

N° 519.

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**CHINE ET JAPON**

Accord relatif à l'échange des correspondances entre les deux pays, signé à Pékin, le 8 décembre 1922.

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**CHINA AND JAPAN**

Agreement concerning the exchange of correspondence between the two countries, signed at Peking, December 8, 1922.

No. 519.

## TEXTE JAPONAIS. — JAPANESE TEXT.

*Official English, Chinese and Japanese texts communicated by the Chinese Representative on the Council of the League of Nations. The registration of this Agreement<sup>1</sup> took place November 16, 1923.*

支那共和國及日本帝國間郵便物交換ニ關スル約定

支那共和國及日本帝國間ニ於ケル郵便物ノ交換ハ以下記載スル條件ニ依ルヘシ

第一條 約定ヲ適用スル郵便物

一 本約定ハ兩締約國ノ一方ヲ發シ他方ニ宛ツル郵便物ニ之ヲ適用ス

二 此ノ約定中遞送、繼越料及責任ニ關スル規定ハ兩締約國ノ一方ノ業務ニ托送スル他方ノ内國郵便物ニモ亦之ヲ適用ス

第二條 郵便物ノ交換

一 兩締約國間ニハ現ニ施設セラレ又ハ將來施設セララルヘキ通常又ハ特別ノ遞送方法ニシテ各郵政廳ノ使丁ニ得ルモノニ依ル郵便物ノ定時交換アルヘシ

<sup>1</sup> This Agreement came into force January 1, 1923.

No. 519. — AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE EXCHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE EMPIRE OF JAPAN, SIGNED AT PEKING, DECEMBER 8, 1922.

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The exchange of correspondence between the Republic of China and the Empire of Japan shall be regulated according to the conditions herunder stated.

*Article 1.*

*Articles to which the Agreement applies.*

(1) The present Agreement applies to correspondence originating in one of the two contracting countries and intended for the other.

(2) The stipulations of this Agreement relating to transmission, transit charges and responsibility also apply to domestic correspondence of one of the two contracting countries consigned to the service of the other for transmission.

*Article 2.*

*Exchange of mails.*

(1) There shall be between the two contracting countries a regular exchange of correspondence by any means of transport, ordinary or special, now established or hereafter to be established, which each Postal Administration may have at its disposal.

(2) The exchange of correspondence between the two contracting countries shall be made through their exchange offices. The contracting countries agree to establish as many offices of exchange as possible, with a view to securing expedition of correspondence.

(3) The offices of exchange shall be determined by common consent of the two contracting countries. However, they may be changed by mutual understanding between the two Postal Administrations.

(4) The direct remitting of mails between the frontier offices of exchange shall take place on their premises or at any other places designated by mutual local arrangements and shall be made from hand to hand between agents regularly appointed for this duty.

*Article 3.*

*Closed mails by rail.*

Closed mails sent from the post offices of one of the contracting countries to be conveyed by means of the railways of the other shall be consigned to or received from the said railways through the intermediary of the post offices or the postal officers on the trains according to mutual local arrangements.

*Article 4.**Closed mails by steamers.*

The delivery and receipt of closed mails sent from one of the contracting countries to be conveyed by means of steamers of the other shall be effected direct between the officials of the post offices and the places of transfer and those of the sea post offices or the responsible officers on board.

*Article 5.**Category of correspondence and tariffs.*

(1) The categories as well as the limits of dimensions and weights of correspondence shall be fixed by mutual consent between the Postal Administrations of the two contracting countries.

(2) The Postal Administrations of the two contracting countries fix their respective tariffs, which may not, however, exceed their own domestic rates. Exceptionally, articles printed in relief for the special use of the blind will be charged in accordance with the rates given in the Union Postal Convention.

(3) Each Postal Administration shall communicate its tariff to the other.

*Article 6.**Delivery of correspondence.*

(1) Any correspondence originating in one of the contracting countries, addressed for delivery in the other and fully prepaid according to the tariff of the country of origin, shall be delivered to the addressee free of charge. On mail matter for Sinkiang or Mongolia the Chinese Postal Administration shall be at liberty to collect a supplementary postage not exceeding the difference between its own ordinary domestic tariff and its special domestic tariff to those two areas.

