

1963/77



## THE TELEGRAPH REGULATIONS 1963

BERNARD FERGUSSON, Governor-General

### ORDER IN COUNCIL

At the Government House at Wellington this 22nd day of May 1963

Present:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN COUNCIL

PURSUANT to the Post Office Act 1959, His Excellency the Governor-General, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, hereby makes the following regulations.

### REGULATIONS

#### PART I—PRELIMINARY

1. These regulations may be cited as the Telegraph Regulations 1963.
2. These regulations are arranged as follows:
  - Part I—Preliminary (regulations 1 to 4).
  - Part II—Charges and Conditions for Inland Telegrams (regulations 5 to 20).
  - Part III—Charges and Conditions for Overseas Telegrams and Radiotelegrams (regulation 21).
  - Part IV—Miscellaneous (regulations 22 to 40).
3. These regulations shall come into force on the day after the date of their notification in the *Gazette*.

4. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires,—

“Department” means the Post Office:

“Director-General” means the Director-General of the Post Office:

“Exchange” means a departmental telephone exchange:

“Government telegram” means an inland or an overseas telegram or a radiotelegram emanating from the Governor-General, or his authorised agents; or from the Government of New Zealand (which term shall include any Department of State or other Government agency or its duly authorised officers); any Justice of the Supreme Court or the Court of Appeal of New Zealand; a Minister of the Crown or any authorised agent of a Minister; and, in the case of an overseas telegram or a radiotelegram, one emanating from any accredited representative of the Government of any other country:

“Inland telegram” means a telegram for transmission within New Zealand only, including the Chatham Islands and the coastal islands:

- “Minister” means the Postmaster-General; and includes any officer or other person acting under his authority or by his direction:  
 “Overseas telegram” means a telegram for transmission overseas except to or from the Chatham Islands or the coastal islands:  
 “Radiotelegram” means a telegram originating in or intended for a mobile station transmitted, on all or part of its route, over the radiocommunication channels of a mobile service.

## PART II—CHARGES AND CONDITIONS FOR INLAND TELEGRAMS

### *Ordinary Telegrams and Urgent Telegrams*

5. (1) The charges for ordinary inland telegrams and for urgent inland telegrams shall be:

(a) On weekdays—

For the first six words or fewer (including address and signature) .....	s.	d.
.....	1	3
For every word beyond six words .....	0	1
For urgent transmission .....	1	0

(b) On Sundays and holidays—

For the first six words or fewer (including address and signature) .....	2	0
For every word beyond six words .....	0	1½
For urgent transmission .....	1	0

(2) The holidays referred to in paragraph (b) of subclause (1) of this regulation are New Year’s Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, Anzac Day, the Queen’s Birthday, Labour Day, Christmas Day, and Boxing Day, or any days substituted therefor.

### *Telegrams from Members of Parliament*

6. The charges for inland telegrams from members of Parliament shall be:

For the first 36 words or fewer (including address and signature) .....	s.	d.
.....	0	6
For each additional four words or fewer .....	0	1
For urgent transmission .....	1	0

### *Letter Telegrams*

7. Inland letter telegrams are inland telegrams deliverable by post, from the telegraph office of destination, on the next weekday after acceptance. These telegrams shall be accepted on weekdays only. The charges for letter telegrams shall be:

For the first 22 words or fewer (including address and signature) .....	s.	d.
.....	1	9
For each additional two words or fewer .....	0	1

### *Collect Telegrams*

8. When required by the sender, the charge for an inland telegram shall be collected from the addressee. The additional charge for this service shall be 3d.

### *Decorative Stationery*

9. The sender of an inland telegram may have the addressee’s copy written on a decorative form and enclosed in a decorative envelope. For the use of decorative stationery the charge shall be 1s.

### *Multiple Telegrams*

10. Inland multiple telegrams are inland telegrams for two or more addressees in the one city or other local area. The charges for inland multiple telegrams shall be:

- (a) The charge or charges for a single transmission as prescribed in these regulations except that in computing the charge all addresses shall be counted in the number of words; and
- (b) For each addressee's copy beyond the first, 3d. for each 50 words or fewer of the text; and
- (c) In the case of urgent transmission, an additional charge of 1s. in respect of each address:

Provided that the total charge shall not exceed that which would apply if the same communication were being sent as ordinary telegrams or urgent telegrams, as the case may be.

