



Treaty Series No. 14 (1931)

# Exchange of Notes

BETWEEN HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT  
IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE  
NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT

*respecting the*

Recognition of Norwegian Sovereignty over

# JAN MAYEN ISLAND

Oslo, November 18/19, 1930

Presented by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs  
to Parliament by Command of His Majesty

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**Exchange of Notes between His Majesty's Government  
in the United Kingdom and the Norwegian Govern-  
ment respecting the Recognition of Norwegian  
Sovereignty over Jan Mayen Island.**

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*Oslo, November 18/19, 1930.*

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No. 1.

*Mr. Johnstone to M. Mowinckel.*

M. le Ministre d'État, *Oslo, November 18, 1930.*

As your Excellency is doubtless aware, on the 9th May, 1929, the Norwegian Minister in London addressed a note to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, announcing that, by a Royal decree dated the 8th May, Jan Mayen Island had been placed under Norwegian sovereignty.

I now have the honour by direction of His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to inform your Excellency that His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom have taken note of this decree and formally recognise Norwegian sovereignty over Jan Mayen Island.

I am instructed to add that, His Majesty's Government not having been informed of the grounds on which Norwegian sovereignty was extended to Jan Mayen Island, their recognition of that sovereignty is accorded independently of and with all due reserves in regard to the actual grounds on which the annexation may have been based.

I avail, &c.

KENNETH JOHNSTONE.

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No. 2.

*M. Mowinckel to Mr. Johnstone.*

*Det Kgl. Utenriksdepartement,*  
Herr Chargé d'Affaires, *Oslo, 19. november 1930.*

I EN note av 18. ds. har De hatt den godhet å meddele, at Hans Britanniske Majestets Regjering anerkjenner Norges suverenitet over øen Jan Mayen.

Jeg har den ære, idet jeg erkjenner mottagelsen av denne Deres note, å be fremført for Deres Regjering den norske regjerings takk

for det venskapelige sindelag overfor Norge, som har gitt sig uttrykk i dens nevnte anerkjennelse.

Motta, Herr Chargé d'Affaires, forsikringen om min særlige høiaktelse.

(For Utenriksministeren),  
AUG. ESMARCH.

(Translation.)

*The Ministry for Foreign Affairs,*

M. le Chargé d'Affaires,

*Oslo, November 19, 1930.*

IN a note of the 18th instant you were so good as to state that His Britannic Majesty's Government recognise Norway's sovereignty over Jan Mayen Island.

I have the honour, while acknowledging the receipt of your note, to ask you to convey to your Government the thanks of the Norwegian Government for their friendly attitude towards Norway, which has found expression in the above-mentioned recognition.

I avail, &c.

(For the Minister for Foreign Affairs),  
AUG. ESMARCH.