

UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA



Treaty Series No. 8 (1983)

*Approved  
1978*

## Exchange of Notes

between the Government of the  
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland  
and the Government of the United States of America

concerning the Acquisition by the  
United Kingdom of the Trident II  
Weapon System under the Polaris  
Sales Agreement, signed on 6 April 1963

Washington, 19 October 1982

[The Exchange of Notes entered into force on 19 October 1982]

*Presented to Parliament  
by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs  
by Command of Her Majesty  
March 1983*

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**EXCHANGE OF NOTES**  
**BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF**  
**GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE**  
**GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**  
**CONCERNING THE ACQUISITION BY THE UNITED KINGDOM**  
**OF THE TRIDENT II WEAPON SYSTEM UNDER THE POLARIS**  
**SALES AGREEMENT, SIGNED ON 6 APRIL 1963**

No. 1

*The Secretary of State of the United States of America to  
Her Majesty's Ambassador at Washington*

*Department of State  
Washington*

*October 19 1982*

Excellency :

I have the honor to refer to the recent discussions between representatives of our two Governments concerning the decision<sup>(1)</sup> of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to acquire the TRIDENT II weapon system instead of the Trident I weapon system from the Government of the United States, and in particular concerning the manner in which such acquisition could best be implemented within the framework of United States laws and procedures applicable to sales under the Foreign Military Sales program.

I have the honor to propose, subject to such necessary technical arrangements as may be required in implementation thereof, that the Polaris Sales Agreement between our two Governments of April 6, 1963<sup>(2)</sup>, shall be deemed to apply as well to the TRIDENT II weapon system and that for this purpose, and subject to 1. below, all references in that Agreement to Polaris shall be deemed also to be references to TRIDENT II. For the purpose of conforming the Polaris Sales Agreement of April 6, 1963, to the requirements of the sale of the TRIDENT II weapon system, I have the honor to propose a revision to Article XI, paragraph 1.b., of the Agreement, as follows :

Article XI, paragraph 1.b. is amended :

1. by inserting "Polaris" immediately after the words "of this Article for"; and

2. by inserting the following immediately after the words "for research and development" :

" ; and a contribution to Trident II research and development equivalent to \$116 million in fiscal year 1982 dollars, subject to actual payments of that contribution being adjusted in accordance with an agreed inflation index."

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<sup>(1)</sup> Cmnd. 8517.

<sup>(2)</sup> Treaty Series No. 59 (1963), Cmnd. 2108.

If the foregoing is acceptable to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, I have the further honor to propose that this Note together with Your Excellency's Note in reply to that effect, shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments, which shall enter into force on the date of Your Excellency's Note.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

For the Secretary of State:  
JONATHAN T. HOWE

No. 2

*Her Majesty's Ambassador at Washington to the Secretary of State of the  
United States of America*

*British Embassy  
Washington D.C.  
October 19 1982*

Sir:

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Note of 19 October which reads as follows:

[As in No. 1]

In reply, I have the honour to inform you that the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland who therefore agree that your Note, together with the present reply, shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments in this matter, which shall enter into force from today's date.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

OLIVER WRIGHT