

CAMEO



The Journal of the West Africa Study Circle



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JANUARY 2014



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Front Cover

A few years ago Chris Jackson offered the editors this attractive print of the European quarter in Lome, Togo for a front cover. The date is unknown, possibly around 1900.

Editorial

Royal Mail has continued to try to price itself out of the market; in particular by changing the weight steps for international small packets like Cameo during 2013. As a result your committee has continued to seek creative alternatives to increasing the subscription for “postal” members. Readers of this issue will notice that it runs to only 48 pages. Don’t worry; we will still be producing 180 pages a year, but we are doing so by printing three journals a year on the same dates as before, comprising 48, 60 and 72 pages, in that order. The logic is that the January mailing includes the largest number of enclosures, June has an auction catalogue but October Cameo normally has no flyers nor an auction catalogue with it.

Therefore, with care, we think we can get each packet below the 250g weight step. It’s worth a try! Of course, we will be very happy to hear from any member who is willing to add their name to the list of electronic subscribers. Just e-mail Ray Harris or either of the editors.

More articles for Cameo would be welcome now that Marty Bratzel’s series on the Cameroun Sterling surcharges is coming to an end. Readers will find a much delayed third part of Nigel Lutwyche’s Nigerian Government Notices at the end of this issue and there should be at least two more sections of that series to come, covering air mails up to 1945 and surface mail rates from 1937 onwards.

The next issue will be edited by me, datelined June 2014, and the copy deadline is 27 May 2014

Rob May



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Editorial Policy

The editors have the final say over content in *Cameo* in the interests of balance and relevance to the readership. Space in each *Cameo* may be limited as compared with the volume of material submitted by all the authors. The editors retain discretion over punctuation, spelling, grammar, use of colour for illustrations and whether to reduce the size of illustrations to fit the space available, but should not change wording, delete text or delete illustrations without full knowledge and permission of the author. If the editors consider amendment or deletion of text or removal of illustrations to be necessary they will discuss it with contributors. If contributors are then unhappy with proposed changes they can withdraw their items.

Rob May / Barry Burns

Scope

The West Africa Study Circle studies the postage stamps and postal history of The Gambia, Gold Coast/Ghana, the Nigerias, Sierra Leone, Camerouns & Togo together with the islands of St. Helena, Ascension, Tristan da Cunha & Gough and the British Postal Agencies in Madeira, Tenerife, St. Vincent and Fernando Po.

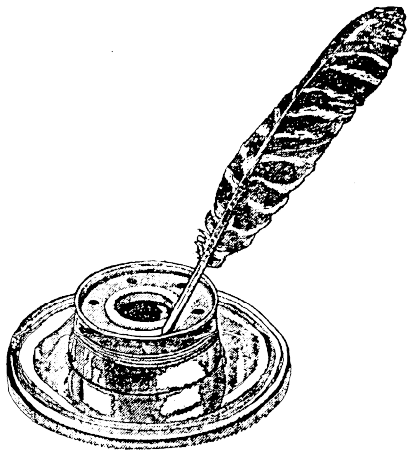
Annual Subscription

A subscription of £20 per annum provides UK members with a printed copy of *Cameo* three times a year, but this assumes electronic distribution to all overseas members, either as a website download or on CD-R. Those overseas members who prefer to receive *Cameo* in print format may do so at an additional charge of £7.50 to Europe or £12.50 to the rest of the world. There is no entry fee. The subscription term is for calendar years.

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Letters to the Editor

Should anyone wish to reply to any of these letters, please do so through the Cameo editor in the first instance to enable a consolidated follow-up to be published in conjunction with the study editors as appropriate.

Correspondence on any subject is always most appreciated. Any form of contact is welcome, whether by letter, telephone or email.

The joint editors' addresses are listed on the front page of all Cameo issues.

Rob May & Barry Burns

Sea Mail to West Africa via Madeira

Dear Rob & Barry,

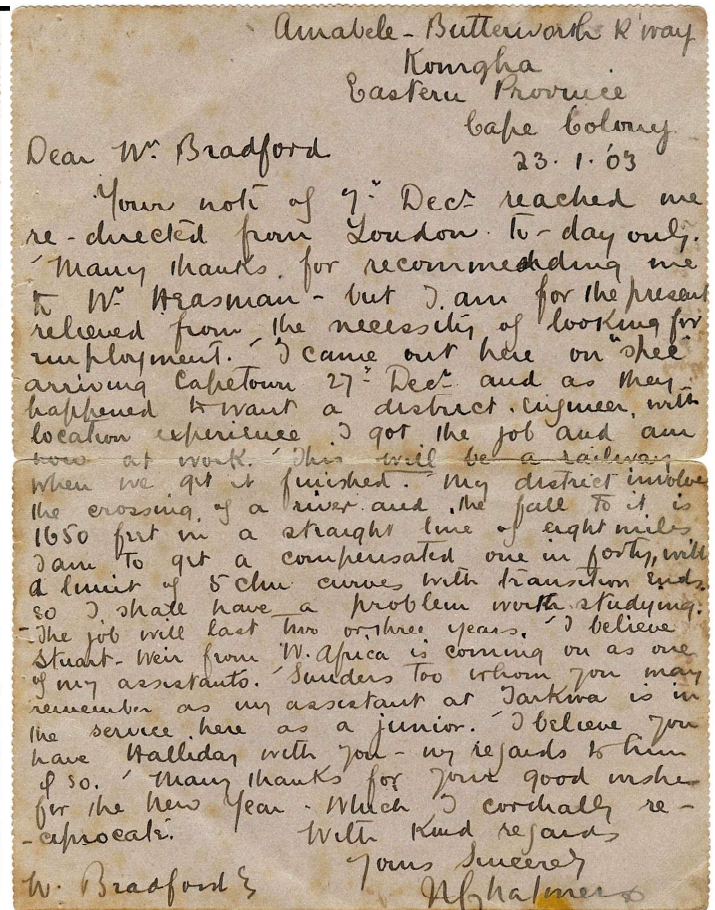
Page 176 of Cameo 90, October 2013 showed a reply by John Mayne to my earlier article at page 108 of Cameo 89, June 2013.

I illustrate below (reduced) the outside and inside of another CGH item which is a letter card to the chief engineer of the Mountain Railway, Sierra Leone endorsed "via Las Palmas" with a Funchal Madeira transit mark.

It was posted at Komgha (in the eastern Cape south of the Transkei area) on 25 January 1905 and got to Cape Town for the UK Royal Mail steamer on 29 January 1905. Madeira was reached on 17 February and the Freetown arrival mark probably shows 2 March 1905.

The message is interesting as it shows a close friendship and network between railway engineers in West and South Africa.

Robert Johnson
Bristol



 **Cameroun Sterling Issue: Philatelic Shenanigans – Postscript**

Dear Rob,

In the October 2013 issue of *Cameo*, I presented a registered cover with three high-value sterling-revalued Cameroun stamps postmarked Buea July 15, 1968, more than six years after the stamps had lost their validity (Ref. 1). The cover, addressed to New York stamp dealer Edmond Queyroy, had indeed gone through the mail. I concluded by saying, 'Nuff said.

I lied.

While working on final edits for our book about the postmarks of independent Cameroun – an unabashed plug for those who might be interested in acquiring a copy – I encountered our notation about a bogus Buea cancel. George Barker had reported finding eight different sterling-revalued Cameroun stamps with a 1968 Buea cancel (Ref. 2). George concluded that the postmark was bogus because the stamps were no longer valid. He provided a rough hand-drawn sketch of the postmark.



Comparing his sketch with the postmark on the Queyroy cover, the similarity is clear. The postmark found by George is not bogus. Apparently Queyroy had a number of covers sent to himself or had other stamps cancelled by favour. NOW can I say, 'Nuff said?

Marty Bratzel
Windsor, Ontario

References

1. Bratzel, Marty. Cameroun Sterling Issue - Philatelic Shenanigans. *Cameo*, Vol. 14, No. 3, October 2013, pages 126-127.
2. Barker, George. Bogus Buea Cancel. *Newsletter of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society of Great Britian*, No. 52, June 1984, page N13.

 **Colonial Office Rep. on board *Bornholm***

Dear Barry,

I was interested to read Hans-Henrik Fentz's report of the MV *Bornholm* in *Cameo* 90. He did not name the 'representative from the Colonial Office' sailing to Tristan da Cunha (p166). This gentleman was a personal friend of mine from Congo days, the late Gordon Whitefield and his wife. He was responsible to Governor John Field of St Helena whom, as you may know, I also knew from our Cameroon days.

Bob Maddocks
Oswestry

 **St Helena Specimen Overprints**

Dear Barry,

Apart from my interest in St Helena, I also collect Specimens, so I found John Aslett's article in *Cameo* 90 pp156-157 very interesting, along with your editorial comments.

I've had a look at my modest holding and the results may confuse the issue even more! I have several examples from position 24 (bottom vignette frame broken twice) and, would you believe, they all measure 13.75 mm. The examples I have are:

2s 6d (2); 5s; 7s 6d; 10s (2); £1

From my 'normal' set most values measure 13.75 mm except:

2s 6d - 13.25 mm
6d - nearer 14 mm
7s 6d - 13.5 mm
10s - 14 mm
15s - 14 mm

For reference, I'm using the Trafalgar perforating gauge for measuring - this is made of bright blue plastic - probably with limitations in accuracy but more than adequate if used to compare dimensions.

Roger B. West
Nottinghamshire

Access to the internet?

**Then please try visiting the
West Africa Study Circle
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contact: harris6@which.net**

**There are now direct links to our
advertisers and other websites**

**Other recent additions include
documents by WASC members
including information on
Air Routes and
Nigerian Postmarks
with extra material frequently added**

WASC Study Editors are also available for queries and to help edit articles

- Airmails – Barbara Priddy
- Ascension – Bernard Hughes
- Biafra – Tony Plumbe
- Camerouns – Marty Bratzel
- Gambia – Oliver Andrew
- Ghana – Ian Anderson
- Gold Coast – Peter Duggan
- Lagos – Simon Heap
- Maritime – John Knight
- Nigerias to 1914 – Simon Heap
- Nigeria post 1914 – Tony Plumbe
- St. Helena – Bernard Mabbett
- Sierra Leone to 1961 – Frank Walton
- Sierra Leone post 1961 – Peter Rolfe
- Togo – Jeremy Martin

**The Publications Committee Chairman
is Rob May**

Obituary - Robert Seaman

Philip Beale FRPSL and Jeremy Martin FRPSL

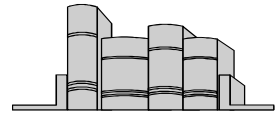
Robert was a longstanding member of the Circle who had encouraged many of our existing members to join. He had been Secretary of the Standard Bank which had acquired the Bank of West Africa in 1965. When he retired he spent a few years dealing in material connected with West Africa and helped many of us with our collections. His particular interest was in Biafra of which he gave a major display to the society. He was Membership Secretary and Treasurer of the Circle for the four years 1984 to 1988.

We will remember his enthusiasm for collecting interesting stamps and covers, his friendly presence and his regular attendance at meetings for many years.



Sources

**Views expressed by reviewers are their own
and are not necessarily endorsed by WASC
or the editors of *Cameo***



For all WASC book orders and payments please contact the Treasurer (address on contents page). Authors will distribute their own new publications to members, whilst distribution of purchases from older stock is arranged via the Treasurer.

📖 *Bridging the Continents in Wartime* by Hans E. Aitinck & Egbert Hovenkamp, reprint, published by Ken Sanford Aerophil, 2013, 227pp, full colour as previously published in 2005. ISBN 90-809628-1-3. Available from Ken Sanford <http://aerophilately.net>. Price US\$50.00 plus postage to US addresses \$4.00, Canada \$13.00 first class, Other countries \$23.95 Global Priority Mail.

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613 Championship Drive, Oxford, CT06478-3128.

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📖 *The De La Rue Collection*. Frank Walton announced in the London Philatelist of December 2013 that work on the paper record of the De La Rue Collection created by Leslie Newman Hon RPSL has now been completed. It comprises 4,100 pages including 3,548 pages of colour illustrations of archival material from the De La Rue records covering 194 different stamp issuing authorities. Over 500 pages of detailed descriptions have been put together by almost 100 different experts, including some WASC members.

RPSL, in agreement with the copyright holder, has decided to publish this work in six bound volumes as a boxed set available only to RPSL members with a maximum of one copy per member. By the time this issue of *Cameo* is published the deadline for print orders (15 January 2014) will have passed, so this mention is primarily intended for future reference by WASC members seeking to identify this published source for reference in the RPSL Library and the copyright libraries. All of the images and descriptions will also remain freely available to members of the Royal on the RPSL website.

📖 *Sierra Leone Picture Postcards, 2nd edition* by Terence A. Dickinson, published by West Africa Study Circle, 2013, 272pp, full colour, perfect bound A4. ISBN 978-1-905647-15-6. Retail price £35 plus P&P. Available to WASC members by order to the Treasurer, Ian Anderson at £28 plus £4.50 P&P within the UK. P&P to Europe £8 by airmail and to the rest of the world £15 airmail or £10 surface mail. Payment by Sterling cheque, or in any other currencies by Paypal to the benefit of wasctreasurer@aol.com

Following publication of the first edition of this illustrated listing in 1997, many new cards have come to light, some found by WASC members, especially the late Tom Butlin. Terence has also extended the scope of the book to cover modern postcards related to, or published in, Sierra Leone since Independence. This completely revised edition has been printed in the same style and format as “Gold Coast Postcards” compiled and written by the same author, which was published by WASC in 2003.

It is surprising how many postcards do exist, relating to a territory that has never been a significant tourist destination and which remains one of the world’s poorest nations. This is in a large part due to the work of the prolific Lisk-Carew Brothers who ran a shop in Freetown selling photographs of African life and customs. Because of the Edwardian postcard boom and the collection of used postcards by the recipients, the survival rate of historic postcard images showing scenes and customs now long gone is generally remarkably good; many more images are available that way than in illustrated books and private photographic collections. However, it would certainly be a challenge to locate copies of all the thousands of images listed in this catalogue!

Bradbury Wilkinson Photographic Archive (Gambia)

Rob May



At Spink Auctions on 9 July 2013 an archive of mostly sepia or black and white images of stamp designs, both adopted and un-adopted, was sold. It is now being split up. Jeremy Martin arranged for Spinks to produce a photographic record of the whole of this archive before it was sold, which he has passed to me on a CD-R.

These images cover a wide range of countries, from about 1900 to early 1970s, but seems to be incomplete because not all stamps produced by Bradbury Wilkinson have an image in this archival record. I show now, as an example, the only two groups of images relating to Gambia.



The RPSL already has a copy of this CD and are in the process of recruiting help from RPSL members to index it onto an Excel spreadsheet. This can be done by e-mail communication. Frank Walton and Steve Jarvis would welcome any help with this, so that a record of this archive will be preserved, catalogued and made accessible to researchers.

Spink has given permission for publication of all the images by the RPSL and has also consented, via Jeremy Martin, to WASC publishing images relating to West Africa. I take this opportunity to express our thanks to them.

The images are not sorted by country and RPSL does not have any immediate plan to do so. As there are some interesting West African records I aim to publish them in country sections in *Cameo* for the West African territories, of which this (The Gambia) is the first.

If they can be located, any other sections of this Bradbury Wilkinson photographic archive should be recorded and added later.

Air Cargo to Win a War: The Rest of the Story

David Crotty

Over the last decade or so I have become very interested in Pan American Airways operations in the Atlantic. I would like to take this opportunity to provide a brief summary of the PAA South Atlantic story.

