MAPPING

Exchange of notes at Lima March 7 and April 23, 1942 Entered into force April 23, 1942

Department of State files

The American Ambassador to the Minister of Foreign Affairs

No. 699

Lima, March 7, 1942

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to invite Your Excellency's sympathetic attention to the desire of the Air Corps of the War Department of the United States that photographic mapping of air lanes be begun in various of the Latin American nations, with a view to making aeronautical charts for air navigation which are urgently needed for the defense of the Hemisphere and which are not available in reliable form at the present time.

The War Department's plan contemplates commencing operations as soon after the first of March as possible, simultaneously in the various countries. Under the direction of the commanding general of the Caribbean Defense Command, flight parties, as well as ground parties, will be dispatched. Length of sojourn is dependent upon meteorological conditions, as are dates of arrival.

Each country is to receive 200 copies of finished charts covering its own territory, as well as three contact prints of each negative. The War Department is prepared to furnish these, as well as to arrange to give demonstration work locally, to train attached personnel in small groups in aerial laboratory procedure, and to carry on photographic flights a technical representative of the Government of Peru.

It is the War Department's desire that personnel proceed without passports or visas, but in uniform. The War Department also desires to supply information with respect to scope of operations and with respect to the initial entry of planes and personnel, through the military attaché of the United States, from the commanding general, Caribbean Defense Command.

In view of the foregoing, and of the deep interest manifested by the Peruvian Government in cooperating in the defense of the hemisphere, I have the honor to request Your Excellency's support to the end that permission for the work outlined above may be granted as promptly as possible. I need not stress to Your Excellency the advantages which will accrue to the aviation of Peru, as well as to the United States and to Inter-American interests generally, through completion of the proposed enterprise.