

EXECUTION OF LETTERS ROGATORY

*Exchange of notes at Moscow November 22, 1935; related note of
January 19, 1937*

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EXCHANGE OF NOTES

The American Ambassador to the People's Commissar for Foreign Affairs

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
MOSCOW, November 22, 1935

EXCELLENCY:

Confirming conversations between the American Embassy in Moscow and the People's Commissariat for Foreign Affairs with regard to the desirability of setting forth the procedure followed in our respective countries in the matter of the execution of letters rogatory issuing out of courts in the other, I have the honor to inform you of the conditions under which and the manner in which courts in the United States may execute letters rogatory issuing out of courts in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

(1) Letters rogatory issuing out of courts in foreign countries are executed in the United States in accordance with the pertinent provisions of the laws of the United States, or of the State or Territory thereof in which resides the person whose testimony is desired, and in compliance with the rules of the executing court. The Government of the United States is, accordingly, not in a position to set forth with precision what may be the requirements of a particular court in the United States at a given time in respect of the execution of letters rogatory issuing out of a court in a foreign country. There are appended, however, copies of the texts of federal statutory provisions now in force which relate to the taking of testimony under commissions or letters rogatory addressed by foreign courts to federal courts of the United States.

It is understood that it is the practice of American courts of appropriate jurisdiction to execute letters rogatory issuing out of foreign courts, if properly prepared and presented, and that no difficulty is likely to be encountered by Soviet courts in obtaining the execution of letters rogatory by American