

Parcel post convention between the United States and Gibraltar. Signed at Gibraltar December 7, 1914, and at Washington January 8, 1915; approved by the President January 16, 1915 December 7, 1914.
January 8, 1915.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND GIBRALTAR POST OFFICES CONCERNING THE EXCHANGE OF PARCELS BY PARCEL POST BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND GIBRALTAR.

For the purpose of making better postal arrangements between the United States of America and Gibraltar, the Postal Administrations of the United States of America and Gibraltar, represented by the Postmaster General of the United States of America, and the Postmaster General of Gibraltar, have agreed as follows, as regards the establishment of a parcel post system of exchanges between the two countries:

Parcel post with Gibraltar.
Preamble.

ARTICLE I.

The provisions of this agreement 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 of America as may be hereafter designated by the Postmaster General of the United States and the Office of Gibraltar.

Scope of convention.

ARTICLE II.

There shall be admitted to the mails exchanged under this Agreement articles of merchandise and mail matter—except letters, other than old correspondence, post cards, other than unused pictorial or plain 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 11 (Eleven) pounds in weight, (5 Kilogrammes), nor the following dimensions: Greatest length in any direction, three feet six inches (105 centimetres); greatest length and girth combined, six feet (180 centimetres); and must be so wrapped or enclosed as to permit their contents to be easily examined by Customs Officers and Postal Officials duly authorized to do so; and except that the following articles are prohibited:

Articles admitted to the mails.

Requirements.

Publications which violate the copyright laws of the country of destination; opium, poisons, and explosive or inflammable substances; liquids, and those which easily liquefy; live or dead animals, except insects and reptiles when thoroughly dried; fruit and vegetables which easily decompose, and substances which exhale a bad odour; lottery tickets, lottery advertisements, or lottery circulars; all obscene or immoral articles; articles which in any way may damage or destroy the mails or injure the persons handling them. Arms, parts of firearms, ammunition, utensils of war, naval or military stores, unless special permission has been obtained. Articles the admission of which is not authorized by the Customs Laws or Regulations of either Country.

Articles prohibited.

ARTICLE III.

Every parcel must bear the exact address of the addressee and must be packed in a manner adequate for the length of the journey and protection of its contents.

Address and packing required.

Letters not to accompany parcels.

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 entire Parcel shall be rejected. If, however, any such Parcels should be forwarded inadvertently, the country of destination will collect upon the letter or letters double rates of postage, according to the Universal Postal Union Convention.

A parcel may, however, contain an open invoice in its simplest form.

No inclosure for other address.

No parcel may contain an enclosure which bears an address other than that borne by the parcel itself. If such a parcel is despatched, however, the country of destination, upon detection of the enclosed packages, may send them forward singly charged with new and distinct parcel post rates.

Disposition of prohibited parcels if received.
Ante, p. 1877.

If a parcel contravening any of the foregoing prohibitions or not conforming to the stipulations of Article II. be handed over by one Administration to the other, the latter shall proceed in the manner and with the formalities prescribed by its laws or regulations.

ARTICLE IV.

Exchanges.

The Parcels shall be exchanged by means of the Lines of steamers agreed upon and shall be subject to all Customs Duties in the country of destination and all Customs Regulations in force in that country for the protection of its Customs Revenues, and to the following rates of postage, which in all cases shall be prepaid fully by means of postage stamps of the country of origin:

Rates of postage.
In United States.

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.

In Gibraltar.

In Gibraltar, for a parcel weighing not more than 3 pounds, 1s. 6d.; for a parcel weighing more than 3 pounds but not more than 7 pounds, 2s. 6d.; and for a parcel weighing more than 7 pounds but not more than 11 pounds, 3s. 6d.

ARTICLE V.

Customs declaration.
Post, p. 1881.

The sender of each parcel must make a custom 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 posting and the senders signature and the place of residence, which declaration must accompany the parcel to destination. The Administrations decline all responsibilities for the correctness of the customs declaration.

Nonresponsibility for declarations.

Certificate of posting.
Post, p. 1882.

Either country may authorise the post office where the parcel is posted to deliver to the sender of the parcel at the time of posting a certificate of posting on a form (see Form 2 annexed).

ARTICLE VI.

Delivery.

The parcels shall be delivered to addressees 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 in accordance with the customs regulations of the country of destination. The country of destination may, at its option, levy and collect from the addressee for internal service and delivery a charge not exceeding 5 cents in the United States and 2½d. in Gibraltar on each single parcel of whatever weight.

ARTICLE VII.

The parcels shall be considered as a component part of the mails exchanged direct between the United States and Gibraltar, to be despatched by the Country of origin, at its cost, to the other, and by such means as it provides, but must be forwarded at the option of the despatching office either in boxes or baskets prepared especially for the purpose or in ordinary mail bags to be marked "PARCEL POST," and shall not contain any other articles of mail matter. The bags or other receptacles shall be securely sealed with wax or otherwise as may be mutually provided by regulations hereunder.

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

Although articles admitted under this agreement 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.

