



**REGISTERED LETTER.**

THIS LETTER MUST BE HANDED IN AT A POST OFFICE FOR REGISTRATION AND A RECEIPT OBTAINED THEREFOR.

**GEREGISTREER DE BRIEF**

HIERDIE BRIEF MOET VIR REGISTRASIE INGELEWER WORD BY 'N POSKANTOOR, SORG DAT U DAARVOOR 'N KWITANSIE KRY

POST OFFICE FOR REGISTRATION AND A RECEIPT OBTAINED THEREFOR.



*RA.P.O. 5*  
*5672*

*MR. F. FROELICH*



*Investment Building*  
*Ground floor*  
*97, COMMISSIONER ST.*  
*Johannesburg*  
*South Africa.*

# Fourth Letter Stamp

Booklets; "2nd Comb" Issue.

A 1343

Booklet cover A1343 with interleaving, it contained 5 frames 'B'.

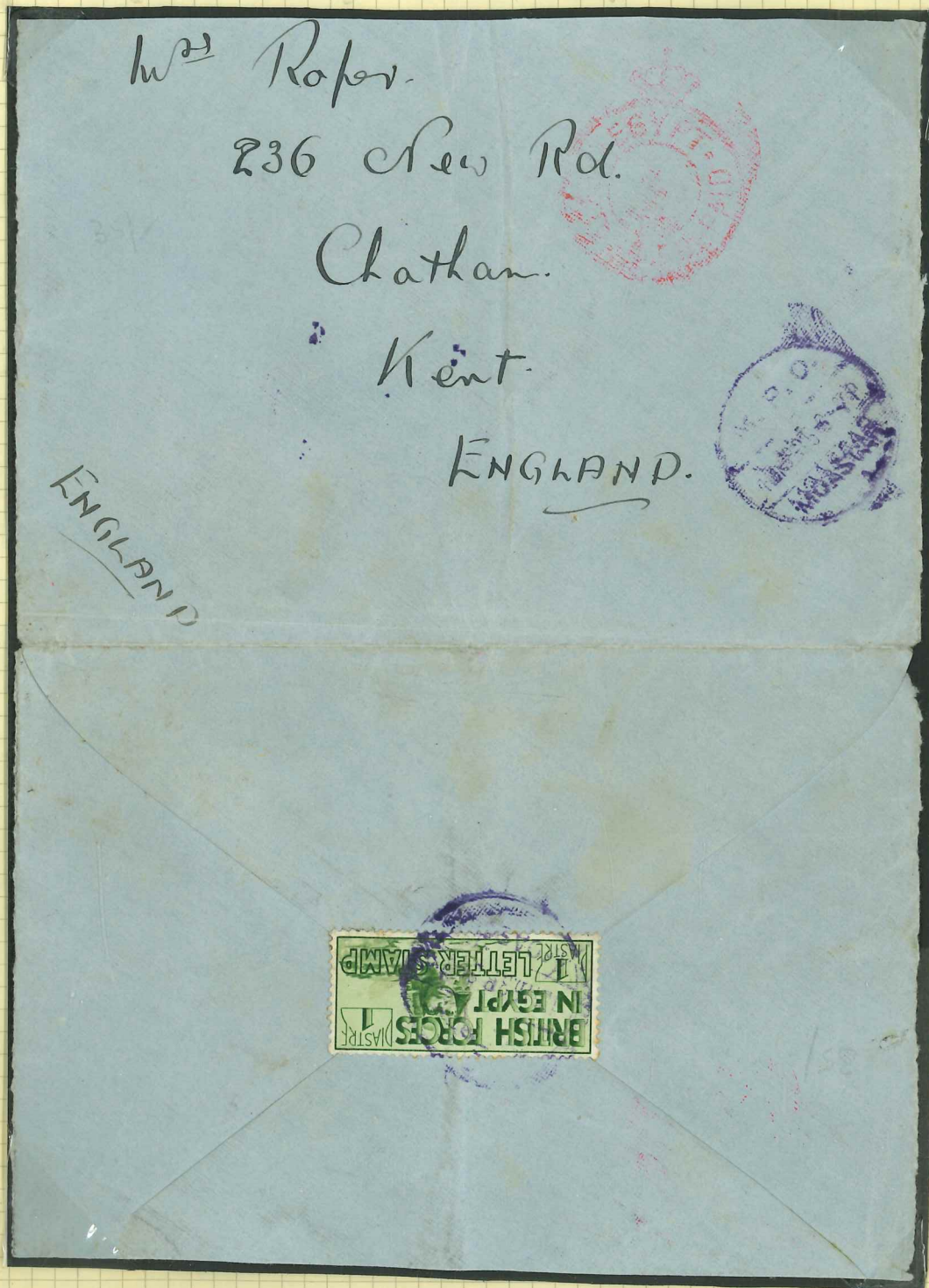


Partly used booklet numbered A1551 with a large part of Hobbs' frame 'B' with interleaving folded back across margin.

## Second Letter Stamp

5th December 1934

M.P.O. Moascar struck in purple during twelve days period  
unusually cancelling second letter stamp on the reverse.



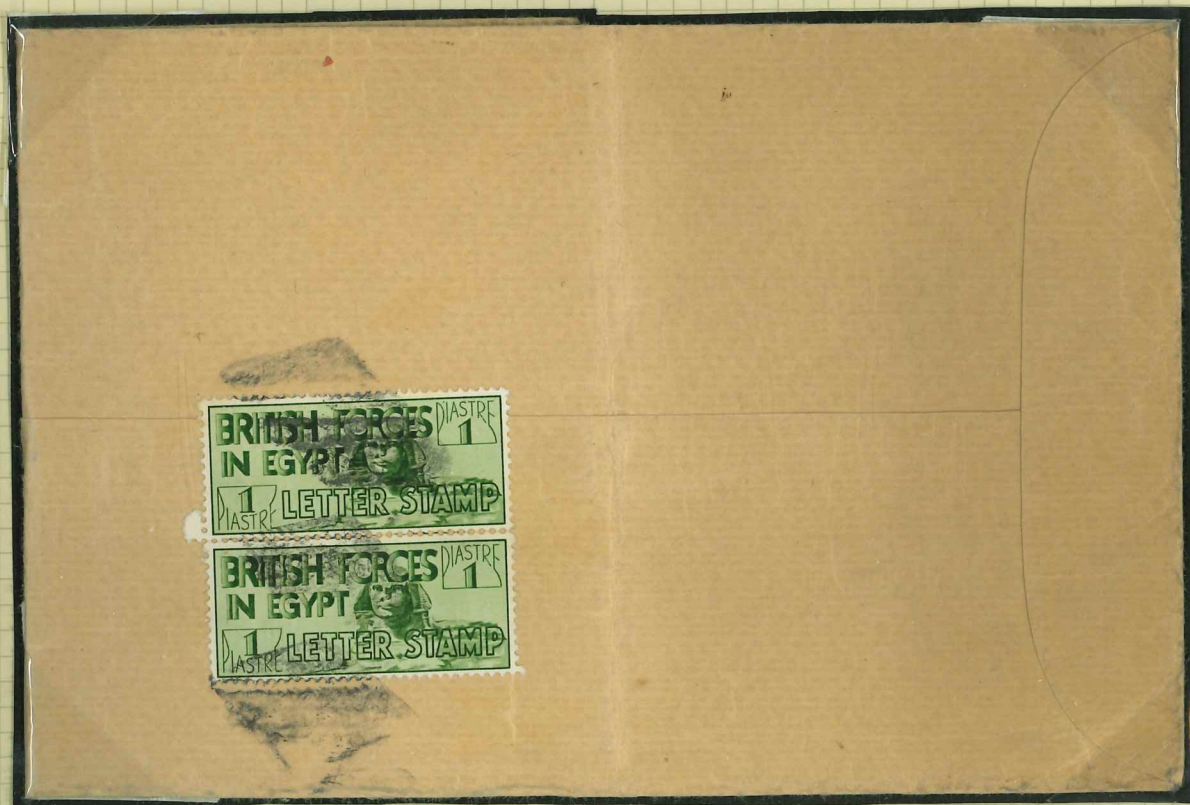
One piastre letter to Chatham, Kent sent from M.P.O.  
Moascar during short-lived purple ink use on date stamp.

# Second Letter Stamp

5th December 1934



Used block made up of positions numbers 1 and 2 and of positions numbers 5 and 6 of John Hobbs' frame A.



Scarce double rate cover from M. P. O. Cairo to London W2 dated 26th February 1935; Crown Cancel No. 23 in red.

# Second Letter Stamp

5th December 1934



Frame 'A' positions 1 and 11 cancelled in red

pos.



5

pos.



18



Position 18 has a dark diagonal line of colour between H in 'British' and F in 'Forces'.

The bottom four rows of Hobbs' frame 'A' comprising positions 5 to 20; such large multiples occur on large official envelopes to official U.K. destinations.

# Second Letter Stamp

5th December 1934  
Colour changed to green  
250,000 printed by Harrisons & Sons Ltd.

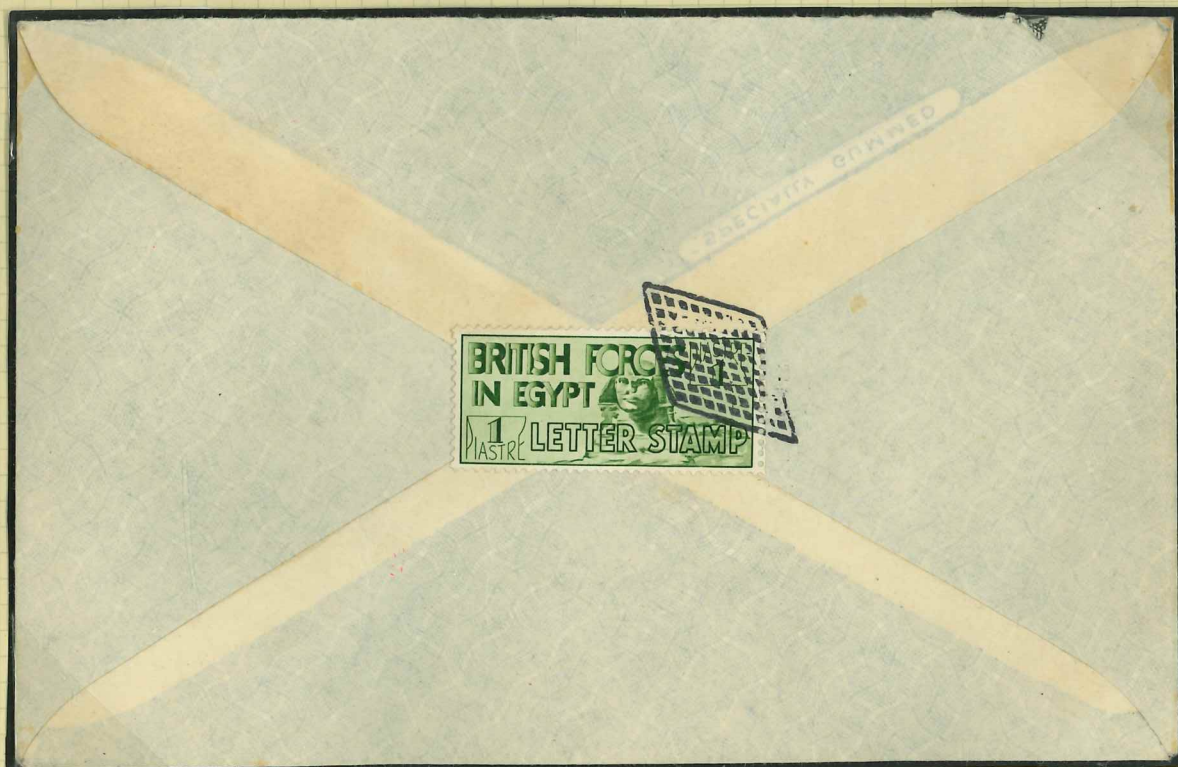


No. 7 frame 'A'



No. 8 frame 'B'

As with the 1st June issue, this was printed in sheets of 40, two frames of 20, each with different characteristics.



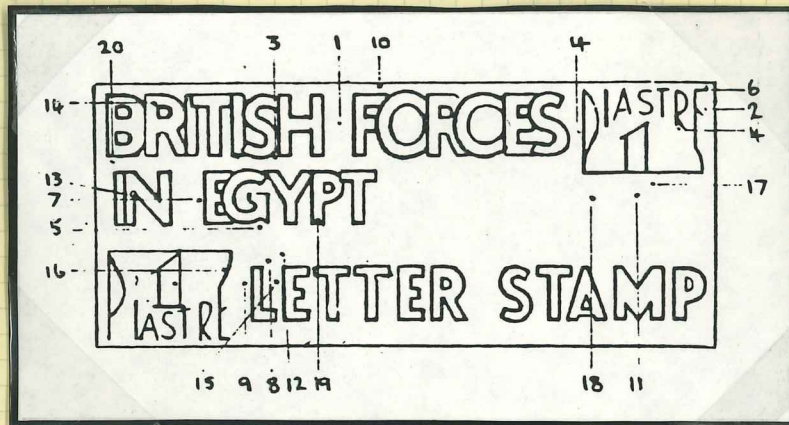
Letter posted on 1 XI 35 from the R.A.F. Station Aboukir  
with Numeral Frank 13 with Alexandria M.P.O. transit.

# Second Letter Stamp

5th December 1934



250,000 printed



Reduced sketch by Hobbs showing plating varieties frame A.

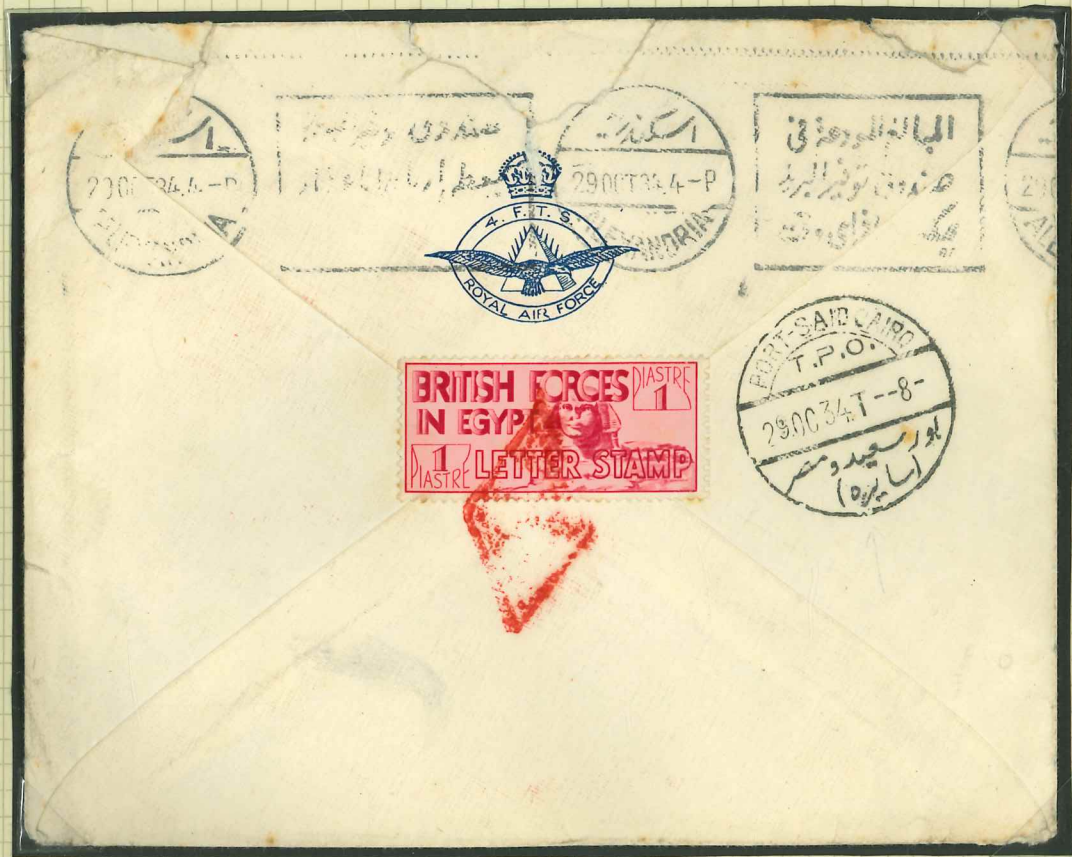


Colour changed to green, like the 1st June issue this was printed in sheets of 40, two frames of 20 each different. Hobbs' frame A - one of five pages, or panes, from booklet.

# Letter Stamp

16th June 1934

Crested envelope from 4 Flying Training School of the Royal Air Force at R.A.F. Abu Sueir with red Numeral Frank 12 and civilian Abu Suwar on front of the cover.



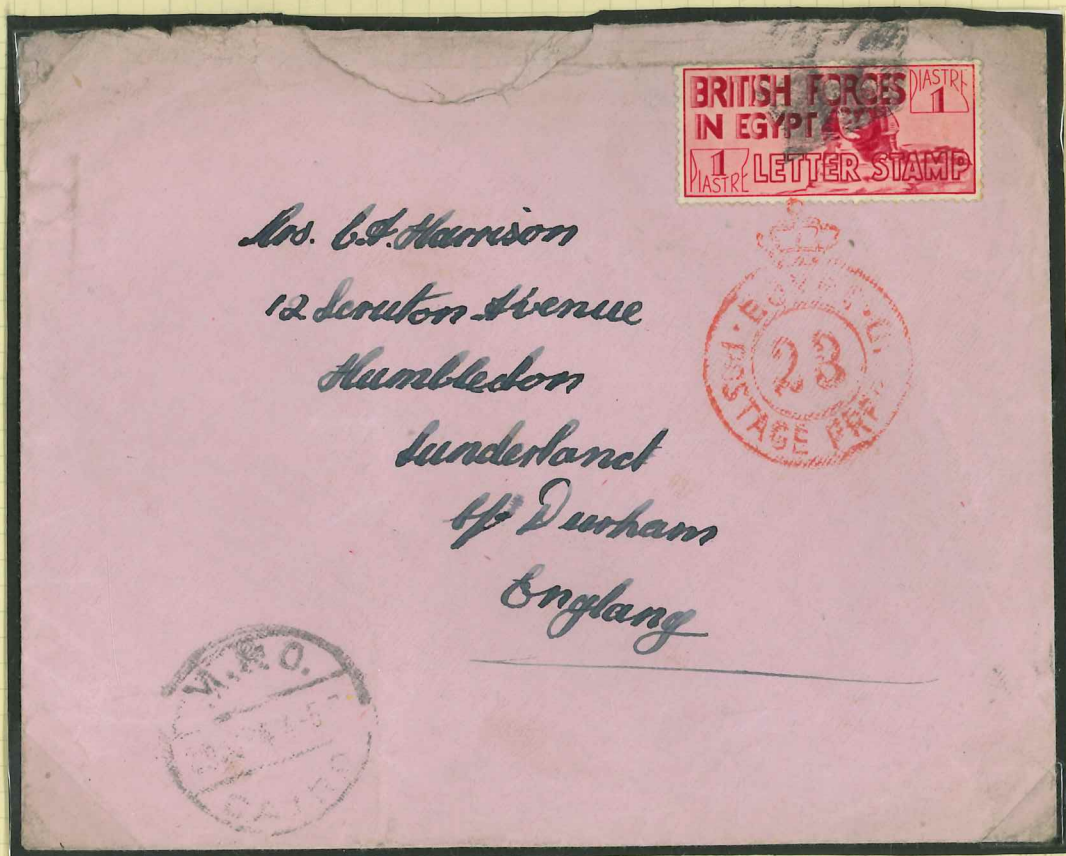
Cover franked 1 piastre letter stamp cancelled by retta in red from Abu Sueir to Portsmouth; Alexandria slogan transit and civilian T.P.O. of Port Said - Cairo same day.



# Letter Stamp

1st June 1934

The Concessionary Scheme required the Letter Stamp to be stuck on the back of the envelope but in this case the stamp was affixed to the front. Nevertheless the Military Post Office accepted the stamp as valid prepayment.



Against regulations

Letter stamp, position 11 of Page B, franking a cover from M.P.O. Cairo on 29th October 1934. Numeral Frank No. 23 to Sunderland; not penalised despite the error.

# Letter Stamp

1st June 1934

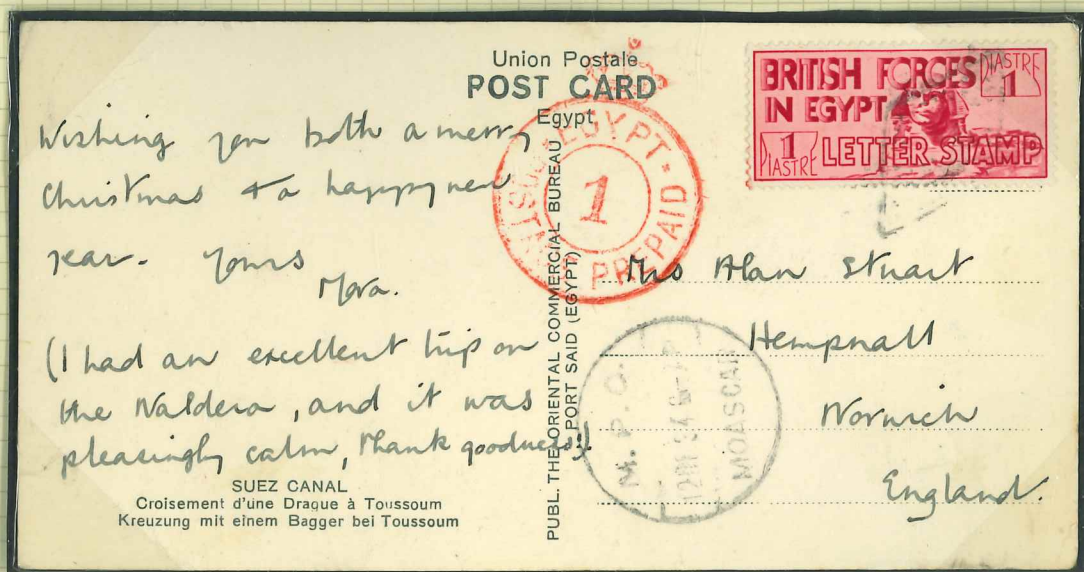
The first letter stamps positions numbers 13 and 17 of Page 5. Position 17 is the 'unjoined P' variety as arrowed in the illustration.



Unjoined 'P'.



Unusually, a double rated Letter 4 AP35 from the RAF Station at Abu Qir to Manchester with N.F. No. 13 struck in red.



Unusually, use of a postcard despite no differential from a letter rate, sent from MPO. Moascar N.F. No. 1 dated 12 DE 34.

# Letter Stamp

1st June 1934

This stamp is distinguishable by the very large perforation at the top; large blocks from official correspondence.

## Frame 'B'



Reduced sketch by Hobbs showing plating varieties frame B.

# Letter Stamp

1st June 1934



Photogravure by Harrisons & Sons Ltd.  
Perf  $14\frac{1}{2} \times 14$ ; 250,000 printed

Above: letter stamps from positions 9 and 18 of frame 'B'



Positions nos. 19, 14 and 7.



Commercial cover from M.P.O. Cairo with Numeral Frank  
22 to New Bond Street, London; letter stamp is position 20.

# Letter Stamp

1st June 1934

Drawn by a Miss Waugh, a resident of Cairo, the new letter stamp showed a different design incorporating a typically Egyptian motif of the Great Sphinx. The two frames can be distinguished by plating - see Hobbs' sketch showing the varieties, specifically the unjoined 'P' variety on stamp number 17, bottom left of frame, found only on frame B.



Frame, or pane, B with the unjoined 'P' variety on stamp 17.

# Letter Stamp

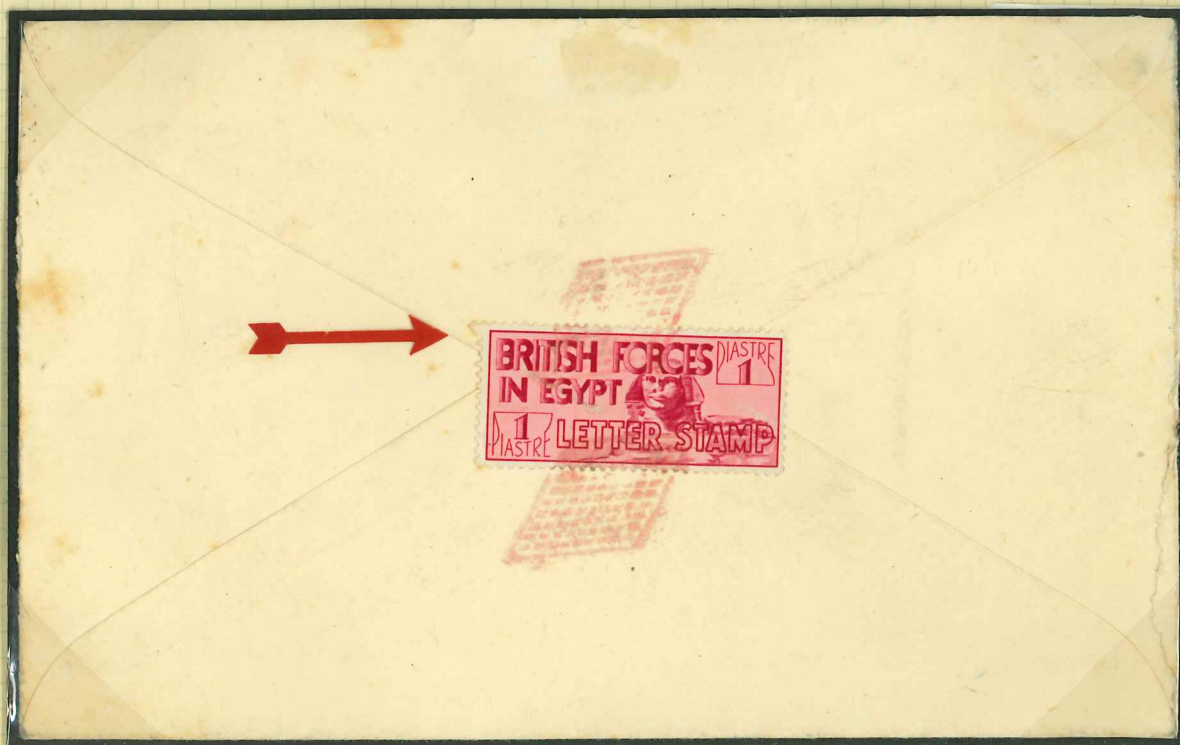
1st June 1934



These are known cancelled by retta in either black or red.



Used block from frame 'B' comprising positions 1 to 12.



Commercial cover Numeral Frank 16 and civilian Ras el-Tin from the Military Hospital to Manchester; cancelled red retta.

# Letter Stamp

1st June 1934

Printed on unwatermarked paper in sheets of forty split into two frames of twenty each having different characters.

## Frame 'A'



Positions 4, cancelled by red tetta, and 7 with 9 and 13 below.

9



13



15

19



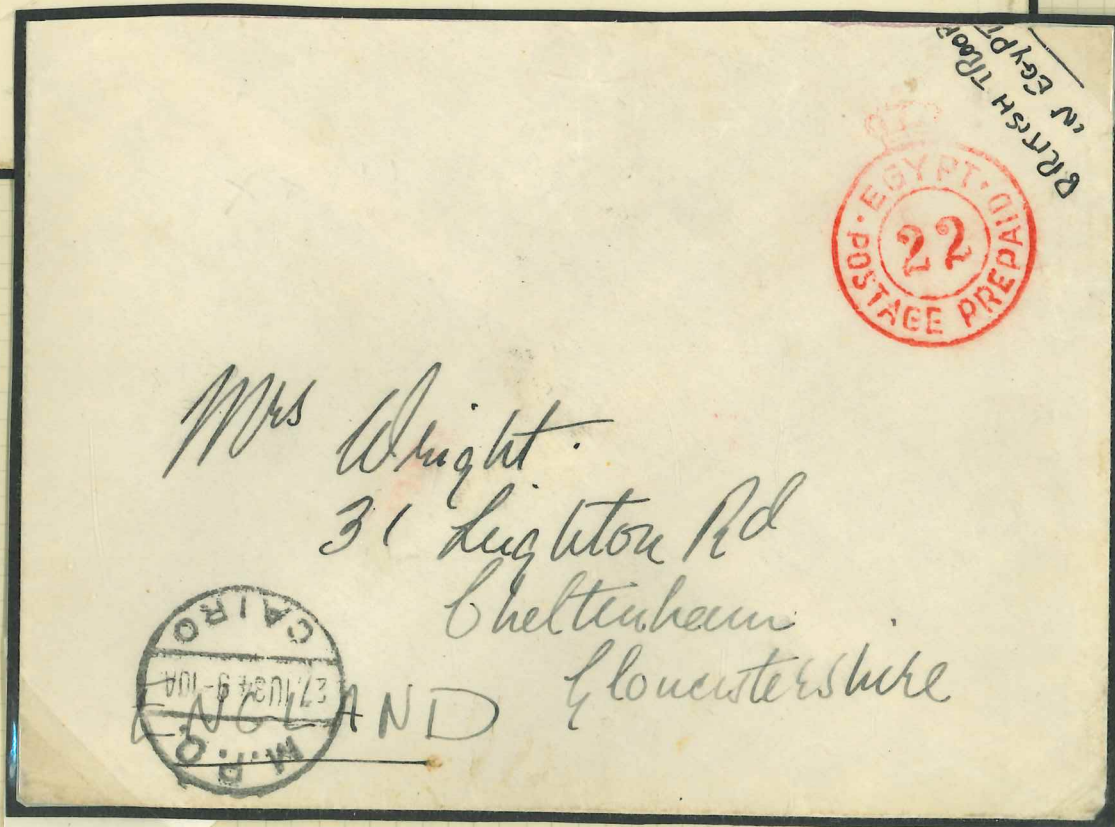
'Reconstructed' bottom line of frame A positions 17 to 20.



