

No. 161

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
and
GUATEMALA**

**Exchange of Notes constituting an agreement relating to the
Inter-American Highway. Guatemala, 19 May 1943**

English and Spanish official texts communicated by the Permanent Representative of the United States of America at the seat of the United Nations. The filing and recording took place on 14 April 1949.

**ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE
et
GUATEMALA**

**Echange de notes constituant un accord relatif à la route inter-
américaine. Guatemala, 19 mai 1943**

Textes officiels anglais et espagnol communiqués par le représentant permanent des Etats-Unis d'Amérique au siège de l'Organisation des Nations Unies. Le classement et l'inscription au répertoire ont eu lieu le 14 avril 1949.

No. 161. EXCHANGE OF NOTES¹ CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND GUATEMALA RELATING TO THE INTER-AMERICAN HIGHWAY. GUATEMALA, 19 MAY 1943

I

The Guatemalan Minister of Foreign Affairs to the American Ambassador

SPANISH TEXT — TEXTE ESPAGNOL
SECRETARÍA DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES
REPÚBLICA DE GUATEMALA
SECCIÓN DIPLOMÁTICA

TRANSLATION² — TRADUCTION³
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS
REPUBLIC OF GUATEMALA
DIPLOMATIC SECTION

Guatemala, 19 de mayo de 1943
No. 6756
693 (73-0)

Guatemala, May 19, 1943
No. 6756
693 (73-0)

Señor Embajador:

Mr. Ambassador:

Tengo el honor de referirme a la atenta nota número 32 de la Honorable Legación de los Estados Unidos de 16 de febrero de 1942, en la cual se me llama la atención hacia las estipulaciones de la ley pública 375 de los Estados Unidos, del 26 de diciembre de 1941, que provee la cooperación de los Estados Unidos con las Repúblicas centroamericanas para la construcción de la carretera interamericana.

Aunque ya hay camino continuo a través de Guatemala, se ha informado a mi Gobierno que es muy de desearse el mejoramiento de algunas secciones

I have the honor to refer to the kind note no. 32 of the Legation of the United States of February 16, 1942,⁴ in which my attention is called to the provisions of public law no. 375 of the United States of December 26, 1941,⁵ which provides for the cooperation of the United States with the Central American Republics for the construction of the Inter-American Highway.

Although there is already a continuous road across Guatemala, my Government has been informed that the improvement of certain sections of that

¹ Came into force on 19 May 1943, by the exchange of the said notes.

² Translation by the Government of the United States of America.

³ Traduction du Gouvernement des Etats-Unis d'Amérique.

⁴ Not printed by the Department of State of the United States of America.

⁵ United States of America, 55 Stat. 860.

de esa vía, para que se ajuste a los tipos de construcción considerados para la carretera interamericana. Por eso, desea mi Gobierno pedir la cooperación del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos, conforme a las provisiones de esa ley, de acuerdo con los siguientes términos:

1) El Gobierno de la República de Guatemala acepta gustoso que ingenieros designados por los dos Gobiernos expresen conjuntamente, previo el estudio que tengan por conveniente, cuáles son las reformas que deben hacerse en cada sección de la vía panamericana que el Gobierno de Guatemala ha construído. Mi Gobierno asumiría la obligación de pagar la tercera parte del costo de la obra, siempre que dicha obra se ejecute acomodándola a las cantidades que el presupuesto de la República determine y fije para cada año fiscal.

2) El Gobierno de Guatemala, teniendo presente su situación fiscal y las sumas acordadas por la Asamblea Legislativa para el mejoramiento de la carretera, pedirá la cooperación del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos para realizar ese mejoramiento de las secciones de la carretera.

3) El Gobierno de Guatemala acepta muy agradecido el aporte del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos consistente en el doble de la cantidad consignada en el presupuesto fiscal de la República de Guatemala para el mejoramiento de la carretera interamericana.

road is very desirable, in order that it may conform to the types of construction considered for the Inter-American Highway. Accordingly, my Government desires to request the cooperation of the United States Government, under the provisions of the said law, in accordance with the following terms:

(1) The Government of the Republic of Guatemala agrees with pleasure that engineers designated by the two Governments should express jointly, after such study as they may deem proper, what are the changes which should be made in each section of the Pan American Highway that the Government of Guatemala has built. My Government would assume the obligation to pay one third of the cost of the work, provided that the execution of the said work is accommodated to the sums determined and fixed by the budget of the Republic for each fiscal year.

