

SERVICE REGULATIONS ANNEXED TO THE INTERNATIONAL
RADIOTELEGRAPHIC CONVENTION.

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I. ORGANISATION OF RADIOTELEGRAPH STATIONS.

I.

The choice of the radiotelegraphic apparatus and arrangements to be used by coast stations and ship stations is unrestricted. The installation of these stations must keep pace as far as possible with scientific and technical progress.

II.

Two wave-lengths, one of 300 and the other of 600 metres, are allowed for general public correspondence. Every coast station open for this service employs one or other of these two wave-lengths. During the whole period for which it is open for service, every station must be in a position to receive calls made by means of its own wave-length, and it must not make use of any other wave-length for the service of general public correspondence. Nevertheless, each Government may authorise the use at any coast station of other wave-lengths for the purpose of providing a long-distance service, or a service other than that of general public correspondence, established in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, on condition that these wave-lengths do not exceed 600 metres or do exceed 1,600 metres.

III.

1. The normal wave-length for ship stations is 300 metres. Every ship station must be installed in such a way as to be capable of using this wave-length. Other wave-lengths may be used by these stations on condition that they do not exceed 600 metres.

2. Ships of small tonnage, which it would be materially impossible to equip with plant producing a wave-length of 300 metres, may be authorised to use a shorter wave-length.

IV.

1. By the agency of the International Bureau, a list shall be prepared of the radiotelegraph stations indicated in Article I. of the Convention. This list shall give the following particulars regarding each station :—

- (i) Name, nationality, and geographical position in the case of coast stations ; name, nationality, distinguishing signal under the International Code and indication of the ship's port of registry, in the case of ship stations ;
- (ii) Call-signal (the call-signals must be distinguished from one another and must each be composed of a group of three letters) ;
- (iii) Normal range ;
- (iv) System of radiotelegraphy ;
- (v) Nature of receiving apparatus (recording, sound-reading, or other apparatus) ;
- (vi) Wave-lengths used by the station (the normal wave-length is underlined) ;
- (vii) Nature of the service performed by the station :—
 - General public correspondence ;
 - Restricted public correspondence (correspondence with the ships ; correspondence with the shipping lines ; correspondence with ships equipped with apparatus of the system, &c.) ;
 - Long-distance public correspondence ;
 - Private correspondence of the owners of the station ;
 - Special correspondence (correspondence of an exclusively official nature) ;
 - &c. ;
- (viii) Hours of service ;
- (ix) Coast or ship charge.

2. The list shall also comprise such particulars with regard to radiotelegraph stations other than those indicated in Article I of the Convention as are communicated to the International Bureau by the Administration to whose authority these stations are subject.

V.

The stations indicated in Article I of the Convention are prohibited from exchanging superfluous signals and words. Trials and practice are only permitted at these stations in so far as they do not interfere with the service of other stations.

VI.

1. No ship station may be established or worked by any private enterprise without the authorisation of the Government to whose authority the ship is subject. This authorisation is given by a license issued by that Government.

2. Every ship station which is authorised must satisfy the following conditions:—

- (a) The system used must be a syntonised system.
- (b) The speed of transmission and reception must, in normal circumstances, not be less than 12 words a minute, five letters being counted as one word.
- (c) The power imparted to the radiotelegraphic apparatus must not, in normal circumstances, exceed one kilowatt. Power in excess of one kilowatt may be used if the ship finds it necessary to exchange messages at a distance of more than 300 kilometers from the nearest coast station, or if, by reason of intervening obstacles, communication can only be effected by an increase of power.

3. The service of the ship station must be carried on by a telegraphist holding a certificate issued by the Government to whose authority the ship is subject. This certificate testifies to the technical proficiency of the telegraphist as regards—

- (a) The adjustment of apparatus.
- (b) Transmission and sound-reading at a speed which must not fall short of 20 words a minute.
- (c) Knowledge of the regulations applicable to the exchange of radio-telegraphic traffic.

4. In addition, the certificate testifies that the Government has bound the telegraphist to the obligation of preserving the secrecy of correspondence.

VII.

1. If an Administration has information of a breach of the Convention or of the Regulations committed at one of the stations which it has authorised, it shall verify the facts and fix the responsibility.

