

# G A M E O



Journal of the  
West Africa Study Circle

VOLUME 3 NUMBER 6

JULY 1987



# CHRISTIE'S



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*Derek Worboys is a Veteran Member of the Philatelic Traders' Society, a Business Member of the British Philatelic Federation, a Member of the National Philatelic Society and the Great Britain Philatelic Society, and a Life Member of the American Philatelic Society, the American Topical Association and the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.*



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**Editor:**

J. J. Martin,  
22 Constable Way,  
West Harnham,  
Salisbury, Wilts.  
SP2 8LN.

**Hon. Secretary:**

M. Ensor,  
Flat 1, No. 12, The Paragon,  
London,  
SE3 0NZ.

**Hon. Treasurer and Admissions Secretary:**

R. J. Seaman,  
Copt Hall, Stock,  
Ingatestone, Essex.  
CM4 9BA.

**Hon. Advertising Manager:**

G. R. Gibson,  
"The Old Builders Wharf",  
Honey Street, nr. Pewsey,  
Wilts.  
SN9 5PS.

**EDITORIAL**

In due course the Circle intends to publish two books on the Gold Coast, the first up to 1902 and the second from 1902 up to 1957.

In this issue of Cameo, certain studies are being printed (T.P.O.'s and censor cachets) and it is hoped that this will ensure that the books are as accurate as possible. Members are asked to report any additional information; for new markings a photo-stat is needed as well as measurements.

Future issues should cover, for example, the instructional marks.

Robert Seaman has reported that the Circle has presented a copy of our new book on The Gambia to the newly opened National Museum of The Gambia.

**Annual Subscription:**

United Kingdom and Europe £10

Overseas (Airmail) £12

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Full page: £32

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The Circle covers The Gambia, Gold Coast, Nigeria, Sierra Leone plus Ascension, Cameroons, St. Helena, Togo and nearby British Postal Agencies.

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**WEST AFRICA STUDY CIRCLE**

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# AUCTION REALISATIONS

(Prices realised include buyer's premium where applicable. Estimates in brackets).

## Harmers of London 9-10th December 1986

**Disinfected Mail** 1893 Gold Coast 1d. postal stationery card to Framingham (Mass.), U.S.A., cancelled by "B27" in bars and showing black straight-line "DISINFECTED" at lower left. Strike a little weak and card toned but otherwise fine. £71 (£50).

## Christie's Robson Lowe 27th January 1987

**Niger Coast** 1899 (31st Dec.) envelope to London bearing G.B. 1d. lilac tied by fine, virtually complete, "LOKOJA/POST OFFICE" double-ring oval c.d.s. in violet with Burutu c.d.s. alongside, h.s. "T" and "1d./620". This item was almost certainly in the last mail to be despatched from Lokoja by officials of the Royal Niger Co. £357 + VAT (£275).

## Christie's Robson Lowe New York 11th March 1987

**Lagos** 1893 ½d. on 2d., Lilac and Blue surcharge error, (S.G.42c), neat grid cancel and value tablet clearly visible. Fine.

This stamp is the only known used copy of the surcharge error and was the discovery leading to the recognition of the 2d. with the ½d. surcharge. Found by Neville Stocken in 1936 since which time only one other genuine example has surfaced (the unused copy). U.S. \$11,550 (U.S. \$3,000).

**Niger Coast** 1893 20/- on 1/- green, vermilion surcharge (S.G.43). Full original gum with light hinge mark. U.S. \$82,500 (U.S. \$60,000).

## Christie's Robson Lowe 5th March 1987

**Ascension** 1903 P.P.C. to England bearing 1d. K.E. tied by superb single-ring "ASCENSION/AU 30/06" c.d.s. £94 (£75).

**Ascension** 1916 cover to London bearing G.B. 1½d. pair cancelled by Ascension c.d.s., showing alongside "CENSORED" in blue £88 (£75).

## CHRISTIE'S ROBSON LOWE SALE (LAGOS) 14th APRIL £986

The sale started in a spirited fashion and I rashly hoped that the dealers would be expending their reserves of ammunition on some 14 lots of Q.E.II Colonial Die Proofs of Her Majesty's Head – lovely items which fetched approximately twice valuation.

A few lots later we came to the reason for my presence, some 27 Lagos lots from the estate of the late Dr. G. P. Grabfield (U.S.A.) which included 9 pre-stamp items. These, Secchino, Mrs. Jane Nuttall and William Bailey & Sons correspondence were all items additional to those so far recorded by the Circle. With one exception, they were in good condition with a splendid range of handstamps. Against a total valuation of £2,825, they quickly sold for £4,400. Lot 65, Crowned Circle "PAID/AT/LAGOS" on an 1872 cover, realised £1,200 (£750).

These were followed by a lot comprising 14 pieces (ex-Sanderson) with a plethora of strike combinations of the Crowned Circle "PAID/AT/LAGOS"; "B/LAGOS" c.d.s. and the (J. B. Carroll) double ringed c.d.s. in blue together with a fine "OFFICIAL PAID" c.d.s. of 3rd March 1891. This lot sold for £160 (£50) – still cheap at just over £10 a piece but regrettably beyond your scribe's limit! Strangely 9 of these pieces were clearly from covers addressed to Mrs. Jane Nuttall (in various hands). The lady obviously had her attractions and posterity is grateful to her.

In the following lots (covers and cancellations) the star item, valued at £600, sold for £1,500. This was a beautiful cover to William Bailey & Sons (illustrated in colour on the frontispiece) with 1874 4d. and 6d. tied by two strikes of the elusive "LAGOS/B" c.d.s. *without date* but with "LAGOS/A" c.d.s. with date (29 June 1874) applied below as a handstamp. It has always

### JACK INCE

been believed that the undated c.d.s. was used only when the first adhesives were first placed on sale (June 1874). It has been suggested that, following the introduction of adhesives, for a period letters handed in for despatch on the next mail boat, were cancelled for security reasons by an undated canceller pending the sailing date when a c.d.s. was then applied. The cover also carried a fine, rare, straight-line "REGISTERED LETTER".

The balance of these lots sold on average just above valuation and some bargains were to be had – mostly by the dealers!

Of the 3 Gambia items, bargains were again obtained at realisations only some 60% of estimate which included lot 56 comprising 1893 6d. mint in three shades of green (11 stamps) including sloping label examples.

Ten items of St. Helena realised slightly under estimate while 14 Togo did rather better, although the rare 40 pfg. Narrow Setting used on piece went for £200 (£225).

A single comprehensive lot of S. Nigeria covers and cards (10 items) including a good "LATE FEE" eluded your scribe when the bidding rapidly rose from a valuation of £125 to £220.

Such is life! But at least I obtained one lot which the dealers didn't get (or want?) and, of course, it was above valuation AND I made some useful additions to my knowledge of Lagos postal history.

Note: The realisations mentioned above do not take into account the 10% premium.

## SOLDIERS' AND SEAMEN'S CONCESSION RATE MAIL

JOHN SACHER

*(These notes and illustrations are taken from a display given to the Circle in London in September 1986).*

The first part of the display was devoted to concession rates and the second to officers' mail. This article is about the former.

The privilege of sending letters at a special rate of 1d. per single was introduced in 1795 for seamen, n.c.o.'s and other ranks. The charge had to be prepaid and the letter had to be countersigned on the front by the commanding officer. The letter also had to bear the sender's name and rank and the command of the officer. The contents were limited to the sender's private affairs.

When the concession was extended to mail sent to a seaman or soldier (before 1853), clearly the officer's command and signature were not applicable, but the other details were necessary. As most "other ranks" were largely illiterate, relatively few such letters, at least in the early period, were sent.

The privilege was normally only available where a packet service existed, or if the letter was carried by naval ship. However, from time to time, special arrangements were made by which 1d. plus the relevant foreign or overseas postage was charged. Only the 1d. had to be prepaid.

In 1815 an exceptional provision was introduced for St. Helena by which no charge apart from the U.K. inland rate was to be applied.

From the 16th February 1828, the privilege was extended to mail sent by private ships and letters were charged 3d. each to include 2d. for the master's gratuity. If this was not claimed then the letter was charged only 1d. Again only the privilege 1d. was to be prepaid. An 1847 example from Sierra Leone was illustrated (Fig.1). It had been prepaid 1d. by means of a coin stitched to it. The gratuity of 2d. was claimed and paid on receipt. (6.8.1847).

By a G.P.O. notice of August 1835, letters to and from Ascension, St. Mary's (Gambia), Sierra Leone and the Coast of Africa were increased in charge to 3d. per

single. A charge of 1d. was also introduced for St. Helena. From April 1839 the charge for all places outside the U.K. was standardised at 1d., provided a post office packet or naval ship carried the letter.

In August 1850, the Treasury authorised the use of British postage stamps to prepay seamen's privileged postage. Letters were not to exceed ½oz. and there was no extra charge for forwarding.

When in 1854 the ship's captain's gratuity was reduced to 1d. the private ship rate was reduced accordingly. It was confirmed that if mail was sent via a foreign country – e.g. via Marseilles – any transit charge due to that country was also payable.

Four examples of naval mail prepaid by G.B. 1d. reds were shown (for three see Figs.2-4) including one from Teneriffe, also a later item from Loanda, (Fig.5) Angola (1896) prepaid by a G.B. 1d. and cancelled by a Liverpool PAQUEBOT mark.

With the introduction of colonial stamps these too were used for prepayment. Examples shown included Gold Coast 2d. green (S.G.6a) (Fig.6) bisected to British Honduras (16.5.1884) and 1d. rose-carmine (S.G.12) to Lancashire cancelled by LIVERPOOL PAQUEBOT (16.1.1896) (Fig.7).

A Sierra Leone cover bearing 1d. rose-red (S.G.24) was cancelled "B 31" (28.3.1884) to Dublin (Fig.8). Interestingly, this was from a Company Sergeant Major of the 2nd West India Regiment, which contrasted with a letter from a Regimental Sergeant Major of the same regiment also in Sierra Leone (30.8.1889) which correctly did not qualify for privileged postage (Fig.9). Warrant Officers were excluded from the concession. Perhaps Company S.M.'s were not deemed to be Warrant Officers.

The only concession extended to officers was the right of having mail forwarded without additional charge.

### WANTED

W.W.II Gold Coast hexagonal  
censor marks,  
Strikes Nos. 3, 19, 21, 22, and 25.

Maurice Tozer, P.O. Box 1758,  
Randburg 2125  
Republic of South Africa

SIERRA LEONE  
MILITARY CONCESSION RATE  
("DISALLOWED?")  
1847



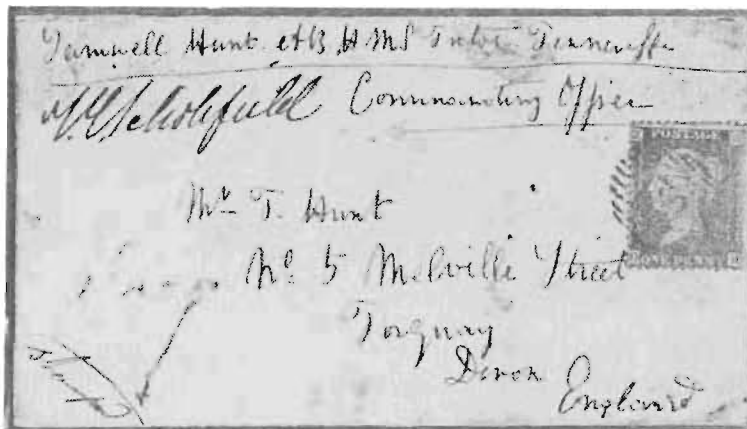
Entire "From F. Purcell Boy on board H.M.S. Wanderer Sierra Leone", dated May 19th 1847. The letter appears to have had a 1d. piece stitched to it which was subsequently removed. Charged "2" in black in London (6.8.1847), to Liverpool. The letter was probably carried by private ship with 1d. correctly prepaid. The master's gratuity of 2d., if claimed, had to be paid on receipt.

Fig.1

CANARY ISLANDS  
1d. MILITARY CONCESSION RATE  
TENNERIFFE  
1863

G.B. 1856-62 1d. red Paper not blued Wmk. Large Crown Perf. 14.

S.G.36 to 46



Envelope endorsed "Tammell Hunt A.B. H.M.S. Triton, Tenneriffe M. M. Scholfield Commanding Officer" and bearing 1d. cancelled on receipt in London - 13.3.63. To Torquay - 13.3.63.

