

SRE-B

DOMINION OF CANADA

TREATY SERIES, 1929

No. 6

EXCHANGE OF NOTES

(February 26 and 28, 1929, and subsequent dates)

Constituting an Agreement

BETWEEN

CANADA, THE UNITED STATES, CUBA  
and NEWFOUNDLAND

relative to the

ASSIGNMENT OF HIGH FREQUENCIES

to

RADIO STATIONS

on the

NORTH AMERICAN CONTINENT



OTTAWA  
F. A. ACLAND  
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
1930

*Price, 25 cents*

Maurice,

Thanks for the card,

Joyeuse fêtes à toi aussi!

Je pense que la table d'allocation  
à la fin de ce document t'intéressera.

Jean Claude

14. décembre 1988

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**AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN CANADA, UNITED STATES, NEWFOUND-  
LAND, CUBA AND OTHER NORTH AMERICAN NATIONS RELATIVE  
TO THE ASSIGNMENT OF FREQUENCIES ON THE NORTH  
AMERICAN CONTINENT**

(1) The sovereign right of all nations to the use of every radio channel is recognized.

Nevertheless, until technical development progresses to the stage where radio interference can be eliminated, it is agreed that special administrative arrangements are essential in order to promote standardization and to minimize radio interference.

(2) The Governments agree that each country shall be free to assign any frequency to any radio station within its jurisdiction upon the sole condition that no interference with any service of another country will result therefrom.

(3) It is agreed that each Government shall use Appendix I attached hereto, as a general guide in allocating channels to the various services specified therein.

(4) Channels are divided into two classes (1) common channels which are primarily assigned to particular services in all countries, and (2) general communication channels which are assigned for use in specific areas.

(5) With regard to the general communication channels, it is considered that at the present stage of the art, the use of radio channels below 3,500 K/C will not normally cause interference at distances greater than 1,000 miles and such channels may, therefore, be used with freedom from interference by stations separated by such distance. It is further recognized that stations operating on frequencies above 3,500 K/C may become sources of interference at distances in excess of 1,000 miles, particularly at night.

(6) The Governments agree to take advantage of the physical facts just explained, and by suitable geographical distribution of these two classes of channels throughout North America and the West Indies, to make available for general communication services, the total number of channels set forth in Appendix 2 attached hereto.

(7) Each Government shall have the right to assign to stations under its jurisdiction, in the manner it deems best, such general communication channels as are allocated to that Government under this agreement, as set forth in Appendix No. 2. The Governments agree not to assign to stations within their respective jurisdiction any of the general communication channels allocated to other Governments, unless it can be accomplished without causing interference.

(8) The marine calling frequency of 5,525 K/C shall be used until superseded by an international assignment.

(9) In addition to the frequencies assigned specially for experiments (1,604, 2,398 and 4,596 K/C) the Governments agree that experimentation by particularly qualified experimenters, may be authorized on any other channel provided no interference is caused with established services, as provided in Regulation No. 11 of the International Radio Convention of Washington 1927.

(10) The Governments agree to adopt a radio frequency standard based on the unit of time, and to compare at least once every six months, the actual radio frequency measuring standards.

(11) The Governments agree to require all stations, other than mobile and amateur stations, under their jurisdiction, to tune their transmitters with an accuracy of 0.025 per cent, or better, of their national frequency standard.

(12) The Governments agree to require all stations likely to cause international interference, other than mobile and amateur stations, to maintain their frequency with an accuracy of 0.05 per cent, or better, at all times.

(13) For the purpose of this agreement a channel shall be regarded as a band of frequencies the width of which varies with its position in the range of frequencies under consideration, but which progresses numerically from the lower to the higher frequencies, as shown in the following table:—

Frequency (K/C)	Channel Width (K/C)
1,500-2,198	4
2,200-3,313	6
3,316-4,400	8
4,405-5,490	10
5,495-6,000	15

(14) The Governments agree to adopt for the present in their national plan of allocation a separation of 0.2 per cent between radio frequency channels; and to permit stations under their respective jurisdiction to occupy the assigned frequency and the adjacent frequencies to the limit permitted by the frequency maintenance tolerances and necessitated by the type of emission the station may be authorized to use. For commercial telephony a band width of six kilocycles shall be permitted. For the present, a 100 kilocycle band width shall be considered standard for television.

