

G A M E O



Journal of the
West Africa Study Circle

VOLUME 3 NUMBER 9

JANUARY 1989



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T.V. ROBERTS MANUSCRIPT CANCELLATIONS

26th April 1989 – London

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EDITORIAL

I now have some articles for the 1990 Special Issue but more are needed to make it a success. If members have items relating to 1890, that would be tremendous but it is not essential. Anyone who would like to discuss suggestions with me, please do so.

The Circle has a full programme for 1989 with the York Conference a highlight. The usual Salisbury meeting is also being held and here spouses can enjoy our Cathedral, market, book and antique shops. A buffet lunch is served at the Red Lion for those who do not wish to partake of the more substantial fare in the main dining room. If you have not visited Salisbury before, why not join us.

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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.

WHOLE NUMBER 29

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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)

Christie's Robson Lowe 15th March 1988

West African Campaigns 1898 unstamped envelope, crest 'WEST AFRICAN FRONTIER FORCE', manuscript 'On Field Service No Stamps available' from Capt. W.S. Armitage, R.A. to London showing boxed P.O. date-stamp of Burutu. Liverpool arrival marks. £330 (£250).

West African Campaigns 1900 (15 July) unstamped envelope to Liverpool, manuscript "Ashanti Field

Force" and "On Active Service, no stamps available" showing 'KUMASI/GOLD COAST' d.s., handstamp 'T', 'CAPE COAST/GOLD COAST' d.s. and Plymouth and Liverpool arrival marks. £467 (£450)

West African Campaigns 1902 (9 Feb) unstamped envelope with enclosure letter headed "Wase", manuscript "On active service no stamps available, N.M. Wilkin Lieut. 2 WAFF" and red crayon "Ibi 13-2-02" on the address panel, to London. £209 (£150).

LIVERPOOL P.L.O.

I have always been unhappy about this backstamp, called Packet Letter Office by Robertson, but Port Landing Office etc by others. It is used as a transit stamp (I thought), those from Liverpool being posted at town offices.

The Floating Receiving House letters were posted at the pier and bear 1/- Late Fee in addition to the postage but I have never seen a P.L.O. letter with late fee using this office. Robertson lists the F.R.H. as in use from 18th August 1849 to October 1864 and the P.L.O. as issued on 4th December 1858 although his illustration is 6 months earlier so there may have been one earlier. Can anyone confirm this overlap with an F.R.H. stamp dated after 1st July 1858?

My new interest comes from the discovery of two half wrappers, both bearing 2d blues, to the same address on 29th July and 1st August 1863. The 2d must be inland and one shows part of London E.C. to confirm it. The 29th July has a Head Office duplex but 1st August, in addition to a P.L.O. backstamp, is cancelled with the 466 single stamp which I have seen only on F.R.H. letters.

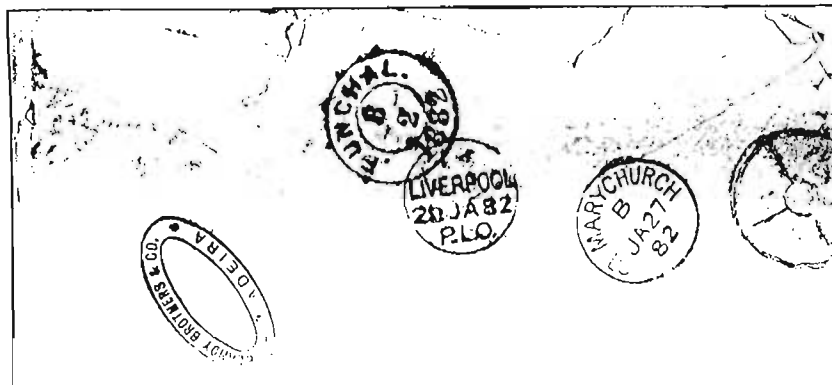
Possibly more than one of these distinctive stamps was made but it seems more likely that the F.R.H. handed it over to the P.L.O. which is why I query the overlap. Anyway, I cannot find anyone who has seen the P.L.O. used on an inland letter. There is no mention of 1/- Late Fee or the F.R.H. in the P.O. Guide but

MARTIN WILLCOCKS

probably a notice hung in the Liverpool Head Office. The only Town Receiving Offices listed were Money Order Offices so its absence from the list means nothing.

If it stands for Packet Letter Office, why was it used only on a proportion of these letters (I would guess much less than half)? Use is haphazard. I suppose it is possible that mail at certain times had to be sorted there, at other times it arrived already bagged for destination, but I am sure it was not carelessness. Searching for light, I found a Guide for Liverpool of 1887 This lists a Landing Stage B.O., also Canada Dock and Langton Dock B.O.'s and, as they were Telegraph Offices, they appear to be open to the public. (Not all offices were open to the public - although much mail was stamped 'London/S.M.P.'. you will not find St Martin's Place office listed). I think it was purely for sorting and not open to the public. Does it stand for Port Landing Office then?

Another entry in this Liverpool Post Office Guide for 1887 is of interest. Under Foreign and Colonial Mail, Late Fee of 1/2d was payable for most places abroad to 11.40 a.m., 1.40 p.m. for Supplementary Mail and 10 p.m. "Letters for the W. Coast of Africa with the postage plus a Late Fee of 1/- are received at the Post Office on the Landing Stage up to the departure of the Tender" I wonder if any have survived on cover



I have a 4d grey plate 18 with the P.L.O. c.d.s. of 15 Dec. 83 which I would think was a late Christmas Card with 1/- Late Fee, 4d postage. This shows that late fee mail was cancelled with the c.d.s. at this period. I also have it in red as a backstamp of 28 Jan. 82 on an envelope from Torquay to Madeira (see illustration) with 2½d blue plate 22 but all the others I have seen have been to some part of the Americas, I think.

I would guess that the inland letter to London E.C.

was posted at the P.L.O. in error in a bundle of late fee. If posted on its own I do not think they would have accepted it but cannot be sure. It may have been just an ordinary Post Office on the Landing Stage.

This article is published by kind permission of the Postal History Society. Robertson: "The Maritime Postal History of the British Isles."

THE S.S. ORON

The note on the S.S. Oron in the July 1988 Cameo has produced some response. Bob Maddocks has the mark on a pair of 10pfg. German Kamerun stamps (on a piece) which gives a date of 1900-1914.

Fritz Kemme has a similar card to that illustrated,

with exactly the same Au 6 04 PAQUEBOT PLYMOUTH arrival mark but addressed to London. The Oron cachet is on a pair of Lagos ½d stamps. Fritz also has the cachet on a single Gold Coast Edward VII 3d.

And Gene Fricks has a card with the same strikes.

GOLD COAST AND NIGERIA. GREEN TINTED PAPER USED IN 1921

PHILIP BEALE

In March 1921 the Crown Agents wrote to De La Rue that they had noted a bright green tint applied to the surface of the green Saunders paper they had supplied. The printers replied rather vaguely that they had endeavoured to match the face of the sheet with the paper and that they had to consider also the use of single fugitive inks.

This distinctive tinted paper is referred to in the Crown Agents Stamp Bulletins of January to March 1921 which observe that the old pale green paper had been surfaced with a much brighter green than had previously been used. They list the Requisitions that were affected. Reference to the firm's Private Day Books shows that there were ten colonial requisitions and that they included:

Gold Coast Req 25/20 June 16 1920 1/- 306,600 stamps, 10/- 60,840

Nigeria Req 4/20 May 17 1920 1/- 243,120

stamps, 10/- 24,720

No other West African colonies were affected. Despite the different appearance of the stamps no Specimens were sent to the Universal Postal Union.

The Gibbons catalogue refers to the various colonial stamps as emerald or on emerald or emerald back. Examination of the stamps should reveal that the face of the stamp, away from the printed area, is a bright green whereas the back is pale green. The distinction may only be apparent on mint stamps. On used stamps the paper, the tinting and the fugitive printing ink may have been affected by the water used to soak them off the envelope or postcard.

With thanks to the National Postal Museum and the British Library, particularly to Mr. John Davies of the British Library.

THE UNITED NATIONS PLEBISCITE IN THE SOUTHERN CAMEROONS

MICHAEL DOBBS & JOHN DAYNES

The Cameroons under United Kingdom trusteeship was formed by the western strip of the old German colony of Kamerun, which the British and French had conquered in the First World War. It lies on the west coast of Africa. Britain and France agreed on a partition of the territory, confirmed by the League of Nations in 1922, when it placed the parts of the territory thus divided under mandate to the United Kingdom Government and the French Government. In 1946 this mandate was converted into a United Nations trusteeship.

