

No. 20881

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
and  
ISRAEL**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement concerning  
claims arising from damage to the United States ship  
*Liberty*. Washington, 15 and 17 December 1980**

*Authentic text: English.*

*Registered by the United States of America on 1 March 1982.*

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

**Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif à des de-  
mandes d'indemnisation pour les dommages causés au  
navire américain *Liberty*. Washington, 15 et 17 dé-  
cembre 1980**

*Texte authentique : anglais.*

*Enregistré par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 1<sup>er</sup> mars 1982.*

EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN  
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ISRAEL CONCERNING  
CLAIMS ARISING FROM DAMAGE TO THE UNITED STATES SHIP  
*LIBERTY*

I

*The Israeli Ambassador to the Secretary of State*

EMBASSY OF ISRAEL  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

שגרירות ישראל  
ושינגטון

15 December 1980

AO/315

The Ambassador of Israel presents his compliments to the Secretary of State and has the honour to refer to the Embassy's note of 22 February 1978 and to consequent exchange of notes concerning physical damage to the U.S. ship *Liberty* on 8 June 1967.

Without prejudice to the legal position of the Government of Israel and to the question of liability for the tragic event, the Government of Israel has the honour to propose as full and final settlement of the U.S. claim that Israel pay the United States Government the sum of \$6,000,000 (six million dollars) to be paid in three annual payments of \$2,000,000 each, commencing 15 January 1981.

The Ambassador of Israel avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary of State the assurances of his highest consideration.

The Honorable Edmund S. Muskie  
The Secretary of State  
The Department of State  
Washington, D.C.

II

*The Secretary of State to the Israeli Ambassador*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

December 17, 1980

Excellency:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note No. AO/315 of December 15, 1980 relating to the U.S. ship *Liberty*, which reads as follows:

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 17 December 1980 by the exchange of the said notes.

[*See note 1*]

I have the honor to inform you that the Government of the United States agrees with your proposed settlement and that your note and my reply thereto constitute the agreement of our two Governments concerning this matter.

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

For the Secretary of State:  
[*Signed — Signé*]<sup>1</sup>

His Excellency Ephraim Evron  
Ambassador of Israel

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<sup>1</sup> Signed by David D. Newsom — Signé par David D. Newsom.