

**ROYAL AIR FORCE PILOT'S HANDBOOK OF THE CAIRO - BAGHDAD ROUTE
WITH MAPS AND "SPECIAL REGULATIONS FOR HANDLING AIR MAILS"
AND "PROCEDURES IN CASE OF LOSING THE TRACK"**

January 1923

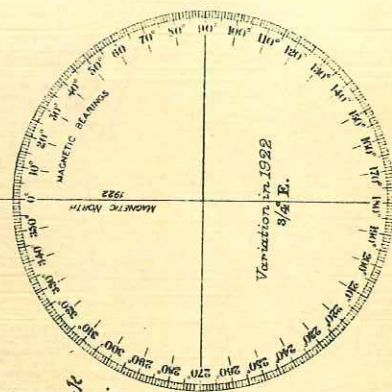
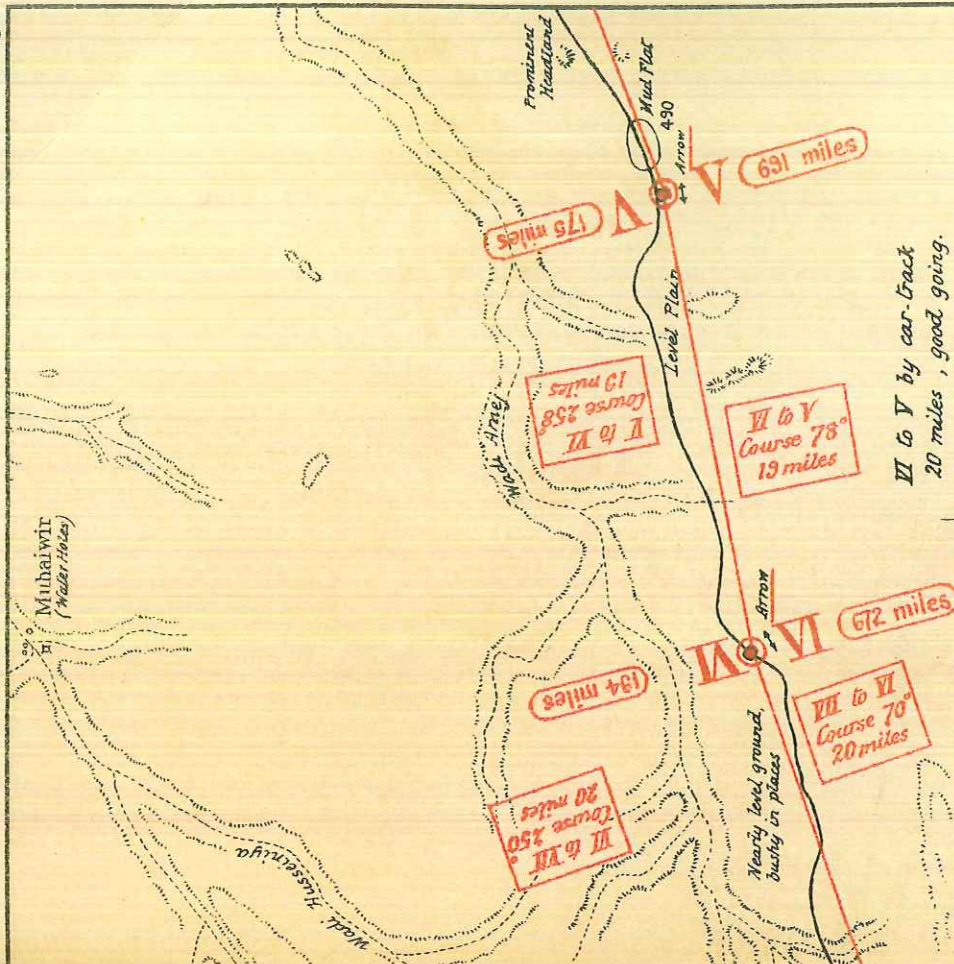
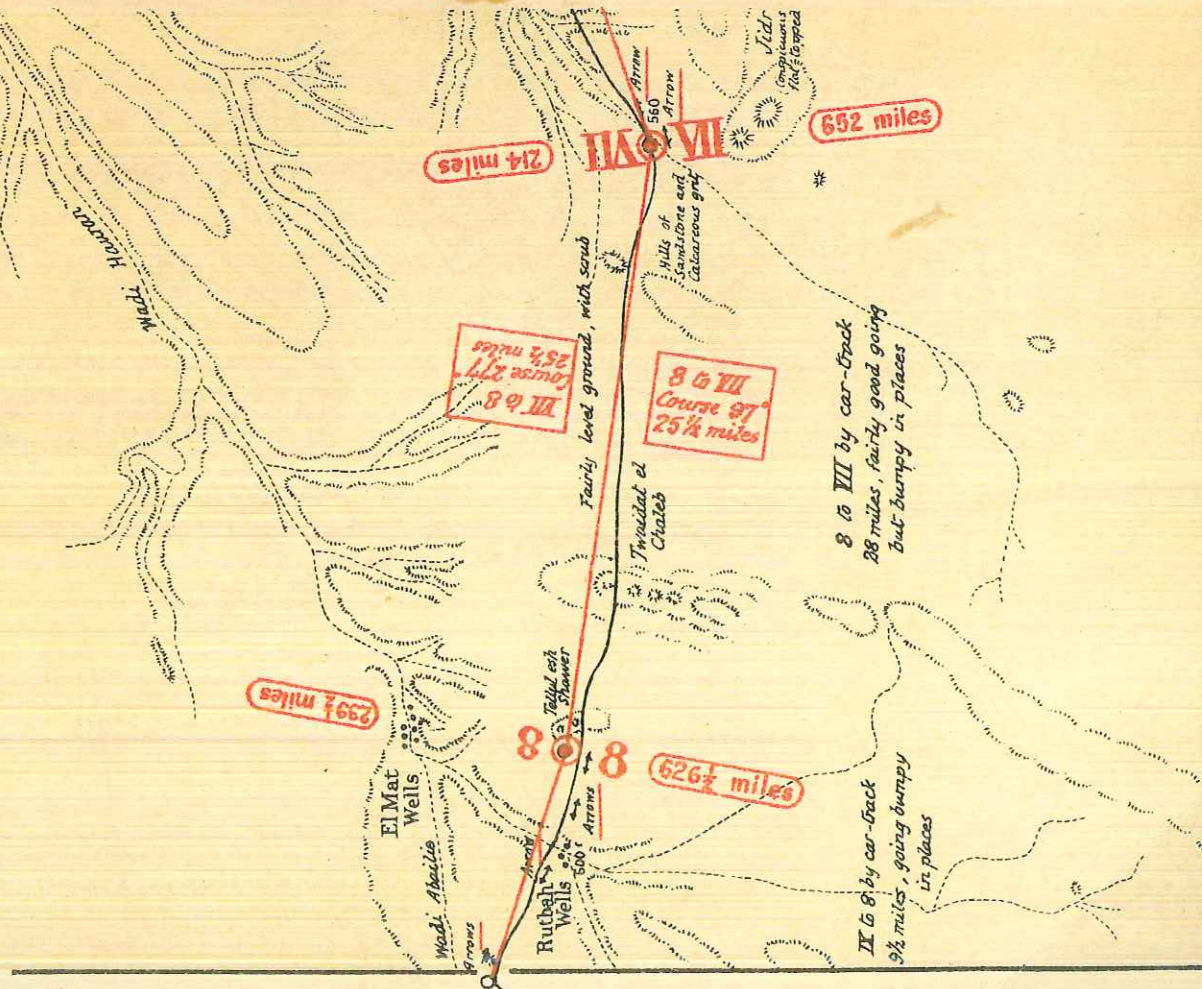
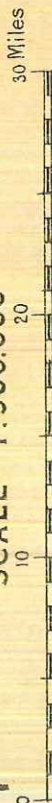
ROYAL AIR FORCE.

