

August 9, 1909.  
August 28, 1909.

*Convention between the United States and Dutch Guiana post-offices concerning the exchange of articles by parcel-post.*

Parcel-post Con-  
vention with Dutch  
Guiana.  
Preamble.

For the purpose of making better postal arrangements between the United States of America and the Colony of Dutch Guiana the Postal Administrations of the United States of America and of Dutch Guiana, represented by the Postmaster-General of the United States of America and the Administrator of Finances of Surinam, have agreed as follows, as regards the establishment of a parcel post system of exchanges between the two countries.

ARTICLE I.

Scope of Conven-  
tion.

The provisions of this Convention relate only to parcels of mail matter to be exchanged by the system herein provided for, and do not affect the arrangements now existing under the Universal Postal Convention, which will continue as heretofore; and all the agreements hereinafter contained apply exclusively to mails exchanged under these articles, directly between the office of New York, and such other offices within the United States as may be hereafter designated by the Postmaster-General of the United States; and the office of Paramaribo, and such other offices within Dutch Guiana as may be hereafter designated by the Administrator of Finances of Surinam.

ARTICLE II.

Articles mailable.

There shall be admitted to the mails exchanged under this Convention, articles of merchandise and mail matter—except letters, post cards and written matter of all kinds—that are admitted under any conditions to the domestic mails of the country of origin, except that no packet may exceed eleven (11) pounds (5 kilograms) in weight, nor the following dimensions: Greatest length in any direction, three feet six inches (105 centimeters); greatest length and girth combined, six feet (180 centimeters); and must be so wrapped or inclosed as to permit their contents to be easily examined by customs officers and by postmasters duly authorized to do so; and except that the following articles are prohibited:

Articles prohibited.

Publications which violate the copyright laws of the country of destination; opium, poisons, and explosive or inflammable substances; fatty substances; liquids, and those which easily liquefy; confections and pastes; live or dead animals, except dead insects and reptiles when thoroughly dried; fruits and vegetables which easily decompose, and substances which exhale a bad odor; lottery tickets, lottery advertisements, or lottery circulars; all obscene or immoral articles; articles which may in any way damage or destroy the mails, or injure the persons handling them.

ARTICLE III.

Letter must not ac-  
company parcel.

A letter or communication of the nature of personal correspondence must not accompany, be written on, or enclosed with any parcel.

If such be found, the letter will be placed in the mails, if separable, and if the communication be inseparably attached, the whole package will be rejected. If, however, any such should inadvertently be forwarded, the country of destination may collect on the letter or letters, double rates of postage according to the Universal Postal Convention.

Rejection if found.

No parcel may contain parcels intended for delivery at an address other than that borne by the parcel itself. If such inclosed parcels be detected, they must be sent forward singly, charged with new and distinct parcel post rates.

No inclosure for other address.

#### ARTICLE IV.

The packages in question shall be subject in the country or destination to all customs duties and all customs regulations in force in that country for the protection of its customs revenues, and to the following rates of postage, which shall in all cases be required to be fully prepaid, viz:

Customs duties.

In the United States, for a parcel not exceeding one pound (455 grams) in weight, 12 cents; and for each additional pound (455 grams) or fraction of a pound, 12 cents.

Postal rates.

In Dutch Guiana, for a parcel not exceeding 1 kilogram in weight, frcs 1,50, and for each additional weight of 2 kilograms 1 franc.

#### ARTICLE V.

The sender of each package must make a customs declaration in duplicate, upon a special form provided for the purpose (see Form 1, A, annexed hereto), giving the address, a general description of the parcel, an accurate statement of the contents and value, date of mailing, and the sender's signature and place of residence, which declaration must accompany the parcel to destination.

Customs declaration.  
*Post*, p. 2188.

Either country may authorize the post-office where the package is mailed to deliver to the sender of the package at the time of mailing, a certificate of mailing on a form like Form 2 annexed hereto, and the country of origin may collect a fee therefor not to exceed two cents or ten centimes.

Certificate of mailing.  
*Post*, p. 2189

The sender of a parcel may obtain a return receipt for the same by paying in the United States a fee of five cents and in the Colony of Surinam twenty centimes, in addition to the postage on each parcel, to be affixed to the parcel in stamps of the country of origin.

Return receipt.

#### ARTICLE VI.

The packages shall be delivered to addresses at the post offices of address in the country of destination free of charge for postages; but the customs duties properly chargeable thereon shall be collected on delivery in accordance with the customs regulations of the country of destination; and the country of destination may, at its option, levy and collect from the addressee for interior service and delivery a charge not exceeding 5 cents in the United States and 25 centimes in Dutch Guiana, on each single parcel of whatever weight.

Delivery.

#### ARTICLE VII.

The packages shall be considered as a component part of the mails exchanged direct between the United States and Dutch Guiana to be dispatched by the country of origin to the other at its cost and by such means as it provides, but must be forwarded, at the option of the dispatching office, either in boxes or hampers prepared especially for the purpose or in ordinary mail sacks to be marked "Parcel Post,"

Method of transportation.

and not to contain any other articles of mail matter, and to be securely sealed with wax or otherwise, as may be mutually provided by regulations hereunder.

#### Return of sacks.

Each country shall promptly return empty to the dispatching office all bags or sacks; but the boxes or hampers used occasionally by either administration may be used by the other administration for return parcel post dispatches.

