

# TERMS OF ARMISTICE TOLD IN PRESIDENT WILSON'S ADDRESS

The President's address to Congress yesterday in which he told the terms of the armistice with Germany, is as follows:—  
Gentlemen of the Congress:—

In these times of rapid and stupendous change it will in some degree lighten my sense of responsibility to perform in person the duty of communicating to you some of the larger circumstances of the situation with which it is necessary to deal.

The German authorities, who have at the invitation of the supreme war council been in communication with Marshal Foch, have accepted and signed the terms of armistice, which he was authorized and instructed to communicate to them. Those terms are as follows:—

### Terms Head.

I.—Military clauses on western front:

One.—Cessation of operations by land and in the air six hours after the signature of the armistice.

Two.—Immediate evacuation of the countries of Belgium, France, Alsace-Lorraine, Luxembourg, as ordered as to be completed within fourteen days from the signature of the armistice. German troops which have been above mentioned territories within the period fixed, will become prisoners of war. Occupation by the allied and United States forces jointly will keep pace with evacuation in these areas. All movements of German troops and communication will be regulated in accordance with a note annexed to the stated terms.

Three.—Repatriation beginning at once and to be completed within fourteen days of all inhabitants of the countries above mentioned, including prisoners and persons under trial or convicted.

### Surrender of Gaza.

Four.—Surrender in good condition by the German armies of the following equipment: Five thousand guns (2,500 heavy, 2,500 field); 30,000 machine guns; 3,000 minenwerfer; 2,000 aeroplanes (fighters, bombers—Aerial D. seven types) and night bombing machines; all above to be delivered in situ to the allies and the United States troops in accordance with the detailed conditions laid down in the annexed note.

### Evacuation.

Five.—Evacuation by the German armies of the countries on the left bank of the Rhine. These countries on the left bank of the Rhine shall be administered by local authorities under the control of the allied and United States armies of occupation. The occupation of these territories will be determined by the allied States garrisons holding the principal crossings of the Rhine—Mayence, Coblenz, together with bridgeheads. These garrisons in thirty kilometer radius on the right bank and by garrisons similarly holding the strategic points of the regions.

### Neutral Zone.

A neutral zone shall be reserved on the right of the Rhine between the stream and a line drawn parallel to it forty kilometers east from the frontier of Holland and as far as practicable a distance of thirty kilometers from the east bank of the stream from this parallel upon Swiss frontier.

Evacuation by the enemy of the Rhine in accordance with the terms as to be completed within a further period of eleven days. In all nineteen days after the signature of the armistice all lines of evacuation and occupation will be regulated according to the annexed note.

(Here the President interrupted his reading to remark that there evidently had been an error in the terms of the armistice which was very bad.)

### No Damage to Be Done.

Six.—In all territory evacuated by the enemy there shall be no evacuation of inhabitants; no damage or harm shall be done to the persons or property of the inhabitants. No destruction of any kind is to be committed. Military establishments of all kinds shall be destroyed intact as well as military stores of food, munitions, equipment not removed during the periods fixed for evacuation. Stores of all kinds of material, including population, cattle, etc., which is left in situ. Industrial establishments shall not be impaired in any way and the means of transport shall be moved. Roads and means of communication of every kind, railroads, waterways, main roads, bridges, telegraphs, etc., shall be in no manner impaired.

### Holding Stock.

Seven.—All civil and military personnel at present employed on them shall remain. Five thousand locomotives, 50,000 wagons and ten thousand motor trucks in good working order with all necessary spare parts and fittings shall be delivered to the associated powers within the period fixed for the evacuation of Belgium and Luxembourg. The railways of Alsace-Lorraine shall be handed over within the period fixed for the evacuation with all pre-war personnel and material. Further material necessary for the working of railways in the countries of the left bank of the Rhine shall be left in situ. All stores of coal and material for the upkeep of permanent ways, signals

and repair shops left entire in situ and kept in an efficient state by Germany during the whole period of armistice. All charges taken from the allies shall be referred to them. A note appended regulates the details of these measures.

Eight.—The German command shall be responsible for revealing all mines or delay acting fuse discovered on territory evacuated by the German troops and shall assist in their discovery and destruction. The German command shall be responsible for revealing all destructive measures that may have been taken (such as poisoning or polluting of springs, wells, etc.) underground.

Nine.—The right of requisitioning shall be exercised by the allies in the United States armies in all occupied territory. The upkeep of the troops of occupation in the Rhine land (excluding Alsace-Lorraine) shall be charged to the German government.

### Repatriation of Prisoners.

Ten.—An immediate repatriation without reciprocity, according to detailed conditions, which shall be fixed, of all allied and United States prisoners of war. The allied and United States shall be able to dispose of these prisoners as they wish.

