

No. 4227

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
and
CZECHOSLOVAKIA**

**Agreement (with Regulations of execution) concerning the
exchange of parcel post. Signed at Prague, on
15 September 1950, and at Washington, on 29 September
1950**

Official texts: English and Czech.

Registered by the United States of America on 19 March 1958.

**ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE
et
TCHÉCOSLOVAQUIE**

**Arrangement (avec Règlement d'exécution) relatif à
l'échange de colis postaux. Signé à Prague, le 15 sep-
tembre 1950, et à Washington, le 29 septembre 1950**

Textes officiels anglais et tchèque.

Enregistré par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 19 mars 1958.

No. 4227. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT AND THE POSTAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK REPUBLIC CONCERNING THE EXCHANGE OF PARCEL POST. SIGNED AT PRAGUE, ON 15 SEPTEMBER 1950, AND AT WASHINGTON, ON 29 SEPTEMBER 1950

The undersigned, provided with full powers by their respective Authorities, have, by common consent, drawn up the following Agreement :

Article 1

OBJECT OF THE AGREEMENT

1. Between the United States of America (including Alaska, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, Samoa, and Hawaii) on one hand, and the Czechoslovak Republic on the other hand, there may be exchanged, under the denomination of parcel post, parcels up to the weight limit of 44 pounds (20 kilograms).

In the direction from the United States of America to Czechoslovakia, these parcels may not exceed the following dimensions :

Greatest length 4 feet, on condition that parcels over 42 inches but not over 44 inches long do not exceed 24 inches in girth; that parcels over 44 inches but not over 46 inches long do not exceed 20 inches in girth; that parcels over 46 inches but not over 4 feet long do not exceed 16 inches in girth; and that parcels up to 3½ feet in length do not exceed 6 feet in length and girth combined.

In the direction from Czechoslovakia to the United States of America, these parcels may not exceed the following dimensions :

Length, 105 centimeters (3 feet 6 inches),

Length and girth (taken in a direction other than that of the length) combined, 180 centimeters (6 feet).

Parcels may be exchanged by surface means or by air.

2. The viewpoint of the dispatching office in regard to the exact calculation of the weight and dimensions must be considered as prevailing, except in case of obvious error.

¹ Came into force on 1 October 1950, the date fixed by mutual consent between the Administrations of the two countries, in accordance with article 26 (1).

Article 2

LIBERTY OF TRANSIT

1. Each Administration guarantees liberty of transit over its territory, in relations with countries with which it maintains an exchange of parcels, for every parcel originating in or destined for the other contracting Administration.

2. The Administrations notify each other as to the countries of destination for which they accept parcels in transit.

3. To be accepted in transit, parcels must be in conformity with the provisions of the intermediate country.

Article 3

POSTAGE AND OTHER CHARGES

1. The Administration of the country of origin is authorized to collect from the sender of each parcel, in accordance with the provisions in force in its service, the postage charges and insurance fees, as well as the fees for return receipts and inquiries.

2. The charges and fees provided for in Section 1 must be paid in advance, save in case of reforwarding or return of parcels.

3. No fee or postage charge other than those provided for by the present Agreement or its Regulations of Execution¹ may be collected.

Article 4

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

On request, the sender of an ordinary parcel may obtain a certificate at time of mailing the parcel. Each country has the right to collect therefor the fee provided for in its domestic service. Only the insurance receipt (in Czechoslovakia a certificate of mailing) will be furnished the sender of an insured parcel free of charge at the time of mailing.

Article 5

CUSTOMS-CLEARANCE, DELIVERY AND STORAGE CHARGES

1. The Administration of the country of destination may collect from the addressee, for the fulfillment of customs formalities and delivery at his residence, a charge not exceeding 120 gold centimes per parcel, as well as a supplementary charge of 40 gold centimes per parcel for each new presentation, when the first presentation has been unsuccessful.

¹ See p. 260 of this volume.

2. Each Administration is authorized to collect a suitable storage charge for parcels which are not withdrawn within the period which it has fixed. This charge may not, however, exceed five gold francs per parcel.

Article 6

CUSTOMS DUTIES

The parcels are subject to all customs laws and regulations in force in the country of destination. The duties and other non-postal charges collectible on that account are collected from the addressee on delivery of the parcel, in accordance with the customs regulations.

Article 7

PROHIBITIONS

1. It is forbidden to enclose in parcels :

a) Communications or notes having the character of letters. It is permissible, however, to enclose in the parcel the open invoice reduced to its essential features, as well as a simple copy of the address of the parcel with mention of the address of the sender.

b) An article bearing an address other than that of the addressee of the parcel.

c) Live animals except bees, leeches and silkworms.

d) Articles whose admission is not authorized by the customs or other laws or regulations of one of the two countries.

e) Explosive or inflammable articles, and, in general, all merchandise whose transportation is dangerous.

2. If parcels coming under one of these prohibitions have been wrongly accepted for mailing, the Administration detecting them treats them in accordance with its domestic laws and regulations.

3. The two Administrations advise each other, by means of the List of Prohibited Articles published by the International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union, of all prohibited articles. However, they do not assume, on that account, any responsibility toward the customs or police authorities or the sender.

Article 8

RETURN AND CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The sender of a parcel may have it returned or have its address changed provided that it has not been delivered to the addressee. The requests for return or change of address are subject to the provisions in force in the domestic service of the two contracting Administrations. They must be sent to the Central Administration, or to such other offices as may be designated by way of correspondence.

Article 9

RETURN RECEIPTS AND TRACERS

1. The sender of an insured parcel may obtain a return receipt upon payment of the fee provided for in the country of origin.

When a return receipt is requested, the sender or the office of origin must write or print on the parcel the conspicuous note: "Return receipt" ("*Avis de réception*"), "Advice of delivery" ("*Avis de distribution*"), or simply place thereon the two letters "A. R.", traced in heavy lines.

2. A charge, which the Administration of origin fixes at its convenience, may be collected for every inquiry presented after mailing an ordinary or insured parcel, unless the sender has already paid the special fee for a return receipt.

The country of origin also has the option of collecting a fee when it is a question of correcting an irregularity which is not the fault of the postal service.

Article 10

REFORWARDING

1. The reforwarding of a parcel within one of the contracting countries gives rise to the collection of the supplementary charges provided for by the Administration of that country. The same is true, if occasion arises, in regard to the delivery of such parcel to another person at the original place of destination.

2. If a parcel must be reforwarded to one of the two countries signatory to the present Agreement, it is liable to new postage charges, and, if occasion arises, new insurance fees, unless such charges and fees have been paid in advance. Insured parcels must be reforwarded as such. The new fees are collected from the addressee by the Administration effecting the delivery.

3. At the request of the sender or addressee, parcels may also be reforwarded or returned to another country. Insured parcels may not, however, be forwarded or returned except as such. The senders may mark the parcels: "Do not forward to a third country". In that case, the parcels must not be reforwarded to any other country. In case of loss, rifling or damage of an insured parcel reforwarded or returned to another country, the indemnity is decided upon exclusively in accordance with the provisions of Article 16, Section 5 of the present Agreement.

Article 11

MISDIRECTED PARCELS

Ordinary parcels, when missent, are reforwarded to their true destination by the most direct route at the disposal of the reforwarding Administration.