The United Kingdom trusteeship consisted of two narrow strips of land stretching along the eastern border of Nigeria, from Lake Chad in the north-east to the Atlantic Ocean in the south-west. The strips were separated by a 45-mile gap, in the middle of which ran the River Benue. One might think that the Northern

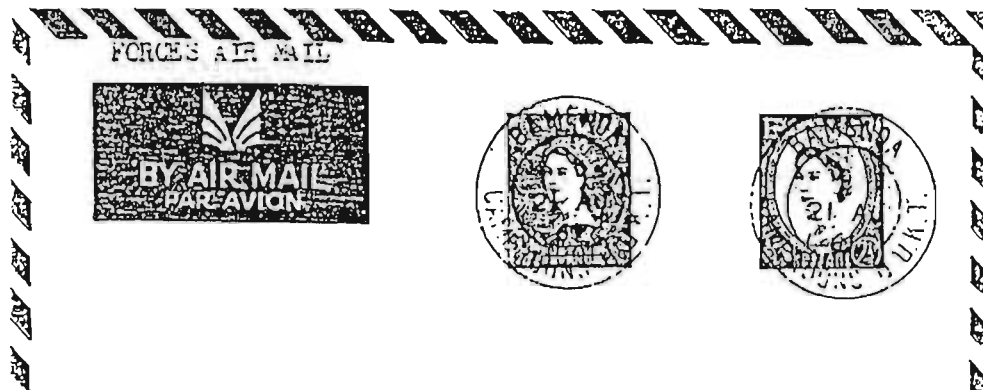
Cameroons was that portion of the British Cameroons lying north of this river, this this was not so. The Northern Cameroons lay on both sides of that 45-mile gap and ran down about 200 miles to a roughly eastward projection of the southern boundary of what had been Northern Nigeria. The Southern Cameroons was made up of the rest of the territory which led to the Atlantic coast.

Throughout the period of British administration the whole of the territory was administered as an integral part of Nigeria; the Northern Cameroons firstly as part of Northern Nigeria (which later became the Northern Region of Nigeria), and the Southern Cameroons first as part of the Eastern Provinces (later the Eastern Region), and in 1954 as a separate administration similar to a region of Nigeria.

In the French Cameroun, the Union des Populations

du Cameroun (UPC), formed in 1947, demanded independence for a re-united British and French Cameroons. This demand was rejected, and on 12 July 1956 the UPC launched a guerilla war of resistance against the French administration. In 1958 the Cameroun Government offered an amnesty to the UPC,

which was accepted by some terrorists; but the UPC remained active in the Bamileke area which was adjacent to the Southern Cameroons. On 1 January 1960 the territory became an independent state outside of the French Community and was known as the Cameroun Republic.



Forces mail postmarked at the civil post office at Bamenda.

In 1959 a plebiscite was held in Northern Cameroons which determined that the future of the territory would be decided at a later date, rather than joining the Nigerian Federation when it became independent on 1 October 1960. Arrangements were also being made for a plebiscite to be held in Southern Cameroons. The United Nations authorities stated that it would be undesirable for the Nigerian Army to be in charge of security during the plebiscite, but that there would be no objection to British troops being so used.

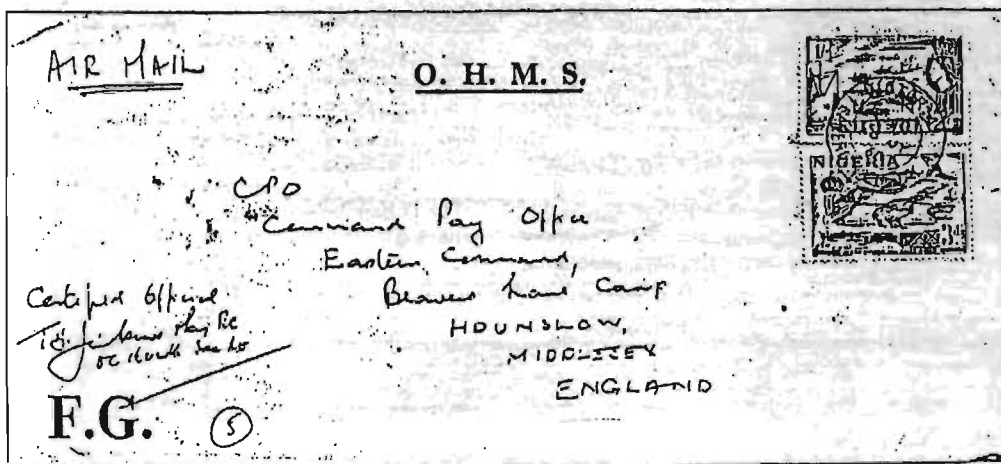
The plebiscite was held on 11 February 1961, when the Northern Cameroons chose to join Nigeria as the Saradauna Province of the Northern Region. Whereas the Southern Cameroons elected to join the Cameroun Republic as Western Cameroun within the Federal Republic of Cameroun, on 1 October 1961.

With impending Nigerian independence, the United Nations agreed to a contingent of British forces being sent to the Southern Cameroons. These were to back up the local police in maintaining law and order in an emergency, and to provide anti-terrorist patrols along

the border with the Cameroun Republic.

Responsibility for mounting the operation was undertaken by HQ Northern Command, United Kingdom. As British troops had not served in the area since the First World War, a War Office reconnaissance party was flown out to the area in May 1960. The party, which consisted of representatives from the battalion earmarked for the operation, and the main services, carried out a ten-day study before flying back to the United Kingdom.

However, before the Army could be sent to the territory, a great deal of building work was required to provide suitable accommodation. The Civilian Works Organisation and the Royal Engineers undertook this task for the Army in the Southern Cameroons. In less than three months they had erected five permanent camps to house some 1,300 troops. 160 Works Section RE, assisted by local labour, commenced work on the main headquarters camp at Buea, together with four other camps at Victoria, Kumba, Bamenda and Mamfe.



A cover from OC 160 Works Section RE sent via the civil post office prior to the arrival of the FPO. The cover is postmarked at Victoria on 28 July 1960.

59 Field Squadron Royal Engineers arrived a month later to complete the task. By the time the first troops arrived, all five camps, a mixture of Nissen and King Strand huts, brick buildings and banana huts, were ready for occupation. The Squadron also undertook numerous other sapper tasks in support of the Army, as well as of the local population.

The first contingent of British troops to arrive were a battalion group of 1st Battalion, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment, who arrived on H.M. Transport Devonshire at Victoria on 14 September 1960. The Battalion Group comprised:

- 1st Battalion, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment
- 59 Field Squadron, Royal Engineers
- 634 Signal Troop, Royal Signals
- 2 Brigade Medical Company Royal Army Medical Corps
(which was placed on a special establishment to include:
 - 52 Field Surgical Team
 - a medical specialist
 - five nursing officers of Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps (QARANC) and certain technicians)
- A Royal Army Service Corps detachment
- An ordnance depot Royal Army Ordnance Corps

- A detachment from 8 Infantry Workshop Royal Mechanical & Electrical Engineers
- 465 Postal Unit Royal Engineers
- A movement control detachment
- A Pioneer Corps labour unit detachment
- A Royal Air Force detachment

The total strength was 1,322 all ranks.

On 21 September the Group assumed operational command in the Southern Cameroons from a battalion of the Queen's Own Nigeria Regiment.

The Force Headquarters was established at Buea (Battalion HQ & 'C' Company). The Group was almost entirely self-supporting, having taken by air and sea its own hospital, ordnance depot, laundry unit, bakery and cold storage sheds for fresh meat and vegetables. Patrols were mainly undertaken from Bamenda ('A' and 'S' Companies) in the north, and Kumba ('B' Company) in central Southern Cameroons. These patrols were accompanied by members of the Cameroons Police Force, who alone had the power of arrest.

The camp at Bamenda was situated at the top of an escarpment some 5,000 feet above sea level. It was built in the middle of a race-course and the totalisator building was turned into the armoury. The living accommodation was all tented.

Cachets used by the King's Own included the following:

JOIN THE KING'S OWN ROYAL BORDER REGIMENT

ORDERLY ROOM

- 4. OCT 1960

1 KINGS OWN BORDER

On 12 May 1961 HMT Devonshire left Southampton with a battalion group from 1st Battalion, The Grenadier Guards, who were to replace the King's Own. The Guards were a battalion from 51st Infantry Brigade of 3rd Division, which formed the Strategic Reserve at that time.

The Guards Group took over from the King's Own at the end of May, HMT Devonshire leaving Victoria with that unit on 30 May 1961. During their tour of duty the King's Own Group had apprehended 73 known terrorists and 239 suspected terrorists. One terrorist

was killed during "Operation Swan Song" – mounted from Bamenda, and one terrorist camp was captured.

The 1st Battalion, The Grenadier Guards comprised the following:

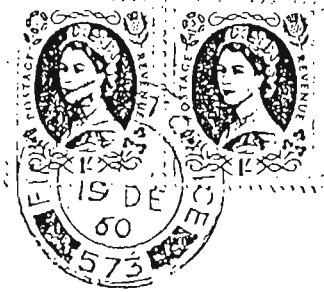
1st Battalion, The Grenadier Guards

1 Troop, 20 Field Squadron, RE

470 Postal Unit, RE

other service units as for the King's Own Group

The Group relieved its predecessors on 29 May, and departed for the United Kingdom on 2 October 1961.



FPO's used by The King's Own Royal Border Regiment Group.

