

Title: Treaty between the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Imperial Government of Iran concerning the regime of the Soviet-Iranian frontier and the procedure for the settlement of frontier disputes and incidents

Parties: Iran, USSR

Basin: Tedzen, Atrak, Araks, Hariud

Date: 5/14/1957

[TRANSLATION]

TREATY¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT OF IRAN CONCERNING THE REGIME OF THE SOVIET-IRANIAN FRONTIER AND THE PROCEDURE FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF FRONTIER DISPUTES AND INCIDENTS. SIGNED AT MOSCOW, ON 14 MAY 1957

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Imperial Government of Iran, desiring to determine means for properly maintaining the régime of the Soviet-Iranian frontier and preventing disputes and incidents, thereon and, if such incidents arise, for their rapid investigation and settlement, have resolved to conclude this Treaty and for that purpose have appointed as their plenipotentiaries:

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:
Pavel Dmitrievich Orlov, Envoy of the USSR;

The Imperial Government of Iran:
His Excellency Lieutenant-General Senator Amanolla Djahanbani,

who, having presented their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed as follows:

PART I

LINE OF THE FRONTIER, MAINTENANCE OF FRONTIER MARKS AND CLEARINGS

Article 1

The line of the State frontier between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Iran, as established by the Agreement of 2 December 1954² (11 Azar 1333) between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Iran concerning the settlement of frontier and financial questions, is the line on the ground as determined in the demarcation and re-demarcation documents signed on 11 April 1957 (22 Farvardin 1336), at Tehran by the Mixed Soviet-Iranian Commission for the demarcation and re-demarcation of the Soviet-Iranian frontier, and in the documents relating to the junction of the frontiers of the USSR, Iran and Turkey and Of the USSR, Iran and Afghanistan.

These documents are:

1. The Descriptive Protocol relating to the line of the State frontier between Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Iran from the triangular frontier mark placed at the junction of the frontiers of the USSR, Iran and Turkey to the triangular frontier mark placed at the junction of the frontiers of the USSR, Iran and Afghanistan, together with the relevant annexes and additions to the Descriptive Protocol:

- (a) An album of maps and diagrams for the geodesic determination of the position of the frontier marks on the State frontier between the USSR and Iran;
 - (b) The protocols, with sketch-maps on the reverse side, relating to frontier marks;
 - (c) A catalogue of the co-ordinates of the frontier marks;
 - (d) A list of the frontier marks.
2. The documents signed at Dem-Kishlak on 15 October 1956 (23 Mehr 1335) relating to the triangular frontier mark placed at the junction of the frontiers of the USSR, Iran and Turkey.
 3. The documents signed at the settlement of Serakhs on 30 June 1948 (9 Tir 1327) relating to the triangular frontier mark placed at the junction of the frontiers of the USSR, Iran and Afghanistan at the time of the demarcation and re-demarcation of the Soviet-Afghan frontier.
 4. Such other annexes and additions as may appear during the term of this Treaty.

The frontier line determined in the said documents shall also divide vertically the air space and the sub-soil.

This line is referred to in this Treaty as the "frontier" or the "frontier line".

Article 2

The Contracting Parties undertake so to maintain the frontier marks marking the frontier line between the USSR and Iran, and the frontier clearings, that the situation, nature, form, size and colour of the frontier posts and stone pyramids and the width and cleanness of the clearings meet all the requirements set forth in the frontier demarcation and re-demarcation documents.

Article 3

The maintenance of frontier marks and clearings shall be shared by the Contracting Parties as follows:

The USSR shall maintain those frontier posts and that portion of the frontier clearings which are in the territory of the USSR.

2. Iran shall maintain those frontier posts and that portion of the frontier clearings which are in Iranian territory.

3. Responsibility for the maintenance of the frontier-mark centres situated on the frontier line itself shall be shared as follows:

(a) USSR shall maintain frontier-mark centres bearing even numbers;

(b) Iran shall maintain frontier-mark centres bearing odd numbers.

4. Frontier marks in the form of separate single posts placed on precipices that are difficult of access shall be maintained by the Party whose territory offers the best access to such marks.

