

PSF

Navy: Destroyers for Bases

October 31, 1940

*File
Personal
Confidential*

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Navy
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CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Secretary of War.
The Secretary of the Navy.

To: The President of the United States.

Subject: Report of Board of Experts appointed in connection
with the Acquisition of Naval and Air Bases from
the British Government in the Western Hemisphere.

Enclosure: (A) Original Report of Board for bases in St. Lucia.
(B) Modified draft of lease.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith recommending that the President approve the report of the Board subject to minor modifications made in Enclosure (B), which is a draft lease putting into form for final action the substance of the Board's report.

2. The substituted draft of lease, Enclosure (B), follows the same form in so far as applicable as in the cases of the proposed leases at Bermuda and Newfoundland the form and substance of which were approved by the Attorney General of the United States.

3. Early approval of this lease is requested in order that the State Department may initiate action to obtain execution of the lease by the British Government.

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DDO DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 8-9-66

Signature- *Carl L. Spicer*

Henry L. Stimson

Frank Knox

Lease to the United States of America by His Majesty's
Government in the United Kingdom of certain areas of
land and water in St. Lucia, Windward Islands, B.W.I.

His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, being desirous at this time to execute in part the declarations made on its behalf by His Excellency The Right Honorable The Marquess of Lothian, G.C.B., British Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, in his communication of September 2, 1940, to the Government of the United States of America, a copy of which is hereto appended and made a part hereof, do by these presents to that end, make and execute the following:

His Majesty's Government hereby lease to the United States of America for the period of ninety-nine years from the date on which possession thereof shall be formally transferred, the following areas of land and water situated in St. Lucia, Windward Islands, British West Indies:

- (1) Starting at a point in Gros Islet Bay on the shoreline on the south bank of the river south of Gros Islet village, proceed five hundred feet due east; thence due south approximately three thousand feet to latitude fourteen degrees, four minutes, twenty-four seconds, north; thence approximately forty-three hundred feet due west to the shoreline; thence northerly along the shoreline to the point of beginning, but excluding the existing cemetery, the entire tract containing approximately one hundred twenty acres. Reference: H.O. Chart 1261.
- (2) An area of approximately one and one-half square miles, to be selected after a detailed survey, and to be located within the area described by the following notes and bounds:

Beginning at the point on the road running northwest from Vieux Fort where it crosses the high point on the hill mass; thence generally northeast about one and one-fourth miles along the crest of the hill mass west of Port des Savannes; thence directly east to the shoreline of Port Des Savannes; thence generally south along the shoreline to the southeast limits of the village of Vieux Fort; thence along the northerly limits of the village to Vieux Fort River; thence south along the river to the road between Vieux Fort and Laborie; thence northwest along the road (exclusive) for about one and one-half miles; thence approximately north to point of beginning; and an area along Vieux Fort Bay with a frontage of about fifteen hundred feet and a depth of two thousand feet, provided that it will not include the settled area of the village; and provided further, that suitable high-

way communication, traversing all the areas leased (Gros Islet Bay and Vieux Fort) or substitute highway communication around the areas leased shall be provided and maintained by the United States of America and free use thereof granted His Majesty's Government. References: Map of St. Lucia, Scale: one inch equals two and one-quarter miles.

- (3) The exact notes and bounds of the above described areas shall be established by survey.

The grant of the foregoing areas of land and water shall include the followings:

(a) The right, power, and authority to use, fill, and occupy the waters adjacent to said areas and to improve and deepen the entrances thereto and the anchorages thereof and generally to do any and all things necessary to fit the premises for use as naval and air bases.

(b) Exclusive rights, power, authority and control within the aforesaid areas and within the territorial waters and air spaces adjacent to or in the vicinity of such areas except as hereinafter otherwise provided.

(c) The right, power, and authority to assume military control and conduct military operations within any part of St. Lucia and surrounding waters and air space to the extent which may become necessary or convenient for the protection of the property, instrumentalities and activities of the United States of America or otherwise to safeguard its national interests.

(d) The right, power, and authority to control the anchorage, moorings, movements, communications and operations of whatever character of all ships and water borne craft within the limits of the areas leased and the territorial waters adjacent thereto or in the vicinity of such areas to the extent that may be determined as necessary or convenient in the use, control and defense of such areas.

(e) The right, power, and authority to control the anchorage; moorings, take-offs, flights, landing movements, and operation of all aircraft within the limits of the areas leased and within the territorial waters and air spaces adjacent to or in the vicinity of such areas, to such extent as may

be found necessary or convenient in the use, control and defense of such areas.

(f) The right, power, and authority to regulate and control all external and internal communications of whatever nature, from, to, and within the areas leased.

(g) The right, power, and authority to employ and use all commercial or public utilities, services and facilities, all roads, highways, bridges, viaducts, canals and similar channels of transportation to the same extent and under the same conditions as His Majesty's Government.

(h) The right, power, and authority to install, maintain, and operate at such sites as may be necessary or convenient, armament, underwater defenses, including mines, nets, booms, sound detection, and other similar devices; control stations ashore, beacons, dispensary and first aid stations, lights, warning or detecting devices, and military police, to such extent as may be found necessary or convenient in the use, control, and protection of the areas leased.

(i) The right, power, and authority to acquire by supplementary lease from His Majesty's Government for the unexpired period of this lease, without consideration other than just compensation to private owners, if any, additional areas, sites, locations and rights-of-way for auxiliary aircraft landing fields, roads, causeways, bridges, power lines, water mains, sewers and similar facilities to such extent as may be found necessary or convenient for the establishment, maintenance, use and protection of naval and air bases in the aforesaid leased areas.

(j) The right, power, and authority, without consideration other than just compensation to private owners, if any, to enter upon any property in the vicinity of the leased areas for the purpose of inspecting, clearing, draining or taking any other measures considered necessary or desirable to protect the health of personnel quartered or stationed within those areas.

(k) The right, power, and authority to install, maintain and operate buoys, lighthouses and such other aids to navigation as may be determined to be necessary or desirable.

(l) The right, power, and authority to use all public lands, areas, sites, forts, docks, piers, quays, berths, shops, repair facilities, arsenals, magazines, and hospitals to the extent which may become necessary or convenient for the protection of the property, instrumentalities, and activities of the United States, or otherwise to safeguard its national interests without compensation other than reimbursement of any additional cost directly resulting from such use.

(m) The privilege of importing free from all dues, imposts, excises, tolls, customs, levies, or assessments of any nature whatever, all ships, boats, aircraft, arms, machinery, supplies, materials, equipment, clothing, household furnishings, provisions, goods, wares, merchandise and articles similar to the aforesaid, consigned to or destined for any activity of the United States of America, its military, naval, or civil personnel and their families, contractors and their families, subject to the condition that articles so imported shall not be further sold or transferred to other interests in St. Lucia.

(n) The right, power, and authority to remove all improvements placed upon the leased areas at any time before the expiration or termination of this lease or of any renewal thereof or within a reasonable time thereafter.

The United States of America shall be under no obligation to improve the leased areas in whole or in part for use as naval or air bases, nor to exercise any right, power, or authority herein granted; and if it shall make such improvements or exercise any such right, power, or authority it shall, nevertheless, have the privilege of abandoning any part or all of the foregoing at any time without consent of His Majesty's Government and without incurring any obligation by reason of such abandonment.

The United States of America shall be under no obligation or responsi-

bility for the civil administration or defense of St. Lucia or any part thereof, or for the maintenance of military or naval forces within or without the leased areas.

Crimes and misdemeanors committed within the leased areas during the occupation and use thereof by the United States of America shall be punishable either by the United States or the colonial authorities in accordance with their respective laws, dependent upon which shall first acquire jurisdiction of the person of the offender; except that either government may on request deliver the offender to the other for trial; that in all cases the colonial government shall bring to trial all offenders turned over to it by the United States upon request of the colonial authorities or otherwise, and that all offenders in the service of the United States, civil or military, shall on demand be apprehended and delivered to the government of the United States for trial whether or not the offense with which charged was committed within or without the leased areas; provided, that the colonial authorities shall not arrest any person or serve any process, civil or criminal, within the leased areas except upon application previously made to the commanding officer and approved by him: Provided further, that colonial laws of a regulatory nature, or which may otherwise interfere with the use of the leased premises by the United States, shall not be regarded as applicable within such areas.

His Majesty's Government undertakes to deliver possession of all lands and facilities, including such as may be privately owned within the leased areas hereinbefore provided for, on such date as may be determined upon by the United States of America: Provided, that the United States of America shall pay to His Majesty's Government such sum or sums as may be mutually agreed upon to compensate the owners of private property for loss by expropriation or damage arising out of the establishment of naval or air bases in the leased areas.

St. Lucia (2)

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St. Lucia

U. S. S. ST. LOUIS,
Hamilton, Bermuda,
October 25, 1940.

From: Board of Experts on Naval and Air Bases in
British Possessions in the Western Hemisphere.

To : The Secretary of the Navy.

Subject: Report of Board of Experts appointed in connection with the acquirement of Naval and Air Bases from the British Government. - St. Lucia.

Reference: (a) Secretary of the Navy Confidential letter, dated September 3, 1940. (Copy attached to Report on Bermuda, Department file (SC) MF-13-44-Doc. 24049).
(b) Opnav despatch to U.S.S. ST. LOUIS, 032145, September, 1940. (Copy attached to Report on Bermuda).
(c) Opnav despatch to U.S.S. ST. LOUIS, dated October 16, 1940. (Copy attached to Report on Trinidad).

Enclosure: (A) Marked Chart of St. Lucia, H.O. 1261.
(B) Marked Map of St. Lucia.
(C) Form and Substance of Recommended Lease.

Appendix: (A) Chronological Record of Events.

1. In compliance with the directions of reference (a) and (b), the Board arrived at Port Castries, St. Lucia, on October 18, 1940. The President of the Board and General Devers conferred with His Excellency, the Governor of the Windward Islands Colony, and Captain J. S. Bethell, Royal Navy, representative of the British Commander-in-Chief, America and West Indies Station. Other members of the Board conferred with the Administrator and leading public officials of St. Lucia.

2. The Board noted that the purpose of acquisition of base sites on St. Lucia, as stated by the Joint Planning Committee, is as follows:

- (a) To provide facilities for patrol planes for surveillance of the eastern entrances to the Caribbean Sea.
- (b) To provide a base from which to project air operations in support of the defense of Leeward and Windward Islands.
- (c) To provide a stepping stone for the moving of short range airplanes between Porto Rico and Trinidad.

3. Guided by the directions of the precept and the recommendations of the Joint Planning Committee of the Joint Board, it was decided to investigate areas for the following:

- (a) A seaplane base for one patrol squadron, and capable of occasional use by two squadrons.