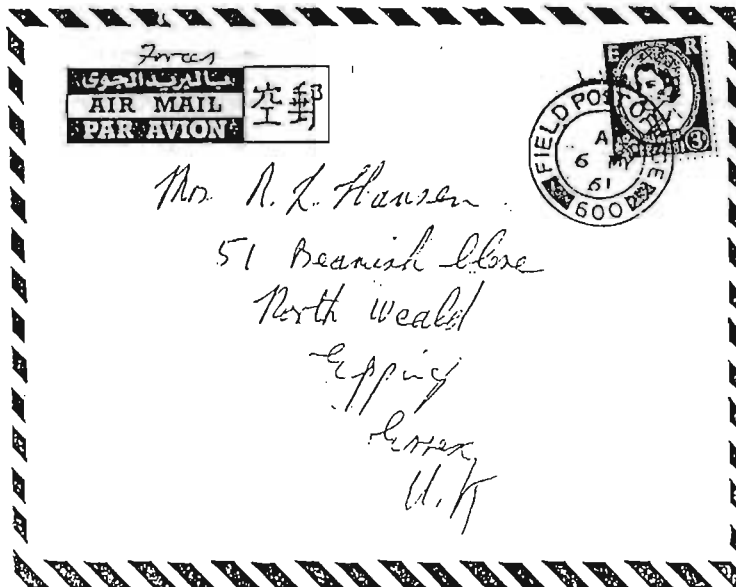
RAF DETACHMENT IN THE SOUTHERN CAMEROONS – No 230 Squadron RAF

On 15 August 1960 an advance party of 8 members left London for the Southern Cameroons. The main party – some 100 strong, under the command of Squadron Leader H.J. West, DSO, DFC – left on 8 September. No 230 Squadron's task was to provide air support for the Army units in Southern Cameroons. The main base was an airstrip five miles from the native town of Mamfe, where many local villagers had never seen a white man.

The detachment consisted of a fully self-supporting mobile flight ('A' Flight) capable of operating in the medical-evacuation, freight, communications and reconnaissance roles, with three Twin Pioneer aircraft.

A Field Post Office was set up at the RAF camp.

The detachment was flown from the Southern Cameroons on 21 September 1961 to Kano in Nigeria by Beverley aircraft; from there they flew to Lyneham in a Britannia of RAF Transport Command.



A cover from FPO 600 at RAF Mamfe.

ROYAL NAVY

In October 1060, HMS Bermuda visited the Southern Cameroons. As usual, mail from the ship during this period was sent to London and cancelled POST OFFICE - MARITIME MAIL. One card is known headed "Victoria, Cameroons", and is dated 8 October 1960.

POSTAL MATTERS

The postal address used by troops in the Southern Cameroons was BRITISH FORCES POST OFFICE 14 (BFPO 14). While the troops were on HMT Devonshire, their address was BRITISH FORCES POST OFFICE 609.

Accompanying the first contingent of British troops, the 1st Battalion, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment Group, was 465 Postal Unit RE, which arrived on 14 September 1960, under the command of a Captain Watson, RE. "The Sapper" magazine for April 1961 (Vol. 7, No.11) included an item from the unit, which showed the disposition of unit personnel, with the various APOs established as shown below:

APO Buea: 1 Captain; 1 Sergeant; 1 Corporal;
1 Lance Corporal; 3 Sappers

APO Bamenda: 1 Corporal; 1 Sapper
APO Mamfe: 1 Corporal

The second contingent, the 1st Battalion, The Grenadier Guards Group, was accompanied by 470 Postal Unit RE, under the command of a Captain Hucker. The establishment at the APOs at Bamenda and Mamfe remained as above, but the Buea APO had 1 Captain; 1 Sergeant; 1 Corporal and 5 Sappers.

In addition to the static APOs, a three times-a-week mobile FPO service to Kumba and Mambanda was operated from Buea by 470 Postal Unit, using one of the Sappers at Buea. "The Sapper" magazine for August 1961 (Vol. 8, No. 3) records that priority attention was given to 1 Troop, 20 Field Squadron RE. The reason for this was not given. Perhaps it was the only sapper unit on the run, or perhaps it was due to the Troop being responsible for providing overnight accommodation and meals! The mobile FPO only datestamped registered mail. Ordinary mail was taken back to Buea for postmarking.



A registered cover from the mobile FPO 233

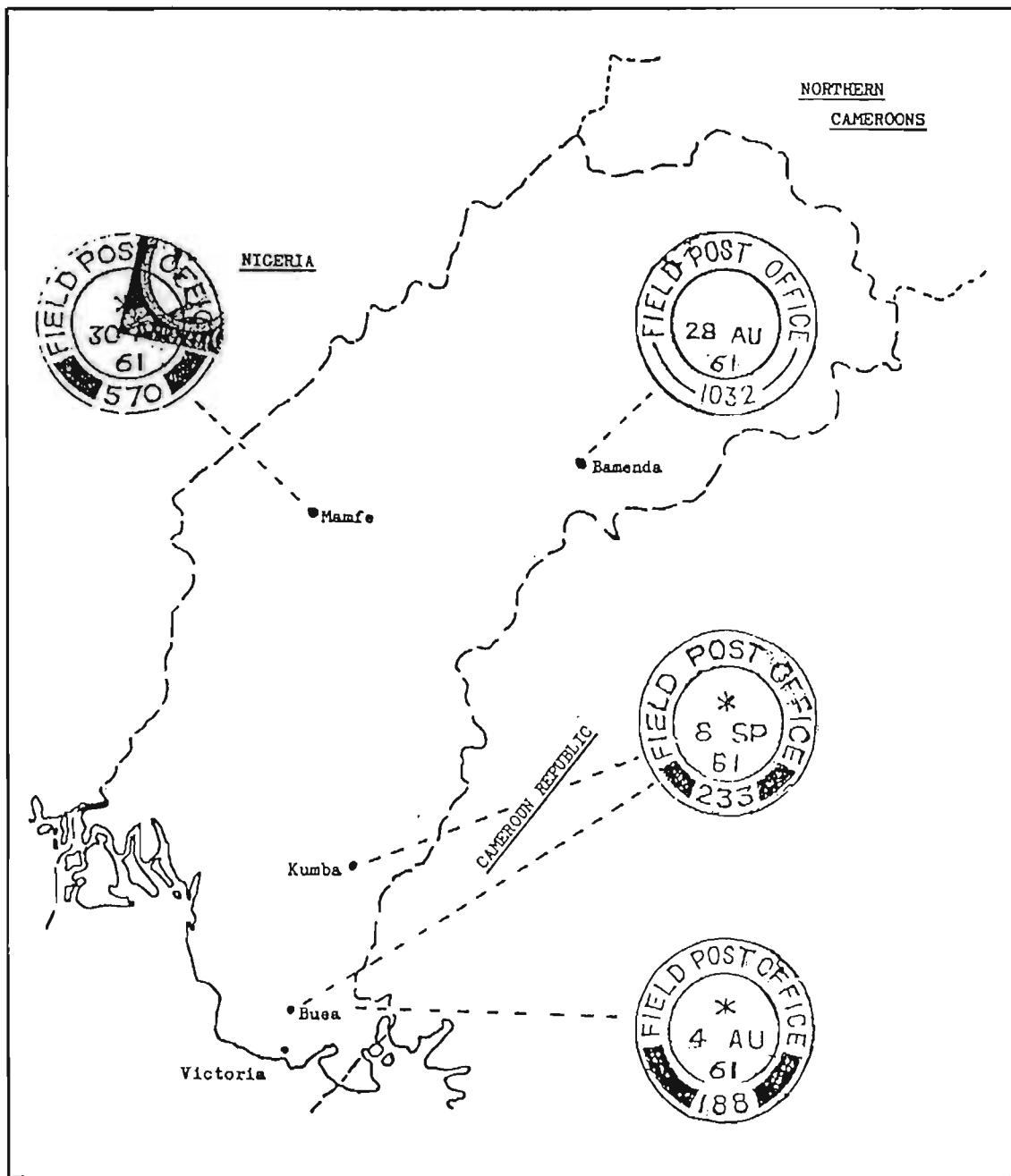
FPO datestamps used at APOs, together with the recorded period of use, were as follows:

| | | | |
|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|
| APO Buea: | FPO 573 | 14 SP 60 | 7 JY 61 |
| | FPO 188 | 10 JY 61 | 29 SP 61 |
| APO Bamenda: | FPO 594 | 73 OC 60 | 24 JU 61 |
| | FPO 1032 | 21 AU 61 | 15 SP 61 |
| APO Mamfe: | FPO 600 | 30 DE 60 | 6 JU 61 |
| | FPO 570 | 7 AU 61 | 30 AU 61 |
| Mobile FPO: | FPO 233 | 8 SP 61 | |
| HMT Devonshire: | FPO 188 | 3 OC 61 | |

(at Lagos on 3 Oct 61)

Towards the end of September 1961, the outlying APOs were closed as the troops concentrated at Buea prior to their departure. The last APO closed at Buea at 9.30 a.m. on 29 September. HMT Devonshire left the Southern Cameroons at 2 p.m. on 2 October 1961. The Devonshire arrived at Southampton on 17 October 1961

Map of the Southern Cameroons



The disposition of the 1st Battalion, Grenadier Guards Group was as follows:

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Buea: | Force HQ: No.4 Company |
| Victoria: | Service units |
| Kumba: | No.3 Company; 1 Troop, 20 Field Sqn RE |
| Bamenda: | Queen's and No.2 Company |
| Mamfe: | Royal Air Force detachment |

This article was first published in the summer of 1987 issue of the Newsletter of The Forces Postal History Society. It is reproduced in Cameo by kind permission of the authors.

THE GAMBIA. THE HALFPENNY GREY-GREEN CAMEO SPECIMEN STAMP DOUBLY PERFORATED

PHILIP BEALE

Mr James Bendon recently sent me an example of this most interesting variety for inspection. It is on a Specimen stamp with normal horizontal comb 14 perforations but doubly perforated vertically on both sides. The effect of the perforator striking twice is to give a very fine tooth to each perforation. It is reckoned that the perforator used struck three sides of a stamp,

so at first I wondered why three edges had not been affected. Most likely, however, the comb perforator struck the stamp normally and then, for some reason, was applied again slightly below. The effect would be that the bottom edge when detached would appear normal while the side edges would be altered.