Article 4

1. Surveys of the condition and situation of the frontier marks and the condition of the frontier clearings shall be made by the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties at their discretion and in accordance with article 3. In addition to unilateral surveys, an annual joint control survey shall be made of the frontier marks and clearings.
2. The joint control survey of frontier marks and frontier clearings shall be made annually in August and September (Mordad and Shahrivar). The competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties shall agree on the date when each joint control survey shall begin.
3. Should it become necessary to make an extra survey of frontier marks or clearings in any year, the competent authorities of one Contracting Party shall give written notice to that effect to the other Contracting Party. The extra joint survey shall be made not later than ten days after such notice has been given.

On completion of a control survey, a record shall be drawn up by the representatives of the Parties in two copies, each in the Russian and Persian languages.

Article 5

1. If frontier posts are removed, destroyed or damaged, they shall forthwith be restored or repaired by the competent authorities of the Party in whose territory the frontier posts are situated or which is responsible for their maintenance in accordance with article 3. The competent authorities of one Contracting Party shall notify the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party in writing, at least ten days before such work begins.
2. The restoration of removed, destroyed or damaged frontier posts shall be effected by the competent authorities of one Party in the presence of representatives of competent authorities of the other Party. When a frontier post is restored the representatives of the competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties shall draw up a record in two copies, each in the Russian and Persian languages. Replaced frontier posts must conform to the specifications laid down in the Soviet-Iranian frontier demarcation and re-demarcation documents referred to in article 1.
3. When a frontier mark or frontier post is restored, care shall be taken not to change its position. If there is no clear indication of the position of removed frontier marks or posts, the competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties shall, when restoring them, rely upon the frontier demarcation and re-demarcation documents referred to in article 1 of this Treaty. The particulars contained in those documents must be verified on the spot by check measurements.
4. On water sectors of the frontier, when frontier posts which have been damaged or destroyed by floods are restored or re-erected, it shall be permissible to change their former site, but not the actual course of the frontier line, and to re-erect them at points which will ensure their preservation. Such changes in the sites of the frontier posts on a water sector of the frontier shall be made with the agreement of both Contracting Parties. Frontier posts may also be transferred to new sites if necessary in ravine sectors of the frontier line. The representatives of the Contracting Parties shall set forth the results of such a change in a protocol with a sketch-map showing the frontier mark, which must both correspond exactly in form and content with the other demarcation and re-demarcation documents and be annexed to them.

5. The competent authorities of both Contracting Parties may, by agreement, erect additional frontier marks on the frontier line if necessary, but shall not thereby change the course of the frontier line; they shall then draw up documents in respect of the said frontier marks as specified in paragraph 4 of this article. Additional frontier marks erected along the frontier must conform to the specifications adopted at the time of the demarcation and re-demarcation of the Soviet-Iranian frontier in 1955-56 (1334-35).

6. Repair work on a frontier post, which one of the Contracting Parties is responsible for maintaining under article 3, shall be performed independently by that Party without participation by the representative of the competent authorities of the other Party.

7. If the representatives of the competent authorities of one Party observe that a frontier post in the territory of the other Party has been destroyed or damaged, they shall notify the competent authorities of the other Party thereof so that the frontier post may be restored or repaired. The representatives of the competent authorities of the Party in whose territory the frontier post observed to have been removed, destroyed or damaged is situated, are required to restore or repair it.

8. The Contracting Parties shall take measures for the proper protection of frontier marks and shall prosecute any person found guilty of moving, damaging or destroying a frontier mark. In such a case a frontier mark damaged or destroyed by residents of one Party shall be restored at that Party's expense.

Article 6

1. A frontier clearing ten metres wide (five metres on either side of the frontier line) shall be cut through all forests, bushes, tall reeds and grass along the entire length of the frontier line. The clearing shall be maintained in good order and, when necessary, cleared of bushes and shrub obscuring it.

In this clearing the land may not be ploughed and no structure or building may be erected. Persons found guilty of doing so shall be prosecuted.

2. Each Party shall clean the frontier clearing on its own territory. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall notify each other at least ten days before work on the cleaning of a frontier clearing begins. Representatives of the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party are entitled to be present during such work.