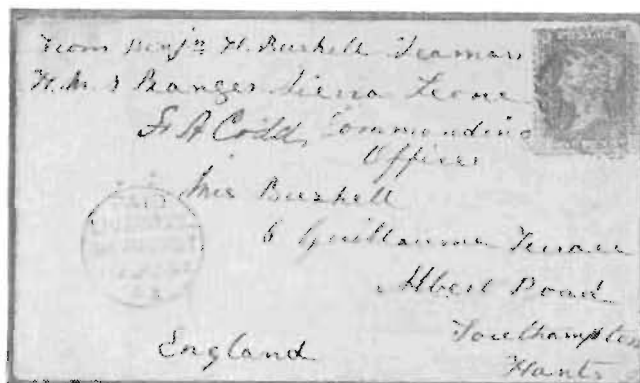
Fig.2

**SIERRA LEONE**  
**1d. MILITARY CONCESSION RATE**

G.B. 1861 1d. rose-red (Alphabet IV - Die II - Plate 50)

S.G.42

1864



Envelope inscribed "From Benjn. H. Bushell Seaman H.M.S. Ranger Sierra Leone" and "F. A. Codd Commanding Officer".

It bears 1d. cancelled "466" in black at Liverpool with "PAID LIVERPOOL BR. PACKET 10 JU 64 44" in red (Robertson P17).

To Southampton - 11.6.64.

H.M.S. Ranger had probably transported troops out to the abortive 1863 Ashanti Expedition.

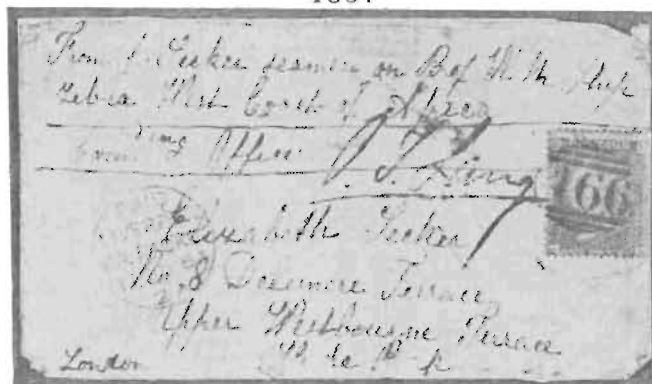
Fig.3

**WEST AFRICA**  
**SEAMAN'S 1d. CONCESSIONARY RATE**

1856-62 1d. pale rose Die II Wmk. Large Crown Perf. 14.

S.G.39

1864



G.B. 1d. cancelled "466" in black at Liverpool, on envelope inscribed "From J. Secker, Seaman on B. of H.M. Ship Zebra West Coast of Africa Comding. Officer O. J. Lang" Addressed to London.

Marked "PAID LIVERPOOL BR. PACKET 11 MY 64 2A" in red (Robertson P.17) Received London 11.5.64.

H.M.S. ZEBRA was commissioned in 1860 and sent to the "West Coast of Africa" in 1862. She was paid off in Sheerness in 1865.

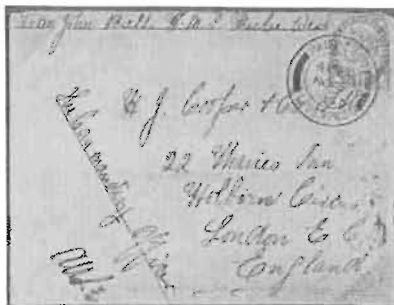
Fig.4

ANGOLA  
1d. MILITARY CONCESSION RATE

G.B. 1881 1d. bluish lilac Wmk. Imperial Crown Die II

S.G.172

1896  
PROBABLY FROM LOANDA



Envelope inscribed "From John Bull H.M.S. Phoebe West Africa" and "The Commanding Officer..."

It bears 1d. cancelled "PAQUEBOT LIVERPOOL 4.15 p.m. NO 5 96" in black (Robertson P32). To London - 6.11.96.

The Times of 23rd October 1896 reported "The Phoebe Cruiser, Captain T. Macgill, Senior Officer's ship on the West Coast of Africa leaves Loanda today."

Fig.5  
GOLD COAST  
MILITARY 1d. CONCESSIONARY RATE

1879 Bisected 2d. green Wmk. Crown CC. Perf. 14

S.G.6a

CAPE COAST CASTLE  
1884



Bisected 2d. on soldier's envelope cancelled "556" and marked "CAPE COAST C MY 16 84" both in black

Manuscript accountancy mark "1" in red indicates whole amount of 1d. to be retained by the colony.

Via "PAID LIVERPOOL BR. PACKET 18 JU 84 5C" in red (Robertson P18).

Addressed to "Bellisso Honduras" which has been changed to "Belize Br. Honduras" by the "Commanding Ditch C.C. Castle".

Received in Belize - 7.7.84.

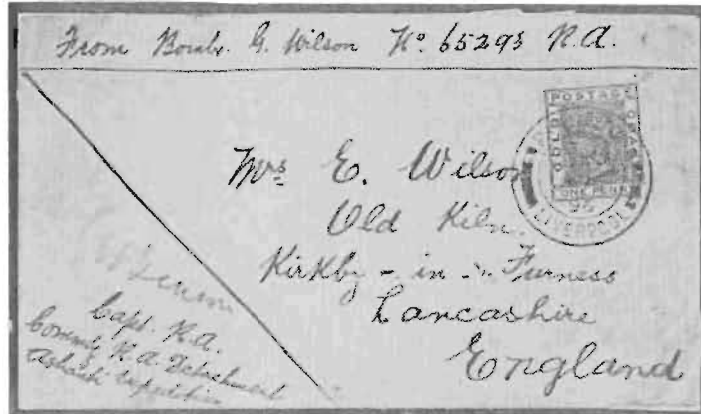
Fig.6

GOLD COAST  
SOLDIER'S LETTER  
SCOTT EXPEDITION

1884 (AUG) -91 1d. rose-carmine Wmk. Crown CA Perf. 14

S.G.12

1896



Cover bearing 1d. cancelled by "PAQUEBOT LIVERPOOL 10.30 A.M. JA 16 96" in black. The envelope is inscribed "from bombr. G. Wilson No 65293 R.A" and "... Capt R.A. Commdg R.A. Detachment Ashanti Expedition". To Kirkby-in-Furness 17.1.96 via Carnforth 16.1.96.

KUMASI was occupied without resistance on 16th Jan. 1896.

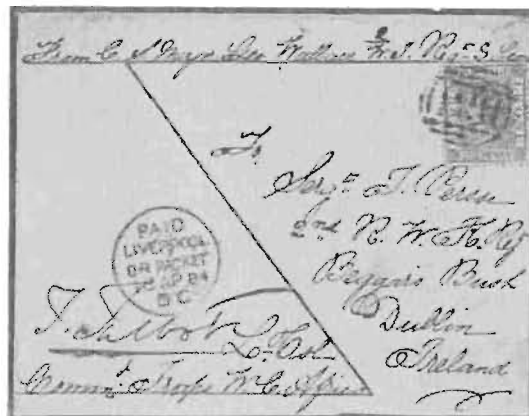
Fig.7

SIERRA LEONE

1883 (26 SEPT) 1d rose-red Wmk. Crown CA Perf. 14

S.G.24

MILITARY CONCESSION RATE  
1884



Cover endorsed "From C.S. Major Geo. Wallace 2/W.I. Regt. S.Leone" bearing 1d. cancelled "B 31" in black with "SIERRA LEONE PAID C MR 28 84" in red on reverse. Via "PAID LIVERPOOL BR. PACKET 16 AP 84 5C" in red (Robertson P.18) and "H. & K. PACKET A AP 16 84" in black (Robertson H K P 6a) to Dublin.

Fig.8

SIERRA LEONE

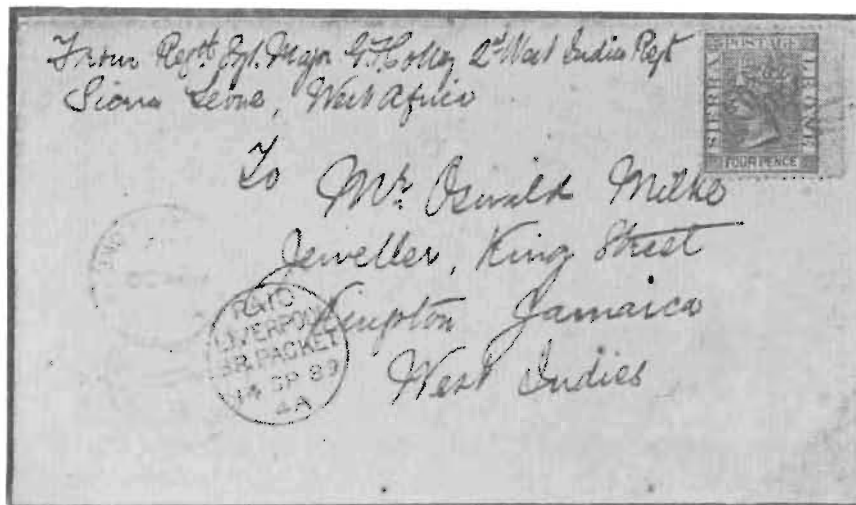
1884 (July) - 93. Wmk. Crown CA Perf. 14 4d. brown

S.G.33

1889

WARRANT OFFICER'S LETTER

(Not Privileged)

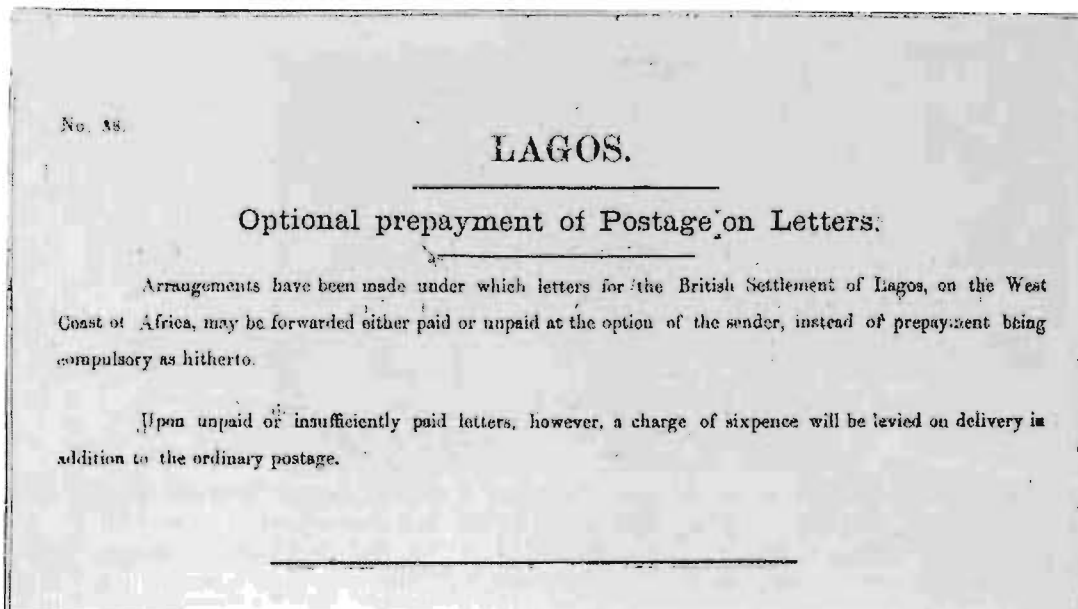


4d., on envelope from "Regt. Sgt. Major G. Holley 2nd West India Regt.," cancelled "B31" with "FREETOWN SIERRA LEONE B AU 30 89" in red-brown.

Via "PAID LIVERPOOL BR. PACKET 14 SP 89 44" in red (Robertson P. 17) to Kingston, Jamaica - 5.10.89.