### *Weather Telegrams*

11. Weather telegrams are inland telegrams which seek information as to the weather and which are sent from the masters of ships to harbourmasters or to Weather, Wellington (being the Meteorological Office), from farmers to Weather, Wellington, or from aero clubs or aviators to postmasters or aero clubs or aviators. The charges for weather telegrams shall be:

	s.	d.
Ordinary	1	0
Urgent	2	0

These charges shall be for telegrams up to 12 words (the maximum) in addition to the address and signature. The charges shall include the cost of a reply up to 12 words in addition to the address and signature. If the words in the reply telegram exceed this number, the charges for the excess shall be  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. a word in the case of an ordinary telegram or 1d. a word in the case of an urgent one.

### *After Hour Telegrams*

12. (1) For a telegram handed in outside the normal hours of attendance and intended for delivery on the same day, there shall be payable the appropriate additional fees as follows:

- (a) A reopening fee as prescribed in regulation 27 of these regulations shall be payable if the Postmaster is required to attend the office of origin for the acceptance and transmission of the telegram:
- (b) A special delivery fee of 1s. shall be payable if the office of destination is closed.

(2) In addition to the fees prescribed under subclause (1) of this regulation, a telegram handed in during any of the under-mentioned periods shall be subject to the charge for an urgent telegram of the same kind unless the Sunday and holiday charges apply:

- (a) Within the hours of attendance of both the office of origin and the office of destination but after 6 p.m. if delivery by hand is required:
- (b) Outside the hours of attendance of either the office of origin or of the office of destination.

*Repetition of Telegrams During Transmission*

13. To ensure accuracy the sender, when handing in an inland telegram, may stipulate that it be signalled back from office to office. For this service the charge shall be half the ordinary charge for the telegram.

*Repetition of Telegrams After Delivery*

14. An addressee who doubts the accuracy of an inland telegram may have it repeated in whole or in part. The charge shall be  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for each word repeated, with a minimum of 6d., and this charge shall be refunded if the original transmission proves to have been incorrect.

*Correction of Telegrams*

15. For the correction of the address of an inland telegram at the instance of the sender, after transmission has begun, there shall be a charge of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. a word for a correcting telegram, with a minimum of 6d.

*Cancellation of Telegrams*

16. The sender of an inland telegram, on cancelling it before transmission has commenced, shall be refunded the amount paid, less a charge of 3d., or in the case of a collect telegram, he shall pay a charge of 3d. Where a telegram has been partly transmitted it may still be cancelled but no refund shall be made. After transmission has been completed a telegram may be cancelled only by means of a cancelling telegram, the charge for which shall be  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for each word with a minimum of 6d.

*Phototelegrams*

17. Photographs, pictures, drawings, or typed, printed, or handwritten matter may be handed in for transmission as a phototelegram between certain offices. A facsimile reproduction of the article will be delivered to the addressee. The charges for inland phototelegrams shall be:

	Size of Phototelegram	£	s.	d.
Not exceeding 7 in. x 5 in. ....	.....	2	0	0
Exceeding 7 in. x 5 in. but not exceeding 9 in. x 7 in. ....	.....	2	5	0
Exceeding 9 in. x 7 in. but not exceeding 10 in. x 9 in. ....	.....	2	10	0

18. In the case of a phototelegram addressed to two or more addresses in the one city or other local area the charge shall be:

- (a) The charge for a single transmission as prescribed in regulation 17 hereof; and
- (b) An additional charge of 4s. for each address beyond the first.

19. Additional copies of a phototelegram may be delivered to the addressee if required. For each additional copy the charge shall be 4s.

*Press Telegrams*

20. The charges for inland press telegrams shall be as stated in the following table:

	Telegrams Handed in Between the Following Hours	Telegrams Addressed to More Than One Newspaper		Telegrams Addressed to One Newspaper Only	
		Telegrams of 50 Words or Fewer*	Telegrams of 51 to 100 Words and For Each Succeeding 100 Words or Fewer*	Telegrams of 50 Words or Fewer*	Telegrams of 51 to 100 Words and For Each Succeeding 100 Words or Fewer*
<i>Weekdays</i>					
(a) For morning newspapers ..	Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-midnight ..	s. d. 2 0	s. d. 2 6	s. d. 2 9	s. d. 3 6
(b) For evening newspapers (i.e., those published at noon or after) or for broadcasting services or news agencies	Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-10 p.m. Sat, 8.30 a.m.-6 p.m.	} 2 0	2 6	2 9	3 6
<i>Sundays and Good Friday, Anzac Day, and Christmas Day</i>					
(c) For morning newspapers or for broadcasting services or news agencies	6.30-7.30 p.m. .. ..	2 6	3 0	2 9	3 6
(d) For morning newspapers ..	7.30-11 p.m.† .. ..	3 0	3 0	3 6	3 6