**PILOT'S HANDBOOK OF THE
CAIRO-BAGHDAD ROUTE.**

**Government Press, Cairo,
1923.**

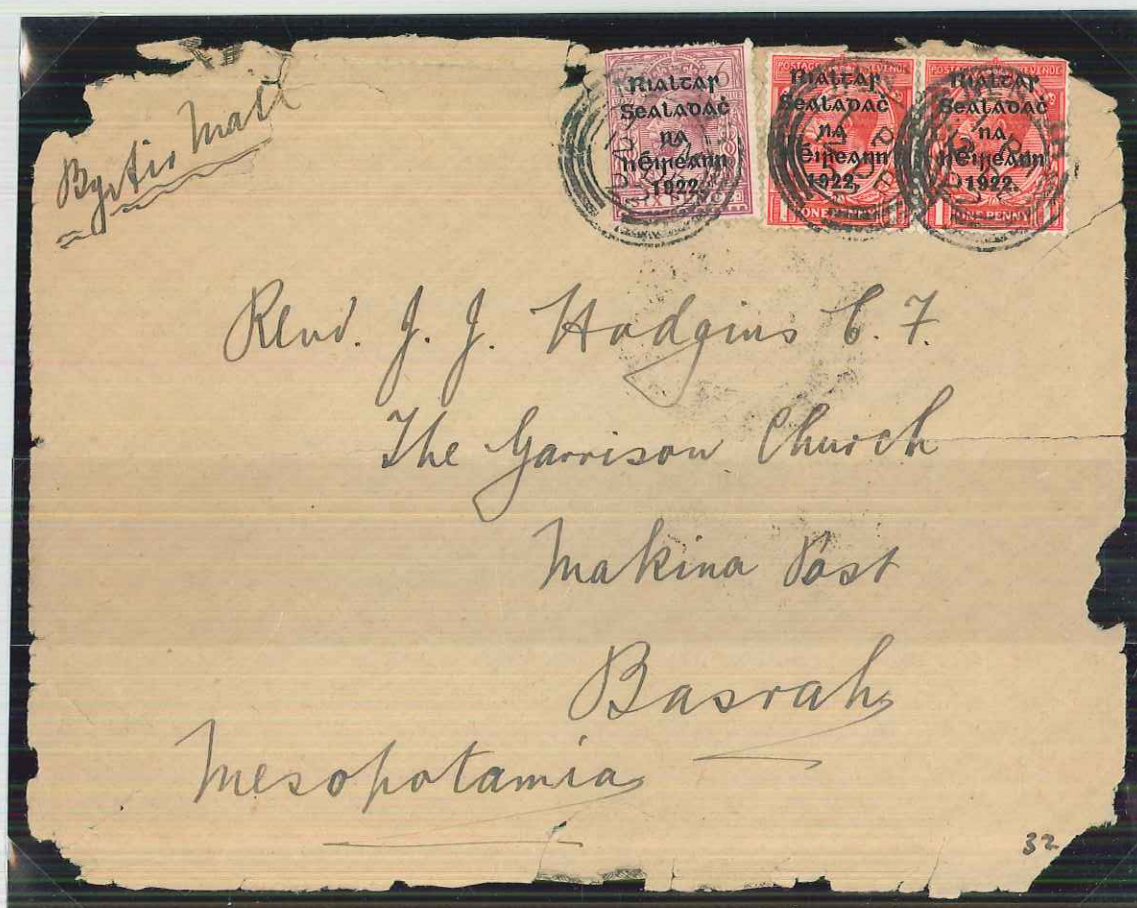
8 TO V

SCALE 1:500,000



EARLY IRISH ACCEPTANCE FOR R.A.F. "DESERT AIRMAIL SERVICE"
LONDON - CAIRO - BASRAH

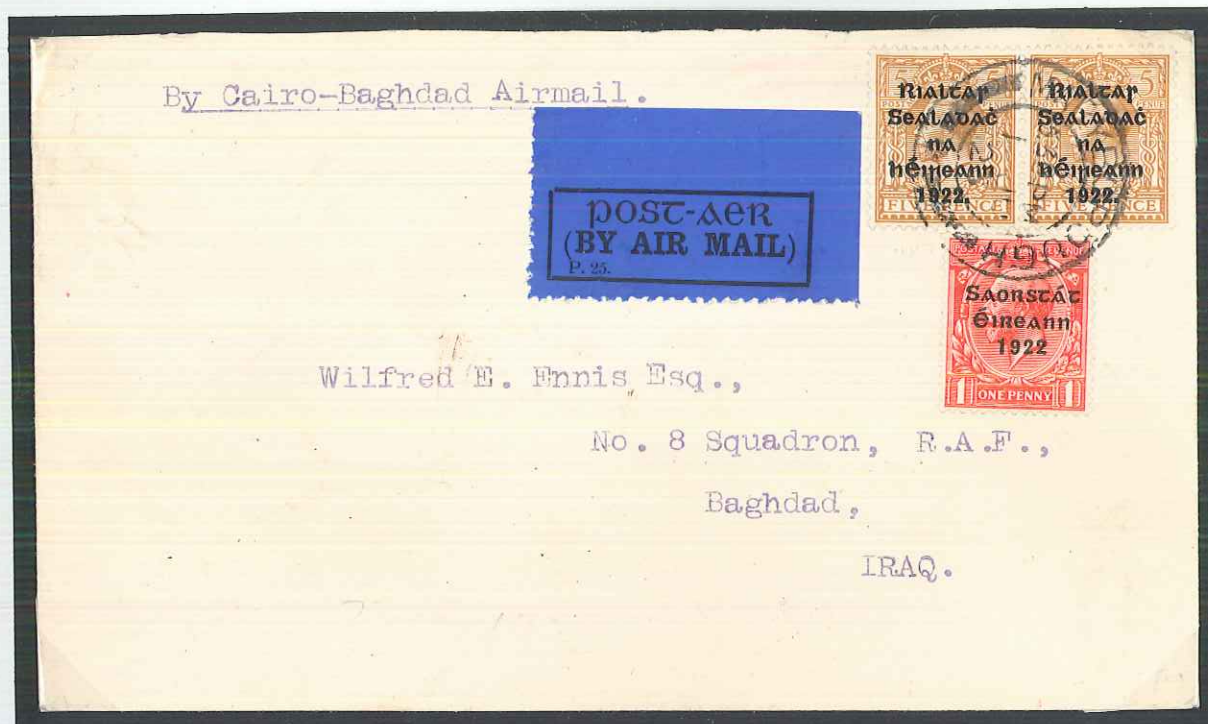
December 12, 1922



Posted Nenagh, Co. Tipperary, on December 12, 1922,
and carried by the R.A.F. "Desert Air Mail Service" Cairo - Basrah.

IRISH ACCEPTANCE FOR
R.A.F. "DESERT AIRMAIL SERVICE":
LONDON - CAIRO - BAGHDAD

June 1, 1923



