STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1965 No. 2173

POST OFFICE

The British Commonwealth and Foreign Post Amendment (No. 1) Regulations 1965

Made - - - -	21*st December* 1965
Laid before Parliament	4*th January* 1966
Coming into Operation	1*st February* 1966

I, The Right Honourable Anthony Neil Wedgwood Benn, M.P., Her Majesty's Postmaster General, by virtue of the powers conferred on me by sections 5, 8, 15 and 81 of the Post Office Act 1953(a) (as amended or substituted by section 28 of and the Schedule to the Post Office Act 1961(b)), and of all other powers enabling me in this behalf, do hereby make the following regulations:

Interpretation

1.—(1) These regulations shall be read as one with the British Commonwealth and Foreign Post Regulations 1965(c) (hereinafter called " the principal regulations ").

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(d) applies for the interpretation of these regulations as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

Bulk postage

2. For regulation 10(1) and (2) of the principal regulations (which regulation prescribes the postage payable on printed packets transmitted in bulk) there shall be substituted the following paragraphs:

" (1) There shall be charged and paid on every mail bag containing printed packets for transmission as provided in regulation 31 postage at the rate specified in Part 1 of Schedule 3 as if the bag were a printed packet, less 5 per cent.

(2) For the purpose of paragraph (1) of this regulation the postage shall be rounded up to the nearest 1d."

Limits of size and weight

3. In the proviso to regulation 14(2) of the principal regulations (which proviso prescribes the limits of size of labels attached to postal packets), for " 6¼ inches " there shall be substituted " 6¾ inches " and for " 1½ inches " there shall be substituted " 2¾ inches ".

Articles liable to duty

4. There shall be substituted for regulation 15(1) of the principal regulations (which regulation prescribes conditions for the conveyance by post of articles liable to customs duty) the following paragraph:

" (1) Subject to the powers of the Postmaster General under regulation 18, there shall not be posted or conveyed or delivered by post any sample packet or packet consisting of literature for the blind containing any article liable to customs duty in the country or place of destination."

(a) 1 & 2 Eliz. 2. c. 36. (b) 9 & 10 Eliz. 2. c. 15. (c) S.I. 1965/1735 (1965 III, p. 4878).
(d) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.

Unpaid or underpaid postage

5. In regulation 17(6) of the principal regulations (which paragraph prescribes the minimum amount to be charged on incoming packets in respect of unpaid or underpaid postage) for the figure "1d." in both places where it occurs there shall be substituted the figure "3d.".

Postcards

6.—(1) Regulation 20(1)(*c*) of the principal regulations (which sub-paragraph relates to folded sheets of paper admissible as postcards) is hereby revoked.

(2) In proviso (2) to regulation 20(1)(*d*)(ii) of the principal regulations (which proviso relates to articles affixed to postcards) there shall be inserted immediately after the word "except" the words "a label or".

(3) In regulation 20(2)(*a*) of the principal regulations (which paragraph relates to reply postcards) there shall be inserted immediately before the word "heading" in each place where it appears the word "printed".

Printed packets

7.—(1) (*a*) In regulation 21(1) of the principal regulations (which regulation prescribes conditions for the transmission of printed packets) there shall be inserted immediately after sub-paragraph (*b*) the following sub-paragraphs:

"(*c*) correspondence exchanged between pupils of schools, provided that such correspondence is forwarded through the principals of the schools concerned;

(*d*) pupils' exercises in the original or with corrections but without any note which does not relate directly to the performance of the exercise;

(*e*) manuscripts of works or for newspapers;

(*f*) musical scores or sheets of music in manuscript;".

(*b*) The following proviso shall be added at the end of the said regulation 21(1):

"Provided that it is permitted to enclose in a printed packet:

(i) a card envelope or wrapper bearing the name and address of the sender of the packet and either prepaid for return by means of postage stamps of the country to which the packet is addressed, or in a form capable of being so prepaid;

(ii) the relative open invoice, reduced to its essential elements, if the packet contains only printed literary or artistic productions."

(2) (*a*) In paragraph (2) of the said regulation the words "films, gramophone records", are hereby revoked.

(*b*) In paragraph (*a*)(i) of the proviso to the said paragraph the words "by hand or by mechanical process" are hereby revoked.

(*c*) In paragraph (*b*) of the said proviso the words "by hand or by a mechanical process" are hereby revoked.

(*d*) In paragraph (*b*)(iv) of the said proviso the word "and" shall be inserted immediately before the words "the name" and the words "and other short notes referring to the works in question" are hereby revoked.

(*e*) Paragraph (*b*)(vii) of the said proviso is hereby revoked.

(*f*) In paragraph (*b*)(ix) of the said proviso:

(i) the words "and (on photographs and engravings) a very brief explanatory caption and other short notes referring to the photograph or engraving itself"; and

(ii) the last sentence thereof

are hereby revoked.

(*g*) Paragraph (*c*) of the said proviso is hereby revoked.

(3) For paragraph (6) of the said regulation there shall be substituted the following paragraph:

"(6) A card marked "Postcard" or its equivalent in any language shall be transmissible as a printed packet provided that it satisfies the general conditions relating to printed packets and conforms with the limits of size of postcards."

Commercial packets

8.—(1) Regulation 23 of the principal regulations (which contains conditions relating to commercial packets) is hereby revoked.

(2) The definition of "commercial packet" in regulation 1(1) of the principal regulations is hereby revoked.

(3) In the definition of "postal packet" in regulation 1(1) of the principal regulations the words "commercial packet," are hereby revoked.

(4) The words "commercial packets" in regulation 5(1) and (2) and in regulation 12 of the principal regulations are hereby revoked.

