TRANSIT OF U.S. TROOPS

Exchange of notes at Panama February 15 and 24, 1939, modifying agreement of July 18 and 20, 1912

Entered into force February 24, 1939

Made obsolete by provisions of treaty of January 25, 1955 1

Department of State files

The American Minister to the Secretary of Foreign Relations and Communications

No. 273

Panamá, February 15, 1939

EXCELLENCY:

By request of the Commanding General of the Panamá Canal Department, I have the honor to request to be informed whether the Government of Panamá would be agreeable, in respect solely to inter-post movements of troops of that Department, to waive the prior advice of such movements which is now given through the Legation in accordance with the desires expressed by the then Secretary of Foreign Relations in his note No. 2394, of July 20, 1912, replying to the Legation's note No. 221, of July 18, 1912.²

The Commanding General's communication refers specifically to the situation existing at the Paitilla Point Military Reservation, and my present note should be taken to bear only on routine and periodic movements of small detachments of troops and equipment through the jurisdiction of the Republic to and from that Reservation. These movements are in the nature of inter-post communication, the Paitilla Point garrison being in reality a sub-post of Fort Amador, and are undertaken in connection with the periodic relief of that garrison and for its temporary augmentation on special occasions in accordance with the training program.

Since these periodic movements are between specific points along a definite route (Fort Amador–Fourth of July Avenue–Calle P–Avenida Central–Vía España–Paitilla Point, and reverse) and since the authorities of the District of Panamá, the only district traversed, are familiar therewith through long custom, it is my belief that the Commanding General's suggestion that notifications be waived in respect thereto has merit and will commend itself

¹ 6 UST 2273; TIAS 3297.

² Ante, p. 697.