There were plans, of course, for this ambitious airline to develop commercial routes around the Atlantic that connected with the existing routes in the Americas and the Pacific. One goal was to include routes thorough Africa as well. Juan Trippe was not able to obtain permission to go all the way to South Africa so he named one of the Boeing 314s the *Capetown Clipper* to make his intentions clear. The impending war caused those plans to put on hold. The choice of Leopoldville was made for a number of reasons. That was a center of aviation for Africa. The military was concerned that the German army would take a stronger hold on North Africa and there might be a need for a southern route across Africa. The original goal was to fly one or two trips a month.

In December 1941 the USA declared war and, probably entirely by plan, PAA conducted four trips to Leopoldville that month. Using three different Boing 314s they made three trips as far as Calcutta India carrying much needed military supplies for the British forces in Egypt and the forces in China. The next two trips in January and February 1942 also took on extended trips for similar reasons. These trips helped hold off the enemy, but two or four trips a month was not enough. By February the U.S. Army was developing the shuttle project between Brazil and Lagos, Nigeria and when the base was ready in June, Fisherman's Lake, Liberia. By April the operation was flying 15-30 trips a month. On the African side PAA Africa and BOAC were flying DC-3 type aircraft (and other types as well) throughout Africa with the cargo brought in by the Clippers. The *Capetown Clipper* was part of the shuttle operation but took time out to make nine more round trips to Leopoldville. The *Capetown* was then assigned full time to the shuttle operation and other equipment was used to make trips to Leopoldville. But that still wasn't enough.

Starting on November 10, 1942 a number of the new and more effective C-54 (DC-4) cargo aircraft became available. The PAA Africa Orient Division was organized to operate these aircraft on several routes. The most well-traveled was between Accra, Gold Coast and Cairo or India. Routes also included trips to several points in the Middle East. There are some timetables for this operation but it is well understood that there were many more unscheduled trips than scheduled and many destinations were visited as needed. Detailed accounts of the trips like the trip summaries for commercial trips that I found at the University of Miami Library will probably never be found. These simple timetables will be all we have. By the spring of 1943 the Boeing 314s were almost obsolete compared with the C-54 and other aircraft. The C-54 could make the trip between Miami and Calcutta in 3 ½ days with a crew of four, while the Boeing 314 required 15 days and a crew of 11. In addition, there were as many as 20 C-54 aircraft en route in each direction at any one time. This inspired the nickname Cannonball for the operation and the name stuck. The shuttle missions were ended for the Army on May 18, 1943. Three of the Boeings were transferred to the Pacific for the rest of the war and the four remaining were used by PAA's commercial routes and some of those trips stopped at Fisherman's Lake. The trips to Fisherman's Lake may have continued. We have found a manifest dated 18 April 1946 carried by NC18606 and piloted by the famous Captain Marius Lodeesen.

The Africa Orient operation continued and by 1945 there were 157 crews of PAA civilian employees operating the C-54 routes. This by far was not the only cargo operation in Africa at that time. By late 1944 the many cross Africa trips were no longer required and most trips traveled between Miami and Casablanca.

The shuttle missions carried a large amount of the mails between Natal and Fisherman's Lake. While the PAA Africa operation was not supposed to carry mail, sometimes it did, much to the irritation of the British. That and other factors caused PAA Africa to be fully militarized in November 1942. However, the Cannonball took over the routes immediately and did carry mail, and was the main carrier of military and

civilian mail in Africa until the end of the war.

The last Cannonball flight landed on June 20, 1946. On June 25th the Army held a celebration at La Guardia to thank the 110,000 PAA employees for a job well done. That day the “Veil was lifted.” One speaker is quoted as saying “To the collector and the world it was FAM-22 but to the Army Air Forces it was the Cannonball Run linking four continents. To the Army Transport Command it was the Africa Orient Division of Pan American World Airways with a round the clock operation which rushed key personnel and material half way around the world between Miami and India, a distance of 11,500 miles, in three and a half days, including time for maintenance, loading, fueling, servicing and repairs. The route spanned two oceans and touched on four continents, linking India and the United States by way of the Caribbean, South America, the South Atlantic, Africa and the Middle East.”

This is “the rest of the story.” Details including those trip summaries that I could find are in the book. These details have been hidden from us since the war began. I do have more information that will be in volume two but there are more details yet to be found.

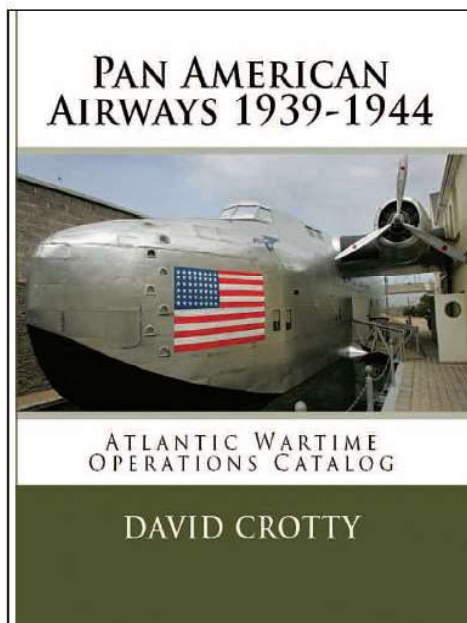
I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who helped me in this endeavor. It has been fun to work with all of you.

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NIPOST—Horse logo to Dove logo

Dr. Simon Heap

In the last issue [*Cameo*, Vol. 14, No. 3, p.161], Bob Maddocks posed questions about why did the Nigerian Postal Service (NIPOST) have an incongruous logo consisting of a horse, rider and mailbags, and whether it continues. I suppose that logo was not as incongruous as the Nigerian Airways logo consisting of the Nigerian flag with a green elephant called Skypower at its centre!

I believe when NIPOST was established in the mid-1980s, it was given a white royal horse and rider as its logo, founded on biblical references from Esther, Chapter 8, Verses 10 and 14: “Mordecai wrote in the name of King Xerxes, sealed the dispatches with the king’s signet ring, and sent them by mounted couriers, who rode fast horses especially bred for the king”, and “The couriers, riding the royal horses, went out, spurred on by the king’s command, and the edict was issued in the citadel of Susa.”

There used to be a boxer in 1990s Nigeria, Salami Alapini, with the epithet, “Nipost Horse Power” – which must have meant he had a good punch, stamina, or both!

In fact, on 21st March 2005, the old NIPOST horse logo changed to the still current white dove on a background of a perforated yellow envelope.



NIGERIAN POSTAL SERVICE

CEF Overprints on Kamerun Yacht Stamps

Update Number 5

Marty Bratzel

This article is the fifth in an occasional series about the C.E.F. overprints on Kamerun yacht stamps, first placed on sale at Duala on 12 July 1915. The purpose is to supplement and expand Robert Gibbs' definitive work on the subject (Ref. 1). Shortly after publication of the fourth update in October 2010 (Ref. 2), Trevor Williams reported and illustrated two magnificent varieties – 2½d. on 25 pf. double overprint, one albino, and 4d. on 40 pf. triple overprint, two albino (Ref. 3). This present update extends Williams' report and provides information about a variety of the 2/- on 2 mark stamp.



Figure 1. Reverse of 2½ d. on 25 pf. stamp with double overprint, one albino.



Figure 2. 4d. on 40 pf. stamp with quadruple overprint, three albino. The arrows indicate the stop after the E for each albino impression.



Figure 3. 2/- on 2 mark stamp with double overprint, one albino. The stamp on the right was offered at the Grosvenor auction.

The 2½ d. on 25 pfennig Double Overprint, One Albino

The 2½d. overprint was applied to stamps in a vertical setting of 10. Ten passes through the press were required to completely overprint a sheet of 100 stamps. I too have acquired a 2½d. double overprint stamp, one albino (Figure 1). Given the position and the characteristics of the offset and the albino impression, this copy is from the same column as Trevor's. Gibbs (Ref. 1) noted – without comment – a double overprint, one albino for this stamp, and Porter (Ref. 4) reported “a specimen of the 2½d. on 25 pf. with overprint at back (reverse) just as clear as it is on the front.” Although Porter discussed inked double overprints, he made no mention of a double overprint, one albino. One can speculate that Porter's stamp is that reported and illustrated by Trevor and myself and that Porter failed to observe the albino imprint. Similarly, I do not think that Gibbs' entry refers to this particular stamp, or he would have highlighted the offset on the back. About 25 years ago, I was shown a top margin copy of a 2½d. on 25 pf. stamp, double overprint, one albino. The albino imprint was strong and shifted up so that the C.E.F. was wholly in the top margin. I did not obtain a photocopy or other details at the time, and the stamp has since vanished.

The 4d. on 40 pfennig Multiple Overprint, 2 or 3 Albino

The plate to overprint the 40 pf. stamps was arranged as five columns of 10, allowing 50 stamps to be overprinted at a time. The triple overprint, two albino occurred on the left half of one sheet (Ref. 2, 4). Trevor's illustration clearly shows elements of the albino overprint (Ref. 3). From examination of approximately twenty different 4d. on 40 pf. stamps and images of stamps with triple overprint, two albino, all appear to have come from the same sheet.

Gibbs also recorded a single copy of a 4d. on 40pf. stamp with quadruple overprint, three albino (Ref. 1). He said that he had “only recorded one unused example, but it is wonderfully clear, with three distinct and separate albino impressions stamped into the surface”. In Spink Auction 6031 of November 8, 2006, Lot 1177 was offered as a 4d. on 40pf. stamp with quadruple overprint, three albino. The catalogue description said “unused with large part original gum; a little stained and creased corner perf. at foot, otherwise fine. Believed to be the only known example.” This leads me to believe that this was Gibbs' copy. Against an estimate of £800 - £1000, the stamp sold for £600.

A second copy of this stamp was recently offered and sold on eBay. As shown in Figure 2, portions of the three albino impressions are quite clear, particularly the stops in C.E.F. There is also some ink offset on the back. The illustration of the copy offered by Spink was not sufficient to unequivocally conclude that both are from the same sheet.

Question – is the stamp from the left or the right half of the sheet? There are unique distinguishing characteristics for several positions of the basic 40pf. stamp and for the 4d. overprint. After careful examination of an enlarged copy of the stamp in Figure 2, it is not at present possible to plate the stamp to a particular position.

The 2/- on 2 Mark Double Overprint, One Albino

Neither Porter nor Gibbs mention a 2/- on 2 mark stamp with double overprint, one albino, but the Stanley Gibbons catalogue does (SG B11b). Another eBay acquisition was a less-than-pristine 2/- on 2 mark stamp with double offset on the back (Figure 3). Upon close examination under high magnification, it was discovered that the stamp has an albino impression, only slightly displaced from the inked impression, rather weak and almost missed. From the front, the stops after C.E.F. are the easiest part of the albino impression to see. On the back, the albino imprint corresponds with the higher, stronger inked offset.

In the Grosvenor auction of September 25, 2013, Lot 441 was offered as a 2/- on 2 mark stamp ex. Maddocks “with complete offset of the surcharge on gum.” That stamp is also depicted in Figure 3. Given the position and the inking of both impressions, both stamps are, in my opinion, from the same sheet. Although the Grosvenor stamp could not be examined first hand, it, too, should have an albino overprint. Against an estimate of £100 - £120, the stamp reportedly sold for £120.

Thanks are extended to Michael Wright and Trevor Williams for alerting me to the Grosvenor auction. As always, reports of additional varieties of the C.E.F. issue are welcomed.

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Hattie Crosby, Missionary in Sierra Leone

John Hossack

Hattie Belle Crosby was born in 1877 and was brought up in the state of Dakota (Ref 1). Her mother died when Hattie was young, and it fell to her to look after her family (Ref 2). Later, she moved to Houghton and studied at the Houghton Seminary, Allegany County in the state of New York, founded in 1883 by Willard Houghton (Ref. 3). She was awarded her diploma, probably in the early twentieth century, and prepared herself for missionary work in Sierra Leone.

Hattie arrived in Freetown on 17 November 1905 (Ref. 2) and went to Kunso in the Karene district of the northern province of Sierra Leone. A Wesleyan mission had been opened there in 1891 and this was where Hattie began her first term of missionary work. She also acted as postmistress at Kunso from 1 January 1906 (Ref. 4), taking over after Marie Stephens, who had travelled from America with Hattie, died of fever less than two months into her second term in Sierra Leone.

Hattie's early weeks in Sierra Leone were particularly difficult as two missionaries died, As well as Marie's death on New Year's Eve 1905, another missionary died on New Year's Day 1906. Two others had already returned to the USA as they were so ill (Ref. 2). This left Hattie as the only white person at the Kunso mission. In February 1906 she went to Magbelli where she learnt more about the work and the local language, while the Kunso mission was run by two native people (Ref. 2).

She returned to Kunso in May or June 1906, by which time three more recruits had arrived from the USA. In the meantime the Wesleyan mission a few miles away at Masumbo, which was opened in 1895, had been closed since August 1905 due to lack of staff. Hattie moved there in August 1906 (Ref. 2). Clearly the post office at Kunso must have seen little business in 1906; indeed it was closed temporarily at the end of that year (Ref. 4). At Masumbo, Hattie was joined in December by May Lord, a former classmate from Houghton Seminary (Ref. 2).

Hattie finished her first term in Sierra Leone in December 1907, and returned on furlough to her home at Houghton (Ref. 2). She travelled to Liverpool on SS *Falaba* of the Elder Dempster Line, and from the UK to New York on what was the second westbound voyage of SS *Mauretania*. Whilst on SS *Falaba* Hattie took responsibility for looking after a new-born baby, Ruth Lang, after her mother died on the ship during child-birth, and ensured she arrived safely in New York (Ref. 5).

On 29 December 1908 Hattie arrived in Sierra Leone for her second term, and returned to Masumbo. At some stage she may have again acted as postmistress at Kunso, which had been re-opened in June 1907 (Ref. 4). She went back to Houghton after her second term ended in October 1911 (Ref. 6). Figs. 1 and 2 show both sides of a postcard written by Hattie Crosby at Masumbo in 1909.



Fig. 1. Picture postcard written by Hattie Crosby at Masumbo and sent to friends in her hometown of Houghton in the USA.

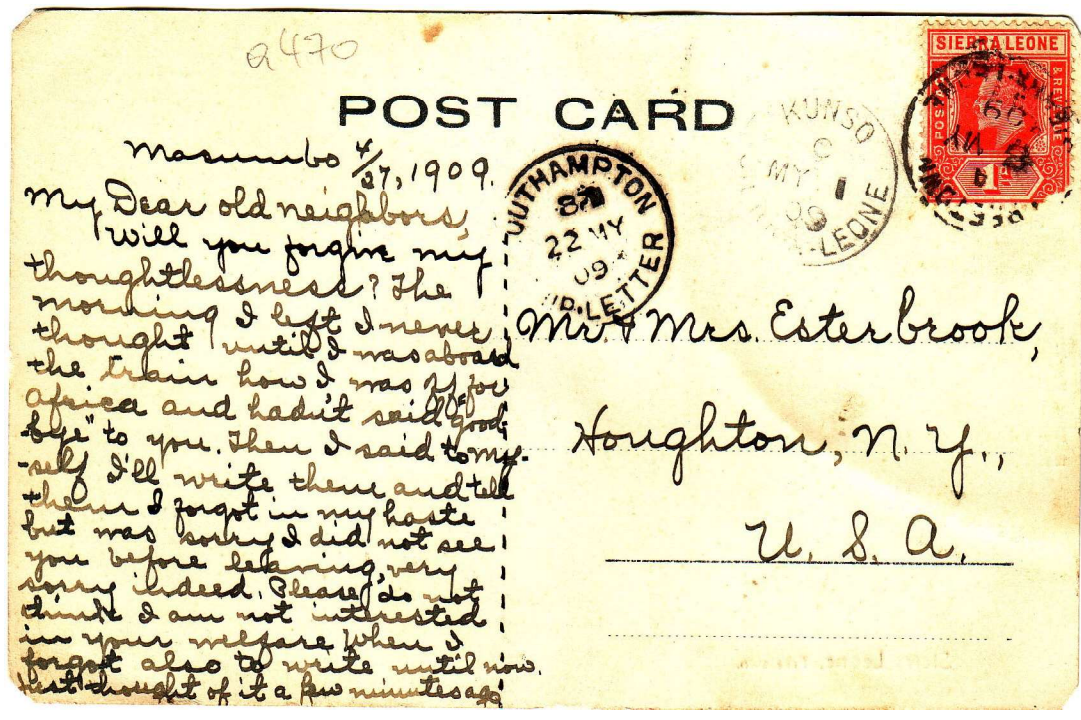


Fig. 2. Address side of the same card, franked at Kunso on 1 May 1909 and at Freetown seven days later. Application of the village postmark off the stamp was usual practice in Sierra Leone at this time.