GAMBIA 1900

OLIVER ANDREW

At the beginning of the year 1900, all three circular datestamps in use at the Gambia P.O. (W.A.S.C. 12*, 13*, 14*) showed the figures "19" in place of the year. The reasons for this are not known; possibly only one zero per canceller was available. The Victoria key-plate set in use that year is often found appearing to have been used in 1919, seventeen years after it was

replaced by the KE VII set. That these are not genuine 1919 uses is shown by the fact that all three c.d.s.'s had gone out of use ten or more years before. The zeros turned up at some point during the summer, probably at the beginning of July: I have a cover with 14* JY 5 19, and 12* JY 6 00. On this, and later examples, the zeros are much fainter than the rest of the strike.

THE FORGED POSTMARKS OF KUNTA-UR

LEN WELDHEN

In a recent auction there was on offer a set of eight Elephant and Palm adhesives, "½d to 1/-, "stated to be forged". They ARE forged.

These forged cancellations are just "too perfect" being centrally and evenly struck, upright and of absolute clarity. They cannot deceive an experienced collector. For those with less specialist knowledge, full details are as follows:-

| | | |
|------|------------|-----------------------|
| ½d | p.14 | green |
| 1d | p.14 | brown |
| 1 ½d | p.14 x 14¾ | deep rose – carmine |
| 2d | p.14 | pearl grey |
| 2 ½d | | yellow |
| 3d | p.14 line | bright ultramarine |
| 6d | p.14 | deep rose claret |
| 1/- | p.14 | purple on yellow buff |

They are all dated 2 DE/29 – a Monday date.



According to Colin McCaig's listing, all the above could/would have been available for use on 2 DE 29.

The differences between genuine and forged cancellations are as follows:-

| | GENUINE | FORGERY |
|--|-----------------|--------------------|
| i) Line of circle | Thin | Thick |
| ii) Lettering | Often blurred | Very clear |
| iii) Strike | Usually partial | Complete |
| iv) Right hand leg of 'R' | Almost upright | Distinctly sloping |
| Distance between foot of first leg of 'K' to foot of second leg of 'R' | 14.5mm | 15.0mm |
| v) Distance between feet of legs of 'R' | 1.5mm | 1.9mm |
| vi) Distance between feet of legs of 'K' | 1.5mm | 1.8mm |
| vii) Distance between apex of first 'A' in 'GAMBIA' to foot of second leg of 'R' | 14.8mm | 15.5mm |
| viii) Distance between feet of legs of first 'A' in 'GAMBIA' | 2.0mm | 2.8mm |

There are of course, other differences but the above should suffice for identification.

The emergence of these forgeries is worrying. Will the forger now turn his attention to other SCARCE cancellations such as FATTOTO, JAWARRA and KAUR? The writer asks that members, who have these postmarks, check them carefully and advise him of their characteristics so that he may initially discuss and then collate with a view to filing agreed final details with an Officer of the Circle so that members can refer if they wish – but certainly not for publication.

GAMBIA: A NEW INSTRUCTIONAL MARK

OLIVER ANDREW

In March 1988 the Banjul P.O. had a clear-out. Among things cleared out were three letters of mine; one, to a Gambian address, had been in the P.O. for ten months; the other two were items (one from Turkey, one from Spain) sent to myself "Poste Restante", with my home

address on the back. These were returned with a new instructional mark. Neither strike is clear enough to make a good photocopy, so this is a drawing (full-scale):

| RETURNED FOR REASON STATED | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | NOT KNOWN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | REFUSED |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | TRAVELLING |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | UNCLAIMED |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | DECEASED |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | GONE AWAY |

Has any other member a copy? Mine are ticked in the "Unclaimed" box; examples of the other categories would be interesting.

P.S. But two similar covers sent in August from Andorra (French P.O.) were returned without the above mark, with manuscript inscription "Unclaimed R-T-S"

VESSEYS SALE 1091 HELD ON FRIDAY 1st JULY 1988 AT FAIRFIELD HALLS, CROYDON

JOHN F.G. MILLS

At this sale, there was a fine selection of Gold Coast material on offer, most lots having been given unrealistically low estimates. Despite only three other collectors and two dealer members of the W.A.S.C. being present there was keen and lively bidding particularly on the P.H. & P.S. material both within the room and "on the book". The total realisation of all the G.C. lots was £12781.00. As you will see from some of the realisations below, there were many bargains to be had especially amongst the adhesives.

From a personal viewpoint, I intended to buy more

than the three lots I came away with, but was outbid, in most cases, by the dealers present, or by those that had left higher bids "on the book". However, it was a very enjoyable day, if only to have had the opportunity of looking at what was a really superb collection. After the sale I was left wondering, to whom this fine collection had belonged. Was it, perhaps, a member of the W.A.S.C. who wished to remain anonymous, an overseas collector, or a British collector who, at one time, amassed Gold Coast material in isolation?

| | | |
|--|--------|--------------|
| Gold Coast Q.V. 1d. blue, Sperati "die proof" | (£25) | item £90 |
| Gold Coast forgery of the 2/- red and green, signed Sperati | (£15) | 1 £52 |
| Gold Coast Pigeon Post form (unused) for United African Corp'n. Market reports (1925), O.H.M.S. Book Post Wrapper used locally, seven Gold Coast Q.V. Postal Orders with Poundage Stamps 1d. (2), 3d. (3), 6d. (2), etc. | (£35) | 25 £330 |
| Gold Coast 1941-46, F.P.O. covers, censor marks, U.S. Army covers, etc. | (£40) | 28 £65 |
| 1875 C.C. perf. 12½, 1d., 4d. and 6d., fine o.g. | (£300) | 3 £460 |
| 1875 C.C. perf. 12½, 1d., 4d. and 6d., fine used Elmina c.d.s., cancels in red | (£60) | 3 £50 |
| 1875 C.C. perf. 12½, 1d., 4d. and 6d. with 554 (4d.) or 556 pmks. Cat. £190 | (£25) | 3 £42 |
| 1876 C.C. perf. 14 set ½d. to 6d., large part o.g. The 4d. value has the wmk. inverted. (£80) | | 5 £92 |
| 1884 1d. (pair) plus 1d. bisect used on piece "B27" obliteration | (£120) | item £105 |
| 1884 2d. used on small piece with 1d. bisect "556" obliteration. | (£100) | item £70 |
| 1883 C.A. wmk. ½d. olive-yellow and 1d. blue, unused without gum. S.G. 9 and 10. Cat. £895 | (£90) | 2 £95 |
| 1884-91. The fine M. coll. shades etc. in singles, pairs, blocks, marginal numbers ½d. (23), 1d. (17), 2d. (14), 2½d. (6), 3d. (29), 4d. (18), 6d. (17), 1/- (16), 2/- (8) | (£175) | 149 £150 |
| 1889 One penny on 6d. orange, block of four, unmounted o.g. | (£100) | 4 £120 |
| 1889 One penny on 6d., fine used, "554", plus Secondee, Saltpond, Appam, Mumford and Adjuah c.d.s. cancels | (£100) | 6 £75 |
| 1889 Q.V. 20/- green and red, M. | (£850) | 1 £925 |
| 1889-94 5/-, 10/-, 20/- (three of each), fine used c.d.s. Ada, Chama, Kwitta, Akuse (in blue), etc. | (£50) | 9 £65 |
| 1889-94 5/- block of six, 10/- block of four and 20/- pair, fine used. | (£50) | 3 items £65 |
| 1889-94 3d. to 10/-, 1901 1d. surcharges (13) used, 1d. on card to Germany and 2½d. pair on reg. O.H.M.S. cover to the U.S.A. | (£45) | 20 items £52 |
| 1901 surcharges, various inc. 1d. on 6d. "One" omitted, M. | (£100) | 5 items £120 |
| 1902 set ½d. to 20/- plus 1906 2/6 all ovptd "Specimen" | (£75) | 12 £76 |
| 1907 - 13 set plus 1908 1d., all ovptd "Specimen" | (£45) | 11 £60 |
| 1902. Fine coll. of used with pmk. interest from smaller Post Offices, values to 2/- (5), 5/-, 10/-, 20/- plus perfins of the high values. | (£85) | 89 items £75 |
| 1918 War Tax blocks etc. and a single with "Specimen" ovpt. | (£20) | 6 items £35 |

