

CAMEO



The Journal of the West Africa Study Circle



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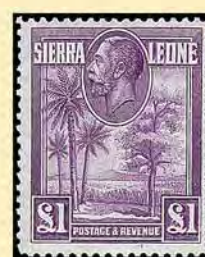
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Front Cover

Nigel Gooch has recently shown Frank Walton the cover illustrated in reduced size on the front of this *Cameo*.

It was sent from Kormanchah, Persia to Gold Coast in October 1927, endorsed *via Baghdad* and *Via Liverpool*, by surface mail. It is an Advice of Receipt (AR) cover, to which a card had been attached with a pin on the outward journey, franked with the AR fee paid in Persian adhesives. That card should have been postmarked at Saltpond post office, then returned to Kormanchah.

Such AR return cards rarely survive.

AR is a way that adhesives of one country can be found validly postmarked in another.

Editorial

This is a reminder that the editors have invited members to submit some longer articles for a special edition of *Cameo*, whole number 100, which is due to be published in January 2017. So far, silence!

Congratulations are due to Colin Tabeart who has been awarded the Forces Postal History Society "Harry Cope Memorial Award for Literature" for 2015 for his book on West Africa Mail Packets. We have loaded onto our website a comprehensive four-page review of this book, written by Richard Winter.

Congratulations are also due to Nigerian member, Edet ("Eddy") Akpan, on his appointment as Nigeria's National Philatelic President, conferred in March this year at an event to inaugurate the Lagos Stamp Club. NIPOST has appointed a GM-Philately, Mrs Folake Oladapo, and Eddy has been instrumental in setting up stamp clubs in Calabar and Jos, with support from her and NIPOST.

A few prominent Nigerians have been collectors for many years (for example General Gowon) but philately is now a widening interest in Nigeria. By contrast, there is a severe decline in use of the postal network and local post offices in Nigeria, under competition from international parcel couriers, e-mails, text and electronic payments. Eddy has recently sent me an interesting article from a Nigerian newspaper discussing whether NIPOST has any future either in public or private ownership, which I hope we can publish in full in the next *Cameo*.

**The next issue will be edited by Barry, datelined October 2016,
and the copy deadline is 29 August
Please note Barry's change of e-mail address shown on the index page**



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.

Scope

The West Africa Study Circle studies the postage stamps and postal history of The Gambia, Gold Coast/Ghana, the Nigerias, Sierra Leone, Cameroons & 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.

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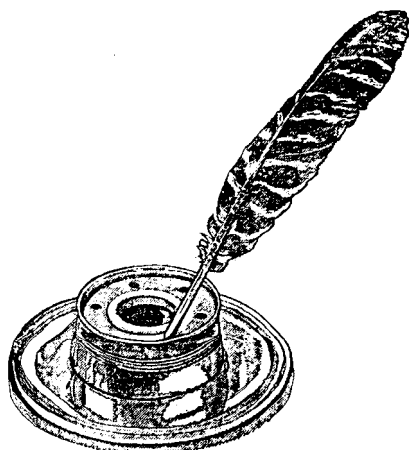
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Letters to the Editor

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



Cameroons Stillborn issue — an apology

Dear Barry and Rob,
In my article in the October 2015 issue of *Cameo*, pages 121-127, about the Stillborn issue of Cameroon, I made the egregious mistake of not seeking prior approval from Bob Maddocks nor, at the very least, prominently acknowledging that *all* the introductory and background material was taken – indeed plagiarised – from his fine work, *The Postal Arrangements of the Anglo-French Cameroons Expeditionary Force 1914-1916*, published in 1996. Bob had conducted painstaking original research at the Public Record Office, Kew and the information he presented in his book was copyrighted. I also failed to acknowledge that it was Bob himself who coined the term “Stillborn” for this issue. Through this letter, I want to set the record straight and to offer my sincere public apology to Bob for my unfortunate actions.

Marty Bratzel, Windsor, Ont, Canada



Gold Coast QV Three Pence damaged R

Dear Rob,
I refer to Jeremy Martin's article in *Cameo* volume 17 no 1, page 21.
I have checked my collection and can confirm that I have the same lower pane strip from plate 1, with the nicked frame on stamp 58. The 'R' in 'Three' is normal too. I agree that this was from an earlier printing, which was fixed for plate 2. I also have a complete pane of plate 2, with no nick of course, and again a normal 'R'

Philip Levine, Kenmore, Australia



Sierra Leone Wrappers

Dear Rob,
I enjoyed Dr. John Courtis's article on Sierra Leone private wrappers (*Cameo* Vol 17, no 1, Jan 2016, pp43 - 48) and hope to contribute a little more information.

The 2c franking for the “Sierra Leone Daily Mail” wrapper is correct for internal printed matter after 4 August 1964. I believe the OSLGS lettering on the Gazette wrapper stands for On Sierra Leone Government Service. This would entitle it to free postage within Sierra Leone (for example to the Belgian Consulate in Freetown) but not to Sweden, for which the foreign printed matter rate would apply. This was 3c per 2 oz. from 4 August 1964, but postal rates were increased on 4 December 1967, making the 5c franking in 1970 plausible. Unfortunately the Gazette notice for the 1967 increases does not specify the new printed matter rates.

The latest recorded date for the Paid at Sherbro postmark (Walton 018.01) is currently 24 December 1886 (Walton et al, *The Postmarks of Sierra Leone 1854-1961*, 2nd edition)

Philip Quirk, Birmingham, UK

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

- Airmails – Barbara Priddy
- Ascension – Bernard Hughes
- Biafra – Tony Plumbe
- Cameroons – Marty Bratzel
- Gambia – Oliver Andrew
- Ghana – Ian Anderson
- Gold Coast – Peter Duggan
- Maritime – John Hossack
- 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
- Tristan da Cunha - Richard Moss

Publications Committee Chairman is Rob May

Censor Marks of the Gold Coast Regiment

Dear editors.

I have some sympathy for Robert Nelson's view that censor marks of the Gold Coast Regiment have a place in our records.

The Frafra family seem to have been particularly active in 'writing home' although I suspect the recipients were illiterate as the letters are sent c/o the District Commissioner who I can imagine reading them to the addressees. They are also all registered so could the servicemen have been sending money home?

My first illustration is cancelled by FPO 45, a mark allocated to the Gold Coast, and so this presumably would qualify as a Gold Coast cover. Posted in 1942 possibly before the soldier was sent abroad.

However, the second is posted at FPO 245 (Middle East Forces) in Egypt in 1946. Although this might be considered North African postal history, I believe that it fits firmly in my Gold Coast military material.

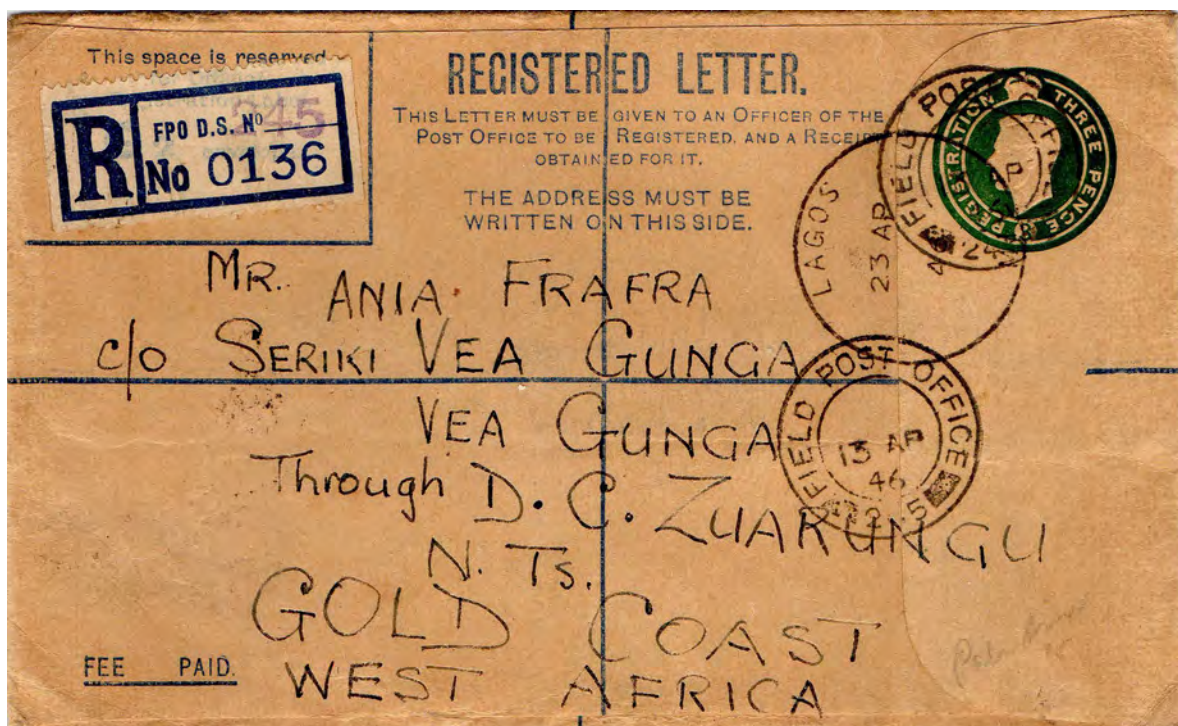
Just my opinion.

Ian Anderson
Edinburgh



Registered internal cover addressed to Lekpena Frafra, the Chief of Tongo, posted at FPO 45 on 9 OC 42. back-stamped Registered Kumasi 10 OC 42, Registered Tamale 13 OC 42 and Bolgatanga 15 OC 42. The use of GB stamps on service personnel mail was authorised.

The sender was Private no. 21985 Wientang Frafra, presumably a son or nephew.



Inward registered cover sent from FPO245 in Egypt on 13 AP 46. Sender's address is Ankravin Frafra, 223 Group, Middle East Forces. Received Lagos 23 AP 46, Cape Coast 23 AP 1946 and Bolgatanga 3 MY 46.

Cameroons Still born Issue

Dear Rob

I refer to the interesting article by Marty Bratzel in the October 2015 issue of *Cameo*, pages 121-127, about a World War I Stillborn issue of Cameroon, and would like to add a comment where he refers to contemporary overprinted stamps of Togo. At the top of page 127 two overprinted Togo yacht stamps are followed by the words "*Lastly as an observation Togo yacht stamps were overprinted in late 1914 and early 1915 in three lines of...*"

The following paragraph "*Did any stamps with genuine overprints survive*" must, of course, refer to the Cameroons overprints, the subject of his article, because the two Togo stamps he has illustrated are certainly genuine and, if they were not, I would have bought many expensive "pigs in a poke"! His figure 3 are two stamps from different printings, both of French issue. The 10pf value is from the Boxing Day 1914 find at Sansane-Mangu in the far north of the country, whilst the mint 20pf stamp is from the find at Kamina which was released for use on 8 October 1914, after overprinting. Both finds were divided equally between the British and French, but it is not known exactly when, in January 1915, the much smaller Kamina find was released by either contingent.

John Mayne
Bridgnorth

The start of the Great War in Togo

Dear Rob

I attended the presentation by Chris Jackson and Malcolm Nickolls at Oxford last September and have read their subsequent booklet (Ref. 1) with interest. I can add more depth to their references to Lieutenant Colonel Bryant and to the strategic significance of the Kamina wireless transmitter.

On their page 1 they state "The main character... is Lieutenant Colonel Bryant". The photograph illustrated is from Greenwood's book (ref 2) which verifies that his rank was Lt Col. when the photograph was taken. However, Brig. Gen. F.J. Moberly states (ref 3) "*By 31 July Captain Bryant had come to certain decisions re the further military action to be taken*". On 11 August he

was still a Captain, then on 12 August he was described as Lt. Col. I suggest the reason for his rapid two-fold promotion was to place him in rank higher than the French Commanding Officer, Major Maroix. On that same day the first shot was fired so we can say that when he initiated local hostilities beyond his brief he was a Captain but when action broke out his rank was Lt. Colonel!

Commanding Officer Colonel de B. Rose, the British governor of Gold Coast, Sir Hugh Clifford, and the German Governor of Togo, Count von Mecklenberg, were all away on leave at that time. Only Sir Hugh Clifford returned to his posting; on the day after the German surrender of Togo. Bryant was fortunate in that timing: there are suggestions that had events turned out differently he might have been cashiered.

The Kamina wireless transmitter was the largest in the world, not just outside Europe. Yet it was erected without attention being drawn to it; the French, nearer neighbours than the British, were unaware of it. I recently acquired a German Togo postal stationery card from Kamina dated 11 November 1911 at the start of its construction. The mast went live in June 1914; I do not have the exact date. Chris stated that it linked Germany to the German colonies south of the equator such as DSWA, but its scope was greater than that. It enabled communication with German East Africa, Kamerun and Liberia, where Germany also controlled trans-Atlantic sub-sea telegraphic cables. These facts add to the significance of the radio station itself and reinforce the need for it to be destroyed quickly, not least to protect Allied shipping in the Indian and Atlantic oceans whose movements could otherwise be passed directly to Berlin. It certainly was a priority target.

John Mayne
Bridgnorth

References

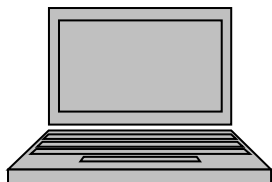
1. Jackson C. & Nickolls M., *The Start of the Great War in West Africa, and its Philatelic Consequences*, self-published, 2015.
2. Greenwood Charles H., *Togo: the Stamps of the British and French Occupations*. Field, London 1916
3. Moberly, Brig. Gen. F.J., *Military Operations Togoland and the Cameroons, 1914-16*, Imperial War Museum, London, 1995

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Then visit the West Africa Study Circle Web Site at: <http://www.wasc.org.uk>
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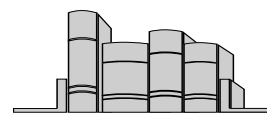
There are now direct links to our advertisers and other websites

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



Sources

**Views expressed by reviewers are their own
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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.

 *Aerogrammes of Nigeria 1948 to 2000* by Ray Harris, based on original work by Graeme Murray; 72 page monograph, fully illustrated in colour; to be published February 2016 by WASC, card covers, colour illustrations, ISBN 978-1-905647-18-7, price £16.50 plus P&P.

Review by Rob May

Some years ago Jerry Kasper proposed that he would co-ordinate the creation of an on-line catalogue of the world's air letters and aerogrammes if specialists in each nation's philately were willing to compile their local lists. WASC members have compiled lists for Gold Coast and Sierra Leone and this 72 page booklet is the definitive listing for Nigeria, to the best of our present knowledge.

In West Africa, air letters originated during the Second World War as one of several options for lightweight air mail correspondence to and from service personnel writing between the UK and all overseas theatres. Air letters proved sufficiently popular for post-war correspondents to want to continue to use civilian versions. So, in late 1948, stamp imprinted air letters were introduced in Nigeria for overseas mail, followed in 1949 by domestic air letters.

Until about 1967 all Nigerian aerogrammes were printed in the UK by Waterlow, Bradbury Wilkinson Dickinson, McCorquodale and Harrison; for which records of numbers printed and dates are available. After 1967 printing was undertaken in Nigeria by NSP&M Ltd; for which printing records are not available and Ray has compiled a list of the known printings as evidenced by mint and used aerogrammes and cut-outs that have become available to him and other WASC members.

The recent aerogrammes are certainly the scarcest because use of aerogrammes by Nigerians has declined since decimalisation. The last known re-design was the N20 antelopes design of 1994, but stocks of that version and some earlier ones continued on sale, re-denominated using a range of rubber hand-stamps. There are probably more of those to be found but as much as possible of what is known about Nigerian aerogrammes has now been documented in this very well researched monograph.



Nigeria 1953-1959 Issues; Request for Information

Larry Hughes

Larry Hughes requests that any member with access to plate blocks or sheets of the Nigeria 1953-1959 QEII issues (particularly SG 69-81) provide him with information on marginal perforation variants for a potential *Cameo* article. The first choice is to receive jpg or tif scans via email (if not the full sheet, at least the bottom right and top left corner block positions). His second choice, if scans are inconvenient, is to receive a short description of the block or sheet with the following information:

- 1 plate numbers
- 2 sheet number
- 3 the extent of perforation in the margins (none, partial, or full) for the right, bottom, left, and top margins
- 4 the postmark date if the block was used postally

Many thanks for any information. Larry can be reached at lhughes@ensafe.com.

Troubles at the Lagos Post Office in 1901: Stolen Money, Staff Wounding and Robbery

Dr. Simon Heap

In two previous issues of *Cameo* [14(1), pp13-14 and 15(1), pp 31-32—refs 8 & 9] I have described the life of Lagos Postmaster George Cole and his death in 1901, but now I have found some more information about the Postal department's poor state and a huge robbery which hit the department just weeks before Cole's demise.

The first incident happened on Monday afternoon of 3rd June when J.S. Coker, a messenger in the Post Office with about nine months' service, stabbed Mr Peter Punshon Williams, the Money Order Clerk of the same department, "in the back with a sharp knife inflicting a very serious wound" (Ref. 1).

The *Lagos Standard* newspaper reported that:

It is stated that Mr Williams did not provoke the boy Coker but it would appear that there has grown out of the money stolen bad blood, there is no doubt the department requires some weeding, at least, for the present till the stolen money is found or the case disposed of. (Ref 2)

So some money had already been stolen when the second incident occurred on the morning of Monday 1st July 1901. Two Post Office clerks were given bags of money to take to the Bank of British West Africa to pay into the Government account. On reaching the bank, one of the bags said to contain £197 in gold became missing from the table where the bags were placed and the missing bag could not be traced. (Ref. 3)

The Commissioner of Police offered a reward of £10 for information that would lead to the discovery of the thief or thieves. A week later, it was reported that "The Government money... has not been discovered but the police are busy tracing the thief and during the last week more houses than one of the Post Office employees were searched" (Ref. 4).

