

# NAVAL CHARTER FOR LEASE OF VESSELS

*Exchange of notes at Manila September 26 and December 9, 1947, and  
May 6 and June 7, 1948, modifying agreement of March 21, 1947  
Entered into force June 7, 1948*

62 Stat. 3870; Treaties and Other  
International Acts Series 1954

*The American Ambassador to the Secretary of Foreign Affairs*

EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
*September 26, 1947*

No. 0039

## EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to refer to the Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Philippines on Military Assistance to the Philippines signed at Manila on March 21, 1947<sup>1</sup> and to enclose a form of Naval Charter for the lease of vessels made available by the United States Navy to the Government of the Philippines under the terms of that Agreement. The Embassy believes that Your Excellency's Government will find the terms of the proposed Charter, which was prepared under the direction of the Chief of Naval Operations of the United States, satisfactory and will be prepared to designate the person who shall sign the agreement in behalf of the Government of the Philippines. The Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Philippines has been designated as the person to sign the Charter in behalf of the United States.

Your Excellency will observe that Article I of the Charter proposes that the Charter shall remain in effect until terminated by mutual agreement, but in no event beyond the termination date of Public Law No. 454 of the 79th Congress of the United States, Second Session,<sup>2</sup> or any extension thereof. This is in accordance with Article 5 of the aforementioned Military Assistance Agreement which specifies that title to vessels furnished under the terms of the Agreement on a nonreimbursable basis shall remain in the United States. Your Excellency will also observe that Article IX of the proposed Charter provides that notwithstanding the provisions of Article 5 of the Military Assistance Agreement, the owners and the charterers, that is to say the Government of the United States and the Government of the Philippines, may agree as to any or all of the vessels covered by the Charter that title be transferred to the charterers under the provisions of the above-cited Public Law No. 454.

<sup>1</sup> TIAS 1662, *ante*, p. 84.

<sup>2</sup> 60 Stat. 315.