

Official No.: Conf. D. 157.

Geneva, March 16th, 1933.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

CONFERENCE FOR THE REDUCTION AND LIMITATION
OF ARMAMENTS

DRAFT CONVENTION

SUBMITTED BY THE UNITED KINGDOM DELEGATION

Series of League of Nations Publications

IX. DISARMAMENT
1933. IX. 2.

DRAFT CONVENTION
SUBMITTED BY THE UNITED KINGDOM DELEGATION

Part I.

SECURITY.

Article 1.

The following articles (2 to 5) are concluded between those of the Parties to the present Convention who are Parties to the Pact of Paris.

Article 2.

It is hereby declared that any war undertaken in breach of that Pact is a matter of interest to all the High Contracting Parties and shall be regarded as a breach of the obligations assumed towards each one of them.

Article 3.

In the event of a breach or threat of breach of the Pact of Paris, a conference between the High Contracting Parties shall at once meet at the request of any five of them, provided that at least one of the Governments mentioned by name in Article 4 joins in that request. Such request may be addressed to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations, whose duty it will then be to make arrangements for the Conference and to notify the High Contracting Parties accordingly. The meeting shall take place at Geneva, unless any other meeting-place is agreed upon.

Article 4.

Any conclusions reached at such meeting shall, to be valid, require the concurrence of the representatives of the Governments of the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and of a majority of the representatives of the other Governments participating in the Conference, exclusive in each case of the parties to the dispute.

Article 5.

It shall be the object of the said Conference, if called in view of a threat of breach of the Pact, to agree upon the steps which could be taken in respect of such threat and, in the event of a breach of the Pact of Paris being found to have occurred, to determine which party or parties to the dispute are to be held responsible.

Article 6.

Special regional agreements made by certain of the High Contracting Parties for providing information intended to facilitate the decisions to be given under Article 5 and for co-ordinating action to be taken by these Parties as a result of such decisions are contained in Annexes X and Y.

Part II.

DISARMAMENT.

Article 7.

The High Contracting Parties agree to limit their respective armaments as provided in the present Convention.

SECTION I. — EFFECTIVES.

CHAPTER I. — PROVISIONS AS TO NUMERICAL LIMITATION.

Article 8.

The average daily effectives in the land, sea and air armed forces of each of the High Contracting Parties shall not exceed the figures laid down for such Party in the tables annexed to this chapter.

Article 9.

It is understood that effectives consist of:

(a) All officers, officer cadets, N.C.O.s, soldiers, sailors, airmen, reservists and all other persons (such as military officials of the administrative, sanitary or veterinary services or military agents) of equivalent status who perform a day's duty in the land, sea and air armed forces;

(b) Persons who perform a day's duty in police forces or similar formations under the conditions prescribed in Article 12;

(c) All other persons of at least 18 years of age who receive military training under the control of the State.

Article 10.

The High Contracting Parties undertake to prohibit any military training whatsoever except in organisations under the control of their respective Governments.

Article 11.

The average daily effectives are reckoned by dividing the total number of days' duty performed by actual effectives in each year by the number of days in such year.

In the case of continuous service, every day shall count as a day's duty. A deduction of 5 per cent may in each case be made from the total average daily effectives on account of persons sick in hospital, persons on leave for two or more days and persons prematurely discharged on leave. Any Party for which the above-mentioned absences represent a greater percentage may make a correspondingly larger deduction after furnishing to the Permanent Disarmament Commission details as to its basis of computation.

In the case of intermittent service or instruction, attendances aggregating six hours may count as the equivalent of one day's duty.

Article 12.

A police force or similar formation may be disregarded for the purpose of calculating effectives, unless it has at least one of the following characteristics:

(a) Arms other than individual (machine pistols, Lewis guns, machine guns and weapons of accompaniment, etc.);

(b) Training of a military nature other than close order drill, physical training or technical training in the use of individual arms;

(c) Transport, signalling or engineer equipment of a suitable nature and on a sufficient scale to enable it to be employed by units in tactical operations.

The possession by a force of one or more of the above characteristics will, in principle, determine its inclusion in whole or in part in the calculation of effectives of the land armed forces.

Doubtful cases should be referred to the Permanent Disarmament Commission, who will give a decision by reviewing the military capacity of the force in the light of all the above characteristics and taking into account, in particular, the following confirmatory conditions:

- (i) Quarters in barracks;
- (ii) Training in groups of one hundred men or more;
- (iii) Organisation on a military basis;
- (iv) Previous military training.

Article 13.

The following naval effectives should be included among the effectives of the land armed forces:

- (a) Effectives employed in land coast defence;
- (b) Marines who are normally in excess of those assigned to or destined for service afloat;
- (c) Effectives coming within the classification of similar formations (as defined in Article 12).