Hattie completed other tours to Sierra Leone, though there are few records of her activities during these times. By 1918 the consequences of living in such an inhospitable place as Kunso were better understood, and more consideration was given to the needs of the people who worked there. On the orders of health

officials of the Sierra Leone government the mission at Kunso was closed and work was transferred to other missions in the area (Ref. 7).

For what was probably her fourth or fifth tour she left the USA in February 1919, having received authorisation from the British embassy in Washington a few weeks earlier in December 1918 (Fig. 3). On 5 March she sailed from Liverpool to Freetown on the Elder Dempster ship *SS Mandingo*. During 1919 Hattie was at Gbendembu, where a new mission had been opened, and stayed until 1921 (Ref. 7). She returned to the USA in July of that year. As there was no consular agent for the USA in Sierra Leone her registration certificate was issued in Dakar, Senegal, a few weeks earlier, in May (Fig. 4).

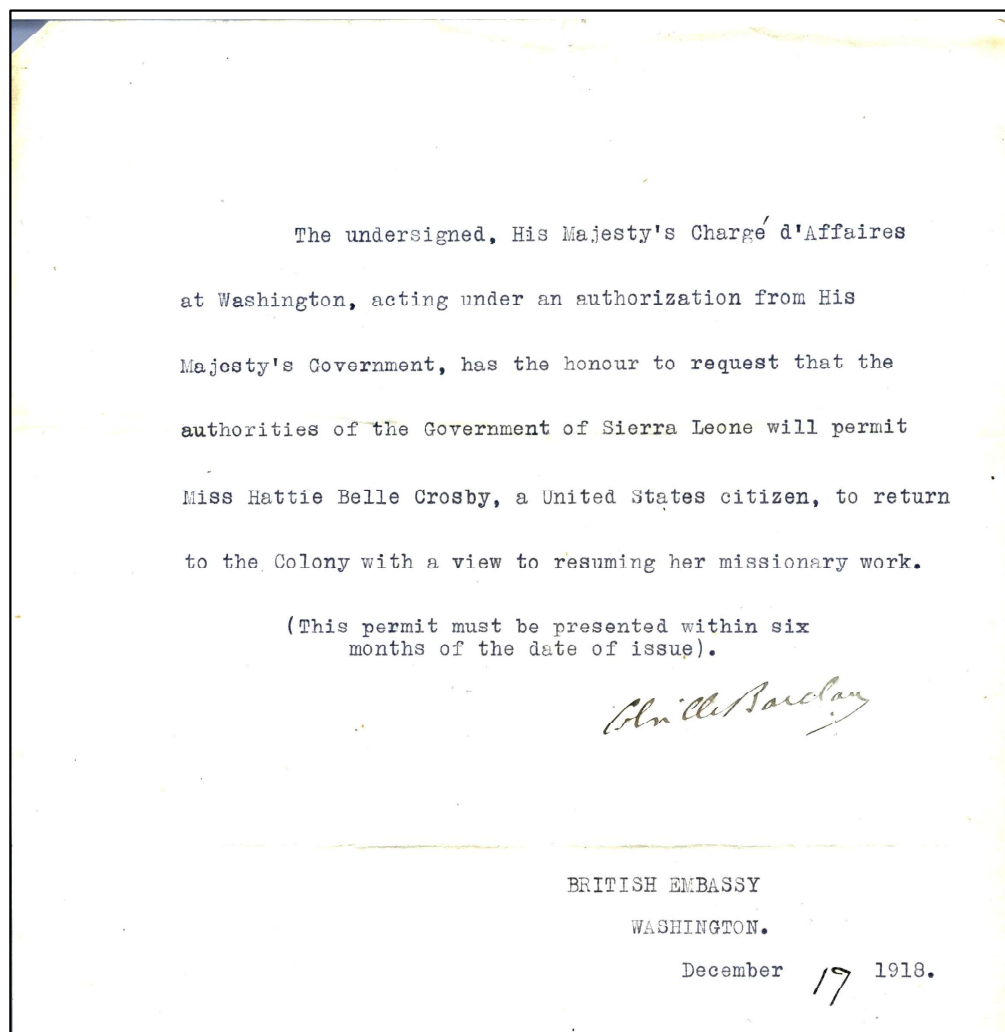


Fig. 3. Authorisation document for entry into Sierra Leone, issued in December 1918 to Hattie Crosby by the British Embassy in Washington.

While in the USA Hattie must have become something of a local celebrity. There are various newspaper reports of her being asked to speak about her times in Africa. For example in June 1908 she spoke at Indiana on her missionary work (Ref. 8). In November 1911, after her second term, she addressed an audience at her home town of Houghton (Ref. 6) while in January 1912 she spoke at Titusville, Pennsylvania, on her work in the 'dark continent' (Ref. 9). She gave a talk at the Wesleyan Church in Odessa, New York, in May 1918 (Ref. 10). This was after her third or fourth term in Africa; she was introduced as a missionary of many years experience.

After several tours to Sierra Leone, she was finally unable to continue due to deteriorating health, and remained in the USA. Later she married Raymond Manyon, who was a postal worker, and they settled in Boulder, Colorado (Ref 1). She died in 1966 and is buried at Brooksville Cemetery, Hernando County in Florida. Her gravestone is inscribed 'HATTIE CROSBY MANYON / 1877 - 1966 / MISSIONARY TO AFRICA' (Ref. 11)

Hattie Crosby was typical of the early missionaries who were at Kunso, and who needed to be a tough and dedicated breed. In those days the conditions under which they lived and worked were very hard and several died in Africa. It is a testimony to their commitment and courage that so many young people volunteered to go there, prepared to risk so much. The continued success of the Wesleyan movement in Sierra Leone is a tribute to the foundations laid down by these pioneers.

Acknowledgements

I wish to thank Deborah Shea, Archives Specialist at the Willard J. Houghton Library, Houghton College, NY, USA who kindly gave of her time to find information about Hattie Crosby and in addition e-mailed copies of the documents shown in Figs. 3 and 4. Also to Philip Quirk for lending me his copy of *American Wesleyan Methodist Missions in Sierra Leone, West Africa*

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Articles of Interest Published in Other Journals

Members are invited to contact either editor by e-mail, post or telephone when they notice any article they may feel might be of interest to other members. Articles which we hope to reproduce in *Cameo* at a future date are not usually listed here.

Air Mail News, Volume 56, no. 223, November 2013

pp6-7, *Primary Source: 18th September or 9th November 1939?* Peter Wingent. This article asks on which date did the Régie Air Afrique service resume between Algiers and Brazzaville.

p29, *FAM22—Unintended Consequences*, John Wilson & Barbara Priddy.

Journal of the France & Colonies PS, Volume 63, no. 4, December 2013

pp168-169, *Cameroun Français 27.8.40: the “+10c” Trial on the 90c Elephant stamp*, Dudley Cobb

Sixth Sense, no. 104, December 2013

P2, *Insight Revisited* looks again at flaws and varieties on Ascension KGVI definitives

Postage Due Mail Study Group Journal, No. 67, September 2013

pp22-27, *Some Nigerian Postage Due Covers*, Michael Furfie

Ghana Fan Mail to Hollywood Movie Stars

Thomas Richards & Regis Hoffman

A fan letter is a written communication from a movie fan to a Hollywood movie star. These letters allowed the fan to connect with their favourite star. Importantly, the Hollywood studios actively monitored the content and amount of fan mail received by each star. A star who received large amounts of fan mail could get better roles. The Hollywood mystique was universal -fan letters are known from around the world.

For over 15 years, as collectors of fan mail to Hollywood movie stars and other movie-related mail, the authors have always been looking for unusual items or mail from unusual places. We first published a large article on fan mail in the April 2001 issue of the American Philatelist entitled *Movie Star Mail: More than Meets the Eye* (Ref 1). This was followed by a contribution in the 2002 American Philatelic Congress yearbook entitled *Development of the Hollywood Fan Mail System* (Ref 2). Both articles covered fan mail and the US, foreign and studio marking applied to the covers.

When we began to collect fan mail our initial plan was to try to acquire mail addressed to as many stars as we could. As we accumulated over 10,000 covers we noticed that about 1-2% of them had movie studio markings. We then began to concentrate on those markings which led to our monograph published in 2010 by the Auxiliary Markings Club - *Private Auxiliary Markings on Hollywood Fan Mail* (Ref 4).

Over this long period of collecting we noticed interesting trends concerning the sources of fan mail. Some countries such as Great Britain and Canada had frequent fan mail writers. This is to be expected; these countries had large English-speaking audiences and well established cinema networks showing Hollywood movies. Surprisingly, however, Gold Coast and Ghana are a source of a significant amount of fan mail. Neighboring countries in West Africa are the source for few, if any, such letters. This anomaly is unexplained - can any readers hypothesise why Gold Coast/Ghana is the source of much fan mail (*ed – a www search has found a reference to the Gold Coast Ministry of Information having operated mobile cinema vans to give free film shows in both urban and rural areas. Is this familiar to any of our members from their own experiences in the Territory?*)

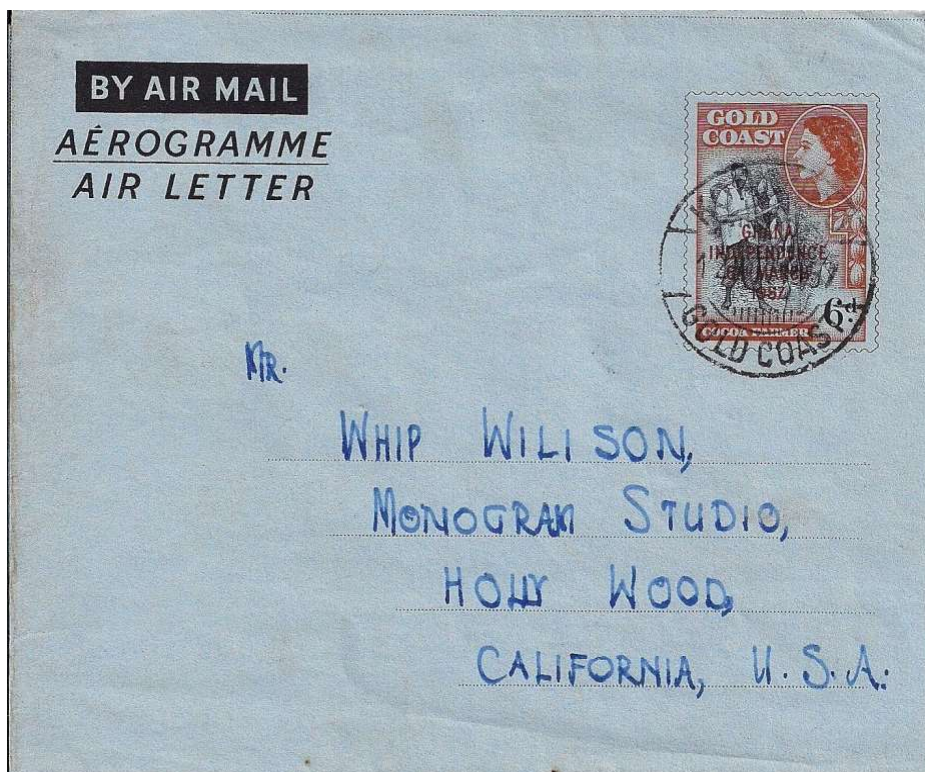


Figure 1



Figure 2
Whip Wilson

Figure 1 shows one of our first acquisitions. It shows a Gold Coast air letter sheet from Konongo that has been overprinted GHANA INDEPENDENCE 6TH MARCH 1957 to Whip Wilison (sic) (Figure 2). Whip was at Monogram Studios at the time. He was a “B” level cowboy star and Monogram produced many B movies of the Western genre. It is dated 12 November 1957.

Until the acquisition of our latest lot of over 200 Gold Coast/Ghana fan mail covers we had found few covers from that country with movie studio markings. Figure 3 shows a cover with a partial cancel from Asamankese to Vincent Price at R.K.O. Studios. It received a postage due T mark in Ghana for underpayment of the rate by 2d. Mr Price was not there, so the studio mail room applied the two line UNCALLED FOR AT/ R K O RADIO PICTURES (type RKO-1a) (Ref. 4) marking on it.

Figure 3



This is a scarce marking with RRRR rating; where RRRRR is the scarcest. While the date is not clear it must be after 6 March 1957 due to the use of the overprinted 1957 Independence stamp. This makes it the Latest Recorded Date (LRD) by at least two years. Most of the covers in this lot were dated 1958 so it may extend the LRD even further.

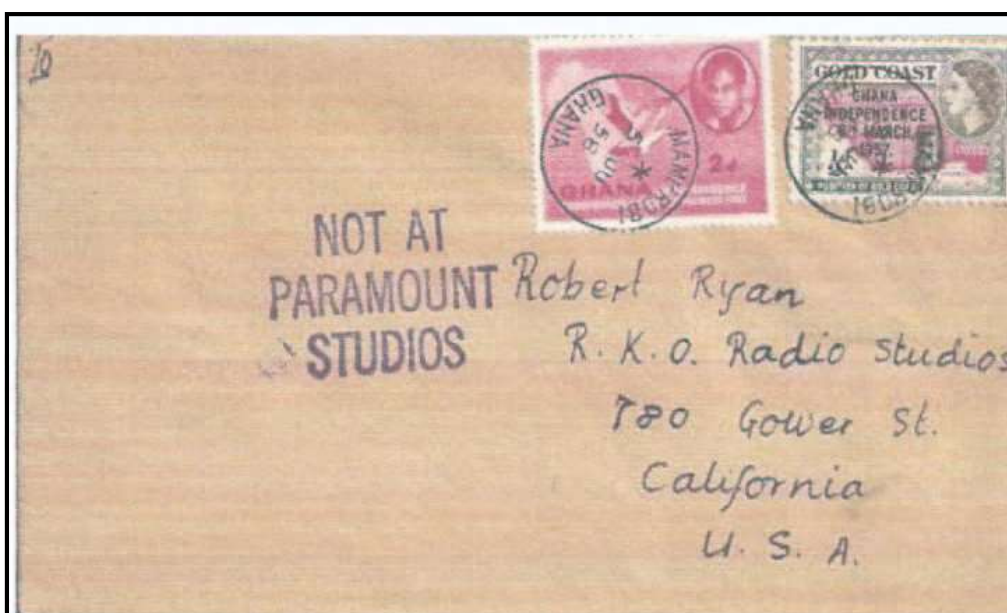


Figure 4

A 5 July 1958 cover from Mamprobi shows a similar usage (Figure 4). Sent to Robert Ryan at R.K.O. Studios, it was then forwarded to Paramount where it received NOT AT/PARAMOUNT/STUDIOS (type PAR-3) marking. This is also an extension of the LRD by over two years and it has RRRRR rating, which means that less than four examples are known.