Posted **MARYBOROUGH** on June 1, 1923,
and carried with R.A.F. "desert airmail service"
London - Cairo - Baghdad.

Mails left London on June 14 and Cairo on June 22,
and Baghdad was reached on June 23.

BAGHDAD and **BAGHDAD CANTONMENT** arrival postmarks of June 24.

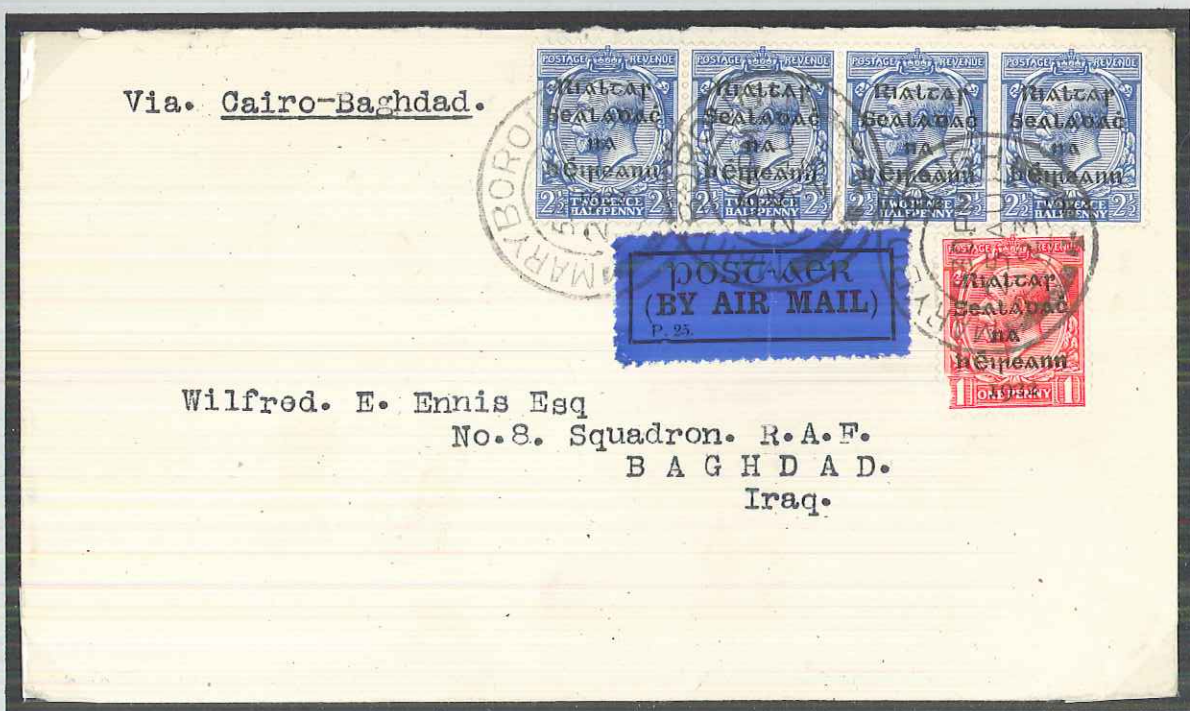
IRISH ACCEPTANCES FOR EARLY AIRMAIL SERVICES
LONDON - CAIRO - BAGHDAD

July 27, 1923 / August 25, 1923



Posted Stradbally, Queens County, on July 27, 1923,
and carried by Cairo - Baghdad "desert airmail service".

