

**AGREEMENT RELATING TO PRISONERS OF WAR AND CIVILIANS
LIBERATED BY FORCES OPERATING UNDER SOVIET COMMAND
AND FORCES OPERATING UNDER BRITISH COMMAND.**

The Governments of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, of Canada, of Australia, of New Zealand, of the Union of South Africa and of India on the one hand and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the other hand, wishing to make arrangements for the care and repatriation of Soviet citizens freed by forces operating under British command and for British subjects freed by forces operating under Soviet command, have agreed as follows:—

ARTICLE 1

All Soviet citizens liberated by the forces operating under British command and all British subjects liberated by the forces operating under Soviet command will, without delay after their liberation, be separated from enemy prisoners of war and will be maintained separately from them in camps or points of concentration until they have been handed over to the Soviet or British authorities as the case may be, at places agreed upon between those authorities.

British and Soviet military authorities will respectively take the necessary measures for protection of camps and points of concentration from enemy bombing, artillery fire, etc.

ARTICLE 2

The contracting parties shall ensure that their military authorities shall without delay inform the competent authorities of the other party regarding citizens or subjects of the other contracting party found by them, and will at the same time take the necessary steps to implement the provisions of this agreement. Soviet and British repatriation representatives will have the right of immediate access into the camps and points of concentration where their citizens or subjects are located and they will have the right to appoint the internal administration and set up the internal discipline and management in accordance with the military procedure and laws of their country.

Facilities will be given for the despatch or transfer of officers of their own nationality to camps or points of concentration where liberated members of the respective forces are located and there are insufficient officers. The outside protection of and access to and from the camps or points of concentration will be established in accordance with the instructions of the military commander in whose zone they are located, and the military commander shall also appoint a commandant, who shall have the final responsibility for the overall administration and discipline of the camp or point concerned.

The removal of camps as well as the transfer from one camp to another of liberated citizens or subjects will be effected by agreement with the competent Soviet or British authorities. Removal of camps and transfer of liberated citizens or subjects may, in exceptional circumstances, also be effected without preliminary agreement, provided the competent authorities are immediately notified of such removal or transfer with a statement of the reasons. Hostile propaganda directed against the contracting parties or against any of the United Nations will not be permitted.

ARTICLE 3

The competent British and Soviet authorities will supply liberated citizens or subjects of the contracting parties with adequate food, clothing, housing and medical attention both in camps or at points of concentration and en route,