

MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES FOR GREECE

Exchange of notes at Washington July 25 and October 9, 1947
Entered into force October 9, 1947
Expired in accordance with its terms

61 Stat. 3763; Treaties and Other
International Acts Series 1718

The Secretary of State to the British Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON
July 25, 1947

SIR:

Due to the lapse of time between the approval of the Act to Provide for Assistance to Greece and Turkey, effective May 22, 1947,¹ and the actual arrival of American military equipment and supplies in Greece, the Government of the United States wishes to establish an arrangement with the Government of the United Kingdom which would:

(1) provide for the continuation of the furnishing of such supplies and equipment by the United Kingdom as are necessary for the Greek military program until United States supplies arrive in Greece;

(2) provide for the continued procurement by the Government of the United Kingdom of certain supplies required by the Greek Armed Forces which the Government of the United States is not now in a position to provide from its own resources.

Pending further arrangements, the Government of the United States hereby undertakes to the extent provided in this note to pay the Government of the United Kingdom for supplies and equipment issued, and for services incident to the procurement and delivery of such supplies and equipment provided by the Government of the United Kingdom to the Government of Greece for the Greek Armed Forces after May 22, 1947. Such issues shall be deemed to include all arrivals in Greece of such supplies and equipment after May 22,

¹ 61 Stat. 103.

1947. Such supplies, equipment, and services shall be deemed to exclude items which the Government of the United Kingdom has agreed to provide free of charge, including

(a) certain initial equipment and supplies for the Greek Army provided against demands submitted before May 22, 1947 (estimated to be approximately £2,000,000 in value);

(b) any supplies for the Greek Air Force which were included subject to availabilities in the Order of Battle agreed with the British Air Ministry in 1946 and certain special items added thereto in 1947;

(c) any other items which the Government of the United Kingdom has agreed to provide free of charge in accordance with arrangements previously made by the Government of the United Kingdom with the Greek Government or against payment by the Greek Government from funds made available by the Government of the United Kingdom for that purpose.

Pending the establishment of military and naval supply programs in accordance with the fourth paragraph hereof, it is the understanding of the Government of the United States that the British authorities concerned will issue within reasonable limits necessary supplies and equipment based on their past experience and upon the essential needs of the Greek Government for the maintenance of its military forces. The Government of the United States, however, does not undertake financial responsibility for any issues beyond such reasonable limits. In order to assure that continuing requirements of the Greek Armed Forces are met with respect to certain limited and vital equipment and supplies which the Government of the United States is not now in a position to provide from its own resources, it is specifically requested that the Government of the United Kingdom continue procurement of (1) food requirements of the Greek Armed Forces through August 31, 1947 for 176,000 men, or such other number as may be agreed, on the same scale as now used, and (2) necessary ammunition and maintenance supplies, in quantities agreed between representatives of the two Governments, for equipment of British origin now held by the Greek Armed Forces.

Personnel of the military and naval sections of the American Mission for Aid to Greece will have arrived in Greece shortly after the effective date of the Act. These representatives will cooperate with the British military, naval, and air missions in Greece in the estimation of military supply requirements which might be met from British sources and will ordinarily request the Government of the United Kingdom through appropriate channels to supply such categories of supplies and equipment as the War or Navy Department may deem appropriate. The Government of the United States will be financially responsible for, but only for, all issues made by the Government of the United Kingdom against such requests. Representatives of the Government of the United States will review with representatives of the Government of the United Kingdom questions relating to the establishment of the basis for

prices. This note, of course, in no way affects the status of lend-lease articles which are subject to the United States-United Kingdom Military Holdings Agreement of March 27, 1946,² any transfers of which will be made without charge to the Government of the United States. In the event that the Government of the United States requests changes in procurement which require the cancellation by the Government of the United Kingdom of any items previously requested by the Government of the United States for which procurement action has been initiated, the Government of the United States will be responsible for any financial loss to the Government of the United Kingdom in connection therewith.

The Government of the United States will wish to conclude more detailed understandings with respect to the pricing, methods of accounting, and of payment for the equipment and supplies provided by the Government of the United Kingdom to the Greek Government in accordance with the paragraphs above. Pending such detailed arrangements, it is requested that the Government of the United Kingdom keep detailed accounts and records to facilitate the settlement of accounts between the Government of the United States and the Government of the United Kingdom.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my high consideration.

G. C. MARSHALL

The Honorable

J. BALFOUR, K.C.M.G.,

Minister Plenipotentiary,

British Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

The British Ambassador to the Secretary of State

BRITISH EMBASSY,

WASHINGTON, D.C.

9th October, 1947

No. 548
(80/212/47)

SIR:

With reference to your note of the 25th July, addressed to Mr. Balfour, concerning the provision of supplies to Greece, I have the honour to inform you that the arrangements therein set out are acceptable to His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, subject to the following considerations which are presented by His Majesty's Government for the sake of clarification only.

With regard to sub-paragraph (a) of the second paragraph of your note, His Majesty's Government confirm that they have undertaken to provide to the Greek Government after the 31st March, 1947, free military equipment

² TIAS 1509, *ante*, p. 757.

and supplies to the approximate value of £2 million. A considerable proportion of the equipment and supplies forming part of this gift was delivered to the Greek Government before the 22nd May, 1947, but it is confirmed that, insofar as deliveries of initial equipment and supplies forming the balance of the gift are made after the 22nd May, 1947, against demands submitted before that date, they will be provided free by His Majesty's Government.

His Majesty's Government confirm further that they have undertaken to provide the equipment and supplies covered in the second paragraph of your note and that the aforementioned equipment and supplies constitute the total amount of assistance which His Majesty's Government have agreed to supply free of charge.

His Majesty's Government assume that the third paragraph of your note will apply to all issues made within reasonable limits against any demands submitted by the Greek authorities before the arrival of the United States Mission, excluding those covered by sub-paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of the second paragraph of your note, and, therefore, that the United States Government accept liability to pay for items issued within such limits from British sources to the Greek armed forces outside the agreed programmes in respect of Greek demands submitted after the 22nd May but before the arrival of the United States Mission and before the agreed programmes were drawn up.

With reference to the fourth paragraph of your note, His Majesty's Government confirm that your note in no way affects the status of Lend-Lease articles which are subject to the United States-United Kingdom Military Holdings Agreement of the 27th March, 1946, which sets out the procedure to be followed when either the re-transfer or the re-capture of such articles is to be carried out.

It is assumed that any supplies sent by His Majesty's Government to the Greek Government for the use of the Greek civil police will be dealt with in the same way as supplies to the Greek Army and Gendarmerie.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurance of my highest consideration.

INVERCHAPEL

The Honourable

GEORGE C. MARSHALL,

*Secretary of State of the United States,
Washington, D.C.*