

DEFENSE BASE AT SALINAS

Agreement signed at Quito January 24, 1942

Entered into force January 24, 1942

*Modified and amplified by agreements of February 20, 1942,¹ and
October 1, 1942²*

1942 For. Rel. (VI) 366

Duly empowered by Colonel Carlos A. Guerrero, Minister for the National Defense of Ecuador, and by the Commanding General of the Caribbean Defense Command of the United States of America respectively, Colonel Alberto Carlos Romero, Superior Commander of the Army of Ecuador, and Brigadier General Edwin B. Lyon, United States Army, met and agreed on the following clauses which, to be of force, must be previously approved and ratified by the governments of Ecuador and the United States of America,

1. The governments of the United States of America and Ecuador have, through their diplomatic representatives, reached an agreement of Cooperation by both the countries for the defense of the continent.

2. To this effect, Colonel Alberto Carlos Romero empowers the Commanding General of the Caribbean Defense Command to occupy the fields of the district Salinas, belonging to the jurisdiction of the same name, in order to build on them landing fields, headquarters, storage for fuel, warehouses, quays for shipping, etc. and to use them for military, naval and aerial purposes; as well as to install in the waters of the same territorial section buoys and to use them for landing of airplanes and anchorage of all kinds of vessels, etc.

3. He also allows him to complete, within the same zone, radio installations, submarine cables, etc., and to use them for military purposes.

4. The boundaries of the fields and water areas where the above mentioned constructions and installations will be effected, are fixed in the adjoining sketch and plan.³

5. He also allows the Commanding General of the Caribbean Defense Command to organize an American police for internal service during the

¹ *Post*, p. 366.

² *Post*, p. 379.

³ Not printed. For an amendment to art. 4, see agreement of Oct. 1, 1942, *post*, p. 379.

stay of the personnel of the Army, Navy and Aviation of the United States of America on Ecuadorian soil.⁴

6. The above-mentioned constructions may be started as soon as the present agreement is signed. General Lyon agrees to recommend that there be paid immediately to the Government of Ecuador the sum of thirty five thousand American dollars for the expropriation of the terrains affected by this agreement and as indemnization for the constructions which must be demolished for the completion of the above mentioned works and installations, this sum to be the total cost under the present plan of the rights granted by Ecuador to the United States.⁵

7. The Government of Ecuador takes charge of the legal procedure for the expropriation and evacuation of the real estate situated within the boundaries of the aforesaid district of Salinas which General Lyon may request.

8. The Government of the United States of America may empower any of its officials to carry out the works and installations comprised in the present agreement.

9. The Government of Ecuador grants, under its guarantee, the remaining capacity of transportation by the railroad Guayaquil-Salinas, in order that it may be used to carry the passengers and cargo necessary for the authorized works and installations and for mutual defense. Such transportation will be paid for by the United States Government at the regular tariff.

10. The armed forces of the United States of America are empowered to take all measures and steps for the sanitation of the places occupied by them and their surroundings.

11. The roads and all means of conveyance and communication which are within the territory and those leading to it comprised in the present agreement, may be freely used by the armed forces of the United States.

12. In any time and under any circumstance, the Government of Ecuador retains its sovereign power on the whole territory of the Republic, including the lands of the present territory.⁶

13. The arrival of the American forces at the places comprised in the present agreement and their stay in them during the existence of the aforesaid agreement are permitted.

14. If it were necessary to use the American land forces outside the area of Salinas, in cooperation with the Ecuadorian forces for mutual defense against a common enemy, the said land forces of both the nations would be put under command of the Ecuadorian officer whom the Government of Ecuador would appoint. The American Air forces, of the Army as well as of the Navy, will remain always under the Commanding General, Caribbean Defense Command for the general defense of the Canal area.

⁴ For an amendment to art. 5, see agreement of Feb. 20, 1942, *post*, p. 366.

⁵ For amendments to art. 6, see agreements of Feb. 20, 1942, and Oct. 1, 1942, *post*, pp. 366 and 379.

⁶ For an amendment of art. 12, see agreement of Feb. 20, 1942, *post*, p. 367.

15. The present agreement will be in force until one year after the signature of peace by the Government of the United States of America with the Axis Powers, and it may be renewed after this time by agreement of both parties.⁷

QUITO, *January 24, 1942*

A. ALBÁN BORJA

R. ASTUDILLO

Witnessed by Alberto Romero
Colonel Ecuador

WILLIAM M. SERGEANT

Lt. (C.E.C.) USNR

Witnessed by E. B. Lyon
Brig. Genl. U.S. Army

⁷ For an amendment of art. 15, see agreement of Feb. 20, 1942, *post*, p. 367.