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Subject: Report of Board of Experts appointed in connection with the acquirement of Naval and Air Bases from the British Government. - St. Lucia.

- (b) A landplane base for one composite group.
- (c) A garrison, capable of expansion to one infantry battalion (reinforced), for protection of the above bases.

4. The local authorities had conducted an extensive study prior to our arrival and their valuable suggestions assisted greatly in the investigations of the Board. The Board reconnoitered the Island of St. Lucia by air and from the ground. Since there are no adequate maps of the island, a survey party of Army engineers from Porto Rico will be sent in the U.S.S. MOFFETT, to survey and report on two possible airfield sites.

5. As a result of the above reconnaissances, the Board submits the following pertinent observations:

- (a) The best location for seaplane operations on St. Lucia is Gros Islet Bay. This bay is on the lee side of the island and is protected from swells by Pigeon Island, by the reefs on the north, and by the configuration of the coast on the south. Anse du Choc Bay experiences considerably more ocean swells from the northward than does Gros Islet Bay. Vieux Fort Bay on the south is subject to considerable swell practically all of the time.
- (b) The Island of St. Lucia is very mountainous with few flat plains suitable for land fields. The area adjoining Gros Islet Bay was carefully investigated, but no runway of sufficient length and with approaches unobstructed by hills can be located in this area or on the western coast of St. Lucia. The only area suitable for landplane operations was located in the Vieux Fort area. This section is generally devoted to sugar cane and coconut, and has recently been leased to the Barbados Government for such use.
- (c) Port Castries is on a very small harbor, and is a small hilly town readily defended against direct assault from the sea. Well built permanent barracks largely in a caretaking status and belonging to the British Government are conveniently located with respect to the defense of the harbor. These barracks could be renovated and occupied at comparatively small expense and in a short time. The island has no railroad of military importance. The roads of the island are fair but very narrow, and communication between towns on the west side of the island is quite extensively served by sail boats.

6. The Board, having completed its investigations

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Subject: Report of Board of Experts appointed in connection with the acquirement of Naval and Air Bases from the British Government. - St. Lucia.

submits the following recommendations:

A. That areas in St. Lucia be acquired as follows:

- (1) For a seaplane base on Gros Islet Bay, the metes and bounds of which are:

Reference: H.O. 1261 (Enclosure (A)).

Starting at a point in Gros Islet Bay on the shoreline on the south bank of the river south of Gros Islet village, proceed five hundred feet due east; thence due south approximately three thousand feet to latitude fourteen degrees, four minutes, twenty-four seconds, north; thence approximately forty-three hundred feet due west to the shoreline; thence northerly along the shoreline to the point of beginning, the entire tract containing approximately one hundred twenty acres.

- (2) For landplane base - Vieux Fort.

Reference: Map of St. Lucia, Scale: one inch equals two and one-quarter miles (Enclosure (B)).

An area of approximately one and one-half square miles, to be selected after a detailed survey, and to be located within the area described by the following metes and bounds:

Beginning at the point on the road running northwest from Vieux Fort where it crosses the high point on the hill mass; thence generally northeast about one and one-fourth miles along the crest of the hill mass west of Port des Savannes; thence directly east to the shoreline of Port des Savannes; thence generally south along the shoreline to the southeast limits of the village of Vieux Fort; thence along the northerly limits of the village to Vieux Fort River; thence south along the river to the road between Vieux Fort and Laborie; thence northwest along the road (exclusive) for about one and one-half miles; thence approximately north to point of beginning; and an area along Vieux Fort Bay with a frontage of about fifteen hundred feet and a depth of two

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Subject: Report of Board of Experts appointed in connection with the acquirement of Naval and Air Bases from the British Government. - St. Lucia.

thousand feet, the exact location of said area to be selected after survey, provided that it will not include the settled area of the village.

- B. That construction of facilities in the above areas provide for the following:

(1) Seaplane base - Gros Islet.

Limited facilities for operation and maintenance of six patrol planes, to include ramp, parking area, water supply, fuel, magazines, storehouses, and temporary housing for plane crews and base personnel; and quarters, administrative, maintenance, and supply establishments capable of receiving one reinforced infantry battalion, less one rifle company.

NOTE: The bulk of the army garrison should be quartered at Gros Islet because of the better health conditions there.

(2) Landplane base - Vieux Fort.

Runways and airfield facilities including quarters, administrative, maintenance, and supply establishments capable of receiving and continuously operating one composite air group; and accommodations and facilities, including housing, for the interior guard detail of one rifle company.

NOTE: The permanent garrison at this field is to consist of a weather, radio, servicing, and caretaking detachment, estimated at approximately four officers and fifty enlisted men.

- C. That in the acquisition of the bases outlined herein, the rights, powers, and authority to be secured to the United States by the British Government be incorporated in a lease in substance and form herewith transmitted as enclosure (C).
- D. That the United States be given the right to sanitation control of the swamp area to eastward of the Gros Islet seaplane site.
- E. That the United States agree to respect the existing cemetery in the Gros Islet Bay area; and that right-of-ways on existing roads in base areas be reserved to the inhabitants of St. Lucia, subject to military

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Subject: Report of Board of Experts appointed in connection with the acquirement of Naval and Air Bases from the British Government. - St. Lucia.

necessity, or that United States relocate such roads outside the base areas.

7. In the late afternoon on October 18, a final conference was held with His Excellency, the Governor, the Administrator of St. Lucia, and the representative of the British Commander-in-Chief, America and West Indies Station, during which the proposals contemplated by the Board were explained. These proposals were satisfactory to the local authorities and no alternative proposals were put forward by them. One possible difficulty as to clearing title to the Vieux Fort lands was pointed out, due to the lease of these lands to the Barbados Government, which has commenced here a project of settlement and sugar production.

8. The Governor and his advisors were uniformly most helpful, frank, and cooperative in assisting the Board in its investigations by all means at their disposal.

John W. Greenslade,
Rear Admiral, U. S. Navy, President.

Jacob L. Devers,
Major General, U. S. Army, Member.

Russell S. Crenshaw,
Captain, U. S. Navy, Member.

Duette W. Rose,
Captain, Supply Corps, U. S. Navy, Member.

Harry J. Malony,
Lieutenant Colonel, F.A., U. S. Army, Member.

Kendal B. Bragg,
Commander, Civil Engineer Corps, U. S. Navy, Member.

Calvin T. Durgin,
Commander, U. S. Navy, Member.

Omar T. Pfeiffer,
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps, Member and Recorder.

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Enclosure (C) to
Report on St. Lucia, B.W.I.

Lease to the United States of America by His Majesty's
Government in the United Kingdom of certain areas of
land and water in St. Lucia, Windward Islands, B.W.I.

His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, being desirous at this time to execute in part the declarations made on its behalf by His Excellency The Right Honorable The Marquess of Lothian, C.H., British Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, in his communication of September 2, 1940, to the Government of the United States of America, a copy of which is hereto appended and made a part hereof, do by these presents to that end, make and execute the following:

His Majesty's Government hereby lease to the United States of America for the period of ninety-nine years from the date on which possession thereof shall be formally transferred, the following areas of land and water situated in St. Lucia, Windward Islands, British West Indies:

- (1) Starting at a point in Gros Islet Bay on the shoreline on the south bank of the river south of Gros Islet village, proceed five hundred feet due east; thence due south approximately three thousand feet to latitude fourteen degrees, four minutes, twenty-four seconds, north; thence approximately forty-three hundred feet due west to the shoreline; thence northerly along the shoreline to the point of beginning, the entire tract containing approximately one hundred twenty acres. Reference: H.O. Chart 1261. *but including the existing cemetery.*
- (2) Beginning at the point on the road running northwest from Vieux Fort where it crosses the high point on the hill mass; thence generally northeast about one and one-fourth miles along the crest of the hill mass west of Port des Savannes; thence directly east to the shoreline of Port des Savannes; thence generally south along the shoreline to the southeast limits of the village of Vieux Fort; thence along the northerly limits of the village to Vieux Fort River; thence south along the river to the road between Vieux Fort and Laborie; thence northwest along the road (exclusive) for about one and one-half miles; thence approximately north to point of beginning; and an area along Vieux Fort Bay with a frontage of about fifteen hundred feet and a depth of two thousand feet, ~~the exact location of said area to be selected after survey~~, provided that it will not include the settled area of the village; Reference: Map of St. Lucia, Scale: one inch equals two and one-quarter miles. *and provided further*

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The grant of the foregoing areas of land and water shall include the following:

(a) C.L. →

(a) Exclusive rights, power, authority and control within the aforesaid areas and within the territorial waters and air spaces adjacent to or in the vicinity of such areas except as hereinafter otherwise provided.

(b) The right, power, and authority to assume military control and conduct military operations within any part of St. Lucia and surrounding waters and air space to the extent which may become necessary or convenient for the protection of the property, instrumentalities and activities of the United States of America or otherwise to safeguard its national interests.

(c) The right, power, and authority to control the anchorage, moorings, movements, communications and operations of whatever character of all ships and water borne craft within the limits of the areas leased and the territorial waters adjacent thereto or in the vicinity of such areas to the extent that may be determined as necessary or convenient in the use, control and defense of such areas.

(d) The right, power, and authority to control the anchorage, moorings, take-offs, flights, landing movements, and operation of all aircraft within the limits of the areas leased and within the territorial waters and air spaces adjacent to or in the vicinity of such areas, to such extent as may be found necessary or convenient in the use, control and defense of such areas.

(e) The right, power, and authority to regulate and control all external and internal communications of whatever kind, from, to, and within the areas leased.

(f) The right, power, and authority to employ and use all commercial or public utilities, services and facilities, all roads, highways, bridges, viaducts, canals and similar channels of transportation to the same extent and under the same conditions as His Majesty's Government.

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BL { (g) The right, power, and authority to install, maintain and operate at such places and sites as may be necessary or convenient, either on land or in the water areas, breakwaters, underwater defenses, mines, nets, booms, sound detection and other similar devices, military police, armament, control stations, lights, warning and detecting devices and other similar facilities to the extent that may be found necessary or convenient in the use, control and protection of the areas leased.

(h) The right to acquire by supplementary lease from His Majesty's Government for the unexpired period of this lease, without consideration other than just

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compensation to private owners, if any, additional areas, sites, locations and right-of-ways for auxiliary aircraft landing fields, roads, causeways, bridges, power lines, water mains, sewers and similar facilities to such extent as may be found necessary or convenient for the establishment, maintenance, use and protection of naval and air bases in the aforesaid leased areas.

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(i) The right, power, and authority, without consideration other than just compensation to private owners, if any, to enter upon any property in the vicinity of the leased areas for the purpose of inspecting, clearing, draining or taking any other measures considered necessary or desirable to protect the health of personnel quartered or stationed within those areas.

