

**No. 7637**

---

**EUROPEAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION  
and  
FRANCE**

**Exchange of letters constituting an agreement for the  
firing of rockets from the Ile du Levant by the European  
Space Research Organisation. Paris, 30 July and 10  
August 1964**

*Official text: French.*

*Registered by the European Research Organisation on 11 March 1965.*

---

**ORGANISATION EUROPÉENNE DE RECHERCHES  
SPATIALES  
et  
FRANCE**

**Échange de lettres constituant un accord en vue de l'exécution  
par l'Organisation européenne de recherches spatiales de tirs de fusées à partir de l'île du Levant. Paris,  
30 juillet et 10 août 1964**

*Texte officiel français.*

*Enregistré par l'Organisation européenne de recherches spatiales le 11 mars 1965.*

## [TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 7637. EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE EUROPEAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION FOR THE FIRING OF ROCKETS FROM THE ILE DU LEVANT BY THE EUROPEAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION. PARIS, 30 JULY AND 10 AUGUST 1964

## I

G/VII/4-3/DRK/LK/905

30 July 1964

Sir,

I have the honour to confirm that it is the intention of the European Space Research Organisation (hereinafter called "the Organisation") to conduct, subject to the agreement of the Government of the French Republic, a number of firings of *Centaure* rockets from the Ile du Levant range (Special Vehicle Testing and Research Centre, hereinafter called *Ceres*), which is under the authority of the French Ministry of the Armies. I refer to the various preparatory talks which have been held between representatives of the Government of the French Republic and of the Organisation and I propose that the conditions governing these firings should be as follows :

1. The Organisation's launching programme at present provides for only two series of firings from the Ile du Levant, in October-November 1964 and March-May 1965. The provisions of this letter cover only these two series of firings of *Centaure* rockets. They may be renewed by common agreement at the end of the second series, by a further exchange of letters.

2. Subject to the following provisions and in order to make it possible to prepare and carry out the launchings and interpret the results, the Government of the French Republic shall make available to the Organisation certain equipment and facilities which are installed at the range or are under the range's authority and shall perform certain services for the Organisation.

3. The services referred to in paragraph 2 above shall include :

(a) The supply of means of military sea transport between Port-Pothuau and the Ile du Levant. In using these means of transport, the Organisation shall comply strictly with the directives issued by the commanding officer of *Ceres*;

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 15 August 1964, in accordance with the terms of the said letters.

- (b) The supply of the industrial fluids necessary for the trials (electricity, compressed air, water);
- (c) The supply and operation of such facilities for launching and for the use of the range as are necessary for the trials;
- (d) Subject to the conditions set forth in paragraph 9 below, the provision of means of subsistence for personnel participating in the trials on behalf or at the request of the Organisation;
- (e) Guarding of the facilities;
- (f) Development of films and execution of calculations relating to the plotting of trajectories;
- (g) Any other minor services deemed to be necessary by common agreement.

4. The Organisation may install its own equipment and that of its research workers in so far as this equipment is compatible with that already at the range and subject to the conditions laid down in the technical specifications referred to in paragraph 5 below. The French Ministry of the Armies shall in no case be liable for the cost of such installation. The invoices relating to the above-mentioned operations shall be submitted for settlement to the Organisation.

5. The duration and dates of the firing series shall be fixed by agreement between the Organisation and the French Ministry of the Armies.

The specific programme for each series shall be fixed by agreement between the Organisation and *Ceres* in a manner and within time-limits compatible with the methods as they are defined in the Instructions for the Preparation and Conduct of Test Series at *Ceres*.

The technical specifications for the facilities to be used shall be established by agreement between the Organisation and *Ceres* not less than two months before the start of each series.

Trial directions, describing in detail all the operations to be carried out before, during and after the launching, and the technical instructions relating to the use of the equipment shall be drawn up not less than one month before the date fixed for each launching. They shall, if necessary, make a distinction between operations which are the responsibility of the Organisation and those which are the responsibility of the Government of the French Republic. They shall be drawn up directly by the representative of the Organisation responsible for the trials and the commanding officer of *Ceres*, whom the Organisation shall provide with all the documents and information that he considers necessary for drawing up the trial directions. The directions shall in all cases fix a safety radius for each trial.

6. The Organisation shall be responsible for the preparation of the rockets, for checking and testing prior to their launching, for their launching and for their performance in accordance with the conditions laid down when the safety radius is fixed. It shall be required to comply strictly with the special security regulations transmitted to it by the commanding officer of *Ceres*.

7. The French Government, represented by the commanding officer of *Ceres*, shall be responsible for :

- (a) Security on the range and in the impact area defined by the safety radius;