BAGHDAD transit postmark of August 19, 10.30 a.m.,
and BAGHDAD CANTONMENT arrival postmark of August 19, 3.00 p.m.



Posted Maryborough on August 25, 1923,
and carried by Cairo - Baghdad "desert airmail service".

BAGHDAD arrival postmark of September 16, 10.30 a.m.

**IRISH ACCEPTANCES FOR R.A.F. "DESERT AIRMAIL SERVICE":
LONDON - PARIS - ZURICH AND CAIRO - BAGHDAD**

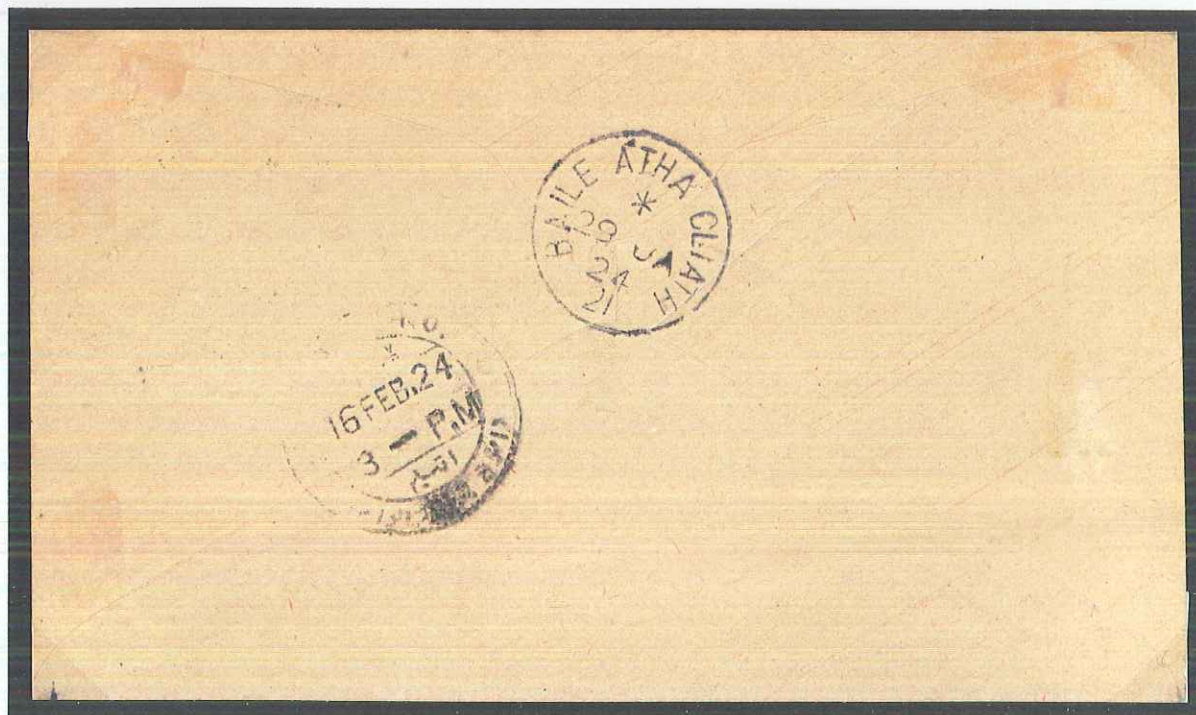
January 1, 1924



Posted Dublin on January 1, 1924,
and carried on January 10 with London - Paris - Zurich
and on January 18 with Cairo - Baghdad "desert" airmail service by R.A.F.
Baghdad was reached after many mishaps on January 22 (Proud, Vol. 1, p. 29).
BAGHDAD H.O. arrival postmarks of January 23, 8.00 a.m., and January 24, 9.00 a.m.
First Irish acceptances at reduced airmail fee of 3d for Cairo - Baghdad service?

**IRISH ACCEPTANCE FOR
R.A.F. "DESERT AIRMAIL SERVICE":
LONDON - CAIRO - BAGHDAD**

January 29, 1924



Posted **BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH** on January 29, 1924,
with Harrison coils (strip of 4 of T63 and single T62),
and carried with R.A.F. "desert airmail service"
London - Cairo - Baghdad.

Mails left London on February 7 and Cairo on February 15,
and Baghdad was reached on February 16.
BAGHDAD arrival postmarks of February 16, 3.00 p.m.

IRISH ACCEPTANCES FOR R.A.F. "DESERT AIRMAIL SERVICE"
LONDON - PARIS - (CAIRO) (BAGHDAD3 AU)

October 21, 1924

Three covers, all posted Maryborough on October 21, 1924,
 carried by *London - Paris* airmail service and forwarded to Alexandria.

