

No. 5369

---

**YUGOSLAVIA  
and  
BULGARIA**

**Final Protocol (with annexes) on the completion of the work of the Mixed Yugoslav-Bulgarian Commission for the preparation of a new description of the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier and of new sketch-maps showing the positions of the frontier marks on the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier. Signed at Belgrade, on 17 June 1957**

*Official texts: Serbo-Croat and Bulgarian.*

*Registered by Yugoslavia on 26 September 1960.*

---

**YUGOSLAVIE  
et  
BULGARIE**

**Protocole final (avec annexes) établi à l'issue des travaux de la Commission mixte yougoslavo-bulgare pour l'élaboration de la nouvelle description de la frontière yougoslavo-bulgare et des nouveaux croquis de l'emplacement des pyramides frontalières à la frontière yougoslavo-bulgare. Signé à Belgrade, le 17 juin 1957**

*Textes officiels serbo-croate et bulgare.*

*Enregistré par la Yougoslavie le 26 septembre 1960.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 5369. FINAL PROTOCOL<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE FEDERAL PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA ON THE COMPLETION OF THE WORK OF THE MIXED YUGOSLAV-BULGARIAN COMMISSION FOR THE PREPARATION OF A NEW DESCRIPTION OF THE YUGOSLAV-BULGARIAN FRONTIER AND OF NEW SKETCH-MAPS SHOWING THE POSITIONS OF THE FRONTIER MARKS ON THE YUGOSLAV-BULGARIAN FRONTIER. SIGNED AT BELGRADE, ON 17 JUNE 1957

---

Pursuant to article 1 of the Protocol concerning the preparation of a new description of the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier and of new sketch-maps showing the positions of the frontier marks, signed at Sofia on 16 June 1956,<sup>2</sup> the Governments of the two Parties established a Mixed Yugoslav-Bulgarian Commission to carry out, with the aid of two Mixed Technical Sub-Commissions, the measures provided for in the aforesaid Protocol.

The Mixed Commission was composed of the following members :

I. *Delegation of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia :*

1. Karlo Šuman, Colonel, Yugoslav People's Army, Chairman of the delegation ;
2. Dragutin Kojkić, Captain 1st Class, Yugoslav People's Army, surveyor and member ;
3. Metodije Kepeski, Secretary in the State Secretariat of Foreign Affairs, member and interpreter.

II. *Delegation of the People's Republic of Bulgaria :*

1. Colonel Dimitar Vladimirov, Chairman of the delegation ;
2. Nedyalko Slavov, Secretary of Legation in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, member ;
3. Major Todor Arnaudov, member ;
4. Major Kno Vladov, surveyor ;
5. Captain Jordan Ivanov, interpreter.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 30 May 1958 by an exchange of notes signifying the approval of the two Governments, in accordance with the terms of the said Protocol.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 253 of this volume.

The Mixed Commission for the preparation of a new description of the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier and of new sketch-maps showing the positions of the frontier marks on the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier finds that all measures provided for in the Protocol of 16 June 1956 have been fully carried out within the prescribed time-limit.

The measures provided for in the said Protocol in connexion with the preparation of a new description of the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier and of new sketch-maps showing the positions of the frontier marks on the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier were carried out as follows :

In accordance with article 3 of the Protocol of 16 June 1956, the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier remained divided as in the past, for the purpose of these operations, into the following two frontier sectors :

Southern sector — from Tumba peak (frontier mark No. 1) to Daščani Kladenac (frontier mark No. 199) ; dealt with by Mixed Technical Sub-Commission No. 1 ; and

Northern sector — from Daščani Kladenac (frontier mark No. 200) to the mouth of the river Timok (frontier mark No. 561-A) ; dealt with by Mixed Technical Sub-Commission No. 2.

The task of drafting the new description of the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier and preparing the new sketch-maps showing the positions of the frontier marks was begun in the southern frontier sector on 15 July 1956 and in the northern frontier sector on 25 July 1956. The field work was carried out by measuring directly on the ground the distance and bearing from one frontier mark to the next. This work was performed jointly by the surveyors of both Parties, as agreed between them.

Work on the southern frontier sector was completed on 15 September 1956, and work on the northern frontier sector was completed on 25 September 1956.

The Mixed Technical Sub-Commissions prepared 200 (two hundred) new sketch maps showing the positions of the frontier marks and a new description of the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier for the southern frontier sector, and 376 (three hundred and seventy-six) new sketch-maps showing the positions of the frontier marks and a new description for the northern frontier sector.

