

BRITISH FORCES
Syria

Field Post Office D.C.5
9 February 1919

Alep
26 March 1919

CARTE POSTALE

ICI EN ALLEMAND

Partie réservée à la correspondance.

ICI EN RUSSSE

Adresse.

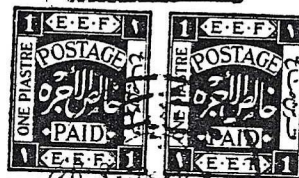


Edition de la Palestine Moderne - Jaffa

Dear Edna
This is just
out of the town.
Mustafa

From Edna Jones
102 Brighthelm
Bradford
Yorkshire

Registered



Lieut. F. H. Roper
1/8 Hants.

No 1 Mess

W 27 / 2 Mustapha

Alexandria



Field post office D.C.5 (HQ 5th Cavalry Division) operated in Syria from early October 1918. It is recorded used at Aleppo from 26 October 1918 to 3 March 1919. Registered cover with EEF stamps was mailed by Captain Davidson to a fellow officer in Egypt. (Receiving mark of FPO SZ11 at Mustapha Barracks on 9 April.)

BRITISH FORCES
Iraq

Basrah
30 December 1918
27 May 1919
8 November 1921



Photo Post Card.
SPECIAL DELIVERY
BY THE KING A QUEEN
OF PERSIA GULF.



By Appointment.

TUGG'S POST CARD

POSTALE

FOR ADDRESS



ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

Mr. Wilber L. Bowers,

San Diego,

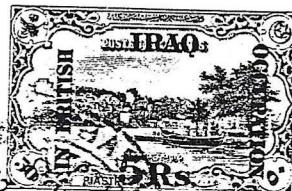
5/27/19

C. W. Bowers
Business Secretary,
Basra,
Mesopotamia.

2529 B.

500

ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE.



J.M. Crocker Esq.

9 Cumberland Rd,

Pluistow E13,

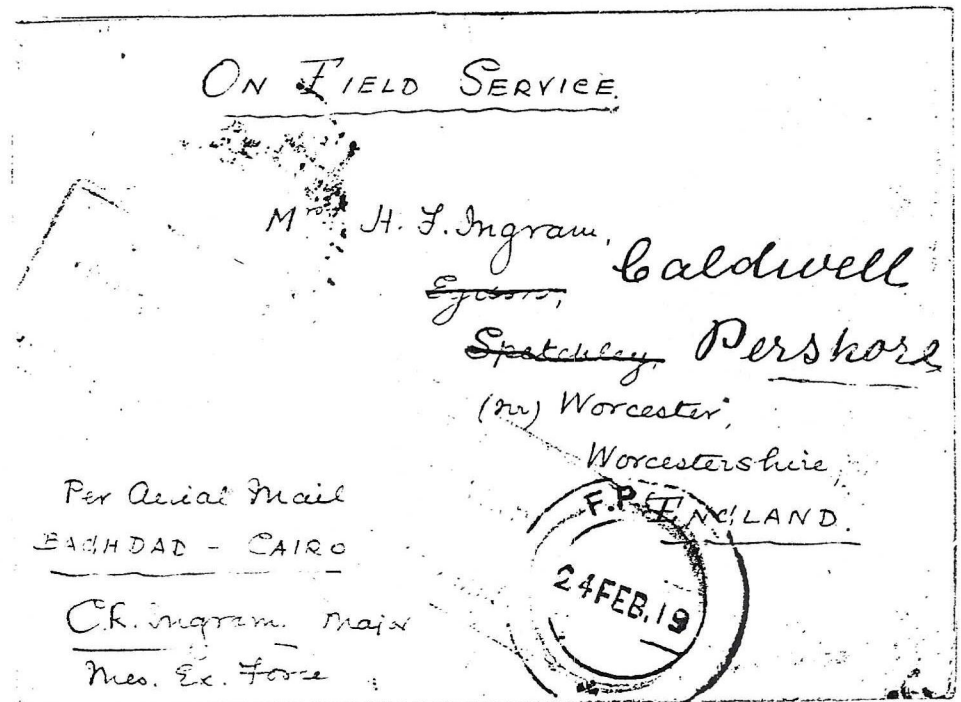
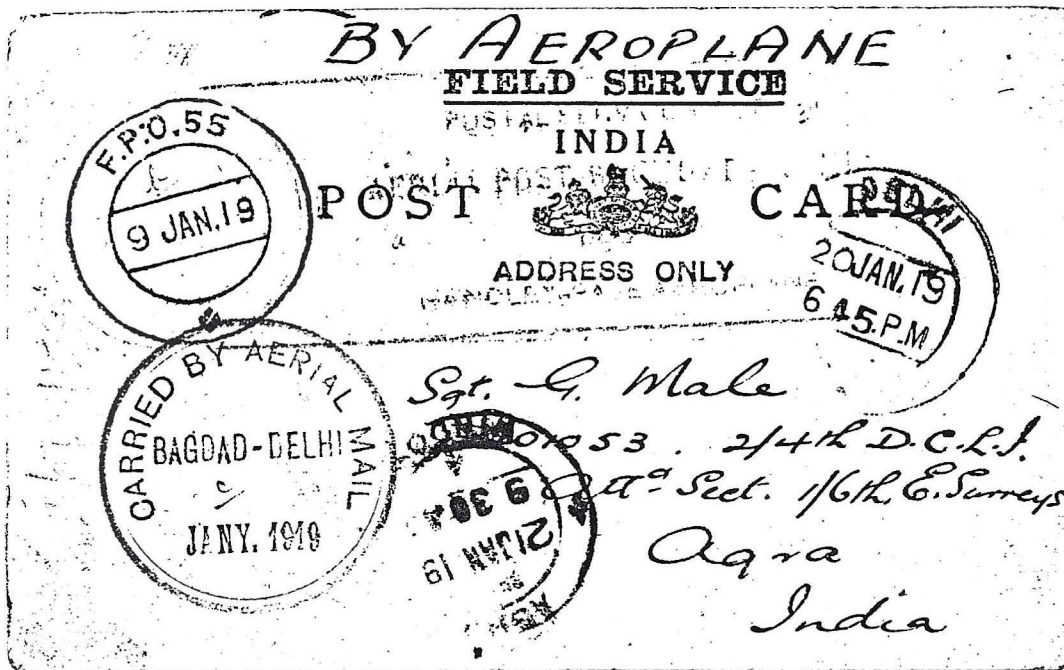
England.

