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Treaty Signed Between the Allied Powers and His Majest the Emperor Napoleon

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TREATY

Signed

BETWEEN THE ALLIED POWERS

And

His Majesty the Emperor Napoleon.

Taken from the English Newspaper "The Times", June 15, 1814

Translated by Nathaniel J Hojnacki and Jeff Larsen
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Translator's Introduction

“Traité de Fontainebleau (1814)” or the Treaty of Fontainebleau, is the treaty that ended the first reign of Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte over France on April 11, 1814. The treaty was negotiated by representatives of the Allied Powers- Austria, Hungary, Bohemia, Russia and Prussia- and signed by Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte. The treaty in addition to ending Emperor Napoleon's rule over France, granted him the island of Elba as an autonomous principality over which Napoleon would have sole power. Emperor Napoleon, after discovering the success of the treaty in the French Senate on April 3rd, attempted a final routing of the allied powers, but failed to successfully relinquish his power in favor of his son with the Empress Josephine as regent. The sovereigns of the Allied Powers were not willing to negotiate this change in leadership, and rejected Napoleon's attempt to maintain power. Napoleon's conditional relinquishment was not accepted, and he was left with no military options. He succumbed to his fate of exile on the island of Elba with extremely limited powers. The Treaty of Fontainebleau was signed by the Allied powers on April 11th and ratified by the Senate on April 13th¹.

¹ "Napoleon I." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 2009. Encyclopædia Britannica Online. 2 Nov. 2009 <<http://search.eb.com/eb/article-16225>>. “Traité conclu Entre les Puissances Alliées et S.M. L’Empereur Napoléon”

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Article 1

His majesty the Emperor Napoleon renounces for himself, his successors, as well as all members of his family, all sovereignty and power over the French Empire, the Kingdom of Italy and over all other countries.

Article 2

Their majesties the Emperor Napoleon and Marie-Louise will retain their titles and their ranks for all their life. The Emperor's family: mother, brothers, sisters, nieces and nephews will also keep their titles of princes and princesses wherever they reside.

Article 3

The island of Elba, adopted as his place of residence by His Majesty the Emperor Napoleon, will form during his life a separate principality; over which he will hold complete sovereignty and ownership. In addition, the Emperor Napoleon will be granted an annual revenue of 2,000,000 francs in private income registered in the *Grand-Livre*² of France of which a million will be given to the Empress.

Article 4

² "Le Grand-Livre" is similar to a National Register of a State's accounts, providing information on a state's credits and debits similar to today's Current Account Balance. "Le Grand-Livre" in France was created by Pierre Joseph Cambon, "le Grand Livre de la dette publique" acted as a register of all the French state's creditors. During the revolution it acted as a means of tracking credits and debits of the French state in an attempt to regulate state finances which widely fluctuated throughout the Revolution. "Cambon, Joseph." *Encyclopædia Britannica*. 2009. Encyclopædia Britannica Online. 21 Oct. 2009 <<http://search.eb.com/eb/article-9018762>>. Our thanks to Peter Hicks from the Fondation Napoléon in Paris for responding kindly to our queries on the subject. All notes are by the translators unless otherwise indicated. TR-

Her Majesty the Empress Marie-Louise will be accorded complete sovereignty and ownership over the Dukedoms of Parma, Placentia, and Guastalla. They will pass to her son, who will also take the title, Prince of Parma, Placentia and Guastalla.

Article 5

All forces will commit to provide their good capacities to make the Barbary powers³ respect the flag and territory of the island of Elba; the relationship that the island has with these forces will be similar to those of France.

Article 6

With regards to the territories left by His Majesty Napoleon and by his family, estates or private income, will be established and registered in the *Grand-Livre* of France, producing a tax exempt income, totaling the sum of 2,500,000 francs. These estates or private incomes will belong entirely to the princes and princesses of his family; they will be able to invest them where they judge to be suitable. The sum will be divided amongst themselves in such a manner that each person's income is entrusted in the amounts to the following:

To His Majesty's Mother	300,000 Francs
To King Joseph and his wife.....	500,000 Francs
To King Louis.....	200,000 Francs
To Queen Hortense and her children.....	400,000 Francs
To King Jerome and his wife.....	500,000 Francs
To Princess Elisa.....	300,000 Francs
To Princess Pauline.....	300,000 Francs
	2,500,000 Francs

The princes and princesses composing the Emperor Napoleon's family will retain their property, possessions, and liquid assets or whatever their nature, whose ownership by them is public knowledge, in addition to the revenues which they will enjoy as any other individual.

