

No. 60

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND
NORTHERN IRELAND
and
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS**

**Agreement concerning the Establishment of a Direct Radio-
telephone Service between their respective territories
(with Protocol). Signed at Moscow, on 23 September
1944**

English and Russian official texts communicated by the Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the United Nations. The filing and recording took place on 31 October 1947.

**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE ET
D'IRLANDE DU NORD**

et

UNION DES REPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES SOVIETIQUES

**Accord (avec protocole) relatif à l'établissement d'une rela-
tion radiotéléphonique directe entre leurs territoires res-
pectifs. Signé à Moscou, le 23 septembre 1944**

Textes officiels anglais et russe communiqués par le représentant permanent du Royaume-Uni auprès de l'Organisation des Nations Unies. Le classement et l'inscription au répertoire ont eu lieu le 31 octobre 1947.

No. 60. AGREEMENT¹ CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DIRECT RADIOTELEPHONE SERVICE BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS. SIGNED AT MOSCOW, on 23 SEPTEMBER 1944

[*NOTE: The two Governments have agreed to regard the 25th August, 1946, as the date of entry into force of the Agreement with certain amendments which are embodied in the text published below.]

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, desiring to establish direct radiotelephone communication between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, have decided to conclude an Agreement for this purpose, and have nominated as their plenipotentiaries for signing it:

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland—The Right Honourable Sir Archibald John Kerr Clark Kerr, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, His Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics;

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics—Constantine Yakovlevich Sergeichuk, People's Commissar for Communications of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics;

who, having verified their authorities as being fully in order and drawn up in the appropriate form, have agreed as follows:

PART I
GENERAL

Article 1

A direct radiotelephone service will be established between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

¹ Came into force on 25 August 1946, by mutual agreement (see note * above).

Each Contracting Party shall provide the necessary facilities in accordance with the requirements of modern radio engineering, ensuring satisfactory operation of the service.

The date when the radiotelephone service United Kingdom–Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall be put into operation is fixed for 24th September, 1944.

Article 2

Each Contracting Party shall provide facilities for calls passing in transit through its respective territory originating in other countries or directed to the same. The countries to be served by this means shall be agreed beforehand by the Contracting Parties.

The terminal service shall be open on such days and for such period or periods as shall from time to time be agreed between the Contracting Parties.

Article 3

The provisions of the International Telephone Regulations (Cairo, 1938) annexed to the International Telecommunication Convention (Madrid, 1932¹), unless conflicting with the articles of this Agreement shall apply to calls exchanged terminally between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics or passing in transit through one of these countries.

PART II

CATEGORIES OF CALLS AND ORDER FOR THEIR COMPLETION

Article 4

The following categories of calls will be exchanged between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:—

- (a) government calls;
- (b) service calls;
- (c) préavis calls; and
- (d) ordinary private calls.

¹ League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, Volume CLI, page 5.

Article 5

The calls shall be completed in the following order:—

- (a) government calls;
- (b) ordinary private calls and ordinary service calls.

Article 6

The duration of government and private calls shall not be limited.

NOTE: However in case of heavy traffic, inferior circuit conditions or when additional time is required to complete a call of a higher rank, the Contracting Parties agree to limit the duration of private calls to six minutes.

In these cases the calling subscriber shall be advised of it if possible before establishing connexion and again a few seconds before disconnexion is made by the traffic operator.

PART III

OPERATING PROCEDURE

Article 7

The chargeable duration of an ordinary call between subscribers begins at the moment when communication is established between the calling telephone station and the called telephone station after the two stations have replied to the ring whosoever may be the person answering.

The chargeable duration of the call ends at the moment when the calling telephone station gives the signal that the call is ended.

Article 8

For the preparation, establishment and disconnexion of calls and all other operating purposes the traffic operators of both terminals are authorised to use the English and French languages.

Article 9

The unit charge is the charge in respect of an ordinary call of three minutes duration.

The amount of the unit charge is fixed on the basis of the gold franc.

When the duration of a call exceeds three minutes a charge per minute is made for the period in excess of the first three minutes. Any fraction of a minute is charged as a minute. The charge per minute is one third of the charge for three minutes.

The charge is payable by the subscriber of the telephone from which the call was booked or by the person who booked the call from the Public Call Office.

Article 10

The same charge is fixed for both government and private calls.