(j) The right, power, and authority to install, maintain and operate buoys, lighthouses and such other aids to navigation as may be determined to be necessary or desirable.

(k) The right, power, and authority to take such means as may be reasonably considered necessary to defend the city of Port Castries, St. Lucia.

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(l) The right, power, and authority to import free from all dues, imports, excises, tolls, customs, levies, or assessments of any kind whatever, all ships, boats, aircraft, arms, machinery, supplies, materials, equipment, clothing, household furnishings, provisions, goods, wares, merchandise and articles similar to the aforesaid, consigned to or destined for any activity of the United States, its employees, its contractors and the dependents of the foregoing residing or stationed in the leased areas, whether civil, naval or military, subject to the condition that any property so admitted will not be further sold or transferred to other interests in the Windward Islands.

*Annex (6)
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The United States of America shall be under no obligation to improve the leased areas in whole or in part for use as naval or air bases, nor to exercise any right, power, or authority herein granted; and if it shall make such improvements or exercise any such right, power, or authority it shall, nevertheless, have the privilege of abandoning any part or all of the foregoing at any time without consent of His Majesty's Government and without incurring any obligation by reason of such abandonment.

The United States of America shall be under no obligation or responsibility for the civil administration or defense of St. Lucia or any part thereof, or for the maintenance of military or naval forces within or without the leased areas.

Crimes and misdemeanors committed within the leased areas during the occupation and use thereof by the United States of America shall be punishable either by the United States or the colonial authorities in accordance with their respective laws, dependent upon which shall first acquire jurisdiction of the person of the offender; except that either government may on

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request deliver the offender to the other for trial; that in all cases the colonial government shall bring to trial all offenders turned over to it by the United States upon request of the colonial authorities or otherwise, and that all offenders in the service of the United States, civil or military, shall on demand be apprehended and delivered to the government of the United States for trial whether or not the offense with which charged was committed within or without the leased areas; provided, that the colonial authorities shall not arrest any person or serve any process, civil or criminal, within the leased areas except upon application previously made to the commanding officer and approved by him: Provided further, that colonial laws of a regulatory nature, or which may otherwise interfere with the use of the leased premises by the United States, shall not be regarded as applicable within such areas.

His Majesty's Government undertake to deliver possession of all lands and facilities, including such as may be privately owned within the leased areas hereinbefore provided for, on such date as may be determined upon by the United States of America: Provided, that the United States of America shall pay to His Majesty's Government such sum or sums as may be mutually agreed upon to compensate the owners of private property for loss by expropriation or damage arising out of the establishment of naval or air bases in the leased areas.

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Appendix (A) to
Report on St. Lucia

Chronological Record of Events.

U. S. S. ST. LOUIS,
Port of Spain, Trinidad,
October 17, 1940.

1430 Commander Durgin, Lieutenant Colonel Arthur, Major Griffiss, and Captain Burnett, Royal Marines, departed by air for Port Castries, St. Lucia, where they arrived at 1600.

1600 The U.S.S. ST. LOUIS departed from Trinidad for Port Castries, St. Lucia.

U. S. S. ST. LOUIS,
Port Castries, St. Lucia,
October 18, 1940.

0600 The Board viewed Vieux Fort Bay from seaward.

0900 U.S.S. ST. LOUIS arrived Port Castries, St. Lucia.

0930 Admiral Greenslade and General Devers conferred with His Excellency, the Governor, and local officials. Admiral Greenslade stated orally to His Excellency, the Governor, the requirements of the United States as set forth in the following memorandum:

1. The requirements at St. Lucia are as follows:

(a) For seaplane base:

Facilities for one patrol plane squadron and sufficient for occasional use by two squadrons.

(b) Area estimate:

For fifteen hundred foot water front, six hundred foot depth (about twenty-one acres).

NOTE: The Joint Planning Committee recommends a location on Anse du Choc Bay as suitable.

(c) Army Requirements:

Area to contain facilities for one infantry regiment reinforced; one composite group; coast defense unit; supply and administrative troops.

(d) Landplane facilities desired:

Two landing fields one of which should have five thousand foot runway.

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CONCLUSIONS

(e) Estimate of area requirements:

Landing fields one square mile each. Troop area one hundred sixty acres.

NOTE: The permanent facilities required:

Detachment at the permanent air-field.

Arrangements were made for such reconnaissances deemed necessary by the Board upon completion of which a final conference was to be held with the Governor.

1000 The Board proceeded to make a reconnaissance of Gros Islet Bay and other areas.

1400 The Board continued reconnaissance. Commander Durgin, Major Griffiss, and Captain Burnett, Royal Marines, departed by air for St. John, Antigua, where they arrived at 1800.

1700 The final conference was held with the Governor, synopsis of this conference is as follows:

Present: The Governor, Administrator, Captain Bethell, Royal Navy, Admiral Greenslade, General Devers, and Captain Crenshaw.

Admiral Greenslade explained to the Governor the recommendations which the Board is preparing to make as follows:

For a seaplane base, an area on the shore of Gros Islet Bay, starting from the western point of the hilly promontory at the south end of the beach, and extending north along the beach to the river just south of Gros Islet Village, five hundred feet in width. Pigeon Island in the bay would not be required by the United States. The Governor stated that he understood there would be a cemetery included within this area. Admiral Greenslade replied that assurance would be given to preserve the cemetery. Should the highway paralleling the beach line within five hundred feet, be restricted, the United States would reconstruct the highway around the edge of the area. The Admiral stated that on this site would be normally stationed about twenty men under an officer, and that during operation periods there would be about two hundred fifty men located here.

For the landplane field the only place on the island of St. Lucia where runways of sufficient length (five thousand feet), could be laid down, and give clear approaches and take-offs, was in the area of Vieux Fort. In view of the lack of suitable maps or charts of this area, it was impossible for the present Board to designate the exact metes and bounds. In our report we would describe the area as pointed out to the Governor on the chart in general location and request immediately that a survey party, probably from San Juan, Porto Rico, be sent to make an accurate survey and determine the exact metes and bounds. The area desired in this section comprises not more than one square mile and will be shaped to accommodate the landplane runways, and with a view to the least possible interference with cultivated areas and

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habitations. It would not appear to be necessary that any of the villages in this vicinity be included in the area. If the United States area interfered with the present location of roads, these would be relocated by the United States.

In the Vieux Fort area, in addition to the runways, buildings would be constructed for quarters, stores, magazines, and approximately the same force would be located here as at the seaplane site. The Governor pointed out that the present jettys on the shore near this area would not be suitable for landing heavy weights, to which Admiral Greenslade replied that the construction of a jetty by the United States would be a part of the development if required. Access to be reserved for the United States over public highways and railway lines as has been common in other locations.

In the discussion, the Governor stated that the cultivated land in this area and many of the buildings were the property of the Barbados sugar interests which had just recently leased these lands from a St. Lucia Company. He stressed the importance of interfering as little as possible with the developments already made by that company. The tramways shown on the chart pass through the center of cane areas, and this seemed to lie well within our proposed area. Administrator Wright announced that the water supply in the Vieux Fort area was very adequate; that the Island Government has a scheme for an additional supply of river water which we should examine in making our plans for our local supply.

The question was raised as to whether we would need storage accommodations near the jetty, for instance, transit sheds and the reply was that we probably would. If we used the wharf or railway we would expect to pay compensation for handling charges of those accommodations.

The question of extraterritoriality was raised by the Governor, and without trying to explain all such cases under that heading, the Admiral stated that the presence of these stations would be similar to that of a ship visiting in the harbor. Certain civilian employees would probably live on the areas, among them being certain inhabitants of the vicinity. These employees would be subject to the regulations of the station. To the question as to whether the present inhabitants would be moved off the area, the Admiral replied not necessarily all - the areas are so small there is hardly room for many to be accommodated on the area, and we would expect the number living there to gradually move out.

The Governor and the Admiral both agreed on the desirability for expediting discussion and final arrangements for starting work on the station. It was proposed to send a party of engineers to survey the Vieux Fort area and make the final determination of metes and bounds, after which our proposals would be submitted to the Governor through the Administrator for his approval. Admiral Greenslade stated that he understood that it was the desire to be ready by spring. Seaplanes could operate from the area chosen at once. In connection with the proposed visit of the United States engineers the Administrator stated that the management of the Barbados sugar interests had offered accommodations in company houses for about four engineers (white officials) and that local rodemen and linkmen could be furnished the party.

1830 The U.S.S. ST. LOUIS sailed for St. John, Antigua.

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PSP
Navy
D-Bases

October 31, 1940

File
Personal
Confidential

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From: The Secretary of War.
The Secretary of the Navy.

To: The President of the United States.

Subject: Report of Board of Experts appointed in connection
with the Acquisition of Naval and Air Bases from
the British Government in the Western Hemisphere.

Enclosure: (A) Original Report of Board for bases in Antigua.
(B) Modified draft of lease.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith recommending that the President approve the report of the Board subject to minor modifications made in Enclosure (B), which is a draft lease putting into form for final action the substance of the Board's report.

2. The substituted draft of lease, Enclosure (B), follows the same form in so far as applicable as in the cases of the proposed leases at Bermuda and Newfoundland the form and substance of which were approved by the Attorney General of the United States.

3. Early approval of this lease is requested in order that the State Department may initiate action to obtain execution of the lease by the British Government.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

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800 DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 8-9-66

Signature- *Carl L. Spicer*

Henry L. Stinson

Frank Knox

Lease to the United States of America by His Majesty's
Government in the United Kingdom of certain areas of
land and water in Antigua, Leeward Islands, B.W.I.

His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, being desirous at this time to execute in part the declarations made on its behalf by His Excellency The Right Honorable The Marquess of Lothian, C.H., British Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, in his communication of September 2, 1940, to the Government of the United States of America, a copy of which is hereto appended and made a part hereof, do by these presents to that end, make and execute the following:

His Majesty's Government hereby lease to the United States of America for the period of ninety-nine years from the date on which possession thereof shall be formally transferred, the following areas of land and water in Antigua, Leeward Islands, British West Indies:

- (1) Beginning at the intersection of the shoreline in the Parish of St. Peter, with latitude seventeen degrees, five minutes, thirty-five seconds, north, and longitude sixty-one degrees, forty-five minutes, twenty seconds, west, proceed due west approximately thirty-one hundred forty feet to the shoreline in Parham Harbor; thence around the shoreline of the peninsula northerly at first, to the point of beginning; including, also, Rat and Mouse Islands and the use and control of the waters in Parham and North Sounds, and essential use of the waters of Parham Harbor, the tracts of land containing approximately three hundred eighty acres.
References: Map of Antigua, 1891.