Reduced sketch by Hobbs showing plating varieties frame A

## The Postal Concession

Letter seals on two covers to England both dating from 1934,  
illustrating the regulations for both fronts and backs of covers.

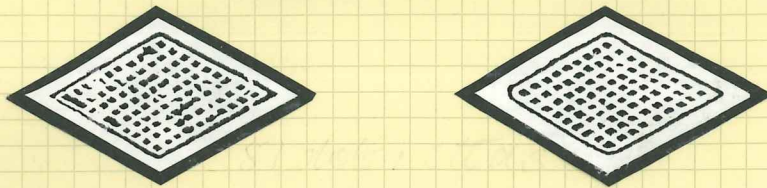


Both covers are from the 'Named' Military Post Office at  
Cairo already open before the start of the Postal Concession,  
the top bearing Numeral Frank 6, the Lower Numeral Frank  
22, both were always held at Cairo H.Q. British Troops.



# The Letter Seal 1933

## Retta 'killers'



## 81 dot rettas

Retta obliterators or 'killers' were lozenge shaped with frames around dots in ranks, usually 9x9 and struck in black, red, blue or mauve; some have 17x15 dots, others 15x15 or 10x9.

## Use of postcards

The regulations promulgated in the official NAAFI notice make no mention of postcard mail; accordingly it is not surprising to note that occasionally soldiers used them.



Postcard of Alexandria boulevard posted at Mustapha Barracks, letter seal cancelled 81 dot retta and Numeral Frank 17 of Alexandria, redirected on arrival at Norwich.

# The Letter Seal 1933

## Constant varieties



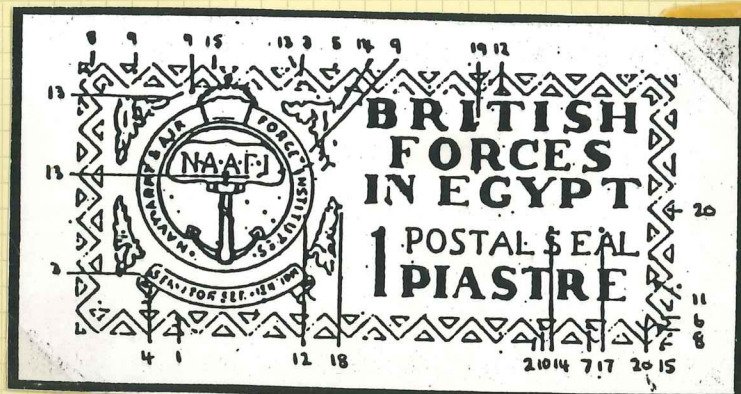
Diagram illustrating the plate varieties: position 4 has filled in top in letter 'A', position 11 has dot on serif of 't' and position 15 has a diagonal across the arms of 'E'.



Two large blocks making up a complete 'page' of the NAAFI booklet with all three above varieties; as with the postal seal, such blocks emanate from official mail to Whitehall.

# The Letter Seal 1933

Reconstructed 'pane'



Hobb's sketch showing plate flaws - applies equally to letter seals.



A reconstructed 'pane' from a NAAFI booklet comprising a complete page or frame of twenty seals. Position no. 15 shows the diagonal line connecting the upper arms of 'E' in seal.

# The Letter Seal 1933

## Multiples



Positions 15, 16, 19 and 20.



Positions 1, 2, 5 and 6



Positions 11, 12, 15 and 16



Positions 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15 and 16 (block of 8)

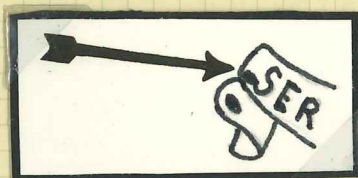
Some 'plating' is relatively simple; for example three of the blocks above include position 15, easily seen with naked eyes.

# The Letter Seal 1933

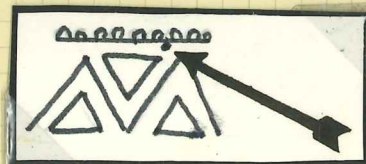
Red and mauve nettas



Constant varieties



Position 3; the 'S' in servitor is joined to the frame with dot



Position 13; diagonal line badge to frame and dot top right



Position 15; diagonal line joins top two arms of letter 'E' in seal.

# The Letter Seal 1933

August 1933  
Wording changed to "Letter Seal"  
516,000 printed



Position 20 seal showing another difference of the Letter Seal from the Postal Seal - the addition of a margin.



Conventionally cancelled with nettas in both black and red



Cover 26 MA 34 from MPO Moascar to Stratford-on-Avon

# The Postal Seal 1932

4th February 1933

Postal Seal position 11 on a pane of 20 cancelled by retta unusually in red 10x9 dots with frame. On the front is Numeral Frank 12 of R.A.F. Abu Sueir struck in red as well as the cds (below) of the Abu Sueir civil post office - prior to the opening of M.F.O. Abu Sueir.



Arabic slogan postmark promoting?

Cover to Wakefield, Yorkshire from R.A.F. Abu Sueir with slogan transit postmark of civil office Port Said.

## Civilian Cancellations

*Bilingual, English and Arabic, ESC type III civilian postmarks of Ras el-Tin and, on the reverse, of Alexandria 3.*



Mrs C. P. Tremlett  
Halwill Lodge  
Beaworthy  
N. Devon  
England

*Crown  
Cancel  
15 (or 16)  
both at  
Military  
Hospital  
Ras el-  
Tin prove  
posting  
correct.*



*Alexan-  
dria 3  
proves  
Egyptian  
civilian  
handling*

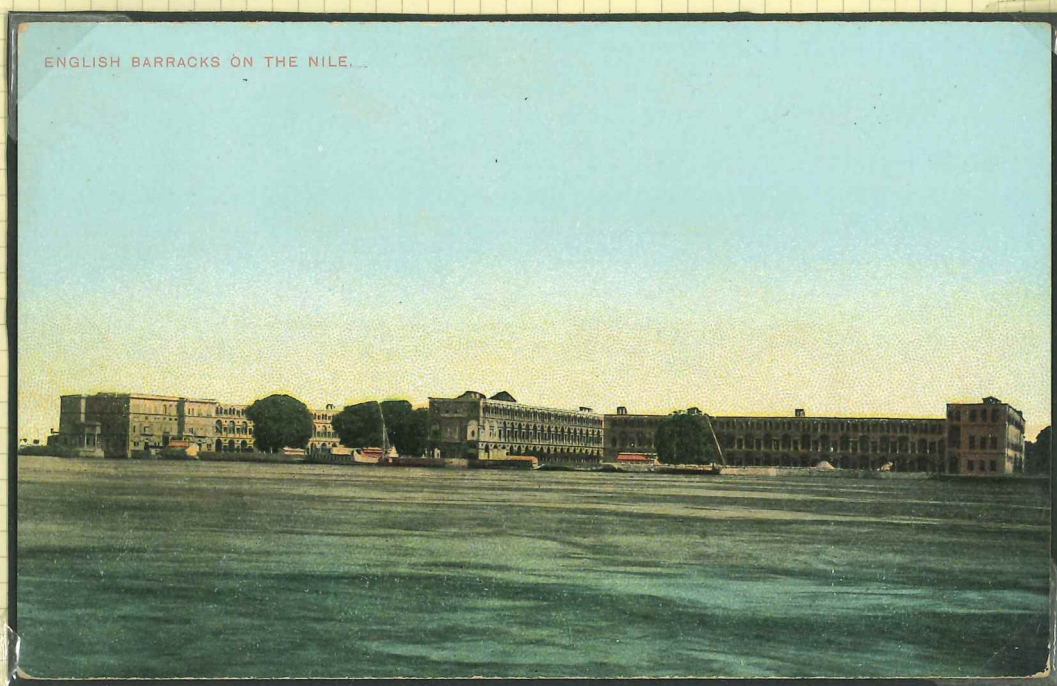
*13th December 1932 cover franked 1 piastre postal seal cancelled red post and Crown Cancel 15 prove correctly posted.*



# The Postal Concession

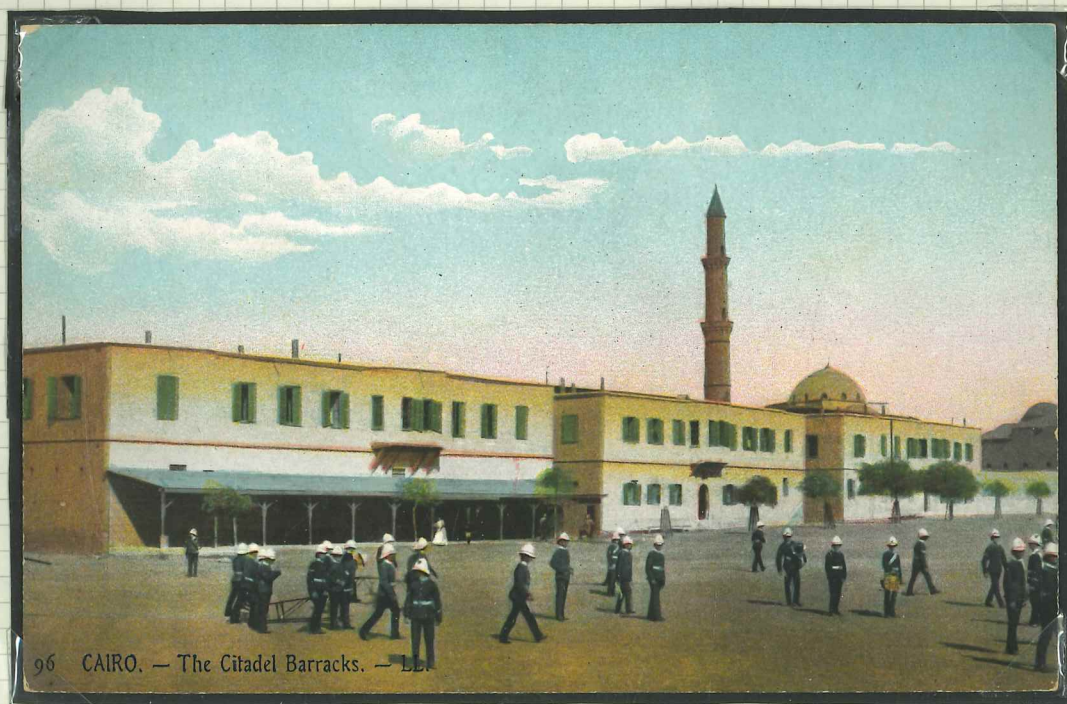
## British Barracks at Cairo

Unused polychrome postcard of the British Barracks at Kasr el-Nil, currently the site of the Nile Hilton Hotel.



Sent 23 XI 09, from Cairo D to Rayleigh in Essex, this 4 mills polychrome postcard showing back of Kasr el-Nil Barracks, the Egyptian Museum and future Talinir Square.

*The Postal Concession  
British Barracks at Cairo*



*Unused polychrome postcard by Louis Levy No 96 of the British Barracks in the Citadel built by Salah el-din (Saladin); the minaret and cupola of the mosque of Mohamet Ali can be seen in the background.*

# *The Postal Concession*

## *British Barracks at Alexandria*

*Barragues Moustafa Pacha shown on a polychrome postcard to Gravesend, sent from Sidi Gaber 4 XII 10.*



*Four mills polychrome postcard of Caserne anglaise sent from Alexandria K on 26 XII to Acton, London.*

## Double Rate Covers

Positions 2 and 6 above, 3 and 7 below, postal and letter seals.



Both covers, possibly containing premium books, addressed to same Assurance company; double rate covers seldom seen.

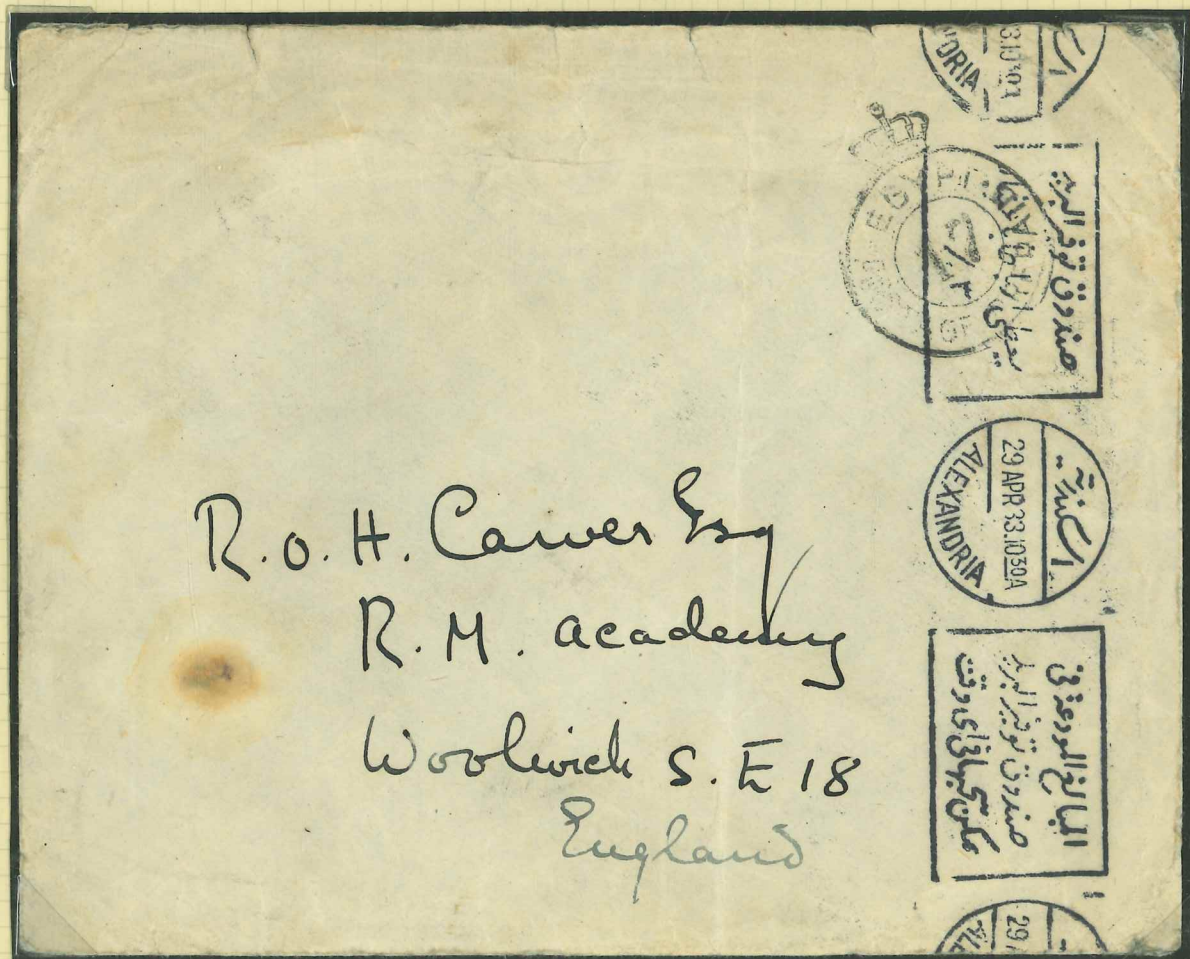
# The Postal Seal 1932

Civilian slogan postmark

Cover is franked 1 piastre postal seal position no. 16 on a pane of 20 cancelled by 9x9 dot netta struck in black



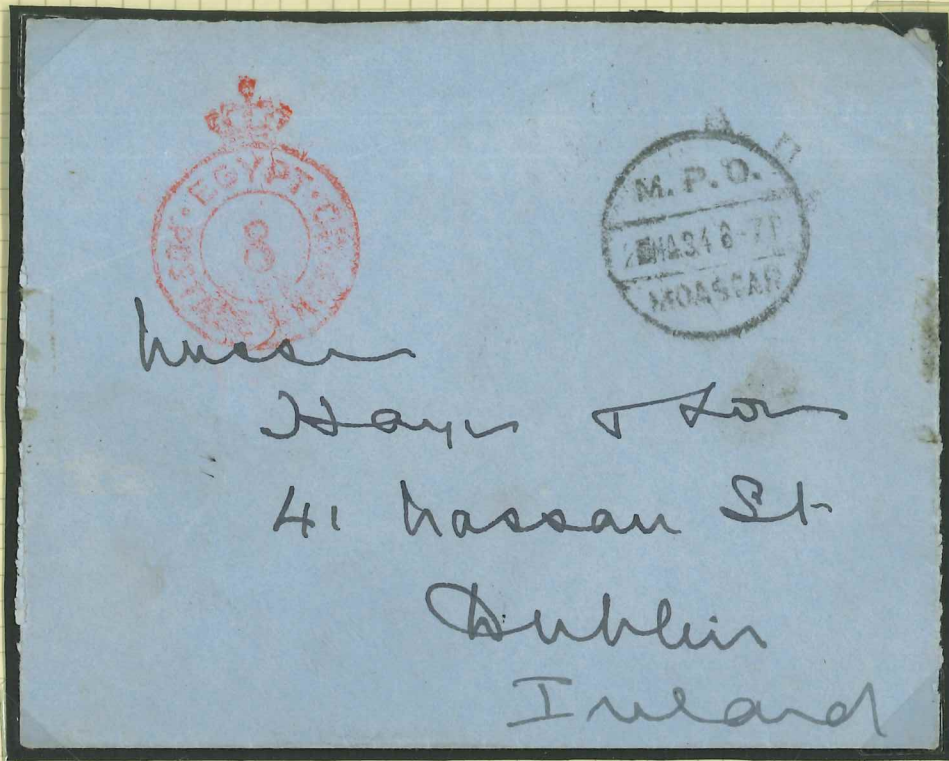
Alexandria slogan promoting?



Crown cancel 17 of Mustapha Barracks, Sidi Gaber in black and Alexandria civilian roller slogan date-stamp also struck in black on a cover to Woolwich SE18.

# The Postal Seal 1932

Crown  
Cancel 8



Cover franked postal seal no. 17 to Dublin, Irish Free State.

Deputy  
Assistant  
Director  
of Ordnance  
Services  
Despatch

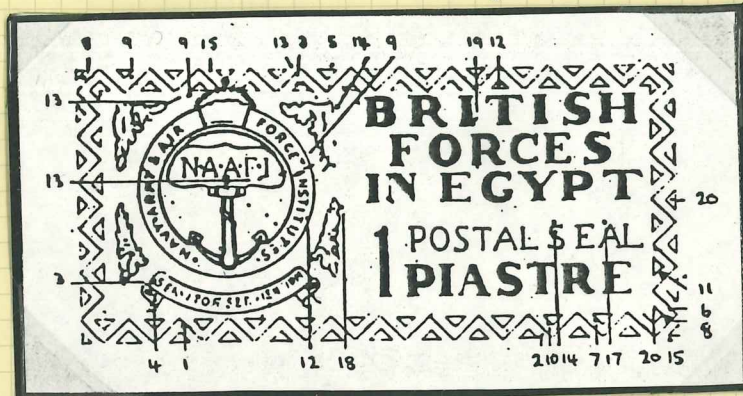


Crown  
Cancel 4

Official OHMS postal seal cover with URGENT and D.A.D.O.S. Despatch Cairo Area cachets struck in the same purple.

# The Postal Seal 1932

Reconstructed 'pane'



Hobbs' sketch showing plate flaws on a 'pane' of twenty seals.



A reconstructed 'pane' from a NAAFI booklet comprising a complete 'pane' or frame of twenty seals. No border edge.

# The Postal Seal 1932

## Multiples



Block of nine comprising positions 1 to 9 less numbers 4 and 8



Two blocks of four comprising positions 13, 14, 17, 18 & 2, 3, 6, 7.  
and, below, block of twelve from frame C or D being positions 1 to 12.



Large blocks emanate from official mail sent, usually stuck on large brown envelopes, from Headquarters British Troops in Egypt at Cairo to government departments in Whitehall.

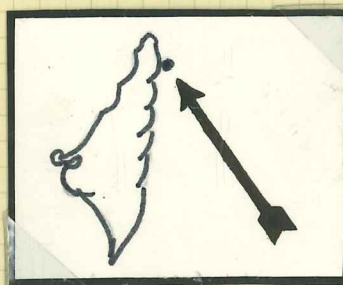
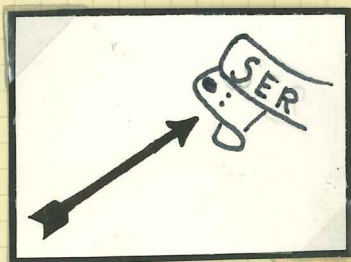


# The Postal Seal 1932

## Red and mauve rolls



## Constant varieties



Position 4; a blot and two small dots under 'S' of Servitor

Position 18; projection at top right of lower badge ornament



Many constant varieties exist enabling 'plating' of panes.

# The Postal Seal 1932

1st November 1932  
Typograph Stanbury, Tomsett & Co. London  
Perf. 11; 500,000 printed



Four plates of 20 seals made up sheets of 80. N.A.A.F.I. had them broken into four frames of twenty and made up into booklets of 5 pages bound together with a left side margin.



The original rough sketch for the design was by Lt. Col. C. Fraser, then it was drawn by the artist Ivor Roberts.



Cover 12 MA 33 from M.P.O. Moascar to Reading; purple retta.

## The Postal Seal 1932

### First day of issue

The Concession commenced on 1st November 1932, also the first day of issue of the NAAFI Postal Seal. Posted to catch the 5pm to 6pm collection, the cover bears seal position 18 from a pane of twenty on the reverse cancelled by a ten by nine dot retta with margin struck in black.



First day cover in two respects

Cover with Egypt Postage Prepaid (EPP) Numeral Frank 4 of M.P.O. Cairo (type 1) unusually in black to Northern Ireland.

# The Postal Seal 1932

## Frames, panes or pages

One of five 'pages' from a NAAFI booklet being a complete 'frame' or 'pane' of twenty Postal Seals. Position 20 has no broken red border on the inside of the bottom right hand corner - a variety which occurs in J.E.O. Hobbs' Frame C. Position 9 on Frames A and B have no dot after 'Force' in the NAAFI heraldry - so this one is Frame D.



J.E.O. Hobbs' Frame D

Position 19 shows a constant variety listed by J. H. Challoub wherein the first 'I' in 'British' has a 'hooked' bottom right serif.

# The Postal Seal

## Printer's Proofs

Typographed by Hanbury, Tomsett & Co. Ltd. of London having been designed by Lieutenant Colonel C. Fraser; Seals have no watermark



Imperf proof - frame only



Imperf proof - full printing

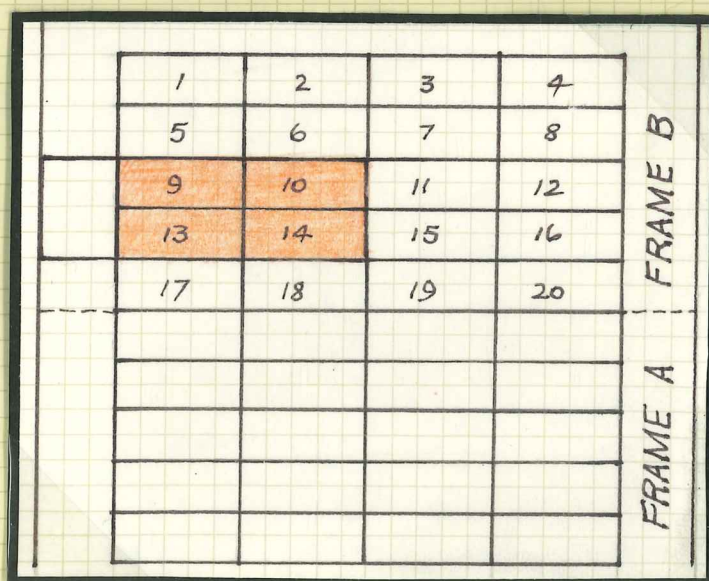


Diagram showing position of blocks from top frame B.

# The Postal Concession

Egypt increased postage rates in 1932 by 50% from 10 milliemes (one piastre) to 15 milliemes; continuation of the one piastre rate was conceded for British forces on letters to Great Britain & Ireland only. Conditions, laid out in an official NAAFI notice, prevailed until 1st March, 1936 when the regulations changed and the Army Post stamps were introduced.

Bearing first the portrait of King Fuad, then of his son King Farouk, these stamps were used until 30th April, 1941 when surface mail was carried free, so the stamps were no longer required.



Fig. 1

What follows is a study of the stamps & their cancellations, which include:

Fig. 1 "Named" military date stamps used at nine different locations - seven of which are shown.



Fig. 2

Fig. 2 The E600 series based at the same locations from E601 to E615 though some were never used and others not used in Egypt.



Fig. 3

Fig. 3 Field Post Office date stamps of the traditional double ring type used by the Army and Royal Air Force.

Fig. 4 Base Army Post Office 4 based at Cairo to which the F.P.O.s were attached.



Fig. 4

The Army Post stamps are also known used at civilian post offices; both stamps and date stamps were used by some Commonwealth forces.

# The Postal Concession

The law of 1st November 1931 increased the postage rate to England from 10 milliemes to 15 milliemes for 1-20 grammes.



10 milliemes 18th January 1930 and 15 milliemes 24th May 1933

# THE POSTAL CONCESSION

Egypt increased postage rates in 1932 by 50% from 10 milliemmes, or 1 piastre, to 15 milliemmes; continuation of the 1 piastre rate was conceded for the Army and Royal Air Force only on letters to Great Britain and Ireland. Details of the scheme were promulgated on posters displayed in NAAFI canteens - see below. In March 1936 changes to the Scheme introduced the Army Post stamps, and the numeral franks, stuck on the fronts of covers - seals were affixed to the backs - discontinued.

## POSTAL CONCESSION.

From the 1st November, 1932, members of the Army and Royal Air Force in Egypt, and their families, may send ordinary letters to the British Isles, including the Irish Free State, at a reduced price.

The old and new prices are:-

Weight	Old rates	New rates
1-20 grammes	15 Mills.	10 Mills.
21-40 "	28 "	20 "
41-60 "	41 "	30 "
61-80 "	54 "	40 "
	Plus 13 Mills for each additional 20 grammes or part thereof.	Plus 10 Mills for each additional 20 grammes or part thereof.

The Special Seals (value 10 Milliemmes - 1 Piastre) which will be used in lieu of Egyptian Postal Stamps, may be bought from all N.A.A.F.I. Institutes and Canteens, and will be stuck on the back of the envelope.

The N.A.A.F.I. have been good enough to print the Seals free of cost and to sell them without profit. They must be paid for in cash when purchased.

The letters must be posted in Regimental or Unit post boxes and not in Egyptian post boxes. Post boxes will also be placed at the following addresses:

Military Post Office, Ablassia.  
Military Post Office, Cairo.  
Entrance Hall, H.Q., B.T.E.  
Entrance Hall, H.Q., Middle East.  
N.A.A.F.I. Shop, Heliopolis,  
and in such places at out-stations as may be considered necessary to meet local requirements.

Letters will be despatched in the same way as they are at present and there will be no delay by using the new system.

Registered letters, letters for Air Mail, letters containing valuables, and parcels, must continue to be despatched through Egyptian Post Offices with Egyptian postal stamps, also all letters and parcels for places other than the British Isles and Irish Free State.

The money paid for the Special Seals will be collected from the N.A.A.F.I. by the Command Paymaster for the purpose of realizing the considerable sum of money which has to be paid to the Egyptian Government for the concession.

The Lieutenant-General Commanding and the Air Vice Marshal have incurred a serious financial responsibility in the matter, and it is hoped therefore that all members of the Army and Royal Air Force in Egypt, and their families, will use this new system of postage and so help to establish it on a sound footing and eliminate the risk of financial loss.

Should they not do so the scheme will have to be abandoned.

The concession has been difficult to obtain, it is a definite advantage to those concerned, and there is every reason, why it should receive the support of the Army and Royal Air Force Commands in Egypt.

It is difficult to foresee the financial result at present, but should there be any profit, consideration will be given to the best method of expending it for the benefit of those who are entitled to participate in the scheme.

## Plan of the exhibit

A study of the seals, the letter stamps and their uses, is illustrated on the frames:

1. The NAAFI seals.
2. The Letter stamps.
3. The commemorative - five seals.
4. Numeral franks.
5. Anomalies and Presentations.

## Sources utilized:

Apart from personal research for a pending book, the books by E.B. Proud, J.E.O. Hobbs, P.A.S. Smith and J.H. Chalhoub were used, as well as articles in Egypt Study Circle's "Q.C."

Facsimile (70%) of NAAFI poster 1932 to 1936



# THE POSTAL CONCESSION

## NAAFI 'Seals'

Egypt increased postage rates in 1932 by 50% from 10 mills (1 piastre) to 15 mills; continuation of the 1 piastre rate was conceded for the Army and Royal Air Force on letters to Gt. Britain and Ireland. Special seals or stamps were available only to members of HM Forces at NAAFI canteens to be affixed to backs of envelopes and to be posted only in unit or regimental boxes. To indicate postage paid, seals were struck with a retta 'killer'. Envelopes fronts were stamped with numbers 1 to 25 Numeral Franks and a Military Post Office circular date stamp.



## Army Post Stamps

In March 1936 a change of system introduced Army Post Stamps to replace the Seals, bearing first the portrait of King Fuad, then in 1939 that of his son King Farouk; they were to be affixed to the fronts of envelopes and Numeral Franks were discontinued. Named M.P.O. date stamps were replaced late in 1939 with E600 Series and F.P.O.s.



