

No. 10044

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
and
FRANCE**

**Consular Convention (with protocol and exchange of letters).
Signed at Paris on 18 July 1966**

Authentic texts: English and French.

Registered by the United States of America on 1 December 1969.

**ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE
et
FRANCE**

**Convention consulaire (avec protocole et échange de lettres.)
Signée à Paris le 18 juillet 1966**

Textes authentiques: anglais et français.

Enregistrée par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 1^{er} décembre 1969.

CONSULAR CONVENTION¹ BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND FRANCE

The President of the United States of America and the President of the French Republic, wishing to define the rules applicable in the consular relations between the two States,

Have decided to conclude a consular convention and have appointed as their plenipotentiaries for this purpose:

The President of the United States of America:

The Honorable Charles E. Bohlen, Ambassador of the United States of America at Paris,

The President of the French Republic:

M. Maurice Couve de Murville, Minister of Foreign Affairs,

Who, having communicated to each other their respective full powers, which were found in good and due form, have agreed as follows:

PART I

DEFINITIONS

Article 1

For the purposes of the present Convention, the following expressions shall have the meanings hereunder assigned to them:

1. "consular post" means any consulate-general, consulate, vice-consulate or consular agency;
2. "consular district" means the area assigned to a consular post for the exercise of consular functions;
3. "head of consular post" means the person charged with the duty of acting in that capacity;
4. "consular officer" means any person, including the head of a consular post, entrusted in that capacity with the exercise of consular functions;
5. "consular employee" means any person employed in the administrative or technical service of a consular post;
6. "consular agent" means any person who, whatever his nationality, has been entrusted in this capacity with the exercise of certain consular functions;

¹ Came into force on 7 January 1968, i.e., one month after the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Washington on 7 December 1967, in accordance with article 43 (1).

7. "member of the service staff" means any person employed in the domestic service of a consular post;

8. "members of the consular post" means consular officers, consular employees and members of the service staff;

9. "members of the consular staff" means consular officers, other than the head of a consular post, consular employees and members of the service staff;

10. "member of the private staff" means a person who is employed exclusively in the private service of a member of the consular post;

11. "consular premises" means the buildings or parts of buildings and the land ancillary thereto, irrespective of ownership, used exclusively for the purposes of the consular post;

12. "consular archives" includes all the papers, documents, correspondence, books, films, tapes and registers of the consular post, together with the ciphers and codes, the card-indexes and any article of furniture used exclusively for their protection and safekeeping.

PART II

ESTABLISHMENT AND CONDUCT OF CONSULAR RELATIONS

Article 2

1. A consular post may be established in the territory of the receiving State only with that State's consent.

2. The seat of the consular post, its classification and the consular district shall be established by the sending State, and shall be subject to the approval of the receiving State.

3. Subsequent changes in the seat of the consular post, its classification and the consular district may be made by the sending State only with the consent of the receiving State.

4. The prior express consent of the receiving State shall also be required for the opening of an office forming part of an existing consular post elsewhere than at the seat thereof.

5. Consular functions may also be exercised, with the agreement of the receiving State, by members of the staff of the diplomatic mission of the sending State assigned to a consular section of the diplomatic mission.

Article 3

1. Heads of consular posts are admitted to the exercise of their functions by the receiving State, according to the rules and formalities established in that

State, after presentation of their consular commission. The exequatur shall indicate their consular district and shall be delivered without delay and free of charge.

2. A State which refuses to issue an exequatur is not required to communicate the reasons for its refusal to the sending State.

3. Pending delivery of the exequatur, the head of a consular post may be admitted on a provisional basis to the exercise of his functions.

Article 4

As soon as the head of a consular post is admitted to the exercise of his functions, the receiving State shall take the necessary measures to enable such head of a consular post to carry out the duties of his office and to have the benefit of the provisions of the present Convention.

Article 5

1. If the head of a consular post is unable to carry out his functions or the position of head of consular post is vacant, an acting head of post may act temporarily as head of the consular post.