Covers and Postmarks:

| | | |
|---|--------|---------------|
| 1840 and 1841 Two covers, one a Deal Ship Letter with no markings but for contemporary endorsements "Cape Coast" Also 1858 entire Accra to Genoa from a Ship's Master, various transit marks and a translation of a most interesting letter | (£50) | 3 £220 |
| 1856 cover to Bristol from Cape Coast Castle, "6" handstamp plus 1d. in ms. 1862 "Accra Paid" c.d.s. in magenta cover to London with 5d. in ms., and one other. | (£150) | 3 items £2300 |
| 1898 O.H.M.S. cover to Grand Bassam with oval "Official Paid, G.P.O. Accra" handstamp. Also 1907 cover to Liverpool with cachet "Salvaged from S.S. Jebba" and notes pertaining. | (£30) | 2 £140 |
| Accra. 1899 oblong type on 1884 values to 1/-, 1898 1d. on cover to London 1d. strip of three, 6d. single, etc. | (£30) | 13 items £64 |
| Accra. 1877-96 various covers to London and the U.S.A., two are O.H.M.S., another to Ireland has the H & K Packet c.d.s. | (£75) | 9 £250 |

| | | |
|--|--------|---------------|
| Axim c.d.s. on C.C. wmk. ½d. (strip of five), 2d. and 6d. 1883 C.A. wmk. 1d. blue, 1894-91 range of values to 2/- (2), a reg. cover with 1d. (2) and 2½d. plus some 1898 values to 3d. | (£85) | 72 items £90 |
| Elmina 1884 2d. (5) on reg. cover to Germany, 1898 ½d. (2) on cover to England and ½d. (10) on cover to U.S.A., all c.d.s. | (£15) | 3 £100 |
| Elmina Paid type on 1876-1d. (4), 2d., 4d. (2), 6d. (3), plus a piece with four 1d., also 1884 ½d. (2), 1d., 4d. (2), fair to fine | (£65) | 16 items £110 |
| Cape Coast Castle on C.C. perf. 12½ 1d., 4d., 6d. (2) (the 4d. value defective), Cape Coast c.d.s. on 1876 2d. (4), 1884-91 range of values to 2/- (2), 2½d. on cover to England, 1898 values to 6d. | (£75) | 76 £75 |
| Winnebah c.d.s. coll. with C.C. perf. 12½ 6d., perf. 14 4d., C.A. wmk. 1d. blue and a fine range, 1884-91 values to 2/- inc. a 1/- block of eight, 1898 values to 6d. plus on 1d. on cover to London. | (£60) | 66 items £90 |
| Fine coll. of c.d.s. pmks, mainly on the 1884-91 issue with Aburi (5), Ada (15), Addah (19), Adjua (32), Akropong (11), Akuse (33), Anamabu (4), Anamaboe (16). Values to 2/- | (£100) | 135 £170 |
| As last with Appam (36), Attuabu (9), Berraku (4), Beyin (8), Chama (30 inc. 6d. block of 8). Includes Attuabu 2½d. on cover to London. | (£70) | 87 items £130 |
| As last with Dixcove (22), Half Assinie (6), Kintampo (1 plus 1d. pair and 2½d. on reg. cover to England), Kpong (11), Kumasi (7) plus a cover to Switzerland, Mumford (8) values to 1/- | (£80) | 57 items £25 |
| As last with Pram Pram (29), Saltpond (38), Secondi (19), values to 2/- | (£50) | 86 items £90 |
| As last with Tarkwa (14), Victoriaborg (19) plus 2½d. on cover via H&K packet to Ireland, Xborg (5), Odumaise (1), "Central Office" with date (2), without date (4), "Teaching House" (2) | (£50) | 47 items £300 |
| Paquebot pmks on mainly Q.V. issues with values to 1/-, plus one 1895 cover franked with five ½d. stamps all cancelled "Liverpool Br. Packet" and six Telegraph cancels. | (£50) | 45 items £75 |
| 1906 Reg. cover Victoriaburg to the U.S.A. Crewe to Liverpool S.C. transit mark. A registered cover Mampong to England with Ed. VII 1d. (3) cancelled 6.4.11 in ms. and one other | (£30) | 3 £230 |
| 1913-30. Good range of Geo. V covers, many reg. with mult. frankings. Includes 5/- on O.H.M.S. cover, some W.W.1 covers, War Tax etc. Many out of the way place names | (£75) | 26 £120 |
| 1939-44 coll. of Geo. VI censored covers. Good range of place names, censor numbers, etc. Includes a 1942 O.H.M.S. Red Cross cover used to London. | (£25) | 49 £220 |
| 1939-44. A somewhat similar lot, includes a 1942 cover from Oubangui-Chari to Geneva via the Gold Coast censor | (£25) | 51 £270 |
| Coll. of Air Mail covers inc. some first flights plus O.H.M.S. items and eight covers bearing overseas postage due | (£50) | 29 £270 |
| Postal Stationery: | | |
| 1891-1928 postcards unused, plus unused with "Specimen" ovpts. 1899-1928 Envelopes ditto plus six used items. | (£30) | 40 £190 |
| Fine coll. of Q.V. cards, reply cards and envelopes, some with additional frankings from a dozen different offices. Various pmk. types, some in colour. | (£100) | 41 £540 |
| Ed. VII postcards (7), Envelopes (2), Geo. V ditto (3). Various pmks and destinations. | (£25) | 12 £110 |
| 1888-1901. Unused Q.V. Registered envelopes. Good coll. with some duplication. Includes the rare 1893 2d. with curved "Gold Coast Colony", also two items "Specimen" in manuscript | (£40) | 20 £310 |
| 1902-53. Unused Registered envelopes coll. with some duplication. Includes Ed. VII G and J envelopes with "Specimen" ovpt. on the stamp plus four other covers with "Specimen" | (£35) | 28 £170 |
| 1888-1901 used coll. of Registered envelopes, mainly with additional adhesives. Varies addressed to Europe. | (£60) | 14 £310 |
| 1888-1901. A somewhat similar lot variously addressed to Europe and the U.S.A. | (£60) | 16 £580 |
| Range of used Ed. VII Registered covers, some with additional frankings, various pmks and destinations. | (£30) | 13 £320 |
| A similar range of Geo. V covers | (£35) | 11 £150 |
| A range of Geo. V and VI embossed registered covers, all used, many from smaller offices | (£30) | 12 £56 |
| Air Letter Sheets: | | |
| 1948-53 coll. of the six types, inc. the 1948 6d. ovptd "Specimen". Also eight items used to England or U.S.A. | (£15) | 17 £46 |

Estimates are in brackets, followed by the number in lot and then the realisation.

GOLD COAST: SEALS

KEN MACRAE

Since my note in *Cameo*, Jan. 1977, page 96, I have acquired a registered cover from Accra to Hull, dated May 11 1899. The two 1d. Q.V. Key Plate stamps are cancelled with a clear Accra Type 9 and there is also a Type 5 c.d.s. on the face of the cover. The flap is sealed with a very clear impression on wax of an oval seal POST OFFICE/GOLD COAST/ACCRA, similar in size and appearance to Type 4. I have heard of one or two

other examples of such use of an Accra seal but to date I am not aware of its use as a canceller.

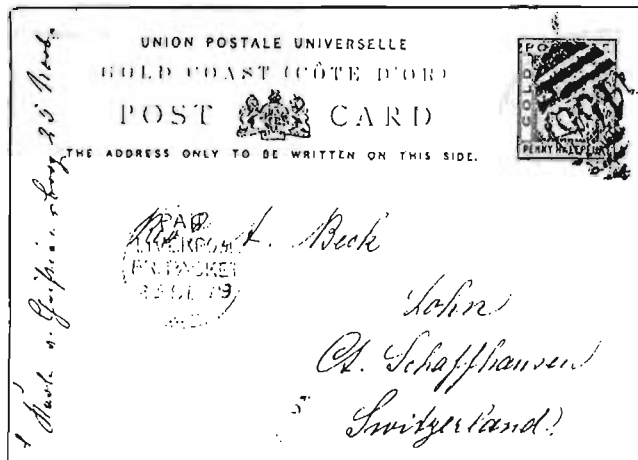
Mr. Cooper's note in *Cameo*, July 1988, is the first response since 1977 and I endorse his request. There are, of course, seals of similar appearance but different wording applied by commercial houses. Our interest is in POST OFFICE seals.

THE GOLD COAST QUEEN VICTORIA 1½d POSTCARD

ROBERT NELSON

Previously this postal stationery postcard was believed to have been first issued in 1880. The example illustrated was sent from Christiansborg on 25 Nov.

1879 to Switzerland via Liverpool where it received a PAID BR. PACKET handstamp on 23 Dec. 79.

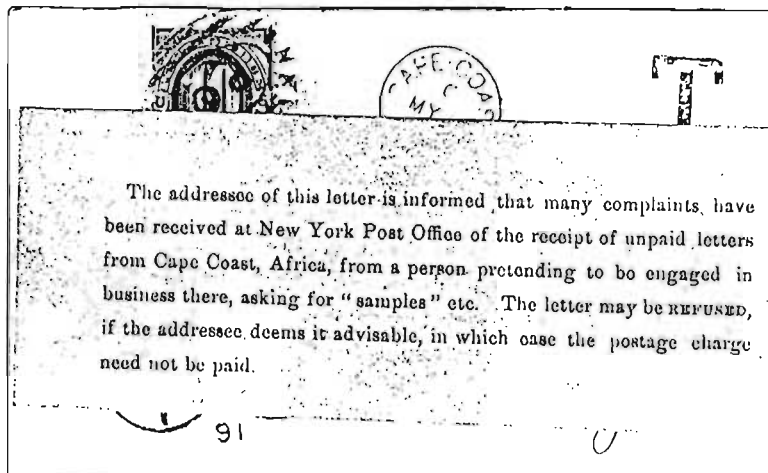


CAPE COAST TO U.S.A. IN 1891

JEREMY MARTIN

This buff label is on an un-paid front from Cape Coast to New York.

The wording is self-explanatory.



GOLD COAST: W.W.1 CENSORSHIP

JEREMY MARTIN

With the German colony of Togo 'next door', censorship was introduced in the Gold Coast immediately war was declared. Censor cachets were

probably prepared in advance, those used being similar to postmarks. Censor labels were initially hand-written before printed ones were available.



