

No. 17218

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
and  
JAPAN**

**Memorandum of understanding relating to express mail  
service. Signed at Tokyo on 8 May 1975 and Washington  
on 27 May 1975**

*Authentic text: English.*

*Registered by the United States of America on 24 November 1978.*

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

**Mémoire d'accord relatif au service du courrier par  
express. Signé à Tokyo le 8 mai 1975 et à Washington  
le 27 mai 1975**

*Texte authentique : anglais.*

*Enregistré par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 24 novembre 1978.*

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING<sup>1</sup>

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The Postal Administrations of the United States of America and Japan have agreed to initiate an accelerated mail service between the United States and Japan on an experimental basis in accordance with the following terms and conditions:

1. Express Mail/Business Mail shall be available between two offices in Japan, the Tokyo International Post Office and the Osaka Central Post Office, and all air mail facilities or air transfer offices in the United States that receive Express Mail.
2. The Service shall be experimental for a period not less than one year.
3. This reciprocal service shall begin on June 16, 1975.
4. The Service shall be reciprocal. Each Administration will set down its own tariffs and retain the revenues generated from outgoing traffic. The level of traffic generated by both Administrations for this new Service will be reviewed yearly following its public introduction. Any reimbursements felt to be chargeable by either Administration will be negotiated in subsequent years following the first year of trial.
  - 4.1. Each Administration shall provide, at no additional charge to sender or addressee, expeditious handling or delivery of incoming articles equal to that provided for domestic articles of like character. Rent for a Post Office box may be collected from addressees in Japan.
  - 4.2. Each Administration shall provide, at no additional charge to the other Administration, expeditious handling and delivery to the addressees of incoming articles.
5. The Service shall be offered only to customers under contract agreement, shipping on a fixed frequency to previously identified recipients. Japan will deliver only to Post Office Box addresses at the Tokyo International Post Office and the Osaka Central Post Office and the United States will offer delivery at Air Mail Facilities or Air Transfer Offices that receive Express Mail. The United States will supply a list of facilities to which Japan may ship.
6. At least 10 days' notice shall be given the receiving Administration before a service is initiated. This notice shall include details of addressee, frequency of shipment and flight to be used for dispatch. Similar notice shall also be given the receiving Administration before a service is altered or cancelled. The alteration notice shall include details of addressee, frequency of shipment and flight to be used for dispatch.
7. Administrations shall exchange information on expected delivery times and areas to be serviced based on flight arrival times.
8. Items sent shall be limited to letter post material of no intrinsic value and to articles not subject to customs duty, such as official communications between firms approved by the two administrations, data (computer cards, punched cards, punched paper tapes), commercial papers in general, shipping documents, check clearances between financial institutions, and shall exclude private letters, magnetic tapes and microfilms, money remittances, negotiable articles and other items of value. No provisions of this agreement shall be construed to negate or supersede existing restrictions on articles that may be exchanged by mail between the two Administrations.

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 27 May 1975 by signature, with effect from 16 June 1975, in accordance with its provisions.

[9.] Any contract shall be subject to cancellation if the items shall be found to contain any articles in violation of this agreement.

10. The prohibitions of the Universal Postal Union shall apply in all circumstances.

11. Weight and size limits:

11.1. The weight limit of each item shall not exceed 10 lbs. in the United States and 4 kilogrammes in Japan. Minimum weight accepted in Japan shall be 1 kg.

11.2. The weight of each bag shall in no case exceed 30 kilogrammes.

11.3. The dimensions of each item shall be the same as for letter post items in accordance with the Universal Postal Convention.<sup>1</sup>

12. All items shall have postage paid in accordance with methods approved by each Postal Administration. Complete address information and the agreement number shall appear on each item.

13. Each item shall be made up in such a way that the contents be sufficiently protected while permitting quick and easy verification.

14. The receiving Administration shall make every effort to expedite clearance through Customs and effect delivery via the fastest means available.

15. Express Mail/Business Mail items shall be sacked separately from other mails in blue and orange bags to be supplied by the United States and bear a special tag for ready identification and routing. Such mails will be listed on a separate AV-7 apart from other mails, using a new serial dispatch sequence.

16. A Manifest Form will be included with each dispatch. It will show all agreements scheduled for that dispatch, number of pieces per agreement number, and a column to check "Not Sent" if such is necessary. The receiving Administration will enter time/date of receipt and return it with its next dispatch.

Concurring signatures:

[Signed]

T. ISHII

Director General of Posts  
Ministry of Posts  
and Telecommunications  
Tokyo  
Japan

Date: May 8, 1975

[Signed]

H. EDGAR S. STOCK

Director, Office of International  
Postal Affairs  
U.S. Postal Service  
Washington, DC

Date: May 27, 1975

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<sup>1</sup> United States, *Treaty Series*, vol. 810, p. 53.