

## MILITARY OVERFLIGHTS

*Exchanges of notes at Ottawa July 12, 13, 18, and 30 and August 9, 1940*

*Entered into force August 9, 1940*

*Terminated by agreement of September 18, 19, and 30, 1940*<sup>1</sup>

Department of State files

*The American Minister to the Secretary of State for External Affairs*

No. 36

OTTAWA, CANADA, July 12, 1940

SIR:

I have the honor to refer to an arrangement of 1932<sup>2</sup> under the terms of which the military aircraft of the United States and Canada have been permitted to fly over specified portions of the territory of the other. This arrangement as you know has been annually renewed in June, until this year when to its regret my Government did not feel it could appropriately extend it.

In the circumstances I have been instructed to inquire whether the Canadian Government would be disposed to grant, on a unilateral basis, until such time as it may be possible to renew the agreement which has just lapsed, blanket permission for military aircraft of the United States to make flights over Canadian territory (1) between Selfridge Field, Mount Clemens, Michigan, and Cleveland, Buffalo and Toledo, and (2) between Fairbanks and Juneau, Alaska, subject as far as may be possible under Canada's emergency requirements to the same conditions which have heretofore prevailed.

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

PIERREPONT MOFFAT

The Right Honorable  
THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,  
*Ottawa.*

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<sup>1</sup> *Post*, p. 193.

<sup>2</sup> Exchange of notes at Ottawa, Sept. 15 and 16, 1932, *ante*, p. 51.

*The Secretary of State for External Affairs to the American Minister*DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
CANADA

No. 108

OTTAWA, July 13th, 1940

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note No. 36 of July 12th concerning the possibility of blanket permission being granted for certain flights of United States military aircraft over Canadian territory on a unilateral basis until such time as it may be possible to renew the Agreement between Canada and the United States which has just lapsed.

It gives me pleasure to inform you that the appropriate Canadian authorities have indicated that they would have no objection to flights over Canadian territory as follows:

- (1) Between Selfridge Field, Mount Clemens, Michigan, and Cleveland, Buffalo and Toledo.
- (2) Between Fairbanks and Juneau, Alaska.

The Department of National Defence, however, in approving this permission, request that the United States authorities undertake to fulfill the following two provisions:

(a) That when flying between Selfridge Field, Mount Clemens, Michigan, and Buffalo, New York, the prohibited area number 11 (Niagara Peninsula) is not entered. The limits of this prohibited area are shown on the sketch map, a copy of which I am attaching to this note.<sup>3</sup>

(b) That details of all flights between Mount Clemens and Buffalo are given in advance to the Air Officer Commanding, No. 1 Training Command, 55 York Street, Toronto. Such details should include date, approximate hour, and number of aircraft involved.

As soon as you will have been good enough to inform me that the United States authorities are willing to observe these two conditions, the permission requested for the flights stipulated above may be considered to have come into effect.

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

O. D. SKELTON  
for  
*Secretary of State  
for External Affairs*

PIERREPONT MOFFAT, Esq.,  
*United States Minister to Canada,  
United States Legation,  
Ottawa.*

<sup>3</sup> Not printed.

*The American Minister to the Secretary of State for External Affairs*

No. 46

OTTAWA, CANADA, July 18, 1940

SIR:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note No. 108 of July 13th informing me that the Canadian authorities would have no objection to according on a unilateral basis, until such time as it may be possible to renew the agreement on this subject which has just lapsed, blanket permission for flights of American military aircraft over Canadian territory (1) between Selfridge Field and Cleveland, Buffalo, and Toledo, and (2) between Fairbanks and Juneau,—subject to the two following provisions:

(a) That when flying between Selfridge Field, Mount Clemens, and Buffalo the prohibited area on the Niagara Peninsula (the limits of which were shown on an attached sketch map) be not entered, and

(b) That details of all flights between Mount Clemens and Buffalo,—including date, approximate hour, and number of aircraft involved,—be given in advance to the Air Officer Commanding, No. 1 Training Command, 55 York Street, Toronto.

Having reported the foregoing to my Government I am directed in reply to state that the American authorities will gladly observe the two conditions, and that the courtesy of the Canadian authorities in allowing these flights is deeply appreciated.

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

PIERREPONT MOFFAT

The Right Honorable

THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,  
*Ottawa*

*The Secretary of State for External Affairs to the American Minister*

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
CANADA

No. 121

OTTAWA, July 30th, 1940

SIR,

I have the honour to refer to our exchange of notes (my No. 108 of July 13th and your No. 46 of July 18th) which confirmed blanket permission from the Canadian authorities for certain flights of United States military aircraft over Canadian territory.

In connection with the flights between Fairbanks and Juneau, Alaska, the Canadian authorities now desire to make a provision similar to that which governs flights between Selfridge Field, Mount Clemens, and Buffalo.

I should be very grateful, therefore, if you would be good enough to inform me whether the United States authorities would be willing to observe the following condition:

That details of all flights over Canada between Fairbanks and Juneau, Alaska, are notified in advance to the Air Officer Commanding, Western Air Command, Belmont Building, Victoria, B.C.

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

O. D. SKELTON  
for  
*Secretary of State  
for External Affairs*

PIERREPONT MOFFAT, Esq.,  
*United States Minister to Canada,  
United States Legation,  
Ottawa.*

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*The American Minister to the Secretary of State for External Affairs*

No. 73

OTTAWA, CANADA, *August 9, 1940*

SIR:

I have the honor to refer to your note No. 121 of July 30, 1940, with regard to the granting of blanket permission for certain flights of United States military aircraft over Canadian territory, and in reply, I am authorized to state that the American Government is glad to accept the condition that details of all flights over Canada between Fairbanks and Juneau be notified in advance to the Air Officer Commanding, Western Air Command, Belmont Building, Victoria, B.C.

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

PIERREPONT MOFFAT

The Right Honorable  
THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,  
*Ottawa.*