The *Lagos Standard* commented that:

This is not the first time that money bags have been stolen from people who go to pay or receive pay at the Bank. One would have thought that, considering the interests of the Government, in the institution a detective or plain clothes police would have been appointed to that place before now. (Ref. 5)

A month later, it noted that "All sorts of rumour is afloat with reference to the money of the Post Office stolen from the Bank and this is a curious commentary upon the ability of the Police Department." (Ref 6) In early 1902, in its look back on the year just gone, the newspaper summed it up as, "The robbery at the Post Office by which the sum of £197 was spirited away in broad daylight, and of which there has been no trace up to the present moment..." (Ref 7)

References

1. 'News, notes and comments', *Lagos Standard*, 5 June 1901, p2
2. 'News, notes and comments', *Lagos Standard*, 5 June 1901, p2
3. 'Epitome of news', *Lagos Weekly Record*, 6 July 1901, p3
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7. '1901 Retrospect no. 2', *Lagos Standard*, 8 January 1902 p3
8. Heap S., "Postmaster George Cole and the Reorganisation of the Lagos Post Office 1901", *Cameo*, Volume 14 pp13-14, WASC, January 2013
9. Heap S., "The obituary of Lagos Postmaster George Josephus Cole", *Cameo*, Volume 15 pp 31-32, WASC, January 2014



1915 Occupation of Kamerun - The Stillborn Stamp Issue

Bob Maddocks

The matter of the stillborn Anglo-French occupation of Kamerun stamp issue of 1915 was first brought to serious account in my book on the C.E.F.'s postal arrangements published in 1996 (Ref. 1). This was as a result of my personal and original research of official contemporary records held in the National Archives at Kew. No traces were, however, to be found there of any of the said stamps themselves.

In *Cameo* Volume 16, Number 3 of October 2015 Marty Bratzel writes as having since succeeded in tracking down the present whereabouts of some 21 examples of these overprinted stamps, albeit of questionable origin. They consist of 8 different pfennig values of the German Kamerun yacht stamps said to have been seized by the French in Northern Kamerun and overprinted by their colonial administration in Brazzaville. The overprint consisted of three lines in black and in small italics reading *Corps/ expéditionnaire/Franco-Anglais*; there was no change to the original German currency.

These stamps, which have not been catalogued, had only been briefly mentioned in passing in various philatelic literature I had researched dating to 1916 and 1923 before coming to prominence with any certainty in 1959. In April of that year a set of 8 pfennig values came up for auction, without illustrations, by Robson Lowe from the collection of the then Marquess of Bute. It is not known how he acquired it. Thereafter its fate also has remained unknown.

The first and so far only official documentation, which makes specific mention of the stillborn stamps, was found by my research in an exchange of correspondence in 1916 between General Dobell, one-time Allied Commander of the C.E.F., and General Aymerich, his French successor, when he took charge of the French sphere of Occupied Kamerun, following the territory's partition between the Allies on 1 April 1916. General Aymerich had cause to question Dobell on the fate of the stamps sent to him from Brazzaville when he was administering Duala as supremo. Dobell replied that the entire stock he had been supplied with had not been taken into use and was in fact destroyed. There the matter has since rested.

What is perplexing in Bratzel's article is his mention of a total of 21 such overprinted stillborns as having since been recorded by him as being in the hands of three different owners, yet none of them had apparently come across a complete set of 8 values as was first catalogued by Robson Lowe in the Bute sale of 19 April 1959. Each of the named collectors is attributed as possessing 7 only of the values (not detailed but not matching) and said to be in less than pristine condition. This seems to be a strange occurrence! Is therefore the original "Bute" set of 8 as auctioned without qualification, and thus, no doubt, given the standing of their owner, in pristine condition, still at large in the philatelic world? If so, would it be the sole authentic survivor of what I described as the stillborn issue, the genuine object of Dobell's displeasure?

Furthermore is this mentioned trio of disparate sets of 7 "johnnies-come-lately" indeed forgeries as now suggested? Putative forgeries are no doubt a separate mystique if not a mischief to the stamps originally described in the "Bute" collection. Alternatively, given the unresolved discrepancy in the numbers said to have been overprinted at Brazzaville (18,190) and those received at Duala (13,000) how many may have been used for trial overprinting and/or perhaps lost to opportune souveniring?

Just to throw another tidbit into this melting pot; I can add yet a further casual comment by authors D. Armstrong and C. Greenwood in their undated booklet *War Stamps of the Allies 1914-1920* under "Cameroons Anglo-French Occupation": - *Rumour has it that a small supply of Dahomey postage stamps were originally overprinted for use by the French Military Authorities in the Cameroons but was withheld from circulation and finally destroyed in favour of Gabon, which were substituted at the last moment.*

Indeed as one contemporary philatelic writer added, *Where will it all end?*

Reference

- 1 Maddocks R.J., *The Postal Arrangements of the Anglo-French Cameroons Expeditionary Force 1914-1916*, published by the author 1996, ISBN 0 9529487 02

China to West Africa Port Bell-Entebbe 1942

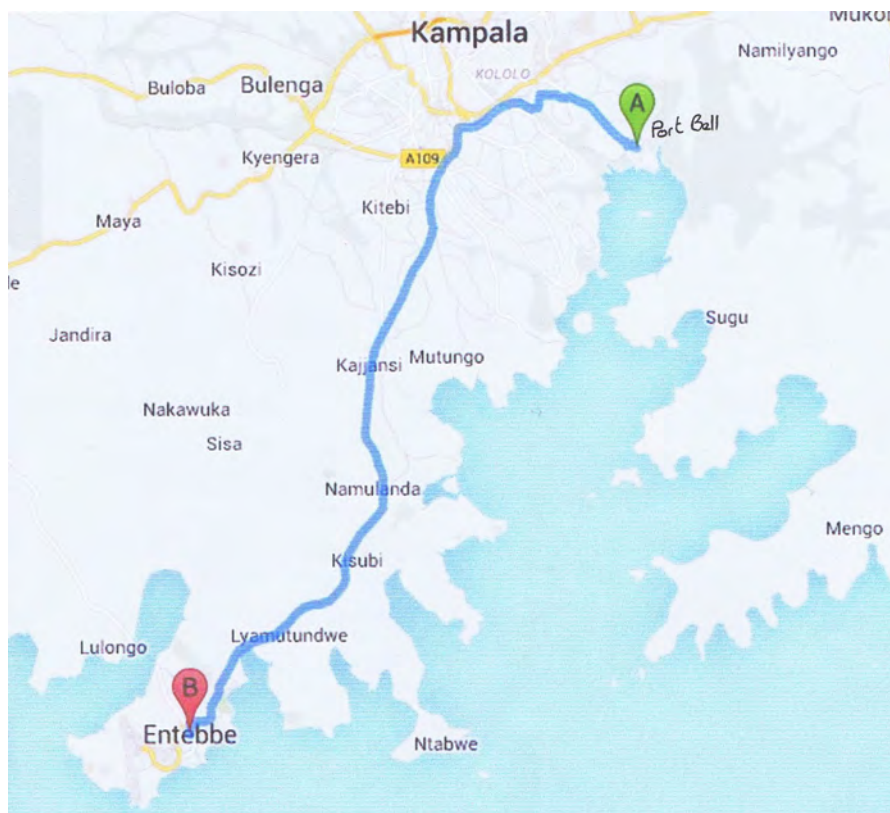
The route that never was?

John Wilson

In an article (Ref. 1) written in 2006 and published in January 2007, I addressed the question of airmail from China to the West (USA and Europe) via Leopoldville or Lagos carrying an endorsement, usually handwritten, reading:

“By airmail, China, Calcutta, Cairo and Port Bell-Entebbe. By South African Airways to Leopoldville, thence by P.A.A. to destination”.

Ten years on we have learned much more about wartime airmail operations from files held in the UK National Archive, in the Richter Library at the University of Miami and at the British Airways archive held at Heathrow. It is time to readdress the question(s) of “*Port Bell-Entebbe*” using this new information. The unusual positioning of a hyphen is taken to indicate that BOAC carriage ended at Port Bell, mail then being transferred by surface to the airfield at Entebbe some 45km away for connection to South African Airways land aircraft.



Port Bell to Entebbe, Uganda
Copyright Google Maps

The original topic was raised by Frank Walton who remarked on a short-lived Chinese rate and route for airmail destined for the BOAC flights to Cairo and West Africa taking effect on 30 June 1942. This was the route “*Port Bell-Entebbe*”. Airmail to the United States using this route would be charged an air fee of \$9.50 (Chinese dollars) to addresses in the United States and \$12.50 to UK and Europe in addition to the surface and registration fees.

According to Sieh & Blackburn (Ref. 2), pre-empted by the same writers in their ref. 3, the route was “*Stopped*” on or by 20 July 1942. Despite this, covers exist with dates long after July 1942 but still carrying the “*Port Bell-Entebbe*” endorsement and a wide variety of frankings not corresponding to the listed rates for this route. Here is the cover that started the questions.



Figure 1: China to USA cancelled 20 July 1942. Franking \$9.50 should be \$10.50 for route. Possible miscalculation omitting the \$1 surface fee. No missing adhesives.

Here is a later cover with the same endorsement but a completely different rate:



Figure 2: China to UK cancelled 24 September 1942. Franking \$13.70 should be \$14.50 for Port Bell route. Franking corresponds to published route Cairo-Khartoum-Lagos.

In 1942 there were four airmail routes from Cairo to West Africa, and in my article (Ref. 1) I designated these "Cairo 1 to 4" as follows:

Cairo 1 was the BOAC S23 flying boat route which ran Cairo - Wadi Halfa - Khartoum - Malakal - Juba - Port Bell - Butiaba - Stanleyville - Coquilhatville - Leopoldville - Pointe Noire - Libreville - Lagos. We know from BOAC movement records that this was a separate service from the "Horseshoe" service Cairo - Durban, running on different days. Previous assumptions that mail may have been transferred at Port Bell were incorrect.

Cairo 2 was a BOAC service using Lockheed “Lodestar” and De Havilland “Flamingo” land planes on the route Cairo - Wadi Halfa - Khartoum - El Obeid - El Fasher - El Geneina - Fort Lamy - Maiduguri - Kano - Kaduna - Oshogbo - Lagos - Accra - Takoradi.

Cairo 3 was a similar service using the same types of aircraft but routed Cairo - Wadi Halfa - Khartoum - El Fasher - El Geneina - Fort Lamy - Maiduguri - Kano - Lagos, missing out the call at El Obeid and the intermediate calls within Nigeria.

Cairo 4 was operated by SABENA land planes under contract to BOAC and ran Cairo - Wadi Halfa - Khartoum - Malakal - Juba - Stanleyville - Libenge - Bangui - Douala - Lagos - Takoradi, operating on a twice-weekly basis until 10 July 1942 when it was re-routed via Entebbe and Accra and ran once weekly. Calls at Entebbe were “*optional*” on southbound flights from 11 July to 2 November. (Ref. 4)

First, the “via Leopoldville” question. In the last ten years it has become an incontrovertible truth that the so-called “FAM-22” flights by Pan American Airways from Miami to Leopoldville were actually military in nature, and the idea of a civil airmail service was a sham, designed as a cover story. Many postal authorities were successfully deceived by this story and made tentative plans for routing civil airmails through this route. The Chinese were not alone in being misled by the deception, and constructed a route based on connection at Leopoldville. Records show that the Pan American Route 6 flights into Leopoldville were irregular and unreliable, and the real hub of operations was at Lagos. “*Jane’s All the World’s Aircraft 1942*” (Ref. 7) under the heading of “Civil Aviation, Nigeria” records:

“Pan American Airways. The flying boat service from Miami to Leopoldville opened in 1941 was changed during 1942 to terminate at Lagos”.

In the period under consideration there was only one flight from Miami to Leopoldville, leaving New York on 28 May under the instruction:

“In compliance with Secret Contract No. DA-W535 AC-415....airplane N 18612 will proceed to Natal after fulfilling her mission to Leopoldville...and will then shuttle between Natal and Lagos, making as many trips as consistent with safe operation and maintenance of this aircraft before returning to New York for overhaul”.

During 1942 and for most of the remaining war years, the transfer hub for civil airmail was at Lagos, not at Leopoldville. This makes this particular Chinese routing instruction inaccurate, to say the least, and it is interesting that all other routing instructions on Chinese airmail typically read: “*By CNAC to Calcutta. By BOAC to Lagos and thence by PAA to destination*” or similar wording. Always to Lagos and no mention of Leopoldville.

It is clear from the map at figure 3 that the quickest route from Cairo to Lagos was by “Cairo 2” and “Cairo 3”. The flight distance from Khartoum to Lagos by these routes was 5258km (3286 miles) whereas Khartoum to Lagos by the flying boat route “Cairo 1” was 7227km (4517 miles). Flying time on “Cairo 1” was more than three days (from BOAC movement charts), whilst the trans-Sahara routes took less than half this time due to the shorter distance and faster aircraft. The large “loop” taken by “Cairo 1” between Uganda and Leopoldville was due to the need for the flying boats to follow the River Congo. Why on earth would airmail from Cairo to Lagos be routed “*Port Bell-Entebbe*”? Here is the probable reason.

The official CAA Report (Ref. 4) Appendix B tells us that both “Cairo 1” and “Cairo 2” were suspended on 15 May 1942, thus closing the route to civil airmail. The suspension was confirmed in the Civil Aviation Intelligence Summary (“CAIS”) (Ref. 5) No. 154 dated 27 May 1942 where both the Egypt - Nigeria and Egypt - Gold Coast services using Lockheed “Lodestar” aircraft are shown as “*Temporarily Suspended*”. This may well have been the trigger for Chinese postal authorities to seek an alternative route from Cairo to the West Coast and use the BOAC “Cairo 1” service. This was a logical course of action but why involve South African Airways? The Cairo-Lagos flying boat service was a through route and did not require any transfer of mails at any point. This suggests that the Chinese were aware only of the “Horseshoe” route from Cairo but that carried on from Port Bell to Durban and would have necessitated mail transfer at where? Port Bell!

Throughout the whole of this period, the BOAC flying boat service “Cairo 1” remained open, and it may be of significance that its once-weekly service was increased to twice-weekly on the 21 May (Ref. 4). However, the entry for this service also states that for the whole of 1942 “*...calls at Port Bell were omitted on westbound flights...*”; negating the Chinese route instruction.

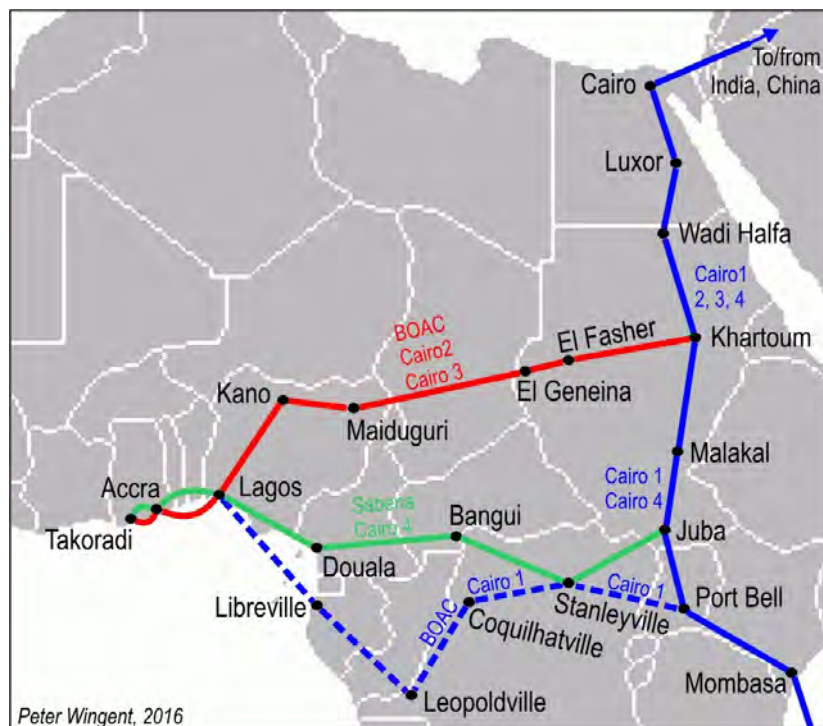


Figure 3: map of the routes Cairo 1, 2, 3 and 4 (with thanks to Peter Wingent)

From 15 February 1942, SABENA operated “Cairo 4” twice weekly without interruption between Cairo and Lagos-Takoradi but not flying anywhere near Leopoldville. Another negation of the Chinese route endorsement.

Why were the trans-Sahara routes “suspended”? One must be mindful that the aircraft did not stop flying, and the “suspension” applied only to civil traffic in order to allow priority to military traffic. In the early months of 1942 these routes had to carry increasing military traffic in both directions, partly due to the successful advance of the Afrika Korps towards Egypt. Agreements had been entered into between the British and American Governments and Pan American Airways under which PAA would take on aircraft ferrying duties (Contract DA W 535 AC-416) and a trans-Africa service (Contract DA W 535 AC-415) and provide 65% of their carrying capacity for British use.

In the minutes of the Civil Aviation Progress Committee (Ref. 6) for the 42nd meeting on 7 May 1942 we find an item headed “Traffic congestion in West Africa” (relating to British traffic):

“The meeting noted that...77 tons of freight and 411 passengers were awaiting transport from West Africa to the Middle East and beyond. In addition there was a large amount of American traffic including 1100 personnel at Freetown. PAA had taken practically no British traffic for the last ten days, and Colonel Kemp, the US Ferry Command representative, took the view that the agreement to allot 65% of PAA’s capacity for British use no longer applied”.

Various options were discussed at this meeting but it is obvious that there was serious congestion on the trans-Sahara route and Pan American Airways were not being particularly helpful. This is borne out by documents in another file, recently located, which will be the subject of a later article on the reasons for militarisation of PAA (Africa). In this file (AIR 23/1393) we read:

“...and an arrangement was made whereby Pan American Airways carried 65% British load and 35% American load.....instead of meeting this obligation they chose to seek commercial expansion by operating unnecessary services to Karachi, Basra, Teheran and Cairo, when there were already British services operating. This resulted in a further reduction of the load to be carried for the British Services in the Middle East”.