2. The full name of the acting head of post shall be notified by the diplomatic mission of the sending State to the receiving State. As a general rule, this notification shall be given in advance. The admission as acting head of post of a person who is neither a diplomatic agent nor a consular officer of the sending State in the receiving State shall be conditional on the consent of the receiving State.

3. When, in the circumstances referred to in Paragraph 1 of this Article, a member of the diplomatic staff of the diplomatic mission of the sending State in the receiving State is designated by the sending State as an acting head of post, he shall, except as provided in Paragraph 4 of Article 31 of the present Convention, continue to enjoy diplomatic privileges and immunities.

Article 6

1. Members of the consular staff other than the head of post are admitted by the receiving State to the exercise of their functions according to the rules and formalities established in that State, as soon as their appointment has been notified to it.

2. The receiving State shall, upon the request of the sending State, issue for each consular officer so appointed a document recognizing his right to exercise consular functions.

Article 7

The receiving State may at any time inform the sending State that a consular officer is *persona non grata* or that any other member of the consular staff is not acceptable. In that event, the sending State shall, as the case may be, either recall the person concerned or terminate his functions with the consular post.

Article 8

1. The receiving State shall be notified of:
 - a) the appointment of members of a consular post, their arrival after appointment to the consular post, their final departure or the termination of their functions and any other changes affecting their status that may occur in the course of their service with the consular post;
 - b) the arrival and final departure of a person belonging to the family of a member of a consular post forming part of his household and, where appropriate, the fact that a person becomes or ceases to be such a member of the family;
 - c) the arrival and final departure of members of the private staff and, where appropriate, the termination of their service as such;
 - d) the engagement and discharge of persons resident in the receiving State as members of a consular post or as members of the private staff.

2. When possible, prior notification of arrival and final departure shall also be given.

PART III

FACILITIES, PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

Article 9

The receiving State shall accord full facilities for the performance of the functions of the consular post.

Article 10

1. The sending State shall have the right to the use of its national flag and coat-of-arms in the receiving State in accordance with the provisions of this Article.

2. The national flag of the sending State may be flown and its coat-of-arms displayed on the building occupied by the consular post and at the entrance door

thereof, on the residence of the head of the consular post and on his means of transport when used on official business.

Article 11

1. The sending State shall have the right, in the territory of the receiving State, to acquire, own or lease for any period of time, such lands, buildings and appurtenances as may be necessary and appropriate for governmental purposes, including residences for members of its diplomatic and consular posts.

2. The sending State shall have the right to erect buildings and appurtenances on the land which it had acquired in accordance with Paragraph 1 of this Article.

3. The rights recognized in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article shall be subject to compliance with local building, zoning and town planning regulations applicable to all land in the area in which such land is situated.

Article 12

1. Consular premises shall be inviolable to the extent provided in this Article.

2. The authorities of the receiving State shall not enter that part of the consular premises which is used exclusively for the purpose of the work of the consular post except with the consent of the head of the consular post or of his designee or of the head of the diplomatic mission of the sending State. The consent of the head of the consular post may, however, be assumed in case of fire or other disaster requiring prompt protective action.

3. Subject to the provisions of Paragraph 2 of this Article, the receiving State is under a special duty to take all appropriate steps to protect the consular premises against any intrusion or damage and to prevent any disturbance of the peace of the consular post or impairment of its dignity.

4. Lands, buildings and appurtenances, including the furnishings and property contained therein, held or occupied for consular purposes by the sending State, as well as vehicles owned by the sending State, shall not be subject to any form of requisitioning. Such lands, buildings and appurtenances shall not be immune from expropriation for purposes of national defense or public utility, in accordance with the laws of the receiving State. If expropriation is necessary for such purposes, all possible steps shall be taken to avoid impeding the performance of consular functions, and prompt, adequate and effective compensation shall be paid to the sending State.

