

No. 2668

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
and  
LAOS**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement relating to  
technical co-operation. Vientiane, 18 and 31 December  
1951**

*Official texts: English and French.*

*Registered by the United States of America on 15 September 1954.*

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**ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE  
et  
LAOS**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif à la coopé-  
ration technique. Vientiane, 18 et 31 décembre 1951**

*Textes officiels anglais et français.*

*Enregistré par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 15 septembre 1954.*

No. 2668. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND LAOS RELATING TO TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION. VIENTIANE, 18 AND 31 DECEMBER 1951

N° 2668. ÉCHANGE DE NOTES CONSTITUANT UN ACCORD<sup>2</sup> ENTRE LES ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE ET LE LAOS RELATIF À LA COOPÉRATION TECHNIQUE. VIENTIANE, 18 ET 31 DÉCEMBRE 1951

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*The American Legation to the Laotian Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 10

The Legation of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Laos and, under instructions from its Government, has the honor to inform the Ministry that the Congress of the United States of America has recently enacted new criteria for eligibility for United States foreign assistance programs and to propose an exchange of notes which will insure the continuation of the eligibility of the Kingdom of Laos for the programs of military and economic assistance now being extended.

The United States of America has undertaken to furnish military, economic, and technical assistance to friendly governments so that their countries may develop their resources for their own security and for the strengthening of the individual and collective defenses of the free world. The most recent enactment of the Congress of the United States of America for these purposes is known as the "Mutual Security Act of 1951" (P. L. 165, 82nd Congress),<sup>3</sup> which places all existing United States assistance programs under one common statute. This Act provides the present authority for the continuation of the programs in the Kingdom of Laos administered under the "Agreement for Mutual Defense Assistance in Indochina", signed December 23, 1950,<sup>4</sup> and under the "Economic Cooperation Agreement", signed September 9, 1951.<sup>5</sup> The new Act stipulates

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 31 December 1951, by the exchange of the said notes.

<sup>2</sup> Entré en vigueur le 31 décembre 1951, par l'échange desdites notes.

<sup>3</sup> United States of America : 65 Stat. 373.

<sup>4</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 185, p. 3.

<sup>5</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 174, p. 141.

that eligibility for assistance is contingent upon adherence by recipient countries to the principles and procedures underlying the purposes of the legislation and that, moreover, unless specific acknowledgement of such adherence is received within a period of ninety days from the enactment of the statute or by January 8, 1952, no military, economic, or technical assistance may be furnished to any foreign government.

These principles and procedures have been implicit in previous legislation authorizing the assistance programs; they engender no further obligations than those which have been in fact accepted by your Government since the inception of the programs. The assurances now required by the Congress are being similarly requested from all governments participating in United States military, economic, and technical assistance programs.

In accordance with the requirement of the Congress, as set forth in the "Mutual Security Act of 1951", the Legation has been directed to obtain written acknowledgement of adherence to these principles and procedures by the Government of the Kingdom of Laos. This may be most expeditiously accomplished by the transmittal of a Note to the Legation containing the following essential text :

"1. The Government of the Kingdom of Laos hereby confirms that it has agreed to —

- "(a) join in promoting international understanding and good will, and maintaining world peace;
- "(b) take such action as may be mutually agreed upon to eliminate causes of international tension;
- "(c) make, consistent with its political and economic stability, the full contribution permitted by its manpower, resources, facilities, and general economic condition to the development and maintenance of its own defensive strength and the defensive strength of the free world;
- "(d) take all reasonable measures which may be needed to develop its defense capacities;
- "(e) take appropriate steps to insure the effective utilization of the economic and military assistance provided by the United States.

"2. The two Governments will establish procedures under which equipment and materials furnished by the Government of the United States of America under the Mutual Defense Assistance Act of 1949, as amended,<sup>1</sup> other than equipment or materials furnished under terms requiring reimbursement, and no longer required for the purposes for which originally made available will be offered for return to the United States for appropriate disposition.

<sup>1</sup> United States of America : 63 Stat. 714; 22 U. S. C. §§ 1571-1604.

“3. The two Governments will establish procedures whereby the Government of the Kingdom of Laos will so deposit, segregate, or assure title to all funds allocated to or derived from any program of assistance undertaken by the Government of the United States so that such funds shall not be subject to garnishment, attachment, seizure or other legal process by any persons, firm, agency, corporation, organization or government, when in the opinion of the Government of the United States any such legal process would interfere with the attainment of the objectives of the said program.”

Upon receipt of this Note from your Government indicating that the foregoing provisions are acceptable to the Government of the Kingdom of Laos, the Government of the United States of America will consider that this Note and your Note in reply constitute an agreement between the two Governments on this subject which shall enter into force on the date of your Note in reply.

The Legation is, of course, at the disposition of the Ministry for consultation and discussion on any aspect of this matter. The Legation would, however, urge the importance of accomplishing this agreement prior to January 8, 1952 limit, since the new statute unequivocally provides that no military, economic, or technical assistance may be furnished any country which shall not have agreed to provide the necessary assurances by this date. Failure to provide these assurances would jeopardize the continuation of current assistance programs under the “Agreement for Mutual Defense in Indochina” and under the “Economic Cooperation Agreement.”

In informing the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Laos of the substance of the requirements enacted by the Congress, the Legation of the United States of America avails itself of the opportunity to renew to the Ministry the assurances of its highest consideration.

E. A. G.

American Legation  
Vientiane, December 18, 1951

[TRADUCTION — TRANSLATION]

*La légation des États-Unis d'Amérique au Ministère des affaires étrangères du Laos*

SERVICE DIPLOMATIQUE DES ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE

N° 10

La légation des États-Unis d'Amérique présente ses compliments au Ministère des affaires étrangères du Royaume du Laos et, d'ordre de son Gouvernement, a l'honneur de porter à la connaissance du Ministère que le Congrès des États-Unis d'Amérique a récemment fixé de nouvelles conditions pour pouvoir bénéficier des programmes américains d'aide à l'étranger et de proposer qu'il

[TRANSLATION<sup>1</sup> — TRADUCTION<sup>2</sup>]

*The Laotian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the American Legation*

KINGDOM OF LAOS  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

No. 1.551/AE

Subject :

Vientiane, December 31, 1951

The Minister of Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Legation of the United States of America at Saigon and has the honor to acknowledge receipt of its note No. 10 dated December 18 concerning the adherence of the Government of Laos to the general principles defined by the Mutual Security Act of 1951.

The Legation of the United States of America submitted the following text to the Royal Government for its approval :

[*See note I*]

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs conveys the agreement of the Royal Government of Laos on these provisions and considers that this note and note No. 10 of December 18 of the Legation of the United States constitute an agreement between the two Governments which shall enter into force on the date of the present note.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Legation of the United States of America the assurances of its high consideration.

[SEAL]

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<sup>1</sup> Translation by the Government of the United States of America.

<sup>2</sup> Traduction du Gouvernement des États-Unis d'Amérique.