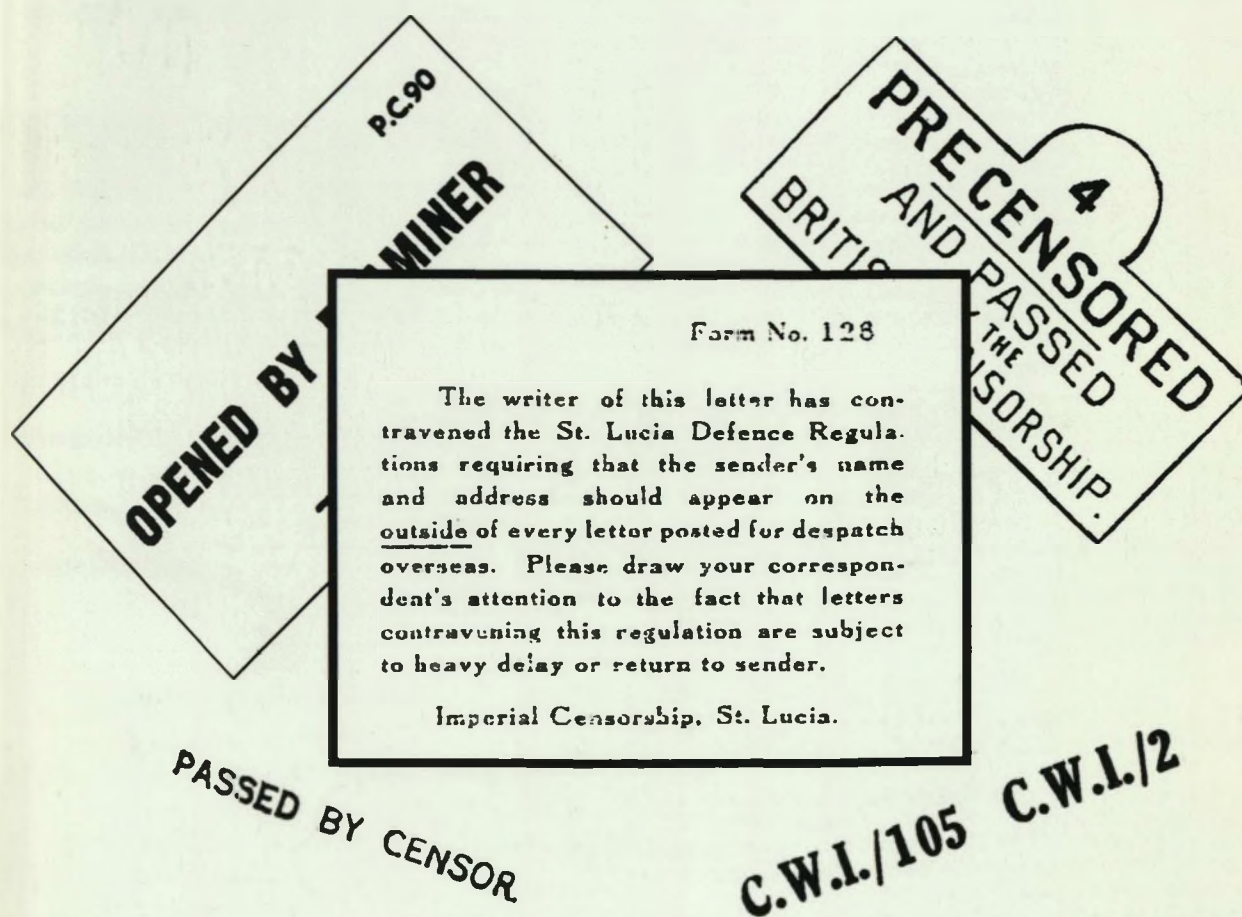


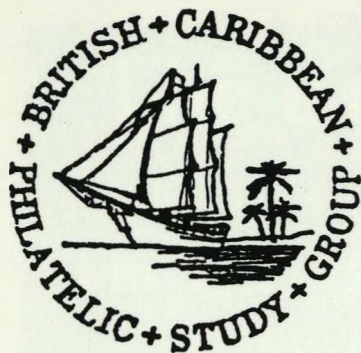
BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

PUBLISHED BY THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC STUDY GROUP
Unit No. 27 of the American Philatelic Society

June 2000
Whole No. 195
Vol. 40, No. 2
ISSN 0045-2890



World War II
Civil Censorship in St. Lucia



The *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* is published four times a year (March, June, September, and December) by the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. It is available only by subscription through membership in the BCPSPG. Membership is based on the calendar year; Current dues are: \$18 per annum in U.S. funds for members in the United States and Canada, and \$21 (£15) for those in other areas. Life membership is available, with the following rates being applicable:

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British Caribbean Philatelic Journal

June 2000 Whole Number 195 (Vol. 40, No. 2)

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Face-to-Face by David L. Herendeen

The Stamp Show 2000, held in London in May, is now history. As you will note in our President's Message, the BCPSG/BWISC joint meeting and the festivities surrounding the meeting were a rousing success. We have planned to devote much of the September issue of the *BCPJ* to reports of this enlarged Annual General Meeting.

Highlights will include:

- Winners of the BCPSG awards including the *Cameron Award*, the *Durnin Award*, and the newly established *Cooley Award*.

- Exhibit awards and descriptions of the exhibits of BCPJ members, most of which focused on the Caribbean area.
- Reports on the Annual General Meeting and the festivities, including extensive photo coverage of attendees.
- The joint Auction Report.

Face-to-Face Still Matters

It was truly amazing how many members of the BCPSG talked to me about the excitement of meeting other members (usually from overseas) face-to-face. It is always a pleasure to meet someone who has been just a name in the journal. The Journal was also complemented for using the photos because this increases the feeling of camaraderie in the group and allows members who have never met to recognize each other.

American Presentation Style Draws Comment

As you may know, there were two formal presentations at the London meeting. These were given by *Dr. Peter McCann* (our immediate past president) and your editor. These were both american style "business" presentations using 35mm slides. We both had a number of attendees complement us on this form of presentation. The British seem to prefer the "display" wherein the presenter fills frames with material and then talks about the subject. The feedback we got was that the viewers much preferred being able to see the items that were being discussed. Otherwise one needs to review all of

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the material in the frames and then remember it during the presentation. A daunting task to say the least.

Material Needed

Although I may sound like a broken record, your Journal needs your help with contributions of articles. The journal is for the dissemination of information that may be of interest to others. For example, consider J.P. Gough's note on page 49. His discovery resulted from a simple observation in one Journal article. Please help.

Editor Wanted

Without impinging on the AGM reports that will appear in September, at that meeting I announced my desire to leave the post of Editor of the *BCPJ* as soon as practicable. This has been a difficult decision on my part, but the adjustments necessary in retirement are far more significant than I would have thought only a year ago.

It is now time for someone within the Group to step forward to fill this important position. If any members are interested in doing any of the tasks relating to the Journal (editing, production or distribution) they should contact our President, **Rob Wynstra**.

President's Message

Having just returned from our joint meeting with the British West Indies Study Circle in London, I can report that the event was truly outstanding. Nearly 100 members from both groups attended either the joint auction and/or the meetings, bourse, and displays. Additional members, who could not make the weekend events, were sighted later in the week during the Stampshow 2000 international exhibition at Earl's Court. The joint auction, in particular, far exceeded our most optimistic projections. The Sunday night group dinner had more than 60 members, spouses, and guests in attendance. It was especially gratifying to see so many overseas members in attendance from as far away as South Africa, Australia, Canada, Switzerland, and several of the Caribbean islands. One group member from Canada even flew in from his diplomatic post in Moscow.

The formal displays proved to be a real highlight, and the informal displays played a major role in bringing U.S. members and their overseas counterparts together for an exchange of shared interests. The opinion table provided some of the most lively commentary during the entire two day event and drew a large audience. The exhibits at Earl's Court, in which our members earned

awards ranging from Large Vermeil to Large Gold, showed once again the extremely high quality of our competitive presentations. Full details on all the events and awards will be published in the September issue of the Journal.

Of course, such an outstanding gathering could not take place without the assistance from our members. First of all, I would like to thank our International Director, **David Druett**, for all his work in handling the major share of the planning for this event. Also, special thanks are due to **Ed Waterous** for putting in the many hours necessary for so flawlessly pulling off such a huge auction. I would further like to express my appreciation to **Peter McCann**, **Dave Herendeen**, and **Federico Borromeo** for making the formal presentations during the meeting. In addition, thanks go to **Tom Giraldi**, **Ben Ramkissoon**, **Duane Larson**, **Dan Walker**, and **Tim Tweddell** for displaying their pages during the informal presentations. I also would like to thank **Peter Kaulback** for serving as chief steward during the Sunday meeting.

Of course, such a gathering could not have taken place without the outstanding support from the officers and members of the British West Indies Study Circle. Foremost in this regard was **Derek Nathan** who spent months in preparing for this event and worked tirelessly during the two days to make sure that everything went off perfectly. I want to further express my appreciation to **Victor Toeg** for serving as such wonderful host for the meetings.

Simon Goldblatt also deserves special recognition for leading the auction efforts that produced such a record realization. Thanks also go to **Stephen Sharp** and **Michael Hamilton** for producing such an exceptional auction catalogue and for taking care of the printing and distribution. **Dennis Mitton** deserves recognition for organizing the informal displays. Credit is further due to **Ray Stanton**, **Peter Ford**, **Charles Freeland**, and all the members of the committee for all their efforts in making this such an memorable event.

With that said, it now time to begin planning for our next annual meeting which will be held in Dallas, Texas during April 6-8, 2001 in conjunction with the TEXPEX national exhibition. This an outstanding show and is fully accredited for the APS Champion of Champion competition. We will, of course, have all our usual activities, including our group dinner, auction, and annual general meeting. I would especially urge any members to consider exhibiting there for first time, as we will have several veteran members of the group on the judging panel. Again, further details will be published in future issues of the journal.

Secretary's Report

by Peter Kaulback

New Members

All new applicants listed in the last issue of the Journal have been accepted as members of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. Congratulations and welcome to the Group.

New Applicants

Andrew Brockett, 98 Popes Lane, Woonona, N.S.W. 2517 Australia. Philatelic interest: British Guiana Air-mails, pre 1966. Sponsored by: David Druett.

Harold D. Ford, PO Box 871009, Stone Mountain, GA 30087-0026 USA. Sponsored by: Peter Kaulback.

Charles E. Herrold, 2501 Caldwell Avenue South, # 11, Birmingham, AL 35205 USA. Philatelic interest: Cayman Islands, and Turks and Caicos. Sponsored by: Peter Kaulback.

Jim Lindsay, 1001-15 Massy Square, Toronto, ON M4C 5L6 Canada. Sponsored by: Peter Kaulback.

Kevin May, 20 Haughley Drive, Rushmere St. Andrew, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 5QU United Kingdom. Philatelic interest: British Honduras/Belize, and Grenada; stamps, postal history and postcards. Sponsored by: Ian Matheson.

Colville L. Petty, PO Box 996, East End, Anguilla, West Indies. Philatelic interest: Anguilla stamps. Sponsored by: Peter Kaulback.

Dr. Gary M. Stone, M.D., 7872 Talavera Place, Delray Beach, FL 33446 USA. Sponsored by: Peter Kaulback.

Christopher J. Wilson, Flat 16, 4 Caldecott Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong. Sponsored by: Ian Matheson/Peter Kaulback.

David A. Wilson, 20 Lloyd Avenue, Hunter's Hill, NSW 2110 Australia. Sponsored by: Charles Freeland.

