

ARTICLE 144.

Use of postage stamps presumed to be fraudulent, or of counterfeit impressions of franking machines or of the printing press.

1. Subject to the rules laid down by the legislation of each country, the following procedure is carried out for reporting the use of fraudulent postage stamps or of counterfeit impressions of franking machines or of the printing press for the prepayment of postage:

(a) when the presence of a fraudulent postage stamp (counterfeit or already used) or of a counterfeit impression of a franking machine or of the printing press, on any article whatever, is detected at the time of despatch, the stamp is not defaced in any way, and the article, accompanied by a notice identical with Form C 10 annexed*, is forwarded in an envelope officially registered to the delivering office. A copy of this notice is forwarded, for information, to the Administrations of the countries of origin and of destination;

(b) the article is only delivered to the addressee, who is summoned that he may recognise the offence, if he pays the charge due, discloses the name and address of the sender and places at the disposal of the Post Office, after having acquainted himself with the contents, either the entire article if it is inseparable from the offending part, or else the portion of the article (envelope, wrapper, portion of letter, etc.), which contains the address and the impression or stamp stated to be fraudulent. The result of the representations to the addressee is set forth in a formal report identical with Form C 11 annexed*, signed by the postal official and by the addressee of the article. If the addressee refuses to sign, the refusal is recorded on the form.

2. The formal report is transmitted with the relative enclosures, officially registered, to the Administration of the country of origin, which acts according to its legislation.

3. The Administrations whose legislation does not allow the procedure provided for in § 1 (a) and (b) above, must acquaint the International Bureau to this effect for the information of the other Administrations.

PART V.

EXCHANGE OF MAILS.

CHAPTER I.

ARTICLE 145.

Letter Bills.

1. The letter bills which accompany mails are identical with Form C 12 annexed*. They are placed in blue envelopes bearing in large type the words "Feuille d'avis" (Letter Bill).

2. The despatching office fills in the letter bill with all the required particulars, taking note of the following provisions:

(a) Table I: The presence of ordinary correspondence intended for express delivery is indicated by underlining the relative entry;

(b) Table II: When the mails are not despatched daily, and in the absence of other arrangements, the despatching offices number the letter bills in an annual series for each office of destination. Each despatch takes, in this case, a separate

* Not reproduced herein.