



Treaty Series No. 42 (1953)

# Exchange of Notes

between the Government of the  
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and  
the Government of the United States of America

regarding the establishment by the Government  
of the United States of America of a  
High Altitude Interceptor Range

Washington, February 24, 1953/March 2, 1953

*Presented by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to Parliament  
by Command of Her Majesty  
June 1953*

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**EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA OF A HIGH ALTITUDE INTERCEPTOR RANGE**

*Washington, February 24, 1953/March 2, 1953*

No. 1

*The United States Secretary of State to Her Majesty's Ambassador  
at Washington*

*Department of State, Washington,  
February 24, 1953.*

Excellency,

I have the honor to refer to the negotiations which have taken place between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland regarding the establishment by the Government of the United States of America of a High Altitude Interceptor Range and to confirm the following understanding reached as a result of those negotiations:—

1. In order to facilitate the establishment of a High Altitude Interceptor Range by the Government of the United States of America in connection with the operation of the Bahamas Long Range Proving Ground, the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland agrees that the Government of the United States of America shall have the right, within those areas indicated on the attached map, and marked thereon "A," "B" and "C," to operate target and interceptor aircraft using small calibre guns, air-to-air rockets and guided missiles as may be necessary for the purpose of conducting research and development tests in the field of high altitude interception.

2. Where applicable, the provisions of the Bahamas Long Range Proving Ground Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland signed in Washington on July 21, 1950<sup>(1)</sup>, shall be given effect with respect to activities of the Government of the United States of America authorized by this understanding as if the areas mentioned in paragraph 1 above formed part of the Flight Testing Range referred to in that Agreement and the activities of the Government of the United States of America so authorized were carried out as part of the operation or use of the Flight Testing Range permitted to the Government of the United States of America within the Range Area of that Agreement. The activities of the Government of the United States authorized by this understanding shall be carried out in accordance with such safety regulations as shall be agreed upon between the Governor of the Bahamas and the United States authorities and such regulations shall be subject to periodic review.

<sup>(1)</sup> "Treaty Series No. 74 (1950)," Cmd. 8109.

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3. The Government of the United States of America may exercise the right referred to in paragraph 1 for the duration of the Bahamas Long Range Proving Ground Agreement unless the Government of the United States of America informs the Government of the United Kingdom that it no longer desires to operate the High Altitude Interceptor Range. If at any time the Government of the United Kingdom advises the Government of the United States of America that operation of the High Altitude Interceptor Range is inimical to British interests, the right granted hereunder will immediately terminate.

Upon the receipt of a Note from your Excellency indicating that the foregoing provisions are acceptable to the Government of the United Kingdom, I have the honor to propose that this Note and your Excellency's reply to that effect shall constitute an agreement between the two Governments on this subject, the agreement to enter into force on the date of your Note in reply.

Accept, &c.

JOHN FOSTER DULLES.

*Her Majesty's Ambassador at Washington to the United States  
Secretary of State*

*British Embassy, Washington, D.C.,  
2nd March, 1953.*

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Note of February 24, 1953, which reads as follows:—

[As in No. 1.]

2. In reply, I have the honour to confirm to you that the provisions set forth in the said Note are acceptable to Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and that they agree with your proposal that your Note and the present reply shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments on this subject, the agreement to enter into force on the date of this Note.

I avail, &c.

ROGER MAKINS.

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