In the case of ship stations, if the responsibility falls on the telegraphist, the Administration shall take the necessary steps, and, if need be, withdraw his certificate. If it is proved that the breach was due to the condition of the apparatus, or to instructions given to the telegraphist, similar steps shall be taken with regard to the licence granted to the ship.

2. In the event of repeated breaches by the same ship, if the representations made to the Administration to whose authority the ship is subject by another Administration remain without effect, the latter is empowered, after giving notice, to authorise its coast stations to refuse communications from the ship in question. In case of difference between the two Administrations, the question shall be submitted to arbitration at the instance of one of the Governments in question. The procedure followed shall be that indicated in Article 18 of the Convention.

2. DURATION OF SERVICE AT COAST STATIONS.

VIII.

1. The service at coast stations is, as far as possible, permanent, day and night, without interruption.

Nevertheless, certain coast stations may provide a service of limited duration. Each Administration fixes the hours of services.

2. Those coast stations at which the service is not permanent must not close before they have transmitted all their radiotelegrams to such ships as are within their range of transmission, and have received from these ships all the radiotelegrams of which notice has been given. This provision applies also when ships notify their presence before work has actually ceased.

3. FORM AND ACCEPTANCE OF RADIOTELEGRAMS.

IX.

If part of the route followed by a radiotelegram lies over telegraph lines or through radiotelegraph stations belonging to a non-contracting country, the radiotelegram may be forwarded on condition that the Administrations of the countries to which these lines or stations belong have at the least declared their willingness to apply, when occasion arises, those provisions of the Convention and Regulations which are essential for the proper disposal of radiotelegrams, and provided also that adequate arrangements are made for accounting.

X.

1. Radiotelegrams bear the service instruction "Radio" in the preamble.

2. In the transmission of radiotelegrams from ship stations to coast stations the date and the time of handing in are omitted from the preamble.

On re-transmission over the ordinary telegraph system, the coast station inserts, as the indication of the office of origin, its own name followed by that of the ship, and gives, as the time of handing in, the time of receipt.

XI.

The address of radiotelegrams for ships at sea should be as complete as possible. It must contain the following:—

- (a) Name of addressee, with further particulars, if necessary.
- (b) Name of ship as it appears in the list, supplemented, in the case of ships bearing the same name, by the nationality of the ship, and, if necessary, its distinguishing signal under the International Code.
- (c) Name of coast station as it appears in the list.

4. CHARGES.

XII.

The coast charge must not exceed 60 centimes a word, nor the ship charge 40 centimes a word.

A minimum not exceeding the coast charge or the ship charge for a radiotelegram of 10 words may be fixed either for the coast charge or for the ship charge.

XIII.

A country on whose territory a coast station is established which serves as a medium for the exchange of radiotelegrams between a ship station and another country is considered, for the purpose of applying the telegraph rates, as the country of origin or of destination of those radiotelegrams and not as a country of transit.

5. COLLECTION OF CHARGES.

XIV.

The whole charge for radiotelegrams is collected from the sender.

For this purpose ship stations must have the necessary tariffs. Nevertheless they have the right to obtain information from coast stations with regard to the assessment of the charge for radiotelegrams in respect of which they do not possess all the requisite particulars.

6. TRANSMISSION OF RADIOTELEGRAMS.

a. Signals.

XV.

The signals used are those of the International Morse Code.

XVI.

Ships in distress make use of the following signal:—

• • • — — — • • •

repeat at short intervals.

As soon as a station perceives the signal of distress it must suspend all correspondence and must not resume work until it has made sure that the communication consequent upon the call for assistance has been completed.

When a ship in distress adds, after a series of signals of distress, the call-signal of a particular station, the duty of answering the call rests with that station only. Failing any mention of a particular station in the signal of distress, every station which perceives the call is bound to answer it.

XVII.

1. The call-signal followed by the letters • — — • • — — • • • "PRB" signifies that the ship or the station making the call wishes to communicate with the station called by means of the International Code of Signals.

The combination of the letters "PRB" is prohibited, as a service signal, for any other purpose than that above indicated.

2. The International Code of Signals may be used for radiotelegrams.

Those which are addressed to a radiotelegraph station for onward transmission are not translated by that station.

b. Order of Transmission.

XVIII.