Naval personnel serving ashore in the fleet services (training, administrative, etc.), as well as those assigned to or destined for service afloat, will be included in the effectives of the sea armed forces.

Table I.

TABLE OF AVERAGE DAILY EFFECTIVES WHICH ARE NOT TO BE EXCEEDED IN THE LAND ARMED FORCES.

(Note. — This table contains only the figures which are suggested for the countries of continental Europe. It would, of course, require to be completed by the addition of figures in respect of all the other Parties.)

Party	Land armed forces	
	Stationed in home country	Total, including overseas
Germany	200,000	200,000
Belgium	60,000	75,000
Bulgaria	60,000	60,000
Spain	120,000	170,000
France	200,000	400,000
Greece	60,000	60,000
Hungary	60,000	60,000
Italy.	200,000	250,000
Netherlands	25,000	75,000
Poland	200,000	200,000
Portugal	50,000	60,000
Roumania	150,000	150,000
Czechoslovakia	100,000	100,000
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	500,000	500,000
Yugoslavia	100,000	100,000
Each other continental European State	(no separate figure)	50,000

Table II.

TABLE OF AVERAGE DAILY EFFECTIVES WHICH ARE NOT TO BE EXCEEDED IN THE SEA ARMED FORCES.

(The figures will have to be related to the naval material allowed to each Party.)

Table III.

TABLE OF AVERAGE DAILY EFFECTIVES WHICH ARE NOT TO BE EXCEEDED IN THE AIR ARMED FORCES.

(The figures will have to be related to the air material allowed to each Party.)

CHAPTER 2. — SPECIAL PROVISIONS AS TO THE ORGANISATION OF THE LAND ARMED FORCES STATIONED IN CONTINENTAL EUROPE.

Article 14.

The provisions of this chapter apply only to the land armed forces stationed in continental Europe.

Article 15.

Troops whose primary function is to provide drafts or reinforcements for overseas garrisons are excluded from the provisions of this chapter.

Article 16.

The maximum total period of service for the effectives in the land armed forces stationed in continental Europe (excluding the troops mentioned in Article 15 above and the personnel referred to in Article 18) shall not exceed eight months.¹

Article 17.

For each man the total period of service is the total number of days comprised in the different periods of service to which he is liable under national law or by the terms of his contract to perform.

Article 18.

In the land armed forces affected by this chapter the personnel whose length of service is greater than that prescribed in Article 16 shall not at any time exceed the following proportions of the average strength throughout the year of the said forces.

Officers, officer cadets and persons of equivalent status	$\frac{1}{x}$
N.C.O.s, soldiers and persons of equivalent status	$\frac{1}{y}$

CHAPTER 3. — PROVISIONS AS TO THE METHODS BY WHICH THE REDUCTIONS AND RE-ORGANISATIONS ENTAILED BY THE PRECEDING CHAPTERS SHALL BE EFFECTED.

(*Note.* — A series of articles will be required to deal with this matter.)

SECTION II. — MATERIAL.

CHAPTER I. — LAND ARMAMENTS.

Article 19.

The maximum limit for the calibre of mobile land guns for the future shall be 105 mm. Existing mobile land guns up to 155 mm. may be retained, but all replacement or new construction of guns shall be within the maximum limit of 105 mm.

For the purpose of this section, a gun of 4.5 inches calibre shall be regarded as equivalent to one of 105 mm. in the case of countries whose standard gun is of the former calibre.

The maximum limit for the calibre of coast defence guns shall be 406 mm.

Article 20.

For the purposes of the present Convention, a tank is defined as follows:

“A tank is a fully armoured, armed, self-propelled vehicle designed to cross broken ground, usually by means of tracks, and to overcome obstacles encountered on the battlefield.”

Article 21.

The maximum limit for the weight of tanks shall be 16 tons.

(*Note.* — It will be observed that one important aspect of land war material is not here fully dealt with. No proposals are here submitted for tanks under the 16-ton weight limit. In its proposals of November 17th last, the United Kingdom Government drew attention to the different characteristics of the heavy and the light tank. The problem created by the latter evidently requires further international examination, and the question is therefore left open for negotiation in order that agreement may be reached upon the future of this important modern weapon.)

¹ In special cases to be decided by the Conference, the maximum total period of service may be extended to twelve months.

Article 22.

All mobile land guns above 155 mm. and all tanks above 16 tons shall be destroyed in the following stages:

One-third within twelve months of the coming into force of the Convention;
Two-thirds within three years of the coming into force of the Convention.

All guns above 105 mm. shall be destroyed so soon as they are replaced by new guns of or below 105 mm.

CHAPTER 2. — NAVAL ARMAMENTS.

SUB-CHAPTER I.

Article 23.

The naval armaments of the Parties to the Treaty of Washington, signed on February 6th, 1922, and the Treaty of London, signed on April 22nd, 1930, remain subject to the limitations resulting from the said Treaties.

