

No. 2249

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**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN  
AND NORTHERN IRELAND  
and  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**Exchange of notes (with annexed map) constituting an agreement regarding the establishment by the Government of the United States of America of a high altitude interceptor range. Washington, 24 February and 2 March 1953**

*Official text: English.*

*Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 31 August 1953.*

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**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE  
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD  
et  
ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE**

**Échange de notes (avec carte annexée) constituant un accord relatif à la création par le Gouvernement des États-Unis d'Amérique d'une zone de manœuvres pour interception à haute altitude. Washington, 24 février et 2 mars 1953**

*Texte officiel anglais.*

*Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le 31 août 1953.*

No. 2249. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA OF A HIGH ALTITUDE INTERCEPTOR RANGE. WASHINGTON, 24 FEBRUARY AND 2 MARCH 1953

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I

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

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

February 24, 1953

Excellency,

I have the honor to refer to the negotiations which have taken place between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland regarding the establishment by the Government of the United States of America of a High Altitude Interceptor Range and to confirm the following understanding reached as a result of those negotiations :—

1. In order to facilitate the establishment of a High Altitude Interceptor Range by the Government of the United States of America in connection with the operation of the Bahamas Long Range Proving Ground, the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland agrees that the Government of the United States of America shall have the right, within those areas indicated on the attached map,<sup>2</sup> and marked thereon "A," "B" and "C," to operate target and interceptor aircraft using small calibre guns, air-to-air rockets and guided missiles as may be necessary for the purpose of conducting research and development tests in the field of high altitude interception.

2. Where applicable, the provisions of the Bahamas Long Range Proving Ground Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Govern-

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 2 March 1953, by the exchange of the said notes.

<sup>2</sup> See insert between pp. 264 and 265 of this volume.

ment of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland signed in Washington on July 21, 1950,<sup>1</sup> shall be given effect with respect to activities of the Government of the United States of America authorized by this understanding as if the areas mentioned in paragraph 1 above formed part of the Flight Testing Range referred to in that Agreement and the activities of the Government of the United States of America so authorized were carried out as part of the operation or use of the Flight Testing Range permitted to the Government of the United States of America within the Range Area of that Agreement. The activities of the Government of the United States authorized by this understanding shall be carried out in accordance with such safety regulations as shall be agreed upon between the Governor of the Bahamas and the United States authorities and such regulations shall be subject to periodic review.

3. The Government of the United States of America may exercise the right referred to in paragraph 1 for the duration of the Bahamas Long Range Proving Ground Agreement unless the Government of the United States of America informs the Government of the United Kingdom that it no longer desires to operate the High Altitude Interceptor Range. If at any time the Government of the United Kingdom advises the Government of the United States of America that operation of the High Altitude Interceptor Range is inimical to British interests, the right granted hereunder will immediately terminate

Upon the receipt of a Note from your Excellency indicating that the foregoing provisions are acceptable to the Government of the United Kingdom, I have the honor to propose that this Note and your Excellency's reply to that effect shall constitute an agreement between the two Governments on this subject, the agreement to enter into force on the date of your Note in reply.

Accept, &c.

John Foster DULLES.

## II

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

BRITISH EMBASSY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

2nd March, 1953

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Note of February 24 1953, which reads as follows :—

[See note I]

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vo 97, p. 193 .

2. In reply, I have the honour to confirm to you that the provisions set forth in the said Note are acceptable to Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and that they agree with your proposal that your Note and the present reply shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments on this subject, the agreement to enter into force on the date of this Note.

I avail, &c.

Roger MAKINS