



Treaty Series No. 73 (1955)

Exchange of Notes

between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Egypt supplementing the Agreement of the 19th of October, 1954

regarding the Suez Canal Base
(together with Agreed Minute)

Cairo, May 3, 1955

*Presented by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to Parliament
by Command of Her Majesty
November 1955*

LONDON
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

FOURPENCE NET

Cmd. 9600

EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF EGYPT SUPPLEMENTING THE AGREEMENT OF THE 19th OF OCTOBER, 1954, REGARDING THE SUEZ CANAL BASE.

Cairo, May 3, 1955

No. 1.

Her Majesty's Ambassador at Cairo to the Egyptian Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs.

*British Embassy,
Cairo.*

May 3, 1955.

Excellency,

I have the honour to propose that the Agreement between our two Governments regarding the Suez Canal Base, signed in Cairo on the 19th of October, 1954,⁽¹⁾ should be supplemented by the addition of the following provisions:—

- (i) An additional serial to be inserted after serial 37 in Appendix A to Annex II, as follows:
“ 38. The families' accommodation at Fayid, known as Kensington Village ”.
 - (ii) Serial 38 to be added to the list of installations enumerated in Annex II, part A, paragraph 2 (A).
 - (iii) Serial 38 to be added to the list of installations enumerated in paragraph (G) of Appendix B to Annex II.
 - (iv) A footnote in the following terms to be appended to Appendix A and Appendix B to Annex II. “ Ownership of Kensington village (Serial 38) shall be transferred under paragraph 4 of Part A of Annex II, but possession thereof will be reserved rent-free for the accommodation of British technicians during the period of the present agreement.”
2. The geographical location and limits of Kensington Village are defined upon the enclosed map.
3. I have the honour further to propose that, in consideration for the use, rent free, of Kensington Village during the period of the said agreement, Her Majesty's Government shall, under the terms of Annex II part A, paragraph 4 of the Agreement, transfer to the Government of the Republic of Egypt assets in the Suez Canal Base area to an agreed value of £E400,000. To this end the following items shall be added to Appendix B to Annex II to the said agreement:

- (H) The Suez Canal Base Trunk Telephone System, comprising
- (i) all underground trunk cables and overhead trunk lines which provide communication between headquarters, stations, camps, depots, airfields and other installations in the Suez Canal Base;
 - (ii) all local underground and overhead distribution systems serving the installations mentioned at (i) above;
 - (iii) all static telephone exchanges and telephones connected either to the main trunk system or to local systems;
 - (iv) ancillary equipment associated with the exchanges mentioned at (iii) above and essential to their operation, i.e., distribution frames, internal cabling, relay banks, main and auxiliary power supplies, built in test equipment and facilities, but not including unit equipment, tools or maintenance spares.

⁽¹⁾ “ Treaty Series No. 67 (1955),” Cmd. 9586.

(I) The buildings erected by the British War Department at Cambrai Camp, as defined on the attached map*.

(J) Sixteen transportable hangars, located as follows:—

Fayid	...	...	...	...	4 Bellmans
Abu Sueir	...	...	...	...	3 Bellmans
Ismailia	...	...	...	...	1 Bellman
El Firdan	...	...	...	...	2 T2s and 1 Bellman
Kasfareet	...	...	...	...	1 Bellman
Kabrit	...	...	...	...	4 Bellmans

(K) Camp accommodation to be agreed between the British and Egyptian service authorities.

4. If the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the Government of the Republic of Egypt, I have the honour to suggest that this Note and your Excellency's reply to that effect shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments.

I avail, etc.,

RALPH SKRINE STEVENSON.

No. 2

The Egyptian Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Cairo.

*Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Cairo.*

May 3, 1955.

Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's Note of to-day's date reading as follows:—

[As in No. 1]

I have the honour in accepting these proposals to confirm that your Excellency's Note, together with this Note in reply shall constitute an agreement in that sense between the Government of the Republic of Egypt and the Government of the United Kingdom.

I avail, etc.,

A. K. SAID.

Agreed Minute

In connexion with the Notes exchanged this day amending certain provisions of the Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of the Republic of Egypt regarding the Suez Canal Base signed at Cairo on the 19th of October, 1954, the undersigned wish to record the following points of interpretation of the said Notes, upon which they are agreed:—

(A) Trunk Telephone System

(1) Ownership and possession of the trunk telephone system together with responsibility for its maintenance will be transferred to the Egyptian authorities in sections as and when their retention is no longer required by the British forces. Nevertheless, the British forces and the Egyptian authorities shall, on

* Not reproduced.

request, make available to each other, free of charge, circuits in the sections of the trunk telephone system in their respective ownership at any time, to the maximum extent compatible with their own requirements.

(2) The British forces will maintain up to the standard necessary to meet their current requirements all sections of the trunk telephone system remaining in their ownership and possession at any time.

(3) The British forces will supply to the Egyptian authorities, if available, such maintenance stores as the latter may require, against payment by the Egyptian authorities at standard British repayment rates.

(4) The State telephone exchange and associated telephones serving Rear General Headquarters Middle East Land Forces and Rear Headquarters Middle East Air Forces do not form part of the Suez Canal Base Trunk Telephone System.

(B) *Camp Accommodation*

(1) The following camps will be included among those to be transferred by Her Majesty's Government to the Government of the Republic of Egypt, in accordance with paragraph 3 of the said Notes:—

1. Copenhagen, Hodson and Joslin Camps, Suez, including Methodist Church and Beacon Club.
2. All-age School, Suez.
3. Churchill and Marshall Camps, Suez.
4. Swimming pool, Suez.
5. Mountain View Village, Suez.
6. Suez Bowl sports ground.
7. Millbank Hospital, Suez.
8. Thanet Camp, Suez.
9. Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes mineral water factory (with two tennis courts), Suez.
10. Two squash courts, Suez.
11. Starlight Cinema, Suez.
12. Bakery camp, Suez.
13. Education centre, Suez.
14. Medical centre, Suez.
15. Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes families shop, Suez.
16. Sangro Camp (part only) Kabrit.
17. St. Patrick's Camp, Kabrit.
18. Malta Camp, Qassassin.
19. Engineer Plant Dépôt, Qassassin.
20. Buller Camp, Gebel Maryam.
21. Ammunition sub-dépôt, Timsah.

(2) Further camps to be transferred to the agreed value of £E36,500 will be selected as soon as possible by agreement between the British and Egyptian service authorities.

Signed at Cairo this third day of May 1955 in duplicate.

RALPH SKRINE STEVENSON.

A. K. SAID.