

UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA



Treaty Series No. 31 (1957)

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
concerning Civil Aviation facilities and
Long-Range Proving Grounds for
Guided Missiles in the West Indies

Washington, December 6, 1956/January 4, 1957

*Presented by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to Parliament
by Command of Her Majesty
May 1957*

LONDON

HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

SIXPENCE NET

Cmd. 142

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 CONCERNING CIVIL AVIATION FACILITIES AND LONG-RANGE PROVING GROUNDS FOR GUIDED MISSILES IN THE WEST INDIES

Washington, December 6, 1956/January 4, 1957

No. 1

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

British Embassy,

Sir,

Washington, December 6, 1956.

I have the honour to refer to my Note of the 11th of July, 1955, and the Acting Secretary of State's reply of the 22nd of July, 1955,⁽¹⁾ which constitute an agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the United States of America concerning the use by civil aircraft of certain facilities at Sites provided under the Agreement of the 21st of July, 1950,⁽²⁾ for the Establishment in the Bahama Islands of a Long-Range Proving Ground for Guided Missiles. I also have the honour to refer to the Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of the United States of America signed at Washington on the 15th of January, 1952,⁽³⁾ concerning the extension of the Bahamas Long-Range Proving Ground by additional sites in the Turks and Caicos Islands. Paragraph 3 of Article XI of that Agreement provides that—

“Commercial aircraft shall not be authorised to operate from any of the Sites (save in case of emergency or for strictly military purposes under supervision of the Army, Navy or Air Force Departments) except by agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of the United States of America.”

2. In order to permit civil air services to be operated between the Bahama Islands and the Turks and Caicos Islands, and between Jamaica and the Turks and Caicos Islands, I now have the honour to propose—

- (1) That paragraph 2 (a) of my Note of the 11th of July, 1955, and the corresponding paragraph of Mr. Barbour's reply should be amended to read as follows:—

“(a) Licensed civil air carriers who offer scheduled civil air services within the territories of the Bahama Islands and Turks and Caicos Islands and who are designated by the Government of the Bahama Islands to operate at one or more of the Sites, will be authorised, for the purposes of inter-island air services within the Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands, to use the runways, taxiways, parking areas, and necessary access ways at the Sites

(1) “Treaty Series No. 58 (1955),” Cmd. 9565.

(2) “Treaty Series No. 74 (1950),” Cmd. 8109.

(3) “Treaty Series No. 10 (1952),” Cmd. 8485.

concerned for landing, taking off and taking on or discharging passengers, mail or cargo in accordance with the provisions herein set forth."

(2) That certain facilities at the Site at Grand Turk should be open for regular use by civil aircraft in accordance with the following provisions:—

(a) Licensed civil air carriers who offer scheduled civil air services within the territories of the Bahama Islands, Turks and Caicos Islands and Jamaica and who are designated by the Government of Jamaica to operate at the Site, will be authorised, for the purpose of inter-island air services within the Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands and Jamaica, to use the runways, taxiways, parking areas, and necessary access ways at the Site for landing, taking off and taking on or discharging passengers, mail or cargo in accordance with the provisions herein set forth.

(b) The frequency and time-schedules of civil air operations will be in accordance with schedules approved by the United States Air Force.

Advance notice of cancellations of scheduled flights will be given to the United States Air Force. No other changes of agreed schedules will be made without the approval of the United States Air Force.

(c) Administrative and operational control of the Site for civil aviation purposes will be exercised by the United States Air Force.

(d) Civil air carriers authorised to use the Site will comply with applicable United States Air Force Regulations, including the regulations prescribing landing and parking fees and agreements regarding liability.

(e) The United States Air Force may, for military or security purposes, limit or suspend civil air operations at the Site.

(f) The Government of Jamaica will establish and maintain at the Site such lights, aids to landing and navigation and safety devices as may be agreed to be necessary and suitable by the United States Air Force and the appropriate authorities of the Government of Jamaica.