Figure 5

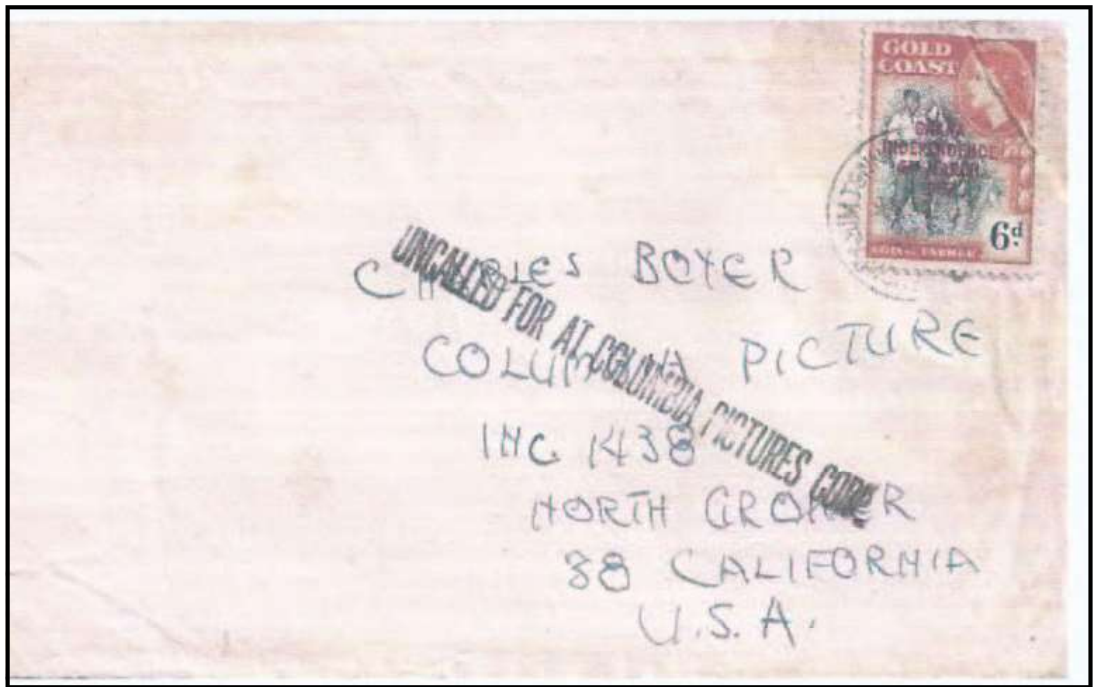


Figure 5 also shows a RRRRR rated marking UNCALLED FOR AT COLUMBIA PICTURES CORP. This marking (type COL-1) is very scarce and its current LRD is 25 January 1958. This example is addressed to Charles Boyer from Wenchi Akim Town, date unfortunately illegible.

There were also over 20 covers with postage due markings. A sender of a cover to Robert Ryan (figure 6) had underpaid the 3d rate with a 1/2d stamp. The two currency markings 4D and 1D together add up to the correct surcharge of 5d Sterling.

Figure 6



Figure 7 shows a cover from Ayensudu to the De Lawrence Company in Chicago. The De Lawrence Company was a pioneer in the business of supplying magical and occult goods by mail order. They also supplied occult props to the movie companies. Mail is known in large quantities from many West African countries to this company. Even though this is one of the few covers in this lot that was not sent to a movie star, it is to an interesting movie-related address.



Figure 7

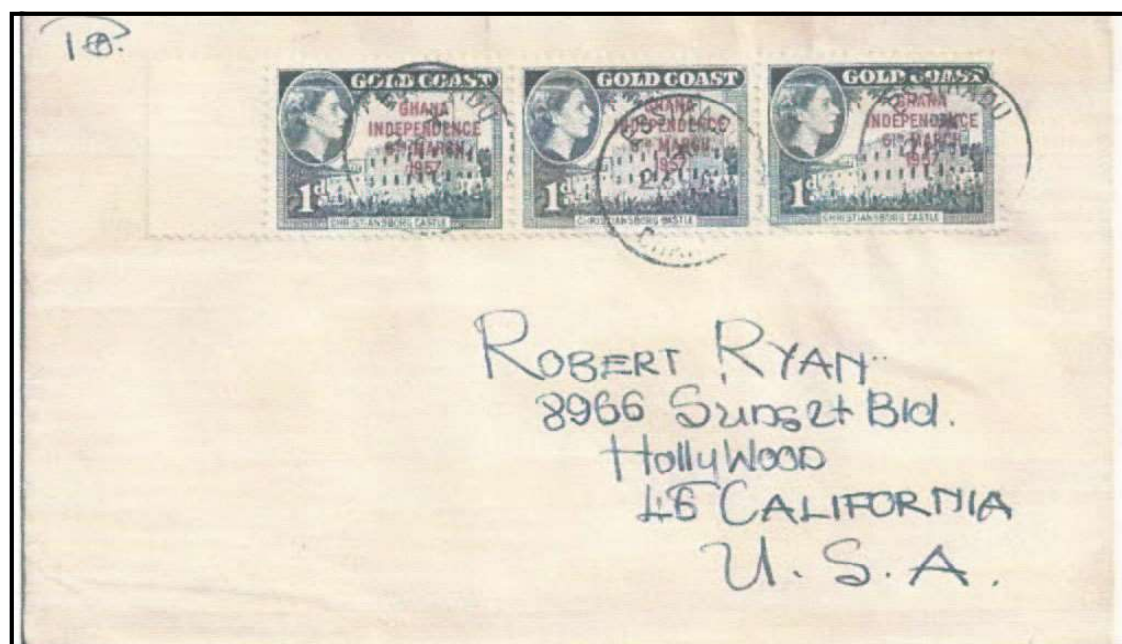


Figure 8

Figure 8 is an example from Essikadu to actor Robert Ryan. The date is unclear. Robert Ryan played the “tough guy” role in crime dramas, westerns and war movies. He had a dislike of television even as it became very popular. As he explained to reporters, despite financial considerations, Ryan preferred to steer clear of any TV series commitment:

The only money in TV is in the series, and I want to stay out of those. Sure, I might make a million or so in a series, but I would wind up being “Sidewinder Sam” for the rest of my life (Ref 5)

Figure 9 shows a cover from a small town, Senya Beraku, to Deborah Kerr at M.G.M. Studios in Culver City, California. Figure 10 shows the stamps and postmarks enlarged, correctly rated 3d and cancelled Senya Beraku C. Deborah Kerr was a Scottish-born internationally known film, theatre and television actress. She was nominated six times for the Academy Award for Best Actress, but never won. She is probably best known for her role in the 1953 film *From Here to Eternity* for which she received one of her Oscar nominations. The American Film Institute acknowledged the iconic status of the scene from that film in which she and Burt Lancaster romped illicitly and passionately amidst crashing waves on an Hawaii beach. They ranked it twentieth in its list of 100 most romantic films of all time (Ref 6).



Figure 9



Figure 10

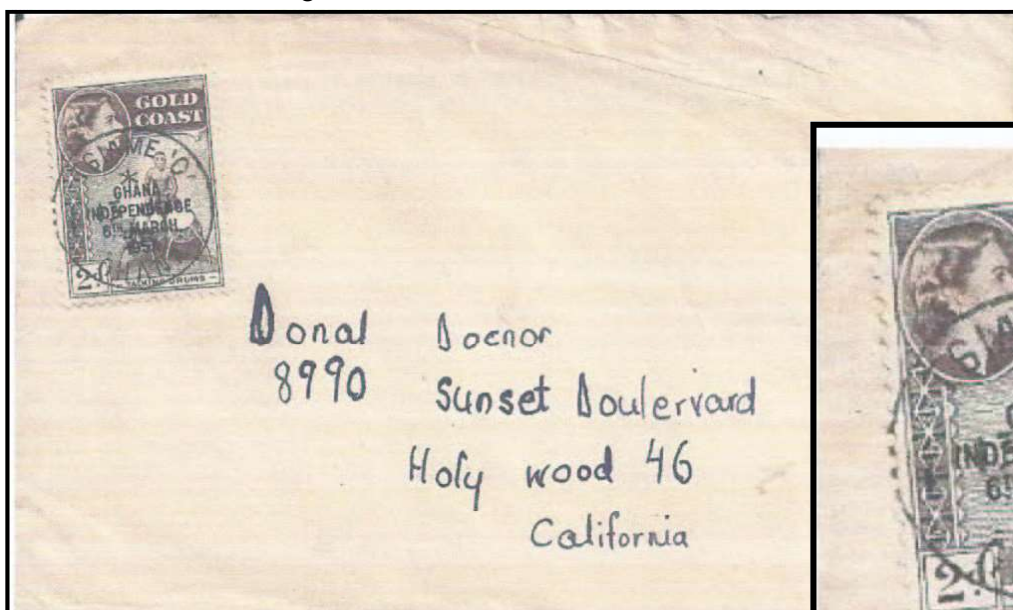


Figure 11



Figure 12

Figure 11 shows another small town cancel—Tsiame ‘O’, date illegible (*ed - with the benefit of zoom I think it may be 13 JU 58.*). The recipient *Donal Oocnor* (sic) is believed to be Donal O’Conner as there is one other in this lot that had been sent to him and the name formation is similar. He was a popular star at the time, appearing in musicals and comedies. In 1949 he played the lead role in *Francis*, the story of a soldier befriended by a talking mule. The film was a huge success and, as a consequence, his musical career was constantly interrupted by production of one *Francis* film per year until 1955. Figure 12 shows the enlargement of the Tsiame cancellation. Underpayment of the 3d rate with a 2d stamp was either not noticed or ignored.

Figure 13 shows a postage due cover from Akyerensua to Gene Killy (sic.) at M.G.M. Studios in Culver City. The sender probably meant Gene Kelly, who danced his way to fame on the Hollywood screens. Figure 14 shows the cancellation, enlarged.



Figure 13

Figure 14

Table 1 shows the breakdown of the town cancels with the number of covers from each of those towns. There are only 1-3 examples from many of the places and the major cities of Accra and Sekondi had the most, as would be expected. There are a large number of unreadable cancels.

All things considered, we believe this was a worthwhile purchase as two new LRDs have extended the date range for studio markings by over two years. Shortly after we published the monograph in 2010 we were finding a new date about once a month but lately that has fallen to about once every six months. To find two in a lot of about 200 covers is unusual.

We were also able to acquire fan mail to stars that we did not have before, for instance Rory Calhoun, Clayton Moore (the original Lone Ranger), Gregory Peck, Vincent Price, Peter Lawford, Dorothy Dandridge and others who were popular during the mid to late 1950s.

What is also of interest is who collected these and when did they do it? These letters were sent to 39 different actors (Table 2) at eight different studios (Table 3) and to the United Fan Mail Service. The

United Fan Mail Service address was 8966 Sunset Boulevard, in Hollywood and was a central location that received fan mail and charged the stars a fee for handling it. Figure 15 shows a check for \$70.68 from Ava Gardner to them. The original collector would almost have had to gather these one at a time from the different studios: not an easy feat. The studios were receiving thousands of pieces of fan mail every month: one studio reported receiving between 18,000 and 45,000 fan letters and postcards per month (Ref 7).

Figure 15

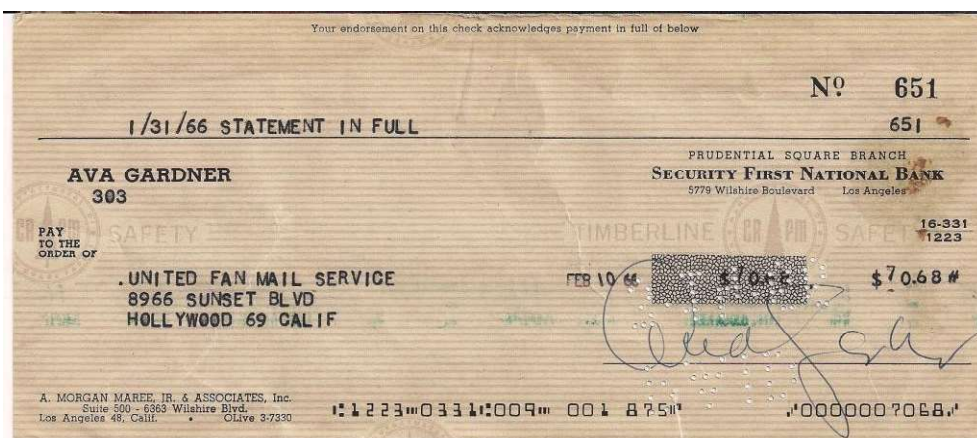


Table 1
Ghana/Gold Coast cancellation numbers

Place name	Number of covers	Place name	Number of covers
Accra	68	Abossey Okai	4
Achiasi	2	Adabraka 2	3
Adeiso A	1	Afiadenyigba	4
Akyerensua	1	Asamankese	3
Ashanti Newtown	8	Ayensudu	1
Brim Road Oda	2	Cape Coast	5
Christiansborg	2	Enyamem	1
Essikadu	1	Fanti Newtown	11
Fumesa	1	Giffard Camp	1
Jamestown	4	Kaneshi	4
Ketan	4	Korle Gonno	2
Kpone	3	Kumasi	10
Kwadia	1	Lagoon Road (Sea)	1
Nkawkaw A	1	Mampong Ashanti	1
Mamprobi	3	Market Circle (Takoradi)	8
Nsawam	3	Nungoa	6
Oda A	1	Saltpond	1
Senya Beraku C	1	Sekondi	27
Takoradi (Sekondi)	16	Tarkwa	1
Tsiame 'O'	1	Winneba	1
Wenchi Akim Town	1	Unreadable	42

The authors would like to thank Marty Bratzel and Ian Anderson for their review and suggestions for this article. Comments, corrections and suggestions are appreciated at richardstomas@sbcglobal.net or rgmmhoffman@comcast.net

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Table 2: Movie Stars Listing

Name	Quantity	Name	Quantity	Name	Quantity
Vincent Price	3	Gordon Scott	6	Deborah Kerr	9
Cornel Wilde	33	Frank Sinatra	3	Jean Wallace	1
Gene Kelly	34	Richard Conte	2	Anthony Quinn	9
Gene Barry	3	“Robin Hood”	1	Anne Baxter	5
Robert Stack	4	Bill Williams	3	Tony Martin	3
Robert Young	5	Peter Lawford	2	Cesar Romero	4
John Kerr	5	Donald O’Conner	2	Edmund O’Brien	2
Dana Andrews	6	Robert Ryan	16	Jock Mahoney	4
Dorothy Dandridge	1	Gregory Peck	3	“Annie Oakley”	2
Van Johnson	8	Jane Powell	3	Don Ameche	1
Richard Boone	4	Rory Calhoun	4	Debra Paget	5
Donna Reed	4	Clayton Moore	4	“Lone Ranger”	1
John Agar	5	Richard Greene	40	J. Carroll Nash	1

Table 3: Movie Studio Listing

Studio	Quantity	Studio	Quantity
8966 Sunset Blvd. *	152	20th Century Fox	17
M.G.M.	62	Warner Bros.	5
Screen Actors’ Guild	1	United Artists	2
Universal	2	Paramount	1
Columbia Studio	3		

* this is the address of United Fan Mail (UFM). UFM collected fan mail for stars for a fee

Cameroun – Plating the Sterling Issue of 1961: the ½ d on 1 Franc Type 2 Stamp

Marty Bratzel

Introduction

This article is the 12th in a series dedicated to the study and characterization of Cameroun's 1961 sterling stamp issue. The preceding entry (Ref. 1) contains the citations to the other earlier articles. The present subject is the ½d on 1-franc stamp with Type 2 overprint. Unlike the Type 1 overprint, the right end of ½ d in the Type 2 overprint is aligned with the right edge of REPUBLIQUE FEDERALE (Figure 1). The Type 2 overprint was probably prepared about March 1962 and available only at the philatelic bureau in Paris (Ref. 2). The only reported used copies are a pair postmarked Bamenda April 14, 1962 (Ref. 3).



