

G A M E O



Journal of the
West Africa Study Circle

VOLUME 4 NUMBER 3

JANUARY 1991

POSTAL HISTORY

My regular auctions offer a wide range of British Commonwealth and Worldwide Postal History, with good selections of West Africa territories, including rare and scarce items for the specialist collector.

Send for your Free lists to:-

**M.D. Piggin, Thatchers Lane, Tansley,
Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5FD, England
Telephone: (0629) 56293**

GARCIA'S African Index

The COMPLETE service for all

PRE-1960 AFRICA



- ★ Comprehensive Index listing 82,000 buy/sell prices (Mint + Used). Single items sold so no need to buy whole sets.
- ★ Regular Mail-Sales of covers, varieties, unusual items, collections, etc.
- ★ Wants Lists our speciality covering British, Belgian, French, German, Italian & Spanish Africa. Also Egypt, Ethiopia and Liberia.
- ★ Telephone or write for free copy to:-
80 Willingdon Rd, Eastbourne, Sussex. BN21 1TW. U.K. Tel. (0323) 21444



MURRAY PAYNE LTD

FOR KING GEORGE VI GB & COMMONWEALTH

STUART BABBINGTON & DICKON POLLARD
FORMERLY OF **J. EDWARD SELLARS (PHILATELISTS) LTD**
CAN NOW OFFER:—

- Prompt & Efficient Attention to Wants Lists
- Service for the Specialist

*Contact us with details of your interests
We may be able to help*

Murray Payne Ltd, PO Box 1135, Axbridge, Somerset BS26 2EW
Tel: (0934) 732511

MONTHLY

POSTAL AUCTION

G.B., Commonwealth and Foreign

POSTAL HISTORY
COVERS & POST MARKS
FINE STAMPS

SEND FOR FREE CATALOGUE TODAY



ALAN BERMAN

1 CRABTREE LANE, LONDON SW6 6LP
071-385 4496



Editor:

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

Hon. Secretary

J.M. Powell,
6, Warren Bank,
Simpson,
Milton Keynes,
Bucks.
MK6 3AQ

Hon. Treasurer

J.W. Knight,
57, Belle Vue Road,
Southend-on-Sea
Essex SS2 4JE

Membership Secretary,

J. Mills,
70 Salisbury Road,
Canterbury, Kent,
CT2 7HH.

Hon. Advertising Manager:

C. Leonard,
47 Pinehurst Road,
West Moors, Wimborne,
Dorset
BH22 0AH.

WHOLE NUMBER 33

VOLUME 4 NUMBER 3

AUCTION REALISATIONS.....	55
MARGINAL MARKINGS ON DE LA RUE KEYPLATES.....	55
S.S. 'APPAM'.....	56
WEST AFRICAN FORCES — EXTRACTS FROM WAR OFFICE FILES.....	57-58
BOOK REVIEW.....	59
AUTUMN STAMPEX 1990.....	59
REVIEW. "MARKING TIME 1887-1987. KAMERUN-DUALA".....	60
THE DALE-LICHTENSTEIN GAMBIA SALE.....	60-61
GAMBIA W.W.I. "OPENED BY CENSOR".....	62
DETAILS ON 1937 D.L.H. CRASH AT BATHURST.....	63
THE B.O.A.C. "CLARE" CRASH OFF BATHURST, 1942.....	64
GAMBIA. THE POSTAL SLOGANS OF 1965.....	64
BOOK REVIEW — "THE GOLD COAST — CANCELLATIONS 1875-1957".....	65
GOLD COAST. INSTRUCTIONAL MARKINGS.....	66-67
GOLD COAST. THE 556 NUMERAL CANCELLER.....	68
GOLD COAST. SPITFIRE FUND LABELS.....	68
PASSED BY BASE CENSOR E W.A.....	69
R.A.F. AERIAL SURVEY OF WEST AFRICA.....	70
GOLD COAST AT CHRISTIE'S ROBSON LOWE.....	71
DISPLAY OF LIBERIA.....	71
NIGER COAST REGISTERED ENVELOPES.....	72
N. NIGERIA — THE ZANA/ZAMA MYSTERY.....	73
NIGERIA. 1917 INCONNU.....	73
PHASED DESPATCH OF NIGERIAN STAMPS.....	74
KANO AIR CRASH.....	75
NIGERIA 1953-57.....	76-77
NIGERIA 30k. 1984 BIRDS SET.....	78
REVIEW. "THE POSTMARKS OF SIERRA LEONE 1854-1961".....	78
SIERRA LEONE. REPLY COUPON USED AS POSTAGE.....	79
CENSORSHIP IN TOGO W.W.I.....	80

WEST AFRICA STUDY CIRCLE

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying and recording, without the written permission of the copyright holder. Application for which should be addressed to the Secretary of the Circle. Such written permission must also be obtained before any part of this publication is stored in a retrieval system of any nature.

EDITORIAL

The front cover is in crimson representing the 1886-93 1d Cameo colour.

Some two years ago your Editor indicated to the Committee that he felt it was time for a change. So this issue will be the last one, at least for the time being, under my name and over sixteen years since the first journal was produced.

A change should be good for the journal since a new editor will bring in fresh ideas. It will also give me more time for research and writing and, who knows, I may have time to deal with that long promised pamphlet on Togo postal history.

My thanks go to everyone who has helped with the various issues, from the regular contributors to those who provided useful snippets of information, from the advertisers to our printers Island Press, formerly Lindels. It has been a team effort.

Your Committee are actively seeking a successor. In the meantime articles should be sent c/o The President. The new editor should not suffer from lack of material, however, since I already have quite a few articles ready for the July 1991 issue.

Annual Subscription:

U.K. Members £12 per annum

Overseas members £14 per annum

Entry Fee for new members £5

Subscription term now spans 1 calendar year i.e. 1st January to 31st December with payment due in January

Advertising Rates:

Full page: £35

Half page: £20

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

CONTENTS

AUCTION REALISATIONS

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

Christie's Robson Lowe April 24/25th 1990

Gambia 1884 (18 Jan.) cover to U.S.A. bearing 1880-81 4d tied by red 'GAMBIA/PAID' c.d.s. £1,045 (£850).

Gambia 1883 6d olive-green imperf. plate proof on gummed CA watermarked paper £990 (£800).

Christie's Robson Lowe March 27th 1990

Gold Coast 1871 (7 Jan.) newspaper "The West African

Herald" posted unpaid to "Capt. H.H. Walshe, Commandant, Sherbro" and showing "CAPE COAST CASTLE" c.d.s., "UNPAID" and "SIERRA LEONE" double-arc c.d.s., all mainly . in black, manuscript '1' in red crayon (deleted) and '1/2' in black ink. £1,100 (£150).

Northern Nigeria 1901 envelope to England with Northern Nigeria 1d cancelled in manuscript "Odeni/21/11/01". £198 (£250).

MARGINAL MARKINGS ON DE LA RUE KEYPLATES

PETER FERNBANK

The comments in the last issue of *Cameo* on the marginal markings on the Ed. VII keyplates merit further discussion since they are relevant to many of the De La Rue typographic plates of this and the succeeding period. The 'screw and washer' mark above the interpanneau gutter in particular requires clarification since it was not in fact made by the screws securing the plate to the press as suggested.

In the making of the keyplate the marginal area surrounding the panes of stamp impressions was made up from lead impressions struck from a master die in precisely the same way as the stamp subjects. These were the marginal rules (or jubilee lines) — both straights and corners, the plate number circle into which was fitted the plate number plug, and the registration piece, provided to facilitate perfect registration of the printed sheet with the perforating combs. The illustrations of the dies used by the Royal Mint for some of these artifacts (De La Rue dies no longer exist) is reproduced from W. A. Wiseman's masterly work on the subject, 'Great Britain — The De La Rue Years'.

The purpose of the registration piece at the top and bottom of the plate, which produced the 'screw and washer' impression on the printed sheet, was to align the printing plate with the underplate. A hole was drilled in the

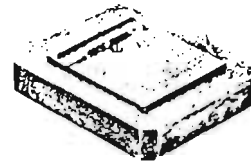
plate just above the inverted 'T' at the top and bottom of the plate. Pins fitted to the underplate protruded through the holes in the printing plate adjacent to the 'T', up to the print height of the plate. During the printing operation the pressure of the roller over this pin produced a weakening of the paper in this area, and of course also produced a small coloured mark on the paper.

When the sheet was to be perforated the operator would ensure correct registration by inserting a fine needle through the weakened top and bottom sheet marks (known as the pinning points) into corresponding alignment holes on the perforating machine. If these sheet marks are examined through a magnifying glass they are frequently found perforated.

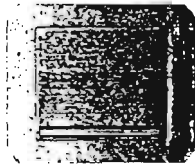
There is some evidence that De La Rue changed this alignment method at some point. There are other small coloured dots in the margins (as pointed out in the last issue) and there are several variations in their position. They are sometimes found perforated, whilst the 'screw and washer' mark is present but not perforated. This suggests further underplate pins through holes in the printing plate, possibly to accommodate a different type or types of perforating machine. Any further information on these 'perforation dots' would be of great interest.



Mint registration piece die.



Side view of registration piece die, showing the drill locating hole.



Mint long guard die.



Mint short guard die.



Struck lead from long guard die.

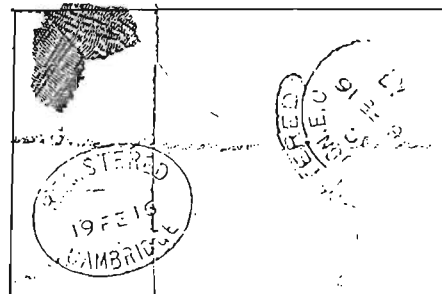
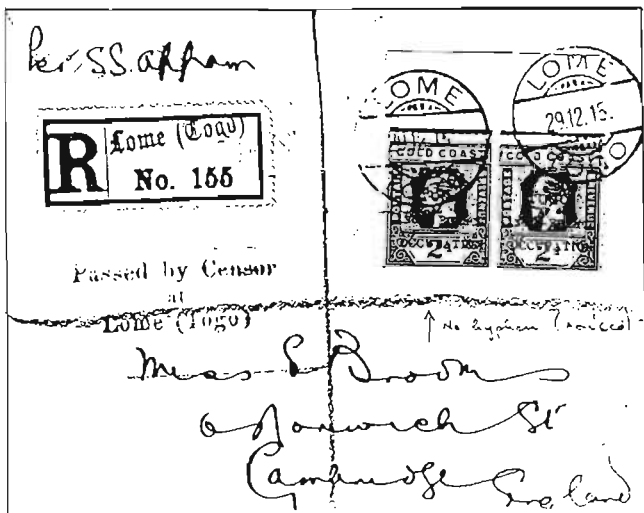
THE GREAT WAR IN WEST AFRICA — S.S. 'APPAM'

BOB MADDOCKS

Messrs. P. O. Beale and J. Mayne have in their individual articles, which appeared in *Cameo's* July 1989 and January 1990, both given interesting background information on the capture of the British mail boat 'Appam' by the German auxiliary cruiser 'Moewe' off Madeira in

January 1916.

Concerning the mail carried on that particular voyage of the 'Appam' two such covers featured in the August 1990 Postal Auction of Mr M. D. Piggin by whose courtesy these photostats are here illustrated.



(The same back-stamp on both covers)

As can be readily seen, both bear the manuscript notation 'Per SS Appam'. Both items were registered to the same addressee, having been postmarked at Lome, Togoland on the same date, 29 December 1915. Identical backstamps on both are 'LONDON 18 FEB 1916' and 'CAMBRIDGE 19 FEB 1916'; evidencing a transit time of nearly eight weeks. The covers had obviously made the double Atlantic crossing occasioned by the Appam's capture and diversion as a German war prize in a neutral port in the U.S.A.