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Paul Cohen, PO Box 633, Brooklyn, NY 11229 USA

George Fabian, 230 Fir, Park Forest, Illinois 60466-1717 USA

Jack Guyer, 1056 Viewridge Drive, PO Box 1941, Oak Harbor, WA 98277-1941 USA

Peter M. Newton, 1114 Nokomis Avenue South, Venice, FL 34285 USA

John Sawicki, Trinity Hall, Duquesne University, Pittsburg, PA 15282-0001 USA

Jewel Yoder, 4996 Singers Glen Road, Harrisonburg, VA 22802 USA

Resignations

Christine Bolton

Denis Dant

George Grabon

Francis X. Hiner

If any member has information, such as a change of address, to be included in the Secretary's Report, please contact me, either by mail (see inside front cover of the Journal) or by e-mail, at:

kaulbackpe@home.com

Another Invert Surfaces

While in London, I encountered a third copy of the Barbados 1c postage due stamp with inverted center. The two previously reported examples were reported earlier in the *BCPJ* [39(1), p. 12 and 39(4), p. 145].

At the time, this stamp was being purchased by Otto Peetoom, proprietor of Ormskirk Stamps in the U.K. While discussing the issue, it was suggested that since there had been two independent sources for the three stamps thus far reported, there may in fact be as many as 120 printed. I'm not personally certain that this follows, but in any event, we will keep a sharp eye out for this greatest of modern Caribbean rarities. Certainly anyone owning 60 or 120 would not sell them off at the rate of one per year, would he? (*Ed.*)

Formula Jamaican Air Letters

by Dingle Smith

Philatelists have for many years recognised the status of formula postcards, the forerunners of officially printed postal stationery. For air letter forms the situation is different and these have only recently attracted attention. This account focuses on the air letter forms available in Jamaica prior to the introduction, in mid-1947, of official post office air letter forms that incorporated a stamp in the design. In my opinion, these early air letter forms are of philatelic merit and deserves the status of formula items, worthy of inclusion in exhibits of postal stationery. The term "air letter" is used as this was current at the time and was only replaced by "aerogramme" after the UPU Congress meeting in Brussels in 1952. My interest in the early Jamaica formula air letters was spurred by Hugh James' article which appeared in 1997.¹

The First Use of Air Letter Forms

It is usually accepted that the first use of air letter forms in Jamaica was on 27 November 1944. This was associated with the use of a six-penny air letter rate valid throughout the countries of the British Empire and is described in the following extract:²

The light-weight air letter service from the U.K. to civilian addresses in the British West Indies commenced on 1 September 1944. The return light-weight air letter service for civilians began from Jamaica to the U.K. on 27 November 1944, when some 2,500 stampless air letter forms printed in the U.K. were placed on sale at the general post office (GPO) in Kingston. These stampless forms were sold at ½d each, and there was such a demand for them that they sold out within a few hours.

An example of such a letter, addressed to Australia, and with the manuscript inscription (in red ink), 'Service effective from Nov. 27th 1944/ EMPIRE "ALL-AIR"' is shown in Fig. 1. This did not attract censor marks in Jamaica but there is an Australian censor label and examiner's handstamp

However, an earlier air letter form, postmarked at Half Way Tree on 7 November 1944, is illustrated in Fig. 2. It was addressed to the renowned aerophilatelist F.J. Field

and sent by that doyen of Jamaican philately, G.C. Gunther. The message reads:

I send you this and three other air letters for your acceptance. They are the very first to be sent from Jamaica and should be interesting and useful souvenirs to students of postal history material.

This has a Jamaican censor label.³ The normal form of censor label was insufficient to re-seal the air letter and a strip of brown gummed paper was added down the right hand side.

Additional interest is that the air letter forms used on November 4 and November 27 1944 are of the same type. They were printed in the U.K. and both have the order number 48-206. It could be that this helped to cause the shortage noted by James for the posting of November 27? It is of note that the letter of November 27 was sent from St Ann's Bay, on the north coast of Jamaica, by J.M. Nethersole to Capt. H.B. Bruce, both well-known philatelists in their respective hemispheres. Does this mean that the air letter forms were available at post offices outside Kingston or did the sender obtain his supply ahead of the day from Kingston?

Despite the similarity in style, there is considerable variation in the grey shading on the outside of the two letter forms, that for November 7 is very much darker. In both cases the year plug was omitted from the postmark. This was a common practice during the period of the Second World War, on the letter of November 27 the year has been added in blue ink. Whether this was undertaken by the Post Office in Jamaica or Australia or by the recipient is not known.

The Locally Printed Air Letter Forms

Although all the known November 27 air letter forms (and that for 7 November shown in Figure 2) were of British origin, Ref. 1 notes that the next earliest dated use of UK printed air letters was in 1951. This is verified by the copies available to the present writer. The study of Ref. 1 gives considerable detail on the differing types of air letter forms produced by at least four local (i.e. Jamaican) printers and it would seem likely that they began production very soon after November 1944.



Figure 1. Air letter form, used 27 Nov 1944.

First day of 'Empire all-air service', form printed in the U.K.

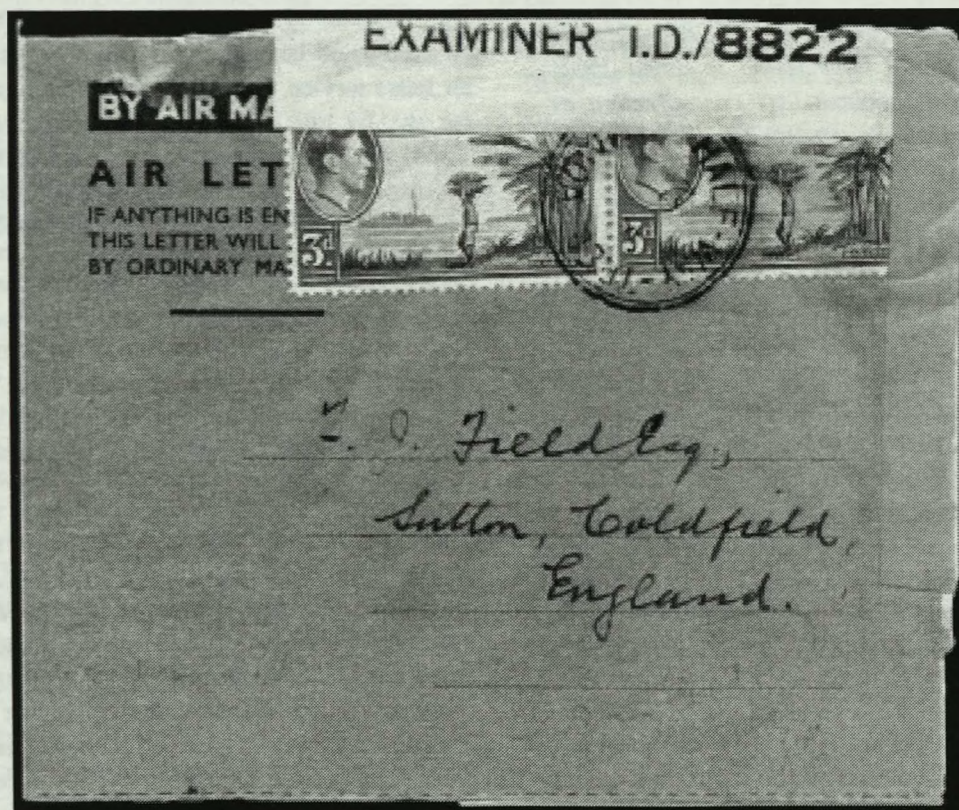


Figure 2. Air letter form, used 7 Nov 1944.

Likely first day of the new service, form printed in the U.K.

This account will focus on additions on the listing given in Ref. 1 prior to the issue of the first stamped air letter forms in 21 July 1947.

There are four major sources of information on the styles and dates of issue of privately produced stampless air letter forms. These are the printers' records, used and postmarked forms, unused forms and contemporary accounts. In this case we can assume that the printers' records are not available. The major source is from used and postmarked examples of the forms, often assisted by comments given in the message portion of the letter. A sub-set of such information is that not infrequently, some of the unused examples have manuscript markings that give some indication of their period of use.

The account in Ref. 1 provides an invaluable first step in distinguishing the printers involved in the production of the air letter forms in Jamaica, the differences in style and the dates of use. The remainder of this contribution seeks to extend that information. It is accepted that there were at least four separate Jamaican printers and that their products were readily available until the early 1950s. After that it appears that the only stampless forms commercially available in Jamaica were of U.K. origin, predominantly Apsley products. This accords with the comments that:¹

The earliest Jamaican usage of U.K. formula-type stampless forms that I have found is dated 1951, when presumably it became less cost-effective or necessary to print forms locally. The latest locally printed stampless form I have found was used in 1953 if one discounts the special emergency printing commissioned by the PMG in 1955.

The additional comments will be presented, following the method used in Ref. 1, in terms of the four known local printers.

The Gleaner

The earliest form described by James¹ is dated 15 July 1945. The details are that the outer part of the air letter has a slate-grey wash, 'BY AIR MAIL' is 30.5mm in length, the underlining measures 16.5mm, 'AFFIX/ 6d./ STAMP HERE' is in a lined box and there are no sender's details.

The next change to the instructions is the addition of '(Only for Empire Countries)' to the top right hand corner of the address panel of the air letter form. Ref. 1 gives the Earliest Known Date (EKD) as 4 September

1946. I have three identical covers of this type sent on 16 February 1946 from G.J. Gunther to F.J. Field. These verify the comments by James that the instruction '(Only from Empire Countries)' was very poorly printed. It is unproven, but tempting, to speculate that these covers (none of which contains a message) were sent by Gunther to coincide, or be close, to the date of issue of this new style of cover. These covers do not have sender's address details on the reverse of the form.

The instructions restricting the validity to Empire Countries is significant because the introduction of the light-weight air letter rate was an extension of the pre-World War II concept of a concessional airmail rate within the British Empire. Initially the air letter postage was at a flat rate of 6d, see Fig. 1. Progressively changes were introduced so that more distant parts of the Empire were charged at the increased rate of 9d. It is also important to note that for many years the special air letter rate did not extend to the United States. This was only introduced about 1954, before that 6d air letter forms to the USA were routinely charged postage due to meet the ½ oz air letter rate. There is however, scope for misunderstanding, the Jamaican Post Office Guide for January 1948 gives the ½ oz letter rate to the USA as sixpence although there was no (light-weight) air letter service. By 1952 the ½ oz. air letter rate to the USA had increased to 8d but there was still no official lightweight air letter service. Canada as an Empire country qualified for the 6d rate air letter rate throughout this period. Thus, there was much sense in indicating that a 6d stamp was only valid for transmission to Empire countries, although by early 1948 it only applied to parts of the Empire!

Ref. 1 does not clearly indicate when 'Empire only' was dropped from the forms printed by the Gleaner. This imperialistic instruction was not included on any of the forms from the other three Jamaican printers.

There was a major posting of airmail covers, including air letter forms, to catch the first air mail link Jamaica-Bermuda-London, which departed Kingston on September 5 1946. The two Gleaner covers that I have for this flight are similar to those used in February 1946, except that the printing of the '(only for Empire Countries)' is very much improved, neither of these has 'sender's address' instruction. One of my copies has part of the HOWARD SMITH/ AIR MAIL BOND / MADE IN CANADA watermark described in Ref. 1.

