# POST OFFICE

## The British Commonwealth and Foreign Parcel Post Warrant, 1950

## 1950 No. 1200

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| *Made* - - - - | 21*st July*, 1950 |
| *Laid before Parliament* | 25*th July*, 1950 |
| *Coming into Operation* | 1*st September*, 1950 |

We, the Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, in exercise of all powers given to us by Sections 2, 4, 12 and 82 of the Post Office Act 1908(**a**) and Section 6 of the Post Office (Amendment) Act 1935(**b**) and of all other powers enabling us in this behalf, do, by this Warrant, made on the representation of His Majesty's Postmaster General (testified by his signing the same) and under the hands of two of us, the said Commissioners, order, direct and declare as follows:—

*Places between which parcels may be transmitted*

**1.**—(1) Parcels may, subject to the provisions of this Warrant, be transmitted by post:—

(*a*) between the British Islands and any country or place out of the British Islands with reference to which an arrangement has been made with respect to the conveyance of parcels by post, and

(*b*) between the British Islands and such British Postal Agencies as the Postmaster General may direct, between such Agencies and any country or place with reference to which such an arrangement as above mentioned has been made, and also between such British Postal Agencies.

Provided that (except as provided in paragraph (3) of Regulation 16 and in Regulation 17 hereof) this Warrant shall not apply to parcels transmitted between the British Islands and the Republic of Ireland.

(2) This Warrant shall also apply to parcels posted:

(*a*) on board any of His Majesty's ships of war on the high seas or in any port or place outside the British Islands and transmitted in closed mails from such ships;

(*b*) by members of the naval, military, or air forces of any British Commonwealth country serving abroad and transmitted through a British Army post office, a Royal Air Force post office or a British Fleet Mail Office at which British postage stamps are issued, or through such combined post office (being an office at which British postage stamps are issued) as may be established in substitution for such respective offices;

(*c*) by members of the armed forces of any Allied State who are stationed with the naval, military or air forces of any British Commonwealth country at any place abroad, and transmitted as mentioned in the last preceding sub-paragraph.

(a) 8 Edw. 7. c. 48. (b) 25 & 26 Geo. 5. c. 15.

*Prohibitions*

**2.** There shall not be posted or conveyed or delivered by post any parcel :—

(1) Consisting of or containing any indecent or obscene print, painting, photograph, cinematograph film, lithograph, engraving, book, card or written communication, or any indecent or obscene article, whether similar to the above or not ; or

(2) Having thereon, or on the cover thereof, any words, marks, or designs which are grossly offensive or of an indecent or obscene character ; or

(3) Consisting of or containing :—

(*a*) any explosive substance ;

(*b*) any dangerous substance ;

(*c*) any filth ;

(*d*) any noxious or deleterious substance ;

(*e*) any sharp instrument not properly protected ;

(*f*) except with the special permission of the Postmaster General, any living creatures other than bees, leeches and silkworms ;

(*g*) any article or thing whatsoever which is likely to injure other postal packets in course of conveyance, or any receptacle in which the same are conveyed, or an officer of the Post Office or other person who may deal with such packet ; or

(4) Containing :—

(*a*) coin or gold bullion exceeding £5 in value, or any parcel containing silver bullion or silver partly manufactured exceeding £20 in value ;

(*b*) any article or thing prohibited by the Customs or other laws or regulations of the British Islands or of the country to which the parcel is addressed or of any country through which it may pass, or, if posted at a British Postal Agency, by the Customs or other laws or regulations of the country or place in which the Agency is situated ;

(*c*) any imitation of a Bank note within the meaning of Section 38 of the Criminal Justice Act 1925(**a**) ; or

(5) Consisting of or containing two or more postal packets (of the same or of different descriptions) addressed to different persons who are at different addresses ; or

(6) Containing or bearing :—

(*a*) any fictitious postage stamp or any counterfeit impression of a stamping machine used under the direction or by the permission of the Postmaster General ; or

(*b*) any letter or other document in the nature of a personal communication, except so far as may be permitted by the arrangement with reference to the transmission of parcels between the British Islands and any country or place outside the British Islands ; or

(7) Purporting to be prepaid with any stamp or impression of a stamping machine which has been previously used to prepay any other postal packet, or any other revenue duty or tax ; or

(**a**) 15 & 16 Geo. 5. c. 86.

(8) Having thereon or on the cover thereof any words, letters or marks (used without due authority) which signify or imply or may reasonably lead the recipient thereof to believe that the parcel is sent on His Majesty's Service; or

(9) Having thereon or on the cover thereof any words, marks, or designs of a character likely, in the opinion of the Postmaster General, to embarrass the officers of the Post Office in dealing with the parcel in the post; or

(10) Of such a form or so made up for transmission by post as to be likely, in the opinion of the Postmaster General, to embarrass the officers of the Post Office in dealing with the parcel in the post; or

(11) Having anything written, printed, or otherwise impressed upon or attached to any part of that side of the parcel which bears the address at which the parcel is to be delivered, which, either by tending to prevent the easy and quick reading of the address of the parcel, or by inconvenient proximity to the stamp or stamps used in the payment of postage, or in any other way, is in itself, or in the manner in which it is written, printed, impressed, or attached, likely, in the opinion of the Postmaster General, to embarrass the officers of the Post Office in dealing with such parcel.

