TELECOMMUNICATIONS RULES

(SECTION 59) ³

[Commencement 19th June, 1948]

GN 118/1948 GN 191/1954 GN 185/1955 GN 103/1958 GN 12/1959 GN 48/1960 GN 79/1960 GN 282/1960 GN 106/1961 GN 226/1961 GN 68/1962 SI 134/1965

1. These Rules may be cited as the Telecommunications Rules.

Short title.

2. The various terms used in these Rules shall, if not defined in the Telecommunications Act, have the meanings assigned to them by the International Telecommunication Convention, the International Telegraph Regulations, Telephone Regulations, Radio Regulations, and regulations concerning Aeronautical Telecommunications as in force from time to time.

Interpretation.

PART I TELEPHONE SERVICE ON THE ISLAND OF NEW PROVIDENCE

3. Any person who desires to be supplied by the Minister with telephone service shall make application therefor in the Form A in the Schedule to these Rules

ance of a telephone service agreement shall remain the

All equipment supplied by the Minister in pursu-

Application.

Form A.

Equipment remains property of Department

5. The Director shall install service lines from an existing cable junction box to the subscriber's premises for the charge prescribed by these Rules if the distance does not exceed three hundred feet where poles and an overhead route are available or one hundred feet where such

Charge.

property of the Department.

facilities are not available.

³ Originally made under section 29 of the Telecommunications Act, 1947, (No 18 of 1947) and continued in force by virtue of the provisions of section 59 of The Bahamas Telecommunications Act (Ch. 277 — Rev. Ed. 1987) which section is not reproduced in this Edition but which provides that rules so made and in force at the date of coming into operation of that Act shall, until repealed or replaced, be deemed regulations made by the Corporation under that Act and shall be read and construed with such adaptations and modifications as are necessary to bring them into conformity with the provisions of that Act. The Telecommunications Act (Ch. 304), which superseded The Bahamas Telecommunications Act, makes similar provision in section 40.

Charge in special circumstances.

6. Where the distance from an existing cable junction box to the subscriber's premises exceeds the distance mentioned in rule 5 the charge for installation of service lines shall be such as may be agreed upon between the Director and the subscriber.

Underground service lines.

7. Underground service lines may be installed from an existing cable junction box to the nearest point of entry to a subscriber's premises by the most direct route and where such underground service lines are specified these will be installed without extra charge for a length up to one hundred feet. Lines exceeding one hundred feet in length will be installed upon payment of such additional sum as may be agreed between the Director and the subscriber.

Nobody may alter telephone installation.

8. No person, whether a subscriber or not, shall add an extension or extra telephone to or alter the Department telephone installation in any premises.

Telephone contractor's licence.

Form B.

9. A contractor desiring to undertake the wiring of buildings for installation of telephone service shall obtain from the Director a licence which the Director is hereby empowered to issue in the Form B in the Schedule to these Rules.

Application for contractor's licence Form C.

- To whom a licence may be issued.
- **10.** Application for a contractor's licence shall be submitted in the Form C in the Schedule to these Rules.
- 11. The Director may issue a licence to any person of or over the age of twenty-one years who
 - (a) produces to him satisfactory evidence of proficiency in telephone installation work;
 - (b) has been regularly employed as an electrician by an electrical contractor for a period of three years and has had experience of telephone wiring; and
 - (c) in every way satisfies him that he is a fit and proper person satisfactorily to conduct the business of a licensed telephone contractor.

Duration of licence.

12. Every licence shall be issued for a period of six months in the first instance, at the termination of which the Director may in his absolute discretion continue or refuse to continue the licence. If the Director continues the licence it shall remain valid until the thirty-first day of December next following, and thereafter may be renewed annually upon application.

13. Every licensed telephone contractor shall exhibit his licence at all times and such licence shall be exhibited at his usual place of business.

Licence to be exhibited.

14. The director may cancel or refuse to renew the licence of a licensed telephone contractor who fails, in his opinion, to maintain the standards required of a licensed telephone contractor by these Rules.

Licence may be cancelled.

15. No alteration, addition or removal of any part of any installation between the cable boxes of the Department and an instrument, shall be done by any person other than a licensed telephone contractor or a telephone linesman of the Department.

Alterations only to be done by certain persons.

16. Upon completion of any such work the subscriber on whose behalf the work was effected shall notify the Director and unless and until the work passes such test as may seem necessary to the Director no connection shall be made to the telephone system.

Work must pass test before being connected.

17. No alteration, addition or removal of any part of any installation on a subscriber's premises shall be made by any person other than a licensed telephone contractor or a telephone linesman of the Department and until the Department has been advised. The cost of any such alteration, addition or removal shall in all cases be borne by the subscriber.

Cost of alterations to be borne by subscriber.

18. (1) On the termination of a telephone service agreement the subscriber shall surrender to the Minister the subscriber's line and all fixtures and accessories in as good condition as when received, ordinary wear and tear only excepted.

Termination of telephone service agreement.

- (2) A subscriber shall not, except with the written consent of the Director, assign, underlet or otherwise dispose of his agreement or any advantage or benefit thereunder.
- (3) When a subscriber's premises are occupied by a tenant such subscriber may request the Director in writing that the telephone service to the premises be discontinued but that the installation remain and the normal rental charges be made.

GN 68/1962

5 cf 1987, s 2

Form G.

- (4) Where service is discontinued under paragraph (3) of this Rule tenants or occupiers may obtain telephone service on payment of a deposit fixed by the Director not being less than forty dollars. Thereupon all such tenants or occupiers may make overseas calls or may telephone telegrams to be charged to the appropriate telephone numbers. Application for such telephone service as aforesaid shall be made as prescribed in Form G in the Schedule to these Rules.
- (5) The Director may withdraw any telephone service at any time due to non-payment of accounts.

Tenant may have right of transfer.

19. Where the tenant of any premises is the subscriber to the telephone, having himself requested and paid for the installation of the service, the tenant may on vacating the premises request the transfer of the service to any other premises. If such a transfer is not required the owner of the premises shall have the option of taking over the installation and of being listed as the subscriber. Where an installation has been made at the request of the owner who has paid the cost of installation, the tenant shall have no right of transfer even though the tenant is responsible for the telephone rent and is listed in the directory.

Notification of premises changing hands.

