

SWITZERLAND



Treaty Series No. 79 (1981)

Exchange of Notes

between the Government of the
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
and the Government of the Swiss Confederation
concerning the Safeguards and
Assurances relating to a Transfer of
Nuclear Material from the
United Kingdom to Switzerland

Berne, 13/15 July 1981

[The Agreement entered into force on 15 July 1981]

*Presented to Parliament
by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
by Command of Her Majesty
November 1981*

LONDON

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70p net

Cmd. 8400

**EXCHANGE OF NOTES
BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE SWISS CONFEDERATION CONCERNING
THE SAFEGUARDS AND ASSURANCES RELATING TO A
TRANSFER OF NUCLEAR MATERIAL FROM THE
UNITED KINGDOM TO SWITZERLAND**

No. 1

*Her Majesty's Ambassador at Berne to the Head of the Swiss Federal
Department of Foreign Affairs*

*British Embassy
Berne*

13 July 1981

Note No. 73

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) document INFCIRC/254 dated February 1978⁽¹⁾, a copy of which is attached, and to state that the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland base their nuclear export policies on this document.

2. So that the United Kingdom Government may give effect to the Guidelines set out in the Appendix to that document (and hereinafter referred to as "the Guidelines") I have the honour to propose that the Government of Switzerland shall, in respect of the proposed transfer of 56.7 kg of plutonium dioxide (containing 50 kg plutonium) from the United Kingdom to Switzerland, comply with the following conditions:

- (a) that, in compliance with paragraph 2 of the Guidelines, this shipment, being material as defined in Annex A to the Guidelines shall not be used in any way which would result in any nuclear explosive device;
- (b) that, in compliance with paragraph 3 of the Guidelines, this shipment of nuclear material shall be placed under effective physical protection in accordance with the protection characteristics set out in Annex B to the Guidelines, the implementation of those measures of physical protection within Switzerland being the responsibility of the Government of Switzerland;
- (c) that, in compliance with paragraph 4 of the Guidelines, IAEA Safeguards shall apply to this shipment of nuclear material, and to its subsequent generations;
- (d) that, in compliance with paragraph 10 of the Guidelines, the Government of Switzerland shall not retransfer this shipment of nuclear material, or transfer any items that may be derived from the material, unless the recipient of the retransfer shall first have provided the Government of Switzerland with the same assurances as those required

(1) Not reproduced.

by the United Kingdom for this transfer; and additionally that Switzerland shall not retransfer either the material comprising the shipment or any weapons-usable material derived from it without the prior consent of the Government of the United Kingdom.

3. If the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the Government of Switzerland, I have the honour to propose that this note, together with your reply in that sense, shall constitute an Agreement between our two Governments which shall enter into force on the date of Your Excellency's reply and shall expire with the export of the supplied material and any weapons-usable material derived from it to another country in accordance with paragraph 2(d).

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

C. S. R. GIFFARD

No. 2

*The Head of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs to
Her Majesty's Ambassador at Berne*

Berne

15 July 1981

Your Excellency,

1. I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your note number 73 dated July 13th 1981 which reads as follows:

[As in No. 1]

2. In reply, I have the honour to inform you that the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the Government of Switzerland and to confirm that your note number 73 together with this reply shall constitute an Agreement between our two governments which shall enter into force on this day's date.

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

RAYMOND PROBST