*Maximum dimensions and weight*

**3.** Except by permission of the Postmaster General, there shall not be forwarded, conveyed, or delivered by post any parcel the length of which shall exceed three feet six inches or the combined length and girth of which shall exceed six feet (the girth to be measured round the thickest part) or the weight of which shall exceed twenty-two pounds or such lesser length, girth or weight as shall be prescribed with reference to parcels for particular countries or places.

*Rates of postage on parcels*

**4.**—(1) There shall be charged and paid on outgoing parcels (except Air Mail parcels) rates of postage not exceeding forty shillings per parcel up to a maximum weight of twenty-two pounds.

(2) There shall be charged and paid on every Air Mail parcel a rate of postage not exceeding forty shillings per pound or twenty shillings per half pound or fractional part of a pound or half pound (as the case may be) up to a maximum weight of twenty-two pounds.

(3) The Postmaster General shall publish from time to time in the London Gazette the several rates of postage payable under this Warrant, and in any proceeding relating to the postage payable in respect of parcels transmitted under this Warrant, the production of a copy of the Gazette stating the rate in question shall be conclusive evidence that such rate is the postage for the time being payable as aforesaid.

*Mode of posting*

**5.** Subject to the provisions of this Warrant, the following provisions shall apply to the posting of an outgoing parcel, that is to say:—

(*a*) The parcel shall be posted by being handed in at a post office designated by the Postmaster General for that purpose.

(*b*) The parcel must bear the name and full address of the addressee, and must be packed in such manner and form and in accordance with such directions as may from time to time be prescribed in that behalf. Except in the case of a parcel posted at a British Postal Agency in

the Persian Gulf for transmission to an address served by another such Agency in the Persian Gulf, the parcel must be accompanied by or have affixed to it one or more declarations of such kind, and stating the nature and value of the contents of the parcel in such manner and form and with such other particulars as the Commissioners of Customs and the Postmaster General may direct.

(*c*) The sender may also be required to fill up a despatch note in a prescribed form.

Provided that notwithstanding the provision of paragraph (*a*) of this Regulation the Postmaster General may, if he thinks fit, from time to time authorise such officers as he may direct to receive parcels for the post otherwise than at a post office under such rules and conditions as may be prescribed.

*Payment of customs and other charges by sender*

**6.**—(1) Where the sender of an outgoing parcel desires that such parcel may be delivered to the addressee free of all Customs Duties and other charges thereon, the following rules shall apply to such parcel:—

(*a*) There shall be charged and paid on such parcel, in addition to all postage payable thereon, the amount of the Customs Duties and of all other charges payable on the delivery of such parcel, and such further sum or fee not exceeding one shilling as the Postmaster General shall direct.

(*b*) The sender shall sign an undertaking in the prescribed form to pay on demand the amount of such Customs Duties and other charges as aforesaid.

(*c*) The sender shall also, if so required, pay, by way of deposit at the time of posting the parcel, such sum as the Postmaster General may direct in respect of such Customs Duties and other charges.

(2) This Regulation shall not apply to a parcel addressed to a country or place with the Postal Administration of which the Postmaster General has not for the time being an arrangement for the collection from the senders of Customs and other charges.

*Customs regulations*

**7.** Parcels intended to be transmitted by post under the provisions of this Warrant shall not be posted, forwarded, conveyed, or delivered, except subject to such regulations as are referred to in Section 14 of the Post Office (Parcels) Act, 1882(**a**), and, in the case of parcels intended to be transmitted by post from a British Postal Agency, subject to the Customs regulations of the country or place in which such Agency is situated.

*Charge for fulfilment of Customs formalities*

**8.**—(1) In respect of every incoming parcel to which such regulations as are referred to in Section 14 of the Post Office (Parcels) Act, 1882(**a**), apply, or (in the case of a parcel received at a British Postal Agency) to which Customs regulations of the country or place in which such Agency is situated apply, and upon the contents of which any liability to duty attaches, there shall be charged and paid such further sum or fee as the Postmaster General shall direct not exceeding the following (that is to say):—

Where the Duty does not exceed ten shillings—sixpence;
Where the Duty exceeds ten shillings—one shilling.

(2) In this Regulation the expression "duty" includes any purchase tax as well as any Customs duty.

(a) 45 & 46 Vict. c. 74.

*Treatment of parcels posted in letter boxes*

**9.** Any outgoing packet transmissible by Parcel Post, which from any words or marks thereon, or other external evidence, appears to have been intended for transmission as a parcel, and has not been tendered for transmission as a parcel but has been posted in a post office letter box or otherwise than as provided for the posting of parcels, may, in the discretion of the Postmaster General, either be detained and returned or given up to the sender, or if the said packet is fully pre-paid with the letter rate of postage or the rate of postage applicable to a printed packet (other than a magazine for Canada), a commercial packet, a sample packet, a small packet, a magazine for Canada and a packet of literature for the blind and otherwise conforms to the regulations as to a letter or any such packet, the same may be forwarded as a letter or as a printed packet, commercial packet, sample packet, small packet, a magazine for Canada, or a packet of literature for the blind (as the case may be).