Press Telegrams—*continued*

	Telegrams Handed in Between the Following Hours	Telegrams Addressed to More Than One Newspaper		Telegrams Addressed to One Newspaper Only	
		Telegrams of 50 Words or Fewer*	Telegrams of 51 to 100 Words and For Each Succeeding 100 Words or Fewer*	Telegrams of 50 Words or Fewer*	Telegrams of 51 to 100 Words and For Each Succeeding 100 Words or Fewer*
<i>New Year's Day, Easter Monday, the Queen's Birthday, Labour Day, and Boxing Day</i>					
(c) For morning or evening newspapers or for broadcasting services or news agencies	9 a.m.—4 p.m. and 7–10 p.m. ..	s. d. 2 6	s. d. 3 0	s. d. 2 9	s. d. 3 6
(f) For morning newspapers ..	10 p.m.—midnight .. ..	2 6	3 0	2 9	3 6
<i>Special Occasions</i>					
(g) Telegrams which relate to extraordinary events	After midnight Monday to Friday or after 11 p.m. on Sundays	3 0	3 0	3 6	3 6
(h) Telegrams lodged at a reopened office ..	.. ..	3 0	3 0	3 6	3 6
(i) Telegrams containing overseas news	Received during the special midnight overseas press attendance on weekdays, Sundays, or holidays	3 0	3 0	3 6	3 6

\*No charge shall be made for address and signature up to six words.

†Telegrams presented during this period shall refer only to happenings after 7.30 p.m.; and the number of words shall be limited to 500 from any one person.

PART III—CHARGES AND CONDITIONS FOR OVERSEAS TELEGRAMS AND  
RADIOTELEGRAMS

21. (1) Overseas telegrams are accepted subject to the terms of the International Telecommunication Convention and the relative regulations annexed thereto, which provide, *inter alia*, that the several Telegraph Administrations accept no responsibility on account of their respective services.

(2) The charges for overseas telegrams and radiotelegrams shall be at such rates as may from time to time be fixed by the Minister.

PART IV—MISCELLANEOUS

*Acceptance of Telegrams by Telephone*

22. Telegrams accepted by telephone from telephone exchange subscribers or owners of private telephone lines shall be subject to an additional charge of 3d.:

Provided that the Minister may approve of the surcharge being the same as for a single telegram in cases where a list of the addresses is held by the Post Office by prior arrangement with the sender and where frequent use is made of the list.

*Transferred Charge Telegrams*

23. The charges for a telegram accepted by telephone for onward transmission may be debited to a telephone station other than the one from which the telegram is telephoned but connected with the same exchange or another exchange within the same group. An additional charge of 3d. shall be payable for this service.

*Credit Card Telegrams*

24. The holder of a credit toll card subject to the Telephone Regulations 1961\* may have the charges for a telegram debited to a telephone station nominated in that behalf by the subscriber on issue of the credit toll card. In any such case an additional charge of 3d. shall be payable for each telegram.

*Carriage*

25. (1) For the delivery of telegrams beyond the free-delivery area, but within three miles of the office of destination, the carriage charges shall be 1s. a mile or fraction thereof for the distance beyond the free delivery area.

(2) For the delivery of telegrams beyond three miles of the office of destination, the carriage charges payable shall equal the charges incurred in effecting delivery by special messenger.

*Redelivery of Telegrams*

26. When a change of address has been supplied for the delivery of a telegram after it has been taken to the address given in the telegram, the charge for redelivery or for retransmission and redelivery shall be:

- (a) When the new address is within the free telegram-delivery area of the office of destination or within the postal delivery area of the town or city in which that office is situated: 6d.:
- (b) When the new address is not within either of these areas: the usual inland telegraph charge or charges.

