

Secondly, the covers of all parcels must list the contents and the return address of the sender. The combined dimensions of parcels may be no greater than 140 cm with no one dimension being greater than 60 cm.

Thirdly, parcels from unauthorized or unidentified sources, or which are suspected to contain prohibited items, will be examined by SKRM and may be returned to sender.

PARCELS MUST NOT CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- LIQUIDS
- AEROSOL CONTAINERS
- PERFUMES
- COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS
- GUNS (TOY OR GENUINE)
- AMMUNITION
- BATTERIES
- MATCHES

Did you know that...

- Under present regulations, magazines, newspapers, periodicals, bulk or third class mail are prohibited items. However, employees entitled to receive personal parcels may have their parcel nominees include these items in the regular shipments.
- Parcels from nominees may be opened for inspection if suspected to contain prohibited items. Also, when necessary, SKRM will repackage in order to reduce the size.
- As a result of Canada Customs regulations, under no circumstances are departmental facilities to be used to send personal packages or parcels from any mission. This is considered to be an abuse of the system. Improper transmission of personal items may result in disciplinary action. Incidents of abuse will be brought to the attention of responsible officials, for example, the RCMP, Revenue Canada, Customs and Excise and the Head of Mission.

Employees Posted to Countries where Special Security Measures Apply

Employees posted to, or cross-posted from countries where special security measures apply (see ISSN memorandum 002 of 11 March, 1992) are entitled to forward a maximum of 2 kg of personal documents to their next assignment by using the classified diplomatic bag. These packages should be self-addressed and marked "Personal and Protected" and would normally contain their most recent appraisal report and current financial statements.

Note — As a result of the many "carriers" or "handlers" involved in a shipment, the Department is unable to assume any responsibility for delays in handling, misdirection, loss or damage of personal mail. Also, because of the extensive volume of departmental mail, it is only possible to maintain records of personal parcels and registered mail.

2.4 Diplomatic Privileges and Immunities

History

The practice of maintaining diplomatic relations and sending representatives to other states goes far back in history. Rules of protocol varied from one country to another — they still do — but diplomatic representatives were always accorded certain privileges and immunities. It has been a generally accepted principle that diplomatic representatives needed security of their persons, homes and official papers in order to carry out the functions that both the sending State and the receiving State had agreed they should perform.

Diplomatic functions traditionally consisted mainly in observing and reporting on the conditions and developments in the receiving State; and protecting in the receiving State the interests of the sending State, for example, defending its policies, negotiating with the Government of the receiving State etc. Given that governments in the course of history frequently did not appreciate these activities even