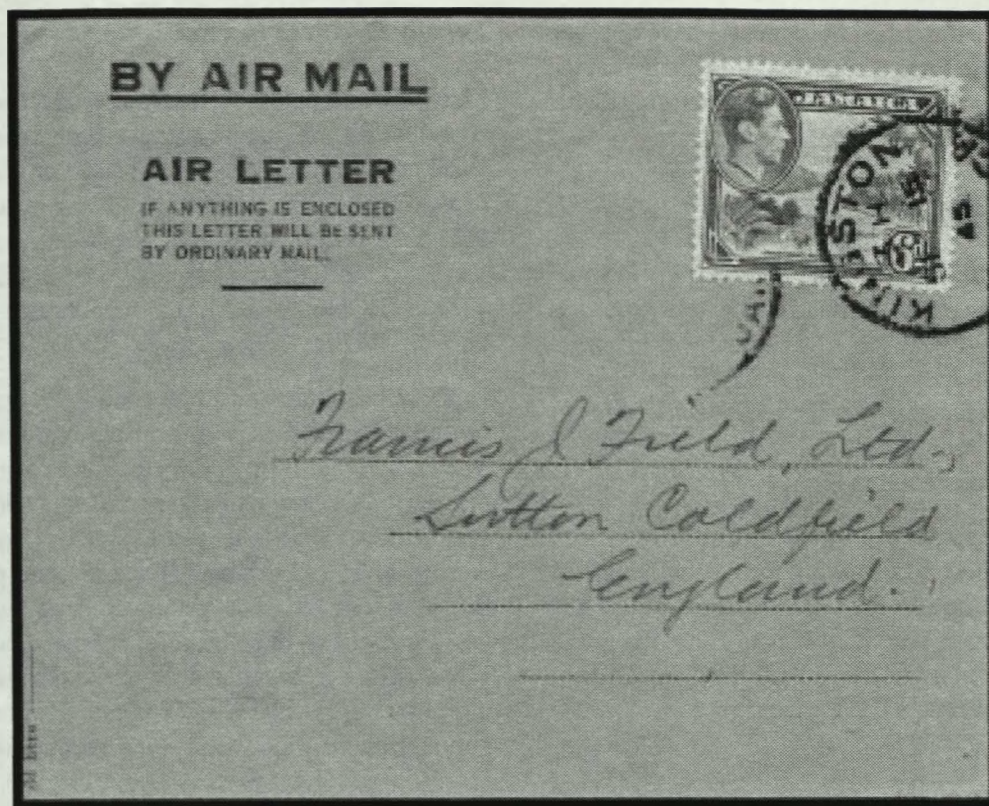


Figure 3. Air letter form, used 15 Sep 1945, probably produced by Printer Ltd., Kingston.

Printers Ltd.

Many of the first letter forms from this printer are easy to distinguish because their name, Printers Ltd Kingston, Jamaica, B.W.I., is reproduced on the lower left of the address panel. The possibility that the same printer later produced such forms in a different style and without a printer's name is discussed below.

Ref. 1 describes the first of the Printers Ltd. covers, with a box with the instruction 'Affix 6d./ British/ Stamp/ here'. James¹ comments that this: '...suggests the form has been slavishly copied from a sample of a U.K. form'. However it was not copied from the British form 48-206 because that did not mention adding a 'British' stamp! The EKD provided by James for this type was 12 July 1945. My only used cover of this type, a front, is postmarked 4 September 1946 and was used for the Jamaica-Bahamas-London first flight.

The second type corresponds to that described by James.⁴ It does not have the "British stamp" instruction; the box is now a lined rectangle with no instructions of any kind. I have three covers of this type, each with the same EKD given by Ref. 1, i.e. 15 September 1946. My

covers are all from G.J. Gunther to F.J. Field. The interest is that one includes the message :

There are three distinct air letter sheets now sold in Jamaica. I am sending you specimens of all.

I also have an unused form with the instructions 'Affix/ Stamp/ here', again in a line box, and a similar used copy dated 4 September 1946.

James⁵ describes a completely different style of air letter form which is shown here as Fig. 3. I have three copies, each dated 15 September 1945, from Gunter to Field. One of these has an added manuscript pencil note, in Gunther's distinctive handwriting, that states 'Printers Ltd without name'. I have a further commercially used copy of the same type, dated 15 February 1946.

There would seem to be little doubt that the air letters forms of the type shown in Fig. 3 were produced by Printers Ltd of Kingston.

Times and Intersalco

I have two used copies of the forms produced by the Times, i.e. with fine diagonal grey lines. These are postmarked 20 October 1949 and 28 August 1950, both cor-

respond to the type described by James.⁶ I have not seen any examples of the Intersalco forms. It is likely that the products of these two printers only became available after the introduction of stamped air letter forms.

A New Type of Form?

A final cover in the pre-stamped air letter period was sent 13 April 1947. This is clearly philatelic and was sent to (and likely by!) by E.F. Aguilar from Lucea to Kingston without a message. Presumably it travelled by surface mail, an early plan by the writer to also register it appears to have been cancelled by crossing through in ink. The cover is illustrated in Fig. 4.

The cover is of a type that does not appear to have been previously described. The overall format is similar to that used in this period by the Gleaner. The difference is that it does not on a slate-grey wash. The colour was applied by the use of a fine pattern of blue dots, reminiscent of the earlier Printers Ltd forms.

Locally Produced in 1952

I have five stampless forms, four used and one mint, of a type that do not appear to have been described before. While there is no clear proof, it is likely that these were printed in Jamaica, the unused example is illustrated in Fig. 5. A pencil manuscript comment states, "Jamaica 1952, wkmd," the watermark reads ROLLAND/ EXTRA STRONG. The EKD is 27 February 1952 and the latest 25 March 1953.

If allowance is made for the poor quality of the printing on the earlier copies, the format is constant throughout. The earlier copies (including the mint copy in Fig. 5) are printed with a grey wash on very distinctive light-weight yellow paper. The two later examples (November 1952 and October 1953) are on thicker white paper, neither has a watermark. The general format tentatively suggests that these may be a later type produced by the Times. This is particular true of the details of the printing of the instructions for folding and opening the forms although the distinctive shading by the use of diagonal lines was no longer used.

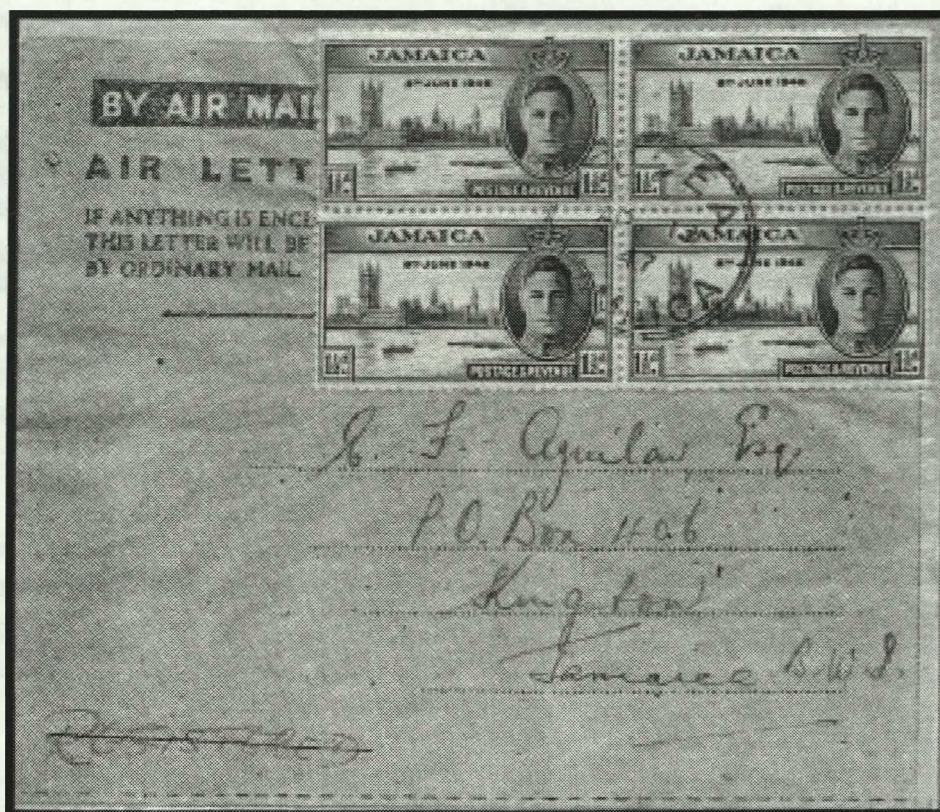


Figure 4. Air letter form, used internally at 6d rate, Lucea to Kingston, 13 April 1947. Form probably printed in Jamaica.

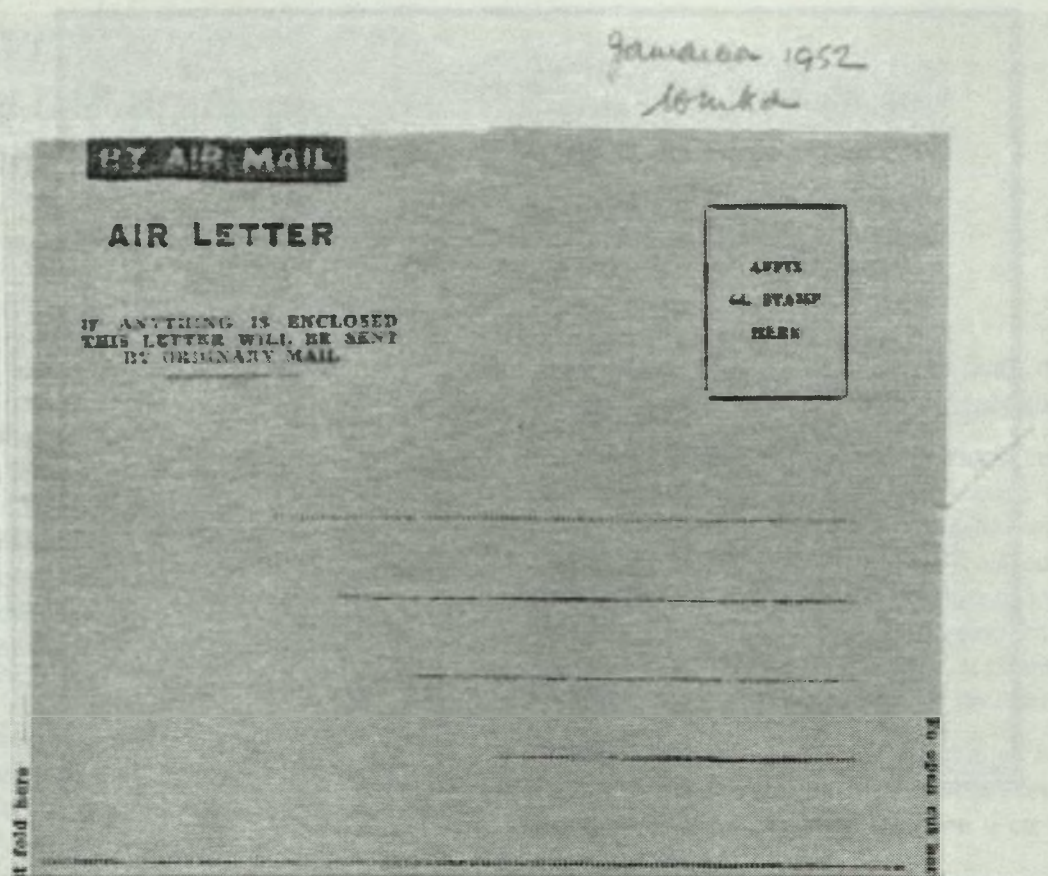


Figure 5. Air letter form, unused with marginal manuscript marking, 'Jamaica 1952' likely produced locally, printer unknown.