PART II

REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE USE OF FRONTIER WATERS AND OF RAILWAYS AND MAIN ROADS INTERSECTING THE FRONTIER LINE

Article 7

1. The term "frontier waters" in this Treaty means those sectors of rivers along which the frontier line runs as indicated in the Soviet-Iranian frontier demarcation and re-demarcation documents of 1955-1956 (1334-1335).

2. The Contracting Parties shall take the necessary measures to ensure that in the use of frontier waters the provisions of this Treaty are observed and the rights and interests of the other Contracting Party are respected.

Article 8

1. Vessels (boats and others) of both Contracting Parties shall be entitled to navigate freely in frontier rivers up to the frontier line.
2. Vessels of the Contracting Parties shall be entitled to navigate in frontier waters only during daylight.
3. Residents of each Contracting Party shall be entitled to fish in frontier water. up to the frontier line.

Article 9

1. In order to protect the banks against damage and to prevent displacement of the beds of frontier rivers, their banks must be strengthened wherever the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties jointly consider it necessary. These operations shall be executed and the relevant expenditure defrayed by the Party to which the bank belongs.
2. Neither Contracting Party may cause an artificial displacement of river beds.

Should the bed of a frontier river be displaced as a result of natural phenomena the Contracting Parties may jointly and on a basis of equality correct the bed, in such action is deemed necessary by the competent authorities.

3. In accordance with paragraph II of the Protocol annexed to the Agreement of 2 December 1954 (11 Azar 1333) between the USSR and Iran concerning the settlement of frontier and financial questions, a displacement of the bed of frontier river shall not change the course of the frontier line unless the Contracting Parties conclude a special agreement to that effect.

Article 10

1. The Contracting Parties shall ensure that frontier waters are maintained in the proper state of cleanliness and are kept free of any artificial pollution and fouling.
2. Frontier watercourses shall be cleaned out on the sectors where such work is jointly considered essential by the competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties. The cost of cleaning in such cases shall be equally divided between the two Contracting Parties.
3. The cleaning of those sectors of frontier water which are situated wholly in the territory of one of the Contracting Parties shall be carried out by that Party as necessary, at its own expense.
4. In cleaning out frontier waters, the earth, stones, trees and other objects removed shall be thrown out to such a distance from the bank or levelled down in such a way as to avoid any danger that the banks might fall in, or the river bed be polluted, and so as to prevent the flow of water from being obstructed in time of flood.

Article 11

Should unidentified objects be observed by one Contracting Party in frontier waters or on the bank of a river, the competent authorities of that Party shall take steps to establish ownership of the said objects. The identity of human corpses observed in frontier waters or on the bank of frontier river, and the ownership of animal carcasses, shall be established jointly by representatives of both Contracting Parties.

Article 12

Residents of the two Contracting Parties shall be entitled to water their livestock at frontier rivers. Livestock brought for watering must not however cross into the territory of the other Party. Should livestock stray to the other side of the frontier, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall take steps to ensure that the livestock is returned without delay.

Watering places shall be determined by frontier commissioners who shall notify the frontier commissioners of the other Party thereof.

Article 13

Questions concerning the erection and working on frontier rivers of any new installations and structures likely to influence the flow of these rivers, as also questions concerning the use of waters, shall be governed by special agreements between the Contracting Parties.

Should the need arise for reconstruction or demolition of any installations on frontier rivers that might change the water level of those rivers, the necessary work may not be undertaken without the consent of the other Party.

Article 14

The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall exchange as regularly as possible such information concerning the level and volume of water in frontier rivers and also concerning precipitation in the interior of the territory of the two Parties as might avert danger or damage from flooding.

Article 15

1. Communication by railways and main roads that intersect the frontier, and frontier transit points of such railways and roads, shall be regulated by, special agreements between the Contracting Parties.
2. At points where the frontier line is intersected by railways and main roads each Contracting Party shall erect special signs and barriers on its territory and shall maintain them in proper condition.
3. The Contracting Parties shall take steps to ensure that the railways and main roads, open to traffic, which intersect the frontier are maintained in condition. Each Contracting Party shall be responsible for their repair at its own expense up to the frontier line.

