

COMMONWEALTH
D'AUSTRALIE ET PAYS-BAS

Echange de notes comportant un accord relatif à la frontière entre la Nouvelle-Guinée néerlandaise et le territoire de la Nouvelle-Guinée administré sous mandat par le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté dans le Commonwealth d'Australie, et déclaration y annexée. Londres, le 14 septembre 1936.

COMMONWEALTH
OF AUSTRALIA
AND THE NETHERLANDS

Exchange of Notes constituting an Agreement regarding the Boundary between Netherlands New Guinea and the Territory of New Guinea administered under Mandate by His Majesty's Government in the Commonwealth of Australia, and Declaration annexed thereto. London, September 14th, 1936.

No. 4022. — EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND THE NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT REGARDING THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA AND THE TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA ADMINISTERED UNDER MANDATE BY HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA. LONDON, SEPTEMBER 14TH, 1936.

English and Dutch official texts communicated by the High Commissioner of the Commonwealth of Australia in London. The registration of this Exchange of Notes took place December 21st, 1936.

Textes officiels anglais et néerlandais communiqués par le haut commissaire du Commonwealth d'Australie à Londres. L'enregistrement de cet échange de notes a eu lieu le 21 décembre 1936.

I.

AUSTRALIA HOUSE,
STRAND, LONDON, W. C. 2.

September 14th, 1936.

SIR,

On the 22nd July 1933, the Netherlands Government stated that they considered it most desirable that the exact location of the 141st Meridian of East Longitude, which forms the boundary between Netherlands New Guinea and the territory of New Guinea administered under mandate by His Majesty's Government in the Commonwealth of Australia, should be re-examined and demarcated and its position fixed by means of an exchange of documents between the Netherlands Government and His Majesty's Government in the Commonwealth of Australia.

His Majesty's Government in the Commonwealth of Australia having signified their agreement with this proposal, Staff Surveyor A. A. Chauncy of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea and the Netherlands survey officers from Hr. Ms. surveying ship "Willebrord Snellius", met in due course to determine the position of the boundary on the North Coast of New Guinea, and on the 2nd September 1933 drew up jointly and signed a Declaration, in the English and Netherlands languages, of which copies are enclosed herein. As stated in the Declaration the surveyors placed a monument on the ground of the nature and with the inscriptions described in the Declaration.

I now have the honour to inform you that His Majesty's Government in the Commonwealth of Australia propose that the boundary between Netherlands New Guinea and the territory of New Guinea administered under mandate by His Majesty's Government in the Commonwealth of Australia shall continue to be the 141st Meridian of East Longitude, and that for the purposes of this document, such Meridian shall be deemed to be a line running true North and true South from the middle point of the said monument, and that this line shall continue to be the boundary whether or not subsequent surveys should indicate that the said monument is in fact situated somewhat to the East or West of the 141st Meridian of East longitude.

His Majesty's Government in the Commonwealth of Australia further propose that the responsibility and cost of maintenance of the said monument should be shared equally between

them and the Netherlands Government, that the said monument should be periodically inspected jointly by representatives of the two Governments in order to ensure that it is properly maintained in its present position, and that, on the occasion of some such joint inspection, the position of the monument in relation to the permanent features of the surrounding country shall be ascertained and placed on record. They would further suggest that on this occasion a second monument should be erected, and its position duly recorded, in order to establish on the ground the general alignment of the boundary.

If the Netherlands Government also accept the foregoing proposals, I have the honour to suggest that this Note with the copies of the above-mentioned Declaration in the English and Netherlands languages, together with your reply in similar terms likewise with the copies of the above-mentioned Declaration, shall be regarded as constituting with effect from the date of your reply a definite Agreement between the two Governments in regard to this boundary.

I have the honour to remain, Sir, with the highest consideration, Your obedient Servant.

(Sgd.) S. M. BRUCE.

Jonkheer R. de Marees van Swinderen, G.C.V.O.,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary,
Netherlands Legation,
21, Portman Square,
W. 1.

II.

NETHERLAND LEGATION.

No. 1609.

LONDON, *September 14th*, 1936.

SIR,

On the 22nd July 1933 the Netherland Government stated that they considered it most desirable that the exact location of the 141st Meridian of East Longitude, which forms the boundary between Netherland New Guinea and the territory of New Guinea administered under mandate by His Majesty's Government in the Commonwealth of Australia, should be re-examined and demarcated, and its position fixed by means of an exchange of documents between the Netherland Government and His Majesty's Government in the Commonwealth of Australia.