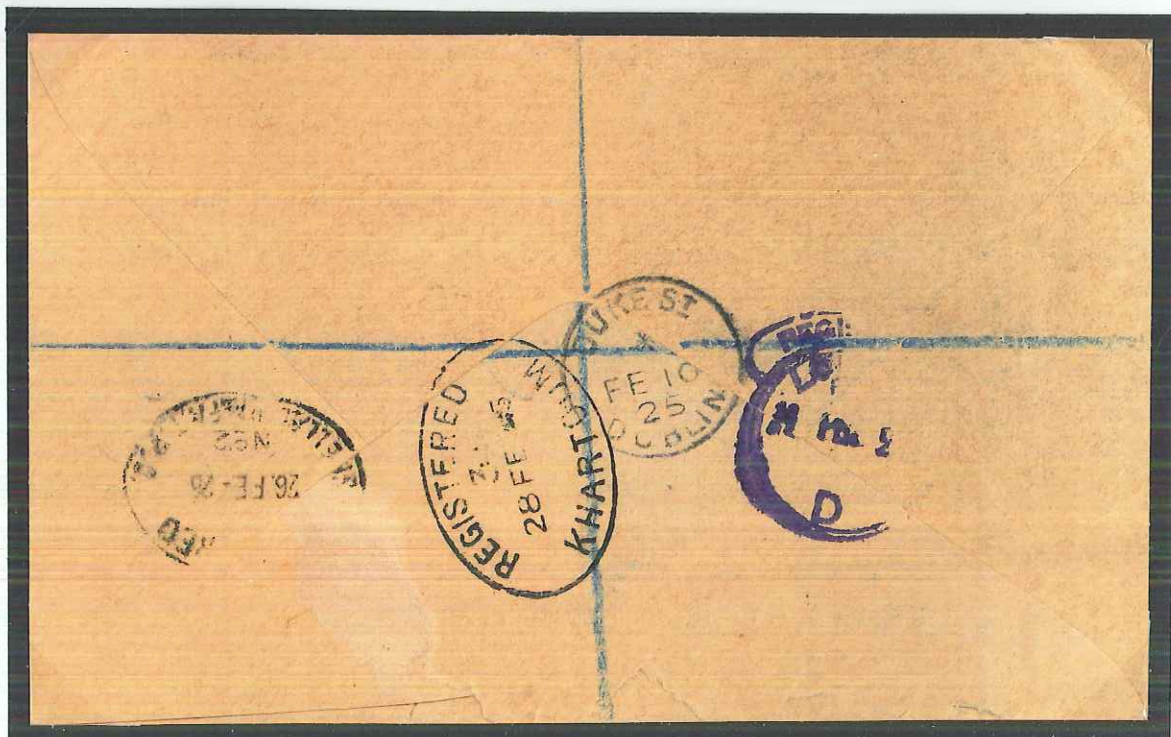
ALEXANDRIA arrival postmarks of October 29, 8.30 a.m.

"London - Cairo airmail" at that time meant airmail transport London - Paris only.



IRISH ACCEPTANCE FOR R.A.F. "DESERT AIRMAIL SERVICE":
LONDON - CAIRO - BAGHDAD
AND FORWARDED TO KHARTOUM

February 10, 1925

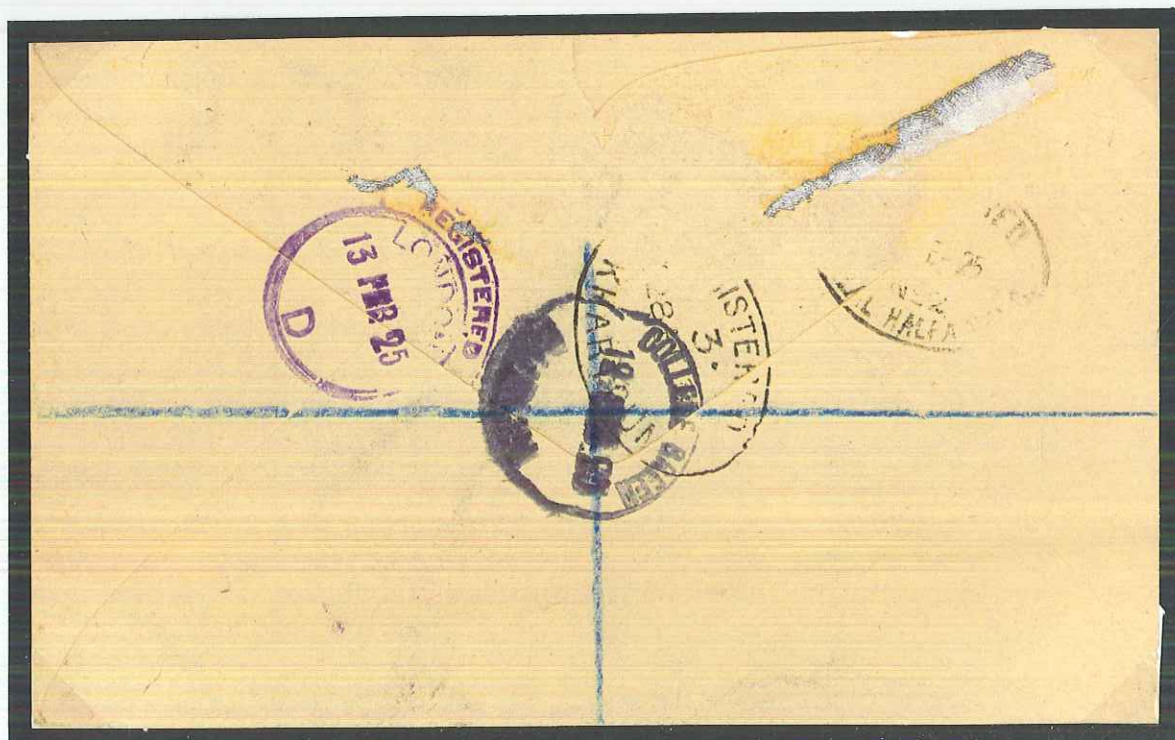
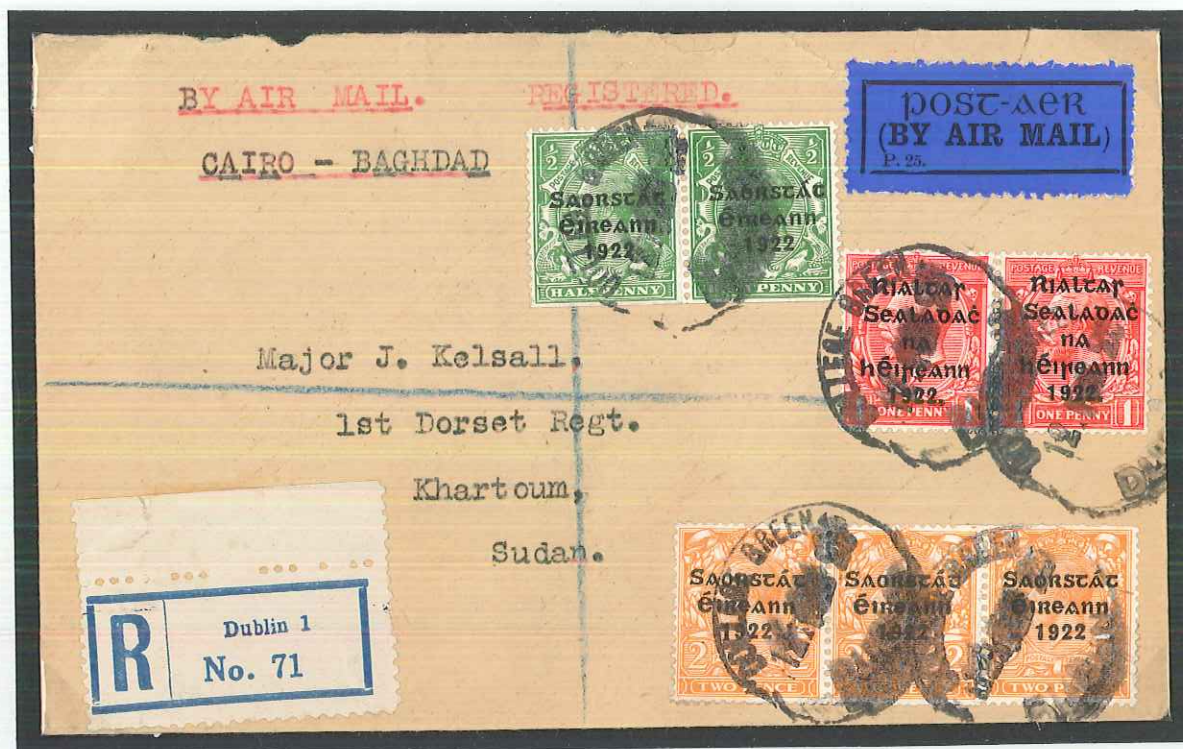