Given the priority needed for military supplies and personnel on the trans-Africa route, it is hardly surprising that airmails, particularly civil airmails were pushed to the bottom of the list. Action was swift, and at the next meeting of the Civil Aviation Progress Committee on 21 May in Item XI headed “*Traffic position in West Africa*” we read that:

“AOC-in-C, Middle East (*) had expressed the opinion that undue alarm had been felt. He hoped to clear the accumulation in three weeks”.

(*) (Air Officer Commanding in Chief, Air Chief Marshal Sir Sholto Douglas, K.C.B., M.C., D.F.C.) (Ref. 7)

We further read:

“.... that the BOAC Lodestars would shuttle for three weeks from Kano presumably to Khartoum. They would operate five services per week. PAA were operating a twice-weekly shuttle service, the total uplift from Kano now being 22,000 lb. per week”.

Apparently all this activity had the desired effect and by 19 June 1942 both “Cairo 2” and “Cairo 3” services were resumed (Ref. 4). This means, of course, resumed for civil traffic. By the time the Chinese introduced the route instruction “*Port Bell-Entebbe*” on 30 June (Ref. 2) traffic was again flowing between Cairo and Lagos on the trans-Sahara routes. It is worth noting that airmail from India and Middle East countries addressed to the United States and UK also travelled via Cairo throughout and never received any route endorsements matching the Chinese, so it would seem that the Chinese postal authorities rather over-reacted to the situation.



Figure 4: Cover Iraq to UK carrying “Double Atlantic” franking.
Sent 9 July 1942 endorsed “Via West Africa”. Routed Palestine-Cairo-Lagos.
No mention of “Port Bell” or South African Airways.

What about the involvement of South African Airways? The CAA Report (Ref. 4) Appendix C records the following:

“*South African Airways. Johannesburg-Bulawayo-Lusaka-Ndola-Elisabethville-Mpika-Dodoma-Nairobi-Entebbe-Irumu-Stanleyville-Coquilhatville-Leopoldville; Until 1/7, once weekly, with Lockheed “Lodestar” landplanes. On 1/7 the services ceased.*”

In “*Jane’s All the World’s Aircraft 1942*” (Ref. 7) we have confirmation of this under the Union of South Africa heading:

“Although all services were suspended indefinitely in June 1940, two services were again in operation on December 17, 1940, between Germiston and Loanda (Angola) and Germiston – Entebbe (Uganda) and early in March, 1941, the latter service was extended to Leopoldville (Belgian Congo). These services were, however, suspended at the end of May and the beginning of July, 1942, respectively”.

And so on the very day that the Chinese route endorsement was to take effect, South African Airways aircraft were taken over by the South African Air Force for military service and no flights took place from Entebbe to Leopoldville. This militarisation had been going on for some time as described in ref. 8:

“South African Airways ordered 29 Lodestars in 1940.....These were shipped in SAA markings to Cape Town. After assembly and testing, 27 were impressed by the South African Air Force, the remaining two having crashed before their transfer could take place. Most were operated as transport aircraft by No. 5 Wing...and flew on the route linking South Africa with East and North Africa”.

Conclusions:

- 1) Congestion on the trans-Sahara Cairo-Lagos route led to a temporary suspension of civil traffic from 15 May to 19 June 1942. This congestion had been building for some months as reported in ref. 6 in April 1942.
- 2) Someone, somewhere decided to re-route airmails from China via Uganda using South African Airways to Leopoldville and had published route changes to take effect on 1 July 1942.
- 3) Before the route changes were due to come into operation the temporary congestion had been cleared, and coincidentally South African Airways stopped operating from Entebbe to Leopoldville.
- 4) During the whole period of the trans-Sahara suspension civil traffic continued to be carried from Cairo to Lagos using “Cairo 1” and “Cairo 4”.
- 5) Mail from China arriving at Cairo during the suspension period would be franked with the existing trans-Sahara rates but must have been carried without surcharge by “Cairo 1” and “Cairo 4”. Mail from China despatched after 30 June carrying the increased air fee would (ironically) have been carried trans-Sahara by “Cairo 2” and “Cairo 3” which were by now resumed.
- 6) The mail endorsement “*By airmail, China, Calcutta, Cairo and Port Bell-Entebbe. By South African Airways to Leopoldville, thence by P.A.A. to destination*” was a fictional route that never existed. Truly “The Route that Never Was”.

Acknowledgements

To my friend Peter Wingent for turning my scratchy map into a thing of beauty.
To Google maps for providing such a useful on-line resource.

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Charles Ungebauer: The Life and Death of a German Trader in Lagos

Dr Simon Heap

In follow-up to Paul Redhead's fascinating article, 'H. Edwards, CCC Postcards and Paterson-Zochonis' (*Cameo*, 97, January 2016, pp.48-50), I can add more information about one of the four Cosmopolitan Correspondence Club members based in Nigeria: Charles Ungebauer. Paul had seen a letter sent by Ungebauer to the Canal Zone in 1908 bearing his CCC number but no other correspondence.

Charles Ungebauer was a German trader in Lagos and nearby Porto Novo. In 1909, evidence given by Ungebauer to the 'Committee of Inquiry into the Liquor Trade in Southern Nigeria' reveals some of his personal details. Originally from Hamburg, he had been 32 years in Lagos and Porto Novo, and 3 years in the Niger delta area, putting his experience of West Africa all the way back to the 1870s. (Ref. 1) He was even a co-owner of a coffee plantation at Ajilete in Western Lagos Colony in the mid-1890s. (Ref. 2) An Old Coaster indeed!

Ungebauer was a committed Christian, regularly attending Christ Church, Lagos. (Ref. 3) He was also a Freemason. St. George's Lodge in Lagos was founded in 1904 and consecrated on 1 July 1905. Ungebauer was one of its 16 founding members; indeed, he was Master of the Lodge. In 1913, he became the first Deputy Grand Master of the District of Nigeria. (Ref. 4)

Ungebauer built up an excellent reputation for doing business with local traders. However, the First World War changed his circumstances with tragic consequences. Within a few weeks of the outbreak of war, the British colonial government of newly amalgamated Nigeria suspended the trading activities of all German and Austro-Hungarian companies. One historian states that a Lagos newspaper noted:

Much sympathy is felt generally for the German gentlemen resident in our midst, lately 'our friends' but now 'our friends the enemies.' For none more so than the highly respected Mr. Charles Ungebauer. (Ref. 5)

Ungebauer carried on trading, as this advert of 1916 for typewriters shows [used on the postcards he sent out?]: (Ref. 6)

The NEW MULTIPLEX.

1916 MODEL.

The Great Interchangeable-Type Typewriter.



MACHINES ON SALE OR HIRE, etc. For further particulars apply to—

Mr. CHAS. UNGEBAUER Broad Street, LAGOS, Nigeria.

HAMMOND TYPEWRITER COMPANY.

69th STREET AND EAST RIVER

NEW YORK, N. Y.

However, in order to try to prove his loyalty to the British authorities, Ungebauer dramatically renounced his German citizenship. (Ref. 7) Yet, still faced with colonial deportation back to the country of his birth, where he would have certainly have faced a trial for treason, he committed suicide. (Ref. 8)

As *The Times of Nigeria* reported in 1918:

Letters of naturalization cannot protect them, especially remembering the sad and unfortunate case of the late Mr. Charles Ungebauer – a gentleman who had lived too long in this country, about forty years, that he was wont to say he was a native of Lagos and his only wish was to live, and die and be buried in Lagos. Still he was an enemy alien and the fiat of the Imperial Government went forth against him that he should not remain in the country. (Ref. 9)

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7. Amongst no doubt other wartime donations, Ungebauer gave a guinea to the Nigeria (Cameroon) Forces Widows and Orphans Fund in 1915 – *Lagos Standard*, 4 August 1915, p.5, and £5 5s to the Nigeria Comfort Fund – *Lagos Weekly Record*, 14 July 1917, p.6.
8. Olukoju, *The "Liverpool" of West Africa*, p.50.
9. 'Enemy Aliens in Nigeria', *The Times of Nigeria*, 3 September 1918, p.5.



Lagos Postmaster William Emanuel Cole

Dr Simon Heap

In several recent articles in *Cameo*, I charted the life and times of Lagos Postmaster, George Josephus Cole. (Ref. 1) In this article, I will outline the life of another Cole, an earlier postmaster of Lagos: William Emanuel Cole, based largely on an obituary published in an issue of the *Lagos Weekly Record* newspaper just before Christmas 1891. (Ref. 2)

William Emanuel Cole was the eldest son of a large family, born of Christian Yoruba parents in the village of Charlotte, Sierra Leone, on 5 November 1841.

When he was young his parents moved to Freetown. For his elementary education he attended Kissy Road School, chiefly under Messrs Fyfe and Mason. Possessing very good abilities Cole made rapid progress in his studies. With the Church Missionary Society requiring some promising boys to supply some vacancies as foundation pupils at its Grammar School with a view to their being trained for future usefulness in its missions, Cole was selected with three others and placed in the school in December 1857.

Cole spent two years in the school, and made very good progress, and high hopes were entertained of him as to his future potential in mission work after further training at Fourah Bay College. Unfortunately, however, Cole fell sick in 1859, and the once strong healthy-looking youth became almost entirely paralysed, was unable to continue his studies and left school, and for some time afterwards he was employed as a clerk by Mr Mende.

It was entirely to an accident of fate that William Cole ever got to Lagos; he accompanied a friend of his, Reverend C. Paul, who was proceeding to the Niger on board a steamer, but was delayed en route and landed at Lagos on 25 May 1865. He entered Lagos Government service working at the Landing Jetty in July of the same year.

Cole was promoted from one post to another. In January 1871, he became a Clerk in the Post Office on a salary of £50 a year. He served under a succession of Postmasters: C. D. Turton, William C. Pratt and, from 6 April 1874, Acting Postmaster W. R. King. (Ref. 3)

On 25 August 1874, he was promoted to Postmaster. This is an interesting date, coming just ten weeks or so after the introduction of adhesive stamps to Lagos Colony. On an annual salary of £150, Cole was Postmaster for the next nine years. (Ref. 4) Then, on 27 November 1883, for reasons unclear, Cole was suspended from work. He tendered his resignation in October 1884, and it was accepted. (Ref. 5) After Government service he began trading on his own account, which he continued up to the time of his death.

As his *Lagos Weekly Record* obituary stated:

Mr Cole's superior intelligence, ability, keen observation and sound judgment, brought him into prominence, and made him the centre of all public undertakings of societal, religious and political kind; and he may be said to have been virtually the permanent honorary secretary of the community – he filling that post in nearly every public movement. Of a naturally kind, generous and sympathetic disposition, he was obliging almost to a fault. (Ref. 6)

William Cole died at his Koseh Street residence on the evening of 8 December 1891, after a brief illness of congestion of the lungs. He left a widow and a large family of young children. He had just turned 50 years old. His sphere of usefulness in Lagos had been "wide and varied and his loss was deeply felt by a large section of the community." (Ref. 7) For example, Cole was one the active promoters of the newly organised United Native Church and its Corresponding Secretary. His remains were interred the following day at the Ikoyi Cemetery. (Ref. 8)

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Sierra Leone King George VI Silver Wedding Sheet Numbers

Frank Walton RDP FRPSL

Thanks to notes published in *Geosix* based on archival research by Rod Vousden FRPSL (Ref. 1), we know the precise print run of the issues for each country for the Royal Silver Wedding in 1948. For Sierra Leone, there were 1,545 sheets printed of the £1 value – but what astonished me was that only 45 of these sheets were sent to Freetown for postal use – less than 3% of the print run. The residual 1,500 sheets were sent to the London Bureau for sale to the philatelic community. The Sierra Leone post office requested that the sheets sent to them were numbered ‘from 1 up’ by Bradbury Wilkinson. Figure 1 shows a corner example numbered ‘39’ – a scarce survivor as it must have been out to Freetown and back. The sheets retained in London were not numbered.

There were many more sheets of the 1½d value sent to the colony, so these are much more frequently encountered. As with the example shown in Figure 2, the vast majority of these will have been used for postage.

Ref. 1. Rod Vousden, “1948 Colonial Silver Wedding Issue”, *Geosix*, KGVICS. Published in nine parts from Whole Number 222 to 230, Dec 2006 to Dec 2008.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Sierra Leone King George VI Definitive Issues by Waterlow; Marginal Markings

Frank Walton RDP FRPSL

This article first appeared in Geosix (the journal of the King George VI Collectors Society) No 256, March 2016 and is reproduced here with permission of the author.

Introduction

The December 2015 edition of *Geosix* included an article by Geoffrey Davis entitled ‘*Cyprus and Malta King George VI Definitive Registration Guide Marks*’ (Ref. 1). This recorded succinctly the registration guide marks for these two Mediterranean countries, and reminded me that I had recorded similar information for the contemporary Waterlow-produced issues from Sierra Leone. The information I had garnered was published in Chapter 3 of *Sierra Leone King George VI Definitive Stamps* (Ref. 2). This book was published in 2001 and, perhaps inevitably, further information has come to light since. This article provides the latest research.

Plate Numbers

The conventions adopted within this article are for the bi-coloured stamps to use the terms ‘vignette’ and ‘border’. These are synonymous with ‘centre’ and ‘frame’ respectively, but the terms favoured are the ones used in the Waterlow records. Not all the plates had a plate number engraved upon it; other than for the 1s 3d value, this is true for the first plate of each value. The term (1) is used to refer to the un-numbered first plate. The un-numbered initial vignette plate is also referred to as (1).

Where the border plate had a number, it was below Stamp 12/4. Vignette Plates 2 and 3 were numbered under Stamp 12/5. The only single working plate to be numbered was the 1s 3d value; the number ‘1’ appeared below Stamp 12/4.

Printers' Imprint

Every pane that has been seen has the printers' imprint 'Waterlow & Sons Limited, London Wall, London, E.C.' placed centrally below the middle stamp of the bottom row, i.e. Stamp 12/3. For bi-coloured stamps, this is in the same colour as the border. The imprint always measures 36 mm in length. This has not been confirmed for the first 1d or 3d plates, nor for the 10s value. It would be most surprising if these plates did not have the same imprint; it is simply the case that examples have not been seen.



Left and Right Panes

It is known from the records in the British Library that the single coloured stamps were printed in two panes of 60 on one sheet from plates that were 120 set. So far no firm evidence has been recorded that positively identifies differences between left and right hand panes. There are differences seen on the 1/2d and 2d values in that some panes have a circular perforation guide below Stamp 12/3 whereas others have a cross in the same position. This could be evidence of left and right panes - but equally it could simply be the case that the marginal markings were changed during the life of the plate.

Marginal Inscriptions or Markings

Each plate has numerous marginal markings that were designed for a specific purpose. There are two kinds of perforator guides, namely small circles measuring approximately 2 mm in diameter or small crosses (+) of about 3 mm height. There are also small guidelines of about 2 or 3 mm length. These are always on the outer edges of a pane, and always either vertical or horizontal.

Unlike other Waterlow printings from this period for other countries, there are no 'T' markings yet identified.

Marginal Markings Recorded on Single Working or Border Plates

Value	Plate	Plate number below	Circular perf. guide outside				+ Shaped perf. guide outside	Horizontal guideline between		+ Shaped guideline between	Vertical guideline between	
½d	(1)	None									1/2&3	12/2&3
½d	2	12/4	1/3	6/1	6/5	12/3	12/3	6&7/1	6&7/5	6&7/2&3	1/2&3	12/2&3
½d	3	12/4	1/3	6/1		12/3		6&7/1		6&7/2&3		12/3&4
1d	(1)	None										
1d	2	12/4	1/3			12/3	12/3	6&7/1		6&7/3&4	1/3&4	12/3&4
1½d	(1)	None				12/3	12/3	6&7/1	6&7/5	6&7/3&4	1/3&4	12/3&4
2d	(1)	None	1/3	6/1	6/5	12/3	12/3	6&7/1	6&7/5	6&7/3&4	1/3&4	12/3&4
3d	(1)	None									1/2&3	
3d	2	12/4										12/2&3
3d	3	12/4				12/3			6&7/5	6&7/2&3		12/2&3
4d	(1)	None	1/3	6/1		12/3	1/3	6&7/1	6&7/5		1/3&4	12/3&4
5d	(1)	None					1/3	12/3	6&7/1	6&7/5	6&7/2&3	1/3&4
6d	(1)	None				12/3	12/3					12/3&4
1s	(1)	None	1/3	6/1		12/3	1/3	5&6/1			1/2&3	12/2&3
1s 3d	1	12/4				12/3						12/3&4
2s	(1)	None										12/3&4
5s	(1)	None				12/3						12/3&4
10s	(1)	None										
£1	(1)	None					12/3					12/3&4

Information in this table reflects markings seen during research over the last 20 years; the absence of an entry from any row on this table does not mean that the marking does not exist. It is highly likely, for example, that where a vertical guideline is recorded between 1/3 and 1/4 then there will also be a corresponding mark between 12/3 and 12/4.



Figure 2. Vertical guide line between Stamps 12/2 and 12/3. Enlarged.



Figure 3. Vertical guide line between Stamps 12/3 and 12/4. Enlarged.



Figure 4. Guide cross between Stamps 6/3, 6/4, 7/3 and 7/4. Enlarged.

Marginal Guidelines Recorded on Vignette Plates

Plate	Plate number below	Printers' imprint below	Horizontal guideline between		41004 above	
(1)	None	None				1/3
2	12/5	None			8&9/1	
3	12/5	None	4&5/1	4&5/5	8&9/1	8&9/5

These markings were always printed in black ink, so they can of course be distinguished from the coloured ones on the printed from the border plates (Figs 5 & 6).

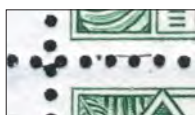


Figure 5. Vignette Plate 2. 'Dot Dash' horizontal guide lines between Stamps 4&5/1 and 8&9/1.



Figure 6. Vignette Plate 3. 'Dash Dot' horizontal guide lines between Stamps 8&9/1.

Waterlow Plate Reference Numbers



Figure 7. Vignette Plate (1). Waterlow plate reference number 41004 above Stamp 1/3.



Figure 8. 1/2d Border Plate 3. Portion of Waterlow plate reference number above Stamp 1/3.

