

No. 3561

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**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN  
AND NORTHERN IRELAND  
and  
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement for the exchange through postal channels without prepayment of postage of diplomatic bags containing non-confidential correspondence. London, 1 and 9 August 1956**

*Official text: English.*

*Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 11 October 1956.*

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**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE  
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD  
et  
RÉPUBLIQUE DOMINICAINE**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif à l'échange par les voies postales, sans affranchissement, de valises diplomatiques contenant de la correspondance non confidentielle. Londres, 1<sup>er</sup> et 9 août 1956**

*Texte officiel anglais.*

*Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le 11 octobre 1956.*

No. 3561. 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 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC FOR THE EXCHANGE THROUGH POSTAL CHANNELS WITHOUT PREPAYMENT OF POSTAGE OF DIPLOMATIC BAGS CONTAINING NON-CONFIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE. LONDON, 1 AND 9 AUGUST 1956

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I

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W. 1

No. TP 15216/1

August 1, 1956

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland are prepared to conclude with the Government of the Dominican Republic in the terms set out below a reciprocal agreement for the exchange through postal channels without prepayment of postage of diplomatic bags containing non-confidential correspondence between the two Governments and their Embassies in Ciudad Trujillo and London, respectively :

(a) The individual bags covered by these arrangements shall in no case weigh more than 30 kilograms, this being the limit of weight for bags of closed mails under the International Postal Regulations.

(b) The dimensions of the individual bags shall not exceed  
38 inches by 17 inches, for air despatches;  
44 inches by 22 inches, for surface despatches other than parcels; and

30 inches by 18½ inches by 17½ inches (square-bottomed type), for parcel despatches;  
these being the largest convenient sizes for use in conjunction with the bags ordinarily used by the Post Office in the United Kingdom for Overseas mails.

(c) The United Kingdom Postal Authorities shall accept diplomatic bags from the Embassy of the Dominican Republic in London addressed to the Secretariat of State of Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Dominican Republic and convey them through

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 9 August 1956 by the exchange of the said notes.

the normal postal channels to their destination and the Postal Authorities of the Dominican Republic shall accept diplomatic bags from Her Majesty's Embassy in Ciudad Trujillo addressed to the Foreign Office in London and convey them through the normal postal channels to their destination.

(d) The United Kingdom Postal Authorities shall accept from the Postal Authorities of the Dominican Republic diplomatic bags addressed by the Secretariat of State for Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Dominican Republic to the Embassy of the Dominican Republic in London and convey them through the normal postal channels to their destination and the Postal Authorities of the Dominican Republic shall accept from the United Kingdom Postal Authorities diplomatic bags addressed by Her Majesty's Government to Her Majesty's Embassy in Ciudad Trujillo and convey them through the normal postal channels to their destination.

(e) The bags shall be addressed to the Secretariat of State of Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Dominican Republic or to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs or the respective Ambassadors or Chargés d'Affaires as the case may be. They shall bear the appropriate seals and may be locked if desired, the keys resting in the custody of the respective Foreign Offices and Embassies.

(f) There shall be no charge for the acceptance or conveyance of these diplomatic bags which shall be inviolable and shall enjoy all the immunities customarily granted by the United Kingdom authorities and those of the Dominican Republic, respectively, to official mails.

(g) First class mail (i.e. letters, letter packets and postcards) and second class mail (i.e. printed papers, commercial papers, samples, small packets and newspapers) of an urgent nature from the United Kingdom to the Dominican Republic shall be forwarded by air and non-urgent items of first and second class mail and all parcels shall be forwarded by surface mail, on the understanding that a similar arrangement shall be in force from the Dominican Republic to the United Kingdom. To this end mail exchanged between the Embassy of the Dominican Republic in London and the Secretariat of State of Foreign Affairs and Worship in Ciudad Trujillo and between Her Majesty's Embassy in Ciudad Trujillo and the Foreign Office in London shall be separated into three categories of bags :

- (i) containing urgent letters, letter packets and postcards and urgent second class mail for which air transmission is justifiable;
- (ii) containing non-urgent items of first class and second class mail, for transmission by surface route; and
- (iii) containing all parcels, for transmission by surface route.

The bag labels shall be clearly marked "By Air" and "By Surface Route", respectively. It is understood that lightweight bags or envelopes shall be used for diplomatic correspondence intended for despatch by air, and that the gross weight of each bag or packet intended for transmission by this means shall not exceed 2 kilograms.

If the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the Government of the Dominican Republic I have the honour to suggest that the present Note and Your Excellency's reply in that sense should be regarded as constituting an agreement in this matter between the two Governments which shall enter into force immediately and remain in force until three months from the date on which either Government shall have given notice of termination to the other.

I have the honour to be, with the highest consideration,

Your Excellency's obedient Servant,

For the Secretary of State :

(Signed) M. J. CHEKE

His Excellency Señor Dr. Don Luis F. Thomén  
etc., etc., etc.  
S.W. 1

## II

EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC  
LONDON

August 9, 1956

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's Note No. TP 15216/1 which reads as follows :

[See note I]

In reply I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the Government of the Dominican Republic who will regard your Note and this reply as constituting an agreement between the two Governments in this matter.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) THOMÉN

His Excellency the Rt. Hon. Selwyn Lloyd, C.B.E., T.D.  
Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs  
The Foreign Office  
London, S.W. 1