

**BRITISH FORCES IN IRAQ  
OFFICIAL MAIL  
JULY 1923**

**Using an IRAQI "OFFICIAL" STAMP  
OVERPRINTED IN ONLY ENGLISH  
" ON STATE SERVICE"**

**The Cover is Printed  
"On His Majesty's Service"**

**It is sent from UPPER MAQIL to BAGHDAD  
AIR HEADQUARTERS**

**It shows payment of 8 annas canceled with a  
bilingual "Upper Maqil" with an arrival strike of  
BAGHDAD on the back dated  
30<sup>th</sup> July 1923.**

On His Majesty's Service.



Her Headquarters  
British Forces in Iraq  
Baghdad  
Iraq



**A British Official Cover Printed "On His Majesty's Service" Sent Air Mail From Lower Baghdad to Air Command Headquarters in Stanmore Middlesex, Showing the Use of Regular Iraqi Stamps in 1927.**

On His Majesty's Service" Signed British Official Letter sent Air Mail to Stanmore England from Baghdad.

It paid 4 ½ annas with regular Iraqi stamps canceled with a bilingual "LOWER BAGHDAD" in 1927.





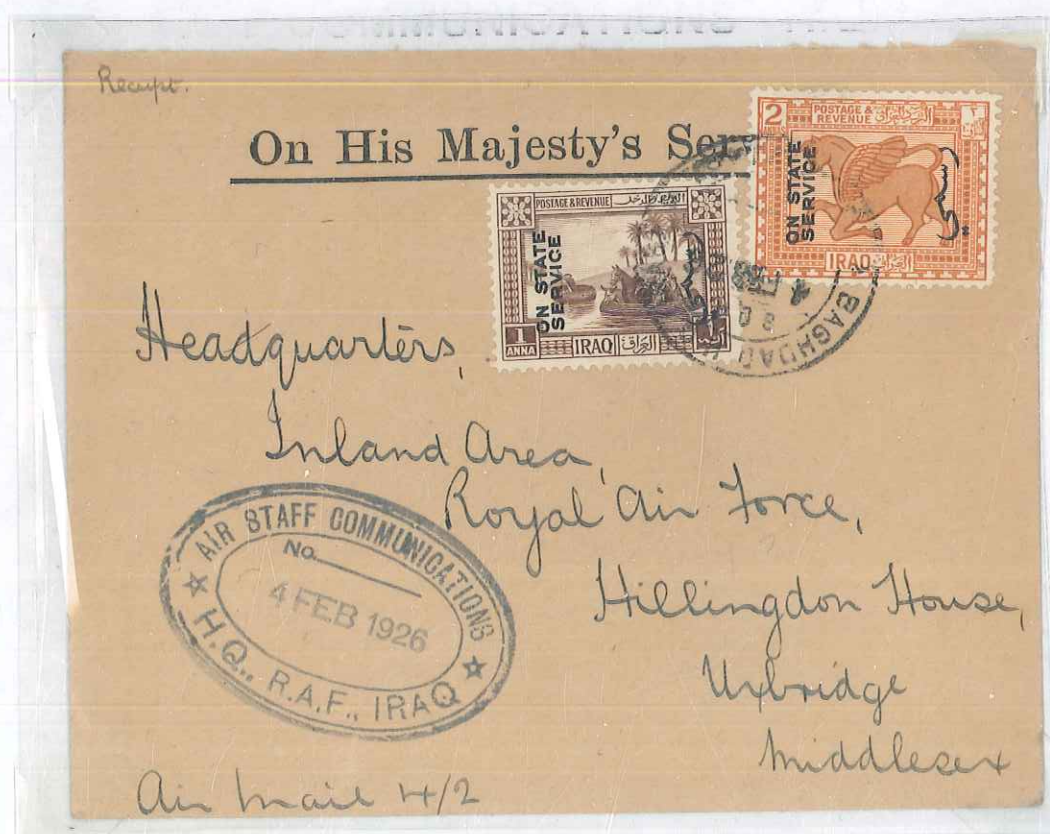
## British "On His Majesty's Service" Cover Using Iraqi Government Official Stamps, 1926

An Air Mail British Official Letter sent from:  
"AIR STAFF COMMUNICATIONS - H.Q., R.A.F.  
IRAQ" dated 4 FEB 1926

to RAF Headquarters in London

It paid 3 annas using bilingual Iraqi Government  
Official stamps which were canceled with a  
bilingual BAGHDAD H.O. strike dated on 4<sup>th</sup> February  
1926.

It is to be noted that in 1926 Official Iraqi stamps were  
still being used for Official British Military business.