*Delivery at post offices*

**10.** Where an incoming parcel exceeds fifteen pounds in weight, the Postmaster General may in such cases as he thinks fit instead of delivering the parcel give notice to the addressee of the arrival thereof and the parcel shall in such case be delivered to the addressee at the post office on his application at any time within such period from the delivery of the notice as the Postmaster General may direct, and upon payment of all charges due thereon.

*Charges exceeding £10 on incoming parcels*

**11.** Where the charges due in respect of an incoming parcel or incoming parcels amount to more than ten pounds, the Postmaster General may give notice to the addressee of the arrival thereof and before delivery is effected require the addressee to pay the amount due within such period and at such office as shall be specified in the notice given to the addressee as aforesaid.

*Return and disposal of undelivered parcels*

**12.**—(1) Parcels which for any reason are undeliverable shall be dealt with in accordance with arrangements from time to time made between the Postmaster General and the Postal Administrations concerned.

(2) Where under any such arrangement as above mentioned an outgoing parcel is received from a place outside the British Islands (or, in the case of a parcel posted at a British Postal Agency, is received at that Agency from any place, whether outside or within the British Islands) for return to the sender, there shall be charged upon such parcel and paid by the sender additional postage according to the rate chargeable under any such arrangement, and the parcel shall not be given up to the sender except upon payment of such additional postage and of all charges of any kind to which the parcel may have become liable under the provisions of this Warrant, or otherwise by the law of Great Britain or of any other part of the British Islands or of any other country or place.

(3) Where under any such arrangement as above mentioned a parcel is not returned to the sender, or the sender or the addressee refuses or fails to pay the charges to which the parcel has become liable under this Warrant or otherwise, the parcel may be dealt with or disposed of in such manner as the Postmaster General may, in his discretion, direct or authorise.

(4) (*a*) Where an incoming parcel cannot be delivered as originally addressed and under any such arrangement as above mentioned the name

and address of a substituted addressee has been furnished by the sender, and the parcel is forwarded to the substituted address, or

(*b*) Where an incoming parcel, which cannot be delivered within such reasonable time as the Postmaster General may from time to time prescribe, is subsequently re-transmitted to the addressee thereof at the request of the sender or of the addressee,

there shall be charged and paid by the addressee additional postage at the Inland rate chargeable for transmission from the original to the substituted address or in respect of such re-transmission, as the case may be. Where the parcel exceeds fifteen pounds in weight there shall be charged for such transmission or re-transmission a sum not exceeding two shillings and sixpence.

*Treatment of irregular parcels*

**13.**—(1) Except as otherwise provided in this Warrant parcels which are posted or received otherwise than in conformity with the provisions of this Warrant may be either detained and returned or given up to the senders thereof or dealt with or disposed of in such other manner as may be authorised by the Postmaster General.

(2) If a packet found in an incoming parcel contravenes the provisions of Regulation 2 (5) (Prohibitions) of this Warrant, the Postmaster General may, if he thinks fit, either deliver the parcel to the addressee thereof or withdraw the packet so found and deliver it to the addressee thereof but subject in either case to the payment of a charge not exceeding the postage which would have been payable in respect of the packet had it been transmitted as a separate postal packet from the country or place in which it was posted.

*Express delivery fee on outgoing parcels*

**14.** Where the Postmaster General has made an arrangement with the Postal Administration of any country or place abroad for the delivery by special messenger in that country or place of any outgoing parcel addressed thereto (being a parcel not exceeding such weight as may be prescribed) which is marked with the word "express" or with such other word or words as may indicate the desire of the sender that the parcel may be delivered by special messenger (which word or words are hereinafter referred to as an "express marking") there shall be charged and prepaid on every outgoing parcel bearing such express marking such fee not exceeding eightpence as the Postmaster General shall direct.

*Delivery of incoming parcels by special messenger*

**15.**—(1) Any incoming parcel, not exceeding twenty two pounds in weight, marked with an express marking shall, in the British Islands, be delivered by special messenger, subject to the regulations and conditions (other than the limit of weight) for the time being in force with respect to the conveyance of inland parcels in the British Islands.

(2) No express fee shall be payable by the addressee of such parcel unless and except in so far as the sum prepaid thereon for express delivery of such parcel is less than the express fee payable on an inland parcel.

*Re-direction*

**16.**—(1) Any parcel may be re-directed from its original address or any substituted address within the British Islands or from a British Postal Agency, to the same addressee at any other address in any country or place with which a Parcel Post from the British Islands or from such Agency is established, provided that the parcel conforms with the regulations applicable to parcels sent by post to the country or place to which it is re-directed. In

every case of such re-direction there shall be charged on such parcel in respect of such re-direction additional postage according to the rates for the time being payable in respect of the transmission of a like parcel to the country or place to which it may be re-directed.

(2) Any parcel may be re-directed from its original address or any substituted address within the British Islands to the same addressee at any other address within the British Islands, and in every case of such re-direction there shall be charged on such parcel in respect of such re-direction, and (if not previously paid) paid by the addressee thereof upon the delivery of such parcel such rate of postage as would be chargeable on a parcel of similar weight originally posted in the British Islands and addressed to some place in the British Islands. Where the parcel exceeds fifteen pounds in weight there shall be charged on such parcel in respect of such re-direction a sum not exceeding two shillings and sixpence.