The number '41004' appears in the top margin on the early printings that were produced from the first, un-numbered, vignette plate (Fig. 7). As the numbers are always 12 mm above the top of the frameline of Stamp 1/3, they do not appear on sheets that have a narrow selvage. It has been recorded on the 1/2d, 3d, 4d and 1s values, but presumably must exist also on the 1d and 2s early printings.

The only other Waterlow plate reference number seen is a small portion of the bottom of a five-digit number above Stamp 1/3 from 1/2d Plate 3 (Fig. 8).

Sheet Numbers

The Requisition Books have details in the 'Remarks' column relating to precise despatch information. As a typical example, the entry for Requisition 4172/1 of September 1946 has the annotation 'Sheets of stamps to be numbered 1 up, interleaved with wax paper & parcelled in reams'. It was normal practice to only number the sheets as they were despatched to the colony, so any stamps put in the Crown Agents' store were not numbered. Unusually the entry for Requisition 3503/2 of December 1944 had this point specifically stressed 'Stamps for Colony to be numbered 1 up'.

Where sheet numbers examples have survived, the numbers are normally in black ink in a 5 mm serified font and positioned above Stamp 1/5, i.e. in the top margin at the right corner (Figs 9 to 11).

Exceptionally, when blocks were included in deliveries that were smaller than full sheets, then the pieces were numbered anywhere in the margin. It seems that all separate pieces despatched were numbered, which meant that the highest number used could be higher than the number of sheets delivered (Figs 12 and 13).

The 1/2d stamp shown in Figure 12 overleaf has a horizontal guideline at the top right corner. This proves that it is Stamp 7/5 on the sheet, and further that it is from the corner of half a sheet. It can thus be suggested that this was half-sheet numbered and delivered to Freetown.

Most of the sheets that were distributed into the philatelic community would have come through the Crown Agents into London dealers. Hence mint examples with sheet numbers are relatively scarce as they must have been out to the colony and back.



Figures 9 to 11. The number of digits in the sheet number was dictated by the number of sheets ordered.
Low numbered sheets from long print runs always had leading zeroes.



Figures 12 and 13. Stamps from blocks that were delivered in pieces smaller than whole sheets.

References

1. Davis G., 'Cyprus and Malta King George VI Definitive Registration Guide Marks', *Geosix*, Whole Number 258, pp14-18, KGVICS, December 2015.
2. Walton F.L., *Sierra Leone King George VI Definitive Stamps*, pp17-22, West Africa Study Circle, Dronfield, 2001.



Perforations of the 1948 Gold Coast Definitives



In *Sixth Sense* issue 109, May 2016, Murray Payne has reported receiving an e-mail from their customer, Colin Riddell, saying that he had found an example of the 1/3d denomination, line perforated. A previous issue of *Sixth Sense* (#43) had reported the same on the 10/- issue. That stamp was fiscally used so they could see no purpose in faking it. This 1/3d, illustrated here with a normal 5/- for comparison, is properly cancelled, but again Murray Payne can see no reason to fake it. They ask if anyone has any ideas?

"The first thing to note is that, like the 10/-, it is a "short" stamp. Lining it up against a normal, there is just room to trim off the perfs at base and start again. The perfs at the base show more of the hole than natural separation would leave and most look as if they have been cut rather than pulled apart. There is a significant irregularity below 'CASTLE' and the corner perfs have been deconstructed. Crucially, the measurement of the line perf should be 12 and the base of this stamp measures 10¾.

"Since he found this stamp in a mixed lot of Gold Coast used purchased on ebay for 99p, Colin made the reasonable assumption that it was unlikely to have been 'played with', although he recognized that it was not the same gauge as the normal line perf. He speculated that it might have been the result of correction of a misalignment of the comb perforating machine, being corrected by a single line-perf strike."

Seychelles postmark on Lagos stamp

Paul Redhead

Hunting for material to support my interest in forgeries of Nigerian stamps and cancels, I acquired a used copy of Lagos SG25 (figure 1), with a cancel which didn't look like any of those in use in Lagos or Southern Nigeria in 1905.

The stamp is catalogued at £8 mint, £55 used, so worth forging a cancel on. On the other hand Lagos stamps were used elsewhere in West Africa, so I asked Ray Harris whether the cancel reminded him of any other. He in turn asked Philip Quirk, who came up with the surprising answer of 'SEYCHELLES', as per the image he kindly sent of a postcard bearing a 1905 Seychelles cancel (figure 2). Ray used his Photoshop skills to overlay the cancels (see figure 3), and it's a pretty convincing match.

So how did a 6d Lagos stamp which was superseded by a new issue in 1887, end up with a 1905 cancel from a country over 6000 km away? Possibilities include:

- 1 it came from a sailor on a Lagos registered ship, who used the license of *Paquebot* regulations to post a letter in the Seychelles with a Lagos stamp on it;
- 2 It's a deliberately forged cancel;
- 3 it was sent from Lagos to the Seychelles, escaped cancellation at Lagos but was cancelled by a sharp-eyed official when it reached its destination;
- 4 it was used by someone in the Seychelles who stuck a Lagos stamp on an envelope and put it in the mail in the Seychelles.



Figure 1: Lagos 6d SG 25 of 1884 used in 1905 with Seychelles postmark



Figure 2: Registered letter from Seychelles in 1905



Figure 3; postmarks of figures 1 and 2 overlaid

I contacted Sue Hopson of the Indian Ocean Study Group for an opinion, and received a most helpful reply as follows:

"I don't somehow think a ship from Lagos in the early 1900s would receive a Seychelles Paquebot handstamp. Far more likely the Lagos postmaster just didn't cancel it in the first place. I have worked in the Seychelles Post Office in the 1980s and believe me at 4.00pm on a Friday, no-one could care less if a canceller cannot be found! I would suggest that your example was cancelled on arrival in Victoria GPO on Mahé, before being delivered to whoever in Seychelles."

It's certainly not uncommon to find Lagos stamps cancelled at the port of arrival in Britain but as Rob May points out, a 6d stamp was well above the run-of-the-mill letter rate, and if it was used to pay for a Registered letter it is very unlikely that it would have escaped cancellation in Lagos.

Forging a cancel increases the value of the stamp considerably, but wouldn't a forger use a Lagos cancel, or a quasi-Lagos cancel, rather than one from such a distant country, which would be bound to arouse some suspicion?

Option 4 is on the face of it pretty unlikely too: usage of Lagos stamps in another West African country isn't so rare, but in the Seychelles?! However, as Philip and Ray suggest, a Lagos stamp on a letter which also had the correct denomination Seychelles stamp might well receive a strike from the canceller.

But why might someone do this? Philip comments

"maybe a collector stuck the Lagos stamp on an SAE alongside unused Seychelles stamps (accidentally or deliberately?) and sent the envelope to the Seychelles to be cancelled and returned. The Seychelles postmaster either didn't notice the Lagos stamp or just cancelled it anyway. People did this sort of thing with the unissued and later remaindered Sierra Leone revenue stamps, which can therefore be found with genuine postal cancellations, although they were never valid for use."

Ray agrees *"I think that's quite possible. There may have been an officer who moved from Lagos to the Seychelles and thought he'd try out a Lagos stamp alongside proper Seychelles stamps - sent to a member of the family, perhaps. People were very inventive."*

Without the envelope this stamp was stuck to we'll never know for certain how it came by a Seychelles cancel. Although I bought the stamp hoping to acquire a forged cancel, its potential origins have proved equally interesting, and a fine example of the knowledge and skills involved in philatelic detective work. My thanks to Ray, Philip, Rob and Sue for their help.



Proof Meter Mark Impressions: Gold Coast & Sierra Leone

Jeremy Martin FRPSL

These items, figures 1 and 2, were purchased in a Christophe Gärtner auction and described as *PROOF METER MARK impressions Ex UPU archives!* There are no handstamps on the reverse of the proofs.

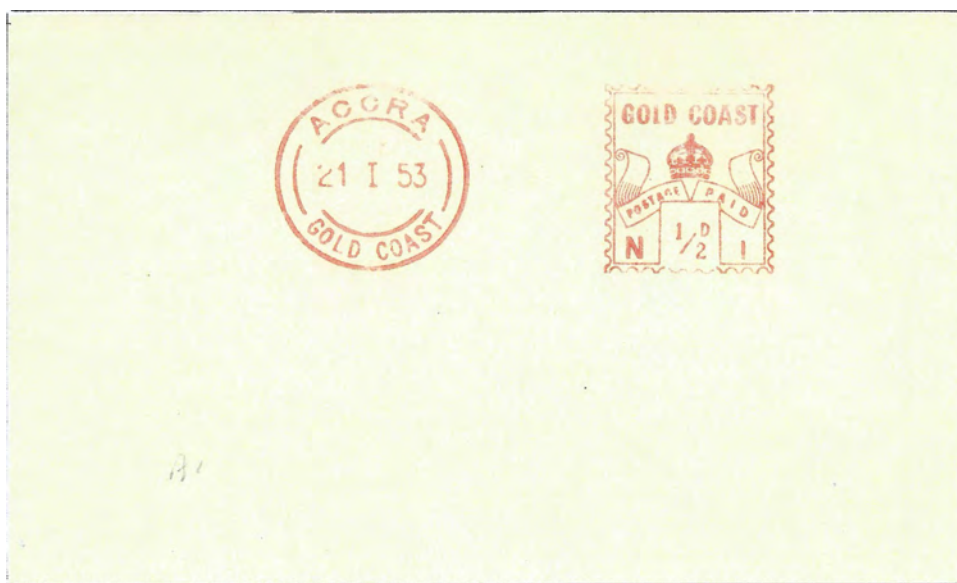
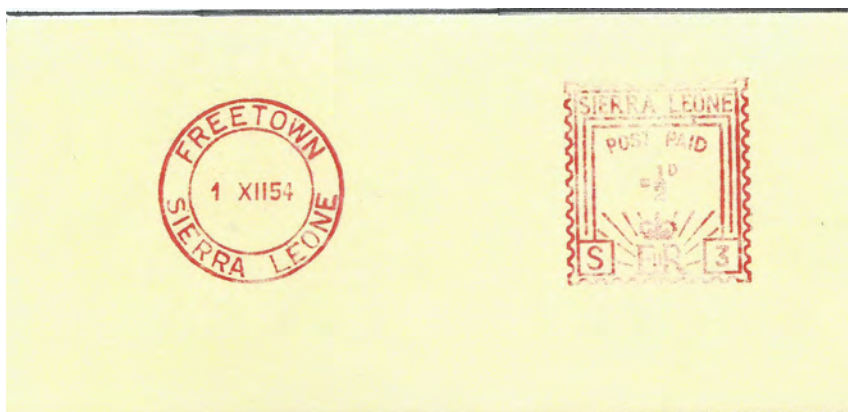


Figure 1

At a London STAMPEX exhibition, John Powell and I spoke with Herr Gärtner and asked about evidence that these items were from UPU archives. We were advised that the collection had come via a third party source and were definitely from that archive.

Figure 2



Nigerian Post Office Guide 1930

Jeremy Martin FRPSL

Post Office Notice.

POST OFFICE GUIDE, 1930.

The 2nd edition (1930) of the Nigerian Post Office Guide will be on sale at all Head Post Offices and at sub-offices at which Money Orders are issued, in Nigeria on and after 1st May, 1930. The price is 1s. post free in Nigeria and 1s. 2d. post free overseas. Although copies will not be on sale, on demand, at non-Cash Account Sub-Post Offices and Agencies, Sub-Postmasters and Postal Agents will on request by members of the public specially requisition on their Head Post Office and obtain copies of the Post Office Guide for subsequent sale to such applicants.

2. No copies will be issued free to Government Departments. Postmasters will however accept properly classified and signed payment vouchers (on Treasury Form No. 1) in respect of copies requisitioned by Heads of Departments and their representatives in outstations.

L. BETTESWORTH,
Acting Postmaster-General.

General Post Office,
Lagos, 22nd April, 1930.

The *Supplement to the Nigeria Gazette* no. 28 of 8 May 1930 announced the sale of a new Post Office Guide.

It is of interest that this notice was signed by L. Bettesworth, Acting Postmaster-General. He was on a *List of Officers who have been sent to Togoland* (Ref 1) from the Gold Coast, where he was part of the Posts and Telegraph Department.

Reference

1. *Correspondence relating to Military Operations in Togoland*, His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1915, p9

Observations on the new issues of Cameroon 2009-2015

Marc Parren

Introduction

Cameroon issued just 10 different commemorative issues over a seven year period. They tell a story of important events taking place in the country which were commemorated by postage stamps. New issues are discussed by a stamp design committee meeting under the auspices of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications. Cameroon does not make use of any postal agency for stamp production and international distribution unlike many other African countries. Most of the issues have been printed by Cartor in France but when the visit by Pope Benedict XVI to Cameroon issue remained unpaid in 2009 they refused to print the independence related new issues the next year. Somebody established a contact with an unknown printer in Thailand who took care of the printing with some surprising results such as the production of a stamp booklet, the first since 1991, and a presentation pack.

CamPost faces financial problems and accordingly they try to outsource the funding of new issues to third parties such as the Camair-Co issue in 2011 printed by Cartor and the Cooperation with China issue printed that same year in China. However, in the latter case CamPost lost complete control over the printing process. A range of miniature sheets were issued without their approval and unknown quantities of these were printed. CamPost do not want to see this repeated so instead they nowadays look for funding to cover the costs of printing, then deal directly with the printers themselves.

Because of the additional costs not all new issues include preparation of an FDC and/or épreuve de luxe. Concerning FDCs it is observed that quite often the cancellation lacks a town name. All issues are sold at the philatelic bureaus of Douala and Yaoundé and miniature sheets and stamp booklets are sold at prices above face value. These prices are fixed by the CamPost headquarters. For instance the Camair-Co miniature sheet was sold for 3,000f instead of the 750f face value. To give you an idea what happens with special covers here is an example for the First Flight Covers (FFC) CamPost prepared for the same issue which were charged 2,000f for the FDC cover, and in addition 250f for the FDC cancellation, 500f for the first flight handstamp, 500f for the Camair-Co Paris address handstamp and 250f for the airport postmark cancellation: making up a total selling price of 3,500f for a cover franked 250f!

2009

Visit of Pope Benedict XVI (17-20 March 2009) to Cameroon

Figure 1 (at 85%)
FDC of Visit of Pope
Benedict XVI to
Yaoundé with 41mm
diameter cancel.



In 2009, Pope Benedict XVI started his first African tour in Cameroon, going on to visit Angola next as well. This visit reconnected with the visit made in 1995 by his predecessor Pope John Paul II, to present the Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation 'Ecclesia in Africa', after the first Special Synod for Africa held in Rome in 1994. Once again for the presentation of the working paper for the second Synod for Africa the Pope had chosen Cameroon, where both English and French are spoken.

The stamps were printed by Cartor in the following quantities: 200f 100,000; 250f 100,000. The number of FDCs produced is unknown but exist for both Douala and Yaoundé (Fig. 1) with text in French. The Douala and Yaoundé versions can only be distinguished by the difference in diameter of the postmark, as there is no mention of the town name. No épreuve de luxe exist.

2010

The next two issues were both issued on 20 May 2010 which is Cameroon's National Day.

50th Anniversary of independence and of re-unification

The francophone part of Cameroon, La Republique du Cameroun (LRC) became independent on 1 January 1960. However, the Anglophone Southern Cameroons and Northern Cameroons were still under the trusteeship of Britain, being prepared for eventual independence. The Southern Cameroons voted in an UN-organized plebiscite to become independent in a defined union with LRC, while Northern Cameroons united with the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Southern Cameroon became part of a federated state within Cameroun on 1 October 1961. In 1972, the government chose 20 May as Cameroon's National Day to commemorate President Ahmadou Ahidjo's abolition of the federal system of government in favour of a unitary country that year.

The stamps were printed by an unknown printer in Thailand in the following quantities: 125f 83,000; 200f 13,000 while 3,000 were reprinted later; 250f 83,000; 500f 82,000. Some 7,700 miniature sheets of the 1000f, 2,500 miniature sheets holding the set in strips and 600 stamp booklets (fig. 2) were produced. The FDC with the set affixed could only be obtained by purchasing a presentation package of which 2,500 were produced. The first day cancellation is bi-lingual but mentions no town name (Fig. 3). No épreuve de luxe exist.



Figure 2 (65%). 50th Anniversary of independence and of re-unification stamp booklet.



Figure 3 (85%): 50th Anniversary of independence and of re-unification FDC without town name

Africa 21 conference

The independence celebrations were accompanied by a conference held on 18 and 19 May 2010 at the Palais de Congrès in Yaoundé titled 'Africa, an opportunity for the world: realities and challenges'. Two stamps were issued to commemorate this event. The stamps are printed by an unknown printer in Thailand in the following quantities: 125f 45,000; 250f 45,000. No FDC and épreuve de luxe exist.

2011

First flight Camair-Co

Camair-Co was created on 11 September 2006 by decree of President Paul Biya, replacing Cameroon Airlines, the country's national airline which was shut down in June 2008. The inaugural flight of Camair-Co from Douala to Paris via Yaoundé took place on 28 March 2011 and that was also the date of issue of a set of two stamps and a miniature sheet. Initially it has operated local routes and a regular flight to Paris with a Boeing 767-300 and a Boeing 737-700 (Fig. 4).



Figure 4: Camair-Co Boeing 737-700 at Nsimalen Airport Yaoundé in May 2011.



The CEO is Dutchman Alex van Elk (Fig. 5) who launched the idea to have a postal emission to commemorate this event and offered to cover the costs of the stamp production to CamPost. For the first flight to Paris 500 FDC covers were used, some 300 covers were sent from Douala and received the FDC cancellation of Douala with text in English as well as the Douala Aeroport postmark (Fig. 6).

Figure 5: Camair-Co CEO Alex van Elk addressing the public at Douala Airport during the launch event on 28 March 2011.



Figure 6 (85%):
FFC Douala-Paris
with postmark
in English.

After the flight made a stop-over in Yaoundé before heading for Paris 200 further covers were brought on board at Yaoundé that had received the FDC cancellation of Yaoundé with text in French as well as the Yaoundé Aeroport postmark of that date. These covers were back-stamped at Paris Charles de Gaulle airport (Fig. 7). In addition 200 FFC were prepared with French stamps affixed for the return leg Paris-Douala the next day.