(2) Correspondence intended for express delivery or addressed *poste restante* may, however, be liable, when delivered, to special charges in accordance with the stipulations of the Union Postal Convention.

*Article 7.**Taxed correspondence.*

For unpaid or insufficiently prepaid correspondence exchanged between the two contracting countries, the Postal Administration of destination shall collect from the addressee a charge equal to double the amount of deficiency according to the tariff of the Postal Administration of origin.

*Article 8.**Correspondence with special marks.*

(1) Printed matter and newspapers bearing special marks, such as “*約束郵便*” (mails under contract) and all articles of correspondence marked “*切手別納郵便*” (postage paid), in lieu of postage stamps, shall be considered as duly prepaid and dealt with accordingly. The Postal Administrations of the two contracting countries shall communicate to each other the special marks they adopt.

(2) The correspondence mentioned in the preceding paragraph shall not be redirected to a third country.

*Article 9.**Trade charges.*

(1) Registered articles with trade charges shall be accepted and delivered at the post offices specially designated.

The Postal Administrations of the two contracting countries shall communicate to each other the names of such offices.

(2) The amount of trade charge shall be expressed in Japanese currency, the maximum of which is fixed at one thousand yen per article.

(3) The stipulations of the Union Postal Convention are applicable as regards the trade charge fee and the collection fee on registered articles with trade charges.

(4) Articles with trade charges shall bear on the address side the words “代金引換” or “代物主取價” written in a prominent manner, followed by the indication of the amount of the trade charge. Moreover, two horizontal lines in red must be drawn on the address side of such articles.

*Article 10.**Transmission.*

(1) Each of the contracting countries shall securely convey mails by the most direct route and by the most expeditious means of conveyance available for its own mails of the same kind.

(2) The Postal Administration of each contracting country shall communicate to the other, from time to time, the organisation and movements of the regular railway, steamer and other services available for the conveyance of the mails of the other Postal Administration as well as the mail schedule.

*Article 11.**Transit charges on mails.*

(1) The mails of one of the contracting countries conveyed by the service of the other are subject to the territorial or maritime transit charges in accordance with the stipulations of the Union Postal Convention, to be credited to the Postal Administration whose services participate in the conveyance. It is provided, however, that the territorial conveyance throughout Japanese services is considered as service of one Postal Administration.

(2) Any conveyance on the Yangtze-kiang is considered as maritime transit.

(3) Charges for transport of mails by means of services or ships independent of the Postal Administrations of the two contracting countries will be settled under the terms agreed between the interested parties.

*Article 12.**Transit statistics.*

Transit charges shall be settled between the two contracting countries on the basis of the statistics to be taken every three years, in accordance with the Union Postal Convention.

The statistics of 1924 shall exceptionally apply to the years 1923 to 1926 inclusive.

*Article 13.**Responsibility.*

(1) In case of the loss of a registered article, the country in the service of which the loss took place shall be held responsible in accordance with the stipulations of the Union Postal Convention, except that the indemnity shall be twenty-five gold francs.

(2) In case where a closed mail has been lost or damaged, or its contents abstracted, the responsibility shall be assumed in accordance with the stipulations of the preceding paragraph only in respect of the missing registered articles contained in the said mails.

*Article 14.**Application of the Union Postal Convention.*

The stipulations of the Union Postal Convention as well as the Regulations thereof shall remain applicable as regards every postal relation between the two contracting countries not provided for in the present Agreement.

*Article 15.**Validity of the Agreement.*

(1) The present Agreement is drawn up in the Chinese, Japanese and English languages. In case of any disagreement in regard to its interpretation the difference shall be decided by the English text.

(2) This Agreement shall come into force on the day to be agreed upon by the two Postal Administrations.

(3) The contracting countries may, at any time, by common consent, make in this Agreement any such modifications as they may find necessary.

(4) Either country may cancel this Agreement by giving six months' notice.

(5) This Agreement shall supersede, on the day on which it comes into force, the Agreement setting forth the relations established between the Imperial Postal Administration of China and the Imperial Postal Administration of Japan, signed at Peking on February 9, 1910.

Done in duplicate and signed at Peking on December 8, 1922.

On behalf of the Government  
of the Republic of China :  
LIU FOU-TCHENG.

On behalf of the Government  
of the Empire of Japan :  
YUKICHI OBATA.