

Parcel Post Convention between the United States and Siam. Signed at Bangkok, October 15, 1921, at Washington, February 24, 1922; approved by the President, February 28, 1922.

October 15, 1921.
February 24, 1922.

PARCEL POST CONVENTION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND SIAM.

With the view to improve the postal relations between the United States of America and Siam, the undersigned, Will H. Hays, Postmaster General of the United States of America, and Phra Svasti Varavithi, acting Director General of Posts and Telegraphs of Siam, by virtue of the authority vested in them, have agreed upon the following articles for the establishment of a parcel post system of exchange between the two countries.

Parcel post convention with Siam. Preamble.

ARTICLE I.

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 provisions hereinafter contained apply exclusively to mails exchanged under this Convention.

Scope of convention.

ARTICLE II.

1. With the exception of the articles specifically prohibited by Article III, there shall be admitted to the parcel mails all articles which are admitted to the mails under any conditions in the domestic service of the country of origin and the country of destination. No parcel may, however, exceed 5 kilograms or 11 pounds in weight, nor the following dimensions: Greatest length in any direction, three feet six inches (1 meter 5 centimeters), greatest length and girth combined, six feet (1 meter 80 centimeters).

Articles admitted to mails.

Requirements.

2. 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 the protection of its contents. The packing must be of such a nature as to permit the contents to be easily examined by officers of the Post Office or the Customs.

Address and packing.

ARTICLE III.

1. The following articles are prohibited: Parcels containing letters, or communications of the nature of personal correspondence (it is permitted, however, to include in the parcel an open invoice or bill in its simplest form); live animals, except bees in properly constructed boxes; dead animals, except insects and reptiles when thoroughly dried; fruits and vegetables which easily decompose; publications which violate the copyright laws of the country of destination; poisons, and explosive or inflammable substances; lottery tickets, lottery advertisements, or lottery circulars; all obscene or immoral articles; or articles the admission of which is not authorized by the customs or other laws or regulations of either country; and, in general articles the conveyance of which is reputed dangerous.

Prohibited articles.

Erroneous transmittals.

2. If a parcel contravening any of these 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 law or domestic regulations.

Freedom from inspection, etc.

3. All admissible articles of merchandise mailed in one country for the other, or received in one country from the other, shall be free from any detention or inspection whatever, except such as is required for collection of customs duties; and shall be forwarded by the most speedy means to their destination; being subject in their transmission to the laws and regulations of each country respectively.

ARTICLE IV.

No inclosure for other address.

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

ARTICLE V.

Rates of postage.

1. The following rates of postage must in all cases be fully prepaid, viz:

In United States.

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

In Siam.

3. In Siam 95 satangs (about 35 cents gold) for parcels up to 1 pound in weight, and 40 satangs (13 cents gold) for each additional pound.

Delivery.

4. The parcels shall be promptly delivered to addressees in accordance with the domestic regulations of the country of destination, free of charge for postage; but the country of destination may, at its option, levy and collect from the addressee, for domestic service and delivery, a charge, the amount of which is to be fixed according to its own regulations, but which shall in no case exceed in the United States five cents and in Siam 75 satangs, for each parcel whatever its weight.

Customs dues, etc.

5. Every parcel shall be subject, in the country of destination, to all duties and all customs regulations in force in that country for the protection of its customs revenues; and the customs and other duties properly chargeable thereon shall be collected on delivery, in accordance with the customs regulations of the country of destination.

ARTICLE VI.

Receipt of posting.

1. The sender may, at the time of posting, obtain a certificate of posting on the form provided for the purpose; in conformity with or analogous to Form 1 annexed hereto.

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Registry.

2. The sender of a package may have the same registered in accordance with the regulations of the country of origin.

Delivery receipt.

3. An acknowledgment of the delivery of a registered parcel shall be returned to the sender when requested; but either country may require of the sender prepayment of a fee therefor not exceeding five cents in the United States or twenty-five satangs in Siam.

Notice of arrival.

4. The addressees of registered parcels shall be advised of the arrival of the parcels addressed to them, by a notice from the Post Office at destination.

ARTICLE VII.

Customs declaration.

1. The sender of each parcel shall make a customs declaration, to be pasted upon or attached to the package, upon a special form provided for the purpose (see Form 2 annexed hereto) giving a general description of the parcel, an accurate statement of its contents, and

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value, date of mailing, and the sender's signature and place of residence, and the place of destination.

2. The contracting administrations decline any responsibility as to the correctness of the customs declarations. Nonresponsibility for errors.

ARTICLE VIII.

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

ARTICLE IX.

1. The parcels shall be considered as forming a distinct part of the mails exchanged between the United States and Siam, to be dispatched to the country of destination by the country of origin at its cost, and by such means as it provides, except that in case of parcels from the United States for Siam, the Postal Administration of Siam will pay for the onward conveyance of said parcels from Hong Kong dispatched through the intermediary of Hong Kong (said charges to be collected from the addressees). They must be forwarded, at the option of the dispatching office, either in boxes or baskets prepared expressly for the purpose, or in ordinary mail sacks, marked "Parcel Post," "Colis Postaux," and securely sealed with wax, or otherwise, as may be mutually agreed upon. Method of transportation.

2. Each country shall promptly return empty to the dispatching office by next mail all such receptacles; unless some other arrangement shall be mutually agreed to. Return of empty sacks.

ARTICLE X.