Figure 7 (85%):
FFC Yaoundé-
Paris
with postmark in
French.



The stamps were printed by Cartor in the following quantities: 250f 10,000; 500f 10,000, while just 1,000 miniature sheets in the form of an airplane were produced (Fig. 8). The stamp issue shows the outline of the airplane in relief on translucent film. There were 2,000 FDC produced of which 500 were used to produce the FFC. No épreuve de luxe exist.



Figure 8. Camair-Co miniature sheet in the form of an aeroplane and the form of the aeroplanes in the postage stamps in relief on translucent film

30th Anniversary of the discovery of AIDS

In 2011, the thirtieth anniversary of the discovery of AIDS was commemorated. The Chantal Biya Foundation, created in 1994, is well known for various actions that aim to eradicate the pandemic, especially in the field of research on HIV. A set of three stamps was officially issued on 3 June 2011.

The stamps were printed by Cartor in the following quantities: 100f 100,000; 250f 100,000; 500f 100,000 while of the 100f 300,000 were reprinted. There were 1,000 FDC produced cancelled with a postmark with a text in French, without a town name and dated 3 June 2011. In addition, 1,000 épreuve de luxe produced of the 100f, 500f values only (Fig. 9).



Figure 9 (50%): Épreuves de luxe of both values of the 30th Anniversary of the discovery of AIDS issue.

40th Anniversary of the cooperation with China

The cooperation agreement with China was signed on 26 March 1971 and the Government of Cameroon planned to issue a set of four stamps for this occasion. At the highest state level this issue was discussed and China offered generously to cover the costs of printing this issue after four designs had been created in Cameroon by CamPost. The three lower values depict respectively the 3,200 km long optical fibre network in Cameroon (125f), the gyneco-obstetric and paediatric hospital in Yaoundé (200f), and the Yaoundé sports stadium (250f) which were designed by Norbass, while the highest value depicting the two presidents Paul Biya and Hu Jintao (500f) was designed by Etogo. For the latter stamp a photo was used that was taken of the two heads of state during the Forum on China–Africa Cooperation, held in Beijing in November 2006.

It is known that these designs by Cameroonian artists were sent to China on 27 October 2010. Then the whole process moved from being in the hands of CamPost to full control by the Embassy of Cameroon in Beijing (Ministry of Exterior Relations), without any further consultation. The Chinese counterparts got a more or less free hand in the production. The Anti-counterfeit and Secret-keeping Technology Printing Company in Henan province, established in 1970, one of the three designated postage stamp printers of China, got the printing order. Instead of just a set of four stamps, the following were also printed without knowledge of CamPost: a miniature sheet holding the three lowest values of the set depicting the Beijing temple of heaven and the Yaoundé reunification monument in the border (Fig. 10), and two equally designed miniature sheets showing the highest value of the set of the two presidents with the Beijing emperor palace and the Yaoundé presidential palace constructed by China and in use since 1982, in the border. This miniature sheet exists printed on normal paper (Fig. 11) and with a hologram on a kind of plastic (Fig. 12).



Figure 10. Miniature sheet holding the three lowest values of the cooperation set depicting the Beijing temple of heaven and the Yaoundé reunification monument in the border.



Figure 11 (60%). Miniature sheet showing the highest value of the cooperation set of the two presidents with the Beijing emperor palace and the Yaoundé presidential palace printed on normal paper.



Figure 12 (60%). Miniature sheet showing the highest value of the cooperation set of the two presidents with the Beijing emperor palace and the Yaoundé presidential palace as a hologram printed on a kind of plastic.

These issues were to be launched on 26 March 2011 but the launch was delayed until 14 September since it seems that the stamps were printed late and for quite some time they were kept by the Chinese Ambassador Xue Jinwei at the Embassy in Yaoundé to organize the official launch which finally took place in the Hilton



Figure 13 (75%). FDC of the 40th Anniversary of the cooperation with China cancelled on the actual first day of issue in Bastos-Yaoundé.

Hotel. The author attended that ceremony and has a presentation folder at hand which contains the set of stamps but none of the miniature sheets. In the folder it is stated that of all three lowest values of the set 20,000 stamps were printed and of the highest value 19,500 stamps. However, it is known that CamPost received the following quantities 125f 35,000; 200f 25,000; 250f 30,000; 500f 10,000.

All issues were obtainable at the Hilton Hotel and, although the official FDC available states the day of issue as 26 March 2011, the actual date of issue was 14 September 2011. A special commemorative cover was prepared in China and offered for sale at the Hilton Hotel with a Chinese stamp affixed and cancelled by a special postmark. The cover and this special postmark were designed by Ma Xiaoling. In Cameroon the 500f of the set was affixed in addition and cancelled by a locally produced rubber bi-lingual postmark without town name. I took the covers I purchased straight to the Bastos post office in the diplomatic neighbourhood to have them cancelled with the date-stamp to show the actual first date of issue (Fig. 13).

It is not known how many copies were printed of this FDC and the miniature sheets as the Chinese Embassy refused to share that information with CamPost. It is doubtful whether the numbers stated printed for the stamps in the set are correct as it seems to be a very low figure with the generally high public interest in China for these cooperation issues around the globe. It would not be surprising that a large number of the printed stamps and miniature sheets were kept in China for direct distribution there. No *épreuve de luxe* exist as far as is known.

2014

Data Center – e-Post project

During his July 2011 visit to China president Paul Biya signed a contract to finance the e-Post project, aiming to rehabilitate and modernise the Cameroonian postal network. It was to be implemented within a 18 month timeframe by Huawei Technologies Co. Ltd. The 234 post offices were to be interconnected through a Data Center constructed in Yaoundé. Some 124 post offices are now connected by optical fibre, while 110 are linked by satellite. The project aims especially to improve the postal system such as postal tracking to provide secure money transfer in real time. It is at the forefront of technology and places Cameroon ahead of most African countries for its postal service and adheres to UPU expectations as to services provided. The stamps were printed by Cartor in the following quantities: 70f 30,000; 250f 100,000 but also reprinted 500,000 (Fig. 14). No FDC and *épreuve de luxe* exist.



Figure 14. Data Center – e-Post project set.

Express Mail Services (EMS)

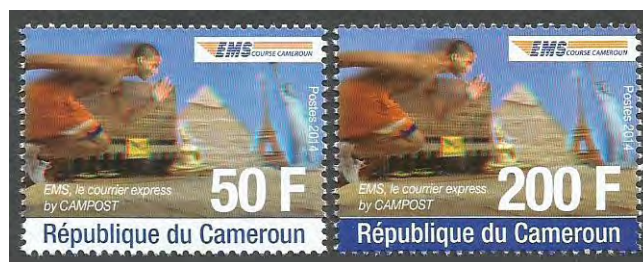
In 2011, CamPost had some 58 outlets and agencies that offered EMS service across the country. It also had some 100 clients which used this service regularly. By 2015, thanks to the e-Post project most post offices in the country offered this service. For the universities a special EMS service was offered to potential students. The stamp issue is based on a EMS promotional folder of the previous year (Fig. 15). The runner was later blurred to make him unidentifiable for the postage stamps (Fig. 16).

The stamps are printed by Cartor in the following quantities: 50f 30,000; 200f 100,000. No FDC and éprouve de luxe exist.



Figure 15(65%). CamPost EMS promotional folder of 2013.

Figure 16. Express Mail Services set.



2015

The beginning of the year 2015 saw a shortage of postage stamps as the Caveau in Douala had depleted most of the old stock of postage stamps. Around July the general post office at Buea was even supplied with old miniature sheets depicting religious themes for Easter and Christmas. The staff removed the edges of the miniature sheets to have a stock of postage stamps available. It became almost impossible to affix the correct postal rate. Postage for a normal letter to Europe is 410f and in most post offices they will ask you to affix stamps to the value of 450f or even 500f, but not 400f since in case someone notices it is underfranked in which case the postal employee might be in trouble. Even the philatelic bureaux in Douala and Yaoundé hardly had any stock of old stamps as they usually had in the past. The only place still to find such postage stamps is in the rural post offices where there is hardly any postal traffic, of which there are many. This situation was unsustainable. The quantity of new stamps printed needed to increase to 200,000 to 300,000 per year. The new French director of CamPost decided to have them printed by the internal printing house of France Post named PHIL@POSTE. The 250f Data Center – Project E-Post value was reprinted in a quantity of 500,000 early that year being the postal rate for an ordinary letter to France.

Buea Re-unification Monument

The 50th anniversary of re-unification of the English part of Cameroon with the French part should have been celebrated on 1 October 2011. The event was postponed several times by the Head of State, Paul Biya. In the end he made a five day visit to Buea in February 2014 when he inaugurated the re-unification monument (Fig. 17). It took another 18 months before two stamps were issued on 12 November 2015 to commemorate this event (Fig. 18). What is most surprising about this issue that it is not bilingual but provides only a French text for an event in the Anglophone part of the country. It shows the insensitivity by the French management of CamPost to the fact that the country is bilingual.

The stamps are printed by PHIL@POSTE in the following quantities: 100f 200,000; 125f 250,000. No FDC and épreuve de luxe exist.



Figure 17. The Buea Re-unification Monument during the Race of Hope 2015 with the German period built palace of Governor von Puttkamer behind.

Figure 18. The Buea Re-unification Monument set.



Kribi Deep Sea Harbour

The Kribi deep sea harbour is actually being constructed by the China Harbour Engineering Co. Ltd. at the village of Mboro 30 km south of Kribi and will cover a surface area of 26,000 ha. Partly this development is meant to take pressure from the very poor performing harbour of Douala, which has an operating time of almost one month making it one of the slowest operating and most expensive ports in Africa. It does not possess cranes for container freight and the Wouri river has to be dredged every day to allow modern ships to dock at Douala. The deep sea harbour is to be linked by a 510 km railway line to the Mbarga mine in Cameroon and a 70 km rail spur line is to connect the Nabeba mine in Congo. This railway is to be dedicated to the transport of iron ore to the Cameroon coast, expecting 35 million tonnes per annum of iron ore from the deposits in both Cameroon and Congo.

Two stamps were originally foreseen to be issued with values of 125f and 500f but in the end the French director of CamPost decided only to print the higher value. The Buea re-unification monument set already represented the 125fr value.

The stamp is printed by PHIL@POSTE in the following quantities and issued on 12 November 2015: 500f 300,000 (Fig. 19). No FDC and épreuve de luxe exist.



Figure 19. The Kribi deep sea harbour stamp.

The Creation of a Philatelic Archive for St Helena

Part 2 - Overview of the Archive, and Other Activities

Barry Burns FRPSL

Part 1 of this report, Introduction and Development of the Project, was published in Cameo 93, October 2014, pp133-141. (A correction - on p140, paragraph 2, line 5, please delete the reference to Appendix 4 which is not now shown.) I apologise for the delay of this second part, due to the many other articles being received for publication - Barry

Details of Records (continued from Part 1)

Ascension Island Accounts

There is an almost full set of accounts for the period 1923 to 2001, missing only the years 1933 to 1936 inclusive, and the following months: 1925 November; 1937 February, May and June; 1948 January; 1955 September to December inclusive; 1965 January and February; 1993 December. It is possible that they may have been misplaced into another box, but it is unfortunately more likely that they have either never been in the cellar or have been destroyed by vermin attack.

Appendix 1 shows a typical page from these accounts. In addition to this sheet, there are often other memos and notes between the Ascension Post Office and either the St Helena Post Office or the Ascension Administrator. I have photographed many of these record sheets (those dating before Decimalisation in early 1971) and Bernard Mabbett has now published, through the WASC, a monograph of these accounts between the years 1922 and 1934 (Ref. 5). Of particular interest are details of the numbers of stamps destroyed for the 1922 and 1924 sets.

One interesting point to emerge is that GB stamps were used in cases when Postal Orders needed to be increased in value, and a small stock of these stamps was kept at Georgetown for this purpose.

St Helena Stamp Issues

As we checked through the files from the cellar, we came across a large number of folders which housed paperwork relating to individual stamp issues for the period 1959 to 1998. These were mainly for St Helena, and the few for Ascension and Tristan issues were transferred to the appropriate boxes. The paperwork includes production details, letters to and from the Crown Agents and Printers, and also numbers ordered and delivered, sale and withdrawal dates etc. In addition we sometimes came across notes and letters in various other locations which we transferred to these folders.

The folders covered both Commemorative and Definitive issues, and the full list is given in Appendix 3. Note in particular the proposed issues for the years 1980, 1982, 1985, 1986, 1991, 1993 and 1994, which did not actually lead to these subjects being used. Apart from the records for the 1961 Tristan Relief Fund set, no photographs of these were taken, but it is a valuable archive now available for future researchers to study.

Specimen Handstamps on Stamps, Grille Cards and FDCs

During our 2009 visit Bernard and I had discovered a box in the cellar containing a number of grille cards (cards with stamps and/or covers affixed to promote sales within the post offices at Jamestown, Georgetown and possibly Tristan da Cunha). In some cases the stamps and covers had been handstamped SPECIMEN, Samuels Type SH2. These had all been of Tristan stamps and covers, and were photographed before Beverley Francis deposited them in the Post Office safe. (Ref. 2).

This time we uncovered many more examples, including issues from all three islands. Some were mounted

on grille cards, but others were only loose stamps and covers. As before, some were handstamped SPECIMEN either across the stamp, tying the stamp to the card, or in the case of covers on the envelope itself. As they were photographed on being found, my images are scattered throughout the 6,000 or so photographs taken during our visit, and a full listing has not been done yet.

However I can illustrate in Figures 14 and 15 two examples, the first dating from the late 1920s probably. We can presume this as the hand-drawn boxes are for the 2d, 3d, 4d, 6d & 8d values (top row) and for the 5s, 7/6d, 10s, 15s & £1 values (bottom row). Note the blue crosses in the 4d & 15s boxes - these values were withdrawn in 1927. So the card was probably prepared before 1927, and the 4d and 15s stamps removed after this date and the blue crosses added. Note the damage to the stamps caused by white ants.



Figure 14 (left)
Part of grille card, probably late 1920s,
showing damage by white ants and
stamps handstamped SH2 in violet

Figure 15 (right)
Grille card for the 1976
St Helena definitives
handstamped SH2 in black



Datestamps and Handstamps

Scattered amongst the various boxes in the cellar were quite a number of datestamps, handstamps and other small artefacts. Many of the former were of the eight sub post offices which had been established in 1965 when the local post was introduced. All of these implements are now in the museum. Figure 16 illustrates this assortment, and Fig. 17 the sub post office boxes of datestamps.



Figures 16 (left) and 17 (right)
Box of handstamps etc. and Sub Post Office datestamps in individual boxes

Appendix 4 shows strikes of the various stamps as they were found i.e. the dates have not been changed by our team. They *may* therefore indicate the last dates of use, but of course this cannot be stated with certainty. Also found was a sheet having strikes of a range of handstamps and datestamps, the latter bearing the date AU 20/79. This was presumably done on this date and of the handstamps in use or available at the time. It may have been prepared from a request by an enquirer, or possibly simply for record purposes. This is illustrated as Appendix 5 (with apologies for the poor illustrations of these three sheets).

Shipping and Mail Records

Several ledgers recorded sailings of mail ships and the mails they carried; the earliest dating from 1859 and continuing until the twentieth century. It is not known if the records are complete, as there are many ledgers that, although photographed, have not yet been examined. Illustrated as Appendix 6 is a page from a ledger of 1868.

Stamp Stocks

This is a very large archive. Details are recorded in several records, for instance daily/weekly/monthly stocks and sales at St Helena and Ascension; letters between St Helena and The Crown Agents, and internally between the two islands and the Treasury and Post Office. Much work will be required to check through the figures and present the results in meaningful formats.

However, as an example of the records, Appendix 7 illustrates a page which is typical of the archive, this being a page from a ledger listing details of the 'old issue' (QV intaglio printed) which was returned to the Crown Agents 5 April 1904.

Destruction Figures

Very little has previously been recorded of the numbers of stamps of St Helena and Ascension destroyed following their withdrawal from sale. There are no records in the Castle Archives and, as far as I am aware none at Ascension. In the case of other British colonies, these figures have invariably been sourced from the territories themselves, so we were hoping that this information may be in the cellar.

We were correct in this assumption, and I can say that a large amount of information was discovered and saved. However, the figures are dispersed through other records, principally within the record books of stamp stocks. There are a few folders entitled 'Destruction Figures' etc., but these are mainly of modern issues i.e. from the 1960s onwards. Appendix 8 illustrates those for a range of St Helena sets between 1986 and 1991. For earlier details it is generally necessary to trawl through the paperwork, and this is a task which we will be doing in the months ahead.

UPU Stamps

During our 2009 visit we had found a large box containing many issues from all over the world, in multiples or strips. These dated from around the turn of the millennium, and were undoubtedly stamps distributed by the Universal Postal Union to all the member states. which until the late 1940s had been overprinted or perforated SPECIMEN or similar.

In 2013 our team discovered several more boxes of slightly earlier issues, i.e. from the late 1990s. They were not examined at all, except to take a few photographs (Figure 18) and repack them into five archive boxes.

Figure 18
One of the boxes full of
world issues from the UPU



An interesting letter was unearthed during our general search of the cellar (Fig. 19).

