

No. 16257

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
and
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC**

Exchange of notes constituting an agreement relating to embassy telecommunication facilities (with information sheet). Washington, 13 November 1974 and 15 May 1975

Authentic text: English.

Registered by the United States of America on 27 January 1978.

**ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE
et
RÉPUBLIQUE ARABE SYRIENNE**

Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif à l'installation de moyens de télécommunications dans leurs ambassades respectives (avec bulletin d'information). Washington, 13 novembre 1974 et 15 mai 1975

Texte authentique : anglais.

Enregistré par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 27 janvier 1978.

EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC RELATING TO EMBASSY TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITIES

I

The Department of State refers to note DS-14 5/74 dated May 14, 1974, from the Embassy of Pakistan, Syrian Interests Section, requesting permission to install and operate a radio transmitter in the Syrian Interests Section in Washington and also to the Department's note of June 6, 1974, in response.

United States intra-governmental procedural formalities, referred to in the Department's note of June 6, have been completed. Accordingly, it is suggested it now be agreed that the Government of Syria may install and operate a low-power radio station in the fixed service at or near the site of its Embassy in Washington for the transmission of its official messages to points outside the United States; and that the Government of the United States may operate a low-power radio station in the fixed service at or near the site of its own Embassy in Syria, for the transmission of its official messages to points outside Syria.

The Department of State is also pleased to furnish the Embassy the enclosed information sheet, which describes technical data requirements which will be needed to be submitted prior to issuance of the necessary authorization for the operation of a radio transmitter.

The Department of State will consider the present note and the Embassy's reply concurring therein as constituting an agreement in principle between the two Governments, which will enter into force on the date of the reply note.

Enclosure:
Information Sheet

Washington, November 13, 1974

Department of State

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS AND INFORMATION ASSOCIATED WITH ESTABLISHMENT OF EMBASSY RADIO FACILITIES IN WASHINGTON

The operation of radio transmitting facilities by Embassies in Washington is expected to create a number of technical problems. These are:

1. *Radio interference, due to multiplicity of usages assigned the same frequency.* A critical shortage of frequencies exists within the United States. All frequencies are presently assigned, usually for several different purposes. Therefore, future frequency assignments may be on a shared basis with existing assignments. With this situation, it is inevitable that some radio interference among the users will be experienced.

2. *Mutual interference between Embassy radio facilities.* This interference is expected despite actual differences in frequency assignments to the various Embassy facilities. The cause is related to the close proximity of the Embassies, and the lack of shielding between antennae.

¹ Came into force on 15 May 1975, the date of the note in reply, in accordance with the provisions of the said notes.

3. *Complaints from the citizens living in the area of interference to TV and/or radio reception.*

This problem stems from the proximity of the public and the Embassy transmitting facility, and the spurious and harmonic emissions frequently associated with radio transmitters. This problem will be magnified as additional Embassies begin operating their radio transmitter, or if any improperly adjusted or poorly designed transmitters or systems are employed. Normally, the magnitude of the problem is related to the radiated power of the transmitter.

The Government of the United States seeks the active cooperation of all Embassies in adopting measures designed to minimize the above anticipated problems. Implementation of the following suggestion, where compatible with operating necessity, will be mutually beneficial to the Embassies with radio facilities:

1. In the submission of the technical proposal, specify the periods of the day it is desired to operate the transmitter, e.g., 1 hour between 8:00–12:00 A.M. and 1 hour between 4:00–7:00 P.M. This will facilitate selection of frequencies most likely to propagate at the time desired. It also will permit time sharing of the frequencies, i.e., the use of these frequencies at other times by other users of the spectrum.
2. Reduce desired hours of operation to a minimum, thereby increasing frequency sharing possibilities as well as reducing potential interference problems.
3. Use a narrow-bandwidth transmission system, i.e., continuous wave (CW) instead of radio teletype. Frequencies for CW are more readily obtainable. Moreover, CW will provide more reliable communications than radio teletype. Only CW and/or Radio Teletype transmission is authorized.
4. When operating, reduce the transmitter power to that necessary to maintain reliable communications.
5. Utilize high-quality transmitter and antenna components and ensure system is designed and installed to the high standards required by the circumstances.

