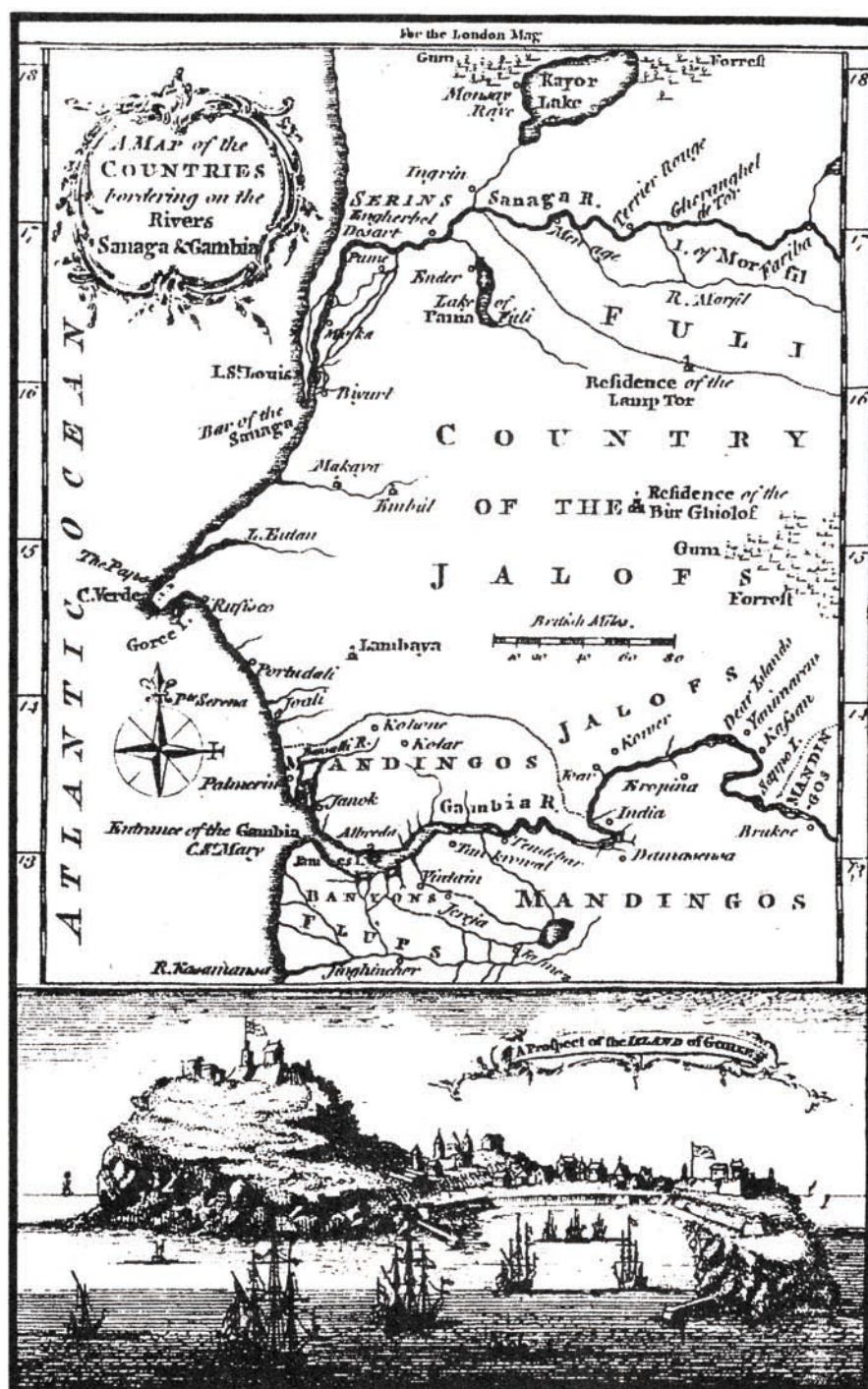


CAMEO



The Journal of the West Africa Study Circle



Volume 6
Number 2

Whole Number 48

July 1998

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Editorial

This issue of *Cameo* has more articles than any previous issue in the journal's illustrious history. One of the most welcoming aspects is the number of different contributors - especially those from overseas and those who are writing for the first time. My life is made considerably easier as well when members send in text in an electronic form. Putting all of these together, imagine my delight when I received the article from Dudley Cobb: it was via internet email from a new member who lives in Paris!

The mix of articles in this edition reflects well my mail bag over the first six months of this year. Sierra Leone is again strongest, but the range of material from the other colonies is also most encouraging. My stock of articles is beginning to dwindle now, so if you have an interesting story to tell please send it to me in what ever form you can and I shall try and wave my magic editorial wand.



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Scope : The West Africa Study Circle covers The Gambia, Gold Coast, The Nigerias, Sierra Leone, Ascension, Cameroons, St. Helena, Togo and nearby British Postal Agencies.

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Front Cover

A reproduction of an illustration taken from the *London Magazine* of February 1759 showing the position of the Island of Goree and a drawing of the entrance to the harbour. See the article by Stewart Duncan on page 62.



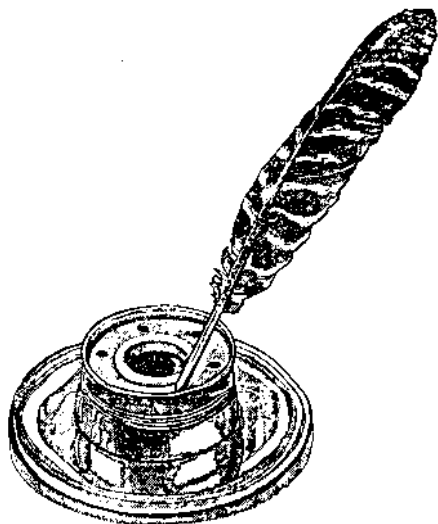
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<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/FrankWalton>

Please encourage any philatelic friends to browse the site as well. Feel free to email your *Cameo* Editor at :

FrankWalton@compuserve.com





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.

My addresses are listed on the front page of all Cameo issues.

Frank Walton

Bibiani Manuscript Cancel?

Dear Editor,

I enclose a photocopy of an Edward VII Gold Coast 1d (SG39) that has been pen cancelled in black ink *Bibiani* 15 January 1906.

It has the appearance of having been postally used in this mining district. The published literature gives 1938 as being the opening date for a post office there, but I would ask if any member has knowledge of postal arrangements prior to this date.



Roy Cooper
Trowbridge

◇ ◇ ◇

Nigerian Communications

Dear Frank,

I suggest there is, possibly in the original, a printing error in the list of Nigerian Telegraph Offices (*Cameo* January 1998, p36). Barkin-Ladi should be Barakin-Ladi. I know because it is located on the Bauchi plateau in Northern Nigeria and from 1950 to 1970 I visited the tin

mine near there annually!

It is worth recording also that many of the early telegraph lines were later re-routed along the railway lines, following their construction, to cut out duplication and more especially to facilitate access for maintenance and repair. I was also intrigued to read that even as late as 1919 mail for neighbouring French Colonies of Niger and Chad was still being carried through the Nigerian postal system. Mail for Niger was sent to the French Transport Officer at Kano, while that for Chad to Jos (? dry season) or Maiduguri (? wet season). See pp451-455 of Ince & Sacher's book for further details.

In the passage in the same article (p33) relating to the Travelling Post Offices, it is worth mentioning that in the depression years following 1929 there was a contraction in the TPO services. Any member interested in this subject should refer to my published study of *The Travelling Post Office of Nigeria 1903-1939*, copies of which are still available for purchase from the Circle's Librarian.

Jack Ince
Stirling
Canada

◇ ◇ ◇



Gold Coast 'T'

Dear Frank,

Many thanks for the fine analysis in *Cameo* of Edward Leahy's Gold Coast cover. Charles Leonards' surmise that the 'T' in fact is a '1' of Cape Town makes sense to me. I will share the articles with Mr. Leahy and we will publish a follow-up at the earliest opportunity.

Bill Welch
Editor, *The American Philatelist*
State College, PA
United States

✧ ✧ ✧



Stamps used on Mailing

Dear Mr Walton,

Just a brief note of thanks and compliments on the stamps you used to mail *Cameo*, how well they were affixed (no corners came loose to be bent or torn) and how neatly they were cancelled - I collect UK commemoratives, and this was wonderful.

Kevin Doyle
Lisle, IL
United States

✧ ✧ ✧



Biafran Date Slugs

Frank,

I have a query which you or other members may be able to help with. It is about year dates in cancellations on the stamps of Biafra. They practically never seem to be present, even when the same cancel on Nigerian stamps had them. Why would this be? I can't think of any security reason for deleting this bit of information. Perhaps slugs with the two last digits of the year had formerly been sent out from Lagos and so were no longer available. Something of this sort happened in German East Africa during WWI. Date slugs from Germany could not get through

so new ones, with distinctly different numerals, were locally prepared.

David Griesedieck
United States

Editor's note - I invited Robert Seaman to comment on this topic and he provided the following information for David:

Postmarks from 1967 normally have the year slugs, but as Lagos refused to supply them in subsequent years because of the war, datestamps used in 1968, 1969 or early 1970 never had a year portion. Watch out for examples from UMUAHIA; these were forged (in Portugal) with full dated postmarks.

And finally a response from David:

Thanks for the information about Biafra. It was very gratifying to get such a precise and authoritative answer - the advantage of belonging to a specialist society! On re-checking my own stamps, I indeed found that the only ones with year dates were ones branded as dubious in Gibbons: not having had verifiable use in Biafra.

✧ ✧ ✧



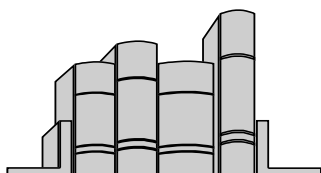
Sierra Leone 1½d SG18 Early Usage

Dear Frank,

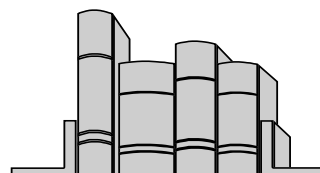
Thank you for your note which accompanied *Cameo* Volume 5 Number 6 concerning the date quoted for Sierra Leone No 18, the first 1½d stamp. I am most grateful to you for drawing to my attention the auction lot, and I have amended the date of issue to November 1876 on the basis of the evidence provided.

David Aggersberg
Catalogue Editor
Stanley Gibbons Publications
Ringwood

✧ ✧ ✧



Bookshelf



New Books



Cameroun: The 1940 Overprints by Dudley Cobb ISBN 2-9511613-0-1

Published by Conception et Réalisation, 2 Avenue Henri Dunant BP 282, Monaco 98005. Available from Albion Bookshop, 29 Albion Street, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 1LX, UK. Price £25 + p&p (£2 UK, £2.50 European Union, £3.50 elsewhere). 104 A4 pages, card cover. Bilingual book with 24 colour plates, 40 pages of English text and 40 pages of French text. Reviewed by Rob May.

On 27 August 1940 Colonel Leclerc took control of Cameroun for the Free French. During October 1940 part of the stocks of the current definitive stamps were overprinted "Cameroun Francais 27-8-40". This book is the most complete study of these stamps yet undertaken.

For all values every stamp in each pane is different. It is greatly to his credit that he makes good sense of a most complex issue of stamps in a reader-friendly way. The central section of full colour reproductions of the stamps, mostly in complete panes, gives the reader an opportunity to plate individual single stamps. A further tabulation of the positioning of the hyphens on Setting I, used for the larido's wife and elephants designs, is reproduced with permission of Michael Round.

Mr Cobb acknowledges assistance from WASC members Marty Bratzel and Michael Wright, as well as Michael Round. The genesis of this book lies in a series of articles published by the French Colonies Study Group, COLFRA, in French. The international flavour is reflected in the unusual layout of the book. The first part is written in English, then after the illustrations the third section is in French. Which leads me to a word of warning: this is a book where it is essential to read the preface! The English and French texts are not direct translations of each other. The French text derives from the COLFRA articles as the research progressed, with some revisions and enlargement. The English text is further revised and, fortunately for the level of French literacy of this average British philatelist, is the most up to date.

The research is continuing. Mr Cobb has listed a number of areas where further discoveries may be made. Much of the text on the sequence of printings and issue dates is educated conjecture as the historic documentation is sparse. The author invites further correspondence. This book is not destined to be a best seller and the published price of £25 reflects its short print run. For collectors with an accumulation of these issues it will be a very useful reference to enable them to sort them. The question, however, remains "Just how do you collect an issue where every stamp in the sheet is different, across 31 values?"



King George V Key Plates of the Imperium Postage and Revenue Design by Peter Fernbank ISBN 0-9525687-2-1.

This marvellous book has been awarded the prestigious Crawford Medal by the Royal Philatelic Society London. Congratulations to Peter! This West Africa Study Circle publication is still available at £40 to WASC members (£48 retail), plus £4.20 p&p in the UK from Peter Fernbank, 128 Sinclair Avenue, Banbury, OX16 7BL. A review was published in the January 1998 *Cameo* (Volume 6 Number 1 p9).





Gold Coast to Ghana by Colin Russell ISBN 1-85821-405-X

Published by The Pentland Press Ltd. Available from Hogarth Representation, 1 Birchington Court, Birchington Road, London N8 8HS, UK. Price £8.50. P&p costs, number of pages, binding etc not stated. Notified by Tony Plumbe. The following is taken from the cover notes:

“Colonial life was in many ways a comfortable existence, but the dangers of tropical diseases were never far away. In Russell’s able hands, the tale is a beguiling one of a mysterious and exotic region of the African continent involved in the slow but steady advance towards ‘civilisation’. Through him we witness the evolution from the totally autocratic rule from the Gold Coast tribal chiefs into the democratic nation which Ghana is today. *Gold Coast to Ghana* is the thoroughly enjoyable memoir of a man capable of portraying his life with wit, wisdom and genial bonhomie.”



The 1883-97 Issue of the Gambian Cameos - A Study of the Plates, Printings and Perforators

by B. I. O’Hara ISBN 0-646-35313-6. Published by author. Available from Brian O’Hara, Bloomsbury Antiques, 222 Onslow Road, Shenton Park 6008, Western Australia, Australia. Price \$A45.00. P&p airmail world-wide \$A15.00, surface world-wide \$A10.00. Equivalent valued cheques in £ sterling / US \$ or Visa / MasterCard also accepted. Reviewed by Oliver Andrew.

One of the great gaps in the WASC handbook *The Stamps and Postal History of The Gambia* was the omission of all the plating details of the Cameos although these had been collected by R.McConaghey and set out in Dalwick (1953). The late Colin Graham had already done enough to show that many of Dalwick’s details were incorrect, and now Brian O’Hara has published the results of his years of study of several hundred Cameo sheets. Brian has had the format of his book resemble that of the handbook: the dimensions are almost identical, the dustwrapper laid out in the same way, and there are some other similarities you may like to spot for yourself. There are four colour plates, ten black-and-white illustrations, and full-page tables listing the flaws of each stamp of each value of each printing. Yum !

The progress that Brian has made is not in the number of flaws identified, but in the classification of them so that each printing can be seen to have its characteristic pattern. This is invaluable in attributing sheets and even individual stamps to particular printings. It’s invaluable in other ways too: using Brian’s tables, I have been able to say with certainty that a doubtful cancellation was indeed a forgery, because the absence of a flaw on the stamp showed it to have been printed after the date of the postmark. My only cavil is that the 2½d value has not been included at all. But, as the author readily admits: “There is no continuity or empathy with the 1880 series and hence it loses a lot of its appeal”. Let us hope that Brian will eventually find the time and enthusiasm to have a go. To make up, there are tables for the third printing of the 1880 ½d, 1d and 3d.

The perforators and the methods of printing receive full discussion and illustration, in which fact and speculation are clearly distinguished; the “points up” and “points down” perforations, and the sloping label, for instance, are fully treated; while the tables themselves are a model of clarity. For everyone interested in the production of the Cameos, as well as their plating, this book is a must.

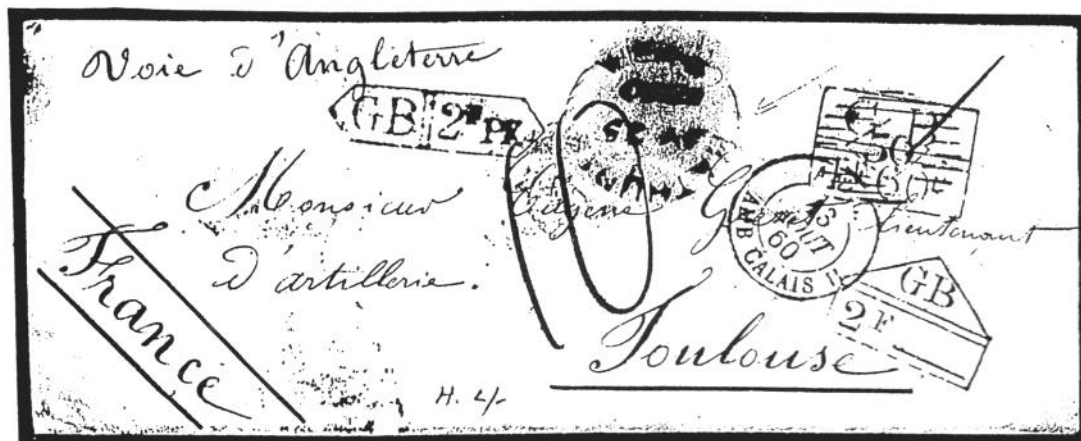


Auction Report - Togo at Harmers - 28 January 1998 - report by Jeremy Martin

This Harmers of London sale had, originally, 33 lots of Togo although seven were subsequently withdrawn. Despite this some astonishing prices were realised, as detailed below including 11.75% buyer’s premium.

1m wide setting original gum SGH10: estimated £2,000, realised £2,794; 1m narrow setting used SGH23: est £1,000, rel £2,906; 10pfg January 1915 setting, og block of six, one stamp ‘TOGU’ variety, SGH31 and variety Cat £200++: est £500, rel £2,235; 20pfg January 1915 setting, used ‘TOGU’ variety: est £300, rel £3,353; 50pfg January 1915 setting, used SGH33 cat £6,500: est £3,000, rel £7,823.