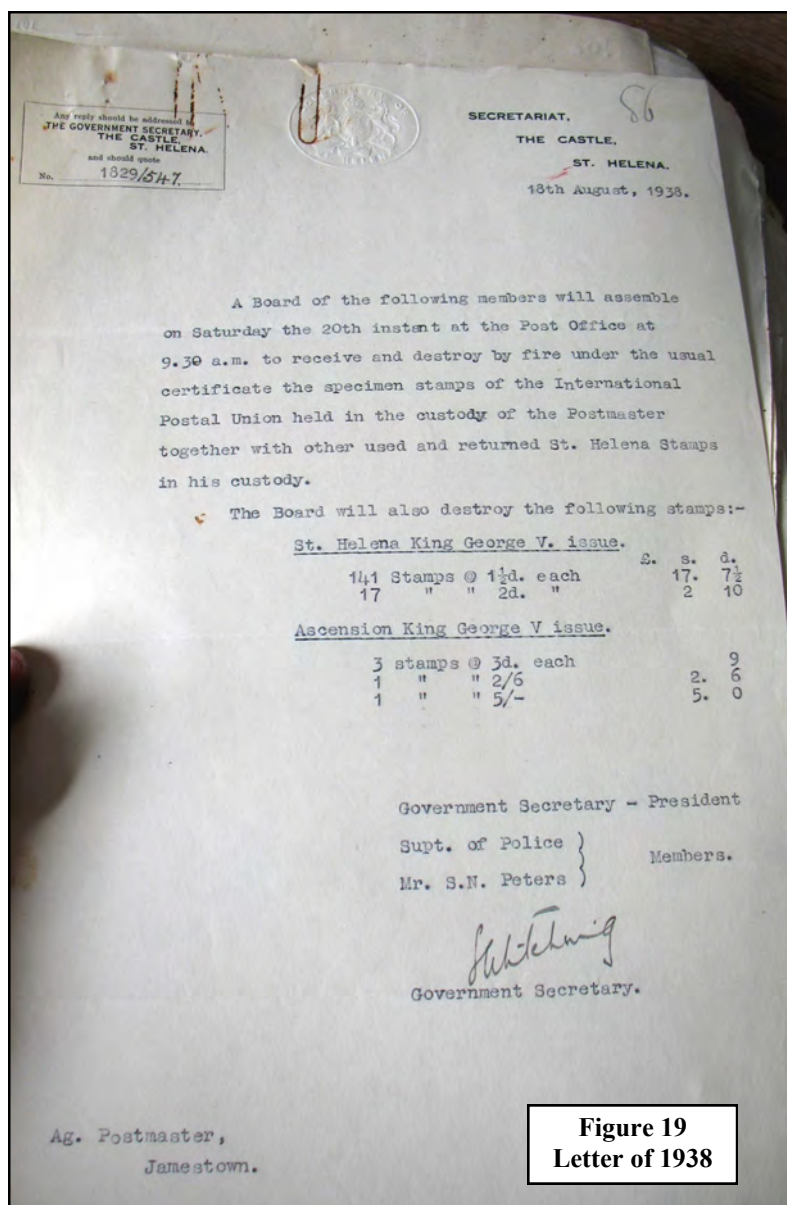


Figure 19
Letter of 1938

Dated 18 August 1938, it describes the setting up of a Board to: *receive and destroy by fire under the usual certificate the specimen stamps of the International Postal Union held in the custody of the Postmaster* So it is apparent that St Helena destroyed its specimen stamps from other countries - in how many territories did this occur, one wonders?

Miscellaneous Items

The above account gives an insight into the type of records that were found, but much work needs to be done to put these in order and analyse results. The following artefacts were also found, which although not necessarily philatelic are of considerable interest. These are now all safely resident in the museum.

A lifebelt from the RMS *Southampton Castle*. This had been the last Union Castle ship to transfer mail at St Helena on 14 October 1977.

Several red painted posting boxes, probably from some of the sub-post offices on St Helena.

Two canisters dating from the 1982 experimental air drop of mail onto Prosperous Bay Plain from a Hercules aircraft.

Government Gazettes, Public Notices and Government Reports.

Other Activities

Before leaving the UK, we had been in discussions with Edward Baldwin and the SHG of the possibilities of looking at a few other projects during our visit, mostly connected with the establishment of a philatelic archive on the Island. In addition, a few other tasks and events took place, which are described in this section.

The SHG Collection of Stamps, Proofs and Other Philatelic Items at The Castle

Bernard and I had viewed the St Helena Government collection during our 1998 visit when two large red albums contained in a box were brought to us in a room at The Castle. The stamps were mint and sometimes in multiples of 2, 3 or 4. Many were handstamped SPECIMEN in violet or black. The stamps were mounted on large horizontal off-white pages covered with plastic sheeting, but many of them had already started to fox due to the poor mounting and storage. A number of running proofs of modern issues were also viewed. A list of the items seen, with illustrations, was published in *Cameo* volume 8 number 4 (Ref. 1).

In 2007 the collection had been examined by Lucy Caesar and Edward Baldwin of the Museum of St Helena. They were concerned at the damage being caused, and so our visit gave them the opportunity of transferring the album sheets to acid free protectors and storing them at a controlled temperature within the museum.

We discovered that the collection was in fact more extensive than what we viewed in 1998, and was contained in three locked wooden boxes in the Treasury safe in the Castle's strong room. However, only two boxes were present when we arrived with Connie and Nicholas from SHG to transfer them to the museum on 5 April (Fig. 20). It was thought the 'missing' box was located elsewhere within The Castle, and I have since heard that it has now been recovered.

Upon opening the boxes, we found the collection consisted of philatelic items from Ascension and Tristan as well as for St Helena, up to about the year 2000. The stamps have now been removed from the mouldering albums, but a great deal of work will be necessary to remount them, with writing up, onto archival pages suitable for display. This will necessitate collectors with computer - based display and mounting skills as well as detailed knowledge of the issues of all three islands in order to be really successful. It will be a major task.



Figure 20
Transferring the 2 boxes
from The Castle strong room
with (l to r) Barry, Wilf, Stefan,
Connie and Bernard

Figure 21 shows the collection in one of the boxes, and Figs. 22 and 23 illustrate two examples from the collection of stamps and proofs. Note the damage already apparent.



Figure 21 (above left)
Part of the collection in one of the boxes

Figure 22 (above right)
First issue of Tristan da Cunha, 1952 overprints on St Helena
Note SPECIMEN handstamps, and the foxing on some stamps

Figure 23 (left)
Colour Proof of 7d value of 1963 Ascension definitive set
Note the damage around the top of the mount

The Designs and Artwork etc. at the Jamestown Post Office

We became aware during our visit that the Jamestown Post Office, in addition to the archive in the cellar, held some artwork and design material in one of the offices within the main building. Linda Cranfield, the Assistant Postmistress, showed them to us, which were kept in filing cabinets but in no particular order. The items appeared to date from the late 1990s - early 2000s although we did not make detailed notes.

It is believed there may be more in The Castle, possibly with some issued stamps in full sheets. This lead was not followed up during our visit.

The Daphne Gifford Collection of Stamps of St Helena and Ascension

The Museum of St Helena was already in the possession of a collection of stamps, mainly of St Helena but a few Ascension, which had been donated to them by Daphne Gifford. This was not mounted on sheets in the normal sense, but on various papers and in packets - some as purchased from dealers including Stanley Gibbons.

The opportunity was taken to sort and identify the stamps, and to mount them in Hawid mounts with basic writing up, although not yet with display in mind. My name was put forward for this task, mainly because I had brought the mounts and a SG catalogue!

There were some interesting items, including stamps overprinted or handstamped SPECIMEN, and major varieties on the 1922-1937 'Badge' set. It is anticipated that the collection will be put on display as part of the Museum archive, although it will require remounting before this can go ahead.

Stamp and Coin Roadshow

Edward suggested that the opportunity should be taken, whilst we were on the island, to hold a Stamp and Coin Roadshow, when Islanders could bring any coins, banknotes or philatelic items to be assessed. And so on the morning of Saturday 6 April our team of four philatelists joined numismatic specialist Edward in the museum at ten o'clock. It wasn't long before the first enquirer arrived, and during the following three hours there were always a couple of them being attended to (Fig. 24).

I am not sufficiently qualified to comment on the coin collections, but amongst the expected accumulations of modern stamps and first day covers two outstanding submissions are worthy of comment.



Figure 24
Stamp and Coin Roadshow
L to r, Bernard, Barry, Stefan & 2 Islanders



Figure 25
Grille card of St Helena 1981 Early Maps -
note SH2 handstamp tying the stamps & sheet

The first was a bundle of sheets and cards bearing stamps of St Helena, Ascension and Tristan, brought in by an elderly couple.

Many of these were of little interest but at the bottom of the pile were 16 grille cards, on which all of the stamps and miniature sheets were handstamped SPECIMEN Type SH2.

Unusually, in many cases the handstamp tied the stamp or sheet to the card. All dated from the late 1970s and early 1980s and have been with the present owners from this period. They were advised to look after them very carefully! (Fig. 25).

The second was potentially even more interesting. This was a block of 13 stamps from the top left corner of the sheet of the Ascension 1975 'Apollo-Soyuz Link 1975' 4½p value, SG 192 (Fig. 26).

The set of three are overprints in black on the contemporary definitives. But the overprints on this block were in red!

As far as we know, this had not been reported before (however, mention of the red overprint was noted in an article in a recent *South Atlantic Chronicle*, which was published very shortly after our visit - Ref. 6).

The stamps had been correctly purchased from the Ascension Post Office at the time of issue, and it is believed just one sheet was found.



Figure 26
Apollo-Soyuz 1975 4½d value
Note red overprint (left) cf. normal (right)

Summary and Future Plans

From a chance mention of the Post Office cellar by Beverley Francis in 2009, our team of five have created the foundations of a very significant philatelic archive which everybody connected with can feel justifiably proud. Of course this could not have been achieved without the help and assistance, both practical and financial, of many persons and bodies (see acknowledgements below).

I must make it clear that the cooperation of everybody involved was paramount. Without the support of the Julian Chapman Scholarship Committee, which gave credence to the project, I doubt the St Helena Government would have backed us in appointing Edward and financing the archive materials. The practical help and philatelic expertise from Wilf and Stefan; the huge input and advice from Edward, and the help from the staff at the Castle, Post Office and Museum were essential in surpassing what Bernard and I hoped could be achieved back in 2009.

What of the future? A lot still needs to be done. We part sorted the records into 106 archival boxes, most of which need more detailed examination and classification before they can form a searchable archive. But we hope they are now safe from destruction from either site development or vermin attack. One very interesting possibility is the creation of a facility combining the Library, Castle Archives and Museum to be located in the former Public Works Department (PWD) Store building which is adjacent to the museum, and in 2013 was not in use. This will provide both Islanders and visitors with a central heritage, archive and information centre. If it can be completed within our lifetime it would make at least five St Helena enthusiasts and supporters very pleased indeed.

Acknowledgements

In no particular order I wish to thank:

The Julian Chapman Memorial Scholarship Committee, and Richard West in particular for his assistance in facilitating the successful application for the award to Bernard and I.

The St Helena Government and Colin Owen, the Financial Secretary, for providing the financial assistance in procuring the archival storage materials, and allowing us access to the cellar and the Castle Collection, and for appointing Edward Baldwin as our team leader.

The Jamestown Post Office and staff, headed by Linda Cranfield, for giving us access to the cellar, their offices and facilities (including refrigerator - an essential accessory in the sweltering heat), and for remaining cheerful despite our intrusion into their workplace.

The Museum of St Helena for allowing us the use of Lucy Caesar's office in her absence, the copying equipment and other facilities. Not forgetting Liz and the other staff and helpers there.

Gregory Cairns-Wicks for the use of the reefer.

Edward Baldwin and Stefan Heijtz for the use of some of their photographs (Figures 12, 13, 16, 17, 20, 22, 23, 24).

And not least, our fellow team members. Although this was our first meeting with Edward, we seemed to gel together from the outset. This was helped of course by our mutual interest, our love of the island and its people, and our determination. But that in itself would not have necessarily resulted in the smooth way in which the work advanced. This was down to the personality and friendliness of the whole team, and Bernard and I could not have wished for better companions to embark on this project - we all worked hard, but it was great fun and very fulfilling. So special thanks to Bernard, Edward, Stefan and Wilf (in alphabetical order to avoid controversy!)

References (including those repeated from Part 1)

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- 3 www.rpsl.org.uk/society_scholarships.asp
- 4 Gosse Philip, *St Helena 1502 - 1938*, pp312-313, Cassell and Co. Ltd., London 1938
- 5 Mabbett B.J., *Ascension Island; The Post Office Accounts November 1922 to July 1934*
- 6 Woolven-Allen R., "Unlisted Ascension Varieties", *South Atlantic Chronicle*, Volume XXXVII pp4, St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha Philatelic Society, May 2013

Appendix 1 Example of a page from Ascension Island Accounts, in this case for July 1968

General Account between the Post Office of Ascension and the Post Office of St. Helena for the Month of JULY , 1968.									
POSTAL ORDERS									
No.	Rate	Value	No.	Rate	Value	No.	Rate	Value	Total amount
Balance brought forward from preceding Account									
Cash									
Stamps:—Ascension									
International Human Rights P.D.C Env.									
145	1/4	36	10	1/11	227	13	2/6	2	2
236	1/11	6750	4	2/5	1	7	1	3	3
100	2/11	100	8	2/11	68	19	2	4/6	9
85	3/5	74	3	2/5	92	14	3	5/-	15
74	3/5	5	5	2/5	206	10	7	7/-	8
77	3/11	10	8	2/11	6	19	1	8/-	9
13	4/5	77	5	2/5	2606	1	1	9/-	2
10	4/11	10	5	1/11	207	1	1	10/-	14
6/5	6/5	13	3	6/5	127	14	2	11/-	15
6/6	7/6	10	6	7/6	85	10	1	15/-	16
8/6	8/6	5	7	8/6	309	11	2	16/-	4
9/6	9/6	3	11	9/6	5165	7	5	22	12
10/6	10/6	1276	3	10/6	51	19	6	23	65
11/6	11/6	220	4	11/6	104	18	6	24	91
12/6	12/6	30	6	12/6	26	47	4	25	15
13/6	13/6	8	10	13/6	76	9	9	26	5
14/6	14/6	10	4	14/6	30	29	6	27	6
15/6	15/6	8	4	15/6	2	2	2	28	1
16/6	16/6	10	10	16/6	2	2	2	29	3
17/6	17/6	3	6	17/6	2	2	2	30	9
18/6	18/6	824	5	18/6	45	14	2	31	15
19/6	19/6	89	1	19/6	45	14	2	32	7
20/6	20/6	10026	14	20/6	11	11	11	33	16
21/6	21/6	14	11	21/6	11	11	11	34	7
22/6	22/6	11	11	22/6	11	11	11	35	7
23/6	23/6	11	11	23/6	11	11	11	36	7
24/6	24/6	11	11	24/6	11	11	11	37	7
25/6	25/6	11	11	25/6	11	11	11	38	7
26/6	26/6	11	11	26/6	11	11	11	39	7
27/6	27/6	11	11	27/6	11	11	11	40	7
28/6	28/6	11	11	28/6	11	11	11	41	7
29/6	29/6	11	11	29/6	11	11	11	42	7
30/6	30/6	11	11	30/6	11	11	11	43	7
31/6	31/6	11	11	31/6	11	11	11	44	7
1/7	1/7	11	11	1/7	11	11	11	45	7
2/7	2/7	11	11	2/7	11	11	11	46	7
3/7	3/7	11	11	3/7	11	11	11	47	7
4/7	4/7	11	11	4/7	11	11	11	48	7
5/7	5/7	11	11	5/7	11	11	11	49	7
6/7	6/7	11	11	6/7	11	11	11	50	7
7/7	7/7	11	11	7/7	11	11	11	51	7
8/7	8/7	11	11	8/7	11	11	11	52	7
9/7	9/7	11	11	9/7	11	11	11	53	7
10/7	10/7	11	11	10/7	11	11	11	54	7
11/7	11/7	11	11	11/7	11	11	11	55	7
12/7	12/7	11	11	12/7	11	11	11	56	7
13/7	13/7	11	11	13/7	11	11	11	57	7
14/7	14/7	11	11	14/7	11	11	11	58	7
15/7	15/7	11	11	15/7	11	11	11	59	7
16/7	16/7	11	11	16/7	11	11	11	60	7
17/7	17/7	11	11	17/7	11	11	11	61	7
18/7	18/7	11	11	18/7	11	11	11	62	7
19/7	19/7	11	11	19/7	11	11	11	63	7
20/7	20/7	11	11	20/7	11	11	11	64	7
21/7	21/7	11	11	21/7	11	11	11	65	7
22/7	22/7	11	11	22/7	11	11	11	66	7
23/7	23/7	11	11	23/7	11	11	11	67	7
24/7	24/7	11	11	24/7	11	11	11	68	7
25/7	25/7	11	11	25/7	11	11	11	69	7
26/7	26/7	11	11	26/7	11	11	11	70	7
27/7	27/7	11	11	27/7	11	11	11	71	7
28/7	28/7	11	11	28/7	11	11	11	72	7
29/7	29/7	11	11	29/7	11	11	11	73	7
30/7	30/7	11	11	30/7	11	11	11	74	7
31/7	31/7	11	11	31/7	11	11	11	75	7
1/8	1/8	11	11	1/8	11	11	11	76	7
2/8	2/8	11	11	2/8	11	11	11	77	7
3/8	3/8	11	11	3/8	11	11	11	78	7
4/8	4/8	11	11	4/8	11	11	11	79	7
5/8	5/8	11	11	5/8	11	11	11	80	7
6/8	6/8	11	11	6/8	11	11	11	81	7
7/8	7/8	11	11	7/8	11	11	11	82	7
8/8	8/8	11	11	8/8	11	11	11	83	7
9/8	9/8	11	11	9/8	11	11	11	84	7
10/8	10/8	11	11	10/8	11	11	11	85	7
11/8	11/8	11	11	11/8	11	11	11	86	7
12/8	12/8	11	11	12/8	11	11	11	87	7
13/8	13/8	11	11	13/8	11	11	11	88	7
14/8	14/8	11	11	14/8	11	11	11	89	7
15/8	15/8	11	11	15/8	11	11	11	90	7
16/8	16/8	11	11	16/8	11	11	11	91	7
17/8	17/8	11	11	17/8	11	11	11	92	7
18/8	18/8	11	11	18/8	11	11	11	93	7
19/8	19/8	11	11	19/8	11	11	11	94	7
20/8	20/8	11	11	20/8	11	11	11	95	7
21/8	21/8	11	11	21/8	11	11	11	96	7
22/8	22/8	11	11	22/8	11	11	11	97	7
23/8	23/8	11	11	23/8	11	11	11	98	7
24/8	24/8	11	11	24/8	11	11	11	99	7
25/8	25/8	11	11	25/8	11	11	11	100	7
26/8	26/8	11	11	26/8	11	11	11	101	7
27/8	27/8	11	11	27/8	11	11	11	102	7
28/8	28/8	11	11	28/8	11	11	11	103	7
29/8	29/8	11	11	29/8	11	11	11	104	7
30/8	30/8	11	11	30/8	11	11	11	105	7
31/8	31/8	11	11	31/8	11	11	11	106	7
1/9	1/9	11	11	1/9	11	11	11	107	7
2/9	2/9	11	11	2/9	11	11	11	108	7
3/9	3/9	11	11	3/9	11	11	11	109	7
4/9	4/9	11	11	4/9	11	11	11	110	7
5/9	5/9	11	11	5/9	11	11	11	111	7
6/9	6/9	11	11	6/9	11	11	11	112	7
7/9	7/9	11	11	7/9	11	11	11	113	7
8/9	8/9	11	11	8/9	11	11	11	114	7
9/9	9/9	11	11	9/9	11	11	11	115	7
10/9	10/9	11	11	10/9	11	11	11	116	7
11/9	11/9	11	11	11/9	11	11	11	117	7
12/9	12/9	11	11	12/9	11	11	11	118	7
13/9	13/9	11	11	13/9	11	11	11	119	7
14/9	14/9	11	11	14/9	11	11	11	120	7
15/9	15/9	11	11	15/9	11	11	11	121	7
16/9	16/9	11	11	16/9	11	11	11	122	7
17/9	17/9	11	11	17/9	11	11	11	123	7
18/9	18/9	11	11	18/9	11	11	11	124	7
19/9	19/9	11	11	19/9	11	11	11	125	7
20/9	20/9	11	11	20/9	11	11	11	126	7
21/9	21/9	11	11	21/9	11	11	11	127	7
22/9	22/9	11	11	22/9	11	11	11	128	7
23/9	23/9	11	11	23/9	11	11	11	129	7
24/9	24/9	11	11	24/9	11	11	11	130	7
25/9	25/9	11	11	25/9	11	11	11	131	7
26/9	26/9	11	11	26/9	11	11	11	132	7
27/9	27/9	11	11	27/9	11	11	11	133	7
28/9	28/9	11	11	28/9	11	11	11	134	7
29/9	29/9	11	11	29/9	11	11	11	135	7
30/9	30/9	11	11	30/9	11	11	11	136	7
31/9	31/9	11	11	31/9	11	11	11	137	7
1/10	1/10	11	11	1/10	11	11	11	138	7
2/10	2/10	11	11	2/10	11	11	11	139	7
3/10	3/10	11	11	3/10	11	11	11	140	7
4/10	4/10	11	11	4/10	11	11	11	141	7
5/10	5/10	11	11	5/10	11	11	11	142	7
6/10	6/10	11	11	6/10	11	11	11	143	7
7/10	7/10	11	11	7/10	11	11	11	144	7
8/10	8/10	11	11	8/10	11	11	11	145	7
9/10	9/10	11	11	9/10	11	11	11	146	7
10/10	10/10	11	11	10/10	11	11	11	147	7
11/10	11/10	11	11	11/10	11	11	11	148	7
12/10	12/10	11	11	12/10	11	11	11	149	7
13/10	13/10	11	11	13/10	11	11	11	150	7
14/10	14/10	11	11	14/10	11	11	11	151	7
15/10	15/10	11	11	15/10	11	11	11	152	7
16/10	16/10	11	11	16/10	11	11	11	153	7
17/10	17/10	11	11	17/10	11	11	11	154	7

