

**No. 51877\***

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**United States of America  
and  
Belize**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Belize related to United States military and Department of Defense civilian personnel and United States contractors who may be temporarily present in Belize in connection with military training, exercises, humanitarian activities, and other activities as mutually agreed. Belmopan, 2 July 2007 and 29 October 2007**

**Entry into force:** *29 October 2007 by the exchange of the said notes, in accordance with their provisions and with retroactive effect from 24 April 2007*

**Authentic text:** *English*

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**États-Unis d'Amérique  
et  
Belize**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord entre le Gouvernement des États-Unis d'Amérique et le Gouvernement de Belize concernant le personnel militaire et le personnel civil du Département de la Défense des États-Unis ainsi que les contracteurs américains temporairement présents au Belize dans le cadre d'entraînements et d'exercices militaires, d'assistance humanitaire, ainsi que d'autres activités convenues entre les deux gouvernements. Belmopan, 2 juillet 2007 et 29 octobre 2007**

**Entrée en vigueur :** *29 octobre 2007 par l'échange desdites notes, conformément à leurs dispositions et avec effet rétroactif à compter du 24 avril 2007*

**Texte authentique :** *anglais*

**Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat de l'Organisation des Nations Unies :** *États-Unis d'Amérique, 2 mai 2014*

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*ont été numérotées. Les traductions qui accompagnent ces textes ne sont pas définitives et sont fournies uniquement à titre d'information.*

[ ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS ]

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No. 07/038

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and has the honor to refer to recent discussions between representatives of our two governments regarding issues related to United States military and Department of Defense civilian personnel (defined as members of the United States Armed Forces and civilian employees of the United States Department of Defense, respectively, hereafter referred to collectively as United States personnel) and United States contractors (defined as non-Belizean companies and firms, and their employees who are not nationals of Belize, under contract to the United States Department of Defense) who may be temporarily present in Belize in connection with military training, exercises, humanitarian activities, and other activities as mutually agreed.

As a result of these discussions, the Embassy proposes that United States personnel be accorded the privileges, exemptions, and immunities equivalent to those accorded to the administrative and technical staff of a diplomatic mission under the Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations of April 18, 1961; that United States personnel may enter and exit Belize with United States identification and with collective movement or individual travel orders; that Belize authorities shall accept as valid all professional licenses issued by the United States its political subdivisions or states thereof to United States personnel for the provision of services to authorized personnel; and that Belize authorities shall accept as valid, without a driving test or fee, driving licenses or permits issued by the appropriate United States Authorities to United States personnel for the operation of vehicles. The Embassy further proposes that United States personnel be authorized to wear uniforms while performing official duties and to carry arms while on duty if authorized to do so by their orders.

The Government of Belize recognizes the particular importance of disciplinary control by United States armed forces authorities over United States personnel and, therefore, authorizes the Government of the United States to exercise criminal jurisdiction over United States personnel while in Belize. The Government of the United States recognizes that United States personnel should respect the laws of Belize.

The Embassy further proposes that the United States Department of Defense and United States personnel shall not be liable to pay any tax or similar charge assessed within Belize and that the United States Department of Defense and United States personnel may import into, export out of, and use in Belize any personal property, equipment, supplies, materiel, technology, training, or services in connection with activities under this Agreement. Such importation, exportation, and use shall be exempt from any inspection, license, other restrictions, customs duties, taxes, or any other charges assessed within Belize. The Governments of the United States of America and Belize shall cooperate to take such measures as may be necessary to ensure the security and protection of United States personnel, property, equipment, records, and official information in Belize.

The Embassy proposes that vessels and vehicles operated by or, at the time, exclusively for the United States Department of Defense be permitted to enter, exit, and move freely within the territory of Belize, and that such vehicles (whether self-propelled or towed) shall not be subject to the payment of overland transit tolls. Vessels and aircraft owned or operated by or, at the time, exclusively for the United States Department of Defense shall not be subject to the payment of landing, parking, or port fees, pilotage charges, lighterage, and harbor dues at facilities owned and operated by the Government of Belize. Aircraft owned and operated by or, at the time, exclusively for the United States Department of Defense shall not be subject to payment of navigation, overflight, terminal or similar charges when in the territory of Belize. The United States Department of Defense shall pay reasonable charges for services requested and received at rates no less favorable than those paid by the Armed Forces of Belize. Aircraft and vessels of the United States Government shall be free from boarding and inspection.

The Embassy also proposes that the United States Department of Defense may contract for any materiel, supplies, equipment, and services (including construction) to be furnished or undertaken in Belize without restriction as to choice of contractor, supplier, or person who provides such materiel, supplies, equipment or services. Such contracts shall be solicited, awarded and administered in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Government of the United States of America. Acquisition of articles and services in Belize by or on behalf of the United States Department of Defense in connection with activities under this Agreement shall not be subject to any taxes or similar charges in Belize.

The Embassy further proposes that United States contractors shall not be liable to pay any tax or similar charge assessed within Belize in connection with activities under this Agreement and that such contractors may import into, export out of, and use in Belize any personal property, equipment, supplies, materiel, technology, training, or services in fulfillment of contracts with the United States Department of Defense in connection with activities under this Agreement. Such importation, exportation, and use shall be exempt from any license, other restrictions, customs duties, taxes, or any other charges assessed within Belize.

The Embassy proposes that United States contractors shall be granted the same treatment as United States personnel with respect to professional and driver's licenses.

The Embassy proposes that United States personnel shall have freedom of movement and access to and use of mutually agreed transportation, storage, training, and other facilities required in connection with activities under this Agreement.

The Government of Belize recognizes that it may be necessary for the United States Armed Forces to use the radio spectrum. The United States Department of Defense shall be allowed to operate its own telecommunication systems (as telecommunication is defined in the 1992 Constitution and Convention of the