

**No. 6784**

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**AUSTRALIA  
and  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**Agreement (with Protocol) concerning the status of United  
States Forces in Australia. Signed at Canberra, on  
9 May 1963**

*Official text: English.*

*Registered by Australia on 20 June 1963.*

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

**Accord (avec Protocole) concernant le statut des forces  
américaines en Australie. Signé à Canberra, le 9 mai  
1963**

*Texte officiel anglais.*

*Enregistré par l'Australie le 20 juin 1963.*

No. 6784. AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CONCERNING THE STATUS OF UNITED STATES FORCES IN AUSTRALIA. SIGNED AT CANBERRA, ON 9 MAY 1963

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The Government of the Commonwealth of Australia (in this Agreement called "the Australian Government") and the Government of the United States of America (in this Agreement called "the United States Government").

Recalling the Security Treaty which was concluded at San Francisco between Australia, New Zealand and the United States of America on the first day of September 1951;<sup>2</sup>

Considering that from time to time by arrangement between the Australian Government and the United States Government elements of the United States Forces and civilian components may be stationed in Australia;

Considering that the purpose of the presence of such United States Forces in Australia is the furtherance of the efforts of the two countries to promote peace and security in the Pacific and other areas of mutual interest;

Bearing in mind that the decision to station any such personnel in Australia, and the conditions under which they will be so stationed, will, insofar as such conditions are not laid down in the present Agreement, continue to be the subject of separate arrangements between the two Governments;

Desiring, however, to define the status of such personnel while in Australia;

Have agreed as follows :

*Article 1*

In this Agreement, except where the contrary intention appears :

"Australia" includes the territories under the authority of the Commonwealth of Australia;

"members of the United States Forces" means personnel belonging to the land, sea or air armed services of the United States in Australia in connection with activities agreed upon by the two Governments, other than those for whom status is provided otherwise than under this Agreement;

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 9 May 1963, the date of signature, in accordance with article 24 (1).

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 131, p. 83.

“ members of the civilian component ” means civilian personnel in Australia in connection with activities agreed upon by the two Governments who are neither nationals of, nor ordinarily resident in, Australia, but who are :

- (a) employed by the United States Forces or by military sales exchanges, commissaries, officers' clubs, enlisted men's clubs or other facilities established for the benefit or welfare of United States personnel and officially recognised by the United States authorities as non-appropriated fund activities; or
- (b) serving with an organisation which, with the approval of the Australian Government, is accompanying the United States Forces;

“ dependant ” means a person in Australia who is the spouse of, or other relative who depends for support upon, a member of the United States Forces or of the civilian component.

#### *Article 2*

(1) The Australian Government shall facilitate the admission of members of the United States Forces and of the civilian component and dependants into, and their departure from, Australia in connection with activities agreed upon by the two Governments.

(2) The undermentioned documents only, which must be presented on demand, shall be required in respect of members of the United States Forces seeking to enter Australia :

- (a) personal identity card issued by the appropriate United States authority showing full name, date of birth, rank and number (if any), service and photograph;
- (b) individual or collective movement order issued by an appropriate United States authority and certifying to the status of the individual or group as a member or members of the United States Forces; and
- (c) such documents conforming to standards approved by the World Health Organization as may be issued by the appropriate United States authorities in satisfaction of Australian health and quarantine regulations.

(3) Members of the civilian component and dependants shall be required to be in possession of a valid national passport and a certificate by the appropriate United States authority that the holder is a member of the civilian component or a dependant. The certificate will serve in lieu of a visa.

(4) The following additional conditions will apply with regard to the entry of members of the civilian component and dependants to any of the

Territories of Papua and New Guinea, Norfolk Island, Nauru, Cocos (Keeling) Islands or Christmas Island :

- (a) such persons travelling by ordinary commercial transport shall comply with the normal entry requirements of the Territory concerned, including, in the case of Papua and New Guinea and Nauru, prior application for a permit of entry;
- (b) where such persons are travelling by special transport, the United States authorities shall give the Australian authorities twenty-four hours notice of the arrival of such persons; such notice may be given in a collective movement order or nominal roll.

(5) Members of the United States Forces and of the civilian component and dependants shall be exempt from Australian regulations on registration and control of aliens, but shall not be considered as acquiring any right to permanent residence or domicile in Australia.

(6) If a person other than an Australian national admitted into Australia in accordance with this Agreement ceases while still in Australia to be a member of the United States Forces or of the civilian component or a dependant, the United States Government shall, within the framework of and subject to relevant United States laws and regulations, take steps to effect the departure from Australia of that person within thirty days of his so ceasing to be such a member or dependant, unless with the approval of the Australian Government other arrangements are made. Where the former member or dependant has not left Australia at the end of thirty days of his ceasing to be a member or dependant and no other arrangements have been approved by the Australian Government, the United States authorities shall thereupon inform the Australian Government, giving particulars as may be required. Similar notification shall be given to the Australian Government concerning any members of the United States Forces who, after having been admitted into Australia, absent themselves for more than twenty-one days, otherwise than on approved leave.

(7) If the Australian Government has requested the removal from Australia of a member of the United States Forces or of the civilian component or a dependant admitted in accordance with this Agreement or has made a deportation order against a former member or dependant who has not formally been granted permanent residence in Australia, the United States authorities shall be responsible for the transportation from Australia of the person concerned, and, where applicable, his dependants without cost to the Australian Government.

### *Article 3*

(1) The personal effects, furniture and household goods (other than motor vehicles and cigarettes, cigars, tobacco and spirituous liquors) of a member

of the United States Forces or of the civilian component or of a dependant, may, at the time of the first arrival of the member to take up service in Australia or in the case of a dependant at the time of the first arrival of the dependant to join a member, be brought into Australia free of import duty, including sales tax, provided that, except as authorised by the appropriate Australian authority, the personal effects, furniture and household goods are not disposed of in Australia, by way of sale or gift or otherwise, within the period of two years immediately after their importation.

(2) Regulation military uniforms may be imported by a member of the United States Forces for his personal use free of import duties, including sales tax.

(3) A motor vehicle owned and used outside Australia by a member of the United States Forces or of the civilian component during the period of six months immediately preceding his first departure for Australia shall be eligible for admission into Australia free of import duty, including sales tax, provided that the vehicle remains in the use, ownership and possession of that member or, with the permission of the appropriate Australian authority, of another member during the period of two years immediately after the date of its importation.

(4) A motor vehicle which is not covered by paragraph (3) of this Article and which is intended to be exported may be imported temporarily free of import duty, including sales tax, by a member of the United States Forces or of the civilian component for the personal use of the member, provided that the vehicle is exported within three years or within such extended period as may be approved. With the permission of the appropriate Australian authority, a vehicle imported under this paragraph may be transferred to another member provided that it is exported by the latter member within three years from the date of importation or within such extended period as may be approved.

(5) Security may be required for compliance with the provisions of this Article.

#### *Article 4*

(1) A member of the United States Forces who has not imported a motor vehicle into Australia under the provisions of paragraph (3) of Article 3 of this Agreement may, once during a tour of duty in Australia, purchase free of sales tax a motor vehicle manufactured or assembled in Australia provided that the vehicle remains in the use, ownership and possession of the member or, with the permission of the appropriate Australian authorities, of another member still