20. It shall be the responsibility of every subscriber to notify the Department in writing if the house or premises in which his telephone is installed is sold or otherwise changes hands, failing which he will continue to be liable for accounts and shall be deemed responsible for all charges.

Service may be disconnected.

21. The Director may disconnect temporarily the service wires to any premises at any time for the purpose of testing or for effecting alterations in the service and may cut off the service of any subscriber who is convicted of any offence against the Telecommunications Act or these Rules or against whom a complaint is laid to the Director that he is using the telephone system so as to cause annoyance to other subscribers.

No responsibility for delay.

22. Neither the Minister nor the Director shall be responsible for any delay in the service.

Report at once when telephone out of order.

23. Whenever a subscriber becomes aware that his telephone is out of order or is in any way defective he shall at once report the matter to Telephone Complaints (Dial 14).

24. A subscriber whenever required in writing by the Director shall furnish a correct written statement containing particulars of all telephones in his office, business place or residence.

Correct written statement

25. Every subscriber shall be responsible for the care and custody of all apparatus installed or supplied by the Department and situate on his premises or upon premises where his telephone is installed and shall pay on demand the certified cost of making good any loss, damage, removal, alteration or destruction of such apparatus.

Subscriber to be responsible for apparatus.

26. Any person who in a public call box does any of the following things —

Offences in public call boxes.

- (a) commits a nuisance;
- (b) damages or defaces any part of the call box or any apparatus therein;
- (c) removes any wire, instrument or book or other thing the property of the Minister,

shall be guilty of an offence against these Rules.

⁴**27.** (1) When a subscriber requests that his telephone be transferred from one place to another, and because of a scarcity of lines or for any other reason, the transfer cannot be done, the subscriber may request that the telephone be disconnected and stored and the telephone number retained for him until such transfer can be effected. For this, the rental will be one-half of the normal rental.

Charges for service.

GN 12/1959

- (2) All telecommunications services supplied to a telephone subscriber shall be associated with the subscriber's telephone bills, and if any of these be not paid, as defined in rule 31, the telephone service will be disconnected.
- (3) The business rate shall apply where the use of the telephone is of a business, professional, institutional or occupational nature.
- (4) The residence rate shall apply where the telephone is used primarily for social or domestic purposes. Advertising residence class telephone numbers for business purposes automatically places the telephone in the business rate category.

⁴ See the Bahamas Telecommunications (Fees) Regulations.

Definitions of "Rural area" and "Nassau area".

⁵28. In rule 27, the expression "Rural area" means that part of New Providence not within the Nassau area, and "Nassau area" means the area enclosed by a straight line running from East End to the junction of Blue Hill Road and Soldier Road, thence to a point where a straight line drawn due west from the said junction intersects a straight line drawn due south from the 8 mile post in West Bay Street, thence by a straight line drawn due north through the said 8 mile post to the sea, and thence eastward along the sea shore to the said East End.

Other charges.

29. Services not specifically provided for in rule 27 shall be charged for at such rates as the Minister may in each case determine.

Services to hotels, etc.

30. Where in the opinion of the Minister it is desirable that a switchboard installation to any hotel, guest house, hoarding house or other such establishment should be provided and controlled by the Department, the Minister shall so inform the subscriber and shall state the terms on which such service shall be provided or controlled. If the subscriber shall not agree to such provision or control, or to the terms thereof, the Director may refuse service to the hotel, guest house, boarding house or establishment.

Accounts.

31. Accounts shall be rendered monthly, quarterly or half-yearly in advance, as the Director may order and shall be payable at the Office of the Director, within twenty-one days after being rendered. If an account remains unpaid for twenty-one days, it shall be deemed to be in arrear, and the Director shall have a right of action to recover the same without further demand.

Itemised accounts.

32. Subscribers who desire that any account may be itemised may obtain the same on prepayment of a fee equal to five per centum of the total account, which fee will be refunded if any error is detected in the account.

Use of private telephones by members of the public.

33. Subscribers paying at the flat rate may not permit the use of their telephones by members of the public. Subscribers paying at the outgoing call rate may permit such use and may make a charge to the user of not less than two pence for every outgoing call.

⁵ See the Bahamas Telecommunications (Fees) Regulations.

PART II TELEPHONE SERVICE IN THE OUT ISLANDS

34. Telephone instruments for public use may be installed on private premises by agreement with the owners or occupiers. Such agreements will contain provision for an annual payment to the owner or occupier in return for an undertaking on his part to permit the use of the instrument by the public during certain hours to receive and transmit messages for the public and to collect and pay over all fees and charges incurred in respect of such use and messages.

Telephones for public use on private premises.

35. Private installations for connection to the main party line will be provided on application, depending upon the capacity of the installation and at a cost to be agreed upon at the time of application.

Private installations.

36. When, in the opinion of the Minister, the installation of suitable switchboards is desirable in order to meet the demand for services, the Minister will determine the conditions under which service shall be provided and the charges for installation, erection of lines and the fees for service.

Switchboards.

37. The connection to the public telephone system of private telephone systems on private estates shall not be made without the approval of the Minister.

Connection of two systems.

38. In cases where such connection is approved, the fees charged for service and the cost of connection shall be as agreed between the Department and the parties concerned.

Fees and cost of connection.

39. The Minister will provide telephone service on private estates, whether or not intended for connection to the public system on terms to be agreed between the parties concerned.

Private telephone services.

⁶**40.** (1) The charges for service shall be —

Charges G N 106/1961

Per telephone call between public stations on a party line

a party line 1/Per telephone call on a switchboard extension 1/-

⁶ See The Bahamas Telecommunications (Fees) Regulations.

These charges shall also apply to the relaying of telegrams to and from the appropriate radio station, when the subscriber's location is beyond a radius of two miles from the radio station.

- (2) In lieu of the charges in paragraph (1) of this rule subscribers in Eleuthera and Harbour Island connected on a switchboard extension shall, if they so elect, pay for service at a flat rate of
 - (a) £16-0-0 per annum in respect of a residential telephone; and
 - (b) £24-0-0 per annum in respect of a business telephone.
- (3) Accounts in respect of charges set out in paragraph (2) of this rule shall be rendered monthly, quarterly or half-yearly in advance, as the Director may order, and shall be payable at the radio station within twenty-one days after being rendered. If an account remains unpaid after twenty-one days it shall be deemed to be in arrear, and the Director shall have a right of action to recover the same without further demand.)