Article 24.

Articles 25 and 26 constitute the agreement between the Parties to the Treaty of London referred to in Article 24, paragraph 4, of that Treaty. France and Italy will ratify the said Treaty not later than the date of their ratification of the present Convention.

Article 25.

Until December 31st, 1936, the naval combatant vessels of France and Italy, other than capital ships, aircraft-carriers and all vessels exempt from limitation under Article 8 of the Treaty of London, shall be limited, without prejudice to Article 12 of the said Treaty, by the provisions of Articles 26 and 27 of the present Convention. The definitions adopted in Annex I for the purposes of the present chapter will apply.

Article 26.

(a) The completed tonnage in the cruiser, destroyer and submarine categories which is not to be exceeded on December 31st, 1936, is to be the completed tonnage arrived at in consequence of the provisions of Article 27.

(b) France and Italy shall have complete freedom of transfer for the purposes of replacement between cruisers of sub-category (ii) and destroyers.

Article 27.

Until December 31st, 1936, the programmes of France and Italy in cruisers, destroyers and submarines will be as follows:

A. *Cruisers with guns of more than 6.1" (155 mm.) calibre.*

No further tonnage shall be laid down or acquired after the date of signing the present Convention.

B. *Cruisers with guns of 6.1" (155 mm.) calibre or less, and destroyers.*

The amount of further construction to be laid down or acquired by France during the period between January 1st, 1933, and December 31st, 1936, shall be limited to 34,298 (34,847 metric) standard tons as authorised in the French programme of 1932.

The amount of further construction to be laid down or acquired by Italy during the same period shall be limited to 27,173 (27,608 metric) standard tons.

Tonnage laid down or acquired in accordance with the French programme of 1931 and the Italian programme of 1931-32, and any tonnage laid down or acquired subsequently shall be devoted to the replacement of over-age cruisers of this sub-category or of over-age destroyers. Upon the completion of any replacement tonnage, a corresponding amount of over-age tonnage shall be disposed of in accordance with Annex VI to the present chapter.

C. *Submarines.*

Until December 31st, 1936, France and Italy will not lay down or acquire any further submarines. France will arrange her present submarine building and scrapping programme so that, on the said date, her completed tonnage will not be greater than . . . standard tons.

Any submarine tonnage under construction on that date shall be in anticipation of replacement requirements.

SUB-CHAPTER II.

Article 28.

No High Contracting Party shall lay down or acquire any capital ship during the period up to December 31st, 1936, except that Italy may lay down one ship not exceeding 26,500 (26,924 metric) standard tons and carrying guns not exceeding 13 " (330 mm.) calibre.

Except as provided in Article 7, paragraph 2, of the Treaty of London, no High Contracting Party shall, until December 31st, 1936, lay down or acquire any submarine the standard displacement of which exceeds 2,000 (2,032 metric) standard tons or carrying a gun above 5.1 " (130 mm.) calibre.

SUB-CHAPTER III.

Article 29.

In order to bring about a stabilisation of naval armaments until December 31st, 1936, the armaments of those High Contracting Parties to whom the Treaties of Washington and London do not apply shall, until the said date, be limited as follows:

(a) No cruisers carrying guns of a calibre above 6.1 " (155 mm.) shall be constructed or acquired.

(b) On December 31st, 1936, the completed tonnage in cruisers of sub-category (ii), destroyers and submarines possessed by each of the said High Contracting Parties shall not exceed the amounts specified for such Party in Annex IV. This provision does not, however, apply to vessels exempt from limitation under Annex II to this chapter, nor to the special vessels shown in Annex III. These special vessels may not be replaced.

(c) Ships may only be laid down or acquired in accordance with the replacement rules contained in Annex V, and only in replacement of tonnage in the same category or sub-category which is or becomes over age in accordance with those rules.

Nevertheless there shall be complete freedom of transfer for purposes of replacement between the cruisers of sub-category (ii) and destroyers.

Vessels which have to be disposed of as being surplus to the tonnage figures set out in Annex IV shall be disposed of in accordance with the rules set out in Annex VI.

(d) Existing ships of various types which prior to April 1st, 1933, have been used as stationary training establishments or hulks may be retained in a non-seagoing condition.

Article 30.

The High Contracting Parties assent to the rules laid down in Part IV of the Treaty of London and accept them as established rules of international law.

The present article constitutes, as regards those High Contracting Parties to whom the Treaty of London does not apply, the accession contemplated by Article 25 of the said Treaty.

SUB-CHAPTER IV.

Article 31.

It is understood that none of the provisions of the present chapter shall prejudice the attitude of any of the High Contracting Parties at the conferences referred to in Article 32. The present Convention establishes no permanent ratio in any category of ship and creates no precedent as to whether, and if so in what manner, tonnage remaining over age on December 31st, 1936, for which replacement tonnage has not been laid down, may ultimately be replaced.