3. If the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the Government of the United States of America, I suggest that the present Note and your reply in that sense should be regarded as constituting an agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of the United States concerning this matter, which shall enter into force immediately and shall remain in force until six months after either Government shall have given written notice to the other of its intention to terminate it.

I avail, &c.

HAROLD CACCIA.

No. 2

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

Department of State,

Washington, January 4, 1957.

Excellency,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Note dated December 6, 1956, referring to your Note of July 11, 1955, and the Department's reply of July 22, 1955, which constitute an Agreement between the

Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the United States of America regarding the use by civil aircraft of certain facilities at Sites provided under the Agreement of July 21, 1950, for the establishment in the Bahama Islands of a Long-Range Proving Ground for Guided Missiles. Your Note also referred to the Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of the United States of America signed at Washington on January 15, 1952, concerning the extension of the Bahamas Long-Range Proving Ground by additional sites in the Turks and Caicos Islands. Paragraph 3 of Article XI of that Agreement provides that—

“Commercial aircraft shall not be authorised to operate from any of the Sites (save in case of emergency or for strictly military purposes under supervision of the Army, Navy or Air Force Departments) except by agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of the United States of America.”

In order to permit civil air services to be operated between the Bahama Islands and the Turks and Caicos Islands, and between Jamaica and the Turks and Caicos Islands, you propose—

- (1) that paragraph 2(a) of your Note of July 11, 1955, and the corresponding paragraph of the Department's reply should be amended to read as follows:—

“(a) Licensed civil air carriers who offer scheduled civil air services within the territories of the Bahama Islands and Turks and Caicos Islands and who are designated by the Government of the Bahama Islands to operate at one or more of the Sites, will be authorised, for the purposes of inter-island air services within the Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands, to use the runways, taxiways, parking areas, and necessary access ways at the Sites concerned for landing, taking off and taking on or discharging passengers, mail or cargo in accordance with the provisions herein set forth.”

- (2) That certain facilities at the Site at Grand Turk should be open for regular use by civil aircraft in accordance with the following provisions:—

- (a) Licensed civil air carriers who offer scheduled civil air services within the territories of the Bahama Islands, Turks and Caicos Islands and Jamaica and who are designated by the Government of Jamaica to operate at the Site, will be authorised, for the purpose of inter-island air services within the Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands and Jamaica, to use the runways, taxiways, parking areas, and necessary access ways at the Site for landing, taking off and taking on or discharging passengers, mail or cargo in accordance with the provisions herein set forth.

- (b) The frequency and time-schedules of civil air operations will be in accordance with schedules approved by the United States Air Force.

Advance notice of cancellations of scheduled flights will be given to the United States Air Force. No other changes of agreed schedules will be made without the approval of the United States Air Force.

- (c) Administrative and operational control of the Site for civil aviation purposes will be exercised by the United States Air Force.

- 31
- (d) Civil air carriers authorised to use the Site will comply with applicable United States Air Force Regulations, including the regulations prescribing landing and parking fees and agreements regarding liability.
 - (e) The United States Air Force may, for military or security purposes, limit or suspend civil air operations at the Site.
 - (f) The Government of Jamaica will establish and maintain at the Site such lights, aids to landing and navigation and safety devices as may be agreed to be necessary and suitable by the United States Air Force and the appropriate authorities of the Government of Jamaica.

Your proposal is acceptable to the Government of the United States of America, and your Note of December 6, 1956, and this reply shall be regarded as constituting an Agreement between the Government of the United States and the Government of the United Kingdom concerning this matter, which shall enter into force immediately and shall remain in force until six months after either Government shall have given written notice to the other of its intention to terminate it.

Accept, &c.

(For the Secretary of State)

C. BURKE ELBRICK.

Printed and published by
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

To be purchased from
York House, Kingsway, London w.c.2
423 Oxford Street, London w.1
13A Castle Street, Edinburgh 2
109 St. Mary Street, Cardiff
39 King Street, Manchester 2
Tower Lane, Bristol 1
2 Edmund Street, Birmingham 3
80 Chichester Street, Belfast
or through any bookseller

Printed in Great Britain