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Criminal Jurisdiction Over Visiting Armed Forces

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The thoughts and opinions expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily of the U.S. government, the U.S. Department of the Navy or the Naval War College.

APPENDIX XXII

SAUDI ARABIA. AGREEMENT CONCERNING DHAHRAN AIRFIELD

Agreement between Saudi Arabia and the United States concerning Dhahran Airfield. June 18, 1951. 2 UST 1466, TIAS 2290, 102 UNTS 73. Extended for five years on April 2, 1957, 8 UST 403, TIAS 3790.

1. The term Dhahran Airfield as used in this Agreement means the area of land located in the so-called Damman tracts measuring five statute miles on each side of a square with the center located at the terminal building of the existing airdrome.

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11. The members of the Mission, its personnel and employees may carry on any social activities on condition that they will take into account the local customs and laws in effect in Saudi Arabia.

12. (a) The complete authority and sovereignty inside and outside of Dhahran Airfield is the absolute right of the Saudi Arabian Government and it will make arrangements for guarding and maintaining the safety of the airport.

(b) The United States Mission will assign special guards for the installations which are used by the Mission and such guards will be responsible for such installations under their guard inside the airfield.

(c) The Mission shall comply with the request of the Director of the Dhahran Airport in appointing certain responsible persons from the Mission to accompany the Saudi patrol guards to identify members of the Mission and to cooperate during patrol duty.

13. (a) All United States military personnel, members of the Mission, and all civilian employees of the Mission who are United States nationals or the nationals of other friendly States and their dependents at Dhahran Airfield shall obey all applicable laws and regulations of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

(b) Any offense committed by any of the individuals re-

ferred to in (a) with the exception of American military personnel will be subject to the local jurisdiction of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

(c) Depending on international authority, the Saudi Arabian Government agrees that:

(i) If any member of the armed forces of the United States commits an offense inside Dhahran Airfield he will be subject to United States military jurisdiction.

(ii) In the case of any offense committed by a member of the armed forces of the United States outside Dhahran Airfield at Al Khobar, Dammam, Dhahran, Ras Tanura, the beaches south of Al Khobar to Half Moon Bay, and the roads leading to these places, the Saudi Arabian authorities will arrest the offender and after promptly completing the preliminary investigation will turn such person over to the Mission at Dhahran Airfield for trial and punishment under American military jurisdiction.

(iii) Any offense committed by a member of the armed forces of the United States outside the places mentioned in (i) and (ii) will be subject to the local jurisdiction of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.