

No. 29126

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**IRELAND**  
**and**  
**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN**  
**AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement relating to the  
Oceanic Area Control Centres at Shannon and Prest-  
wick. Dublin, 28 March 1966**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement amending the  
above-mentioned Agreement (with map). Dublin, 5 and  
23 April 1990**

*Authentic text: English.*

*Registered by Ireland on 17 September 1992.*

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**IRLANDE**  
**et**  
**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE**  
**ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif aux centres de  
contrôle régional océanique de Shannon et de Prestwick.  
Dublin, 28 mars 1966**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord modifiant l'Accord  
susmentionné (avec carte). Dublin, 5 et 23 avril 1990**

*Texte authentique : anglais.*

*Enregistré par l'Irlande le 17 septembre 1992.*

EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM RELATING TO THE OCEANIC AREA CONTROL CENTRES AT SHANNON AND PRESTWICK

I

*From the British Ambassador at Dublin to the Minister  
for External Affairs of Ireland*

28th March, 1966

Your Excellency,

I refer to the Recommendation of the Fourth North Atlantic Regional Air Navigation Meeting of the International Civil Aviation Organisation made in Paris in September 1961 regarding the consolidation of control areas. It is the view of the Government of the United Kingdom and it is understood also to be the view of the Government of Ireland that in pursuance of that Recommendation the Oceanic Area Control Centres at Shannon and Prestwick should be consolidated.

It is the understanding of the Government of the United Kingdom that from 1st April, 1966, the following arrangements will be given effect by the two Governments, namely :

1. (a) Such air traffic control services for aircraft flying in the airspace known as the Shanwick Oceanic Control Area, being the airspace above flight level 55 within the boundaries of the airspace formerly known as the Shannon-Prestwick Flight Information Region but now known as the Shanwick Oceanic Flight Information Region, as defined in the Air Navigation Plan—North Atlantic Region—of the International Civil Aviation Organisation, as from time to time amended, and  
(b) such flight information and alerting services for aircraft flying in the airspace of the said Shanwick Oceanic Flight Information Region

as have before 1st April, 1966, been provided jointly by the air traffic control centres at Prestwick in the United Kingdom and at Shannon in Ireland will be provided solely by the said air traffic control centre at Prestwick or by such other air traffic control centre in the United Kingdom as may from time to time be nominated for that purpose by the appropriate Minister of the United Kingdom Government.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 1 April 1966, in accordance with the provisions of the said letters.

2. From 1st April, 1966, such a communications service between such aircraft and the said air traffic control centres as has before that date been provided by the radio stations at Ballygirreen in Ireland and Birdlip in the United Kingdom will be provided between such aircraft and the said air traffic control centre at Prestwick or such other air traffic control centre in the United Kingdom as may from time to time be nominated for that purpose by the appropriate Minister of the United Kingdom Government solely by the said radio station at Ballygirreen or by such other radio station in Ireland as may from time to time be nominated by the Minister for Transport and Power of Ireland
3. Each Government will maintain the services which it provides in accordance with these arrangements in accordance with its obligations as a member of the International Civil Aviation Organisation.
4. Joint consultation between the two Governments on any aspect of the services provided in accordance with these arrangements will take place from time to time at the request of either Government.
5. The Government of the United Kingdom will bear the cost of the air traffic control, flight information and alerting services provided in accordance with these arrangements.
6. The Government of Ireland will bear the cost of the communication services provided in accordance with these arrangements between Ballygirreen or such other radio station as may be nominated and the aircraft.
7. Each Government will bear the cost of any landline circuits in its territory which are used solely for the purpose of communication between the said air traffic control centre at Prestwick and the said radio station at Ballygirreen. The cost of submarine cable circuits used solely for this purpose will be apportioned in accordance with the arrangements between the two Governments governing the apportionment of the cost of submarine cable circuits between their respective territories which are current at the time when such cost is incurred.
8. Liability for payment for any additional communication services required will be a matter for further consultation between the two Governments.

These arrangements will be given effect from the date aforementioned, but either Government may terminate them by not less than two years' notice in writing given to the other Government at any time after three years have elapsed from the date of this letter.

I should be glad if you would inform me whether the foregoing equally represents the understanding of the Government of Ireland.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the renewed assurance of my highest consideration.