- (2) Beginning at a point on the east - west road five hundred yards west of High Point factory; thence north about five-eighths mile to the shoreline of Judges Bay; thence east, south, and southeast along the shoreline to Barnacle promontory; thence south and west along the shoreline to the south of the unnamed stream south of Miller; thence west along said stream about five-eighths mile; thence north about nine hundred fifty yards to base of Duke Hill and the eastern edge of Rinthope's Village (exclusive); thence due north about three-eighths mile to point of beginning, the entire tract containing about one and two-fifths square miles; provided, that the residential part of the Miller estate be excluded from the foregoing area and that the United

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States will grant to the present owner of the High Point estate a license for the continued occupation of the residential part of said estate during the lifetime of said present owner without cost.

- (3) The exact metes and bounds of the above described areas shall be established by survey.

The grant of the foregoing areas of land and water shall include the following:

(a) The right, power, and authority to use, fill, and occupy the waters adjacent to said areas and to improve and deepen the entrances thereto and the anchorages thereof and generally to do any and all things necessary to fit the premises for use as naval and air bases.

(b) Exclusive rights, power, authority and control within the aforesaid areas and within the territorial waters and air spaces adjacent to or in the vicinity of such areas except as hereinafter otherwise provided.

(c) The right, power, and authority to assume military control and conduct military operations within any part of Antigua and surrounding waters and air space to the extent which may become necessary or convenient for the protection of the property, instrumentalities and activities of the United States of America or otherwise to safeguard its national interests.

(d) The right, power, and authority to control the anchorage, moorings, movements, communications and operations of whatever character of all ships and water borne craft within the limits of the areas leased and the territorial waters adjacent thereto or in the vicinity of such areas to the extent that may be determined as necessary or convenient in the use, control and defense of such areas.

(e) The right, power, and authority to control the anchorage, moorings, take-offs, flights, landing movements, and operation of all aircraft within the limits of the areas leased and within the territorial waters and air spaces adjacent to or in the vicinity of such areas, to such extent as may be found necessary or convenient in the use, control and defense of such areas.

(f) The right, power, and authority to regulate and control all external and internal communications of whatever nature, from, to, and within the

areas leased.

(g) The right, power, and authority to employ and use all commercial or public utilities, services and facilities, all roads, highways, bridges, viaducts, canals and similar channels of transportation to the same extent and under the same conditions as His Majesty's Government.

(h) The right, power, and authority to install, maintain, and operate at such sites as may be necessary or convenient, armament, underwater defenses, including mines, nets, booms, sound detection, and other similar devices; control stations ashore, beacons, dispensary and first aid stations, lights, warning or detecting devices, and military police, to such extent as may be found necessary or convenient in the use, control, and protection of the areas leased.

(i) The right, power, and authority to acquire by supplementary lease from His Majesty's Government for the unexpired period of this lease, without consideration other than just compensation to private owners, if any, additional areas, sites, locations and rights of-way for auxiliary aircraft landing fields, roads, causeways, bridges, power lines, water mains, sewers and similar facilities to such extent as may be found necessary or convenient for the establishment, maintenance, use and protection of naval and air bases in the aforesaid leased areas.

(j) The right, power, and authority, without consideration other than just compensation to private owners, if any, to enter upon any property in the vicinity of the leased areas for the purpose of inspecting, clearing, draining or taking any other measures considered necessary or desirable to protect the health of personnel quartered or stationed within those areas.

(k) The right, power, and authority to install, maintain and operate buoys, lighthouses and such other aids to navigation as may be determined to be necessary or desirable.

(l) The right, power, and authority to use all public lands, areas, sites, forts, docks, piers, quays, berths, shops, repair facilities, arsenals, magazines, and hospitals to the extent which may become necessary or

convenient for the protection of the property, instrumentalities, and activities of the United States, or otherwise to safeguard its national interests without compensation other than reimbursement of any additional cost directly resulting from such use.

(a) The privilege of importing free from all dues, imposts, excises, tolls, customs, levies, or assessments of any nature whatever, all ships, boats, aircraft, farms, machinery, supplies, materials, equipment, clothing, household furnishings, provisions, goods, wares, merchandise and articles similar to the aforesaid, consigned to or destined for any activity of the United States of America, its military, naval, or civil personnel and their families, contractors and their families, subject to the condition that articles so imported shall not be further sold or transferred to other interests in Antigua.

(n) The right, power, and authority to remove all improvements placed upon the leased areas at any time before the expiration or termination of this lease or of any renewal thereof or within a reasonable time thereafter.

The United States of America shall be under no obligation to improve the leased areas in whole or in part for use as naval or air bases, nor to exercise any right, power, or authority herein granted; and if it shall make such improvements or exercise any such right, power, or authority it shall, nevertheless, have the privilege of abandoning any part or all of the foregoing at any time without consent of His Majesty's Government and without incurring any obligation by reason of such abandonment.

The United States of America shall be under no obligation or responsibility for the civil administration or defense of Antigua or any part thereof, or for the maintenance of military or naval forces within or without the leased areas.

Crimes and misdemeanors committed within the leased areas during the occupation and use thereof by the United States of America shall be punishable either by the United States or the colonial authorities in accordance with their respective laws, dependent upon which shall first acquire jurisdic-

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diction of the person of the offender; except that either government may on request deliver the offender to the other for trial; that in all cases the colonial government shall bring to trial all offenders turned over to it by the United States upon request of the colonial authorities or otherwise, and that all offenders in the service of the United States, civil or military, shall on demand be apprehended and delivered to the government of the United States for trial whether or not the offense with which charged was committed within or without the leased areas; provided, that the colonial authorities shall not arrest any person or serve any process, civil or criminal, within the leased areas except upon application previously made to the commanding officer and approved by him; Provided further, that colonial laws of a regulatory nature, or which may otherwise interfere with the use of the leased premises by the United States, shall not be regarded as applicable within such areas.

His Majesty's Government undertake to deliver possession of all lands and facilities, including such as may be privately owned within the leased areas hereinbefore provided for, on such date as may be determined upon by the United States of America: Provided, that the United States of America shall pay to His Majesty's Government such sum or sums as may be mutually agreed upon to compensate the owners of private property for loss by expropriation or damage arising out of the establishment of naval or air bases in the leased areas.

Antigua (2)

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25041

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U. S. S. ST. LOUIS,
Hamilton, Bermuda,
October 23, 1940.

From: Board of Experts on Naval and Air Bases in
British Possessions in the Western Hemisphere.

To : The Secretary of the Navy.

Subject: Report of Board of Experts appointed in connection with the acquirement of Naval and Air Bases from the British Government. - Antigua.

Reference: (a) Secretary of the Navy Confidential letter, dated September 3, 1940. (Copy attached to Report on Bermuda, Department file (SC) RF-13-44-Doc.24049).
(b) Opanav despatch to U.S.S. ST. LOUIS, 032145, September, 1940. (Copy attached to Report on Bermuda).
(c) Opanav despatch to U.S.S. ST. LOUIS, dated October 16, 1940. (Copy attached to Report on Trinidad).

Enclosure: (A) Marked Map of Island of Antigua, 1891.
(B) Form and Substance of Recommended Lease.

Appendix: (A) Chronological Record of Events.

1. In compliance with the directions of reference (a) and (b), the Board arrived at St. John, Antigua, on October 19, 1940. The Board conferred with His Excellency, the Governor of the Leeward Islands, the leading civil and military authorities of Antigua, and Captain J. S. Bethell, Royal Navy, representative of the British Commander-in-Chief, America and West Indies Station.

2. The Board noted that the purpose of acquisition of base sites on Antigua, as stated by the Joint Planning Committee, is as follows:

- (a) To provide facilities for patrol planes for surveillance of the eastern entrances to the Caribbean Sea.
- (b) To provide a base from which to project air operations in support of the defense of Leeward and Windward Islands.
- (c) To provide a stepping stone for the moving of short range airplanes between Porto Rico and Trinidad.

3. Guided by the directions of the precept and the recommendations of the Joint Planning Committee of the Joint Board, it was decided to investigate areas for the following:

- (a) A seaplane base for one patrol squadron and capable of occasional use by two squadrons.
- (b) A landplane base for one composite group.

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Subject: Report of Board of Experts appointed in connection with the acquirement of Naval and Air Bases from the British Government. - Antigua.

- (c) A garrison capable of expansion to one infantry battalion (reinforced), for protection of the above bases.
4. The local authorities had conducted an extensive study prior to our arrival and their valuable suggestions assisted greatly in the investigations of the Board. The Board reconnoitered the Island of Antigua by road and by air.
5. As a result of its reconnaissance, the Board submits the following observations:
- A. St. John's Harbor and St. John's Road do not offer adequate take-off areas for seaplane operations. Five Islands Harbor, while possible for seaplane operations, was not the best available. Falmouth and English Harbors and Willoughby Bay are either small or unduly exposed to swells. Monsuch Harbor is too small.
- B. Excellent seaplane operating areas exist in Farham Sound. Entrance for tenders, under present conditions is difficult and dredging operations and the installation of aids to navigation must be undertaken. The Crabs Peninsula, extended to North Sound Point, offers excellent locations for protected seaplane ramps, other aviation facilities, and for isolated ammunition storage sites.
- C. The following sites were examined for land airfields with the results set forth below:
- (1) An area about two miles east of the city of St. John and south of Cassada Garden. This site is the best of those examined. It contains some of the best crop producing fields on the Island. For this reason and because of its proximity to the city, the local officials indicated a decided reluctance to approve United States acquisition of this area.
- (2) The Fort Bayam area, on the peninsula south of Winthorpe's Bay. This area is somewhat rolling but contains suitable sites for runways and has the advantage of being located adjacent to the operations area for seaplanes.
- D. The highways of the island are generally fair. Some sections are well paved and all are built to fifteen feet width. A good highway connects the recommended army landing field and the navy seaplane base. Communications with St. John is excellent.
- E. Both recommended sites are among the healthiest on the island.

Subject: Report of Board of Experts appointed in connection with the acquirement of Naval and Air Bases from the British Government. - Antigua.

6. The Board, having completed its investigations, submits the following recommendations:

Reference: Map of Island of Antigua, 1891,
(Enclosure (A)).

A. That areas in Antigua be acquired as follows:

(1) For a seaplane base on North Sound, the metes and bounds of which are:

Beginning at the intersection of the shoreline in the Parish of St. Peter, with latitude seventeen degrees, five minutes, thirty-five seconds, north, and longitude sixty-one degrees, forty-five minutes, twenty seconds, west, proceed due west approximately thirty-one hundred forty feet to the shoreline in Parham Harbor; thence around the shoreline of the peninsula northerly at first, to the point of beginning; including, also, Rat and Mouse Islands and the use and control of the waters in Parham and North Sounds, and essential use of the waters of Parham Harbor, the tracts of land containing approximately three hundred eighty acres.