Provided that the Postmaster General may remit the postage payable under this paragraph in respect of the re-direction when the re-directed parcel is handed in on the day of its delivery at the address from which it is re-directed or on the day next following (a Sunday, Christmas Day, Good Friday and Public Holiday not being counted for this purpose) if the parcel is re-directed to an address served from the delivery office at which the parcel is handed in or to an address in the same town delivery area.

(3) Any parcel not exceeding eleven pounds in weight may be re-directed from its original address or any substituted address within the British Islands to the same addressee at any address in the Republic of Ireland, and in every case of such re-direction there shall be charged on such parcel in respect of such re-direction such rate of postage as would be chargeable on a parcel of similar weight originally posted in the British Islands and addressed to some place in the Republic of Ireland.

(4) An insured parcel re-directed in accordance with paragraph (1) of this Regulation will be transmitted as an insured parcel provided:

(*a*) the parcel does not appear to have been opened;

(*b*) the parcel is handed in in its original cover and at a post office designated by the Postmaster General for that purpose;

(*c*) the parcel conforms with the conditions applicable to insured parcels sent by post from a British post office to the country or place to which it is re-directed;

(*d*) a new insurance charge, comprising a sum equal to the registration fee and one of the compensation fees referred to in sub-paragraphs (*a*) and (*b*) of paragraph (3) of Regulation 18 of this Warrant is paid by the person re-directing the parcel unless evidence is produced to the satisfaction of the Postmaster General that the addressee will pay the charge on delivery.

(5) Any insured parcel which is re-directed in accordance with paragraph (2) or paragraph (3) of this Regulation will be transmitted by post provided:

(*a*) the parcel does not appear to have been opened; and

(*b*) it is handed in in its original cover.

(6) No parcel re-directed from a place out of the British Islands to a place within the British Islands or to a British Postal Agency and no parcel re-directed from a place within the British Islands to a British Postal Agency shall be delivered to the addressee except upon payment of all charges of any kind to which the parcel has become liable by the law of Great Britain or any other part of the British Islands, or of any other country or place.

*Delivery of parcels in bond at substituted addresses*

**17.**—(1) Subject to such Rules as may be prescribed, the Postmaster General may, upon application being made in the prescribed manner by the addressee of any incoming parcel which is in bond, re-address the parcel or permit the parcel to be re-addressed to any person in the British Islands, the Republic of Ireland or elsewhere and on release by the Commissioners of Customs deliver the parcel or despatch it for delivery accordingly.

(2) There shall be charged and paid in respect of the services provided for in this Regulation:—

(*a*) the ordinary rates of postage and fees payable upon the parcel in respect of its conveyance by post and any special services relating thereto;

(*b*) the following additional fee

| | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|
| For parcels not exceeding 5 in number ... ... ... | 2 | 6 |
| For parcels exceeding 5 but not exceeding 10 ... ... | 3 | 0 |
| For parcels exceeding 10 but not exceeding 20 ... ... | 3 | 6 |
| For parcels exceeding 20 but not exceeding 30 ... ... | 4 | 0 |
| For parcels exceeding 30 but not exceeding 40 ... ... | 4 | 6 |
| For parcels exceeding 40 but not exceeding 50 ... ... | 5 | 0 |
| For parcels exceeding 50 but not exceeding 75 ... ... | 7 | 6 |
| For every additional 25 parcels or part thereof ... ... | 2 | 6 |

Provided that the additional fee shall not be charged if the original addressee of the parcel attends at the prescribed place and re-addresses the parcel.

(3) For the purpose of this Regulation a parcel in bond means a parcel which is in the custody of the Postmaster General at some place appointed by him and the Commissioners of Customs for Customs examination.

*Insurance of outgoing parcels*

**18.**—(1) An outgoing parcel may be insured if it is addressed to a country with which the Postmaster General has for the time being an agreement for the exchange of insured parcels.

(2) The following rules (in addition to any other provisions of this Warrant) shall be observed with regard to a parcel which is to be insured:—

(*a*) The contents of the parcel shall be enclosed, packed and sealed in such manner as may be prescribed. In particular:

(i) the seals, labels and postage stamps affixed to the parcel shall be so spaced that they cannot conceal injuries to the cover; and no label or postage stamp shall be folded over two sides of the cover so as to hide the edge;

(ii) where the contents include coin, bullion or jewellery they must be enclosed in a strong box or case (measuring, if the contents are jewellery exceeding £100 in value, at least three feet six inches in length and girth combined), must be sewn up or otherwise fastened in a wrapper of linen, canvas, strong paper or other substantial material, must have the address written on the actual covering of the parcel and the seals must be placed along the edges of each joint or loose flap at a distance of not more than three inches.

(*b*) The parcel shall not be addressed to initials or in pencil.

(*c*) The amount for which a parcel is insured must not exceed the value of the contents and the packing (including the container in which it is packed) nor must it exceed the maximum amount for which insurance is allowed in the country to which the parcel is addressed.

(*d*) The amount for which, within the limits mentioned in the last foregoing rule, insurance is desired must be written in ink by the sender both in words and figures at the top of the address side of the cover of the parcel and must also be entered in the appropriate space on the despatch note, if one is used.

(*e*) No alteration or erasure of the address or of the amount for which insurance is to be effected as stated on the parcel or on the despatch note shall be allowed.