Article 16

1. Bridges which intersect the frontier and are open to traffic shall be maintained in good order and repair by each Contracting Party at its own expense up to the frontier line, which shall be marked on the bridge, except as otherwise provided by special agreements. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall agree in advance on the organization, dates and nature of such repairs.
2. Each Contracting Party may as necessary make a technical inspection of the section of the frontier bridge situated in the territory of the other Party; the competent authorities of that Party shall be notified of the proposed inspection and the time at which it is to begin not less than forty-eight hours in advance

and shall be informed of the results of that inspection when it is completed. The inspection shall be made in the presence of representatives of the competent authorities of that Party.

3. Traffic on frontier bridges shall be regulated by agreement between representatives of the competent authorities.
4. The provisions of this article shall not apply to the railway bridge over the River Araxes at Dzhulfa, the use of which is governed by a special agreement.
5. The erection of new bridges over frontier rivers shall be governed by special agreements between the Contracting Parties.

PART III

HUNTING, FORESTRY, AGRICULTURE AND MINING

Article 17

1. Each Contracting Party shall ensure that the hunting regulations in force in its territory are strictly observed near the frontier line and that game-animals or birds are not shot or pursued across the frontier during hunting.
2. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall, where necessary, agree on all matters relating to the preservation of game-animals and birds and also on identical closed seasons in specified parts of the frontier.

Article 18

If trees fall across the frontier line owing to natural causes or through felling, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall take steps to enable the persons concerned of the Party to which the trees belong to cut them up and remove them to their own territory. The competent authorities of the Party to which the trees belong must inform the competent authorities of the other Party of such occurrences.

Article 19

1. In the immediate vicinity of the frontier line, agricultural operations shall be so conducted and mineral deposits so prospected or worked as not to harm the territory of the other Party.
2. In order to safeguard the frontier line, there shall on each side thereof be a belt twenty metres wide within which the work referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall ordinarily be prohibited and shall be permitted only in exceptional cases by agreement between the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties.
3. If in any particular case the establishment of the belts referred to in paragraph 2 of this article does not appear to be expedient, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall agree on other precautionary measures to safeguard the frontier line.
4. Any blasting or other operations involving the breaking-up or moving of rock and earth near the frontier line may be carried out only after the other Party has been notified thereof not less than forty-eight hours in advance.

During such operations, precautionary measures must be taken to ensure that no harm is caused to the nationals and property of the other Party.

PART IV

FRONTIER DISPUTES AND INCIDENTS

Article 20

The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall be required, in their respective territories :

1. To take the necessary steps to prevent the occurrence of disputes and incidents on the frontier.
2. To take the necessary steps, giving notice thereof to the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party, to prevent the commission of criminal acts in the territory of the other Party by armed or unarmed persons, and to prevent such persons from crossing the frontier in either direction.

If such criminals violate the frontier and cross from the territory of one Party into the territory of the other, the competent authorities of the first Party shall notify the competent authorities of the other Party accordingly.

3. To take the necessary steps to prevent the preparation of any acts or attempts that might be detrimental to the security and tranquillity of the frontier zone or to the interests of the other Contracting Party, or that might give provocation to the residents of the said zone, and to take action against persons who collaborate in or sponsor illegal crossing of the frontier and who incite residents to migrate from the territory of one Party to the territory of the other.

If it is established that persons guilty of the acts referred to in the first paragraph of this section are in the frontier zone of one of the Contracting Parties, the competent authorities of that Contracting Party shall, either on their own initiative or on information or documents from the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party concerning those persons, or on information regarding their whereabouts, take the necessary steps, in accordance with their national legislation, to prevent such acts from being committed.

4. To take the necessary steps to prevent smuggling and to remove smugglers from the frontier zone.
5. To take preventive measures against the spread of epidemics, epizootics and agricultural pests to the territory of the other Contracting Party.

To that end, the competent authorities of the Contracting Party on whose territory the epidemic, epizootic or agricultural pests originate are required to notify the competent authorities of the other Party thereof.

Where an epizootic is suspected among animals due to be transferred from the territory of one Party to the territory of the other, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall take the necessary steps to prevent the spread of the epizootic, in accordance with the health and veterinary control regulations of each of the Contracting Parties.