Article 32.

Concurrently with the Conference in 1935 provided for under Article 23 of the Treaty of London, or at least in the same year, there shall be a conference of all the High Contracting Parties possessing naval armaments with a view to the establishment of limitations to be observed after December 31st, 1936.

Article 33.

The Permanent Disarmament Commission set up under Article 64 of the present Convention will take immediate steps to prepare for the conferences of 1935 referred to in Article 32, by ascertaining the opinions of the High Contracting Parties concerned. It will also examine, with a view to reporting to the said conferences, technical questions of qualitative reduction in the sizes of vessels of war in the various categories, as well as any other questions relating

to the limitation of naval armaments which the Commission may consider could appropriately come before the said conferences.

Annexes.

- I. Definitions — Annex III of the Draft Convention, as amended by the Naval Commission.
- II. Exempt Vessels — Annex I of the Draft Convention, as amended by the Naval Commission.
- III. List of Special Vessels.
- IV. Tonnage Figures for Powers other than those Signatories of the Treaty of Washington. These figures will be the figures from the returns to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations reproduced in the *Armaments Year-Book*, 1932, "exempt" and "special" vessels being omitted.
- V. Replacement Rules — Annex IV of the Draft Convention, as amended by the Naval Commission.
- VI. Rules for Disposal — Annex V of the Draft Convention, as amended by the Naval Commission.

CHAPTER 3. — AIR ARMAMENTS.

Article 34.

The High Contracting Parties accept the complete abolition of bombing from the air (except for police purposes in certain outlying regions).

Article 35.

The Permanent Disarmament Commission set up under Article 64 of the present Convention shall immediately devote itself to the working out of the best possible schemes providing for:

(a) The complete abolition of military and naval aircraft, which must be dependent on the effective supervision of civil aviation to prevent its misuse for military purposes;

(b) Alternatively, should it prove impossible to ensure such effective supervision, the determination of the minimum number of machines required by each High Contracting Party consistent with his national safety and obligations, and having regard to the particular circumstances of each country.

The schemes prepared by the Permanent Disarmament Commission shall be reported to the second Disarmament Conference. In any case, the measures relating to civil aviation set out in Annex II will apply during the period of the present Convention.

Article 36.

With a view to effecting the reductions necessary to facilitate the attainment of the objects referred to in Article 35, the number of aeroplanes, capable of use in war, in commission in the land, sea and air armed forces of each of the High Contracting Parties who at present possess such aeroplanes shall, by the end of the period of the present Convention, not exceed the figures laid down for such Party in the table annexed to this chapter; as regards the other High Contracting Parties, the *status quo* existing on January 1st, 1933, shall be maintained during the said period.

Each of the High Contracting Parties mentioned in the table annexed to this chapter may keep a number of aeroplanes in immediate reserve, not exceeding in each case 25 per cent of the number of aeroplanes in commission in the land, sea and air forces of such Party.

Article 37.

The High Contracting Parties agree that their air armaments will not include aeroplanes exceeding 3 tons unladen weight. Exception, however, may be made in the case of troop-carriers and flying-boats. Complete particulars of any such machines exceeding the maximum unladen weight of 3 tons must be returned annually to the Permanent Disarmament Commission.

Article 38.

No dirigible shall be constructed or acquired during the period of the present Convention by any of the High Contracting Parties for commission in their land, sea or air forces. The High Contracting Parties who at present possess such dirigibles may, however, retain but not replace them during the said period.

Article 39.

The definition of unladen weight is given in Annex I.

Article 40.

Aeroplanes, capable of use in war, in commission in the land, sea and air armed forces of any of the High Contracting Parties in excess of the number indicated for such Party in the table annexed to this chapter must have been put out of commission or otherwise disposed of by the end of the period of the present Convention. At least one-half of such excess must, in the case of each such High Contracting Party, have been so dealt with by June 30th, 1936.

Article 41.

Aeroplanes exceeding the maximum unladen weight indicated in Article 37 and now existing in the armed forces of the High Contracting Parties must all, except in so far as exceptions may be made in accordance with that article, have been destroyed by the end of the period of this Convention. At least half of their number must, in the case of each High Contracting Party, have been destroyed by June 30th, 1936.

Table. — AEROPLANES.

(Note. — Figures will have to be inserted subsequently for the other Parties which at present possess military or naval aeroplanes).

Belgium	150	Norway	75
United Kingdom	500	Poland	200
China	100	Portugal	25
Czechoslovakia	200	Roumania	150
Denmark	50	Siam	75
Estonia	50	Spain	200
Finland	25	Sweden	75
France	500	Switzerland	75
Greece	75	Turkey	100
Italy	500	Union of Soviet Socialist	
Japan	500	Republics	500
Latvia	50	United States of America	500
Lithuania	50	Yugoslavia	200
Netherlands	150		

Annex I.

