

No. 51727*

**United States of America
and
Suriname**

Exchange of notes constituting an agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Suriname regarding the status of members of the Armed Forces of the United States and civilian personnel of the United States Department of Defense. Paramaribo, 11 April 2005 and 20 October 2005

Entry into force: *20 October 2005 by the exchange of the said notes, in accordance with their provisions*

Authentic text: *English*

Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations: *United States of America, 4 March 2014*

**No UNTS volume number has yet been determined for this record. The Text(s) reproduced below, if attached, are the authentic texts of the agreement /action attachment as submitted for registration and publication to the Secretariat. For ease of reference they were sequentially paginated. Translations, if attached, are not final and are provided for information only.*

**États-Unis d'Amérique
et
Suriname**

Échange de notes constituant un accord entre le Gouvernement des États-Unis d'Amérique et le Gouvernement de la République du Suriname relatif au statut des membres des Forces armées des États-Unis et du personnel civil du Département des défenses des États-Unis. Paramaribo, 11 avril 2005 et 20 octobre 2005

Entrée en vigueur : *20 octobre 2005 par l'échange desdites notes, conformément à leurs dispositions*

Texte authentique : *anglais*

Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat des Nations Unies : *États-Unis d'Amérique, 4 mars 2014*

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[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

I

Embassy of the United States of America

No. 69

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has the honor to proposed that the United States Government and the Government of the Republic of Suriname enter to an agreement regarding the status of members of the Armed Forces of the United States and civilian personnel of the United States Department of Defense (collectively referred to as United States personnel) who may be temporarily present in the Republic of Suriname in connection with military training exercises, counter-drug related activities, United States security assistance programs or other activities as agreed by the Government of the United States and the Government of the Republic of Suriname.

The Embassy respectfully requests the Ministry's agreement to the proposal below. A text of the proposal below has previously been presented informally to the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Suriname.

Begin Text of Proposed Agreement:

The Embassy proposes that such personnel be accorded a status equivalent to that accorded to the administrative and technical staff of the Embassy of the United States of America under the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of April 18, 1961; that United States personnel be permitted to enter and exit the Republic of Suriname with United States identification and with collective movement or individual travel orders; that authorities of the Republic of Suriname shall accept as valid, without a driving fee or test, driving licenses or permits issued by the appropriate United States authorities to United States personnel for the operation of vehicles; and that such personnel be authorized to wear uniforms while performing official duties and to carry weapons when their orders call for it, in connection with exercises and activities covered by this agreement, and in accordance with arrangements made between U.S. forces and the Ministry of Defense.

The Embassy also proposes that, with the exceptions stated in this paragraph, the Government of the Republic of Suriname accord duty-free importation and exportation, as well as exemption from inspection and taxation on products, property, material, equipment, palletized baggage, vehicles,

vessels, and aircraft imported into, acquired in or exported from the Republic of Suriname by or on behalf of the United States Government or its personnel in connection with their activities under this agreement. US Personnel entering or departing Suriname will be subject to generally applicable Suriname customs inspections in accordance with the Article 36 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations as it applies to personnel whose status is equivalent to that of the administrative and technical staff of an Embassy. U.S. military authorities will conduct checks of all personal carry-on baggage carried by U.S. personnel traveling on military aircraft and certify to Surinamese authorities to such baggage is free of contraband. The Parties shall cooperate in taking such steps as shall be necessary to ensure the security of United States personnel and property in the Republic of Suriname.

The Embassy further proposes that vehicles, vessels, and aircraft owned or operated by or for the United States Armed Forces shall not be subject to the payment of landing or port fees, pilotage charges, navigation, overflight or parking charges or light or harbor dues while in the Republic of Suriname; however, the United States Armed Forces shall pay reasonable charges for services requested

and received. Vehicles owned by the United States need not be registered, but shall have appropriate identification markings.

The Government of the Republic of Suriname shall accept as valid professional licenses issued by the appropriate United States Government authorities to United States personnel.

Title to United States Government property (such as equipment, material, supplies and other property) imported into or acquired in the Republic of Suriname by or on behalf of the United States Government in connection with mutually agreed activities under this agreement shall remain with the United States Government, which may remove such property from the Republic of Suriname at any time, free from export duties, taxes and other charges. The exemption provided in this paragraph shall also extend to any duty, tax or other charge that is assessed upon such property after importation into or acquisition in the Republic of Suriname. Such property may be disposed of in the Republic of Suriname, provided that disposition of such property in the Republic of Suriname to persons or entities not entitled to exemption