6. To investigate and, where necessary, settle all frontier disputes and incidents, including the following:

- (a) Shots fired across the frontier at persons, animals, objects or the territory of the other Contracting Party;
- (b) Cases of homicide, wounding, infliction of bodily harm or any other injury to health resulting from shots fired across the frontier or during the crossing thereof, or any acts of violence against the nationals of one Party while they are in the territory of the other Party ;
- (c) Unlawful crossing of the frontier by officials or private persons. In such cases the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall hold an immediate investigation and, if it is established that the frontier was crossed unintentionally, the said persons shall be returned to the territory of the State from which they came. Neither Contracting Party may refuse to re-admit persons who are proved to have crossed the frontier unintentionally;
- (d) The forcible introduction of persons into the territory of the other Party;
- (e) Manifestations or acts on the frontier that are offensive to the other Party;
- (f) Violation of the frontier by aircraft or by boats or other water-borne vessels;
- (g) Cases where fishing boats, fishing equipment or other objects belonging to one Party are found on the territory of the other Party as a result of natural causes;
- (h) Removal or destruction of, or damage to, frontier marks or other frontier structures, including those on rivers;
- (i) Theft or destruction of, or damage to, State, private or other property in the territory of the other Party.

In such cases the State, private or other property which has been stolen or removed, either by accident or deliberately, to the territory of the other Party shall, where possible, be returned to the Party to which it belongs. If such property cannot be returned in its original state, either entirely or partially, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall decide by common agreement whether compensation is payable and the amount due;

- (j) Photographing of the frontier territory of the other Party;
- (k) Cases where domestic animals or poultry wander or are driven across the frontier. Domestic animals or poultry that have wandered or been driven across the frontier shall, as far as possible, be returned to the Party to which they belong. In cases where material loss is confirmed, compensation for that loss must as far as possible be paid in accordance with section 6 (i) of this article;
- (l) The spread of fire across the frontier into the territory of the other Party;
- (m) Negotiations and other forms of communication across the frontier between officials or private persons without authority therefor;
- (n) Other frontier disputes and incidents.

7. To investigate and settle, within the limits of their competence, claims for all forms of compensation arising out of a frontier dispute or incident, submitted by one of the Parties or by persons in its territory.

When settling a frontier dispute or incident in accordance with paragraph 6 (g), (h), (i) and (k) of this article, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall at the same time settle the matter of returning property found in the territory of the other Party.

PART V

FRONTIER AUTHORITIES, THEIR PLACE OF RESIDENCE, THE AREAS IN THEIR CHARGE AND REGULATIONS FOR CROSSING THE FRONTIER

Article 21

The competent authorities referred to in this Treaty shall be: the frontier commissioners and their deputies and assistants.

Article 22

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Imperial Government of Iran shall each appoint frontier commissioners and their deputies and assistants.

The frontier commissioners shall co-operate in performing the duties arising out of the provisions of this Treaty.

The first meeting of frontier commissioners shall be held not later than fourteen days after the entry into force of this Treaty.

Article 23

The number of frontier commissioners, the areas in their charge and their permanent place of residence shall be as specified in the Protocol annexed to this Treaty.

Each Contracting Party shall communicate the names of the frontier commissioners and their deputies and assistants to the other Party through the diplomatic channel.

The deputy frontier commissioners shall have all the powers of the frontier commissioners. They shall perform the duties of the frontier commissioners during the absence of the latter.

The Contracting Parties shall agree through the diplomatic channel on any changes that may become necessary in the number of frontier commissioners, their duties, the areas in their charge and their permanent place of residence as specified in the Protocol to this Treaty.

Article 24

1. The frontier commissioners shall communicate to each other the permanent place of residence of their assistants.

The permanent places of residence of the assistants and the areas in their charge shall be announced by the frontier commissioners at their first meeting after the entry into force of this Treaty.

2. The powers of the assistants shall be defined by the frontier commissioners.

3. The permanent places of residence of the deputies and assistants of frontier commissioners and the areas in their charge may be changed by the frontier commissioners concerned during the term of this Treaty.

4. Each frontier commissioner shall be entitled to call in experts as necessary.

Article 25

Written credentials in the languages of the two Parties shall be issued to the persons referred to in article 21 of this Treaty as follows:

To the frontier commissioners of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, their deputies and assistants, by the officer commanding the Frontier Forces of the USSR.