Eleven.—Sick and wounded who cannot be removed from the evacuated territory will be cared for by German personnel who will be left in situ with the medical material required.

### Eastern Frontiers.

II.—Disposition relative to the eastern frontiers of Germany.

Twelve.—All German troops at present in any territory which became the war belonged to Russia, Rumania or Turkey shall withdraw within the frontiers of Germany as they existed on August 1, 1914.

Thirteen.—Evacuation by German troops to begin at once and all German instructors, prisoners, and civilians as well as military agents, now in the United States (as defined before 1914), to be recalled.

Fourteen.—German troops to cease all requisitions and seizures and any other undertakings with a view to obtaining supplies intended for Germany in Rumania and Russia (as defined on August 1, 1914).

Fifteenth.—Abandonment of the treaties of Bucharest and Brest-Litovsk and of the supplementary treaties.

Sixteen.—The allies shall have free access to the territories evacuated by the Germans on their eastern frontier either through Danzig or by the Vistula in order to obtain supplies to the population of those territories or for any other purpose.

### III.—Clause concerning East Africa.

Seventeen.—Unconditional capitulation of all German forces operating in East Africa, within one month.

### General Clauses.

IV.—General clauses.  
Eighteen.—Repatriation, without reciprocity, within a maximum period of one month, in accordance with the conditions hereafter set forth, of all persons arrested or deported who may be citizens of other allied or associated states (that those mentioned in clause three, paragraph twelfth, with the reservation that any future claims and demands of the allies rest on the United States of America remain unaffected).

### Financial Conditions.

Nineteen.—The following financial conditions are required: Reparation for damage done. While such armistice lasts no public securities shall be removed by the enemy which can be used to the allies for the recovery or reparation for war losses. Immediate repatriation of the cash deposit, in the National Bank of Belgium, and in general immediate return of all documents, specie, stocks, bonds, etc., together with plant for the gaso thereof, touching public or private interests in the invaded countries. Repatriation of the Russian and Rumanian gold yielded to Germany or taken by that power. This gold to be delivered in trust to the allies until the signature of peace.

### Naval Conditions.

V.—Naval conditions.  
Twenty.—Immediate cessation of all hostilities at sea and definite information to be given as to the location and movements of all German submarines. It shall be given to neutrals that freedom of navigation in all territorial waters is given to the naval and mercantile fleets of the allied and associated powers, all questions of neutrality being waived.

Twenty-one.—All naval and mercantile ships belonging to the allied and associated powers in German hands to be returned without delay.

Twenty-two.—Surrender to the allies and the United States of America of one hundred and sixty German submarines including all submarine cruisers and mine laying submarines, with their complete armament and equipment in hand and under the supervision of the allies and the United States of America. All other submarines to be paid off and completely dismantled and placed under the supervision of the allied powers and the United States of America.

Twenty-three.—The following German ships which shall be designated by the allies and the United States of America

shall forthwith be disarmed and thereafter interned in neutral ports, or for the want of them, in allied ports, to be designated by the allies and the United States of America and placed under the surveillance of the allies and the United States of America, only crisscrossers being left on board, namely: Six battle cruisers, ten battleships, eight light cruisers, including two mine layers, fifty destroyers of the modern type, all other surface warships (including air craft) are to be concentrated in German naval bases to be designated by the allies and the United States of America, and are to be paid off and completely disarmed and placed under the supervision of the allies and the United States of America. All vessels of the auxiliary fleet (trawlers, motor vessels, etc.), are to be disarmed.

Twenty-four.—The allies and the United States of America shall have the right to sweep up all mine fields and obstructions laid by German military and merchant vessels in the waters and the positions of these are to be indicated.  
Twenty-five.—Freedom of access to and from the Baltic to be given to the naval and mercantile marines of the allied and associated powers. To secure this the allied and United States of America shall be empowered to occupy all German fortifications, batteries and defensive works of all kinds in all the entrances from the Cattegat into the Baltic and to sweep up all mines and obstructions within and without German waters, without any question of neutrality being raised, and the positions of these mines and obstructions are to be indicated.

### Blockade in Force.

Twenty-six.—The existing blockade conditions set up by the allied and associated powers are to remain unchanged and all German merchant ships found at sea are to remain liable to capture.

Twenty-seven.—All naval aircraft are to be concentrated and interned in German bases to be specified by the allies and the United States of America.

Twenty-eight.—In evacuating the Baltic coast and ports Germany shall abandon all merchant ships, cargo, lighters, cranes and all other harbor material, all materials for inland navigation, all stores and all materials and stores, all arm and armaments, and all block and apparatus of all kinds.