(3) There shall be charged and paid in respect of such insurance the following sums, in addition to the postage payable:—

(*a*) a sum equal to the registration fee charged for the registration of an outgoing postal packet (other than a parcel) by the British Commonwealth and Foreign Post Warrant for the time being in force; and

(*b*) a compensation fee of an amount specified in the first column of Part II of the Second Schedule hereto.

(4) This Regulation shall not apply to a parcel posted at a British Postal Agency in the Persian Gulf for transmission to an address served by another such Agency in the Persian Gulf.

*Registration of parcels transmitted from one British Postal Agency to another in the Persian Gulf*

**19.**—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Warrant, a parcel posted at a British Postal Agency in the Persian Gulf for transmission to an address served by another such Agency in the Persian Gulf may be registered.

(2) For the registration of such a parcel there shall be charged and paid a registration fee of fourpence.

(3) On the delivery of such a registered parcel the recipient shall give a written receipt therefor in the prescribed form. Where such a receipt is not obtained, the parcel may nevertheless be delivered, or may be withheld and dealt with or disposed of in such manner as the Postmaster General may, in his discretion, direct or authorise.

(4) Such a parcel intended for registration must be made up in a reasonably strong cover appropriate to its contents. The parcel must be fastened with wax, gum or other adhesive substance, or, where suitable, securely tied with string which is sealed with wax or which is secured at each end by means of a lead, steel or strong metal seal crushed with a press. The parcel must also be so made up that no part of the contents can be removed without either breaking or tearing the case, wrapper or cover or forcing two adhesive surfaces apart or breaking a seal.

*Compensation for loss or damage*

**20.** If a parcel or any article of pecuniary value, enclosed in or forming part of a parcel, be lost or damaged whilst in the course of conveyance by post under the provisions of this Warrant, the Postmaster General may pay to any person, or to the Postal Administration of any country, if, in the opinion of the Postmaster General, such person or Administration establishes a reasonable claim to compensation (having regard to the nature of the article, the care with which it was packed, and other circumstances) such sum as he may think just;

Provided that—

(1) In the case of an uninsured parcel, other than a parcel posted at a British Postal Agency in the Persian Gulf for transmission to an address served by another such Agency in the Persian Gulf, the sum paid by way of compensation shall not exceed the sum appropriate thereto according to the scale set out in Part I of the Second Schedule hereto.

(2) In the case of an unregistered parcel posted at a British Postal Agency in the Persian Gulf for transmission to an address served by another such Agency in the Persian Gulf the sum paid by way of compensation shall not exceed £3.

(3) In the case of an outgoing insured parcel, the sum paid by way of compensation shall not exceed the sum specified in the second column of Part II of the said Schedule opposite the compensation fee paid.

(4) In the case of an incoming insured parcel the sum paid by way of compensation shall not in any case exceed four hundred pounds, and in no case shall it exceed the amount or the equivalent thereof for which the parcel has been insured by the sender.

(5) In the case of a parcel posted at a British Postal Agency in the Persian Gulf for transmission to an address served by another such Agency in the Persian Gulf, which is registered in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 19 of this Warrant, the sum paid by way of compensation shall not exceed the sum specified in the second column of Part III of the said Schedule opposite the registration fee paid.

(6) Compensation shall not be payable in respect of the loss of coin or bullion or the loss of or damage to jewellery contained in a parcel posted in or addressed to any place in Canada.

(7) Compensation shall not be payable in respect of the loss of or damage to any parcel or any article of pecuniary value enclosed in or forming part of any parcel where

(*a*) such parcel is duly delivered in accordance with the provisions of this Warrant or any Warrant amending the same and is accepted without reserve by the person to whom it is delivered ; or

(*b*) an application relating to such parcel is not received, either by the Postmaster General or by the Postal Administration of the country from or to which such parcel was transmitted, from the person claiming compensation within one year of the date of posting of such parcel ; or

(*c*) the cause of such loss or damage is beyond the control of the Postmaster General and of the Postal Administration of any country under whose administration such parcel is at the time of such loss or damage ; or

(*d*) such parcel cannot be traced or otherwise accounted for by reason of the destruction of official documents where the cause of such destruction is beyond the control of the Postmaster General and of the Postal Administration of any other country.

*General provisions as to loss or damage*

**21.**—(1) The Postmaster General may give effect to the provisions of this Warrant as to the loss or damage of parcels and of articles enclosed in or forming part of parcels, out of such aids or supplies as may be from time to time provided and appropriated by Parliament for that purpose, but nothing contained in, or done under, or in pursuance of this Warrant, shall render him liable, either personally or in his official capacity, to any action or other legal proceeding in respect of, or in consequence of, any such loss or damage, whether such loss or damage be occasioned by or arise from any act or neglect of any officer of the Post Office or any other person.

(2) The decision of the Postmaster General on all questions arising between him and any person claiming payment in respect of the loss or damage of any parcel or any article enclosed in or forming part of a parcel shall be final and conclusive.

*Compulsory Insurance*

**22.**—(1) Except as otherwise directed by the Postmaster General, a parcel posted in or addressed to a country or place from or to which insured parcels are transmissible by post, and containing coin, bullion or any article of jewellery or any article not for the time being transmissible in a parcel to or from such country or place unless insured shall not be conveyed by post unless the same is insured for at least part of its value.