Posted registered **DUBLIN / DUKE ST.** on February 10, 1925,
with pair of 2d stamps including "long 1" variety (T65a),
and carried with R.A.F. "desert airmail service" London - Cairo - Baghdad.
Forwarded to Khartoum, Sudan.

indistinct **LONDON / REGISTERED** transit postmark,
WADI HALFA / REGISTERED transit postmark of February 26
and **KHARTOUM / REGISTERED** arrival postmark of February 28.

**IRISH ACCEPTANCE FOR R.A.F. "DESERT AIRMAIL SERVICE":
LONDON - CAIRO - BAGHDAD
FORWARDED TO KHARTOUM**

February 12, 1925



Posted registered **DUBLIN / COLLEGE GREEN** (rubber cds) on February 12, 1925, with three 2d "long 1" variety (T65a), a pair of ½d (T62) and pair of 1d (T21) overprints, and carried with R.A.F. "desert airmail service" London - Cairo - Baghdad. Forwarded to Khartoum, Sudan.

LONDON / REGISTERED transit postmark of February 13, indistinct **WADI HALFA / REGISTERED** transit postmark and **KHARTOUM / REGISTERED** arrival postmark of February 28.

IRISH ACCEPTANCES FOR R.A.F. "DESERT AIRMAIL SERVICE"
LONDON - CAIRO - BAGHDAD AND FORWARDED TO TEHERAN

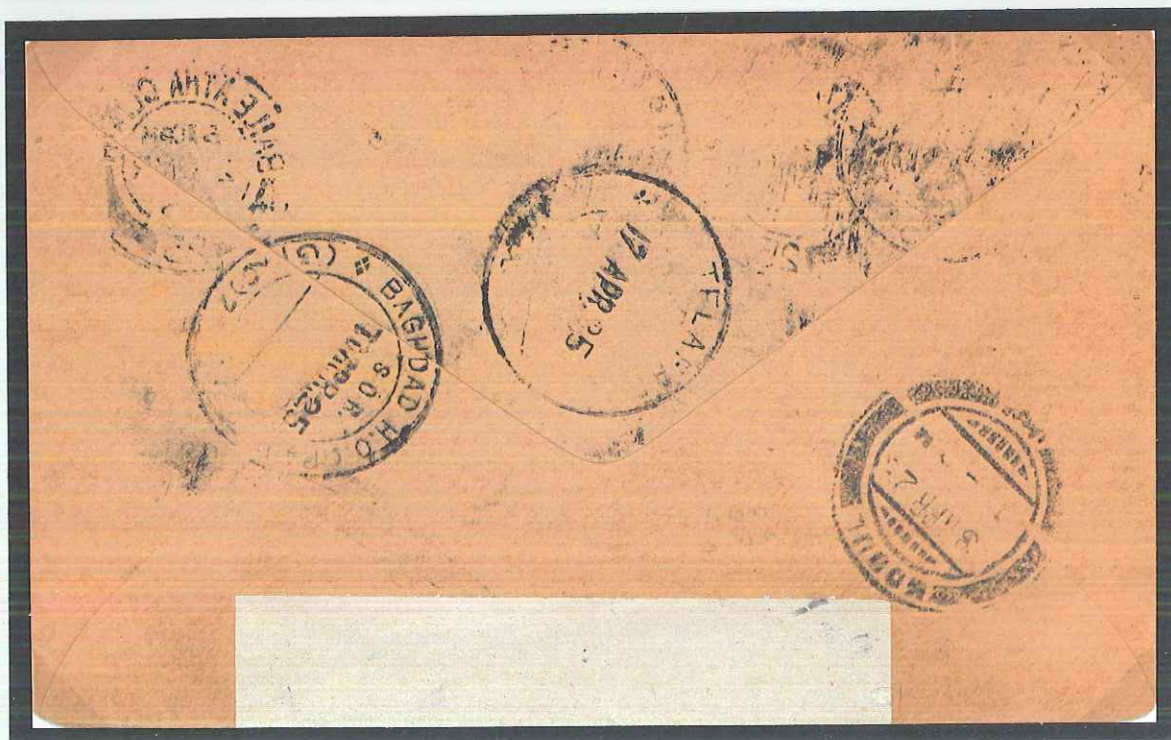
March 6, 1925



Two similar covers, both posted Dublin on March 6, 1925,
and carried by R.A.F. "Desert Airmail service" Cairo - Baghdad.
Forwarded to Teheran, Persia, by surface transportation.
BAGHDAD transit postmarks of March 28 and
TEHERAN arrival postmarks of April 12.