London.

At the time of the Armistice with Turkey, British and Indian troops in the Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force had already occupied southern and central Iraq, up to Kirkuk.. This area was stabilized and stamps with overprints for the British Occupation were in circulation since 1 September 1918. Examples shown of these used from Basra in southeastern Iraq.

BRITISH FORCES
Iraq

F.P.O. 55
9 January 1919
24 February 1919

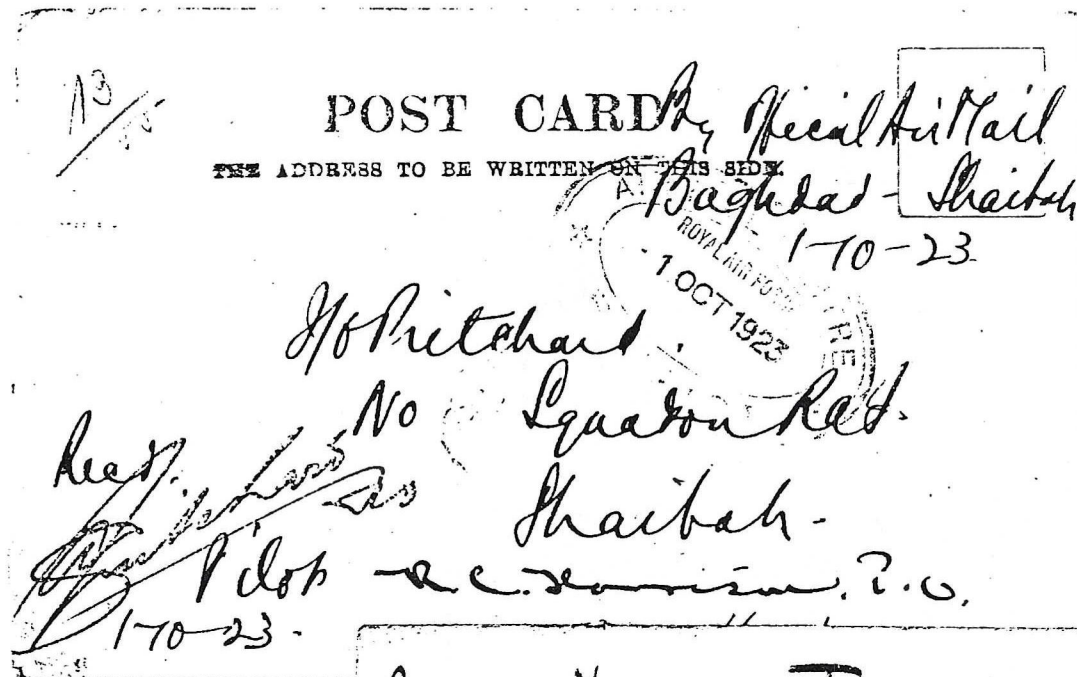


The Royal Air Force flew several pioneer flights via Baghdad. The first through eastbound flight from England to India was in a four-engine Handley-Page aircraft which left Baghdad on 9 January 1919. Firebrace states that six letters were boarded at Baghdad, marked with the special cachets shown. The first westbound flight left Baghdad for Cairo on 24 February with one passenger and "a quantity" of mail, again marked with a special cachet.