Between two stations radiotelegrams of the same rank are transmitted separately in alternate order or in series consisting of several radiotelegrams, as may be determined by the coast station, provided that the time occupied in the transmission of any one series does not exceed 20 minutes.

c. Calling of Radiotelegraph Stations and Transmission of Radiotelegrams.

XIX.

1. As a general rule, it is the ship station which calls the coast station.

2. The call must only be made, as a general rule, when the distance of the ship from the coast station is less than 75 per cent. of the normal range of the latter.

3. Before beginning to call, the ship station must adjust its receiving apparatus to the highest possible degree of sensitiveness and make sure that the coast station which it wishes to call is not engaged in communication. If it finds that transmission is taking place it awaits the first break.

4. The ship station uses, for calling purposes, the normal wave-length of the coast station.

5. If in spite of these precautions the exchange of public radiotelegraphic traffic is interfered with, the call must cease at the first request made by a coast station open for public correspondence. This station must then indicate approximately how long it will be necessary to wait.

XX.

1. The call comprises the signal $\text{---} \cdot \text{---} \cdot \text{---}$, the call-signal of the coast station thrice repeated, the word "de" followed by the call-signal of the transmitting station thrice repeated.

2. The station called answers by giving the signal $\text{---} \cdot \text{---} \cdot \text{---}$, followed by the call-signal of the calling station thrice repeated, by the word "de," by its own call-signal, and by the signal $\text{---} \cdot \text{---}$.

XXI.

If a station called does not reply as the result of the call (Article XX.) thrice repeated at intervals of two minutes, the call can only be renewed after an interval of half-an-hour, the station making the call having first ascertained that no radiotelegraphic communication is in progress.

XXII.

1. As soon as the coast station has answered, the ship station makes known—

- (a) The distance of the ship from the coast station in nautical miles.
- (b) Its true bearings in degrees reckoned from 0 to 360.
- (c) Its true course in degrees reckoned from 0 to 360.
- (d) Its speed in nautical miles.
- (e) The number of words which it has to transmit.

2. The coast station replies by indicating the number of words which it has to transmit to the ship.

3. If transmission cannot take place at once the coast station informs the ship station approximately how long it will be necessary to wait.

XXIII.

When a coast station receives calls from several ship stations, the coast station decides the order in which the ship stations shall be allowed to transmit their correspondence.

The sole consideration which must govern the coast station in settling this order is the necessity of allowing every station concerned to exchange the greatest possible number of radiotelegrams.

XXIV.

Before beginning the exchange of correspondence the coast station informs the ship station whether transmission is to take place in alternate order or in series (Article XVIII.); it then begins transmission or follows up these service instructions with the signal $\text{---} \cdot \text{---}$ (invitation to transmit).

XXV.

The transmission of a radiotelegram is preceded by the signal $\text{---} \cdot \text{---} \cdot \text{---}$ and terminated by the signal $\cdot \text{---} \cdot \text{---} \cdot$, followed by the call-signal of the transmitting station.

XXVI.

When the radiotelegram to be transmitted contains more than 40 words the transmitting station interrupts transmission after each series of about 20 words with a mark of interrogation $\cdot \cdot \text{---} \text{---} \cdot \cdot$, and only continues transmission after having obtained from the receiving station the repetition of the last word duly received, followed by a mark of interrogation.

In the case of transmission by series, an acknowledgment of receipt is given after each radiotelegram.

XXVII.

1. When the signals become doubtful, it is important that recourse should be had to all possible means for effecting transmission. For this purpose the radiogram is repeated, at the request of the receiving station, but not more than three times. If, in spite of this triple transmission, the signals are still unreadable, the radiotelegram is cancelled. If an acknowledgment of receipt is not received the transmitting station again calls the receiving station. If no reply is made after three calls, transmission is not continued.

2. If the receiving station, in spite of defective reception, thinks that the radiotelegram may be delivered, it inserts the service instruction "Reception doubtful" at the end of the preamble and sends on the radiotelegram.

XXVIII.

All stations are bound to exchange traffic with the minimum expenditure of energy required for obtaining effective communication.

d. Acknowledgment of Receipt and End of Work.

XXIX.

1. The acknowledgment of receipt is given in the form prescribed by the International Telegraph Regulations preceded by the call-signal of the transmitting station and followed by the call-signal of the receiving station.