IRISH ACCEPTANCE FOR R.A.F. "DESERT AIRMAIL SERVICE":
LONDON - CAIRO - BAGHDAD

March 25, 1925



Posted **BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH** on March 25, 1925,
carried with airmail service by Imperial Airways London - Zurich
and carried with R.A.F. "desert airmail service" Cairo - Mosul.

Amazing **MOSUL** arrival postmark of April 3.

Re-directed via Baghdad to Telafar,
with **BAGHDAD** transit postmark of April 11
and **TELAFAH** arrival postmark of April 17.

The regular Cairo - Baghdad airmail service left London on April 2
and Cairo on April 9, reaching Baghdad on April 10,

IRISH ACCEPTANCES FOR R.A.F. "DESERT AIRMAIL SERVICE":
LONDON - CAIRO - BAGHDAD

July 28, 1925 / October 5, 1925



Posted **BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH** on July 28, 1925. Mails left London on August 6, were carried with London - Zurich airmail service by Imperial Airways and were carried on August 13 with R.A.F. "desert airmail service" Cairo - Baghdad. Baghdad was reached on August 14.
BAGHDAD H.Q. arrival postmark of August 14.



Posted **BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH** on October 5, 1925. Mails left London on October 15, were carried with London - Zurich airmail service by Imperial Airways and were carried on October 22 with R.A.F. "desert airmail service" Cairo - Baghdad. Baghdad was reached on October 24.
BAGHDAD H.Q. arrival postmark of October 24. *6d re-used*

IRISH ACCEPTANCES FOR R.A.F. "DESERT AIRMAIL SERVICE":
LONDON - CAIRO - BAGHDAD

August 18, 1925 / August 19, 1925



Posted **BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH** on August 18 and on August 19, 1925.

Mails left London on August 20,
were carried with London - Zurich airmail service by Imperial Airways
and were carried on August 27 with R.A.F. "desert airmail service"
Cairo - Baghdad.

Baghdad was reached on August 28.

Both covers carried with same service
and with **BAGHDAD H.Q.** arrival postmarks of August 28.

EARLY REGISTERED IRISH ACCEPTANCES FOR
R.A.F. "DESERT AIRMAIL SERVICE" CAIRO - BAGHDAD

August 19, 1925 / September 22, 1925



Registered cover, posted Dublin, Dame Street, on August 19, 1925,
and carried by R.A.F. Desert Airmail Service Cairo - Baghdad.

LONDON REGISTERED transit postmark of August 20 and
(unrecorded) BAGHDAD CANTONMENT / REG. arrival postmark of August 29.



Registered cover, posted Dublin, Harcourt Road, on September 22, 1925,
and carried by R.A.F. Desert Airmail Service Cairo - Baghdad.

LONDON REGISTERED transit postmark of September 22 and
(unrecorded) BAGHDAD CANTONMENT / REG. arrival postmark of August 29.

The overprinted 9d stamp shows the frameline break variety.

**ONE FROM THE SERIES "COVERS YOU SHOULD NOT BUY":
IRISH ACCEPTANCE FOR R.A.F. "DESERT AIRMAIL SERVICE":
LONDON - CAIRO - BAGHDAD - TEHERAN**

June 25, 1924



Posted registered **DUBLIN / COLLEGE GREEN** on June 25, 1924,
and carried with R.A.F. "Desert Airmail Service" Cairo - Baghdad.
Forwarded to Teheran, Persia, by surface transport.
LONDON REGISTERED transit postmark of June 26,
BAGHDAD IRAQ REG. transit postmark of July 4,
and (probably) **TEHERAN** arrival postmark of July 16.
4 of the six stamps have been tampered with
(inserted accents and missing accents).

IRISH ACCEPTANCES FOR R.A.F. "DESERT AIRMAIL SERVICE"
LONDON - PARIS - (CAIRO)

