



Treaty Series No. 53 (1947)

Agreement

between the Governments of the United Kingdom,
the United States of America and France

for the Regulation of Coal Exports from
the three Western Zones of Germany

Moscow, 19th April, 1947

*Presented by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs
to Parliament by Command of His Majesty*

LONDON
HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

ONE PENNY NET

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED
KINGDOM, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND FRANCE
FOR THE REGULATION OF COAL EXPORTS FROM THE THREE
WESTERN ZONES OF GERMANY

Moscow, 19th April, 1947

No. 1

Mr. Ernest Bevin to M. Georges Bidault

(At British Embassy),

Dear M. Bidault,

Moscow, 19th April, 1947.

In agreement with the United States Secretary of State I send you herewith the proposals for a sliding scale for coal exports from the three Western Zones as at present constituted which have been prepared as a result of conversations which have taken place during the past few days between your representatives and those of Mr. Marshall and myself.

We have made the fullest efforts possible to meet the requirements for coal of France and the countries represented in the European Coal Organisation, bearing in mind the necessity for rehabilitating the peaceful industries of Germany with the object of bringing the German economy into balance as quickly as possible in accordance with the American and British programmes.

I hope to learn that you accept the proposals made at the production levels shown in the sliding scale. It is intended that the percentages of the sliding scale shall apply for the second half of 1947. At the end of the year the position can be examined again in the light of the conditions then prevailing.

Believe me, &c.

(Sd.) ERNEST BEVIN.

Enclosure to No. 1

*Projected Scale of Export and Internal Allocation of Coal for the
Three Western Zones of Germany, in relation to Future Level of
Coal Production*

(Thousands of metric tons)

<i>Daily Output</i>	<i>Per cent.</i>	<i>Estimated</i>	<i>Estimated</i>
<i>Ruhr-Aachen plus</i>	<i>Allocated</i>	<i>Monthly Export</i>	<i>Monthly Internal</i>
<i>Saar</i>	<i>to Export</i>	<i>Tonnage</i>	<i>Tonnage</i>
(Net merchantable coal, excluding raw brown coal, in terms of hard coal equivalent)			
280	21.0	1,187	4,465
290	21.5	1,262	4,608
300	21.5	1,309	4,778
310	22.0	1,387	4,917
320	22.5	1,467	5,055

<i>Daily Output</i> <i>Ruhr-Aachen plus</i> <i>Saar</i>	<i>Per cent.</i> <i>Allocated</i> <i>to Export</i>	<i>Estimated</i> <i>Monthly Export</i> <i>Tonnage</i>	<i>Estimated</i> <i>Monthly Internal</i> <i>Tonnage</i>
330	22·5	1,516	5,223
340	23·0	1,602	5,365
350	23·5	1,691	5,505
360	24·0	1,782	5,642
370	25·0	1,913	5,739

Notes—

1. Monthly figures are for calendar months of twenty-five working days.
2. Exports represent total exports (including exports to Austria, to countries belonging to the European Coal Organisation and bunker coal).
3. It is anticipated that allocations will be made quarterly with later adjustments as required. Assistance may be required from the importing countries to move the contemplated tonnages of export coal.

No. 2

M. Georges Bidault to Mr. Ernest Bevin

M. le Secrétaire d'Etat,

Moscou, le 19 avril 1947

J'AI l'honneur d'accuser réception de votre lettre du 19 avril concernant les exportations de charbon des trois zones occidentales de l'Allemagne. Je suis heureux de constater que vous avez donné, dans une large mesure, satisfaction aux demandes depuis longtemps présentées par le Gouvernement français, en fixant par une formule d'application générale le montant des exportations de charbon en fonction de la production allemande. Bien qu'encore éloignés de ce que nous avons espéré, les chiffres qui sont joints à votre lettre constituent, de votre part et de celle du Gouvernement des Etats-Unis, un effort de compréhension que nous apprécions, connaissant les préoccupations dont vous vous êtes fait l'écho. Je vous remercie donc de cette communication, dont je prends acte.

Toutefois, en raison de l'écart qui subsiste entre ce que nous pouvons espérer de vos propositions et les besoins minimums vitaux de l'économie française, tels que je les ai définis au nom du Gouvernement français, je vous demande de bien vouloir en outre nous prêter votre assistance en ce qui concerne la question sarroise et ses répercussions sur notre situation charbonnière.

Je vous demande de bien vouloir, lorsque le rattachement économique de la Sarre à la France aura été décidé, accepter de faire une notification conjointe de cette décision à l'Organisation Européenne du Charbon (E.C.O.). En faisant cette notification, vous voudrez bien indiquer que la France présentera désormais devant E.C.O. les ressources et les besoins de l'ensemble franco-sarrois, et inviter cet organisme à tirer les conclusions de cette situation nouvelle. J'attacherai du prix à recevoir votre accord sur les dispositions contenues dans les lettres que nous échangeons, et dont j'accepte la teneur.

Veuillez agréer, &c.
(Signé) BIDAULT.

(Translation of No. 2)

Mr. Secretary of State,

Moscow, 19th April, 1947

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your letter of 19th April, 1947, concerning the export of coal from the three Western Zones of Germany. I am happy to state that you have, to a large extent, satisfied the requests

which the French Government have been putting forward for a considerable time, by fixing the volume of coal exports, according to a formula of general application, as a proportion of German production. Although still far from what we had hoped for, the figures which you give in your letter show a desire to meet us on your part and that of the United States which we appreciate, knowing the responsibilities which you have mentioned. I thank you for this communication, and take note of it.

However, in view of the difference which still exists between what we can hope for from your proposals and the minimum vital needs of France, which I have set forth in the name of the French Government, I ask you in addition to be prepared to give us your help over the question of the Saar and its effect on our coal situation. I would ask you to be good enough, when the economic incorporation of the Saar with France has been decided upon, to agree to make a joint notification to the European Coal Organisation of that decision. In making this notification, I would ask you to make clear that France will hereafter present to the European Coal Organisation both the resources and the needs of France and the Saar as a whole, and to invite the European Coal Organisation to take account of this new situation.

I should greatly appreciate your agreement to the arrangements contained in the letters which have passed between us and which I accept.

Please accept, &c.
(Sd.) BIDAULT.

No. 3

Mr. Ernest Bevin to M. Georges Bidault

(At British Embassy),

Dear M. Bidault,

Moscow, 19th April, 1947

In answer to your letter of 19th April, 1947, in reply to my letter of the same date, about the export of coal from the three Western Zones of Germany, I am happy to state that the arrangements contained in these letters have my approval.

Believe me, &c.
(Sd.) ERNEST BEVIN.

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