## Fuad and Farouk

## Arrangement of Exhibit

This exhibit, a study of the seals, the stamps and their uses, has on Frames 1 to 3 the so-called NAAFI Seals, Letter Stamps and Commemorative Seals respectively. Frames 4 and 5 have the Numeral Franks and introduce the Fuad Army Post stamps and Frame 6 shows their use with 'Named' M.P.O. date stamps. Frame 7 introduces Farouk Army Post stamps and Frame 8 the use of E600 date stamps. Egypt Study Circle illustrations and type numbers have been used as have books by J.E.O. Hobbs, E.B. Proud, F.W. Benians, P.A.S. Smith and J.H. Chalkoub, Numbers recorded for the ESC and personal research by the exhibitor.

## Sources Utilised

# Turning Point

## Battle of el-Alamein

1942 - 1972

### Thirtieth Anniversary Commemoration

The cover illustrates an aircraft and a tank, both American, as used in 1942 by the Royal Air Force and the 8th Army in defeating the Axis forces at el-Alamein. Flown from London to Cairo and back following being carried round a tank circuit at Bovington by 13<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> Royal Hussars.



Philatelic commemorative cover from el-Alamein Post to el-Alamein, Egypt - post restante. Franked 20 millimes (el-Mitwali Gate, Cairo) to meet the internal letter rate.

# Turning Point

Battle of el-Alamein  
1942-1967

Twenty-fifth Anniversary Commemoration

Prior to el-Alamein the Allied Forces lost virtually all their battles against the Axis Powers, whereas, after el-Alamein, they never lost another.



Eighty milliernes airmail cover to Switzerland franked four airmail commemoratives for the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Battle of Alamein, with civil censor sent by al-Kahira Cotton Co. S.A.E. of Alexandria, Egypt.

# Field Marshal Montgomery

## Victor of El-Alamein

There were many so-called "turning points" in the Second World War, but Montgomery's victory over Rommel at el-Alamein is surely one of them. In addition the SAS originated at Shepherd's Hotel!



Two decisive battles in the western desert, northern Egypt, in the first battle of El-Alamein from 1st to 27th July 1942, the British 8th Army under Auchinleck (the 'Auk') held the German and Italian forces under Rommel. In the Second Battle of El-Alamein, from 23rd October to 4th November 1942, Montgomery defeated Rommel.

Unused Raphael Tuck postcard of Sir Bernard Montgomery, then Field Marshal and later General.

## THE BATTLE OF EL ALAMEIN. OCTOBER 1943

El Alamein marked a decisive moment in our struggle against the Axis forces in North Africa; in Winston Churchill's memorable words, 'BEFORE ALAMEIN WE NEVER HAD A VICTORY, AFTER ALAMEIN WE NEVER HAD A DEFEAT'.

The enemy position was strongly entrenched and protected by an intricate network of minefields; it was the first time the Eighth Army had faced an enemy in a position which could not easily be turned. Lt. General Montgomery was in command and at 10 p.m. on 23rd October 1942, the battle erupted with a barrage of 1,000 guns, with fire accuracy at its finest and fiercest, the infantry pressed forward and bitter fighting ensued. The New Zealand Division and the Eighth Armoured Brigade cleared a corridor through the minefield and pressed forward, the 9th Australian Division were ordered to drive northwards and the 1st Armoured Division fought its way westward. The 30th Corps incorporated 51st Highland Division, 4th Indian Division, 9th Australian Division, New Zealand Division, 1st South African Division, 23rd Armoured Brigade, 9th UK Armoured Brigade. The 13th Corps comprised 7th Armoured Division, 50th & 44th Division, 1st & 2nd Free French Brigade Group, 1st Greek Infantry Brigade Group. 10th Corps included 1st, 8th & 10th Armoured Division.

For 11 days of continuous fighting, not without some reverses, the Allied Forces resolutely pressed forward aided by elements of the RAF and the Royal Navy until, by 2nd November Operation 'Supercharge' was launched and proved successful. Rommel then decided to retreat, and by 4th November El Alamein was in Allied hands and final victory was in sight.

# Cloth Escape Map

Hemmed edge map of North Africa including Egypt, most probably produced on parachute silk, by Bartholomew, issued to aircrew to enable them to escape back to their units if in trouble. Controller of the issuing unit was a Major Hutton, a veteran R.A.F. pilot during World War I.



*Farouk Army Post Stamps  
Unusual Postmarks*



*Pencil 'cancellation' and Army boxed censor 12 struck in red; latter is known used 3 MA 41 with EPP18 possibly at Cairo, and at Alexandria with EPP17 between 3 JU 41 and 9 DE 41.*



*Civilian date-stamp of Amria Mariut, to the west of Alexandria; the latest recorded is 3 JA 40, so this extends the usage datespan by seven weeks to 22 FE 40. R.A.F. Censor No. 27 and backstamp of B.P.O. E602 transit based at Alexandria.*

# Farouk Army Post Stamps

## Royal Navy Mail



Two airmail covers to England, stamps cancelled by tetta 25 dot (Smith B-5.2) with naval censors in blue and red.



# Farouk Army Post Stamps

Royal Navy Mail



81 dot  
retta

Received  
from HM  
ships.



Two airmail covers with 81 dot rettas, naval censors struck in blue.

# Farouk Army Post Stamps

Against regulations?

Correctly posted in the military post box at M.P.O. Cairo, franked 40 milliemmes for airmail, this cover received the hexagonal tax mark on arrival at Manchester, although the tax itself was not actually raised. Was the item overweight?

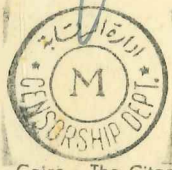


Insurance book cover to Manchester dated 4 AP 40, correctly franked for airmail unless it weighed in excess of 20 grammes.

POST CARD

رسالة الى السيد

*[Handwritten signature]*



Cairo - The Citadel



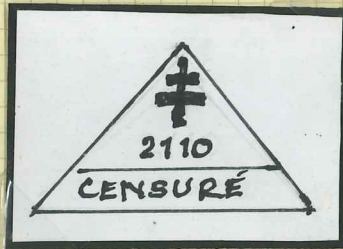
Publ. and Copyright by Lehner & Landrock, Succ. Cairo.



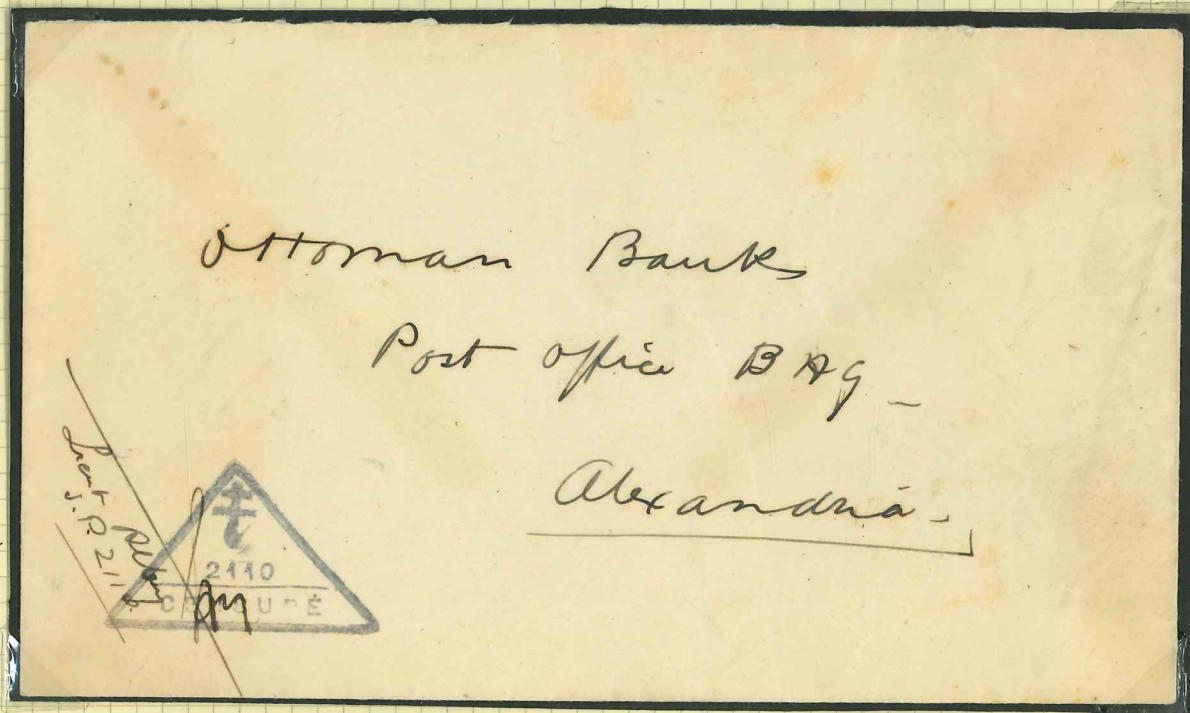
Mr A. Gebblum  
Box 314  
American University  
Beirut  
Lebanon

## Free French Forces

These were the French forces led by Général Charles de Gaulle, later President of France, who operated in French held colonies outside the remit of the German controlled Vichy 'government'. Their symbol, the Cross of Lorraine, was incorporated in stamp designs of such "Free French" territories. Here it is included in a censor's handstamp.



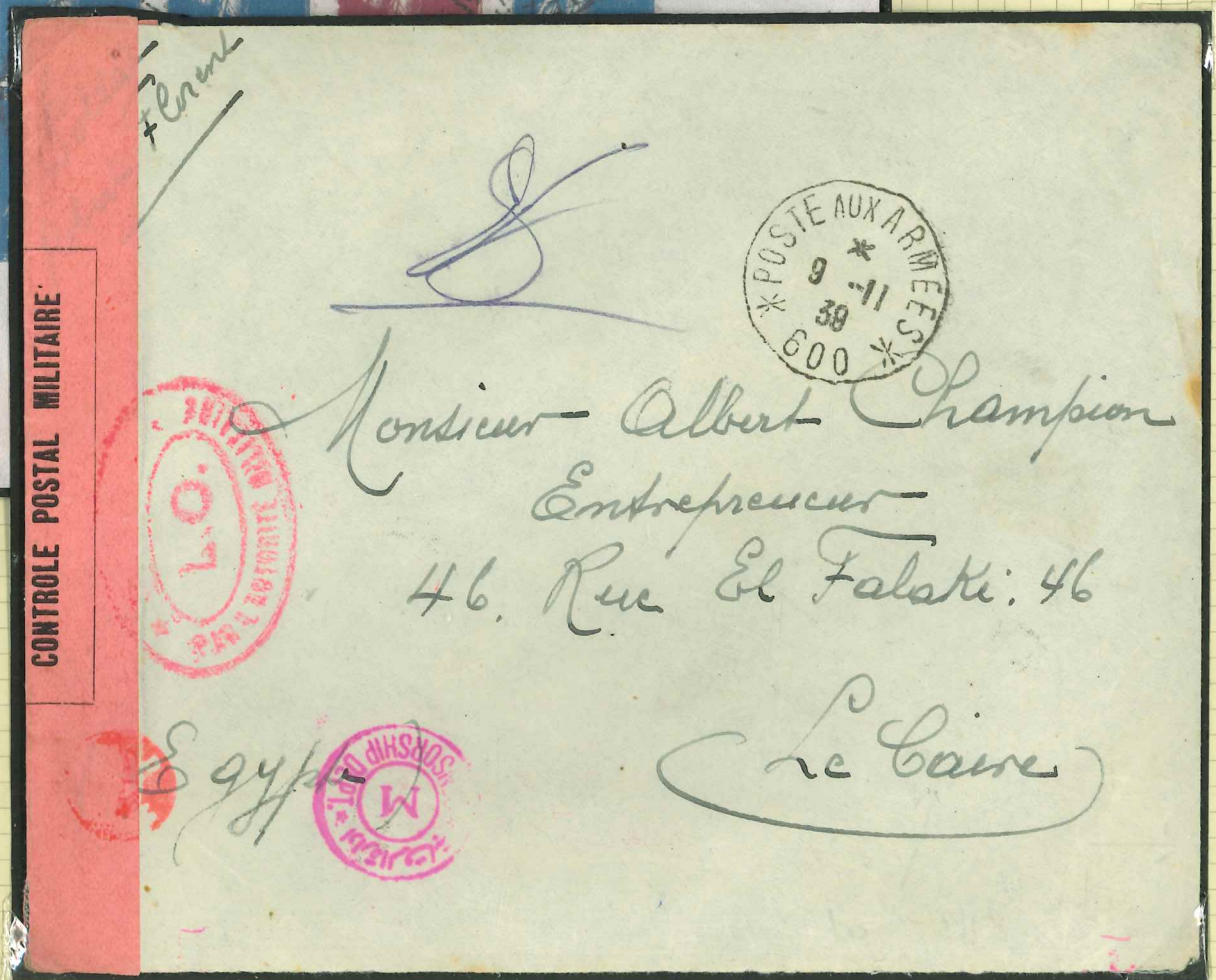
The 'Free French' forces appear to have enjoyed free surface post, so this cover probably dates after May '41.



Counter-signed by Lieut. J.R. Alby, censor no. 2110, this cover was sent to his bank free of charge within Egypt.

# Free French Forces

Front and back of French cover posted before the Germans invaded the northern part of France in November 1939, thru 230 centimes; French stamps, French military censorship. Egyptian civilian censorship in cerise, bottom left.



Cover franked on reverse cancelled Poste aux Armées 600.

# Free French Forces

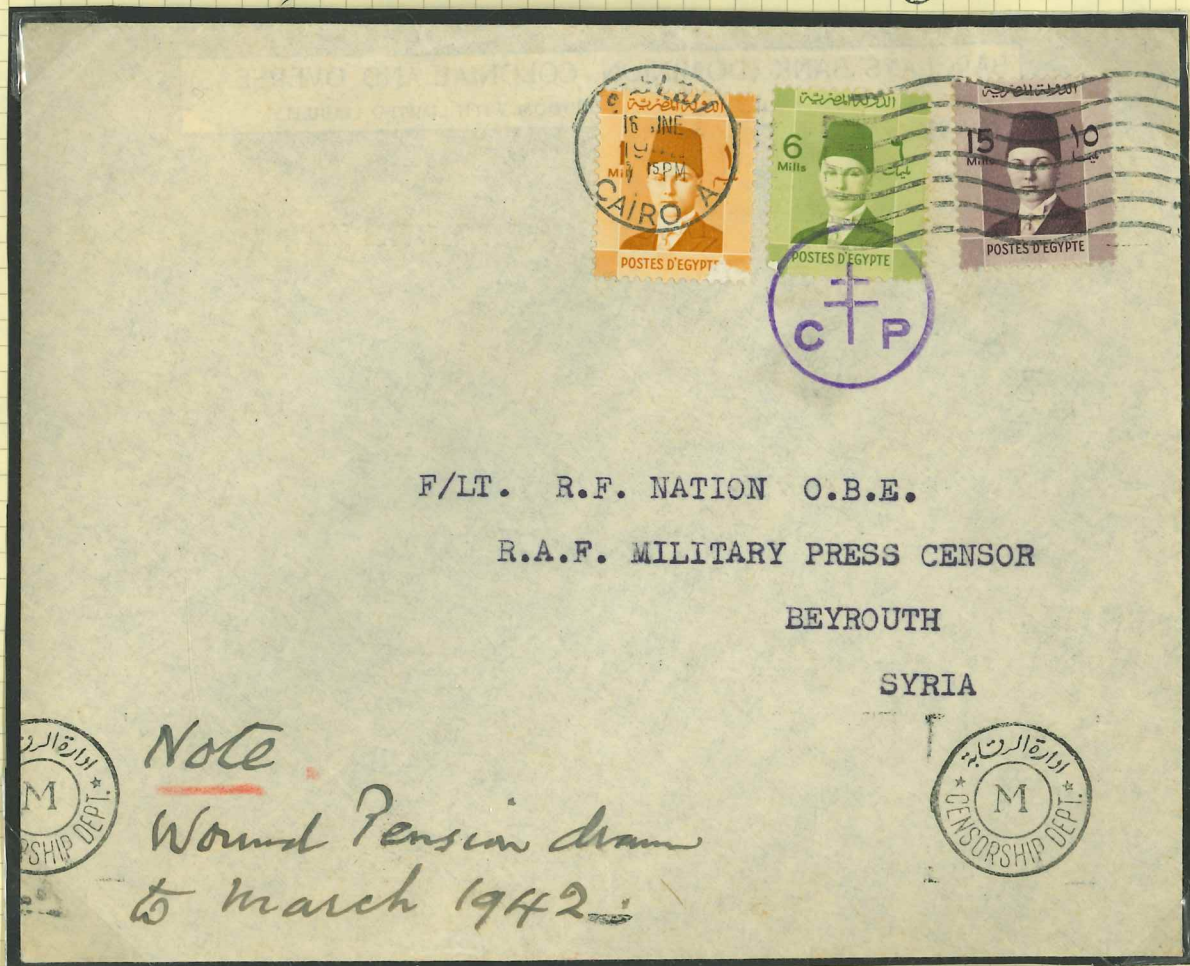
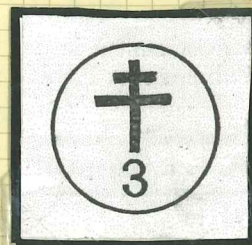
Cachet unrecorded by Gabriel Boulad



Cross of Lorraine  
(not recorded)



Cross of Lorraine  
emblems recorded by G. Boulad.



Cover franked 22 milliemes, for foreign letter rate, to Lebanon (not Syria sic! Beirut was the capital of Lebanon) in June 1942 with an adhesive struck with Free French Forces Cross of Lorraine emblem.

*The Postal Concession*

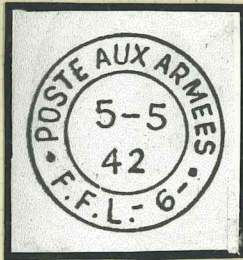
*French forces cachets and cancels in Egypt in World War II.*

Bâtiments Français stationnés  
à ALEXANDRIE



POSTE AUX  
27 JUN. 1941  
ARMÉES

FRENCH NAVY



*(recorded by Gabriel Boulaud)*

*Czech Forces*

*21st January 1945*



*Air Mail Letter Card, written in the Czechoslovak language, franked G.B. George VI 3d, cancelled Field Post Office 4 based at Cairo, dated 21 JA 45, addressed to the Czech Head of Displaced Persons Sub-Committee based at Jerusalem.*





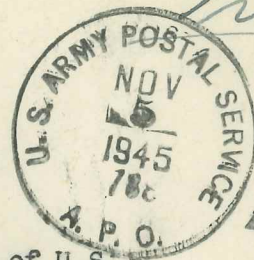
1940 Censored airmail envelope from Romanian Volunteer with the Royal Navy at Alexandria writing home

£35

S/Sgt. R. B. Radbill 33332011  
Sq. "B" 1264th AAFBU, NAFD-ATC  
APO 788, c/o PM. N.Y.C. N.Y.

*Egypt*

*"Free"*



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS of U.S.  
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
Broadway at 34th Street,  
Kansas City (2) Mo.

Dr. J. Austin Kerr, Civilian  
Medical Section HQ  
U.S.A.F.I.M.E. APO 787  
Care Postmaster, New York

*Egypt*



Dr. George K. Strode  
Rockefeller Foundation  
49 West 49th Street  
New York 20, New York

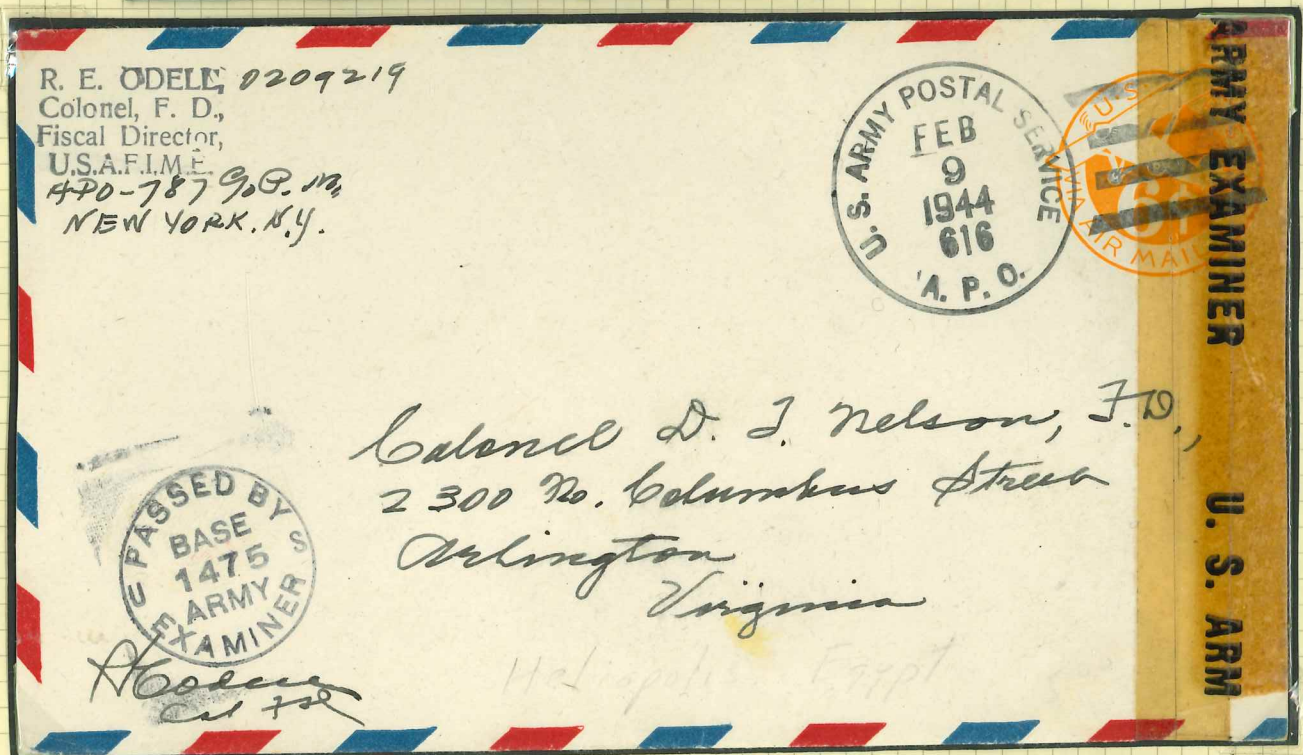
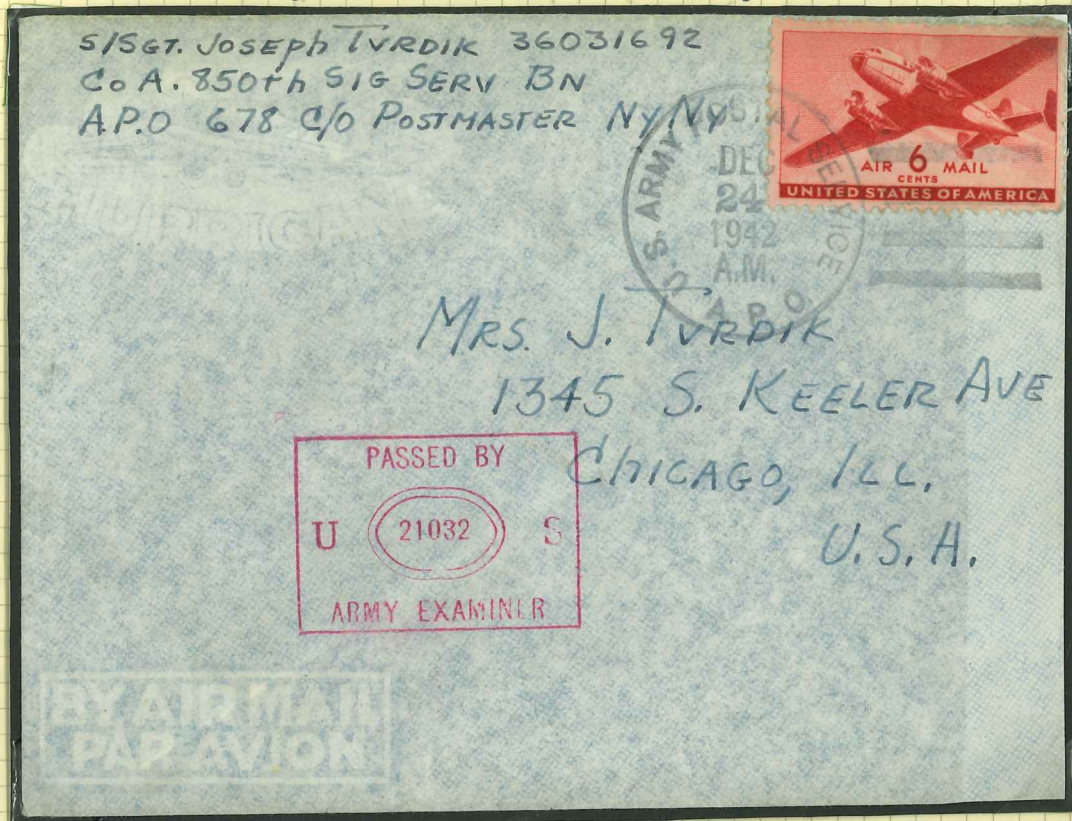


EXAMINER

U. S. ARMY EXAMINER

# American Forces

Camp Huckstep at Heliopolis



Two censored airmail covers to United States from APO 678 (H.Q. Middle East Service Command) and APO 616 both in use at Camp Huckstep Heliopolis; surface military mail free.

**GEREGISTREER DE BRIEF.**  
 HIERDIE BRIEF MOET VIR REGISTRASIE INGELEWER WORD BY 'N POSKANTOOR. SORG DAT U DAARVOOR 'N KWITANSIE KRY

**REGISTERED LETTER.**  
 THIS LETTER MUST BE HANDED IN AT A POST OFFICE FOR REGISTRATION, AND A RECEIPT OBTAINED THEREFOR

**DIE SEEL TOT DEKKING VAN DIE POSGELD MOET HIER GEPLAK WORD**  
**THE STAMP TO PAY THE POSTAGE MUST BE PLACED HERE**

**EXAMINED**  
 A.F.W. 3213

**R** No. 573

Miss HAYA KOMPANIETZ,  
 29, BLUE COAST,

BAT GALIM,  
 HAIFA, 11 751  
 PALESTINE.

**A.P.O. 32. U.**  
 No. 8835

ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

135

**ON ACTIVE SERVICE** **By Air Mail**

TEN PENCE

TEN PENCE

TEN PENCE

TEN PENCE

TEN PENCE

TEN PENCE

A.H. Bevis - Challinor Esq.,  
 35, Ridge Rd.,  
 Durban,  
 Natal,  
 South Africa.

10/2/44

115

*By Hand*      *By Air Mail*

900



*Mrs. W. Adams*  
*20307 82/6*

*Johannesburg*

REGISTERED BY AIR MAIL

A. F. W3078.

J. D. & Co., Apsley.

**ACTIVE**

**AIR MAIL**

This envelope must not be used for coin or valuables. It cannot be accepted for registration.

NOTE:—

Correspondence in this envelope need not be censored Regimentally. The contents are liable to examination at the

A. F. W3078.

J. D. & Co., Apsley.

**ACTIVE**

*By Hand*

This envelope must not be used for coin or valuables. It cannot be accepted for registration.

NOTE:—

Correspondence in this envelope need not be censored Regimentally. The contents are liable to examination at the Base.

The following Certificate must be signed by the writer:—

I certify on my honour that the contents of this envelope refer to nothing but private and family matters.

Signature }  
Name only }

*J. S. Adams*

**SERVICE**



[Up to three letters may be sent in this Cover, but these must be written by the same writer. The cover should be submitted in such case to the Base Censor.]

Address:—

**SEE**



[Up to three letters may be sent in this Cover, but these must be written by the same writer. The cover should be submitted in such case to the Base Censor.]

Address:—

*The Manager*  
*Barclays Bank,*  
*Stanger,*  
*South Africa.*

# South African Forces

Egypt Postage Prepaid 3 and 6 (S.A.A.P.O.16).

EPP 3



10 DE 42

EPP 6



26 AP 43

Two Airmail Letter Cards franked 3<sup>d</sup> 'bantani' from 106 S.A. Gen Hospital, Cassassion (writer a Sergeant 'medic') to his wife in Transvaal. Such mail would have been introduced to the British military and passed to B.O.A.C. for shuttle to the Union.

# British Forces in Egypt

South African Forces  
Egypt Postage Prepaid 104



Pair of airmail covers to the same address in South Africa with EPP 104 the first with double the airmail rate.

# South African Forces

## 99 Egypt Postage Prepaid

Used by the South African Army Post Office 13 between 21st October 1941 and 16th May 1942; under-franked 6<sup>d</sup> boxed censor 1101 and signed by censor O.A.S. airmail to Capetown.



Crowned circle censor 2118 on pre-printed O.A.S. airmail cover franked ten pence by air to Pretoria posted 11 MAR 1942 received 10 days later; signed by sender, contents behind.



8 Mar 42

Darling I am stricken with a guilty conscience for not writing to me more than 5 to 6 times - I had better redouble my efforts and see if I can not make up some lost ground. I've only just posted a letter to you but perhaps the best way is to begin immediately afterwards. Locked her but he along and announcing letter - you might think him if you see him and say that I intend acknowledging as soon as reasonably possible. He says rather a good thing: "Life's but in holding good cards but playing a poor hand well! So 'S WAR" that is with treacherous.

