

No. 3786

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

Military Service Agreement. Signed at London, on 21 December 1949

Official texts: English and French.

*Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
on 27 March 1957.*

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

**Accord relatif au service militaire. Signé à Londres, le
21 décembre 1949**

Textes officiels anglais et français.

*Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord
le 27 mars 1957.*

No. 3786. MILITARY SERVICE AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC. SIGNED AT LONDON, ON 21 DECEMBER 1949

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the French Republic,

Having decided to put an end to the difficulties encountered by those nationals of either of their two countries who also possess the nationality of the other country and who though they have served in the armed forces of one of the two countries remain liable for service in those of the other,

The undersigned, duly authorised for this purpose, have agreed as follows :

Article 1

British subjects who also possess French nationality shall be deemed to have fulfilled the military obligations imposed upon them by French law if they have fulfilled their obligations in the armed forces of the United Kingdom during the 1939-1945 war or subsequently and furnish as proof of this a duly authenticated certificate obtained on application from the competent authorities of the United Kingdom.

Article 2

French nationals who also possess British nationality shall be deemed to have fulfilled the military obligations imposed upon them by the laws of Great Britain if they have fulfilled their obligations in the French armed forces during the 1939-1945 war or subsequently and furnish as proof of this a duly authenticated certificate obtained on application from the competent French authorities.

Article 3

The conditions under which any other service performed in the national interest during the 1939-1945 war or subsequently shall be assimilated, in whole or in part, to military service for the purposes of the present Agreement, shall be left to the consideration of the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties and,

¹ Came into force on 12 May 1956, the date of receipt by the Government of the United Kingdom of the notification from the French Government that the required constitutional approval of the Agreement has been obtained, in accordance with article 10.

in case of dispute, agreement shall be sought through the diplomatic channel. A certificate indicating the nature of any such service performed shall be issued, at his request, to the person concerned, by the appropriate authorities of the country in whose interest the service was performed.

Article 4

Nothing in the present Agreement shall in the event of an emergency prevent the competent authorities of either of the Contracting Parties from calling up for service the persons referred to in this Agreement or from placing their names on the reserve list.

Article 5

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland shall on application deliver to French nationals who have volunteered in the armed forces of the United Kingdom during the 1939-1945 war or subsequently, and who may not be covered by Article 1 of the present Agreement, a certificate designed to permit them to regularise their position under French law.

Article 6

The Government of the French Republic shall on application deliver to British subjects who have volunteered in the armed forces of France during the 1939-1945 war or subsequently, and who may not be covered by Article 2 of the present Agreement, a certificate designed to permit them to regularise their position under the laws of Great Britain.

Article 7

The persons concerned shall be granted a period of two years from the date on which this Agreement comes into force in which to regularise their position by production of the certificates referred to in Articles 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 of this Agreement.

Article 8

For the purpose of this Agreement the expression "1939-1945 war or subsequently" shall mean the period from the 3rd September, 1939, up to the 31st December, 1948.

Article 9

The provisions of the present Agreement do not in any way affect the legal position of the persons concerned in the matter of nationality.

Article 10

The present Agreement shall come into force on the date on which the Government of the French Republic shall notify the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland that the required constitutional approval has been obtained. It shall remain in force until the expiration of three months from the date on which either of the Contracting Parties shall have given notice of termination to the other.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Agreement and have affixed thereto their seals.

DONE in duplicate in the English and French languages, both texts being of equal authenticity, in London this twenty-first day of December, nineteen hundred and forty-nine.

[L.S.] Ernest BEVIN

[L.S.] R. MASSIGLI