Fig.9

G.P.O. CIRCULAR 1870



**CABLE AND WIRELESS LIMITED**  
**GREETINGS TELEGRAMS CHARGES DECEMBER 1936 – JANUARY**  
**1937**

JEREMY MARTIN

<b>CABLE AND WIRELESS LIMITED</b>		
Central Telegraph Station: Tower Chambers, Moorgate, LONDON, E.C.2 Telephone: MET. 6666		
<b>GREETINGS TELEGRAMS</b>		
Accepted during the period 14th December, 1936, to 6th January, 1937.		
<b>“XLT”</b>		
In this class the sender may write any plain language text he desires, provided it consists solely of words of greeting. The indication “XLT” is counted and charged as one word. Messages will be accepted at any of the Company's offices or at any Postal Telegraph office in the United Kingdom.		
Destination.	Minimum Charge for 10 words.	Each Additional Word.
<b>BRITISH EMPIRE—</b>		
Gibraltar .. .. .	s. d. 1 3	s. d. 0 1½
Malta .. .. .	1 8	0 2
Aden .. .. . Rodriguez		
Ascension .. .. . St. Helena		
Burma .. .. . Seychelles		
Ceylon .. .. . South Africa		
Cocos .. .. . S.W. Africa		
Cyprus .. .. . Southern Rhodesia	2 6	0 3
India .. .. . Sudan		
Kenya .. .. . Tanganyika		
Mauritius .. .. . Transjordan		
*Newfoundland .. .. . Uganda		
Palestine .. .. . Zanzibar		
Perim .. .. .		
*Canada—		
Cape Breton, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Quebec, Prince Edward Island ..	2 6	0 3
All other Provinces .. .. .	4 0	0 5
* Antigua .. .. . Gambia		
Australia .. .. . Gilbert and Ellice Islands		
Bahamas .. .. . Gold Coast		
Barbados .. .. . Grenada		
Bermuda .. .. . Hong Kong		
British Guiana .. .. . Jamaica		
British Honduras (Belize) .. .. . Labuan		
British North Borneo .. .. . Malay States		
British Somaliland .. .. . Marshall Islands—Nauru		
Brunei .. .. . Montserrat		
Cameroons (British Zone) .. .. . New Guinea Territory	4 0	0 5
Carriacou .. .. . New Zealand		
Cayman Islands .. .. . Nigeria		
Chatham Islands .. .. . Norfolk Island		
Christmas Island .. .. . Northern Rhodesia		
Cook or Hervey Islands .. .. . * Nyusaland		
Dominica .. .. . Papua Territory		
Falkland Islands .. .. . Pemba		
Fanning Island .. .. . Rotuma Island		
Fiji Islands .. .. . St. Kitts		

A lot purchased at auction recently included an unused Greetings Telegram form, a map showing cable routes and wireless routes and the above giving Cable and Wireless Ltd., charges.

## CARRIAGE OF UNOFFICIAL MAIL ON WEST AFRICAN FLYING BOAT SERVICES

Philip Beale came across this report whilst researching in Post Office Archives. It is reproduced with their permission (ex file 32) and dated 15th June 1941

*This air service was instituted last Autumn for the carriage of official passengers, mails and freight of high priority between U.K. and West Africa and beyond. It was made clear at the time that it was not to be used for the carriage of unofficial mails.*

*Recently, the Air Ministry have twice drawn attention to the receipt in this country by the Flying Boat Service of unofficial air mail letters from West Africa, and have asked that in view of the great pressure upon the space available for the carriage of official passengers, mails and freight the attention of the West African Governments concerned should again be drawn to the fact that unofficial letters should not be dispatched by this Air Service.*

*The West African Flying Boat Service being almost the sole means of rapid communication, not only with West Africa, but also with Middle and Far East, is a vital link in our Empire air communications, and there has been constant pressure by the Air Ministry to reduce the demands made upon the service in order to leave as much space as possible for the carriage of urgent passengers and freight, particularly, to and from the Middle East. The Air Ministry have recently alleged that the official mail bags are being mis-used by the inclusion of unofficial correspondence, and have asked that the mail bags may be inspected on their arrival in this country with a view to the prevention of this mis-use of the very limited capacity available.*

*The Governor of the Gambia has recently drawn attention to the fact that the steamship services between this country and Bathurst are even more exigious than those between the U.K. and the other West African*

*Colonies, and he has asked whether limited quantities of unofficial mail can be carried when space is available on the flying boats proceeding homewards from Bathurst. There has also been some dissatisfaction in the other West African Colonies because the air service is now operated more or less regularly between the U.K. and West Africa, but still cannot be used for unofficial correspondence.*

*The Air Ministry, who have been consulted, state that the priority demands on the limited capacity of the service are still so great as to preclude the carriage of unofficial mail to and from all the West African Colonies, though it is hoped that there will be some improvement in the position later in the year when larger flying boats are brought into service. The Air Ministry are prepared however, provided that special treatment of the Gambia would not have undesirable re-actions in the other West African Colonies, to agree, as an exceptional measure, to the authorities in the Gambia having discretion to send limited quantities of sur-charged unofficial mail on each homeward-bound flying boat whenever space is available for the purpose. They are not, however, in a position to offer similar facilities on the outward-bound service.*

*A communication in this sense is being addressed to the Governor of the Gambia, but it is suggested that the opportunity should be taken of Mr. Dawe's visit to West Africa to explain the situation to the other West African Governments and to the G.O.C. and to inform them that in view of the great pressure upon the limited capacity of the Flying Boat Service, it is not possible at this stage to agree to the carriage of unofficial mail from all the West African Colonies, though it is hoped that this will be possible later in the year. It would be desirable, at the same time, to warn them that unofficial correspondence should not be included in the official mail bags.*

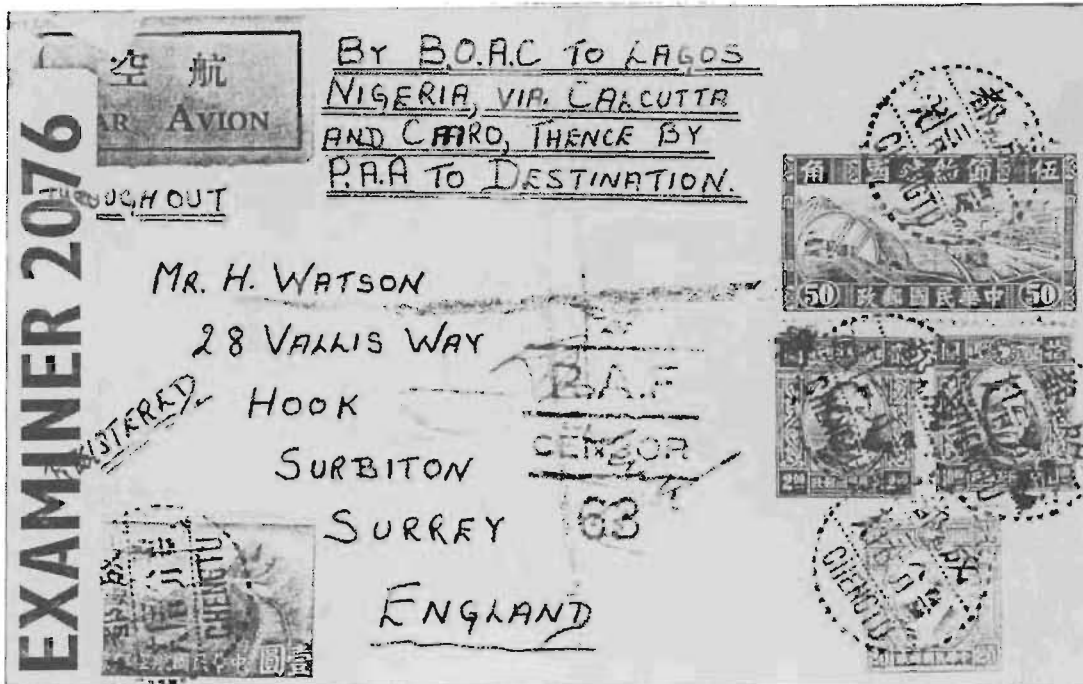
### "BY B.O.A.C. TO LAGOS"

JEREMY MARTIN

With the fall on Hong Kong in December 1941, the air mail route from China to America and the United Kingdom was directed through India, Egypt, Nigeria and across the Atlantic to Miami. U.K. mail was sent on to New York, across the Atlantic again to Lisbon in Portugal and finally on to its destination.

This route operated from early 1942 and connected with the Pan American Airways flight, from Lagos to Miami. The service was from Miami to Leopoldville and back, the first return flight leaving Leopoldville on December 13th 1941 and Lagos on December 14th.

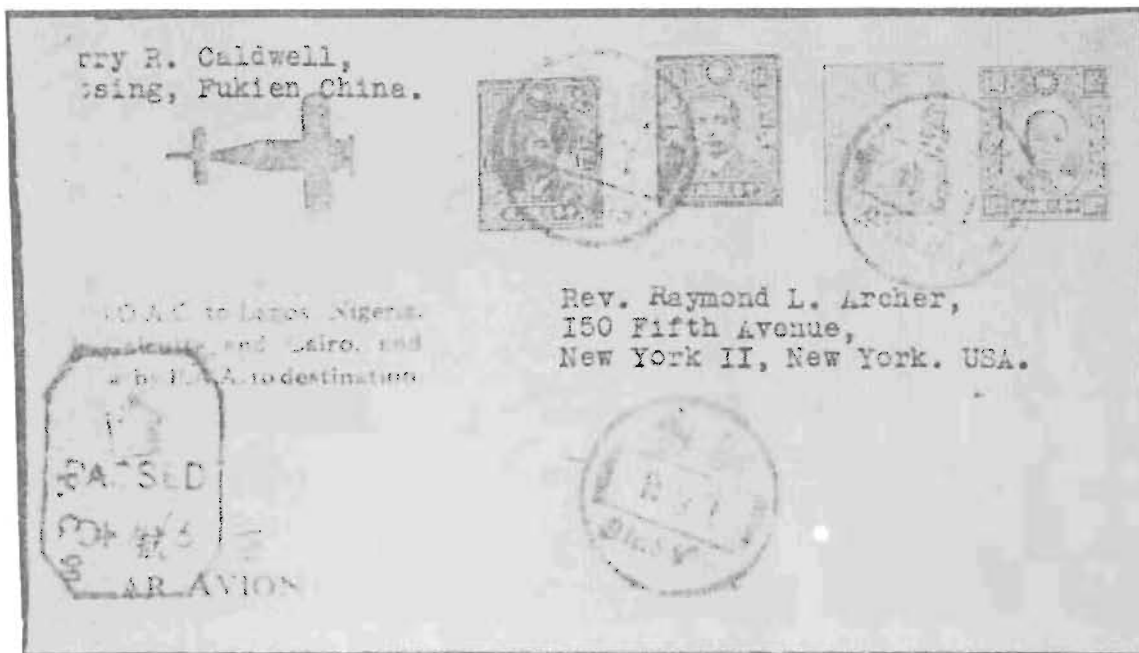
Most covers from China bear manuscript or type-written route instructions such as 'Via CNAC Chungking to Calcutta Via British Overseas Airways Calcutta to Lagos, Nigeria Via P.A.A. Lagos to Destination' or, more usually, 'BY B.O.A.C. TO LAGOS NIGERIA, VIA CALCUTTA AND CAIRO, THENCE BY P.A.A. TO DESTINATION.' (C.N.A.C. = China National Aviation Corporation).



The winter has one cover to Canada, arriving Toronto October 14th 1942 which has a special label for the route. This is in red on a grey-white background.



Geoff Oxley, a member of The Society of Postal Historians, has a 1944 cover which has the routing printed on the envelope.

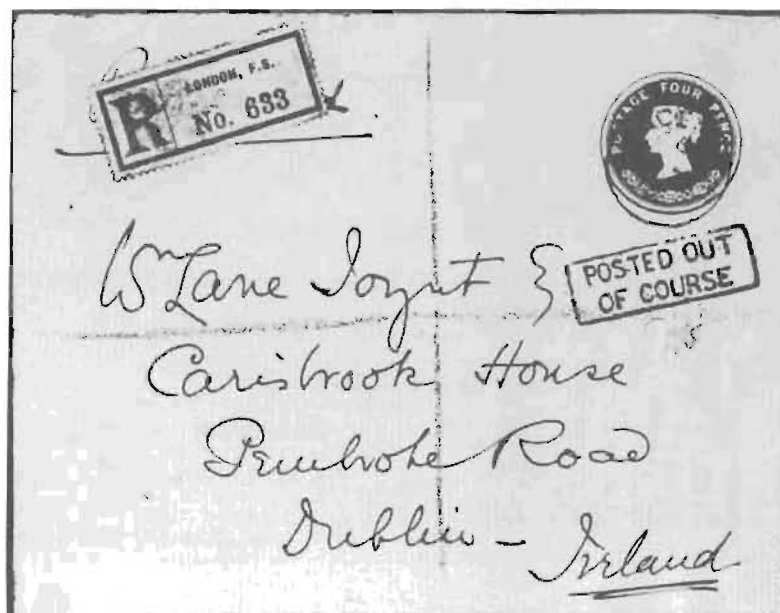


Any further information welcomed.