**A British Official Registered Cover Sent From:**

**BASRA CITY to AIR HEADQUARTERS, BRITISH FORCES  
IN IRAQ, BAGHDAD, Showing the Use of the All English  
Overprinted Official Stamps of Iraq at the early date of  
usage of July 1923.**

It paid 5 annas with Iraqi official stamps canceled with a  
BASRA CITY strike and shows a numbered Registration  
Label of Basra City.

The back shows a bilingual circular strike of  
BAGHDAD H.O.,(IRAQ), REG. on 4<sup>th</sup> July.

This represents an early usage of these stamps. bilingual  
"LOWER BAGHDAD" in 1923.



To,

The Air Headquarters

British Forces in Iraq

b

BAGHDAD.

REGISTERED

**R**  
BAGHDAD 127



**BRITISH FORCES IN IRAQ  
OFFICIAL MAIL  
JULY 1923  
An Oversize Envelope Marked  
“SECRET”**

**Using an IRAQI “OFFICIAL” STAMP  
OVERPRINTED IN ONLY ENGLISH  
“ ON STATE SERVICE”**

**The Cover is Signed and Printed  
“On His Majesty’s Service”**

**It is sent from UPPER MAQIL to BAGHDAD  
AIR HEADQUARTERS,RAF**

**It shows payment of 1rupee canceled with a  
bilingual “Upper Maqil” with an arrival strike of  
BAGHDAD on the back dated  
9<sup>th</sup> July 1923.**



*Set of Drawings*

Majesty's Service.



*Quarters. R. A. F.*

*Baghdad*  
            
*Iraq*



**BRITISH FORCES IN IRAQ  
OFFICIAL MAIL  
AUGUST 1923**

**Using IRAQI "OFFICIAL" STAMPS  
OVERPRINTED IN ONLY ENGLISH  
" ON STATE SERVICE"**

**The Cover is Printed  
"On His Majesty's Service"**

**It is sent from UPPER MAQIL to BAGHDAD  
AIR HEADQUARTERS**

**It shows payment of 6 annas with an arrival  
strike of BAGHDAD on the back dated  
6<sup>th</sup> August 1923.**

On His Majesty's Service.



*Air Headquarters.*

*British Forces in Iraq*

*Baghdad*

A large, elegant, handwritten flourish or signature mark, possibly a stylized 'H' or a similar monogram, written in dark ink.



**British Official Airmail, 1926**  
**Paying only 3 annas**

An official RAF cover flown from Baghdad printed:  
"On His Majesty's Service"  
to:

"m" Depot Squadron Royal Air Force – Uxbridge

There is an applied official printed green label of a  
bilingual "BY AIR MAIL".

The cover is hand rubber stamped in violet:  
"AIR STAFF COMMUNICATIONS H.O.RAF, IRAQ"  
with a 1 April 1926 oval strike.

It is interesting to see that the rather heavy letter was  
sent by air to England while paying only 3 annas,  
using a bilingual Iraqi Service stamp . It reflects on the  
British dominant authority in Mandated Iraq.

The back shows a rectangular rubber strike in black:  
"M DEPOT, SQUADRON , UXBRIDGE, 12 APR.  
1926 ROYAL AIR FORCE"



*Air Mail*

On His Majesty's Service



BY AIR MAIL  
برأسطة البريد الجوي

18/0/113.

*Officer Commanding,*

*"Pr" Depot Station,*

*Royal Air Force,*

*Wetheridge.*

*England*

*Wickham*





**AIR MAIL - RAF OFFICIAL  
'ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE'**

**From Baghdad to the RAF Headquarters in  
Stanmore, Middlesex**

**It paid 1 rupee and 3 ½ annas using ordinary  
stamps of Iraq**

**(It was not entitled to use the Iraqi Official  
Stamps after 1932)**



On His Majesty's Service.

AIR MAIL



Headquarters

Inland Area

Royal Air Force

Bentley Priory

Atanmore.

Middlesex

England.

P1/2264  
P1/2267



**British "On His Majesty's Service"  
Cover Showing an EARLY Date for Using Iraqi  
Government Official Stamps, July 1923**

An "On His Majesty's Service" Signed British Official Letter  
sent from MAKENA CAMP BASRA to:

"AIR Headquarters – Iraq, Baghdad".

It paid 2 annas with Official Iraqi stamps overprinted in  
English and canceled with a bilingual "MAKINA CAMP- مكينه  
مخيم" dated 10<sup>th</sup> July 1923.

This is a very early date for the usage of these stamps

The back shows erroneously an all English strike of  
Baghdad on the 9<sup>th</sup>!