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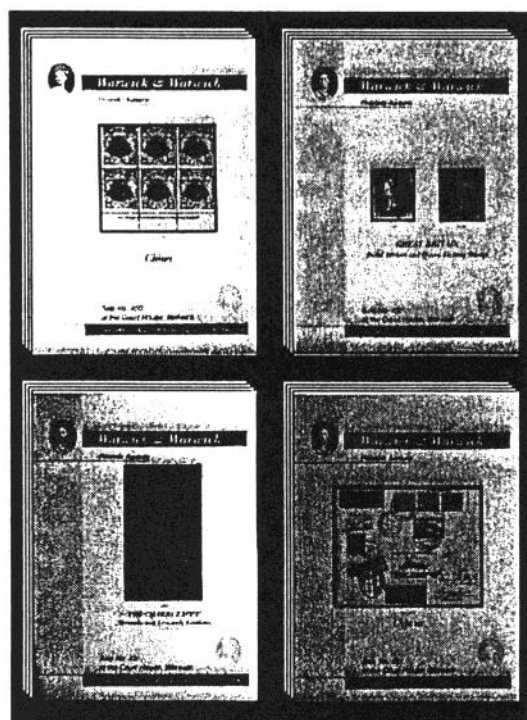
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The Island of Goree

Stewart Duncan

In February 1759 the *London Magazine* published an original illustration (see front cover) of the position of the Island of Goree as a Colony of the Senegambia in West Africa. The island, or rather rock, is little more than a mile from the southern tip of Cape Verde and was of consequence only from its inaccessible situation, which rendered it capable of being converted into a strong military position. It is about two miles in circumference and rises to a height of 300 feet with a flat summit on which Fort St Michael was built. At its foot is the town of Goree which, according to an 1883 encyclopaedia, “contained about 3000 inhabitants, and the entrepot of all the French trade on the West Coast of Africa”.

It was colonised by the Dutch in 1621 after which it had a chequered history, being captured by the French in 1677 then by the British in 1758. Hence the article in the *London Magazine*. It was repossessed by the French in 1763 who then abandoned it in 1779 to the British who eventually restored it to the French in 1817 after a few short exchanges in between.

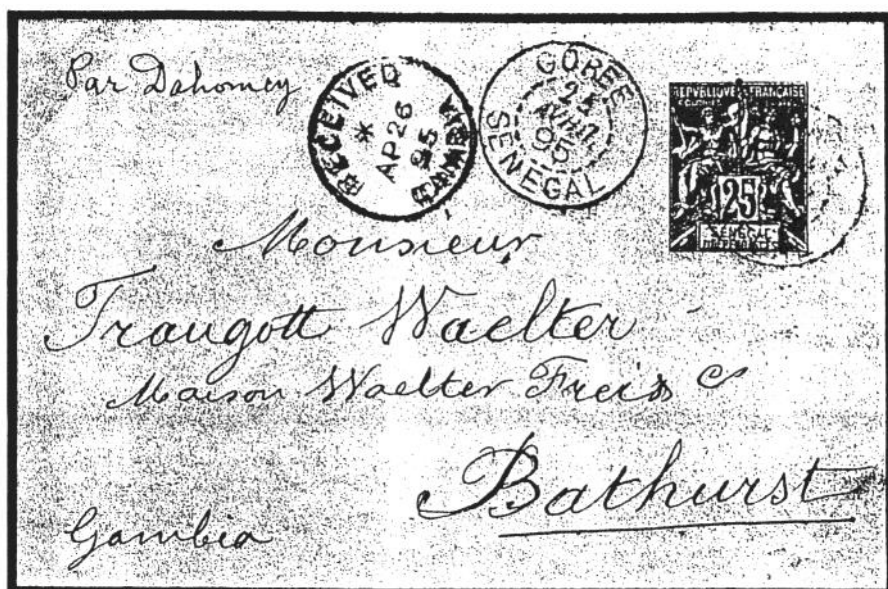
On 1 April 1814 Charles William Maxwell, who was the Governor of Sierra Leone at this time, wrote to Major James Chisholm the Commanding Officer at Goree the following letter outlining the mail delivery service in West Africa at this time. It reads:

“I have prevailed on W Hadman to call at Goree, to leave a Box of letters, those for Senegal, you will be so good as to send by a fast Courier, as it is of much consequence to Lt Colo. Macarthy to receive these as soon as possible, as I have communicated to him my wishes for his removal to this Colony by the Plover, which will be in Goree in about ten days after you receive these letters. Capt Campbell will leave this tomorrow, to cruise for some days, and will afterwards proceed to Goree. If Lt Col Macarthy does not arrive at Goree before the Plover, you will be so good as to do all you can to induce Capt Campbell Major Chisholm to wait for him. I have the chance of returning to England in the Creole, Capt Mac Kenzie has promised to come for me about the end of this month or the beginning of next, therefore I trust that Lt Col Macarthy will be here before I go as I wish much to see him. I have not been able to spare the Colonial Vessels, to go windward, as they have been employed, along with the transport Brig. with a Detachment of the Corps in the Rio Pongas, sorting out slave traders in that river. They have been very successful, having apprehended three Englishmen, and killed the principal native slave trader who made an obstinate resistance to the efforts of the troops, and in an Action with this fellow who was supported by a considerable number of the Country people, the mate of the transport 2 European and one native soldier were killed. Lt. dodds and five native soldiers were wounded, Lt. dodds in three or four places, but none dangerously, one soldier will die of his wounds, the others are doing very well. The party has made a considerable booty and taken from ?, french, and other slave traders Two hundred and thirty one slaves. The native soldiers about 120 in number behave extremely well. B Maj. Appleton and the Offs. speak very highly of their spirit, and forward Conduct they have been pretty well fired at which will tend to make them steady, the European soldier as usual shewed the true old British spirit. The troops were embarked on the 8feb and just only returned a few days ago. B Major Appleton and his Company are still away on board the schooner, to take a slave vessel in the Ria Nunez Lt ? is cruising for a large Portuguese ship, with slaves from ports not under the Sovereignty of Portugal.

We have been looking out with much anxiety for arrivals from England and your selves, the length of time since our last letters is very great, surely something is near at hand.

Believe me Yours very faithfully”

As the British had claimed sovereignty of Goree in 1779 and exchanged it with the French in 1817 as a naval base, was a date stamp ever issued to record the receipt or dispatch of mail?



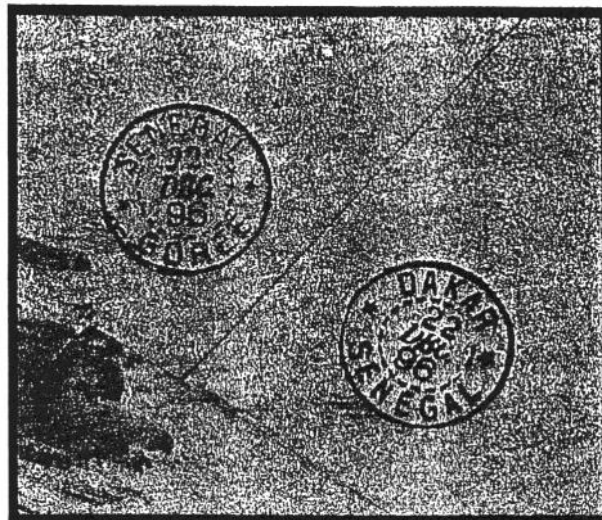
I can illustrate two types of Goree datestamps as used by the French post office towards the end of the nineteenth century.

The earlier was used on 25 April 1895 on a cover to Bathurst.

The illustration of the second type is taken from the back of a cover from Gambia to Dakar. On the front there is a Gambia datestamp of 21 December 1896.

References

1. Lawrence A.W., *Trade Castles and Forts of West Africa*
2. Fyfe C., *A History of Sierra Leone*, pp120-121, Oxford University Press, London 1962
3. Annandale C. (Ed.), *The Popular Encyclopaedia*, Vol. VI, 1883
4. Reeve H.E., *The Gambia*, 1912
5. Beale P.O., *The Postal Service of Sierra Leone...*, RPSL, London 1988
6. Sacher J., "Aviso - Postal Senegal", *Cameo*, Volume 4 p27, WASC, July 1990



Sierra Leone Government Railway Rolling Stock

Frank Walton

John Hossack has kindly provided me with some details of the SLGR, dating from just after World War II. Amongst a considerable amount of information covering the technical make up of the railway it mentions that there were eight items of rolling stock described as 'Baggage and Mail'. These were made by the Bristol Carriage and Wagon Works in 1915.

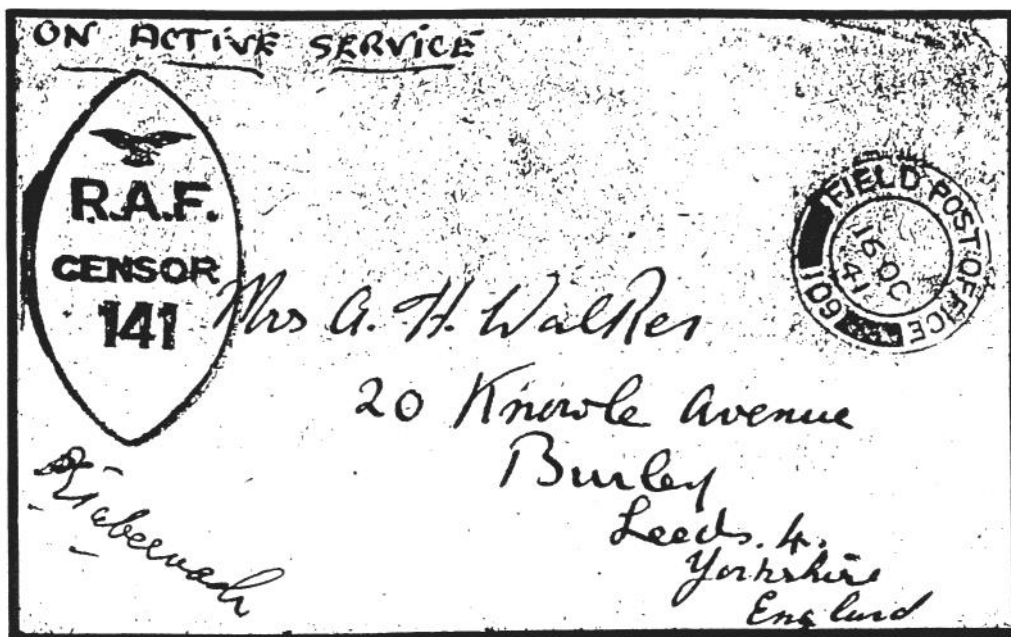
I wonder how the TPO handstamps were distributed; it seems highly possible that some wagons were permanently located on specific sections of the track, and would thus have one handstamp on board.

New RAF Censor Type from Gambia

John Rose

A group of covers, all addressed to members of the Walker family during the Second World War, have raised some interesting points concerning censorship from Gambia. The accumulation was reputedly all from the Gambia, and do all have RAF censor marks.

The bulk of these have square RAF censor mark Type R11, number 256 although three had been struck with a similar R11 censor mark but number 321. Number 256 is a well known Gambia censor mark but 321 is not recorded in Martin & Walton (Ref. 1). Unfortunately very few of the envelopes had postal markings which might confirm their origin and all three of the 321 marks were on covers which were cancelled with Official Paid roller-cancels.



16 October 1941 - FPO 109 (Gambia) to Leeds, England

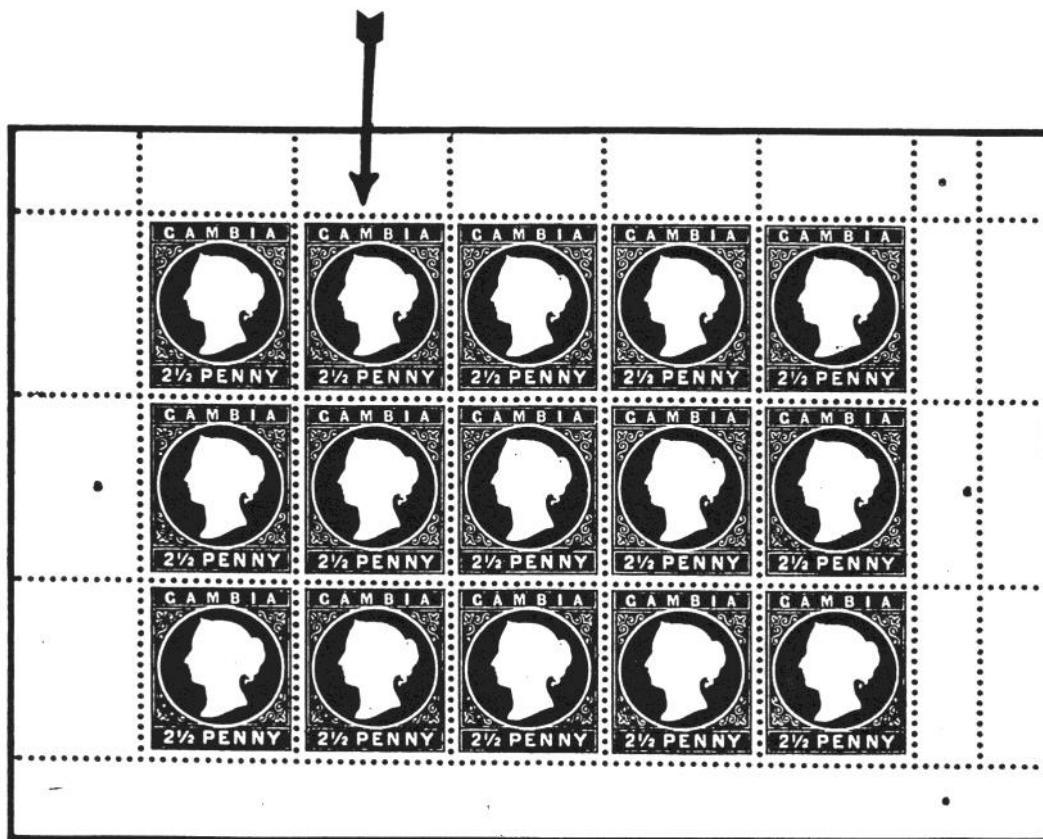
Perhaps more interesting however were the remaining two covers which had been struck with blue elliptical RAF censor marks number 141, which are of a style which has not been recorded from Gambia before, or for that matter from anywhere else in West Africa. These are Type R5 in the Forces Postal History Society listings (Ref. 2). One of these was very clearly struck with an FPO 109 cancel of 16 October 1941, indicating that it had originated in Gambia. Clearly the latter mark is a new find as far as Gambia censorship is concerned but perhaps the 321 mark also originates in Gambia. Does anyone have any information which might clarify this point?

References

1. Martin J.J. & Walton F.L., *West African Censorship*, p26, WASC, 1993
2. Daynes J.A. (Ed), *World War Two Censor Marks*, p51, Forces Postal History Society, Burnham-on-Crouch 1986

Gambian Flaws

Brian Davies



1886 2½d Deep bright blue, first comb perf. 14. Row 1 stamp 2
Break in frame line above M of GAMBIA measuring ½mm



1880 3d Pale dull ultramarine, line perf. 13¾
Row 3 stamp 2
Constant variety ½mm break in
white frame line above M in GAMBIA



1906 Provisionals ½d on 2s 6d
Broken 'E' & Bar and
Printer's ink through 'OS' of
POSTAGE in righthand side

Gambia Army Post Office Censor Mark

John Rose



20 July 1942 - The Gambia to Buenos Aires, Argentina

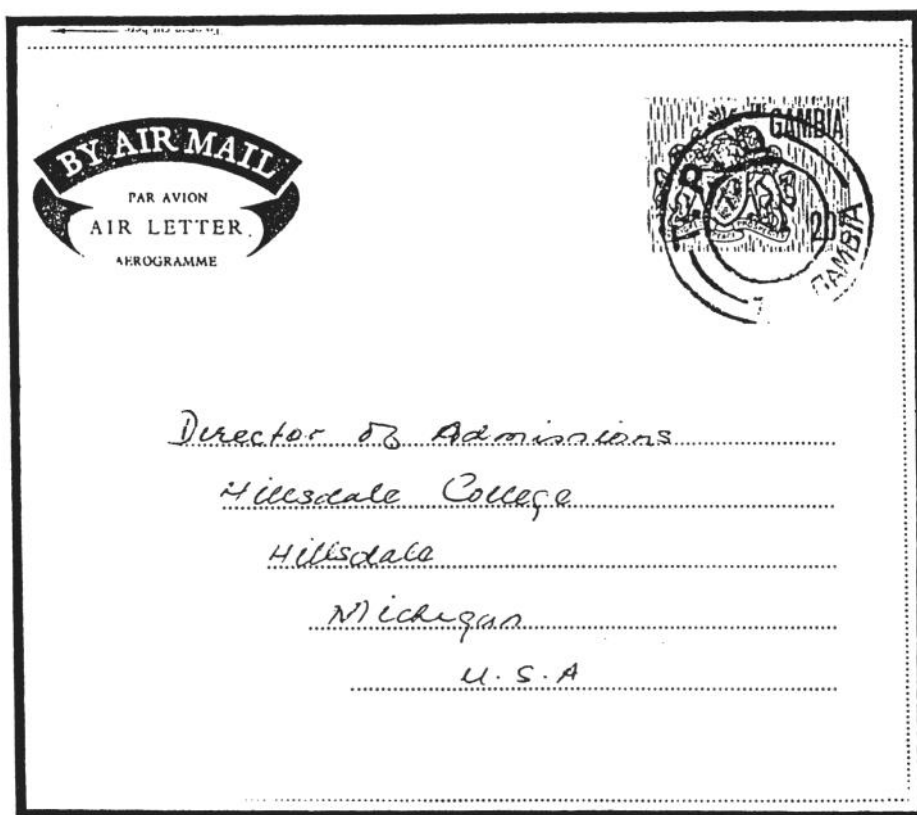
This cover has an unusual and, as far as I can tell, a previously unrecorded military censorship device. The cover has been struck in the front lower left corner with a small cachet reading ARMY / POST OFFICE in sans serif capitals, in violet. The cover has been self censored by the officer sending, Lieut. N. W. Goodson (or perhaps Gowilson), who has also written his name on the flap at the back of the letter.

The cover itself has stamps to pay the 3s 6d rate and has been sent via the Pan-Am service (FAM22) to Argentina via Brazil. Presumably the cover was carried by Panair between Brazil and Argentina. It was posted at Bathurst on 20 July 1942 and on the reverse there is a transit mark for Brazil of 3 August 1942 but there is no arrival mark for Buenos Aires except for a possible postman's mark.

Does anyone have further examples of this censor mark or does this represent the opportunistic use of a handstamp that was lying around on the sender's desk at the time of writing?