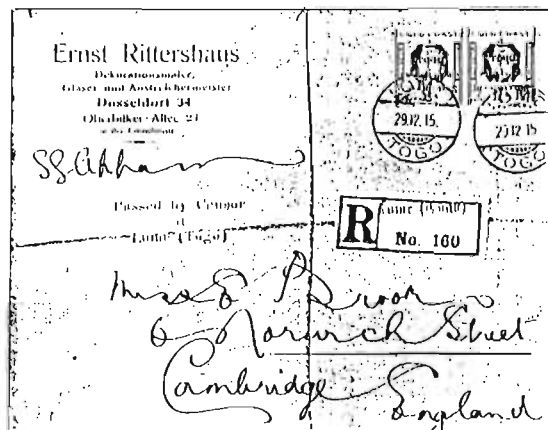
Actually, the principal interest in these covers centres on the overprinted Gold Coast stamps thereon — more specifically on the varieties noted on the overprint 'TOGO/ANGLO-FRENCH/OCCUPATION'. On the first cover (Reg. 155), one of its 2d stamps featured the raised or no hyphen variety (quite a rarity on cover) and the second cover (Reg. 166) the more common 'O' for 'C' variety appeared.

Reverting to the 'Appam', I have a fine official Elder Dempster chromo-litho postcard view of the vessel. (Unfortunately the photostat is too dark to reproduce in *Cameo*. Ed.)

The 'Appam' first went to war in August 1914 when she was requisitioned by the British Government to carry the British contingent of the C.E.F. and that Force's Commander, Brig. Gen. C. M. Dobell, from Liverpool to Duala. The ship served as Dobell's H.Q. until after the landings in Cameroon on 27th September 1914 when she was used for a time as a hospital ship. Eventually she resumed sailings under her owner's flag between the U.K. and West Africa until January 1916 when she was intercepted by the Germans as she was homeward bound and sailed to Newport, U.S.A.

What perhaps is less well known is that on being released about a year later from the custody of the U.S. Government and restored to her owners, she sailed under a new name, the S.S. 'Mandingo' for the rest of the war. This probably was due to the conditions of her release and out of consideration for the then U.S. neutrality. She was sold in 1936.

Has anyone seen a 'Per S.S. Mandingo' cover ex West Africa to round off the story?



WEST AFRICAN FORCES — EXTRACTS FROM THE WAR OFFICE FILES IN PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

ALISTAIR KENNEDY

The following information was found by Alistair, a member of the Forces Postal History Society, in the Public Record office. The P.R.O. references are: WO 173/321; 632; 1001 and 1202. These cover the War Diary (for years 1942-1945 respectively) of the Postal Officer, W.A.F. It is possible that earlier postal information was simply incorporated into some other GHQ War Diary in class WO 173.

Acknowledgement for the following is due to the P.R.O.

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------|------|--------------|------|------------|------|---------|------|---|
| <p>1942 Jun 1 Command Postal Officer at Postal H.Q., Accra.</p> <p>6 Polish Officers' address to be c/o Chief Censor (P), Accra.</p> <p>14 Naval mail for Middle East to receive same priority as Army and R.A.F. — Army P.O. will handle transfer of naval mails at Takoradi for BAPO 4 (Egypt).</p> <p>16 P.A.A. discontinued service between Freetown and Bathurst. AMLC (Air Mail Letter Cards) despatched from Takoradi to be routed via Lagos instead of Bathurst.</p> <p>Jul 1 AMLC ration increased to 1 per week.</p> <p>18 Revised arrangements for air/sea mails for M.E. — all bags via Freetown thence as much as possible by BOAC or PAA; rest by sea to Takoradi or Lagos.</p> <p>Aug 25 Belgian Forces in Nigeria to be subject to same postal regulations as British, postage in British stamps. Belgian Bde. Gp. to be served by own BPM (Bureau Postale Militaire).</p> <p>Sep 1 APO Numbers for personnel in transit to W.A..</p> <table border="0" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>Gambia</td> <td style="text-align: right;">4050</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sierra Leone</td> <td style="text-align: right;">4130</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gold Coast</td> <td style="text-align: right;">4090</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nigeria</td> <td style="text-align: right;">4160</td> </tr> </table> <p>Revised numbers cancelled.
Use of an APO number will be abolished in addresses of official and private correspondence to units and individuals in W.A.
Addresses will be West African Force (w.e.f. 1 Sep 42).</p> <p>Oct 3 B.A.P.O. Takoradi inspected.</p> <p>10 AMLC service to U.K. extended to Fighting French Forces.</p> <p>12 AMLC's to U.S.A., Canada, S. America & B.W.I. will in future be paid in British stamps at Colonial rates — letters will be handed to civil P.O.</p> <p>18 1 free and 3 additional normal AMLC's issued during Christmas period (free one to U.K. only) to be issued over four weeks commencing 9th November 42. Free AMLC's to reach BAPO's between 1st & 8th December. Cards posted early for Christmas delivery to have XMAS under printed heading.</p> | Gambia | 4050 | Sierra Leone | 4130 | Gold Coast | 4090 | Nigeria | 4160 | <p>22 Direct air despatches to be made up from BAPO 4 (Egypt) to APO Lagos to include mail for WAF & civil W.A.
BOAC expected to commence operating an Ensign weekly service for air/sea mail as follows:
Lagos - Takoradi - Marshall (Liberia) fuelling - Freetown - Marshall (fuelling) - Lagos
Some sea arrivals at Freetown may still need forwarding by sea to Takoradi — generally subject however to delay up to 10 days in Freetown for air conveyance rather than sea via Takoradi. No difficulty over northbound mail.</p> <p>Nov 10 Mail despatched from U.K. on 6 October arrived (Dec 19 — U.K. desp 12 Nov arrived GHQ).</p> <p>Dec 17 Belgian troops in Nigeria granted free airmail postage to Congo by local arrangement between Force H.Q. Leopoldville and Sabena. Irregular, and original instructions must be adhered to.</p> <p>1943 Jan 28 South African to West Africa — revised arrangements. From 1 APRD (Durban) to APO Lagos (air) or APO Freetown (surface). (APRD = Army Postal Regulating Depot).</p> <p>29 Stamp shortage at APO Freetown — correspondence franked with civil POSTAGE PAID stamp (not disclosing colony).</p> <p>Feb 11 Sea/Air mail from U.K. for M.E.F. arrived at Accra by air from Freetown on U.S. A.T.C. planes. U.S. APO unable to dispose of this by air. RAF & BOAC also unable to move from Accra by air. Despatched to Takoradi by road, thence by air to Cairo. (A.T.C. = Air Transport Command).</p> <p>Mar 5 ALC service from U.K. to this Command agreed.</p> <p>14 First airmail despatch for Gambia arrived Bathurst.</p> <p>15 First airmail despatch for S. Leone arrived Freetown.</p> <p>17 First airmail despatch for Nig. & G.C. arrived Lagos.</p> <p>29 Inspect air mail transfer arrangements at APAPA & EKOJI (sic ?).</p> <p>30 Visit BOAC Lagos re extended Ensign service: Freetown - Takoradi - Lagos - Khartoum</p> <p>Apr 1 Belgian troops transferred from Nigeria to M.E. address c/o APO 4545 Leopoldville to vouch direct with BAPO Cairo, i.e. Leopoldville - Cairo direct instead of Leopoldville - Lagos and then Lagos - Cairo.</p> <p>20 Visit BOAC re commencement of airmail despatches from APO Accra by Sabena bi-weekly service via Lagos.</p> |
| Gambia | 4050 | | | | | | | | |
| Sierra Leone | 4130 | | | | | | | | |
| Gold Coast | 4090 | | | | | | | | |
| Nigeria | 4160 | | | | | | | | |

- Apr 27 Visit U.S. APO 606 re possible use of U.S. ATC services to U.K. via N. Africa. 4 Det (Gambia) out of stamps — POSTAGE PAID stamp brought into use (discontinued 2/5/43).
- May 1 Despatch of AMLC's from G.C. to U.K. taken over by Accra APO from APO Takoradi.
Despatch to BAPO Algiers (via U.S. ATC planes) also taken over by Accra. BAPO Algiers ceased vouching with APO Freetown (by U.S. ATC via Accra) and commenced to despatch to APO Accra.
- 6 1 Det (Nigeria) visited Air Ministry Rep. Lagos re use of French Aeromaritime Service for conveyance of mails.
- 27 Officer i/c 1 Det (Nigeria) visited 298 Wing (IGBOBI) re service to RAF especially Staging Posts in North Nigeria and Lake Chad area.
- Jul 16 Visit BOAC, Accra re cessation of Ensign service:
Lagos - Freetown - Lagos
Also visit U.S. APO 607 re introduction of air mail service from Canada and U.S.A. to Canadian personnel in W.A. via USAPO 606.
- 17 Officer i/c RAF Postal Services visited APO Bathurst re conveyance of surface mail for U.K. between Bathurst and Freetown by air. Mails formerly carried by BOAC Ensign to be carried by U.K. Sunderland.
- Sep 8 G.C. Govt. has authorised free postage from civilians for overseas troops on assumption that cost would be met by army.
- 12 South Africa to make up direct air and surface mails to APO Takoradi.
- 13 Officer i/c RAF Postal Services has instructed that RCAF personnel may use US Army air services to Canada via Miami at postage of 3d (British st) USAPO 606 have no knowledge and refuse to accept corres. prepaid in British stamps.
- 19 Surface mails from W.A. to be sent by all sailings instead of WS convoys only. (W.S. Code for fast troop convoys between U.K. and Middle East via Cape).
Issue of AMLC's to Africans on demand only.
- 22 Discussion with BOAC re carriage of surface mail all air to U.K.
- Oct 10 Five addl. postage free ALCS to be issued during Xmas period.
- 15 Offices of BOAC moved to JUI Airport. (JUI — a flying boat base in Sierra Leone although one reference is to Jui, Gambia.)
APO Freetown to convey all mails to airport (civil, diplomatic, R.A.F., Navy etc.).
- 27 Sunderland Flying Boat to be withdrawn for 5 weeks, possibly permanently, from West African route. Boeing will operate to and from U.S.A. only. Only air connection now to be once weekly RAF TC service,
RABAT - PORT ETIENNE -
BATHURST - FREETOWN -
TAKORADI & ACCRA (both directions)
BOAC to operate once weekly service.
U.K. - RABAT
Lagos mails to be forwarded via Accra by all available services.
- Nov 4 First plane left on new RAF Accra-Rabat service.
- 14 Colonial Govt. agree to meet cost of free postage from African civilians to overseas troops.
- 16 APO Takoradi to make up direct LC mail to U.K. in addition to APO Accra. (LC = U.P.U. classification "Lettres et Cartes", i.e. first class mail as opposed to printed matter or parcels).
- Dec 30 Proposed introduction of Airgraph service.
- 1944 Jan 1 Airgraph Service ex W.A. Cmd introduced to Australia, Canada, Nfld N.Z., U.S.A. (3d). Completed forms flown all air once weekly to BAPO Algiers from 2 & 3 Dets and to BAPO Cairo from 1 Det.
- 3 Airgraph service extended to India & Ceylon.
- Feb 27 Inspect arrangts for receipt and despatch of airmails at Waterloo Airport.
- Mar 6 APO Accra becomes Base P.O. and APO Takoradi reverts to ordinary FPO.
- Apr 1 Airletter service for W.A. civilians to W.A. Troops serving overseas at postage of 4d introduced.
- 18 Conference at BOAC re new direct U.K. service by BOAC.
- May 14 Airletter service from W.A. to all countries in Western Hemisphere.
- 22 Revision of postal services in W.A. — Inter colonial army corresp. would be dealt with by civil authorities with use of Colonial stamps.
- 31 A/L Service U.K. - W.A. average time 8-9 days.
A/L Service W.A. - U.K. average time 14-20 days (due to U.K. base censor?).
- Aug 1 Introduction of open form of address for all military personnel in Cmd.
- 3 Air Mail service to U.K. twice weekly instead of once weekly.
- Nov 30 Proposal to use Colonial stamps instead of British throughout Command. A.O.C. disagrees.
- 1945 Jun 1 Sale of British stamps ceased. All counter business of APO's ceased, work transferred to civil P.O., with use of Colonial stamps.