(2) The following provisions shall apply to any such parcel if posted without insurance:—

(i) If such parcel be received at a British post office—

(*a*) the parcel shall be registered, and charged with the registration fee of fourpence and shall be delivered to the addressee on payment of that fee, together with any postage and other charges payable thereon, or returned to the Postal Administration of the country of origin;

(*b*) no compensation shall be payable in respect of the loss or damage of the parcel or the contents thereof.

(ii) If such parcel be posted at a British post office it shall be treated in such manner as the Postmaster General may direct and no compensation shall be payable in respect of the loss or damage of the parcel or the contents thereof.

(3) This Regulation shall not apply to a parcel posted at a British Postal Agency in the Persian Gulf for transmission to an address served by another such Agency in the Persian Gulf.

*Compulsory registration of parcels transmitted from one British Postal Agency to another in the Persian Gulf*

**23.**—(1) Any parcel posted at a British Postal Agency in the Persian Gulf for transmission to an address served by another such Agency in the Persian Gulf, on which the word "registered", or any other word, phrase, or mark conveying the impression that the parcel is registered or intended to be registered, is written or impressed, shall be registered, and if found in the post unregistered may be detained for the purpose of registration, at any such Agency through which it shall pass.

(2) If any parcel which is subject to compulsory registration under paragraph (1) of this Regulation shall be posted without registration, such parcel shall be charged with the registration fee of fourpence but the stamps (if

any) which may have been affixed to such parcel in excess of the ordinary postage shall be accepted in payment or part payment (as the case may be) of such registration fee.

(3) (i) With regard to any parcel posted at a British Postal Agency in the Persian Gulf for transmission to an address served by another such Agency in the Persian Gulf which is found open in the post or which cannot be delivered for want of a true direction, or by reason that the addressee is dead, or cannot be found, or has refused or neglected to pay any charges thereon, or for any other sufficient reason, the following provisions shall apply, that is to say:—

Where any such parcel is found to contain—

(*a*) a postal order not crossed to a banker in which the name of the payee has not been inserted in accordance with the direction on such order ; or

(*b*) any cheque or dividend warrant which is not crossed to a banker or made payable to order ; or

(*c*) any bearer security (including a share warrant, scrip or subscription certificate, bond or relative coupon) ; or

(*d*) any bank note or currency note ; or

(*e*) any postage stamps ; or

(*f*) coin or jewellery ;

of a value of ten shillings or over, such parcel shall be registered and shall be forwarded to the addressee or tendered to the sender thereof (as the case may be) charged with a registration fee of fourpence.

(ii) Where upon tender of such parcel to the addressee or sender thereof he refuses or fails to pay the charges to which the same has become liable by law, such parcel may be dealt with or disposed of in such manner as the Postmaster General may, in his discretion, direct or authorise.

(4) Any parcel which is subject to compulsory registration under paragraphs (1) or (3) of this Regulation and which is posted without registration shall for the purpose of payment of compensation be regarded as an unregistered parcel.

*Certificate of delivery of outgoing insured parcel*

**24.** Subject to such rules as may from time to time be prescribed the Postmaster General may, at the request of the sender of an outgoing insured parcel or a parcel which is registered in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 19 of this Warrant and on prepayment by such sender of such sum or fee not exceeding fourpence as the Postmaster General shall direct, cause to be obtained and forwarded to such sender an acknowledgment or certificate of the delivery of such parcel at the place to which the said parcel is addressed.

*Places between which Cash-on-Delivery Parcels may be transmitted*

**25.** Cash-on-Delivery Parcels may be transmitted by post between:—

(*a*) The British Islands and any country or place out of the British Islands with reference to which an arrangement has been made with respect to the transmission of Cash-on-Delivery parcels, and

(*b*) between the British Islands and such British Postal Agencies as the Postmaster General may direct, and between such Agencies and any country or place with reference to which such an arrangement has been made and also between such British Postal Agencies.

*Limit upon amount of Trade Charge*

**26.** No Trade Charge exceeding £40 shall be collected under this Warrant.

*Fees for Cash-on-Delivery service*

**27.** There shall be charged and paid on every Cash-on-Delivery Parcel, in addition to the postage and any other charges payable on such parcel, the following sums, that is to say:—

(*a*) On every outgoing parcel a Cash-on-Delivery fee and a despatch fee as may be prescribed but which together shall not exceed the poundage which would be charged to the sender of a foreign money order of an amount equal to the Trade Charge of such parcel.

(*b*) On every incoming parcel a fee of fourpence.

*Payment of Cash-on-Delivery fees*

**28.**—(1) The Cash-on-Delivery fee and despatch fee payable on an outgoing Cash-on-Delivery Parcel shall be prepaid by the sender in stamps affixed to the parcel.

(2) The fee payable on an incoming Cash-on-Delivery parcel shall be paid by the addressee in addition to the Trade Charge.

*Trade Charge Money Order form*

**29.** The sender of a Cash-on-Delivery Parcel shall fill up, so far as required, a Trade Charge Money Order form.

*Delivery of Cash-on-Delivery Parcels*

**30.**—(1) A Cash-on-Delivery Parcel shall not be given up to the addressee thereof or opened at his request until the Trade Charge and any other charges due thereon have been paid.

(2) The provisions of Regulation 11 shall apply to a Cash-on-Delivery Parcel upon which the Trade Charge exceeds £10, or the Trade Charge and other charges due in respect of such parcel exceed that sum.

