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1905.

CONVENTION

BETWEEN

THE UNITED KINGDOM AND CHINA

RESPECTING THE

JUNCTION OF THE CHINESE AND
BURMESE TELEGRAPH LINES,
BEING A REVISION OF THE CONVENTION
OF SEPTEMBER 6, 1894.

[*Treaty Series No. 9, 1895.*]

Signed in English and Chinese texts at Peking,
May 23, 1905.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
August 1905.*

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ARTICLE I.

THE Government of His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Emperor of India, and the Government of His Majesty the Emperor of China with a view to facilitating international telegraph communication have resolved to revise the existing agreement regarding the exchange of telegraphic correspondence over the lines of the two states on the frontier of Burma and Yünnan.

ARTICLE II.

The junction on the frontier remains as hitherto between the British Station at Bhamo and the Chinese Station at T'êngyüeh (Momein), and an intermediate station will continue to be maintained at Manwyne.

ARTICLE III.

The Indian and the Chinese Administrations shall maintain in good condition the line of connection and shall exchange the correspondence by wire between the two stations named in Article II, or between any other two stations hereafter mutually agreed upon.

Each of the contracting parties shall bear the expense incurred for these purposes on its own territory and will take care that the boundaries between the territories of the two Governments are scrupulously respected.

ARTICLE IV.

The rules laid down in the Service Regulations of the International Telegraph Convention shall be observed with regard to the technical treatment of telegrams transmitted over the line of connection described in Article II.

When the senders of telegrams do not expressly indicate the route by which they wish their telegrams to be forwarded it is understood that at lower rates all limitrophe correspondence and at equal rates half the limitrophe correspondence shall be forwarded via the line of connection described in Article II provided that the alternative routes are in equally good working order.

ARTICLE V.

Each of the contracting parties fixes the charges for transmission of telegrams by its lines up to the frontier of its own territory.

ARTICLE VI.

The following charges per word are declared for correspondence exchanged via the line of communication described in Article II:—

I. INDIAN TELEGRAPH ADMINISTRATION.

A. Terminal Charges.

	Francs.
1. From Stations in Burma to the Chinese frontier ...	0·10
2. From Stations in India to the Chinese frontier ...	0·35
3. From Stations in Ceylon to the Chinese frontier ...	0·45

B. *Transit Charges.*

	Francs.
Between the Chinese-Burmese frontier and all other frontiers	0.35

II. CHINA.

A. *Terminal Charges.*

1. For telegrams exchanged with Europe and countries beyond Europe (except America)	3.36
2. For telegrams exchanged with America	4.86
3. For telegrams exchanged between all other countries on the one side and stations on the Yangtze or South of the Yangtze on the other side	1.00
4. For telegrams exchanged between all other countries on the one side and stations situated to the North of the Yangtze	1.50
5.—(a.) For telegrams exchanged between Burma, India, and Ceylon on the one side and the province of Yünnan on the other side	0.50
(b.) For <i>bonâ-fide</i> British and Chinese Government telegrams between Burma, India and Ceylon on the one side and the province of Yünnan on the other side	0.25

B. *Transit Charges.*

1. For telegrams exchanged between Europe and countries beyond Europe (except America) on the one side and all countries beyond China on the other side	3.36
2. For telegrams exchanged between America on the one side and all countries beyond China on the other side	4.86
3. For all other telegrams between the Burmese-Chinese frontier and	
(a.) Shanghai or frontier stations South of the Yangtze	1.25
(b.) All other frontiers	1.50

The charges established for telegrams exchanged between China on the one side and Burma, India, and Ceylon on the other side are solely for correspondence actually exchanged between the named neighbouring countries, and the Chinese European and American correspondence cannot be retelegraphed at these rates by private agencies or persons at intermediate stations.

If during the course of operation of this Convention the rates of China or of the Telegraph Companies operating in China be diminished for telegrams exchanged by the whole of China, including Hongkong, with Europe and the countries beyond

Europe, China undertakes simultaneously and in the same proportion to lower her present terminal and transit rates for such telegrams on their transmission along the Burma-Yünnan line.

ARTICLE VII.

The checking of the amount of correspondence exchanged via the line of connection shall take place daily by wire between the stations named in Article II.

The settlement of accounts shall take place at the end of each month and the resulting balance shall be paid one month after the end of the month in account to the Indian Telegraph Administration at Calcutta or to the Chinese Telegraph Administration at Shanghai.

The month shall be reckoned according to the European Calendar. Telegrams referring to the settlement of accounts shall be considered as service telegrams and transmitted free of charge.

ARTICLE VIII.

The collection of the charges at all the stations of the Chinese Telegraph Administration, according to the rates fixed in Article VI of the present Convention in gold francs, as well as the liquidation of the mutual accounts, shall be made in Mexican dollars according to the actual rate of exchange between this coin and the franc.

This rate of exchange shall be agreed upon between the Telegraph Administrations of the contracting Governments during the month preceding each quarter on the basis of the average rate of exchange during the three months preceding that during which the rate is fixed.

As regards outpayments to Telegraph Administrations beyond China and India the Chinese and Indian Telegraph Administrations will communicate to each other their amounts and this amount the two Administrations will be at liberty to collect and settle at such rates as may protect them from loss.

ARTICLE IX.

The present Convention shall come into force on the first day of June, Nineteen hundred and five, and shall, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon, remain in force for ten years and thereafter until twelve months after one of the contracting parties shall have given notice of its intention to modify or to abrogate it.

In witness whereof the Undersigned duly authorized to this effect have signed the present Convention,

Done at Peking in the English language and in the Chinese language. Three expeditions duly compared and found to be in agreement have been signed in each of these languages on the twenty-third day of the month of May, Nineteen hundred and five corresponding with the twentieth day of the fourth moon of the thirty-first year of the reign of Kuang Hsii.

(L.S.) ERNEST SATOW. (Signature and Seal of the
Chinese Plenipotentiary.)