BOOK REVIEW

“LIGNE MERMOZ-HISTOIRE AEROPHILATELIQUE LATECOERE, AEROPOSTALE, AIR FRANCE 1918-1940”

REVIEWED BY KENDALL C. SANFORD

This book is an aerophilatelist's delight. It has everything one would want in an aerophilatelic book. There is a brief history of the Latecoere Airline, which started in 1918 between Toulouse, France and Spain. In 1919 it expanded the service to Morocco. There is a complete listing of all the first flights and accidents, which there were plenty of, giving the aircraft type, pilot's names, routing and a brief description of the event. There are excellent maps, full colour reproductions of the advertising posters and literature, photos of the pilots and aircraft, some after they crashed. Also many of the flown covers are shown.

In 1923, the line was extended to Dakar, Senegal on the West African coast. In January 1925, a survey flight was made to South America, going to Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo and Buenos Aires. Quite a number of mishaps and crashes occurred and there are photos of many of the flown covers and crashed aircraft. All the significant flights and crashes are listed. Of course the famous pilots Jean Mermoz and Antoine Saint Exupery were two of the Latecoere pilots and there are some good photos of both of them. In 1928, the airline was renamed Aeropostale, and it operated regular trans-Atlantic air mail services until 1934, when it became Air France.

Besides the listings of the significant flights and crashes until 1940, there are a number of useful annexes. There is a photo and description of each aircraft type operated on the line, including their registration numbers. Fourteen different types of land planes were operated, as well as six types of flying boats. No wonder there were so many

crashes!!! The next annex contains brief descriptions of each of the ships which supported the flights across the South Atlantic. There is an annex showing the South Atlantic schedules for the period 1928-1931, and another one giving the schedules for 1930-1940. These are very useful when identifying covers.

Finally, there is a list of people who assisted the authors with information for the book and there is a bibliography and a table of contents. The book is in French, but for someone who doesn't speak French, it will be easy to follow with the assistance of a French dictionary. A separate pricing guide for covers is provided. This is the first time anyone has ever done a complete listing of the French line covers with prices. The book is very well done, and in spite of its price, is worth every centime.

“LIGNE MERMOZ — HISTOIRE AEROPHILATELIQUE LATECOERE, AEROPOSTALE, AIR FRANCE 1918-1940 /The Mermoz Line - Aerophilatelic History of Latecoere, Aeropostale and Air France 1918-1940”, by Gerard Collot and Alain Cornu. Published by Editions Bertrand Sinais, Paris, 1990. 316 pp. Hard cover. 420 French francs (approximately £42.00) (+ 55 francs for registered mail or air mail).

Kendall can supply this book. His address is: 4 Avenue General Guiguer, CH-1197 Prangins (Vaud), Switzerland.

AUTUMN STAMPDEX 1990

JACK INCE

A sprinkling of Circle members in recent years has continued the example set by worthy predecessors such as Colin McCaig, in ensuring that British West Africa philately is not forgotten.

Philip Beale's Sierra Leone displays have become a hardy annual but, following Stamp World 1990, the collection has passed into other hands. However, this Autumn the Circle was represented (again) by David Springbett with his stamps and postal history of the Oil Rivers/Niger Coast, while Robert Seaman continues his efforts to ensure that the stamps of Biafra are not overlooked. The awards of a large silver/gilt to David and of a bronze medal to Robert were well merited.

There were some features of David's display which are especially worthy of record and I am glad to report that he has donated a bound photocopy of the 32 sheets to the Circle library. This action is to be commended to other members as it ensures that a record of fine items remains in our possession for future postal historians, and which is something Michael Ensor during his tenure as Circle

Secretary did his best to encourage — with, I regret, not much success.

The notable items in David's display included:

- (a) A fine range of the 1893/94 provisionals
- (b) A range of the 1894 January and June colour trials
- (c) A complete file record (imperforate) sheet of the 1898 10/ = value (5 x 4)
- (d) 2 blocks of 4 stamps of the 10/ = mint giving the deep violet and bright violet shades (SG, 98, 98A)
- (e) Printers file record sheet of the 1898 2/6 value (6 x 5) imperforate, with printers' notations.

This sheet, which is surely unique, contains Row 1 overprinted in red "Consular" on each of the six stamps, while Row 2 is overprinted in black "Specimen" on each stamp.

Against Row 1, the manuscript note "Position and colour of word 'Consular' correct 19/6/98," while against Row 2, in a different hand, appear the words "Correct but a bit large" 25/5/98.

"MARKING TIME 1887-1987. A CENTURY OF POSTMARKS AND CACHETS OF AN AFRICAN TOWN. KAMERUN-DUALA" BY R. J. MADDOCKS

Bob Maddocks' aim has been to cover the first 100 years of the town of Kamerun/Duala as the title indicates. He has produced a profusely illustrated and interesting account not only of the postal history of the territory (and town) but also a lot of background information of a more general nature.

A recent trend in postal history displays (not yet competitions) is to include related ephemera such as

postcards and the author has included not only some "Greetings" postcards, but also photographs and even an illustration of a bank-note.

Members will find the 36 page booklet a worthwhile addition to their libraries. It is soft-back A4 size and is No. 62 in the Cockrill Series. It is available at £7 plus postage from: House of Antiquity, St. Mary Street, Nether Stowey, Somerset TA5 1LJ.

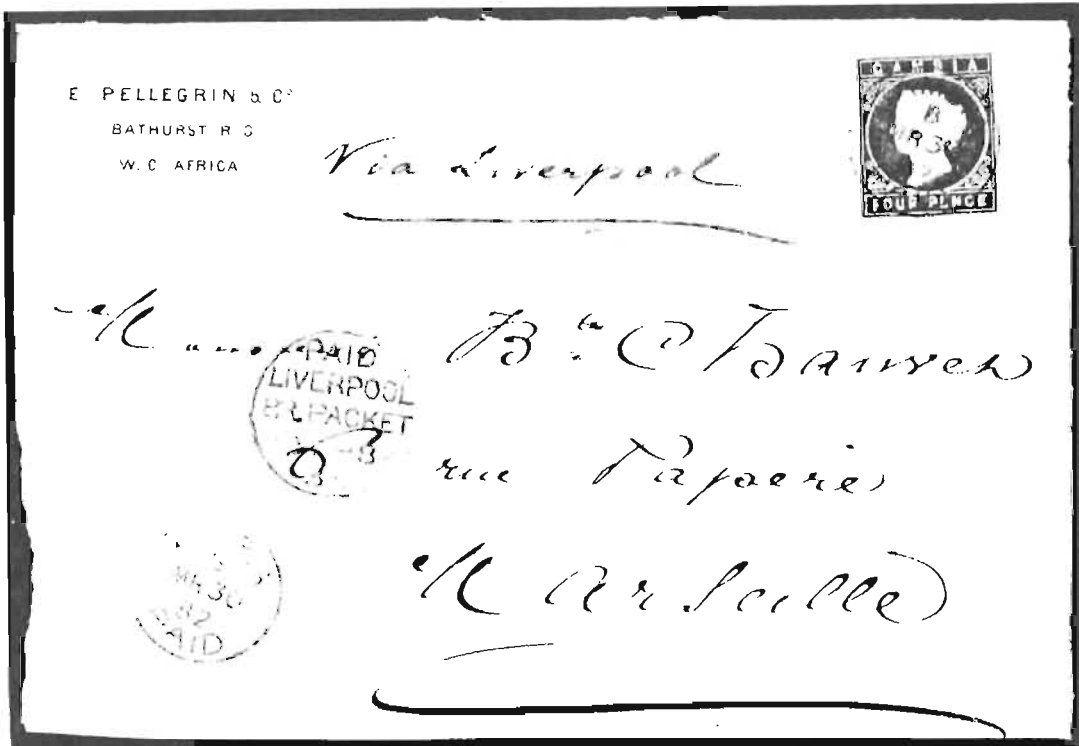
J.J.M.

THE DALE-LICHTENSTEIN GAMBIA SALE

ROBERT SEAMAN

Several members of the WASC were among those present at the Harmers auction of Gambia material, held in London on 19 October 1990. The sale was in two parts; the first being sale 17 of the Dale-Lichtenstein collections. A total of 192 lots were offered. Everything that was a little out of the ordinary sold to excellent advantage, particularly some rare and desirable covers, plate proofs and trials. Normally, fine quality singles and pairs were, however, not

particularly in demand. There was strong bidding for lot 37, a used strip of four on a small piece of the 1869 6d (SG 3) which realised £2,200 (estimated £600) and (lot 103) a delightful front to France, bearing an imperforate 4d (SG 5) dated 1882 (£2,200 est. £750). Both these lots were bid for by WASC members, the front going to a member of the Circle.



Lot 103

Afterwards, a further 20 lots (numbered 251-271 with lot 255 withdrawn) from other owners were offered and these nearly all sold. The most sought after item was a cover sent to Sierra Leone on 31 December 1898 (lot 261)

bearing an 1886-93 1d crimson, paying the new 1d postage rate introduced a few days earlier. (£340 est. £200).

Other items of particular interest in the sale were:

Lot	Description	Realised (estimate)
1	1859 stampless cover with the earliest recorded 'BATHURST / PAID / GAMBIA' in red	£1320 (£1000)
4	4d brown die proof on glazed card	£2200 (£1000)
12	4d brown complete sheet with "CANCELLED"	£6050 (£5000)
13	6d blue complete sheet "CANCELLED"	£5500 (£5000)
24	4d brown (1859) SG 2 block of six fine mint	£2310 (£2000)
50	1874 4d brown complete sheet fine mint	£8800 (£7000)



51	1874 6d blue complete sheet fine mint	£8800 (£7000)
94	1874 4d pale brown fine used pair	£418 (£350)
104	1874 4d brown (SG 5) on cover to U.S.A.	£3300 (£5000)
120	1880-81 1s green and deep green mint, comb perf. and wmk. upright; blocks of four	£1320 (£440)
121	1880-81 collection of 250 mint stamps (SG 10-20)	£1100 (£500)
125-132	1886 imperf. plate proofs ½d-1s	£990 each (£600-£750)
169	1898 — 5 artists proofs ½ - 1/- with hand painted tablets	£3800 + VAT (£2500)

Lots not from Dale-Lichtenstein

251	1886 cover to England with 1880-81 4d pale brown (SG 16)	£660 (£800)
252	1880 cover to Grance with 1880-81 1d maroon (SG 12B)	£528 (£800)
257	1897 registered cover to England with 1886-93 ½d (2), 1d and 2½d to make 4½d rate	£374 (£250)

Prices realised include the 10% buyer's premium but not VAT on the premium.

In particular I would like to express my thanks to Harmers who provided the illustrations.



Circle members at the auction. Left to right: Charles Leonard, Robert Seaman, Len Weldhen and Michael Roberts.