(2) For a landplane base bordering on Parham Sound (Winthorpe's Bay Area), the metes and bounds of which are:

Beginning at a point on the east - west road five hundred yards west of High Point factory; thence north about five-eighths mile to the shoreline of Judges Bay; thence east, south, and southeast along the shoreline to Barnacle Pt; thence south and west along the shoreline to the mouth of the unnamed stream south of Millar; thence west along said stream about five-eighths mile; thence north about nine hundred fifty yards to base of Date Hill and the eastern edge of Winthorpe's Village (exclusive); thence due north about three-eighths mile to point of beginning, the entire tract containing about one and two-fifths square miles; provided, that the United States will grant to the present owners of Millar and High Point a license for the continued occupation of the residential parts of said estates during the lifetime of said present owners without cost.

Subject: Report of Board of Experts appointed in connection with the acquirement of Naval and Air Bases from the British Government. - Antigua.

B. That construction of facilities in the above areas provide for the following:

(1) Seaplane base, North Sound:

Limited facilities for operation and maintenance of six patrol planes, to include ramp, parking area, water supply, fuel, magazines, storehouses, and temporary housing for plane crews and base personnel.

NOTE: This area is sufficient to admit of intermittent use by two patrol plane squadrons and to accommodate an adequate defense garrison in an emergency.

(2) Landplane base, Winthorpe's Bay:

Runways and airfield facilities, including quarters, administrative, maintenance, and supply establishments capable of receiving and continuously operating one composite air group and one reinforced infantry battalion; and wharf for stores handling.

NOTE: The permanent garrison at this field is to consist of a weather, radio, servicing, and caretaking detachment, estimated at approximately four officers and fifty enlisted men.

C. That in the acquisition of the bases outlined herein, the rights, powers, and authority to be secured to the United States by the British Government be incorporated in a lease in substance and form herewith transmitted as enclosure (B).

7. In the late afternoon on October 19, a final conference was held with His Excellency, the Governor, the Administrator of Antigua, and the representative of the British Commander-in-Chief, America and West Indies Station, during which the proposals contemplated by the Board were explained. These proposals were satisfactory to the local authorities.

8. The Governor and his advisors were uniformly most helpful, frank, and cooperative in assisting the Board in its investigations by all means at their disposal.

John W. Greenslade,
Rear Admiral, U. S. Navy, President.

Jacob L. Devers,
Major General, U. S. Army, Member.

Subject: Report of Board of Experts appointed in connection with the acquirement of Naval and Air Bases from the British Government. - Antigua.

Russell S. Crenshaw,
Captain, U. S. Navy, Member.

Duette W. Rose,
Captain, Supply Corps, U. S. Navy, Member.

Harry J. Malony,
Lieutenant Colonel, P.A., U. S. Army, Member.

Kendal B. Bragg,
Commander, Civil Engineer Corps, U. S. Navy, Member.

Calvin T. Dargin,
Commander, U. S. Navy, Member.

Omar T. Pfeiffer,
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps, Member and Recorder.

Enclosure (B) to

Report on Antigua, B.W.I.

Lease to the United States of America by His Majesty's
Government in the United Kingdom of certain areas of
land and water in Antigua, Leeward Islands, B.W.I.

His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, being desirous at this time to execute in part the declarations made on its behalf by His Excellency The Right Honorable The Marquess of Lothian, C.H., British Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, in his communication of September 2, 1940, to the Government of the United States of America, a copy of which is hereto appended and made a part hereof, do by these presents to that end, make and execute the following:

His Majesty's Government hereby lease to the United States of America for the period of ninety-nine years from the date on which possession thereof shall be formally transferred, the following areas of land and water situated in Antigua, Leeward Islands, British West Indies:

- (1) Beginning at the intersection of the shoreline in the Parish of St. Peter, with latitude seven-teen degrees, five minutes, thirty-five seconds, north, and longitude sixty-one degrees, forty-five minutes, twenty seconds, west, proceed due west approximately thirty-one hundred forty feet to the shoreline in Parham Harbor; thence around the shoreline of the peninsula northerly at first, to the point of beginning; including, also, Rat and Mouse Islands and the use and control of the waters in Parham and North Sounds, and essential use of the waters of Parham Harbor, the tracts of land containing approximately three hundred eighty acres. Reference: Map of Island of Antigua, 1891.
- (2) Beginning at a point on the east - west road five hundred yards west of High Point factory; thence north about five-eighth mile to the shoreline of Judges Bay; thence east, south, and southeast along the shoreline to Barnacle promontory; thence south and west along the shoreline to the mouth of the unnamed stream south of Millar; thence west along said stream about five-eighth mile; thence north about nine hundred fifty yards to base of Date Hill and the eastern edge of Winthorpe's Village (exclusive); thence due north about three-eighth mile to point of beginning, the entire tract containing about one and two-fifths square miles; provided, that the United States will grant to the present owners of Millar and High Point a license for the continued occupation of the residential parts of said estates during the lifetime of said present owners without cost.

TP (3) B6.-

The grant of the foregoing areas of land and water shall

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Enclosure B-1

include the following:

(a) E.L.

(a) Exclusive rights, power, authority and control within the aforesaid areas and within the territorial waters and air spaces adjacent to or in the vicinity of such areas except as hereinafter otherwise provided.

(b) The right, power, and authority to assume military control and conduct military operations within any part of Antigua and surrounding waters and air space to the extent which may become necessary or convenient for the protection of the property, instrumentalities and activities of the United States of America or otherwise to safeguard its national interests.

(c) The right, power, and authority to control the anchorage, moorings, movements, communications and operations of whatever character of all ships and water borne craft within the limits of the areas leased and the territorial waters adjacent thereto or in the vicinity of such areas to the extent that may be determined as necessary or convenient in the use, control and defense of such areas.

(d) The right, power, and authority to control the anchorage, moorings, take-offs, flights, landing movements, and operation of all aircraft within the limits of the areas leased and within the territorial waters and air spaces adjacent to or in the vicinity of such areas, to such extent as may be found necessary or convenient in the use, control and defense of such areas.

(e) The right, power, and authority to regulate and control all external and internal communications of whatever kind, from, to, and within the areas leased.

(f) The right, power, and authority to employ and use all commercial or public utilities, services and facilities, all roads, highways, bridges, viaducts, canals and similar channels of transportation to the same extent and under the same conditions as His Majesty's Government.

(g) The right, power, and authority to install, maintain and operate at such places and sites as may be necessary or convenient, either on land or in the water areas, breakwaters, underwater defenses, mines, nets, booms, sound detection and other similar devices, military police, armament, control stations, lights, warning and detecting devices and other similar facilities to the extent that may be found necessary or convenient in the use, control and protection of the areas leased.

(h) The right to acquire by supplementary lease from His Majesty's Government for the unexpired period of this lease, without consideration other than just compensation to private owners, if any, additional areas,

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- X sites, locations and right-of-way for auxiliary aircraft landing fields, roads, causeways, bridges, power lines, water mains, sewers and similar facilities to such extent as may be found necessary or convenient for the establishment, maintenance, use and protection of naval and air bases in the aforesaid leased areas.

(i) The right, power, and authority, without consideration other than just compensation to private owners, if any, to enter upon any property in the vicinity of the leased areas for the purpose of inspecting, clearing, draining or taking any other measures considered necessary or desirable to protect the health of personnel quartered or stationed within those areas.

(j) The right, power, and authority to install, maintain and operate buoys, lighthouses and such other aids to navigation as may be determined to be necessary or desirable.

amend (j) → (k) The right, power, and authority to take such means as may be reasonably considered necessary to defend the city of St. John, Antigua. del.

Substitute (K) B.L. (l) The right, power, and authority to import free from all dues, imports, excises, tolls, customs, levies, or assessments of any kind whatever, all ships, boats, aircraft, arms, machinery, supplies, materials, equipment, clothing, household furnishings, provisions, goods, wares, merchandise and articles similar to the aforesaid, consigned to or destined for any activity of the United States, its employees, its contractors and the dependents of the foregoing residing or stationed in the leased areas, whether civil, naval or military, subject to the condition that any property so admitted will not be further sold or transferred to other interests in the Leeward Islands.

amend (l) B.L. → The United States of America shall be under no obligation to improve the leased areas in whole or in part for use as naval or air bases, nor to exercise any right, power, or authority herein granted; and if it shall make such improvements or exercise any such right, power, or authority it shall, nevertheless, have the privilege of abandoning any part or all of the foregoing at any time without consent of His Majesty's Government and without incurring any obligation by reason of such abandonment.

The United States of America shall be under no obligation or responsibility for the civil administration or defense of Antigua or any part thereof, or for the maintenance of military or naval forces within or without the leased areas.

Crimes and misdemeanors committed within the leased areas during the occupation and use thereof by the United States of America shall be punishable either by the United States or the colonial authorities in accordance with their respective laws, dependent upon which shall first acquire jurisdiction of the person of the offender; except that either government may on request deliver the offender to the other for trial; that in

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all cases the colonial government shall bring to trial all offenders turned over to it by the United States upon request of the colonial authorities or otherwise, and that all offenders in the service of the United States, civil or military, shall on demand be apprehended and delivered to the government of the United States for trial whether or not the offense with which charged was committed within or without the leased areas; provided, that the colonial authorities shall not arrest any person or serve any process, civil or criminal, within the leased areas except upon application previously made to the commanding officer and approved by him; Provided further, that colonial laws of a regulatory nature, or which may otherwise interfere with the use of the leased premises by the United States, shall not be regarded as applicable within such areas.

His Majesty's Government undertake to deliver possession of all lands and facilities, including such as may be privately owned within the leased areas hereinbefore provided for, on such date as may be determined upon by the United States of America: Provided, that the United States of America shall pay to His Majesty's Government such sum or sums as may be mutually agreed upon to compensate the owners of private property for loss by expropriation or damage arising out of the establishment of naval or air bases in the leased areas.

Appendix (A) to
Report on Antigua
Chronological Record of Events.

U. S. S. ST. LOUIS,
Port Castries, St. Lucia,
October 18, 1940.

1400 Commander Durgin, Major Griffiss, and Captain
Burnett, Royal Marines, departed by air for St. John, Antigua,
where they arrived at 1800.

1830 The U.S.S. ST. LOUIS sailed for St. John, Antigua.

U. S. S. ST. LOUIS,
St. John, Antigua,
British Leeward Islands,
October 19, 1940.

0800 The U.S.S. ST. LOUIS, with the members of the Board,
arrived St. John, Antigua.

0830 Major Branche, the boarding officer, called on
Admiral Greenslade and General Devers.

0930 Admiral Greenslade, General Devers, Captain Crenshaw,
Lieutenant Colonel Malony, Commander Biesemeier, Lieutenant
Colonel Pfeiffer, and Captain Bethell, Royal Navy, and represen-
tative of the British Commander-in-Chief, America and West In-
dies Station, conferred with His Excellency, the Governor, Sir
Gordon Lethem.

