

No. 3974

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
and
FRANCE**

Agreement (with annexes) relative to the grant of plots of land located in France for the creation of permanent military cemeteries or the construction of war memorials. Signed at Paris, on 19 March 1956

Official texts: English and French.

Registered by the United States of America on 20 August 1957.

**ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE
et
FRANCE**

Accord (avec annexes) relatif à la concession de terrains sis en France en vue de la création de cimetières militaires permanents ou de la construction de monuments commémoratifs de la guerre. Signé à Paris, le 19 mars 1956

Textes officiels anglais et français.

Enregistré par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 20 août 1957.

No. 3974. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC RELATIVE TO THE GRANT OF PLOTS OF LAND LOCATED IN FRANCE FOR THE CREATION OF PERMANENT MILITARY CEMETERIES OR THE CONSTRUCTION OF WAR MEMORIALS. SIGNED AT PARIS, ON 19 MARCH 1956

The Government of the United States of America, on the one part, and the Government of the French Republic, on the other, desirous to implement and complete the agreement dated October 1st, 1947², as regards the creation in France of permanent cemeteries in calm and dignified sites, destined to receive the bodies of American nationals victims of the 1939-1945 war, and the erection of memorials to commemorate their sacrifice, have agreed to the following provisions :

Article 1

The Government of the French Republic grants to the Government of the United States of America, with a view to the creation of permanent American military cemeteries of World War II or the construction of War memorials, the free disposal without limitation of duration of the plots of land enumerated in the attached documents with maps annexed thereto.³

Article 2

The plots of land thus placed at the disposal of the Government of the United States of America shall be exclusively utilized as provided in Article 1, either to bury therein the remains of members of the American Armed Forces or of American citizens who died while contributing to the pursuit of World War II, to build war memorials thereon, or for buildings and utilities needed to maintain these cemeteries.

Article 3

The plots of land placed at the disposal of the Government of the United States of America by virtue of the provisions of the present agreement are and shall remain

¹ Came into force on 19 March 1956, the date of signature, in accordance with article 6.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 148, p. 303.

³ The annexed maps will be found in a pocket at the end of this volume.

exonerated from all present and future taxes. They are handed over free from all charges and easements incompatible with the use to which they are destined.

All questions concerning the extension or modification of boundaries of the said plots—as shown in the documents attached to the present agreement—which later on might be deemed necessary, will be settled by direct agreement between the “Ministère des Anciens Combattants et Victimes de Guerre” or its successors and the American Battle Monuments Commission or its successors.

Likewise, the placing at the disposal of the American Government of additional land located outside the cemeteries but whose attribution might be deemed necessary in the future to their maintenance will be the subject of a direct agreement between the said Ministry and Commission.

Article 4

It is understood that the Government of the United States will submit and conform to the French laws and regulations on the policing of burial grounds and that the provisions of the decree of March 7, 1808 relative to the protective zone which must surround cemeteries located outside the perimeter of populated parts of communes will be applicable to the cemeteries which are the subject of the present agreement.

Article 5

The Government of the United States of America will be able to execute directly all installations or embellishment works in these cemeteries.

Article 6

The provisions of the present agreement will come into force on the day of its signature. They will be applied, of a common accord, to the measures which may have been previously taken with a view to insuring the planning and installing of cemeteries already existing on the plots of land referred to in Article 1.

Article 7

The suppression, by decision of the Government of the United States of America, of one or several of military cemeteries listed in the attached documents will result ipso facto for the latter in the loss of the right to use the plots of land where such cemetery or cemeteries are installed, the plots in question being affected to another use.

Article 8

The present agreement is drawn up in two originals one, in French and the other in English, both texts being authentic.

DONE at Paris on 19th March 1956.

For the Government
of the French Republic :

C. PINEAU

[SEAL]

For the Government
of the United States of America :

C. D. DILLON

[SEAL]