LIMITATION OF NAVAL ARMAMENT

Protocol signed at London June 30, 1938, modifying treaty of March 25, 1936
Entered into force June 30, 1938
Terminated December 31, 1942, upon expiration of treaty of March 25, 1936

53 Stat. 1921; Executive Agreement Series 127

PROTOCOL

Whereas by Article 4 (1) of the Treaty for the Limitation of Naval Armaments signed in London on the 25th March, 1936, it is provided that no capital ship shall exceed 35,000 tons (35,560 metric tons) standard displacement;

And whereas by reason of Article 4 (2) of the said treaty the maximum calibre of gun carried by capital ships is 16 inches (406 mm.);

And whereas on the 31st March, 1938, the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland gave notice under paragraph (2) of Article 25 of the said Treaty of their decision to exercise the right provided for in paragraph (1) of the said Article to depart from the limitations and restrictions of the treaty in regard to the upper limits of capital ships of sub-category (a);

And whereas consultations have taken place as provided in paragraph (3) of Article 25, with a view to reaching agreement in order to reduce to a minimum the extent of the departures from the limitations and restrictions of the treaty;

The undersigned, duly authorised by their respective Governments, have agreed as follows:

1. As from this day’s date the figure of 35,000 tons (35,560 metric tons) in Article 4 (1) of the said treaty shall be replaced by the figure of 45,000 tons (45,720 metric tons).

2. The figure of 16 inches (406 mm.) in Article 4 (2) remains unaltered.

3. The present protocol, of which the French and English texts shall both be equally authentic, shall come into force on this day’s date.

1 TS 919, ante, p. 257.
In faith whereof the undersigned have signed the present protocol. Done in London the 30th day of June 1938.

For the Government of the United States of America:  
Herschel V. Johnson

For the Government of the French Republic:  
Roger Cambon

For the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:  
Alexander Cadogan