

LEASING OF NAVAL AND AIR BASES

Exchange of notes at Washington September 2, 1940

Entered into force September 2, 1940

Supplemented by agreement of March 27, 1941¹

Superseded by agreement of February 10, 1961,² between the United States and the Federation of the West Indies, save as expressly provided therein, insofar as the provisions relate to any territory of the Federation

54 Stat. 2405; Executive Agreement Series 181

The British Ambassador to the Secretary of State

BRITISH EMBASSY,

WASHINGTON, D.C.,

September 2nd, 1940

SIR,

I have the honour under instructions from His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to inform you that in view of the friendly and sympathetic interest of His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom in the national security of the United States and their desire to strengthen the ability of the United States to cooperate effectively with the other nations of the Americas in the defence of the Western Hemisphere, His Majesty's Government will secure the grant to the Government of the United States, freely and without consideration, of the lease for immediate establishment and use of naval and air bases and facilities for entrance thereto and the operation and protection thereof, on the Avalon Peninsula and on the southern coast of Newfoundland, and on the east coast and on the Great Bay of Bermuda.

Furthermore, in view of the above and in view of the desire of the United States to acquire additional air and naval bases in the Caribbean and in British Guiana, and without endeavouring to place a monetary or commercial value upon the many tangible and intangible rights and properties involved, His Majesty's Government will make available to the United States for immediate establishment and use naval and air bases and facilities for entrance thereto and the operation and protection thereof, on the eastern side of the Bahamas,

¹ EAS 235, *post*, p. 560.

² 12 UST 408; TIAS 4734.