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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
APRIL 2, 1971

AMATEUR RADIO AGREEMENT WITH THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

The Governments of Canada and the Dominican Republic have concluded an agreement to permit amateur radio stations in the two countries, subject to certain conditions, to exchange messages or other communications from or to third parties. These conditions are that the amateur stations should be paid no direct or indirect compensation and that messages should be of a technical or personal nature, where recourse to public telecommunications services would not be justified. One effect of the agreement will be to facilitate the sending of personal communications to Canada by Canadians resident in the Dominican Republic, possibly in remote areas, who are not themselves operators of amateur radio stations.

Canadian radio amateurs are at present authorized to communicate with radio amateurs throughout the world in compliance with the International Radio Regulations of the International Telecommunications Union and with the Radio Act and Regulations of Canada, provided that communications are made in plain language and limited to messages of a technical or personal nature. Radio amateurs generally are not permitted to use their stations for communications on behalf of third parties. However, the International Radio Regulations recognize that countries may conclude special agreements to permit amateurs of the countries concerned to exchange such communications.

The agreement between Canada and the Dominican Republic was concluded in Santo Domingo by an Exchange of Notes on March 31, between Dr. Jaime Manuel Fernandez, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic and the Canadian Ambassador to the Dominican Republic, Mr. D. S. McPhail. This is the eleventh agreement of this type to which Canada is signatory, the others having been concluded with the United States, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Honduras, Mexico, Chile, El Salvador, Bolivia, Peru and Israel. The Canadian Government is at present negotiating similar agreements with a number of other countries.