Article 13

1. Lands and buildings situated in the territory of the receiving State, of which the sending State is the owner or lessee and which are used exclusively for diplomatic or consular purposes shall be exempt from taxation of very kind, whether national, state, regional or municipal, other than assessments levied for services or local public improvements by which these premises are benefited.

2. The sending State shall be exempt from the payment of all taxes and similar charges with respect to the acquisition, occupation or leasing of the lands and buildings referred to in Paragraph 1 of this Article.

3. The exemptions from taxation referred to in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article shall not apply to such dues and taxes if, under the law of the receiving State, they are payable by a person who contracted with the sending State or with the person acting on its behalf.

Article 14

The consular archives and documents shall be inviolable at all times.

Article 15

1. The receiving State shall permit and protect freedom of communication on the part of the consular post for all official purposes. In communicating with the Government, the diplomatic missions and other consular posts, wherever situated, of the sending State, the consular post may employ all appropriate means, including diplomatic couriers, the diplomatic or consular pouch and messages in code or cipher.

2. The official correspondence of the consular post, regardless of the means of communication used, and the sealed diplomatic pouch bearing visible external marks of its official character, shall be inviolable.

3. The consular pouch shall be neither opened nor detained. Nevertheless, if the competent authorities of the receiving State have serious reasons to believe that the pouch contains something other than official correspondence or documents or objects for official purposes, they may request that the pouch be opened in their presence by an authorized representative of the sending State. If this request is refused by the authorities of the sending State, the pouch shall be returned to its place of origin.

Article 16

1. The consular post may levy in the territory of the receiving State the fees and charges provided by the laws and regulations of the sending State for consular acts.

2. The sums collected in the form of the fees and charges referred to in Paragraph 1 of this Article, and the receipts for such fees and charges, shall be exempt from all dues and taxes in the receiving State.

Article 17

The receiving State shall treat consular officers with due respect and shall take all appropriate steps to prevent any attack on their person, freedom or dignity.

Article 18

A consular officer shall be exempt in the receiving State from arrest or detention pending trial except when he has been charged with the commission of an offense under the laws of the receiving State which, upon conviction, might subject the individual guilty thereof to a sentence of imprisonment of at least two years.

Article 19

1. Consular officers and consular employees shall not be amenable to the jurisdiction of the judicial or administrative authorities of the receiving State in respect of acts performed in the exercise of consular functions, except as provided in Paragraph 4 of Article 31.

2. The provisions of Paragraph 1 of this Article shall not, however, apply in respect of a civil action either:

- a) arising out of a contract concluded by a consular officer or a consular employee in which he did not contract expressly or impliedly as an agent of the sending State; or
- b) by a third party for damage arising from an accident in the receiving State caused by a vehicle, vessel or aircraft.

Article 20

A consular officer or employee shall have the right to refuse a request from the administrative or judicial authorities of the receiving State to produce any documents from the consular archives or to give evidence relating to matters connected with the exercise of his functions. Such a request, however, shall be complied with in the interests of justice if it is possible to do so without prejudicing the interests of the sending State. The administrative or judicial authorities requiring testimony shall take all appropriate steps to avoid interference with the performance of official duties and, wherever possible, arrange for the taking of such testimony, orally or in writing, at the residence or office of the consular officer or employee.

Article 21

1. The sending State may waive, with regard to a member of the consular post, any of the privileges and immunities provided for in this Convention.

2. The waiver shall be express and shall be communicated to the receiving State in writing.

Article 22

Consular officers and consular employees and members of their families forming part of their households shall be exempt from all obligations under the laws and regulations of the receiving State in regard to the registration of aliens and residence permits.

Article 23

1. Members of the consular post shall, with respect to services rendered for the sending State, be exempt from any obligations in regard to work permits imposed by the laws and regulations of the receiving State concerning the employment of foreign labor.

2. Members of the private staffs of consular officers and of consular employees shall, if they do not carry on any other gainful occupation in the receiving State, be exempt from the obligations referred to in Paragraph 1 of this Article.