DEFINITION OF UNLADEN WEIGHT.

The unladen weight of an aeroplane is the weight of the aeroplane complete with all the elements necessary for flying but without crew, fuel, oil, cooling liquids or military equipment.

The unladen weight of an aeroplane comprises exclusively the weights of the following parts:

Complete aeroplane without engine (wings, movable or fixed, without safety slots, fuselage or hull, undercarriage or floats);

Power plant or plants complete; empty motor or motors,¹ propeller or propellers, with all the necessary accessories² required for their immediate operation and control;

Empty tanks, with release or drainage appliances (if any), but excluding supplementary tanks;

Permanent fixtures required for mounting instruments and equipment of all kinds.

Annex II.

Being convinced of the importance of taking measures designed to prevent the use of civil aviation for military purposes in the event of war, without at the same time hampering its legitimate development and usefulness to mankind in time of peace:

Recognising that, to be effective, such measures must be framed on a worldwide basis and, therefore, to be generally acceptable, must entail the minimum interference with the existing national and international organisations:

The High Contracting Parties agree as follows:

I. *Civil Aircraft.*

(a) (i) Not to permit the construction of civil aircraft with a view to their eventual use for war purposes;

¹ The empty motor comprises the motor proper with all the accessories necessary for its immediate operation, which form an integral part of it—that is to say:

Carburettor, with controls, feed-pipes, ignition and connections, cooling liquid and oil pumps with piping on the motor, charging or supercharging gear forming part of the motor, various attachments for revolution counters and auxiliaries forming part of the motor, reduction gear and propeller hub.

² Accessories to power plant:

(a) Motor controls complete;

(b) Fixed self-starters and accessories, starting magneto, claws and handles, and tanks;

(c) Fuel supply system: pumps not forming part of the motor, piping accessories, intermediate tanks, and various indicators;

(d) Lubrication system: pipes not forming part of the motor, radiators, shutters and controls;

(e) Cooling system: piping not forming part of the motor, radiators, shutters and controls, ventilators and ventilator shutters in the case of air-cooled motors, and their controls;

(f) Transmissions of propellers;

(g) Accessories: various instruments, revolution-counters, and fixed extinguishers.

(ii) Not to permit in the design of civil aircraft, constructional features intended to facilitate the installation of military fixtures or fittings.

(b) Not to license, or to permit to fly, any civil aircraft which infringes the prohibition contained in (a) above.

(c) To furnish the following information within x months of the end of each year to the League:

(i) The total number of its national civil aircraft;

(ii) The following particulars as regards individual civil aircraft:

(a) Unladen weight;

(b) Authorised laden weight.

(d) In the case of any civil aircraft having an unladen weight of over x tons:

(i) To inform the League forthwith of the issue of the licence to fly;

(ii) To render to the League a certificate that the aircraft does not infringe the provisions of paragraph (a) above;

(iii) To acquaint the League with the purpose for which the aircraft will be used, the route upon which the aircraft will normally be employed, the location of its usual station, its unladen weight and its authorised maximum laden weight.

(e) To allow duly qualified representatives of the League of Nations to have free access at all reasonable times to all civil aircraft, for the purpose of ascertaining that such aircraft do not in fact infringe the prohibitions contained in paragraph (a) above.

(f) In the event of the League representative, as a result of the inspection provided for in (e) above, being of opinion that a civil aircraft infringes the prohibitions contained in paragraph (a) above (either as a result of subsequent modification or any other cause) the League shall represent the matter to the Government concerned who undertake forthwith to suspend or cancel the licence of such aircraft pending further investigation.

(Note. — The effect of these proposals would be to establish, under the direction of the League, a complete international register of all civil aircraft—comparable to the registers of shipping at present maintained by Lloyd's and similar organisations.)

II. *Civil Aviation Personnel.*

The High Contracting Parties will not require civil aviation enterprises to employ personnel specially trained for military purposes, and will not prescribe the training of civil aviation personnel in military duties.

III. *Air Lines.*

The High Contracting Parties will not establish civil air lines principally or specifically intended for use for military purposes.

IV. *National Subsidies.*

(a) The High Contracting Parties will not subsidise, directly or indirectly, air lines other than those established or to be established for economic, administrative and social purposes.

(b) The amounts and conditions of all national subsidies shall be communicated to, and published by, the League of Nations.

Part III.

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION.

Articles 42 to 46.

[The provisions of this part will depend in the main on the limitations and restrictions imposed by the other parts of the Convention. It does not seem necessary therefore to attempt to draft them now. It is only necessary to note that Articles 34 and 35 of the draft Convention will have to be reproduced.]

Part IV.

CHEMICAL WARFARE.

