

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

*Exchange of notes at San Salvador September 24, 28, and 29, 1943
Entered into force September 29, 1943*

Department of State files

The American Ambassador to the Minister of Foreign Affairs

No. 167

SAN SALVADOR, September 24, 1943

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's note no. A.850.5 D.2087, dated September 23, 1943, in which Your Excellency requests confirmation of the interpretation of the Salvadoran authorities of the proposal submitted in the Embassy's urgent note no. 124 of August 10, 1943, with respect to compensation benefits for American citizens employed on projects in certain other countries.

In reply I take pleasure in stating with respect to the points mentioned in Your Excellency's note that:

1. Public Law 208, 77th Congress,¹ as amended by Public Law 784, 77th Congress,² has provided a mandatory and uniform system of compensation benefits for American nationals employed by contractors in foreign countries on or in connection with United States Government projects. The purpose of this legislation is to insure that all American workmen engaged outside the United States on these Government projects will be treated equally and, since such American workmen have rights under the compensation acts of the foreign country in which they are working, to preclude the possibility, in the absence of some arrangement with that foreign country, than an American workman might collect double benefits;

2. It is hoped, therefore, that arrangements can be made with the Government of El Salvador whereby the legislation above described will become the exclusive remedy for workmen's compensation in the case of injury or death in the case of American employees of American contractors with the United States Government; and

¹ 55 Stat. 622.

² 56 Stat. 1028.