GEOFROY TORY

## II

*From the Minister for External Affairs of Ireland  
to the British Ambassador at Dublin*

28th March, 1966

Excellency

I refer to your letter of to-day's date reading as follows:

[*See note I*]

I confirm that the understanding of the Government of the United Kingdom set out in your letter equally represents the understanding of the Government of Ireland.

Please accept, Excellency, the renewed assurance of my highest consideration.

PROINSIAS MACAOGÁIN

EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AMENDING THE AGREEMENT OF 28 MARCH 1966 RELATING TO THE OCEANIC AREA CONTROL CENTRES AT SHANNON AND PRESTWICK<sup>2</sup>

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OIFIG AN AIRE GNOTHAI EACHTRACHA  
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BAILE ATHA CLIATH  
DUBLIN

5 April 1990

Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to the Exchange of Notes dated 28th March 1966<sup>2</sup> between the Government of Ireland and the Government of the United Kingdom relating to the Oceanic Area Control Centres at Shannon and Prestwick.

It is the understanding of the Government of Ireland that with effect from the date of your reply the arrangements referred to in the above mentioned Notes will be amended in the following respects:

1. Air Traffic Services for aircraft flying at and above FL 55 in the block of oceanic airspace to the south-west of Ireland known as the Shannon Oceanic Transition Area enclosed by the following co-ordinates: 51N 15W, 51N 8W, 48 30N 8W, 49N 15W, 51N 15W - see attached map - will be provided by the Air Traffic Control Centre at Shannon in Ireland, or by such other Air Traffic Control Centre(s) in Ireland as may from time to time be nominated for that

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 23 April 1990, in accordance with the provisions of the said letters.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 86 of this volume.

purpose by the appropriate Minister of the Government of Ireland.

2. The airspace in question will remain part of the Shanwick Oceanic Airspace. While Air Traffic Services in the Shannon Oceanic Transition Area airspace are provided by Shannon Air Traffic Control Centre or other nominated Air Traffic Control Centre in Ireland, domestic separation criteria may be applied.
3. The provision of Air Traffic Services within the Shannon Oceanic Transition Area airspace will revert to the Prestwick Oceanic Area Control Centre if for any reason Shannon Air Traffic Control Centre or other nominated Air Traffic Control Centre in Ireland is unable to provide such services.
4. Prestwick Oceanic Area Control Centre will retain full and final responsibility for the approval of all military airspace reservations and exercises within the Shannon Oceanic Transition Area airspace.
5. Shannon Air Traffic Control Centre will be informed of all military reservations within the Shannon Oceanic Transition Area airspace.
6. When required, Shannon Air Traffic Control Centre will keep Prestwick Oceanic Area Control Centre informed of the flight details of all aircraft within the Shannon Oceanic Transition Area which are not otherwise known to Prestwick Oceanic Area Control Centre.
7. Alerting service for aircraft flying in the Shannon Oceanic Transition Area airspace will be provided by the Air Traffic Control Centre at Shannon in Ireland or by such other Air Traffic Control Centre as may from time to time be nominated for that purpose by the appropriate Minister of the Government of Ireland.

8. Search and rescue services for aircraft flying in the Shannon Oceanic Transition Area airspace will continue to be provided as heretofore by the Centre(s) nominated from time to time by the appropriate Secretary of State for the Government of the United Kingdom.
9. The Government of Ireland will bear the costs of providing Air Traffic, Flight Information and Alerting Services in the Shannon Oceanic Transition Area.
10. Such detailed amendments as are necessary for the effective operation of this arrangement will be decided in writing between Shannon Air Traffic Control Centre and Prestwick Oceanic Area Control Centre.

I should be obliged if you would inform me whether the foregoing amendments equally represent the understanding of the Government of the United Kingdom.

Accept, Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.