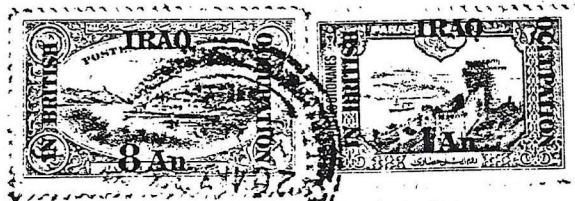
BRITISH FORCES
Iraq

Airmail Centre/Hinaidi
1 October 1923

Baghdad
26 March 1923



AERIAL MAIL VIA BAGHDAD AND CAIRO



10/17

G. I. Boon

55, Queen's Park Terrace

Brighton, Sussex

England

New Lines

25.11.23

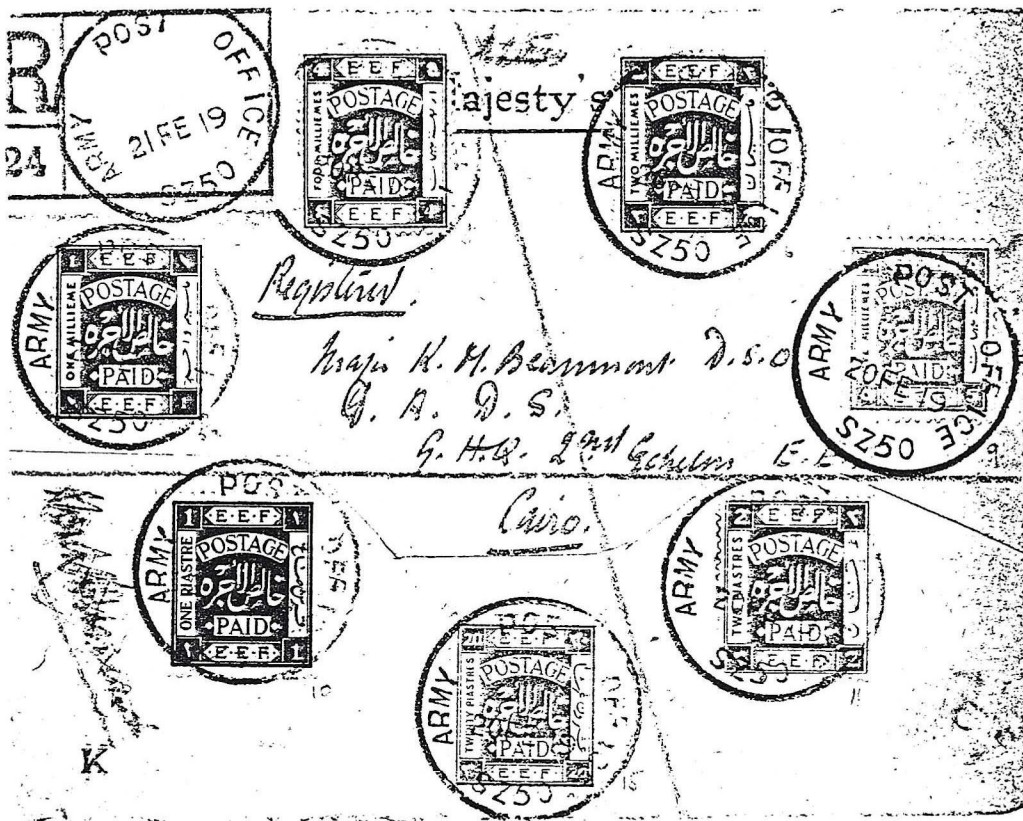
1923



Post card carried by the Royal Air Force on a special Official Air Mail flight from Baghdad/Hinaidi to Shaibah and signed for by the pilot. Cover sent by General Lucas, Director of Stores & Transport at GHQ Baghdad. Illustration shows special cachet reserved for use by high-ranking personnel at Headquarters, applied on reverse of the envelope.

BRITISH FORCES
Cilicia

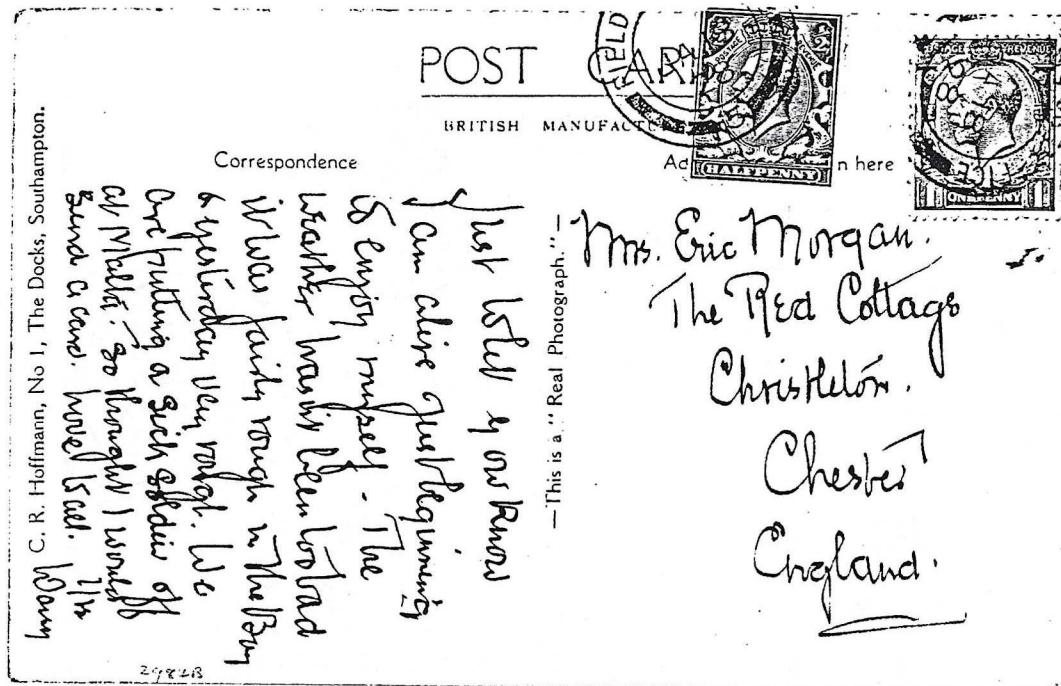
Army Post Office SZ50
21 March 1919



A small detachment of British troops advanced into southern Anatolia. A new military post office was set up at Mersina. APO SZ50 is recorded as used from 1 November 1918 to 1 March 1919, closing when Cilicia was turned over to French and Italian authorities. Covers, even with philatelic franking, are extremely elusive. Above example shows transit marking of APO S.Z.10 (Suez) and arrival at FPO G.M.2 (Cairo), both of 1 March.

BRITISH FORCES
China

Field Post Office 5
18 January 1928

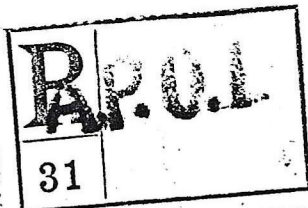


Following the death of Sun Yat-Sen in March 1925, the struggle between the Nationalists and Communists for control of China greatly intensified. The fighting spread into many areas of China, including Shanghai and other major cities. Mindful of the problems caused by the Boxers a quarter century earlier, several of the great powers sent forces to protect their citizens and property in the international settlements.

Above post card sent by a member of the Shanghai Defense Brigade on board *H.M.T. City of Marseilles* at Malta en route to China. A very unusual usage.