Twenty-nine.—All Black Sea ports are to be evacuated by Germany; all Russian war vessels of all descriptions, seized by Germany in the Black Sea, and all other vessels over to the allies and the United States of America; all neutral merchant vessels which are to be released; all walks and other materials of all kinds seized in these ports are to be returned and Germany to trading their vessels within twenty-eight days to be abandoned.

Thirty.—All merchant vessels in German hands belonging to the allies and associated powers are to be restored in ports to be specified by the allies and the United States of America without reciprocity.

### Must Not Destroy Ships.

Thirty-one.—No destruction of ships or materials to be permitted before armistice, surrender or restoration.

Thirty-two.—The German government will notify the neutral governments of any return, and particularly the governments of Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Iceland that all restrictions placed upon the trading of their vessels with the allied and associated countries, whether by the German government or by private German interests, are to be removed, and that specific concessions such as the export of shipbuilding material or not, are immediately canceled.

### Duration of Armistice.

VI.—Duration of armistice.  
Thirty-four.—The duration of the armistice is to be thirty days, with option to extend. During this period on failure of execution of any of the above clauses the armistice may be denounced by one of the contracting parties on 48 hours previous notice.

Thirty-five.—This armistice to be accepted or refused by Germany within seventy-two hours of notification.

The war thus comes to an end; for, having accepted these terms of armistice, it will be impossible for the German command to renew it.

### True War Ended.

It is not now possible to assess the consequences of this great consummation. We know only that this trial was a wrong committed in the name of freedom and that it was the privilege of our own people to enter it at its most critical juncture in such fashion and in such force as to contribute in a way of which we are all deeply proud to the great result. We know, too, that the object of the war is attained; the object upon which all free men have set their hearts, and that the long suffering completeness which even now we do not realize.

### Imperialism Destroyed.

Armed Imperialism such as the

men conceived who were but yesterday the masters of Germany at an end, its ill-fated ambitions engulfed in black disaster. Who will now seek to revive it in the actual power of the military caste of Germany which once could secretly and of its own single choice disturb the peace of the world is discredited and destroyed. And more than that—much more than that—has been accomplished. The great nations which associated themselves to destroy it have now definitely united in the common purpose to set up such a peace as will satisfy the longing of the whole world for disinterested justice, embodied in settlements which are based upon something much better and truer than the selfish competitive interests of powerful states. There is no longer any question as to the objects the victors have in mind. They have a mind in the matter not only but a heart also. Their avowed and concerted purpose is to satisfy and protect to the best of their power their just rights to the strong.

The humane temper and international character of our governments has already been made manifest in a very practical way. Their representatives in the supreme war council, by their unanimous resolution assured the peoples of the central empires that everything that is possible in the present manner of war is being done to supply them with food and relieve the distressing want that is in so many places threatening their very lives. They have already taken immediately to organize these efforts at relief in the same systematic manner that they were organized in the case of Belgium.

### Must Feed Central Empires.

By the use of the idle tonnage of the central empires it ought presently to be possible to lift the fear of utter misery from their oppressed populations and set their minds and energies free for the great and hazardous tasks of political reconstruction which now face them on every hand.

Linger does not breed reform; it breeds stagnation and it breeds distempers that make an ordered life impossible. For, with the fall of the ancient governments which ruled the world, the peoples of the central empires has come political change not merely but revolution; and revolution which is not to be a mere final and ordered form but to run from one fluid change to another until thoughtful men are forced to consider the means of new governments and of what sort are we about to deal in the making of the new world. It is our duty as an authority which they meet with what assurances that their authority will abide and sustain the new order of things and arrangements into which we are about to enter. There is here matter for no small anxiety and for no small care. It is upon whose promises and engagements besides our own is it to rest?

### Must Be Patient.

Let us be perfectly frank with ourselves and admit that these questions cannot be satisfactorily answered now or at once. But the moral is not that there is little hope of an early answer that will suffice. It is only that we must wait until the peace is made and confidence that lie at the heart of every noble thing. Excesses accomplish nothing.

Unhappy Russia has furnished abundant recent proof of that. It is not necessary that it itself, if excesses should occur, should for a time raise its head, a sober second thought will follow and a due course of restorative action if we help and do not hinder.

The present and all that it holds before us seem the nation and its people who preserve their self-control and the orderly processes of their governments. The future belongs to the true friends of mankind. To conquer with arms is to make only a temporary peace. I am confident that the discipline of freedom and that have settled with self-control and a due course of restorative action are now about to make good of the world by the slier power of example and of friendly helpfulness.