Act No. 21 of 1957

ACQUISITION OF LAND (SPECIAL APPLICATION)

An act to apply the provisions of the Acquisition of Land Act for the purposes of agreements made between the Governments of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America concerning a long range proving ground for guided missiles, oceanographic research stations and for the purposes of other agreements which may be made between the said Governments.

[Commencement 15th July, 1957]

WHEREAS with the concurrence of the Government of the Bahama Islands an Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning the establishment in the Bahama Islands of a Long Range Proving Ground for guided missiles was concluded in Washington on the Twenty-first day of July, 1950.

and WHEREAS the Government of the Bahama Islands has concurred in the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concluding an Agreement with the Government of the United States of America concerning the establishment of Oceanographic Research Stations in the Bahama Islands.

and WHEREAS It is desirable and expedient that the provisions of The Acquisition of Land Act should a be applied for the purposes of the said Agreements and for the purposes of any other Agreements giving the Government of the United States of America facilities in the Bahama Islands similar to those given by the Agreements for the Long Range Proving Ground for graded missiles and Oceanographic Research Stations, which hereafter may be made between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the United States of America with the concurrence of the Government of the Bahama Islands.
1. This Act may be cited as the Acquisition of Land (Special Application) Act.

2. “Undertaking” means —
   (a) the Long Range Proving Ground for guided missiles to which reference is made in the preamble to this Act;
   (b) the Oceanographic Research Stations to which reference is made in the preamble to this Act;
   (c) any purpose declared by the Governor in Council or the Governor as the case may be to be an undertaking under the provisions of section 7 of this Act.

3. (1) It is hereby declared that the purpose of an undertaking shall be a “public purpose” within the meaning of section 2 of the Acquisition of Land Act, and the provisions of the Acquisition of Land Act, as modified by the provisions of this Act, shall apply to the acquisition of land for an undertaking.
   (2) The Governor shall be the promoter within the meaning of the Acquisition of Land Act in respect of the acquisition of land for an undertaking.

4. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 6 of the Acquisition of Land Act, any notice published or posted or which shall be published or posted in relation to land authorized to be acquired for an undertaking shall be deemed to have been or to be published and posted in accordance with the provisions of the said section although the compensation paid or to be paid for the said land shall be provided by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland or by the Government of the United States of America.

5. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 6(3) of the Ministry of Finance Act, on the request of one of Her Majesty’s Principal Secretaries of State, the Treasurer may, under his hand and seal, convey or lease any land which has been acquired for an undertaking to any person authorized by the law of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to hold land on behalf of Her Majesty, and every such person shall have power to hold and dispose of land or any interest in land in The Bahamas.
6. Pending the payment to the Public Treasury by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland or by the Government of the United States of America of such sums as may be required for the payment of compensation to such persons as may have an interest in any land acquired for an undertaking, the Treasurer may advance out of the Public Treasury by warrant in the usual manner all the sums necessary for the payment of such compensation to such persons having an interest in such land acquired for an undertaking as may be determined by agreement, or compulsory purchase in accordance with the provisions of the Acquisition of Land Act.

7. In the event of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, with the concurrence of the Government of the Bahama Islands entering or proposing to enter into any new Agreement with the Government of the United States of America under which the Government of the United States of America is given or will be given facilities in the Bahama Islands similar to those provided for the Long Range Proving Ground for guided missiles and for Oceanographic Research Stations, the Governor may, with the prior approval of both Houses of the Legislature signified by resolution thereof, by Order declare that the purposes of any such Agreement shall be an undertaking within the meaning of this Act.