

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, CANADA, THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA, AND OF INDIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ REGARDING BRITISH WAR CEMETERIES, &C., IN IRAQ (WITH EXCHANGE OF NOTES)

Bagdad, March 15, 1935

The Governments of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa and India, on the one hand, and the Government of Iraq, on the other hand, being desirous of placing the permanence and care of the graves of British soldiers who fell in the late War and were interred in Iraqi territory, upon a firm and established basis, have agreed as follows:—

ARTICLE 1

In this agreement the expression "the Commission" means the Imperial War Graves Commission incorporated by Royal Charter granted by His Majesty the King of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas, Emperor of India, on the twenty-first day of May, 1917.

The expression "war cemeteries, graves and memorials" means the cemeteries and graves in Iraqi territory containing the bodies of soldiers of the British Empire fallen in the late War, and the memorials in the said territory commemorating such soldiers, which are the subject of this agreement.

ARTICLE 2

The Government of Iraq confirm and continue the recognition accorded to the Commission, as communicated to His Majesty's High Commissioner by note of the Prime Minister of Iraq dated the 11th/12th March, 1928, as the sole British authority charged with the duty of perpetually caring for the war cemeteries, graves and memorials. For the purpose of carrying out this duty the Government of Iraq recognise the right of the Commission to act in Iraq as an association possessing the civil rights of a juristic person.

ARTICLE 3

The Government of Iraq agree that the Commission shall be represented in Iraq by a committee, named and composed as stated below, which shall be competent to perform in the name of the Commission, and within the limits of the powers which the Commission shall from time to time delegate to it, all civil acts necessary to enable it to fulfil its object.

The said Committee shall be called "The Iraq Committee of the Imperial War Graves Commission," and shall be composed of the chief representative for the time being in Iraq of His Majesty the King of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas, Emperor of India (who shall be Chairman), and such six other persons as he may from time to time nominate in agreement with the Commission as members of the Committee.

The said Committee may, if considered necessary or desirable, be registered in Iraq as an association possessing the civil rights of a juristic person under the title above mentioned.