

No. 2491

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND
and
LIBYA**

Treaty of Friendship and Alliance (with exchange of notes regarding the operation of the Treaty and Military and Financial Agreements before the exchange of the instruments of ratification). Signed at Benghazi, on 29 July 1953

Official texts: English and Arabic.

Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 18 February 1954.

**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD
et
LIBYE**

Traité d'amitié et d'alliance (avec échange de notes concernant l'exécution du Traité et des Accords militaires et financiers avant l'échange des instruments de ratification). Signé à Bengazi, le 29 juillet 1953

Textes officiels anglais et arabe.

Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le 18 février 1954.

No. 2491. TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP AND ALLIANCE¹
BETWEEN HER MAJESTY IN RESPECT OF THE UNITED
KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN
IRELAND AND HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE
UNITED KINGDOM OF LIBYA. SIGNED AT BENGHAZI,
ON 29 JULY 1953

Her Majesty The Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Her other Realms and Territories (hereinafter referred to as Her Britannic Majesty) and His Majesty The King of the United Kingdom of Libya (hereinafter referred to as His Majesty The King of Libya) ;

Considering that on the 24th day of December, 1951, the United Kingdom of Libya became an independent sovereign State in pursuance of resolutions of the General Assembly of the United Nations dated the 21st day of November, 1949² and the 17th day of November, 1950 ;³

And being animated by a sincere desire to consolidate the friendship and good relations which exist between Their Majesties ;

And desiring to conclude a Treaty of Friendship and Alliance with this object and with the object of strengthening the contribution which each of them will be able to make to the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the provisions and principles of the Charter of the United Nations :

Have accordingly appointed as their Plenipotentiaries :

Her Britannic Majesty :

for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland :

Sir Alec Kirkbride, K.C.M.G., O.B.E., M.C., Her Majesty's
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

His Majesty The King of Libya :

for the United Kingdom of Libya :

Essayed Mahmud Muntasser, Prime Minister and Minister for
Foreign Affairs.

Who, having exhibited their full powers found in good and due form, have agreed as follows :—

¹ Came into force on 7 December 1953 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification at Benghazi, in accordance with article 5.

² United Nations, *Official Records of the Fourth Session of the General Assembly* (A/1251), p. 10.

³ United Nations, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/1775), p. 17.

Article 1

There shall be peace and friendship and a close alliance between the High Contracting Parties in consecration of their cordial understanding and their good relations.

Each of the High Contracting Parties undertakes not to adopt in regard to foreign countries an attitude which is inconsistent with the alliance or which might create difficulties for the other party thereto.

Article 2

Should either High Contracting Party become engaged in war or armed conflict, the other High Contracting Party will, subject always to the provisions of Article 4, immediately come to his aid as a measure of collective defence. In the event of an imminent menace of hostilities involving either of the High Contracting Parties they will immediately concert together the necessary measures of defence.

Article 3

The High Contracting Parties recognise that it is in their common interest to provide for their mutual defence and to ensure that their countries are in a position to play their part in the maintenance of international peace and security. To this end each will furnish to the other all the facilities and assistance in his power on terms to be agreed upon. In return for facilities provided by His Majesty The King of Libya for British armed forces in Libya on conditions to be agreed upon, Her Britannic Majesty will provide financial assistance to His Majesty The King of Libya, on terms to be agreed upon as aforesaid.

Article 4

Nothing in the present Treaty is intended to, or shall in any way, prejudice the rights and obligations which devolve, or may devolve, upon either of the High Contracting Parties under the Charter of the United Nations or under any other existing international agreements, conventions or treaties, including, in the case of Libya, the Covenant of the League of Arab States.¹

Article 5

This Treaty shall be ratified and shall come into force upon the exchange of instruments of ratification which shall take place as soon as possible.

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 70, p. 237.

Article 6

This Treaty shall remain in force for a period of twenty years except in so far as it may be revised or replaced by a new Treaty during that period by agreement of both the High Contracting Parties, and it shall in any case be reviewed at the end of ten years. Each of the High Contracting Parties agrees in this connexion to have in mind the extent to which international peace and security can be ensured through the United Nations. Before the expiry of a period of nineteen years either High Contracting Party may give to the other through the diplomatic channel notice of termination at the end of the said period of twenty years. If the Treaty has not been so terminated, and subject to any revision or replacement thereof, it shall continue in force after the period of twenty years until the expiry of one year after notice of termination has been given by either High Contracting Party to the other through the diplomatic channel.

Article 7

Should any difference arise relative to the application or interpretation of the present Treaty and should the High Contracting Parties fail to settle such difference by direct negotiations, it shall be referred to the International Court of Justice unless the parties agree to another mode of settlement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the above-named Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Treaty and affixed thereto their Seals.

DONE in duplicate at Benghazi this twenty-ninth day of July, 1953, in the English and Arabic languages, both texts being equally authentic.

[L.S.] A. KIRKBRIDE

[L.S.] Mahmud MUNTASSER

EXCHANGE OF NOTES REGARDING THE OPERATION OF THE
TREATY AND MILITARY AND FINANCIAL AGREEMENTS BEFORE
THE EXCHANGE OF INSTRUMENTS OF RATIFICATION

I

*Her Majesty's Minister in Libya to the Libyan Prime Minister and
Minister for Foreign Affairs*

Benghazi, July 29, 1953

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to propose, on instructions from the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, that the provisions of the Treaty of Friendship and Alliance,¹ the Military Agreement² and the Financial Agreement,³ signed this day between the United Kingdom and Libya should, in view of the need for continuity in the military and financial relationship between our two Governments, operate in any period during the remainder of the financial year ending on the 31st of March, 1954, which may now elapse before the exchange of instruments of ratification of the said Treaty and Agreements, and should thereby supersede the Anglo-Libyan Interim Agreement of the 21st of March, 1953.⁴

If the Libyan Government accept this proposal, I have the honour to suggest that the present Note and your Excellency's reply in that sense should be regarded as placing formally on record the Agreement reached between our two Governments in this matter.

I avail, &c.

A. KIRKBRIDE

¹ See p. 185 of this volume.

² See p. 201 of this volume.

³ See p. 277 of this volume.

⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 172, p. 85, and p. 372 of this volume.

[TRANSLATION¹ — TRADUCTION²]

UNITED KINGDOM OF LIBYA
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Benghazi, July 29, 1953

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's Note of to-day's date in the following terms :—

[*See note I*]

In reply I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the Government of Libya agree that your Note, together with the present reply in that sense, should be regarded as constituting an Agreement between our two Governments in this matter.

Please accept, &c.

M. MUNTASSER

¹ Translation by the Government of the United Kingdom.

² Traduction du Gouvernement du Royaume-Uni.