Figure 1. The ½d on 1-Franc Stamps.

The Stamp

The un-overprinted 1-franc definitive stamp, printed in orange red and depicting porters carrying bananas, was originally issued in 1946 as part of a series of 19 definitive postage stamps. A sheet consists of 50 stamp arranged in five rows of ten. The series underwent several printings and many of the stamps exist with different perforations and with various shades of ink. The 1-franc stamp with Type 1 overprint has been found both perf. 12½ and perf. 12½ x 12. The Type 2 overprint has been found only perf. 12½ x 12. Single copies of the stamp with Type 2 overprint are reasonably plentiful but multiples seem rather difficult to come by. Until the present sheets were acquired in mid-2013 at a French auction, the only large multiple reported was a strip of 10 from the right two columns of a sheet, illustrated by May (Ref. 4) and kindly loaned for first-hand examination.

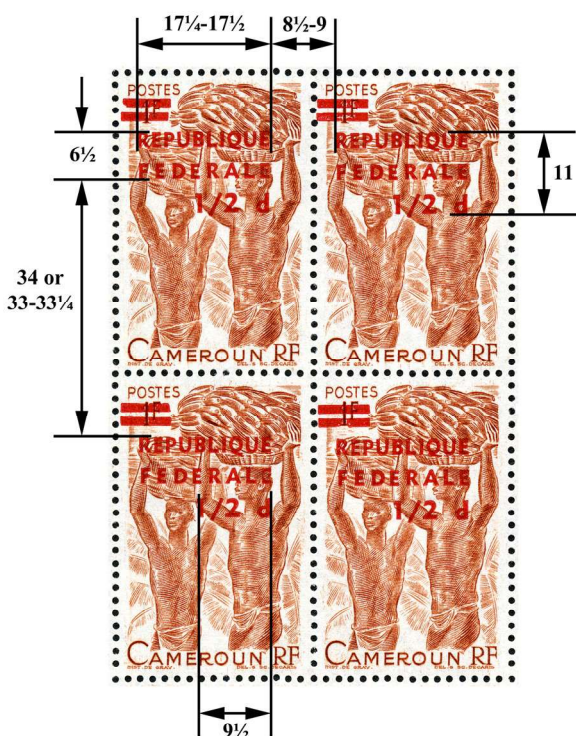


Figure 2. Measurements for the ½d on 1-Franc Type 2 Overprint.

The Overprint

The carmine red overprint ink is rather viscous and adhered reasonably well to the engraved stamp, although poor adherence is occasionally noted for some letters and bars. The overprint plate was well composed with only one significant difference – the distance between the bottom of FEDERALE on one stamp and the top of REPUBLIQUE on the stamp in the row beneath is 34 mm between rows 1-2, 2-3 and 3-4 but only 33 - 33¼ mm between rows 4-5. Pertinent measurements are given in Figure 2.

Many of the bars used to obliterate the old denomination are, however, replete with distinctive characteristics. Coupled with the relative alignment of each pair of bars, it is possible to plate most positions with only an ordinary magnifying glass. The bars for all 50 positions are shown in Figure 3. To help the reader who wishes to plate his / her stamps, many of the positions in the figure are annotated to point out selected distinguishing characteristics. For those positions that are not annotated, careful consideration of the relative bar alignments and the more subtle shapes of the bars – e.g. squared, rounded or tapered ends – should allow their plating as well.

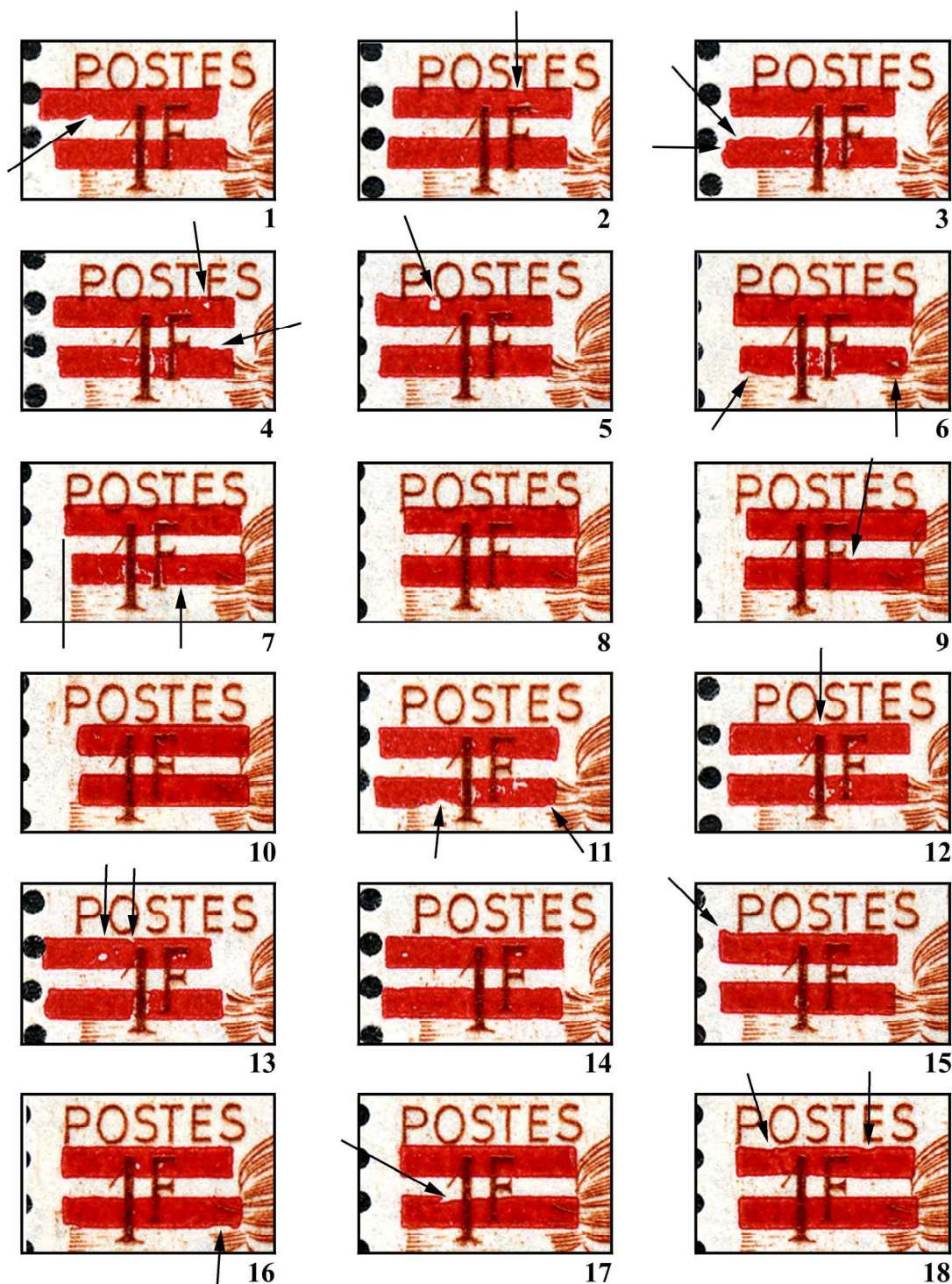


Figure 3A. Bars for Positions 1 - 18.

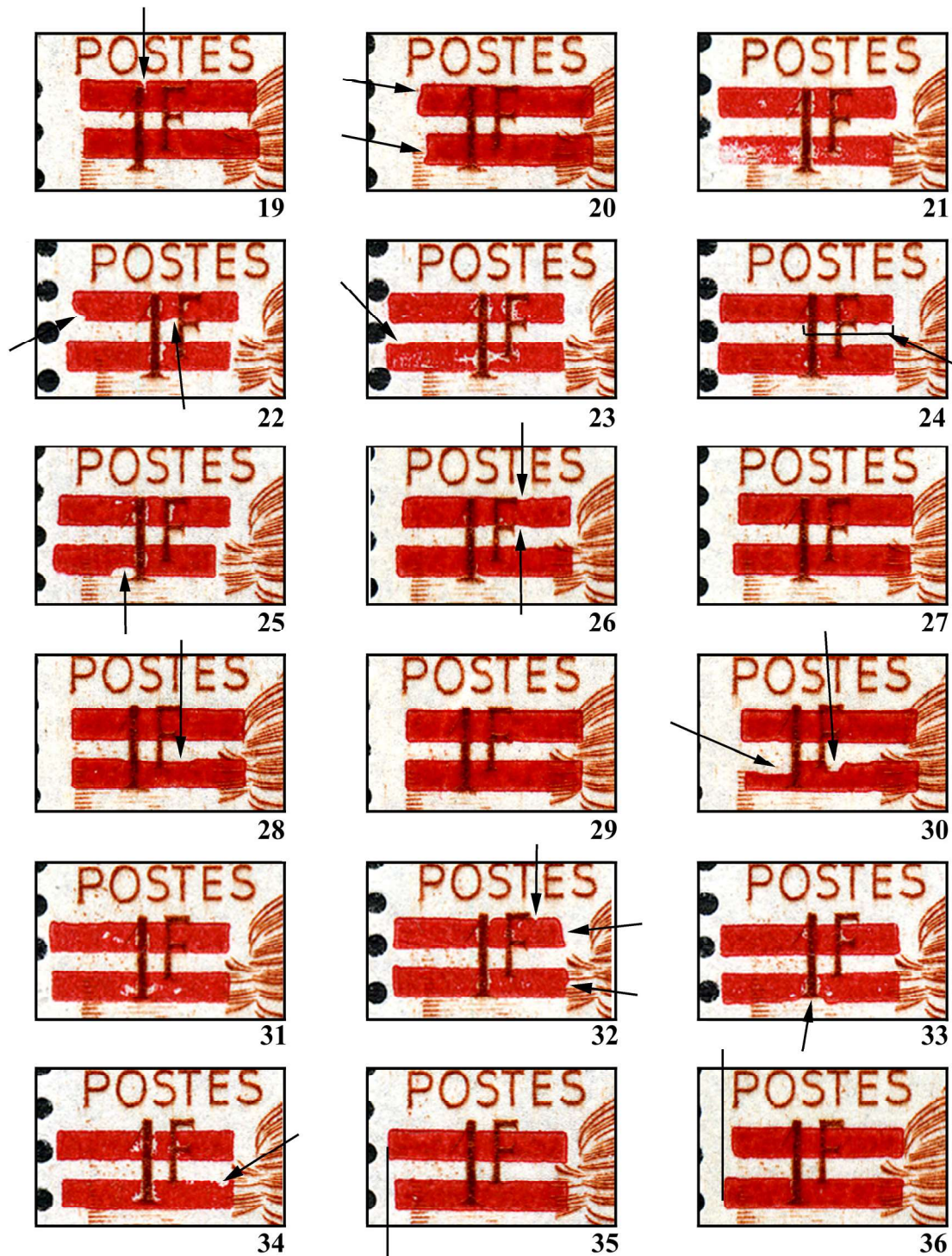


Figure 3B. Bars for Positions 19 - 36.

Broken Letters

Apparent occlusions on the overprint plate interfered with the printing of REPUBLIQUE FEDERALE at four positions, with almost spectacular visual results (Figure 4 facing page). Based on the stamps available for examination, these varieties likely occurred for the entire print run. Also, at position 18, the loop of the d in ½d is broken.

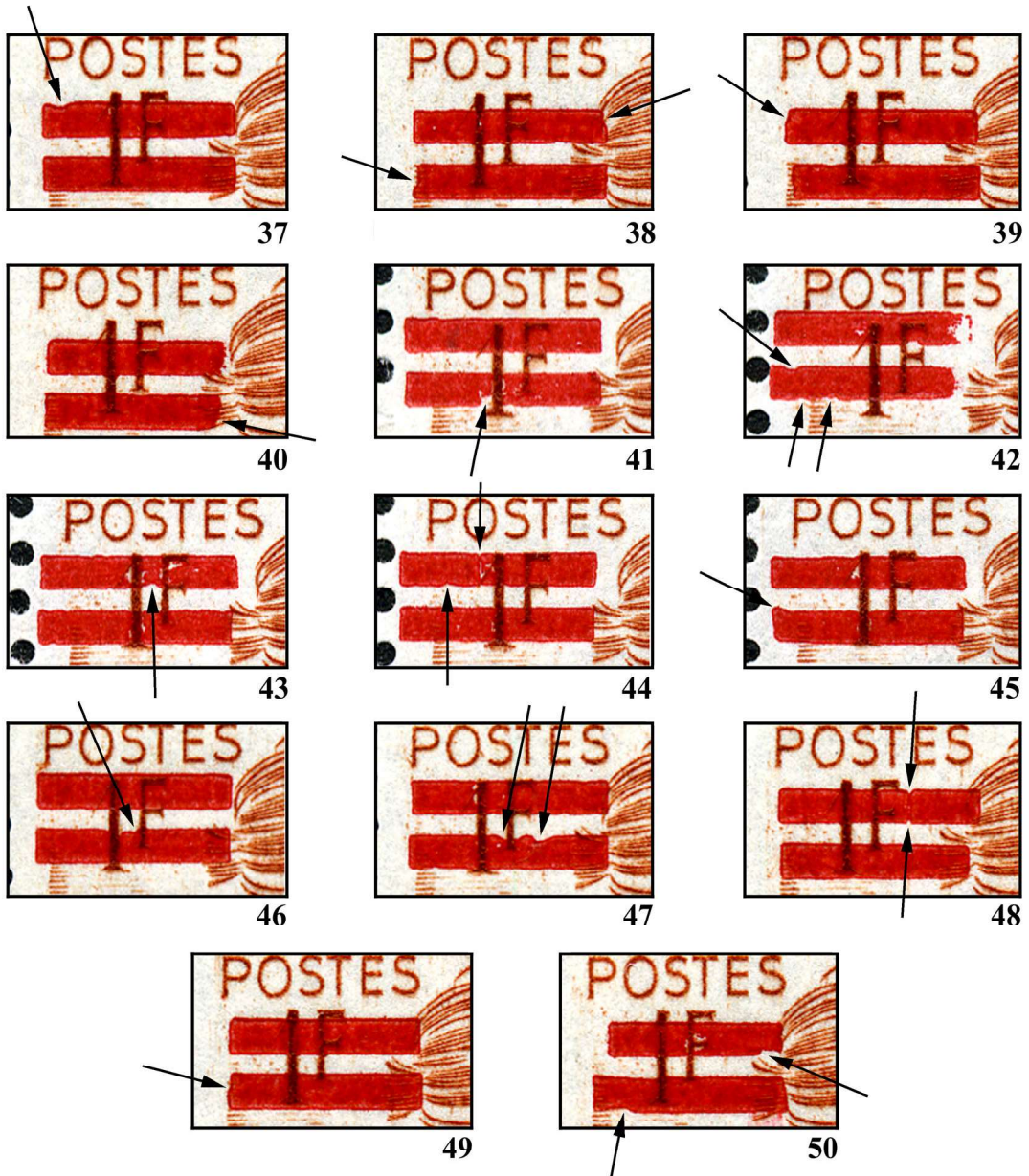
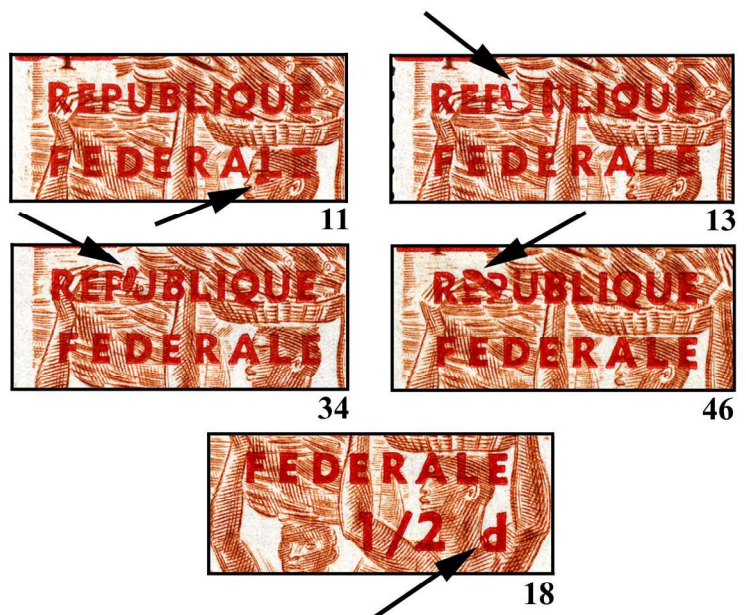


Figure 3C. Bars for Positions 37 - 50.