Darling while I remember it - it is nice if you to write to keep household aces for me but THERE IS NO NEED WHATSOEVER. You must spend our money to the best advantage - and I DON'T WANT TO KNOW how it goes. Household aces are entirely your affair - when I am away in any case. I suggest you try to live on £30 pm. of my pay. Then should regard this as a maximum. I am drawing about £10 (not mine) up the whole shone, with my eye's pay, leave you about £10 to save monthly. You can't have anything you receive from any source - you must spend as you think best. I would be grateful if you could keep an account of household expenses esp. parcels of food for Joan etc. Please to not on any account stint yourself. I suggest and it is my suggestion that you spend your pay on odd payments for your girls (treats etc.), dining (personal gifts etc to the baby + children), your amusement and relaxation (most essential for your health) etc. Probably you will be able to put aside £5 or £10 monthly aside from my money and that will be quite enough until I come back. Naturally if you have any very heavy expenses, you must stop saving and use our savings.

OK! Please send Joan a monthly parcel.

not really a hard person. I hope you will see your way to going out and enjoying some rides with her - though I know you still miss at- tention. I have heard Joan had a good wife and was preserved from misfortunes he might have had.

I should be glad to know more about Corp. So far, I only know "action has been taken" and surprise. Dad is behind it. I hope Corp is better. Give him my love. OK! I had a talk to-day. I am wonder- ing if the water was cleaner before or after. It was my second since leaving civilization. That reminds me. I left in a haste from "Someone up north" on Sunday 15th of 22nd or 29th March. I have taken the 2000 Samuel twice already.

I am glad to happen to him. What is going to happen to him? Sunday 23rd (6) of 23rd Feb. 42.

I don't talk rubbish about writing too much simply sit a family conscience about not asking your letters well enough. Yes, I've had three lots of other cards from you but no stamps. Harold is behaving badly. I expect I have been tactless in some way. He might have rung up to ask how you were or smile - but, oh, Dad he just answers the letter. If Frances paid £1/2 for using the car for six weeks she did very well - especially if you consider (a) she uses her a great deal and (b) she uses her so bad - by I am very angry with her for not asking after the car properly. It was clear - stood that she should be especially careful as Q17 was being run in. I should like Frances to know my views - so you can tell her, or read out this letter or let her read it.

# Egypt Postage Prepaid

TI Egypt Postage Prepaid

Benians suggests EPP TI used by South African Post Office 29

On Active Service  
Air mail.



A. Morgan Esq.  
P.O. Box 596.  
Rhodesia Railways - Ltd.

Crown  
circle  
censor  
No. 1211

BY AIR MAIL

ON ACTIVE SERVICE

AIR MAIL



Benians  
with  
hand

R. W. HENNESSEY Esq.,

"SHELL HOUSE,"

GREENMARKET SQUARE.

CAPE TOWN.

SOUTH AFRICA.



Boxed  
censor  
No. 585

Two 'on active service' airmail covers from EPP TI; the top is franked 'war effort' stamps 1941-2, 4-MR-43, bottom earlier issues 1933-48, 4-SE-41, top to Rhodesia, bottom to Capetown, S. Africa.

# British Forces in Egypt

## South African Forces

### Egypt Postage Prepaid 71

Allied franking was allowed from 1st May 1941  
evidenced by a South African addressed  
letter dated 8th JU 42 with 9d New  
Zealand and 1/4d British paid.



Deputy Chief Field Censor applied  
possibly at South African APO 29 based  
at G.H.Q. Base P.O. Cairo. Opened  
28-5-41, closed 25-2-46.

# Censorship SA1B

Benians SA1B censor 254 5-AU-41 from 13 Platoon D(5) C.Town Highlanders.

RPP  
67

ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

By AIR MAIL.



Miss Joy Still,

96 STARBENS RD.,

MONBRAY,

CAPE TOWN,

S. AFRICA

PASSED BY CENSOR  
M.F.F. No. 254 U.D.F.  
GOEDGEKEUR DEUR SENSOR

*R. Devenor*

SA1B (Benians)

PASSED BY CENSOR  
M.F.F. No. 238 U.D.F.  
GOEDGEKEUR DEUR SENSOR

ON ACTIVE SERVICE

The Ideal Home.

Plan Book Dept. (H.31),

93 Long Acre,

London,

W.C.2.



RPP 67  
11016?

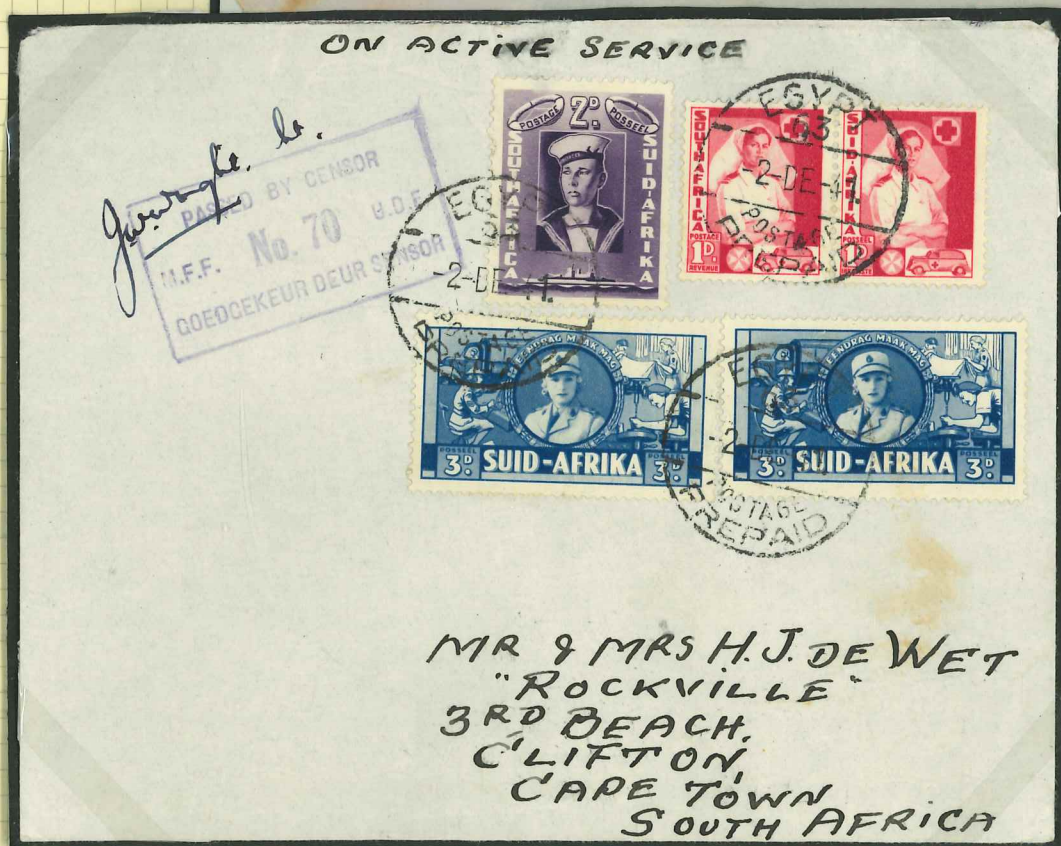
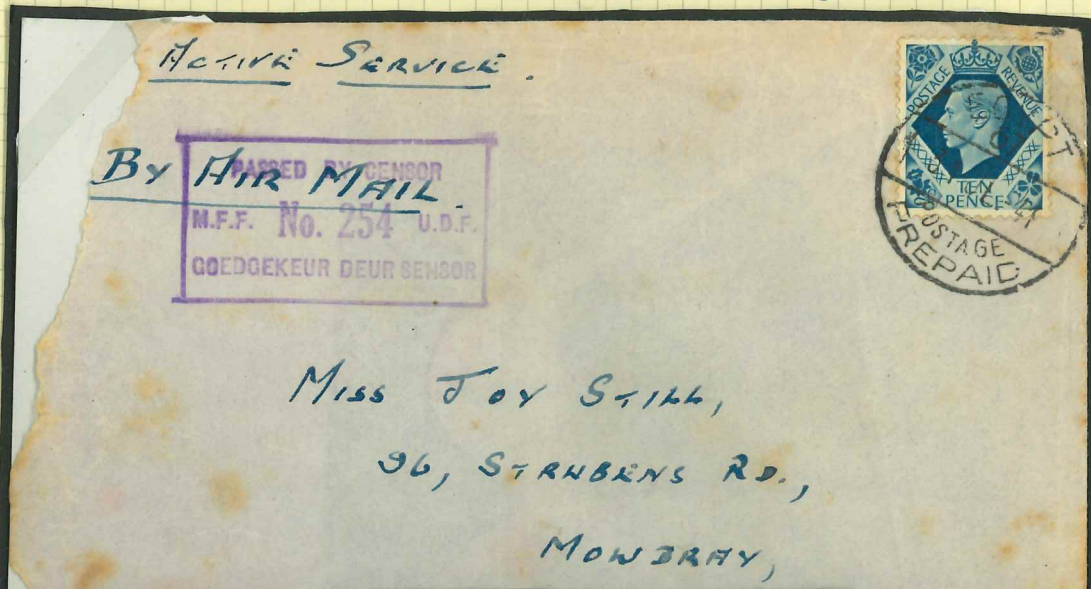
RECEIVED BY CENSOR  
M.F.F. No. 119 U.D.F.  
PASSED BY CENSOR  
GOEDGEKEUR DEUR SENSOR  
CENSORED BY:  
*M. J. Devenor*  
*FD*

Two air covers; top 10<sup>3</sup> to Capetown; bottom - 5AU42 franked 3<sup>3</sup> South African to London SA1B No. 119 - shows rate changed.

# South African Forces

Egypt Postage Prepaid 67

Censored on arrival in South Africa by M.F.F. No. 254 franked  
E.B. tenpence cancelled EPP 67 used by South African A.P.O. 7.



Egypt Postage Paid 63 used by South African A.P.O. 33,  
franked "War Effort" issue tenpence for airmail rate  
to Capetown, censored on arrival by M.F.F. No. 70, 2-DE-41.

# British Forces in Egypt

## South African Forces

### Egypt Postage Prepaid 59



*Benians Type 1*

*Possibly used by South African APO 32 during the last period of use between 3rd November 1944 and 3rd December 1945*

A. P. 173073 [Crown Copyright Reserved.]  
J.D. & Co., Apsley. **ACTIVE SERVICE**

This envelope must not be used for coin or valuables. It cannot be accepted for registration.

**NOTICE:—**  
Correspondence in this envelope need not be censored. **REGIMENTS No 5962** The contents are liable to examination at the Base.

The following Certificate must be signed by the writer:—

I certify on my honour that the contents of this envelope refer to nothing but private and family matters.

Signature }  
Name only } F. b. Varne.

[Up to three letters may be printed on this Cover, but these must be by the same writer. The cover should be addressed in such case to the Base Commandant.]

**EGYPT 59**  
**13-12-45**  
**POSTAGE PREPAID**

Address:—  
Mrs F. b. Varne.  
180 Beaumont Road.  
Plymouth.  
England.

*Three separate periods have been recorded for use of EPP 59 by South African forces; a letter to England during the third period of such use; Army censor Ab.*

# On Active Service

Egypt Postage Prepaid  
EPP 43  
South African Forces



Type II

EPP 43 was initially allocated to the South African forces during June 1941, is recorded by Benians until July, and transferred to GHQ at Cairo in January 1942.



Printed OAS cover for Duke of Edinburgh's Own Rifles franked GB 1/8<sup>d</sup> with Army censor 157 (Benians' A3 (1)) and dated 15th October 1941 to Mowbray, on the Cape.

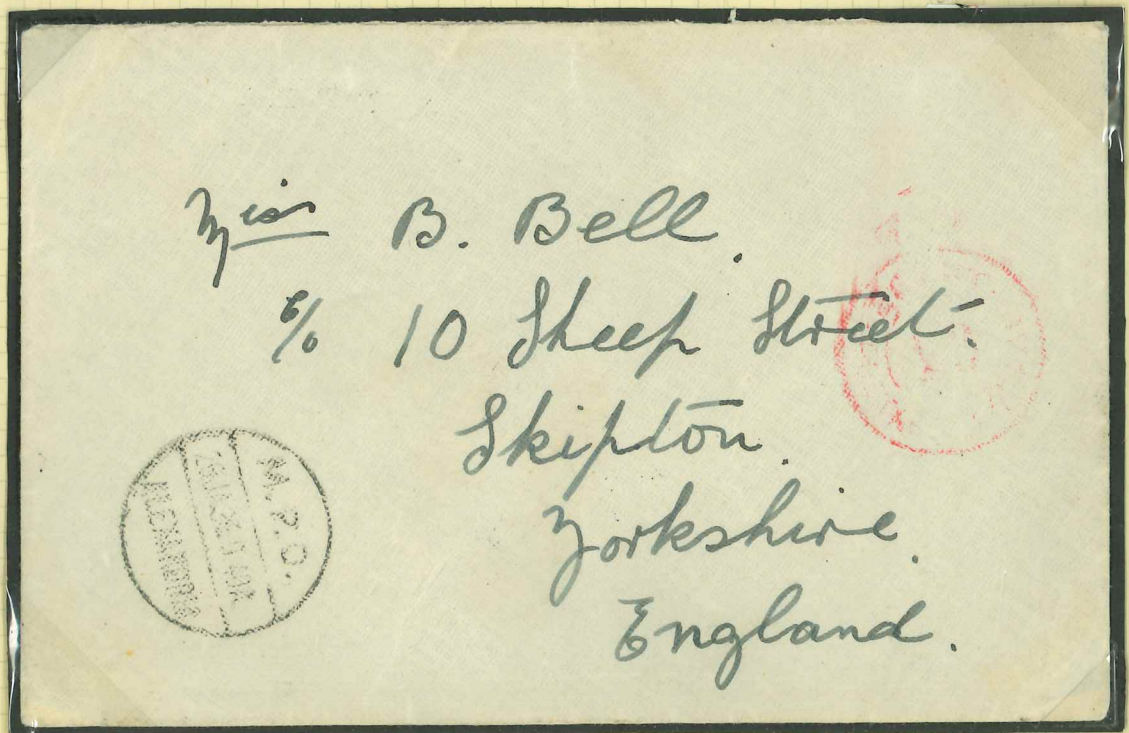
# Numeral Franks

## Transfers

Numeral Frank 13 was transferred from the RAF Station at Aboukir to the Alexandria Military Post Office Nov 1936.



Numeral Frank 16 was transferred from the Military Hospital Ras el-Tin into Alexandria on 1st November 1935.



Two covers to England after the transfers of Numeral Franks



## The Postal Concession

### Against regulations?

Contrary to the conditions of the scheme, this letter is addressed to India but nonetheless it got through without being taxed; it was re-addressed in India; the reverse of the cover bears a Letter stamp cancelled MPO Moascar struck in purple and two Indian receiver marks for Trivulgerry and Wellington respectively.



An example of Numeral Frank 23 after it had been transferred from Cairo to Moascar in June 1935. Dated 28 JL 35, the MPO Moascar (type 1) circular date stamp is unusually struck in purple on both back and front.

# Numeral Franks

## Transfers

Numeral Frank 22 was transferred from M.P.O. Cairo to M.P.O. Alexandria seemingly around 1st November 1935.



Cover to London franked one piastre carmine 1st Comb issue cancelled 17x15 dot rebta in black on reverse, with M.P.O. Alexandria following N.F.22 transfer from Cairo.

# Last Day of the 'Old' System

Civil cancellations  
Abu Suwer and Port Said Traffic

Posted on the last day of the 'old' system, this cover has a faint Numeral Frank 12 of Abu Suwir and the civilian postmark of Abu Suwer on the front, to Heston, Middlesex.



The back of the cover has 1 piastre letter stamp cancelled civilian Port Said Traffic dated 15 MR 36, the last day.

# Numeral Franks

## Transfers

Numeral Frank 3 transferred from Moascar to Alexandria.



Numeral Frank 13 transferred from R.A.F. Aboukir to the Alexandria Military Post Office during November 1936.

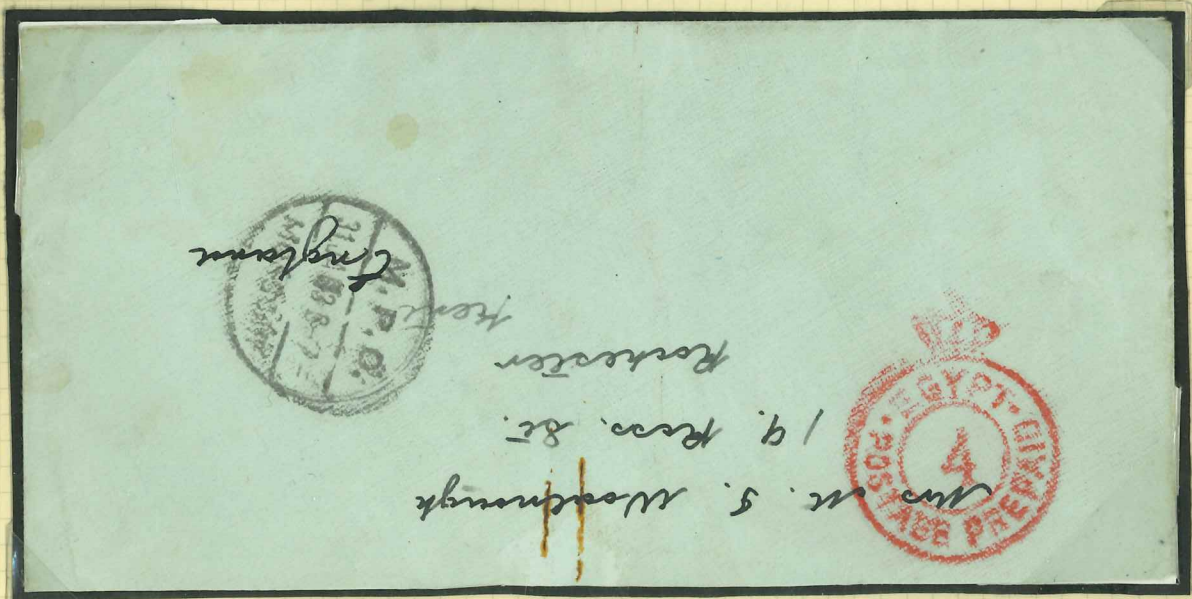
# Numeral Franks

## Transfers

Numeral Frank 4 was apparently transferred from Cairo to MPO Moascar in the Suez Canal area some time in 1933.



Last day cover of the original scheme with, unusually, cds cancellation of the Letter Stamp rather than retta.



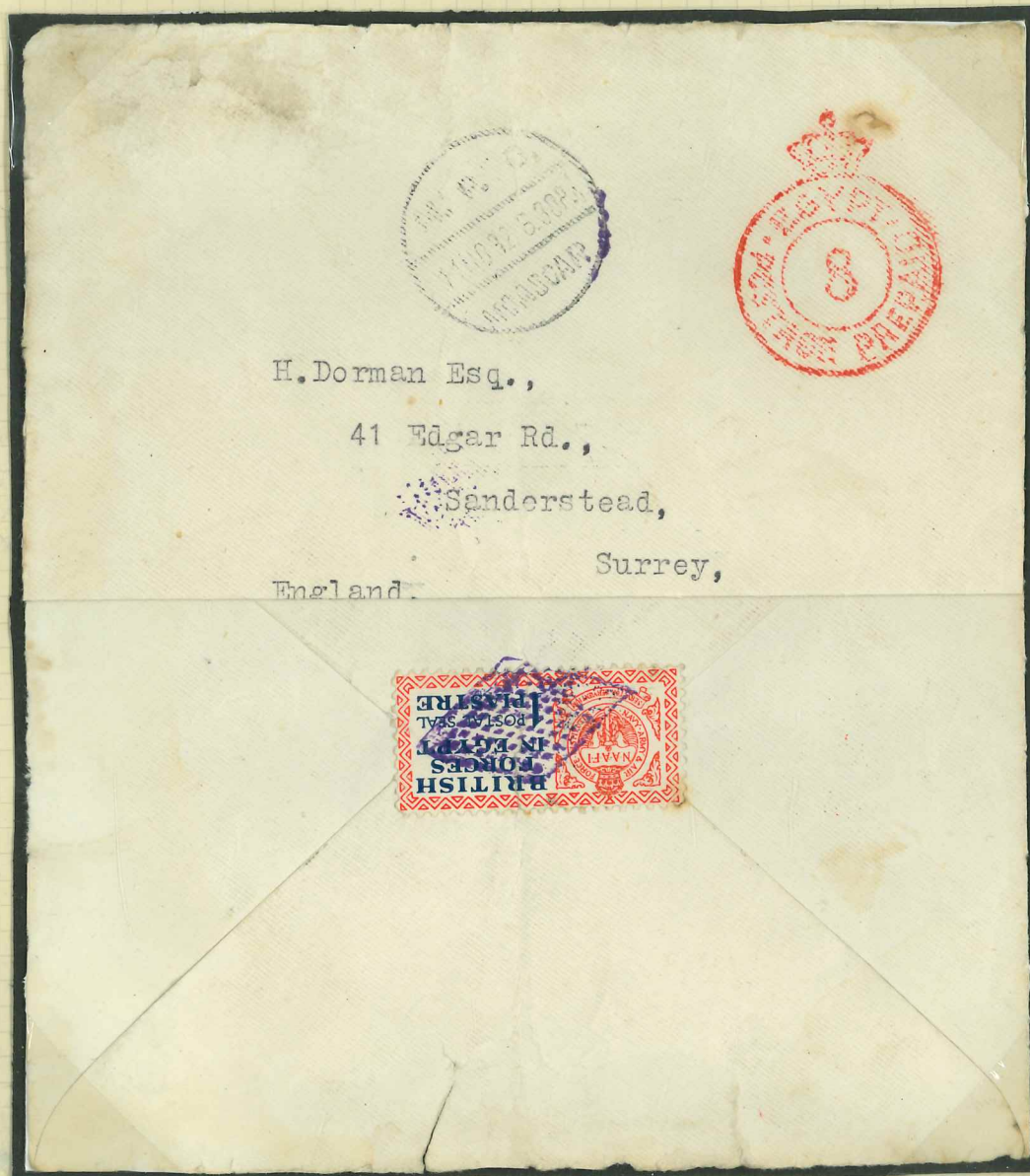
Two covers from MPO Moascar following the transfer of Numeral Frank 4 from Cairo; both are cds cancelled.

# The Postal Concession

M.P.O. Moascar

Type 1

For twelve days only, between 4th and 16th November 1932,  
Numeral Frank 8 and M.P.O. Moascar were struck in violet.

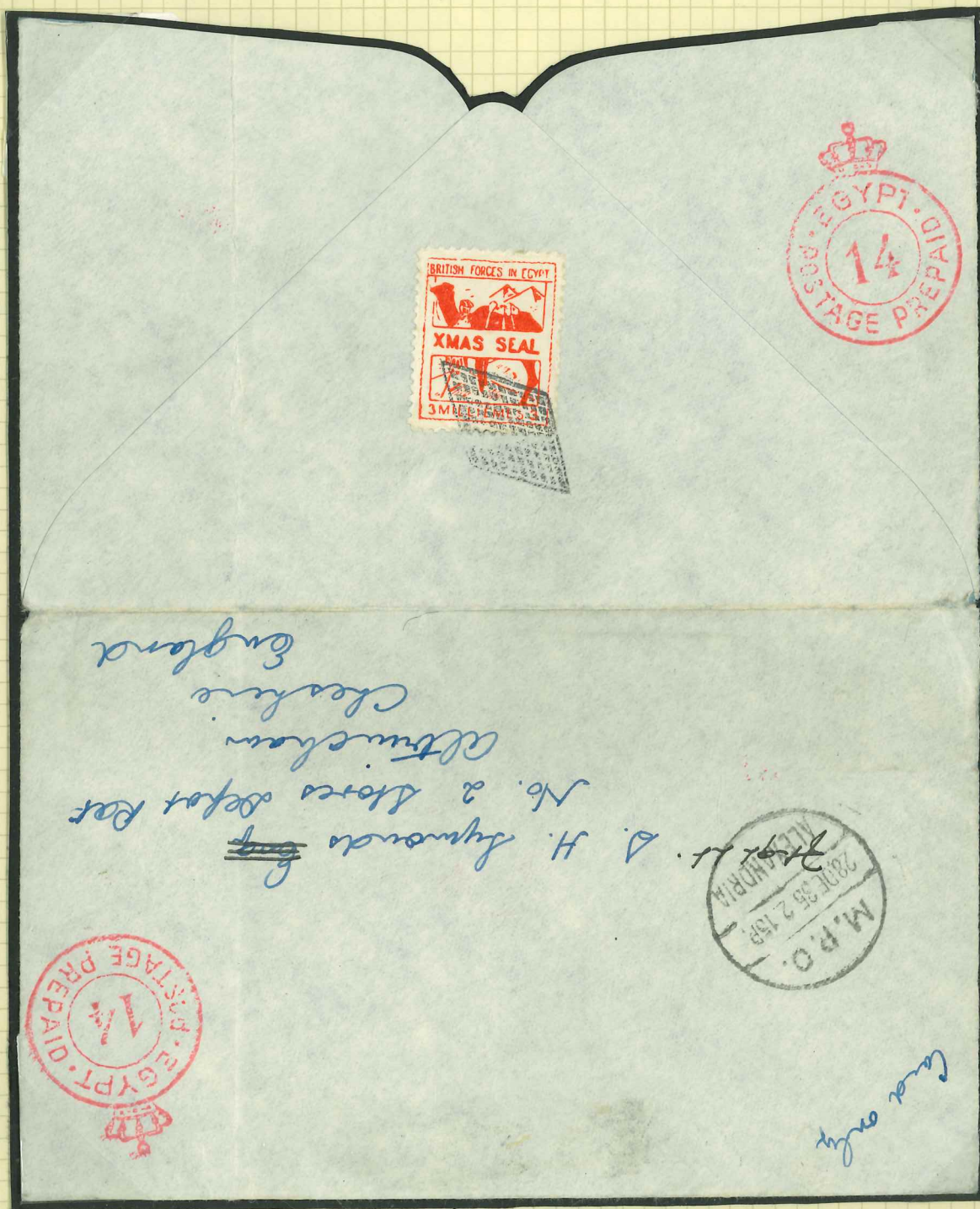


Numeral Frank 8 struck in red and, unusually in violet,  
M.P.O. Moascar Type 1, 14 No 32

# The Postal Concession

R.A.F. Aboukir

Proves earlier re-opening of M.P.O. Alexandria, listed as 1st March 1936, as the type II datestamp is 28th December.



Numeral Frank No. 14

## The Postal Concession

### Mustapha Barracks, Sidi Gaber

M.P.O. Alexandria, as well as M.P.O. Cairo both opened during the 1890's in the 'Force in Egypt' period. Sidi Gaber is a suburb of Alexandria and the Mustapha Barracks were one of the permanent homes of the British army in Egypt. Following closure prior to World War I, M.P.O. Alexandria re-opened at the time of the Italian campaign in Abyssinia - Ethiopia. Numeral Franks 18 and 17 were allocated

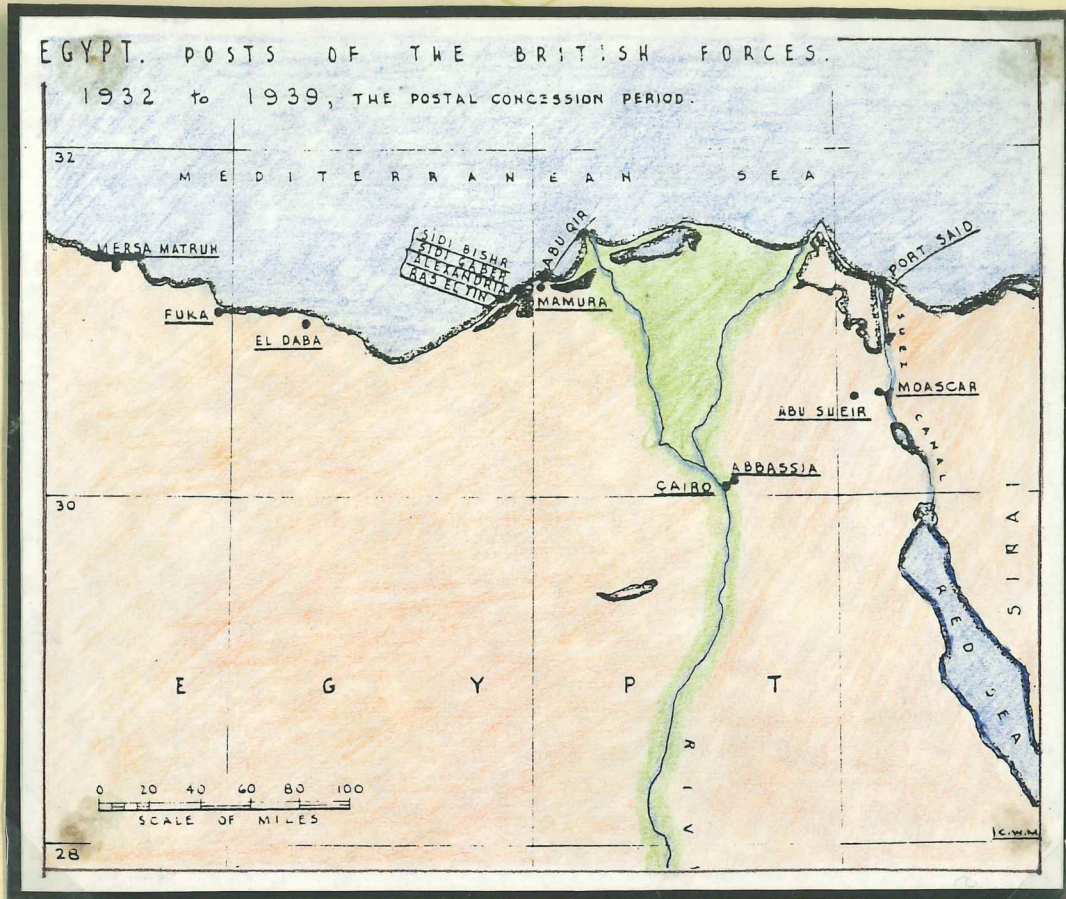
### Numeral Frank 17



Letter dated 17th December 1935 posted at Mustapha Barracks, Sidi Gaber, franked on reverse 3 millimetres dark Christmas seal and Numeral Frank 17 struck in red.