BRITISH FORCES
China

Army Post Office 1
20 January 1928
9 December 1937



F 26

*Capt J. A. Smye
49 Durham St
Lynton England*



The Sec.

U.S.R. Club,

Kowloon.

Hong Kong.

Although the political situation quieted down by the summer of 1927 and some of the forces could be withdrawn, the British maintained a military presence in China until World War II. APO 1 at Shanghai is recorded used from 1 March 1927 until 26 February 1940.

BRITISH FORCES
China

Field Post Office 1
6 May 1927
6 November 1935



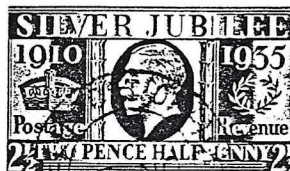
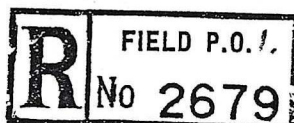
SHANGHAI
DEFENCE FORCE

VIA AMERICA.
PER: S.S. "PRESIDENT JEFFERSON".



Miss. C. H. VENESS,
85A. SOUTH STREET,
EASTBOURNE,
SUSSEX,

ENGLAND



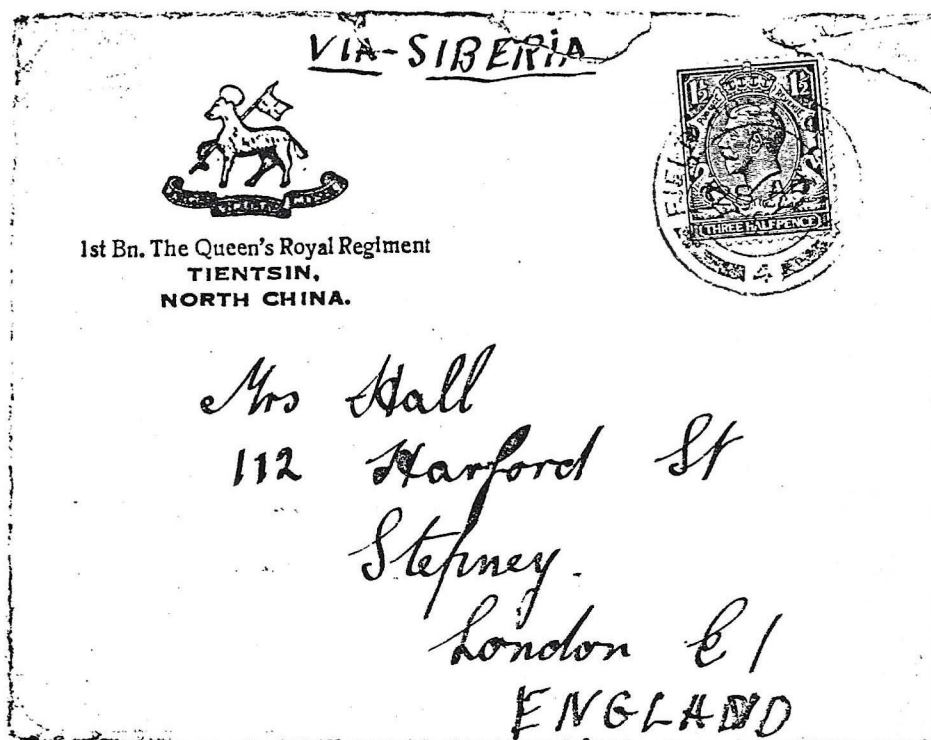
*1/2 London's
extra
P.
Via Scherco's*

*Capt. King
Seymour Rd. Leam-Sole
Hants England.*

Field Post Office 1 operated at Shanghai from 25 March to 6 May 1927, then moved to Tientsin, where it was active from June 1927 until February 1940.