2. His Majesty's Government in the Commonwealth of Australia having signified their agreement with this proposal, Staff Surveyor A. A. Chauncy of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea and the Netherland survey officers from Hr. Ms. surveying ship "Willebrord Snellius", met in due course to determine the position of the boundary on the North Coast of New Guinea, and on the 2nd September 1933, drew up jointly and signed a Declaration in the Netherland and English languages, of which copies are enclosed herein. As stated in the Declaration the surveyors placed a monument on the grounds of the nature and with the inscriptions described in the Declaration.

3. I now have the honour to inform you that the Netherland Government propose that the boundary between Netherland New Guinea and the territory of New Guinea administered under mandate by His Majesty's Government in the Commonwealth of Australia shall continue to be the 141st Meridian of East Longitude, and that for the purposes of this document, such Meridian shall be deemed to be a line running true North and true South from the middle point of the said monument, and that this line shall continue to be the boundary whether or not subsequent surveys should indicate that the said monument is in fact situated somewhat to the East or West of the 141st Meridian of East longitude.

4. The Netherland Government further propose that the responsibility and cost of maintenance of the said monument should be shared equally between them and His Majesty's Government

in the Commonwealth of Australia, that the said monument should be periodically inspected jointly by representatives of the two Governments in order to ensure that it is properly maintained in its present position, and that, on the occasion of some such joint inspection, the position of the monument in relation to the permanent features of the surrounding country shall be ascertained and placed on record. They would further suggest that on this occasion a second monument should be erected, and its position duly recorded, in order to establish on the ground the general alignment of the boundary.

5. If His Majesty's Government in the Commonwealth of Australia also accept the foregoing proposals, I have the honour to suggest that this Note with the copies of the above-mentioned Declaration in the Netherland and English languages, together with your reply in similar terms likewise with the copies of the above-mentioned Declaration, shall be regarded as constituting, with effect from the date of your reply, a definite Agreement between the two Governments in regard to this boundary.

I have the honour to remain, Sir, with the highest consideration, Your obedient Servant.

(Sgd.) R. DE MAREES VAN SWINDEREN.

The High Commissioner of the
Commonwealth of Australia,
Australia House,
W. C. 2.

TEXTE NÉERLANDAIS. — DUTCH TEXT.

DECLARATION.

VERKLARING.

By the Netherlands surveying vessel "Willebrord Snellius" the position of the 141st Meridian of East Longitude on the North Coast of New Guinea was determined from the astronomical point "Van Aller" on Tandjong Soeadja (Humboldt Bay, Western Side) and a difference in longitude of 398.0 metres was disclosed with the Australian observations made in 1928 and which have now been checked by the Australian Staff Surveyor A. A. Chauncy.

By mutual agreement, it was decided to halve the difference as determined by the national representatives. This position not proving suitable for a monument, after further conference a site was decided on for practical purposes, approximately 31 metres west of such mean position.

By measurement the monument now stands 167.7 metres east of the position of the 141st Meridian of East Longitude as determined by the Netherlands observations and 230.3 metres west of the position of the said 141st Meridian as determined by Australian observations.

The monument comprises a plinth of about 1 metre in height surmounted by an obelisk

De door het Nederlandsche opnemingsvaartuig «Willebrord Snellius» bepaalde plaats van de 141ste lengtegraad afgeleid uit het Astronomisch punt «Van Aller» op Tandjong Soeadja aan de Westzijde der Humboldt baai, verschilde in lengte 398,0 meter met die voortkomend uit Australische waarnemingen, welke door den Australischen Surveyor A. A. Chauncy werden gecontroleerd en als juist zijn aangenomen. In na onderling overleg verkregen volledige overeenstemming werd besloten dit overblijvende gedeelte zoo nabij mogelijk in twee gedeelten te verdeelen, waarbij uit praktische overwegingen de grens zoodanig werd gekozen, dat het op te richten grensteeken op een daarvoor geschikte plaats kon worden gebouwd. De steen werd daarom op ongeveer 31 meter bewesten het midden geplaatst, zoodat hij 167.7 meter beoosten den meridiaan van 141° volgens de Nederlandsche waarnemingen en 230,3 meter bewesten den genoemden meridiaan volgens de Australische waarnemingen is opgericht.

Het teeken bestaat uit een pilaar van gewapend beton samengesteld uit een voetstuk

2.7 metres in height with a base measurement of 1.5 metres.

The inscription is as follows :

Oostelijke grens Nederlandsch
Nieuw Guinea

141° O. L. Gr.
Eastern border Netherlands
New Guinea

141° E. L. Gr.
Hr. Ms. " W. Snellius " Aug. 1933

van 1 meter hoog en 2 meter in het vierkant, waarop een obelisk van 2,7 meter hoog en met een basis van 1,5 meter.

