

No. 2905

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

**Agreement for co-operation regarding atomic information
for mutual defence purposes. Signed at Washington,
on 15 June 1955**

Official text: English.

*Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
on 12 September 1955.*

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

**Accord sur la coopération en matière d'échange de ren-
seignements atomiques aux fins de défense mutuelle.
Signé à Washington, le 15 juin 1955**

Texte officiel anglais.

*Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le
12 septembre 1955.*

No. 2905. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR CO-OPERATION REGARDING ATOMIC INFORMATION FOR MUTUAL DEFENCE PURPOSES. SIGNED AT WASHINGTON, ON 15 JUNE 1955

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the United States of America,

Recognising that their mutual security and defence requires that they be prepared to meet the contingencies of atomic warfare,

Recognising that their common interests will be advanced by the exchange of information pertinent thereto,

Believing that the exchange of such information can be undertaken without threat to the security of either country, and

Taking into consideration the United States Atomic Energy Act of 1954, which was prepared with these purposes in mind,

Agree as follows :—

Article I

1. While the United Kingdom and the United States are participating in international arrangements for their mutual defence and security and making substantial and material contribution thereto, each Government will from time to time make available to the other Government atomic information which the Government making such information available deems necessary to—

- (a) the development of defence plans ;
- (b) the training of personnel in the employment of and defence against atomic weapons ; and
- (c) the evaluation of the capabilities of potential enemies in the employment of atomic weapons.

2. Atomic information which is transferred by either Government pursuant to this agreement shall be used by the other Government exclusively for the preparation and implementation of defence plans in the mutual interests of the two countries.

¹ Came into force on 21 July 1955, in accordance with the provisions of article VI.

Article II

1. All transfers of atomic information to the United Kingdom by the United States pursuant to this agreement will be made in compliance with the provisions of the United States Atomic Energy Act of 1954 and any subsequent applicable United States legislation. All transfers of atomic information to the United States by the United Kingdom pursuant to this agreement will be made in compliance with the United Kingdom Official Secrets Acts, 1911-1939, and the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Act of 1946.

2. Under this Agreement there will be no transfers by the United Kingdom or the United States of atomic weapons or special nuclear material, as these terms are defined in Section 11 d. and Section 11 t. of the United States Atomic Energy Act of 1954.

Article III

1. Atomic information made available pursuant to this Agreement shall be accorded full security protection under applicable security arrangements between the United Kingdom and the United States and applicable national legislation and regulations of the two countries. In no case shall either Government maintain security standards for safeguarding atomic information made available pursuant to this Agreement lower than those set forth in the applicable security arrangements in effect on the date this Agreement comes into force.

2. Atomic information which is exchanged pursuant to this Agreement will be made available through channels existing or hereafter agreed for the exchange of classified defence information between the two Governments.

3. Atomic information received pursuant to this Agreement shall not be transferred by the recipient Government to any unauthorised person or, except as provided in Article V of this Agreement, beyond the jurisdiction of that Government. Each Government may stipulate the degree to which any of the categories of information made available to the other Government pursuant to this Agreement may be disseminated, may specify the categories of persons who may have access to such information, and may impose such other restrictions on the dissemination of such information as it deems necessary.

Article IV

As used in this Agreement, "atomic information" means :

- (a) so far as concerns the information provided by the United States, Restricted Data, as defined in Section 11 r. of the United States Atomic Energy Act of 1954, which is permitted to be communicated pursuant

to the provisions of Section 144 b. of that Act, and information relating primarily to the military utilisation of atomic weapons which has been removed from the Restricted Data category in accordance with the provisions of Section 142 d. of the United States Atomic Energy Act of 1954 ;

- (b) so far as concerns the information provided by the United Kingdom, information exchanged under this Agreement which is either classified atomic energy information or other United Kingdom defence information which it is decided to transfer to the United States in pursuance of Article I of this Agreement.

Article V

Nothing herein shall be interpreted or operate as a bar or restriction to consultation and co-operation by the United Kingdom or the United States with other nations or regional organisations in any fields of defence. Neither Government, however, shall communicate atomic information made available by the other Government pursuant to this Agreement to any nation or regional organisation unless the same information has been made available to that nation or regional organisation by the other Government in accordance with its own legislative requirements and except to the extent that such communication is expressly authorised by such other Government.

Article VI

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date on which each Government shall receive from the other Government written notification that it has complied with all statutory and constitutional requirements for the entry into force of such an agreement, and shall remain in effect until terminated by mutual agreement of both Governments.

DONE at Washington this fifteenth day of June, 1955, in two original texts.

For the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland :

R. H. SCOTT

For the United States of America :

C. Burke ELBRICK