Article 7

The annual pension of Empress Josephine will be reduced to 1,000,000 francs in estates and inscriptions to be registered in the *Grand-Livre* of France. She will enjoy sole ownership over these, as well as all liquid and illiquid assets, with which she can do what she likes in accordance with the laws of France.

Article 8

³ « Puissances barbaresques » were often classified as Arab pirates from the Barbary states of what is today Northern Africa, modern day Maghreb, who patrolled the Mediterranean and preyed on merchant vessels around this time. "Barbary." *Encyclopædia Britannica*. 2009. Encyclopædia Britannica Online. 20 October 2009 <<http://search.eb.com/eb/article-9013292>>.

Prince Eugene Vice-King of Italy will be granted a suitable establishment outside of France.

Article 9

Of those properties that His Majesty the Emperor Napoleon owns in France, either as extraordinary or private estates tied to the crown, and of the funds invested by the Emperor, either on the *Grand-Livre* or through the Bank of France, stocks of the Forest Service, or in any other manner, his Majesty leaves to the crown of France an endowment which may not exceed 2,000,000 francs, to be used as an entitled bonus for those persons whose names will be inscribed on a list signed by the Emperor Napoleon, which will be passed down to the government of France.

Article 10

All of the crown jewels will be kept by France.

Article 11

His Majesty the Emperor Napoleon will return to the treasury and all other public coffers all funds he has withdrawn, with the exception of those which will have been deducted for the civil list⁴.

Article 12

The debts of His Majesty the Emperor Napoleon's house, such as they are until the day that this present treaty is signed, will be paid off by the public treasury, based upon an account which will be signed by a commissioner nominated to this effect.

Article 13

All obligations to the creditor's of Mont Napoleon of Milan, either French or foreign, will be exactly fulfilled unless some change takes place regarding these matters.

Article 14

His Majesty the Emperor Napoleon, The Empress, the princes and princesses, and all people from their entourage who would like to accompany them or settle themselves outside of France will be granted all the necessary documents for free passage, as well as passage for all of their horses and personal effects. For that purpose, the allied powers will provide officers and soldiers for their escort.

⁴ "La liste civile", or the *Civil List* in Great Britain are the expenses provided by the state to a state's monarchy for their annual expenses. The Emperor Napoleon during his tenure received an annual allotment of 500,000 francs per year to cover royal expenses. Laylor, John ed. 1899. *Cylopaedia of Political Science, Political Economy, and the Political History of the United States*. Entry 228. New York: Maynard, Merrill and Co.

Article 15

The French Imperial Guard will provide a detachment of 1,200 to 1,500 armed men to escort the Emperor Napoleon to Saint-Tropez, the place of his departure.

Article 16

In addition, His Majesty the Emperor Napoleon and his entourage will be provided with a Sloop of War⁵ as well as necessary transport vessels so that they may be transported to their destination. The warship will forever belong to His Majesty the Emperor.

Article 17

The Emperor Napoleon will be free to take, at his own expense, 400 men from his guard including: volunteers, officers, noncommissioned officers and soldiers.

Article 18

All French persons, who have followed the Emperor Napoleon or someone from his family, if they have not returned in three years time will be considered to have lost their right to return to France. That is unless, they are granted an exception by the French Government, who will retain these rights after this terms expiration.

Article 19

All frontline troops, serving France, will be free to return to their homes. They will retain their badges and arms as a testimony of their honorable service. Officers, noncommissioned officers and guard soldiers will keep the honors which they have been granted and the pensions that are attached to these honors.

Article 20

The distinguished allied powers will guarantee the execution of all present treaty articles, and will ensure that this treaty is adopted and guaranteed by France.

Article 21

⁵ *Sloop of War* is the more common term for a Corvette, which is a ship classification, originating with the French, and a ship model that was popular throughout the eighteenth century. Primarily used by the French it did not become popular with the British until the 1830s. "Corvette." *Encyclopædia Britannica*. 2009. Encyclopædia Britannica Online. 21 Oct. 2009 <<http://search.eb.com/eb/article-9026448>>.

The present treaty will be ratified, and the ratifications will be made in Paris within two days or sooner if possible.

Signed in Paris, April 5, 1814.

Signed: The Prince of Metternich

Signed: J.F. Count of Stadion

Signed: Andre, Count of Rasofmouffsky

Signed: Charles-Robert, Baron of Nesselrode

Signed: Marshall Ney

Signed: Caulincourt