## QUEEN VICTORIA POSTAL STATIONERY USED IN ASCENSION

JOHN ATTWOOD

Four penny orange Q.V. Postal Stationery cover with an Ascension 23 mm. c.d.s. of 25 January 1913. This was a Stamped to Order issue and is mentioned by A. K. Huggins in his book "British Postal Stationery" on pages 34, 35 and 38.



This registered cover, when posted in Ascension, was simply marked 'Registered' in manuscript and not recorded as a registered item at the Ascension post office. This belief is supported by the fact that special registered labels were introduced in Great Britain in 1907 and presumably were soon sent out to Ascension.

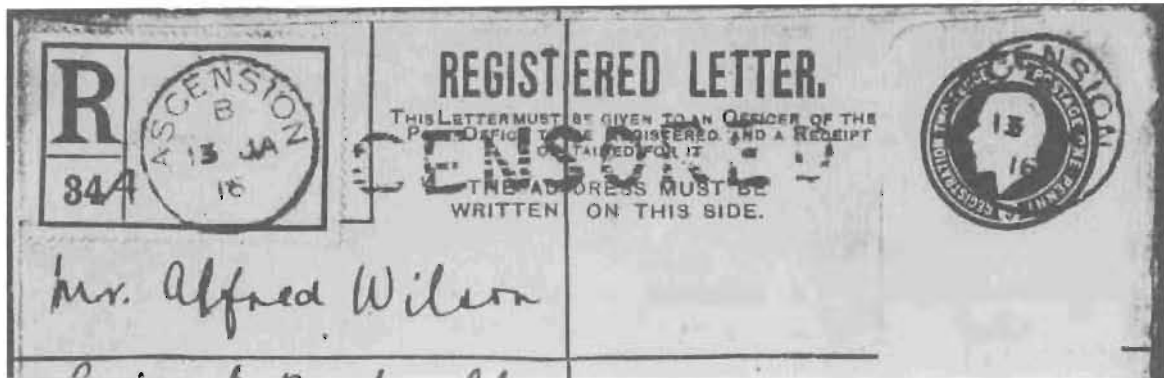
This lack of registration label was noticed by the post office in London who crossed out the manuscript registration and superimposed the London Foreign Service label.

This post office action resulted in the addition of the boxed "POSTED OUT OF COURSE" handstamp.

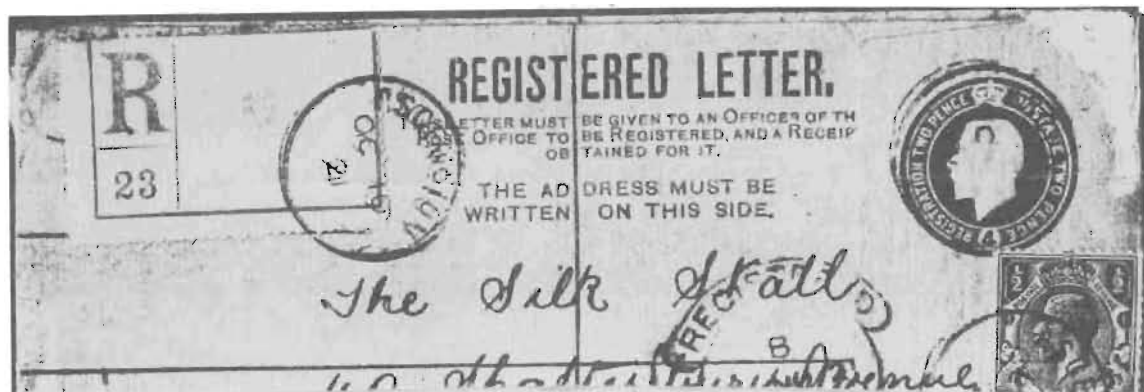
## ASCENSION POSTAL STATIONERY (FORMULA)

John Attwood and your Editor have endeavoured to list stationery used in the island.

### Registration Envelopes



GV R1 3d. rate, rounded flaps. Used 24 NOV 1914 and 13 JAN 1916  
Size G

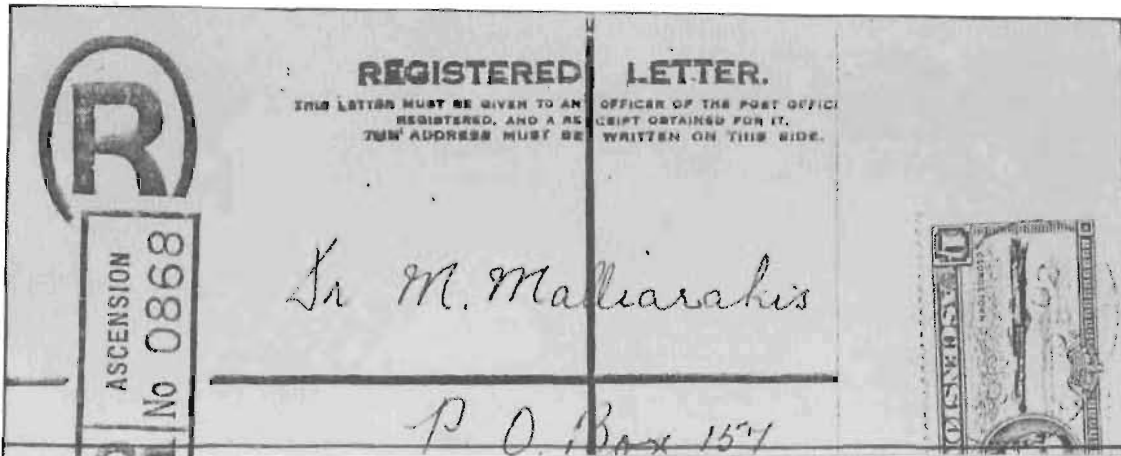


GV R 2 3d. rate, square flaps. Used 10 OCT 1921  
Size G

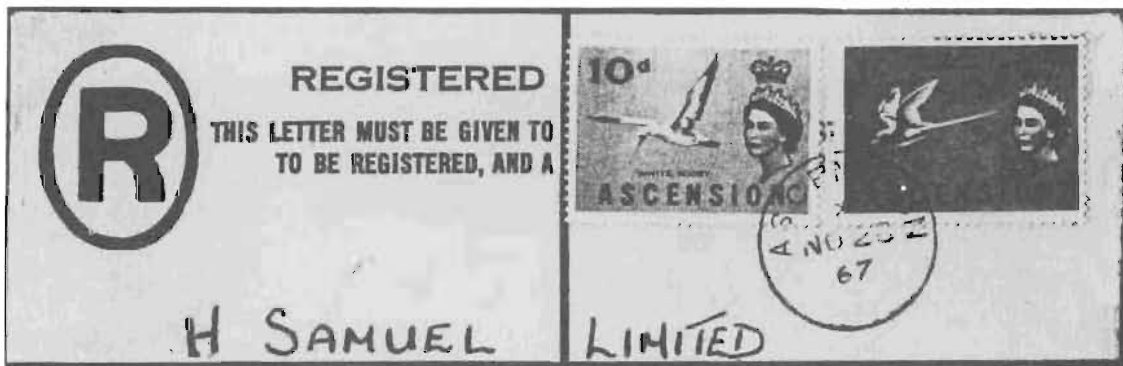
Without Impressed Stamp



GVI R1 Square flaps. Used 17 SEP 1941  
Size F



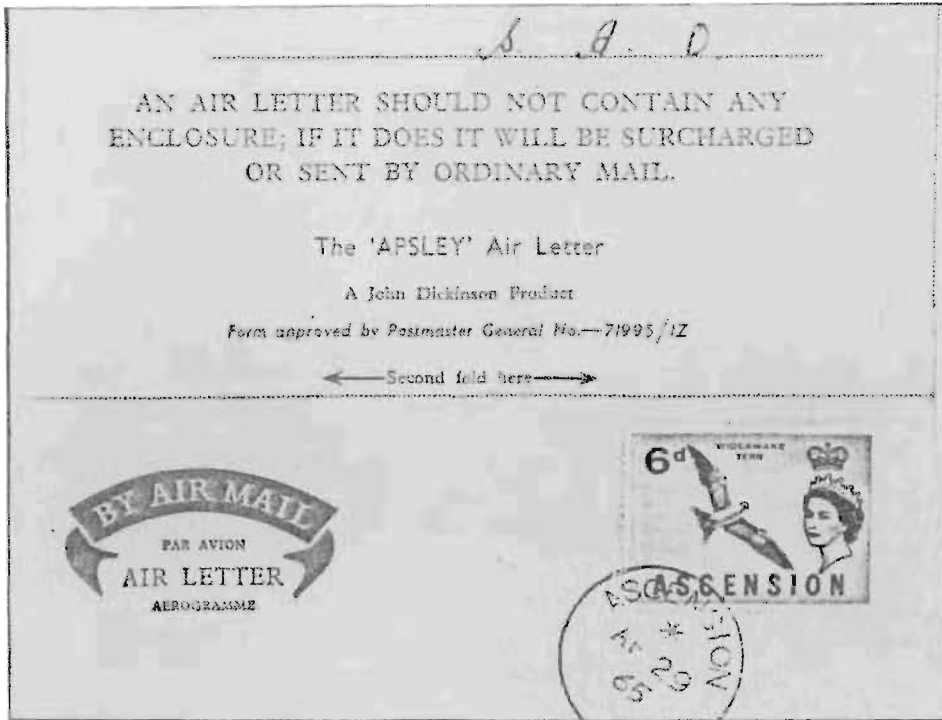
GVI R2 Square flaps, three lines of small print. Used 30 JUN 1946  
Size G in red



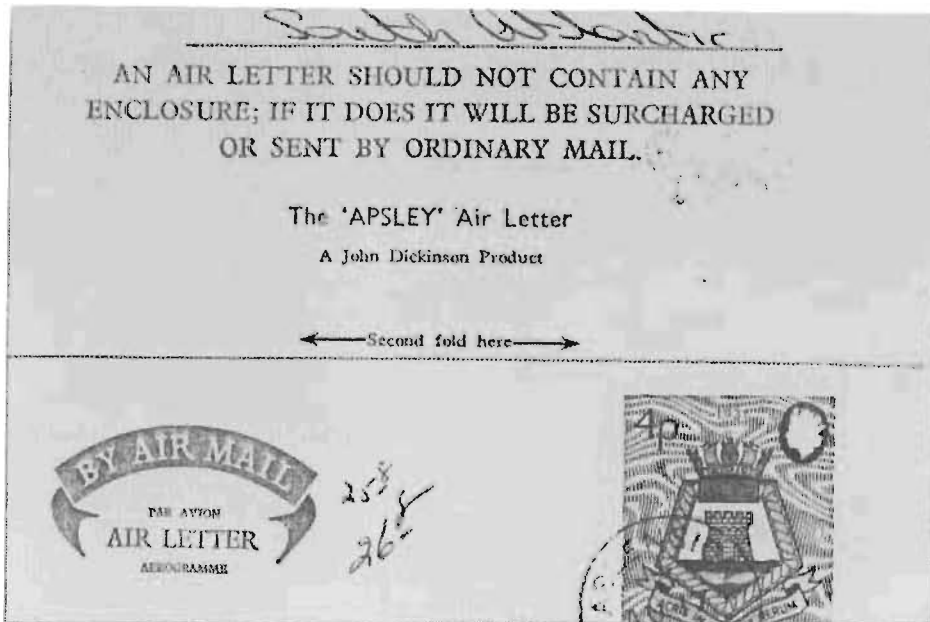
QEII R1. Used 28 NOV 1967  
Size G

**Aerogrammes**

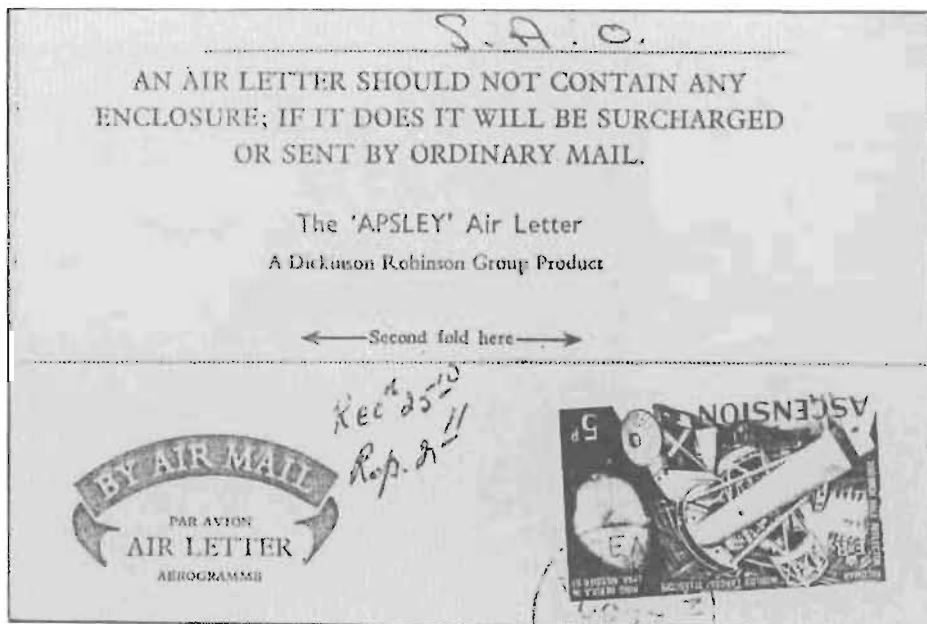
These are printed by the John Dickinson Group, are in blue and are stampless. The sizes are all the same, the words differ.