The Governor: I have had communications telling me in
general what you are looking for but now I want to ask you what
you want?

Admiral Greenslade: We want to go over to the north side
and examine certain sites.

The Governor: We will cut out all formalities and get down
to business. You look over what you want to see and then we will
discuss your proposals. I have my maps spread out on the billiard
table and will show you the places I have recommended to you. I
think you should look at Five Island Harbor and then go to Farham
Sound. I have already sent you Major Mayo's report and I think
you will find that the best survey of aircraft operating condi-
tions that has been made for Antigua. This morning I sent Command-
er Durgin and Major Griffiss to look over the land areas in the
vicinity of Farham Sound.

Admiral Greenslade: I think we should go direct to Farham
Sound.

The Governor: I will go with you.

1000 The Board began a reconnaissance of the northern part
of Antigua from the ground, including the Farham Sound section.

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1300 Members of the Board were tendered luncheon at Government House by the Governor, in company with local officials.

1415 Admiral Greenslade and General Devers reconnoitered Antigua from the air. Other members carried out missions assigned.

1430 Commander Durgin departed for San Juan, Porto Rico, by air.

1700 The final conference with the Governor was held. Present: His Excellency, the Governor, Captain Bethell, Royal Navy, Captain Burnett, Royal Marines, Major Gettings, Administrator Boone, Mr. Moody Stuart, Pan American representative and member of the legislative council, Admiral Greenslade, General Devers, Captain Greenghaw, Lieutenant Colonel Arthur, Lieutenant Colonel Pfeiffer, and Major Griffiss.

Admiral Greenslade: After making a comparison of the two most suitable sites for an airfield, we feel that it would cost more for the development of the site near Parham Sound than it would for the one farther inland. We like the peninsula in Parham Sound for the naval air base establishment. We may not come all the way down to the neck of the peninsula, and will not include Crab Mill in the area. The exact line across the peninsula will depend upon where the best place is for the installation of the seaplane ramps. I flew over this afternoon and think the ramps could be placed near the northern end but they may be too exposed there. I note that this chart shows land plots, the lines of which would be valuable for use in describing the metes and bounds of the area desired.

The Governor: That chart is out of date and the plots on there mean nothing now.

Admiral Greenslade: We will leave the question of metes and bounds for the moment. We expect to put in piers and desire the right to use the roads giving access to the peninsula. Also, we would want some provision that would give us the right to use an anchorage space.

The Governor: That is your proposition. You want areas on both sides of the bay?

Admiral Greenslade: We could find no way in which we could place the two areas together. General Devers will explain the other area.

General Devers: (Indicated on a map the area desired for a landing field.) That area will include some sugar land; we may also want some space for piers on the peninsula or on the other side of the bay. The roads now running through the area desired for a landing field would be relocated so as to pass around the boundary of the field.

The Governor: Where is Mrs. Camacho's place?

Mr. Stuart: It is on both sides of this road that runs through the landing field area desired.

General Devers: We always try to avoid dispossession. In the United States we have found that when people are too close to aircraft operations they eventually leave or use the money they get for their land to locate elsewhere.

The Governor: She could move to Carlisle where she has another home. Your runways are there (indicating on map). Why do you need the southern section of the area?

General Devers: That area is required for the erection of storage buildings, hangars, etc.

The Governor: You expect to leave St. George's Church clear and the access thereto?

Captain Crenshaw: We expect to exclude the church property.

The Governor: You want to go to the water?

Lieutenant Colonel Arthur: Yes, in order to obtain control of the swamp there so as to prevent it being a sanitary menace.

The Governor: You could use Millar's for storage.

Captain Crenshaw: We do not want to run into the village.

The Governor: Of the two, that near the shore is better.

Mr. Stuart: I have no objection to them going to High Point.

The Governor: I should say the High Point site would be better. It would avoid one of the best sugar cane fields in the island.

General Devers: Let us consider that.

Lieutenant Colonel Arthur: That will be perfectly satisfactory.

The Governor: Then it would be along the stream. Boone, is that satisfactory?

Mr. Boone: Yes.

The Governor: Then you will skirt the village?

Captain Crenshaw: How far does High Point go?

The Governor: It comes pretty far in, but you will take High Point Bluff. I think that is a better idea from the community point of view.

Lieutenant Colonel Arthur: That is satisfactory to us.

The Governor: That raises the question of the house at High Point. The man living there is blind. He lives with his wife. The loss of the home would be bad for them but the loss of their land would not be serious.

Lieutenant Colonel Arthur: We could take the land and the

GOVERNMENT HOUSES

house, and then give him a license to live in it until he dies.

The Governor: If he could live there, that would meet that, just the same as the Millar house.

The Governor: Is that all we have to discuss?

Admiral Greenslade: About the line across the peninsula - we ordinarily would need about one hundred sixty acres. We could draw a line higher north than across the neck.

Mr. Stuart: Our people run almost all the way out.

Admiral Greenslade: None live there because I saw no houses when I flew over this afternoon.

Mr. Stuart: No, they live in Farham Village.

Admiral Greenslade: There are no residences on the peninsula. If we take more ground than we need for our installations in the beginning, they could continue to cultivate the ground we do not need at the time.

The Governor: Your general scheme suits me quite well but your land requirements took me by surprise. I thought the primary need was a seaplane base and that you desired a landing field with three thousand foot runways for pursuit landplanes. It was a complete surprise when you proposed Cassada Gardens. You came very close to the center of the island. The railroad of the sugar company runs through there. The race course is there, but that is immaterial. The separation of your areas would complicate jurisdiction for both you and us. I would suggest that you make the naval base your permanent establishment with complete jurisdiction residing in you, and that you build your landing strips where you want them, so that they will be available when you want to use them, but that they be under our control. How about agreeing that they will be for common use and for commercial use? I have a telegram which indicates that you might do that.

Admiral Greenslade: We have no specific instructions to that effect, but we have recommended reciprocal use of facilities elsewhere.

The Governor: If Pan American Airways wanted to use them, would you permit it?

General Devers: They could use them, if they wanted to. We now have arrangements for reciprocal use of all their fields in South America and when we took over their field in Porto Rico we agreed to let them continue to use it.

The Governor: I guess that would be satisfactory to everybody, because Pan America may want to change to landplanes again. Are there any other points? I have made a note of some other points which I have mentioned to Admiral Greenslade. I expressed my personal opinion on them but we will let that go now. (These points referred to wage contracts, date of commencement, etc., administrative matters to be settled between the two governments.)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The Governor: Mr. Stuart, are the arrangements we have discussed satisfactory?

Mr. Stuart: Yes.

Lieutenant Colonel Arthur: I have made arrangements for a survey to be made of the area we desire, and to have the survey forwarded.

The Governor: I believe we have come to the end of our points. How about you?

Admiral Greenslade: I believe so. I have just been talking to General Meyers about some points but they all appear to be settled satisfactorily.

1830 U.S.S. ST. LOUIS departed from St. John, Antigua, for San Juan, Porto Rico.

2100 The Board began preparation of the report on Antigua.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON

NOV 16 1940

SLT:

As the Secretary of State is undoubtedly aware a Board of Army and Navy officers was appointed by the President to visit and report upon suitable sites for naval and air bases in Newfoundland, Bermuda, Bahamas, Jamaica, St. Lucia, Trinidad, Antigua, and British Guiana. This Board was appointed and functioned pursuant to the provisions contained in the exchange of notes dated September 2, 1940, between the British Ambassador and the Secretary of State.

The reports of this Board have been received, reviewed by the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy, and forwarded to the President for his action. It is understood that the reports of the Board in those cases which have received the President's approval have been forwarded by the President to the Secretary of State for further negotiations with the British Government in order to consummate the leasing of the bases by the British Government to the United States as contemplated in the exchange of notes dated September 2, 1940, above mentioned.

Among the first of the Board's reports was the one involving the lease to the United States of bases in Newfoundland and the development of the naval and air bases in Newfoundland and the development to a greater extent than in any of the other localities involved. Surveys to fix the boundaries of the areas in Newfoundland are now progressing rapidly and the Navy Department is extremely anxious that everything necessary be consummated in order that the establishment and use of naval and air bases in Newfoundland, as well as in the other seven British colonies, may proceed with all possible expedition.

There is transmitted herewith as an enclosure a copy of a letter which was received by the Secretary of the Navy from the British Charge' d' Affaires in Washington, D.C., on November 12, 1940, relative to the establishment of the bases in Newfoundland. Attention is invited to paragraph 4 of this letter reading as follows:

"The Government of the United States shall forthwith take steps to agree with the Government of Newfoundland

(original copy)

Received
Confidential

on a procedure to be adopted for the settlement and payment by the United States Government of claims of owners of private property for compensation for loss or damage which may be caused by expropriation."

In connection with the above quoted paragraph from the British Charge' d' Affaires I deem it pertinent to quote the following extracts from the exchange of notes dated September 2, 1940, as follows:

"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 operation and protection thereof, on the Avalon Peninsula and on the southern coast of Newfoundland * * *"

"All the bases and facilities referred to in the preceding paragraph will be leased to the United States for a period of ninety-nine years, free from all rent and charges other than such compensation to be mutually agreed on to be paid by the United States in order to compensate the owners of private property for loss by expropriation or damage arising out of the establishment of the bases and facilities in question."

It appears to the Navy Department that the terms of the agreement set out above contemplate two things, namely: (1) That His British Majesty's Government will secure the grant to the Government of the United States of the naval and air bases contemplated in the exchange of notes; and (2) That the Government of the United States will pay to His Majesty's Government just compensation for the benefit of owners of private property for loss by expropriation or damage arising out of the establishment of the bases and facilities.

It will be noted in the quotation from the British Charge' d' Affaires' letter that he attempts to impose upon the Government of the United States the task of coming to an agreement with the Government of Newfoundland on a procedure to be adopted for the settlement and payment by the United States Government of private claims for property expropriated. The Navy Department is strongly of the opinion that the United States Government would have no standing in any of the Colonial Courts in any proceedings to expropriate private property. It is considered that expropriation measures are and must remain a function of His Majesty's Government. Furthermore, the Navy Department is in possession of information received from the Board which has made the surveys of prospective bases that there is in effect certain emergency

JAC:rd

war time legislation throughout the British Empire which would admit of expeditious expropriation proceedings so that even if the United States Government had any standing in such matters in the Colonial Courts it would be much more desirable in the interests of speed for the British Government to institute such proceedings.

