

May 15, 1958

**EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MUTUAL
DEFENSE BOARD AND THE ASSIGNMENT OF MILITARY LIAISON
OFFICERS**

Note: The Agreement entered Into force, May 15, 1958.

Reference: This Agreement is also published in 316 UNTS, p. 163.

I

**THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO THE PHILIPPINE ACTING SECRETARY FOR
FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

Manila, May 15, 1958

No. 1152 .

Excellency:

I have the honor to refer to discussions which have recently taken place concerning the mutual desire of the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the United States to develop measures or arrangements which would enable the two Governments, through liaison and consultation on military matters of mutual concern by their appropriate military representatives, to carry out more effectively the specified purposes and objectives of the security and defense agreements which have been entered into between the two countries and thereby improve and enhance their common defense; and to confirm the understandings reached as a result of those discussions, as follows:

1) There is established under the Philippine-United States Council of Foreign Ministers provided by the Mutual Defense Treaty a permanent Philippine-United States Mutual Defense Board with terms of reference as set forth in Annex A, which is made an integral part of this agreement; and

2) There shall be assigned a Philippine Military Liaison Officer to the staff of the Base Commander of major military bases used by the United States and the Liaison Officer shall have terms of reference as set forth in Annex B, which is made an integral part of this agreement. If the foregoing is acceptable to Your Excellency's Government, I have the honor to propose that this note and Your Excellency's reply indicating concurrence shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments on this matter. Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

CHARLES E. BOHLEN

Enclosures:

1. Annex A—Philippine United States Mutual Defense Board;
2. Annex B—Philippine Military Liaison Officer.

ANNEX A

PHILIPPINE-UNITED STATES MUTUAL DEFENSE BOARD

1. Establishment of the Board

In consonance with the mutual desire of the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the United States to implement more effectively certain provisions of existing defense agreements between the two countries there is hereby established under the Philippine-United States Council of Foreign Ministers a permanent Philippine-United States Mutual Defense Board with headquarters at Manila. The Board shall report to the Council through the latter's military representatives.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this Board is to provide continuing intergovernmental machinery for direct liaison and consultation between appropriate Philippine and United States authorities on military matters of mutual concern so as to develop and improve, through continuing military cooperation, the common defense of the two sovereign countries.

3. Composition of the Board

a. The Board shall be composed of:

(1) For the Philippines:

(a) Co-chairman of the Board: The Chief of Staff, the Armed Forces of the Philippines, or a Flag or General Officer designated by him.

(b) Members of the Board: Chief, Philippine Constabulary; Commanding General, Philippine Army; Commanding General, Philippine Air Force; and Flag Officer in Command, Philippine Navy of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

(2) For the United States:

(a) Co-chairman of the Board: The United States Military Representative of the Council, or a Flag or General Officer designated by him.

(b) Members of the Board: The senior United States Service representatives of the Army, Navy and Air Force on duty in the Philippines and, if not already represented, the Chief, Joint United States Military Advisory Group.

b. The Board and the members' thereof may be assisted by such staff, military or civilian, as they consider appropriate.

4. Terms of Reference

The terms of reference of the Board shall be to consider, and by agreement between the Co-chairmen, to decide on matters within its competence as may be established by agreed policies and procedures, or when necessary, to recommend to their