*Reopening of Office for Ordinary Telegrams*

27. When a Postmaster reopens his office for the acceptance and transmission of a telegram, other than a press telegram, a reopening fee shall be payable as follows:

(a) If the Postmaster lives in the Post Office premises—	s.	d.
For attendance up to 20 minutes .....	1	0
For each succeeding 20 minutes or less .....	1	0
(b) If the Postmaster lives elsewhere—		
For attendance up to 20 minutes .....	2	6
For each succeeding 20 minutes or less .....	1	0

Provided that if more than one telegram is lodged by the same person the reopening fee shall apply to one telegram only.

*Reopening of Office for Press Telegrams*

28. The charge for the reopening of an office for press telegrams shall be 7s. 6d., and the charge shall be payable by the person who requested that reopening, whether or not another person uses the office while reopened.

*Precedence of Telegrams*

29. (1) Telegrams relating to the safety of human life shall take precedence over all other telegrams.

(2) Government overseas telegrams for which the sender has requested transmission priority shall be transmitted in precedence of other urgent overseas telegrams.

(3) Other Government overseas telegrams for which the sender has not requested transmission priority shall be transmitted in precedence of ordinary overseas telegrams having the same handed-in time.

(4) Government inland telegrams shall be transmitted in precedence of other inland telegrams of the same class and handed-in time.

(5) Except as otherwise provided in these regulations, telegrams for which an additional fee has been paid to secure urgent transmission shall be transmitted in precedence of other telegrams.

*Code Addresses*

30. (1) For the registration of telegraph code addresses the following charges shall apply:

	In Respect of Each Office at Which Registered					
	Year			Three Months or Less		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
(a) For inland telegrams .....	2	0	0	0	10	0
(b) For overseas telegrams and radiotelegrams .....	2	0	0	0	10	0
(c) For all telegrams .....	2	10	0	0	12	6



(2) The registration of a code address may be transferred from one place to another on payment of a fee of 1s.

(3) For the delivery of telegrams to unregistered code addresses the charges shall be:

			s.	d.
For an inland telegram	.....	.....	0	6
For any other telegram	.....	.....	2	6

#### *Prohibitions*

31. (1) The transmission of telegrams of the following nature or character is hereby prohibited:

- (a) Telegrams which are indecently or obscenely worded or which appear to contain matter of a treasonable, seditious, libellous, or grossly offensive character:
- (b) Telegrams in plain language relating to betting, whether on the totalisator or not, or in coded language reasonably supposed to relate to betting, whether on the totalisator or not:  
Provided that this paragraph shall not apply in respect of telegrams for the Totalisator Agency Board handed in by representatives of the Board:
- (c) Telegrams instigating or aiding the commission of any criminal offence or fraud:
- (d) Telegrams consisting merely of the address - i.e., without text or signature:
- (e) Telegrams addressed to initials without name or to a fictitious name, when the telegrams are addressed to a post office or a telegraph office to be called for.

(2) Whether or not a particular telegram comes within the scope of paragraph (a) of subclause (1) of this regulation shall be decided by the Director-General.

(3) Whether or not a particular telegram comes within the scope of paragraph (b), (c), (d), or (e) of subclause (1) of this regulation shall be decided by the officer for the time being in charge of the telegraph office of presentation.

32. The provisions of regulation 31 of these regulations shall apply to a telegram, whether or not it has been accepted for transmission, and no person shall be entitled to a refund of charges paid on a telegram which has been stopped under that regulation.

#### *Inspection of Original Telegram*

33. (1) The sender or the addressee of a telegram may inspect, at the office of origin or destination, the original of a telegram sent by or to him.

(2) If that original has left the office of origin (having been dispatched to the General Post Office for filing) the applicant shall pay a charge or charges according to the following scale:

(a) If full particulars are supplied to enable the telegram to be readily obtained	.....	.....	s.	d.
			1	0
(b) If full particulars are not supplied, a search being necessary	.....	.....	2	6
(c) If the search extends beyond one hour: additional charge for each hour after the first	.....	.....	2	6

### *Copy of Telegram*

34. (1) The sender or the addressee of a telegram may obtain a certified copy of a telegram sent by or to him, subject to the payment of a charge of 6d. for each 50 words or fewer and subject to a charge or charges according to the scale in subclause (2) of regulation 33 of these regulations, if the original of the telegram has left the office of origin.

(2) If desired, a copy of the telegram or an extract therefrom will be telegraphed to the applicant upon the payment of the telegraph charge in addition to the charge for the copy.