To the frontier commissioners of the Imperial Government of Iran, their deputies and assistants, by the head of the Chief Frontier Directorate of Iran.

Article 26

When new frontier commissioners, deputies or assistants are appointed, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall take steps to ensure continuity of the work.

Article 27

The frontier commissioners shall take the necessary steps to settle frontier disputes and incidents that are within their competence.

In such cases the frontier commissioners shall, by agreement and jointly, make the necessary inquiries into the dispute or incident and record the results in a minute of the meeting.

Matters on which the assistant frontier commissioners cannot agree shall be referred to the frontier commissioners for settlement.

Disputes and incidents on the settlement of which frontier commissioners cannot agree shall be settled through the diplomatic channel. Furthermore, each frontier commissioner may, at his discretion, submit any matter of particular importance for settlement through the diplomatic channel, after notifying the frontier commissioner of the other Party.

The provisions of this article shall not preclude reference back to the frontier commissioners of a matter discussed through the diplomatic channel.

Article 28

Decisions taken jointly by the frontier commissioners in settlement of a frontier dispute or incident shall be final.

The amount of compensation due to each Party, on the basis of agreements concerning compensation for loss, shall be calculated by the frontier commissioners immediately after the settlement of the incident.

The procedure for further assessments and, where necessary, changes in such procedure shall be determined through the diplomatic channel.

Article 29

The frontier commissioners and their assistants shall ordinarily perform their joint functions at meetings and interviews. For each meeting of the frontier commissioners, minutes shall be drawn up briefly indicating the proceedings of the meeting, the decisions taken and the time-limits fixed for their implementation.

Decisions of the frontier commissioners shall be regarded as final and binding on both Parties as from the time of signature of the minutes.

Minor questions may be settled by correspondence between the frontier commissioners, unless either commissioner desires that such a question be dealt with at a meeting.

For every interview between assistants a record shall be drawn up setting out in detail the action taken by them and their conclusions and proposals, if any.

Decisions of assistants shall not have effect until confirmed by the frontier commissioners.

Minutes and records of meetings of the frontier commissioners and of interviews between their assistants shall be drawn up in two copies, each in the Russian and Persian languages.

Article 30

Meetings or interviews of the frontier commissioners shall take place at the request of one of them and if possible at the time mentioned in the request. The reply to the request shall if possible be given forthwith, and in any case not any later than forty-eight hours after its receipt. If the date proposed for the meeting or interview is unacceptable, the frontier commissioner shall propose another date in his reply.

If a frontier commissioner requests a meeting or interview, the frontier commissioner of the other Party shall attend in person, unless absent for valid reasons (e.g. illness, an official journey or leave). In such a case his deputy shall replace him and shall notify the frontier commissioner of the other Party in good time. By agreement between the frontier commissioners, meetings and interviews may take place between their deputies.

Interviews between assistants may take place only by order of the frontier commissioners.

Meetings or interviews between the frontier commissioners or their assistants may also be attended by secretaries and interpreters.

Article 31

The meetings or interviews referred to in article 30 of this Treaty shall as a rule be held in the territory of the Party which has convened the meeting or interview. Nevertheless, the frontier commissioners may depart from this rule when it is expedient to do so.

Meetings or interviews shall be directed by the frontier commissioner or assistant of the Party in whose territory the negotiations are taking place.

The agenda of the meeting shall be proposed at the time when the request for the meeting is submitted, or shall be settled beforehand by discussion or correspondence. In exceptional cases, items not on the agenda may be dealt with, by mutual consent.

Article 32

In order to ascertain the facts, the frontier commissioners and their assistant may by previous agreement conduct inquiries into frontier disputes or incidents on the spot. In such cases, the frontier commissioners and their assistants may, when necessary, be accompanied to the site of the dispute or incident by experts, interpreters, and witnesses and victims of the dispute or incident. Such inquiries shall be directed by the Party in whose territory they are held.

Suitable records or other documents relating to the inquiries shall be drawn up and annexed to the minutes of the meeting. Such records and other documents shall be drawn up in accordance with the rules laid down in article 29 of this Treaty.

Article 33

The frontier commissioners shall inform each other as soon as possible of actions taken in accordance with the decisions adopted at a meeting or interview.