The letter of 25 November 1952 is to the USA and the stamps correctly total eight pence in postage. This was the rate, at the time, for a $\frac{1}{2}$ oz air mail letter. The 1948 Jamaican Post Office Guide clearly indicates that there was no separate lightweight air letter rate to the USA at that time.

An Oddity

Fig. 6 shows a home-made, as opposed to locally printed, stampless air letter form. This was produced and sent by, L. Barrington Smith an indefatigable Jamaican stamp trader. It is postmarked 27 February 1948, to a Canadian address. It was accepted as valid for airmail postage but it is not a valid test of the acceptance of such home-made (and not officially approved) covers. This is because in 1948, the postal rate for both $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. air mail letters and for (lightweight) air letters from Jamaica to Canada was six pence.

Summary and queries

The locally produced stampless air letter forms provide a fascinating field of study, not least because at the time of their issue few philatelists were interested in the topic. There is a strong case for including air letter forms issued prior to the introduction of stamped air letters as acceptable items of postal stationery.

Published accounts of Jamaican stampless air letter forms raise a number of queries, some of these are listed below with the hope that others can contribute additional information.

- It is accepted that the original U.K. forms were sold at post offices, does this apply to the locally produced forms prior to the introduction of the first stamped air letter form in July 1947?
- What is the EKD for the first locally produced air stampless forms? This is important because with the complete sell-out of the U.K. forms on, or about, 27 November 1944 it would have been impossible to use

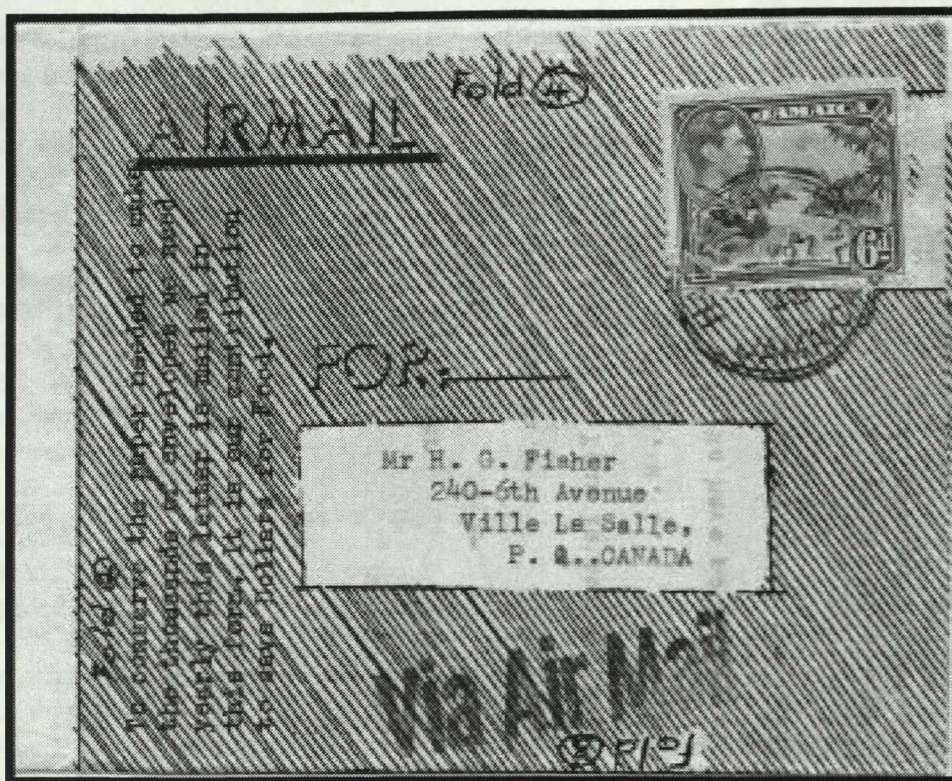


Figure 6. A home-made cover to Canada, postmarked Half Way Tree, 27 Feb. 1948.

this concessional mail service. The EKD so far is 15 July 1945.

- What is the exact date of the change of the Jamaican 6d air letter rate to all Empire destinations to a dual rate of 6d and 9d?
- What is the exact date of the introduction of a light-weight air letter service to the USA from Jamaica?
- What are the EKD's for the various styles of locally produced Jamaican air letter forms?
- Does anyone have used examples of 'home made' air letter forms accepted for by the Post Office for transmission at light-weight air letter rates?

The author, would be pleased to hear of the answers to any of these questions or for any other additional infor-

mation on the locally produced air letter forms. He may be reached at:

dingle@cres.anu.edu.au

References

1. James, H., "Jamaica: the locally produced stampless air letter forms," *BCPJ*, June 1997.
2. *Ibid.*, p85.
3. Sutcliffe, A.P.D, *The Military Mail of Jamaica*, Roses Caribbean Philatelic Society, 1982. His Type M-PCL 10C(a).
4. James, Note 14, p.88.
5. *Ibid.*, Note 18 and Figure 3.
6. *Ibid.*, Note 21.

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YOUR KNOWLEDGE WITH FELLOW MEMBERS???**
Please Consider Contributing to Our Journal

DISCOVERED!

A Mixed Use of a Decimal Definitive with Pence Due in the British Caribbean

by James Peter Gough

Several volumes ago, your editor, David Herendeen,¹ raised an issue of perplexity for the postage due collectors of the British Caribbean: Had anyone found a letter insufficiently paid in one currency (cents) but collected with the dues of the old currency (pence and shillings)? This was possible on several islands because of the gap in time of various lengths between the monetary conversion to decimal currency for the definitives but a lagged conversion for the postage dues.

Many covers were known in this period of incoming (from abroad) mail collected with pence dues in the decimal period. And a few local covers totally unpaid were known collected with pence dues. But no one had

reported partial payment in cents with the deficiency collected in pence: i.e. a mixed currency situation.

At London 2000, I found such a mixed currency use in an American dealer's stock! The cover, both sides of which are shown in Fig. 1, was posted with the proper local rate of 2 cents using the 1937 coronation issue on the back and posted at the small post office of San Fernando on 5 Aug 1937 to Port of Spain, Trinidad. But the cover contained money and was registered under the compulsory or mandatory registration rules.

The cover was charged postage due of 6d (=12 cents under the fixed conversion of 1d = 2¢) for a double the amount of the registration fee (then 6 cents, doubled =

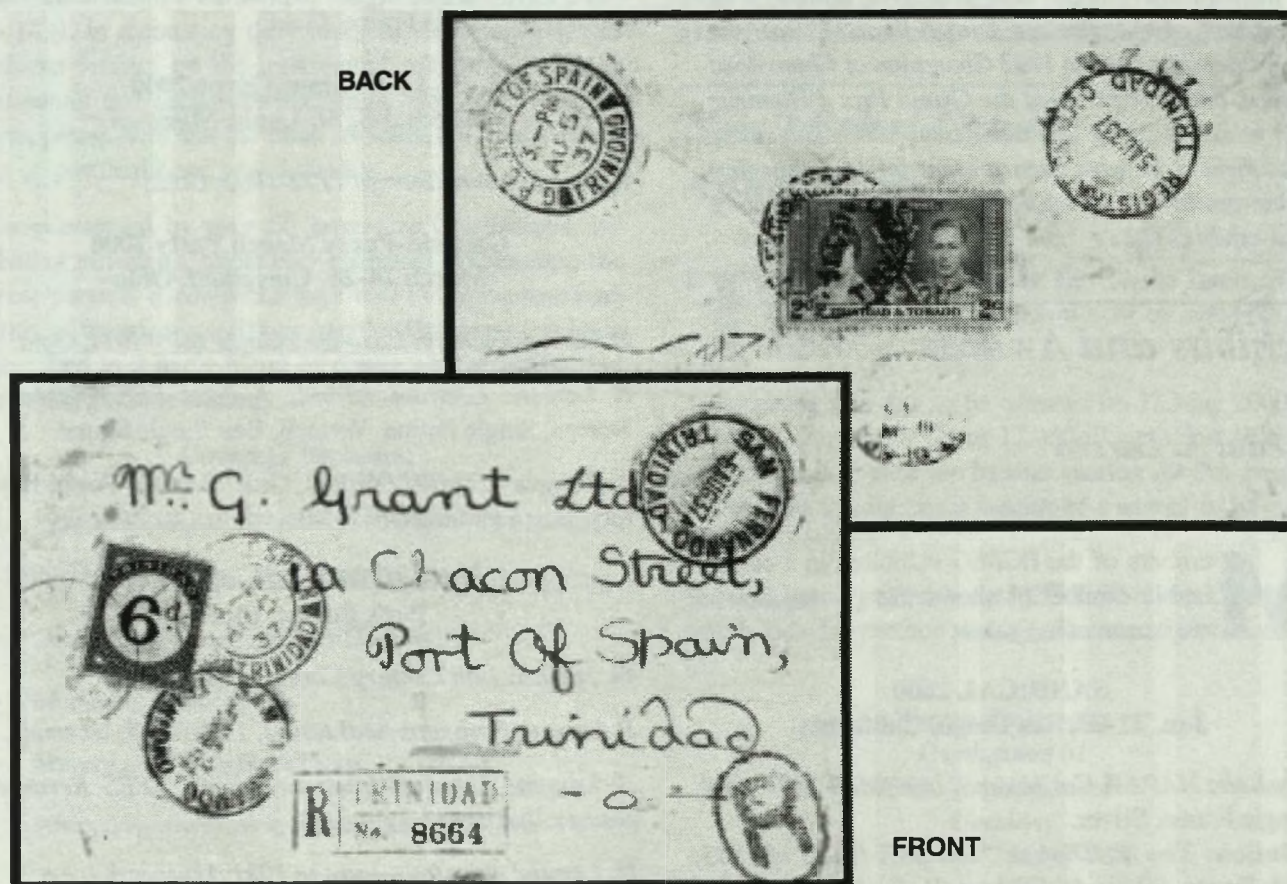


Figure 1. The Trinidad & Tobago 1937 Mixed Currency Postage Due Cover.

12 cents, or 6d). The charge was collected using a 6d gray-black postage due of the 1905 issue. Incidentally, this is the first 6d I remember seeing on cover since 6d was not a usual rate for postage due purposes.

I look forward to more reports of insufficiently paid, local mail showing this mixed currency situation.

End Note

1. It should be noted that Mr. Herendeen brought this anomaly to the attention of the postage due collectors in "Trinidad: The Birthplace of British Colonial Postage Due," *BCPJ*, 38(3), pp. 95-102.

In all my conversations with country specialists of the islands concerned, no one before (in 30 years) had ever mentioned this anomaly until this article. Good catch David!

The editor is doubly pleased to receive this article. Firstly, because of the wonderful discovery, and secondly to have a contribution from his good friend Jamie Gough. Mr. Gough is the pre-eminent student of postage due postal history, and his exhibit "The Evolution of the Postage Due Adhesive" was not only the winner of the 1992 Champion of Champions award, but also garnered the Grand Prix d'Honneur at PhilexFrance 99 last summer in Paris. The editor was thrilled to have been present for this crowning achievement in the history of postage due collecting and exhibiting.

Exhibits and Awards

by Paul A. Larsen

Members of the BCPSPG exhibited in a considerable number of shows this period. Results are summarized below.