Article 24

1. Consular officers and consular employees and members of their families forming part of their households shall be exempt from all dues and taxes, personal or real, national, regional or municipal, except:

- a) indirect taxes of a kind which are normally incorporated in the price of goods or services;
- b) dues or taxes on private immovable property situated in the territory of the receiving State;
- c) estate, succession or inheritance duties, and duties on transfers, levied by the receiving State, subject to the provisions of Paragraph 2 of Article 26;
- d) dues and taxes on private income, including capital gains, having its source in the receiving State and capital taxes relating to investments made in commercial or financial undertakings in the receiving State;
- e) charges levied for specific services rendered;
- f) registration, court or record fees, mortgage dues and stamp duties.

2. Members of the service staff shall be exempt from dues and taxes on the wages which they receive from the sending State for their services.

3. Members of the consular post who employ persons whose wages or salaries are not exempt from income tax in the receiving State shall observe the obligations which the laws and regulations of that State impose upon employers concerning the levying of income tax.

4. Members of the consular post and members of the staff of the diplomatic mission of the sending State shall be exempt from all taxes incident to the licensing, registration, use or circulation of their vehicles.

Article 25

1. The receiving State shall, in accordance with such laws and regulations as it may adopt, permit entry of and grant exemption from all customs duties, taxes and related charges other than charges for storage, cartage and similar services, on:

- a) articles for the official use of the consular post;
- b) articles for the personal use of a consular officer or members of his family forming part of his household, including articles intended for his establishment. The articles intended for consumption shall not exceed the quantities necessary for direct utilization by the persons concerned.

2. Consular employees shall enjoy the privileges and exemptions specified in sub-paragraph *b*) of Paragraph 1 of this Article in respect of articles imported at the time of first installation.

3. Personal baggage accompanying consular officers and members of their families forming part of their households shall be exempt from inspection. It may be inspected only if there is serious reason to believe that it contains articles other than those referred to in sub-paragraph *b*) of Paragraph 1 of this Article, or articles the import or export of which is prohibited by the laws and regulations of the receiving State or which are subject to its quarantine laws and regulations. Such inspection shall be carried out in the presence of the consular officer or member of his family concerned.

Article 26

In the event of the death of a member of the consular post or of a member of his family forming part of his household, the receiving State:

- 1) shall permit the export of the movable property of the deceased, with the exception of any such property acquired in the receiving State the export of which was prohibited at the time of his death;

- 2) shall not levy national, regional or municipal estate, succession or inheritance duties, and duties on transfers, on movable property the presence of which in the receiving State was due solely to the presence in that State of the deceased as a member of the consular post or as a member of the family of a member of the consular post.

Article 27

The receiving State shall exempt members of the consular post and members of their families forming part of their households from all personal services, from all public service of any kind whatsoever, including jury duty, and from military obligations such as those connected with requisitioning, military contributions and billeting.

Article 28

Without prejudice to their privileges and immunities, it is the duty of all persons enjoying such privileges and immunities to respect the laws and regulations of the receiving State, especially traffic regulations.

Article 29

Members of the consular post shall comply with any requirement imposed by the laws and regulations of the receiving State in respect of insurance against third party risks arising from the use of any vehicle, vessel or aircraft.

PART IV

CONSULAR FUNCTIONS

Article 30

A consular officer shall be permitted within his consular district:

- 1) to issue and amend visas and passports and to issue such notices to, and receive such declarations from, a national of the sending State as may be required under the laws of the sending State;
- 2) to prepare, attest, receive the acknowledgments of, certify, authenticate, legalize, and, in general, take such action as may be necessary to perfect or to validate any act, document or instrument of a legal character, as well as copies thereof, including commercial documents, declarations, registrations, testamentary dispositions and contracts, whenever such services are required by a national of the sending State for use outside the territory of the receiving State or by any person for use in the territory of the sending State;

- 3) to take any evidence in commercial and civil matters on behalf of the courts of the sending State, voluntarily given by any person in the receiving State, and administer oaths to such persons, in accordance with the laws of the sending State;
- 4) to obtain copies of or extracts from documents of public registry;
- 5) to inquire of local authorities on behalf of a national of the sending State into matters concerning his person, holdings or interests, especially shares in estates, pension rights, insurance or workmen's compensation benefits;
- 6) to further the commercial, artistic, scientific, professional, cultural and educational interests of the sending State.