GAMBIA W.W.I 'OPENED BY CENSOR'

ROBERT SEAMAN

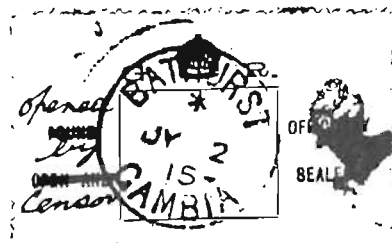
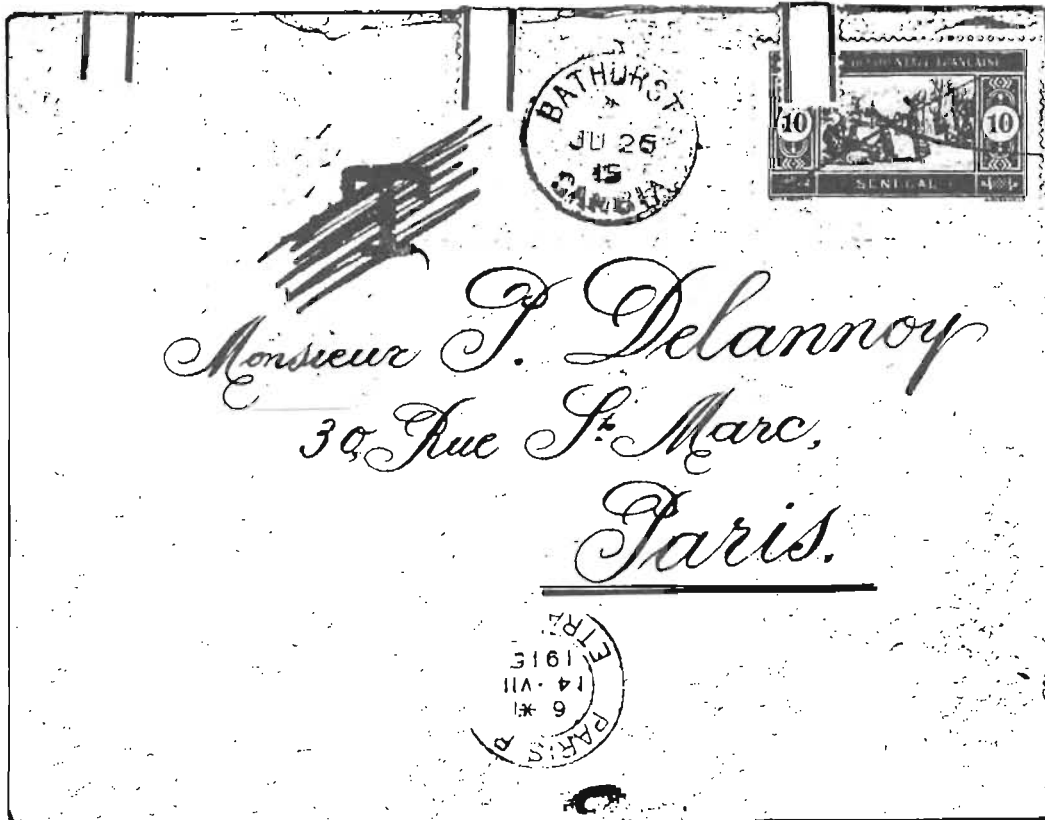
During the recent International Exhibition held in Toulouse, I acquired the cover illustrated below. I can find no trace of censor mail from Gambia during the First World War, neither can I find a record of the 'FOUND OPEN AND OFFICIALLY SEALED' label used in the Gambia.

This label has been amended in manuscript to 'Opened by Censor OFFICIALLY SEALED' with a 'BATHURST JY 2 15 GAMBIA' date-stamp applied. All marks, including

the manuscript, are in black.

The cover seems to have been placed in the mail in the Gambia although stamped with a 10c Senegal adhesive. A Bathurst date-stamp of June 26th is by the side of the pen-cancelled stamp so the cover was retained for about a week before being opened by the censor and forwarded to France.

Has any other member seen a similar item?



DETAILS ON 1937 D.L.H. CRASH AT BATHURST

KENDALL C. SANFORD

This is in reference to Barbara Priddy's article on the DLH crash at Bathurst on 12 March 1937. Barbara quotes a number of books which list or mention this crash. There is also a listing of this crash in "Katalog Über die Katapultpost, Teil 2, Südatlantik", by Erich Haberer, published in 1988 by the Europäischer Aero-Philatelisten-Club E.V., Stuttgart, which reads as follows:

Number 523 11.3.1937 Nach Südamerika
Unfall der Lufthansa-Maschine D-ALIX in Bathurst.
Teilweise Vermerke der Post in Buenos Aires.

523a mit Vermerk "Accident d'Aviation"	250, --	DM
523b ohne Vermerk	180, --	DM
523 Gb ab Grossbritannien	500, --	DM
Aufgaben aud anderen Ländern mindestens	650, --	DM

The translation of this is:

Catalog no. 523 crashed on 11 March 1937 (note all of Barbara Priddy's references give the date as 12th of March) To South America.

Crash of Lufthansa aircraft D-ALIX in Bathurst. Part of the mail was cacheted in Buenos Aires.

523a with cachet "Accident d'Aviation"	value 250 Marks
523b without cachet	value 180 Marks
523 Gb covers from Great Britain	value 500 Marks
Mail from other counties, at least	value 650 Marks

The best reference for the German crashes to and from South America is an article "Diversion, Delays, Disasters", by James W. Graue, which was published in the May 1987 issue of "The American Philatelist" of the American Philatelic Society. This article gives quite a lot of detail on the crashes and delayed flights, and I am quoting directly in most cases, with permission from the Editor of the American Philatelist. The aircraft was a Heinkel, registration D-ALIX, named "Rostock". It was en route from Germany to South America and was the 113th DLH trans-Atlantic flight to South America. It crashed into the River Gambia near Bathurst. Although the crew was killed, most of the mail was recovered and forwarded without delay. Graue advised that the official report on the crash by the acting Governor of Gambia (note that the Americans do not use the article "the" in front of Gambia, as the British do), as well as contemporary news reports and various official announcements, provide a detailed account of the accident.

The flight left Las Palmas, Canary Islands on Thursday, March 11 at 9.55 p.m., and arrived over Bathurst at 3.41 a.m. This accounts for the confusion on the actual date of the crash by Haberer. The aircraft circled three times, and as was normal practice, the DLH catapult support ship "Ostmark", anchored at the Island of St. Mary, directed its searchlight toward Jeshwang Aerodrome to assist the

incoming aircraft. Conditions of intermittent broken fog and limited visibility prevailed. The "Rostock" flew away and the sound of its engines faded. No distress signal was received, and the officers of the "Ostmark" assumed the plane had landed safely. However, the DLH agent at Jeshwang never saw the aircraft, and at 6.30 a.m. he called the colonial secretary to ask if radiogram inquiries might be made up river.

At dawn the "Ostmark" launched a flying boat to search the area of the river estuary for the lost plane. Launch (boat) parties were also used in the search. At about 10.00 a.m., the first pieces of wreckage were found in the river, six miles southeast of the port. None of those who had been aboard the "Rostock" (Flight Captain Alfred Viereck, co-pilot Richard Rebentrost, radio-navigator Kurt Bickner, and first officer Hans Hermann) ever was found.

During that day, twenty-four mail bags, thirty loose packages of letters, and various parts of the aircraft were salvaged. Note that according to Barbara's article, the P.O. records say that nearly fifty bags of South American mail was recovered whilst Nierinck says twenty. Obviously, someone is wrong. Returning to Jim Graue's article, most of the mail was recovered by a DLH launch from the "Ostmark", which took it to the catapult ship for drying and sorting. The recovered mail was forwarded to South America that evening, March 12th. Most of the recovered mail received a crash cachet, and four types are known.

1. A one-line cachet "Accident d'Aviation" in black. Graue says this apparently was done on the "Ostmark". Actually, I believe this cachet was applied in Buenos Aires, because I have covers to Argentina in my collection from Pan American Airways & Panair do Brasil crashes which have identical cachets. This cachet is also recorded by Nierinck without saying where it was applied.
2. A two-line cachet in Portuguese "Accidente/De Aviao" in red, applied in Brazil. This is also recorded by Nierinck. Some covers with this marking also have a censor marking because censorship of mail had been imposed when President Vargas seized power.
3. A four-line typewritten white-paper label in Spanish "Recibida Completamente Mojada/Por Accidente del Avion/Certificados (B)/15/3/37", affixed to a cover to Buenos Aires.
4. A 69 x 45 mm light-green resealing label "Correspondencia dilacerada/Servico Postal" applied at Santa Cruz, Brazil. It is tied to the cover by a Santa Cruz circular date stamp of March 16, 1937.

The American Philatelist article does not mention any mail to Bathurst. If anyone would like to have a photocopy of the article, please send £3.00 to cover the cost of photocopying and mailing, to K. Sanford, 4 Ave. General Guiguer, CH-1197 Prangins (Vaud), Switzerland. We also have copies of the Haberer book for £12.00 including surface postage.

THE BOAC "CLARE" CRASH OFF BATHURST, 1942

KENDALL C. SANFORD

On page 31 of the July 1990 issue of "Cameo", Stewart Duncan mentions the crash of the "Clare" and implies that it was on 14 September 1941. Actually, it was 1942. I have done a bit of research on this crash for a monograph I am working on of crash mail of Southern Africa. The following is the information I have on the crash.

14 September 1942

near Bathurst, Gambia

Captain G.B. Musson & 1st Officer A. O. Cundy

British Overseas Airways Corporation (BOAC)

Short S30 Empire flying boat, G-AFCZ, "Clare"

The flight left Bathurst for Lisbon at 1830. At 1937 the radio operator reported an engine failure and requested night landing facilities at Bathurst. At 2008 came a signal from the aircraft "SOS Fire" — there were no further signals. A Sutherland was despatched the next day to search for wreckage, but it found nothing. On the 16th, a Catalina sighted the wreckage at 1054, and the next morning naval boats had reached the area.

A court of enquiry was held in October. It was agreed that at the time of the reported failure, the aircraft would have reached its cruising altitude of 6,000 feet (9,600 metres). The action taken by the pilot would have been to immediately jettison 1,320 gallons of fuel so as to make the landing weight allowable. After that, all is supposition and the finding was either that the engine exploded whilst jettisoning fuel, or that static thunderstorms ignited fuel, or that the landing on the sea was unsurvivable. The fact

that the last signal at 2008 reported fire suggested that whatever occurred, did so in the aircraft. Sabotage was considered but was rejected.

The Catalina reported seeing three mail bags floating in the sea, one red, one white and one brown. The flight's manifest showed: Africa route P.O. mails — 36 kg (79 lbs); Australia route troop mails — 33 kg (73 lbs); Government mail — 157 kg (345 lbs); and Airgraphs — 20 kg (44 lbs) (about 55,000 letters). The reported carriage (after the accident) was Africa route — 18 kg (40 lbs); Australia — 26 kg (57 lbs); Diplomatic mail — 15 bags ex India, Turkey, Cairo & Nigeria; Airgraphs — 19 kg (42 lbs). In a telex in the BOAC files in the Air Force Museum, there is mention that two bags of diplomatic mail was positively identified and that thirty-one bags were at Lagos being re-bagged for onward carriage.

According to a U.K. newspaper article (origin unknown), it was reported that airgraph mails from India, East Africa, and South Africa, and from civilians in the Middle East, despatched in the early part of September, had not been received, and were presumed to have been lost in the "Clare". The postal administrations of the countries concerned were asked to arrange for the messages to be rephotographed and retransmitted to the U.K. Postmaster General.

According to "The Civilian Airgraph Service in Palestine 1941-1945", the reprinted airgraphs were boldly overprinted "REPRINT" on the reverse side. The only one of these reprints known from the "Clare" crash is an airgraph written on 18 August 1942 to the Middle East Forces. Also, Barbara Priddy has a cover in her collection which may very well be from the "Clare" crash. However, as it has no clear postmark date, it cannot be positively verified.

