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Representatives of the Governments of Iceland and the United States of America have been in frequent consultation at Reykjavik during the past several months in an effort to resolve the problems which have arisen in connection with the implementation of the Defense Agreement. These discussions have at all times been conducted in an atmosphere of understanding and spirit of cooperation. The Departments of State and Defense of the United States Government sent to Iceland an advisory team to supply technical advice and information. After the return to the United States of members of the advisory team, the conversations were continued by the Foreign Minister of Iceland and the American Minister at Reykjavik. On May _____ ^{6th} understandings ^{have now been} ~~were~~ reached which should provide mutually satisfactory solutions to the problems.

These understandings provide the general framework for further cooperation in the following fields:

1. Construction activities in Iceland. A plan has been devised whereby the need for foreign civilian workers in Iceland will be reduced to a bare minimum. Icelandic labor will be substituted for foreign labor whenever qualified Icelandic labor is available. Control of the supply of Icelandic labor, and recruitment for employment on construction projects will rest in the hands of the Icelandic Government. This should reduce materially the various problems which have arisen incident to the employment of Icelandic labor on military construction projects.

A very large part of the construction contracts have been allocated to Icelandic contractors, and it is contemplated that contract allocations in the future will reflect the increasing

experience and capability of the Icelandic contractors. The present prime contractor will be phased out of field construction work as rapidly as conditions permit. A determined effort will be made to complete this process in 1954.

2. Training Program. To enable Icelandic nationals to take over additional work and to increase the supply of Icelanders skilled in construction work and in other agreed fields, a joint United States-Icelandic training program has been agreed upon. This should increase materially the number of specially trained persons available to domestic enterprises and should increase greatly the capability of the Icelandic contractors.

3. Planning of Separate Areas at the Keflavik Airfield. At the request of the Icelandic Government and for reasons of military security as well as the maintenance of harmonious relations, the United States representatives have agreed to request the necessary authority and funds to fence the built-up areas and contractor camp areas, to rearrange structures, and in other ways to provide for the separation of the areas used by the Icelandic Defense Force from those used by Icelandic personnel and the Icelandic public.

In addition arrangements have been made with the Commander of the Iceland Defense Force for very close cooperation with Icelandic authorities and for the operation of regulations which are expected to solve satisfactorily the outstanding problems in the field of troop relations and movements into and out of agreed areas. There is complete agreement that good community relationships should exist at all times, and the problem will be under constant joint review by Icelandic authorities and the Commander of the Iceland Defense Force.