Each of the High Contracting Parties shall communicate promptly to the Council of the League of Nations the following information:

1. The names of the capital ships and aircraft carriers to be replaced by new construction;
2. The date of governmental authorisation of replacement tonnage;
3. The date of laying the keels of replacement tonnage;
4. The standard displacement in tons and metric tons of each new ship to be laid down, and the principal dimensions namely, length at waterline, extreme beam at or below waterline, mean draft at standard displacement;
5. The date of completion of each new ship and its standard displacement in tons and metric tons, and the principal dimensions, namely, length at waterline, extreme beam at or below waterline, mean draft at standard displacement, at time of completion.

In case of loss or accidental destruction of capital ships or aircraft carriers, they may immediately be replaced by new construction subject to the tonnage limits prescribed in Articles 4 and 7 and in conformity with the other provisions of the present Convention, the regular replacement programme being deemed to be advanced to that extent.

In the event of the replacement of a capital ship or aircraft carrier under this clause, the total tonnage possessed shall be kept within the limits laid down for replacement in Articles 4 and 7 by the scrapping, in accordance with the terms of Chapter II, Part 3, of such old vessels as may be necessary.

No capital ship or aircraft carrier shall be reconstructed except for the purpose of providing means of defence against air and submarine attack, and subject to the following rules: The High Contracting Parties may, for that purpose, equip existing tonnage with bulge or blister or anti-air attack deck protection, provided the increase of displacement thus effected does not exceed 15% of the original displacement for each ship. No alteration in side armour, in calibre, number or general type of mounting of main armament shall be permitted.

PART 3.

Rules for the Disposal of Ships Replaced.

The following rules shall be observed for the scrapping of capital ships and aircraft carriers which are to be disposed of when replaced by new construction in accordance with Articles 3 and 8.

I. A vessel to be scrapped must be placed in such condition that it cannot be put to combatant use.

II. — This result must be finally effected in any one of the following ways:

(a) Permanent sinking of the vessel.
(b) Breaking the vessel up. This shall always involve the destruction or removal of all machinery, boilers and armour, and all deck, side and bottom plating.
(c) Converting the vessel to target use exclusively. In such case all the provisions of paragraph III of this part, except sub-paragraph (6), in so far as may be necessary to enable the ship to be used as a mobile target, and except sub-paragraph (7), must be previously complied with. Not more than one capital ship may be retained for this purpose at one time by any of the High Contracting Parties.

III. — (a) When a vessel is due for scrapping, the first stage of scrapping, which consists of rendering a ship incapable of further warlike service, shall be immediately undertaken.

(b) A vessel shall be considered incapable of further warlike service when there shall have been removed and landed, or also destroyed in the ship:

1. All guns and essential portions of guns, fire-control tops and revolving parts of all barbettes and turrets;
2. All machinery for working hydraulic or electric mountings;
3. All fire-control instruments and range finders;
4. All ammunition, explosives and mines;
5. All torpedoes, war heads and torpedo tubes;
6. All wireless telegraphy installations;
7. The conning tower and all side armour, or alternatively all main propelling machinery; and
8. All landing and flying-off platforms and all other aviation accessories.

IV. — The periods in which scrapping of vessels is to be effected are as follows:—

(a) The work of rendering the vessel incapable of further warlike service in accordance with paragraph III of this part shall be commenced not later than the date of completion of its successor, and shall be finished within six months from the date of such completion.

(b) The vessel shall be finally scrapped, in accordance with paragraph II of this part, within eighteen months from the date of completion of its successors. If, however, the completion of the new vessel shall be delayed, then the work of rendering the old vessel incapable of further warlike
service in accordance with paragraph III of this part shall be commenced within four years from the laying of the keel of the new vessel, and shall be finished within six months from the date on which such work was commenced, and the old vessel shall be finally scrapped in accordance with paragraph II of this part within eighteen months from the date when the work of rendering it incapable of further warlike service was commenced.

Part 4.

Definitions.

For the purpose of the present convention the following expressions are to be understood in the sense defined in this part.

Capital Ship.

A capital ship, in the case of ships hereafter built, is defined as a vessel of war, not an aircraft carrier, whose displacement exceeds 10,000 tons (10,160 metric tons) standard displacement or which carries a gun with a calibre exceeding 8 inches (203 millimetres).

Aircraft Carrier.

An aircraft carrier is defined as a vessel of war with a displacement in excess of 10,000 tons (10,160 metric tons) standard displacement designed for the specific and exclusive purpose of carrying aircraft. It must be so constructed that aircraft can be launched therefrom and landed thereon, and not designed and constructed for carrying a more powerful armament than that allowed to it under Article 11.

Standard Displacement.

The standard displacement of a ship is the displacement of the ship complete, fully manned, equipped for sea, including all armament and ammunition, equipment, outfit, provisions and fresh water for crew, miscellaneous stores and implements of every description that are intended to be carried in war, but without fuel or reserve feed water on board.

The word “ton” in the present Convention, except in the expression “metric tons” shall be understood to mean the ton of 2,240 pounds (1,016 kilog).

Vessels now completed shall retain their present ratings of displacement tonnage in accordance with their national system of measurement. However, a Power expressing displacement in metric tons shall be considered for the application of the present Convention as owning only the equivalent displacement in tons of 2,240 pounds.

A vessel completed hereafter shall be rated at its displacement tonnage when in the standard condition defined herein.

Chapter III.

Miscellaneous Provisions.

Article 20. — If during the term of the present Convention the requirements of the national security of any High Contracting Party in respect of naval defence are, in the opinion of that Party, materially affected by any change of circumstances, this opinion shall be communicated to the Council of the League of Nations, who will call a conference of the High Contracting Parties or take such other action as may be necessary for the reconsideration of the provisions of this Convention and its amendment by mutual agreement.

In view of possible technical and scientific developments and of the wording of Article 8 of the Covenant, which states that plans for reduction of armaments shall be subject to reconsideration and revision at least every ten years, the Council of the League of Nations will arrange for a conference of all the High Contracting Parties which shall meet as soon as possible after the expiration of eight years from the coming into force of the present Convention to consider what changes, if any, in the Convention may be necessary to meet such developments.

Article 21. — Whenever any High Contracting Party shall become engaged in a war without having violated in any way its obligations as prescribed in the Covenant of the League of Nations, which in its opinion affects the naval defence of its national security, such Party may, after notice to the Council of the League, suspend for the period of hostilities its obligations under the present Convention, other than those under Articles 13 and 17 provided that such Party shall notify the Council of the League that the emergency is of such a character as to require such suspension.