

GB COVER TO CHINA - KGV 1931

A ½d green stationery envelope upgraded with 2½d blue (SG372), 5d brown (SG382) and 1/- bistre (SG395) to Nanking, via Berlin, Moscow, Irkutsk and Shanghai.

Interesting routing GB to China.



GB TO RIO DE JANEIRO KGV

A 1932 cover from John S Davis, Liverpool to Brazil dd 'APR/15/1932' bearing 10d SG394(a) deep turquoise blue. Endorsed for Graf Zeppelin flight from Friedrichshafen being the 3rd Zeppelin flight in 1932.
Red circular mark refers to the connecting flight.
On reverse Rio receiver dd '21/1V/32'.



GB TO RIO DE JANEIRO KGV

1933 cover from Norwich to Brazil (P H Robbs) dd '28/Sep/1933' bearing a pair of 5d SG382 yellow-brown.

A red triangular cachet refers to the 30th South Atlantic crossing, whilst the Deutsche Luftpost cachet refers to connecting flight (Berlin-Friedrichshafen).

On reverse Berlin transit cancellation dd '30/9/33' and the Rio receiver '13/OUT/1933'.



GB NAVAL MAIL WWI

Censored internal GB cover from the son of addressee serving on HMS 'Lucia' (submarine depot) dd '22/Dec/17'. Letter franked by SG357 scarlet by circular dumb cancel and 'Passed by Censor HMS 'Lucia''.
No markings on reverse. Scarce cover.



POSTAGE DUE COVER KGV 1925

The cover was posted from Paddington '18/FE/25' addressed to Brighton unstamped. The P.O. at Brighton affixed a pair of 1924 1½d chestnut stamps and endorsed the cover with the required 3d surcharge. The recipient or agent refused delivery and the cover was returned to Paddington '23/Feb/1925'.



MILITARY MAIL TURKEY TO GB KGV

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1913 cover bearing SG360 1d carmine, SG375 3d violet and SG379 4d grey-green, tied by superb 'British A.P.O./Constantinople, 1/JY/20' c.d.s. Envelope marked 'O.A.S.' to Exmouth. Spec. cat. N23 etc. The cancellor used for one year July 1919-July 1920. No markings on reverse.
A fine cover.



GB REGISTERED MAIL KGV

1912 Registered cover bearing SG364(a) 1½d chestnut showing the 'PENCF' variety (Spec. N18(13)f) and 1924 SG423 3d violet. Neatly tied by 'Matlock Bank/Matlock/15 MY/33' c.d.s.

On reverse partly obscured registration and Matlock marks.
A fine cover with clear 1½d variety.



GB TO SOUTH AFRICA KGV 1935

In 1935 the Italian Government under Benito Mussolini undertook a military campaign in Ethiopia which lasted until 1936. Airmail addressed to personnel in South Africa normally routed through Italy and Cairo was diverted to surface mail to avoid correspondence falling into Italian hands. This cover, obviously with armed forces connections, was one such item diverted, stamped by strip of 1½d SG441 red-brown dd '6/Feb(?)/1935'.



GB COVER EDWARD VIII 1936

This special, unusual commemorative cover of Canadian Forces' action in WWI symbolises the vital contribution they made on the assault on Vimy Ridge in April 1917 as part of the Battle of Arras.

On reverse, Registered mark dd '1/Sep/36', Toronto dd 'SP/7/36'.



Sacrifice forged a nation's identity

THE Prince of Wales's tribute to the Canadian Unknown Soldier will have great resonance in a country whose blood sacrifice during the First World War is still keenly felt.

The courage shown at Vimy Ridge is a source of great pride to Canadians.

During the five-day battle in 1917 Canada's soldiers swept the defending Germans off the ridge after failed assaults by other Allied Forces. The attack helped to change the course of the war, forge Canadian identity and produce a national army.

The emotion most Canadians feel at the mention of Vimy was evident in the faces of the 20,000 who lined Ottawa's streets when the Unknown Soldier was brought home from France in May last year.

The crowd stood in silence as the casket, borne on horse-drawn gun carriage, took the remains to the tomb at the foot of the city's war memorial, one of the most

impressive in the Commonwealth. But the hush gave way to spontaneous applause as veterans followed, heads bowed in tribute.

It is curious that it has taken Canada so long compared with other victorious countries to choose an unknown soldier.

Vimy Ridge symbolises the vital contribution of Canadians. Of all the great battles they fought, including their defence of St Julien during the Second Battle of Ypres, and Passchendaele, none compares with Vimy.

The assault, on April 9, 1917, marked the first time in the war that all four divisions of the Canadian Corps had fought together as one unit.

Their victory united a country, then barely 50 years old, and won for it a separate place at the Versailles Peace Conference table. The price was high. Canadian casualties at Vimy numbered 10,602, of which 3,598 were killed. Of the 628,736 Canadians who enlisted in the

war, 68,304 never returned. All were volunteers. Sir John Keegan, the military historian and defence editor of *The Daily Telegraph*, said: "The First World War was, and is, tremendously important to the Canadians."

"Ask any Canadian and they will tell you their grandfather was in The Great War. The way they see it, the whole of young Canada went off to that war. And Vimy has come to symbolise that contribution."

Vimy, Beaumont-Hamel, Bourlon Wood, Courcellette, Gueudecourt, Cambrai, Ypres, St Julien and Passchendaele: around these places lie the bodies of those who died. About 20,000 Canadians still lie in unmarked graves.

On the ridge at Vimy are planted 11,287 trees, one for each Canadian still listed as missing.

The haunting sculpture of a bereaved woman looks down from the ridge. She represents The Spirit of Canada weeping for her dead children.