Figure 4. Occlusions for REPUBLIQUE FEDERALE and Broken d.



Comparing the overprint bars with other stamps in the series shows no correlation, including the two overprint plates used to prepare the 4d on 15-franc stamps. Further, all of the ½d Type 2 stamps to hand can be plated to one of the 50 positions, leading to the conclusion that only one overprint plate was used to prepare this stamp.

With this present article, only the study of the 4d on 15-franc stamp now remains to be completed. A report will be prepared in due course.

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1877 Soldier's Letter to St Helena

John Forbes-Nixon

Jeremy Martin forwarded details of this cover which John Forbes-Nixon showed to a meeting of the Society of Postal Historians at Sherborne on 13 October 2013. John is a Fellow of that Society, to which due acknowledgement is given - Barry.

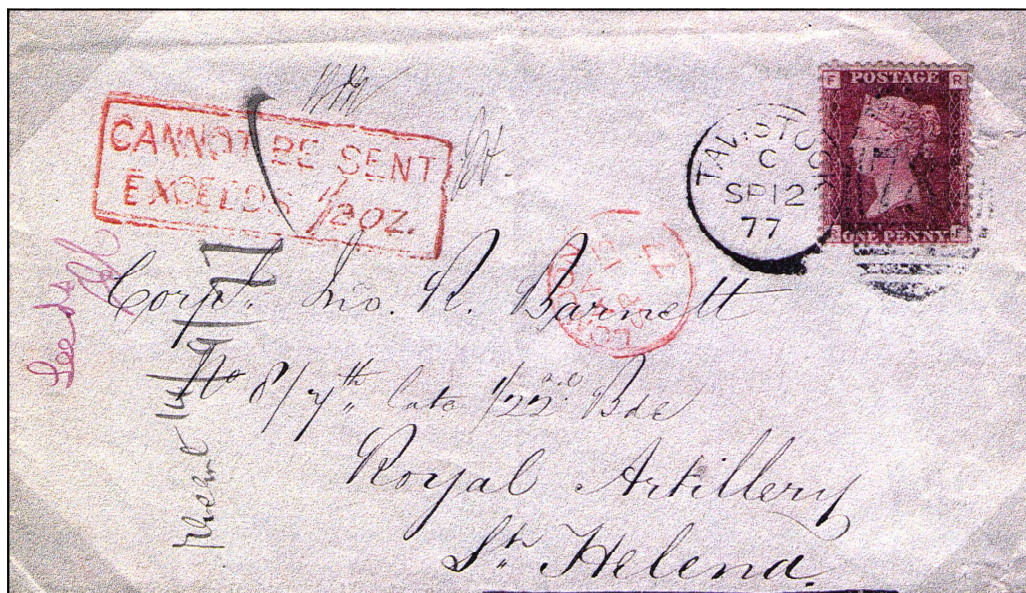


Figure 1 (above) and
Figure 2 (right) showing the handstamp in red



In 1863 the Privilege Letter Rate was established for all non-commissioned Soldiers or Sailors serving abroad, at the rate of One Penny.

This would have applied for this letter to St Helena in 1877 (Figure 1) but there was a restriction that letters making use of this privilege should not exceed ½ oz in weight.

Addressed to Corporal J.R. Barnett, No 8 Battery, Royal Artillery, St Helena, on 12 September 1877 from Tavistock, the letter was at London on 13 September where the boxed handstamp CANNOT BE SENT / EXCEEDS ½oz. (Figure 2) was applied in red, and the letter returned to the sender for the full ‘non privilege’ rate of postage due to the excess weight.

However, the sender removed an enclosure from the letter, now making it under the ½ oz and re-posted it attracting the m/s *Resent 14/9/77* when the CANNOT BE SENT / EXCEEDS ½ oz. was struck out and initialled by the postal clerk and the letter now continued on its way to St Helena. Most unusual!



The Obituary of Lagos Postmaster George Josephus Cole

Dr Simon Heap

In *Cameo*, January 2013, pp.13-14, when completed a short article on the long-standing, hard-working Postmaster of Lagos, George Josephus Cole, who died at the age of 45 in 1901, I wondered what else could be found about his life. So just before the British Library’s Newspaper Library closed at Colindale last November, I found this delightfully detailed obituary from the *Lagos Standard*, written by its editor, George Alfred Williams, which is reproduced in full. The obituary contains many favourable quotes on someone who was clearly a pillar of the Lagos community, but the piece also has some curious snippets like Cole receiving a death threat in the post just before he died. I will be soon revisiting the British Library’s newspaper archives in their new home at their main building in St Pancras with such matters in mind.

“Mr GEORGE JOSEPHUS COLE, whose unexpected death we announced in our last issue, was the third son of the late Mr GEORGE JOSEPHUS COLE alias KOLADE and Betsy Cole, his wife, of the Ovu and Oba tribes of Abeokuta. The last Postmaster COLE was born at the village of Middleton in Sierra Leone, on the 19th July 1856, and was brought to Lagos by his parents, together with his brothers and sister in the year 1859.

He attended the Wesleyan and C.M.S. elementary schools in the colony, and subsequently entered the C.M.S. Grammar School, from which place he was in 1874 received by the late Governor STRACHAN, upon the recommendation of the Principal, the late Rev T. B. Macaulay, into the Customs Department as an unpaid apprentice, and was the same year transferred to the Post Office as messenger; was appointed acting Clerk in 1876, and confirmed in his appointment as Post Office Clerk in the following year.

In 1882 he was appointed Second Clerk in the Colonial Secretary’s Office, and the next year was promoted to the post of Registrar of Deeds for the Eastern Province of the Gold Coast Colony.

He was appointed acting Postmaster in January 1885, and was confirmed as Postmaster by Governor YOUNG in the same year, which appointment only terminated with his death.

The above record bears unquestionable testimony to the ability and intelligence of the late Postmaster. Although he had but few advantages in the line of education – he spent only a short time in the Grammar School – he took every opportunity of increasing his store of knowledge and improving his mind by reading and observation, his business capacity was undoubted, for he discharged efficiently the duties of each successive appointment, while his assiduity and devotion to business frequently won for him golden opinions from his superiors on office.

His duties as Postmaster – he had also been appointed a Sub-Collector of Customs for collecting duties on parcels received through the post – involved no small amount of work, yet he discharged those duties satisfactorily and kept his accounts correct and up to date. For a long time he had to work his department with an insufficient staff, but he managed by Herculean efforts, and by undertaking double duties himself, to keep the business of the office from falling into arrears.

He was strictly honest and upright in all his dealings, and could be trusted unreservedly, for his word was his bond. It is a most regrettable circumstance that the last days of an officer, with such a brilliant record and one had proved so useful and had rendered such signal service to the Government – a service extending over a quarter of a century, two-thirds of which was spent as the head of an important Department – it is most regrettable that the last days of such an officer should have been embittered by the worries and anxieties to which he was subjected in his official capacity; and which, together with other annoyances – the offspring of envy and malice so deep-rooted as to descend to the employment of such base and vulgar means as the sending of anonymous letter-threatening his life – there is little doubt, prayed heavily upon his mind, and hastened his unexpected demise.

In private life Mr COLE was a quiet and reserved disposition, of gentle and retiring habits, and opposed to ostentation or display of any kind. Yet he was easily approached, possessed a kind and sympathetic heart and was ready with advice and assistance for those who needed them. More than one native official, in a prominent position in the service of the colony, owes to his sympathy, encouragement and assistance the place he now occupies. It may not be generally known that there were some poor people to whom he gave systematic relief, for he made no display of his charitable deeds.

Mr COLE was married in 1885 to Miss SARAH WHYTE, sister of Mrs J. J. Williams and Mr S. J. Whyte of Broad and Martin Streets, with whom he lived a peaceful and enjoyable married life, the mutual attachment of husband and wife being a matter of common comment. Though not blessed with any children of their own, they were happy in surrounding themselves with little ones – their young nephews and nieces – upon whom they lavished every kindness and attention.

Mr COLE was a prominent member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, and held at various times the offices of Circuit Steward, Leader, Local Preacher, Treasurer to the Wesleyan Boys' High School, Trustee of the Faji and Ereko Churches and properties, Sunday School Superintendent, etc, etc.

The religious bent of his mind may be gathered from a conversation he had with the writer a day or two before his death, and when he little knew the end was so near. He signified then his intention of retiring from the Civil Service at an early date and devoting his remaining days to the Gospel ministry. His reason for having remained so long in the service, he said, was to save some amount of money, so that the Church would not be called upon to support him, as it was his intention to labour without salary.

Such was his noble ambition, expressed, one might say, on the eve of his death, but God willed otherwise, and it has pleased Him to summon him to an earlier reward. Such is a brief sketch of the career of Mr COLE, whose unexpected death the community deeply deplors. By his comparatively early death, the Government has lost a most useful and deserving officer, the Wesleyan Church one of the shining pillar, and society a sterling character, who was a credit to his race and country. The high esteem in which he was held by the community was evidenced by the large and sorrowing concourse of people, who followed the body to its last resting place. To the afflicted widow, the stricken brother and sister and other members of the bereaved family, we beg to tender out profoundest sympathy.”

Source: ‘Obituary: The Late G. J. Cole’, *The Lagos Standard*, 7 August 1901, p. 3.



Lagos, Nigeria Cancels on C.E.F.-Overprinted Kamerun Yacht Stamps

Marty Bratzel

During the campaign conducted by the Cameroons Expeditionary Force, all three captured German Duala Kamerun hand-stamps were used to cancel C.E.F.-overprinted yacht stamps. Although many of the stamps with Duala postmarks did legitimate postal duty, many others were cancelled to create philatelic souvenirs. Postmarks of the French contingent of the C.E.F. on overprinted yacht stamps fall into this category. However, other cancels indicative of legitimate use can be found.



Figure 1

Among these is a straight-line *Akono* steamship hand-stamp on two 1d. on 10 pf. C.E.F. stamps with blue overprint (Ref. 1). The stamps are on a piece that also has a London receiving cancel. Presented as figure 1 are additional 1d. on 10 pf. stamps with Lagos, Nigeria postmarks. Likely, these stamps were originally on letters that had *not* gone through the Duala post office but rather had been handed over directly to a ship's officer at the port of Duala. Upon arrival at Lagos, these "loose ship letters" were turned over to the post office there and, according to U.P.U. regulations, a postmark of the receiving post office was applied to the stamps. Thus, the letters were mailed and entered the postal system not at Duala but at Lagos.

Regrettably, the original envelopes no longer exist. The single stamp, with a black overprint, is postmarked Lagos Southern Nigeria DE 17 1915. The strip of three stamps, with blue overprint, on piece is more intriguing. The stamps are postmarked with an oval Registered Lagos Southern Nigeria 19 JA 16 hand-stamp, and the piece bears a blue line, indicative of registration. Significantly, the line is *under* the edge of the left stamp. There was no system of registration for mail originating from the post office at Duala operated by the British contingent of the C.E.F. (Ref. 2), nor was registration possible for a loose ship letter, since registration could only be effected when the letter was handed over to a post office. One can speculate that the cover bore sufficient postage to permit registration when it was mailed at Lagos.

To return to the C.E.F. post office at Duala, the absence of registration notwithstanding, a number of covers originating from that post office have been recorded that infer or imply that some procedure of "registration" was in place to track certain mail. That question remains open and awaits further study.

Lastly, the C.E.F. ceased to exist as of March 31, 1916. Any postmark on a C.E.F. stamp after that date is philatelic. These postmarks are of Duala and of Victoria, Buea, and other towns in the area under British administration, which only came into being on April 1, 1916.

Comments and additional information are, as always, welcome.

References

1. Bratzel, Marty. *Akono Steamship Cancel on Kamerun C.E.F. Yacht Stamps*. *Vorläufer*, No. 169, December 2012, pages 13-14.
2. Maddocks, R.J. *The Postal Arrangements of the Anglo-French Cameroons Expeditionary Force 1914-1916*. Published by the author, Oswestry, Shropshire, United Kingdom, 1996. 217 pages. ISBN 0-9529487-0-2.

Gold Coast PSC from Ouagadougou to Malta, 1886

John Mayne

Included with my display of Togo to the WASC weekend conference was the Gold Coast postal stationery card illustrated front and reverse as figures 1 and 2 below. Some members present were able to confirm that this was not actually a Togo item, telling me that the place of origin, "Woghodogho", is a phonetic spelling of Ouagadougou, in Upper Senegal & Niger, which became more recently the capital of in Upper Volta. The writer of this card describes it as capital of the Mosi.



Figure 1

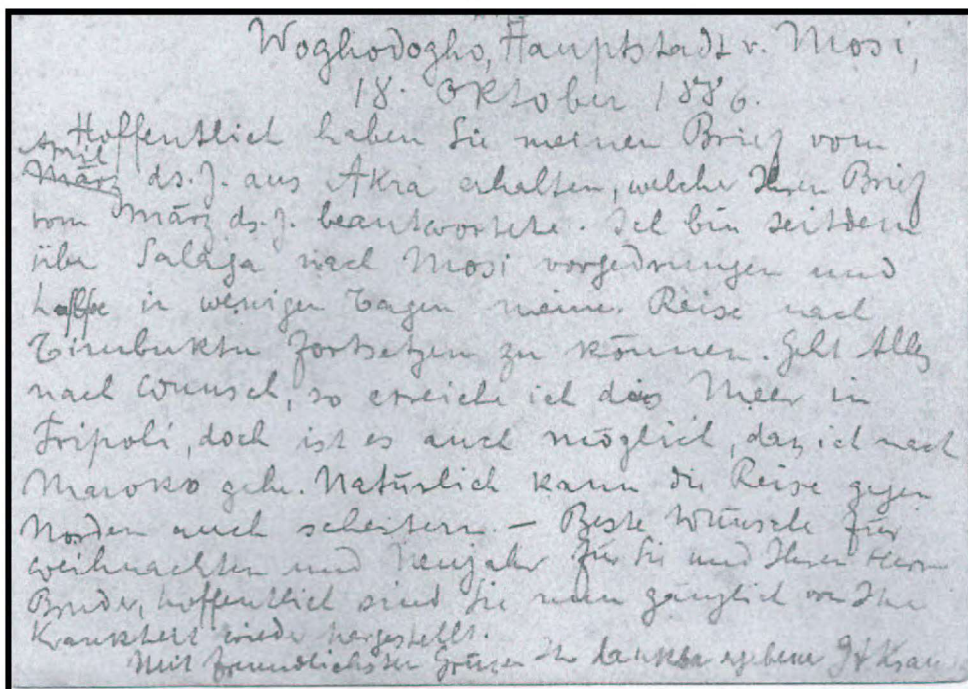


Figure 2

The card is written in German by the explorer Gottlob Adolf Krause who traversed the Mosi Kingdom in 1886. It is addressed to the German Consul in Malta. The content of the card describes his travels around this part of West Africa, which started in Akra (Accra). In this message he tells the Consul that he will be travelling on to Timbuktu.