In view of the fact that the conduct of all negotiations in connection with the acquisition of these naval and air bases has been and still is, as the Navy Department understands it, a function of the Department of State rather than that of the War and Navy Departments, it is suggested that the Department of State take this matter up with the British Embassy to the end that all further negotiations may be centralized and handled where they properly belong. Should the State Department desire any assistance or advice from the Navy Department, or the detail of a liaison officer to work with the State Department in this matter, the Navy Department will, of course, be glad to comply with the State Department's wishes in the matter.

The British Charge' d' Affaires has been informed of the reference of his letter to the Secretary of State.

Respectfully,

Frank Knox

The Honorable,
The Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

CC- The President
The Secretary of War

BRITISH EMBASSY,

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

November 11th, 1940.

Schedule.

Dear Mr. Secretary,

Pending the settlement of the terms of a formal lease of the areas to be used as bases under the agreement contained in the exchange of notes between the United States Government and His Majesty's Government on September 2nd, 1940, I have been authorised to inform you that His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and the Commission of Government of Newfoundland confirm that it has been agreed as follows as regards the area to be leased in Newfoundland:

1. The base shall comprise the area set out in the schedule hereto, the exact boundaries of which shall be embodied in the said lease.
2. It is hereby agreed that the said area shall be leased to the United States for the term of 99 years subject to the terms and conditions to be embodied in the said lease.
3. The United States Government is hereby authorized to commence any works in the said area necessary to the establishment of the said base.
4. The Government of the United States shall forthwith take steps to agree with the Government of Newfoundland on a procedure to be adopted for the settlement and payment by the United States Government of claims of owners of private property for compensation for loss

or/

The Honourable
Colonel F. Knox,
Secretary of the Navy,
Navy Department,
Washington, D. C.

or damage which may be caused by expropriation.

Schedule.

- (1) Air base and Army training ground.
Argentia peninsula and two square miles south
of Little Placentia Harbour.
- (2) Naval base site of approximately 22 acres on the
south side of St. John's Harbour, to include
about 1250 feet of wharfage for handling supply
stores and equipment.
- (3) Site for Army Defensive Force of approximately
160 acres North of Quidi Vidi Lake.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. Secretary,

Very sincerely yours,

/s/ Nevile Butler

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*file
Confidential*

November 28, 1940.

MEMORANDUM FOR

MR. FORSTER

*RF
Navy
1-40
for B*

The attached are carbon copies of the papers which accompanied the leases which the Navy Department is so anxious to locate and about which I spoke to you yesterday. I thought these copies might be of help to you in attempting to locate the originals.

found

D. H. Callaghan
D. H. CALLAGHAN

OP-124-4-drc
(30) EFL3-44
Doc. 25043
Ser. 041612

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1 November 1940

Presidential Library

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DOO DIA 6200.0 (3/27/200)

From: The Secretary of War.
The Secretary of the Navy.

Date: 10-7-63

Carl E. J. J. J.

To: The President of the United States.

Subject: Supplemental Report of Board of Experts
appointed in connection with the Acquire-
ment of Naval and Air Bases in Bermuda
from the British Government.

Enclosure: (A) Original and one copy of the Supple-
mental Report of the Board of Experts
for Bermuda.
(B) Modified draft of form of lease.

1. As the President is aware the local author-
ities of Bermuda made some objections to the areas
originally selected by the board for the development of
naval and air bases in Bermuda. Enclosure (A) is the
supplemental report of the board submitted as the result
of these objections. It is understood that the areas
selected in the supplemental report of the board have
the approval in principle of the local Bermudian au-
thorities.

2. Enclosure (B) is a proposed draft of a lease
putting into form for final action the substance of the
board's supplemental report with one minor modification
with respect to seaplane operations. This draft,
Enclosure (B), conforms in so far as applicable to the
draft originally submitted which had the approval of
the Attorney General of the United States.

3. The supplemental report of the board con-
siders only temporary or intermittent use of the Great
Sound for seaplane operations. The Navy Department con-
siders it necessary to make Great Sound the primary
seaplane operating area because the waters of Castle
Harbor are too limited for the safe operation of naval
patrol planes now in service and to be placed in service

in the near future. It would be necessary to use Great Sound for a considerable length of time in any case, since the development of Castle Harbor within its limitations would require a slow and expensive dredging effort. It is understood that the objections of the local authorities to the proposals of the original report were applicable principally to the base facilities for surface ships, land planes, and other army forces.

4. Early approval of this lease is requested in order that the State Department may initiate action to obtain execution of the lease by the British Government.

Henry L. Stimson

Frank Knox

October 31, 1940.

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Secretary of War.
The Secretary of the Navy.

To: The President of the United States.

Subject: Report of Board of Experts appointed in connection with the Acquisition of Naval and Air Bases from the British Government in the Western Hemisphere.

Enclosures: (A) Original Report of Board for bases in Trinidad.
(B) Modified draft of lease.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith recommending that the President approve the report of the Board subject to minor modifications made in Enclosure (B), which is a draft lease putting into form for final action the substance of the Board's report.

2. The substituted draft of lease, Enclosure (B), follows the same form in so far as applicable as in the cases of the proposed leased at Bermuda and Newfoundland the form and substance of which were approved by the Attorney General of the United States.

3. Early approval of this lease is requested in order that the State Department may initiate action to obtain execution of the lease by the British Government.

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DDO DIR. 0200.0 (9/27/00)

Date 10-7-63

11/20/07

(Carl J. Spencer)

Henry L. Stimson

Frank Knox

← NB/HR13-43(406904)

D2:dc

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

(SC)EF13-44

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*PSF
Navy-1-40
D for B*

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

CONFIDENTIAL

WASHINGTON December 5, 1940

Sir:

This letter is in further reference to the reports submitted by the "President's Board of Naval Experts" whose duty it was to select sites for naval and air bases in accordance with an exchange of notes dated September 2, 1940, between His Excellency, The Right Honorable, The Marquess of Lothian, C.H., British Ambassador and the Secretary of State of the United States.

It is understood that copies of the above mentioned reports have been forwarded to the Secretary of State.

When these reports were received in the Navy Department a mixed board of Army and Navy officers was designated by the Secretaries of War and Navy to review them and prepare the necessary joint action for the Secretaries of War and Navy transmitting these reports to the President.

The result of the Board's deliberations was to rewrite the proposed leases between the British Government and the United States. As thus rewritten the reports of the "President's Board of Naval Experts" were transmitted to the President by joint letter from the Secretaries of War and Navy with the recommendation that the rewritten drafts of proposed leases be substituted for the drafts of leases submitted by the Board and, as thus modified, the reports of the Board be approved by the President.

The President has now approved the entire group of reports and there is transmitted herewith as enclosures photostatic copies of the approval together with photostatic copies of the proposed leases as they were rewritten.

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Date- 10-7-63

Signature- *Paul S. Spicer*

2)
OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR
OF THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
AGENCY
NB/AF13-43(400904)
D2:dc

CONFIDENTIAL

PSF
Nary
J for B

It is requested that the State Department initiate action as soon as may be practicable looking toward the execution of a formal lease in each of the cases submitted.

Respectfully,

FORRESTAL

The Honorable,
The Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Enclosures (7)

Copies to: ✓ The President of
the United States
The Secretary of War

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DOD DML 6200.2 (6/27/58)

Date- 10-7-63

Signature- Carl G. Spicer

1-40
Dfor B
Navy
RSE
December 26, 1940

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
and
THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

I have received the confidential memorandum in regard to tentative program of development of bases acquired from Great Britain.

1. I have, as you know, recently visited the sites for the proposed bases in Jamaica, St. Lucia, Antigua and Mayaguana Islands.

2. My suggestions in regard to these sites are, therefore, based on personal visits. I append, however, my offhand thoughts on the Chief of Operations' memorandum.

3. Newfoundland. The immediate program is not in my judgment large enough. It is my thought that the proposed Naval Air Station at Argentia should be manned in peace time by the small force you recommend, but should, nevertheless, be capable of immediate increase to take care of two additional squadrons of patrol amphibians and one carrier group.

4. Bermuda. I approve but as in the case of Newfoundland, the facilities while not greater in peace time should be capable of immediate expansion in war time by two squadrons of patrol seaplanes and temporary operation of one (not two) carrier groups.

5. Mayaguana. See last paragraph of this memorandum.

6. Jamaica. To the immediate program should be added some money for making this a safe fleet anchorage. That involves some rather inexpensive break-water work by the dredging method and a small amount of dredging so as to give two narrow entrance channels, both of them capable of being netted.

7. Antigua. The immediate program seems adequate.

8. St. Lucia. The immediate program seems adequate.

9. Trinidad. Both the immediate and future programs seem adequate.

10. British Guiana. The immediate program seems adequate.

11. In regard to all eight bases, it is advisable for reasons of national policy to establish as soon as possible, i.e., within two or three months, a very small force of Marines or enlisted men on shore. This, in the case of Jamaica, Antigua, St. Lucia and British Guiana, could be limited to a maximum of fifty men in each place. In the case of Newfoundland, Bermuda and Trinidad, the forces ashore should be limited to a hundred men. I emphasize immediate occupation. Except in Newfoundland, the men can live in either tents or the temporary form of wooden buildings which W. and D. is prepared to erect.

12. In regard to the proposed base in the Bahamas, please speak to me. Strategically this base will serve us primarily (both for the Army and the Navy) as a stepping stone between Jacksonville or Miami and the San Juan, Puerto Rico base. This means a stepping stone primarily for seaplanes and carrier or land planes. This involves keeping the Bermuda base as near to halfway to San Juan, Puerto Rico as possible. It involves an anchorage where ships can lie safely even if their supply cargoes have to be lightered ashore. The secondary use of Bermuda is to patrol the channels from the Atlantic into the Caribbean -- roughly between the Crooked Island passage and the Turks Island passage. Passages East of Turk Island can be patrolled from San Juan. Crooked Island passage is commercially far and away the most important because our merchant shipping for the Caribbean and Panama and Guantanamo use this passage for the most part. Mayaguana has a good lagoon but the island is solid coral with no dirt-fill for land runways and is, therefore, untenable except by blasting out the coral. There is no safe anchorage for ships. The island runs East and West and the trades blow in on both the North and the South coasts. I am inclined to think that while it is a little too far north, we should carefully look at the north end of Cat Island where a safe lee is formed by reefs that run northwesterly to Little San Salvador Island.

Speed requested.

F. D. R.

FOR SIGNATURE
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

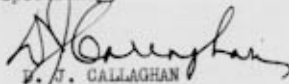
December 20, 1940.

THE CHIEF OF NAVAL
OPERATIONS
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

The attached letter from the Chief of Naval Operations contains the latest departmental thought on the question of installations at the various bases acquired from Great Britain, and is the result of continuous study since the inception of the program.