Article 11

The charge applied to a *préavis* call is the same as that charged for an ordinary call, with the addition of a supplementary charge equal to the charge for one minute of ordinary conversation.

Article 12

When, after a call has been booked, it is cancelled because the telephone service is unable to establish connexion between the calling and the called telephone stations, no charge is made. If the amount of the charge has been paid it is refunded.

The party on whose side the call originates shall have power to make such allowances as it shall think fit in respect of periods when, though communication is established, speech transmission is defective, and the amount of such allowance whether made at the time of the communication or subsequently shall not be included as part of the charges referred to in Article 14.

Article 13

In the case of the refusal of a call by the calling or called telephone station the charge proper to one minute of ordinary conversation exchanged between the two telephone stations is payable.

A call booked with an incorrect number and established with the station having that number is charged as for the duration of three minutes. If the incorrect booking is replaced immediately by another booking of a call, the charge for one minute's conversation only is payable for the incorrect booking.

PART IV

RATES AND SETTLEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Article 14

The unit charge for a call is fixed on the basis of the gold franc as indicated in Article 9. The sum due to each country for a call of three minutes' duration will be the following:—

Moscow—London and London—Moscow.

Due to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland—6 gold francs 15 centimes;

Due to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics—6 gold francs 15 centimes.

NOTE: The service is available between all points in Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the one hand and Moscow on the other.

In applying the terminal rate due to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland all the territory of Great Britain and Northern Ireland will be regarded as one zone.

Article 15

The charges for using telephone circuits of the United Kingdom for telephone calls between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and other countries and the charges for using the telephone circuits of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for calls between the United Kingdom and other countries will be settled by mutual agreement of the Contracting Parties.

Article 16

The charges provided by this Agreement may be modified by mutual consent of the Contracting Parties.

Article 17

Telephone charges form the subject of monthly accounts established by the Administration of the country of origin. These accounts are prepared so as to show the number of calls as well as their chargeable duration grouped according to zone of destination.

The provisions of Article 51, paragraph 4, of the International Telephone Regulations shall not be applied to these accounts.

Article 18

Immediately after the acceptance of the accounts proper to the last month of the quarter, a quarterly account showing the balance for the whole of the three months of the quarter is prepared by the Creditor Administration and forwarded in duplicate to the Debtor Administration which, after verification, returns one of the copies endorsed with its acceptance.

Article 19

The quarterly account shall be verified and the amount shall be paid within six weeks after the day it was received by the Debtor Administration. Beyond this period the sums due to one Administration by another are subject to interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum reckoned from the day following the date of the expiration of the said period.

Article 20

The balance of the quarterly accounts in gold francs shall be paid by the Debtor Administration in accordance with the provisions of Article 53, paragraph 2, of the International Telephone Regulations.

PART V

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 21

The present Agreement is concluded for an indefinite term and shall come into force immediately on its being signed.

This Agreement and any of its provisions may be altered or added to by mutual agreement of the Contracting Parties.

Article 22

In the event of one of the Contracting Parties wishing to terminate this Agreement notice thereof shall be given to the other Contracting Party, in writing.

The Agreement shall terminate six months from the date on which such notice of termination is given.

Article 23

This Agreement is drawn up in two copies; each one in the English and Russian languages, both texts having equal force.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned duly authorised by their respective Governments have personally signed the two copies of this Agreement and affixed thereto their seals.

Moscow, 23rd September, 1944

By authority of the Government of
the United Kingdom and Northern
Ireland:

By authority of the Government of
the Union of Soviet Socialist Re-
publics:

[L.S.] Archibald Clark KERR

[L.S.] K. Y. SERGEICHUK

P R O T O C O L

At the conclusion of the Agreement concerning the establishment of a direct radiotelephone service between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics the Contracting Parties have agreed in addition to Article 8 of the Agreement, that for the preparation, establishment and disconnexion of calls and all other operating purposes the traffic operators and technical personnel of the telecommunication service of both terminals are authorised to use the English, Russian and French languages.

This Protocol is drawn up in two copies; each one in the English and Russian languages, both texts having equal force.

23rd September, 1944

By authority of the Government of
the United Kingdom and Northern
Ireland:

By authority of the Government of
the Union of Soviet Socialist Re-
publics:

(Signed) Archibald Clark KERR

(Signed)

K. Y. SERGEICHUK