Each despatch 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 office of origin, the name of the addressee with address of destination, and the declared contents and value and must be enclosed in one of the boxes or bags of such despatch, (see Form 3 annexed hereunto).

Method of transportation.

Return of empty receptacles.

Packing.

Descriptive list.

Post, p. 1882.

ARTICLE VIII.

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

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

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 despatching office on a form "VERIFICATION CERTIFICATE," which should be sent in a special envelope.

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

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

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

Receipt of mail.

Substitute parcel bill.

Correction of errors.

Nonreceipt of parcel.

Damaged parcels.

Presumption of delivery.

ARTICLE IX.

Missent parcels shall be immediately returned to the despatching office of exchange. Attention shall be called to the error by means of a verification note.

If a parcel cannot be delivered as addressed or is refused by the addressee, the sender shall be consulted through the administration of the country of origin as to its disposal. If within two months of the despatch of the notice of non-delivery the office of destination shall not have received instructions from the office of origin the parcel shall be treated as abandoned.

Parcels returned at the request of the sender or office of origin incur a charge for such return equal to the postage when first mailed which shall be collected from the senders on the return of the Parcels.

Missent parcels.

Inability to deliver.

Reforwarding, etc.

Parcels redirected from one address to another in the country of destination are subject to such additional charge as the domestic regulations of that country prescribe.

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 legal formality, for the benefit of the right person, the particulars of such sale being notified by one post office to the other. The sum realised by the sale shall be used in the first place to defray the charges upon the parcel, and any balance shall be remitted to the office of origin to be paid to the sender.

Cancellation of duties.

The customs duties on parcels which have to be sent back to the country of origin or redirected to a third country shall be cancelled both in the United States and Gibraltar.

ARTICLE X.

Nonresponsibility for loss, etc.

Neither of the contracting Administrations will be responsible for the loss or damage of any parcel, consequently no indemnity can be claimed by the sender or addressee in either country.

ARTICLE XI.

Retention of fees, etc.

Each country shall retain to its own use the whole of the postages and delivery fees it collects on the said parcels, consequently this Agreement will give rise to no postage accounts between the two countries.

The foregoing clause, however, shall not preclude either office from proposing a system of accounts, or of insurance or registration of parcels, after some experience has been gained of the working of this Agreement; and if such arrangement be made the necessary modifications shall be carried out by mutual consent.

ARTICLE XII.

Application of domestic legislation.

The internal legislation of both the United States and Gibraltar shall remain applicable as regards everything not provided for by the articles herein contained.

Notification of laws applicable.

The Administrations shall communicate to each other from time to time the provisions of their laws or regulations applicable to the conveyance of parcels by Parcel Post, and shall furnish each other with a list of prohibited articles, but they do not on that account incur any responsibility whatever towards the Police, the Customs Authorities or the senders of Parcels.

Further regulations, etc.

They shall regulate the mode of transmission of these parcels, and fix all other measures of detail and order necessary for ensuring the performance of the service.

ARTICLE XIII.

Effect.

This Agreement shall come into operation on the first day of February 1915 and shall be terminable on a notice of six months by either party.

Signatures.

Done in duplicate at Washington on the eighth day of January 1915, and at Gibraltar on the seventh day of December 1914.

ALBERT SYDNEY BURLESON, [SEAL.]
Postmaster General of the United States of America.
[SEAL.] C. W. HILL,
Postmaster General of Gibraltar.

The foregoing Parcel Post Agreement between the United States of America and the British Colony of Gibraltar has been negotiated and concluded with my advice and consent and is hereby approved and ratified.
 Approval.

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

[SEAL.]

WOODROW WILSON.

By the President:
 W. J. BRYAN,
Secretary of State.

WASHINGTON, January 16, 1915.

FORM No. 1.

A.

Parcel Post between the United States and Gibraltar.

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

Date of posting:....., 191...; signature and address of sender {
 For use of Post Offices 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.

.....
Custom 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.

PARCEL POST.

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

Office stamp.	<div style="border-bottom: 1px dashed black; height: 1.2em; margin-bottom: 2px;"></div> <div style="border-bottom: 1px dashed black; height: 1.2em; margin-bottom: 2px;"></div> <div style="border-bottom: 1px dashed black; height: 1.2em;"></div>
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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.

Date stamp of despatching exchange Post Office.	<i>Parcels from</i> <i>for</i> (Country of origin.) (Country of destination.)	Date stamp of receiving exchange Post Office.
	Parcel Bill No., dated 191...; per S. S. "....."	
* Sheet No.		

Entry No.	Origin of parcel.	Address of parcel.	Declared contents.	Declared value.
			Totals.....	

* When more than one sheet is required for the entry of the parcels sent by the mail, it will be sufficient if the undermentioned particulars are entered on the last sheet of the Parcel Bill.

Total number of parcels sent by the mailto..... (Country of destination.) Number of boxes or other receptacles forming the mail..... Signature of Postal Official at the Despatching Exchange Post Office.....	Total Weight of mail..... Deduct weight of receptacles..... Net weight of parcels..... Signature of Postal Official at the Receiving Exchange Post Office.....
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