

REIMBURSEMENT OF SHIPWRECK EXPENSES

Convention signed at Tokyo May 17, 1880

Ratified by Japan June 5, 1880

Senate advice and consent to ratification March 23, 1881

Ratified by the President of the United States April 7, 1881

Ratifications exchanged at Washington June 16, 1881

Entered into force July 16, 1881

Proclaimed by the President of the United States October 3, 1881

Not revived after World War II¹

22 Stat. 815; Treaty Series 190

The United States of America and the Empire of Japan being desirous of concluding an agreement providing for the reimbursement of certain specified expenses which may be incurred by either country in consequence of the shipwreck on its coasts of the vessels of the other, have resolved to conclude a special convention for this purpose, and have named as their Plenipotentiaries:

The President of the United States of America, John A. Bingham, their Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to His Imperial Majesty; and His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, Inouye Kaoru Shoshii, Minister for Foreign Affairs and decorated with the 1st class of the order of the Rising Sun, who after reciprocal communication of their full powers found in good and due form, have agreed as follows:

All expenses incurred by the Government of the United States for the rescue, clothing, maintenance, and travelling of needy shipwrecked Japanese subjects, for the recovery of the bodies of the drowned, for the medical treatment of the sick and injured, unable to pay for such treatment, and for the burial of the dead, shall be repaid to the Government of the United States by that of Japan. And a similar course of procedure to the above shall be observed by the Government of the United States in the case of assistance being given by that of Japan to shipwrecked citizens of the United States.

But neither the Government of the United States, nor that of Japan shall be responsible for the repayment of the expenses incurred in the recovery or

¹ Not included among treaties and other agreements continued in force or revived by U.S. note of Apr. 22, 1953, pursuant to art. 7 of treaty of peace signed at San Francisco Sept. 8, 1951 (3 UST 3175; TIAS 2490).

preservation of a wrecked vessel or the property on board. All such expenses shall be a charge upon the property saved, and shall be repaid by the parties interested therein upon receiving delivery of the same.

No charge shall be made by the Government of the United States nor by that of Japan for the expenses of the Government officers, police or local functionaries who shall proceed to the wreck, for the travelling expenses of officers escorting the shipwrecked men, nor for the expenses of official correspondence. Such expenses shall be borne by the Government of the country to which such officers, police, and local functionaries belong.

This convention shall be ratified by the respective Governments in due form of law, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Washington as soon as may be. It shall take effect in the respective countries thirty days after the Exchange of said ratifications.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have hereunto affixed their signatures and seals.

Done, in duplicate in the English and Japanese languages at the city of Tokio, Japan, this 17th day of May in the year 1880, (17th day of the 5th month of the 13th year Meiji).

JOHN A. BINGHAM [SEAL]
INOUYE KAORU [SEAL]