New Gambia TPO Postmark

Oliver Andrew



November 1973 - The Gambia to Michigan, USA

Jeremy Martin has shown me a Gambian air-letter (20b), written in November 1973, which has been cancelled with a travelling post office canceller unknown to either of us. It is a double ring (27 mm and 16mm) with 11mm spacer lines and text reading T.P.O. / THE GAMBIA. The lettering is slightly irregular, and much bigger than types 5 and 6 (Ref. 1). The gaps between the ends of the spacer lines are 19mm at the top and 20mm at the bottom. Unusually there is nothing inside the inner ring - no date, no year, no hyphen.

Cancellers with "THE GAMBIA" were introduced in 1973. The *Lady Wright* was in service until 1976, so this is unlikely to have been withdrawn with her. Has anyone other examples of this?

Reference

1. Andrew J.O. (Ed), *The Stamps and Postal History of The Gambia*, p120, Christie's Robson Lowe with the West Africa Study Circle, 1985

Cameroons C.E.F. Overprints & Postal Arrangements

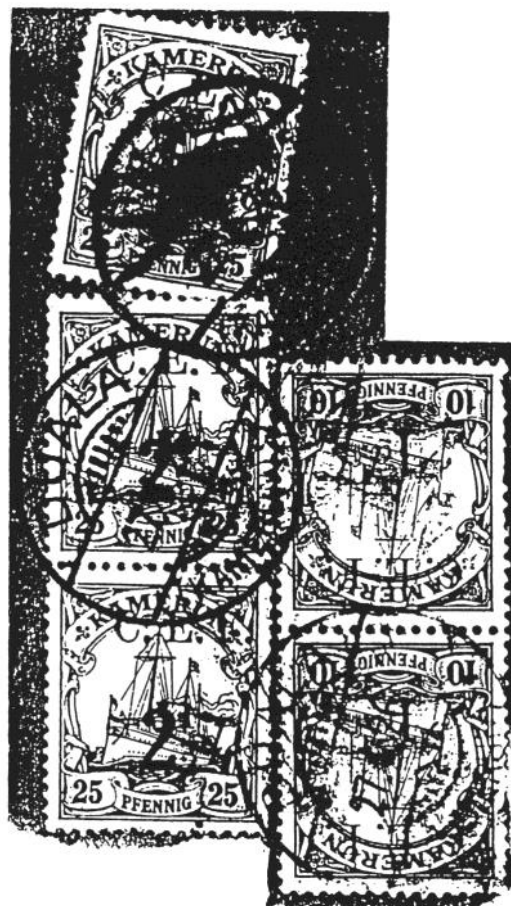
Bob Maddocks

Following the publication of my book (Ref. 1), readers have kindly provided some most interesting feedback.

Postmark 'Duala 27.1.26'

John Potter of Portsmouth has sent a photocopy of a piece bearing five C.E.F. stamps (2 x 1d, 3 x 2½d) all cancelled 'Duala 27.1.26'. The postmarks have the same date error with the year shown as 26 instead of 16 as is mentioned on page 175 of my book, namely in the final paragraph of the quoted Gibbons' letter to the *London Philatelist*. Clearly however this is an additional and previously unrecorded example of this date error. From this example it is seen in particular that the canceller in question was the former German datestamp 'Duala a' (Friedmann No. 20). This specific detail was also not previously mentioned or indeed known. It follows that the last recorded postal strike of the datestamp, which as on pages 149-150 I had surmised to have been 21 December 1915 is thus extended to 27 January 1916. Though the date error remains an enigma in itself it is obvious that the example first mentioned by Gibbons is not unique.

The appearance of this cancellation lends further credence to my belief that the postal datestamp in question, along with the two other German Duala cancellers, could not have been lost or destroyed as stated by Porter in a fire (Ref. 2). As it was not, unlike the other two, known to have been handed over to and used by the incoming French postal administration in Duala from 1 April 1916 onwards then at a guess it was probably 'souvenired' by an outgoing British postal official when the C.E.F. post office was closed down.



Use of C.E.F. Overprints on Mail and a Nigeria Marine Datestamp

Jeremy Martin came across an issue of *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (Ref. 3) in which he found a fascinating account of the sale of the C.E.F. postage stamps. It is reproduced in full below.

CAMEROONS (830 G 837). We learn that none of the recent issue with overprint C.E.F. and value in English currency have been sold unused, excepting to the Officers of the Expeditionary Force, who were allowed seven sets, or the equivalent of about £5 face value, at the time first issued. Residents on the spot up to the present have not been able to purchase, and have to hand in their letters for posting, which may or not have stamps affixed by the despatch clerk. Indeed an extraordinary state of affairs. Until this recent issue in July last, all mail matter was conveyed without charge whilst the Postal Service has been in the hands of the Military Authorities. The service is now possibly in transition stage, and there may be no sale of stamps over the Post Office counter until the Military have relinquished control. Interesting developments may be expected shortly.

Several correspondents have kindly written us interesting details on the issue, and we are indebted to Mr W.H. King for a number of interesting pieces he obtained, and quote the following from his letter: "My brother-in-law confirms that the C.E.F. stamps were not sold unused to anybody except the Military, and

as he is a civilian the Postmaster refused to supply him. He also confirms that the Officers of the Forces were each entitled to be supplied with seven unused sets. The remainder of stock is being held for postal purposes. Civilians have to hand in their letters at the Post Office and pay the postage and the stamps are attached by a black clerk. A notice to this effect is exhibited in the Offices. While my relative watched, the counter clerk having started to use a sheet of a certain value did not commence with another until all the stamps of the first sheet were disposed of. The customer therefore had no voice or control as to the denomination placed on his letter. The last eight letters or cards I have are each franked with two ½d. on 3pf. brown stamps.

A word in respect of letters posted for some months past marked 'No stamp available'. Nothing has been charged on these either at time of dispatch or delivery. Therefore, letters home to England have been free of cost. Rather a long journey for nothing!"

Another correspondent sends us an envelope which was one of a number placed through the post expecting to obtain some of the stamps duly used. All came through postmarked but without stamps. Rough luck!

It looks as though the black clerks, or possibly their employers, have some cleverness quite new. Having found the touch-stone to excite the greatest eagerness to acquire the stamps, considerable revenue can be netted without using stamps or very few. Maybe, a sum is required as contra to the cost of mails which for months have passed without charge. But why, and at whose fault? Is the Official Control beyond reproach or question and no consideration of responsibility acknowledged other than the actual delivery of mail matter? Then why if stamps are not at present necessary, to have issued any, or if necessary to have fenced them if only for awhile? The riddle appears to be a gamble and not a fair and open one at that. The Officers who arrived from the West Coast on leave in August asked £30 per set, face value 13s 3½d. Time certainly was required to endeavour to unload holdings at such expectation, but the market was not so enamoured and there has been a fall.

We are waiting with patience and hope our Agent may yet be able to forward us a general supply for our New Issue members.

Mr W.H. King has shown us an envelope hand stamped 'PORPOISE-DUALA Jan. 9 1915' in a circle. The *Porpoise* is a gunboat on river patrol work.

The most intriguing revelation here is that one of the Nigeria Marine serving with the Cameroons Naval Force, the paddle tug *Porpoise* used its own special datestamp on mail, presumably only that of its crew. Yet this is a somewhat insignificant vessel to have such a stamp on an official basis: did other Nigerian Government ships, and in particular the flagship *Ivy*, have similar marks for the Cameroons campaign? The immediate question is has the mentioned 'PORPOISE-DUALA Jan. 9 1915' survived in someone's collection?

'Expeditionary Force / Duala' Postal Datestamp

This item was included in Charles Entwistle's recent listing of British Army postmarks (Ref. 4). Valued at £1,000 for a good example it is the highest in the entire listing and shared only by one other, an 'Army TPO No 2. N.R.E.F.' from the war in North Russia.

References

1. Maddocks R.J., *The Postal Arrangements of the Anglo-French Cameroons Expeditionary Force 1914-1916*, Author, Oswestry 1996
2. Porter H.G., *The Cameroons*, an extended series of articles in *The Philatelist*, 1956-57.
3. *Ewen's Weekly Stamps News*, Number 837, 9 October 1915
4. Entwistle C. (Ed.), *Priced Checklist of British Army and Field Post Offices 1914-1919*, Chevril Press, Perth 1997

French Cameroun 1946 Perforations - An Update

Rob May

Since I wrote the article published in *Cameo* (Ref. 1) I have had the opportunity to carry out further research with new material and covers owned by other WASC members.

I have now acquired two complete sheets of the 60c value which show the different perforations. There are no compound perforations; the sheets were perforated by different machines.

The perforations of the perf 12½ x 12 sheet are regular throughout. The perforations of the perf 12½ x 12½ sheet are less regular and the whole of row 4 has a short space between the bottom hole and the corner which makes it gauge about 12¼ for the same 24 holes. The 12¼ perforations have been reported before in the French philatelic press.

Michael Ensor was kind enough to let me go through a large stock of 1940s and 1950s covers. I have drawn inferences from the statistics which I am sure will be challenged in due course, but for the time being my views are as follows:

The earliest dated perf 12 (long side) stamp found so far is a 3fr on cover dated 3 June 1950 from M'bangá. The perf 12½ 3fr value is found on cover dated 26 January 1950 from Garoua. The first perf 12½ x 12 25fr is on a cover dated 4 October 1953 from Nanga-Eboko and from then on every 15fr seen has this perforation. This was a very commonly used value, representing the rate for commercial letters up to 20g from 1951 to 1957 and also the rate to France from 1950 to 1958. Non urgent letters between 1949 and 1957 were charged 5fr. Covers quite often carry a 2fr and a 3fr stamp for this rate. On all such covers the 2fr stamp is perf 12½ x 12½ but after the M'bangá cover mentioned above all 3fr values are perf 12½ x 12.

I am therefore coming to the view that all printings after mid 1950 may have used the new machine, but large stocks of some earlier values, especially the 2fr, meant that they were not reprinted and continued to be issued to post offices with the old perforations. No new values have been added to the Cameroun listing.

The values found so far represent a logical set to cover the rates applicable throughout the 1950s, except that I can see no reason for the 30c, 60c and 3fr 60c to have been reprinted after 1950. Members with more expertise on French postal rates may like to respond. I would have expected to see a 4fr value for bulk mailings, but the apparent oversupply of 2fr values may account for its non-appearance so far.

My conclusion, therefore, is that the perf 12 (long side) values will prove to be a part set as listed in my earlier article. This leads on to a conclusion that the Sterling surcharges should include perf 12½ x 12 values for ½d and 2d but not for the 1d. The ½d value has been found, but so far no 2d have been reported. On the other hand, both the ½d and 2d values are found predominantly perf 12½ x 12½ which begs the question why would pre-1950 stocks of these values have been so surcharged whilst new printings since 1950 had been perforated 12½ x 12?

Finally, Togo values have now been found perf 12 on the long side; the 5fr, 10fr and 15fr values of which one 5fr is dated 11 June 1953 and a 10fr 1 January 1953.

There is plenty more to be found on this subject!

Reference

1. May R., "French Cameroun : Perforations of the 1946 Set", *Cameo*, Volume 6 p18, WASC, January 1998

Cameroons in World War I : The Stillborn Issue

Dudley Cobb

In his invaluable account of the allied command's postal arrangements between 1914 and 1916, Bob Maddocks (Ref.1) mentions a stillborn issue of stamps overprinted in French Equatorial Africa (AEF) for use within the occupied area.

Briefly, when the northern town of Garua was taken in June 1915 a stock of Kamerun postage stamps was seized. These were sent south, overprinted in AEF, and delivered to the commander of the Cameroons Expeditionary Force, General Dobell, in Douala in "about September 1915". After hostilities had ended and the territory was divided between the allies, the Commissaire du Gouvernement for the French sphere, General Aymerich, wrote in June 1916 asking what had become of these stamps; in August Dobell replied (from Egypt) that the whole supply had been burnt.

Maddocks reproduces this correspondence. As he notes, one set of these stamps was in the collection of the Marquess of Bute, and was described thus when auctioned by Robson Lowe in 1959:

1915 German 'Kamerun' Colonial Issue overprinted in small italics: 'Corps/expeditionnaire/Franco-Anglais', 3pf, 5pf, 10pf, 20pf, 30pf, 40pf, 50pf and 80pf mint ...

The whereabouts of this lot is unknown. Around 1987 I obtained an incomplete series, which I took to be mere curiosities, along with some cancelled Kamerun and CEF stamps. The illustration, which shows an enlargement of the 40pf, may help collectors to identify further examples if they come to light.



Quite a number of points remain to be clarified: the quantities made, the place of printing, and the precise circumstances which led to these stamps being destroyed. I am inclined to think these overprints preceded the Corps Expéditionnaire / Franco-Anglais / CAMEROUN issue. French military and colonial archives may perhaps provide enlightenment.

Reference

1. Maddocks R.J., *The Postal Arrangements of the Anglo-French Cameroons Expeditionary Force 1914-1916*, pp181-3, Author, Oswestry 1996



Gambia 'Shadow Under Leg' Variety

Frank Walton

The ½d value from the Self-Government issue of 1963 features the Beautiful Long-tailed Sunbird; it is SG 193 as initially issued or SG 215 with the INDEPENDENCE 1965 overprint. The handbook (Ref. 1) lists a variety of 'shadow under leg' on stamp 29. I have seen a plate block which shows that this stamp is actually to be found on stamp 6 row 6, ie number 36 on the sheet. Oliver Andrew confirms this minor correction.

Reference

1. Andrew J.O. (Ed), *The Stamps and Postal History of The Gambia*, p94, Christie's Robson Lowe with the West Africa Study Circle, 1985

Gold Coast Stamp Ordering 1898 & 1903

Philip Levine

These two orders for postage stamps from a retailer in London illustrate the mundane business that the postmaster general had to deal with personally on occasions. The letters also provide examples of the postmasters' signatures, namely Rowland Cole and Thomas Deacon.

General Post Office
Accra, - Gold Coast Colony
28th March, 1898

No 145.

$\frac{7}{60}$	Sheet 2 nd stamps	£0. 0. 3½
$\frac{4}{60}$	— 1 st —	0. 0. 11
$\frac{6}{60}$	— 2 nd —	0. 1. 0
$\frac{6}{60}$	— 2½ th —	0. 1. 3
$\frac{17}{60}$	— 3 rd —	0. 4. 3
$\frac{6}{60}$	— 4 th —	0. 2. 0
$\frac{6}{60}$	— 6 th —	0. 3. 0
$\frac{6}{60}$	— 1/- —	0. 6. 0
$\frac{3}{60}$	— 2/- —	0. 6. 0
$\frac{2}{60}$	— 5/- —	0. 10. 0
$\frac{2}{60}$	— 10/- —	1. 0. 0
$\frac{1}{60}$	— 20/- —	1. 0. 0
$\frac{6}{12}$	doz Inland Cards	0. 0. 3
$\frac{6}{12}$	" Internatl	0. 0. 6
$\frac{6}{12}$	" Reply paid	0. 1. 0
$\frac{6}{12}$	" F. size Envelopes	0. 1. 3
$\frac{6}{12}$	" G ——" —	0. 1. 3
$\frac{6}{12}$	" H. ——" —	0. 1. 6
<u>Postage</u>		
$\frac{2}{7}$	Registered Envelope	0. 2. 9½
	2½	
	Postage on parcel	0. 0. 6
		<u>£4. 3. 9</u>

Sir,
In compliance with the request contained in your letter of the 24th February last, enclosing a Post Office Order of the value of £4. 3. 9 for the purchase of Gold Coast postage stamps, Post Cards and Registered Envelopes, I beg to endorse you the following quantities, the receipt of which you will be good enough to acknowledge.

Henry Honeckle Esq^r
Hair Dresser & Perfumer,
48, Chandos Street,
Charing Cross,
London, W. C.

I am,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,

Postmaster-General.

No. 8/2/1903.

In case of reply the date and number of the letter should be quoted.

Post and Telegraph Department,
Victoriaburg, Accra,

13th May 1903

SIR,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th ultimo
enclosing Money Order to the value of £3. 15. 0 and to
forward herewith the Postage Stamps desired, as under:—

	½d.	1d.	2d.	2½d.	3d.	6d.	1/-	2/-	5/-	10/-	20/-	Total value.
Number.	37	16	9	9	9	9	9	9	3	2	-	3 15 -

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Mr. Henry Röncke,
48, Chandos Street,
Charing Cross, W. C.
London.

Thos. Dawson.

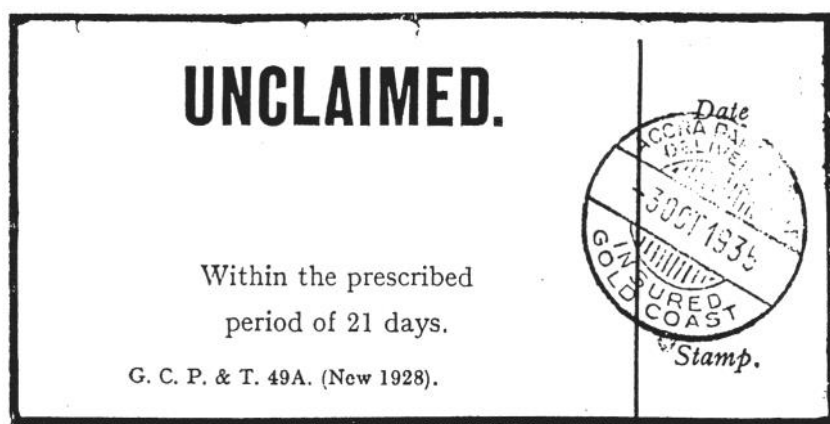
Postmaster-General.

5/12/02 (500) — 12/12/02

Post Office Form, No. 126.

Gold Coast Unclaimed Parcel Post Label

Jeremy Martin



UNCLAIMED. Parcel Label

The illustrated label has not been recorded before to my knowledge. It measures 106 x 52 mm and is printed in red ink on white paper. It seems to have been used when parcels received at the Gold Coast were not claimed and subsequently returned to the sender.

This example received an ACCRA PARCEL POST / DELIVERY No / -3OCT1935 / INSURED / GOLD COAST datestamp which does not seem to have been noted by either Mackin or Proud (Refs. 1 & 2). The digit after DELIVERY No is unfortunately not clear. What is also of interest is the date on the label “(New 1928)” which indicates that similar early labels should exist.