Article 31

1. In the case of the death of a national of the sending State in the territory of the receiving State, without leaving in the territory of his decease any known heir or testamentary executor, the appropriate local authorities of the receiving State shall as promptly as possible inform a consular officer of the sending State.

2. Consular officers of the sending State may, if authorized by the appropriate judicial authorities and if permissible under the law of the receiving State:

- a) take provisional custody of the personal property left by a deceased national of the sending State, provided that the decedent shall have left in the receiving State no heir or testamentary executor appointed by the decedent to take care of his personal estate; provided that such provisional custody shall be relinquished to a duly appointed administrator;
- b) at their request, obtain copies of all documents filed with a court relating to the administration of an estate of a deceased national of the sending State who is not a resident of the receiving State at the time of his death, who leaves no testamentary executor and who leaves in the receiving State no heir;
- c) protect the interests of a national of the sending State in an estate in the receiving State, provided that such national is not a resident of the receiving State, unless or until such national is otherwise represented. However, nothing herein shall be interpreted as authorizing a consular officer to act as an attorney at law.

3. Unless prohibited by law, consular officers may, within the discretion of the court, agency or person making distribution, receive for transmission to a national of the sending State who is not a resident of the receiving State any money or property to which such national is entitled as a consequence of the death

of another person. This money or property may include shares in an estate, payments made pursuant to workmen's compensation laws, pension and social benefits systems in general, and proceeds of life insurance policies. The court, agency, or person making distribution may require that a consular officer comply with conditions laid down with regard to:

- a) presenting a power of attorney or other authorization from such non-resident national,
- b) furnishing evidence of the receipt of such money or property by such national, and
- c) returning the money or property in the event he is unable to furnish such evidence.

4. Whenever a consular officer performs the functions referred to in Paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article, he shall be subject, with respect to the exercise of such functions, to the laws of the receiving State and to the jurisdiction of the judicial and administrative authorities of the receiving State in the same manner and to the same extent as a national of the receiving State.

Article 32

1. Consular officers may take all appropriate measures to enforce the shipping laws of the sending State and for this purpose may visit vessels and be visited by the masters and crews of vessels of the sending State. They may also visit vessels of any registry destined to a port of the sending State to execute documents or to request information required by the sending State.

2. Without prejudice to the superior right of the administrative and judicial authorities of the receiving State to take cognizance of crimes or offenses which disturb the peace of the port or to enforce the laws of the receiving State applicable to vessels of any state within its waters, consular officers may exercise jurisdiction pursuant to the laws of the sending State over controversies, including wage and contract disputes and disciplinary offenses, aboard vessels of the sending State which are in the waters of the receiving State, and may also conduct investigations and convene boards of inquiry. Consular officers may request the assistance of competent authorities of the receiving State in performance of such duties.

3. a) If it is the intention of the authorities of the receiving State to arrest or otherwise detain in custody any person on board a vessel under the flag of the sending State who is not a national of the receiving State, including an officer or

crew member thereof, the master or other officer acting on his behalf shall be given an opportunity to inform a consular officer of the sending State and, unless this is impossible on account of the urgency of the matter, to inform him in such time as to enable the consular officer to be present if he so desires;

b) when the authorities of the receiving State make such an arrest or seize any property aboard such a vessel under the flag of the sending State and a consular officer is not present, they shall inform a consular officer of the sending State thereof and shall accord him full opportunity to visit and communicate with the person arrested and to take the measures necessary to safeguard the interests of such person or such vessel.

