

SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS:
DAMAGES RESULTING FROM ACTS OF
ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL

*Exchange of notes at London February 29 and March 28, 1944; related
note dated May 1, 1944*

Entered into force March 28, 1944

Modified by agreement of March 27, 1946¹

*Paragraph 11 of annex superseded June 6, 1944, by agreement of Oc-
tober 23, 1946, and January 23, 1947²*

61 Stat. 2728; Treaties and Other
International Acts Series 1602

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to the American Ambassador

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

29th February, 1944

No. W 3151/150/64

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I have the honour to refer to Your Excellency's note No. 3295 of the 19th January concerning the question of civil claims arising in tort against members of the United States forces in the United Kingdom.

2. As you are aware, His Majesty's Government have been reluctant to accept responsibility for these claims since to do so would involve payment by the British public of compensation for damage or injury sustained by the British public through the tortious acts of United Service personnel and might therefore seem undesirable on political grounds. They had therefore hoped that the arrangements previously made with His Majesty's Treasury Solicitor for the settlement of this matter could be maintained. They are, however, glad to note that the United States Government recognise that certain of the claims in question raise political issues and that the proposals now put forward are subject to the reserve that His Majesty's Government are not to be required to assume responsibility for claims which they regard as politically objectionable. In the light of this and recognising that the United States Government regard claims against the personnel of the armed forces of the United States in the line of duty to be part of the normal expenses of the

¹ TIAS 1509, *post*, p. 745.

² TIAS 1622, *post*, p. 805.