References

1. Mackin M.T., *The Gold Coast ... Cancellations 1875-1957*, WASC, Revised edition 1990
2. Proud E.B., *The Postal History of the Gold Coast*, Postal History Publications Co., Heathfield 1995



“We have an anomaly here in post office matters”

Frank Walton

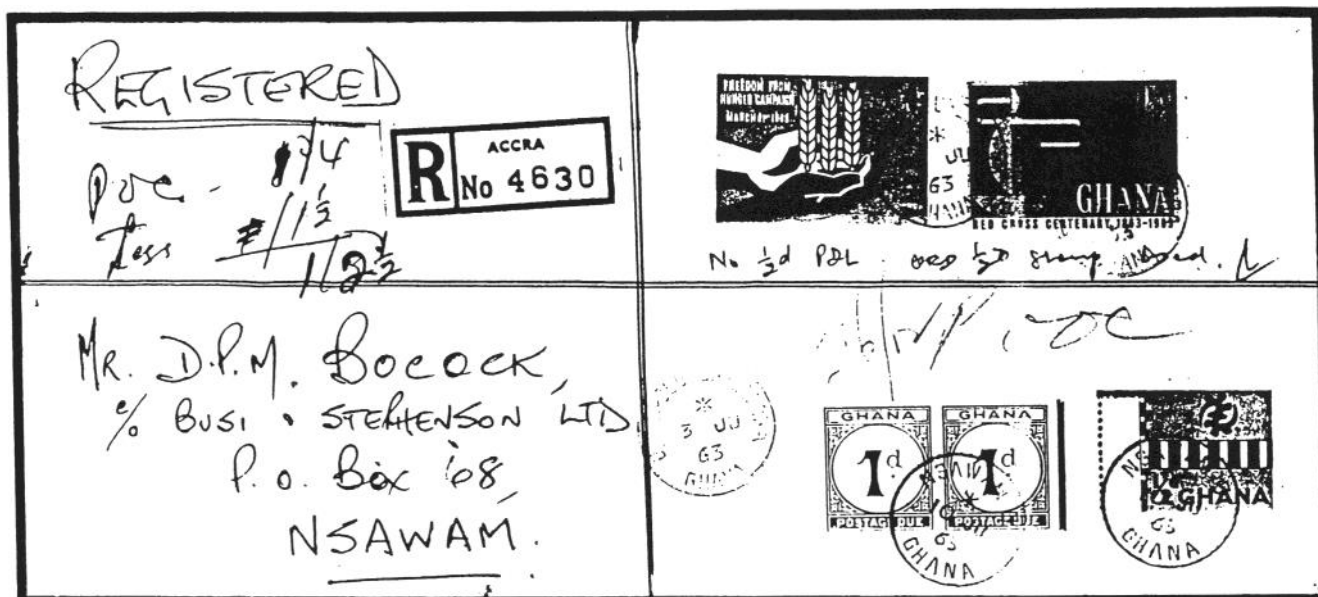
This heading is taken as a direct quote from a letter dated 27 March 1890 from a missionary in Freetown to a friend in Burton-on-Trent, England. The full sentence is:

We have an anomaly here in post office matters, we can send a letter to America from here via Liverpool for 2½d but to send to Liverpool it costs 4d.

Beale records that the ½oz letter rate to the UK was reduced from 4d to 2½d on 1 January 1891, and the same reduction was applied to USA mail from 1 October 1892. Has the missionary got it wrong - or can anyone produce an example of a 2½d rate to America prior to the rate change quoted?

Ghana ½d Postage Due Stamp Requirement?

David Bocock



3 June 1963 - Accra to Nsawam (reduced); an additional 12 1d postage due stamps are on the reverse

In an attempt to understand whether a ½d postage due stamp was necessary in Ghana, I read the Postal Regulations in full on a thirteen day trip on my way home from there. To show that such a value was required, I posted a registered letter to myself at Nsawam post office which required the ½d to be used to make up the correct fee. The letter was franked 5½d and posted out of course.

It appears from the regulations that the 4d registration fee should be ignored and then the postage due be calculated by assessing double the correct postage and then subtracting the amount pre-paid. In this case it was $2 \times 8d - 1\frac{1}{2}d = 1s\ 2\frac{1}{2}d$. It took some time to decide whether I should pay 1s 3d which was ½d more than the cost or 1s 2d to settle the matter. Happily we agreed that I should be charged 1s 2½d and included a ½d postage stamp in lieu of the ½d postage due which the clerk then signed and stamped.



Gold Coast Apeja Postmark

Mike Mackin

Thanks to Dr Philip Levine, I can now record an example of the elusive Apeja postmark dated ? Nov 1926. This is listed by Ted Proud (Ref. 1) as being recorded in 1926, but I listed it as “no example known” (Ref. 2).

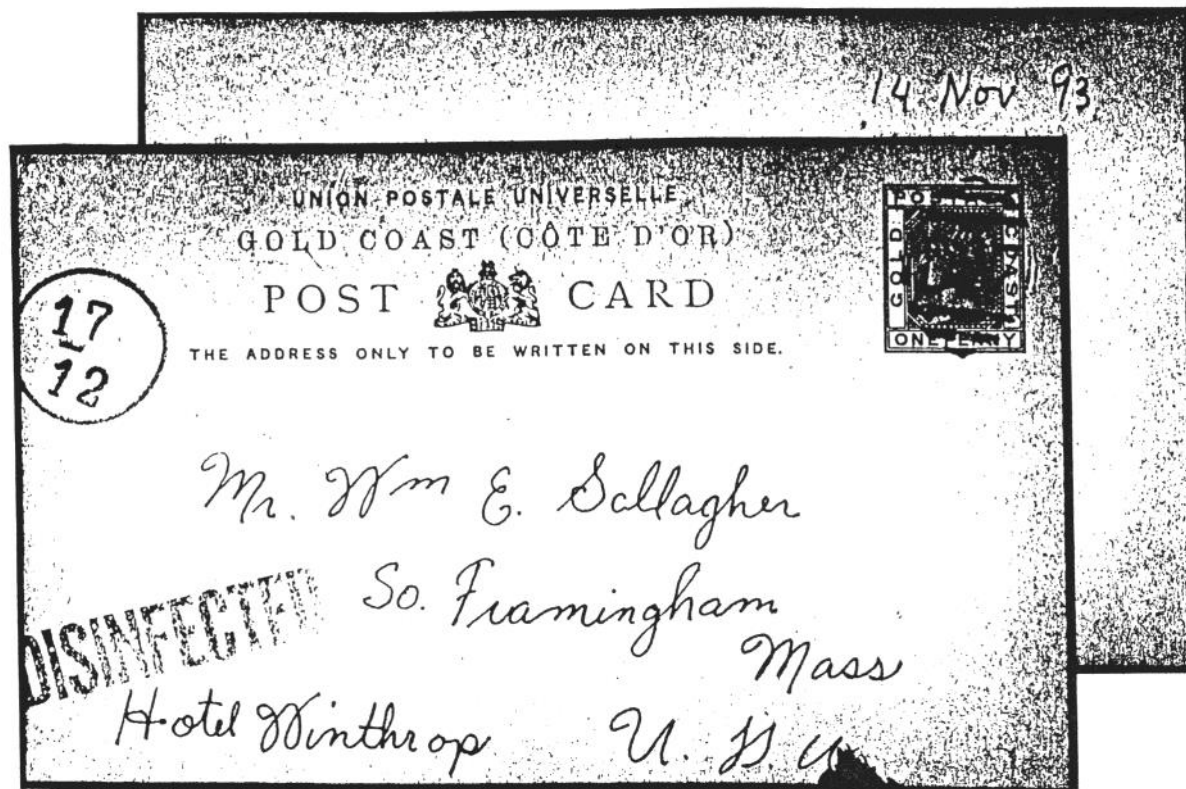


References

1. Proud E.B., *The Postal History of the Gold Coast*, p178, Postal History Publications Co., Heathfield 1995
2. Mackin M.T., *The Gold Coast ... Cancellations 1875-1957*, p35, WASC, Revised edition 1990

Gold Coast Postcard Disinfected in the USA

Philip Beale



14 November 1893 - Quittah (B27), Gold Coast to South Framingham, USA

Denis Vandervelde, the expert on disinfected mail, has sent a photocopy of this interesting card which was postmarked with B27 at Quittah. The message on the reverse gives a despatch date of 14 November 1893. There are no postal markings on the back. Mail that was suspected of coming from areas where there was plague was still liable to disinfection until the early 1900s and fear of transmitting infection was such that items like this rarely survived.

I describe the process of disinfection in detail in my Sierra Leone book (Ref. 1). In Sierra Leone the disinfection of mails ended in 1901 though the fumigation of parcels was still allowed. Presumably the same arrangements applied in the other West African colonies.

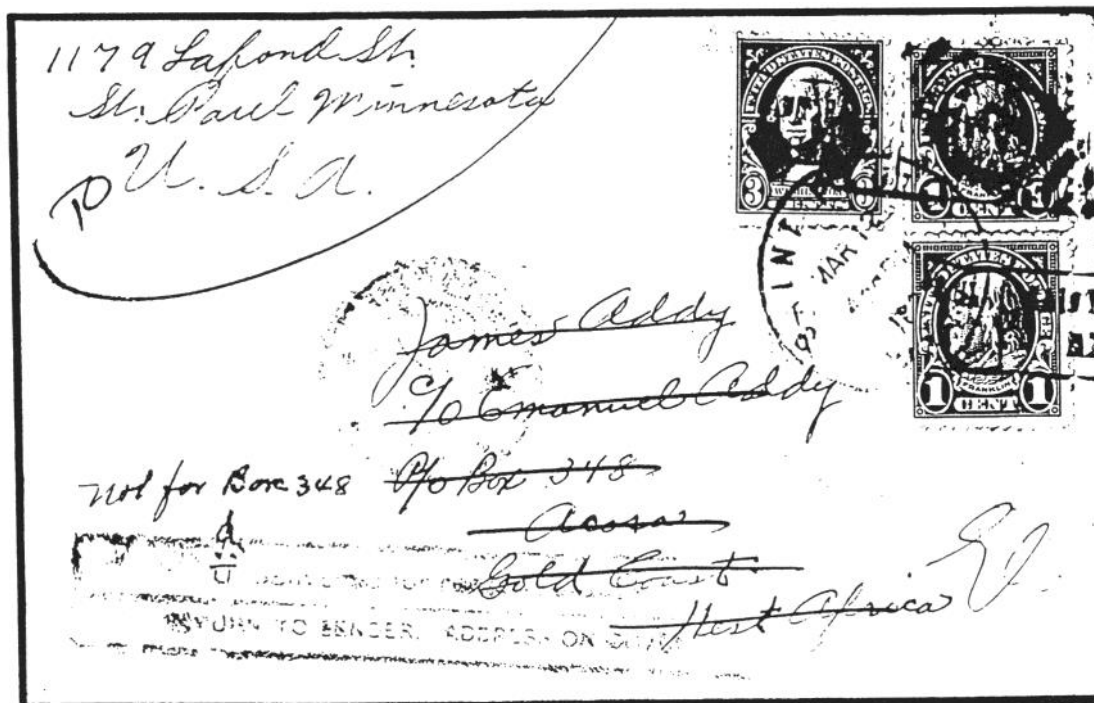
Perhaps one of our American members will be able to identify the place where the handstamp illustrated was applied.

Reference

1. Beale P.O., *The Postal Service of Sierra Leone...*, pp10-11, RPSL, London 1988

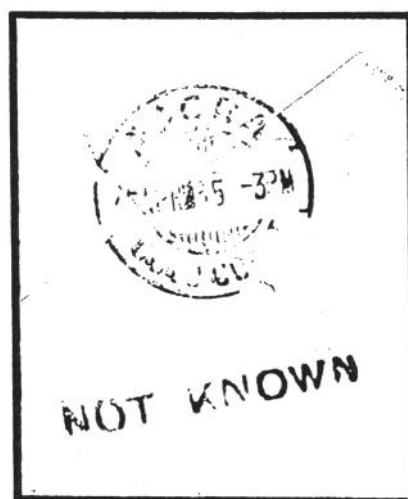
Gold Coast 'Not Known' Instructional Mark

Roger Coleman



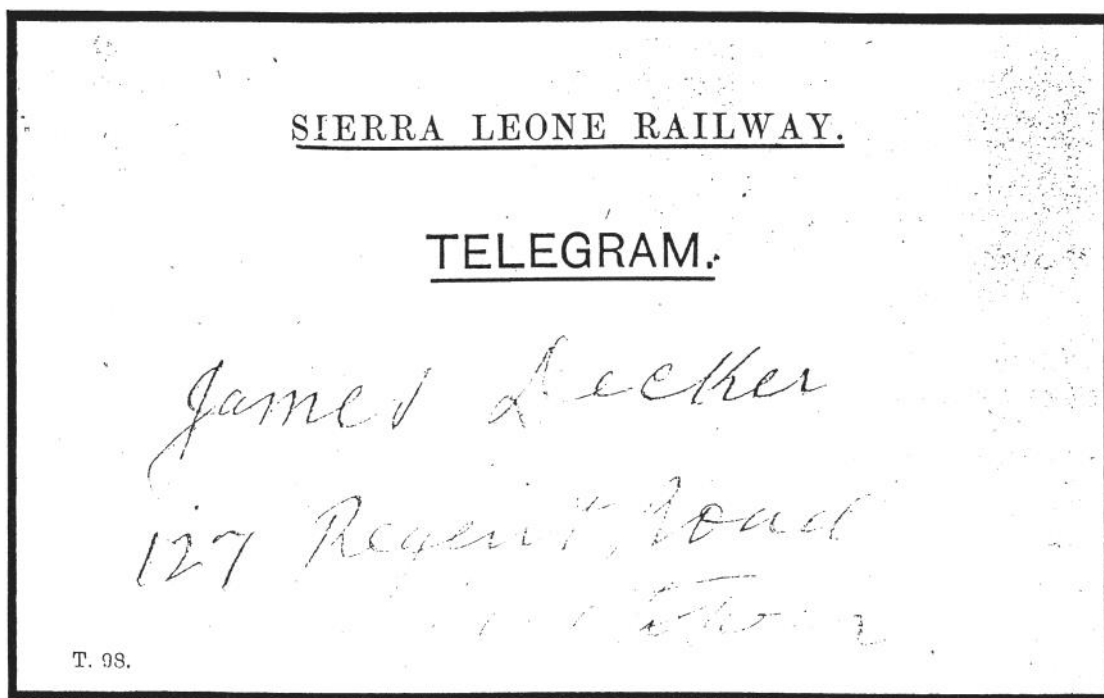
Saint Paul Minnesota to Accra Gold Coast

This sans serif NOT KNOWN mark seems not to have been previously recorded. It appears to have been applied in Accra before returning the letter to its originator in the United States.



Sierra Leone Railway Telegram

Jeremy Martin



This unusual item is printed in red on orange-brown. Clearly addressed to Freetown it unfortunately has no indication of its origin or date of use. Has anyone ever seen a similar one?



Sierra Leone George V 1d Watermark Variety

Frank Walton

In their June 1998 auction (Ref. 1), the Victoria Stamp Company offer a mint King George V 1d rose-red with watermark Multiple Crown CA reversed (SG113b, Scott 104). This is not previously recorded.

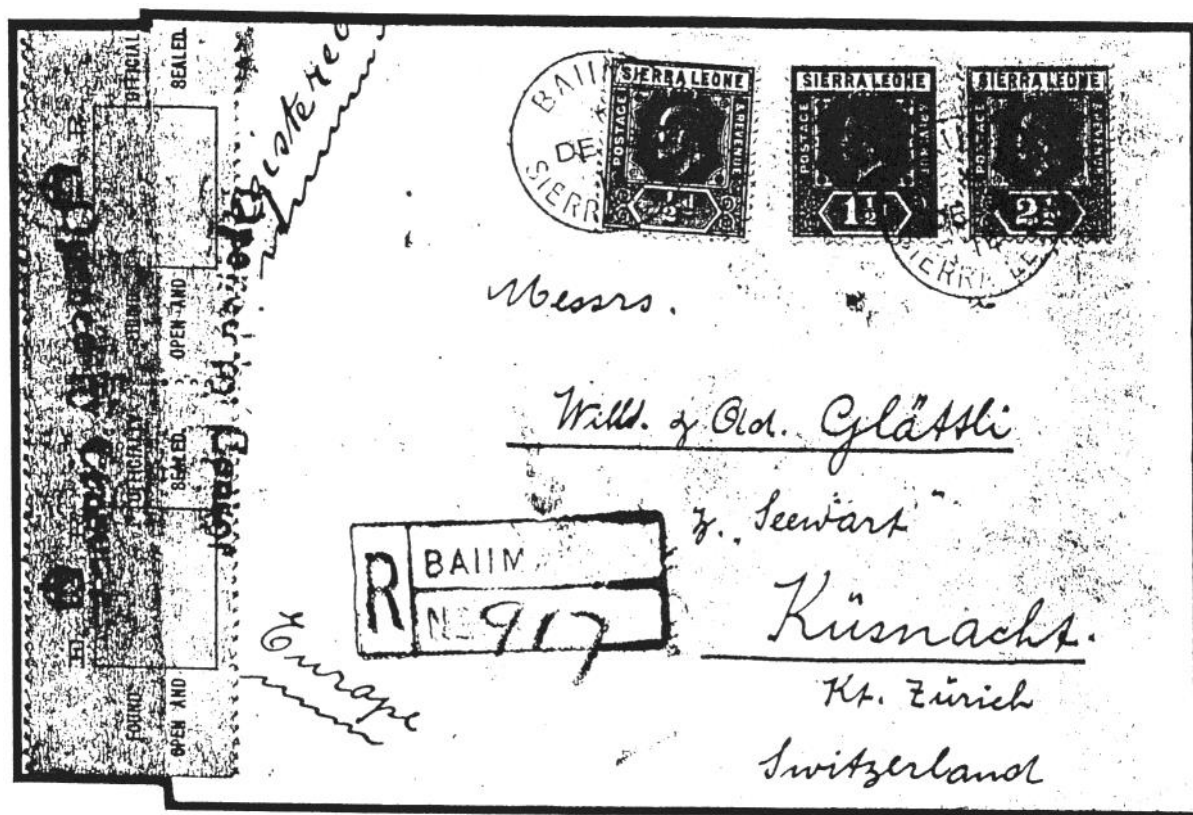
Watermark varieties are unusual on the Sierra Leone issues of this reign; Beale (Ref. 2) only lists the 2d and 1s values as being known inverted on the first watermark, and just the 6d as inverted and reversed on the later script paper.