The end of work between two stations is indicated by each station by means of the signal $\cdot \cdot \cdot \text{---} \cdot \text{---}$ followed by its call-signal.

e. Route to be followed by Radiotelegrams.

XXX.

1. As a general principle, the ship station transmits its radiotelegrams to the nearest coast station.

2. Nevertheless, a sender on board ship is at liberty to indicate the coast station by which he desires his radiotelegram to be despatched.

The ship station then waits until this coast station becomes the nearest. If this condition cannot be fulfilled, the sender's wishes are only complied with if transmission can be effected without interfering with the service of other stations.

7. DELIVERY OF RADIOTELEGRAMS.

XXXI.

When for any reason whatever a radiotelegram from a ship at sea cannot be delivered to the addressee, an advice of non-delivery is sent. This advice is transmitted, if possible, to the ship. When a radiotelegram reaching a ship station-

cannot be delivered, that station informs the office of origin by means of a service advice. This advice is transmitted, as far as possible, to the coast station through which the radiotelegram has been received, or, if the circumstances require it, to the nearest coast station.

XXXII.

If the ship to which a radiotelegram is addressed has not notified its presence to the coast station within the period indicated by the sender, or, failing such indication, before the morning of the 29th day, the coast station advises the sender to that effect.

The latter has the right to request, by a paid telegraphic or postal service message addressed to the coast station, that his radiotelegram may be retained for a further period of 30 days for transmission to the ship, and so on. Failing a request to this effect, the radiotelegram is treated as undeliverable at the end of the 30th day (the day of handing in not included).

Nevertheless, if the coast station knows that the ship has passed beyond its range of transmission before the radiotelegram could be transmitted to it, that station advises the sender accordingly.

8. SPECIAL TELEGRAMS.

XXXIII.

The following are not admitted :—

- (a) Telegrams with prepaid replies.
- (b) Telegraph Money Orders.
- (c) Collated telegrams.
- (d) Telegrams with acknowledgment of receipt.
- (e) Telegrams "to follow."
- (f) Paid service telegrams, except as regards transmission over the ordinary telegraph system.
- (g) Urgent telegrams, except as regards transmission over the ordinary telegraph system, subject to the provisions of the International Telegraph Regulations.
- (h) Telegrams to be delivered by express or by post.

9. RECORDS.

XXXIV.

The originals of radiotelegrams and the documents relating to them retained by the Administrations or private enterprises are preserved for at least 12 months, reckoned from the month following that of handing in, with all necessary precautions to secure secrecy.

These originals and documents are, as far as possible, sent at least once a month by ship stations to the Administrations to whose authority they are subject.

10. REFUNDS AND REIMBURSEMENTS.

XXXV.

1. Refunds and reimbursements are governed by the provisions of the International Telegraph Regulations, regard being had to the restrictions indicated in Article XXXIII. of the present Regulations and subject to the following reservations :—

The time occupied in transmission by radiotelegraphy and the time during which the radiotelegram remains at the coast station or at the ship station are not reckoned towards the periods of delay which give rise to refunds and reimbursements.

The reimbursement is borne by the different Administrations or private enterprises which have taken part in the transmission of the radiotelegram, each Administration foregoing its proportion of the charge. Nevertheless, radiotelegrams which come under Articles 7 and 8 of the Convention of St. Petersburg remain subject to the provisions of the International Telegraph Regulations, except when it is due to an error of service that such radiotelegrams have been accepted.

2. When the acknowledgment of receipt of a radiotelegram has not reached the station which transmitted the radiotelegram, the charge is only refunded after it has been proved that the radiotelegram is one which gives rise to reimbursement.

11. ACCOUNTS.

XXXVI.

1. The coast and ship charges do not enter into the accounts for which provision is made in the International Telegraph Regulations.

The accounts relating to these charges are settled by the Administrations of the Governments concerned. They are prepared by the Administrations responsible for the coast stations and are communicated by them to the Administrations concerned.

2. In respect of transmission over the ordinary telegraph system a radiotelegram is treated, for accounting purposes, in accordance with the International Telegraph Regulations.

3. In respect of radiotelegrams from ships, the Administration responsible for the ship station is debited by the Administration responsible for the coast station with the coast and ordinary telegraph charges collected on board the ship.