## The Postal Concession



Map drawn by the late Charles Minett to show locations of bases using "Named" military and civilian date stamps

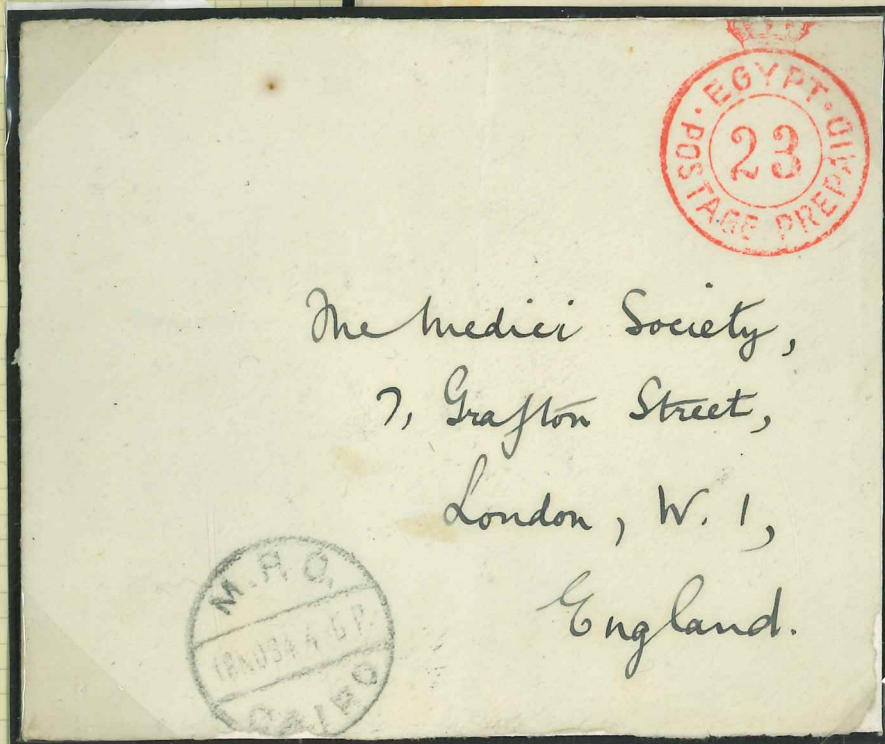


Maison Hollandaise, also known as the Navy House, where Numeral Franks 9 and 10 were used in 1936.

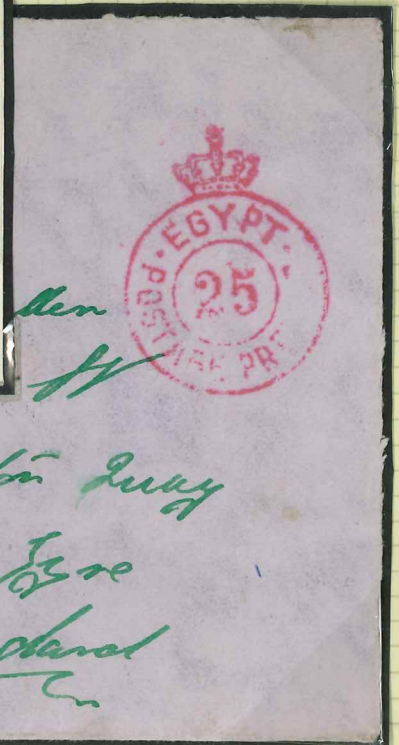
# The Postal Concession

Numeral Franks 22, 23 and 25 all at M.P.O. Cairo

Contrary to regulations, this cover is franked on the front of the envelope. Numerical Frank 22 from M.P.O. Cairo struck in red



Numerical Frank 23 transferred ex-Cairo in June 1935 to Moascar.



Numerical Frank 25 struck in cerise on 16 FE 36 on cover to north east England

All three covers bear letter stamps and M.P.O. Cairo type 1

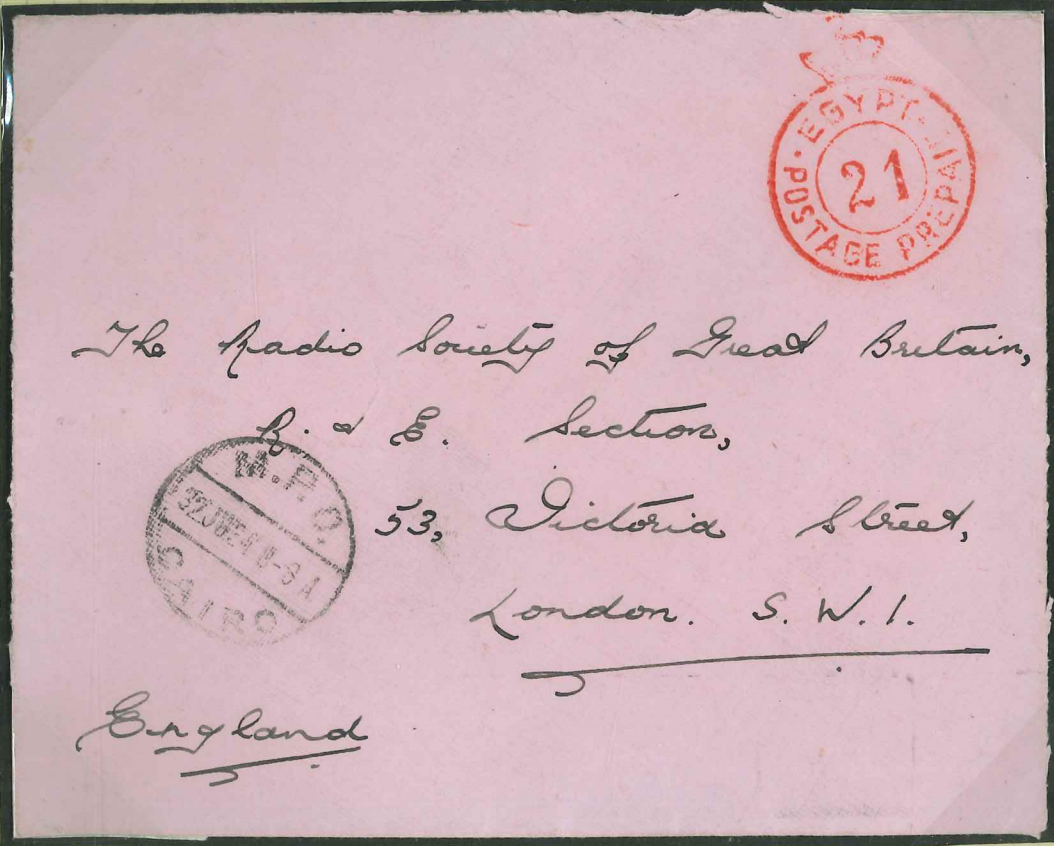
The Postal Concession

Numeral Franks 19, 20 and 21 all at MPO Cairo



Cover sent to Sidcup with Numeral Frank 19 struck in red

Numeral Frank 20 struck in cerise to the UK



den news  
w.  
nd

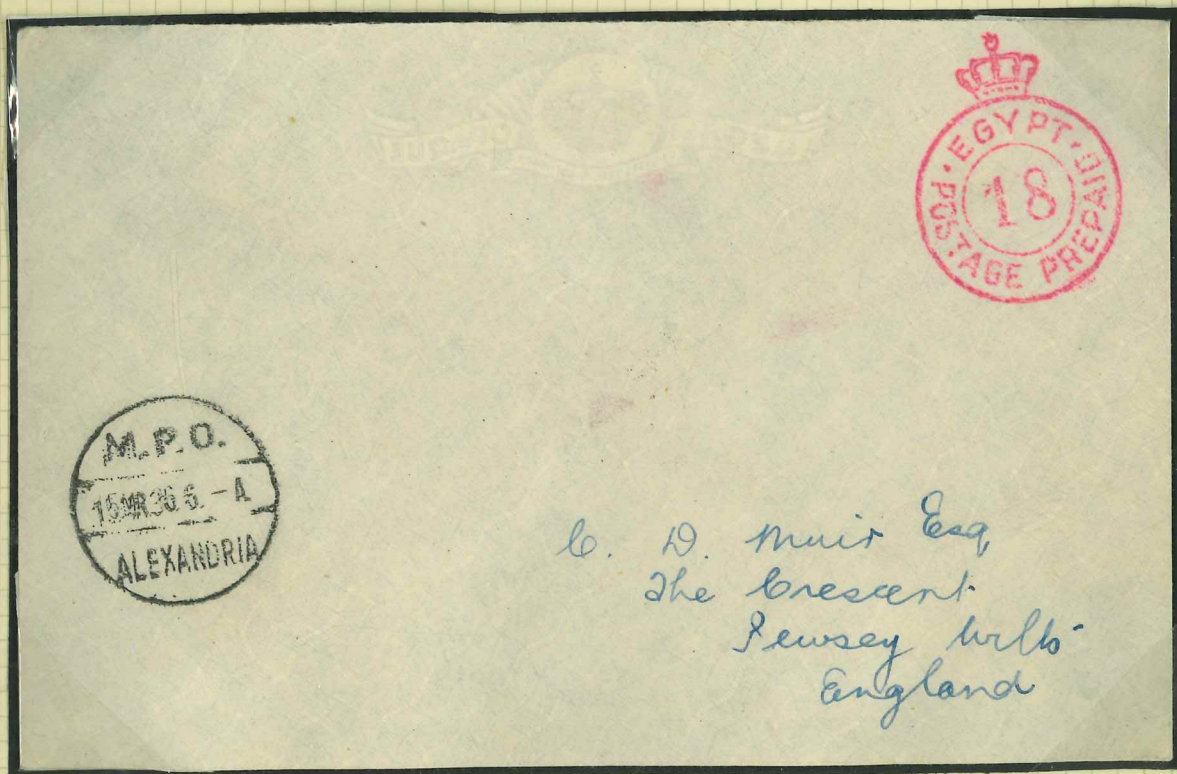
All three covers are struck by MPO Cairo type 1; top and middle are 1935, the bottom 1934

The Postal Concession

Numeral Franks 17 and 18 at Mustapha Barracks, Sidi Gaber



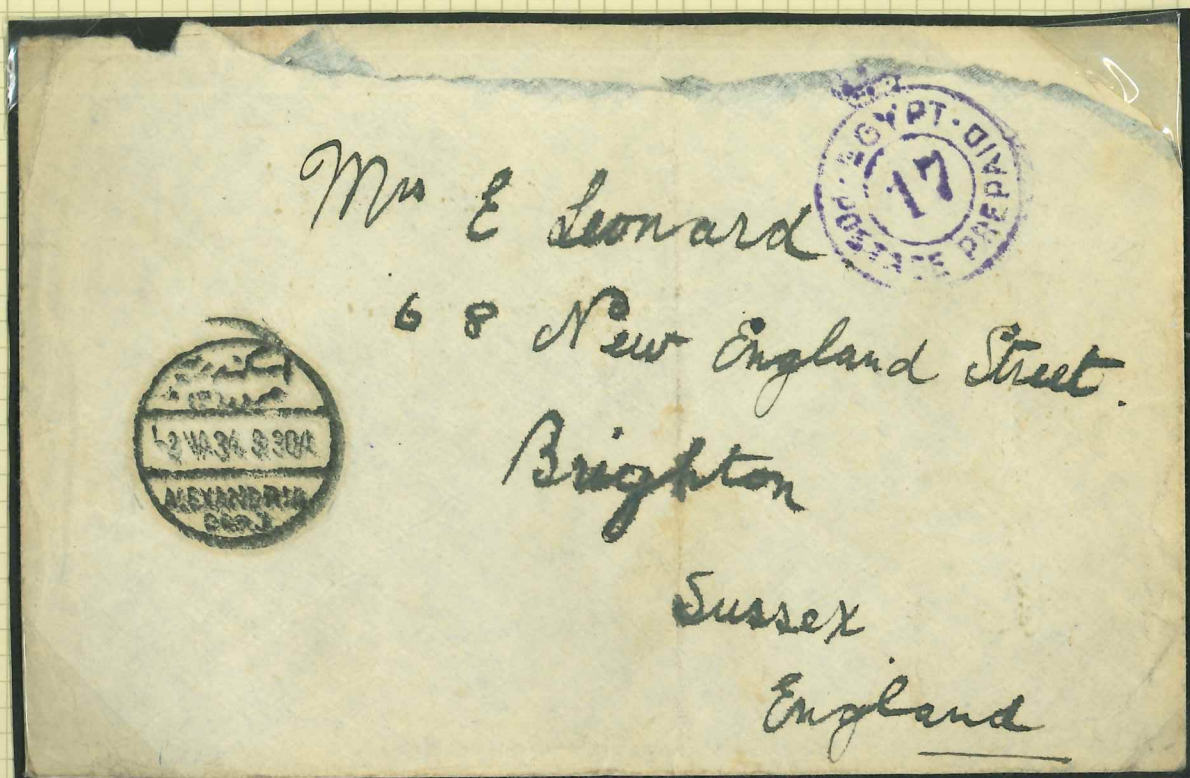
Letter from Numerical Frank 17 after re-opening of M.P.O. Alexandria



Last day of use of the letter stamps at M.P.O. Alexandria and Numerical Frank 18 struck in cerise 15MR36 sent to Penzance, U.K.

# The Postal Concession

Numeral Frank 17 struck in black and blue



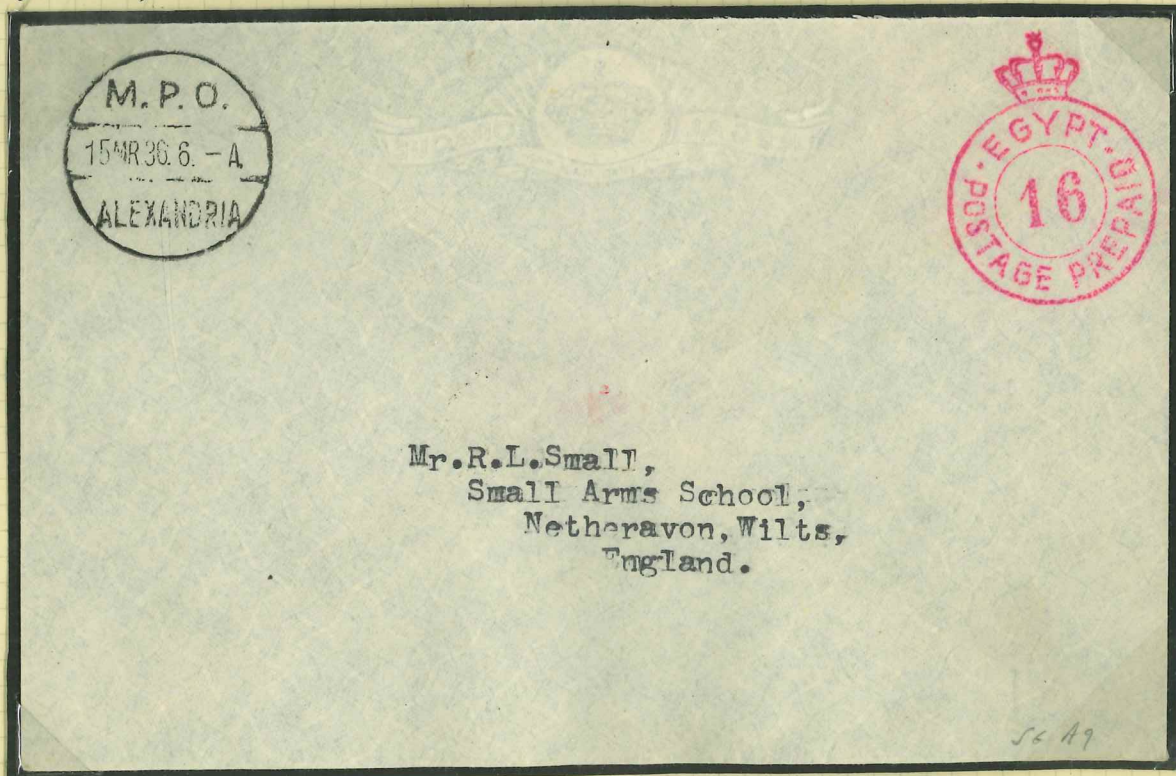
Two covers from Mustapha Barracks both franked Letter Seal on reverse cancelled purple reitars; both have EPP17 one in blue, one in black, and two different Alexandria Depart.

# The Postal Concession

Numeral Frank 16



Cover from Ras el-Tin with civil cancellation and N.F. 16 on front; back has seal, red retza and civilian Alexandria



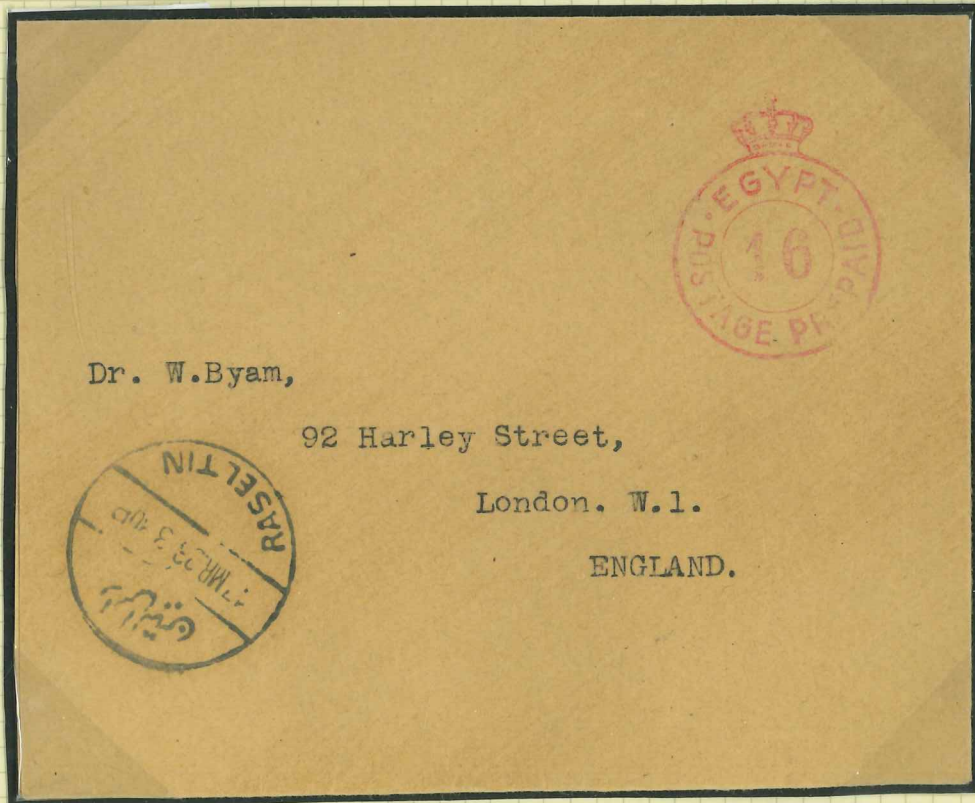
Last day cover of the 'old system' franked carriage letter stamp perf. 14x14 on back; N.F. 16 after transfer to Alexandria.

*The Postal Concession*

*Numeral Franks 15 and 16 at the Military Hospital Ras el Tin*



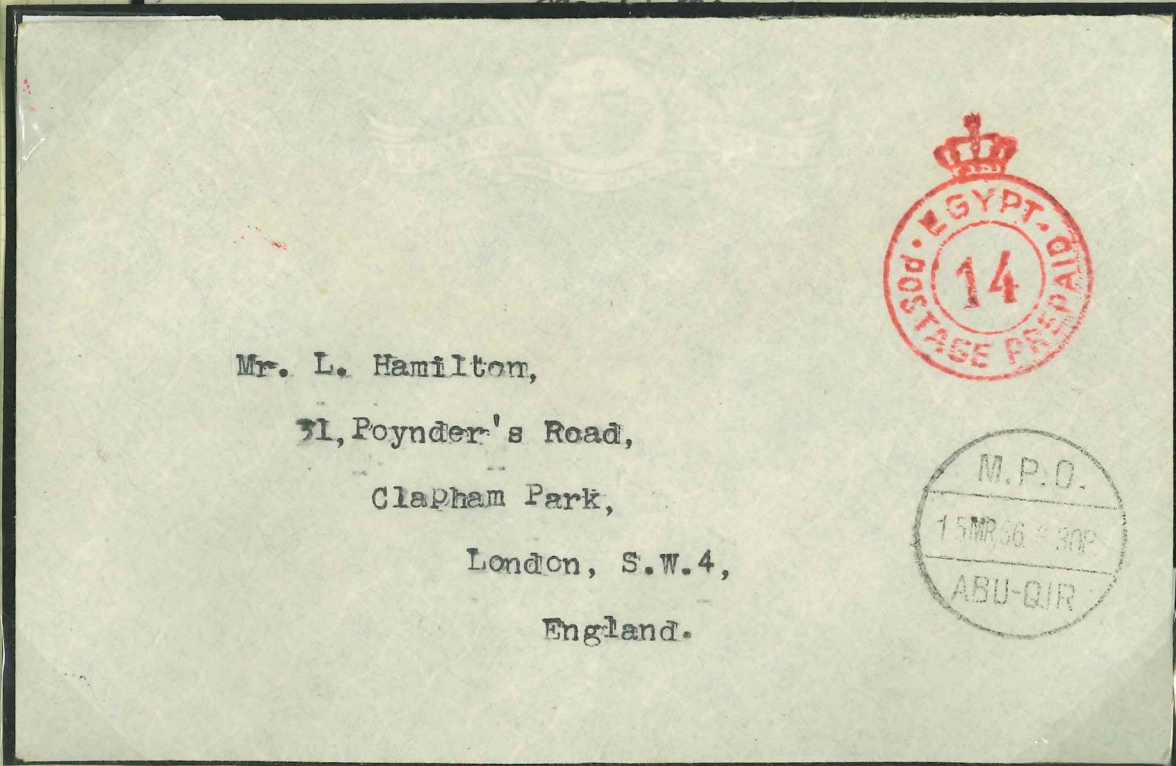
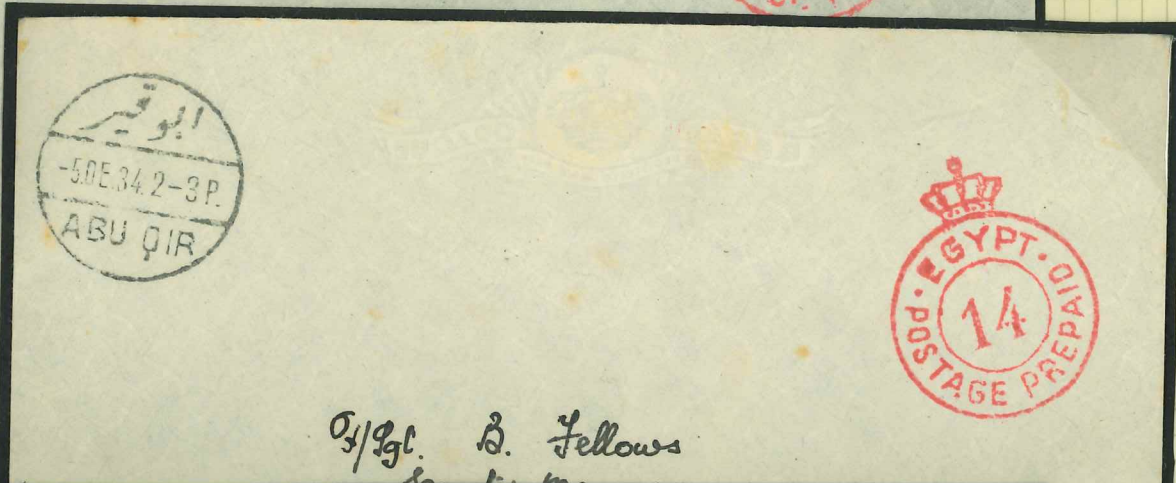
*Last day use of the letter stamp as it was invalidated on 1st March with two weeks overlap, replaced by Army Stamps.*



*Civilian date stamp for Ras el-Tin to founder Egypt Study Circle.*

# The Postal Concession

Numeral Franks 13 and 14 at Aboukir



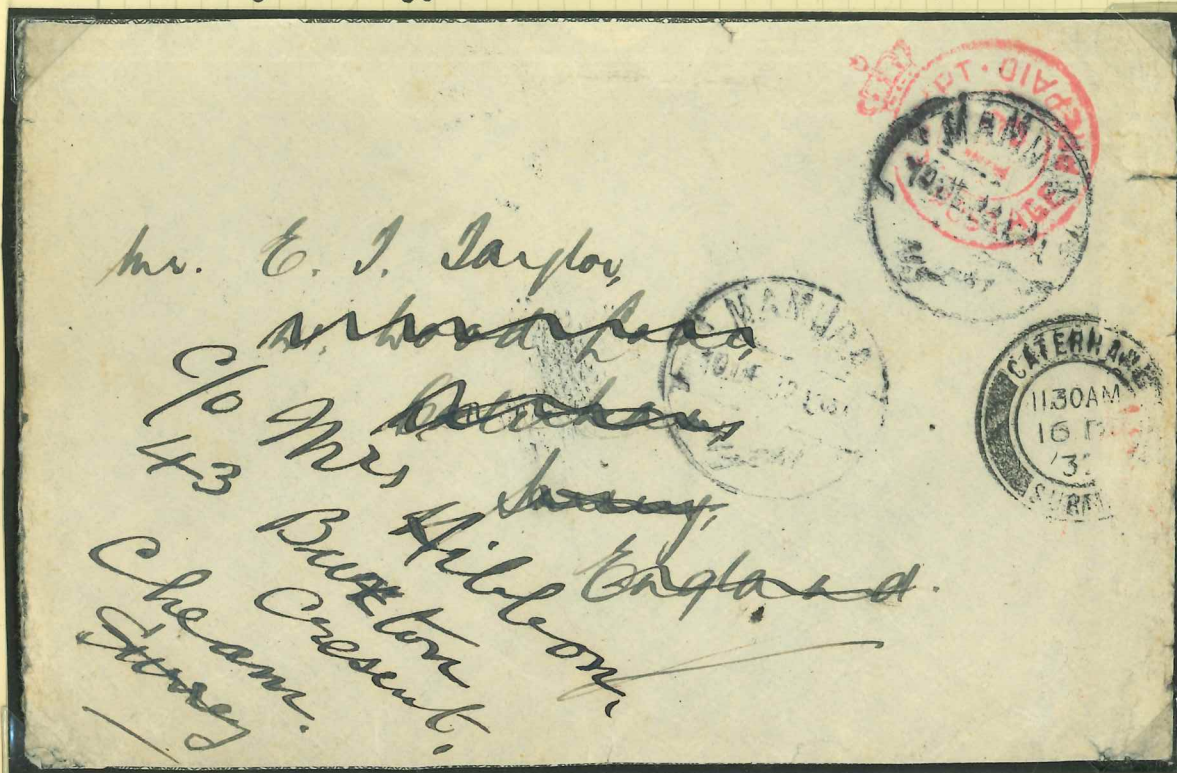
Three covers from RAF Aboukir to UK; top two franked 1 piastre green letter stamp, bottom 2nd comb carmine. Top sent through MPO Alexandria, middle civil Abu Qir, bottom MPO. Abu Qir.



# The Postal Concession

Numeral Frank 13

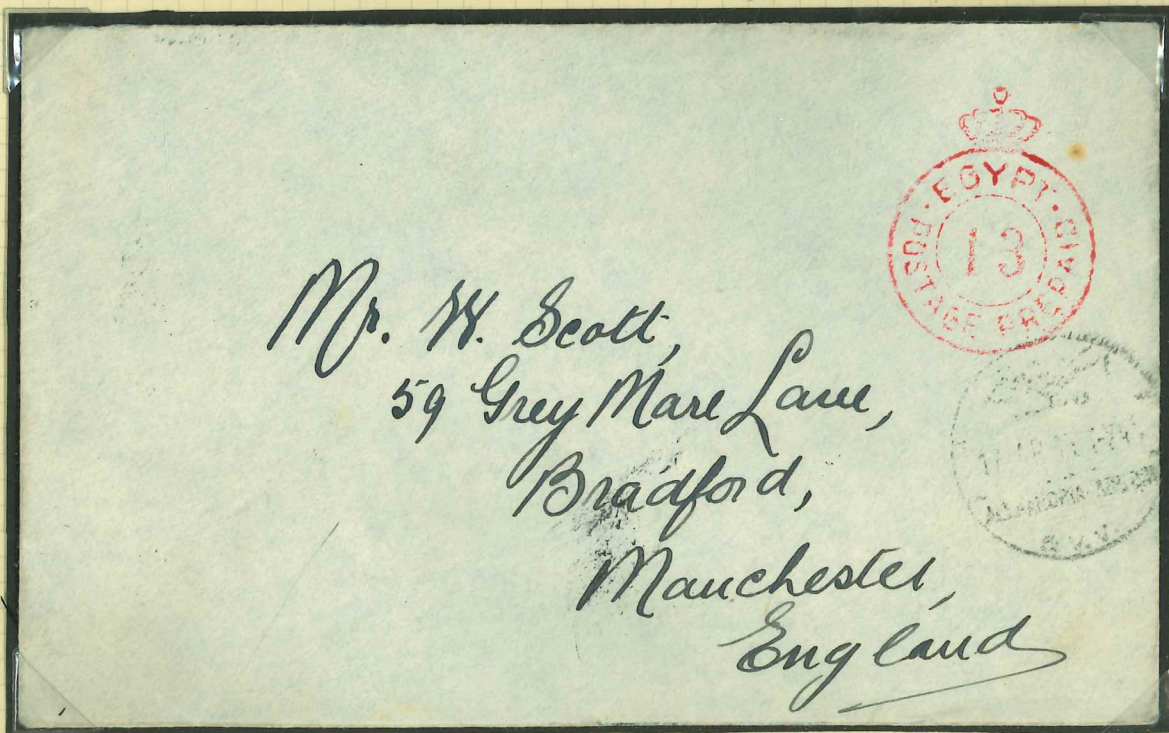
Use of two different civilian datestamps at nearby Mamura



1. Type VIII at left and
2. Type XII below for Mamura.



Cover franked postal seal from Abu Qir cancelled Mamura with on reverse, Alexandria civil office transit 10 DE 32



Cover franked green letter stamp and Alexandria-Abu Qir T.P.O.