Appendix 2 Reply Coupons

	Box	Coupon	Dates	Number
St Helena	1	IRC Type 1	1920s - 1930s	100+
	1	IRC Type 2	1930s	400+
St Helena Pre-printed Coupons	1	IRC Type 2	1951 - 1971	50+
	1	IRC Type 3	1972 - 1973	18
	1	CRC	1973 - 1975	17
	2	IMRC	1929 - 1939	300+
	2	IMRC	1941 - 1956	200+
	2	CRC	1950s - 1970s	500+
	3	CRC	1950s - 1970s	1000+
	4	IRC Types 2 & 3	1940s - 1970s	13,000+
Ascension	5	IRC Type 1	1920s - 1930s	50+
	5	IRC Type 2	1930s	300+
	5	IRC Type 2	1940 - 1945	100+
	6	IMRC	1930s	300+
	6	IMRC	1940s - 1950s	200+
	6	CRC	1950s - 1970s	500+
	7	IRC Types 2 & 3	1946 - 1970s	9,000+
Without Arrival Postmarks	8	IRC Type 1	1930 - 1937	8
	8	IRC Type 2	1930s - 1960s	200+
	8	IRC Type 3	1960s - 1970s	150+
	8	IMRC	1934 - 1953	22
	8	CRC	1950s - 1960s	100+
Plus 3 odd coupons/postal orders				
TOTAL NUMBER				c. 26,000+
Key	International Reply Coupons Imperial Reply Coupons Commonwealth Reply Coupons		IRC IMRC CRC	

Appendix 3 (I) Folders for St Helena Stamp Issues 1959 - 1984

Year	SG Numbers	Description
1959	169-171	Tercentenary
1961	172-175	Tristan Relief Fund
1961	176-189	Definitives
1965	199-200	ICY
1966	205-206	World Cup Football
1966	207-208	WHO
1967	214-217	Great Fire of London
1968	218-221; 222-224	Tristan dependency; Slavery
1969	241-244; 245-248	Mail Communication; Military Uniforms I
1970	249-252; 253-256; 257-260	Dickens; Red Cross; Military Equipment I
1973	295-296	Royal wedding
1974	304-306	Churchill
1975	310-313	Melliss
1976	319-331	Definitives, Aquatints & Lithographs
1977	332-334	Silver Jubilee
1977	335-337	Halley's Visit
1978	338-340	25th Anniversary of Coronation
1979	351-354	Rowland Hill
1979	355-357	Inclined Plane
1980	358-361	Empress Eugenie
1980	362-365	London 1980 (Postal Stones)
1980	366	Queen Mother
1980	367-368	Wellington's Visit
1980	Proposed Issue	Tortoises
1981	369-372	Endemic Plants
1981	373-377	Early Maps
1981	378-380	Royal Wedding
1981	381-384	Sea Shells
1981	385-388	Duke of Edinburgh Awards
1981	389-392	Insects I
1982	393-396	Darwin's Voyage
1982	397-400	21st Birthday of Princess Diana
1982	401-402	Commonwealth Games
1982	403-406	Scouts
1982	Proposed Issue	CA Anniversary
1983	407-410	Artist's Views
1983	411-414	Insects II
1983	415-418	Fungi
1983	419-422	Birds
1983	423-424	Christmas, Life of St Helena I
1984	425-435	Definitives, 150th Anniversary as Colony
1984	436-437	Prince Andrew's Visit
1984	438-441	Lloyd's List
1984	442-445	New Coinage
1984	446-449	Salvation Army
1984	450-453	Christmas, Life of St Helena II

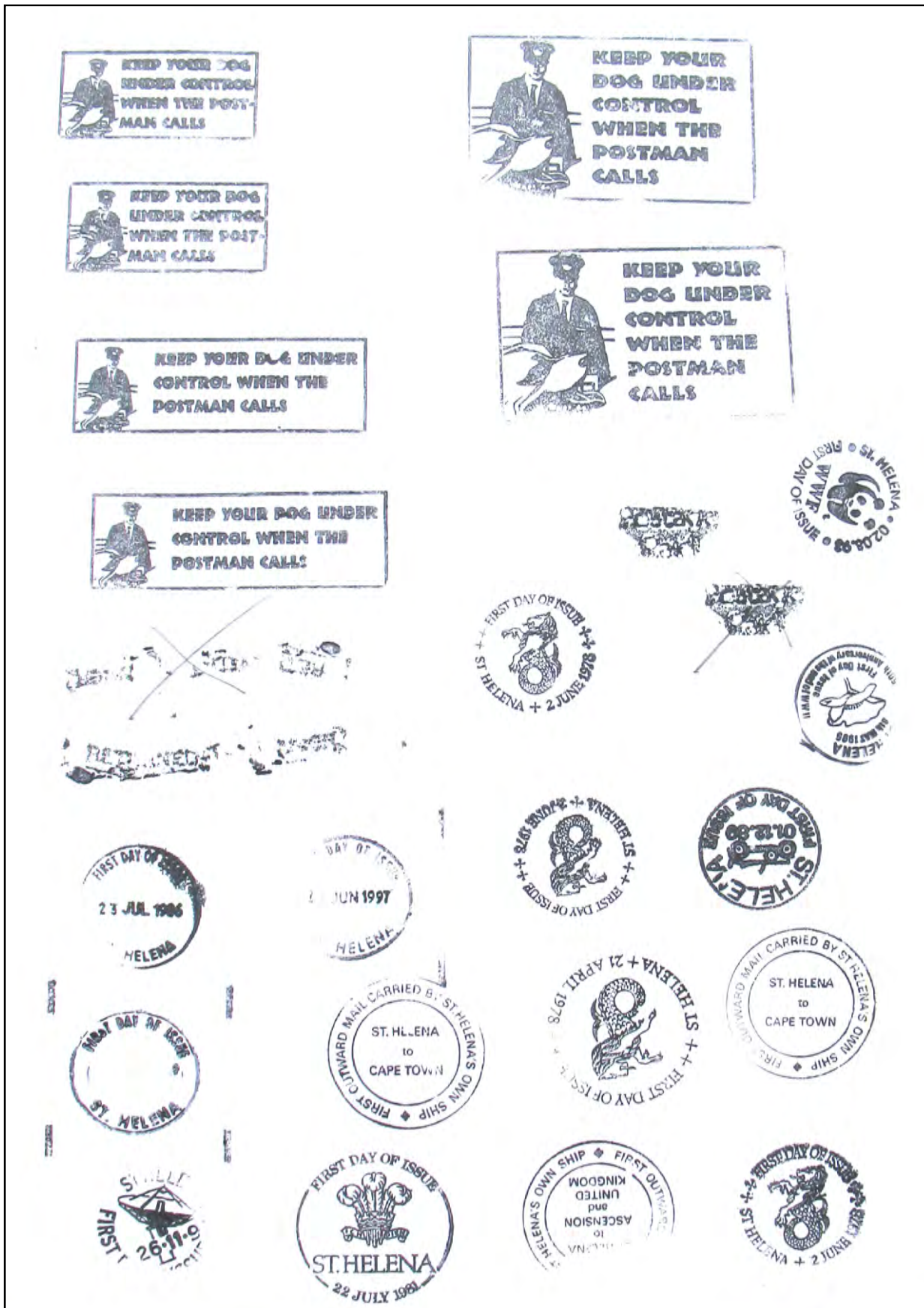
Appendix 3(II) Folders for St Helena Stamp Issues 1985 - 1992

Year	SG Numbers	Description
1985	454-458	Life & Times of Queen Mother
1985	459-463	Marine Life
1985	464-467	Audubon
1985	468-471	Christmas, Life of St Helena III
1985	Proposed Issue	Girl Guides
1986	472-476	Friendly Societies' Banners
1986	477-481	60th Birthday of QEII
1986	482-485	Halley's Comet
1986	486-487	Royal Wedding
1986	D1-D6	Postage Due Stamps
1986	Proposed Issue	Chess
1986	Proposed Issue	Buildings/Monuments
1986	Proposed Issue	Seales' Coastal Panorama
1986	Proposed Issue	Commonwealth Games
1987	501-504	Royal Visits
1987	505-508	Rare Plants I
1987	509-513	Marine Mammals
1987	514-518	Ruby Wedding
1988	519-522	Australian Bicentenary
1988	523-526	Christmas
1988	527-530	Lloyd's of London
1989	531-534	Rare Plants II
1989	535-539; 540-544	Uniforms; Philexfrance
1989	545-548	New Prince Andrew School
1989	549-552	Christmas
1989	553-557	Early Vehicles
1990	558-561	Farm Animals
1990	562-565	Stamp World London 90
1990	566-569	Telecommunications
1990	570-571	90th Birthday of Queen Mother
1990	572-576	RMS <i>St Helena II</i>
1990	577-581	Christmas, Local Churches
1990	582-585	Removal of Napoleon's Body
1991	586-590	Military Uniforms of 1897
1991	591-592	Royal Birthdays
1991	593-597	Christmas
1991	598-602	Phila Nippon 91, Motorcycles
1991	Proposed Issue	World War II
1992	603-606	500th Anniversary of America
1992	607-611	QEII Accession
1992	612-616	Liberation of Falkland Islands
1992	617-620	Christmas
1992	621-624	Local Anniversaries

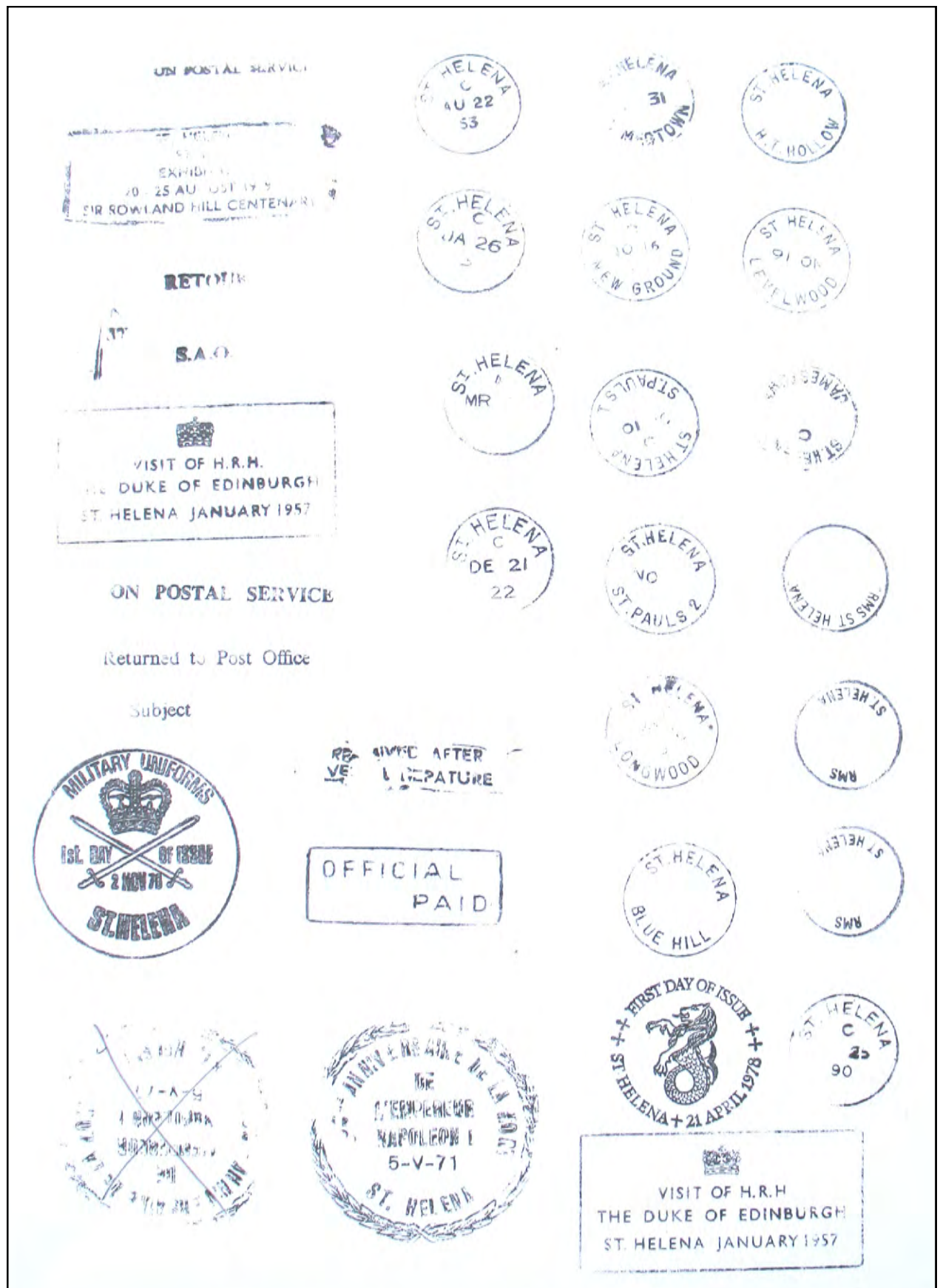
Appendix 3 (III) Folders for St Helena Stamp Issues 1993 - 1998

Year	SG Numbers	Details
1993	625-629	Flowers I
1993	630-635	Wirebird
1993	636-647	Definitives, Birds
1993	648-652	Christmas, Toys
1993	Proposed Issue	Dinosaurs
1994	653-658	Flowers & Children's Art
1994	659-662	Pets
1994	663-666	Fish
1994	667-670	Butterflies
1994	671-675	Christmas, Carols
1994	676-680	Flowers II
1994	Proposed Issue	Coffee Production
1995	681-684	Emergency Services
1992	685-689	Harpers Valley Earth Dam
1995	690-698	World War II
1995	699-703	Invertebrates
1995	705-709	Christmas, Children's Paintings
1996	710-713	Union Castle Ships I
1996	714-715	Radio
1996	716-720	70th Birthday of QEII
1996	721-725	CAPEX 96, Mail Transport
1996	726-729	Napoleonic Sites
1996	730-733	Christmas, Flowers & Views
1997	734-739	Endemic Plants from Diana's Peak
1997	741-744	500th Anniversary of Discovery I
1998	757-760	Union Castle Ships II
1998	766-777	Definitives, Maritime Heritage

Appendix 4 (I) Strikes of Datestamps and Handstamps (not to scale)



Appendix 4 (II) Strikes of Datestamps and Handstamps (not to scale)



