

Page 4

(Space for the visa of the Frontier Commissioner of the Polish Republic.)

P R O T O C O L

TO THE CONVENTION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE POLISH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS CONCERNING THE PROCEDURE FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF FRONTIER DISPUTES AND INCIDENTS.

In execution of article II of the Convention between the Government of the Polish Republic and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the procedure for the settlement of frontier disputes and incidents, concluded at Moscow on 8 July 1948, the undersigned Plenipotentiaries of the Contracting Parties decide that the following Frontier Commissioners shall be:

*For the Polish Republic:*¹

1. The Frontier Commissioner of the Rzeszow (Zheshov) sector with permanent residence in Przemyśl (Peremyshl); his sector of operations extends from the junction with the Czechoslovak frontier (Frontier mark "Krzemieniec" "Kremenetz") to the Jarosław-Rawa Ruska (Rava Russkaya) railway (Frontier mark No. 672).

2. The Frontier Commissioner of the Chełm sector with permanent residence in Chełm; his sector of operations extends from the Jarosław-Rawa Ruska railway (Frontier mark No. 673) to Orchowo (Orkhovo) south of Włodawa (Vlodava) (Frontier mark No. 1122).

3. The Frontier Commissioner of the Terespol sector with permanent residence in Terespol; his sector of operations extends from the hamlet of Orchowo south of Włodawa (Frontier mark No. 1123) to the locality of Niemirów (Nemiróv) (Frontier mark No. 1345).

4. The Frontier Commissioner of the Białystok (Belostok) sector with permanent residence in Białystok; his sector of operations extends from the locality of Niemirów (Frontier mark No. 1346) to the river Marycha (Marykha) (Frontier mark No. 1788).

5. The Frontier Commissioner of the Sejny (Seiny) sector with permanent residence in Sejny; his sector of operations extends from the river Marycha (Frontier mark No. 1789) to the village of Gromadczynna (Gromadtchizna) (Frontier mark No. 1987).

¹In the English text transliterations of Russian place-names are added in brackets whenever a Polish place-name is used for the first time.

For the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:

1. The Frontier Commissioner of the Lwów (Lvov) sector with permanent residence in Mościsk (Mostiska); the sector in his charge extends from the junction with the Czechoslovak frontier (Frontier mark "Krzemieniec") to the Jarosław-Rawa Ruska railway (Frontier mark No. 672).

2. The Frontier Commissioner of the Luboml (Lynboml) sector with permanent residence in Luboml; his sector of operations extends from the Jarosław-Rawa Ruska railway (Frontier mark No. 673) to the hamlet of Orchowo south of Włodawa (Frontier mark No. 1122).

3. The Frontier Commissioner of the Brest sector with permanent residence in Brześć n. B. (Brest); his sector of operations extends from Orchowo south of Włodawa (Frontier mark No. 1123) to the locality of Niemirów (Frontier mark No. 1345).

4. The Frontier Commissioner of the Grodno sector, with permanent residence in Grodno; his sector of operations extends from the village of Niemirów (Frontier mark No. 1346) to the river Marycha (Frontier mark No. 1788).

5. The Frontier Commissioner of the Mariampol sector with permanent residence in Mariampol; his sector of operations extends from the river Marycha (Frontier mark No. 1789) to the village of Gromadczynna (Frontier mark No. 1987).

The present Protocol is drawn up in two original copies, each in the Polish and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

SIGNED at Moscow, on 8 July 1948.

For the Government of the Polish Republic:

(Signed) Dr. A. ŻARUK-MICHAŁSKI
Vice-Minister

[L. S.]

For the Government of the USSR:

(Signed) A. M. ALEXANDROV
Counsellor

FINAL PROTOCOL

When concluding the Convention between the Government of the Polish Republic and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the procedure for the settlement of frontier disputes and incidents, the Plenipotentiaries of the Contracting Parties have adopted the following provisions which shall form an integral part of this Convention:

Ad the Convention generally

Questions which will be settled by a Treaty concerning the regime on the Soviet-Polish frontier are not dealt with in the present Convention.

Ad Article I of the Convention

The first meeting of the Frontier Commissioners for the purpose of organizing the work on their sector must be held not later than fourteen days after the entry into force of the present Convention.

Ad Article II of the Convention

Should it be necessary to change the number of Frontier Commissioners specified in the Protocol, their official status, their sectors of operation and the places of their official residence, both Parties shall agree upon such changes through the diplomatic channel.

Ad Article III of the Convention

At their first meeting after the entry into force of the present Convention the Frontier Commissioners shall announce the appointment of their Assistants and designate their places of official residence and their areas of operation.

The number of Assistants of the Frontier Commissioners, the boundaries of their areas of operation and their places of official residence may be changed by the Frontier Commissioners concerned during the period of validity of the present Convention.

Ad Article V of the Convention

Neither Contracting Party shall be entitled to refuse to take back persons found to have crossed the frontier unintentionally.

In the event of frontier or fairway marks indicating the main channel being moved, damaged or destroyed, the Frontier Commissioners must ascertain the facts of the matter, clarify the question of culpability and also take steps for the repair and restoration of the said marks.

The Contracting Parties shall return to each other through the agency of the Frontier Commissioners any State property which may have been brought or carried into their territory in consequence of a frontier dispute or incident.

Ad Article VI of the Convention

In the cases mentioned in this article the possibility of the questions being referred back to the Frontier Commissioners for settlement is not precluded.

Ad Article VII of the Convention

The procedure for further settlements on the basis of agreements reached in respect of compensation for damage and, if need be, any changes in that procedure, shall be determined through the diplomatic channel.

Ad Article XI of the Convention

Joint enquiries on the spot may not be interpreted to mean the performance of acts having the character of a preliminary judicial investigation, these being exclusively within the purview of the judicial or administrative authorities of each Party.

Ad Article XIII of the Convention

The meeting points on the frontier shall be decided by the Frontier Commissioners at the first meeting after the present Convention comes into force.

The Frontier Commissioners may by joint agreement change the number and position of these meeting points.

The present Final Protocol is drawn up in two original copies, each in the Polish and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

DONE at Moscow, on 8 July 1948.

For the Government of the Polish Republic:
(Signed) Dr. A. ŻARUK-MICHAŁSKI
Vice-Minister

[L. S.]

For the Government of the USSR:
(Signed) A. M. ALEXANDROV
Counsellor