GAMBIA. THE POSTAL SLOGANS OF 1965

ERIC LEWIS and OLIVER ANDREW

During the month of October 1965 two handstamps were brought into use to publicize the change of Traffic Regulations. They were: "Drive On The Right" (65mm x 4.5mm) and "Keep Right" (38mm x 4.5mm). They appear anywhere on the front of the cover, though never cancelling the stamp, and usually clear of the address. They are known upside-down. As they were only of local interest, the marks were used on local mail only and were not seen on covers to the U.K.

Eric Lewis analysed a batch of 265 covers, and found:

158	from Bathurst
35	Georgetown
22	the T.P.O.
17	Mansa Konko
13	Basse
7	Kuntaur
5	Bansang
2	Bwiam, Farafenni, Serekunda
1	Cape St. Mary, Kerewan

Bathurst used both slogans, in red, on each cover, though after 19 Oct. there were some with "Keep Right" only, in black. They can be found with either of the two

cancellers then in use (Handbook 21 and 22). The main provincial P.O.s all used the "Drive On The Right" slogan:

Basse	mainly in purple/black
Georgetown	maroon
Kuntaur	bright red
Mansa Konko	violet
T.P.O.	black

The Postal Agencies used "Keep Right" only:

Bansang	in black/red
Bwiam	red/violet
Cape St. Mary	black
Kerewan	violet
Farafenni	bright red
Serekunda	bright red

The dates of usage were all in October, with six exceptions: 5 in early November, and one, Mansa Konko, 15 April 1966.

It is surprising that some P.O.s do not figure on this list; Kaur and Brikama, for example; and that Cape St. Mary and Serekunda appear so rarely. The Gambia Editor has not seen any covers that did not fit this analysis. most now extant must come from Eric Lewis's batch.

BOOK REVIEW

“THE GOLD COST — THE POST OFFICES/AGENCIES AND THEIR CANCELLATIONS 1875-1957”

Revised edition by M. T. Mackin, on behalf of the West Africa Study Circle. A4, card covers, 172 pages and available from the Librarian at £10 plus postage and packing.

The first edition of this study was published in 1985 and in it the author invited the receipt of any amendments or new information. Soon after publication it began to arrive; at times, in the author's own words, in overwhelming quantities, the end result being this revised and much

enlarged second edition.

The number of pages has increased from 100 up to 172, the illustrations have been very much extended and there is now the bonus of five appendices, which include the Registration markings, T.P.O. and Paquebot cancellations and Official Paid handstamps.

It is now, even more, an essential tool for the collector of cancellations.

C.L.

GOLD COAST INSTRUCTIONAL MARKS

JOHN POWELL

In preparation for the forthcoming books on the Gold Coast, I have prepared draft listings of Missents, Too Lates and Unclaimed. Would members who have additional dates and information, please contact me. Black unless noted.

In a future Cameo, I will deal with Registration, Taxe and Sundry Instructional marks.

M I S S E N T M A R K S

TYPE	SIZE	DATES	TOWNS
MSS1	MISSENT TO CAPE COAST	36x11	1905 (Sent to Cape Coast 9 October 1871) Cape Coast
MSS2	MISSENT TO SALTPOND	Depends on Town name x4}	1894-1947 Axim Anamaboe Wirneba Ada Saltpond (red)
MSS3	MISSENT. TO. ACCRA	50x5	(Sent to Accra 15 April 1874)
MSS4	MISSENT (plus postmark)	35x5	1941 Dunkwa
MSS5	MISSENT TO (plus postmark)	47x6	1942-4 Swedru Bolgatanga
MSS6	MISSENT TO (plus postmark)	29x3}	1941-3 Obuasi Mangoase

T O O L A T E M A R K S

TYPE		SIZE	DATES	TOWNS
TL1	TOO-LATE	35x5	1894-1900	Accra
TL2	TOO LATE	50x7-8 (varies)	1896-1937	Odumasie (blue) Cape Coast Accra Quittan Ada Appam Sekondi Cape Coast (red)
TL3	TOO LATE.	34x4;	1941	Takoradi Cape Coast
TL4	TOO LATE	33x4	1955-6	Kadjebi Akuse Takoradi Elmina (1918?)

U N C L A I M E D M A R K S

TYPE		SIZE (mm)	DATES	TOWNS
UN1	UNCLAIMED	33x44 (or 5)	1911	(Sent to Cape Coast 7 Nov 1870) Cape Coast
UN2	UNCLAIMED	35x3;	1888	Cape Coast (red)
UN3	UNCLAIMED	24x4;	1940	Akropong
UN4	UNCLAIMED	44;x5;	1948	Tanoso
UN5	UNCLAIMED	33;x4;	1938-50	Kumasi Accra
UN6	UNCLAIMED	32x3;	1947	Sekondi

GOLD COAST. THE 556 NUMERAL CANCELLER

In Cameo Volume 3 Number 8 Bryan Hunt of the Society of Postal Historians submitted a Jamaican fiscal with a 556 cancellation.

Bryan has received the following from Bob Swarbrick, another S.P.H. member

Jamaican fiscals used postally

"I don't think that the 556 obliteration number had any Jamaican connections. Very often poor cancellations were cleaned off and bogus cancels applied — anyway very few of the higher values were ever used postally; the majority have strong philatelic connections. It arose in a strange way: there was a real shortage of the one shilling fiscal stamp in 1887, so it was decided to allow postage stamps to be used, in return, the shilling fiscal was allowed for postage, opening the floodgates for oddities. The lower

value fiscals were also authorised for postage. The stamp collectors of that time had plenty of imagination. I don't think I have ever seen a genuinely used Telegraph stamp on cover, nor a shilling fiscal. There were cut-outs of telegraph stamps addressed to the great collector G. C. Gunter (Head of Jamaican Railways) and imperf. proofs etc. appear on cover.

Where did you obtain the 556 on your shilling fiscal? I doubt if Jeremy Martin will ever find out!

I have a lovely bisected penny Jamaican stamp cancelled with a U.K. 153 but, under a glass, I can see the remains of a squared circle.

The Telegraph and high value fiscals were never available at any post office, so that any used postally were obtained by devious means.

Ah well! That all means that P.H. is fascinating. Hope the foregoing helps you a little."

GOLD COAST SPITFIRE FUND LABELS

JEREMY MARTIN

This was a propaganda label for a 1d to help buy a Spitfire. N. C. Baldwin wrote about them in an airmail pamphlet 'Ghana', being a reprint from 'The Aero Field'

We hope to produce more details for the forthcoming Circle book on Gold Coast.

The writer has examples in the following colours:

Green 23 July 1941
Blue 2 Oct 1941 - 5 Dec 1941

Would members with additional information (other colours, earlier and later dates) please contact the writer fairly quickly.

PASSED BY BASE CENSOR E W.A



George Crabb of the Forces P.H.S. produced this Air Letter at the joint W.A.S.C./F.P.H.S. meeting in December 1989.

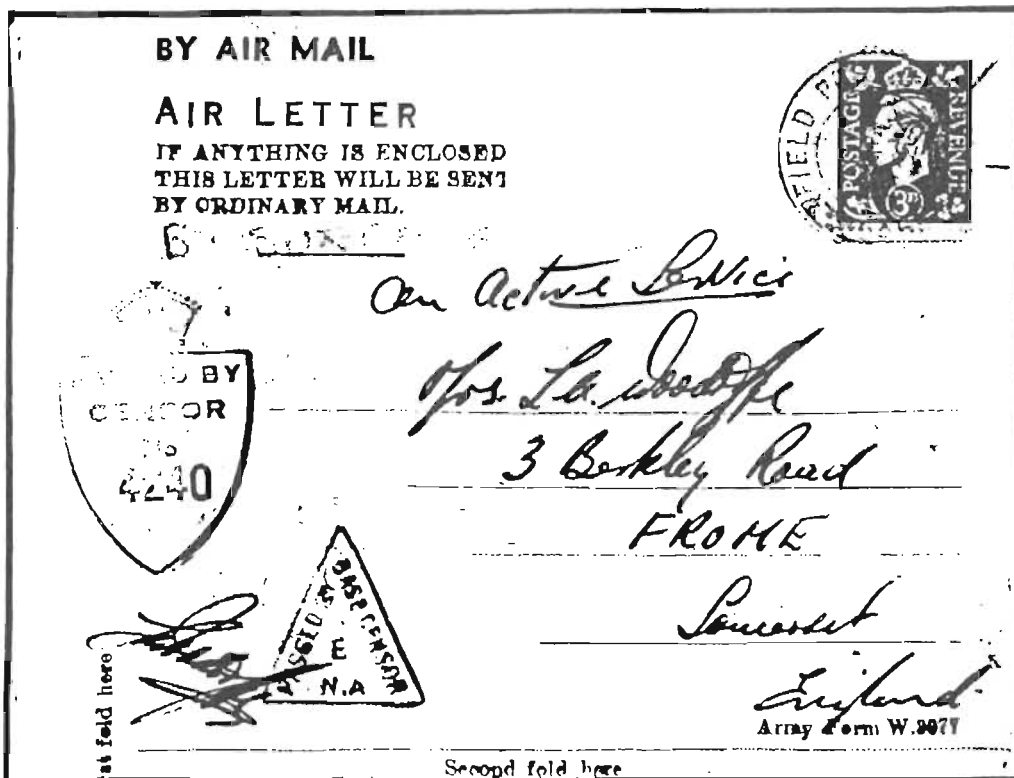
It is part of the 'Woodruffe' correspondence so is likely to be from the Gold Coast. Written 24 April 1944 and postmarked 15 MY 44 'FIELD POST OFFICE X 6 X', possibly 561. If 561, location still uncertain.

The 'shield' censor cachet 4240 has been recorded on

Gold Coast mail. No location shown in the letter which states 'There's no address at present because we haven't got one.'

The triangular cachet with 'W.A' at the bottom (shows as 'N.A' in the illustration but is definitely 'W.A') seems to be of West African origin.

Endorsed in red pencil 'BY SURFACE MAIL'.



BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED
THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT
BY ORDINARY MAIL.



Our Active Service

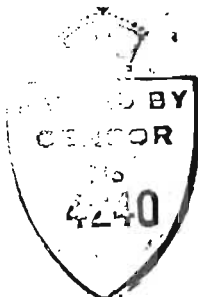
Mrs. L. Woodruffe

3 Berkeley Road

FROM

London

England
Army Form W. 9077

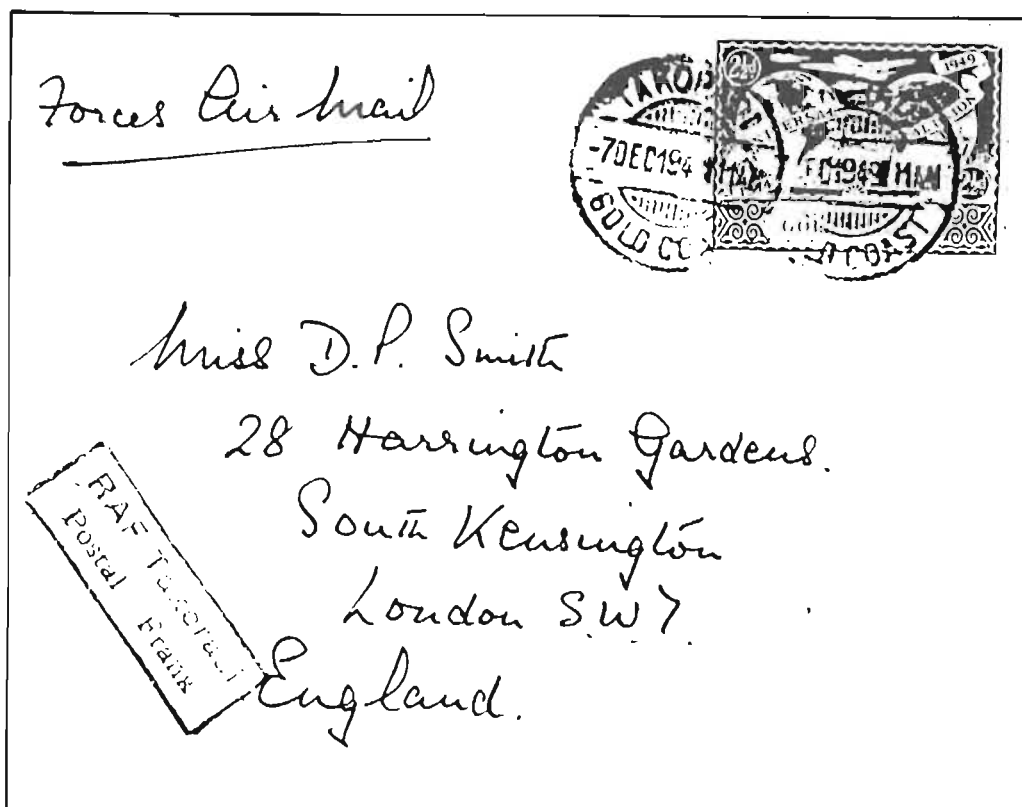


First fold here

Second fold here

R.A.F. AERIAL SURVEY OF BRITISH WEST AFRICA

In Cameo 28, Roy Lambert gave details of the Survey and the cachets used.