Article 34

The frontier commissioners shall by common agreement designate meeting points on the frontier for the exchange of official correspondence and the delivery of persons and property. Such meeting points shall be designated by the frontier commissioner at their first meeting after the entry into force of this Treaty. The number and location of such meeting points may be changed by the frontier commissioners by common agreement.

Persons shall be delivered by the frontier commissioners or their assistant personally.

The frontier commissioners or their assistants shall agree on the place and the time of each delivery. Animals shall be delivered in the district where they cross the frontier. Animals, property and official correspondence may be delivered by the commanders of frontier posts on the instructions of the frontier commissioners.

Official correspondence shall be accepted at any time of the day or night even on holidays and other non-working days.

The frontier commissioners shall establish by agreement the form of receipts to be given for correspondence, animals and other property.

The frontier commissioners shall agree upon the signals to be used to summon the frontier guard of the other Party.

Article 35

The frontier commissioners and their deputies, assistants, secretaries, interpreters and experts may cross the frontier to perform official functions arising out of the provisions of this Treaty.

The frontier commissioners and their deputies and assistants shall cross the frontier by virtue of the written credentials provided for in article 25 of this Treaty the credentials shall bear the photograph and signature of the holder and a visa of the frontier commissioner of the other Party (for specimen credentials see annex 1).³

Secretaries and interpreters shall cross the frontier by virtue of certificates valid for six months issued by the frontier commissioner of their Party. The certificates shall bear the photograph and signature of the holder (for specimen certificate see annex 2).⁴

Experts and persons whose presence is required for the clarification of any matter may cross the frontier by virtue of a pass for a single crossing of the frontier in both directions, valid for twenty-four hours from the time of the first crossing. The pass shall be issued by the frontier commissioner of one Party and visaed by the frontier commissioner of the other Party (for specimen pass see annex 3).⁵

Article 36

The persons referred to in the first paragraph of article 35 of this Treaty shall cross the frontier only at the points mentioned in article 34, unless the frontier commissioners or their assistants have agreed on some other crossing point.

The date and hour of each crossing shall be notified in good time, and in no case less than twenty-four hours in advance, to the nearest frontier post of the other Party, which shall send an escort to the meeting place.

The frontier commissioners and other persons referred to in the first paragraph of article 35 of this Treaty may cross the frontier in uniform and bearing personal weapons.

Article 37

The frontier commissioners and other persons referred to in the first paragraph of article 35 of this Treaty shall be guaranteed immunity for their persons and for official documents in their possession.

The above-mentioned persons may take, with them to the territory of the other Party, free of customs duties and other charges, the articles, means of transport and other Possessions necessary for their work, provided they are re-exported, and also the food and tobacco required for their personal consumption. (whatever is not used being re-exported).

The persons referred to in the fourth Paragraph of article 35 of this Treaty shall enjoy immunity while on the territory of the other Party, and may in no case be detained.

Article 38

Each of the Contracting Parties shall defray the expenses of carrying out its obligations under this Treaty.

Article 39

Each Party shall grant to the persons referred to in the first and fourth paragraphs of article 35 who are in its territory in connexion with the performance of duties under this Treaty any necessary assistance in obtaining transport, lodging and facilities for communicating with their own authorities.

PART VI
FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 40

This Treaty shall remain in force for three years. If neither of the Contracting Parties denounces this Treaty six months before its expiry, or gives notice of a desire to make amendments thereto, the Treaty shall automatically be renewed for successive periods of three years.

Article 41

The Protocol annexed to this Treaty shall constitute an integral part thereof.

Article 42

On the conclusion of this Treaty, the Agreement between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Persia establishing the post of frontier commissioner, concluded by means of the exchange of notes dated 14 August 1927, 15 October 1928, 20 November 1929, 27 October 1931, 28 November 1949, 27 December 1949, 4 January 1950, 17 January 1950, 28 January 1950, 11 July 1950 and 9 August 1950, shall be regarded as having expired.

Article 43

Treaty shall be ratified. The exchange of the instruments of ratification shall take place at Tehran as soon as possible. The Treaty shall enter into force on the exchange of the instruments of ratification.

Article 44

This Treaty has been drawn up in two copies, each in the Russian and Persian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the plenipotentiaries of the Contracting Parties have signed

this Treat and have affixed thereto their seals.

