

No. 21803

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
and
NETHERLANDS**

Exchange of notes constituting an agreement concerning the jurisdiction of the United States over Netherlands vessels utilizing the Louisiana Offshore Oil Port (LOOP). Washington, 9 and 16 March 1981

Authentic text: English.

Registered by the United States of America on 31 March 1983.

**ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE
et
PAYS-BAS**

Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif à la juridiction des Etats-Unis sur les navires néerlandais utilisant le port pétrolier en mer au large de la Louisiane (LOOP). Washington, 9 et 16 mars 1981

Texte authentique : anglais.

Enregistré par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 31 mars 1983.

EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹
BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE
NETHERLANDS CONCERNING THE JURISDICTION OF
THE UNITED STATES OVER NETHERLANDS VESSELS
UTILIZING THE LOUISIANA OFFSHORE OIL PORT (LOOP)

I

The Secretary of State to the Dutch Ambassador

Mar. 9, 1981

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 the Kingdom of the Netherlands 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 of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, 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 the Kingdom of the Netherlands that this agreement shall not apply to vessels registered in or flying the flag of the Netherlands 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 honour to propose that this Note, together with your reply thereto indicating acceptance, shall constitute an agreement between the United States of America and the Kingdom of the Netherlands, which shall enter into force on the date on which the Government of the United States receives from the Government of the Netherlands notice that the procedures constitutionally required therefor in the Kingdom of the Netherlands have been fulfilled, and shall 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 FERRER

His Excellency Dr. Jan H. Lubbers
Ambassador of the Netherlands

¹ Came into force on 2 November 1981, the date on which the Government of the United States received from the Government of the Netherlands notice of the completion of its required constitutional procedures, in accordance with the provisions of the said notes.

II

The Dutch Ambassador to the Secretary of State

Washington, D.C., March 16, 1981

VA/3240

Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Note of March 9, 1981, the terms of which are as follows:

[*See note I*]

I have the honour to state that the Netherlands Government agrees to this arrangement and will regard your Note and this reply as constituting an agreement between our two countries, which shall enter into force on the date on which the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands notifies the Government of the United States that the procedures constitutionally required therefor in the Kingdom of the Netherlands have been fulfilled, and shall 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.

[*Signed*]

J. H. LUBBERS
Ambassador of the Netherlands

The Honorable Alexander M. Haig, Jr.
Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D.C.