1A



1B



1C



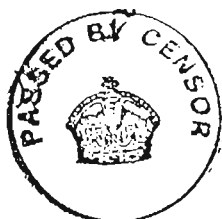
1D

- Type 1A Double circle 30/19mm ● CENSOR/GOLD COAST ● enclosing two line date.
- 1B Double circle 30/19mm ● CENSOR/GOLD COAST ● enclosing 'GIR' and initials (in red ink) 'P.H.P.'
- 1C Double circle 30/19mm. ● CENSOR/GOLD COAST ● with blank centre
- 1D Double circle 30/19mm ● CENSORED/GOLD COAST ● enclosing two line date

| | | | |
|---------|-------|-----------|-----------|
| Type 1A | black | E.R.D. | L.R.D. |
| Type 1B | black | 5 Aug 14 | |
| Type 1C | black | 12 Aug 14 | |
| Type 1D | black | 13 Mar 15 | 28 Apr 15 |
| | | 4 Mar 15 | |

Later two cachets, each incorporating a crown, were introduced. The later one, which included 'ACCRA' has only been seen on letters to the U.S.A. and then after

the end of the war. Censorship may still have been in force since the Peace Treaty had not then been signed.

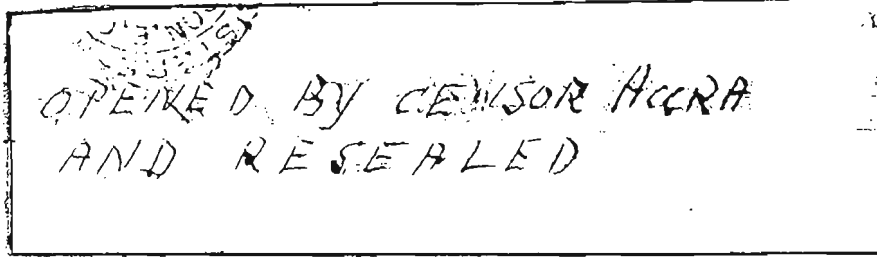


2

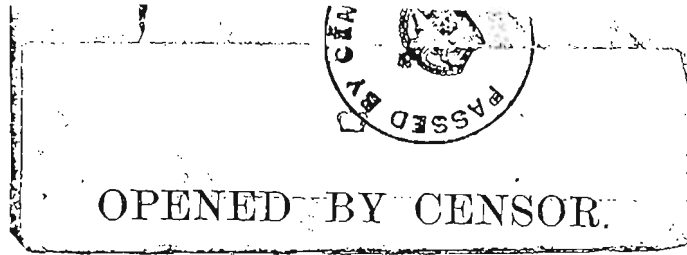


3

| | | | |
|--------|---|-----------|-----------|
| Type 2 | Single circle 27½mm. enclosing 'PASSED BY CENSOR' and 'CROWN' | E.R.D. | L.R.D. |
| | Blue | 1 Jun 16 | 7 Jan 17 |
| | Blue-Black | 15 Mar 16 | 3 Nov 16 |
| | Black | 6 Feb 17 | 15 Mar 17 |
| Type 3 | Single circle 25mm. enclosing seriffed 'PASSED BY CENSOR - ACCRA -' and 'CROWN' | E.R.D. | L.R.D. |
| | Deep mauve | 22 Jan 19 | 15 Feb 19 |

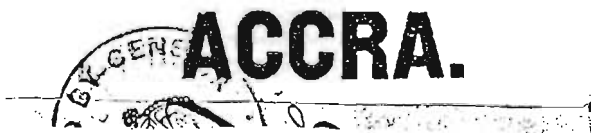


L1



L2

OPENED BY CENSOR. **OPENED BY CENSOR.**



L3



L4

Type L1 Handwritten in black ink on a strip of white paper 'OPENED BY CENSOR ACCRA/AND RESEALED'

Type L2 Black on white paper. Small 'CROWN' above seriffed 'OPENED BY CENSOR' 67mm long.

Type L3 Black on cream paper. Sans-serif 'OPENED BY/CENSOR./-/ACCRA.' Words measure 61x45mm. (lengthwise first). Square stops.

Type L4 Black on creamy white paper. Sans-serif OPENED BY/CENSOR./-/ACCRA. 63x50mm. Round stops.

| | | |
|---------|-----------|-----------|
| | E.R.D. | L.R.D. |
| Type L1 | 5 Aug 14 | |
| Type L2 | 8 Jan 16 | |
| Type L3 | 29 Feb 16 | 15 Mar 16 |
| Type L4 | 21 Jly 16 | 13 Feb 17 |

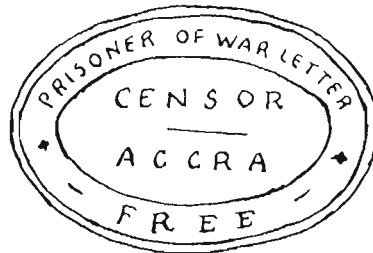
In Cameo volume 3 number 4 (July 1986) a label on a 1917 cover was recorded. This was black on white paper with 'COOMASSIE' in seriffed capitals. The

cover was sent to Switzerland. There is no wording to indicate censorship.

P.O.W. CENSORSHIP

The writer has a postcard from either a P.O.W. or Internee sent to his parents in Togo. Postmarked at

Accra on Jan 5 1916 it has a blue oval cachet measuring approximately 48x32mm.



Type PW1 Blue oval 'PRISONER OF WAR LETTER/CENSOR/-/ACCRA/FREE 48x32mm

| | | |
|----------|----------|--------|
| Type PW1 | E.R.D. | L.R.D. |
| | 5 Jan 16 | |

GOLD COAST: THE AFEREWA CANCELLATION

JOHN MILLS



AFEREWA/1932/FE 2/?

A visit to a Stamp Fair at the St. Mary at Finchley Church Hall, Hendon Lane on the 24th September 1988 proved to be worthwhile, as I was able to purchase an example of the previously unrecorded AFEREWA (BEKWAI) cancellation. In M.T. Mackin's handbook entitled "THE GOLD COAST - THE POST OFFICES/AGENCIES AND THEIR CANCELLATIONS 1875-1957" against the AFEREWA entry 'No example Known' is quoted, although the date of 07.10.31 is given for the opening of the Office.

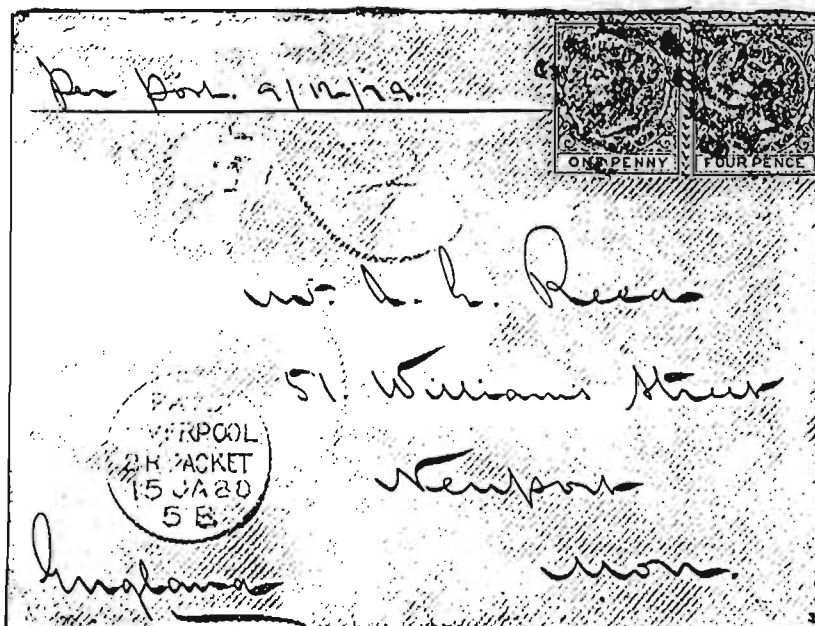
Unfortunately the double circle on the 1 1/2d red of

the Christianborg (Osu) Castle issue, SG 88, was incomplete but by extending the partial circumferences of each of the exposed sectors I have deduced from the outer measuring 33mm and from the inner measuring 21mm it is either a WASC TYPE 19 or 19A. The height of the letters in AFEREWA measure 3mm and rather unusually for a TYPE 19 the year of the date is above the month and day.

If any other member has any further information on this cancellation I would be pleased to hear from them.

LAGOS - A PUZZLE

JOHN SACHER



The cover illustrated at first appears merely overstamped by one penny and not very interesting, but perhaps there is more to it.

It bears a 1d lilac mauve and a 4d carmine of the 1876 issue, cancelled by the barred 'L' obliterator. Unusually there is no Lagos c.d.s., but it has a manuscript endorsement 'per Post 9/12/79', in itself not a common practice on Lagos mail. In fact I have seen no other example. The correct red '3' accountability mark indicates the proportion of the 4d per 1/2oz rate due to the G.P.O. in London.

The cover arrived at Liverpool on the 15 January 1880 and travelled via Birmingham to Monmouth.

It seems reasonable to assume with a 1d stamp added to a 4d one that there was a good reason for the extra franking. Had the stamps been, say, a 2d and 3d one might have assumed use of available values.

From this point on I speculate. At this time and until 1883, overseas mail sent from Sherbro to Freetown incurred an extra 1d charge. Was this cover sent from the hinterland and cancelled at Lagos? Was there a one penny inland charge on overseas mail for which we have yet to find a relevant instruction?

Has anyone else a similarly "overstamped" Lagos cover?

