MANCHURIA: TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS; DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, NO. 44

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MANCHURIA

Treaties and Agreements

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NOTE

A Conference on the Limitation of Armament was called on August 11, 1921, by the Government of the United States, to meet in Washington on November 11, 1921, the third anniversary of the signing of the armistice between the victorious Allied and Associated Powers and Germany.

The representatives of the Powers originally invited to the Conference were the British Empire, France, Italy and Japan, for the consideration of the question of the limitation of armament, and China for the discussion of Pacific and Far Eastern Questions. Later, representatives of Belgium, the Netherlands and Portugal, were invited to take part in the discussion of questions concerning the Pacific.

The tentative program agreed upon embraces the following subjects:

Limitation of Armament

1. Limitation of naval armament, under which shall be discussed :

(a) Basis of limitation.

(b) Extent.

(c) Fulfilment.

2. Rules for control of new agencies of warfare.

8. Limitation of land armament.

Pacific and Far Eastern Questions

1. Questions relating to China.

First: Principles to be applied.

Second: Application,

Subjects :

(a) Territorial integrity.

(b) Administrative integrity.

(c) Open door-equality of commercial and industrial opportunity.

(d) Concessions, monopolies or preferential economic privileges.

(e) Development of railways, including plans relating to Chinese Eastern Railway.

(f) Preferential railroad rates.

(g) Status of existing commitments.

3. Siberia (similar headings).

3. Mandated islands (unless questions earlier settled).

Electrical communications in the Pacific.

Under the heading of "Status of Existing Commitments" it is expected that opportunity will be afforded to consider and to reach an understanding with respect to unsettled questions involving the nature and scope of commitments under which claims of rights may hereafter be asserted.

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NOTE

In the belief that the dissemination of information regarding the status of armaments, the collection of official documents throwing light upon the situation in the Pacific, and the furnishing of accurate accounts of the issues involved in some of the more important problems confronting the Conference, would render a service to the public and perhaps even to the delegates to the Conference, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace has undertaken the preparation and publication of a series of pamphlets of which the present pamphlet is one. The documents have been selected chiefly from John V. A. MacMurray's *Treaties and Agreements with and Concerning China*, published in two volumes by the Endowment earlier in the year.

The meeting of so many nations in conference, following upon the close of a great war, is in itself an event of no mean importance. The holding of a conference upon the limitation of armament in succession to the First Hague Peace Conference called to consider the burden of armaments and the means for its decrease, with the possibility of an agreement in conference upon some of the questions of international import in addition to armaments, is an indication that the world is returning to "normalcy" and turning to the experience of The Hague.

That the Conference may be successful in all the phases of its program should be the desire of men and women of good-will in all parts of the world.

> JAMES BROWN SCOTT, Director.

WASHINGTON, D. C., • November 4, 1921.

vi

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Documents mentioned in the list as not printed herein are included merely for reference.

DATE	SPECIFICATIONS OF DOCUMENT	NUMBER	PAGE
August 1, 1894	JAPAN-Declaration of War against China.	1, note	7
August 26, 1894	JAPAN & KOREA-Treaty of Alliance	1, note	8
March 30 1895	IAPAN & CHINA-Convention of Armistice	1, note	9
March 30, 1895 April 17, 1895	JAPAN & CHINA-Convention of Armistice JAPAN & CHINA-Treaty of Peace (with	S	g - 554
	Separate Articles and Convention to pro-		1
	JAPAN—Proclamation in regard to Retroces-	1	1
May 10, 1895	JAPAN-Proclamation in regard to Retroces-	2, note	12
October 18, 1895	sion of Liaotung Peninsula FRANCE, GERMANY, RUSSIA & JAPAN Exchange of Notes regarding Retroces- sion of Fengtien Peninsula, and Naviga-	1988-1990-199 (1279)	
November 8, 1895	JAPAN & CHINA-Convention for Retro-	2, note	13
nortanica of tore	cession of Fengtien Peninsula	2	10
December 22 1895	RUSSIA-Charter of Russo-Chinese Bank	3, note	17
December 22, 1895 May (?), 1896	RUSSIA & CHINA-Treaty of Alliance	3, note	30
August 28, 1896	RUSSIA & CHINATreaty of Alliance, RUSSIA & CHINAAgreement regarding Russo-Chinese Bank Association. (Not printed herein; for text, see MacMURBAY, vol. 1, p. 78.)	0, 1000	
1896	vol. 1, p. 78.) RUSSIA & CHINA-Cassini Convention	3, note	28
September 8, 1896	RUSSIA (Russo-Chinese Bank) & CHINA	54	
	-Contract for Construction and Opera- tion of Chinese Eastern Railway	3	13
December 16, 1896	RUSSIA-Statutes of Chinese Eastern Rail-		
	way Company RUSSIA & CHINA-Convention for Lease	3, note	34
March 27, 1898	of the Liaotung Peninsula	2	41
May 7, 1898	RUSSIA & CHINA-Additional Agreement defining Boundaries of Leased and Neu- tralized Territory in Liaotung Peninsula.		
~	tralized Territory in Liaotung Peninsula.	5	46
July 6, 1898	RUSSIA (Chinese Eastern Railway) & CHINA-Agreement concerning South-		
		6	48
February 17, 1899	ern Branch of Chinese Eastern Railway. RUSSIA-First Supplement to Charter of	Ň	*0
	Chinese Eastern Railway	6. note	50
April 28, 1899	GREAT BRITAIN & RUSSIA-Exchange	22	
	of Notes regarding Railway Interests in	-	
May 31, 1899	China . RUSSIA (Chinese Eastern Railway) & CHINA (Kirin Province)-Agreement regarding Jurisdiction over Chinese Sub- jects in Railway Zone. (Not printed herein; for.text, see MACMURBAY, vol. 1, p. 277.	7	53
June 1, 1899	p. 277.) RUSSIA & CHINA-Note regarding Con- struction of Railways Northward and	a	80
June 17, 1899	Northeastward from Peking RUSSIA-Reply of Russian Minister in re-	8	54
	gard to Railways Northward and North- eastward from Peking		
August 11, 1899	DITCCTA Imposint Order for Building	8, note	55
and and and and	Dalny and Creating it a Free Port	4, note	44
March 20, 1900	Dalay and Creating it a Free Port UNITED STATES & FRANCE, GER- MANY, GREAT BRITAIN, ITALY, JAPAN & RUSSIA—Declarations ac- cepting the Commercial Policy of the	1000.00	
	"Open Door" in China	•	56

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