BRITISH FORCES
China

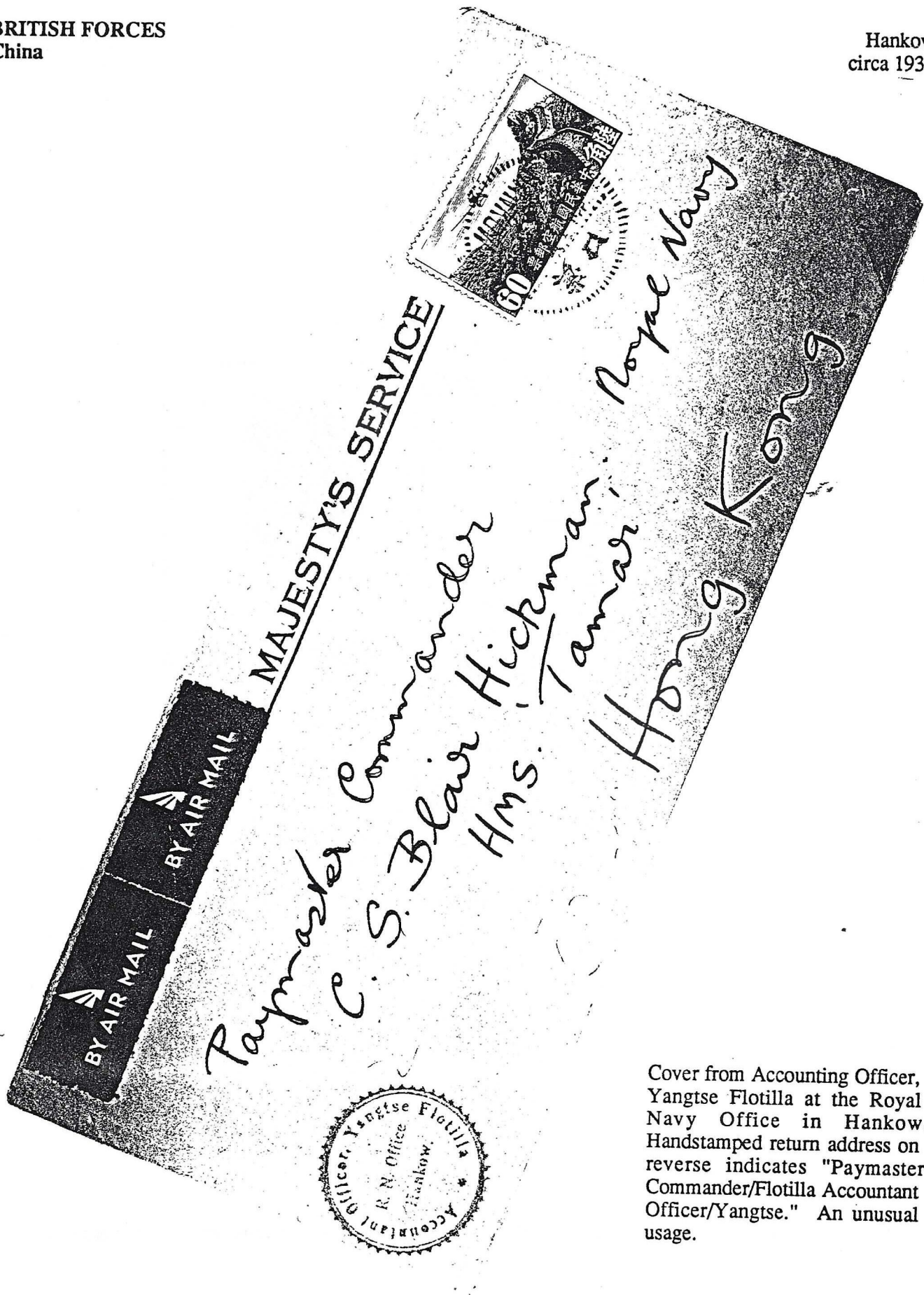
Field Post Office 4
28 April 1932



Field Post Office 4 operated at Shanhaikuan from 1930 to 1937. Use of a special regimental corner card for China is most unusual.