At the joint W.A.S.C./F.P.H.S. meeting in December 1989, Alistair Kennedy of the Forces Postal History Society showed the cover illustrated. The cachet, in violet, is similar to Type 1 but measures 41 x 12½ mm. It is from Takoradi and dated 7 Dec. 1949. Alan Brown has a similar example from Takoradi dated March 1950.

The examples in your Editor's collection measure from 43-46 mm x 15 mm. It is possible that the cachet became worn and 'spread', your Editor's examples being used in July 1950 and February 1951.

J.J.M.

GOLD COAST AT CHRISTIE'S ROBSON LOWE SEPTEMBER 19th 1990

The 'room' was surprisingly small, comprising about four members of the Circle and half a dozen or so people.

Results generally were mixed with some lots unsold. Most, however, found new homes, including some being in the Circle.

The first 1871 H.M.S. Seagull cover exc the Druitt correspondence, written at Cape Coast, made £418 (£200). The second cover from the same correspondence, 1872, was withdrawn. An 1875 (12th Jan) pre-stamp cover with 'PAID AT CAPE COAST CASTLE' in red realised £330 (£325).

An 1876-79 ½d olive-yellow imperf. plate proof sold for £93 (£120) and a similar 2d but 1884-91 £104 (£130).

The 1876-79 2d green bisected and used on cover at Winnebah in 1884 reached £1100 (£700). Another 2d but quartered and on piece with a whole 2d with an 1884 Cape Coast c.d.s. made £330 (£250).

The sale included a whole series of 1921-24 die proofs of the duty plate on card. All prices shown are with the 10% premium but not VAT.

1½d	"BEFORE STRIKING" 26/1/22	Not sold
1½d	"AFTER STRIKING" 30/1/22	£55 (£80)
2d	"AFTER STRIKING" 31/5/20	£49 (£80)
1/-	"BEFORE STRIKING" 15/5/20	£55 (£80)
1/-	"AFTER STRIKING" 31/5/20	£49 (£80)
15/-	"BEFORE STRIKING" 31/12/20	£77 (£100)
15/-	"AFTER STRIKING" 6/1/21	£66 (£100)
£2	"BEFORE STRIKING" 31/12/20	£88 (£120)
£2	"AFTER STRIKING" 6/1/21	£88 (£120)

The Harrison ed photogravure essay in purple and blue sold for £385 + VAT (£300).

Prices realised for covers were mixed. The 1907 Jebba cover with a Type 2a cachet reached £93 plus VAT. A Type 5 Aburi on an 1895 envelope did not sell (£150). An early WWI censored cover with 'OPENED BY CENSOR ACCRA AND RESEALED' made £143 + VAT (£120).

The 1879 foolscap envelope with the 1874 4d and a pair of the 6d cancelled '556' and with 'PAID AT CAPE COAST CASTLE' in **black** sold for £528 (£500).

The Dodowah manuscripts made £132 (£180); £385 (£275) and £264 (£300) all plus VAT. The 1910 Mampong went for £495 (£280) and the 1903 Nsaba soared to £770 (£425), both prices requiring VAT for U.K. purchasers.

A lovely 1890 Pram Pram Type 5 on a registered envelope cost £198 (£80) and would have graced any collection including your scribe's who was the under-bidder

A fascinating morning with some bargains to be found.

Note: prices include the 10% buyer's premium, but not VAT on the premium. 'Vatable' lots are noted. Prices realised in brackets. **J.J.M.**

DISPLAY OF LIBERIA

The following notes were supplied by Philip Cockrill on his display to the Circle on October 6th 1990.

Frames 1-9 showed Liberian covers on cards all cancelled with the oval 'Hamburg Westafrika' cancel, also a few stamps where no covers (or one or two only) are recorded. The collection comprised examples of all but four of the 63 known numbers (I to LXIII).

This was followed by two frames of pre-stamp covers dating from 1828, all with *manuscript charge markings* with the next two frames illustrating stampless covers with *postal cancellations* including the complete Cromwell

Correspondence of 1879, all with U.S. arrival postal cancellations.

One of these was with postage due stamps from the first U.S. dues issue of 1879 postmarked within a few months of issue.

The remaining four frames (Nos. 14-17) showed a wide selection of the first stamp issues of 1860-1864 — the first and second transfers only — mint, used and with postmarks including the only recorded cover with a manuscript 'M' marking on the 12c value of the first transfer

NIGER COAST REGISTERED ENVELOPES

JACK INCE

Malcolm Lacey, director of Argyll Etkin Ltd., has drawn my attention to a number of differences in the print spacing and type used for the printing of those registered envelopes which are overprinted on the flap "NIGER COAST/PROTECTORATE"

There were the same three sizes in both printings, viz. F, G, H2 (Higgins and Gage references 4, 4a, 4b).

These differences can be listed, as between the two printings, as follows:

	TYPE A	TYPE B
SIZE F		
1. Full stop after 'FEE PAID'		No full stop
2. Length of 3 lines of type below 'REGISTERED LETTER' (measuring from stem of 'T' and ignoring full stop)	75mm 61mm 67½mm	79mm 64mm 67½mm
3. Line 3 offset to left below line 2		No offset
4. On reverse, figure '2' of '2d' at end of narrative in upper half: "Thin" with short base 1.2mm		"Thick" with longer base 1.5mm
SIZE G		
1. Both have full stop following 'FEE PAID'		
2. Length of 3 lines of type below 'REGISTERED LETTER':	85mm 67mm 76mm	88½mm 70mm 76mm
3. No variation in vertical setting.		
4. On reverse figure '2' of '2d':	"Thin" as for 'F'	"Thick" as for 'F'
SIZE H2		
1. Both have full stops after 'FEE PAID'		
2. Length of 3 lines of type below 'REGISTERED LETTER':	111mm 88mm 80mm	113mm 89mm 80mm
3. No variation in setting.		
4. On reverse, apparently 'thin' 2 on both but one type is preceded by a broken or incomplete at top small 'f'		

PRINTINGS

Only two printings were made for all three sizes whereafter in 1896 a new plate was made with the embossed Queen's Head being replaced by a printed head in a rectangular frame. These two printings were invoiced on 10th November 1893 and 15th October 1894.

A supply from both printings was forwarded to the Inland Revenue and thus, potentially, examples from both printings may carry the 'SPECIMEN' imprint across the embossed head. Thus reference to such items can constitute no guide to identification of the printing.

On the basis that a c.d.s. bearing a date prior to the

second despatch, i.e., 15th October 1894, it is possible to state:

SIZE F – Type A in the foregoing tabulation constitutes the printing which totalled 1200 against 2400 envelopes in the second.

SIZE G – Type A constitutes the first printing which also was for 1200 against 2400 in the later one.

SIZE H2 – Due to lack of sufficient examples of used envelopes, no deduction has been possible. In the first printing there were 960 envelopes of this size against 2400 in the second.

Information from members is requested. Please forward clear photocopies of face and reverse.

N. NIGERIA — THE ZANA/ZAMA MYSTERY

JACK INCE

Further to the note by Ken Sergeant in *Cameo*, July 1990, page 47, it is now possible to clear up this mystery.

McCaig in his study on N. Nigeria published by the Circle circa 1970, notes "ZAMA" occurring on type 3 c.d.s. from 1908 until after 1913, but no details of measurements etc. were available. Neither McCaig, nor John Sacher and myself for our forthcoming book, have been able to locate ZAMA or ZANA on any map of the period, *gazeteer* or other authority.

Apart from examples listed and illustrated in the last *Cameo*, I myself possess a clear strike of ZANA on the lower of a block of three stamps, the two above carrying a clear strike of ZARIA on each, with a date on all strikes

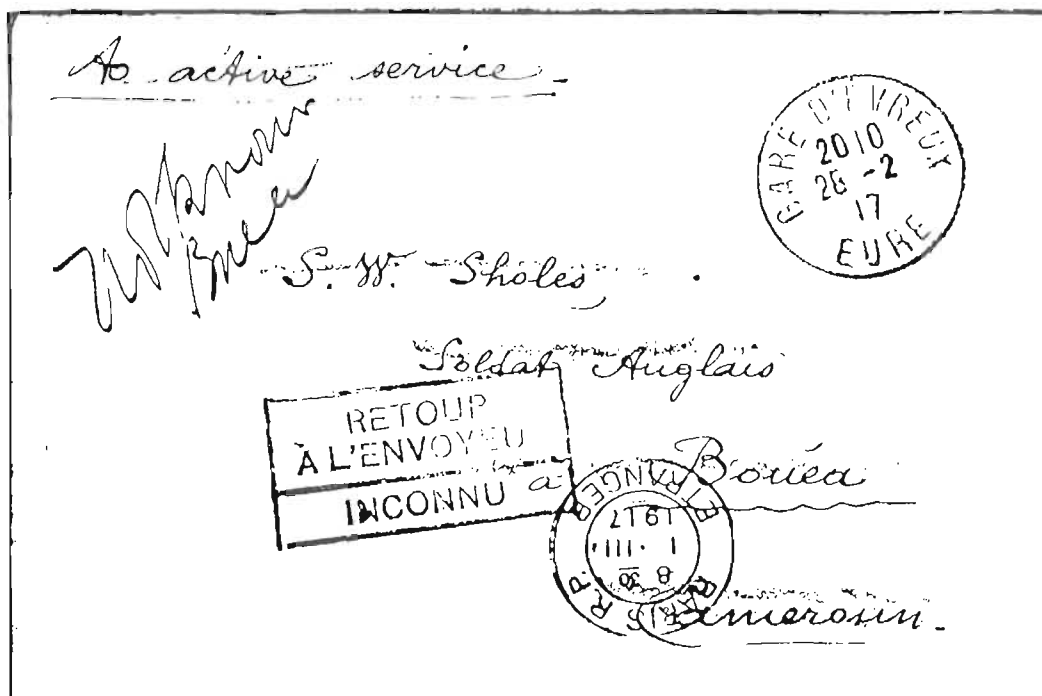
of "7 OC 18". This is the earliest "ZANA" we have recorded in spite of McCaig's note of 1908.

It seems clear therefore that ZANA, not ZAMA, as a place name ever existed and its occurrence was only ever assumed owing to mis-reading strikes of a damaged or faulty ZARIA date stamp.

This fault would appear to have first arisen about 1918 and lasted until early 1922 when, in March of that year, the N. Nigeria c.d.s. type 3 was replaced by the Nigerian date stamp. It can also be stated that, from examples seen, the damaged 'ZANA' date stamp carries a two figure year only.