# The Postal Concession

Numeral Frank 12 from R.A.F. Abu Sueir with civil date stamp which indicates posting was prior to the opening of the M.P.O.



Franked  
green let-  
ter stamp



Franked  
postal  
seal

Numeral Frank 13 in cerise from the civil post office at Abu Qir with civil Alexandria transit as prior to M.P.O. opening.

# The Postal Concession

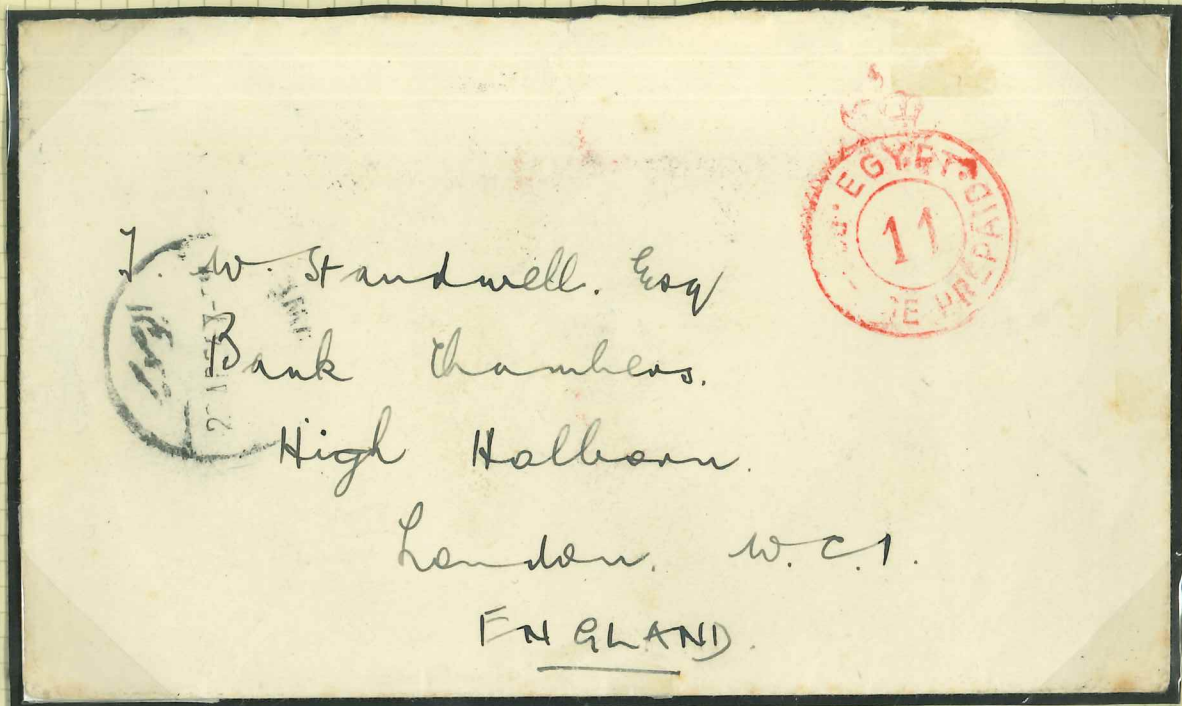
R.A.F. Abu Sueir



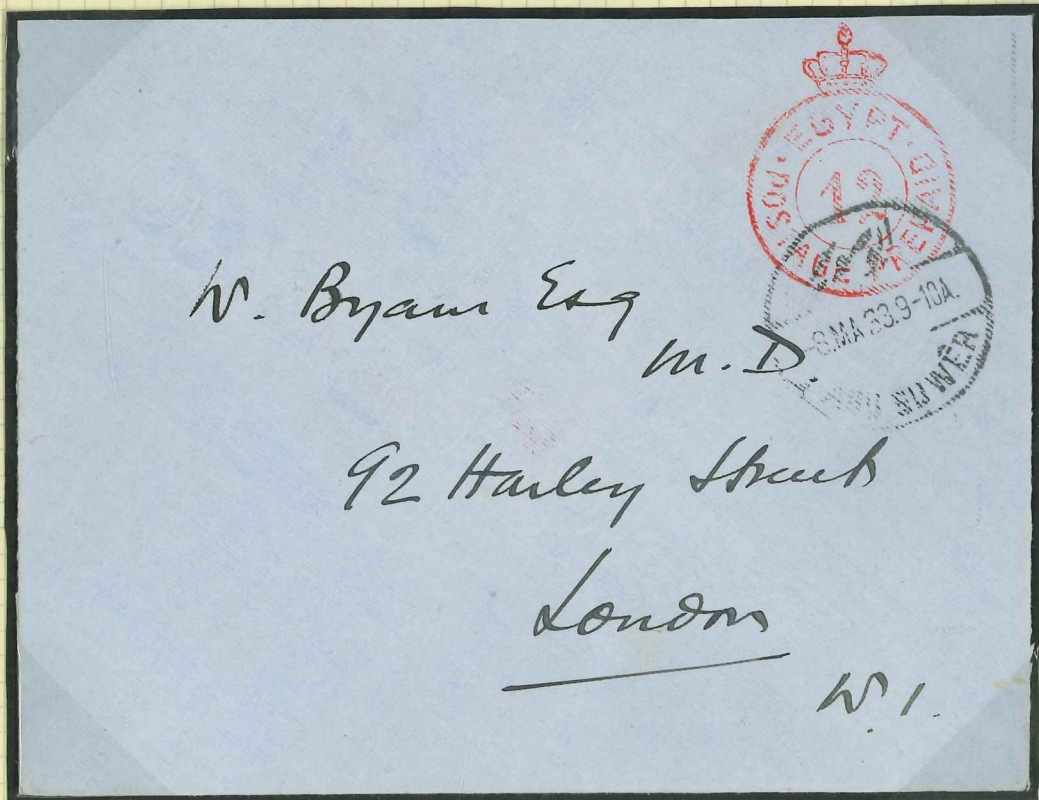
Although the military post office at R.A.F. Abu Sueir did not open until 1st March 1936, Numeral Frank 12 had clearly been allocated as early as May 1933 as evidenced by the top cover franked 1932 Postal Seal. Both covers went through the Egyptian civil post office.

## The Postal Concession

Numeral Franks 11 and 12 from 4 Flying Training School Abu Sueir



Cover franked letter seal dated 23 AP 34 with Alexandria transit on reverse, Numeral Frank 11 and Abu Sueir civil date stamp.

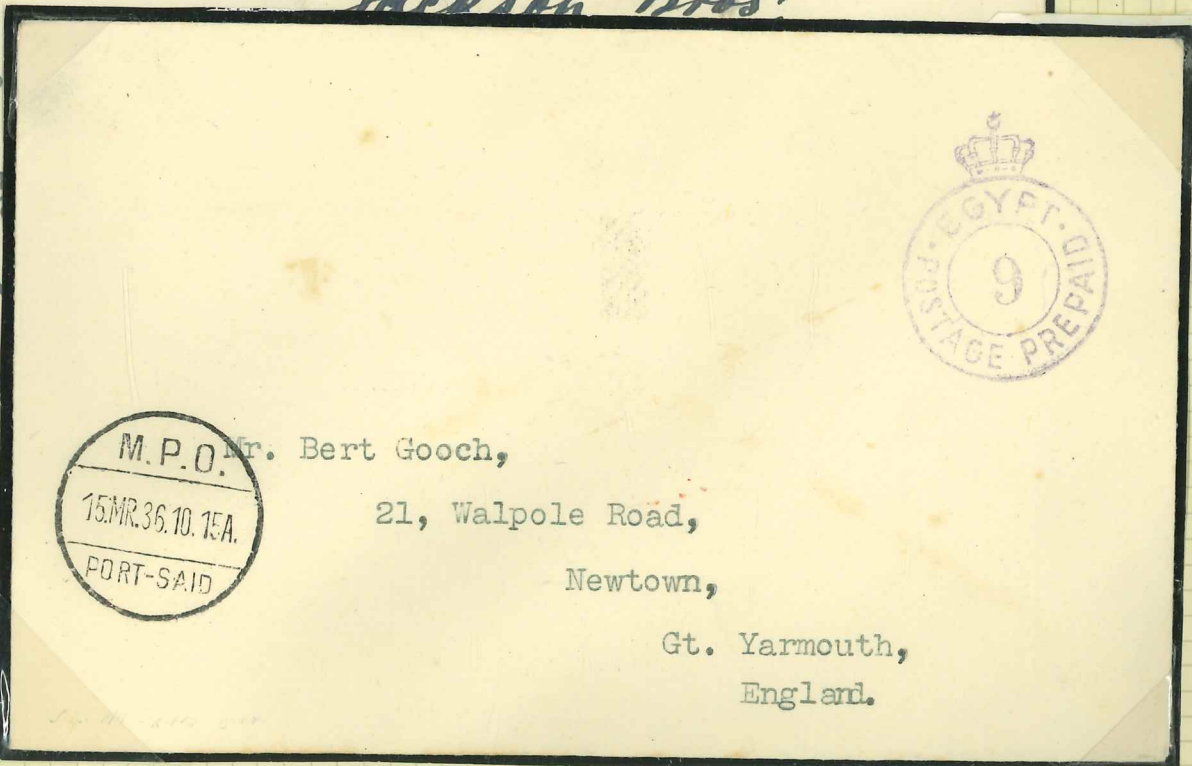


Cover franked postal seal and Port Said Traffic dated 8 MA 33 on reverse with Numeral Frank 12 and Abu Sueir date stamp.

# The Postal Concession

Numeral Franks 9 and 10 at Port Said

By 1936 both 9 and 10 were struck in purple at the Navy House



Letter stamp struck with red retta franking letter to Pall Mall with Numeral Frank 10 also in red and civilian date stamp of Port Said dated 16 NO 33 proves early allocation of Num. Frank.

# The Postal Concession

Numeral Franks 7 and 8 at Moascar



The Managing Director,

Pearl Assurance Company, Ltd.,



ND.

The Ed



Numeral Frank 7, lost down a well at R.A.F. Moascar 6 MR33 and 8, both red

Numeral Frank 8 was transferred from Moascar to Cairo in June 1935; known struck in purple for twelve days only.

# The Postal Concession

Numeral Frank 6 at Cairo and Alexandria



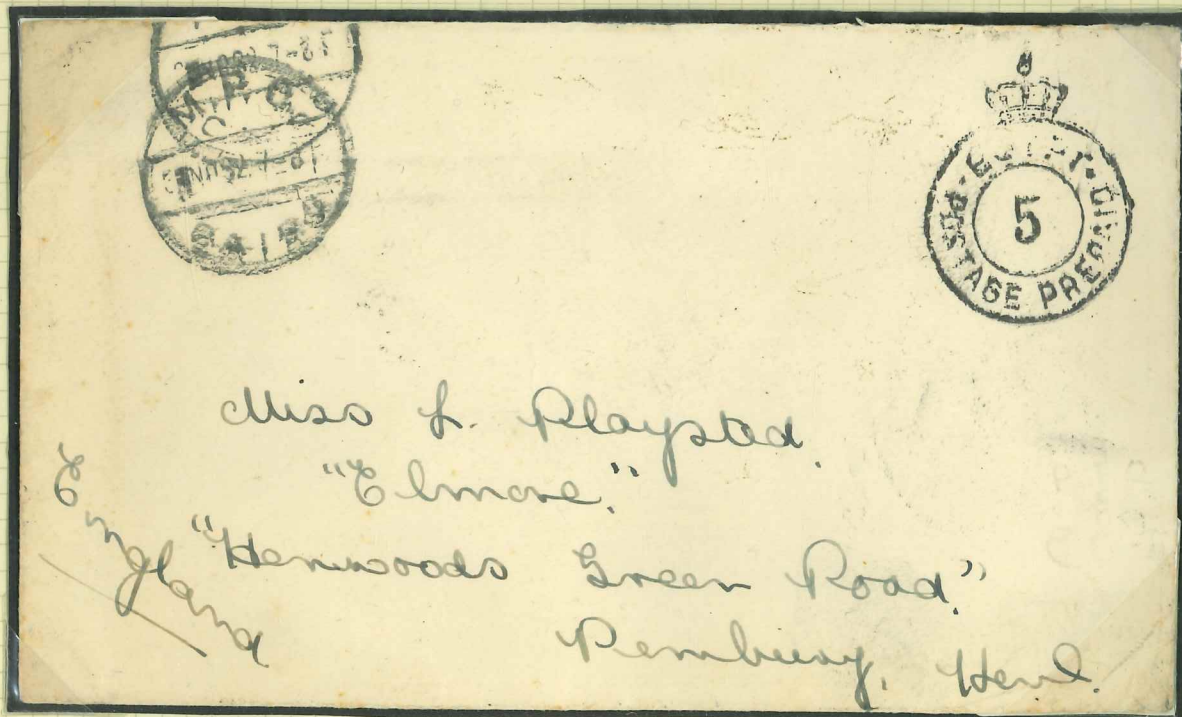
Two Numeral Frank 6 covers to U.K. top in black from MPO Cairo, bottom struck in red from MPO Alexandria after the transfer.

# The Postal Concession

Numeral Franks 4 & 5 from Cairo both struck in black 1932



Despite the known existence (Aug. 1933) of M.P.O. Abbassia date stamp, both covers have Type 1 M.P.O. Cairo Nov. 1932 cancels, the above cover sent from Military Families Home Abbassia.

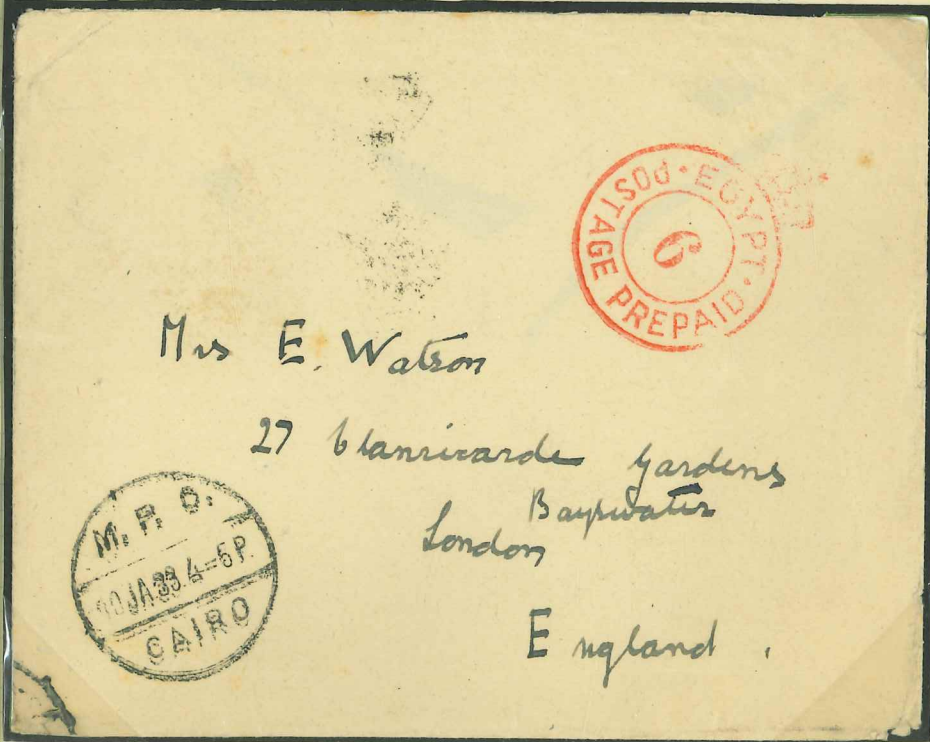
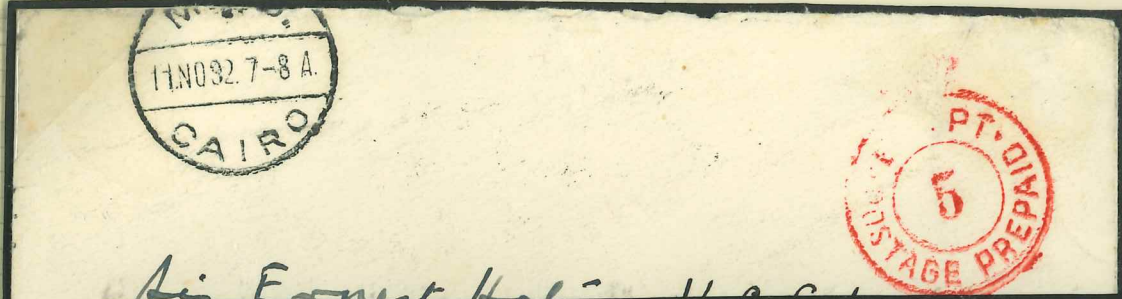
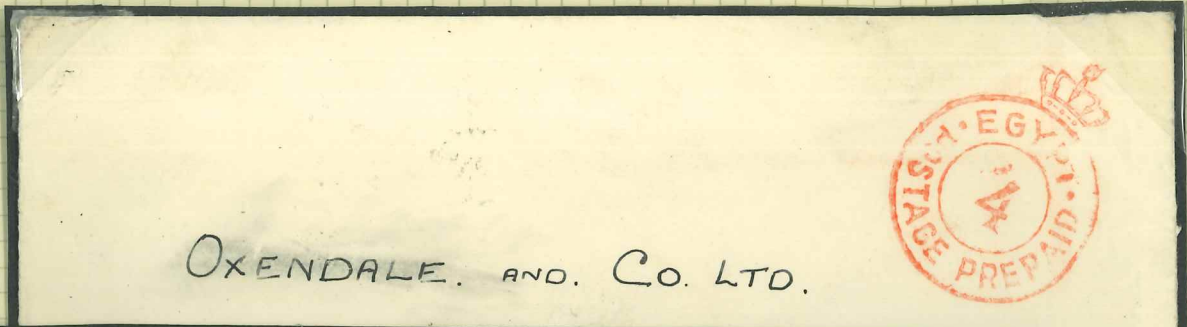


Both covers franked 1 piastre Postal Seal sent to the U.K.



# The Postal Concession

Numeral Franks 4, 5 and 6 at Cairo



and Co.,  
d.

All four covers from Cairo to the U.K. bearing postal seals on the reverse

Numeral Frank 6 was transferred to Alexandria in June 1935.

## The Postal Concession

### M.P.O. Moascar 2

Numeral Frank 3 was originally allocated to the R.A.F. station at Moascar located near Ismailia on the Suez Canal. It was transferred to M.P.O. Alexandria. M.P.O. Moascar type 2, with MOASCAR in smaller, shorter letters, was issued to replace type 1 date-stamp lost down a well on 6th March 1933.

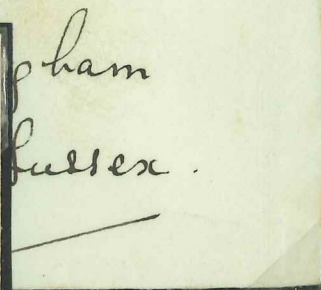


Letter, bottom, from 4 Flying Training School at Royal Air Force Moascar struck with Numeral Frank 3 which, unlike numbers 1 and 8, was always located at R.A.F. Moascar.

# The Postal Concession

Numeral Franks 1, 3 and 4 at MPO Moascar

Numeral  
Frank 1  
Moascar  
to Sussex  
22 AU 34



Numeral  
Frank 3  
Moascar  
to London  
9 NO 33



Numeral Frank 4 was transferred from Cairo in June 1935

# British Forces in Egypt

## Ismailia Camp



In fact Ismailia Camp was an Egyptian civilian post office probably named after the workmen's camp set up while the Suez Canal was under construction

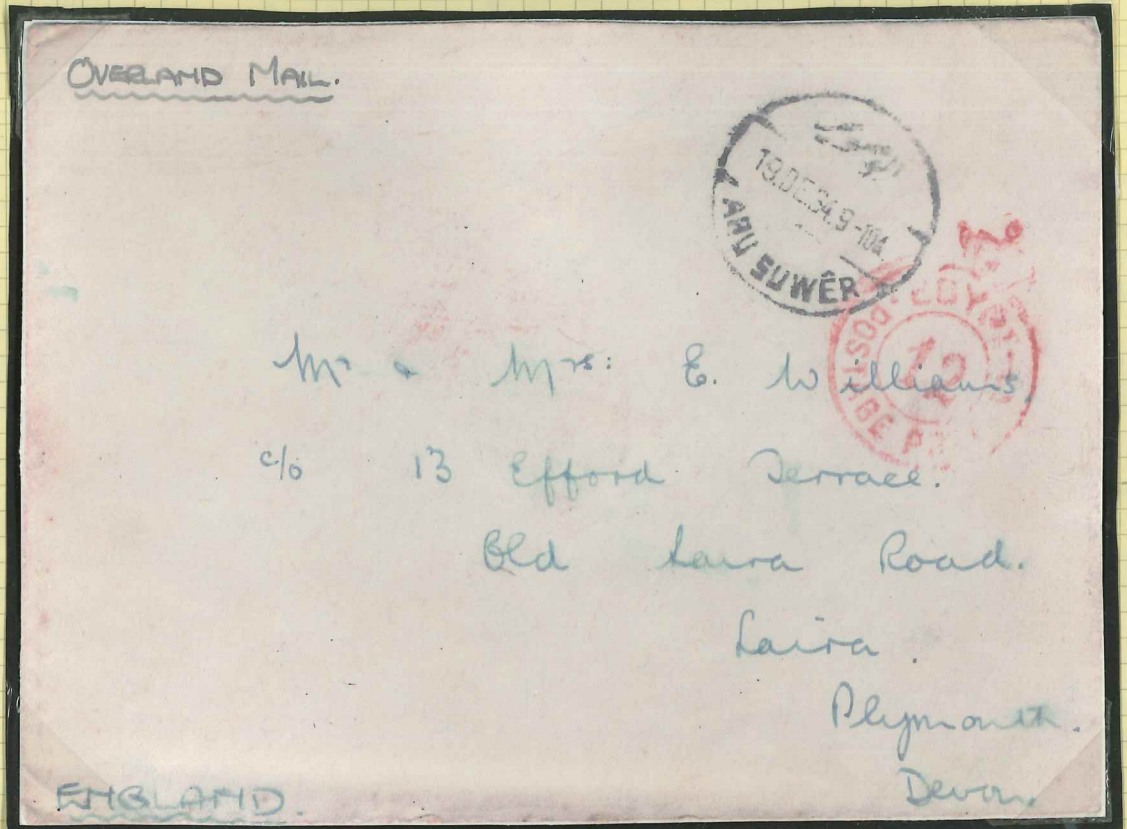


The airmail cover bears an unidentified regimental type cypher and is addressed to a Naval officer; even so the full airmail rate of 28 mills was paid to the U.K.

# Christmas Seal 1934

## Civilian Cancellations

The civilian cancellation of the civil post office at Abu Suwêr in the Suez Canal zone 1934



The civilian cancellation in the form of a roller-advert ising an exhibition in Cairo.

Front and reverse of a military cover with civilian cancellations.

# Letter to Future V.C.

Lt. Col. James Power Carne V.C., D.S.O. (33647)



Cover franked 20 mills commemorative and posted in the civilian box at Mersa Matruh, because Concession mail not allowed to addresses outside Zaire and United Kingdom. Reverse of O.H.M.S. cover has Alexandria slogan transit, Kampala transit, Bomba arrival and vice versa, as re-addressed to Falmouth, the birthplace of Col. Carne.



Col. Carne awarded D.S.O. 13 July 1951 and V.C. on 27 October 1953 for service at Imjin River, Korea. Glos. regiment permitted to wear D.S.C. by President of the United States 30 Oct. 1953.

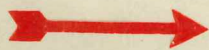
## Honours and awards

- 13 July 1951 - Lieutenant-Colonel James Power Carne (33647), The Gloucestershire Regiment (missing) is awarded the Distinguished Service Order for gallant and distinguished services in Korea.<sup>[6]</sup>
- 27 October 1953 - Lieutenant-Colonel James Power Carne, DSO, (33647), The Gloucestershire Regiment, is awarded the Victoria Cross in recognition of gallant and distinguished service in Korea.<sup>[7]</sup> His Victoria Cross is held by the Soldiers of Gloucestershire Museum, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, England.<sup>[8]</sup>
- 30 October 1953 - Lieutenant-Colonel James Power Carne, VC, DSO (33647). The Gloucestershire Regiment is given permission to wear the Distinguished Service Cross conferred by the President of the United States for gallant and distinguished services during operations by the United Nations in Korea.<sup>[9]</sup>

# Presentation Covers



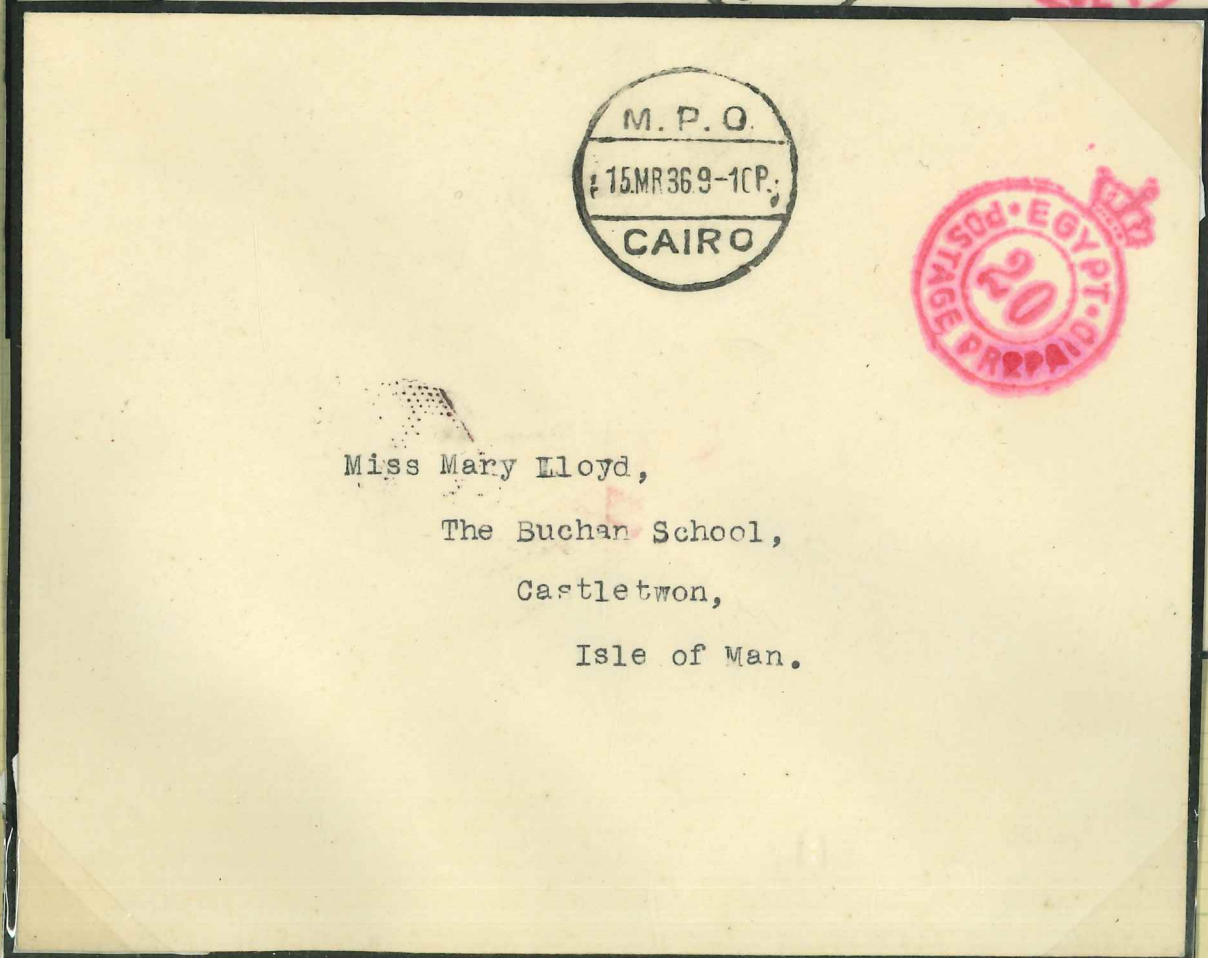
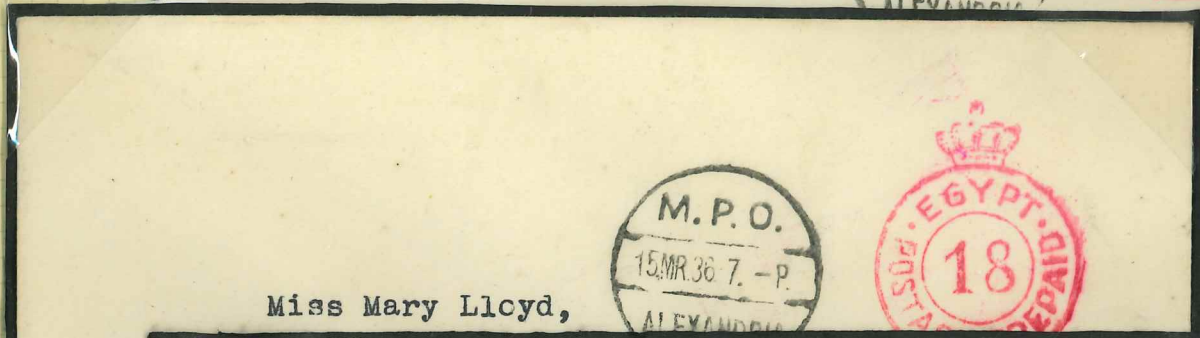
Miss Mary Lloyd.



