

# USE OF CERTAIN GREEK ISLANDS FOR TRAINING EXERCISES BY MARINE UNITS

*Exchange of notes at Athens February 11 and 21, 1949*  
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63 Stat. 2683; Treaties and Other  
International Acts Series 1972

*The American Ambassador to the Minister of Foreign Affairs*

AMERICAN EMBASSY  
*Athens, Greece, February 11, 1949*

No. 71

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to inquire whether it would be agreeable to the Royal Hellenic Government to permit Marine units with the United States Fleet in the Mediterranean to carry out from time to time limited shore training exercises in Crete or in other Greek island localities mutually convenient to the competent American and Greek authorities and subject to *ad hoc* arrangements between these authorities. The purpose of such training would merely be to maintain the proficiency and condition of the Marine officers and men involved who are at sea for prolonged periods. Units engaged in training would continue to be ship based so that no facilities would be established ashore. The training conducted would consist of practice marches, short tactical problems, and, where facilities are already available, small arms firing.

I also have the honor to ask whether the Royal Hellenic Government would be good enough to grant the United States Navy permission to use the uninhabited Greek island of Pondikonisi (latitude 35–35 north, longitude 23–28 east), or similar, mutually convenient islands, for shore bombardment practices. The practices would include some flights over and some personal landings on the islands.

If the Royal Hellenic Government is agreeable to extending these facilities, it is proposed that this note and Your Excellency's reply to that effect shall constitute an agreement between our respective Governments.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

HENRY F. GRADY

His Excellency

CONSTANTINE TSALDARIS,  
*Minister of Foreign Affairs,*  
*Athens.*