PART III TELEGRAPH RULES

Telegraph service

41. The Director may establish telegraph service between the various islands of The Bahamas and between The Bahamas and external territories as may be required and agreed by the Minister, and thereafter the operation, administration and conditions of service shall be in accordance with these Rules and the International Telegraph Regulations and General Radio Regulations.

Availability of service **42.** Telegraph service will be available at such times and between such stations as may be notified from time to time in the *Gazette*. Interruptions of service will also be notified.

Charges

43. Charges for telegraph service shall be at such rates in force from time to time by International Agreements and as agreed upon between The Bahamas Government and connecting Telegraph Administrations or where no such rates have been agreed upon, as may be fixed by the Minister and published from time to time in the *Gazette*.

44. Neither the Director nor the Minister shall be liable to make compensation for any loss, injury or damage arising or resulting from non-transmission or non-delivery of the telegram, or delay, or error, or omission in the transmission or delivery thereof, except as laid down in International Regulations. No responsibility is accepted for interruption of service.

No compensation

45. Telegrams shall be forwarded in all respects in accordance with the relative International Regulations.

Telegrams

46. The control of the officials of the Department over any message shall be deemed to have entirely ceased at any point where, in the course of transit of the message to its destination it may be entrusted by them (and they shall have full power so to entrust the message) for further transmission by or through any system, service or line or telegraph belonging to or worked by any Administration or authority, not controlled by them exclusively, although worked as a part of or in connection with the telegraphic system or service of The Bahamas.

Control of messages

47. The Director shall have the right to reject any incoming or outgoing telegram without refunding any amount paid for its transmission if it appears that the text is —

Right to reject messages

- (a) dangerous to the security of the Commonwealth or any part of it;
- (b) contrary to the laws of The Bahamas;
- (c) contrary to public order or decency.
- **48.** The sender of a telegram or his authorised representative may, on establishing his identity, stop its transmission and delivery if there is still time.

Telegrams may be stopped

49. When a sender cancels his telegram before transmission by office of origin the charge is refunded, but if the telegram has been transmitted by the office of origin, the sender may request cancellation only by paid service advice

Charge for cancellation

50. A claim for refund of charges must be made to the Director within thirty days and must be supported by evidence to the satisfaction of the Director.

Claim for refund of charges

51. No refund shall take place if the non-transmission or non-delivery is caused by *force majeure*, or by circumstances beyond the control of the Minister.

Refund may not be given

Messages to be written on form provided

52. All messages for transmission must be plainly written upon the form provided by the Department for the purpose.

Sender must sign telegram

53. The sender or his representative must sign the telegram at the foot of the message form, adding if required, his address, but the name of the sender is only charged for if transmitted.

Charges

54. Charges will be made for every word in the text and address of the message according to the International Regulations and except as hereinafter provided in respect of telephoned telegrams all charges must be prepaid.

Form of telegram

55. Telegrams may be in plain language, code or cypher.

Plain language

56. Plain language is that which offers an intelligible sense in one or more of the languages authorised for international telegraphic correspondence, but the presence of code addresses, exchange quotations, commercial marks, letters representing the signals of the international Code of Signals employed in maritime telegrams, of abbreviated expressions currently used in ordinary or commercial correspondence, such as rsvp, fob, cif, c/o, b/1 or any other analogous expressions the meaning of which is understood in the country of origin, does not alter the character of a telegram in plain language. Combinations or alterations of words contrary to the usage of the language employed will not be accepted.

Code language

57. Code language is that which is composed of words which do not form intelligible phrases, but the words, whether genuine or artificial, must not contain more than five letters. Artificial words must not contain the accented letters ä, œ; á, å, ñ, ö, ø, ü. Compounds of two or more words in plain language, contrary to the usage of the language, are on no account admitted; the same applies to combinations or alterations sought to be concealed by reversing the order of letters or syllables.

Cypher language

58. Cypher language is that which is composed either of Arabic figures or of letters having a secret meaning, but the employment of groups must be of either figures or letters, but not both. Letter cypher must be arranged in groups of five letters.

59. Telegrams other than deferred telegrams or letter telegrams may be written in plain language or in code or cypher. In telegrams written entirely in plain language, each word in the text of over fifteen letters is counted as two words. Commercial marks are counted at the rate of five characters to the word.

Counting of words

60. Groups of figures or of letters which do not fulfil the conditions of plain language or of code are considered as cypher, and are counted at the rate of five characters to the word.

Counting of cypher

61. In telegrams containing both plain language and cypher, the words in plain language are counted in accordance with rule 59 and the words or groups in cypher in accordance with rule 60.

Counting of words and cypher

62. Telegrams in cypher or in mixed, plain language and cypher are chargeable at the full rate.

Charge for words and cypher

63. In the text of code telegrams the words with a secret meaning must not contain more than five letters. There is no restriction as to the formation of the words, but accented letters must not be used, and plain language words must not be joined together and then divided into groups of five letters.

Words with secret meaning

64. Figures and groups of figures are admitted in code telegrams on condition that their number does not exceed one-half of the total number of chargeable words in the text and signature. They are counted at the rate of five figures to the word.

Groups of figures

65. In telegrams containing both code and plain language, the plain language words in the text are counted at the rate of five letters to the word.

Counting of words and code

66. The sender of a code telegram may be required by the office of origin to produce the code from which the text or part of the text of the telegram has been compiled.

Code may have to be produced

67. Code telegrams are chargeable at special "CDE" rates subject to a minimum charge for five words. They bear in the preamble the free service instruction "CDE", which is inserted by the counter clerk and transmitted to the destination.

Charge for code telegrams

Charge for code and figures

68. Telegrams with a text containing both words in code and a number of groups of figures in excess of one-half of the total number of chargeable words in the text and signature, are considered as telegrams in cypher language, and will be charged at the full rate.

Check word or number 69. Bank and similar telegrams expressed in plain language and containing a check word or check number placed at the beginning of the text, are not considered as code telegrams. The length of the check word or number must not exceed five letters or five figures.

Deferred telegram 70. The text of a deferred telegram must be written entirely in plain language.

Instruction "LC"

71. The sender must insert before the address the instruction "LC" which is counted and charged for as one word.

Numbers

72. Numbers written in figures, commercial marks and abbreviated expressions must be limited to one third of the chargeable words in the text and signature.