Address  
omitted



# Presentation Covers



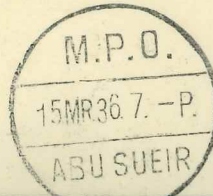
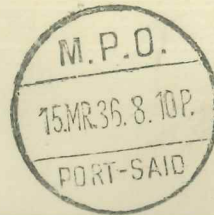
# Presentation Covers



Miss Mary Lloyd,  
The Buchan School,  
Castletown,

Isle of Man.

# Presentation Covers



Miss Mary Lloyd,  
The Buchan School,  
Castletown,  
Isle of Man.

an.

# Presentation Covers



Miss Mary Lloyd



Miss Mary Lloyd,  
The Buchan School,  
Castletown,



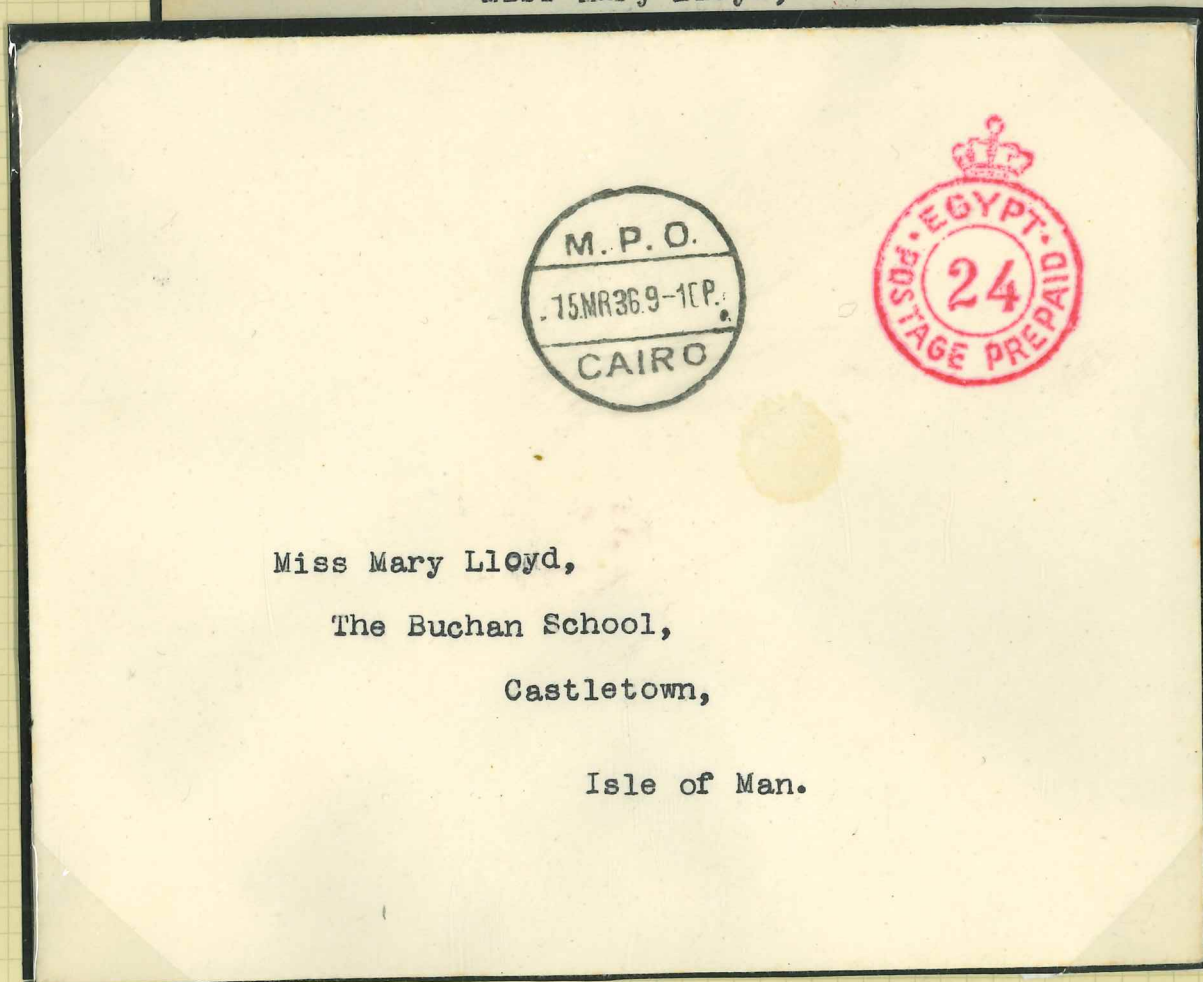
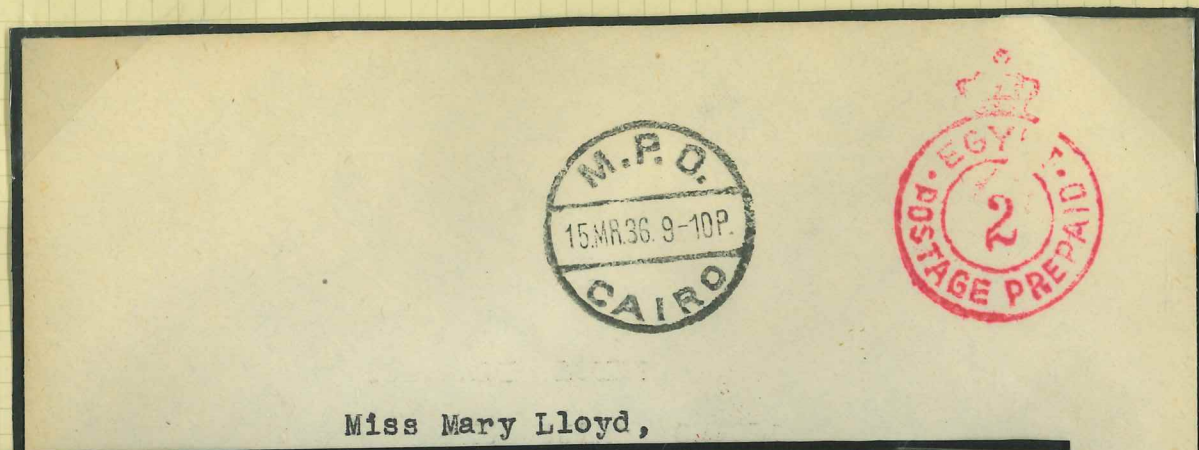
Miss Mary Lloyd,  
The Buchan School,  
Castletown,

Isle of Man.

# The Postal Concession

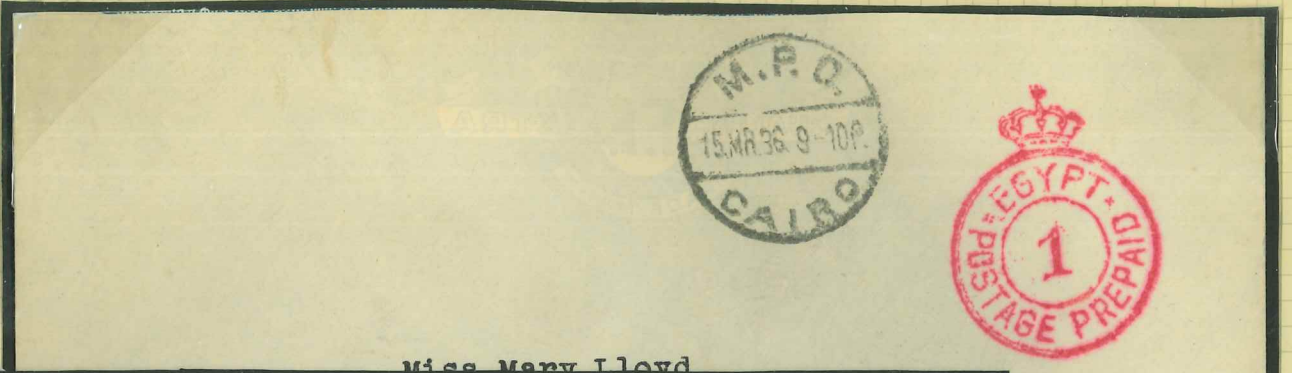
## Presentation Covers

There follows the only known set of 24 Numeral Franks on last day covers with letter General Sir John Burnett Stuart

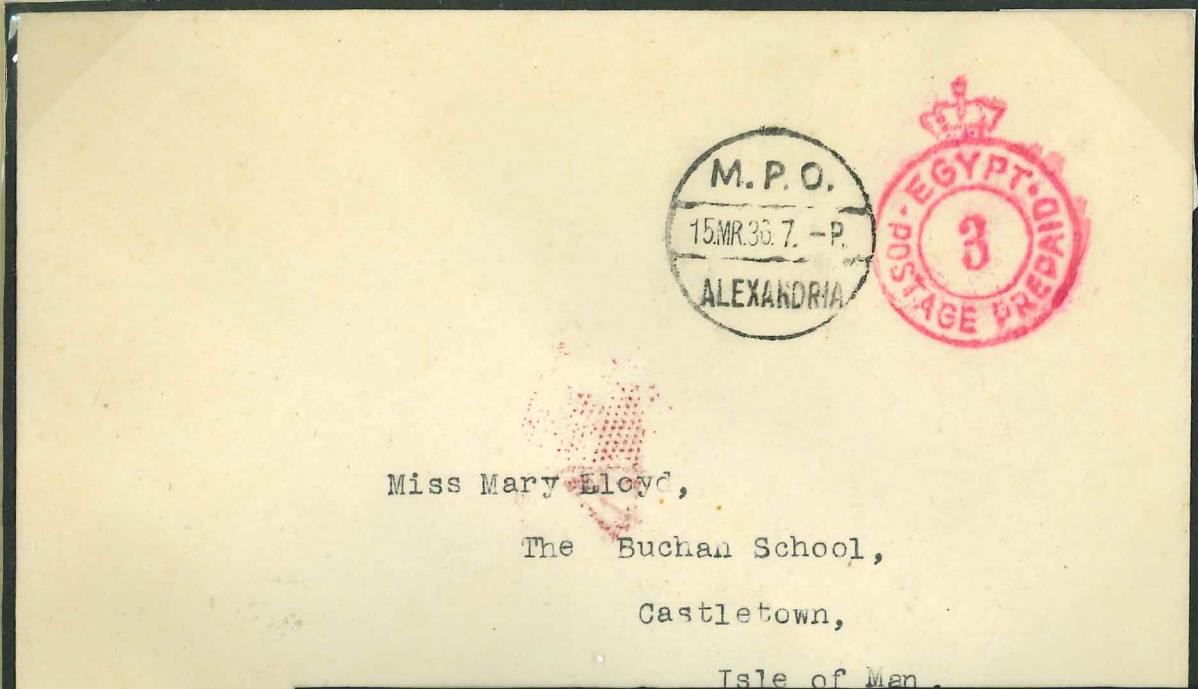


Numeral Franks 2 and 24, both allotted to M.P.O. Cairo, were not used in reality as all such known covers are these Mary Lloyd presentation covers from the sets.

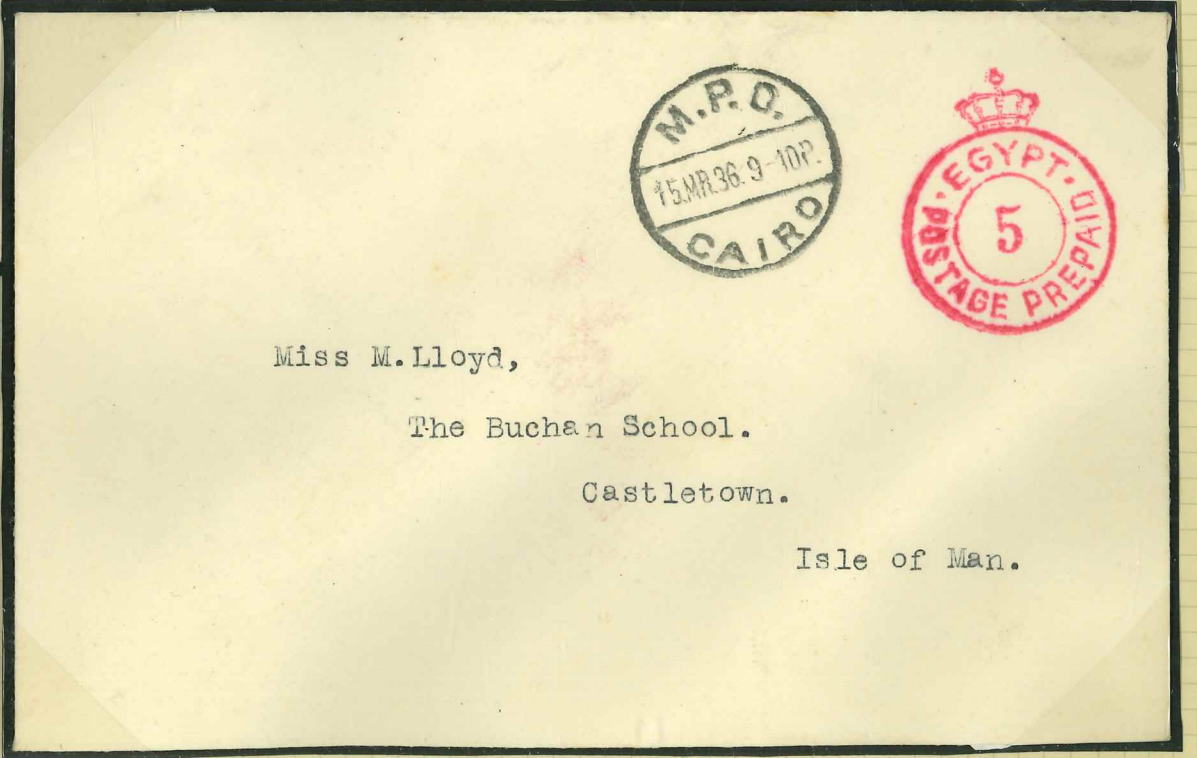
# Presentation Covers



Miss Mary Lloyd



Miss Mary Lloyd,  
The Buchan School,  
Castletown,  
Isle of Man.



Miss M. Lloyd,  
The Buchan School.  
Castletown.  
Isle of Man.

# The Postal Concession

HEADQUARTERS,  
BRITISH TROOPS IN EGYPT,  
CAIRO.

27th March, 1936.

Dear

*General.*

I am forwarding you herewith a set of envelopes which represent the last postings under the scheme which allowed the use of letter stamps by the British Forces in Egypt.

You will observe that the postage prepaid franking stamps cover all the organizations in Egypt, and are numbered 1 to 6 and 8 to 25, No. 7 having been lost at Moascar in 1933.

The issue has been limited to 50 sets, distributed for the collections of His late Majesty King George V, King Fouad of Egypt, Postal Museums, and all officials who have had anything to do with the postal concession since its inauguration.

Yours

*Sincerely*  
*M. A. Morris*

General Sir John T. Burnett-Stuart,  
K.C.B., K.B.E., C.M.G., D.S.O.

*L.H. F.M.D. Morris. 0742*

# The Postal Concession

## Presentation Covers



Photograph of a set of 24 Numeral Frank covers displayed in the Cairo Postal Museum; sadly, the collection, though otherwise complete, has no official letter from HQ, British Troops in Egypt.



# Official Notice

*Poster for display in NAAFI Institutes announcing the changes in regulations effective from the 1st March 1936*

## POSTAL CONCESSION BRITISH FORCES IN EGYPT

---

The use of the present letter stamp which is sold at all N.A.A.F.I. Institutes in connection with the postal concession for the British Forces in Egypt will be discontinued with effect from 1st March, 1936.

On that date a special postage stamp issued by the Egyptian Postal Administration, with the effigy of H.M. King Fuad, and marked "Army Post" will be placed on sale at all N.A.A.F.I. Institutes.

These special stamps will cost 1 piastre, the same as the letter stamps now used, and the only difference will be that they will be placed on the top right hand corner of an envelope on the front, the same as an ordinary postage stamp.

Letters bearing these stamps must continue to be posted in military or Royal Air Force post boxes, and should not be placed in Egyptian Post Boxes.

Any member of the Forces in possession of an excessive number of the letter stamps now in use (red), may forward them to the Camp Commandant, Headquarters, B.T.E., provided they are not mutilated and are in good condition, up to the 29th February, 1936, when he will be refunded the face value thereof should he so desire.

In order to cover those who have only a few of the present letter stamps, i.e. not worth commutation, they will be accepted in Military Post Offices as stamps on letters up to and including the 15th March, 1936. After that date they will cease to be of postal value and any letter bearing the present letter stamp will be taxed on arrival in the United Kingdom or Ireland.

The use of the new stamp is covered by the same conditions as apply at present to the letter stamp, i.e. they can only be used for the postage of letters to the United Kingdom and Ireland, including the Irish Free State, and must not be used on letters to any colony, possession, or foreign country, or for air mail, registered letters or parcels.

*This was effectively the end of the original Concession*

# The Postal Concession

## Slogan postmarks

Both struck at the civil post office at Alexandria when posted at civil Abu Sûwer; top is overweight letter, the slogan reads, from the right: "Post Office Savings Bank, best way of teaching clear ownership" and "Yield on your savings in the Post Office S. Bank guaranteed by government."

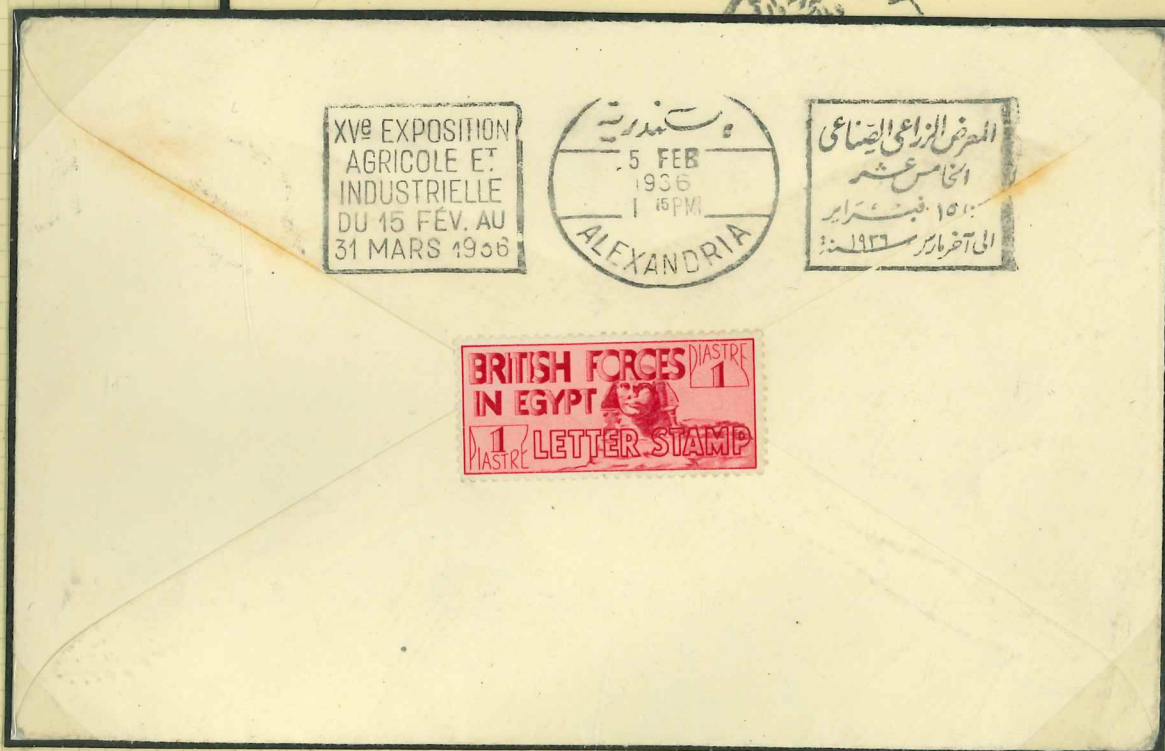


Bottom, slogan advertises an exhibition; note the red netta.

# The Postal Concession

## Against regulations?

Posted in the civil post office at Abu Qir, this cover, though correctly unsealed, and with 1934 Christmas seal on the reverse cancelled with 81 dot retta, received the Egyptian boxed T tax possibly as addressed to Scotland.



Posted in the civil post box at Mex, an Alexandrian suburb, with neither numeral frank or retta, "escaped."

## The Postal Concession

### Against regulations?

The regulations specifically stipulated that the concession applied only to destinations in "the British Isles, including the Irish Free State," so the cover below should have been despatched via the Egyptian civil post. Accordingly it collected a civil c.d.s. at Alexandria and a boxed Tax Tax was collected by 2c Canada due cancelled with an oblong General Delivery handstamp in mauve.



Cover from M.P.O. Alexandria, franked one piastre letter stamp on reverse nullified in blue crayon, to Kingston, Ontario (receiver on reverse dated 14-FE-36).

# The Postal Concession

## Against regulations?

Despite the manuscript "stamped" and the Crown Cancel 21 of M.P.O. Cairo on the front, as well as the correct franking on reverse, the cover below was struck with an Egyptian boxed 'T' in the same ink (purple) as the retta cancelling the letter stamp. 3d FB applied in London and 3d due applied at Canterbury cancelled e.d.s. dated 17 May 35.



cover from M.P.O. Cairo, incorrectly taxed as unpaid, dated 9th May 1935 correctly franked one piastre green letter stamp on reverse cancelled purple retta.

## The Postal Concession

### Numeral Franks

Were supplied by the Egyptian Postal Authority, they signified prepayment of the correct postage on reverse of the cover.



These thought to be 'of proof status.'

# The Postal Concession

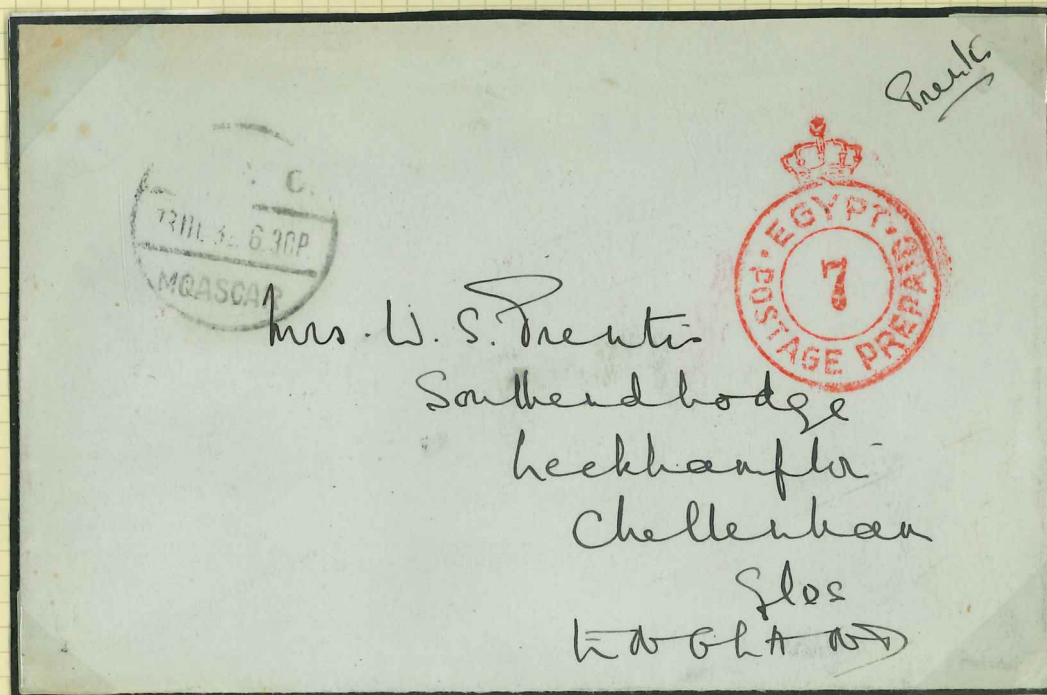
## Numeral Franks



Numbers 2 and 24, although allotted to Cairo, seem to have been held in reserve, while Number 7 was "lost down a well" at Moascar on 6th March 1933. Franks are also known as Crown Cancels.

They were allotted to offices as per the following table:-

Frank Numbers	Location	Opened (as M.P.O)
1, 3, 7 and 8	MPO Moascar	1st November 1932
2, 4, 5 and 6	MPO Cairo	Prior to 1932
9 and 10	Navy House, Port Said	1st March 1936
11 and 12	RAF Abu Soueir	1st March 1936
13 and 14	RAF Aboukir	1st March 1936
15 and 16	Milit' Hoop. Ras el-Tin	1st November 1932
17 and 18	Mustapha, Sidi Gaber	1st November 1932
19 to 25	MPO Cairo	Prior to 1932



Cover from Suez Canal area franked on the reverse with a postal seal; short-lived Numeral Frank 7 of MPO Moascar

*Christmas Provisional*

*16th December 1935*



*Cancelled at M.P.O. Alexandria*



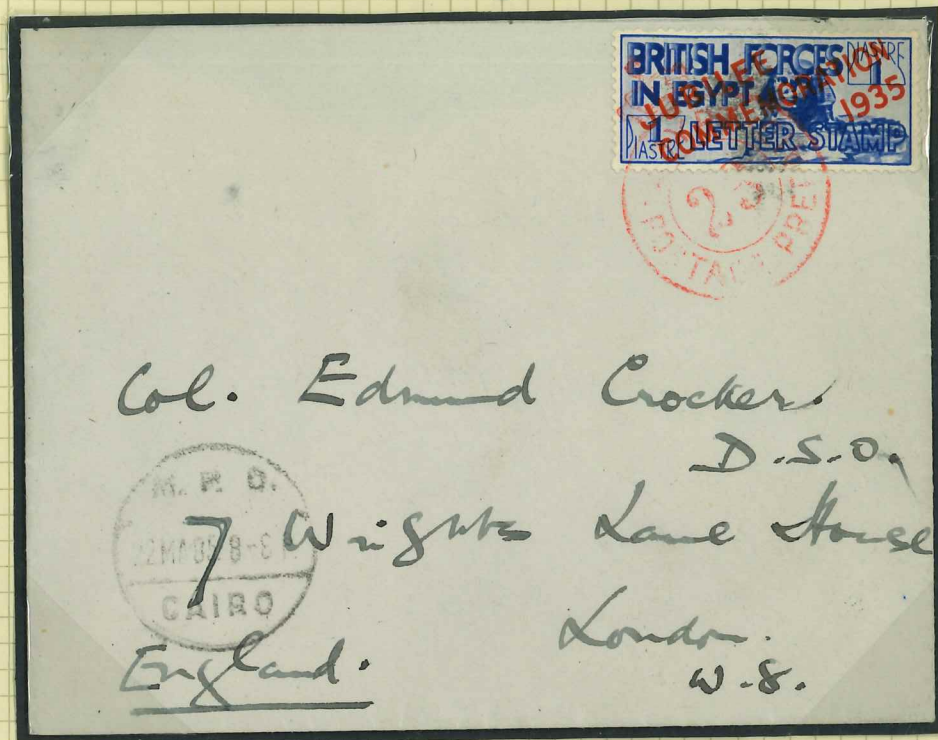
*Markings from front*

*First day cover posted from M.P.O. Alexandria with Numeral Frank 22 following its transfer from Cairo in June 1935; It must be assumed the stamp was flown from Cairo that day.*



# GVth Silver Jubilee

'Narrow N variety' on seal on front of cover



Narrow N

Four such seals, positions 9, 11, 14 and 16, come with narrow N from each pane. Unusually, the seal placed on front 22 MA 35 at M.P.O. Cairo.

Second Day cover



"In fact, many servicemen knew nothing of this issue until days after its appearance". (Hobbs 1984). Accordingly, even second day covers are uncommon. 7 JL 1935 Cairo to Stratford.

# GVII Silver Jubilee

6th May 1935



Commemorating the Silver Jubilee of King George VII, it is the only such stamp issued by a non-Commonwealth state.



normal overprint  
(for comparison)



shift upwards  
and to the right



16th September 1935

Cover to Manchester posted at R.A.F. Station Abu Qir with Numeral Frank 13 and Abu Qir civil postmark on the front, back has black retta and Alexandria civil post (B) transit.