Het draagt als opschrift :

Oostelijke grens Nederlandsch
Nieuw Guinea

141° O.L.Gr.
Eastern border Netherlands
New Guinea

141° E.L.Gr.
Hr. Ms. « W. Snellius » Aug. 1933.

De Luitenant ter Zee der 1^e klasse, Commandant
Hr. Ms. " Willebrord Snellius "

(Sgd.) J. TISSOT VAN PATOT

De Luitenant ter Zee der 2^{de} klasse Oudste
Officier a/b Hr. Ms. " Willebrord Snellius "

(Sgd.) A. C. VERSENDAAL.

Staff Surveyor Commissioner for the Territory of
New Guinea

(Sgd.) A. A. CHAUNCY.

On board Hr. Ms. " Willebrord Snellius ",
2nd September, 1935.

De Luitenant ter Zee 1^e klasse Commandant
Hr. Ms. « Willebrord Snellius »

(get.) J. TISSOT VAN PATOT

De Luitenant ter Zee der 2^{de} klasse Oudste Offi-
cier a/b Hr. Ms. « Willebrord Snellius »

(get.) A. C. VAN VERSENDAAL.

Staff Surveyor Commissioner for the Territory of
New Guinea

(s.) A. A. CHAUNCY.

Aan boord Hr. Ms. « Willebrord Snellius »,
2 September 1933.

¹ TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

N^o 4022. — ÉCHANGE DE NOTES ENTRE LE GOUVERNEMENT DE SA MAJESTÉ DANS LE COMMONWEALTH D'AUSTRALIE ET LE GOUVERNEMENT NÉERLANDAIS COMPORTANT UN ACCORD RELATIF A LA FRONTIÈRE ENTRE LA NOUVELLE-GUINÉE NÉERLANDAISE ET LE TERRITOIRE DE LA NOUVELLE-GUINÉE ADMINISTRÉ SOUS MANDAT PAR LE GOUVERNEMENT DE SA MAJESTÉ DANS LE COMMONWEALTH D'AUSTRALIE. LONDRES, LE 14 SEPTEMBRE 1936.

I.

AUSTRALIA HOUSE,
STRAND, LONDRES, W. C. 2.

Le 14 septembre 1936.

MONSIEUR LE MINISTRE,

Le 22 juillet 1933, le Gouvernement des Pays-Bas a déclaré qu'il estimait particulièrement souhaitable que la place exacte du 141^e méridien de longitude est, qui forme la limite entre la Nouvelle-Guinée néerlandaise et le territoire de Nouvelle-Guinée administré sous mandat par le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté dans le Commonwealth d'Australie, soit réexaminée et fixée et que sa position soit établie par un échange de documents entre le Gouvernement des Pays-Bas et le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté dans le Commonwealth d'Australie.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté dans le Commonwealth d'Australie ayant accueilli favorablement cette proposition, le « Staff Surveyor » A. A. Chauncy, du territoire sous mandat de Nouvelle-Guinée, et les officiers hydrographes néerlandais du navire de Sa Majesté affecté aux travaux hydrographiques *Willebrord Snellius*, se sont réunis en temps voulu pour déterminer la position de la limite sur la côte septentrionale de la Nouvelle-Guinée et, le 2 septembre 1933, ont rédigé d'un commun accord et signé une déclaration en langue anglaise et en langue néerlandaise dont des exemplaires sont joints à la présente. Comme il est dit dans la déclaration, les topographes ont élevé sur le terrain un monument dont la nature et les inscriptions sont décrites dans la déclaration.

J'ai l'honneur de vous informer que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté dans le Commonwealth d'Australie propose que la limite entre la Nouvelle-Guinée néerlandaise et le territoire de Nouvelle-Guinée administré sous mandat par le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté dans le Commonwealth d'Australie continue d'être le 141^e méridien de longitude est, et que, aux fins du présent document, ce méridien soit censé être une ligne tracée dans la direction nord-sud exactement et passant par le centre dudit monument, et que cette ligne continue de marquer la limite quand bien même de nouveaux levés topographiques établiraient que ledit monument se trouve en fait situé quelque peu à l'est ou à l'ouest du 141^e méridien de longitude est.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté dans le Commonwealth d'Australie propose, d'autre part, que la charge et les frais d'entretien de ce monument soient supportés à parts égales par le Gouvernement des Pays-Bas et par lui-même, que ledit monument fasse l'objet d'une inspection périodique et commune de la part de représentants des deux gouvernements, afin de s'assurer qu'il est maintenu comme il convient à sa place actuelle, et qu'à l'occasion d'une de ces inspections en commun,

¹ Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations, à titre d'information.

¹ Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations, for information.