References

1. Victoria Stamp Company, Ridgewood NJ USA, Auction #7, 12 June 1998, Lot 1289.
2. Beale P.O., *The Postal Service of Sierra Leone...*, p165, RPSL, London 1988

Sierra Leone Edward VII Sealing Tape

Michael Wright



December 1914 - Baiima to Küsnacht, Switzerland

3

This early World War I censored cover has, after inspection, been resealed by an Edward VII 'E R' tape that has not previously been recorded from Sierra Leone. Although a different George V tape is known for Sierra Leone (Ref. 1), this tape is the same format as the 'G R' example recorded from Gambia in 1915 (Ref. 2). In the above example, the tape is tied to the cover by a strike of Civil Handstamp Type 1(A).

Editor's note:

I have a similar cover from the same correspondence dated 20 August 1915, although mine has been resealed with a George V tape Type 1, and overstruck with handstamp Type 1(A).

References

1. Martin J.J. & Walton F.L., *West African Censorship*, p73, WASC, 1993
2. Martin J.J. & Walton F.L., *West African Censorship*, p19, WASC, 1993



Sierra Leone Songo Datestamp

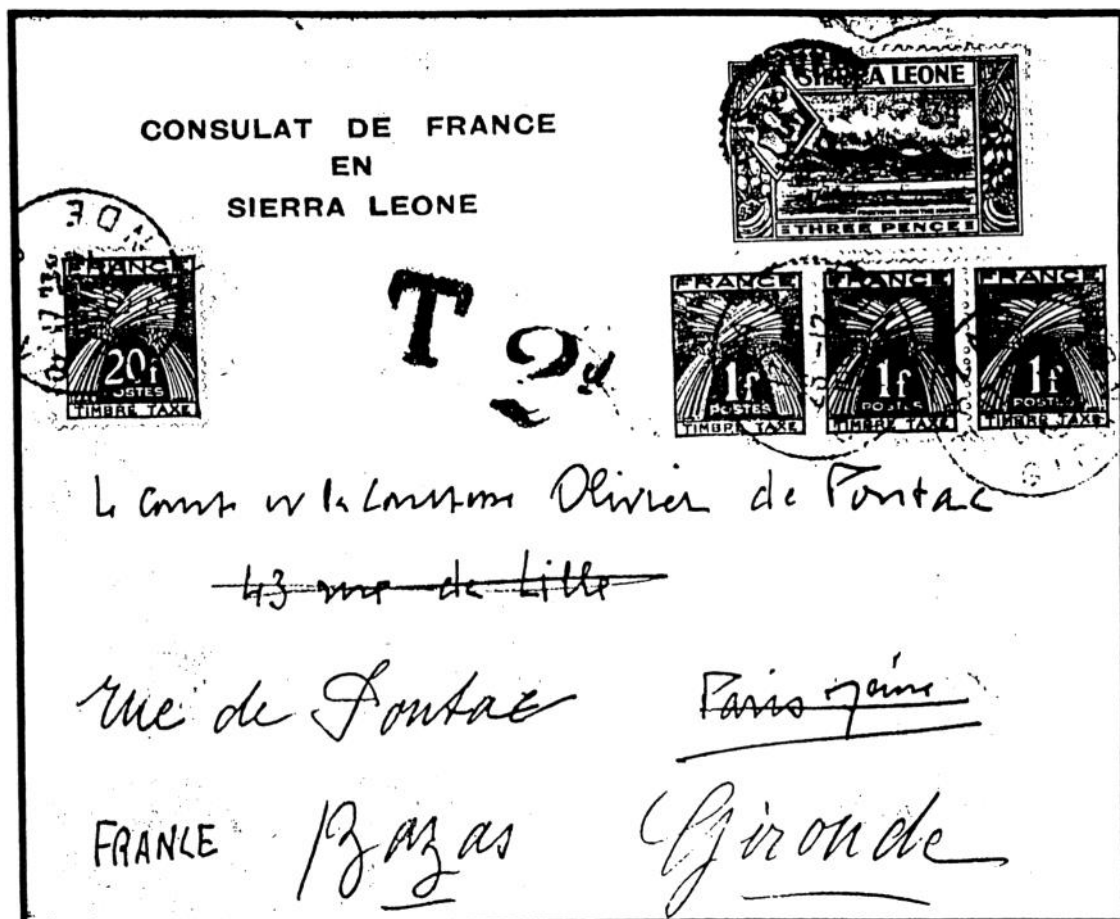
Frank Walton

In *The Postmarks of Sierra Leone 1854-1961* (p52) postmark Ref. 128.04 from the town of Songo is listed as 'Not Recorded'. A registered envelope has now come to light which bears four strikes dated 6 July 1960.

Sierra Leone Handstruck Postage Due Markings

Ray Revell

Further to the article in the last *Cameo* (Ref. 1) which showed a 3d handstruck postage due, I can now add examples of the 2d and 1d values from the same series.



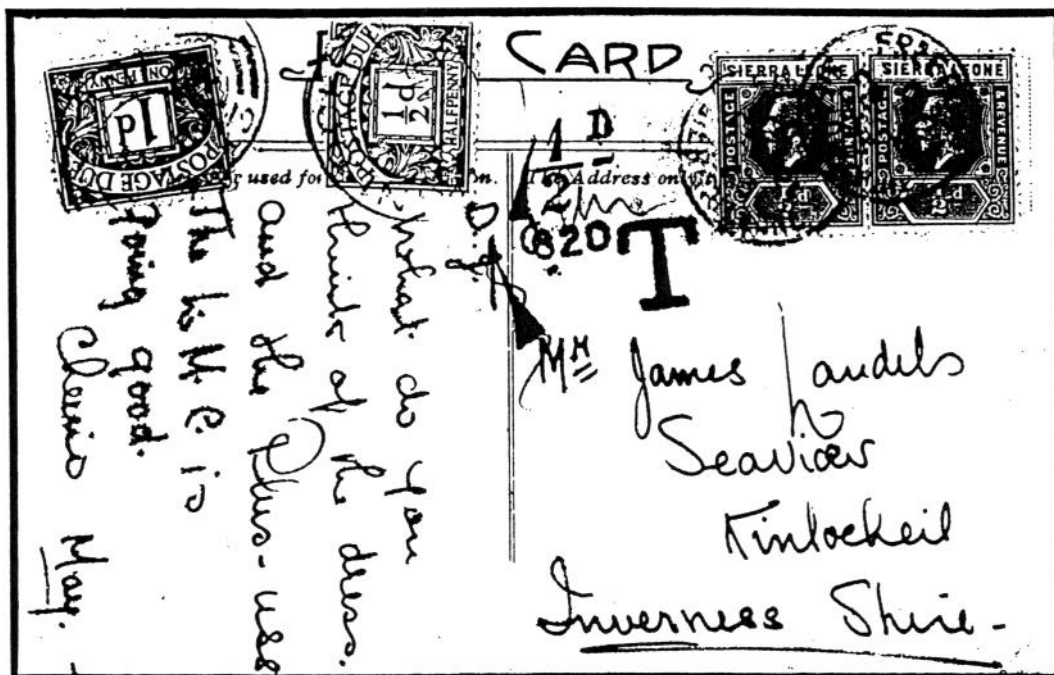
5 December 1955 - Freetown to France with 2d Handstruck Postage Due

The Freetown dispatch date stamp is not particularly clear, but shows the date 5 December 1955. The French postmarks cancelling the postage due stamps are clearly BAZAS / GIRONDE dated 26 December 1955. There are no markings on the reverse. The most interesting aspect of the cover is the WASC Type M12 2d postage due handstamp which is listed by Proud (Ref. 2), but not by either Beale (Ref. 3) or Walton (Ref. 4). According to Beale (Ref. 5) the rate to France in 1955 was 3d for the first ounce plus 1½d per extra ounce, so can anyone offer an explanation as to why the 3d stamp was surcharged 2d?

The second illustration is that of a picture postcard from Freetown to Scotland postmarked 21 February 1923. At this time, the postcard rate to the United Kingdom was 1½d. It had been 1d until about 14 months earlier. Given the franking of 2 x ½d, it was ½d short and marked double this via the 1d postage due. Why this was amended to be 1½d due on arrival at Plymouth is not clear [§]. As with the 2d handstamp, this 1d version is mentioned in Proud but not in Beale or Walton.

§ Editor's note:

Like Ray, I too could not explain the amendment of the charge. After some research, I found the explanation which is given in full on page 82 of this issue.



21 February 1923 - Freetown to Scotland with 1d Handstruck Postage Due

References

1. Revell R. & Walton F.L. "Sierra Leone - Posted Out Of Course", *Cameo*, Volume 6 p28, WASC, January 1998
2. Proud E.B., *The Postal History of Sierra Leone*, p136, Proud Bailey, Heathfield 1994
3. Beale P.O., *The Postal Service of Sierra Leone...*, p82, RPSL, London 1988
4. Walton F.L., *The Postmarks of Sierra Leone 1854-1961*, p91, WASC, Sheffield 1990
5. Beale P.O., *The Postal Service of Sierra Leone...*, p24, RPSL, London 1988



Sierra Leone Handstruck Postage Due Markings Summary of Recorded Examples

Frank Walton

Following the recent discoveries relating to these interesting handstruck markings, I thought it appropriate to summarize recorded examples:

Pence			Centimes		
	Earliest Date	Latest Date		Earliest Date	Latest Date
1d	26 Feb 1920	21 Feb 1923	10c	30 Jan 1934	18 Feb 1936
2d	15 Jan 1924	5 Dec 1955	20c	23 Feb 1924	26 Jan 1940
3d	25 Feb 1898	17 Jun 1941	30c	22 Jan 1934	20 Jan 1939
5d	25 May 1896	25 May 1896	40c	30 Oct 1935	Nov 1936
6d	19 May 1936	19 May 1936	60c	22 Jan 1934	1946
10d	2 Jul 1894	2 Jul 1894			

UPU Postage Due Charges from 1921

Frank Walton

Ray Revell's articles (Refs. 1 & 2) have highlighted the common practice of underpaid mail being subjected to surcharges. In particular, his second piece raised a query concerning the fee imposed on delivery in 1923, where the original 1d charge had been amended to 1½d. With considerable help from John Whiteside I can now offer an explanation of the practice.

In principle, any underpaid item was charged double the deficiency. This is a well-known simple rule that is easy to understand. At the Madrid Convention of the UPU in 1920 it was decided to introduce a minimum fee for such items of 30 centimes. It is the interpretation of this ruling, especially where different currencies are involved, that requires a calculator...

The 1920 conference had several problems to grapple with in relation to currency. Previously all UPU rates had been quoted in French francs, however after World War I inflation in Europe generally meant that currency exchange rates, particularly the US dollar to French franc, were fluctuating. The UPU addressed this by introducing a new 'currency' (known as the gold franc) and rates were to be considered as maxima rather than absolute. The gold franc did not immediately have a value assigned to it, although in Stockholm in 1924 it was defined to be exactly $\frac{9}{31}$ grams (about 0.29g) of pure gold.

Sieh & Blackburn (Ref. 3) document that the UPU decided in 1920 that the basic 20g international letter rate would be 50 gold centimes (gc), postcards 30gc and printed papers 10gc. Furfie (Ref. 4) explains with great clarity that this 5:3:1 weighting was to be implemented by all member countries as closely as possible. The UK authorities set their foreign letter rate at 3d with effect from 13 June 1921; this meant that the postcard and printed paper rates were rounded down to 1½d and ½d respectively after the application of the 5:3:1 rule. The setting of this rate also determined the interpretation of the 30gc minimum postage due fee as 1½d; it was as a result of this rate that in 1923 the previously unnecessary 1½d postage due stamp was issued in the UK. In 1923 the UK minimum foreign letter rate was reduced to 2½d, but the other values remained unchanged as the 5:3:1 rule was still fulfilled after rounding.

The Sierra Leone to Scotland postcard of February 1923 (illustrated on page 81 of this issue) can now be easily explained. The Freetown post office accurately recognised the shortfall of ½d, but then marked the card with double the deficiency, 1d, as they would have done for numerous years. To be within the UPU regulations they should have marked it 30c, ie the minimum fee now chargeable in gold centimes. It is not difficult to imagine that the Freetown officials were somewhat behind the times. The postal authorities in Plymouth were presumably more used to handling insufficiently pre-paid foreign mail, and they correctly amended the handstamp from 1d to 1½d.

John Whiteside kindly provided some contemporary covers from around the world that illustrate this point. Those readers who have followed this story might like to test themselves on the following scenario:

? *A minimum weight letter was sent from Russia to Germany on 19 January 1923, franked at 150 roubles. The correct rate should have been 350 roubles. At this time the German foreign letter rate was 150 marks. What was the postage due charge to the addressee?*

The solution to this little philatelic brainteaser is given on the bottom of page 94.

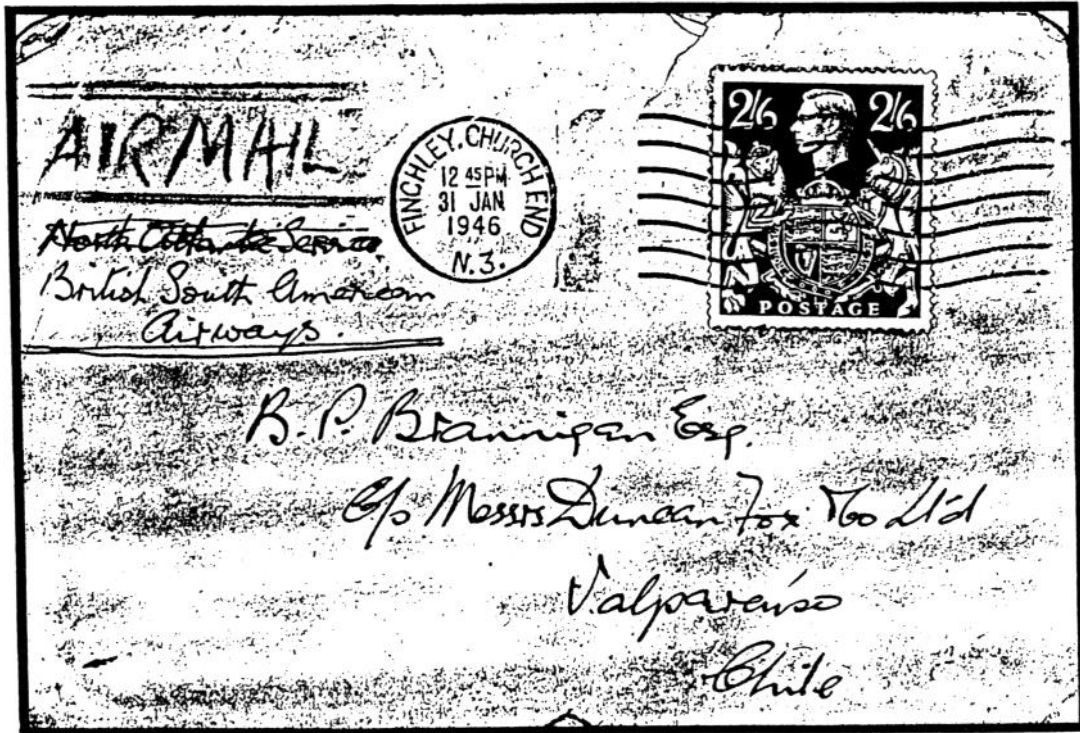
References

1. Revell R. & Walton F.L., "Sierra Leone - Posted Out Of Course", *Cameo*, Volume 6 p28, WASC, January 1998
2. Revell R., "Sierra Leone Handstruck Postage Due Markings", *Cameo*, Volume 6 pp80-81, WASC, July 1998
3. Sieh P. & Blackburn J.L., *Postage Rates of China 1867-1980*, p57, Director General of Posts, Taipei Taiwan 1981
4. Furfie M., *British Postage Due Mail, 1914-1971*, pp43-47, 1993

British South American Airways Corporation

Jeremy Martin

Since my article in the last *Cameo* (Ref. 1), I have received two follow-ups. Richard Beith has kindly sent me a copy of an article he wrote for *The Airpost Journal* (Ref. 2) which includes a detailed account of the history of the B.S.A.A.. The second, from Robert Johnson, was a photocopy of a cover to Chile.



31 January 1946 - Finchley, England to Valparaiso, Chile

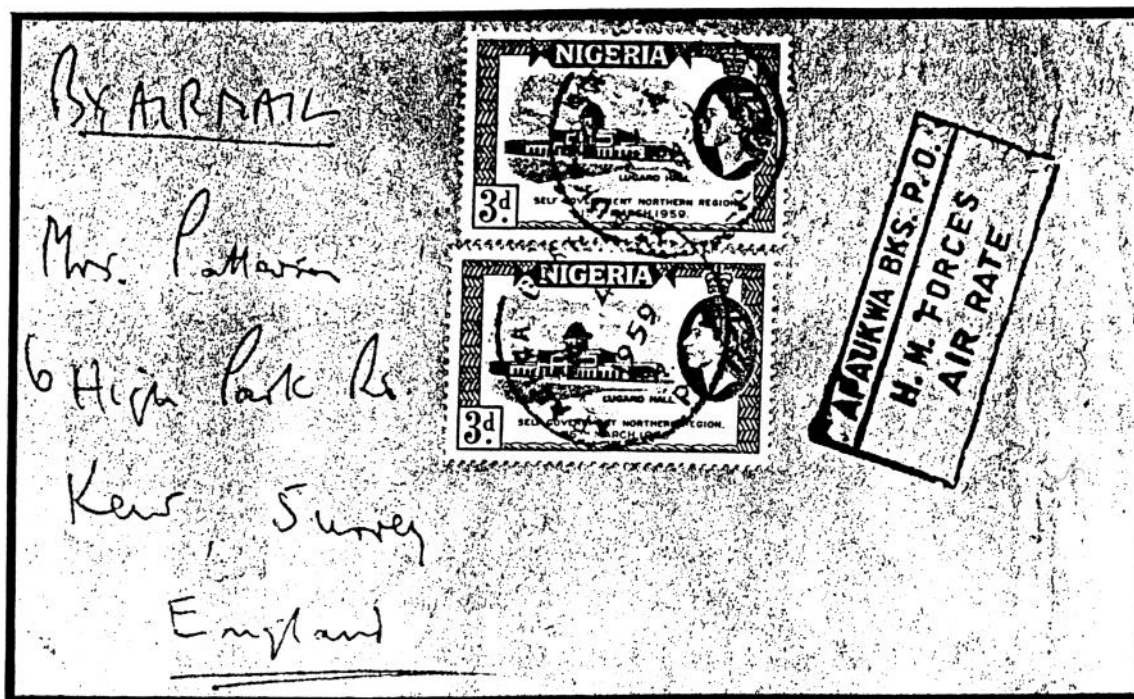
This cover, flown from the United Kingdom to Chile, was carried by the B.S.A.A.. It was correctly rated at 2s 6d for ½oz. This could have been carried on one of the proving flights since the first regular flight, to the east coast of South America, was not until March 1946.