#### Packing.

Although articles admitted under this Convention will be transmitted as aforesaid between the exchange offices, they should be so carefully packed as to be safely transmitted in the open mails of either country, both in going to the exchange office in the country of origin and to the office of address in the country of destination.

#### Duplicate descriptive list.

Each dispatch of a parcel post mail must be accompanied by a descriptive list, in duplicate, of all the packages sent, showing distinctly the list number of each parcel, the name of the sender, the name of the addressee with address of destination, and the declared contents and value, and must be inclosed in one of the boxes or sacks of such dispatch. (See Form 3 annexed hereto.)

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### ARTICLE VIII.

#### Receipt of mail.

As soon as the mail shall have reached the office of destination that office shall check the contents of the mail.

#### Substitute parcel bill.

In the event of the parcel bill not having been received, a substitute should be at once prepared.

#### Errors.

Any errors in the entries on the parcel bill which may be discovered, should, after verification by a second officer, be corrected and noted for report to the dispatching office on a form "Verification certificate," which should be sent in a special envelope.

#### Lost parcel.

If a parcel advised on the bill be not received, after the nonreceipt has been verified by a second officer, the entry on the bill should be canceled and the fact reported at once.

#### Damaged parcel.

Should a parcel be received in a damaged or imperfect condition, full particulars should be reported on the same form.

#### Presumption of delivery.

If no verification certificate or note or error be received, a parcel mail shall be considered as duly delivered, having been found on examination correct in all respects.

### ARTICLE IX

#### Inability to deliver.

If the packages cannot be delivered as addressed, or if they are refused, they should be reciprocally returned, without charge, directly to the dispatching office of exchange, at the expiration of thirty days from their receipt at the office of destination, and the country of origin may collect from the sender, for the return of the parcel, a sum equal to the postage when first mailed:

#### Proviso. Prohibited articles. Ante, p. 2184.

*Provided, however,* That parcels prohibited by Article II and those which do not conform to the conditions as to size, weight and value, prescribed by said Article, shall not necessarily be returned to the country of origin, but may be disposed of, without recourse, in accordance with the customs laws and regulations of the country of destination.

#### Destruction, etc., of perishable articles.

When the contents of a parcel which cannot be delivered are liable to deterioration or corruption, they may be destroyed at once, if necessary, or if expedient, sold, without previous notice or judicial formality, for the benefit of the right person, the particulars of each sale being noticed by one post-office to the other.

ARTICLE X.

The Post-office Department of either of the contracting countries will not be responsible for the loss or damage of any package; but either country is at liberty to indemnify the sender of any package which may be lost or destroyed on its territory. Responsibility for loss.

ARTICLE XI.

Each country shall retain to its own use the whole of the postages, and delivery fees, it collects on said packages; consequently, this Convention will give rise to no separate accounts between the two countries. Receipts.

ARTICLE XII.

The Postmaster General of the United States of America, and the Administrator of Finances of Surinam shall have authority to jointly make such further regulations of order and detail as may be found necessary to carry out the present Convention from time to time; and may, by agreement, prescribe conditions for the admission in packages exchanged under this Convention of any of the articles prohibited by Article II. Further regulations.

ARTICLE XIII.

This Convention shall take effect and operations thereunder shall begin on the first day of October 1909, and shall continue in force until terminated by mutual agreement, but may be annulled at the desire of either Department, upon six months' previous notice given to the other. Effect.

Done in duplicate, and signed at Paramaribo the 9th day of August 1909, and at Washington on the 28th day of August 1909.

FRANK H. HITCHCOCK

*Postmaster General of the United States of America.*

J. WIERINGER

*Administrator of Finances of the Colony of Dutch Guiana.*

The foregoing Parcel Post Convention between the United States of America and Dutch Guiana has been negotiated and concluded with my advice and consent, and is hereby approved and ratified. Ratification.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed.

[SEAL.]

WM H TAFT

By the President:

ALVEY A. ADEE

*Acting Secretary of State.*

WASHINGTON September 4, 1909.

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Form No. 1.

FORM No. 1.

A.

Parcel Post between the United States and Dutch Guiana.

Date stamp.	FORM OF CUSTOMS DECLARATION.	Place to which the parcel is addressed.
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Description of parcel: [State whether box, basket, bag, etc.]	Contents.	Value.	Per cent.	Total customs charges.
	Total,			

Date of posting.....19.. signature and address of sender {.....  
For use of Post-Office only, and to be filled up at the office of exchange:  
Parcel Bill No.....; No. of rates prepaid.....; Entry No.....

B.

(Country of origin)  
Parcel Post from.....  
The import duty assessed by an officer of customs on contents of this parcel amounts to....., which must be paid before the parcel is delivered.

Date stamp.
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Customs Officer.

C.

(Country of origin)  
Parcel Post from.....  
This parcel has been passed by an officer of customs and must be delivered FREE OF CHARGE.

Date stamp.
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PARCEL-POST CONVENTION—DUTCH GUIANA. AUG. 9/28, 1909. 2189

FORM No. 2.

Form No. 2.

*Parcel post.*

A parcel addressed as under has been posted here this day:

Office stamp.	
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This certificate is given to inform the sender of the posting of a parcel, and does not indicate that any liability in respect of such parcel attaches to the Postmaster-General.

FORM No. 3.

Form No. 3.

[illegible]