### *Disposal of Unclaimed or Undelivered Telegrams*

35. Except as regards telegrams addressed to post offices, hotels, shipping offices, or other places to await claiming, the sender of an undelivered telegram shall be informed by telegraph of non-delivery:

Provided that any such notification shall not necessarily be supplied if, at the time of presentation, the sender of the telegram accepted the risk of non-delivery.

36. Telegrams addressed to post offices, hotels, or other places to await claiming and which are unclaimed within one month shall be returned to the sender:

Provided that where the telegram is a money-order telegram, the sender shall be advised if the telegram is unclaimed as aforesaid.

### *Period of Preservation of Telegrams*

37. (1) The originals of inland telegrams shall be preserved for a period of four months from the date thereof.

(2) The originals of overseas telegrams and radiotelegrams shall be preserved for a period of nine months from the date thereof.

### *Refunds*

38. The Minister may, in his discretion, remit or refund in whole or in part the charge paid or payable under these regulations in the following instances:

- (a) Where, through the fault of the telegraph service, a telegram failed to reach the addressee within a reasonable time or was mutilated in transmission:
- (b) Where the registration of a telegraph code address was cancelled before the expiry of the period paid for.

### *Inspection of Teleprinter Apparatus in Private Premises*

39. Employees of the Department showing proper means of identification shall at all reasonable times have access to private premises where teleprinter apparatus owned by the Department is installed, for the purpose of the inspection, repair, or removal of the apparatus.

### *Revocation*

40. The regulations specified in the Schedule hereto are hereby revoked.

## SCHEDULE

## REGULATIONS REVOKED

Reg. 40

Title	Serial Number
The Telegraph Regulations 1939	1939/95
The Telegraph Regulations 1939, Amendment No. 1	1939/190
The Telegraph Regulations 1939, Amendment No. 3	1940/190
The Telegraph Regulations 1939, Amendment No. 4	1942/80
The Telegraph Regulations 1939, Amendment No. 5	1947/83
The Telegraph Regulations 1939, Amendment No. 6	1950/163
The Telegraph Regulations 1939, Amendment No. 7	1952/247
The Telegraph Regulations 1939, Amendment No. 8	1956/176
The Telegraph Regulations 1939, Amendment No. 9	1960/83
The Telegraph Regulations 1939, Amendment No. 10	1961/103

T. J. SHERRARD,  
Clerk of the Executive Council.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*This note is not part of the regulations, but is intended to indicate their general effect.*

These regulations are a consolidation of the Telegraph Regulations 1939 and amending regulations, with the following principal changes, additions, and omissions:

*Changes*

The charges and conditions for telegrams to and from the Chatham Islands are brought into line with inland charges and conditions.

In regulation 37 the period of preservation of originals of inland telegrams is reduced from six to four months.

*Additions*

A charge of 3d. is provided for in regulation 23 to meet the case where a telegram accepted by telephone is charged to the account of another telephone. This validates the present practice and is in keeping with a similar transfer charge which applies to toll calls.

Regulations 17 to 19 provide for the transmission of phototelegrams within New Zealand. This is a new service.

Regulation 24 embodies the additional charge payable in respect of a credit card telegram. This arises from the introduction of the credit toll card service.

Regulation 29 sets out the precedence to be given telegrams. Although new to the regulations this is an old statutory provision, having been taken from section 164 of the Post and Telegraph Act 1928 (revoked by the Post Office Act 1959). The subject is more suitable for the regulations than for the statute.

Regulation 38 on the refunding of charges, validates the present practice.

Regulation 39 gives the right of entry to private premises for the inspection, repair, or removal of departmental teleprinter apparatus installed therein. This is similar to a long-standing regulation allowing access to telephone apparatus (now Telephone Regulation 57, 1961/102).

*Omissions*

Hitherto, there has been a charge of 1d. on supplying a receipt for the charge on a telegram. Although a receipt will still be given when asked for, the charge has been abolished as being trivial.

Many clauses of the former regulations have been omitted because similar clauses appear in the Post Office Guide. Regulations on the omitted subjects are not required by the Post Office Act nor are they necessary for other reasons, and the clauses in the Guide are now authentic under recent legislation. That is to say, those clauses, having been approved by the Postmaster-General under section 243 of the Post Office Act 1959, bear the authority of that section, and they are promulgated in a manner authorised by section 244, viz., in the Post Office Guide. These omissions will result in economy in administrative processes and in printing.

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Issued under the authority of the Regulations Act 1936.  
Date of notification in *Gazette*: 23 May 1963.  
These regulations are administered in the Post Office.