SECTION I. — PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL, INCENDIARY AND BACTERIAL WARFARE.

Article 47.

The following provision is accepted as an established rule of International Law.

The use of chemical, incendiary and bacterial weapons as against any State, whether or not a Party to the present Convention and in any war, whatever its character, is prohibited.

This provision does not, however, deprive any party, which has been the victim of the illegal use of chemical or incendiary weapons, of the right to retaliate, subject to such conditions as may hereafter be agreed.

With a view to the application of this rule, the High Contracting Parties agree upon the following provisions:

Article 48.

It shall be prohibited to use, by any method whatsoever, for the purpose of injuring an adversary, any natural or synthetic substance harmful to the human or animal organism, whether solid, liquid or gaseous, such as toxic, asphyxiating, lachrymatory, irritant or vesicant substances.

This prohibition shall not apply:

- (a) To explosives;
- (b) To the noxious substances arising from the combustion or detonation of explosives, provided that such explosives have not been designed or used with the object of producing noxious substances;
- (c) To smoke or fog used to screen objectives or for other military purposes, provided that such smoke or fog is not liable to produce harmful effects under normal conditions of use.

Article 49.

The use of projectiles specifically intended to cause fires shall be prohibited.

This prohibition shall not apply to incendiary projectiles designed specifically for defence against aircraft, provided that they are used exclusively for that purpose.

Article 50.

The use of appliances designed to attack persons by fire, such as flame-projectors, shall be prohibited.

Article 51.

It shall be prohibited to use for the purpose of injuring an adversary all methods for the dissemination of pathogenic microbes, or of filter-passing viruses, or of infected substances, whether for the purpose of bringing them into immediate contact with human beings, animals or plants, or for the purpose of affecting any of the latter in any manner — for example, by polluting the atmosphere, water, foodstuffs or any other objects.

SECTION II. — PROHIBITION OF PREPARATIONS FOR CHEMICAL, INCENDIARY AND BACTERIAL WARFARE.

Article 52.

All preparations for chemical, incendiary and bacterial warfare shall be prohibited in time of peace as in time of war.

Article 53.

In order to enforce the aforesaid general prohibition it shall in particular be prohibited:

(1) To manufacture, import, export or be in possession of appliances or substances exclusively suited to chemical or incendiary warfare.

The quantities of chemical substances necessary for protective experiments, therapeutic research and laboratory work shall be excepted. The High Contracting Parties shall inform the Permanent Disarmament Commission of the quantities of the said substances necessary for their protective experiments.

The manufacture of and trade in these substances may not be undertaken without Government authorisation.

(2) To manufacture, import, export or be in possession of appliances or substances suitable for both peaceful and military purposes with intent to use them in violation of the prohibition contained in Article 48.

(3) To instruct or train armed forces in the use of chemical, incendiary and bacterial weapons and means of warfare, or to permit any instruction or training for such purposes within their jurisdiction.

Article 54.

The provisions of the preceding article shall not restrict the freedom of the High Contracting Parties in regard to material and installations intended exclusively to ensure individual or collective protection against the effects of chemical, incendiary and bacterial weapons, or to training with a view to individual or collective protection against the effects of the said weapons.

Article 55.

The High Contracting Parties shall inform the Permanent Disarmament Commission of the lachrymatory substances intended to be used by their authorities for police operations as well as of the number of the various appliances by means of which they are to be utilised.

SECTION III. — SUPERVISION OF THE OBSERVANCE OF THE PROHIBITION
OF PREPARATIONS FOR CHEMICAL, INCENDIARY AND BACTERIAL
WARFARE.

Article 56.

The Permanent Disarmament Commission shall examine the complaints put forward by any Party which may allege that the prohibition to prepare for chemical, incendiary or bacterial warfare has been violated.

SECTION IV. — ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FACT OF THE USE OF CHEMICAL,
INCENDIARY OR BACTERIAL WEAPONS.

Article 57.

Any Party claiming that chemical, incendiary or bacterial weapons have been used against it shall notify the Permanent Disarmament Commission.

It shall at the same time notify the authority designated for the purpose by the Permanent Disarmament Commission or, failing such authority, the doyen of the diplomatic corps accredited to it, with a view to the immediate constitution of a commission of investigation.

If the above-mentioned authority has received the necessary powers, it shall itself act as a commission of investigation.

Article 58.

The commission of investigation shall proceed with all possible speed to the enquiries necessary to determine whether chemical, incendiary or bacterial weapons have been used or not.

It shall report to the Permanent Disarmament Commission.

Article 59.

The Permanent Disarmament Commission shall invite the Party against which the complaint has been made to furnish explanations.

It may send commissioners to the territory under the control of that Party for purposes of investigation.

Article 60.

The Permanent Disarmament Commission may also carry out any other enquiry that may be necessary.

Article 61.