The Government of the United States respectfully requests that the radio facilities of the Embassy be operated in strict conformity with the Radio Regulations of the International Telecommunication Union. The Government of the United States will register the frequencies' usage with the ITU. To facilitate this registration, as well as to provide the technical data which must be considered prior to issuance of a license, it is requested the following information be included in the technical proposal of the Embassy:

1. Proposed frequencies. In lieu of proposing the assignment of specific frequencies, the Embassy is encouraged to specify desired frequency bands, leaving the selection of specific frequencies to frequency engineers of the U.S. The frequencies must be in the bands authorized by the ITU for the Fixed Service.
2. Class of station, fixed.
3. Emission (bandwidth and type).
4. Transmitter location.
5. Receiver point(s).
6. Mean power of transmitter to antenna.
7. Type of antenna.
8. Hours of operation (from to, from to

The Government of the United States will assign the call sign to be used by the Embassy in Washington.

The Zoning Administrator of the District of Columbia has informed the Department of State that a building permit is not required for the erection of antennas if they are mounted on the roof of the Embassy/Chancery, and provided the antenna is mounted on a pole or mast which does not exceed 20 feet in length. The height of the Embassy/Chancery is not pertinent. If the antenna is mounted in any other manner, a building permit from the District of Columbia will be required.

Under District of Columbia Zoning regulations, a building permit would be required for an antenna-supporting structure. If it is less than 40 feet in height a permit may be obtained from the Zoning Administrator. If the supporting structure is over 40 feet, a variance in the Zoning Regulations must be sought from the District of Columbia Board of Zoning Adjustment. Mr. Hampton Davis, Room 1044 — State Department, telephone 632-7984, will assist, if desired, in making arrangements with the District of Columbia authorities. Also, inquiries concerning these matters may be made in 127, District Building, 14th and E Streets, N.W., or by telephone to the Zoning Division, NA9-4042.

Upon approval by the U.S. Government of the technical details submitted by the Embassy, authorization to operate the radio facility will be granted. At that time the Department of State will desire to be notified of the Embassy transmitter activation date. Further, it will be desired that an Embassy point of contact be designated in order that any resulting interference may be cleared immediately. The Embassy will be furnished a point of contact within the Department where it may report cases of interference to its operations.

II

The Syrian Embassy to the Department of State

EMBASSY OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC
WASHINGTON, D.C.

May 15, 1975

DS-48

The Embassy of the Syrian Arab Republic presents its compliments to the Department of State and in reference to the Department's note dated November 13, 1974, which was forwarded to the Embassy of Pakistan, Syrian Interests Section, concerning the installation and operation of a radio transmitter in the Syrian Embassy in Washington, the Embassy has the honor to inform the Department of State that the Syrian Government has agreed that the United States of America Government may operate a low-power radio station in the fixed service of its embassy in Damascus for the transmission of its official messages to points outside the Syrian Arab Republic, and that the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic may install and operate a low-power radio station in the fixed service at or near the site of its embassy in the United States for the transmission of its official messages to points outside the United States.

The Syrian Embassy is also sending back the information sheet, after being filled with the technical data requirements.

The Embassy of the Syrian Arab Republic avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Department of State the assurances of its highest consideration.

Department of State
Protocol Office
Washington, D.C.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES RAISED BY THE U.S. STATE DEPT. IN CONNECTION WITH THE INSTALLATION OF RADIO STATION IN THE SYRIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

1. Proposed frequency band: 15-16 MHZ, day time; 9-10 MHZ, night time.
2. Class of station: fixed.

3. Emission: F1 (radio telytype).
4. Transmitter and receiver location: Syrian Embassy in Washington, D.C.
5. Mean power of transmitter to antenna: 1KW (PEP), or 500 Watts average.
6. Type of antenna:
 - log periodic;
 - frequency range: 6–30 MHZ;
 - gain: 11db;
 - height: 20 ft.
7. Hours of operation: 9–10 AM, GMT; 8–9 PM GMT.

N.B. If the requested time of operation is not suitable for the State Dept. we are here to beg the State Dept. to assign another time which should be suitable.