QE II AG1 "Form approved by Postmaster General. . . etc." Used 29 AP 1965



QE 11 AG2 'A John Dickinson Product'. Used 18 May 1973 to 15 Feb 1974



QE 11 AG3 "A Dickinson Robinson Product" Used 17 Oct 1975 to 14 Nov 1975.

## PAQUEBOT COVER FROM BRITISH CAMEROONS

M. P. BRATZEL, JR.

The illustrated cover was franked with three Nigerian George V 1d. stamps which were cancelled with two boxed markings which read Schiffsbrief/ Paquebot/ über HAMBURG. The adjacent postmark reads HAMBURG 1-/ Briefentkartung/ 15.2.35.19-20. What makes the cover of interest to the British Cameroons aficionado is the sender's address:

Kamerun-Westafrika, Post Kumba via Tiko. A nice adjunct, indeed.



# GAMBIA, 1869 CAMEOS ON WATERMARKED PAPER? AN APPEAL

OLIVER ANDREW

The possibility that the 1869 Cameos included some on watermarked paper, was first studied by John Sacher. In an article in the *London Philatelist* of July 1970, he showed, by careful analysis of the varieties of dot and curl in the Queen's bun, that some 6d. stamps were probably printed on watermarked paper before 1874. No dated examples were then known, nor when the Handbook was published last year.

I have recently acquired a 4d. Cameo, with CC watermark (inverted) and a clear postmark (Type 3): AP 19. 69. If the postmark is genuine it must come from the first consignment (2 Feb 69). But the R.P.S. is not prepared to certify the obliteration.

For the small format of the Gambia sheets, De La Rue used Crown CC sheets cut into 12. Upright and wide-ways watermarks are caused by the different cutting layouts: 6 x 2 and 4 x 3 (for further details see the Handbook p.20 and p.24). In both cases 180 stamps were printed on each whole CC sheets. However, this need not mean that stamps with watermark varieties must occur in multiples of 180. Few of the delivery figures are exactly divisible by 180. This may be a shortfall: De La Rue undoubtedly kept back some

stamps for specimen purposes, which would not have been included in the delivery figures; but they cannot have done this for every printing of every value, nor would they have needed as many as 165 (as for the 1885 1/-). Another possibility is that they used up left-over part-sheets. These may have been from previous Gambia printings, or from workshop accidents and, perhaps because of their unusual shape and size, were cut differently from the main batch.

Some similar watermark anomalies are known, and may be explained in this way: the 1874 6d. with side-ways watermark; the 1880 1/- line-perf SPECIMEN with upright watermark; the 1883 4d. with upright watermark.

This evidence shows, I believe, that watermark varieties had plenty of opportunity to occur. *Please*, could all members with used copies of imperforate Cameos clearly showing the year, check that date and watermark tally. The watermarks are not always easy to see, but any small part of the design or lettering would be sufficient. If you do come across any anomalies, I should be very interested to hear the details.

## THE GAMBIA

NOTES BY PETER BURDEN

At a recent meeting of the Postal History Society in Bournemouth, Peter Burden was recalling, for Philip Beale and Charles Leonard, some interesting details of his war-time experiences in the Gambia and West Africa. They both felt these were deserving of a wider audience and asked him if he could get the salient points on to paper. This is what he produced:-

*As part of my time in R.A.F. Coastal Command during the last war, I served with 200 Squadron in West Africa. I can give you facts which are certain, because they are recorded in my Flying Log Book, and I can give you reminiscences which are now over 45 years old and are, correspondingly, much less reliable.*

*Firstly, the facts: they may be helpful in dating the reminiscences. My crew and I flew a new Hudson Mark IV number AE620 from Portreath to Gibraltar on 7th September 1941 and from Gibraltar to the Gambia on 9th September. We landed at the aerodrome originally built by the Germans at Jeswang (or Jeshwang) a few miles south or southwest of Bathurst. The original landing strip was made from pierced metal plates laid on hardcore and bolted together and the runway had been extended to about double its original length by laying crushed and rolled laterite; a locally available reddish rock.*

*For the first five months in West Africa, I flew on normal Coastal Command sorties from Jeswang but, in February 1942, I started being involved in reconnaissance and particularly photographic reconnaissance of the Vichy held French Territories and of Monrovia. Between 12th February and 25th we did a good deal of work between the Gambia and Freetown, Sierra Leone; on 27th February we flew on to Takoradi in the Gold Coast and from then until 8th April 1942 we were involved in Photo Recce work over the French Ivory Coast, Dahomey, Togoland, French Niger, Upper Volta and Senegal. We did a good deal of port, beach and coast photography but we also overflew most of the important towns in French West Africa. Subsequently we realised this was all a diversion from the then planned invasion of North Africa, Operation Torch.*

*From 8th April 1942 we reverted to standard Coastal Command duties but in May we temporarily left West Africa to ferry one of the Squadron Hudsons to the Middle East where there were facilities for major servicing. We photographed all the aerodromes and landing strips between Takoradi and Cairo, the results later appearing in the Route Book issued to Ferry Pilots. In Cairo we were issued with Passports describing us as Civil Servants and with fairly flimsy civilian clothes and were then flown by Pan American Airways in a Douglas DC3 (Dakota) to Lagos /Apapa and by B.O.A.C. from Lagos to Poole, Dorset via Freetown, Bathurst, Lisbon (Portugal) and Foynes (Eire) on the Short Empire C Class Clare G-AFCZ. The stops at Lisbon and Foynes explain the disguise as Civil Servants. We reached Poole on 13th June 1942. Incidentally I have a note that the Clare was lost on its next journey home about one hour out of Bathurst: possibly a French interception from Dakar. Both the Pan American and B.O.A.C. routes must have carried mail but I do not know whether it was all military or whether some might have been civilian or service. We flew a new Hudson Mark IIIa number FH282 from Portreath to Gibraltar on 30th June and on to Jeswang on 3rd July. From then until 21st January 1943 we mixed Coastal work with much more comprehensive reconnaissance work from north of Dakar to east of Nigeria and over considerable areas of*

French Territory. We then came home by merchant ship in convoy from Freetown to Gibraltar to the Clyde at the end of our first tour of operations. At first No. 200 Squadron had aircraft only at Jeswang but detachments were established at Freetown (Hastings and later Waterloo) at Takoradi (Gold Coast) and at Pointe Noire in the Free French Congo. We also used Marshall Field near Monrovia in Liberia, Accra in the Gold Coast and Apapa and Ikega both near Lagos in Nigeria. After I left the Squadron it also had a detachment at Dakar which had then been removed from the control of the French Vichy Government (this may have been after the Squadron converted to Liberators).

Now from facts to reminiscences.

When we first got to the Gambia mail between the separate British Territories was carried by small coastal steamers; whilst in Takoradi I remember flying escort to the "Apapa" and there were probably others. Mail used to come out from England every six weeks with the regular convoy and arrived at Freetown and then was sent up to Jeswang or down to Takoradi etc. At some time, I think during the second half of my tour, one of our crews was retrained to fly a Dakota, donned Pan American uniform and flew a regular schedule between the British Territories (Gambia to Nigeria). I am fairly confident that mail was carried as well as cargo and passengers.

At some time, I think during the second half of my tour but less confidently, we were led to believe that there was an Air Mail service available from Bathurst to U.K. It seemed very plausible since I and others knew from personal experience that B.O.A.C. flew the route. I think we understood the rate to be 1/3d. and many letters were written by servicemen and posted in Bathurst. Eventually the Squadron Commander found out that there was a heap of mail which had accumulated at Bathurst and had gone nowhere. I remember hearing second or third hand rumours, probably when I was down at Takoradi, that the C.O. had done his best to shift the heap. There was a Squadron of Sunderlands flying from the river by Bathurst and they flew back to U.K. from time to time; there was also increasing other air traffic as the invasion of North Africa in November 1942 opened up an easier route to Gibraltar and beyond and some of this accumulated mail may have got through by official or informal airmail. I never learnt of any of my own mail getting through this way but, with the irregularity of mail in both directions and the considerable time in transit, it was never really possible to know what letters got home and what did not.

## GAMBIA: CENSORED MAIL

CHARLES LEONARD

In the previous issue of "Cameo" (Vol. 3/5), I made a plea for details of further examples of the P.202 Censor cachet. This drew a prompt response from John Rose, who sent in a photocopy of the cover illustrated (Fig.1). It is from Lady Southorn, the wife of the Governor, and would appear to confirm that this handstamp was used in Gambia. The date of the cancellation is not easy to read but appears to be 13 March 1942, which is very close to the two examples already recorded. A glance at the table of dates given on page 107 of the Gambia handbook shows that the P.202 dates fit quite neatly between those for Type II, the named cachet (I can extend the latest date for this to 11 February 42) and Type III, the "NN" coded types.

The decision to withdraw the named types, for security reasons, was I believe, taken early in 1942 and I suspect that P.202 was used on a temporary basis until the new Imperial Letter Code types were issued. I would imagine that it had a very short life.

Whilst writing on the subject of Censor cachets, I can add another number to the "INN" series (Type IIIB). This is "INN/5524" (Fig.2) and the Bathurst cancellation is dated 10 June 1942.

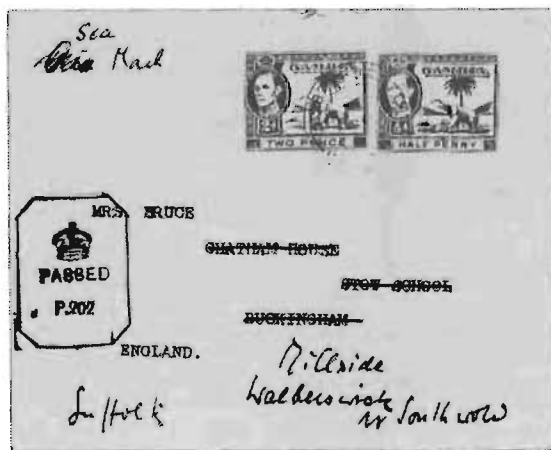


Fig. 1

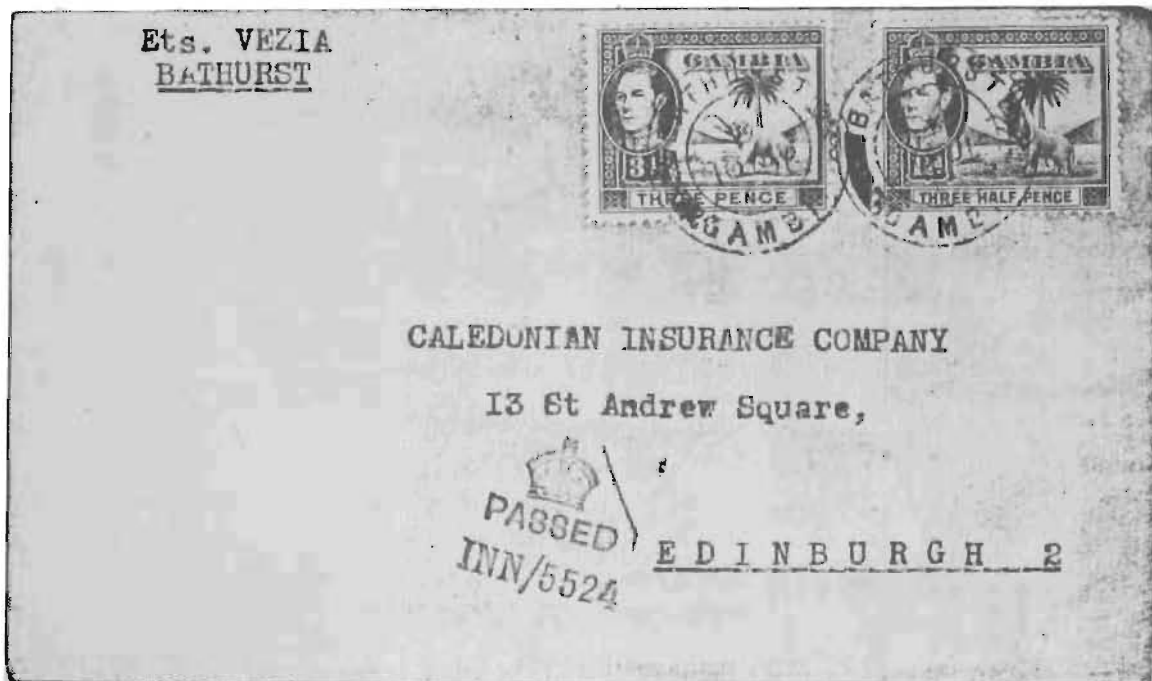


Fig.2

## GOLD COAST. THE 1884 1d. ROSE-CARMINE

ROY COOPER

The 1d. rose-carmine CROWN CA watermark of 1884 is unusual as it shows the variety 'short tail' to 'P' of 'PENNY' and also damage to the following 'E'.