(15) The Governments agree to require stations under their jurisdiction to use transmitters which are as free as practicable from all emissions (such as those due to harmonics, decrement, spacing waves, frequency modulation, key clicks, type of keying, mush, etc.) not essential to the type of communication carried on, and which would be detrimental to communication being carried on by stations in other countries.

(16) Appendices Numbers 1 and 2, together with the chart showing graphically the distribution of the frequencies, which are attached hereto, shall constitute a part of this agreement.

(17) This agreement shall go into effect on March 1, 1929, and shall remain in force until January 1, 1932, and thereafter for an indeterminate period and until one year from the day on which a denunciation thereof shall have been made by any one of the contracting parties.

## NORTH AMERICAN RADIO CONFERENCE, 1929

## APPENDIX No. 1

*Allocation of Channels to Services (Arranged in order of Kilocycles)*

(1) Channels	Service	No. of Channels
1504 to 1600	Maritime Mobile Services (2) . . . . .	25
1600 to 1648	Air Mobile Services (3) . . . . .	12
1648 to 1712	Mobile Services . . . . .	16
1712 to 2000	Amateurs . . . . .	72
2000 to 2200	Experimental Visual Broadcasting . . . . .	50
2200 to 2296	General Communication Services (4) . . . . .	16 (32)
2296 to 2398	Maritime and Air Mobile Services (3) . . . . .	17
2398 to 2470	Mobile Services . . . . .	12
2470 to 2506	Air Mobile Services . . . . .	6
2506 to 2602	Maritime Mobile Services . . . . .	16
2602 to 2650	Air Mobile Services . . . . .	8
2650 to 2746	Maritime and Air Mobile Services . . . . .	16
2746 to 2950	Experimental Visual Broadcasting . . . . .	34
2950 to 3004	Maritime and Air Mobile Services . . . . .	9
3004 to 3058	General Communication Services (4) . . . . .	9 (18)
3058 to 3106	Air Mobile Services . . . . .	8
3106 to 3148	Maritime Mobile Services . . . . .	7
3148 to 3412	General Communication Services (4) . . . . .	40 (80)
3412 to 3500	Maritime and Air Mobile Services . . . . .	11
3500 to 3996	Amateurs . . . . .	62
3996 to 4100	General Communication Services (4) . . . . .	13
4100 to 4196	Maritime and Air Mobile Services . . . . .	12
4196 to 4745	General Communication Services (4) . . . . .	60
4745 to 4795	Maritime and Air Mobile Services (3) . . . . .	5
4795 to 5495	General Communication Services (4) . . . . .	70
5495 to 5690	Maritime and Air Mobile Services . . . . .	13
5690 to 6000	General Communication Services (4) . . . . .	20
		(5) 639 (704)

*Notes*

- (1) The last channel in each group is assigned to the service indicated immediately abreast the group except as specially noted to the contrary.
- (2) The channel 1600 Kc/s is assigned to Mobile Services.
- (3) The channels 1604, 2398 and 4795 Kc/s are assigned to Experimental Services.
- (4) For details regarding General Communication Services, see Appendix II.
- (5) Taking into account Articles 5 and 6 of the Agreement, this total is increased by 65.

## NORTH AMERICAN RADIO CONFERENCE, 1929

## APPENDIX No. 2

*Distribution of General Communication Channels**United States:*

3154	4252	4995
3160	4260	5005
3166	4268	5015
3172	4276	5025
3178	4284	5035
3184	4292	5045
3190	4300	5055
3232	4308	5065
3238	4316	5075
3244	4364	5085
3250	4372	5095
3256	4380	5105
3262	4388	5115
3268	4396	5125
3274	4405	5135
3280	4415	5145
3286	4425	5155
3292	4435	5165
3298	4445	5175
3304	4525	5185
3310	4535	5195
3316	4545	5205
3324	4555	5215
3332	4565	5225
3340	4575	5235
3348	4585	5245
3356	4595	5255
3364	4605	5265
3372	4615	5275
3380	4625	5285
3388	4635	5295
3396	4645	5305
3404	4655	5315
3412	4665	5325
4012	4675	5335
4020	4685	5345
4028	4695	5355
4036	4705	5365
4044	4715	5855
4052	4725	5870
4060	4735	5885
4068	4745	5900
4076	4925	5915
4084	4935	5930
4092	4945	5945
4100	4955	5960
4204	4965	5975
4236	4975	5990
4244	4985	

