

No. 18179

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
and
LIBERIA**

Exchange of notes constituting an agreement relating to jurisdiction over vessels in United States deepwater ports. Washington, 27 October 1978 and 15 January 1979

Authentic text: English.

Registered by the United States of America on 5 December 1979.

**ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE
et
LIBÉRIA**

Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif aux juridictions compétentes à l'égard des navires se trouvant dans des ports en eau profonde des États-Unis d'Amérique. Washington, 27 octobre 1978 et 15 janvier 1979

Texte authentique : anglais.

Enregistré par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 5 décembre 1979.

EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹
BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND LIBERIA
RELATING TO JURISDICTION OVER VESSELS IN UNITED
STATES DEEPWATER PORTS

I

October 27, 1978

Excellency:

I have the honor to refer to the discussions which have taken place between representatives of our two Governments in connection with the establishment of deepwater ports off the coast of the United States and the jurisdictional requirements of the United States Deepwater Port Act of 1974, and to confirm that the two governments are in agreement that vessels registered in or flying the flag of Liberia and the personnel on board such vessels utilizing the Louisiana Offshore Oil Port (LOOP, Inc.), a deepwater port facility established under the Deepwater Port Act of 1974 for the purposes stated therein, shall, whenever they may be present within the safety zone of such deepwater port, be subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and Liberia, on the same basis as when in coastal ports of the United States.

It is the understanding of the Government of the United States and of the Government of Liberia that this agreement shall not apply to vessels registered in or flying the flag of Liberia merely passing through the safety zone of the Louisiana Offshore Oil Port without calling at or otherwise utilizing the port.

If the foregoing is acceptable to your Government, I have the honor to propose that this note, together with your reply thereto, shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments, to enter into force upon the date of your reply to that effect, and to remain in force until terminated by six months' written notice by either party to the other.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

For the Secretary of State:

JAMES R. ATWOOD

His Excellency Francis A. Dennis
Ambassador of Liberia

¹ Came into force on 15 January 1979, the date of the note in reply, in accordance with the provisions of the said notes.

II

EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

Washington, January 15, 1979

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Excellency:

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Note of October 27, 1978, the terms of which are as follows:

[*See note I*]

I have the honour to state that the Liberian Government agrees to this arrangement and will regard your Note and this reply as constituting an agreement between our respective Governments on these matters.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

[*Signed*]

FRANCIS A. DENNIS
Ambassador

His Excellency Cyrus R. Vance
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C.