Sending of deferred telegrams **73.** Deferred telegrams are only transmitted after ordinary telegrams.

Letter telegrams

74. Letter telegrams (NLT/DLT) are subject generally to the same rules as deferred telegrams.

Night letter telegrams

75. Night letter telegrams (NLT) are normally delivered on the morning following the day of filing.

Day letter telegrams

76. Day letter telegrams (DLT) are normally delivered on the morning of the second day after filing.

Instruction "NLT" or "DLT"

77. The sender must insert before the address the instruction "NLT" or "DLT", as the case may be, which is counted and charged for as one word.

Supplementary services

78. The supplementary services available are prepaid replies (RP), poste restante (GP) and telegraphe restante (TR).

Telegrams to ships at sea

79. Telegrams exchanged with ships at sea through radiotelegraph coast stations are subject to the normal telegraph charges to the country in which the coast station is situated, increased by the respective coast and ship charges for the radio transmission.

80. Radiotelegrams to ships are not admitted at deferred or letter telegram rates.

Radiotelegrams.

81. (1) Repetition of a telegram may be obtained on payment of an additional charge equal to one-half of the full ordinary or CDE rate and by inserting before the address the paid service instruction "TC".

Repetition of telegram.

- (2) The addressee of a telegram may have repeated from the office of origin without charge the telegram or any words or passages contained therein which appear to him to be incorrect.
- **82.** The sender of a telegram may prepay a reply from his correspondent by writing before the address the paid service instruction "reply paid" or RP, followed by the amount paid for the reply.

Prepaid reply.

83. If the sender requests that confirmation of delivery be given by telegraph, the charge will be six words at ordinary rate. In that case he writes before the address the paid service indication, "PC". This is counted and charged as one word.

Confirmation of delivery.

84. When a telegram is addressed to one person care of another, the address must contain, immediately after the name of the real addressee, one of the indications: "C/o", "Chez", "Aux soins de", "Care of", or any other equivalent. The address of a telegram must contain all the particulars necessary to ensure delivery of the telegram to the addressee, without enquiry or requests for information; inadequately addressed telegrams will not be accepted.

Telegrams sent care of another person.

85. Code addresses may be employed but such addresses must not consist of the Christian or surname of any individual or company. Code addresses may be registered with the Department on payment of a charge of twelve dollars yearly for each address registered.

Code addresses. *GN* 106/1961

5 cf 1987, s 2

business may be delivered either to the addressee, to an adult member of his family, to his employee, lodgers or landlord, or to a servant of the house who shall sign a receipt for the telegram, unless the addressee has given special instructions to the contrary. Telegrams may be

86. A telegram taken to a place of residence or

Delivery of telegrams.

delivered by telephone to the telephone number of the addresses and will be followed by confirmation.

Proof of delivery.

87. The Director accepts no responsibility for errors or incorrect address. The signature of the recipient on the receipt form shall be sufficient proof of delivery.

Presentation for transmission.

88. Telegrams may be presented for transmission at the City Telegraph Office, at Oakes Field Airport, or at such other sub-centres as may be notified from time to time.

Telegrams by telephone.

89. Telephone subscribers having established accounts with the Department may telephone telegrams to be charged to the appropriate telephone numbers.

Deposit must be paid. 5 cf 1987, s 2

⁷**90.** Such accounts will only be established in the case of main subscribers on the payment of a deposit of twenty dollars.

Subscriber responsible for cost. *G N 68/1962*

91. Subscribers will be held responsible for the cost of all telegrams charged to the subscriber's telephone number unless service is discontinued as provided under paragraph (3) of rule 18 of these Rules.

Enquiries.

92. All enquiries regarding telegrams should be addressed to the Director of Telecommunications within fourteen days and accompanied by the receipt.

Accounts.

93. Accounts shall be rendered monthly, quarterly or half-yearly, as the Director may order and shall be payable at the office of the Director within twenty-one days after being rendered. If an account remains unpaid for twenty-one days, it shall be deemed to be in arrear, and the Director shall have a right of action to recover the same without further demand.

Itemised accounts.

94. Subscribers who desire that any account be itemised may obtain the same on prepayment of a fee equal to five per centum of the total account, which fee will be refunded if any error is detected in the account.

PART IV RADIO TELEPHONE SERVICE

Establishing radio telephone service.

95. The Director may establish radio telephone service between the various islands of The Bahamas and between the islands and external territories as may be

⁷ See The Bahamas Telecommunications (Fees) Regulations.

required and agreed by the Minister and thereafter the operation, administration and conditions of service shall be in accordance with these Rules, and the International Telecommunications Convention and the General Radio Regulations.

96. The radio telephone service will be available for use at such times and between such stations as may be notified from time to time. Interruptions of service will also be notified.

Availability of service.

97. Charges for radio telephone calls shall be either at such rates and units of time as may be established from time to time between The Bahamas Government and Connecting Administrations in accordance with international agreement or as approved for internal application and as published from time to time.

Charges.

98. The Minister shall not be liable to make compensation for any loss, injury or damage arising through or resulting from non-completion of a radio telephone call, delays, cancellation, errors, omissions or interruptions of service.

No compensation.

99. Telephone subscribers having established accounts with the Department may make radio telephone calls to be charged to the appropriate telephone numbers.

Charge may be made to telephone number.

100. Persons not having subscriber accounts with the Department will be required to pay for calls in cash at the time of placing the call, and to pay for such additional time as may have been incurred, at the end of the call.

Payment in cash.

101. Subscribers will be held responsible for the cost of all radio telephone calls charged to the subscriber's telephone number unless service is discontinued as provided under paragraph (3) of rule 18 of these Rules.

Subscriber responsible for cost.

GN 68/1962

102. Temporary residents and other such persons, not being telephone subscribers, may establish an account for radio telephone service on payment of a sum fixed by the Director not being less than forty dollars.

Account may be established.

5 cf 1989, s 2

103. Subscribers must notify in writing change of address, or change of ownership of buildings and premises, containing the telephone system for which the subscriber is listed, otherwise the subscriber will be held responsible for all charges incurred.

Notification of change of address.

Calls are timed.

104. Calls are timed and charges are based on conversation time after allowance for any excessive repetition or interference.

Calls from hotels, etc

105. Overseas radio telephone calls from guests in hotels will not be accepted unless payment is guaranteed by the management of the hotel. Calls from guest houses and apartment houses will not be accepted without a deposit, unless guaranteed by a subscriber.

