INTERNATIONAL RADIO TELEGRAPH CONVENTION OF BERLIN: 1906, AND PROPOSITIONS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL RADIO TELEGRAPH CONFERENCE OF LONDON

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PART 1.

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CONVENTION.

International Radio Telegraph Convention concluded between Germany, the United States of America, Argentina, Austria, Hungary, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Denmark, Spain, France, Great Britain, Greece, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Monaco, Norway, the Netherlands, Persia, Portugal, Roumania, Russia, Sweden, Turkey, and Uruguay.

The undersigned, plenipotentaries of the Governments of the countries enumerated above, having met in conference at Berlin, have agreed on the following Convention, subject to ratification:

ARTICLE 1.

The High Contracting Parties bind themselves to apply the provisions of the present Convention to all radio stations open to public service between the coast and vessels at sea—both coastal stations and stations on shipboard—which are established or worked by the Contracting Parties.

They further bind themselves to make the observance of these provisions obligatory upon private enterprises authorized either to establish or work coastal stations for radio telegraphy open to public service between the coast and vessels at sea, or to establish or work radio stations, whether open to general public service or not, on board of vessels flying their flag.

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PROPOSITIONS.

BELGIAN CONGO.

The Berlin Convention and its appendices have to do with the regulation of communications between the coast and ships at sea and those exchanged between two ships. The Belgian colony of the Congo considers that it would be proper also to recognize and regulate intercommunication between fixed radio stations and to adopt for all radio stations a classification conformable to their location and object. It proposes to this end that the following text be inserted in the Convention:

"The High Contracting Parties have decided to classify radio stations under four heads:

"1. Coastal stations designed for maritime service.

"2. Stations on shipboard.

"3. Stations designed for regular service between fixed points which are not necessarily separated by the sea.

"4. Stations of general interest sending telegrams or signals of public utility."

This text is submitted only as a basis for discussion. The London Conference should establish exact definitions and suitable regulations defining the functions of each class of stations. These regulations should specify the wave length to be used by the different stations according to their purpose and class. If necessary, working hours for services of public utility (time, meteorology, etc.) might be established.

ITALY.

To consider, in the Radio Telegraph Convention, as well as in the Regulations, the definition of aerial radio stations. By this name shall be meant stations installed on board of dirigibles, balloons, and aeroplanes.

To consider, also, all that concerns the correspondence of aerial radio stations with other radio stations.

REASONS.

The necessity for this proposition is self-evident. Precise propositions have not been formulated for introduction into the Convention and Regulations in view of the special information which practical experience will be able to furnish from time to time on the subject of radio stations, and anticipating that the London Conference will not meet until the month of June, 1912.

ARTICLE 2.

By "coastal stations" is to be understood every radio station established on shore or on board a permanently moored vessel used for the exchange of correspondence with ships at sea.