References

1. Martin J.J., "British South American Airways Corporation", *Cameo*, Volume 6 pp37-39, WASC, January 1998
2. Beith R., *The Airpost Journal*, Volume 6 Number 1 pp225-234, June 1994

Nigeria Forces Airmail Concessionary Rate

Kurt Herrmann



4 May 1959 - Apaukwa to Kew, England

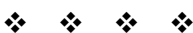
The article in *Cameo* (Ref. 1) refers to Sierra Leone, Gold Coast and Gambia. I have a cover from Nigeria cancelled APAUKWA BARRACKS / P A on 4 May 1959 which shows a boxed handstamp APAUKWA BKS. P. O. / H. M. FORCES / AIR RATE. It bears two 3d stamps and is not registered.

In Bob Maddocks' article in an earlier *Cameo* (Ref. 2) the concession rate for the mid-1950s is given as 3d per ounce. I suspect this was still valid in 1959 and that my letter was over one ounce. Besides this I have other covers from Nigeria with manuscript Forces Air Mail Concession from 1951 and 1952 which have George VI definitives for 2½d.

Does a complete summary exist over Nigerian mail rates for the period 1914 to 1960 including Air Mail and Forces Concessions?

References

1. Walton F.L., "Forces Airmail Concessionary Rate", *Cameo*, Volume 5 p119, WASC, January 1996
2. Maddocks R.J., "Nigerian Manuscript Postal Marking SABS", *Cameo*, Volume 5 p23 (319), WASC, January 1995



44 W.A. General Hospital in Nigeria

Jeremy Martin



14 December 1942 - United Kingdom to Nigeria

For some time this cover has remained a puzzle but thanks to Alistair Kennedy of the Forces Postal History Society I now have the solution. Alistair advises that:

- ♦ 'West African Force' became the official address for troops in the four West African colonies on 1 September 1942.
- ♦ Prior to this (from about April 1941) the address was 'West African Force' but with the addition of the appropriate country Army Post Office, ie S100 to S103. These are listed in Martin & Walton (Ref. 1).
- ♦ The West African units in India and Burma used the address 'India Command' or later 'South East Asia Command', as did other troops in that area.
- ♦ 44 W.A. General Hospital was in Nigeria, at Abeokuta on 25 September 1942 and at Kaduna on 1 January 1945. It is not known when the changeover took place or if there were any other locations.

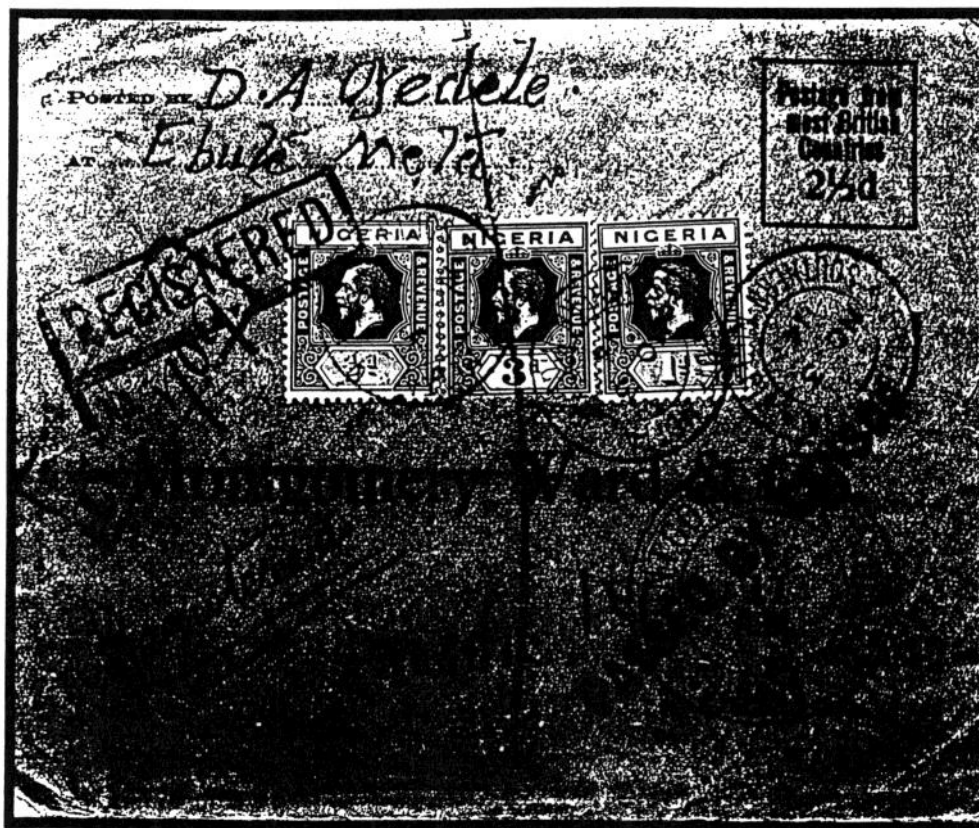
The cover also received a violet 'NO AIRMAIL SERVICE AVAILABLE' handstamp. Franked at 1s 3d there were clearly problems with the direct route and payment was not sufficient for the Pan Am double Atlantic route via Miami. I cannot recall seeing inward civilian mail from the United Kingdom to West Africa by that service.

Reference

1. Martin J.J. & Walton F.L., *West African Censorship*, p96, WASC, 1993

Nigerian World War I Censorship

Neville Jones



Covers from Nigeria during the First World War that show censorship are far from common. The one illustrated shows a straight line PASSED BY CENSOR mark that I have not seen before. Can anyone suggest where it may have been applied?



Nigeria 2s 6d Central Bank

Neville Jones

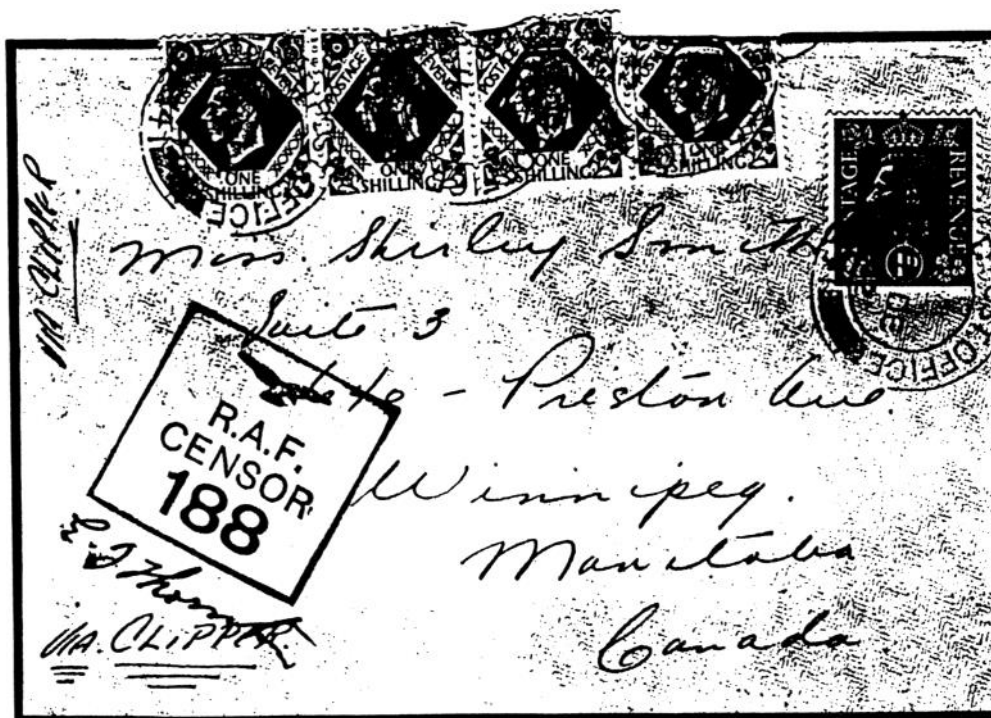


Having examined very many copies of the above stamp (SG 98), it appears that there are two distinct types in that the shading around the buildings is either wide or narrow. I have seen many examples of each type; were two separate dies used?

1940s Sierra Leone Airmail Rates

Richard Beith & Peter Richards

Editor's Note: The earlier Cameo article (Ref. 1) on this subject has brought responses from Richard and Peter, which I have combined here.



11 December 1942 - FPO 41 (Freetown) to Winnipeg, Canada - "via Clipper"

5s 1d Rate to Canada

Two further examples have come to light. The one illustrated above bears British stamps; four 1s and a single 1d on the front as well as a block of 12 1d on the reverse. The stamps are cancelled by a Freetown FPO 41 postmark. This envelope has been clearly endorsed 'via Clipper'. The second is a registered envelope from Freetown on 24 November 1942, via Miami (10 December), to Montreal where it arrived 12 December 1942. It is rated 5s 4d, ie 5s 1d airmail plus 3d registration.

6s 9d Rate to Switzerland

A registered letter from Freetown 22 February 1943, via Miami (9 March), New York (10 March) and Lisbon (16 July) to Lucerne where it received a 24 July 1943 arrival mark. Rated 7s, presumably 6s 9d postage plus 3d registration.

4s Rate to United States

Another registered cover, sent from Freetown 29 December 1944 via Miami (16 January 1945) to Dayton, Ohio where it arrived 17 January 1945. Prepaid 4s 3d to cover to 4s postage and 3d registration. This rate was effective from 30 December 1943.

Reference

1. Beith R. & Lutwyche N., "Sierra Leone 5s 1d Rate to United States", *Cameo*, Volume 6 p42, WASC, January 1998

Nigerian Adhesives Used in Niger

Jack Ince

I am indebted to a fellow member Marty Bratzel for a photocopy excerpt from a sale catalogue of the French Auction House "Lugdonum Philatelie". This illustrates a King George V Nigerian 1d stamp used on a postcard cancelled by a straight line ZINDER with a double ring ZINDER / 28 JUL 26 / TERRITOIRE DU NIGER alongside. The card is addressed to the Niger town of Dosso and there is a starting price of 1200 francs. Dosso is in south-west Niger lying some 500 miles by road west of Zinder, the road running approximately along the line of the Niger-Nigeria boundary.

Due to its regional importance as a terminus of the ancient trans-Saharan trade there had been traditional links between Kano and Zinder prior to the arrival of the Europeans at the end of the 19th Century. A number of examples are known of Nigerian King George V adhesives originating from Niger (especially Zinder) which have been introduced into the Nigerian postal system at Kano (and of course cancelled at that office) especially once the Nigerian railway to the coast reached Kano in 1912. This provided a much more speedy and reliable mail service than that available in land-locked Niger with no rail link.

It was Lugard, as High Commissioner for Northern Nigeria, who refused to saddle that young Protectorate with membership of the UPU on the justifiable grounds that the expense of getting mail to/from the Niger boundary would be wholly uneconomic in terms of the postage paid; this was recently after the Imperial Penny Postage had been introduced. In fact, Nigeria did not join the UPU until 1 January 1929, 15 years later when improved access roads made it a feasible proposition.

Zinder was the true terminus of the former French Imperial Road that traversed French West Africa and linked with the former French North Africa, and it was the logical point of contact, through Kano, with British Nigeria.

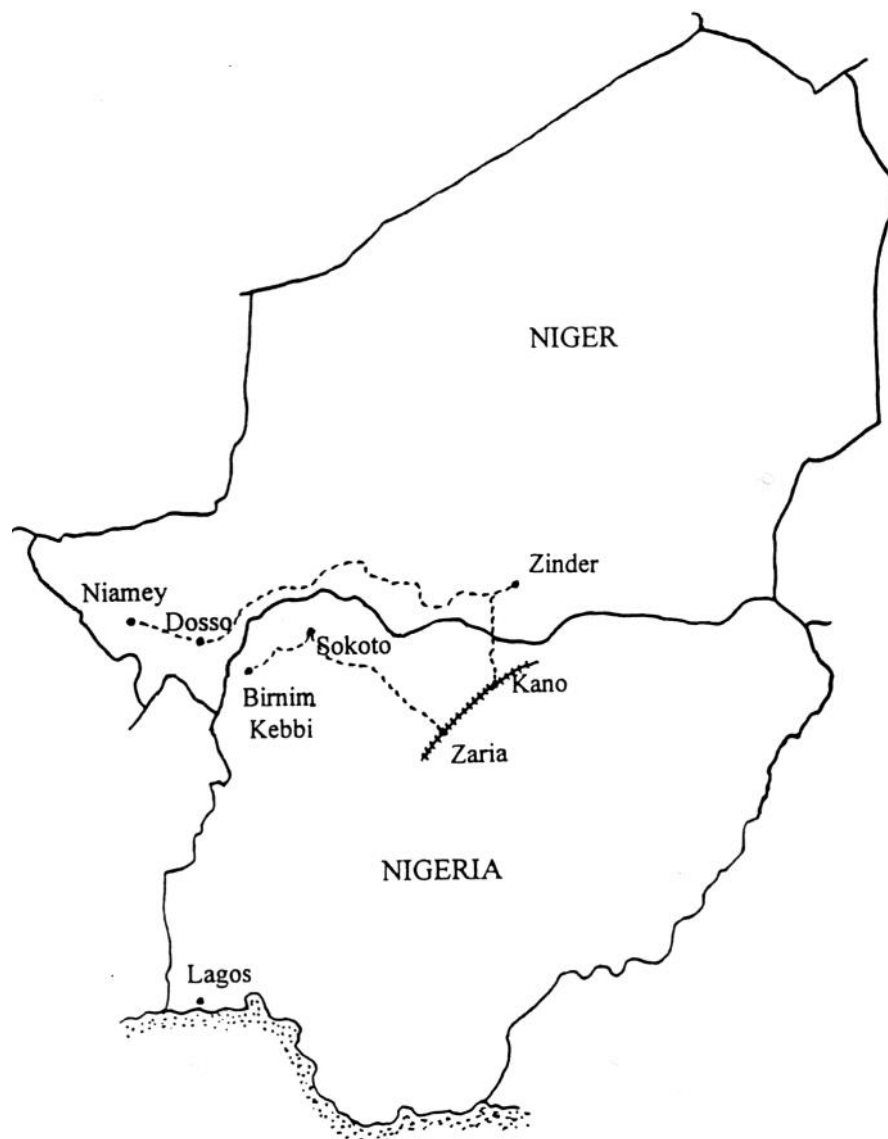
In 1926 the capital of Niger was transferred to Niamey to the west. Although not so central, the town was within easy reach of the most densely populated provinces, Niger having been declared a colony of France on 13 October 1922.

It is difficult to account for the use within Niger of Nigerian adhesives when stamps of Senegal (Afrique Occidentale Française) overprinted "Territoire de Niger" had been available since 1921 while by 1926 Niger definitives had been issued, although possibly these latter may not have arrived at Zinder. It is just possible that at that period transit via Nigeria was more reliable even though indirect. In theory the postcard should have been carried by the direct road link within Niger of 500 miles to Dosso which lies some 90 miles short of Niamey. However it is worth noting that a British report (Ref. 1) noted on Niger that:

"Raids on caravans were of common occurrence and punitive expeditions were found to be necessary for several years after the conclusion of the European War. Although conditions improved, the country was never effectively re-occupied nor could it be said to have any administration worthy of the name".

The conclusion must be that the Zinder post office, in accepting Nigerian adhesives, routed the post card (and possibly other internal mail for the new capital, Niamey) through the Nigerian postal system paying, probably by arrangement and to ensure acceptance, with Nigerian stamps. The routing would probably be by rail from Kano to Zaria and then by regular mail road link to Sokoto or





Birnin Kebbi both of which lie sufficiently near Niger to ensure delivery across the border.

In conclusion and in support of these deductions it is worth referring to a *Cameo* article by the late Ken Sargent which relates to an interview he had had with Sidney Hogben. The latter had been in the Northern Nigeria Education Service between 1921 and 1933 being stationed, among other places, at Sokoto and Birnin Kebbi. Sidney had recorded in his memoirs (Ref. 3) that in those years:

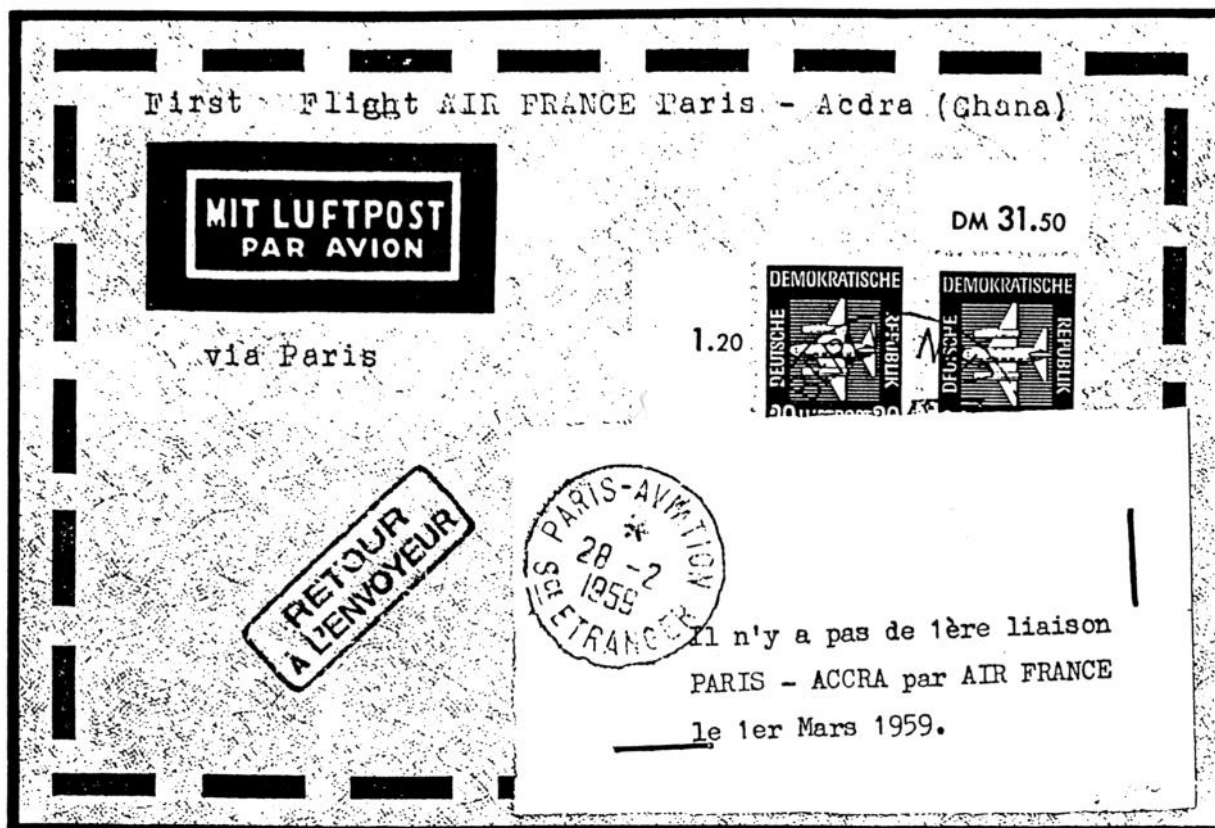
“Mails were carried by porters until, in about 1925, the first Native Administration lorries began to be used on the newly constructed roads. Birnin Kebbi was one of the three Post and Telegraph stations in Sokoto Province... the others were at Sokoto and Yelwa..., regular carriers were employed to carry the mail bags...it was 90 miles Birnin Kebbi to Sokoto and another 250 or more miles to the rail-head down at Zaria. These carriers covered the 250 miles Zaria / Sokoto in about 10 days with loads of up to 80 lbs. I seem to remember the 90 miles Sokoto / Birnin / Kebbi was covered in about 2 days”.