*Payment to sender of Trade Charge collected*

**31.** The Postmaster General shall upon receiving from the addressee the Trade Charge on an incoming Cash-on-Delivery Parcel remit the same to the sender of the parcel by means of the Trade Charge Money Order form received with the parcel which will be issued as a Money Order free of commission, or by such other means as may be prescribed.

*Special Conditions as to Air Mail Parcels*

**32.**—(1) An Air Mail parcel must bear an "Air Mail" label affixed close to the address (or to each address if the parcel is addressed in more than one place).

(2) An Air Mail parcel shall be conveyed in accordance with such Rules as may be prescribed.

*Application of inland parcel regulations*

**33.** Subject to the provisions of this Warrant, the regulations for the time being applicable to inland parcels (that is to say, parcels posted within the British Islands and addressed to some place in the British Islands) shall, so far as the same are applicable, apply to parcels transmissible by post under the provisions of this Warrant.

*Remission of postage*

**34.** The Postmaster General may, in any case in which he may consider it just or reasonable so to do, remit any postage or any sum made payable under this Warrant.

*Application of rates of postage to parcels posted at a British Postal Agency*

**35.** As respects any parcel posted at a British Postal Agency references in this Warrant to a rate of postage or other sum payable shall be deemed to include the equivalent in local currency of such rate or sum.

*Interpretation*

**36.** In this Warrant—

(1) The expression "parcel" means a postal packet which is posted at a British post office as a parcel in accordance with the provisions of this Warrant or any Warrant amending the same, or is received at a British post office from abroad by Parcel Post.

(2) The expression "Air Mail parcel" means an outgoing parcel conveyed or intended to be conveyed at the request of the sender through any part of its course in the post by an Air Mail service.

(3) The expression "British post office" means and includes any post office in the British Islands and any British Postal Agency.

(4) The expression "British Postal Agency" means a British post office which, though situated out of the British Islands, is directly under the management and control of the Postmaster General.

(5) The expression "members of the naval, military, or air forces of any British Commonwealth country" includes persons attached to such forces although not members thereof and members of nursing services or other auxiliary services of such forces.

(6) The expression "outgoing" applied to a parcel means posted at a British post office or posted as mentioned in paragraph (2) of Regulation 1 of this Warrant.

(7) The expression "incoming" applied to a parcel means received at a British post office through the post.

(8) The expression "the British Islands" means the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man.

(9) The expressions "gold bullion" and "silver bullion" mean uncoined and unmanufactured gold or silver (as the case may be).

(10) The expression "coin" means coin of all kinds whether or not current in the British Islands or elsewhere, except such as is used or designed for purposes of ornament.

(11) The expression "jewellery" means—

(*a*) gold, silver or platinum or other precious metal in a manufactured state, that is to say, a state in which value is added to the raw material by skilled workmanship; and in this definition are included any coins used or designed for purposes of ornament;

(*b*) diamonds and precious stones;

(*c*) watches entirely or mainly composed of gold, silver or platinum; and

(*d*) any article of a like nature which, apart from workmanship, has an intrinsic or marketable value.

(12) The expression "Cash-on-Delivery Parcel" means a parcel upon which the Postmaster General is requested to collect a sum of money (in this Warrant referred to as a "Trade Charge") from the addressee for remission to the sender or to a person nominated by the latter and upon which the sender has paid the fees for Cash-on-Delivery service.

(13) The expression "prescribed" means prescribed by the Postmaster General.

(14) Expressions used in Regulations for the time being relating to the Inland Post or the British Commonwealth and Foreign Post (except parcels) shall, so far as applicable, have the same meaning in this Warrant.

(15) The Interpretation Act, 1889(a), applies to the interpretation of this Warrant as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

*Revocation of former Warrants*

**37.** The Warrants mentioned in the First Schedule hereto are hereby revoked.

*Short Title*

**38.** This Warrant may be cited as "The British Commonwealth and Foreign Parcel Post Warrant, 1950".

*Commencement of Warrant*

**39.** This Warrant shall come into operation on the 1st day of September, One thousand nine hundred and fifty.

*Date*

Dated this 21st day of July, One thousand nine hundred and fifty.

*Wm. Hannan,*
*H. W. Bowden,*
Two of the Commissioners of
His Majesty's Treasury.

*Ness Edwards,*
His Majesty's Postmaster General.

THE FIRST SCHEDULE

WARRANTS REVOKED

| Short title | Date |
|---|---|
| The Imperial and Foreign Parcel Post Warrant, 1925(b) ... | 1925, May 30th. |
| The Imperial and Foreign Parcel Post Amendment (No. 1) Warrant, 1927(c) ... ... ... ... ... | 1927, August 20th. |
| The Imperial and Foreign Parcel Post Amendment (No. 2) Warrant, 1935(d) ... ... ... ... ... | 1935, February 16th. |

(a) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.
(b) S.R. & O. 1925 (No. 729) p. 1349.
(c) S.R. & O. 1927 (No. 785) p. 979.
(d) S.R. & O. 1935 (No. 109) p. 1429.