4. If a vessel of the sending State is wrecked in waters of the receiving State, the appropriate authorities of the receiving State shall inform a consular officer and shall take all practicable measures for the preservation and protection of the vessel, persons and property on board. If the owner, or anyone he has authorized to act for him, is unable to make necessary arrangements in connection with the vessel or its cargo, the consular officer may make arrangements on his behalf. The consular officer may under similar circumstances make appropriate arrangements in connection with cargo owned by nationals of the sending State and found or brought into port from a wrecked vessel of other registry, except a vessel of the receiving State. No customs duties shall be levied against a wrecked vessel of the sending State, or its cargo or stores unless they are delivered for use in the receiving State.

5. The term "vessel", as used herein, means all types of vessels, whether privately owned or operated, or publicly owned or operated; but this term does not, except with reference to Paragraph 4 of this Article, include vessels of war.

Article 33

1. For the purpose of the protection of the nationals of the sending State and their property and interests, consular officers shall have the right, among other things:

- a) to interview, communicate with and advise nationals of the sending State;
- b) to inquire into incidents affecting the interests of these nationals;

c) to assist these nationals in dealing with the authorities of the receiving State and, where necessary, arrange for legal assistance for them.

2. For the purposes set forth in Paragraph 1 of this Article, consular officers shall have the right to address themselves to the competent authorities of their consular district and, in the absence of a diplomatic agent of the sending State, to the central authorities of the receiving State.

3. Nationals of the sending State shall have the right at all times to communicate with appropriate consular officers and, unless they are under detention, to have access to consular posts of the sending State.

Article 34

1. The competent authorities of the receiving State shall immediately inform a consular officer of the arrest and detention in his consular district of all nationals of the sending State who request them to do so. Such notification shall also be given at the request of a consular officer, unless the nationals concerned do not desire such notification. A consular officer shall have the right to visit such detained nationals, conforming to penal regulations, and to converse with them with a view to taking all necessary steps for their legal defense.

2. All communications addressed to a consular officer by such nationals shall be forwarded to him by the competent authorities.

3. When a national of the sending State has been convicted and is serving a sentence of imprisonment, a consular officer in the consular district where he is imprisoned shall have the right to visit him after the authorization of the competent authority. Such visits must enable the consular officer to converse with the prisoner, in conformity with penal regulations.

Article 35

In addition to the functions specified in this Convention, a consular officer shall be permitted to perform such other consular and related functions as are recognized by the receiving State as being appropriate to his office.

PART V

CONSULAR AGENTS

Article 36

1. Consular agents shall be permitted to exercise their functions upon the approval of the receiving State.

2. Under the same conditions, they may be granted the title of honorary consul. In such case, the provisions of Articles 37, 38 and 39 shall be applicable.

Article 37

Consular agents may, in addition to their consular functions, engage in a gainful occupation in the receiving State.

Article 38

The consular archives and documents of a consular agency shall be inviolable at all times, provided that they are kept separate from other papers and documents and, in particular, from the private correspondence of the consular agent and of any person working with him, and from the materials, books and documents relating to their profession or business.

Article 39

Consular agents shall be entitled only to such facilities, privileges and immunities as may be granted to them by the receiving State. However, the provisions of Articles 19 and 20 shall be applicable to such persons.

PART VI

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 40

1. Members of the diplomatic staff of the diplomatic missions of the High Contracting Parties who are authorized to exercise consular functions in accordance with the provisions of this Convention shall be entitled to the rights and shall be subject to the obligations of consular officers provided for in the present Convention.

2. Except as provided in Paragraph 4 of Article 31 of this Convention, the performance of consular functions by the persons referred to in Paragraph 1 of this Article shall not affect the diplomatic privileges and immunities granted to them as members of the diplomatic mission.