NIGERIA. 1917 INCONNU

JEREMY MARTIN



This 1917 cover 'On active service' was from a Frenchman at Evreux, France to BUEA in the Cameroons. It was backstamped at DUALA, CAMEROUN and received skeleton cancellations of BUEA BRITISH KAMERUN and

VICTORIA CAMEROONS both 2 MY 17.

Is the violet 'Unknown' cachet on the front (38x19mm) of French or British origin?

PHASED DESPATCH OF NIGERIAN STAMPS

PETER FERNBANK

Cameo of July 1986 contained details of a letter from the De La Rue Correspondence books concerning the problem of the poor adhering qualities of the postage stamps of Nigeria. The Chief Secretary, Lagos, suggested in May 1925 that this might be remedied by Nigeria holding only six to nine months supply, with the Crown Agents maintaining the main stocks.

There was no record of a reply to this suggestion but, in fact, it was subsequently acted upon by the Crown Agents. The CA's Requisition books show that the next three requisitions for Nigerian stamps after this date were despatched in separate instalments as follows:

Requ. 2986			Despatch Dates & quantities (shts)		
Value	Set	Pl. No.	17.8.25 to 31.8.25	1.3.26	25.5.26
½d	240	12&13	1,000	600	392
1d	240	12&13	8,000	4,000	4,248
3d	120	11	2,000	1,000	1,014
4d	120	11	1,000	600	417
6d	120	11	2,600	1,200	1,204
1/-	120	11	3,400	1,400	1,543
10/-	120	11	250	150	98

The DLR Private Day books list four separate invoices for Requ. 2986 in Aug, Sept, Nov and Dec 1925. However, the Crown Agents Plate Issue Register reveals that only one printing of each value was made, all values being printed over the period 23rd July to 11th Aug 1925.

Note: — Plate numbers have been appended from the Plate Issue register.

Requ. 3966			Despatched		
			18.12.25	5.7.26	24.9.26
2/6	120	11	250	125	125

The actual printing of the 500 sheets took place between the 10th and 12th of Dec 1925. The Day book invoice for this requisition, dated 23.12.25, consists of three separate entries of identical quantities to the above, suggesting that they were packed in three separate parcels.

Requ. 4895			Quantity (Shts)		Despatched
Value	Set	Pl. No.			
½d	240	13&16	1,877)	
1d	240	13&16	17,522)	
2d	120	17	4,953)	1/2 Oct 1926
3d	120	17	1,009)	
4d	120	17	2,012)	1/4 Apr 1927
1/-	120	17	5,002)	
2/6	120	17	971)	1/4 Jul 1927
5/-	120	11	950)	
10/-	120	17	210)	
£1	120	17	400)	

The Day Books list four separate invoices for R.4895 in July, Oct, Nov and Jan 1926. The PI register shows that only one printing of each value was made.

After this date the requisitioning of Nigerian stamps appears to have reverted to the previous system and, up to 1935 at least, all values for each requisition were despatched within a few weeks of each other.

The printing details from the Plate Issue register and the invoice dates from the Day books shown above demonstrate the fallacy of considering each Day book invoice as a 'printing', as is sometimes stated.

In the majority of cases there was a single printing only of each value. The printing operation would be followed by perforating, interleaving, inspection, sheet numbering, counting etc. Particularly where quantities were large the printed sheets arrived for packing and invoicing at different times in a number of separate batches. Thus it was quite possible for a single printing to be invoiced in the Day books in several instalments.

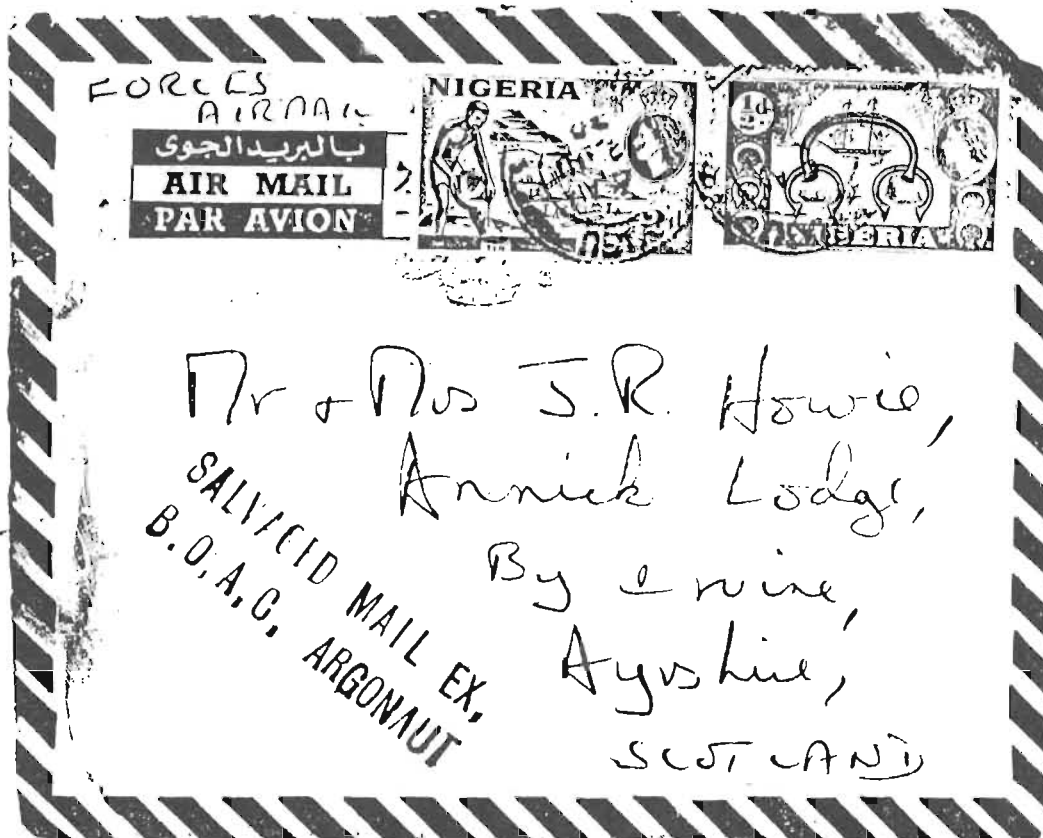
The Plate Issue register alone can confirm the number of 'printings' within a Requisition by reference to the booking in and out of plates and, unfortunately, only one volume for the KG. V era still exists, covering the period 1923-30 only. Outside this period the number of 'printings' deduced from the Day books or the Colonial Stamp books can only be conjectural.

KANO AIR CRASH

JEREMY MARTIN

Mail salvaged from the 1956 crash usually bears one of two cachets. Mail not too badly damaged received a violet 'SALVAGED/ARGONAUT AIR/CRASH KANO' (Nierinck* 560624a). Badly mutilated mail was forwarded

in an official envelope bearing a violet handstamp 'ENCLOSED LETTER SALVAGED FROM / AIR CRASH AT KANO (24-6-56)' — Nierinck 560624b.



The cover illustrated shows a different cachet, also in violet.

**'Recovered Mail 1918-1978' by Henri L. Nierinck.*

NIGERIA 1953-57

NICK HALEWOOD

Before starting to write up my collection of the 1953-57 Nigeria and 1960-61 Southern Cameroons issues I would like to get the answers to some questions and to check that my data are correct. Below are two tables, the first (Table I) shows the CA releases and the respective plate numbers; the dates were gleaned from both 'Stamp Collecting' and 'Gibbons Stamp Monthly', the latter also providing the plate numbers. The second table (Table II) lists the plate blocks I have and their perforation types; I have not determined yet whether the latter help one identify different printings or not. If any member can answer any of the questions under Table I, and/or provide further data for or correct data in both tables, I would be most grateful. I, of course, hope that these tables prove informative for other members, and that they stimulate some interest in these intriguing issues.

TABLE I
1953-57 NIGERIA, 1956 (28 JAN) ROYAL VISIT AND 1960-61 SOUTHERN CAMEROONS

All release dates and plate numbers cited from Gibbons Stamp Monthly, and all stamps printed by Waterlow unless stated otherwise.

	Value	½d	1d	1½d	2d	3d	4d	6d	1/-	2/6d	5/-	10/-	£1	
CA release	notes													
1/9/53	*	1-2/1	1/1	1,2,3	1-2/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	
7/4/54			1/1				1/1							
18/8/54		2/1	1/2		3/3	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	
21/9/55		3/2	2/3		4/4	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1		1/1			
24/1/56								1/1						
28/1/56	RV				5/5									
27/6/56						1/1			1/1					
23/7/56	Grey				N									
18/9/56			2/3					2/1		1/1				
5/12/56		3/2				2/1			1/1		1/1			
25/9/57	B	3/2	2/3		N	2/1	1/1	2/1	1/1		1/1			
13/3/58		4/3	3/4			3/2		2/1	1/1	1/1				
1/9/58	1A		N			N								
7/1/59	@	3/3					1/1	2/1	2/1		1/1	1/1	2/1	
24/3/59	1A		N			N								
29/10/59		?												
1/10/60	SC/a	5/3	N	3	N	4/2	1/1	N	2/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	2/1	
19/9/61	SC/b		2/3		4/4			2/1						

Notes:

- * GSM states ½d & 2d both initially came with 1/1 & 2/1, however, 2d-1/1 not seen by the author
- RV "Royal Visit 1956" overprint
- Grey 2d grey Type A
- N no plate number(s)
- B 2d grey Type B
- 1A 1d rotary printed Die 1A
- @ GSM states 3/3 for ½d, but not seen by the author, could they have meant 5/3?
- ? plate numbers not known; however, if 7/1/59 release is 5/3 (i.e., not 3/3), then this one could also be 5/3
- SC Southern Cameroons overprint
- a 1d, 2d (Type B) & 6d rotary printed, 6d perf.14
- b 1d, 2d (Type B) & 6d DLR printings, 6d perf.13x13½

Reference to the following dates for 2d grey also seen: 27/7/56, ?/1/57, ?/3/57 (Type A), ?/5/57 (Type A), ?/9/57 (Type B) & 1960.

The author has blocks of the Nigeria bi-coloured 2d with 3/2 & 5/5; could they represent colony only releases?

Numbers the author has not seen are entered in italics, i.e., Nigeria: 1/2d - 3/3, 1½d - 3, 2d - 1/1, 1/- - 2/1 & £1 - 2/1, & Southern Cameroons 6d - N.

Note Southern Cameroons 3d (1/10/60) is a Waterlow (4/2) not a rotary printing.

Could the Southern Cameroons 6d (1/10/60) not have been a rotary but a Waterlow printing? No obviously rotary printed 6d has been seen by the author.