(5) For regulation 8(1) of the principal regulations there shall be substituted the following paragraph:

"(1) If articles in the following classes, that is to say:

Class (*a*)—articles transmissible in printed packets;

Class (*b*)—articles transmissible in sample packets other than articles in class (*a*);

are enclosed in one and the same postal packet, there shall be charged and paid on every such packet the rate which would be applicable thereto if the packet were a printed packet."

(6) Item 2 of Part 2 and item 2 of Part 3 of Schedule 3 and item 4 of paragraph 2 of Schedule 4 to the principal regulations are hereby revoked.

Sample packets

9.—(1) For regulation 24(1) of the principal regulations (which regulation prescribes conditions for the transmission of sample packets) there shall be substituted the following paragraph:

"(1) The expression "sample packet" in these regulations means any packet consisting of:

(*a*) a sample of merchandise of no commercial value which is sent free of charge to advertise it and which is not intended for sale; or

(*b*) tubes of serum or vaccine, or medicines which are urgently required and difficult to obtain and are sent in the public interest by officially recognised laboratories or institutions."

(2) Regulation 24(2) of the principal regulations is hereby revoked.

(3) For regulation 24(6) and (7) of the principal regulations there shall be substituted the following paragraphs:

"(6) Every sample packet shall be clearly marked with the words "Free Sample" in capital letters immediately above the address, and, if any packet contains any article of the description mentioned in paragraph (1)(*a*), the same words shall be clearly and indelibly marked on the article itself, or on its packing if the packing is inseparable from the article.

(7) There shall be no other writing in or upon any sample packet, or in or upon the cover thereof, except an indication, outside or inside the packet (and, in the latter case, on the sample itself or on a special sheet of paper referring to it), of the name and address of the sender and of the addressee, a manufacturer's or trade mark, a reference to an exchange of correspondence between the sender and the addressee, a short note referring to the manufacturer and to the person supplying the goods or concerning the person for whom the sample is intended, and serial or registration numbers of the goods, their prices, and any other notes giving essential elements of their prices, particulars relating to their weight, volume and size, and the quantity available, and such particulars as are necessary to determine their source and character."

Phonopost packets

10.—(1) In regulation 1(1) of the principal regulations (which paragraph provides the interpretation of certain expressions, for the definition of "Phonopost packet", there shall be substituted the following:

"" Phonopost packet" has the meaning assigned to it by regulation 27A;".

(2) After regulation 9 of the principal regulations there shall be inserted the following regulation:

"9A. There shall be charged and paid on every outgoing Phonopost packet a rate of postage of 5d. for each 2 oz. or fractional part of 2 oz. in weight."

(3) In regulation 12 of the principal regulations (which regulation prescribes conditions for the contents of certain packets), after the words "small packet" there shall be inserted the words "Phonopost packet".

(4) After regulation 27 of the principal regulations there shall be inserted the following regulation:

"27A. (1) The expression "Phonopost packet" in these regulations means a packet which consists of or contains tapes, wires, gramophone records or other similar recording materials, whether or not bearing a sound recording, and, save as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), contains or bears nothing except any customs declaration required and the names and addresses of the sender and addressee.

(2) A Phonopost packet may contain a printed notice in one or more languages relating to the method of playing the recording, and needles for playing the recording, suitably protected.

(3) Every Phonopost packet shall bear on the outside the name and address of the sender and the addressee, and shall be clearly marked "Phonopost" in capital letters above the address of the addressee.

(4) A Phonopost packet shall be so packed that its contents are protected and may be readily examined."

(5) At the end of Schedule 4 to the principal regulations (which Schedule prescribes certain limits of weight and size) there shall be added the following item:

Col. 1	Col. 2	Col. 3	Col. 4	Col. 5
10. Phonopost packet.	2 lb.	As item 1 in this column.	2 lb.	As item 1 in this column

Compensation for insured letters

11. At the end of regulation 37 of the principal regulations (which prescribes conditions for the payment of compensation for the loss of or damage to insured letters) there shall be added the following paragraph:

"(2) If compensation has been paid to any person in respect of the loss of an insured letter which the sender has insured for a sum exceeding the real value of the contents and packing and the letter subsequently comes into the possession of the Postmaster General, then upon tender of the letter to that person (whether or not he accepts it), he shall repay to the Postmaster General the sum paid by way of compensation or such part thereof as the Postmaster General may require."

Specified countries or places

12. In Part 1 of Schedule 2 to the principal regulations (which Schedule specifies the countries or places in which certain rates of postage and limits of weight and size apply):

(i) there shall be deleted the words "Maldive Islands"; and

(ii) there shall be inserted immediately after the words "Sierra Leone" the word "Singapore".

Citation and commencement

These regulations may be cited as "the British Commonwealth and Foreign Post Amendment (No. 1) Regulations 1965", and shall come into operation on the 1st February 1966.

Dated 21st December 1965.

Anthony Neil Wedgwood Benn,
Her Majesty's Postmaster General.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These regulations, which come into operation on 1st February 1966, amend the regulations relating to postal packets (other than parcels) sent to or received from British Commonwealth or foreign countries (except the Republic of Ireland). Effect is given to new rules of the Universal Postal Convention.

The principal changes are:

(1) The commercial packet service is abolished. Some of the articles which formerly could be transmitted in commercial packets may in future be transmitted in printed packets.

(2) An outgoing Phonopost service is introduced.

(3) Samples sent by the sample packet service may not be of commercial value or liable to customs duty in the country of destination.

(4) The minimum surcharge on an incoming postal packet on which the postage was not paid or was underpaid is increased from 1d. to 3d.

(5) The rate for the bulk postage of printed packets is reduced.