SANDICAL 2000

Jan. 21-23, San Diego, California

- J. DuBois:** *HAPAG Caribbean Purser Mail 1887-1909*, Single Frame, Silver.
- J. DuBois:** *The St. Thomas "Harbor" Issues of 1905*, Single Frame, Silver, AAPE Award.
- R. Schnell:** *Air Mail Routes From Occupied Norway 1940-1945*, Single Frame, Silver.

Sarasota National 2000

Feb. 4-6, Sarasota, Florida

P. McCann: *Turks and Caicos Islands Postal History*, Reserve Grand, Gold, American Philatelic Congress Award (new award for excellence in exhibit text).

ARIPEX 2000

Feb. 11-13, Phoenix, Arizona

M. Mack: *Presidential Widows' Free Franks*, Silver Bronze.

M. Mack: *Mixed Frankings With 3-cent Thomas Jefferson of the Presidential Issue*, Single Frame, Silver-Bronze.

Ameristamp Expo

Feb. 18-20, Portland, Oregon

R. Ramkissoo: *The Numeral Cancels of Trinidad 1851-91*, Single Frame, Gold.

R. Schnell: *Stamps of the Hamburg America Packet Company*, Single Frame, Prix d'Honneur.

R. Schnell: *Faroe Island Wartime Air Mail To-Thru-From USA*, Single Frame, Gold.

St. Louis Stamp Expo 2000

March 3-5, St. Louis, Missouri

R. Ramkissoo: *Tobago 1772-1905*, Gold.

Garfield-Perry March Party 2000

March 24-26, Cleveland, Ohio

P. Larsen: *German Caroline Islands 1899-1914*, Gold

P. Larsen: *Leeward Islands Judicial FEES Revenue Stamps*, Single Frame, Vermeil, Best Single Frame.

A. Trigg: *CYMRU (Wales)*, Gold, Best GP Postal History, Best by Member.

PARFOREX XL, April 1-2

Park Forest, Illinois

G. Fabian: *19th Century Canada*, 2nd award.

P. Larsen: *Barbados-Seal Issues, 1912-1935*, 1st award.

P. Larsen: *Leeward Islands Judicial FEES Revenue Stamps*, 2nd award.

D. Larson: *Jamaica - 1860 to 1921*, 1st award.

E. Waterous: *Bahamas - Stampless Thru King George V*, Grand, 1st award.

New BVI Book Released

Member **Giorgio Migliavacca** reports that the "Millennium Edition" of the BVI's best selling book, *Early History of the British Virgin Islands — From Columbus to Emancipation* by Vernon W. Pickering is now being distributed internationally, and stocks have reached local bookstores on Tortola and Virgin Gorda.

The news comes from Falcon Publications International. Pickering's book was first published in 1983 and a second edition followed in 1997. In both instances the book was a sell-out in a few months time.

The publishers have also announced that they are working on a new and expanded edition in hardback of Pickering's *Concise History of the BVI - From the Amerindians to the Third Millennium*. No publication date for this new edition was given by the Milan-New York publishers but the author has indicated that it may be in print before Christmas 2000.

Early History of the BVI provides a descriptive and detailed history of the British Virgin Islands from 1493 to 1834. In recounting the history of these islands, this volume focuses on the interrelated religious, political, economic and social developments. For BCPSJ members, please note that the book includes a 40 page chapter on postmarks and postal history.

Complemented by over 60 large-size illustrations, including old maps, prints and historical documents, the book presents a comprehensive and thought-provoking study of the islands and their people. This book has been described as a lively blend of drama and reporting that provides glorious reading.

Coverage Includes:

- 1493 discovery of the islands by Columbus
- Pirates, Buccaneers, Treasures, Trade and Smuggling
- Quakers' influence on BVI History
- Methodist Missionaries
- Slavery and Slave Rebellions
- African Apprentices and Treatment of Slaves
- Abolition of Slave Trade and Emancipation

- Nottinghams' manumission of their slaves
- The trial of Arthur Hodge
- African Apprentices and their stories
- Lettsom, Thornton, Humphreys
- Communications, Stamps and Postal History - Early BVI coins

This book has 248 pages, A4 size 8" x 12", hardback; gold spine; and color deluxe dust jacket. It may be ordered from:

Vernon Pickering
P.O. Box 704
Road Town, Tortola
British Virgin Islands
eMail: issun@candwbvi.net

The volume is priced at: US\$50.00 shipped by Priority Mail to USA destinations; US\$60.00 shipped by air to Canada and the Caribbean; and US\$68.00 shipped by air to all other destinations (Europe, Asia, Australia, Africa, etc). Payment must be made by personal check from USA, or a bank money order in US\$ drawn on USA bank from all other countries including Canada.

New Michel Catalog Announced

The new Michel Katalog Karibische Inseln 2000 (Caribbean Islands) should now be available directly from Germany.

This catalog was due to be released on 12 May 2000. It has 1,392 pages and about 17,000 illustrations. While I am not familiar with the Michel catalog for this area, it sounds like it contains a wealth of material to have so many pages (*ed.*).

The catalog is available for: DEM 92.00 or US\$44.00 which includes surface postage. Orders may be directed to:

Werner Zielniewicz
Frankenweg 61
45665 Recklinghausen
Germany
FAX +49-2361-87487
eMail: WernerZiel@aol.com

Montserrat Postal History Discoveries

by Charles Freeland

Montserrat aficionados who ordered photostats from the Golden Sale Stamp Exchange tender offer of the Ted Proud postal history collections would have found several items of special interest. The earliest items in the collection are two packet letters dated 14 May 1808 and 8 June 1809 from Parham House in Antigua to Clement Tudway in London. They are each rated at 2/- and, as a result, one would expect to find them marked with the Antigua large fleuron. Instead, however, they bear a large Montserrat "horseshoe" with a horizontal measurement of 36 mm, as seen in Fig. 1. This is clearly not the fleuron, whose lettering measures 29mm horizontally.

This mark is in fact referred to in the Robson Lowe brochure of September 1942 offering the Adrian Hopkins collections of Antigua and Montserrat. The reference reads "cut-out handstruck stamps of 1806 and 1807 with 'Mont-serrat' (sic) in large serif capitals arranged in a semi-circle above the date." Since they had not been reported on entire, I omitted to mention them when I revised the Britnor handbook. The Proud examples confirm that Robson Lowe's description was very accurate, including mention of the prominent hyphen between the

T and S and the two Ts at the end. The impression looks exactly like the horseshoe "Trinidad" that few of us had set eyes on until it appeared in all its glory on the front cover of our Millenium auction catalogue. Other horseshoes were of course used for Demerara (between 9 Sep 1802 and 6 Mar 1813) and for Kingston. Apart from the Demerara, less than a handful of strikes of each are known.

Judging by the common items that each collection contained, I conjecture that the Robson Lowe offering of the Hopkins collection of Antigua and Montserrat was acquired by E. K. Thompson. This collection, in turn, was sold in Thompson's wife's name in 1977 by Harmers of London. However, I can find no description of these two horseshoe strikes in the auction catalogue. I would be interested in hearing from any member having information on their whereabouts, or who may have seen anything similar.

When rewriting the Montserrat handbook, it was a puzzle to me that there were no reported packet letter markings between the last seen three-line handstamp in January 1802 and the first sighting of the Montserrat fleuron in 1836. The mystery is not exactly solved, but it

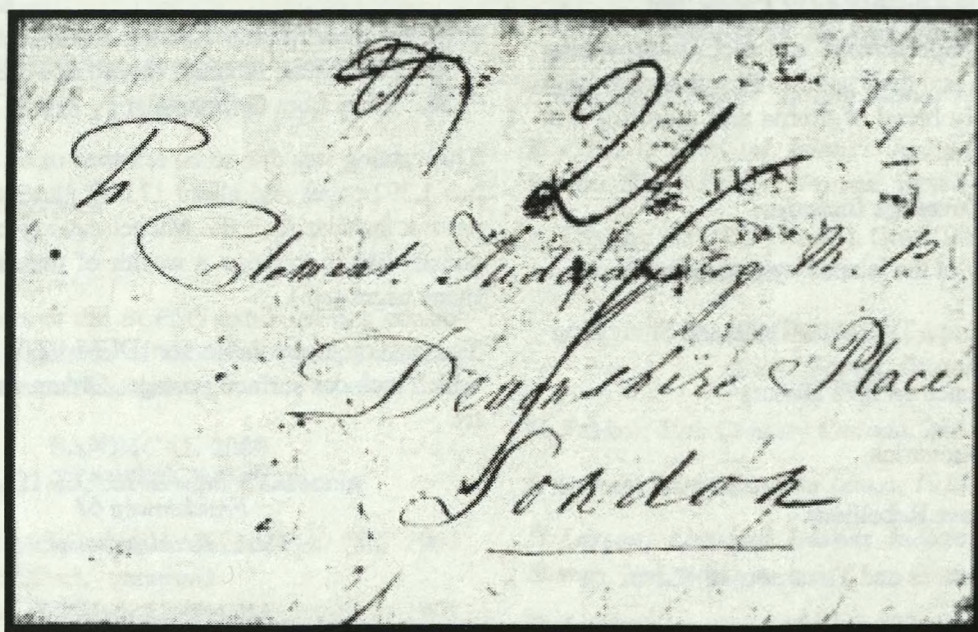


Figure 1. The Montserrat "horseshoe" cancel of June 1809.

does show that there was at least a handstamp available in the early years, though it was evidently rarely used. We are working with a very small sample of data in the case of Montserrat, from which no correspondences of significance have survived. But packet letters are known without any despatch marks that have been marked as packet letters on arrival in London. In fact, even ship letters of the period between 1802 and 1836 are distinctly uncommon.

Other notable Proud gems include a set of the three 1930 TRDs on covers with airmail markings addressed to West End Tortola. The most important is a very pretty cover to E. Manning bearing a lovely strike of the small Cudjoe Head TRD recorded for the first time in the 1998 reissue of the Britnor handbook last year. The illustration in Fig. 2 needs no explanation. It confirms how accurately Peter Ford, the book's editor and Publications officer of the BWISC, was able to scan in the partial strike that Simon Goldblatt lent him for the purpose. The only significant difference is that the date is set rather higher than in the handbook. Like its bigger brothers, Harris and St Peters, the village name is flanked by thin brackets (parentheses). This is I believe the first complete strike of this rare mark to be recorded.

Of the two other covers bearing contemporary village TRDs, one is also to Manning, but in a different hand, sent from Harris on 12 June 1930. The other, from St

Peters, is dated 23 June 1930 and is to C.A. Johnston, in the same hand as the Harris cover. The St Peters is in violet, the Cudjoe Head and Harris in black. All three were obviously philatelically inspired (none of the envelopes have been opened) but that does not make them any the less desirable.

A point to note is that all three covers are marked to be despatched by airmail, and moreover bear the same 8½d rate. The airmail marking on the Cudjoe Head cover is in manuscript and hand-typed airmail stickers appear on the other two. Airmail from Montserrat at this date was not exactly routine. As the handbook records, the first airmail from the island was scheduled to be carried by NYRBA on 3 June 1930 but owing to bad weather the incoming plane was unable to land. The first flight did not in the end take place until 1931, when the seaplane belonging to HMS Dorsetshire transported the mail left behind to St Kitts. All three Proud covers were evidently sent by sea because each bears transit Antigua marks and West End arrival marks in June 1930. It is possible that all three were prepared for the NYRBA first flight but were withdrawn and sent by boat when the flight was cancelled. However, if this was so, why are the village marks dated some ten days after the flight was delayed? The sender of the letters cannot have been ignorant of the event as it would have been the major talking point on the island. I would appreciate any information or views from our airmail experts.

