

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND
NORTHERN IRELAND
and
ICELAND**

**Agreement (with Exchange of Notes) concerning the transfer
of Reykjavik Airfield to the Icelandic Government. Signed
at Reykjavik, on 4 July 1946**

Came into force on 4 July 1946, by signature.

*English and Icelandic official texts communicated by the Permanent United
Kingdom Representative to the United Nations. The registration took place
on 7 August 1947.*

**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE ET
D'IRLANDE DU NORD
et
ISLANDE**

**Accord (avec échange de notes) relatif au transfert, au Gou-
vernement islandais, de l'aérodrome de Reykjavik. Signé
à Reykjavik, le 4 juillet 1946**

Entré en vigueur le 4 juillet 1946, par signature.

*Textes officiels anglais et islandais communiqués par le représentant permanent
du Royaume-Uni auprès de l'Organisation des Nations Unies. L'enregistre-
ment a eu lieu le 7 août 1947.*

No. 77. AGREEMENT BETWEEN HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ICELAND CONCERNING THE TRANSFER OF REYKJAVIK AIRFIELD TO THE ICELANDIC GOVERNMENT. SIGNED AT REYKJAVIK, ON 4 JULY 1946

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Iceland: Desiring to amplify and give effect to the Agreement embodied in the notes exchanged at Reykjavik on the 12th October, 1944¹ have agreed as follows:—

Article 1

The Reykjavik airfield, runways and all immovable installations constructed thereon and owned by the Government of the United Kingdom shall, from the coming into force of this Agreement and subject to the provisions of this Agreement, revert to and become the property of the Republic of Iceland without any payment or other obligations than those stated hereafter. On the coming into force of this Agreement, the Government of the United Kingdom shall hand over the Reykjavik airfield together with its runways and immovable installations to the Icelandic Government.

Article 2

All movable installations and equipment required for the operation of the airport shall be made available to the Icelandic Government at a price to be agreed upon separately, but the Government of the United Kingdom reserve the right to remove any such installations or equipment as shall not be purchased within one month from the coming into force of this Agreement.

Article 3

On coming into force of this Agreement the Government of the United Kingdom shall make available the Direction Finding Station at Sandgerdi to the Icelandic Government together with such associated equipment as the Icelandic Government may desire to purchase, at a price to be agreed upon separately, but the Government of the United Kingdom reserve the right to remove this installation and any equipment which is not purchased within one month from the coming into force of this Agreement.

¹ Great Britain "Treaty Series No. 39 (1946)," Cmd. 6993.

Article 4

On the coming into force of this Agreement the Government of the United Kingdom shall transfer to the Icelandic Government responsibility for the operation of the radio installation at Vik. The final disposal of the Loran equipment will be decided between the contracting Governments when agreement has been reached with the Provisional International Civil Aviation Organisation and the United States authorities.

Article 5

Having regard to the difficulties as regards skilled and trained personnel which the Icelandic Government may experience during the initial period after the taking over of the above-mentioned facilities, the Government of the United Kingdom agree that sufficient British personnel shall remain behind to train and assist Icelandic nationals in the operation of the installations and equipment for a maximum period of eight months from the coming into force of this Agreement, the number, qualifications, &c., to be agreed upon between Royal Air Force and the Icelandic civil aviation authorities.

Article 6

So long as Royal Air Force technical personnel remain in Iceland in accordance with Article 5, additional Royal Air Force personnel shall be permitted to remain in Iceland for the purposes of catering, supervision, packing and disposal of surplus material, and other related purposes.

Article 7

During the period referred to in Article 5, military aircraft shall be permitted ordinary use of the Reykjavik airfield and its installations and equipment, both for air communications required by the Royal Air Force personnel mentioned in Articles 5 and 6 and for any staging that may be required for the North Atlantic routes. Aircraft engaged in such staging operations shall pay the normal fees for the facilities required. These military aircraft shall be accorded priority in the use of half the floor space of the main hangar, necessary access to adjacent workshops, and picketing and mooring facilities.

2. For the purpose of this Article the term "military aircraft" means aircraft belonging to any Service Department of the British Commonwealth.

Article 8

The provisions of this Agreement amplify the provisions of paragraph (a) of the exchange of notes of the 12th October, 1944. The provisions of paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) of these notes remain in full force and effect.

Article 9

The present Agreement shall enter into force from this day's date.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned plenipotentiaries, being duly authorised thereto by their respective Governments, have signed the present Agreement and have affixed thereto their seals.

DONE in duplicate at Reykjavik this 4th day of July, 1946.

(L.S.)

G. SHEPHERD

(L.S.)

Olafur THORS

EXCHANGE OF NOTES

No. 1

Mr. Shepherd to M. Olafur Thors

British Legation

Reykjavik, 12th July, 1946

M. le Ministre,

With reference to the Agreement which your Excellency and I signed on the 4th July, regarding the transfer of the Reykjavik airfields to the Republic of Iceland, I have the honour to confirm the conversations which I had with the Permanent Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs in connexion with that Agreement. In those conversations I explained to the Permanent Under-Secretary that, in spite of the deletion of the last sentence of paragraph 1 of the original Article 7 which read: "The Icelandic Government further agree to supply these military aircraft with fuel and oil from military stocks taken over by the Icelandic Government so long as they last at the purchase price," it is clearly understood that the Icelandic authorities will provide the Royal Air Force with the use of a pump to obtain the necessary fuel for their military aircraft, and sell that fuel and oil to those aircraft at the purchase price for the duration of the Agreement or so long as the stocks last, whichever period is the shorter.

I have the honour to request that your Excellency may be so good as to confirm this understanding.

I have, &c.

G. SHEPHERD

No. 2

M. Olafur Thors to Mr. Shepherd

Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Reykjavik, 22nd July, 1946

M. le Ministre,

With reference to your Excellency's note of 12th July, 1946, regarding the transfer of the Reykjavik airfield to the Republic of Iceland, I have the honour to confirm the understanding that the Icelandic authorities will provide the Royal Air Force with the use of a pump to obtain the necessary fuel for their military aircraft, and sell that fuel and oil to those aircraft at the purchase price for the duration of the Agreement or so long as the stocks last, whichever period is the shorter, provided that the pump in question is a part of the equipment which is being made available by the Royal Air Force, and that an agreement will be reached between the British and the Icelandic authorities concerned regarding the purchase of fuel and oil.

I have, &c.

Olafur THORS