BRITISH FORCES
China

Hankow
circa 1937

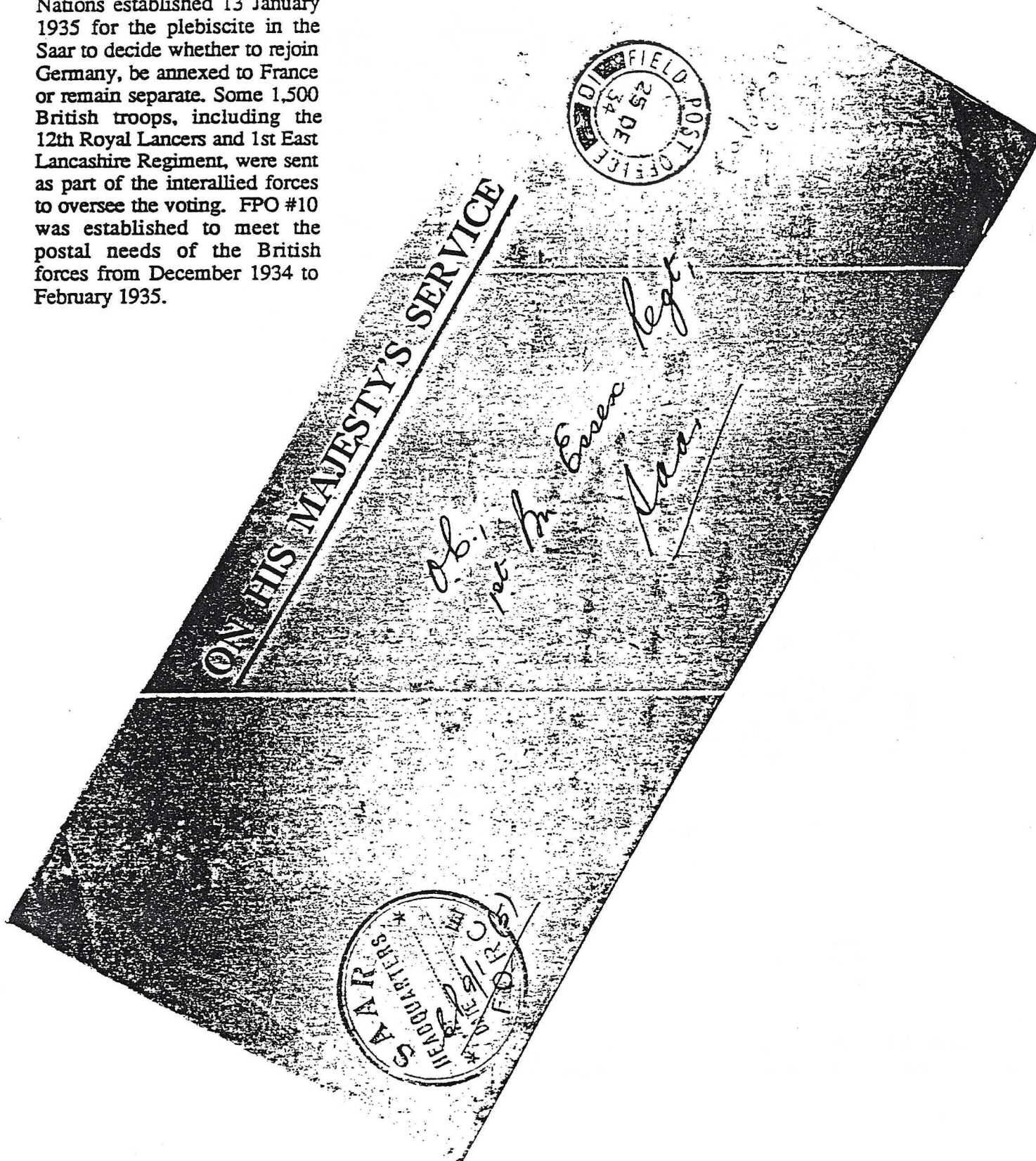


Cover from Accounting Officer,
Yangtse Flotilla at the Royal
Navy Office in Hankow.
Handstamped return address on
reverse indicates "Paymaster
Commander/Flotilla Accountant
Officer/Yangtse." An unusual
usage.