TABLE II

1953-57 NIGERIA, 1956 (28 JAN) ROYAL VISIT AND 1960-61 SOUTHERN CAMEROONS

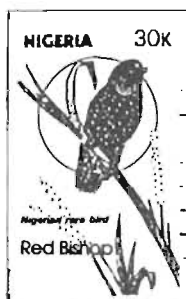
VALUE	PERF PLATE #s	IE(1)	PP	IP	E(1)I	PI	PE(1)
½d	1/1	+	+				
	2/1		+			+	
	3/2				+	+	
	4/3				+	+	
	5/3					+ SC	
1d	1/1	+		+			
	1/2			+			
	2/3				+	+	
	3/4					+	
DLR	2/3		+ SC				
1½d	1		+	+			
	2		+				
	3		+ SC				
2d	2/1	+		+			
	3/2				+	+	
	3/3				+	+	
	4/4				+		
	5/5				+ RVisit	+	+
Grey DLR	4/4					+ SC	
3d	1/1	+		+			+
	2/1	+					
	3/2		+				+
	4/2						+ SC
4d	1/1	+		+ Nig/SC			
6d	1/1		+			+	
	2/1		+ Nig/SC				+
DLR	2/1			+ SC			
1/-	1/1	+	+	+			+
	2/1						+ SC
2/6d	1/1	+					+ SC
5/-	1/1	+ Nig/SC					
10/-	1/1	+ SC		+			
£1	1/1	+					
	2/1			+ SC			

+ Nigeria only
 + SC Southern Cameroons only
 + Nig/SC Nigeria and Southern Cameroons
 + RVisit "Royal Visit 1956" overprint

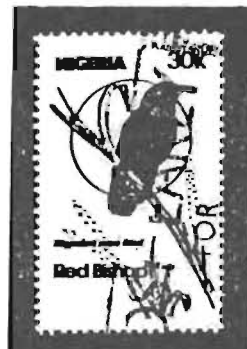
	right margin	bottom margin
IE(1)	imperforate	one extension hole
PP	perforated through	perforated through
IP	imperforate	perforated through
E(1)I	one extension hole	imperforate
PI	perforated through	imperforate
PE(1)	perforated through	one extension hole

NIGERIA 30K 1984 BIRDS SET

N. M. JONES



Normal



Doubling

Don Van Reken has shown me the above example of a doubling of the black colour on the 30K value of the Nigerian 'Birds' issue of 1984.

The difference from the normal stamp is quite noticeable. Has any other member seen a copy?

“THE POSTMARKS OF SIERRA LEONE 1854-1961” BY F. L. WALTON

Frank Walton, one of our members, has produced an excellent addition to West African philatelic literature. Your editor has seen a resumé and finds the detail amazing.

There are chapters on every aspect and each postmark or cachet is then dealt with in detail. First and last recorded

dates are given as well as a valuation guide. It is profusely and clearly illustrated. Highly recommended.

Available from Jack Ince. Details elsewhere in this Cameo.

J.J.M.

SIERRA LEONE. REPLY COUPON USED AS POSTAGE

PAUL STYLLIS

In 1925 an International Reply Coupon was sent to the firm of Gallizia Brothers in Sierra Leone from Biasca in Switzerland.

In replying, in January 1926, Gallizia Brothers attached the Reply Coupon to their envelope. The Coupon was date-

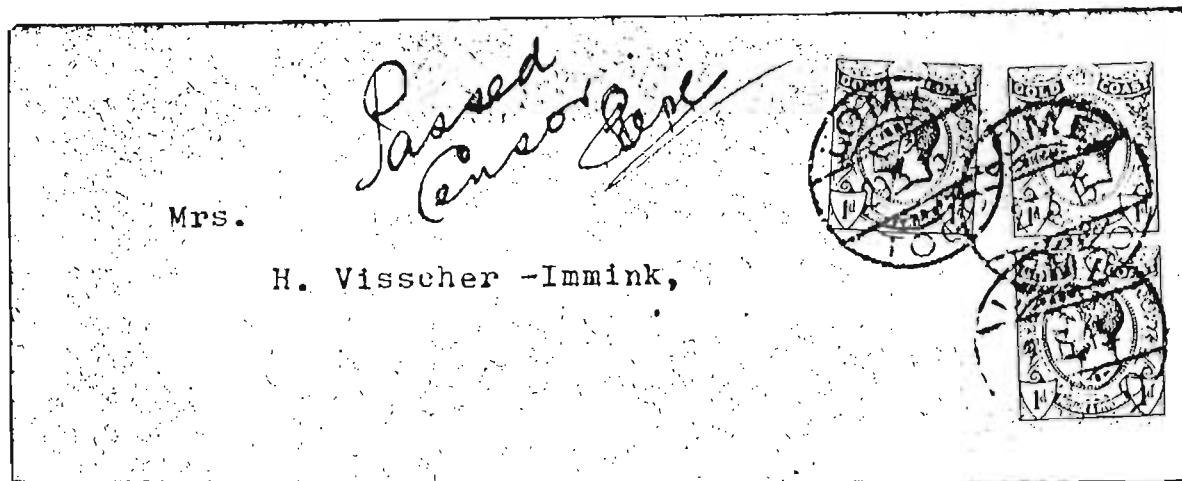
stamped at KAMBIA, as was the envelope, on January 2nd, and backstamped at FREETOWN on the 6th. It arrived safely at BIASCA on the 18th.

An unusual usage indeed.



CENSORSHIP IN TOGO W.W.I

JEREMY MARTIN



The earliest recorded used of the violet cachet 'Passed by Censor/at/Lome (Togo)' is April 14th 1915. The above illustration shows a cover to Holland with a manuscript 'Passed Censor' with initials. The stamps were

postmarked at Lome on 29.3.15.

If the censoring was carried out in Togo, this would fit in with the use in April 1915 of the cachet. Have members seen any other examples?



AUCTIONEERS OF FINE STAMPS,
COLLECTIONS, POSTAL HISTORY
AND ALL TYPES OF PHILATELIC MATERIAL

FOR OVER THIRTY
FIVE YEARS
AUCTIONEERS OF -

RARE STAMPS,
POSTAL HISTORY,
COLLECTIONS &
PHILATELIC LITERATURE

WEST AFRICAN Stamps and Postal History are usually an important section in most of our sales. If you have material to sell contact Geoffrey Manton, Frank Laycock or James Grimwood-Taylor, who are constantly visiting all parts of the country while our Southern Representative Mr. Kenneth F. Chapman may be contacted on Telephone No. 049-161-2681.

SITWELL STREET, DERBY DE1 2JP.
TELEPHONE: (0332) 46753
FAX: (0332) 294440: FAX

**NO BUYERS PREMIUM
AT DERBY**

SIERRA LEONE & GOLD COAST



1901 registered envelope from Falaba.

Estimate £300

Auction:

POSTAL HISTORY — including a collection of Sierra Leone and Gold Coast

21st February, Bournemouth

Enquiries:

Charles Leonard or David Cornelius (0202) 295711

Catalogue: £5, available in January

39 Poole Hill,
Bournemouth,
BH2 5PX

Tel: (0202) 295711
Fax: (0202) 296760

8 King Street,
St. James's,
London SW1Y 6QT
Tel: (071) 839 4034
Fax: (071) 839 1611



CHRISTIE'S
ROBSON LOWE

GAMBIA 1922 Elephant and Palm issue — an attractive group of die proofs from our stock. Prices on request.



Head Die — black



Progressive Die in blue



*Master Die
sepia & bright blue*



Black & dark blue



Crimson & green

RITCHIE BODILY

72 FITZJOHNS AVENUE, LONDON NW3 5LS
Telephone: 071-435 8425 Fax: 071-794 8682

**THE GOLD COAST — THE POST OFFICES / AGENCIES
AND THEIR CANCELLATIONS 1875 - 1957**

M. T. MACKIN

NEW REVISED & ENLARGED EDITION 187 PAGES

AVAILABLE NOW FROM LIBRARIAN

PRICE £10 TO MEMBERS

PLUS POSTAGE AND PACKING

Do you collect West Africa Postal History?

IF SO WE MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU

Our stocks consist of British and German Colonies Postal History. If you would care to inform us of your collecting interests, we would be delighted to send you photocopies of any relative items we obtain.

Besides being members of the W.A.S.C. we are members of P.T.S. (London)

CHRIS RAINEY 5 KELLY ROAD, BOWERS GIFFORD
BASILDON, ESSEX SS13 2HL, U.K.

TELEPHONE BASILDON (0268) 726687

FAX (0268) 590781

Enfield Stamp Auctions

119 Chase Side, Enfield

Middx. EN2 6NN

Phone: 081-367 2653 Fax: 081-342 0007

ALL WORLD POSTAL AUCTION

Full Colour Catalogue with 4,000 approx Lots

SIX SALES PER ANNUM

FREE ON REQUEST

Lots on view at:

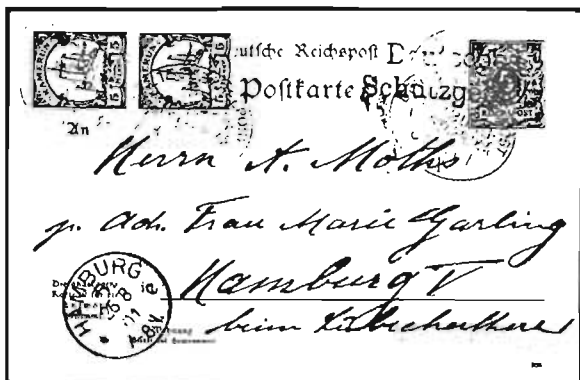
ENFIELD STAMP SHOP

An "Old Fashioned" Stamp Shop

situated in North London

Open: Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

GERMAN COLONIES – CAMEROONS



1897 5 Pf. Postal Stationery Post Card with additional 1900 5 Pf. "Yacht" pair, all cancelled with oval "DEUTSCHE SEEPOST / LINIE / HAMBURG - WEST AFRIKA 8.8.01", plus additional "Deutsches Schutzgebiet" handstamp applied on board ship.

Enquiries invited for similar specialised items from all Countries of the World.



Argyll Etkin Limited



LEADING BUYERS — RECOGNISED VALUERS

48 CONDUIT STREET, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON W1R 9FB
 Telephone: 071-437 7800 (6 lines) Fax: 071-434 1060



WE CARRY STOCKS OF:

BRITISH WEST AFRICA

THE GAMBIA · GOLD COAST · LAGOS · NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE
 NIGERIA · NORTHERN NIGERIA & SOUTHERN NIGERIA · SIERRA LEONE

Quality British West African Stamps at Extremely Competitive Prices

★ PLUS FREE GIFT OF STAMPS WITH FIRST ORDER ★

★ WANTS LISTS INVITED ★

FREE LIST APPLICATION FORM

SIGNATURE

NAME (in block capitals)

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

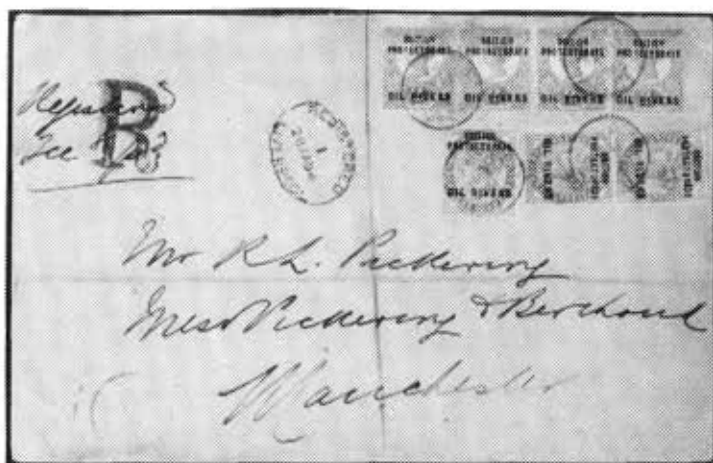
Tick country of interest: Gambia Gold Coast Nigeria Sierra Leone

SEND TO **WIMBLEDON PHILATELIC AGENCY**

108 Clonmore Street, Southfields, London SW18 5HB



Auctions of stamps and covers nearly every Thursday with many opportunities for the collector of postal history and stamps of West Africa.



Buying and selling information is available from David Boyd on 071-629 1877. We are pleased to record your specialised collecting interests and in the event of an important section coming for sale, we will send you a catalogue.

Just contact us for a specimen auction catalogue and details of how to receive catalogues regularly.

101 New Bond Street, London W1Y 0AS.

LONDON · PARIS · NEW YORK · GENEVA · BRUSSELS · ZURICH · THE HAGUE
DÜSSELDORF · STOCKHOLM

Twenty nine salerooms throughout the United Kingdom. Members of the Society of Fine Art Auctioneers.