The French administration of Upper Senegal & Niger was far from fully established in 1886. Timbuktu was only captured by the French in December 1893. Clearly there would be no postal service from Ouagadougou in 1886, so Gottlob Krause had carried this Gold Coast postal stationery with him from Accra, presumably so that it could be carried by hand back to the Gold Coast ready and prepaid for onward postage to Europe. We might only speculate who carried this card southward for him, but we do know how long it took. The card was written on 18 October 1886 and was postmarked Accra on 12 January 1887, taking almost three months to travel from the interior to the coast.

It was shipped to Liverpool, postmarked 8 February 1887, then sent onward to Malta, arriving exactly a week later.

Krause was a linguist, trader and explorer but was an anti-Colonialist, so his visit to this region should not be interpreted as part of the Scramble for Africa on behalf of the German Government. He later lived at Salaga (also mentioned in message on this card) in Northern Togo from where he sent reports that were published in the German newspaper Kreuz-Zeitung (ref [www.archive.lib.msu.edu/DMC/African Journals](http://www.archive.lib.msu.edu/DMC/African%20Journals))

A wonderful piece of postal history, which I bought by mistake thinking it was written in Togo!

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A First Day at the Freetown GPO, Sierra Leone

Kevin Lowther (with postscript by Peter Rolfe)

I had managed to get the morning of 10th February 1964 off from teaching duties at the Sierra Leone Grammar School in Freetown. I may have taken a taxi into the city centre. Perhaps I boarded a recycled London double-decker bus near my house on Wilkinson Road. Probably it was a taxi, because time was of the essence; I needed to get in line early at the General Post Office.

There already was a queue. A television crew had set up in the cramped lobby. Philatelic history was about to be made: the sale of the world's first self-adhesive freeform postage stamps in the shape of Sierra Leone's borders.

"These are not any ordinary breed of stamps," I wrote to my parents in the USA, "First of all they have no perforation and instead are 'pasted' in rows on sheets of waxed paper. To use, you simply peel them off and press on the envelope. That part is simple."

Less so was purchasing stamps at the post office window. That tropical morning it was downright frustrating for all concerned. To begin with, there were as many as 21 different stamps. These included two airmail sets (SG292-298 and SG 306-312) and at least another seven denominations reserved for domestic postage (SG285-291). More on this later. Each sheet contained a single design and denomination. Anticipating how labour-intensive it would be to separate stamps into complete sets, postal workers might have pre-cut stamps to expedite transactions. *Might have* are the operative words.

"The result was predictable," I told my parents, "The first man in line waited almost half an hour before one teller was able to cut all the stamps out, very deliberately, constantly fumbling with the sheets, looking for different values, checking, counting money, chatting with friends in the background."

This continued for two hours, as the queue inched forward, while I kept glancing at my watch and wondered how I could possibly get back to school in time for afternoon classes. "At one point", my letter home recalled, "another stamp seller came over and tried to grab the scissors from *our* man. There followed a palaver for several minutes, each grasping the coveted tool, until our hero won out. Meanwhile, the large Englishman in front of me was trembling with apoplexy at this tragic-comedy."

No doubt to save time (and a fit of apoplexy) I purchased only the two airmail sets which I retain, somewhat curled on their waxed squares, half a century later. I also had brought an envelope (Figure 1), addressed to my parents, and had this franked with two 1/- stamps (SG289). They are neatly cancelled in red "The First Self-adhesive Free Form Postage Stamp in History". When I look back on that distant morning, I realise that it was an early tutorial in the virtues of patience and humour in Africa, which would serve me well in decades to come.

Four sets of seven free-form stamps each were released in 1964; but when? The two sets that I purchased on 10th February were the airmail issues, as noted above. One has the New York World's Fair motif; the other bears the image of President John F. Kennedy. Peter Rolfe, when he reviewed a first draft of this article, expressed surprise: "My records (and Stanley Gibbons) say that the World's Fair set was issued on 10th February but the Kennedy set not until 11th May 1964.

So, let the record be corrected, at least partially. Both airmail sets (including the Kennedy one) were on sale in Freetown on 10th February 1964. So, apparently, was one of the two domestic postage issues (SG285-291); the World's Fair set featuring a lion. My cover home appears to confirm this. That leaves the second JFK set, nominally designated for domestic use (SG 299-305), which *may* have been issued on 11th May 1964. If it was, I was elsewhere - certainly not queuing at the GPO. One first day in Freetown had been enough!

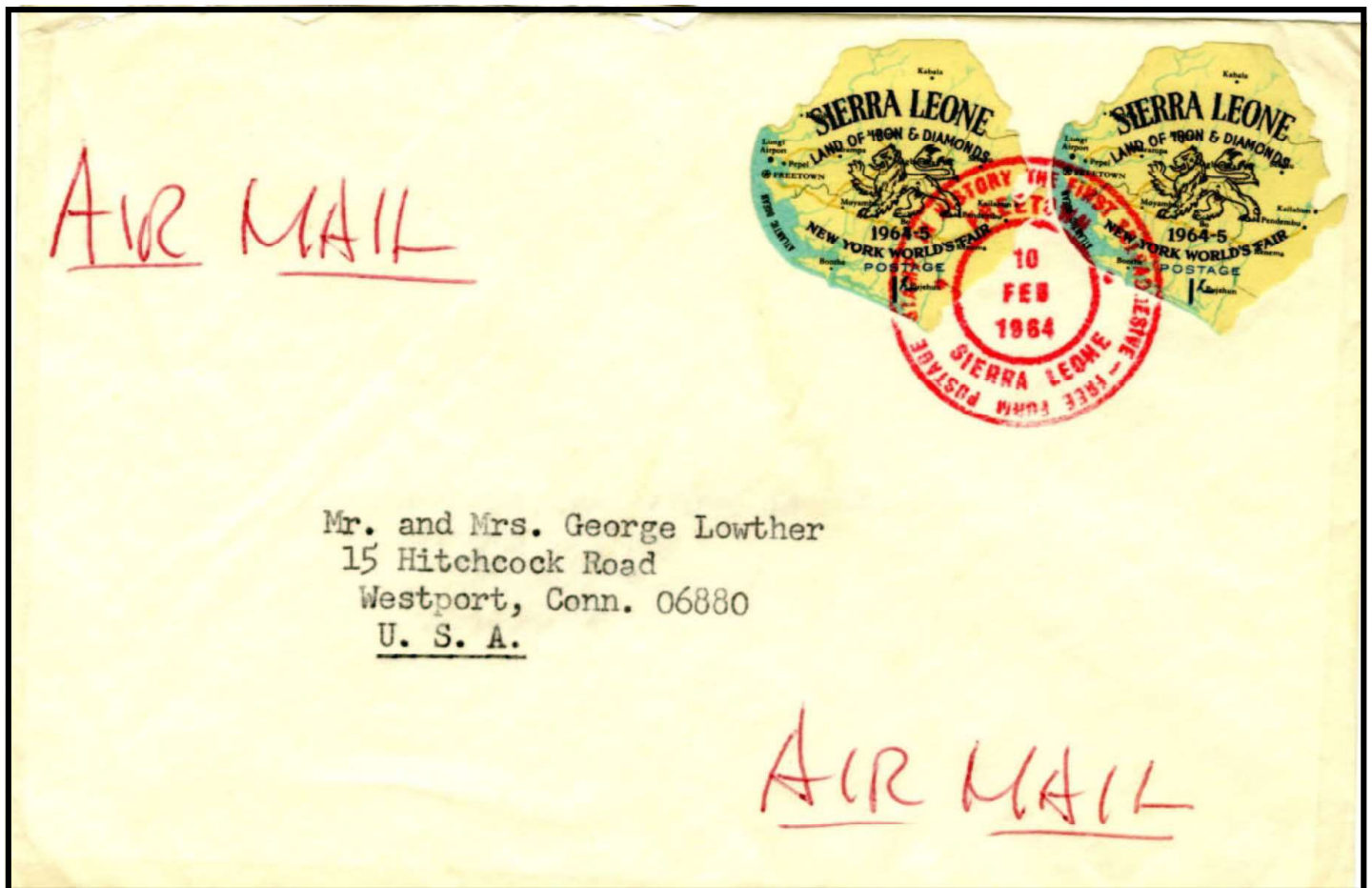


Figure 1

Postscript by Peter Rolfe

I certainly was surprised to read Kevin’s account of purchasing the New York World’s Fair and Kennedy sets on 10th February 1964, fascinating though this account may be. This sent me back to my sources and I still believe that Kevin’s memory could be playing tricks on him. The World’s Fair set (SG285-298) was issued, in two sections, on that date as he recounts, but the Kennedy set (SG 299-312) was not issued until 11th May and is fairly well documented. The issue was announced in the Gazette dated 7th May 1964 (Figure 2) and the Philatelic Magazine of 15th May included an item *Sierra Leone Map Stamps Honour Kennedy* which starts with the words

“More free-form, non-lick, self-adhesive map stamps from Sierra Leone! The Government of Sierra Leone permits Samuel Jones & Co. Ltd. to announce that the second issue of these experimental free-form stamps were due to go on sale on May 11th. The stamps are the same size and style as the previous issue and in the same denominations as released on February 10th. This second issue commemorates the late United States President, John F. Kennedy”

There was also a special First Day Cancellation, as advised in the Gazette, usually in pale green (Figure 3).

Unless Kevin (or someone else) can show a used example dated before 11th May, I think we must accept the official dates.

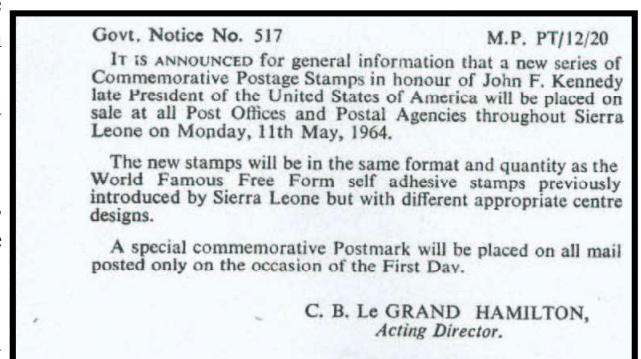
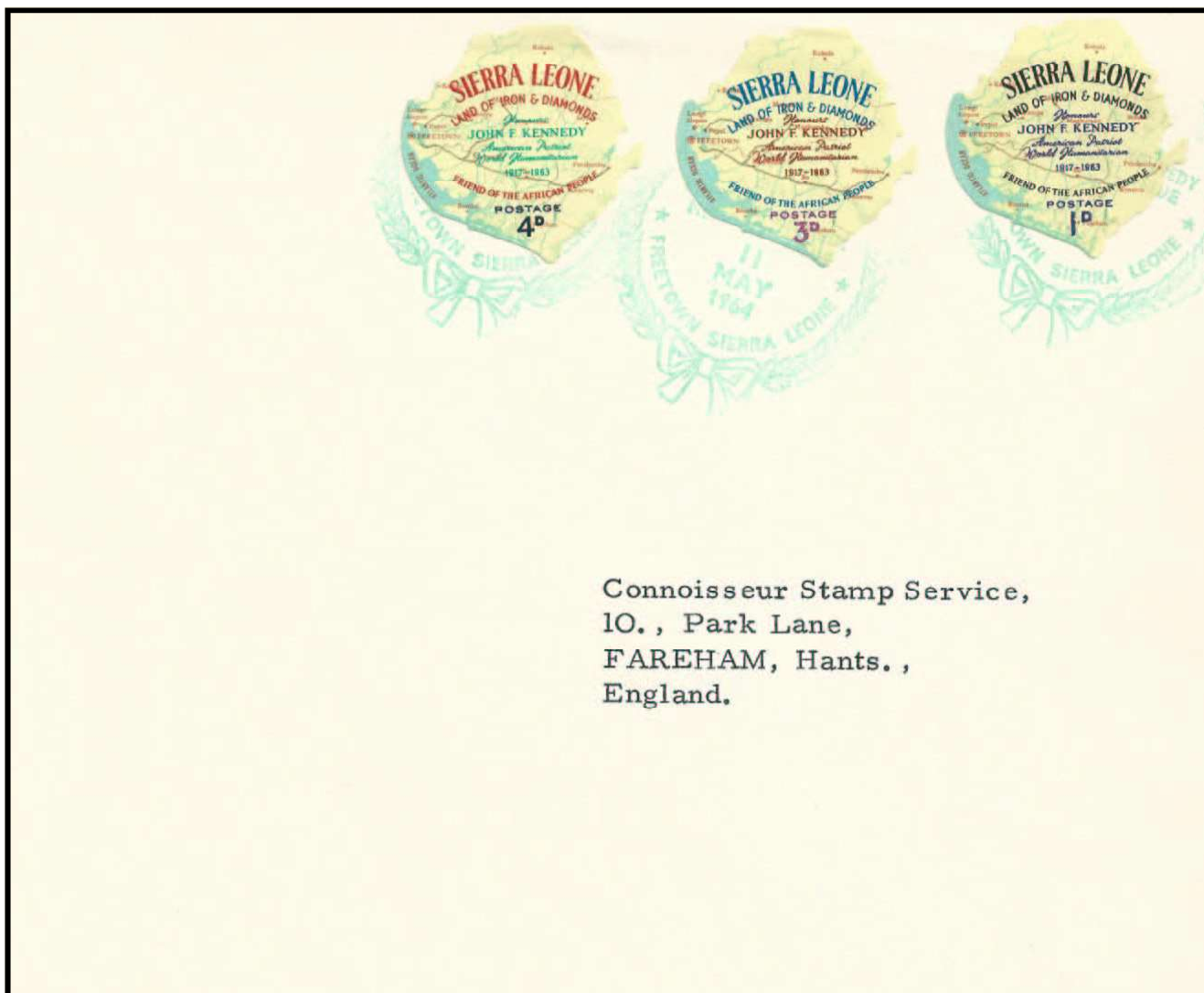


Figure 2



Connoisseur Stamp Service,
 10., Park Lane,
 FAREHAM, Hants.,
 England.

Figure 3



Bernard Mechanick; a correction

Robin Peters

I refer to my previous article in *Cameo* volume 12 no. 1, January 2011, pages 31 and 32 and also to Peter Rolfe's article in *Cameo* volume 11 no. 4 January 2010, pages 283 and 284. In my article I referred to Alexander Mechanick, the addressee of my letter, as Bernard's son. He was actually his elder brother.

Alexander Mechanick was born 5 March 1919 and died 19 September 1968, aged 49. His address on the philatelic cover shown at figure 1, dated 12 November 1966, which with two similar other covers used the whole Sierra Leone coins set, is the Veterans Admin. Hospital two years before he died.

Bernard Mechanick was born 8 October 1923 and died 22 October 2003 aged 88. His last known residence was San Jacinto, Riverside County, California. Bernard's wife Ida (nee West) was a stamp designer credited with the designs for the Tonga Gold Coinage self-adhesive stamps. She was born 18 May 1915 and died 5 October 1995 aged 80. They did not have natural children but Bernard had a stepson called Michael Williams.



Figure 1



SALPOST Tracker Handstamps

Peter Rolfe

With the coming of digital postal sorting, the GPO began adding green self-adhesive labels to incoming registered mail in the early 1990s.; the earliest seen by me for Sierra Leone being 9 March 1994. This was followed by a blue international label applied in Sierra Leone of which the earliest date is 8 July 2003. These digital labels superseded the old Registration and Express etiquettes and hand-stamps.