The Parties involved in the above-mentioned operations and in general all the Parties to the present Convention shall take the necessary measures to facilitate these operations, particularly as regards the rapid transport of persons and correspondence.

Article 62.

According to the result of the above-mentioned operations, the Permanent Commission shall establish whether chemical, incendiary or bacterial weapons have been used or not.

Article 63.

The details of the application of the provisions of this chapter shall be fixed by regulations to be issued by the Permanent Disarmament Commission.

Part V.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

SECTION I. — PERMANENT DISARMAMENT COMMISSION.

CHAPTER I. — COMPOSITION.

Article 64.

There shall be set up at the seat of the League of Nations a Permanent Disarmament Commission composed of representatives of the Governments of the High Contracting Parties. Each such Government shall appoint one member of the Commission. Each member may be accompanied by substitutes and experts.

The Governments of the High Contracting Parties will inform the Secretary-General of the League of Nations of the names of their representatives, substitutes and experts on their nomination and on any changes being made.

Article 65.

The Commission shall set up committees, whose number, composition and functions shall be decided by the Commission.

Article 66.

The Commission may be assisted by experts chosen by itself, not being experts appointed by the High Contracting Parties to accompany their representatives.

Article 67.

The members of the Commission, their substitutes and experts, and the experts and officials of the Commission, when engaged on the business of the Commission, shall enjoy diplomatic privileges and immunities.

Article 68.

The Secretary-General of the League of Nations shall provide the Secretariat of the Commission.

CHAPTER 2. — FUNCTIONS.

Article 69.

It will be the duty of the Commission to watch the execution of the present Convention.

The Commission shall receive all the information which the High Contracting Parties are bound to communicate to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations in pursuance of their international obligations in this respect. The Commission may request the High Contracting Parties to supply, in writing or verbally, any supplementary particulars or explanations in regard to the said information which it may consider necessary.

Article 70.

The Commission may take into account any other information which may reach it from a responsible source and which it may consider worth attention.

Article 71.

The Commission shall be entitled to have any person heard or consulted who is in a position to throw any light on the question which is being examined by the Commission.

Article 72.

Any High Contracting Party whose attitude may have been the subject of criticism shall be entitled to request the Commission to conduct in his territory such investigations as may be necessary in order to verify the execution of the obligations of the said Party under the present Convention.

On receipt of such a request, the Commission shall meet at once in order to give effect to it, to determine the scope of the investigation within the limits of the criticism which has been made, and to lay down the conditions in which the investigation is to take place.

Article 73.

At the request of one or more of the High Contracting Parties, the Commission may decide to have investigations of alleged infractions of the Convention conducted on the territory of any High Contracting Party.

On the receipt of such a request, the Committee shall meet at once in order to take a decision upon it.

Its decision, which will determine the scope of the investigation, shall be taken by a two-thirds majority of all the members of the Commission, whether present at the meeting or not.

Article 74.

The result of the investigations decided upon in accordance with Article 72 or 73 shall be embodied in each case in a special report by the Commission.

The High Contracting Parties shall promptly advise as to the conclusions of the report.

Article 75.

Independently of the investigations referred to in Articles 72 and 73, the Commission shall be entitled to conduct periodic investigations in regard to States which have made a special agreement to that effect.

Article 76.

The Commission shall make, at least once a year, a report showing the situation as regards the execution of the present Convention and containing any observations which this situation may suggest to it.

Article 77.

If one of the High Contracting Parties is of opinion that the provisions of the present Convention have been infringed, or that a threat of infringement exists, such Party may address a complaint to the Commission.

The Commission will invite the High Contracting Party whose attitude has produced the complaint to supply it with all explanations which may be useful. The Commission will proceed to investigate the matter and may employ with this object the various methods of obtaining information provided for in the present Convention.

The Commission will draw up as soon as possible a reasoned report on the result of its investigation.

The High Contracting Parties shall promptly advise as to the conclusions of the report.

Article 78.

Each member of the Commission shall be entitled to require that, in any report by the Commission, account shall be taken of the opinions or suggestions put forward by him, if necessary in the form of a separate report.

Article 79.

All reports by the Commission shall be immediately communicated to the High Contracting Parties and to the Council of the League of Nations and published.

Article 80.

The Commission shall prepare, for submission to the High Contracting Parties, such agreements as may be necessary to ensure the execution of the present Convention.

Article 81.

The Commission shall make preparations for the conference to be held in accordance with Article 95 of the present Convention in order to facilitate the subsequent stages of disarmament.

Article 82.

The Commission shall in general carry out any preliminary studies which may appear useful for the execution of its duties.

Article 83.

Within the limits of its functions, the Commission shall supply the Council of the League of Nations with any information and advice which the Council may request of it.

CHAPTER 3. — OPERATION.

Article 84.