It would appear that the plate was damaged at some

time and, if this was so, it may be possible to find a repaired cliché.

The stamp is part of an irregular block from Plate number 1 and is stamp number 30 on the plate.



## GOLD COAST WITH FAKED SEYCHELLES CANCELLATION

The following is reproduced by kind permission of Sue Hopson, editor of *I.O.*, Journal of the Indian Ocean Study Circle.

*An IOSC member, with other varied philatelic interests, has reported that a US collector of Gold Coast (and a member of the West Africa S.C.) has found an 1889 10/- dull mauve and red cancelled "SEYCHELLES B AU 6 1903"; the collector is specific in his date, so it is assumed the cancellation is Type V8. He also suggests the stamp was used in connection with the exile of King Prempeh of Ashanti to Seychelles (1900-24). As he was not aware the cancellation was a fake, a natural connection to make.*

*The 1903 fake cancel is known on Queen Victoria 1901 and 1902 provisional sets and King Edward 1903 set and provisionals, including the 3c/18c surcharged locally on sale 2nd September 1903 (although on the copy I have there is only part of the cancel, the well formed "Y" and the "AU" with thin "U" are unmistakable). None of the foregoing facts explain how a 1903 Seychelles faked cancellation appears on an 1889 Gold Coast 10/-; but maybe it does establish that the 1903 type V8 cancellation was perpetrated on Seychelles?*

*Does any member know of any other non-Seychelles adhesives with type V8 cds?*

*Or does anyone have any ideas to explain the circumstances?*



### GOLD COAST T.P.O.'s

**JEREMY MARTIN**

In preparation for the anticipated publication of two Gold Coast books, I have up-dated Colin McCaig's original work. This has meant adding a few new types and extending the dates. Members may be interested in seeing just the listings and the illustrations since it is better to alter it now rather than after publication.

For any new types, please provide a photo-stat, measurements and colour.

### CHECK LIST The Western Line

Type	Form	Size in mm	Wording	E.r.d.	L.r.d.
W.1 (in red)	Double circles	29½ x 19½	TPO/GOLD COAST enclosing 2-line date	19 Dec. 14	
W.1a	Double circles	29½ x 19½	TPO U/GOLD COAST enclosing 2-line date	11 Jly 14	
W.1b	Double circles	29 x 19	Similar to Type W.1 but wider spacing of the letters "T P O"	28 Nov 18	19 Feb 19
W.2	Double circles	32 x 21	TPO !/GOLD COAST enclosing 2-line date or 3-line date	30 Nov 20	19 Nov 26
W.2a	Double circles	32 x 21	TPO2/GOLD COAST enclosing 2-line date or 3-line date	4 Mar 22	12 Jun 26
W.2b	Double circles	32 x 21	TPO 4/GOLD COAST enclosing time over 2-line date	4 Oct 19	23 Feb 20
W.2c	Double circles	32 x 21	TPO 3/GOLD COAST (no further details)	- Oct 19	
W.3	Double circles	33½ x 23½	TPO WESERN 1/ GOLD COAST enclosing UP or DOWN over 2-line date	5 Oct 27	2 Feb 28

W.3a	Double circles	33½ x 23½	WESTERN TPO 2/ GOLD COAST enclosing DOWN over 2-line date	29 Oct 27	14 Jly 28
W.4	Double circles and date-panel	28	T.P.O. WESTERN 1/ GOLD COAST date and UP or DOWN in panel	8 Feb 28	23 May 47
W.4a	Double circles and date-panel	28	As W4 but 2	30 Aug 29	11 Mar 46
W.5	Double circles	33½ x 23½	TPO WESTERN/ GOLD COAST enclosing 2-line date	10 Aug 42	27 Sep 54
W.5a	Double circles	33½ x 23½	TPO W DN/ GOLD COAST enclosing 2-line date.	20 Jly 53	20 Mar 57
W.6	Double circles and date-panel	29	T.P.O. W. DOWN/GOLD COAST 2 within upper segment and date in panel	5 Jan 46	27 Mar 57
W.7	Single circle	24	T.P.O. 1/GOLD COAST enclosing 2-line date	10 Feb 50	18 Aug 52
W.7a	Single circle	24	As W.7 but UP or DN above 2-line date	29 Apr. 48	26 Aug 48
W.7b	Single circle	24	As W.7 but 3	N/K	
TP 1	Double circles	30 x 22	PRESTEA/TARQUAH TPO above 2-line date	N/K	

E.r.d. = Earliest recorded date; L.r.d. = Latest recorded date.

## CHECK LIST The Eastern Line

Type	Form	Size in mm	Wording	E.r.d.	L.r.d.
E.1	Double circles	32 x 21	ACCRA TPO SOUTH enclosing 2-line date	17 Sep. 23	19 Dec. 23
E.1a	Double circles	32 x 21	As E.1. but NORTH	18 Sep. 23	
E.2	Double circles	26 x 16	ACCRA/ T.P.O. DOWN enclosing time over 2-line date	25 Aug. 25	12 Jun. 26
E.2a	Double circles	26 x 16	As E.2 but UP	10 Mar. 24	17 Oct. 27
E.3	Double circles	33½ x 23½	ACCRA TPO UP/ GOLD COAST enclosing 2-line date	9 Jun. 27	
E.4	Double circles	33½ x 23½	EASTERN TPO 2/ GOLD COAST enclosing UP or DOWN over 2-line date	9 Mar. 28	
E.5	Double circles and date panel	29	T.P.O. EASTERN/1 date and UP or DOWN in panel	10 Jun. 28	23 Aug. 39
E.5a	Double circles and date panel	29	As E.5 but 2	24 Aug. 28	29 Oct. 37

E.6	Double circles and date panel	29	T.P.O. EASTERN/ curved bar, date and UP or DOWN in panel	18 Jly. 39	19 Apr. 57
E.7	Double circles and date panel	29	T.P.O./GOLD COAST R within upper segment, 6 within lower segment and date and time panel	30 Aug. 46	31 Jan. 50
				<b>Used on Western Line</b>	
				21 Jun. 48	
E.8	Double circles	32 x 21	TPO EASTERN B/ GOLD COAST enclosing UP or DOWN over 2-line date	28 Jun. 50	6 Oct. 51
E.9	Double circles	27 x 16	T.P.O. EASTERN -/ GOLD COAST enclosing A over 2-line date	29 Jun. 50	13 Sep. 51
E.10	Single circle	24	T.P.O. EASTERN (DIV) R.3/GOLD COAST enclosing 2-line date	27 Aug. 55	9 Jly. 57

## CHECK LIST

### The Central Line

Type	Form	Size in mm	Wording	E.r.d.	L.r.d.
C.1	Double circles and date panel	28	CENTRAL T.P.O./ No. 1/ GOLD COAST with date in panel	3 Apr. 29	1 May 57
C.2	Double circles	28	CENTRAL T.P.O. No. 2/ GOLD COAST with date and time in panel	23 Apr. 27	3 Sep. 48
C.3	Double ovals	33½ x 25	REGISTERED/ CENTRAL T.P.O. No. 2 GOLD COAST enclosing 1-line date	4 Apr. 27	12 Jun. 42
C.4	Double circles	33½ x 22½	TPO CENTRAL 2/ GOLD COAST enclosing 2-line date	19 Nov. 26	

### Extra Fee Cachet

E.F.1	Rectangle	59 x 21	POSTED ON TRAIN/ WITHOUT EXTRA FEE/ ...d. TO PAY	8 Jan. 30	19 May 51
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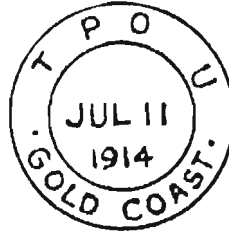
### Gold Coast Government Railway

G.R.1	Single circle	25	G.C.G.R./ ABOSSO enclosing 2-line date G.C.G.R./ IMBRAIM enclosing 2-line date	.03 21 Sep. 10	6 Feb. 05 11
G.R.2	Double circles	30 x 19	G.C.G.R./ OPONSO enclosing 2-line date	17 Jun. 18	
G.R.3	Double circles	25 x 17	G.C.G.R./ BOANKRA enclosing 2-line date	27 Oct. 24	

# THE WESTERN LINE



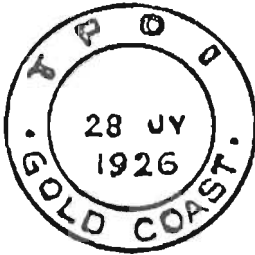
W.1



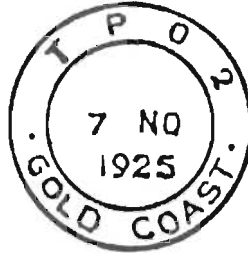
W.1a



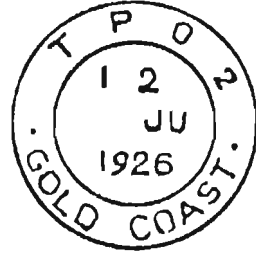
W.1b



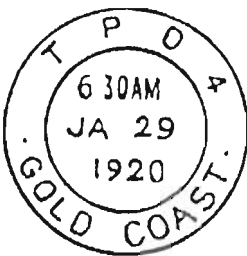
W.2



W.2a



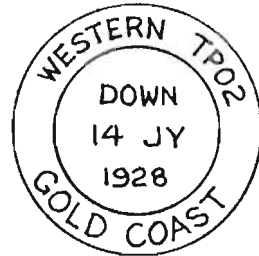
W.2a



W.2b



W.3



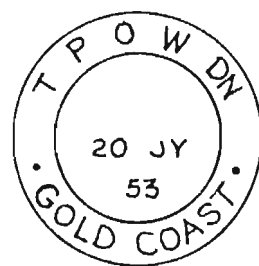
W.3a



W.4



W.5



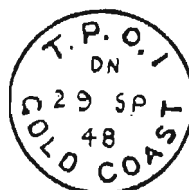
W.5a



W.6

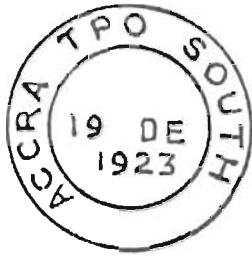


W.7



W.7a

# THE EASTERN LINE



E.1



E.1a



E.2a



E.3



E.4



E.5a



E.6



E.7

(Also used on the Western Line)



E.8



E.9



E.10



A.T. 1

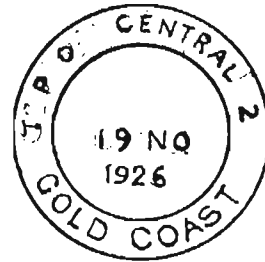
THE CENTRAL LINE



C.1



C.2

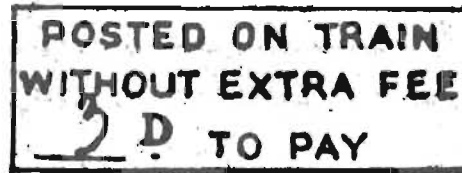


C.4



C.3

EXTRA FEE CACHET



E.F.1

GOLD COAST GOVERNMENT RAILWAY



G.R.1



G.R.2



G.R.3

## GOLD COAST 1928 CHRISTIANSBORG CASTLE

The Royale postal auction of May 6th 1987 included the following items, unrecorded to the best of your Editor's knowledge:

½d., 2d., 2½d. and 6d. values all in imperforate blocks of 6 (3 x 2). The ½d. perforated with a horseshoe type "SPECIMEN"; the other values handstamped "SPECIMEN" without a full stop.