Appendix 5 Paper with Strikes of Datestamps and Handstamps, 20 August 1979

SPECIMEN

RETOUR
DECEASED
GONE AWAY
PAQUEBOT
ON POSTAL SERVICE
RETURN TO SENDER
MISSSENT TO ST. HELENA

T

RECEIVED AFTER
VESSEL DEPARTURE

VES. EL DEPARTURE
RECEIVED A TER

SHIP: _____
Date of Despatch _____
Despatch No _____

OFFICIAL PAID

POST OFFICE
ST. HELENA

OFFICIAL PAID

ST. HELENA
C
AU 20
79
H.T. HOLLOW

ST. HELENA
C
AU 20
79
NEW GROUND

ST. HELENA
C
AU 20
79
ST. PAULS 2

ST. HELENA
C
AU 20
79
BLUE HILL

ST. HELENA
C
AU 20
79
SANDY BAY

ST. HELENA
C
AU 20
79
LEVELWOOD

ST. HELENA
C
AU 20
79
LONGWOOD

ST. HELENA
C
AU 20
79
JAMESTOWN

ST. HELENA
C
AU 20
79

SHIP: _____
Date of Despatch _____
Despatch No _____

Appendix 6 Page from Ledger of 1868 listing Ships and Mails

Return of the
Number of Mail Bags received at and sent from Melbourne 1869

Date	Ship	London		Devonport		Date	Ship	London		Devonport	
		Received	Sent	Received	Sent			Received	Sent	Received	Sent
Dec. 1868 31	In Store	2	—	6	—	Dec. 12	Northam	69	58	77	58
Jan. 11	Briton	3	—	7	—	" 15	Essex	—	2	—	2
" 15	Roman	—	2	—	2	" 27	Briton	69	58	77	58
" 19	Asia	4	—	—	—	July 14	Swan	—	1	—	—
" 29	Norseman	—	2	—	2	Aug 14	—	—	1	—	—
Feb. 3	Cambrian	3	—	5	—	Sept 27	Niger	—	1	—	—
" 12	Briton	—	2	—	2	Oct 11	Cambrian	—	2	—	2
" 27	Celt	—	2	—	2	" 27	Saton	—	2	—	2
March 4	Good Hope	2	—	—	—	Nov 12	Mary	—	1	—	—
" 7	Dane	5	—	8	—	" 28	Norseman	—	2	—	2
" 13	Cambrian	—	5	—	11						
" 15	Asia	—	1	—	—			69	65	77	67
" 27	Saton	—	2	—	2						
April 2	Norseman	4	—	6	—						
" 12	Dane	—	2	—	2						
" 25	Good Hope	—	1	—	—						
" 27	Roman	—	4	—	9						
May 3	Celt	—	—	5	—						
" 14	Norseman	—	2	—	2						
" 28	Briton	—	2	—	2						
June 1	Asia	4	—	—	—						
" 2	Saton	3	—	6	—						
" 12	Celt	—	2	—	2						
" 30	Cambrian	—	2	—	2						
July 2	Good Hope	3	—	—	—						
" 12	Roman	3	—	5	—						
August 1	Briton	—	2	—	2						
" 15	Roman	—	2	—	2						
" 14	Good Hope	—	1	—	—						
Sept 27	Northam	—	2	—	2						
" 27	Cambrian	4	—	5	—						
" 28	Briton	—	5	—	5						
October 1	Asia	3	—	—	—						
" 14	Dane	4	—	5	—						
Nov 1	Northam	4	—	5	—						
Dec 1	Celt	4	—	5	—						
" 3	Good Hope	4	—	6	—						
" 5		2	—	—	—						

Appendix 7 Stamp Stocks, from Ledger of 1903

299 1864/674 (1856/1862) *Old issue*

DATE	5/- Sheet £60	1/- Sheet £12	6/- Sheet £60	1/- Sheet £4	3/- Sheet £3	2/- Sheet £2.10.0	1/- Sheet £1.5/-	1/- Sheet £10/-	Amount on hand £ s. d.	Particulars	Amount
31.3.03	14	33	199	290	238	227	428	131	5488 0 0		
1.4.03	12	5	—	—	—	—	10	—	127 10 0		
	132	28	199	290	238	327	418	131	5380 10 0		
4.4.03	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	13	28	199	290	238	327	418	131	5380 10 0		
15.7.03				10	10	10			95 0 0		
	13	28	199	280	228	317	418	131	5285 10 0		
19.10.03	1							131	125 10 0		
	12	28	199	280	228	317	418	—	5160 0 0		
14/12/03			5		5		10		52 10 0		
	12	28	194	280	223	317	408	—	5107 10 0		
18/12/03	12	28	194	280	223	317	408	—	5707 10 0		

*Returned to Crown Agents
5/4/04*

Appendix 8 Destruction Figures for St Helena 1986 - 1991 Range of Sets

2nd Draft

ST HELENA - STAMPS FOR DESTRUCTION									
SHIPS DEFINITIVE PG - 94					Release Date: 22.9.86				
.01	3,684	Sheets	+	24	Stamps	@	.50	per sheet	= 1842.24
.03	3,121	"	+	24	"	@	1.50	" "	= 4682.22
.09	3,096	"	+	47	"	@	4.50	" "	= 13936.23
.10	3,287	"	+	8	"	@	5.00	" "	= 16435.80
.12	1,545	"	+	11	"	@	6.00	" "	= 9271.32
.15	1,745	"	+	40	"	@	7.50	" "	= 13093.50
.20	1,401	"	+	34	"	@	10.00	" "	= 14016.80
.25	668	"	+	39	"	@	12.50	" "	= 8359.75
.40	982	"	+	42	"	@	20.00	" "	= 19656.80
.60	992	"	+	24	"	@	30.00	" "	= 29774.40
1.00	584	"	+	20	"	@	50.00	" "	= 29220.00
2.00	610	"		43	"	@	100.00	" "	= 61086.00
	844	First Day Covers			@	.65	per cover	=	548.60
	1,687	First Day Covers			@	4.85	" "	=	8181.95
	1,502	Plain Envelopes			@	.05	" "	=	75.10
									230180.71
									230180.71
SHIPS DEFINITIVE - SETS PG - 96									
	170	Sets			@	5.00	each	=	850.00
	240	Sets			@	2.00	each	=	480.00
	260	Sets			@	3.00	each	=	780.00
									2110.00
									2110.00
150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REMOVAL OF NAPOLEONS BODY PG - 81									
					Release Date: 15.12.90				
.13	471	Sheets	+	11	Stamps	@	6.50	per sheet	= 3062.93
.20	350	"	+	14	"	@	10.00	" "	= 3502.80
.38	507	"	+	47	"	@	19.00	" "	= 9650.86
.45	500	"	+	36	"	@	22.50	" "	= 11266.20
	1,326	First Day Covers			@	1.50	per cover	=	1989.00
	500	Plain Envelopes			@	.05	per cover	=	25.00
	192	Sets				1.16		=	222.72
									29719.51
									29719.51
UNIFORMS PART II PG - 87									
					Release Date: 2.5.91				
.13	535	Sheets	+	46	Stamps	@	6.50	per sheet	= 3483.48
.15	527	"	+	16	"	@	7.50	" "	= 3954.90
.20	421	"	+	15	"	@	10.00	" "	= 4213.00
.38	592	"	+	28	"	@	19.00	" "	= 11258.64
.45	581	"	+	35	"	@	22.50	" "	= 13088.25
	499	Plain Envelopes			@	.05	per cover	=	24.95
	1,984	First Day Covers			@	1.61	per cover	=	3194.24
	200	Sets				1.31		=	262.00
									39479.46
									39479.46



Kaballa, Sierra Leone Postmark Discovery

Philip Quirk and John Hossack



Kaballa 057.00 (enlarged)



057.01 (enlarged)

Kaballa, now known as Kabala, is the largest town in the Koinadugu district of the Northern Province in Sierra Leone. Although a post office opened on 1 Nov 1899, the hitherto earliest known canceller, designated 057.01 by Walton, was not sent out until 20 May 1901 and the earliest recorded date (ERD) for its postmark is 10 Aug 1902 (ref.1).

The left hand postmark shown above was noted by one of us (JH), in a lot offered on eBay in November 2015, as a possible ERD. Indeed it is, but more interestingly it appears to be a previously unrecorded cancel!

The newly discovered postmark, 24mm in diameter, is dated 28 March 1901, almost two months before the dispatch of 057.01. Although quite similar to 057.01, it has no dot between SIERRA and LEONE. Furthermore, the alignment of the lettering differs; for example, the vertical of the 'L' of LEONE bisects the postmark to the left of the first 'A' of KABALLA, compared to just left of the 'B' in 057.01. The style of lettering differs from that of the later device 057.02 (ruling out its use in 1910 with an inverted year slug).

Michael Hamilton commented on the almost hand-written appearance of the 28; this is caused by blotches of ink that appear identical in colour to the rest of the postmark. This suggests that the device was in poor condition, and could explain why it was soon to be replaced.

We have allocated "Walton" number 057.00 to the new postmark. Are there any more examples out there?

Reference

1. Walton, F., Quirk, P., Hamilton, M. & Horry D. (2015) *The Postmarks of Sierra Leone 1854-1961*, 2nd ed., p.46, WASC.



Yele, Sierra Leone Temporary Skeleton Cancellor

John Hossack

Yele is a village in the Tonkolili District of the Northern Province of Sierra Leone, dependent largely on agriculture for its local economy. A postal agency was opened there in 1953 (Refs. 1, 2). However it was closed in September the following year, reopened in April 1956, closed again in February 1959 and opened once more in June of that year (Ref. 2).

The first postmark seen there was inscribed YELE / SA. LEONE (Ref. 2). After the re-opening on 28 April 1956 a canceller reading YELE / SIERRA LEONE was issued, the earliest recorded date of its use being 17 July 1956 (Ref. 2). However, it would now seem that a temporary or skeleton canceller was used before then and a postmark is illustrated below.



Skeleton datestamp for 22 May 56 applied at Yele

This recently acquired example was applied on 22 May 1956 to a 4d definitive stamp illustrating the mining operations at Marampa. The date fits neatly between the two given above. The postmark has a diameter of approximately 30 mm, which is typical for these temporary marks.

No skeleton mark has previously been recorded for Yele, though examples from more than 20 other post offices in Sierra Leone, opened mainly in the 1940's and 1950's, are known (Ref. 3). It would be interesting to learn of any more examples from Yele, or indeed from other post offices for which these temporary marks have not yet been reported.

References

- 1 Beale, P. O., *The Postal Service of Sierra Leone*, p. 78, RPSL, London, 1988
- 2 Walton, F. L., Quirk, P. G., Hamilton, M. and Horry, D., *The Postmarks of Sierra Leone 1854 – 1961* 2nd edition, p. 96, WASC 2015
- 3 Walton, F. L., *Cameo*, vol. 67, pp. 156 – 157, WASC 2006



Cameroons: British Mandate

Jeremy Martin

Following a complaint by the League of Nations the Governor of the Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria enacted an Ordinance dated 18th October 1930:

“to remove any ground for the suggestion that that part of the Cameroons which is administered as if it formed part of the Protectorate is regarded by Government or the Legislature as being other than the territory in respect of which a Mandate is exercised by His Majesty on behalf of the League of Nations.”

The full text, overleaf, is reproduced from the *Supplement to the Nigerian Gazette* dated 11 Sept 1930



Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria.

IN THE TWENTY-FIRST YEAR OF THE REIGN OF
HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE V.

W. BUCHANAN SMITH, C.M.G., M.C.

Officer Administering the Government.

AN ORDINANCE TO SUBSTITUTE THE WORDS "CAMEROONS UNDER
 BRITISH MANDATE" FOR THE WORDS "BRITISH CAMEROONS"
 WHEREVER THEY OCCUR IN NIGERIAN LEGISLATION.

[23rd October, 1930.] Date of
commence-
ment.

BE IT ENACTED by the Governor of the Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council so far as the provisions hereof relate to the Colony and to the Southern Provinces of the Protectorate, as follows:— Enactment.

2

No. 27 of 1930 *Cameroons under British Mandate.*

Short title
and
application.

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Cameroons under British Mandate Ordinance, 1930, and shall apply to the Colony and Protectorate (including the Cameroons under British Mandate).

Substitution
of
"Cameroons
under
British
Mandate"
for "British
Cameroons"
throughout
Nigerian
legislation.

2. The words "Cameroons under British Mandate" shall be substituted for the words "British Cameroons" wherever the said words occur in any Nigerian Ordinance or in any Order, Proclamation or Regulation made or issued under any such Ordinance; provided that this substitution shall not be made in references to the British Cameroons Order in Council, 1923, by this title.

Amendment
of section 3
of Chapter 2
No. 5 of 1924

3. Section 3 of the Interpretation Ordinance is hereby amended by the deletion of paragraph (11A) and by the substitution thereof of the following paragraph:—

"(11A) 'Cameroons under British Mandate' has the
 "same meaning as the expression 'British
 " 'Cameroons' has in the British Cameroons Order
 "in Council, 1923."

This printed impression has been carefully compared by me with the Bill which has passed the Legislative Council, and in so far as the provisions thereof relate to the Colony and to the Southern Provinces of the Protectorate, is found by me to be a true and correctly printed copy of the said Bill.

R. O. RAMAGE,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

Assented to in His Majesty's name in so far as the provisions hereof relate to the Colony and to the Southern Provinces of the Protectorate, and enacted by me in so far as the provisions hereof relate to the Northern Provinces of the Protectorate this 18th day of October, 1930.

W. BUCHANAN SMITH,
Officer Administering the Government.

Sierra Leone Type D7 CANCELLED Overprint on Queen Victoria 6d

Frank Walton RDP FRPSL

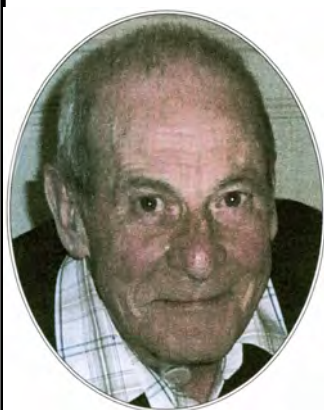
Around 1873-1874, a number of stamps from several British colonies were specifically printed on glazed paper and overprinted with De La Rue's Type D7 CANCELLED overprint; they were always left imperforate. There was only one sheet printed from each then-current plate, and these were retained in the De La Rue archive. The history of these printings is discussed by Marcus Samuel in *The London Philatelist* (Ref. 1) and by Philip Beale in *The Postal Service of Sierra Leone* (Ref. 2). As far as Sierra Leone is concerned, the initial four values printed from the first Keyplate (1d, 3d, 4d and 1s) and the contemporary 6d were produced in this manner.

I have been keeping records of the provenances of panes of the 6d when they appear on the market. Because the panes were cut from the single sheet printed with scissors, it is possible to 're-join' the various images, as shown by figure 1 overleaf. Of the 12 panes on the sheet, at least eight of them were still intact in relatively recent times. The only pieces I have not recorded are Pane 1 and Pane 4. If anyone has an illustration of these I would be pleased to hear from them.

- Ref. 1. Samuel M., "British Colonial De La Rue Imperforate Stamps and Plate Proofs", *The London Philatelist*, Vol. 82, pp173-176, RPSL, Aug-Sep 1973.
Ref. 2. Beale P.O., *The Postal Service of Sierra Leone*, p123, RPSL, London 1988.

Obituary - Stewart Duncan FRPSL

Dr David Kindley FRCPE FRPSL



Stewart Duncan FRPSL passed away peacefully at home 2 February 2016 after a long battle with laryngeal cancer, aged 76. He was born 22 May 1939 to parents who kept a newsagents shop in Aberdeen. He went to school at Robert Gordon's in Aberdeen and studied to become a Chartered Accountant. He had been a junior member of the Aberdeen Philatelic Society and came back to it upon retirement, acting as auditor and keeping a succession of treasurers in order. He became a member of the RPSL in 1997 and a Fellow in 2011.

Stewart formed a world class collection of the stamps and postal history of The Gambia which was awarded a Gold Medal and *The Margaret Morris Trophy* at Glasgow 2000 for best display in Overseas Postal History. He also co-authored, with Oliver Andrew, the standard work on *The Postal Markings of The Gambia, 1858-2000* which was published in 2005 by the West Africa Study Circle of which Stewart was a long standing member. He also contributed several articles to *Cameo*, the Circle's journal, and attended a number of their meetings and weekend conferences where he was a popular and social companion. Stewart had a significant collection of Trans-Atlantic Airmails and was in the British Airmail Society. Closer to home Stewart was a member the Scottish Postal History Society forming a collection of the Caledonian Railway and of his local part of Aberdeenshire.

His home, Hilton, had been part of the Kilmarnock Arms in Cruden Bay and was where Bram Stoker, inspired by nearby Slains Castle, started to write *Dracula*. Some stamp room!

The funeral service was held at Ellon Parish Church on 9 February 2016, followed by interment at Ellon Cemetery. He is survived by his wife Adelaide and their two sons, Stewart and Gary, and two grandchildren.

Figure 1
(See p 113)



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.

London Philatelist, Volume 125, no. 1433, March 2016

pp100-101, *Modern Sierra Leone Forgeries*, by Peter Rolfe & Robin Peters

Volume 125, no. 1435, May 2016

p166, *The Royal Philatelic Collection: British West Africa*, by Michael Sefi

Supplement, *The Crawford Library of Philatelic Literature at the British Library and for the World in Digital Form*, by David Beech

Air Mail News, Volume 58, no. 233, May 2016

p2, *The Quarterly Cover: Angola to the USA*, by John Symons. Sent 18 July 1942, by rail and air.

Journal of the France & Colonies PS, Volume 65, no. 4, December 2015

pp141-142, *An anomalous N'gila Cameroun Postmark* by Marty Bratzel

Volume 66, no. 1, March 2016

pp6-16, *Monkey Business: Benin's 'Zin Kaka' Quasi-definitives of December 2003* by Nicholas Pertwee

pp32-33, *Early mail from French West Africa by German service* by John Mayne

p34, *Monkeys Rampant* by Michael Round

p36, *New N'Gaoundéré Cameroun Datestamp* by Marty Bratzel

Civil Censorship Study Group Bulletin, volume 43, no.2, April 2016

pp63-65, *Little German Air Mail was censored at Bermuda*, by Bob Wilcsek & John Wilson

The Chronicle of the U.S. Classics Postal Issues, the journal of the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, vol 68, no. 1, February 2016

pp97-101, *British West Africa Mail Packets to 1900*, book review, by Richard Winter. A very comprehensive and complimentary review of this WASC publication.

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