PART V MOBILE RADIO SERVICE

Department will provide facilities.

106. The Department will provide facilities for mobile radio communication services for marine and aviation operations which shall be operated in accordance with these Rules and the International and Regional Regulations as in force from time to time.

International distress frequency 2182 kc/s. *G N 103/1958*

- 107.(1) Each mobile installation must be capable of transmitting and receiving on the international distress frequency 2182 kc/s. The Department will not license any mobile installation, either marine or aviation, unless this facility is provided.
- (2) The frequency of 2182 kc/s may be used for calls and replies but it is especially assigned for distress, urgency and safety signal messages; it must not be used for the passing of ordinary traffic.
- (3) Operators must, as far as possible, keep watch on the distress frequency of 2182 kc/s twice each hour for three minutes commencing at h 00 and h 30. During the above-mentioned intervals all transmissions on this frequency, except distress, urgency and safety transmissions, must cease.
- (4) Before transmitting on this frequency of 2182 kc/s, each station must listen for a period long enough to satisfy itself that the transmission will not cause harmful interference to other transmissions in progress within its range. If such interference is likely, the station wishing to transmit must wait the first break in the transmission with which it might interfere.

108. Radio telephone calls may be passed through the Nassau City telephone exchange to subscribers in New Providence. Calls may also be filed for onward connection to Out Islands and to the United States and Canada. The marine radio service at Cat Cay and Inagua does not permit onward routing of calls. Prior arrangements regarding payments of accounts must in all cases be made with the Department before facilities for onward routing of calls can be granted.

Onward routing of calls.

109. The rates for marine radio telephone service will be those published by the Minister from time to time. Reporting calls, enquiries for traffic and emergency and distress calls and calls for weather information are provided free.

Charges.

110. Reporting calls and traffic enquiries will terminate with the marine service operator and will not be passed to interested parties unless a regular paid fee is filed.

Reporting calls,

111. Telegrams to any destination may be passed by the radio telephone system to the Telegraph Office at Nassau, Inagua or Cat Cay. Such telegrams are charged at the telephone rate plus the cost of forwarding the telegram.

Telegrams may be passed.

112. The licensee of a mobile station is responsible for all charges incurred for radio services.

Licensee responsible for charges.

113. Neither the Director nor the Minister shall be liable to make compensation for any loss, injury or damage arising or resulting from non-transmission or non-delivery of the telegram or delay, or error, or omission in the transmission or delivery thereof, except as laid down in International Regulations. No responsibility is accepted for interruption of service.

No compensation.

114. Marine radio installations when operating on the frequencies specified in the licence must conform with the International Regulations regarding frequency tolerances and must not cause interference on any other frequencies.

International Regulations.

115. The operating procedure for marine radio service shall be in accordance with the International and Regional Regulations for Maritime Mobile Service. Instructions for the use of the service and operating procedure will be made available to all licensed vessels. Additional copies may be

Marine radio service.

obtained on application to the Department. The instructions shall be considered as forming part of the Rules for Mobile Radio Service.

Unnecessary calls forbidden.

116. The transmission of unnecessary or anonymous calls is forbidden.

Caller not to interrupt another.

117. All ships must listen on the appropriate frequency before commencing a call in order to ensure that interference is not caused to another vessel already in communication with the coast station.

Use of radio apparatus forbidden in port.

118. The use of radio apparatus while in port or harbour is prohibited except in cases of emergency or for urgent messages, when no other form of communication is available. Calls may be addressed to the nearest coast station only. Vessels in harbour at Out Islands may use their radio equipment for calls to Nassau, Cat Cay or Inagua coastal stations only, in cases where reasonable access to a land station is not possible and then only with prior permission from the Department.

Logbook to be kept.

119. A logbook giving a record of calls made and time should be kept by all licensed cargo and passenger vessels.

Inspection of equipment, etc.

120. The radio installation, accessories and all logs and message files shall be available for inspection at any reasonable time by an officer of the Department.

Unlawful reception forbidden.

121. It is prohibited to receive radio correspondence other than that which the station is authorised to receive, but, in case such correspondence is received involuntarily, it must be neither reproduced nor communicated to third persons, nor used for any purpose whatever, and the very existence thereof must not be revealed. The contents of any message must not be disclosed other than to the addressee.

Equipment.

122. Marine radio installations for radio telephone operation shall consist of transmitting and receiving equipment suitably installed for operation by the master of the vessel, or his duly authorised agent, on the appropriate frequencies.

Requirements of equipment.

123. The equipment when operating on the frequencies specified in the licence must not cause interference on any other frequency and must be within the tolerances specified.

124. The installation must be inspected and approved by an officer of the Department before a licence can be issued.

Inspection of installation.

125. Aeronautical radiocommunication services will be provided by the Department in accordance with the regional standards and requirements of the International Civil Aviation Organisation. No licences will be issued for private airports or other aeronautical ground radio stations.

Aeronautical radiocommunication services.

126. Aircraft operating under the following circumstances must be equipped with radio apparatus suitable for operation to the appropriate radio stations —

Aircraft which must be equipped with radio apparatus.

- (a) flight in circumstances which require the aircraft to communicate by radio with Air Traffic Control;
- (b) public transport aircraft flying over the sea beyond gliding distance from any coast;
- (c) regular operations of public air transport as a regular scheduled service, special charter service or non-scheduled operations.
- **127.** All aircraft fitted with radio equipment shall carry out a continuous watch on the frequencies specified for use in the region over which operations are taking place.

Watch must be kept on frequencies.

128. All aircraft licensed to carry radio equipment shall carry a licensed aircraft radio operator.

Aircraft radio operator.

PART VI RADIO RECEIVING APPARATUS

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129. No radio receiving apparatus may be used for the reception of public correspondence.

Public correspondence.

130. No press messages received on a radio receiving apparatus may be sold or disclosed to the public other than by way of publication in a newspaper in respect of which a bond has been executed and registered in accordance with the provisions of the Newspaper Surety Act ⁸ or any Act passed in substitution therefor.

Press messages.

⁸ Repealed by Act No. 35 of 1965.

PART VII PRIVATE, AMATEUR AND EXPERIMENTAL RADIO STATIONS AND LICENCES

Private radio stations.

Form D.

Conditions of licence.