In accordance with article 6 of the Protocol of 16 June 1956, the Mixed Yugoslav-Bulgarian Commission held three meetings for the purpose of accepting the work of the Mixed Technical Sub-Commissions :

At the first meeting, which was held at Niška Banja, Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia, from 17 to 24 October 1956, the Commission examined and collated the texts of the new description of the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier, from frontier mark No. 1 to frontier mark No. 380 inclusive (Annex No. 1 : Protocol of the first meeting).<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See p. 274 of this volume.

At the second meeting, which was held at Sofia from 10 to 21 December 1956, the Commission examined and collated the text of the new description of the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier, from frontier mark No. 381 to frontier mark No. 561-A. In addition, the introductory and concluding parts of the new description of the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier were prepared and the entire text of the description was initialled, with the exception of the text relating to the river Timok sector of the frontier, from frontier mark No. 559 to frontier mark No. 561-A. (Annex No. 2 : Protocol of the second meeting).<sup>1</sup>

At the third meeting, which was held at Niška Banja, Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia, from 5 to 15 June 1957, the Commission collated, confirmed and adopted the sketch-maps showing the positions of the frontier marks on the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier (Annex No. 3 : Protocol of the third meeting).<sup>2</sup>

The new description of the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier and the new sketch-maps showing the positions of the frontier marks on the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier were signed at Belgrade on 17 June 1957.

The new description of the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier and the new sketch-maps showing the positions of the frontier marks shall take effect on the date on which the two Governments notify each other through the diplomatic channel that they have approved the same.

When the new description of the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier and the new sketch-maps showing the positions of the frontier marks take effect, the old description of the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier and sketch-maps of frontier marks, prepared by the International Commission in 1920-1922 pursuant to the Treaty of Peace concluded at Neuilly on 27 November 1919,<sup>3</sup> shall cease to have effect.

In the event of any discrepancy between the text of the new description of the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier and the new sketch-maps showing the positions of the frontier marks, the sketch-maps showing the positions of the frontier marks, bearing full geodetic data, shall be authoritative.

This Final Protocol shall be approved by the Governments of the two countries.

This Final Protocol is done in two original copies in the Serbo-Croat and Bulgarian languages. The two texts are identical and equally authentic.

DONE at Belgrade, this seventeenth day of June one thousand nine hundred and fifty-seven.

For the Government  
of the Federal People's Republic  
of Yugoslavia :

(Signed) Karlo ŠUMAN  
Colonel, Yugoslav People's Army

For the Government  
of the People's Republic  
of Bulgaria :

(Signed) Dimitar VLADIMIROV  
Colonel

<sup>1</sup> See p. 278 of this volume.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 282 of this volume.

<sup>3</sup> *British and Foreign State Papers*, Vol. CXII, p. 781.

PROTOCOL OF THE MEETING OF THE MIXED YUGOSLAV-BULGARIAN COMMISSION FOR THE PREPARATION OF A NEW DESCRIPTION OF THE FRONTIER LINE AND OF NEW SKETCH-MAPS SHOWING THE POSITIONS OF THE FRONTIER MARKS

The Mixed Yugoslav-Bulgarian Commission for the preparation of a new description of the frontier line and of new sketch-maps showing the positions of the frontier marks held its first meeting at Niška Banja, Yugoslavia, from 17 to 24 October 1956.

The Mixed Commission was composed of the following :

*Yugoslav delegation :*

— Karlo Šuman, Colonel, Yugoslav People's Army, Chairman of the delegation ;

— Dragutin Kojkić, Captain, Yugoslav People's Army, surveyor, member ;

— Metodije Kepeski, Secretary in the State Secretariat of Foreign Affairs, member and interpreter.

*Bulgarian delegation :*

— Colonel Dimitar Vladimirov, Chairman of the delegation ;

— Nedyalko Slavov, Secretary of Legation in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, member ;

— Major Kno Vladov, surveyor, member ;

— Capitain Iordan Ivanov, interpreter ;

— Raina Vladimirova, stenographer.

The Commission adopted the following agenda :

1. Settlement of disputes :

(a) Course of the frontier line at frontier mark No. 136.

(b) Course of the frontier line in the area of Midžor peak, between frontier marks Nos. 333 and 334.

2. Examination and collation of the texts of the new description of the frontier line prepared on the ground at the frontier.

3. Other business.

The Commission decided as follows :

*Agenda item 1 :*

(a) The frontier line in the area of frontier mark No. 136 shall be so drawn as to leave in Yugoslav territory a stretch of road about 100 metres in length running past the frontier mark, i.e. 50 m on either side of the frontier mark.

Furthermore, the civilian population of the neighbouring Bulgarian villages shall be permitted to use the said stretch of road during the hours of daylight only.

The above decision of the Commission shall take effect after the text of the description of the frontier line has been approved by the Governments of both Parties. Until that time, the road shall be used by both Parties in the same manner as from 1922 to the present.