Article 41

1. Except in so far as additional facilities, privileges and immunities may be granted by the receiving State, members of the consular post who are nationals of or permanently resident in the receiving State or who engage in any private

gainful occupation in the receiving State shall enjoy only the immunities provided by Article 19 and 20 of the present Convention.

2. a) Members of the families of the persons referred to in Paragraph 1 of this Article shall enjoy facilities, privileges and immunities only in so far as these are granted to them by the receiving State;

b) members of the family of a member of the consular post who are themselves nationals or permanent residents of the receiving State or who engage in any private gainful occupation shall enjoy facilities, privileges and immunities only in so far as these are granted to them by the receiving State.

3. The receiving State shall exercise its jurisdiction over the persons referred to in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article in such a way as not to hinder unduly the performance of the functions of the consular post.

Article 42

The present Convention shall replace and terminate the Consular Convention signed at Washington on February 23, 1853.¹

Article 43

1. The present Convention shall be ratified. It shall enter into force one month after the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which shall take place at Washington.

2. The present Convention shall have an initial term of ten years. It shall remain in force thereafter until either High Contracting Party terminates it by giving one year's written notice to the other High Contracting Party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Convention and have hereunto affixed their seals.

DONE in duplicate, in the English and French languages, both texts being equally authentic, at Paris, this eighteenth day of July, one thousand nine hundred sixty-six.

Charles E. BOHLEN

[SEAL]

M. COUVE DE MURVILLE

[SEAL]

¹ *British and Foreign State Papers*, vol. 55, p. 718.

PROTOCOL

The undersigned Plenipotentiaries, duly authorized by their respective Governments, have also agreed upon the following provision, which forms an integral part of the Consular Convention between the United States of America and France dated the eighteenth of July, one thousand nine hundred sixty-six.

The provisions of Article 13 shall also apply to the lands and buildings held by the sending State for the residences of members of its diplomatic or consular posts or for official information and cultural activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Protocol and have hereunto affixed their seals.

DONE in duplicate, in the English and French languages, the two texts being equally authentic, at Paris, this eighteenth day of July, one thousand nine hundred sixty-six.

Charles E. BOHLEN

M. COUVE DE MURVILLE

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS

I

July 18, 1966

Excellency:

At the time of signing the Consular Convention between France and the United States, I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that with respect to the official information and cultural activities referred to in the Protocol annexed to this Convention, the United States will, subject to reciprocity, be exempt from all direct taxes of a personal nature in French territory.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my high consideration.

M. COUVE DE MURVILLE

His Excellency The Honorable Charles E. Bohlen
Ambassador of the United States of America
Paris

II

July 18, 1966

Excellency:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's note of July 18, 1966 which reads as follows:

[See letter I]

I am authorized to inform Your Excellency that my Government is happy to take due note of these provisions.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my high consideration.

Charles E. BOHLEN

His Excellency M. Maurice Couve de Murville
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Paris

III

July 18, 1966

Excellency:

At the time of signing the present Consular Convention between France and the United States, I have the honor to call Your Excellency's attention to the following:

The new system under the Convention will put an end to the taxes claimed in France from American cultural centers (payment of 5 per cent on wages and personal property tax) and, in the United States, the taxes on real property belonging to France and used for consular purposes, as well as on certain property owned by France which is located outside Washington, D.C., and which it uses for official information and cultural activities.

With regard to the back taxes claimed in our two countries, each of the two Governments will take the necessary steps to arrive, in so far as possible at a mutually satisfactory solution of this problem.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my high consideration.

M. COUVE DE MURVILLE

His Excellency The Honorable Charles E. Bohlen
Ambassador of the United States of America
Paris

IV

July 18, 1966

Excellency:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's note of July 18, 1966, which reads as follows:

[See letter III]

I am authorized to inform Your Excellency that the terms of this note meet with the approval of the United States Government.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my high consideration.

Charles E. BOHLEN

His Excellency M. Maurice Couve de Murville
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Paris