However, the postal authorities in Freetown apparently decided that some form of internal tracking was needed. An air mail hand-stamp in violet with a letter box shape measuring 40 x 18mm (some are 40 x 20mm) and with a Counter No. designation, began to appear on mail in about 2006 (my EKD is 17 October 2006). These are still current and have been seen for Counter Numbers 4,5,6 & 8. Others should exist.

More recently, a similar hand-stamp in red, measuring 41 x 20,, and inscribed EXPRESS has appeared. The earliest date is 31 March 2011 and it is known so far at Counters 5 & 8.

The purpose of these markings is not clear; my reference to them as “Tracker Hand-stamps” is a supposition.



Figure 1 (reduced) Tracker hand-stamp for Counter 6 used 13 October 2006



Figure 2; cover dated 5 Dec 2011 showing both the AIR MAIL hand-stamp for Counter 5 in blue and the more recent EXPRESS hand-stamp for counter 5 in red (reduced)

Nigerian post-war airmail rates from Government notices

Nigel Lutwyche

Editor's introduction. As can be seen from the dates of the Cameo references at the end of this article it has been far too many years since I have found time and space to publish another portion of the large file of Government notices that Nigel Lutwyche sent to me in 2006. I apologise for my neglect. My attention was drawn back to this resource by a brief conversation at the November 2013 WASC meeting when I realised that members may not be aware of the meaning of "second class air mail" annotations on post-war covers.

The following information has been extracted from the Nigerian Gazettes. I have omitted some of the legalese at the beginning of some of the Government Notices, otherwise I have retained the style and punctuation used at the time the Notices were issued. Similarly I have retained the spelling of countries, which in some instances changed over the years, e.g. Bahrein which became Bahrain and Hayti which became Haiti.

Previous articles in Cameo have extracted the notices that related to the Air Letter Service (Ref 1) and to Nigerian Internal Airmails (Ref 2). This article now covers Notices relating to external air mails from May 1945. Further articles relating to pre-war and wartime rates, and to surface mail letter rates should follow.

Government Notice No. 766 AMENDMENTS TO POSTS AND TELEGRAPH NOTICES

The limit of weight for letters to the United Kingdom by air mail has been raised from one ounce to four ounces. The postage rate of 1/3d per half ounce still applies.

The Air Letter Service at 6d is not affected.

Government Notices Nos. 621 and 622 published in Gazette No. 28 of 21st May, 1942 and No. 254 published in Gazette No. 14 of 1st March, 1945 are amended accordingly in respect of the service to the United Kingdom.

Lagos 21st June, 1945, published in Gazette No. 43 of 5th July, 1945.

Government Notice No. 888 AIR MAIL POSTAGE RATES

Prepaid rates of postage on letters and postcards posted in Nigeria for conveyance by the French Aeromaritime Service to the undermentioned places are as follows –

	Letters	Postcards
France	1/6d	9d
French North Africa	}	
Algeria	}	
Morocco	}	
Tunisia	}	
French West Africa	}	
Dahomey	}	7d
Guinea	}	
Ivory Coast	}	
Senegal	}	
Liberia	}	

Correspondence should be superscribed "via Aeromaritime".

Notice No. 743 in Gazette No. 31 of 1st July, 1943, is hereby amended.

Lagos 21st July, 1945, published in Gazette No. 48 of 26th July, 1945.

[This appears to be a continuation of rates published in G.N. No. 743 of 25th June, 1943, but omitting the Gold Coast and Sierra Leone.]

Government Notice No. 1240

AIR MAIL POSTAGE RATES

His Excellency the Governor has fixed the prepaid rates of postage on letters and postcards posted in Nigeria for conveyance by air via the United Kingdom to the undermentioned countries.

Letters, per ½ ounce	1/8d
Postcards	10d

Baltic States, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dodecanese Islands, Finland, Gibraltar, Greece, Iceland, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, U.S.S.R.

Lagos 18th September, 1945, published in Gazette No. 65 of 18th October, 1945.

[See G.N. No. 1157 of 19th August, 1947 herein, for a reduction in the rates to these destinations.]

Government Notice No. 1540

AIR MAIL POSTAGE RATES

His Excellency the Governor has fixed the prepaid rates of postage on letters and postcards for conveyance by air via Great Britain to the undermentioned countries as follows: –

Country of Destination	Letters per ½ oz	For each Postcard	Country of Destination	Letters per ½ oz	For each Postcard
United States of America	3 6	1 9	Barbados	-	
Canada			British Guiana		
Newfoundland			British Honduras		
Bermuda			Ecuador		
			French Guiana		
Bahamas			Peru		
Costa Rica			Windward Islands		
Cuba					
Dominica			Argentine Republic		
El Salvador			Bolivia		
Guatemala			Brazil		
Hayti			Chile	4 9	2 1
Honduras Republic			Colombia		
Jamaica	4 3	2 1	Paraguay		
Leeward Islands			Uruguay		
Martinique			Venezuela		
Mexico					
Nicaragua					
Panama			Notice No. 1312 in Gazette No. 73 of 8th December, 1941 is hereby cancelled.		
Porto Rico					
Trinidad and Tobago					
Virgin Islands of U.S.A.					

Lagos, 15th December, 1945, published in Gazette No. 75 of 20th December, 1945.

Government Notice No.539

AIR MAIL POSTAGE RATES

His Excellency the Governor has fixed the prepaid rates on letters and postcards posted in Nigeria for conveyance by air via United Kingdom to the undermentioned countries as follows: –

Country of Destination	Letters per ½ oz		For each Postcard		Country of Destination	Letters per ½ oz		For each Postcard	
	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Argentina	2	10	1	5	Honduras Republic	2	0	1	0
Barbados	2	6	1	3	Jamaica	1	11	1	0
Bolivia	2	6	1	3	Leeward Islands	2	1	1	1
Brazil	2	8	1	4	Martinique	2	2	1	1
British Guiana	2	3	1	2	Mexico	1	11	1	1
British Honduras	2	2	1	1	Nicaragua	2	1	1	1
Chile	2	8	1	4	Panama	2	1	1	1
Colombia	2	4	1	2	Paraguay	2	10	1	5
Costa Rica	2	1	1	1	Peru	2	8	1	4
Cuba	1	10	0	11	Porto Rico	2	0	1	0
Dominica	1	11	1	0	Trinidad and Tobago	2	2	1	1
Ecuador	2	3	1	2	Uruguay	2	10	1	5
El Salvador	2	0	1	0	Venezuela	2	5	1	3
French Guiana	2	4	1	2	Virgin Islands of U.S.A.	2	1	1	1
Guatemala	2	0	1	0	Windward Islands	2	6	1	3
Hayti	1	11	1	0					

The rates for letters and postcards shown against these countries in Government Notice No. 1540 of Gazette No. 75 of the 20th December, 1945, are hereby cancelled.

Lagos, 10th April, 1947, published in Gazette No. 25 of 17th April, 1947.

[These rates were short-lived – see G.N. No. 1157 of 19th August, 1947 below.]

Government Notice No. 1157

AIR MAIL POSTAGE RATES

His Excellency the Governor has fixed the prepaid rates of postage on letters and postcards for conveyance by air to the undermentioned countries with effect from the 1st September, 1947 as follows: –

Destination	Letters per ½ oz		Postcards each	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
AFRICA:				
Gambia, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone.	0	6	0	3
French West Africa, French Sudan, Belgian Congo, Liberia, Portuguese Guinea, Angola.	1	0	0	6
French Equatorial Africa, French Cameroons, Spanish Guinea.	1	9	0	9
All other countries in Africa.	1	3	0	9

Destination	Letters per ½ oz s. d.	Postcards each s. d.
AMERICA:		
Alaska, Canada, Labrador, Newfoundland, United States of America.	1 9	0 9
Antilles, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Haiti, Leeward Islands, Martinique, Mexico, Porto Rico, St. Vincent, Trinidad, Virgin Islands of U.S.A.	1 3	0 7
British Honduras, Honduras Republic, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Venezuela, and South America generally.	1 6	0 9
ASIA:		
Aden, Bahrein, Cyprus, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria, Transjordan, and Saudi Arabia.	1 3	0 7
Afghanistan, Muscat.	1 6	0 9
Burma, Siam.	1 9	0 9
Ceylon, China, Korea, India, Dutch East Indies, Hong Kong, Indo China, Malaya, Borneo, Phillipines.	2 0	2 0
AUSTRALASIA		
All countries.	2 0	1 0
EUROPE:		
Great Britain, Northern Ireland, Eire.	1 0	0 6
All other countries.	1 3	0 7

2. Air Letters to all destinations-6d.

3. All previous Government Notices concerning Air Mail Postage Rates are hereby cancelled.

Lagos, 19th August, 1947, published in Gazette No. 45 of 21st August, 1947.

[The postcard rate for "All other countries" under "Africa" was immediately corrected from 9d to 7d – see G.N. No. 1224 below – while the rates for Great Britain, Northern Ireland and Eire lasted until 1st April, 1953 – see G.N. No. 323 of 7th March, 1953 herein.]

Government Notice No. 1224

AIR MAIL POSTAGE RATES

The rates of postage published under Government Notice No. 1157 in the Gazette No. 45 dated 21st August, 1947, should be amended as follows –

"Africa

	Postcards each	
All other countries"	delete "9d"	Insert "7d"

Lagos 26th August, 1947, published in Gazette No. 47 of 4th September, 1947

Government Notice No. 230 SECOND CLASS AIR MAIL POSTAGE RATES

His Excellency the Governor has fixed the prepaid rates of postage on second class mail for conveyance by air to the undermentioned countries with effect from 1st March, 1950 as follows: –

United Kingdom	4d
Gambia, Gold Coast Colony, Sierra Leone	2d

A blue adhesive air mail label should be affixed above the address.

Lagos 2nd February, 1950, published in Gazette No. 10 of 9th February, 1950.

Government Notice No. 419 SECOND CLASS AIR MAIL POSTAGE RATES

His Excellency the Governor has fixed the prepaid rates of postage on Second Class Mail for conveyance by air to the undermentioned countries with effect from 1st April, 1951, as follows: –

Destination	Rate per ½ oz d	Destination	Rate per ½ oz d
Aden	5	New Hebrides	8
Australia	8	New Zealand	8
Brunei	8	Norfolk Island	5
Burma	7	North Borneo	8
Canada	7	Northern Rhodesia	5
Ceylon	8	Nyasaland	5
Cyprus	5	Pakistan	8
Egypt	5	Papua	8
Eire	4	Persian Gulf Ports	5
Fiji	8	Sarawak	8
Gambia	2	Sierra Leone	2
Gilbert and Ellice Islands	8	Seychelles	5
Gold Coast	2	Solomon Islands	8
India	8	Somaliland Protectorate	5
Jordan	5	Southern Rhodesia	5
Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika	5	Sudan	5
Malaya	8	Tonga	8
Malta	5	Union of South Africa	5
Mauritius	5	United Kingdom	4
Nauru	8	Zanzibar	5
New Guinea	8		

2. Second class mail matter consists of printed papers, commercial papers, samples, small packets (to those countries which admit them) and literature for the blind. Such items must conform to the general regulations for second class mail set out at pages 17 to 22 of the Post Office Guide and should be clearly superscribed in the upper left hand corner of the cover for which particular service intended, namely, printed papers, commercial papers, etc. They must not contain anything in the nature of a letter.

3. A blue adhesive air mail label should be affixed immediately above the address.

Lagos, 15th March, 1951, published in Gazette No. 16 of 29th March, 1951.

[These rates were changed on 1st October, 1957 – see G.N. No. 1625 of 12th September, 1957 herein.]

Government Notice No. 323**AIR MAIL POSTAGE RATES**

It is notified for general information that the rates of postage published under Government Notice No. 1157 in Nigeria Gazette No. 45, dated the 21st August, 1947, should be amended as follows: –

	Letters per ½ oz	
	s.	d.
EUROPE:		
Great Britain, Northern Ireland, Eire.	1	3

The amended rates will come into force on 1st April, 1953.

Lagos, 7th March, 1953, published in Gazette No. 13 of 12th March, 1953.

Government Notice No. 1625**POSTAGE RATES**

The Governor-General has determined the following rates to be charged for transmission and registration of postal articles, with effect from the 1st October, 1957. This Government Notice supersedes all other Government Notices on Postage Rates.

Category	Internal		British Commonwealth		Foreign	
	s	d	s	d	s	d
<i>Second Class Airmail:</i>						
To Sierra Leone, Gambia, Ghana (per ½ oz.)	--		0	3		
To the United Kingdom (per ½ oz.)	--		0	6		
To all countries in Europe (per ½ oz.)	--				0	6
To the Republic of Ireland (per ½ oz.)					0	6
To Aden			0	6		
Cyprus			0	6		
Kenya			0	6		
Uganda			0	6		
Tanganyika			0	6		
Malta			0	6		
Mauritius			0	6		
Norfolk Islands			0	6		
Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland						
Northern Rhodesia			0	6		
Southern Rhodesia			0	6		
Nyasaland			0	6		
Seychelles			0	6		
Somaliland Protectorate			0	6		
Union of South Africa			0	6		
Zanzibar			0	6		
Egypt					0	6
Jordan					0	6
Persian Gulf Ports					0	6
Sudan					0	6

Published in Gazette No. 52 of 12th September, 1957.

References

1. Lutwyche N., "Air Letter Service from Nigerian Government Notices", *Cameo*, Volume 9 pp271-275, WASC, October 2006
2. Lutwyche N., "Nigeria Internal Airmail Notices", *Cameo*, Volume 10 pp77-81, WASC, June 2007



Example of second class airmail from Rob May's collection sent from the Health Office, Oshogbo in August 1956 to the UK at the first rate step of half-ounce, correctly franked 4d

OFFERS FROM STOCK

CAMEROONS. 1915 3/- on 3m marginal (with guide cross) showing 's' inverted. Very fine mint. SG B12a. £750	NIGER COAST. 1893 ½d on half 1d lilac surcharge double (in pair with normal) used on piece. Very rare. SG 7e. £1750
CAMEROONS. 1915 5/- on 5m marginal (with guide cross) showing 's' inverted. Very fine mint. SG B13a. £950	NIGER COAST. 1893 ½d on 2½d (Type 6 in vermilion). Very fine used FORCADOS RIVER c.d.s. SG 19. £225
GAMBIA. 1869 4d lower-left corner example with misplaced embossing. Very fine mint. SG 1. £475	NIGERIA. 1920 10/- green and red/emerald (olive back). Very fine mint. SG 11c. £120
GOLD COAST. 1913 5/- used on piece with full strike VICTORIABORG c.d.s. 'OC 16 13'. Rare used. SG 68. £225	ST HELENA. 1863 1d lake with 2 nd re-entry (Pos# 176). Very fine unused. Extremely scarce. SG 3. £300
GOLD COAST. 1921 5/- green and red/pale yellow with watermark inverted. Very fine mint. £400	ST HELENA. 1876 2d pair (wmk reversed) the left-stamp with 2 nd re-entry (Pos# 176). Very fine mint. SG 24y. £375
GHANA. 1959 set to 10/- (plus Airmails) imperforate Die Proofs on watermarked paper affixed to thin card (15 values). £1100	TOGO. 1914 (Wide) ½d on 3pf marginal block of six with two examples thin 'y'. Very fine used. SG H12/12a. £850
LAGOS. 1886 DLR perforated colour trial in dull mauve and blue on gummed paper. Ex Danson. £450	TOGO. 1915 10/- marginal copy with thin 'G' in 'TOGO'. Very fine mint. SG H45b. £200

The above is a selection from my extensive British Commonwealth stock. All items available on approval (subject unsold). Major credit cards accepted. Illustrated lists on request (please advise collecting interests). Wants lists invited.

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