OIL RIVERS/NIGER COAST

JACK INCE



Assistance is sought concerning the use of the type 3 (double ringed) parcels handstamp on the stamps of the Oil Rivers/Niger Coast in the period of 1892/3 to the turn of the century.

The most common are those of Benin, Bonny, Brass,

Old Calabar, Opobo and Warri.

The writer would be very glad to hear from those members who have examples of Forcados, Qua Iboe and New Calabar.

THE RIVER NIGER TRANSPORT SERVICE

JACK INCE

The Royal Niger Company established a regular service up the Niger River to serve their depots etc up as far as Lokoja, at the confluence with the Benue River.

This service, as a means of supply and communication for the North, was expanded after the Royal Niger Company's charter was terminated at the end of 1899. Initially the Government of S. Nigeria assumed sole responsibility but by 1907 the N. Nigeria Government operated its own service.

Apart from load carrying barges towed by steel steam powered canoes, the regular passengers-cum-freight service was operated by stern wheel (S.W.) steam paddle boats, the top deck being reserved for Europeans, the lower deck for natives and cargo. The larger vessels could carry up to 200 tons of freight.

Owing to the 30 foot rise and fall in water level between the wet and dry seasons and the constantly shifting sand and mud banks, navigation was restricted to daylight hours and, in the early years especially, vessels moored overnight at established river ports due to possible attacks from hostile tribes. The average journey time from coast to Lokoja was 6 days upstream, and four down. The coastal terminus from 1900 was Burutu, some 5 miles upstream from the ocean port of Forcados, sited on the river of that name.

The following first hand account of a voyage from Burutu to Lokoja per S.W. Kampala has been dug out of the archives.

- Day 1/2 Grounded four times and passed two Niger Company steamers also aground.
- Day 3 Grounded six times and passed one Niger Company steamer aground.
- Day 4 Ran full tilt into sandbank while at dinner, everything upset and all food spilt on deck: took two hours to find our passage over the shallows.
- Day 5 Below Idah we touched bottom 12 times: met S.W. Empire carrying Sarota's passengers, the latter having knocked a hole in her bottom.
- Day 6 (The diarist is silent – presumably too exhausted both nervously from his experiences and physically from the heat to record safe arrival).
- (Approx distance Burutu/Lokoja – 260 miles)

NORTHERN NIGERIA – MANUSCRIPT CANCELS

JACK INCE

A number of examples of these cancellations on Northern Nigerian stamps (off-cover) have been submitted to me in recent months for an opinion and it may be helpful if I summarised the points raised in my replies.

The improbability of finding a cancellation actually made by Lugard is dealt with in a note from John Sacher to be published later. In addition, regard should be paid to my earlier article (Cameo, July 1985) on the whole subject of Northern Nigerian cancellers.

Manuscript cancellations were used primarily between 1900 and 1902 in the period before the first general purpose c.d.s. became available. All mail at this period was channelled through the post office at Lokoja where it was sorted, bagged and placed on board the river steamer for the coast. During this process all mail was impressed with the erstwhile Royal Niger Company's handstamp, known as the 'Lokoja oval' or a Northern Nigeria c.d.s.. Examples exist where these handstamps have been applied to the reverse. In some cases, but not all, this omission was rectified at Forcados post office (where the mail was placed on board the ocean going vessel) or on arrival in the U.K.

It follows therefore that adhesives off-cover carrying a manuscript cancellation may also carry at least a part strike of the Lokoja oval (in violet ink) or the later general purpose c.d.s. (Northern Nigeria). In either case,

it is safe to assume that the item has seen genuine postal usage and that the endorsement has been properly applied. These endorsements, applied at source, may have been used not so much with the intent of effecting a postal cancellation as to ensure that the stamp was not removed 'en route' by the carrier.

If a stamp off-cover does not carry at least a part impression of the Lokoja oval or c.d.s. then postal usage cannot be assured and the possibility of fiscal use arises. There exists also the possibility that the endorsement was applied elsewhere in order to create a rarity – even 80 years ago!

Note should also be taken of the denominations of stamps so cancelled. The Imperial Penny Postage rate of 1d per ½oz (2½d to non-U.P.U. countries) was applicable at this early period and the majority of examples seen with genuine usage is on the 1d stamp. There is the possibility in the period 1900-1902 that stamps of higher denomination may have been used in payment of telegrams and, as far as is known, no canceller existed at telegraph offices for this purpose.

Examples are well known of dates much later than the 1900-1902 period off-cover but, with the development of the postal services, the absence of any superimposed canceller renders such items suspect.

NIGERIA KGV DEFINITIVES

NEVILLE JONES

At Stampex I managed to obtain some Nigerian KGV key and duty stamps with plate numbers attached. Among them were several values from plate 16. On inspection I noticed that the last stamp of the pane had a small white spot in the thicker border line under 'NIGERIA' and to the left of the crown.

I have the following examples:-

1921-26 (DIE II)
4d
1/-

1924-25 (DIE II)
½d
1d
3d

It would be interesting to know whether or not the above item is constant. I would be pleased to know if any member can add to, or confirm, the above list so that details can be included in later Cameo's



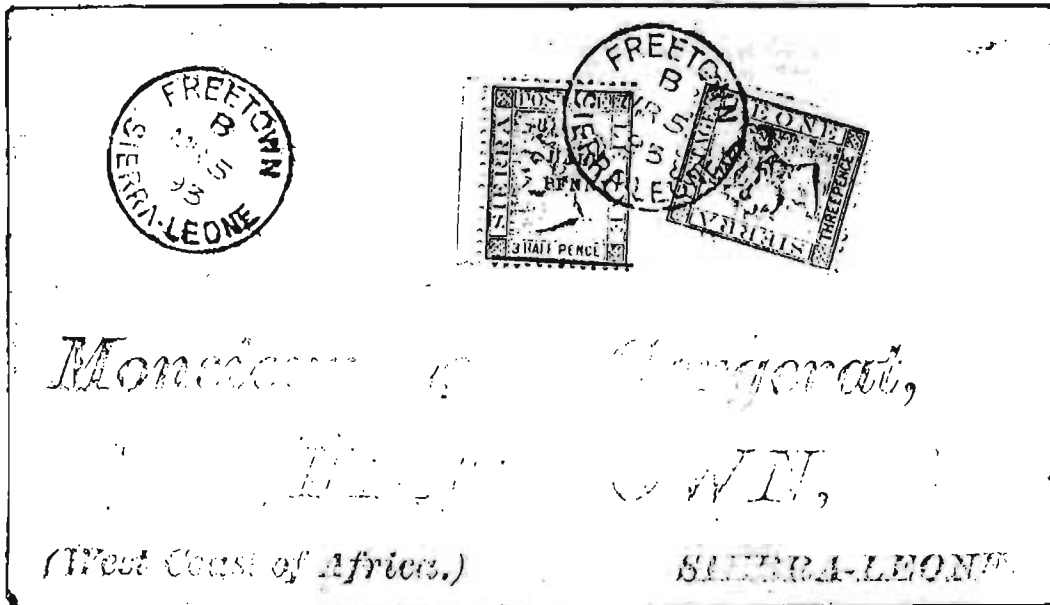
SIERRA LEONE. THE HALFPENNY PROVISIONAL OF 1893 ON COVER

PHILIP BEALE

During January 1893 the Government printer in Freetown overprinted a number of the current threehalfpenny stamps. Two despatches were sent to the Post Office on January 18th and 25th. The issue is of great interest to philatelists as a study of the overprints raises so many problems. There was also a clandestine printing that was also made in the Government printer's offices, using the same type as for the authorised printings. I deal with these matters at length in my book on The Postal Service of Sierra Leone.

The stamps were primarily intended to be used on

newspaper wrappers. Any seen after February 1893 must be considered as almost certainly philatelic. I have never seen the stamp used on a wrapper and it must be very rare on cover. I illustrate a local cover that was clearly philatelically inspired as it is over franked, but it shows the PFNNY variety. The other cover addressed to Kent, a village on the peninsula, is properly rated, 1d for the internal mail and 2d for registration. I would be very interested to see any other cover bearing the provisional or, indeed, any earlier registered letter addressed within the colony.



SIERRA LEONE AVIS DE RECEPTION

At the Postal History Society Conference in October 1988 at Monmouth, Mrs. Vivien Sussex displayed

'Valuables by Post' which included this cover.

