

No. 5811

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND
and
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement concerning
the establishment, for scientific purposes, of a space
vehicle tracking and communications station in
Bermuda. Washington, 15 March 1961**

Official text: English.

*Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on
16 August 1961.*

**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD
et
ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif à la création
aux Bermudes, à des fins scientifiques, d'une station
pour le repérage des engins spatiaux et les communica-
tions avec ces engins. Washington, 15 mars 1961**

Texte officiel anglais.

*Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le
16 août 1961.*

No. 5811. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT, FOR SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES, OF A SPACE VEHICLE TRACKING AND COMMUNICATIONS STATION IN BERMUDA. WASHINGTON, 15 MARCH 1961

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The Secretary of State of the United States of America to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Washington

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, March 15, 1961

Excellency :

I have the honor to refer to the desire of the Government of the United States of America to conduct in Bermuda, through the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), certain tracking and communications activities required for Project Mercury. Project Mercury involves the installation and operation of a special world-wide tracking and communication system to provide information on the location and progress of a manned space capsule to be launched from a site in the United States and to permit the exercise of command functions for emergency or final landings of the space vehicle. It is contemplated that a number of ground stations will be established for such functions. One such station is desired in Bermuda.

The relatively small area required for such activities in Bermuda could be made available by the United States Air Force, during the period of the NASA Project, within the existing leased bases areas presently being utilized by the United States under the Leased Bases Agreement of March 27, 1941,² and subsequent related Agreements. The major function of the Bermuda

¹ Came into force on 15 March 1961 by the exchange of the said notes.

² League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. CCIV, p. 15.