(b) The Commission was unable to settle the dispute concerning the course of the frontier line in the Midžor peak area (between frontier marks Nos. 333 and 334) for the following reasons :

The Yugoslav delegation takes the position that the frontier line should run over Midžor peak itself, so that the peak remains common to both Parties. The Yugoslav delegation bases that position on the following :

(a) In the description of the frontier line which was prepared by the International Commission in 1920-1922 pursuant to the Treaty of Neuilly of 1919, it is stated that the frontier line runs over Midžor peak (*sur le pic du Midžor*, 2,168.90 m).

(b) The trigonometric point sited in Yugoslav territory five metres from the summit of Midžor does not represent the summit of Midžor, for it is an artificial point whose base lies below the summit of Midžor, and this trigonometric point is not mentioned in the 1922 description of the frontier line.

This first-order trigonometric point is included in the Yugoslav and Bulgarian triangulation networks and is used by both Parties. However, this trigonometric point is situated in Yugoslav territory.

(c) The Yugoslav delegation states that it has been informed by the Yugoslav frontier authorities of that sector that immediately before the arrival of the mixed Yugoslav-Bulgarian technical group engaged in preparing the new description of the frontier line, the Bulgarian frontier authorities came, destroyed the stone cairn on the summit of Midžor which marked the frontier line, and entered Yugoslav territory, where they erected a wooden pyramid on the existing trigonometric point.

The Bulgarian delegation made the following statement :

The question of the course of the frontier line at the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier, including the Midžor peak area, was settled in 1954 by the Mixed Yugoslav-Bulgarian Commission then specially appointed for that purpose, which worked on the basis of the 1922 documentation.

The purpose of the current Mixed Yugoslav-Bulgarian Commission is to revise the old frontier documentation and adapt it to the actual situation at the frontier line as recorded by the Commission in 1954, in accordance with part IV, paragraph 4, of the Final Protocol of 10 November 1954 and the preamble to the Protocol of 16 June 1956.

It would consequently be wrong to resolve the dispute concerning the course of the frontier line in the Midžor peak area solely on the basis of the data recorded in the old description and the old sketch-maps. In the Bulgarian delegation's opinion regard must be had to how and where the frontier line was drawn in 1954.

Since the Yugoslav delegation has stated at this meeting that in August 1956 the Bulgarian frontier authorities destroyed the existing stone cairn in the Midžor peak area and moved the frontier into Yugoslav territory, the Bulgarian delegation, being unable to

accept this unsubstantiated accusation, considers it proper that the question should be settled after verification.

*Agenda item 2 :*

The Mixed Commission examined and collated the text of the new description of the frontier line from frontier mark No. 1 to frontier mark No. 380 (inclusive), but the text was not initialled.

The two delegations exchanged single copies of the printed but uninitialled texts of the description of the frontier line from frontier mark No. 1 to frontier mark No. 380 (inclusive), so that each delegation might make a further check of the collated text.

The sketch-maps of these frontier marks may be prepared in the original.

*Agenda item 3 :*

The next meeting of the Mixed Commission will be held at Sofia before the end of 1956 (the exact date will be fixed later by agreement) for the purpose of examining, collating and initialling the text of the new description of the frontier line and determining the form of the new description of the frontier line as a whole.

This Protocol is done in two copies, each in the Serbo-Croat and Bulgarian languages. The two texts are identical and equally authentic.

This Protocol is done at Niška Banja, on 24 October 1956.

(Signed) Karlo ŠUMAN

Colonel, Yugoslav People's Army  
Chairman of the Yugoslav delegation

(Signed) Dimitar VLADIMIROV

Colonel  
Chairman of the Bulgarian delegation

PROTOCOL OF THE MEETING OF THE MIXED YUGOSLAV-BULGARIAN COMMISSION FOR THE PREPARATION OF A NEW DESCRIPTION OF THE FRONTIER LINE AND OF NEW SKETCH-MAPS SHOWING THE POSITIONS OF THE FRONTIER MARKS

The Mixed Yugoslav-Bulgarian Commission for the preparation of a new description of the frontier line and of new sketch-maps showing the positions of the frontier marks held its second meeting at Sofia, People's Republic of Bulgaria, from 10 to 21 December 1956.

The Mixed Commission was composed of the following :

*Yugoslav delegation :*

- Karlo Šuman, Colonel, Yugoslav People's Army, Chairman of the delegation ;
- Vlado Jovanović, Secretary of the Embassy of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia at Sofia, member ;
- Dragutin Kojkić, Captain, Yugoslav People's Army, surveyor, member ;

— Metodi Kepeski, Secretary in the State Secretariat of Foreign Affairs, member and interpreter ; and

— Angelina Tomić, secretary.