October 21, 1924

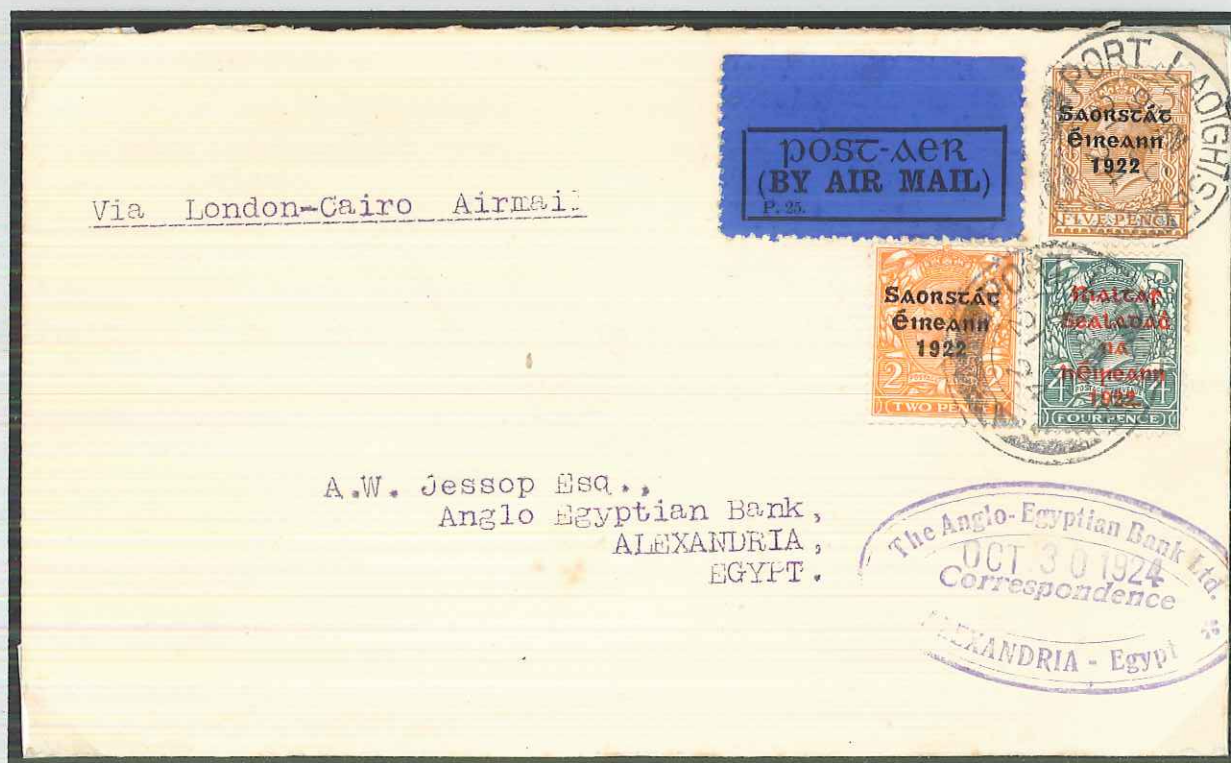


Posted Maryborough on October 21, 1924,
carried by *London - Paris* airmail service and forwarded to Alexandria.

ALEXANDRIA arrival postmark of October 29, 8.30 a.m.

"London - Cairo airmail" at that time meant airmail transport London - Paris only.

"Long 1 in 1922" variety on the ½d Harrison coil stamp.

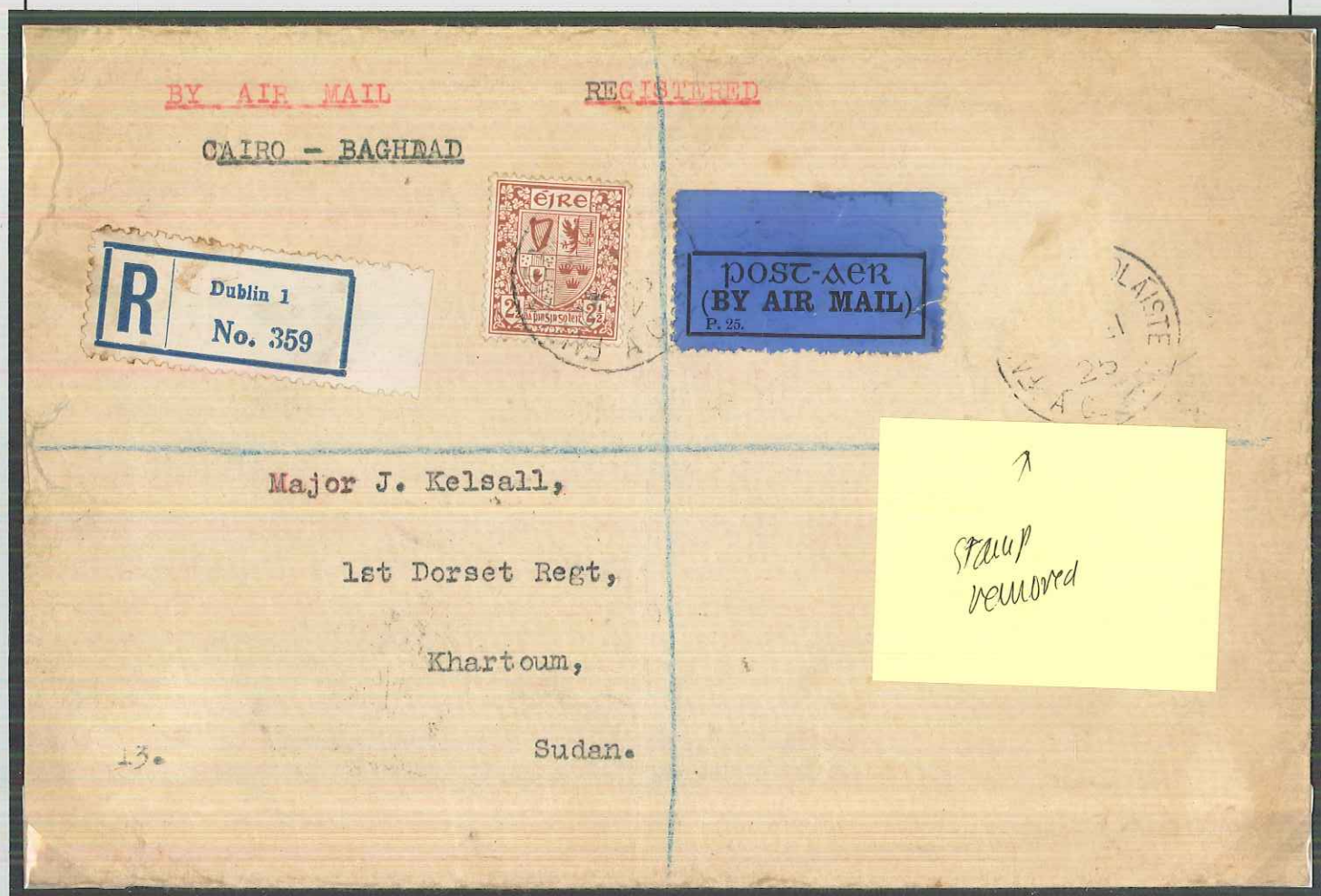


Posted Maryborough on October 21, 1924,
carried by *London - Paris* airmail service and forwarded to Alexandria.

ALEXANDRIA arrival postmark of October 29, 8.30 a.m.

IRISH ACCEPTANCE FOR R.A.F. "DESERT AIRMAIL SERVICE"
LONDON - CAIRO - BAGHDAD AND FORWARDED TO KHARTOUM

January 21, 1925



Registered cover, posted in Dublin on January 21, 1925,
and carried by R.A.F. Desert Airmail Service *Cairo - Baghdad*
and forwarded to *Khartoum, Sudan*.

London transit postmark of January 22 and
Khartoum arrival postmarks of January 31 and February 3.