In respect of radiotelegrams addressed to ships, the Administration which has collected the charges is debited directly by the Administration responsible for the coast station with the coast and ship charges. The latter Administration credits the Administration responsible for the ship with the ship charge.

Nevertheless, in cases where the Administration which has collected the charges is that responsible for the ship station, the ship charge is not debited by the Administration responsible for the coast station.

4. The monthly accounts on which the special accounting in respect of radiotelegrams is based are prepared radiotelegram by radiotelegram, with all the necessary particulars, within six months from the month to which they relate.

5. The Governments reserve the right of making between themselves and in their dealings with private enterprises (organisations working radiotelegraph stations, shipping companies, &c.) special arrangements for the adoption of other methods of accounting.

12. INTERNATIONAL BUREAU.

XXXVII.

The International Bureau of Telegraph Administrations will be entrusted, subject to the consent of the Government of the Swiss Confederation and to the approval of the Telegraph Union, with the functions specified in Article 13 of the Convention.

The additional expenses resulting from the exercise by the International Bureau of its functions in respect of radiotelegraphy must not exceed 40,000 francs per annum, not including extraordinary expenditure occasioned by the assembling of an International Conference.

These expenses form the subject of a special account, and the provisions of the International Telegraph Regulations are applicable to them. Nevertheless, pending the meeting of the next Conference, each contracting Government shall notify to the International Bureau the class in which it wishes to be included.

XXXVIII.

The various Administrations shall supply the International Bureau with a Return in conformity with the annexed model, containing the particulars specified therein in respect of the stations indicated in Article IV. of the Regulations. Subsequent modifications and additions shall be communicated by the Administrations to the International Bureau between the 1st and 10th of each month. By means of the information thus communicated the International Bureau shall prepare a list and keep it up to date. The list and its supplements shall be printed and distributed to the Administrations concerned; they may also be sold to the public at cost price.

The International Bureau shall take care that the same call-signals are not adopted for different radiotelegraph stations.

13. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

XXXIX.

The Administrations shall facilitate arrangements for communicating to such maritime news agencies as they think fit such information respecting wrecks and shipping casualties, or of general interest for purposes of navigation, as can properly be communicated to them by their coast stations.

XL.

Traffic exchanged between the ship stations indicated in Article 1 of the Convention must be so regulated as not to interfere with the service of coast stations, the latter being entitled as a general rule to priority for purposes of public correspondence.

XLI.

1. In the absence of special arrangements between the parties concerned, the provisions of the present regulations are applicable, by analogy, to the exchange of radiotelegraphic traffic between two ships at sea, with the following exceptions:—

- (a) *Article XIV.*—The ship charge accruing to the transmitting ship is collected from the sender, and that accruing to the receiving ship is collected from the addressee.
- (b) *Article XVIII.*—The order of transmission is settled on each occasion by mutual agreement between the communicating stations.
- (c) *Article XXXVI.*—The charges in respect of the radiotelegrams in question do not enter into the accounts provided for in Article XXXVI., these charges being retained by the Administrations which have collected them.

2. The re-transmission of radiotelegrams exchanged between ships at sea is subject to special arrangements between the parties concerned.

XLII.

The provisions of the International Telegraph Regulations are applicable, by analogy, to radiotelegraphic correspondence in so far as they are not inconsistent with the provisions of the present Regulations.

In conformity with Article 11 of the Convention of Berlin, these Regulations will come into force on the 1st July 1908.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the Regulations in a single copy, which will remain deposited in the archives of the Imperial German Government, and of which a copy will be sent to each party.

Done at Berlin, the 3rd November 1906.

(Here follow the names of the Plenipotentiaries.)

Annexe to Article XXXVIII. of Regulations.

Administration of _____.

PARTICULARS OF RADIOTELEGRAPH STATIONS.

(a) *Coast Stations.*

Name.	Nationality.	Geographical Position.	Call Signal.	Normal Range.	System of Radiotelegraphy.	Nature of Receiving Apparatus (Recording Apparatus, Sound-Reading, or other Apparatus).	Wave-lengths (the normal Wave-length is underlined).	Nature of Service performed by the Station.	Hours of Service (showing the Meridian to which they refer).	Coast Charge, showing Minimum Charge.	Remarks.