(2) The Government of Guatemala, bearing in mind its fiscal situation and the sums allowed by the Legislative Assembly for the improvement of the highway, will ask the cooperation of the United States Government to accomplish this improvement of the sections of the highway.

(3) The Government of Guatemala accepts very gratefully the contribution of the United States consisting of double the amount allocated in the fiscal budget of the Republic of Guatemala to the improvement of the Inter-American Highway.

La administración de Caminos Públicos de los Estados Unidos tendrá el derecho de hacer inspeccionar, por medio de delegados, las obras de mejora y perfeccionamiento de la carretera y la exacta inversión de los fondos destinados para ese efecto.

La intervención técnica y la acción fiscalizadora de control de fondos, la ejercerá la Administración de Caminos Públicos de los Estados Unidos, por medio de sus delegados. Al Gobierno de Guatemala le será muy grato que el Departamento de Estado de los Estados Unidos intervenga en cualquiera de las negociaciones que hayan de llevarse a término con la República de Guatemala, quien está, desde luego, anuente en cooperar con los propósitos de la ley 375, en la forma que ha quedado expresada, en atención a las circunstancias especiales de la carretera que Guatemala ha construido a su propio costo, y siempre le será grato que tales negociaciones se lleven a término por conducto del Departamento de Estado.

Mucho agradeceré que Vuestra Excelencia me informe si su Gobierno estaría dispuesto a otorgar en estos términos su cooperación.

Sírvase aceptar, señor Embajador, las renovadas seguridades de mi más alta y distinguida consideración,

Carlos SALAZAR

Excelentísimo señor Boaz Long
Embajador Extraordinario y Plenipotenciario de los Estados Unidos
Ciudad

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The United States Public Roads Administration will have the right to make inspections through delegates, of the works for improving and perfecting the highway and the exact investment of the funds allocated for that purpose.

The technical intervention and the supervisory action of control of funds will be exercised by the United States Public Roads Administration through its delegates. The Government of Guatemala will be very much pleased to have the Department of State intervene in any of the negotiations which are to be carried out with the Republic of Guatemala, which is, it goes without saying, agreeable to cooperating with the purposes of law 375, in the way that has been stated, in view of the special circumstances of the highway which Guatemala has built at its own expense, and it will always be glad to have such negotiations carried out through the Department of State.

I shall be very grateful if Your Excellency would inform me whether your Government would be disposed to grant its cooperation on these terms.

Please accept, Mr. Ambassador, the renewed assurances of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

Carlos SALAZAR

His Excellency Boaz Long
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States
City

II

The American Ambassador to the Guatemalan Minister of Foreign Affairs

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Guatemala, May 19, 1943

No. 120

Excellency:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's kind Note No. 6756 of May 19, 1943, in which you request the cooperation of the United States in the improvement of the Inter-American Highway in Guatemala and in which you propose a basis upon which the cooperation of my Government might be extended within the provisions of Public Law 375 of December 26, 1941.

The basis of cooperation proposed by Your Excellency is satisfactory to my Government, and it will be pleased to cooperate on this basis in such survey and construction work as may jointly be deemed desirable for the improvement of the Guatemalan section of the Inter-American Highway, subject to the appropriation of the necessary funds by the Congress of the United States.

I am much gratified at the prospect that through this cooperative undertaking it will be possible to improve the Guatemalan Section of the Inter-American Highway. Transportation facilities will be improved, new lands and new natural resources developed, additional markets opened, and local economic conditions benefited through the useful expenditure of money which this project envisages. I sincerely trust that the Highway will serve not only as a link to increase material intercourse between our nations but also as another bond in the close friendship which unites us.

Please accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Boaz LONG

His Excellency Licenciado Carlos Salazar
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Guatemala