References

1. Paper prepared by G.B. Naval Intelligence Division, HM Stationary Office, December 1944
2. Sargeant K., “The Post in the North of Nigeria”, *Cameo*, Volume 4 p46, July 1990
3. Hogben S., *Recollections of the Postal Service in bush stations off the railway in N. Nigeria*
4. *French West Africa Volume II – The Colonies*, Geographical Handbook Series

Cancelled Paris to Accra First Flight

Jeremy Martin



This cover was posted in Berlin on 26 February 1959 to connect with a supposed first flight by Air France from Paris to Accra, Ghana, on 1 March 1959. The French authorities applied a white slip stating that there was no first flight on that date, applied a date stamp and returned the envelope to the sender.



Sierra Leone George V 1d Blue?

Frank Walton

I first became aware of the existence of a this apparently blue stamp via correspondence with Don Carter, the editor of the *Sierra Leone Stamp Collector* (Ref. 1) magazine on the internet. It is of the same basic stamp as the 1d violet on Script CA. My reaction was very quick - it must be a freak colour changeling. However, when Don came to visit in the Spring of this year he brought the stamp with him. It is blue; it matches very closely the shade of the contemporary 2½d stamp.

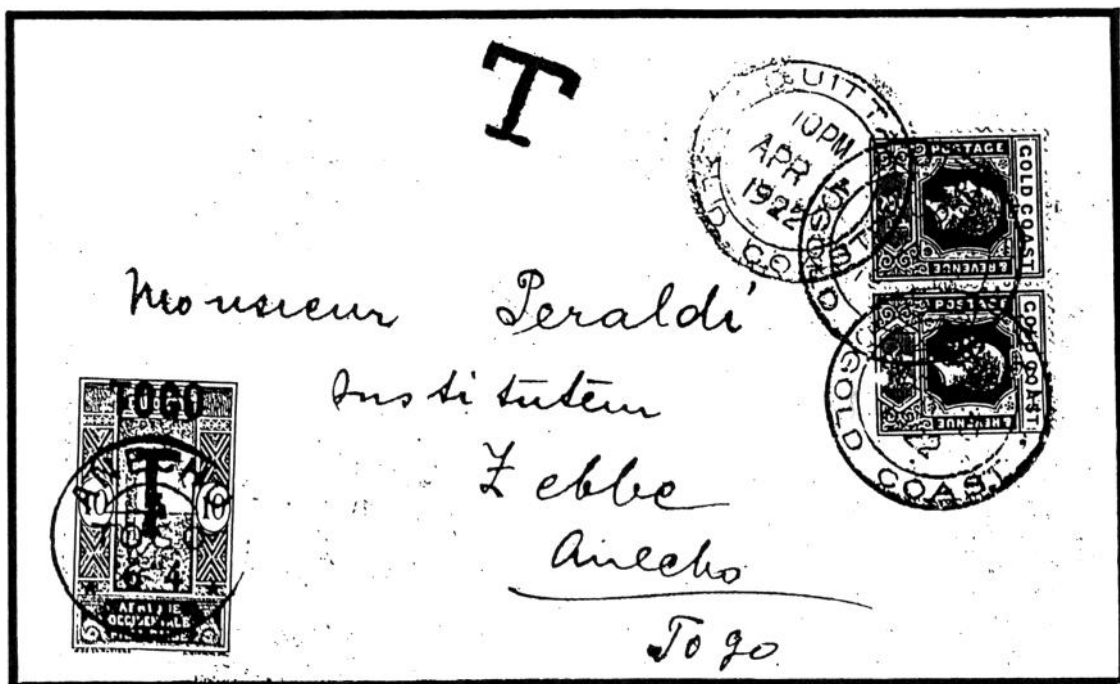
It is a used stamp with a genuine Bonthe postmark. The stamp was shown to Philip Beale and Peter Fernbank. They were also surprised by the consistent colour of the stamp, but shared my doubtfulness over its origin. Peter pointed out that the change to violet from red for the 1d value in 1924 would have required colour trials being sent to the colony. The conclusion remains that this is a remarkable colour changeling - until another turns up of course!

Reference

1. *Sierra Leone Stamp Collector*, <http://sapphire.surgery.wisc.edu/stamps>

French Togo Postage Dues 1921-22

Jeremy Martin



5 April 1922 - Quittah, Gold Coast to Anecho, Togo

Catalogues show that French Togo postage dues, ie those with TOGO overprinted on Dahomey potage due stamps, were issued in 1921. The earliest dated copy I have noted is August 1923. Two covers of April 1922 have now come to light showing that ordinary Togo definitive stamps were used in lieu of postage dues raising the possibility that the postage dues were not released until later.

The cover illustrated above was franked 2 x ½d Gold Coast stamps and marked 'T'. Was the letter rate then 1½d? The Gold Coast Handbook of 1923 shows a 1½d per ounce rate to the Empire, USA and Egypt but a 3d per ounce rate elsewhere. Was French Togo still treated as Empire at this time?

In Togo a 10c definitive stamp was used with a 'T' applied centrally on the stamp. An Anecho datestamp of 6 April 1922 was then applied.

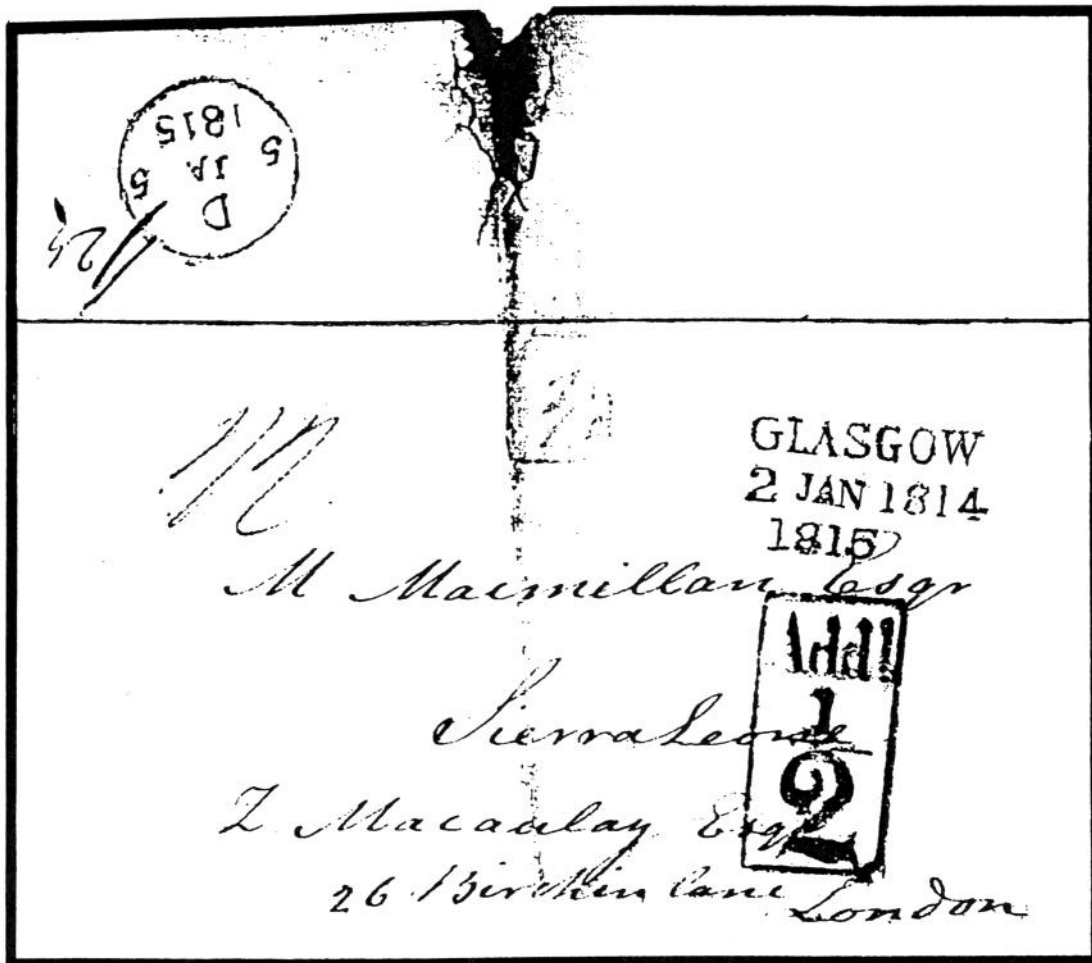


Answer to 1923 Postage Due Question

The letter was underpaid by 200 roubles (r), so double the deficiency was 400r. Using the fact that the current Russian foreign letter rate of 350r must equate to 50 gold centimes (gc), the fee of 400r should be expressed as $400 \times 50 \div 350 = 56gc$. On arrival in Germany, the authorities there had to translate this into German marks (m). The fact that the contemporary German foreign letter rate of 150m equated to 50gc gives us the conversion factor we need. The amount to be collected therefore was $56 \times 150 \div 50 = 168m$, which was precisely the figure written on the front of the cover in blue crayon. Anyone who got this right first time can award themselves a gold star!

1815 Letter to Sierra Leone

Frank Walton



2 January 1815 - Glasgow to Sierra Leone

This early letter was written on 2 January 1815 by a Glasgow merchant, Robert Walker, to a Mr M Macmillan in Freetown. Its contents relate to shipments of rice amongst other commercial matters.

The postal markings are all British. There is a manuscript 1/2 to cover the 405 mileage rate from Glasgow to London, a three line date stamp GLASGOW / 2 JAN 1814 / 1815, a weak Glasgow Additional 1/2d, a clear London Additional 1/2d and London arrival datestamp D / 5 JA 5 / 1815 adjacent to a manuscript 1/2 1/2. There is no evidence of any charge being made for the conveyance to Sierra Leone.

The Glasgow date is intriguing. This type of mark normally has the mileage '405' as the third line. One can only imagine a postal clerk having just got back after hogmanay accidentally inserting the new year '1815' in place of the '405' rather than the '1814'...

The great interest in this cover is its address and method of conveyance to Sierra Leone. The envelope is addressed as:

M. Macmillan Esqr
Sierra Leone

Z. Macaulay Esqr
26 Birchin Lane
London.

My first instinct was to establish whether this item did actually go out to Sierra Leone. As there was no post office out there until 1843, and no Sierra Leone postmarks until 1854, it is to be expected that there are no arrival marks. The letter starts off “Your letter of the 22nd July last I received the end of October”, so clearly this is part of a larger correspondence which would suggest that this item was destined to go out to Africa.

The Sierra Leone Company was founded in 1791, and an article in their constitution is reproduced by Philip Beale (Ref. 1), where the early postal arrangements with the colony are described. In short, a letter box was held by the Company Secretary in Freetown which was emptied and transferred by the company whenever a ship was available. A similar arrangement was maintained in the opposite direction.

So who was Z. Macaulay? In his definitive history of Sierra Leone (Ref. 2), Fyfe gives a considerable amount of information. Zachary Macaulay was an Englishman who went out to Sierra Leone as a council member in 1793, becoming one of the early Governors in 1796. He returned to London in 1799 and was appointed Secretary to the company with an office in Birchin Lane. Sierra Leone became a Crown Colony on 1 January 1808, but the postal practices remained unaltered until the 1820s.

This letter therefore provides us with an example of the ‘sealed-box’ practice before the establishment of the post office proper in Freetown.

Apart from a slaver letter of 1786 (illustrated in Beale, Ref. 1), I have not been able to trace any other letters inbound to Sierra Leone prior to 1843; there have certainly been none in the major Sierra Leone auction sales over the past 20 years. It would be interesting to record any other letters which used this service, in either direction.

Footnote

The contents of the letter are largely of very mundane business matters, but after one and a half pages Robert Walker drops in “*I heard a few days ago that your mother died about a fortnight ago. She was buried on the 21st ulto and a very respectable company attended the funeral*”. An interesting insight into the writer’s priorities!

References

1. Beale P.O., *The Postal Service of Sierra Leone...*, pp2-3, RPSL, London 1988
2. Fyfe C., *A History of Sierra Leone*, Oxford University Press, London 1962

Censorship In West Africa in World War II

John Daynes

Editor's note : This article appeared in the Forces Postal History Society Newsletter (Ref. 1) and is reproduced with permission. I would like to acknowledge a very similar article that was prepared by Michael Wright who had independently accessed the same archive material.

It has long been known that British Forces in West Africa used civil types of censor marks on forces mail. The extent of this use has been revealed in one of the recently opened files in the Public Record Office (Ref. 2). In the Return of Censorship Labels & Stamps for Quarter ended 30 June 1941 the Chief Censor of the Gold Coast advises the Director of Postal & Telegraph Censorship in London that "Passed by Censor" stamps numbers 1 to 30 inclusive were in use in the Colony. This return continues that of those the following numbers are used by Military units, but from 1 July 1941 these would be replaced by Military stamps of a different design:

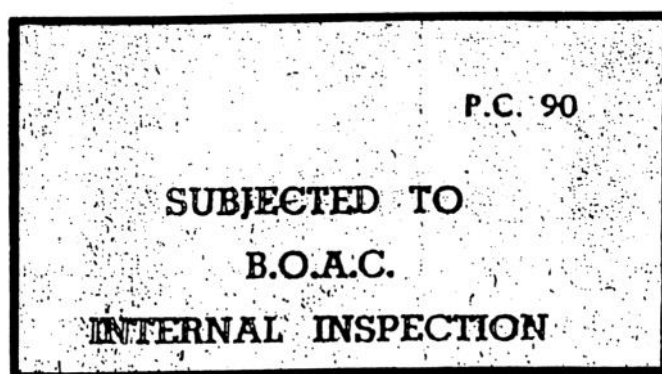
11, 12, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29 & 30.

On 10 September 1941 London sent an acknowledgement and requested impressions and details of the new military unit stamps. There is no record if these were supplied.

The return for 30 September 1941 (dated 28 October) notes that stamps numbered 1 - 10, 13 - 20, 26 & 30 were in use on civil mail, however 'Stamp No. 12 used by RAF Takoradi'. I suspect that although Army censor stamps had replaced the civil type at Army bases no standard RAF censor had been supplied. The return for the Quarter ended 31 December 1941 (dated 6 March 1942) confirms that No.12 stamp was still in use at RAF Takoradi. There were two additional surprising entries:

"Passed by Censor stamp No.11 is used by the RAF Liaison Officer for censorship of Pan-American Airways Africa Ltd. correspondence".

"Passed by Censor stamp No.20 is used by the Station Superintendent at Accra of British Overseas Airways Corporation for the censorship of the Corporation's official correspondence only".

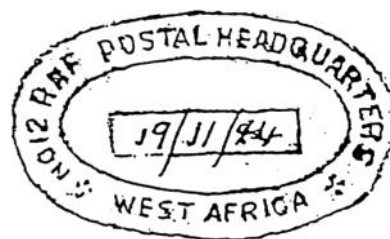


B.O.A.C. Censorship Label

Later it was reported that a label had been issued for B.O.A.C. official correspondence and that the "Passed by Censor" stamp had been withdrawn. The label is very unusual as it includes the "P.C. 90" code of censor labels.

Sadly, I have been unable to find any other files at Kew that include quarterly censor returns but the Gold Coast file gives an interesting insight of the link between the use of censor stamps on civil and forces mail.

I will be listing the number 12 mark as an RAF censor in the revised edition of my book on World War II censorship.



These illustrations show the censor mark of the Chief Censor of the Gold Coast and also the cachet of NO 12 RAF POSTAL HEADQUARTERS / ✱ WEST AFRICA ✱ used on a re-direction form in November 1944.

References

1. Daynes J., "Censorship in West Africa WWII", *Forces Postal History Society Newsletter*, No 235, pp122-5, Spring 1998
2. File DEFE 1/265. Items from this file are Crown copyright and are reproduced by permission.

OFFERS FROM STOCK

ASCENSION, 1922. The St. Helena overprinted set of nine values, 1/2d to 3s (SG1-9), additionally overprinted SPECIMEN, fine mint. £450.

GOLD COAST, 1895. A postal order for 20s. 0d, printed in olive-green, issued & cashed at Cape Coast 27 Nov. Both the payee's name & the designated paying office had been changed before encashment. £250.

SIERRA LEONE, 1914. A stampless cover from a German P.o.W. who had returned to Germany, reverse of cover bearing an unusual label printed "POSTAGE FREE/PRISONER OF WAR/SIERRA LEONE". Label is initialled, dated, & is tied by Freetown cds. Handstamped on the front 'POST FREE/PRISONERS OF WAR' in purple. £350.

SIERRA LEONE, 1937. De La Rue postal stationery die proof of the KGVI 2d envelope stamp, printed in mauve on wove paper, dated 31/8/37 & marked "V508". £425.

GHANA, 1957. Inauguration of Black Star Shipping Line, a die proof of the 1s 3d value, printed in black on thin glazed card. £250.