Done at Moscow, on 14 May 1957 (24 Ordibeheshta 1336).

For the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
P. D. Orlov

For the Imperial Government of Iran:
Amanolla Djahanbani

PROTOCOL TO THE TREATY BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT OF IRAN CONCERNING THE

REGIME OF THE SOVIET-IRANIAN FRONTIER AND THE PROCEDURE FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF FRONTIER DISPUTES AND INCIDENTS ⁶

In pursuance of article 23 of the Treaty between the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Imperial Government of Iran concerning the régime of the Soviet-Iranian frontier and the procedure for the settlement of frontier disputes and incidents, concluded at Moscow on 14 May 1957 (24 Ordibeheshta 1336),¹ the undersigned plenipotentiaries of the Contracting Parties have decided that the sectors in the charge of the frontier commissioners shall be as follows:

For the USSR:

- I. The frontier commissioner for the Nakhichevan Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the village of Shakhtakhty, shall be in charge of the area extending from the junction of the State frontiers of the USSR, Iran and Turkey to frontier mark No. 25.
2. The frontier commissioner for the Megri Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the town of Dzhulfa, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 25 to frontier mark No. 35.
3. The frontier commissioner for the Dzhebrail Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the settlement of Gadrut, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 35 to frontier mark No. 64.
4. The frontier commissioner for the Belyasuvar Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the village of Belyasuvar, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 64 to frontier mark No. 108.
5. The frontier commissioner for the Lenkoran Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the town of Lenkoran, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 108 to frontier mark No. 144 (on the Caspian Sea).
6. The frontier commissioner for the Kizyl-Atrek Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the settlement of Kizyl-Atrek, shall be in charge of the area extending from the Caspian Sea (frontier mark No. 145/0) to frontier mark No. 188.
7. The frontier commissioner for the Bakharden Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the settlement of Bakharden, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 188 to frontier mark No. 218.
8. The frontier commissioner for the Kaakhka Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the settlement of Kaakhka, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 218 to frontier mark No. 272.
9. The frontier commissioner for the Serakhs Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the settlement of Serakhs, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 272 to the junction of the State frontiers of the USSR, Iran and Afghanistan.

For Iran:

1. The frontier commissioner for the Poldasht Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the village of Poldasht, shall be in charge of the area extending from the junction of the State frontiers of the USSR, Iran and Turkey to frontier mark No. 25.
2. The frontier commissioner for the Dzhulfa Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the settlement of Dzhulfa Iranskaya, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 25 to frontier mark No. 35.
3. The frontier commissioner for the Kaleybar (Khoda Afarin) Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the village of Khumarlu, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 35 to frontier mark No. 64.
4. The frontier commissioner for the Mugan Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the village of Germe, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 64 to frontier mark No. 108.
5. The frontier commissioner for the Ardabil Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the town of Ardabil, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 108 to frontier mark No. 144 (on the Caspian Sea).
6. The frontier commissioner for the Atrek Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the town of Gonbad-e Qabus, shall be in charge of the area extending from the Caspian Sea (frontier mark No. 14,5/0) to frontier mark No. 188.
7. The frontier commissioner for the Golama Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the settlement of Golama, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 188 to frontier mark No. 218.
8. The frontier commissioner for the Lotfabad Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the village of Lotfabad, shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 218 to frontier mark No. 272.
9. The frontier commissioner for the Serakhs Sector, with a permanent place of residence in the town of Serakhs shall be in charge of the area extending from frontier mark No. 272 to the junction of the State frontiers of the USSR, Iran and Afghanistan.

This Protocol, which forms an integral part of the Treaty, has been drawn up in two copies, each in the Russian and Persian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

SIGNED At MOSCOW, On 14 May 1957 (24 Ordibeheshta 1336).

For the Government
of the Union of Soviet
Socialist Republics:

P. D. ORLOV

For the Imperial Government
of Iran

Amanolla DJAHANBANI

¹ Came into force on 20 December 1962 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification which took place at Tehran, in accordance with article 43.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 451, No. 6497.

³ See p. 252 of this volume.

⁴ See p. 256 of this volume.

⁵ See p. 258 of this volume.

⁶ See p. 212 of this volume.