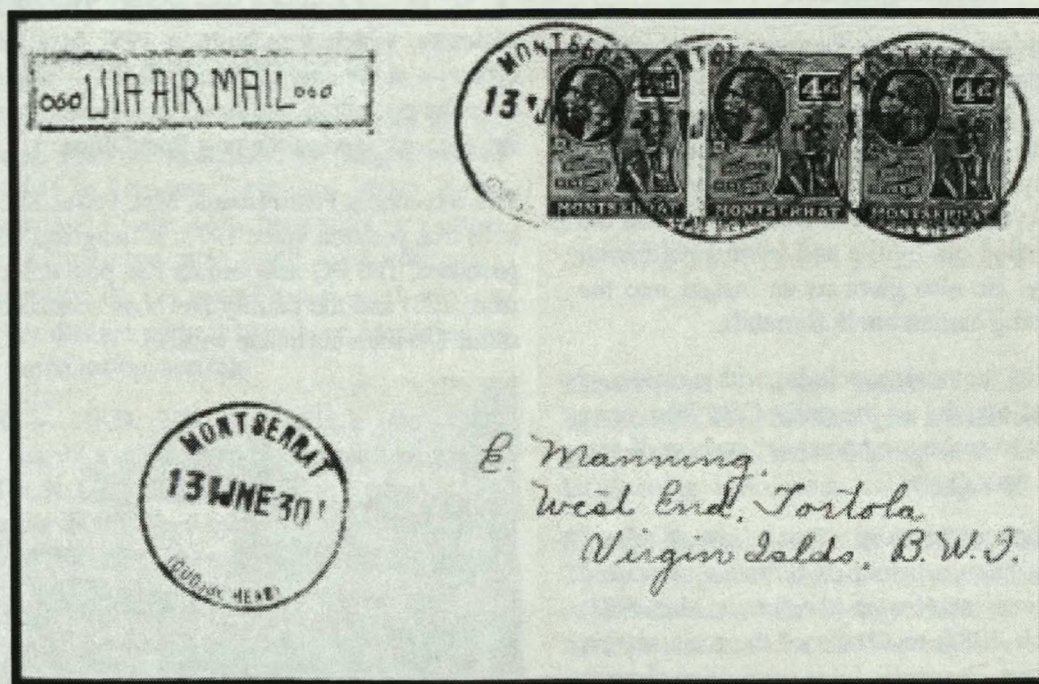


Figure 2. The "Cudjoe Head" TRD.

Book Review

The Flying Boats Of Bermuda
by Squadron Leader Colin A. Pomeroy BALPA,
RAF (Retd)

In 1993 British writer and historian Colin Pomeroy, published a history of the former Bermuda railroad titled "The Bermuda Railway. Gone — But Not Forgotten!" Since then he has been traveling between England and Bermuda to complete a comprehensive history of Bermuda's association with flying boats and seaplanes. The 254 page soft cover book includes over 220 photographs and diagrams, many of which have never been previously published.

Starting with the story of the first ever flight from Bermuda in 1919, he reviews the earliest commercial aviation operations — when Hinson's Island was the official airport — and the early pioneering flights to the Colony from the US mainland. He goes on to cover in fascinating detail the halcyon days of the Imperial Airways and Pan American World Airways services with the British "Empire" class aircraft *Cavalier* and the American Sikorsky S-42 and Boeing 314 *Clippers*. The sad failure of the Saunders Roe Princess flying boat, specifically designed for the UK to New York and Bermuda services, is chronicled in the closing paragraphs of this section of his book.

Next, he reviews in equal depth Bermuda's involvement in flying boat operations during the Second World War, covering: the RAF's massive ferry operation of flying boats from North Carolina, via Darrell's Island, to the UK; the part played by the Royal Navy's Fleet Air Arm base at the Dockyard and, later, at Boaz Island; and the patrol flights carried out by the anti-submarine aircraft of the US Navy. He also gives us an insight into the basic flying training carried out in Bermuda.

The main body of the book concludes with a review of USN flying boat activity in the early Cold War years and the attempts to make a commercial success of waterborne aircraft operations.

Annexes to complete the story cover a host of related topics stretching from a listing of Bermuda-associated flying boat and seaplane losses (the first in May 1921; the last in March 1987) to details of the main marine aircraft types using Bermuda; from destination airports to communications and direction-finding procedures; and from philatelic matters and censorship to what can

be seen in the Colony today from the proud years of the flying boats.

The photographs included in the book are superb quality, and the information contained in this book is invaluable to those members studying airmail or censorship subjects. This book is a useful addition to any member's bookshelf.

Ordering Information: The price of this book is \$US 32.50 (\$27.50 + \$5.00 airlift postage). It is available directly from the publisher:

Print Link
P.O. Box HM937
Hamilton HM DX, Bermuda
Phone: 441-295-4343
Fax: 441-295-3445
eMail: netlink@ibl.bm

John Puzine

New Cayman PO

by Ivan Burges

Monday, 24 January 2000, heralded the opening of the doors of Bodden Town's new Post Office building (see photo). The old Post Office structure, which was built in 1951 as a jail and post office — at the cost of British £250! — was demolished over the preceding weekend. The old site is now part of the car park serving the new Post Office.

The incumbent Postmistress, Mrs. Petrea Kelly, who has held that position since 1973, is delighted with the new premises. The PO now boasts 936 post office boxes (up from 224) and the facility has been constructed to withstand 185 mph hurricane winds.



World War II Civil Censorship in St. Lucia

by Edward T. Tweddell

Introduction

This article presents updates and extensions to the study of World War II civil censorship in St. Lucia first published by Ritchie in 1976.¹ While his original study was reprinted in 1980,² nothing new, other than minor updates, has been published on this subject since. Ref. 1 further gave the appearance that St. Lucia was a fairly straightforward island to study, with a limited number of devices and a limited number of censors. However, this proved not to be the case.

Data from over 350 censored items were used to produce the results of this study. It is assumed that the items recorded form a representative sample of the mail censored in St. Lucia.

The usual abbreviations are used: Earliest Known Date (EKD) and Last Known Date (LKD) in the form DDMMYY. Illustrations of devices are shown full-size and as accurately as possible. The notation (**new**) is used to indicate additions to devices that have been identified during the current study.

Censorship of Sealed Mail

Handstamp CH1 (Roses H1)

A total of 38 examples of this handstamp, shown in Fig. 1, are recorded. For the most part, the length, where given, is stated to be between 53mm and 56mm. However, all those that I have seen personally are about 54mm. The handstamp was used spasmodically throughout a period of 3½ years. It was used only on envelopes. Four distinct periods have been identified as described in the following section.

First Period — EKD: 7OC39. There is one report early in the war of a purple handstamp on a paquebot letter mailed at St. Lucia and addressed to Barbados.¹ Its existence has been confirmed by the current owner. The envelope was not opened for examination.

Second Period — EKD: 28JU41 LKD: 22MY42. In this second period, lasting almost a year, 28 further examples are recorded, all are in black, with the exception of three purple examples in February and March 1942. The two earliest examples appear on incoming mail; the

PASSED BY CENSOR

Figure 1. Handstamp CH1.

remainder are on outgoing mail. None of the envelopes have been opened. During this period it was largely used as a secondary device to the earliest labels.

Third Period — EKD: 21SP42 LKD: 26SP42. Two further black examples are recorded on unopened outgoing mail. These are the only censored items recorded in September 1942, a period when labels seem to have been unavailable.

Fourth Period — EKD: 21MR43: LKD: 31MR43. There is a sudden glut of seven examples in ten days, one of which was incoming. The last four items have been opened and resealed with brown tape, with two of the handstamp impressions being purple. These were apparently used in an emergency between the LKD of the CL3 label and the lone example of CL10 label.

Label CL1 (Roses L1)
Text length 76mm

Ritchie¹ identified two versions of this label; I believe that there were, in fact, three distinct printings. In each, the font is the same, only the spacing between the words varies.

OPENED BY CENSOR

Figure 2. Handstamp CL1a.

First Period — EKD: 30SP39 LKD: 16DE39. Like handstamp CH1, this label gets a brief airing in the early part of the war. Three outgoing items are recorded, the labels being white, green and blue/green.

Second Period — EKD: 5DE40: LKD: 30DE41. There is a gap of almost one year before the label is re-introduced, a year during which no censored items have been recorded at all. The majority of the labels are white, the remainder being reported as various shades of green. The printing can be located at the top or bottom of the label.

The size of the label varies enormously, the length is between 80 and 92 mm, and the width generally between 30 and 41 mm. It seems clear that these were cut from sheets by hand using a guillotine, which explains the variation in the label size and the location of the text. There are 67 of this type, including the three early ones.

Label CL1b (new) Text length 74mm
EKD: 12FE42 LKD: 9MR42

Six weeks later, this label is introduced. Of the seven recorded, four are on white paper, and the remainder on green. These labels were also hand-cut and tend to be larger — length 92-98 mm, width generally 44-46 mm. The text is located at the top of the label.

Label CL1a (Roses L1a) Text length 68mm
EKD: 2AP42 LKD: 26NO42

There is a further gap of a month before the final printing, of which there are 18 examples. The paper colour follows a similar pattern as above. In this case, thirteen are white. The first sixteen examples occur before September 1942, but there are two late ones in October and November of that year. In this printing, all the labels are the same size, 83mm x 37mm approximately, and the text is always in the middle of the label. There are two examples where the printing is at a distinct (and different) angle, probably caused by careless placement of the sheets into the cutting machine.

Summary of the First Labels

There are almost 100 of these early labels spanning a period of over three years. They were almost certainly produced locally, using a mixture of white and green paper, as the green labels occur randomly mixed in with the white ones. All are used on outgoing mail.

CL2 (Roses L2)
EKD: 9JA43 LKD: 3FE43

There are six reports of this strange label, which, given its nature, must have been produced locally. At a time when the inclusion of the name of the censoring nation was expressly forbidden, St. Lucia apparently went its own way, and the first three labels recorded, up to 21JA43, display the name as illustrated in Fig. 3.

Things were remedied, because the final three labels have the name cut or torn off. Numbers recorded are 1 to 4 inclusive. All examples are outgoing.

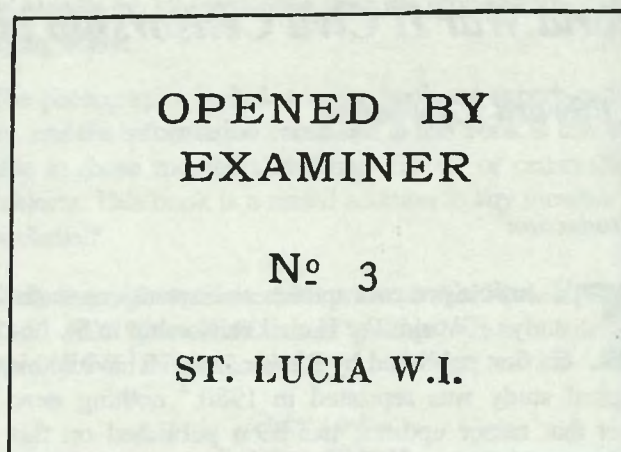


Figure 3. Handstamp CL1a.

P.C. 90 Labels were the standard labels issued for re-sealing envelopes and come in many types, they are shown in Fig. 4 and later in Fig. 6. Those in Fig. 4 are arranged to aid comparison between similar labels.

Label CL3 (Roses L3)
EKD: 27FE43 LKD: 22MR43

This the first of the British-type P.C. 90 labels, which exhibit the "T.T." identifier; the country code allocated to St. Lucia. There are nine outgoing examples, the recorded numbers being 1, 2, 4 and 6. This type of label typified by the letter "M" with splayed legs was listed by Wike³ in Trinidad, but does not appear to have been used in Britain.⁴ It seems reasonable to assume therefore that this label was printed in Trinidad, although no similar label has been recorded in any other Caribbean colony. The labels vary slightly in size.