## Distribution of General Communication Channels—Continued

## Canada and Newfoundland:

2206	3214	4475
2212	3220	4485
2218	3226	4495
2224	3232	4815
2230	3238	4825
2236	3244	4835
2242	3250	4845
2248	3256	4855
2254	3262	4865
2260	3268	4875
2266	3274	4885
2272	3280	4895
2278	3286	4905
2284	3292	5385
2290	3298	5395
2296	3304	5405
3010	3310	5415
3016	3316	5425
3022	3324	5435
3028	3332	5445
3034	x 3340	5455
3040	x 3348	5465
3046	x 3356	5475
3052	x 3364	5485
3058	x 3372	5495
x 3154	x 3380	5705
x 3160	x 3388	5720
x 3166	x 3396	5735
x 3172	x 3404	5750
x 3178	x 3412	5765
x 3184	4324	5780
x 3190	4332	5795
3196	4340	5810
3202	4348	
3208	4465	

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Note.—x Used for Newfoundland.

## Cuba:

2206	2248	3208
2212	3010	4004
2218	3016	4212
2224	3022	4505
2230	3028	5375
2236	3196	5825
2242	3202	

20



## Distribution of General Communication Channels—Concluded

## Other Nations:

2254	3034	4220
2260	3040	4228
2266	3046	4356
2272	3052	4455
2278	3058	4515
2284	3214	4805
2290	3220	4915
2296	3226	5840

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## SUMMARY

Services	No. of Channels
Maritime Mobile Services exclusively.. . . . .	47
Air Mobile Service exclusively.. . . . .	33
Amateurs.. . . . .	134
Experimental Visual Broadcasting.. . . . .	84
Air and Maritime Mobile Services.. . . . .	81
Experimental.. . . . .	3
Mobile Services.. . . . .	29
General Communication Services.. . . . .	228
Total.. . . . .	639
Grand Total.. . . . .	704

Note.—The grand total is obtained by adding on 65 channels made available through the application of Articles 5 and 6 of the Agreement.

*The Chairman of the Canadian Delegation to the Chairman of the United States Delegation*

OTTAWA, February 1, 1929.

JUDGE E. O. SYKES,  
Federal Radio Commission,  
Washington, D.C.

"In accordance with the undertaking given by the Canadian delegation at the closing session of the Conference on Friday last, I now have the honour to advise that the proposals for the distribution of channels as set forth in detail in appendices Numbers One and Two and graphic chart attached to draft of document headed "Suggestions for an agreement between United States, Canada, Cuba, Mexico and other North American nations relative to the assignment of frequencies on the North American continent", as per copy transmitted to you by Commander Craven, are approved and accepted by the Canadian delegation. The United States delegation, having already by majority vote approved of these proposals as generally outlined at the final session of the Conference, it is our understanding that there but remains for approval the Articles of Agreement as suggested in draft document in question. As soon as we are advised that this is confirmed by the United States delegation and that these Articles of Agreement are approved and accepted by them, the whole may be considered as approved and accepted by the Canadian authorities".

A. JOHNSTON.

*The United States Minister to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Canada*

OTTAWA, CANADA, February 26, 1929.

No. 315.

SIR,—With regard to the recent short wave length radio conference at Ottawa, I am instructed by my Government to inform you that it approves the recommendations of the delegates at the conference and will announce the agreement effective March 1, 1929.

I avail myself of the occasion to renew to you, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

WILLIAM PHILLIPS.

The Right Honourable,  
WILLIAM LYON MACKENZIE KING, C.M.G., LL.B., LL.D.,  
Secretary of State for External Affairs,  
Ottawa.

*The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Canada, to the United States Minister*

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA

OTTAWA, February 28, 1929.