- 131. Private radio stations providing radiocommunication from a private estate to a point in The Bahamas Government radio service may be licensed in the form of Form D in the Schedule to these Rules by special arrangement with the Director of Telecommunications.
- **132.** Any licence issued shall be subject to the following conditions
 - (a) all messages or telephone calls shall be directed to a specified station of The Bahamas Government;
 - (b) the licensee will be responsible for all operating costs and will accept and pay for traffic at the published rates. The licensee shall not enforce rates to other users in excess of the published rates;
 - (c) licences will only be issued in cases where no public communication facility is reasonably available;
 - (d) the station shall in all circumstances conform with operating instructions issued by the Director, with Parts II and III of these Rules, and with any conditions which may be set out on the licence either by these Rules or by the Director.

Conditions of licence for amateur radio stations.

- 133. The erection of amateur radio stations will be authorised and a licence issued subject to the following conditions
 - (a) application must be made in writing to the Director setting out the following particulars—age of applicant, type of equipment to be employed, reasons for applying for an amateur licence and nature of investigations intended;
 - (b) licences will be issued to persons of British nationality only. Applicants must produce evidence of British nationality and two referees as to character, who must not be related to the applicant and must themselves be of British nationality and be persons of reputable standing;

- (c) the licensee shall observe the provisions of the International Telecommunications Convention and the Radiocommunication Regulations and such Regional Regulations as may be issued from time to time;
- (d) the licensee shall observe any conditions which may be set out on the licence either by these Rules or by the Director:
- (e) the licensee shall not receive any payment (either direct or indirect) for the use of the station or allow the station to be controlled by or used for the purposes of any social or political organisa-
- **134.** An amateur radio station licence shall be in the Form of licence. Form E in the Schedule to these Rules.

Form E.

135. The applicant will be required to satisfy the Director of Telecommunications as to his technical knowledge and knowledge of procedure before a licence can be granted. For this purpose an examination shall be held under the supervision of the Director of Telecommunications or his representative.

Examination for licence.

136. The examination syllabus shall be as follows —

Examination syllabus.

Electricity and Magnetism

The elementary theory of electricity; conductors and insulators; units including power; Ohm's law; resistances in series and parallel.

Permanent magnets and electro-magnets and their uses in radio

Self and mutual inductance; types of inductances used in receiving and transmitting circuits. Capacitance. Capacitors in series and parallel; construction of condensers; electrolytic condensers.

Radio Principles (Elementary treatment only)

Alternating currents; series and parallel A.C. circuits incorporating inductance, capacitance and resistance, impedance, resonance, acceptor and rejector circuits, coupled circuits.

Radio waves; wavelength frequency, velocity; nature and propagation of radio waves; fading and its connection with frequency, length of path.

Thermionic Valves and Circuits

Construction of valves; thermionic emission; principles and characteristics of diode and triode valves. Multi-electrode valves.

Use of valves; amplification, oscillation, frequency changing, signal detection; the power stage; power rectification. Power packs for H.T. supply; smoothing.

Radio Receivers

The essentials of a receiver. Typical receivers; principles and operation of T.R.F., super heterodyne and super-regenerative receivers. C.W. reception. Interference caused by receivers.

Low-Power Transmitters

Oscillator circuits; frequency stability; use of quartz crystal to control oscillators; frequency multipliers; power amplifiers. Methods of modulation and keying.

Avoidance of harmonic radiation and interference by shock excitation; use of key-click filters and other means of preventing spurious emissions. Dangers of over-modulation. Use of wavetraps and other devices for reducing interference with nearby broadcast receivers.

Aerials

Simple types of receiving and transmitting aerials. Transmission lines. Simple direction aerials. Aerial couplings to lines and transmitters.

Measurements

Measurements of frequency and simple frequency meters (including crystal type). Artificial aerials and their use for lining up transmitters. Measurement of anode D.C. current and voltage. Power input to final state.

Licence Conditions

Conditions laid down for transmitting licences covering power and frequencies, frequency control and measurement, sending periods, avoidance of interference to other stations, log of sending periods, use of call-signs of calling and called stations, control in emergency, etc. (Particular importance is attached to this section of the syllabus.)

Proof of competency in morse transmission and reception must be given in a test transmission and reception in which a speed of twelve words per minute in plain language must be achieved.

137. An amateur station must operate within the band of frequencies specified on the licence and must be so adjusted that no interference shall be caused on frequencies outside of the specified band. Adequate frequency stabilization must be employed and stability must be in accordance with the Radiocommunication Regulations.

Frequency stabilization.

138. The Director may in his discretion issue licences for radiocommunication experimental services or radionavigational services.

Other licences.

139. Such licences shall only be issued to properly qualified personnel when involved in work requiring specialised radio facilities. The terms of the licence will depend upon the circumstances in each case and will be prescribed by the Director.

To whom licences may be issued.

140. A licence under this Part shall expire at the end of the year for which it is taken out and shall be renewable annually.

Expiration of licence

PART VIII ELECTRICAL INTERFERENCE WITH RADIO RECEPTION

141. No person shall use or cause to be used any apparatus, motor, machinery, vehicle, installation or appliance which is capable of causing and causes electrical interference with the normal and lawful operation of any licensed radio station, radio apparatus or radio receiver.

Electrical interference.

142. If at any time any apparatus, motor, machinery, vehicle, installation or appliance as described in rule 141 causes interference with any radio station or radio reception, the Director may require such apparatus, etc., to be fitted at the owner's expense with devices or suppressors to limit such interference and thereafter such apparatus, etc., shall not be used without such devices.

Suppressors.

143. If it is found impossible to suppress such interference the Director may require the owner of the apparatus, etc., to discontinue its use or to remove the same to such a distance from any radio station or radio receiver as may be necessary to limit interference.

Owner may have to discontinue use if interference continues.

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PART IX WIRED MUSIC ON THE ISLAND OF NEW PROVIDENCE

Application.

Form F.

144. Any person who desires to be supplied by the Minister with wired music service shall make application therefor in the Form F in the Schedule to these Rules.

Own apparatus to be supplied.

- **145.**(1) The Director shall maintain a central station supplying continuous music for a minimum of fifteen hours a day.
- (2) The subscriber shall supply and maintain his own receiving apparatus which should consist of an amplifier, any number of loudspeakers he may desire and a switch.

Contractor's licence.