Since I knew that the President had some ideas on the question of the facilities at the various bases, I suggested to Admiral Stark that the attached letter should be shown to the President prior to its promulgation.

Respectfully,


E. J. CALLAGHAN

EXCLUDED TO THE
WASHINGTON
THE WHITE HOUSE

**FOR SIGNATURE
OF
THE CHIEF OF NAVAL
OPERATIONS**

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 88000

In reply refer to Initials
and No.

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NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON

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NAVY LHM. 5200.9 (2/27/58)

Date- 10-7-63

Signature- *Carl L. Spicer*

MEMORANDUM

From: The Chief of Naval Operation
To: The Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks
The Chief of the Bureau of Aeronautics
The Chief of the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts
The Director, Naval Districts Division
The Director, War Plans Division
The Director, Central Division
Rear Admiral J. W. Greenslade, U.S.N.,
The General Board
The Assistant Chief of Naval Operations

Subject: A tentative program of development of bases
acquired from Great Britain.

1. The following program for the development of bases acquired from Great Britain is tentatively established, subject to the approval of higher authority. In this program the principle has been established of avoiding creation of a large number of partially developed bases, having a comparatively small amount of immediate usefulness where the original installation, maintenance, and possible growth would create continuing requirements for funds which can be more profitably employed for other more important naval purposes.

2. The program for each base is shown subdivided into two columns. The items in the left hand columns, indicated as "Immediate", pertain to the expenditure of \$50,000,000 recently made available, and include the purchase of land, construction of facilities, and work such as surveying, dredging, etc. The estimates in the right hand columns, indicated as "Future", pertain to the same measures of development which are proposed for accomplishment during the next five years, but which will be paid for from future allotments or appropriations. Additional temporary developments may be found to be necessary during war, but, as the nature and extent of these cannot now be foreseen, such developments are excluded from both lists.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

2. Cont'd.

CONFIDENTIAL

Immediate

NEWFOUNDLAND

Future

1. Acquire all land, crown, colonial and private, on the Argentinia Peninsula.
2. Conduct an engineering survey covering immediate and future construction and work.
3. Establish a Naval Air Station at Argentinia with capacity for one squadron of patrol amphibians, including landing field, and with berthing space for one large and two small seaplane tenders.

1. Increase air station capacity to two squadrons of patrol amphibians and one carrier group.

BERMUDA

1. Acquire all land, crown, colonial and private on Morgan's and Tucker's Islands and the immediate adjacent Cays.

1. Increase Naval Air Station facilities to care for two squadrons of patrol seaplanes. Provide facilities for temporary operation of two carrier groups in conjunction with Army development of landing field.

2. Conduct an engineering survey covering immediate and future construction and work.

2. Improve anchorage for operation of carriers and light forces.

3. Establish a Naval Air Station for one squadron of patrol seaplanes and berthing space for two small tenders.

MAYAGUANA

No development is to be undertaken at this time, pending further investigation.

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- 2 -

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DATE 10-7-63 BY SP200.8 (9/27/58)

Date- 10-7-63

Signature- Carl L. Spear

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 2. Cont'd.

Immediate

JAMAICA

Future

1. Acquire all land, crown, colonial and private on Goat Island (Great and Little) and adjacent Cays.
2. Store at Guantanamo the material needed for rapid construction and equipment of shore facilities for two squadrons of tender based patrol seaplanes.
3. Conduct engineering surveys covering land acquisition and erection of temporary seaplane base.
4. Construction of fleet landings for small boats to bring recreation parties ashore, and dredging of approaches to landings.

ANTIGUA

1. Acquire all land, crown, colonial and private for a Naval Air Station.
2. Store at San Juan, P.R. material needed for rapid construction and equipment of shore facilities for one squadron of tender based patrol seaplanes.
3. Conduct an engineering survey covering land acquisition and water areas for a Naval Air Station.
4. Dredging necessary to permit use of Parham Sound and North Sound by aircraft and two small tenders, and to prepare for rapid construction of an Air Station in an emergency. The extent to which this item is carried out at this time will depend upon available funds.

1. Complete the development of the protected fleet anchorage including dredging, anti-torpedo barriers, nets and submarine detection devices.

2. Increase air station capacity to two patrol squadrons. Provide facilities for temporary operation of two patrol groups in conjunction with the fleet.

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Date- 10-7-62

Signature- Carl J. Spicer

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2. Cont'd.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Immediate

Future

ST. LUCIA

1. Acquire all land, crown, colonial and private, for a Naval Air Station on Gros Islet Bay.
2. Store at Trinidad, the material needed for rapid construction and equipment of shore facilities for one squadron of tender based patrol seaplanes.
3. Conduct an engineering survey covering land acquisition and erection of a temporary seaplane base.
4. Dredging necessary to prepare for rapid construction of an air station in an emergency.

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Date- 10-7-63

Signature- *Carl F. Spicer*

TRINIDAD

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Acquire all land, crown, colonial and private as described in sub-paragraph (1) of the lease approved by the President, required for the naval development. | 1. Complete the development of the protected fleet anchorage including dredging, anti-torpedo barriers, nets and submarine detection devices. |
| 2. Conduct an engineering survey covering immediate and future acquisitions, construction and work. | 2. Increase air station capacity to two patrol squadrons. Provide facilities for temporary operation of two carrier groups in conjunction with Army development of landing field. |
| 3. Begin development of a protected fleet anchorage within the limits of funds available. | 3. Provide storage for under-water defense material for local use. |

CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 2. Cont'd.

Immediate

Future

TRINIDAD cont'd.

4. Establish a Naval Air Station with capacity for one squadron of patrol seaplanes, and a pier for one large and one small seaplane tender.
5. Establish an advance base depot with material for emergency construction of two outlying air bases.

BRITISH GUIANA

1. Acquire sufficient land, crown, colonial and private, on the bank of the Demerara River for the construction of a Naval Air Station in an emergency.
2. Conduct an emergency survey covering land acquisition and erection of a temporary seaplane base.
3. Store at Trinidad the material needed for rapid construction of shore facilities for one squadron of tender based patrol seaplanes.

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DDO GDR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 10-7-63

Signature- *Carl L. Spicer*

- - - - -
Copy to: Com-10
Commander Patrol Force, USF.,
Chief of Staff, U.S.A.

In reply refer to Initials
and No.

HRS/clp

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON

August 27, 1941

Dear Mr. President:

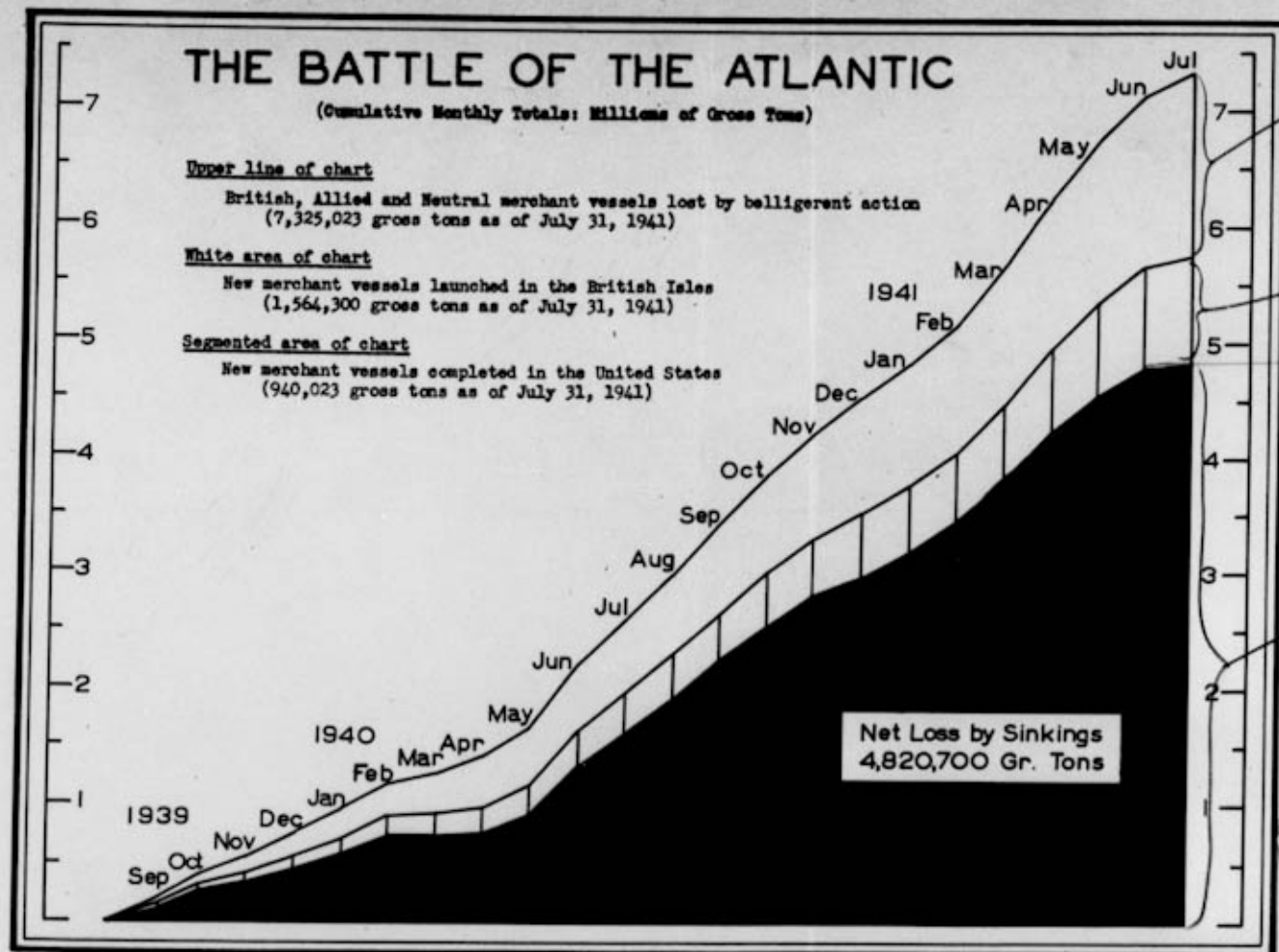
The enclosed chart, gotten up by the
Office of Naval Intelligence, is the simplest
and most graphic I have seen. Thought it
might be of some use to you.

Betty-

Enclosure

*PSF Navy folder
file personal Destroyers - B
400*

CONFIDENTIAL



Office
of
Naval
Intelligence

(Op-16-F-10)

Aug 27, 1941

Represents

*almost a
star shape
inclination
soon*

*represents
S.A. allies*

Franklin D. Roosevelt

DECLASSIFIED

DDO 111 5200.

Date- 12-2-66

Signature- JWD