Label CL10 (new)
EKD: 2AP43

There is one recorded example of this label which has a different font with a straight "M" in the line "OPENED BY EXAMINER." However, the "T.T. /1", which is the only number recorded, is identical to label CL3. This was assumed originally to be a variant of CL3, but it appears after an interval in which handstamp CH1 is re-introduced, and was likely to have been a limited separate printing. The other possibility is that the CL10 and CL3 labels were mixed (see CL7 and CL7v) and the CL10 type were picked out and held back, but this seems less likely. As with label CL3, this type of label was also recorded in Trinidad but not in Britain. How-

P.C. 90 OPENED BY EXAMINER T.T./6	P.C. 90 OPENED BY EXAMINER C.W.I./106
CL4	CL5
P.C. 90 OPENED BY EXAMINER T.T./2	P.C. 90 OPENED BY EXAMINER T.T./1
CL3	CL10
P.C. 90 OPENED BY EXAMINER TT/6	P.C. 90 OPENED BY EXAMINER TT/1
CL7v	CL7

Figure 4. The Labels with Printed Censor Identifiers

ever, unlike CL3, similar labels have been also recorded in other Caribbean colonies.

Label CL4 (Roses L4)

First Period — EKD: 3AP43 LKD: 23JY43. The first examples immediately follows CL10. All 21 examples are outgoing, and the numbers recorded are 1 to 6, inclusive. This is another type of label unique to St. Lucia. There can be no doubt that it was printed locally, as one reported example is printed on the back of part of a CL2 label. Also the font used for CL4 appears to be very similar to that used for CL1, albeit slightly larger.

Second Period — EKD: 18AP45 LKD: ??AP45. Two examples are recorded in April 1945 on outgoing mail, both having the number 4. Each has the letter "T" for "Imperial" added in manuscript before the "T.T." (See Fig. 10.)

Label CL5 (Roses L5)

Here is another completely individual label used in St Lucia. It is conjectured that "CWT" stands for "Censor West Indies." I suspect that St Lucia had no authority to produce such a label, nor to assign its censors three digit numbers. Renumbering of censors was taking place in the West Indies, but I believe St Lucia took it upon themselves to assign their censors the numbers recorded.

The strange thing is that the upper part of the label is the same as CL10, which is believed to have been printed in Trinidad. It should be noted that the font used for the censor identification on both of these labels is identical to fonts used on Trinidad labels of the same period.

Large Numbers EKD: 29AP43 LKD: 22MY43

There are seven recorded examples, all outgoing, showing numbers 101, 103, 104, 105, and 106. It is reasonable to suppose that 102 also exists. The three digit numbers lasted about three weeks.

The 1945 date recorded in Ref. 1 is in error — that cover has been located and it is definitely 1943. One label shows a malformed letter "C", as shown in Fig. 5.

Small Numbers EKD: 12JU43 LKD: 26AU43

There is one incoming cover from Canada among the 19 recorded examples of the small numbers, which are 1 to

C.W.I./105 C.W.I./2

Figure 5. Examples of Label CL5 Censor Identifiers.

6, inclusive. Fig. 5 shows an example of a small censor number.

Label CL6 (Roses L6) Text Length 75mm.

This is the first of three *universal* labels issued to many colonies in which there is no printed country code or number. Numbers recorded on this label are 1-14 inclusive. This label is slightly smaller than normal.

First period — EKD: 18AU43 LKD: 31JA44. During this five month period, 52 examples are recorded. Two are incoming from neighbouring French islands. These have an added manuscript number of the form "TT/3".

Second period — EKD: 4MY44 LKD: 6NO44. It was used much more sparingly in this six month period with only 12 examples recorded, including one arriving from Barbados. The manuscript addition is as above.

Third period: EKD: 11JA45 LKD: 17JA45. Only two examples are known, having the manuscript form "ITT/3".

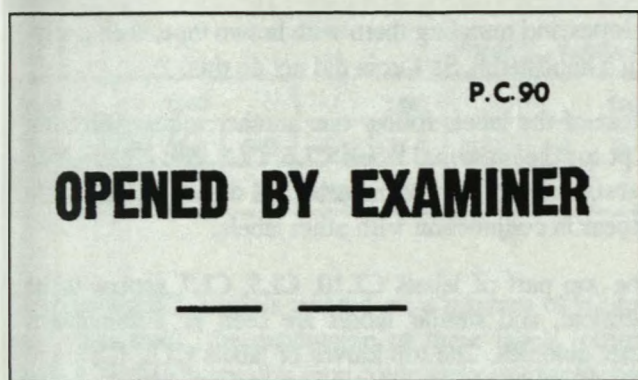
Label CL7 (Roses L7)

This is another Trinidad-type label, on which the numbers 1-6 inclusive have been recorded. The top part of the label is identical to that of labels CL5 and CL10. The printing of the censor code in this case was poorly done, although some of the contemporary Trinidad labels were similarly badly printed, with font errors. The labels for censors 1, 2, and 6 appear to be consistent, as shown in the main illustration, with only minor variations.

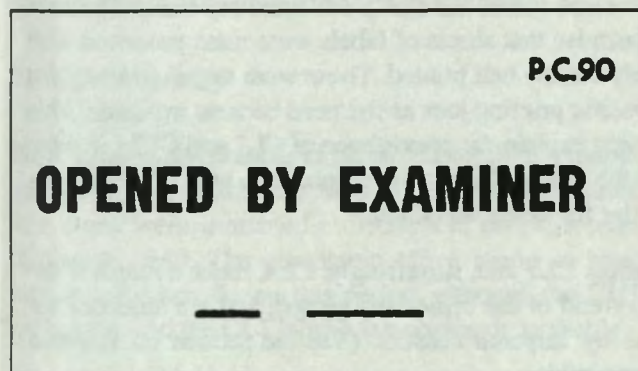
Fig. 7 shows examples of major and repeated variations which have been reported in addition to the normal types: "TT/3" has a heavy number "3"; the spacing between the "T"s in "TT/4" varies; the first "T" in "TT/5" has a triple split at the bottom. In addition the slope of the stroke varies.

The labels are all described variously as brownish or cream-coloured. The CL7/CL7a labels can be readily identified because, unlike CL3/CL10, there are no periods associated with the "TT" country identifier.

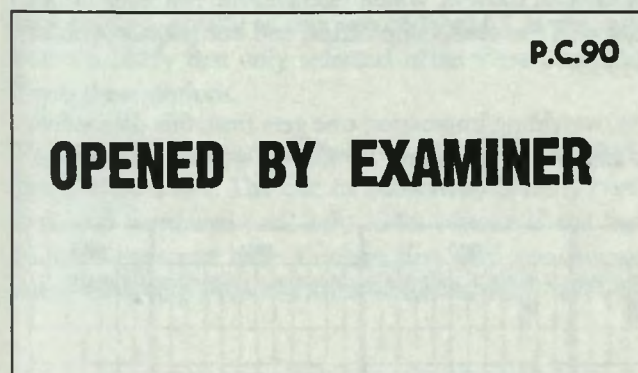
First Period — EKD: 4FE44 LKD: 24AU44. There are 37 examples recorded in this period, three incoming



CL6



CL8



CL9

Figure 6. The "Universal" Labels

from the Caribbean. As described above, numbers recorded are 1-6 inclusive.

Second Period — EKD: 27MR45 LKD: 12AP45. Four labels were used with a letter "T" added as a prefix to the censor code. These were used by censors 1, 4 and 6. Censor 4 actually used a label of censor 6 and amended it, as shown in Fig. 10.

TT/3 TT/4 TT/5

Figure 7. Examples of censor identifiers seen on Label CL7

Label CL7v (new)

EKD: 9FE44: LKD: 8JY44

This is a variety of which five examples are known. The difference being that the top half of the label is the same as that which was used for label CL3, while the censor identifier is the same as on label CL7.

The numbers recorded are 3, 4 and 6. I do not think that this is a separate printing given that these labels are distributed among the CL7 labels chronologically. See also Summary and Discussion.

Label CL8 (Roses L8) Text Length 78mm

EKD: 5SP44 LKD: 3AP45

This is the second type of "universal" label, distinguishable by a larger typeface. It is printed on a greyish paper. There are 31 examples used continuously throughout the period. Those up to 6JA45 show the manuscript "TT" code; all later ones have manuscript "TIT" as the code. Four items are incoming. Numbers recorded are 1-7 inclusive, and surprisingly 36, which is seen on the LKD item.

Label CL9 (new) Text Length 73mm

EKD: 30AP45 LKD: 25JY45

The third *universal* label, and the last St Lucia label encountered, is easily distinguished by having no printed lines for the manuscript addition. Strangely the "OPENED BY EXAMINER" is the same as on label CL6, and the "P.C. 90" is identical to that seen on label CL8. There are seven examples, one incoming, having numbers 1, 4, 5 or 7. All bear the "TIT" censorship code and five are dated after the war had ended, and all have destinations or origin which are non-British.

Summary and Discussion

Table 1 shows the broad data for each of the devices discussed above, and Fig. 8 displays the detail of usage over time. In this figure, a solid black box indicates the principal censorship device, and a shaded box a period of subsidiary usage. Isolated instances are shown by a diamond. The row labelled CL7* combines the CL7 and CL7v data.

Table 1.
Censorship Device Summary

	NUMBER	EKD	LKD	CENSOR NUMBERS
CH1	38	7OC39	31MR43	
CL1	67	30SP39	30DE41	
CL1b	7	12FE42	9MR42	
CL1a	18	2AP42	26DE42	
CL2	6	9JA43	3FE43	1-4
CL3	9	27FE43	22MR43	1,2,4,6
CL10	1	2AP43	2AP43	1
CL4	23	3AP43	18AP45	1-6
CL5	26	29AP43	26AU44	1-6,101,103-106
CL6	66	18AU43	17JA45	1-14
CL7	41	4FE44	12AP45	1-6
CL7v	5	9FE44	8JY44	3,4,6
CL8	31	5SP44	3AP45	1-7,36
CL9	7	30AP45	25JY45	1,4,6,7

Handstamp CH1 was used primarily as a back-up device, except for short period when there seem to have been no labels available, when it became the principal device. Generally envelopes examined were not opened, except for the last four items recorded in 1943, when they were opened and resealed. It seems inexplicable that when virtually every other colony was opening en-

velopes and resealing them with brown tape, then applying a handstamp, St. Lucia did not do this.

Most of the labels follow one another sequentially, except for the *universal* labels CL6, CL8, and CL9, which are sometimes used as the principal device, but can also appear in conjunction with other labels.

The top part of labels CL10, CL5, CL7 appear to be identical, and similar labels are seen in Trinidad and other colonies. The top halves of labels CL3, CL7a are also identical, but are seen only in Trinidad.

The conclusion must be that these labels were printed in the same place, and that place was very likely Trinidad. I surmise that sheets of labels were mass produced with only the top half printed. These were stored and used for specific printing jobs as the need became available. This might explain the coexistence of CL7 and CL7v if some of the "wrong" sheets were mixed in, when the St. Lucia order for labels was filled.

Labels CL7 and, surprisingly, CL4, make a return at the very end of the censorship period, and are amended for use by Imperial censors. (See the section on Imperial Censorship).

The database includes 335 outgoing covers, 18 incoming covers, most of which occur in the last year of operation of the censorship office, and one paquebot cover in 1939.