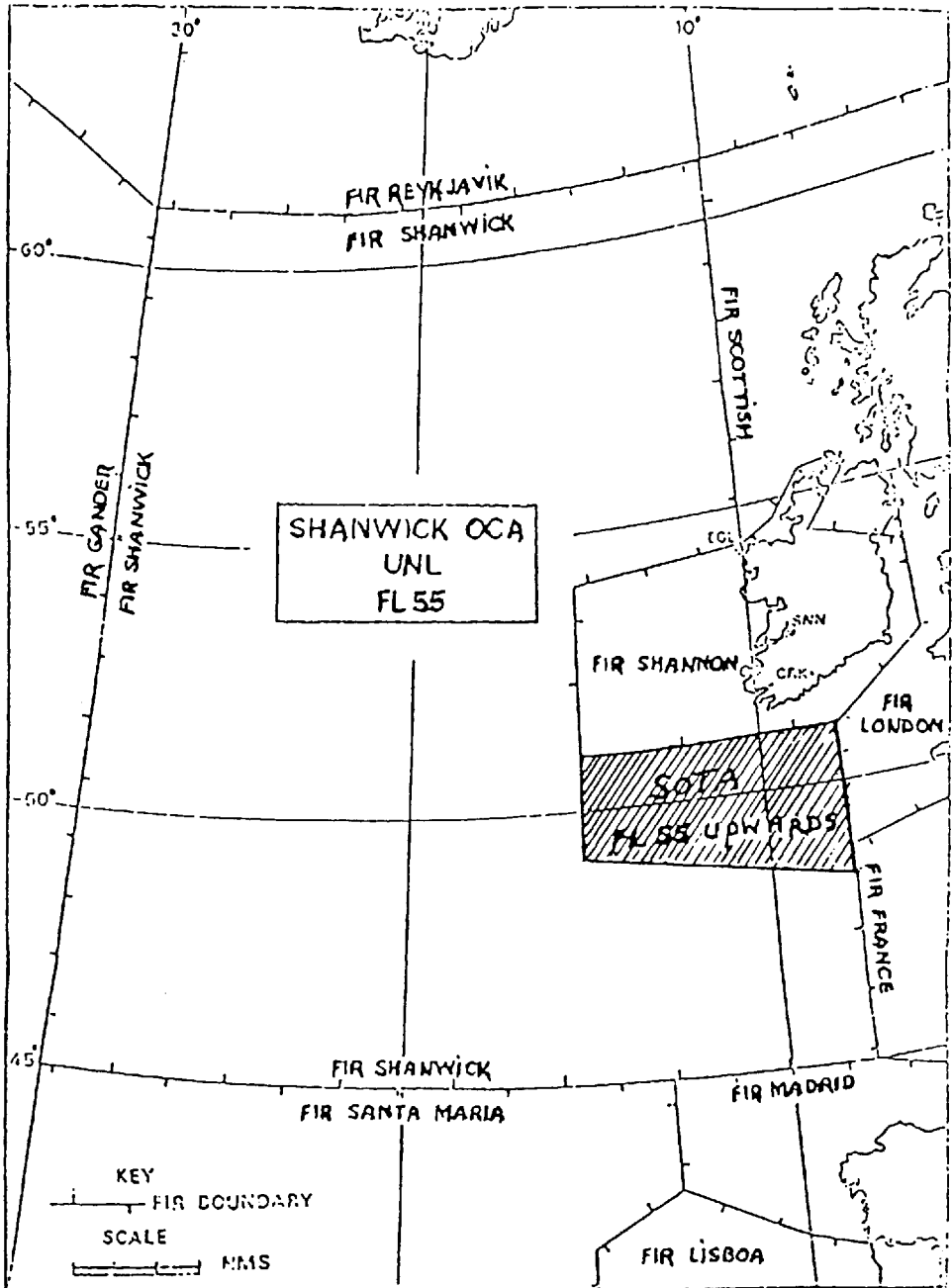
*[Signed]*

GERARD COLLINS, T. D.  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

H. E. Sir Nicholas Fenn KCMG  
Ambassador  
The British Embassy  
Dublin



# SHANWICK OCA



## II

*From Sir Nicholas Fenn KCMG, HM Ambassador*

BRITISH EMBASSY  
DUBLIN

23 April 1990

Excellency

UNITED KINGDOM/REPUBLIC OF IRELAND EXCHANGE OF NOTES  
CONCERNING THE SHANNON OCEANIC TRANSITION AREA

I have the honour to acknowledge Your Excellency's letter of 5 April concerning certain proposed amendments to the United Kingdom/Republic of Ireland Exchange of Notes concerning the Oceanic Area Control Centres at Shannon and Prestwick.

I confirm that the contents of your letter are acceptable to the Government of the United Kingdom and this reply will place on record the understanding of our two Governments in this matter which will come into operation today.

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

[Signed]  
NICHOLAS FENN

His Excellency Mr Gerard Collins TD  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
St Stephen's Green  
Dublin

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