

**No. 3431**

---

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
and  
PANAMA**

**Highway Convention (with attached map). Signed at  
Panama, on 14 September 1950**

*Official texts: English and Spanish.*

*Registered by the United States of America on 22 May 1956.*

---

**ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE  
et  
PANAMA**

**Convention routière (avec carte annexée). Signée à Panama,  
le 14 septembre 1950**

*Textes officiels anglais et espagnol.*

*Enregistrée par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 22 mai 1956.*

No. 3431. HIGHWAY CONVENTION<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA. SIGNED AT PANAMA, ON 14 SEPTEMBER 1950

---

The United States of America and the Republic of Panamá,  
Having in mind their interest in the maintenance of highways essential to the security and defense of the Panama Canal, have decided to conclude a Highway Convention, and to this end have designated as their Plenipotentiaries :  
The President of the United States of America :

The Honorable Monnett B. Davis, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Panamá;  
and

The President of the Republic of Panamá :

His Excellency Dr. Carlos N. Brin, Minister of Foreign Relations of the Republic of Panamá;

Who, having communicated to each other their respective full powers, which have been found to be in good and due form, have agreed upon the following :

*Article I*

In consideration of the obligations assumed by the Republic of Panamá in the present Convention, the United States of America assumes the responsibility for maintenance, at its expense, of that portion of the Boyd-Roosevelt Highway which begins at the southeast pavement edge of Randolph Road, near Coco Solito, Latitude N 9° 20' + 2715.5 feet, Longitude W 79° 52' + 5991.72 feet, and which ends at the intersection of the highway with the Tumba Muerto Road, Latitude N 8° 59' + 2383.0 feet, Longitude W 79° 32' + 784.0 feet. The above limits and the course of the highway are shown on the map which accompanies this Convention and is marked Exhibit A.<sup>2</sup>

*Article II*

The Republic of Panamá agrees to prevent any encroachments which might interfere in any way with the safe use or proper maintenance of the Boyd-Roosevelt Highway within the limits prescribed in Article I of the present Convention.

---

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 11 April 1955 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification at Panama, in accordance with article XI.

<sup>2</sup> See insert between pp. 172 and 173 of this volume.

*Article III*

The Republic of Panamá agrees to assume any and all liability which may accrue on account of damage to or loss of property, or on account of personal injury or death arising out of or in connection with or resulting from maintenance, within the jurisdiction of the Republic of Panamá of the portion of the Boyd-Roosevelt Highway referred to in Article I of the present Convention; but this Article shall not apply to any liability accruing on account of damage to or loss of property utilized by the United States of America in the maintenance of such portion of the highway, or on account of the personal injury or death of any employee of the United States of America engaged in the maintenance of such portion of the highway.

*Article IV*

The Republic of Panamá agrees to furnish free of charge in natural deposits, all stone, gravel, sand, earth or other natural products desired by the United States of America for the performance of the maintenance responsibility assumed in Article I of the present Convention, where such deposits occur on the public domain, so long as such materials cannot be easily obtained in the Canal Zone, and also to arrange for any easements that may be necessary to gain access to such deposits so long as the arrangements for these easements do not entail unreasonable expenses to the Republic of Panamá.

*Article V*

The Republic of Panamá agrees that there shall not be imposed any import duties or taxes of any kind upon any property, equipment or materials utilized by the United States of America in the maintenance, within the jurisdiction of the Republic of Panamá, of the portion of the Boyd-Roosevelt Highway referred to in Article I of the present Convention; and that there shall not be imposed contributions or charges of a personal character of any kind upon employees of the United States of America engaged in the maintenance of such portion of the highway.

*Article VI*

The Republic of Panamá agrees to provide without cost to the United States of America throughout the life of this Convention a right-of-way which shall be 100 feet in width from each side of the center line of the portion of the Boyd-Roosevelt Highway described in Article I of the present Convention: Provided, however, that in areas where it is unnecessary or impracticable in the opinion of either Government to provide a right-of-way of the full width hereinbefore prescribed, and in areas where it is necessary and practicable in the opinion of either Government to provide a right-of-way of greater width

than that hereinbefore prescribed, the width of the right-of-way shall be as agreed upon between representatives to be designated by the two Governments : And provided further that this paragraph shall not apply to the corridors referred to in Articles III and IV of the Convention regarding the Colón Corridor signed May 24, 1950.<sup>1</sup>

#### *Article VII*

In consideration of the obligations assumed by the United States of America in the present Convention, the Republic of Panamá accords to the United States of America the free and unimpeded use without cost of all public roads within the jurisdiction of the Republic of Panamá, and of the Ancón Cove Dock, Taboga Island, and the roads leading therefrom, including the road to El Vigía Reservation, subject to the laws and regulations relating to vehicular traffic in force in the Republic of Panamá.

#### *Article VIII*

The Governments of the United States of America and the Republic of Panamá shall maintain in a suitable condition at all times those surfaced roads which are essential for the protection and security of the Republic of Panamá and the Panamá Canal and for the maintenance of which they are respectively responsible. Whenever either Government is unable to perform its maintenance obligations, as undertaken in this Article, the other Government will cooperate in the making of such repairs as are determined by the Board constituted by Article IX of the present Convention to be essential to the road or roads involved. The cost of such repairs shall be borne by the Government originally responsible for maintenance under the terms of the present Convention.

#### *Article IX*

There is hereby constituted a Board, to be known as the Joint Highway Board, consisting of two qualified representatives appointed by each of the High Contracting Parties. It shall be the responsibility of the Board to advise the two Governments relative to matters and problems arising in connection with the execution of the provisions of the present Convention.

#### *Article X*

The provisions of the present Convention shall not affect the rights and obligations of either of the two High Contracting Parties under the treaties or

---

<sup>1</sup> See p. 139 of this volume.

other international agreements now in force between the two countries, nor be considered as a limitation, definition, restriction or restrictive interpretation of such rights and obligations, but without prejudice to the full force and effect of any provisions of the present Convention which constitute addition to, modification or abrogation of, or substitution for the provisions of previous treaties or other international agreements.

*Article XI*

1. The present Convention shall be ratified in accordance with the constitutional methods of the High Contracting Parties and shall enter into force immediately on the exchange of instruments of ratification which shall take place in Panamá.

2. The present Convention shall remain in force for twenty years and thereafter unless terminated in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3 of this Article.

3. Either High Contracting Party may, by giving one year's written notice to the other High Contracting Party, terminate the present Convention at the end of the initial twenty-year period or at any time thereafter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Convention in duplicate in the English and Spanish languages, both texts being authentic, and have hereunto affixed their seals.

DONE at the city of Panamá the 14th day of September 1950.

For the United States of America :

Monnett B. DAVIS

[SEAL]

For the Republic of Panamá :

Carlos N. BRIN

[SEAL]