No. 16.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge your Note of February 26, 1929, regarding the recent Short Wave Radio Conference at Ottawa.

It is gratifying to the Government of the Dominion of Canada to learn that the Government of the United States approve the recommendations of the delegates at the Conference. The Canadian Government have pleasure in stating that they also accept these recommendations.

It is noted that your Government will announce the agreement effective March 1, 1929. I have the honour to request that you be good enough to inform them that we will accordingly announce the agreement as effective on the same day.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

O. D. SKELTON,

*For the Secretary of State for External Affairs.*

The Hon. WILLIAM PHILLIPS,  
Minister of the United States of America,  
United States Legation, Ottawa.

*The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Canada, to the Prime Minister of  
Newfoundland, St. John's, Newfoundland*

(Telegram)

OTTAWA, February 28, 1929.

With reference to recent Short Wave Radio Conference at Ottawa the Canadian Government are now informed that the United States Government approve the recommendations of the delegates at Conference. These recommendations have also been accepted by the Canadian Government. It has been arranged between the two Governments to have the agreement announced as effective March 1, 1929.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

*The Newfoundland Delegate to the Secretary of State for External Affairs,  
Canada*

(Telegram)

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, March 4, 1929.

External,  
Ottawa, Ont.

Your cable to Prime Minister reference Radio Conference at Ottawa. Government of Newfoundland have notified Chairman accepting recommendations made by United States and Canadian Government to be effective as from March 1, 1929.

Lemessurier

NEWFOUNDLAND DELEGATE.

*The Consul General of Cuba to the Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, Canada*

No. 40.

OTTAWA, March 14, 1929.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that the Secretary of State of the Republic has been notified by the Department of Communications, in charge of our Radio Services, that the agreement relative to the Ottawa Radio Conference is accepted by Cuba.

I have the honour to be,  
With the highest consideration, sir,  
Your obedient servant,

GABRIEL DE LA CAMPA,  
*Consul General for Cuba.*

The Honourable Doctor O. D. SKELTON,  
Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs,  
Ottawa.

*The Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, Canada, to the Consul General of Cuba*

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA

OTTAWA, June 22, 1929.

SIR,—With further reference to your Note of the 14th March regarding the Short Wave Radio Conference held at Ottawa in January last, I have the honour to state, for the purpose of completing your records, that the Government of Canada approve the recommendations of the delegates at the Conference and consider the Agreement to be effective as from the 1st March, 1929.

I have the honour to be, sir,  
Your obedient servant,

O. D. SKELTON,  
*Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs.*

GABRIEL DE LA CAMPA, Esquire,  
Consul General of Cuba,  
Ottawa.

*The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Canada, to the Colonial Secretary of Newfoundland*

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA

No. 10.

OTTAWA, June 22, 1929.

SIR,—With reference to our telegram of the 28th February to your Prime Minister and the telegram of the 4th March from Mr. W. H. Le Messurier regarding the Short Wave Radio Conference held at Ottawa in January last, I have the honour to state, for the purpose of completing your records, that the Government of Canada accept the recommendations of the delegates at the Conference and consider the Agreement to be effective as from the 1st March, 1929

I should be grateful if you would be good enough to state, for the purpose of completing our records, whether the Government of Newfoundland accept the recommendations of the delegates at the Conference and consider the Agreement to be effective as from the 1st March, 1929.

I have the honour to be, sir,  
Your obedient servant,

O. D. SKELTON,  
*For the Secretary of State for External Affairs.*

The Honourable,  
The Colonial Secretary of Newfoundland,  
St. John's, Newfoundland.

*The Colonial Secretary of Newfoundland to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Canada*

DEPARTMENT OF THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND

September 26, 1929.

SIR,—Referring to your letter No. 10 of the 22nd June last regarding the Short Wave Radio Conference held in Ottawa in January last, I have the honour to intimate, for the purpose of completing your records, that the Government of Newfoundland accept the recommendation of the Delegates at the Conference and consider the Agreement to be effective as from the 1st March, 1929.

I have the honour to be, sir,  
Your obedient servant,

A. BAINES,  
*Colonial Secretary.*

The Honourable,  
The Secretary of State for External Affairs,  
Ottawa.