# Christmas Seals 1935

Three shades



vermillion  
Hobbs' H11



pale vermillion  
Hobbs' H12



pale carmine  
toned paper

Hobbs referred to a seal "printed on toned paper and in a red-orange shade" but this pale carmine and is the very same colour as the 1st Comb letter stamp as a provisional.



Cover from M.P.O. Alexandria to Ruislip dated 16 DE 35 with Christmas seal, position 6 on a pane of 20, cancelled by a retta (81 dots - 9x9 in a frame) unusually struck in blue; Numeral Frank 3 transferred from MPO Measear 1 NO 35.

# Christmas Seals 1935

17th December 1935  
21,500 printed of which 12,075 sold



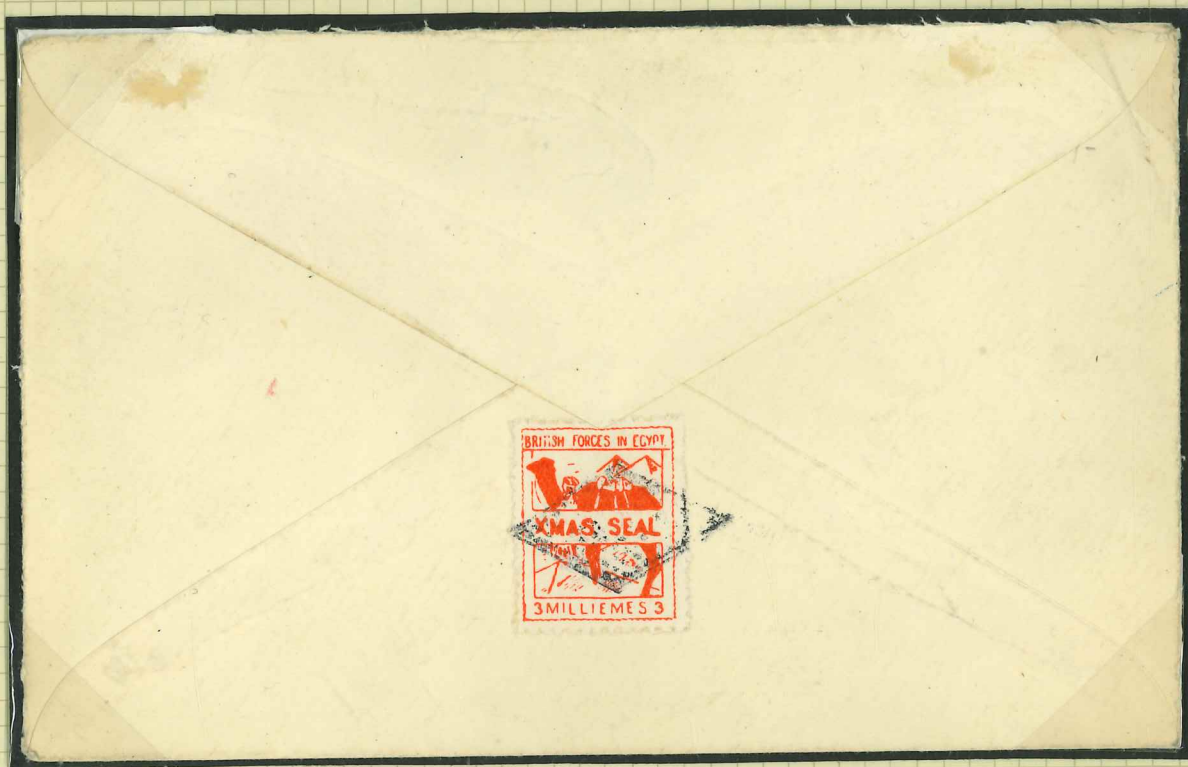
This stamp is distinguishable by its paler shade and toned paper. Additional troops in Egypt, to meet the threat from the Italians under Mussolini, required yet more seals. This 'second printing' was actually preceded on the previous day by a provisional overprinted on letter stamps.

# Christmas Seals 1935

*Imperforate proofs*



*Left side marginal pair*



*Pale vermilion cover dated 22 DE 35*

*Cover to Manchester franked pale vermilion Christmas seal, position 12 on pane of 20, cancelled 10 x 9 dot retta. Front bears Numeral Frank 13 in red of RAF Station Aboukir and cds of MPD Alexandria (type II) struck in black.*

# GVII Silver Jubilee

6th May 1935

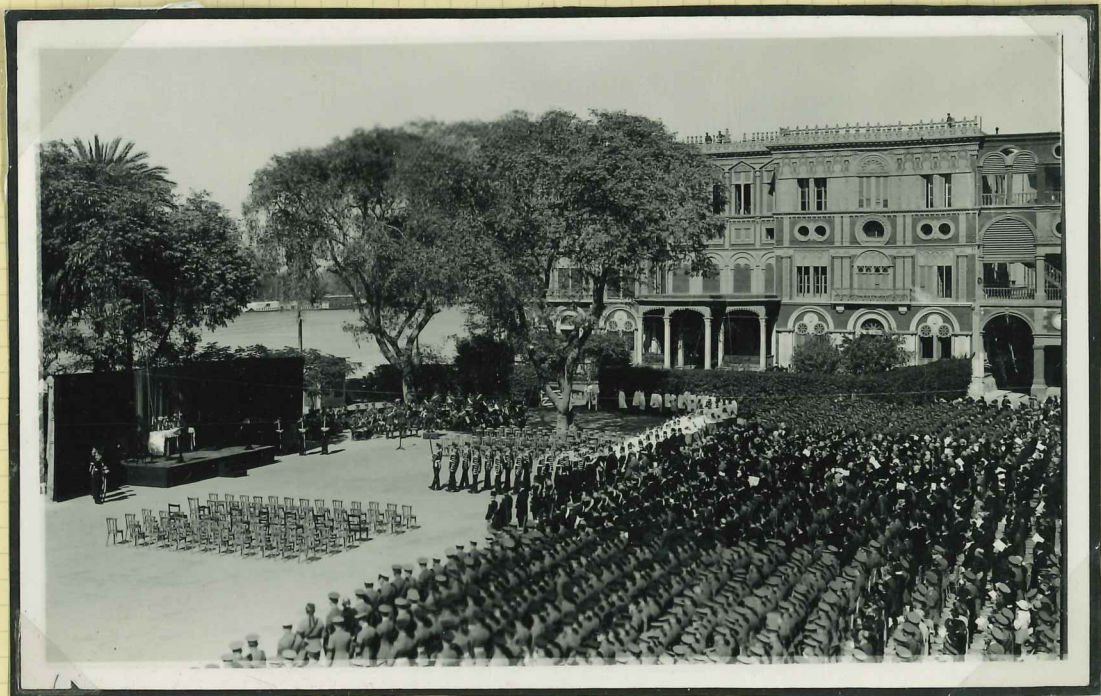
Photogravure  
Harrisons



Overprint in  
typography



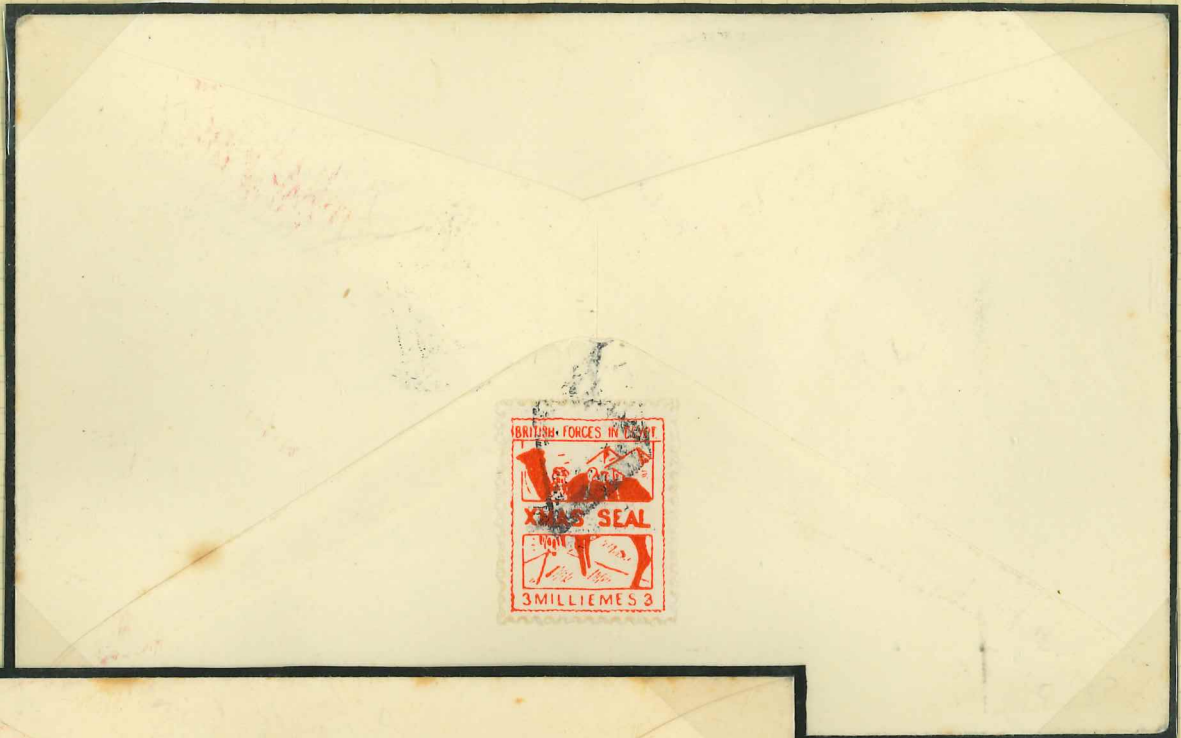
Variety broken "U" in "Jubilee" from position 6 in the frame;  
the right stamp in which the right branch of letter U is short.



The Silver Jubilee of George VII was celebrated not only by  
the issue of the special blue stamp, but also by a military  
parade at Kasr el-Nil Barracks, Cairo. Real photo postcard  
donated by an Australian sergeant who was on parade.

# Christmas Seals 1935

First printing issued 23rd November 1935 on reverse of cover from R.A.F. Abu Qir, Numeral Frank No. 13 and transit date stamp Military Post Office (in full) at Alexandria 7-XII-35.



Second printing issued 17-DE-35



M.P.O. Alexandria to Pensey

"Philatelic" cover has both printings as a first day cover for the second printing; Numeral Frank 6 transferred from Cairo.

## Christmas Seals 1933-4

Unsealed Christmas card envelope with 1934 Christmas seal from Mustapha Barracks, Sidi Gaber, Alexandria bearing Numeral Frank 17 in black and Alexandria (4) civil date stamp.

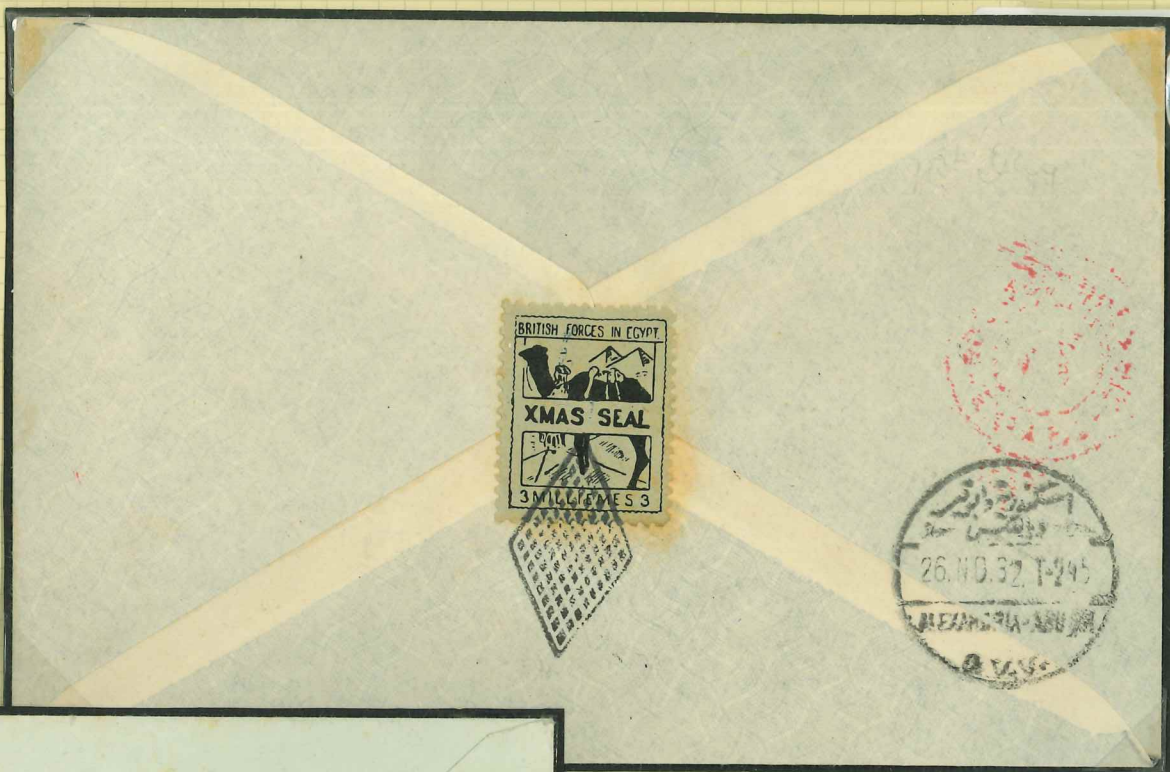


Another franked 1933 Christmas seal from R.A.F. station at Aboukir with Numeral Frank 14 and Abu Qir civil date stamp.



# Christmas Seals 1932-4

First day  
cover from  
26 NO 32  
with N.F.  
14 and  
civil post  
date stamp  
of Mamura  
to Leeds.  
Alexandria  
- Abu Qir  
T.R.O. same  
day



Numeral Frank 3 of M.P.O.  
Alexandria dated 2 XII 35  
though stamp issued 1933!



Numeral  
Frank 21  
of M.P.O.  
Cairo to  
Ilkeston  
in 1934.

# Christmas Seals 1935

23rd November, 1935  
101,000 printed

Bound in booklets of 100, five frames of twenty



Pane of twenty seals less the left-hand selvedge; this stamp is distinguishable by being dark vermillion on white paper.

# Christmas Seal 1933

13th November 1933  
53,786 printed



*Bound in booklets of 100, five frames of twenty*



*Normally printed on white paper as above, this issue is also known printed on a toned paper.*

# Christmas Seal 1932

26th November 1932

41,857 printed



Bound in booklets of 100, five frames of twenty



Two blocks, of eight and twelve respectively, which together make up a complete pane or frame of twenty.

# Commemorative Seals

## (i) Christmas Seals

For use on the reverse of unsealed Christmas and New Year card envelopes, all issued late in November from 1932 to 1935. Designed by Sgt. W.F. Lait of the Royal Army Service Corps and lithographed by Walker & Co; Amalgamated Press, in Cairo.



1932



1933



1934



1935 1st



1935 2nd



1935 provisional

Same printing plates used and same perforators as '1st comb'.

## (ii) Commemorative Seal



George Vth Silver Jubilee 6th May 1935

# Official Post

*On His Majesty's Service*

*Official cover, addressed to Messrs. Boots Ltd., sent from Naval Stores Officer at Port Said (Navy House) 3 AUG 1936.*



*The rate by Imperial Airways 28 millièmes, 2 mills extra!*

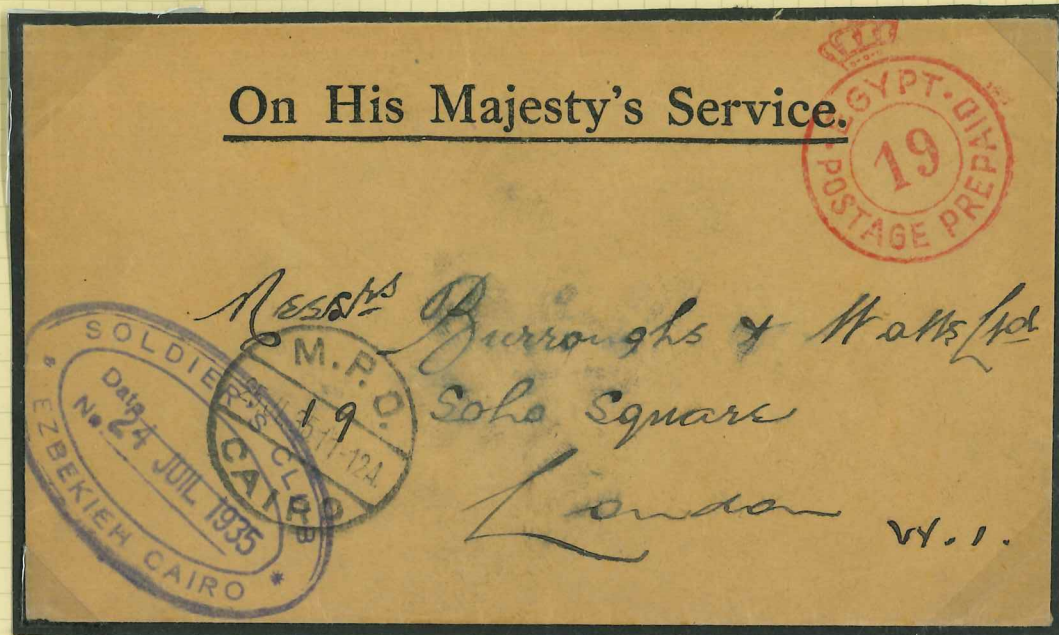


*Reverse of cover showing sender's cachet; franked 30 mills and posted through civilian post*

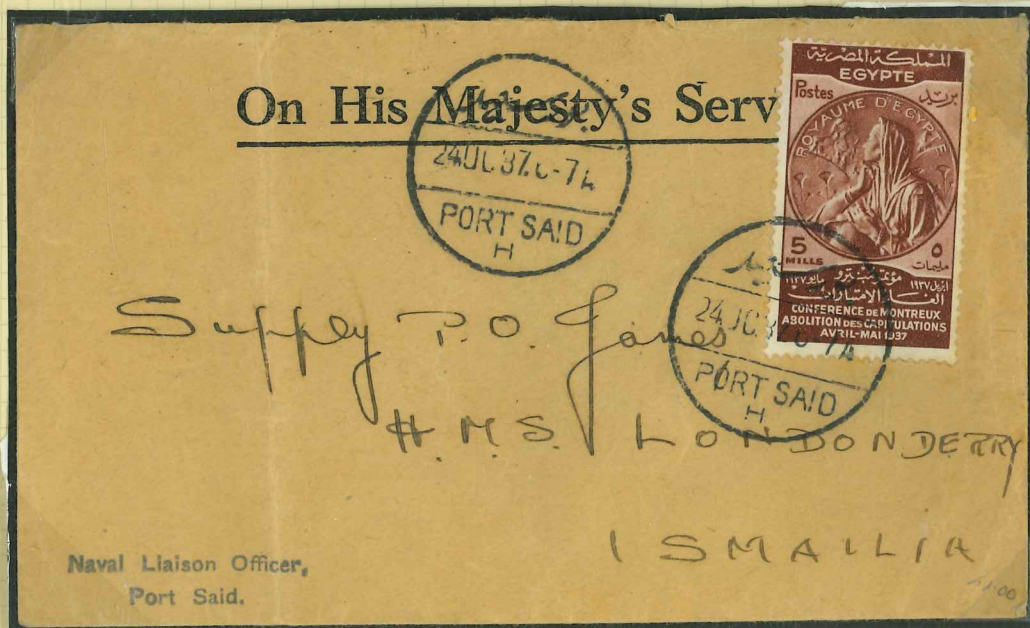
# The Postal Concession

## Official Mail

1935 to London and, below, internal mail 1937



O.H.M.S. envelope franked Letter Stamp of 1st Comb Issue cancelled 17x15 dot retta on reverse, with Numeral Frank 19 and MPO Cairo type 1 plus sender's cachet Soldiers Club Ezbekieh, Cairo under the 'old' scheme to London 24 JL 35.



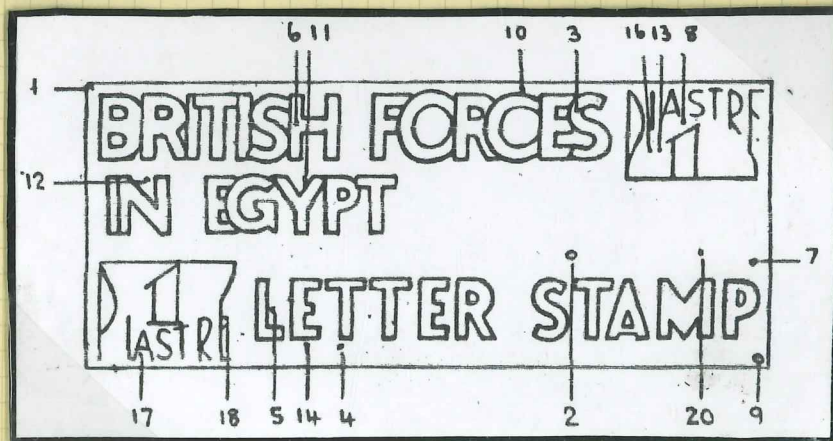
O.H.M.S. cover from Naval Liaison Officer, Port Said franked 5m commemorative, the internal rate, to ship at Ismailia.

# Fourth Letter Stamp

21st December 1935  
"2nd Comb" Issue



Hobbs' frame B



Reduced sketch by Hobbs showing plating varieties frame B



# Fourth Letter Stamp

21st December 1935



Perf. 14; 214,660 sold of the half a million printed, known as "2nd Comb" issue with lighter shade and an additional perf.

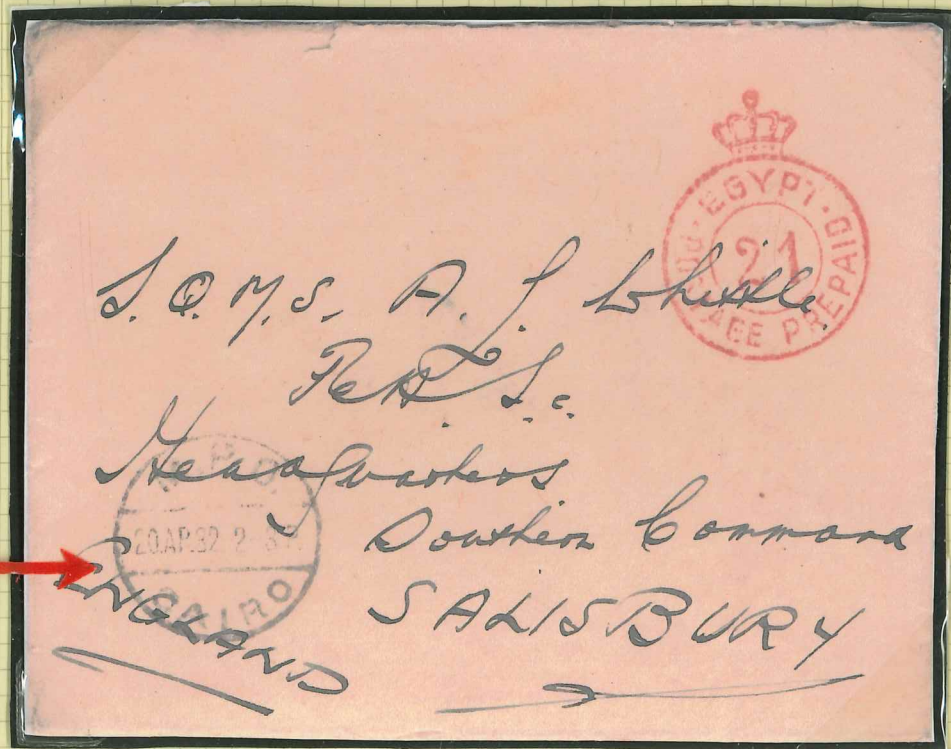
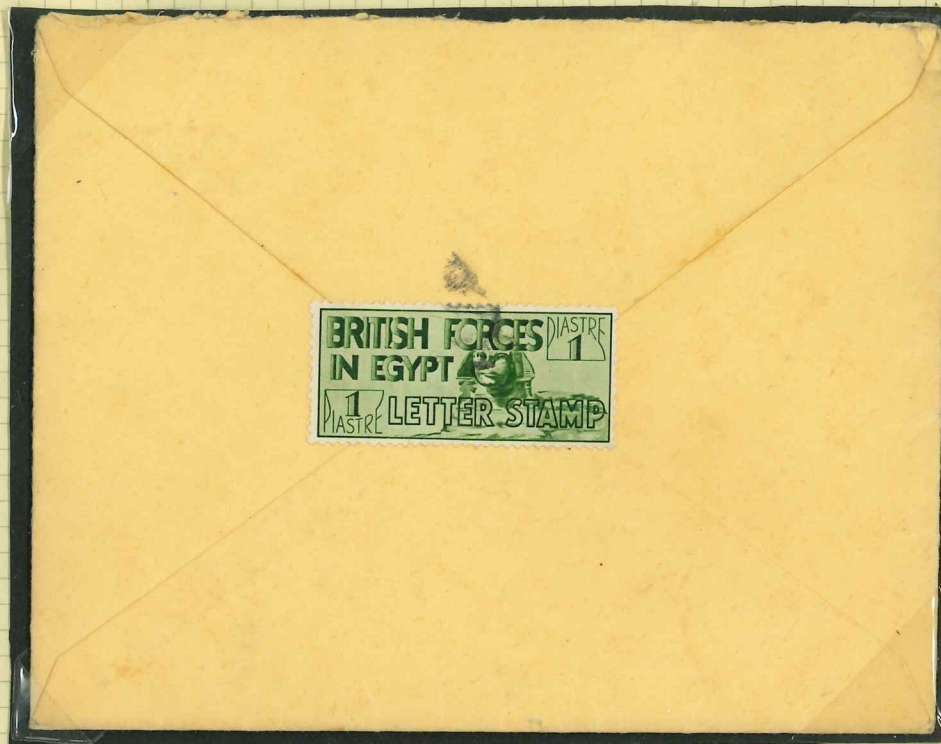


Above, conventionally franked, below franked front of cover.

## Second Letter Stamp

*Impossible date.*

*Issued on 5th December 1934, this second letter stamp could not have been posted on 20 AP 32, i.e. before the Concession!*



*A letter inside from expert Charles Minett says, "as it was done after lunchtime, he may have had too many in the N.A.A.F.I."*

# Fourth Letter Stamp

21st December 1935  
"2nd Comb" Issue



Hobbs' frame A



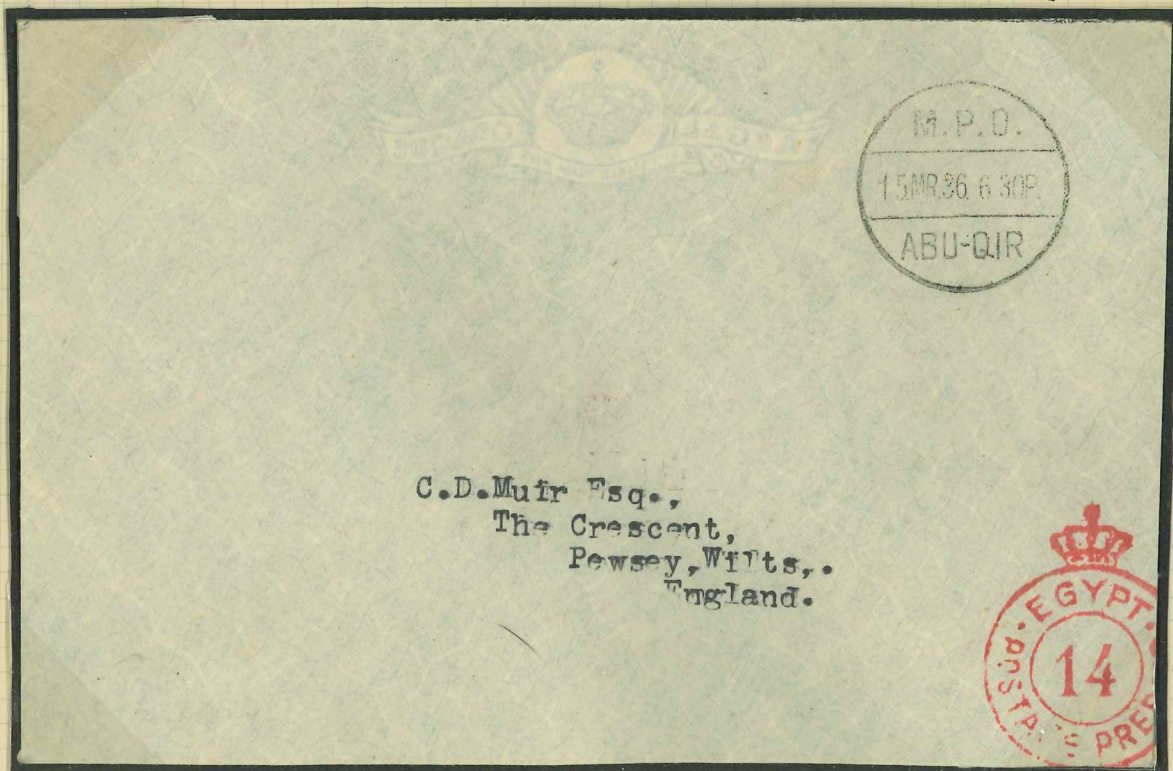
Reduced sketch by Hobbs showing plating varieties frame A

# The Postal Concession

21st December 1935



Extract from announcement: "... they will be accepted in Military Post Offices as stamps on letters up to and including the 15th March, 1936. After that date they will



cease to be of postal value..." last day use from Abu Qir.