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Cameroons U.K.T.T. Acceptability and Availability in Northern Cameroons

Bob Maddocks

The acceptability and availability of what was basically the Southern Cameroons U.K.T.T. definitive issue in the Trust Territory of Northern Cameroons has been an on-going discussion among philatelists since it went on sale in Southern Cameroons on 1 October 1960. The matter was last touched upon in *Cameo* in an article "Southern Cameroons U.K.T.T. Overprints" by Rob May and Michael Wright (Ref. 1). I made some additional comments in *Cameo* (Ref. 2) but held back on further explanatory observations of a more personal nature for want of corroboration. However, as I feel that they do in fact have relevance these are now set out here in the hope that they may indeed be a building block to take us closer to resolving the situation which albeit, in the absence of official records, still remains something of an enigma.

As is known, the U.K. Trust Territory of Southern Cameroons was at 30 September 1960 a self-governing region within the then British colonial federation of Nigeria. Then on 1 October 1960, when Nigeria itself attained independence from Britain, the Southern Cameroons and its sister Trust Territory of Northern Cameroons (though in a somewhat obscured fashion, since it had long been an integral part of the Northern Region of Nigeria) became the direct political responsibility of the British Colonial Office in London, pending a decision by the United Nations on their future. However, for obvious economic reasons as well as the practical convenience in the interim of short duration, the British Government arranged with the new Federal Government of Nigeria for the Nigeria Posts and Telegraphs department, Lagos to continue to provide on behalf of the U.K. Government internal and external postal services in both Southern and Northern Cameroons with existing Nigerian postal regulations and tariffs remaining in force.

In Northern Cameroons the postal services had been and continued to be controlled from one or the other of the Nigerian regional head post offices of Maidugari and Yola. In Southern Cameroons all operations, with one exception, were controlled internally by the Head Postmaster at Victoria. The

sole exception was Ndiang Postal Agency which was under the control of Calabar, Southern Nigeria and remained so until 30 September 1961.

Nevertheless, it was through the initiative of the Government of Southern Cameroons headed by the Commissioner of the Cameroons, who also held a watching brief on Trusteeship matters for but was not himself in direct political charge of Northern Cameroons, that the Trust Territories were for the first time to have their own postage stamps from 1 October 1960 albeit that they were the last and now withdrawn definitions used in pre-independent Nigeria but overprinted "Cameroons U.K.T.T." (Fig. 1). Usage was predominately and universally made in Southern Cameroons yet enigmatically has been only infrequently recorded in Northern Cameroons. This, it seems, was due to various "games" at various levels being played in national and international politics, which permeated religious and ethnic loyalties - not altogether surreptitiously - of the local populace, to influence the general availability or otherwise of these stamps to the public at large vis-à-vis the outcome of the impending plebiscite on that particular Territory's political future.

As mentioned above, Northern Cameroons administratively, economically and politically had been an integral part of Northern Nigeria ever since it had been captured from the Germans in WWI. Therefore, from the Federal Nigerian Government's viewpoint and especially from that of the traditional powerful Islamic suzerains in the Northern Region itself, the less publicity given to the technical reversion of Northern Cameroons to Trusteeship status now to be obviously highlighted with the issue of special "U.K.T.T." postage stamps the better to maintain the defacto status as Nigerian territory - a pre-emptive move on the outcome of the plebiscite no less.

The Nigerian postal authorities moreover, and contrary to normal practice, made no announcement in the official Nigeria Government Gazette of the "Cameroons U.K.T.T." stamp issue which to all intents and purposes was a regional issue. Again,

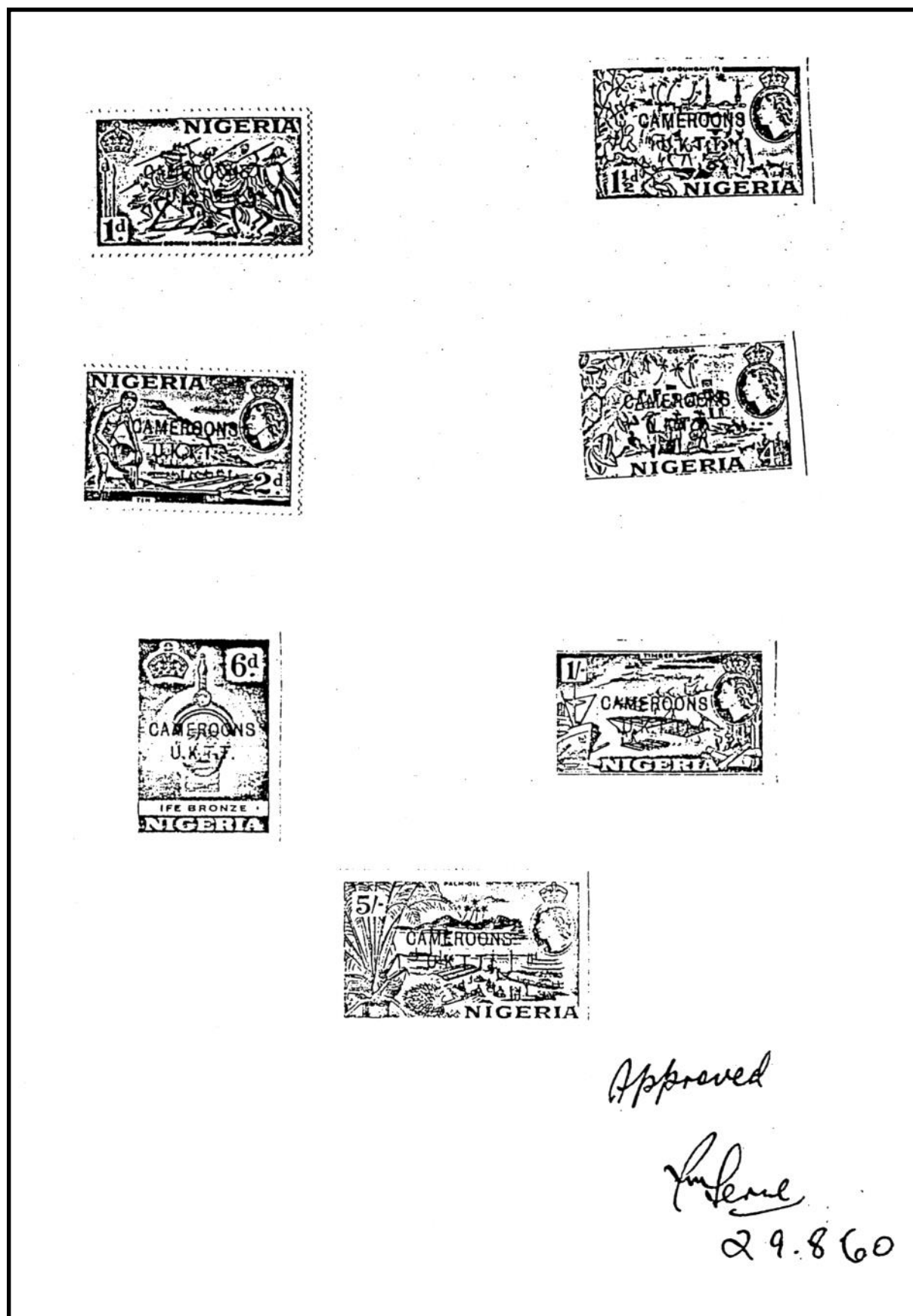


Figure 1. Photostat copy of Crown Agents' Approval of Printers Proof submitted prior to overprinting of the stamps. I was given this by the Philatelic Archivist of the Crown Agents in an exchange of correspondence many years ago and long before their records were handed over to the British Library, where, I understand the original document is now held. Note that the stamps are imperforate except for 1d and 2d values.

remember that whereas South Cameroons was a distinct political entity, Northern Cameroons was not. On the other hand, Nigerian stamps of both the Independence commemorative and new definitive issue of October 1960, which were technically invalid in the two Trust Territories, were nonetheless available in the Cameroons and accepted for use on mail posted there, especially in the North. Yet in Southern Cameroons too they were surprisingly sold over the post office counters, notably at Kumbra and its postal agencies, when stocks of the "U.K.T.T." overprints ran out in some values in mid-1961. Unoverprinted stamps of the withdrawn Nigeria definitives - mostly the low values - also continued to be both postally and fiscally used in Southern Cameroons up to and even after reunification with the Cameroon Republic on 1 October 1961.

Despite extensive research to date it has not so far been determined whether the Crown Agents, who handled the overprinting, arranged for the supply to be first sent to Lagos General Post Office for onward distribution to the Head/Controlling Post Offices in Southern Cameroons (Victoria) and Northern Cameroons (Maidugari and Yola) respectively.

It seems most likely that Southern Cameroons was supplied direct which raises the question whether the entire stock was sent to Victoria which in turn forwarded a supply to Northern Cameroons. The latter seems most unlikely given that the two Trust Territories had little, if indeed any, inter-communication and thus the postal service in Northern Cameroons remained, as previously mentioned, controlled and operated from one or other of the Northern Nigeria regional post offices of Maidugari and Yola. Thus, did any quantity of note of these stamps reach the Northern Trust territory and by what source? Or was there only a manipulated, token release there?

By the plebiscite held on 11 February 1961 the people of Southern Cameroons chose to join with the already independent former French Cameroons to take effect on 1 October 1961, with not a little "inducement" from their Christian brothers in the south of the Cameroon Republic. By a separate plebiscite the decision of the people of Northern Cameroons was overwhelmingly in favour of rejoining/remaining with Nigeria - this was implemented on 1 June 1961.

The latter result gave quiet satisfaction to the Government of Northern Nigeria which was dominated by the traditional feudal rulers of the Moslem faith. Also to the then Prime Minister of the Federation of Nigeria, Sir Abubaker Tafawa Balewa for he in turn relied on Northern support in an Administration formed from an uneasy association with southern and mostly Christian politicians. Balewa was to lose his life in a military coup led by Southerners in 1966.

On the other hand, President Akiéko of the Cameroon Republic was far from best pleased and immediately voiced his Government's great anger and dissatisfaction over the outcome. He and his senior ministers were also Moslem and they had been anxious too to bolster their positions through the acquisition of Northern Cameroons for in the south of his country there were civil disturbances from the more populous, progressive and politically aware Christian tribes. Akiéko attacked Britain and Nigeria, openly accusing Britain of having fixed the result in favour of her former colony. A vigorous legal protest was lodged formally in May 1961 with the International Court of Justice at the Hague but this was eventually rejected and the result of the plebiscite in Northern Cameroons was upheld. Accordingly, President Akiéko declared 1 June 1964 to be a day of national mourning throughout the new Federal Republic of Cameroon, which by now of course included the former Southern Cameroons (Fig. 2) with its population almost entirely Christian.

It was this political power game based on religion between Moslem North and Christian South with shades of the old territorial scramble for Africa in the previous century, which, I believe, is the key consideration in the question of availability or otherwise lack of the "Cameroons U.U.K.T." overprinted samples on Northern Cameroons prior to the plebiscite there. It is doubtful, however, for obvious reasons of the "need to know" in politics principle whether such reasoning can ever be substantiated by any official records of the time, including the papers relating to Cameroon's legal case on the result of the plebiscite against Britain at the Hague.



Office of the Prime Minister,
BUEA, West Cameroon.

26th May, 1964.

DAY OF MOURNING

The following telegram from the Presidency is
reproduced for the information of the general public:

"I wish to recall to you that in his
speech delivered on 6th December, 1963
the Head of State decided that the 1st
June should be a "Day of Mourning" in
the whole Federal Republic - stop - con-
sequently the flags should be half-masted
in your constituency - stop - I outline
that this day is not a holiday."

2. Flags shall be flown at half mast accordingly.

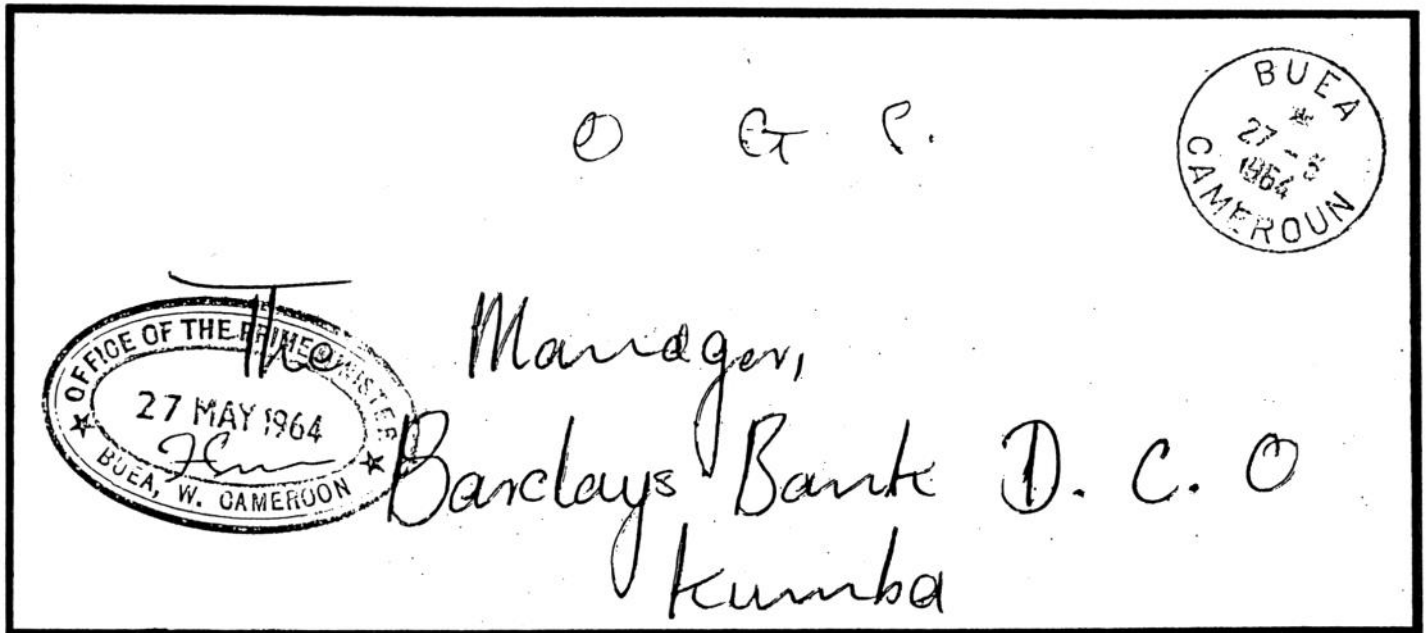


Figure 2. "Day of Mourning" Circular dated 26 May 1964 from the Office of the Prime Minister of West Cameroon which I received in the course of business at the time.

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1. May R. & Wright M. "Southern Cameroons Provisional UKTT Overprints", *Cameo*, Volume 5 pp176-80, WASC, July 1996
2. Maddocks R. "Southern Cameroons Provisional UKTT Overprints", *Cameo*, Volume 5 pp214-5, WASC, January 1997



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Nigeria		ditto, blue, minor cover scuff only	£28
St Helena	SG 131-40	1938 original set of 10. VFUM perforated Specimen	£140
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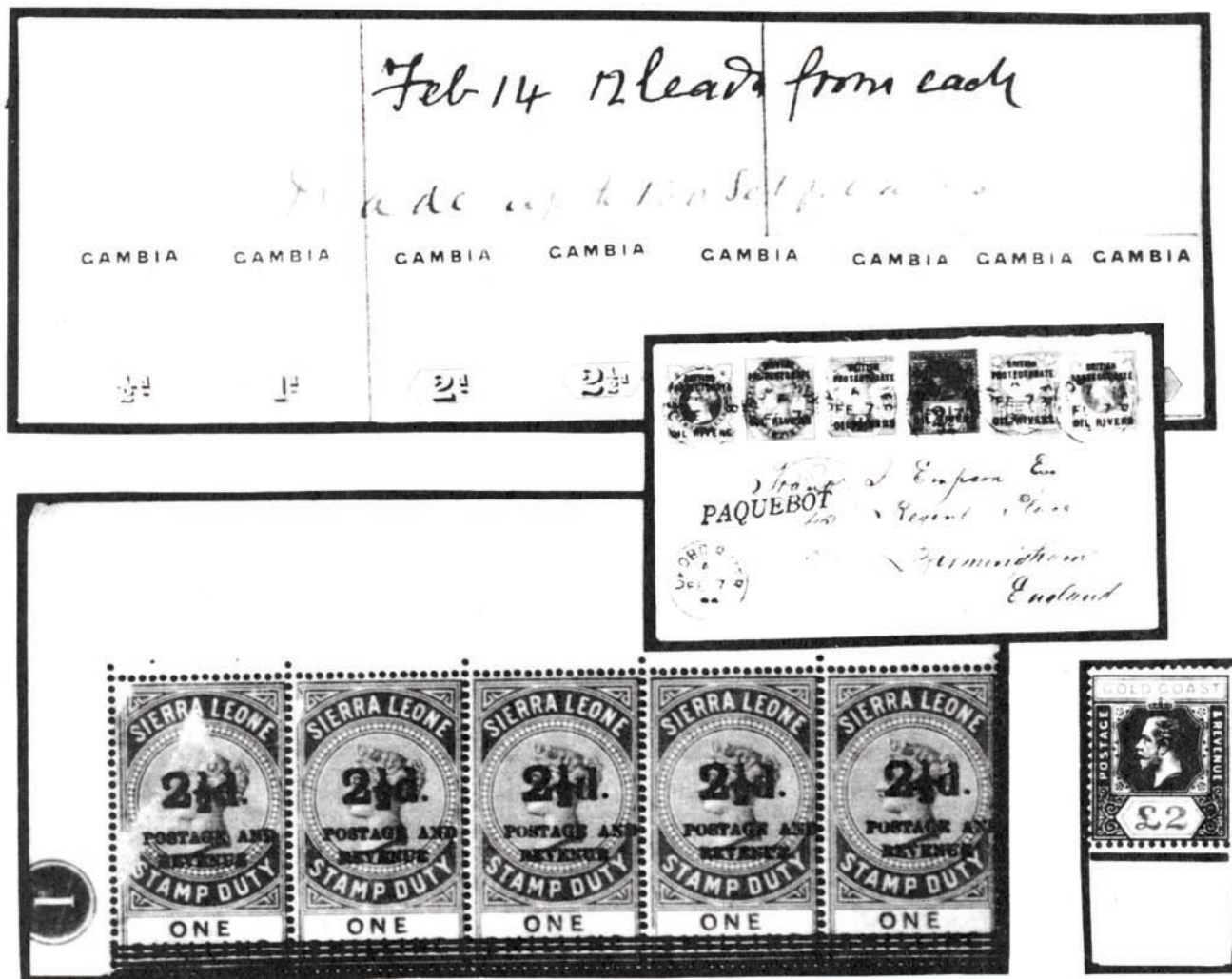
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