

SYNCC 400.3295 - PROPERTY, SALE OF TO
(MISC) FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS

Q. M. C. Form 353 (Old No. 490)
Revised July 26, 1918**LIST OF PAPERS***File under No. 400.3295- Property Sale of
to Foreign Governments.*

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 3-6788

| SERIAL NUMBER | FROM— | DATE | TO— | SYNOPSIS |
|---------------|---------------|---------|------------------------|--|
| 1 | Mr. McCloy | 1/4/45 | Under Secretary of War | Disposition by Army of Surplus Property Abroad. |
| 2 | Sec. of State | 1/11/46 | Sec. of War | Letter re: sale of U.S. surplus aircraft to foreign governments and nationals thereof and the utilization of U.S. Army Personnel and facilities in the delivery of surplus aircraft to foreign govt. and nationals abroad. |

INSTRUCTIONS.—When papers on a subject become numerous they will be numbered serially and brief entries made on this form.

Ref. AV 800.243/12-2645

1100.3295

Property Sale of to Foreign
Govts.

28 JAN 1946

The Honorable

The Secretary of State

Dear Mr. Secretary:

In reply to your letter of January 11, 1946 concerning the utilization of U. S. Army personnel and facilities in the delivery of aircraft to foreign governments and nationals, may I assure you that the War Department will give thorough consideration to any specific request from the Department of State to ferry U. S. procured aircraft in exceptional and isolated cases such as you mention.

The War Department has always realized the importance of disposal of its surplus aircraft, and stands ready and willing to do everything within its power under the present directive on this subject. The rapid demobilization has reduced our forces, particularly with respect to trained technicians and pilots, to such an extent that we simply do not have the capacity for effecting large scale deliveries of aircraft. As indicated above, however, special cases which you submit will be carefully studied and every effort will be made to comply.

Ground personnel and facilities at U. S. Army air bases outside the continental United States are being made available at present for facilitating the delivery of surplus aircraft and new aircraft manufactured in the United States when such assistance is not reasonably available from other sources.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) ROBERT P. PATTERSON

JAN 31 1946

SWNCC

COL. MCCARTHY

DEYDOR RICHARDSON

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ENS. F. WHITEBIDE

FILE

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Secretary of War

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DISPATCHED
OFFICE OF THE
CHIEF OF STAFF

S-W-NCC

C O P Y

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WASHINGTON

In reply refer to
AV 800.248/12-2645

January 11, 1946

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I desire to refer to your communications of November 8 and December 26, 1945 and my letter of November 30, 1945 all on the subject of the sale of United States surplus aircraft to foreign governments and nationals thereof and the utilization of U. S. Army personnel and facilities in the delivery of surplus aircraft to foreign governments and nationals abroad.

It would appear from your communication of December 26 that there has been some misconception on the part of the War Department as to the nature of the Department's request as set forth in the last paragraph of the State Department's letter of November 30.

As stated in the aforementioned letter, "This Department believes that wherever possible private pilots and commercial operators should be employed in the ferrying of aircraft abroad procured from any United States sources. However, it is possible that exceptional and isolated cases may arise where for reasons of policy the Department may desire to request the Army Air Forces to ferry certain U. S. equipment procured in the United States or elsewhere. It is anticipated that these cases, if any, will be few in number."

The Department's request as contained in the last paragraph of the letter of November 30 is addressed solely to surplus U. S. aircraft which have not as yet been sold. The Department merely wished to recommend that, in so far as is reasonably possible and appropriate, the War Department assist the Office of the Foreign Liquidation Commissioner in the movement of unsold surplus aircraft located abroad to marketable areas. The Department feels that sold aircraft should be ferried to its ultimate destination by the purchaser or its commercial agents with the possible exception as noted in paragraph 3 above.

The information contained in the War Department's communications of November 8 and December 26, 1945 will not be brought to the attention of all the interested agencies pending a further reply.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Dean Acheson

The Honorable

Acting Secretary

Robert P. Patterson,

Secretary of War.

WDOAS:CWMcC:REO

TOP SECRET

File 400.3295

4 January 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNDER SECRETARY OF WAR.

**Subject: Disposition by the Army of Surplus Property
Abroad.**

At the meeting of the Committee of Three, 2 January 1945, held in the Office of the Secretary of War, Mr. Hopkins brought up the question of the sale abroad by the Army of surplus property. He stated that this indicated a possible lack of faith on the part of the Army in the civilian agency organized for this task, and while he felt some sympathy for this attitude, he was of the opinion that such practice was poor governmental administration.

The Secretary of War stated that he had not been fully informed on this matter but would investigate with a view to reintroducing the question at a future meeting.

I thought you would like to have this information so that you could advise the Secretary as to the War Department's position.

John J. McCloy

Under Secretary of War,
3E-714, Pentagon**TOP SECRET**

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