*Bulgarian delegation :*

— Colonel Dimitar Vladimirov, Chairman of the delegation ;

— Nedyalko Slavov, Secretary of Legation in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, member ;

— Major Kno Vladov, surveyor, member ;

— Captain Iordan Ivanov, interpreter ; and

— Raina Vladimirova, stenographer.

The Commission adopted the following agenda :

1. Completion of the examination, collation and initialling of the text of the new description of the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier and determination of its form.

2. Other business.

The Commission decided as follows :

*Agenda item 1 :*

The Mixed Commission examined and collated the text of the new description of the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier, from frontier mark No. 381 to frontier mark No. 561-A. In addition, the introductory and concluding parts of the new description were prepared and the whole text of the new description was initialled, with the exception of the text relating to the river Timok sector from frontier mark No. 559 to frontier mark No. 561-A, the Government of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia having not yet ratified the Convention concerning the protection, maintenance and restoration of the frontier line, frontier cairns and frontier marks on the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier which was signed at Sofia on 16 June 1956.

*Agenda item 2 :*

(a) The question of the course of the frontier line at Midžor peak, between frontier marks Nos. 333 and 334, was re-examined and the Commission decided that the frontier line should run as follows :

“From frontier mark No. 333, the frontier line shall follow the watershed in a general north-westerly direction, traversing Midžor peak (2,168.9 m) and passing beside the first-order trigonometric point, leaving the latter in Yugoslav territory, to frontier mark No. 334, which is situated on the watershed.

“The Bulgarian Party shall also be entitled to use the aforesaid first-order trigonometric point, provided that it gives the Yugoslav frontier authorities advance notice of every visit to the spot by its geodetic authorities.”

(b) The next meeting of the Mixed Commission will be held in Yugoslav territory in March 1957. The exact date will be fixed later. At that meeting, the texts, bearings and distances in the sketch-maps showing the positions of the frontier marks will be collated and the new description of the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier and new sketch-maps showing the positions of the frontier marks be signed.



This Protocol is done in two copies in the Serbo-Croat and Bulgarian languages. The two texts are identical and equally authentic.

The Protocol is done at Sofia on 21 December 1956.

(Signed) Karlo ŠUMAN

Colonel, Yugoslav People's Army  
Chairman  
of the Yugoslav delegation

(Signed) Dimitar VLADIMIROV

Colonel  
Chairman  
of the Bulgarian delegation

PROTOCOL OF THE MEETING OF THE MIXED YUGOSLAV-BULGARIAN COMMISSION FOR THE PREPARATION OF A NEW DESCRIPTION OF THE YUGOSLAV-BULGARIAN FRONTIER AND OF NEW SKETCH-MAPS SHOWING THE POSITIONS OF THE FRONTIER MARKS

The Mixed Yugoslav-Bulgarian Commission for the preparation of a new description of the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier and of new sketch-maps showing the positions of the frontier marks held its third meeting at Niška Banja, Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia, from 5 to 15 June 1957.

The Mixed Commission was composed of the following :

*Yugoslav delegation :*

- Karlo Šuman, Colonel, Yugoslav People's Army, Chairman of the delegation ;
- Dragutin Kojkić, Captain 1st Class, Yugoslav People's Army, surveyor and member ;
- Metodije Kepeski, Secretary in the State Secretariat of Foreign Affairs, member and interpreter ; and
- Angelina Tomić, secretary.

*Bulgarian delegation :*

- Colonel Dimitar Vladimirov, Chairman of the delegation ;
- Nedyalko Slavov, Secretary of Legation in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, member ;
- Major Todor Arnaudov, member ;
- Major Kno Vladov, surveyor ;
- Captain Iordan Ivanov, interpreter.

The Commission adopted the following agenda :

1. Collation, confirmation and adoption of the new sketch-maps showing the positions of the frontier marks.
2. Other business.

The Commission decided as follows :

*Agenda item 1 :*

The Mixed Commission collated, confirmed and adopted the jointly prepared new sketch-maps showing the positions of the frontier marks, which were then signed by the Chairmen and surveyors of both delegations.

*Agenda item 2 :*

The Commission decided that the following should be destroyed : the sketch-maps showing the positions of the frontier marks originally prepared on the ground by the Mixed Technical Sub-Commissions, and the certificates issued to the members and personnel of the Mixed Technical Sub-Commissions, entitling them to move, in the execution of their duties, up to a certain distance on either side of the frontier line.

This Protocol is done in two copies in the Serbo-Croat and Bulgarian languages.

The two texts are equally authentic and identical.

This Protocol is done at Niška Banja, Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia, on 15 June 1957.

(Signed) Karlo ŠUMAN  
Colonel, Yugoslav People's Army  
Chairman  
of the Yugoslav delegation

(Signed) Dimitar VLADIMIROV  
Colonel  
Chairman  
of the Bulgarian delegation