Each dispatch of a parcel post mail must be accompanied by a descriptive list, in duplicate, of all the parcels sent, showing distinctly the number of each parcel, the office of origin, the name of the addressee with address of destination, and the declared contents and value. This list (see Form 3 annexed hereto) must be enclosed in one of the receptacles composing the mail. Description list.
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ARTICLE XI.

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

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

3. 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, "Bulletin of Verification," which should be sent in a special envelope. Correction of errors.

4. 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 canceled and the fact reported at once. Nonreceipt of parcel.

5. If a parcel be observed to be insufficiently prepaid, it must not be taxed with deficient postage, but the circumstances must be reported on the bulletin of verification form. Insufficient payment.

6. Should a parcel be received in a damaged or imperfect condition, full particulars should be reported on the same form to the office which made up the mail. Damaged parcels.

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

ARTICLE XII.

Missent articles to be returned.

1. Missent parcels shall be immediately returned to the dispatching office of exchange. Attention shall be called to the error by means of a bulletin of verification.

Inability to deliver, etc.

2. If a parcel can not be delivered as addressed, or is refused, it must be returned without charge, directly to the dispatching office of exchange, at the expiration of thirty days from its 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.

Charges for redirected articles, etc.

Acte, p. 2108.

3. Parcels redirected from one country to the other, or parcels returned at the sender's request, incur a supplementary charge on the basis of the rates fixed by Article V, which may be collected in advance or on delivery, as convenient. Parcels forwarded from one address to another in the country of destination are subject to such additional charges as the domestic regulations of that country prescribe.

Perishable articles not delivered.

4. Articles which it has not been possible to deliver and which are liable to deterioration or corruption may, however, be sold immediately, without previous notice or legal formality, for the benefit of the person entitled thereto, the particulars of the sale being reported by one Administration to the other. The proceeds of the sale shall be devoted to paying the charges on the parcel; the remainder, if any, shall be sent to the office of origin to be paid to the sender. If for any reason a sale is impossible the spoilt or worthless articles are destroyed or handed over to the customs.

Duties on returned, etc., parcels to be canceled.

5. With the reservation that the formalities prescribed for Administrative reasons by the Administrations concerned be complied with, the customs duties on parcels which have to be sent back to the country of origin or redirected to a third country shall be canceled both in the United States and in Siam.

ARTICLE XIII.

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 XIV.

Exchange offices.

1. The stipulations of the present Convention apply exclusively to the articles herein mentioned, mailed in or destined for Siam on the one side and the United States and its island possessions on the other side, and dispatched on the one side to Hongkong from the offices of San Francisco, Seattle, and such other offices in the United States as may be designated hereafter by the Postmaster General of the United States, and on the other side to the offices of San Francisco and Seattle by the office of Bangkok or such other offices as may be subsequently designated by the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs of Siam.

Application of domestic legislation.

2. The internal legislation of both the United States and Siam shall remain applicable as regards everything not provided for by the stipulations contained in the present Convention.

Reciprocal communication of postal regulations.

3. The Postal Administrations of the two contracting parties 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.

Regulation of details, etc.

4. They shall regulate the mode of transmission of parcels and fix all other measures of detail and order necessary for insuring the

performance of the present Agreement. They may also, by agreement, prescribe conditions for the admission to the mails of any of the articles prohibited by Article III of this Convention.

Ante, p. 2107.

ARTICLE XV.

This Convention shall take effect and operations thereunder shall begin on the tenth day of October, 1918, 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 and duration.

Done in duplicate and signed at Washington the 24th day of February, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-two, and at Bangkok the 15th day of October, one thousand nine hundred and twentyone.

Signatures.

[SEAL.]

WILL. H. HAYS,
Postmaster General of the United States of America.

[SEAL.]

PHRA SVASTI VARAVITHI,
Director General of Posts and Telegraphs of Siam.

The foregoing Parcel Post Convention between the United States of America and Siam 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.]

WARREN G HARDING

By the President:

HENRY P. FLETCHER
Acting Secretary of State.

WASHINGTON, February 28, 1922.

FORM NO. 1.

Form No. 1.

Parcel Post.

A parcel addressed as under has been posted here this day.	
Office stamp.
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.	

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Form No. 2.

FORM NO. 2.

A.

Parcel Post between the United States and Siam.

Date. Stamp.	FORM OF CUSTOMS DECLARATION.			Place to which the parcel is addressed.
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.

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FORM No. 3.

Form No. 3.

Date stamp of the dispatching exchange post office.	<i>Parcels from.....for.....</i>	Date stamp of the receiving exchange post office.
<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 40px;"></div>	Parcel Bill No., dated 19...: per S. S.	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 40px;"></div>
* Sheet No.		

Entry No.	Origin of parcel.	Name of sender.	Address of parcel.	Declared contents.	Declared value.	Number of rates prepaid.	Remarks.
					\$		
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 mail to	<i>lbs.</i>
Number of boxes or other receptacles forming the mail.....	Total weight of mail.....
Signature of dispatching officer at..... post office.....	Deduct weight of receptacles.....
	Net weight of parcels.....
	Signature of receiving officer at..... post office.....

NOTE.—These are the standard forms but in actual practice, to save labor, most countries have agreed, notably Great Britain, Japan and China, to the dispatch of ordinary parcels without a description of the individual piece, an aggregate number being advised; registered articles, if any, being entered by "name of office of origin" and "registered number", an aggregate of the number of parcels being also furnished.