The overriding impression one gets from this data is that St. Lucia was struggling for labels for much of the time.

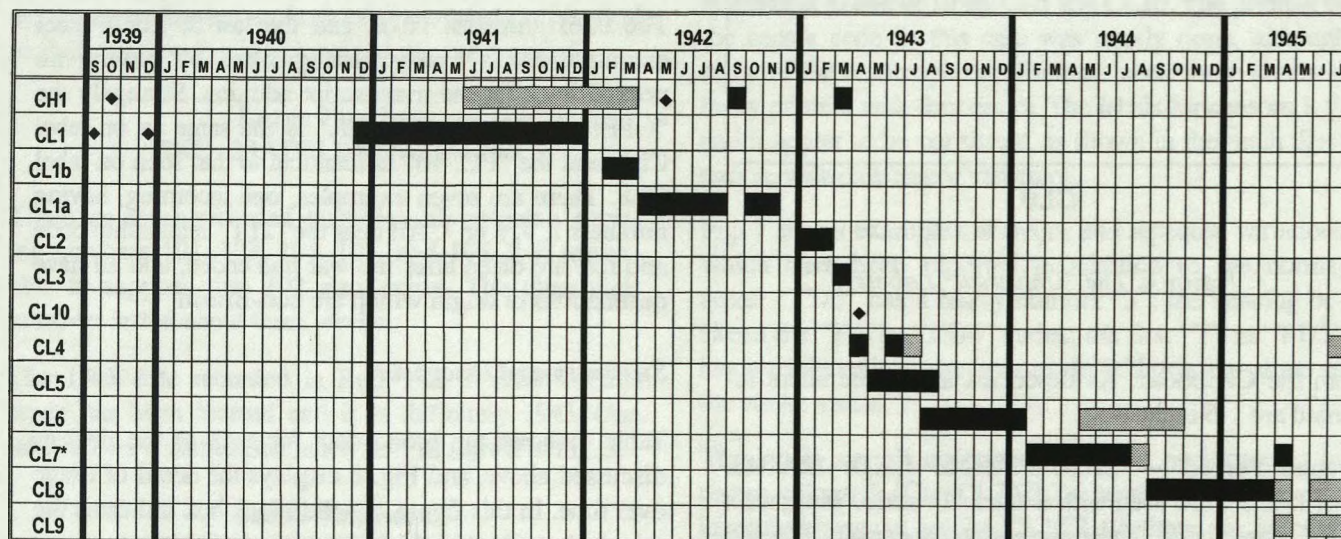


Figure 8. Chronology of censorship devices.

Table 2. Number of Covers Censored.

1939	1940			1941			1942			1943			1944			1945	
S-D	J-A	M-A	S-D	J-A	M-A	S-D	J-A	M-A	S-D	J-A	M-A	S-D	J-A	M-A	S-D	J-A	M-A
4	0	0	5	29	28	15	19	14	4	36	40	47	35	28	23	24	10

Consider the CL1 labels printed on a mixture of white and green stock, the production of three labels (other than CL1), which are of a type completely unique to the island, the use of three different *universal* labels, and the frequent re-introduction of the CH1 handstamp during periods when labels were scarce or unavailable.

Rate of Censorship

Table 2 shows the number of items recorded for 4 month periods (e.g. **J-A** indicates January through April). Just four items were examined in 1939, and no more until December 1940. The censorship office seems to have just closed down during this period, although the CH1 handstamp and the CL1 label were obviously available.

There is a reduction in the number of items censored in 1942, which may also be attributed to label shortages, especially in the last four months, when censorship dropped dramatically as supplies of label CL1a ran out; it seems likely that only selected items were censored during these periods.

With the introduction of the P.C. 90 labels in 1943, things settle down. The rate of censorship is fairly constant, and continued until July 1945. Fifteen of the last 18 items censored have a connection with non-British states, including France, Dutch colonies, Haiti and Ar-

gentina; ten of these are dated well after the end of the war.

The Other Handstamps

In addition to the labels described above, there are also three additional handstamps used for censored mail. These are described in the following sections.

Handstamp CH2(Roses H2)

EKD: 31JA44 LKD: 13AP45

In common with other colonies, this octagonal handstamp was used for postcards and postal stationary cards. Ten have been recorded, all in black, and the numbers reported are 1,2,3,4,6, and 13. The two earliest examples are the EKD and an incoming postal stationary card from Antigua, dated 26JY44. The remainder are dated between 20FE45 and the LKD. The only other incoming item is from France.

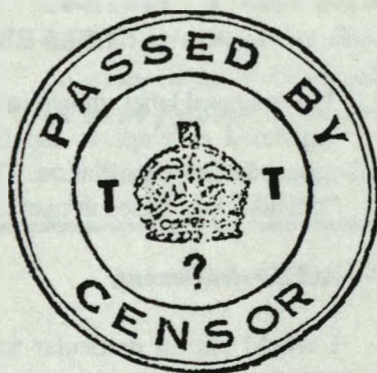
Handstamp CH3 (new)

EKD: 11SP43

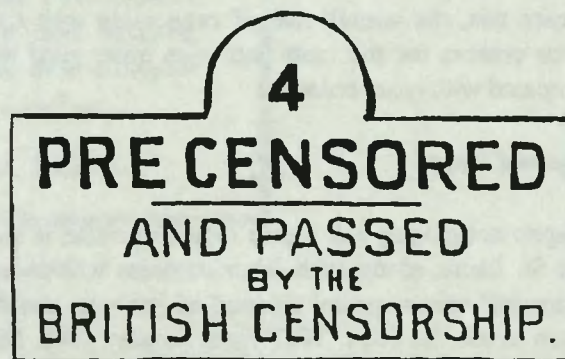
This handstamp appears in purple on part of a large OHMS envelope being sent from St. Lucia to St. Vincent, and is thought to have been inter-post office mail.



CH2



CH3



CH4

Figure 9. The Other Handstamps.

A very similar handstamp, but with the code letters "SS" has been recorded for Grenada,⁵ on an item of consignee mail in 1944. The Grenada handstamp has a censor number included below the crown. The St. Lucia impression is not strong enough to say whether there is a number there or not, but one would expect there to be.

Handstamp CH4 (new)

This handstamp was recorded by Mayo⁶ for use on pre-censored mail. It is rarely encountered in any of the Caribbean colonies, and none are known for St. Lucia, which was allocated device number "4."

The Censors

The first appearance of censor numbers occurs in early 1943, which is much later than in neighbouring colonies. The first numbers recorded are 1-4 inclusive. Shortly thereafter, numbers 5 and 6 are added.

These six censors continue until September 1943, briefly adding 100 to their numbers, probably erroneously. From October 1943 until the end of that year, numbers 7-14 are added; these additional censors disappear in 1944. Later, number 7 appears on one label in December 1944 and on the last two items recorded, in July 1945. The surprising number 36 appears once, on a normal cover to the UK in April 1945.

When other British Caribbean colonies were involved in the introduction of a three digit numbering system in 1942 and 1943, St. Lucia seems to have been left out of this process, assuming the temporary addition of 100 to the censor numbers was unauthorised. In fact, the only other colony in the Leeward and Windward Islands not to have any three digit censor numbers is Dominica.⁷

There were periods of severe shortage of labels, but despite this, the overall rate of censorship with six or seven censors for the most part, was quite good when compared with other colonies.

Imperial Status

Despite not having any transit mail to handle, it seems that St. Lucia, along with other colonies was awarded "Imperial" status toward the end of the war, and duly began to use the code "ITT" from January 1945. Many of the labels used in this final period were the *universal* type but several printed labels were amended as shown in Fig. 10, including one which has a change of number, the only example recorded for St. Lucia.

CL4 I.T.T./4
CL7 /TT/6
CL7 I.T.T./64

Figure 10. Labels Amended for "Imperial" Censors.

Conclusion

St. Lucia seems to have been largely forgotten as far as censorship is concerned, and left to get along as well as it could with little assistance or supervision. However, the censorship operation was being monitored, however inefficiently; here are some examples:

1. Handstamp CH1 is in use for 3½ years before mail having this device finally begins to be opened.
2. The censorship office was virtually closed for the whole of 1940.
3. The short-lived locally produced label CL2 was used with the name of the colony included, before the instruction came to remove it.
4. Censor numbers were introduced very late.
5. The erroneous use of three digit numbers on label CL5, before the reversion to single digit numbers (how labels using the identifier "C.W.I." could have been escaped scrutiny remains a mystery, especially when they were probably printed in Trinidad).

An Enclosed Label

CLBL1 EKD: 3FE43

The enclosed label, shown in Fig. 11, was found inside a registered envelope to the United Kingdom, with the above date of cancellation. The underlining of the word "outside" was added in manuscript by the censor.

Acknowledgements

I would like in particular to thank John Gardner, the leader of the St. Lucia study group of the BCPSG, who provided detailed information on his vast collection of almost 200 censored St. Lucia covers, and with whom I have had a detailed correspondence on this subject. The

following members also provided valuable data, photocopies and provided supplementary information.

David Druett	Charles Freeland	Barry Friedman
Guy Kilburn	Derek Lilley	John Little
Mike Mead	Tom McMahon	Chris Miller
	Bill Tatham	

References

Reference was made to articles on World War II censorship for all of the British colonies of the Leeward and Windward Islands for background and general information. The following articles are mentioned specifically in the preceding text:

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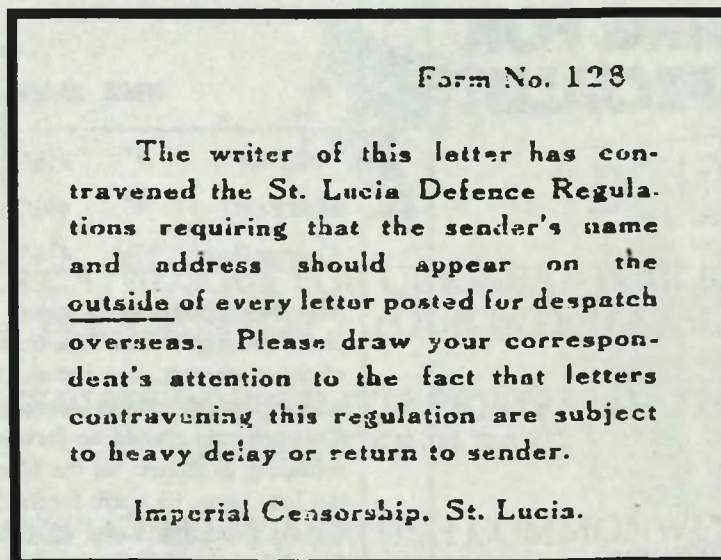


Figure 11. An Enclosed Label.



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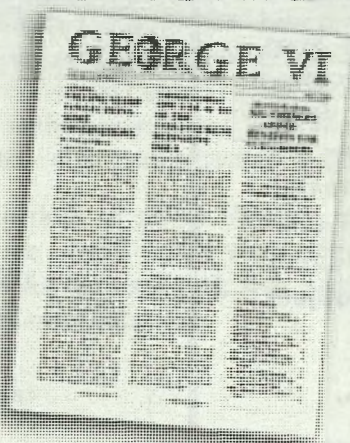
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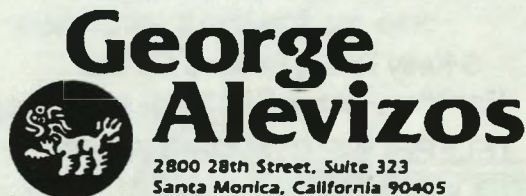
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