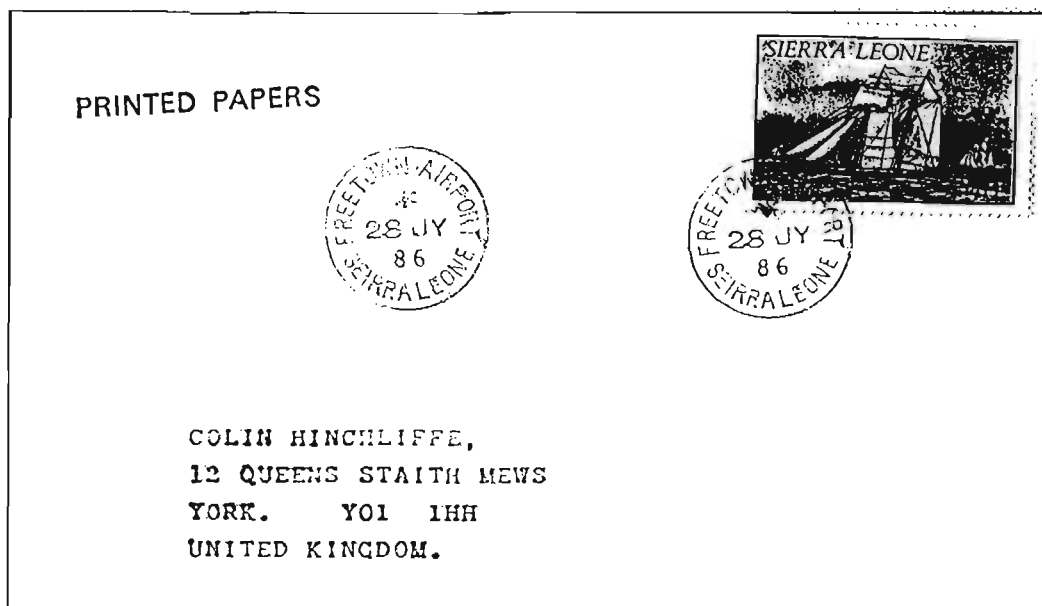


Philip Beale writes 'A most interesting envelope. The rate is 2½d A.R., 2d registration, 2½d postage making 7d. The A.R. handstamp was probably applied in the U.K.'

The only other letter I have seen, before Sierra Leone was sent its A.R. handstamp in 1902, has the A.R. in manuscript like this envelope.

SIERRA LEONE – FREETOWN AIRPORT

BRIAN McCLOY



I have just acquired this cover cancelled Freetown Airport 28 JY 86.

I would like to enquire from members if this is a new cancellation for Lungi Airport, the original airport for Freetown? It is possible that a new airport has been opened at Freetown.



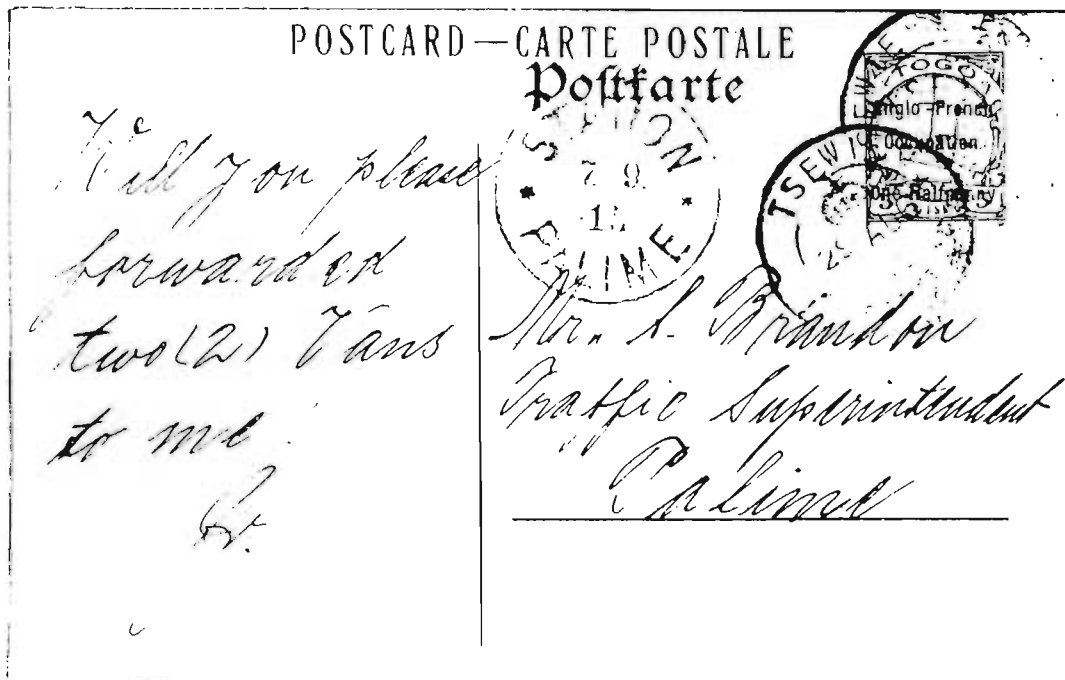
Lungi Airport 1955

Another recent find is New-Site BO 8 DE * 55. I can only assume this cancel had a very short life.



TOGO. TSEWIE AND PALIME

JOHN MAYNE



This postal stationery card is of some interest. It has been cancelled by the unusual Tsewie canceller with a bar at the bottom (Type H (ii)).

Addressed to the Traffic Superintendent at Palime, the message requests "will you please forwarded (sic) two (2) Vans to me". The two towns are on different railway lines out of Lome and for that reason seems a

little unusual. One would expect spare wagons to be at Lome, not Palime which was a terminus.

The Station Palime arrival mark was the German 'Stationstempel' where 'Station' was the German equivalent of the District Office in the British Colonial service. This was used by the Allies as a postmark.

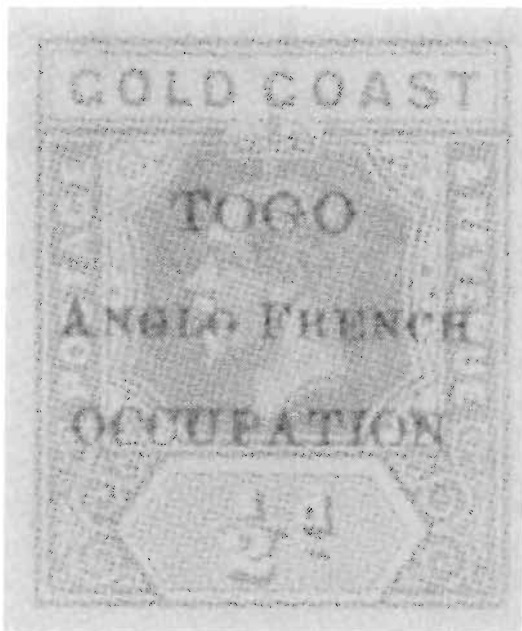
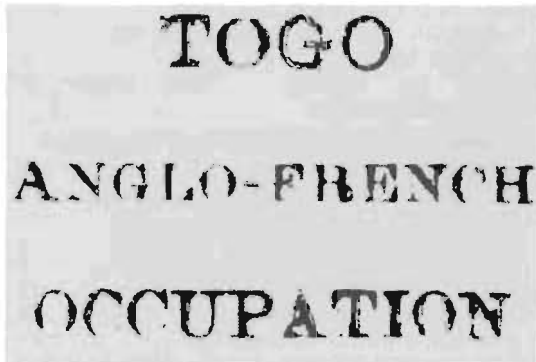
TOGO VARIETIES – GENUINE OR FORGERIES

Somehow the genuine and forged illustrations in Mr. Najjar's article in the last issue of *Cameo* became

muddled. The page has been reprinted with the corrections.

Forgery Type 1

Forgery Type 1



Forgery Type 1a



Genuine

The Type 2 forgery is not clear enough to reproduce. Ed.

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RHODESIA 10th June 1986. R. Lowe. £5
ST. HELENA 'HIBBERT' 8th Feb 1984. £5

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Derek Worboys has just retired and asked if he could put his final advertisement in this issue of 'CAMEO'

FAREWELL.....

Derek Worboys retired from active dealing in
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&

THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH

at the end of 1988

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- 1919 rare registered envelope to London, bears G.B. 1 1/2d and 2 1/2d plus registration label. Each stamp clearly cancelled £335
- 1922 2d, S.G.4, variety, line through 'POSTAGE', v.f. mint £120
- 1924-33 2/- 'cleft rock' flaw, S.G.19c, v.f. mint £120
- 1987 Ruby wedding 20p double overprint error, S.G.449a, u/m. (Photo) £75

GAMBIA

- 1872 no watermark 6d, the rare pale blue, S.G.4, superb used and clearly dated 'AU 21/72'. R.P.S. Cert. 1969. Lovely stamp. Cat. £1,000. (Photo) £600
- 1884 attractive envelope to U.S.A. bearing 1880-81 4d tied by red c.d.s. Also on face another strike of the c.d.s. and red circular 'PAID/LIVERPOOL/BR. PACKET/1 FF 84/2B'. Rare and very fine. £400
- 1886 envelope to U.K. enclosing two fascinating letters from a sailor from H.M.S. Sylvia. Similar adhesive and markings to previous cover and also very fine £1,400
- 1922 large format frame die proof in black and deep blue. Very fine and scarce £450
- 1922 ditto in carmine and green, especially handsome. (Photo) £600



DOUBLE OVERPRINT



BLUE-BLACK SURCHARGE



RARE PALE BLUE



BI-COLOURED PROOF

ST. HELENA

- 1873 2d on 6d, error, surcharge in blue-black, S.G. 10a. A very lovely used example, slight crease. Brandon Cert. 1988. Cat. £2,750 £1,250
- 1908 registered cover to London bearing 5/- orange, S.G. 20. A rare stamp on cover, attractive and fine £375
- 1922-37 2/- 'cleft rock' flaw, S.G. 108c, v.f. mint £165
- 1922-37 2/6 ditto in corner block of four, S.G. 109c, fresh mint £195
- 1961 Tristan Relief set, S.G. 172-175 u/m. The top value being corner marginal £3,500

SIERRA LEONE

- 1965 Provisional (2nd issue) error 4c on 1d for 4c on 3d, S.G. 330a, v.f. used £165
- 1965 Churchill 2L on 10/- error, surcharge value omitted, S.G. 376a, u/m £175

These few items are typical of our stock but comprise only a part of current holdings.

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