

AGREEMENT ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS QUESTIONS

Signed in Bermuda, December 4, 1945

The Delegations of the Governments of the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, India, and Southern Rhodesia, assembled in Conference in Bermuda from November 21 to December 4, 1945, have reached agreement as follows:

ARTICLE I. RADIOTELEGRAPH CIRCUITS

Section 1. Existing direct radiotelegraph circuits.

(i) *United Kingdom:* The circuits between the United States and the United Kingdom shall be retained, subject to examination as to the number required and to consultation between the two Governments before any of these circuits is discontinued.

(ii) *Australia, New Zealand and India:* One circuit shall be retained between the United States and each of these countries.

(iii) *Bermuda:* Both circuits between the United States and Bermuda may be retained, subject to the agreement of the Government of Bermuda.

(iv) *The Gambia, the Gold Coast and British Guiana:* The circuits between the United States and these British Colonies shall be discontinued.

Section 2. New direct radiotelegraph circuits.

(i) *South Africa:* The Governments of the United States and of the Union of South Africa shall promptly undertake a joint study to determine whether traffic and other conditions justify the establishment of a direct circuit between the two countries.

(ii) *Jamaica:* One direct circuit shall be established between the United States and Jamaica, subject to the agreement of the Government of Jamaica.

(iii) *Palestine:* One direct circuit shall be established between the United States and Palestine, subject to the agreement of the Palestine Government.

(iv) *Ceylon, Federated Malay States (Singapore) and Hong Kong:* The Government of the United Kingdom, in consultation with the authorities of the territories concerned, shall undertake a study to determine whether traffic or other conditions warrant the establishment of direct circuits between the United States and Ceylon, the Federated Malay States (Singapore) and Hong Kong respectively.

Section 3. General considerations.

The signatory Governments agree to present, for the consideration of the next International Telecommunications Conference, a statement, along the lines set forth in Annex A, relating to the general factors governing the establishment of direct radiotelegraph circuits.

Section 4. Exclusive arrangements.

The signatory Governments shall neither support nor approve efforts by telecommunications companies subject to their respective jurisdictions to prevent or obstruct the establishment of direct circuits between the United States or British Commonwealth points and other countries, and will take such steps as may be appropriate to discourage any such efforts.