

No. 14520

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
and
AUSTRALIA**

Exchange of notes constituting an agreement relating to the transfer of a research facility for the purpose of studying aerospace disturbances. Canberra, 31 January and 26 February 1975

Authentic text: English.

Registered by the United States of America on 31 December 1975.

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

Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif au transfert d'installations de recherches destinées à l'étude des perturbations dans l'espace atmosphérique et extra-atmosphérique. Canberra, 31 janvier et 26 février 1975

Texte authentique : anglais.

Enregistré par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 31 décembre 1975.

EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND AUSTRALIA RELATING
TO THE TRANSFER OF A RESEARCH FACILITY FOR THE PURPOSE
OF STUDYING AEROSPACE DISTURBANCES

I

*The American Chargé d'Affaires ad interim to the Australian
Minister for Foreign Affairs*

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
CANBERRA

January 31, 1975

Excellency:

I have the honor to refer to the Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the United States of America effected by an Exchange of Notes on 12 April, 1965,² regarding the establishment and operation of a facility at the R.A.A.F. Base at Amberley, Queensland, and the extension of an existing facility at the R.A.A.F. Base at Pearce, Western Australia (the latter facility now being covered by an Exchange of Notes of 31 October, 1972,³ between the Government of Australia and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) for the purpose of measuring the physical effects of disturbances in the atmosphere or in space.

As a result of recent discussions which have taken place between representatives of our two Governments, the Government of the United States of America discontinued operation of the facility at the R.A.A.F. Base at Amberley on 15 July, 1974. This facility, which uses infra-sound techniques to study activity in the upper reaches of the atmosphere and outer space, has been transferred to the Australian National University for use in the study of these phenomena, including auroral activity, and their relations to weather and communications. Prior to their departure from Australia, United States Air Force personnel stationed at the R.A.A.F. Base at Amberley provided technical assistance to the Australian National University in the reestablishment of the facility at Tennant Creek where it can be combined with other University activities. The transfer of the facility to the Australian National University having been completed, the Government of the United States of America shall have no further right, title, or interest in the facility, nor has it any further responsibility for its operation or maintenance.

The Australian National University will have unrestricted use of data derived from its operation of the facility. Such data which indicates possible nuclear activity however, and thus is of possible value in monitoring compliance with the 1963 Treaty⁴ Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Under Water, will be transmitted to the Government of the United States of America for study. It is understood that the Australian Government may have a requirement for this data and that it will enter into an arrangement with the Australian National University for provision of this data upon request.

¹ Came into force on 26 February 1975, the date of the note in reply, in accordance with the provisions of the said notes.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 545, p. 370.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. 904, p. 87.

⁴ *Ibid.*, vol. 480, p. 43.

The Australian National University will also undertake a research program into upper atmospheric and atmospheric activities and disturbances pursuant to a scientific research grant which has been negotiated with the University under which it is anticipated that the United States Air Force will contribute a total of US\$91,800 over a period of three years. Any action required to be taken under the terms of this proposal will be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

If the foregoing is acceptable to the Government of Australia, I have the honor to propose that this note and your affirmative reply thereto shall constitute an Agreement between our two Governments which shall terminate the aforementioned Agreement effected by the Exchange of Notes of 12 April, 1965, as well as the Agreement of 3 January, 1964,¹ referred to therein.

This Agreement shall enter into force upon the date of your reply.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

[Signed]

WILLIAM C. HARROP
Chargé d'Affaires a.i

Senator the Honorable Donald Robert Willesee
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Canberra, A.C.T

II

MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
CANBERRA

26 February 1975

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Note of 31 January 1975, the text of which reads as follows:

[See note I]

I have the honour to inform you that the foregoing is acceptable to the Government of Australia and that your Note together with this reply shall constitute an Agreement between our two Governments which will terminate the Agreements between our two Governments of 12 April 1965 and 3 January 1964 referred to in your Note and which will enter into force on today's date.

Please accept, Sir, the assurances of my high consideration.

[Signed — Signé]²

Mr. William Harrop
Chargé d'Affaires a.i
Embassy of the United States of America
Yarralumla, A.C.T.

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 505, p. 159.

² Signed by Donald R. Willesee — Signé par Donald R. Willesee.