146. A contractor desiring to undertake the wiring of buildings for the installation of wired music service shall obtain from the Director a licence which the Director is hereby empowered to issue and shall be on such terms and subject to such conditions *mutatis mutandis* as are contained in Rules 9 to 14 or Part I of these Rules.

Notice to be given for extra loudspeakers.

147. No person, whether a subscriber or not, shall install or cause to be installed in any premises loudspeakers additional to those provided for in the agreement for the supply of the wired music service without giving notice in writing to the Director.

Application of Rules.

148. Rules 4, 5, 6, 7, 15, 16, 17, 18(2), 20, 21 and 22 of Part I of these Rules and any amendments thereto shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the wired music service supplied by the Minister.

Charge.

⁹**149.** The charges for service shall be —

For each installation with two loudspeakers or less per month

\$16.00

5 cf 1987, s 2

For each extra loudspeaker over two per month

\$4.00

⁹ See the Bahamas Telecommunications (Fees) Regulations.

PART X GENERAL PENALTY

150. Any person who acts in contravention of or fails penalty to comply with any of the provisions of these Rules shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine feighty of a state of the state of th

SCHEDULE

FORM A (Rule 3)

APPLICATION FOR TELEPHONE SERVICE

GOVERNMENT OF THE BAHAMAS THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT

I, the undersigned, hereby apply for the following telephone service (a)
to be installed at the (b)
premises situated at the property of
Date 19 Signed
Applicant
(a) Exchange line, extension, etc.
(b) Residential, business, etc.
FOR DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY
Service installed Charges Fixed Measured rate Telephone No. Particulars of installation Ledger Folio No. Advice Note No.
AGREEMENT
The Minister agrees to supply telephone service, in accordance with the application above, and with the Rules in force to
(1) To be a subscriber to the telephone service for a period of not less than one year.
(2) To accept all bills and notices sent by the Telecommunications Department, and to pay during the continuance of this agreement such charges as may be fixed under the Rules in force under the Telecommunications Act.

- (3) To accept full responsibility for all telegrams and overseas calls passed over their telephone.
- (4) To accept full responsibility for damage by fire, etc., to telephone instruments. (Subscribers are recommended to include telephone instruments in their insurance policies.)
- (5) To abide by the aforesaid Rules made under the said Act: Provided always and it is agreed between fine parties hereto that —

This agreement may be terminated at the request of the applicant at any time within the year upon payment to the Minister of any balance of the annual fixed charges.

	Signed	
	<i>&</i>	Applicant
Witness		
	Signed Director of Telec	communications.
Witness		
Date this Nassau, Bahamas.	day of	19 at
	FORM B (Rule 9)	
TELEPHO	ONE CONTRACTOR'S	LICENCE
GOVER	NMENT OF THE BAH	AMAS
TELE	COMMUNICATIONS .	ACT
No		
	of	
Nassau, is a Licence	d Telephone Contractor Installation work as spec	and is authorised to
NOTE: This licence the Schedule hereto.	is issued subject to the o	conditions set out in
Date		
	Signed	
	Director of T	elecommunications

SCHEDULE

(1) The Telecommunications Department shall have the exclusive use of all conduit boxes and outlets provided for telephone wiring. Contractors shall not draw wires for bells, enunciators or electricity services through conduits or boxes which

will contain telephone circuits. In special circumstances, combined enunciator wiring may be permitted but only after application to the Department with full details of the arrangements required.

- (2) Wiring to be drawn through conduits must be standard telephone material of good quality or material approved by the Department.
- (3) Unprotected insulated wires may be dropped between wooden partitions, but must not be tacked or fastened. Wires coming in contact with stone walls or any masonry must be in conduit or be composed of lead covered cable.
- (4) In no circumstances will telephone plug outlets of a similar type to those normally employed for electricity services be permitted.
- (5) Whenever a subscriber desires two or more telephones on one line other than instruments in the same room, wiring must be arranged to take care of switch extension instruments. Parallel wiring of more than one instrument in different locations in a building will not be permitted.
- (6) In the installation of a conduit, particular care must be taken to avoid U links on any sections in which moisture may collect. Conduits must be properly drained and must be of ample size to permit the easy removal of faulty wiring. Small size conduits, resulting in tight fitting pull through, will not be permitted.
- (7) Contractors are not permitted to carry out any underground cable work or to make any connections to the Department's main supply cables, junction boxes, etc., or in any way to interfere with overhead distribution systems, drop wires, et cetera.
- (8) In all cases the Contractor should consult with the Department before commencing work to make sure that the instructions received from the customer are in accordance with the application particulars received in this office. The Department will, under no circumstances, accept any responsibility should the wiring facilities, provided by the Contractor, not be in accordance with the equipment and apparatus to be installed by the Department, nor will the Department accept any responsibility if the Contractor does not make sufficient provision for the number of exchange lines specified by the customer.
- (9) The Department reserves the right to cancel, amend or extend these instructions from time to time.

FORM C (Rule 10)

APPLICATION FOR TELEPHONE CONTRACTOR'S LICENCE

GOVERNMENT OF THE BAHAMAS THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT

The Director,

Telecommunications Department,

Nassau, N.P.

I beg to apply for a licence to carry out telephone installation work within the area supplied by the Government of The Bahamas Telecommunications Department and I undertake to conform with the rules and requirements of that Department.

Signed	
Full name	
Age	
Business Address	
Particulars of Telephone Training and	_
Date	
Signed Director, Telecommu	nications Department.
Signed Director of	Telecommunications.
Licence No.	
	nications Department.
FORM D (Rule 13	1)
PRIVATE RADIO STATION	N LICENCE
GOVERNMENT OF THE BA	AHAMAS
THE TELECOMMUNICATION	ONS ACT
Name of Licensee	
Location of Station Details of Equipment:	
Transmitter	