## THE SECOND SCHEDULE

### PART I (UNINSURED PARCELS)

| Weight of parcel | Compensation |
|---|---|
| | £ s. d. |
| Not exceeding 3 lb. ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 3 0 |
| Exceeding 3 lb. but not exceeding 7 lb. ... ... ... | 1 15 0 |
| Exceeding 7 lb. but not exceeding 11 lb. ... ... ... | 2 18 0 |
| Exceeding 11 lb. but not exceeding 22 lb. ... ... ... | 4 13 0 |

### PART II.—OUTGOING INSURED PARCELS

| Compensation Fee | Compensation | Compensation Fee | Compensation |
|---|---|---|---|
| s. d. | £ s. d. | s. d. | £ s. d. |
| 0 2 | 12 0 0 | 3 0 | 216 0 0 |
| 0 4 | 24 0 0 | 3 2 | 228 0 0 |
| 0 6 | 36 0 0 | 3 4 | 240 0 0 |
| 0 8 | 48 0 0 | 3 6 | 252 0 0 |
| 0 10 | 60 0 0 | 3 8 | 264 0 0 |
| 1 0 | 72 0 0 | 3 10 | 276 0 0 |
| 1 2 | 84 0 0 | 4 0 | 288 0 0 |
| 1 4 | 96 0 0 | 4 2 | 300 0 0 |
| 1 6 | 108 0 0 | 4 4 | 312 0 0 |
| 1 8 | 120 0 0 | 4 6 | 324 0 0 |
| 1 10 | 132 0 0 | 4 8 | 336 0 0 |
| 2 0 | 144 0 0 | 4 10 | 348 0 0 |
| 2 2 | 156 0 0 | 5 0 | 360 0 0 |
| 2 4 | 168 0 0 | 5 2 | 372 0 0 |
| 2 6 | 180 0 0 | 5 4 | 384 0 0 |
| 2 8 | 192 0 0 | 5 6 | 396 0 0 |
| 2 10 | 204 0 0 | 5 8 | 400 0 0 |

### PART III

(REGISTERED PARCELS TRANSMITTED FROM ONE BRITISH POSTAL AGENCY TO ANOTHER IN THE PERSIAN GULF)

| Registration fee (In addition to ordinary postage) | Maximum Compensation | Registration fee (In addition to ordinary postage) | |
|---|---|---|---|
| s. d. | £ | s. d. | £ |
| 0 4 (minimum registration fee) | 5 | 1 2 | 200 |
| | | 1 3 | 220 |
| | | 1 4 | 240 |
| 0 5 | 20 | 1 5 | 260 |
| 0 6 | 40 | 1 6 | 280 |
| 0 7 | 60 | 1 7 | 300 |
| 0 8 | 80 | 1 8 | 320 |
| 0 9 | 100 | 1 9 | 340 |
| 0 10 | 120 | 1 10 | 360 |
| 0 11 | 140 | 1 11 | 380 |
| 1 0 | 160 | 2 0 | 400 |
| 1 1 | 180 | | |

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Warrant, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)*

This Warrant consolidates with amendments the Regulations relating to postal parcels sent to or received from places abroad.

The rates of postage chargeable on outgoing parcels are related closely to the actual cost of handling and conveyance, and vary considerably for the various parts of the world. The maximum charge for surface conveyance stated in Regulation 4 (1) is unchanged, but the maximum rates for Air Mail parcels specified in Regulation 4 (2) are double the previous amounts. This change has been rendered necessary because the previous maximum rates are not expected to be sufficient to cover the cost of conveyance by air to the more distant parts of the world to which Air Mail parcels services are, for the first time, about to be established.

The revised scale of maximum amounts of compensation for the loss of or damage to uninsured parcels set out in Part I of the Second Schedule represents, for heavy weight parcels, the current equivalents of the maximum gold franc amounts prescribed in the bi-lateral Parcel Post Agreements with foreign postal administrations. The scale which it supersedes was £1 for a parcel weighing 11 lb. or less and £1 12s. for a parcel weighing more than 11 lb. The opportunity has been taken to introduce maximum amounts of compensation for light weight parcels (up to 3 lb., and from 3 lb. to 7 lb.) to accord with the general practice of other postal administrations with which bi-lateral Agreements are in force. The conditions as to the payment of compensation for the loss of or damage to uninsured parcels are set out in Regulation 20.

The provisions as to insurance are set out in paragraphs (4) and (5) of Regulation 16, which deals with the redirection of incoming insured parcels, and in Regulation 18, which states the conditions applicable to the insurance of outgoing parcels.

Regulation 1 (2) applies the Warrant to parcels posted by members of the forces of a British Commonwealth country serving abroad.

New provisions are inserted relating to parcels exchanged between one British Postal Agency and another in the Persian Gulf. (Regulation 19, Provisos (2) and (5) of Regulation 20, Regulation 23 and Part III of 2nd Schedule.)

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# The British Commonwealth and Foreign Post Amendment (No. 3) Warrant, 1950

## 1950 No. 771

| | |
|---|---|
| *Made* - - - - | 12*th May*, 1950 |
| *Laid before Parliament* | 16*th May*, 1950 |
| *Coming into Operation* | 1*st June*, 1950 |

We, the Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, in exercise of all powers given to us by Sections 4, 12 and 82 of the Post Office Act 1908(a) and of all other powers enabling us in this behalf, do, by this Warrant, made on the representation of His Majesty's Postmaster General (testified by his

(a) 8 Edw. 7. c. 48.