

UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA



Treaty Series No. 86 (1980)

*Not for release
1963 AF*

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 the Acquisition by the
United Kingdom of the Trident I
Weapons System under the Polaris
Sales Agreement, signed on 6 April 1963

Washington, 30 September 1980

[The Agreement entered into force on 30 September 1980]

*Presented to Parliament
by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
by Command of Her Majesty
October 1980*

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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
CONCERNING THE ACQUISITION BY THE UNITED KINGDOM
OF THE TRIDENT I WEAPONS SYSTEM UNDER THE
POLARIS SALES AGREEMENT, SIGNED ON 6 APRIL 1963**

No. 1

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

*Department of State
Washington*

September 30, 1980

Excellency :

I have the honor to refer to the recent discussions between representatives of our two Governments concerning the decision of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to acquire the Trident I weapons system from the Government of the United States⁽¹⁾ and in particular concerning the manner in which such acquisition could best be implemented within the framework of United States laws and procedures applicable to sales under the Foreign Military Sales program.

I have the honor to propose, subject to such necessary technical arrangements as may be required in implementation thereof, that the Polaris Sales Agreement between our two Governments of April 6 1963⁽²⁾, shall be deemed to apply as well to the Trident I weapons system and that for this purpose all references in that Agreement to Polaris shall be deemed also to be references to Trident I.

If the foregoing is acceptable to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, I have the further honor to propose that this note, together with Your Excellency's note in reply to that effect, shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments, effective from the date of Your Excellency's note in reply.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

For the Secretary of State :

WARREN CHRISTOPHER

⁽¹⁾ See Cmnd. 7979.

⁽²⁾ Treaty Series No. 59 (1963), Cmnd. 2108.

No. 2

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

*British Embassy
Washington*

September 30, 1980

Sir:

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your note of September 30, 1980, reading as follows

[As in No. 1]

In reply, I have the honour to inform you that the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, who therefore agree that your note, together with the present reply, shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments in this matter, which shall enter into force from today's date.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

NICHOLAS HENDERSON