The Commission shall meet for the first time, on being summoned by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations, within three months from the entry into force of the present Convention, to elect a provisional President and Vice-President and to draw up its Rules of Procedure.

Thereafter it shall meet at least once a year in ordinary session on the date fixed in its Rules of Procedure.

It shall also meet in extraordinary session:

- (1) When such a meeting is prescribed by the present Convention;
- (2) If its Bureau so decides, either of its own motion or on the request of one of the High Contracting Parties;
- (3) On the request of the Council of the League of Nations.

Article 85.

The High Contracting Parties will furnish the delegates of the Commission who are entrusted with the investigations referred to in Articles 72, 73 and 75 with the necessary facilities for the execution of their mission. The Parties will employ the means at their disposal to secure the attendance of any witnesses whom the delegates of the Commission may wish to hear.

Article 86.

Except where otherwise provided by the present Convention, the decisions of the Commission shall be taken by a majority of the members present at the meeting.

A minority report may be drawn up.

Article 87.

The general expenditure of the Commission shall form the subject of a special chapter in the budget of the League of Nations.

The High Contracting Parties who are not members of the League shall bear a reasonable share of the said expenditure. An agreement to this effect will be reached between these Parties and the Secretary-General of the Commission.

The travelling expenses and subsistence allowances of the members of the Commission, their substitutes and experts, shall be paid by their respective Governments.

The Commission shall draw up regulations relating to the expenditure necessitated by its work.

SECTION II. — DEROGATIONS.

Article 88.

Should any of the High Contracting Parties become engaged in war, or should a change of circumstances constitute, in the opinion of any High Contracting Party, a menace to his national security, such Party may suspend temporarily, in so far as he is concerned, any provision or provisions of the present Convention, other than those contained in Articles 30, 34 and 47 to 63, provided that:

(a) Such High Contracting Party shall immediately notify the other High Contracting Parties, and at the same time the Permanent Disarmament Commission, of such temporary suspension and of the extent thereof;

(b) In the event of the suspension's being based upon a change of circumstances, the High Contracting Party concerned shall, simultaneously with the said notification, communicate to the other High Contracting Parties and to the Permanent Disarmament Commission a full explanation of such change of circumstances.

Thereupon the other High Contracting Parties shall promptly advise as to the situation thus presented.

When the reasons for such temporary suspension have ceased to exist, the said High Contracting Party shall reduce his armaments to the level agreed upon in the Convention and shall make immediate notification to the other High Contracting Parties.

SECTION III. — FINAL PROVISIONS.

Article 89.

It is hereby declared that the loyal execution of the present Convention is a matter of common interest to the High Contracting Parties.

Article 90.

The present Convention is not to be interpreted as restricting the provisions of the Covenant of the League of Nations—in particular, those which fix the powers of the Council and the Assembly.

Article 91.

If a dispute arises between two or more of the High Contracting Parties concerning the interpretation or application of the provisions of the present Convention, and cannot be settled either directly between the parties or by some other method of friendly settlement, the parties will, at the request of any one of them, submit such dispute to the decision of the Permanent Court of International Justice, or to an arbitral tribunal chosen by them.

Article 92.

The present Convention shall be ratified by the High Contracting Parties in accordance with their respective constitutional methods. The instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the League of Nations.

The present Convention shall come into force, for each Party whose instrument of ratification has been deposited, as soon as the instruments of ratification have been deposited by (list to be drawn up by the Conference).

Article 93.

Each of the High Contracting Parties will take the necessary measures for carrying the provisions of the present Convention into effect as soon as it has come into force for such Party.

Article 94.

Except as provided in the following paragraphs of this article, the present Convention shall remain in force for five years from the date on which it comes into force in accordance with the second paragraph of Article 92.

Chapter 2 of Section II of Part II (Naval Armaments), and Table II annexed to Section I of Part II (Naval Effectives) shall remain in force until December 31st, 1936.

The rules referred to in Article 30 remain in force, as provided in Article 23 of the Treaty of London, without limit of time. Article 34 and Sections I, II and III of Part IV shall also remain in force without limit of time.

Article 95.

Not later than years from the date on which the present Convention comes into force, a conference of the High Contracting Parties shall meet at Geneva. It will be the duty of the said conference to prepare and conclude a new Convention, which will replace the present Convention and will carry on the work of the limitation and reduction of armaments begun by the present Convention.

Article 96.

The present Convention, together with the further Conventions to be concluded in accordance with Article 95 and Article 32, will replace, as between the respective Parties to the Treaties of Versailles, St. Germain, Trianon and Neuilly, those provisions of Part V (Military, Naval and Air Clauses) of each of the Treaties of Versailles, St. Germain and Trianon, and of Part IV (Military, Naval and Air Clauses) of the Treaty of Neuilly, which at present limit the arms and armed forces of Germany, Austria, Hungary and Bulgaria respectively.