Authorised	Frequency		er	Type	of	Tra	nsmiss	ion
The above schedules	station is	authorised	to op	erate (on 1	the	follow	ing
	To station . For the pur Call Sign Licence Date of Iss	pose of						
Signature of								
		CONDIT	IONS					
approved by	y the Direct		ommu	ınicatic	ns.			
(2) The and will co Department or telegraph.	licensee wallect and pall sums du	ill be respor pay regularl se for comm	nsible y to 1 unicat	for all the Te ion serv	char leco vice:	ges mm s by	for tra unicati telepho	ffic ons one
(3) Neit contents of nor shall the unauthorise make use intercepted	any messagne existence d person. N	Veither shal	erson omessa messa l the l	other tl ge be icensec	han disc e no	the close r hi	addres ed to a s opera	see any ator
I	a	gree to abid	le by the	he tern	ns o	f thi	s licen	ce.
Signature li	censee						•••••	
]	Date	÷		••••
	FC	ORM E (R	ule 13	4)				
Al	MATEUR :	RADIO ST	ATIO	N LIC	ENC	CE		
(GOVERNI	MENT OF T	гне в	BAHAN	MAS	S		
-	THE TELE	COMMUN	ICAT	IONS	AC	Γ		
Name of lic Address Call Sign Frequencies authorised. Frequency			and	type	 of	 tran	smissio	 on
No change place withou	ut authorisa	ation.						
Licence No Valid to								
Signature of	f Director of	of Telecomr	nunica	ations .	•••••	• • • • • •		••

CONDITIONS

- (1) Messages may be exchanged only with amateur stations (as defined by the International Radiocommunication Regulations) in The Bahamas or abroad. Except as is in this condition expressly provided messages exchanged by means of the station shall relate solely to the licensee's private (but not business) affairs or those of the person with whom he is communicating and shall be in plain language. Special gramophone records for reproducing modulations of definite tones may be used for test purposes. Gramophone records of the type intended for entertainment purposes may be used on the condition that only one such record is used during the course of any day, the same record being repeated as desired; any record so used shall not have a playing time exceeding 10 minutes when played at the correct speed.
- (2) The use of the station for (a) advertising or business purposes, (b) the sending or reception of news or the messages of persons other than the licensee or the person with whom he is communicating, (c) the sending or reception of broadcast programmes or (d) the sending or reception of social or political propaganda or the messages of any social or political organisation is expressly prohibited. The licensee shall not receive any payment (either direct or indirect) for the use of the station or allow the station to be controlled by or used for the purpose of any social or political organisation.
- (3) If any message which the licensee is not entitled to receive is, nevertheless, received the licensee shall not make known or allow to be made known its contents, its origin or destination, the existence of the fact of its receipt to any person (other than a duly authorised officer of Her Majesty's Government or a competent legal tribunal) and shall not reproduce in writing, copy or make any use of such message or allow the same to be reproduced in writing, copied or made use of.
- (4) A running record shall be kept in a book of approved type (not loose-leaf), of all sending periods showing the date and time of each period and the frequency and type of emission employed. No gaps shall be left between entries in the log. The record of sending periods shall in all cases be initialled at the time of recording by the licensee.
- (5) The station shall be subject to the approval of the Director and together with the record of transmissions and this licence shall be open to inspection at all reasonable times by duly authorised officers of the Telecommunications Department.
- (6) An amateur station must operate within the band of frequencies specified on the licence and must be so adjusted that no interference shall be caused on frequencies outside of the specified

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band. Adequate frequency stabilisation must be employed and stability must be in accordance with the Radiocommunication Regulations.

- (7) The licensee shall observe the provisions of the International Telecommunication Convention and the Radiocommunication Regulations and such Regional Regulations as may be issued from time to time.
- (8) The station shall always be equipped for the reception of signals sent on frequencies in current use at the station at any time by means of continuous wave telegraphy, telephony and any other type of emission authorised.
- (9) This licence does not authorise the reception of broadcast programmes for entertainment purposes. For the reception of broadcast programmes for entertainment a separate broadcast receiving licence is necessary.

I, agree to abide by the terms of this licence.

Signature of licensee

Renewals. This licence must be renewed on the 1st January. For this purpose the licence must be returned to the Director of Telecommunications with the appropriate fee.
Renewals. Date 1st Sig Renewals. Date 2nd Sig Renewals. Date 3rd Sig Renewals. Date 4th Sig Renewals. Date 5th Sig Sig Renewals. Date 5th Sig Sig Sig Renewals. Date 5th Sig
FORM F (Rule 144)
APPLICATION FOR WIRED MUSIC SERVICE
GOVERNMENT OF THE BAHAMAS THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT I, the undersigned, hereby apply for the following wired music service to be installed at the
Date
FOR DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY
Service installed
Charges

Particulars of installation
Ledger Folio No.
Advice Note No.

AGREEMENT

The Minister agrees to supply wired music service in accordance with the application above, and with the Rules in force to....(hereinafter called the applicant) and the applicant agrees:

- (1) To be a subscriber for not less than one year from the date of connection to the wired music service operated by the Telecommunications Department.
- (2) To pay the charges made by the Department for connection to the service and a subscription fee of _____ per month for an installation consisting of one amplifier and two loudspeakers plus an additional fee of _____ per month for each loudspeaker over and above the two aforementioned.
- (3) To accept all bills and invoices relevant to this service sent by the Department and to pay any such bill within 21 days from the date of issue:

Provided always that this Agreement may be terminated at the request of the applicant at any time within the year upon payment to the Department of any balance of the annual fixed charges.

		Appl	
Witness			
	Director of Tele		
Witness			
Dated this Nassau, Bahamas.	day of	19	at

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FORM G (Rule 18(4))

APPLICATION FOR TELEPHONE SERVICE GOVERNMENT OF THE BAHAMAS THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT

	tenant/occupier of the premises
	the property of
	in which telephone No.
subscriber hereby apply for resperiod from	discontinued at the request of the toration of the said service for the to
	Signed Applicant.

FOR DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY
Date service restored Telephone No
Particulars of Installation
Ledger Folio No.
Advice Note No.
AGREEMENT
The Minister agrees to supply telephone service in accordance with the application above and with the Rules in force to (hereinafter called the applicant).
And the Applicant agrees —
(i) To accept all bills and notices sent by the Telecommunications Department, and to pay during the continuance of this Agreement such charges as may be fixed under the Rules in force under the Telecommunications Act.
(ii) To deposit with the Telecommunications Department the sum of as a security for the payment of bills.
(iii)To accept full responsibility for all charges for telegrams and overseas calls passed over the telephone from the date of this Agreement up to and until such date as he shall indicate beforehand as the date of termination of his occupancy of the premises.
(iv) To abide by the aforesaid Rules made under the said Act.
Witness
Signed
Applicant
Witness
Signed
Director of Telecommunications.
Dated this day of

at Nassau, Bahamas.