The lot fetched £1150 (+VAT).

## GOLD COAST 1938 AIR CRASH COVER

**ROBERT SEAMAN**

The July 1981 issue of Cameo included an article by Jeremy Martin on the crash and an illustration of the cachet applied.

I have been able to purchase another cover from the same crash but with a different cachet. This reads "SERVICE POSTAL FRANCAIS/ Correspondence retardée/ par accident d'avion/ Prière de ne pas taxer".

The Gold Coast stamps were cancelled at Kumasi on March 4th 1938.



## GOLD COAST W.W.II MILITARY CENSOR MARKS

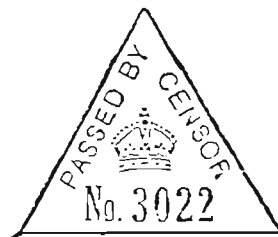
**JEREMY MARTIN**

This is an attempt to list the censor cachets used in the Gold Coast during the Second World War. The numbering used is that designated by The Forces Postal History Society and the illustrations, by courtesy of John Daynes, are taken from his recent book "World War Two Censor Marks".

**ARMY**

Another main type of army censor mark was introduced in October 1940 in the United Kingdom, where it was used until the end of 1941. The mark was also used in Sudan (1940 – 42), Malaya (1940 – 41), West Africa (1941 – 42), Dutch West Indies (1941), Gibraltar (1941 – 42) and in the Middle East. Exceptional usages include Ceylon and India (1942) and C.M.F. (1943).

- A 200 Normal crown with open base (Nos. 1 – 2999)
- A 201 Simplified crown (Nos. 3000 – 3500)

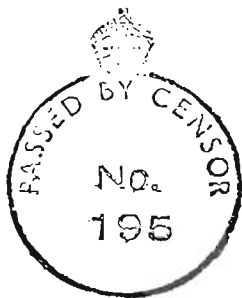


- A 200 Violet 1035, 1340, 1404, 1580, 1655, 1948, 1969, 2811, 2915
  - Red 1948
  - Black 1340
- Dates of use in West Africa 17 July 1941 to 28 Jan 1942.

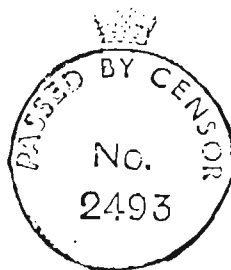
**ARMY**

One of the most widely used censor marks, it was introduced in January 1942 and used throughout the world. This type was generally replaced by type A600 in April 1944 although Canadian troops in Italy continued to use this type of mark. The latest recording is in April 1945.

- A 500 Round squat numbers
  - A 501 Tall narrower numbers – flat top to '3'
  - A 502 Simplified crown, tall unseriffed numbers
  - A 503 Small crown, tall seriffed numbers
  - A 504 Numbers in fancy type
- Numbers recorded up to 10207



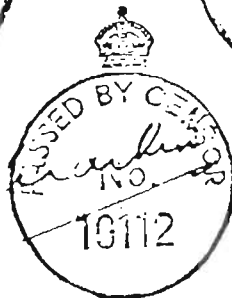
A 500



A 501



A 502



A 503



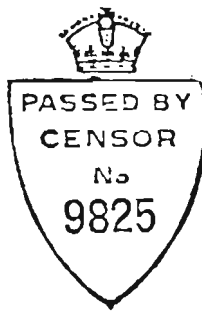
A 504

- A 500 Violet 2848, 2873, 2960, 2983, 2991, 3064, 3065, 3084, 3099, 3104, 3142, 3177, 3200, 3201, 3217, 3406, 3407, 3413, 4326, 7299, 7740.
- West African dates of useage 7 Feb. 1942 – 15 July 1945.

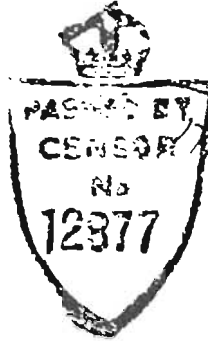
**ARMY**

Another widely used mark was introduced in the pre D-Day period (April 1944) and is recorded as late as December 1945 from East Africa. Numbers recorded 17 – 16000.

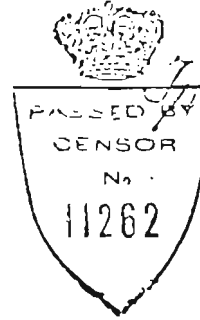
- A 600 Normal shield
- A 601 Large shield (6700, 8859, 12877 & 15242)
- A 602 No. 11262 was used by Polish Forces and seems to be a locally made replacement with a Dutch (?) crown
- A 603 No. 3562 without 'No' above number



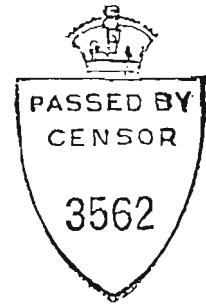
A 600



A 601



A 602



A 603

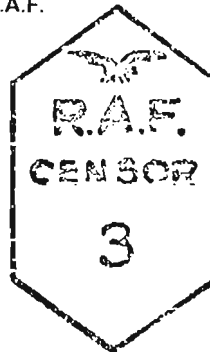
- A 600 Violet 4202, 4205, 4238, 7115, 7129, 7820, 9380, 9389  
Blue 9382  
Reddish-Purple 7829

West African dates of use 15 June 1944 – 14 March 1946.

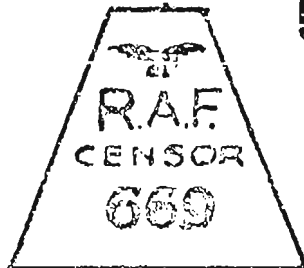


R4

R.A.F.



R9



R10



R11

- R4 Dark/Dull Blue 8
- R10 colour 349
- R9 Violet 254
- R11 Blue 91, 114  
Red 68  
Violet 7, 168

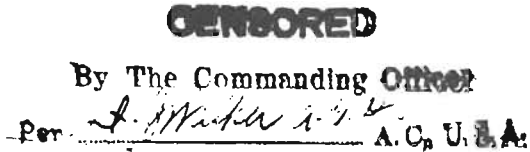
West African dates of use R4 ? March 1943, R9 28 Sept. 1941, R10 12 Jan. 1942, R11 29 May 1943 – 1 Mar 1944.

# GOLD COAST W.W.II U.S. MILITARY CENSOR MARKS

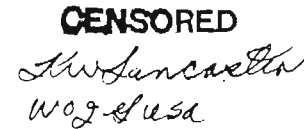
JEREMY MARTIN

The writer would refer to Cameo whole number 8 which gives details of the various types of U.S.A. Army Post Offices in the Gold Coast. To the best of the writer's knowledge no further information has appeared in print.

This note attempts to detail some of the censor marks found on such mail.



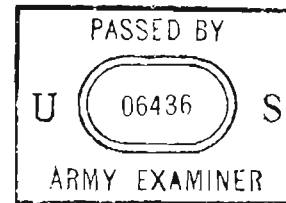
1



2



3



4



5

Type 1	Black & manuscript name
	Purple & manuscript name
Type 2	Black & manuscript name
Type 3	Purple & manuscript name
Type 4	Black 06436, 06445, 23024
	Violet 06429, 23010, 23012, 23022
	Purple 417, 06448
Type 5	Violet 2101, 2105
	Black 0841, 2506

In addition, some mail was censored and noted by the censor without the use of a handstamp.

- i) Censored H.M. Love 2nd Lt. A.C.
- ii) Censored Henry A. Knoland 2nd Lt. A.C.
- iii) Censored by 1st Lt. H. Rigney
- iv) N. R. Priore 2nd Lt. A.C.

## GOLD COAST F.P.O. 108

ROY COOPER

I have an example of this on cover to Birmingham, England dated 6th February 1945 and with a military censor cachet with the number 7128.

The canceller shows the code letter 'A' E. B. Proud in his 'History of British Army Postal Service Vol III 1927 – 1963' lists this F.P.O. but indicates that it had not been recorded before.

## NIGERIA. THE 1932 PRINTINGS

JACK INCE

Reference is made to the study by Neville Jones on the George V Key Plate stamps published by the Circle in 1983. Numbers printed, dates of despatch and of issue are listed together with the relevant plate numbers of which there were 27 in all.

Of special interest are the printings from plate 23 which was made up from Die I at a time when plates from Die II were generally in use. Values printed were:-

- 2d – 3 printings for a total of 1,194,840 stamps
- 4d – 1 printing totalling 241,440 (pale yellow back)
- 2/6d – 1 printing totalling 49,420
- 5/- – 1 printing totalling 44,760 (pale yellow back)
- 10/- – 1 printing totalling 31,200 (emerald back)
- £1 – 1 printing totalling 12,120



The Stanley Gibbons catalogue fails to list the £1 for this printing, nor does it include the colour on the reverse for the 4d, 5/- and 10/- stamps.

Stamps from plate 23 (except for the 2d. due to change of colour) cannot be readily distinguished from the earlier volume printings of Die I and the only reliable guide is where a marginal copy retains the plate number attached. The sheets of stamps were divided into panes of 60 stamps (6 x 10) the plate number presumably being printed four times in the margin above stamps 2 and 5 in the top row and below stamps 56 and 59 in the bottom row i.e. only four stamps in 60 (or one in every 15) carried the plate number in the adjacent margin.

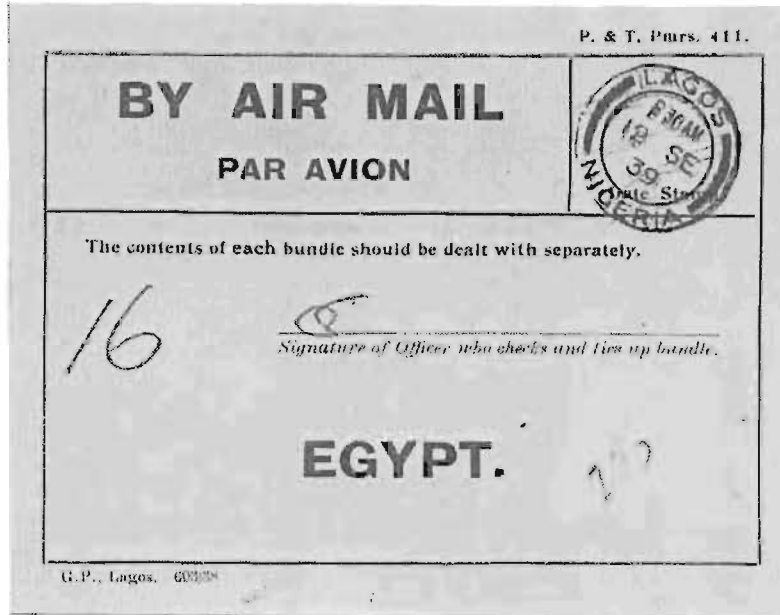
Thus, for the £1 value, at best only 808 stamps could be identified as from plate 23 assuming they all still existed and still retained the plate number attached. The probability of 100% survival is remote. Even if 10% have survived this means that only 80 copies are now available. Surely this stamp merits separate listing, and what value does such a marginal specimen warrant?

# NIGERIAN AIR MAIL BUNDLE LABELS

JEREMY MARTIN

Recently, I obtained three of these labels which appear to have been used to indicate destinations for bundles of air letters.

Two are grey-blue and postmarked Lagos in September 1939. The destination has been pre-printed. One being 'Egypt' the other 'China' although the latter has been deleted and 'Syria' inserted. They measure 140 x 110mm.



The third label was used from Kano, again in September 1939. This is dark blue and measures 138 x 114mm. The destination was not pre-printed being inserted in manuscript, in this case 'Transjordan'



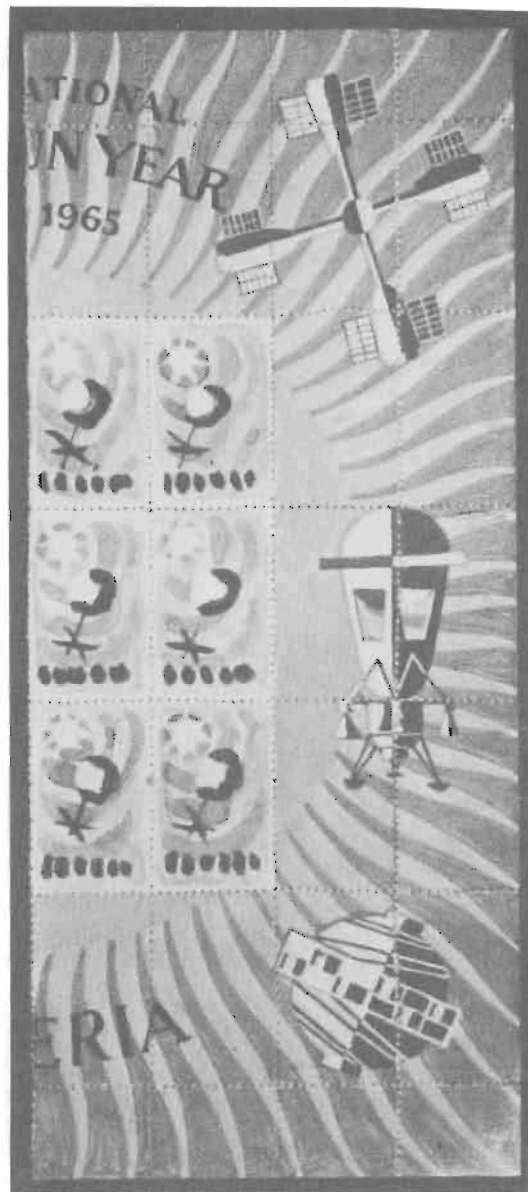
## NIGERIA. INTERNATIONAL QUIET SUN YEAR 1965

DEREK WORBOYS

From Nigeria I was recently offered a 'proof' of a half sheet of the 1965 International Quiet Sun Year.

When it arrived it turned out to be the art work for the border (I think). Unfortunately, I have found it quite impossible to acquire a sheet showing the border designs.

The colour of the artist's impressions of the stamp is mainly greeny-brown whereas the issued 6d. has a turquoise-blue background and the 1/3d. reddish lilac.



## SIERRA LEONE. DUBLIN BANANAS 1894.

PHILIP BEALE

The Banana islands lie to the south of the peninsula on which Freetown is situated, the small town or village on the main island being called Dublin. Their name must be either because bananas once grew there or, more likely, because the principal island is in the shape of the fruit.

A Post Office was set up on 16th March 93 and its datestamp is shown on the cover illustrated. The envelope is notable for two reasons, firstly because it shows the only example of the postmark that I have recorded and secondly because the stamp is a rare example of the One Penny on Sixpence revenue used on a local cover at the correct rate. The recipient was Monsieur Louis Gorgerat, known for arranging some unusual covers at the time but also for keeping commercial mail addressed to himself.

The Type 18 postmark Dublin Bananas was sent from Britain on 25th May 93 and we know that a Type 34 reading Bananas was sent of 6th July 07. Standard Type datestamps are occasionally seen on King George the Fifth stamps and later. The place was so small there can have been little outgoing or incoming mail, although a Postal Agency was still maintained at the time

of national Independence in 1961.

When the Government of Sierra Leone decided to accept de la Rue Keyplate stamps that read Postage and revenue, they used up various revenue stamps for postal purposes. I have seen the One Penny on Sixpence revenue stamp on four local covers, which each paid the correct rate. Gibbons' British Commonwealth catalogue now gives the stamp the status of a footnote whereas Poole's booklet on Sierra Leone reckoned it to be properly postally used, as also does the Robson Lowe Encyclopaedia. A few examples of the stamp, some several years later than the one shown, are known in combination with other stamp values to foreign destinations.

The difficulty in giving the stamp the unqualified approval is its rarity in used condition on cover. No evidence is known of official approval but that does not mean that it was invalid, for no mention is given in The Sierra Leone Royal Gazette of any of the overprinted revenue stamps that were used postally. I would be most interested to hear from any member who has a copy of the stamp used at a correct rate on cover, as also of any other example of the Dublin Bananas datestamp.



## TOGO. OVERPRINT DOUBLE WITH 'CCUPATION' VARIETY.

JEREMY MARTIN

A used example of the above with the whole overprint doubled, has been submitted to your editor for comment. This is on the 1/2d. value.

The doubling is not almost on top of the original as in the two unused examples in the writer's collection. A faint 'CCUPATION' falls over 'ANGLO-FRENCH'. The

'CCUPATION' variety usually, but not always, shows clipped perforations where it has been cut from the sheet. This one does not. The hyphen between 'ANGLO' and 'FRENCH' falls on the bottom of the line and not half way up as is normal. The postmark is indistinct although this is not necessarily relevant.

## TOGO. THE HYPHEN MYSTERY

JEREMY MARTIN

The heading refers to the 1915 Accra overprinting on Gold Coast stamps with particular reference to pane positions 5 and 28.

To begin with position 5. The 'no hyphen' variety is recorded on the 1/2d., 1d., 3d. yellow back, 2/-, 2/6d. and 5/- values. S.G. also record it on the 2d. and 2 1/2d.

The 2d. value exists with i) one raised hyphen and ii) two raised hyphens. On the 2 1/2d. i) two hyphens (one thin, one thick) and ii) one thin dropped hyphen.

The typeface on stamp 5 is usually, but not always, damaged. The 'CH' of 'FRENCH' becomes

'C H'

and, sometimes, the 'N' of 'OCCUPATION'

'N'

A very thick 're-inserted' hyphen can be found on the 1/2d. and 1d. but also on the 2d., 2 1/2d., 2/6 and 5/- which appear to come from this position 28. All these stamps, except the 1/2d., seem to come from a later, more solid overprinting.

Subsequently it seems that the printers 'tidied' up stamp 5 by inserting a replacement hyphen which was much thicker, and heavier, than the hyphens on the other stamps. This has been noted on the 1/2d., 1d., 2d., 2 1/2d., 3d. yellow back, 6d., 1/-, 2/-, 2/6d., 5/- and 10/-.

Do the 2d. and 2 1/2d. values exist with no trace of any hyphen at all?

We now come to position 28 where 'no hyphen' varieties are known on the 1/2d. and 1d. values. This position can be checked. Usually the 'H' of 'FRENCH' is broken

'H'

Finally, the writer has 'no hyphen' examples of the 1/2d., 1d., 2 1/2d., and 3d. where there are no broken letters to help confirm a pane position. The 1/2d. is in a moderately 'solid' overprinting and the other three values in the later 'more solid' form.

These may all be from position 5 which would suggest that the whole overprint was re-set and this removed some of the earlier varieties.

Any ideas or suggestions would be welcomed. The writer would like to acknowledge help already provided by John Wilson.

## NIGERIA 1973-4 AND 1975-80

NEVILLE JONES

Those who collect the current Nigerian Definitives will be very aware of the problem of shade, and sometimes colour differences in the various printings of some values. Anyone who undertakes a study of this issue will find it quite a challenge and, therefore, to aid any stout-hearted researcher we should record any information on the issue that may come to hand.

To this end we are indebted to Don Van Reken for a sight of some plate numbers of the 5k and 10k values.

The differences are as follows:-

	PLATE NOS. 5 K (PHOTO)		COLOURS			SKY, BORDER, BACKGROUND OF 'NIGERIA'
	(SMALL FIGURES AND LETTERS)	FIGURE & LETTERING	CATTLE	FIELDS		
1/	1A 1A 1A 1A	GREY - BLACK	YELLOW - BUFF	YELLOW GREEN	LIGHT BLUE	
2/	1B 1B 1B 1B	GREY - BLACK	YELLOW - BUFF	YELLOW - GREEN	LIGHT BLUE	
3/	1B 1B 1B 1B	BLACK	BUFF	GREEN	BLUE	

<b>5 K (LITHO) (LARGE FIGURES AND LETTERS)</b>					
4/	1A 1A 1A 1A	DARK BROWN	YELLOW - BUFF	LIGHT GREEN	BLUE
5/	1A 1A 1A 1A (THICKER FIGURES AND LETTERS)	DARK BROWN	CHESTNUT	LIGHT GREEN	BLUE
6/	1B 1B 1B 1B (LARGE FIGURES AND LETTERS)	DARK BROWN	YELLOW - BUFF	LIGHT GREEN	BLUE
<b>5 K 1975-80 (WATERMARKED)</b>					
7/	1A 1A 1A 1A (THICK FIGURES AND LETTERS)	BLACK	CHESTNUT	DARK GREEN	VERY DARK BLUE
<b>10K (PHOTO)</b>		<b>COLOURS</b>			
1/	1B 1B 1B	<b>BACKGROUND</b> MAUVE	<b>LEOPARDS</b> ORANGE - YELLOW	<b>LETTERING</b> BLACK	
2/	1B 1B 1B (LARGE FIGURES AND LETTERS)	LIGHT MAUVE	YELLOW	BLACK	
<b>10K 1975-80 (WATERMARKED)</b>					
3/	1A 1A 1A (THICK FIGURES AND LETTERS)	RED - MAUVE	ORANGE	BLACK	
4/	1B 1B 1B	DEEP RED MAUVE	PALE YELLOW	BLACK	

Whereas the colour sequence of the plate numbers for the 10K is constant viz. mauve, yellow, black; and the colour spots from top to bottom are black, yellow and mauve, there are several variations for the 5K value, as follows:-

<b>5K PHOTO</b> Examples 1,2,3	Constant, Plate Nos:- Colour Dots:-	Black, Yellow, Green, Blue Black, Yellow, Green, Blue
<b>5K (LITHO)</b> 4/	Plate Nos:- Dots:-	Yellow, Blue, Green, Black Black, Green, Blue, Yellow
5/	Plate Nos:- Dots:-	Blue, Green, Yellow, Black Blue, Green, Yellow, Black
6/	Plate Nos:- Dots:-	Yellow, Blue, Green, Black Black, Green, Blue, Yellow
<b>5K (WATERMARKED)</b> 7 & 8 / 7 / & 8 /	Plate Nos:- Dots:-	Yellow, Green, Blue, Black Black, Blue, Green, Yellow

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| 1183    | Ditto but 6d. in olive green and from the same source as last. Superb. Only 15 printed. (Illustrated)   | £1,350 |
| 1906    | 'ONE PENNY' double surcharge on 3/-, S.G. 70a, superb mint. Cat £2,250 (Illustrated)  | £1,250 |
| 1909    | 6d. & 7½d. overprinted SPECIMEN plus, most unusually, cancelled by a circle of bars. The only examples we have seen. (Illustrated)  | £200   |
| 1921-22 | 4/-, SG117 with script watermark inverted, CWG39a, very fine mint.  | £25    |
| 1922-27 | 1/-m SG134a, MCA watermark inverted, very fine mint marginal example  | £45    |

## GHANA

- |      |   |      |
|------|---|------|
| 1963 | Founder's Day 1/3, error, green omitted, SG317Ea, u/m.  | £50  |
| 1965 | C1.20 on 10/-, error, surcharge double, one green, one blue, S.G.390a, plate no. example, u/m | £65  |
| 1967 | 2½np, upright watermark, error, face value omitted, S.G.463 Eab, u/m. Only five recorded!     | £125 |

## SIERRA LEONE

- |      |  |      |
|------|--|------|
| 1964 | World Fair error 'AIR MAIL 11/-' omitted, S.G.298a contained in a block of four, mint.                                       | £120 |
| 1964 | Kennedy 1d. & 6d. overprinted 'SPECIMEN', S.G. 299 & 302 (s).  | £30  |
| 1964 | Kennedy 7d. & 2/6 overprinted 'SPECIMEN', S.G. 306 & 309 (s).  | £30  |
| 1969 | Fifth Anniversary of World's first Self-Adhesive Postage Stamps, set of 12 all perforated 'W.S.P. SPECIMEN' S.G. 467-478 (s) | £120 |

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