BRITISH FORCES
Saar

Field Post Office 10
25 December 1934

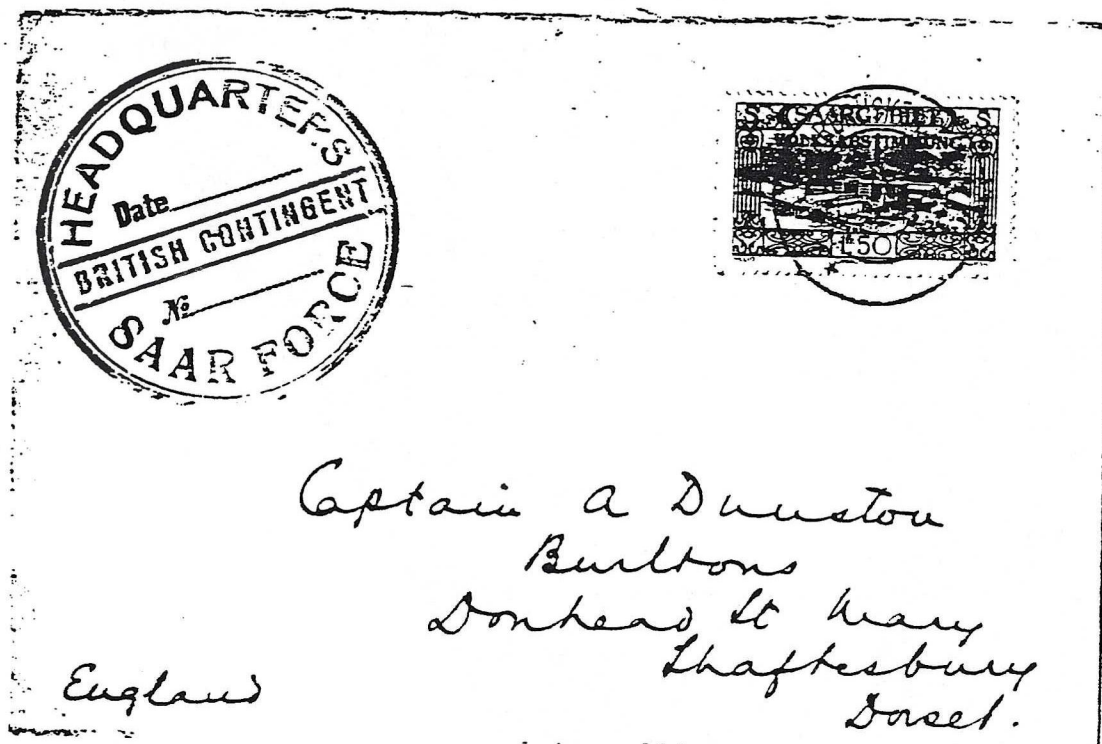
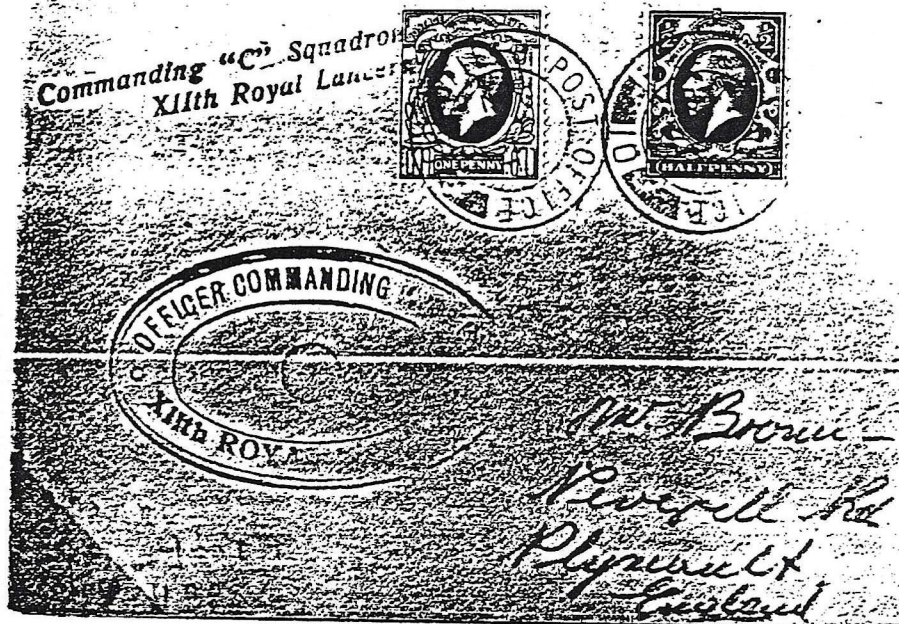
In June 1934, the League of Nations established 13 January 1935 for the plebiscite in the Saar to decide whether to rejoin Germany, be annexed to France or remain separate. Some 1,500 British troops, including the 12th Royal Lancers and 1st East Lancashire Regiment, were sent as part of the interallied forces to oversee the voting. FPO #10 was established to meet the postal needs of the British forces from December 1934 to February 1935.



BRITISH FORCES
Saar

Field Post Office 10
21 February 1935

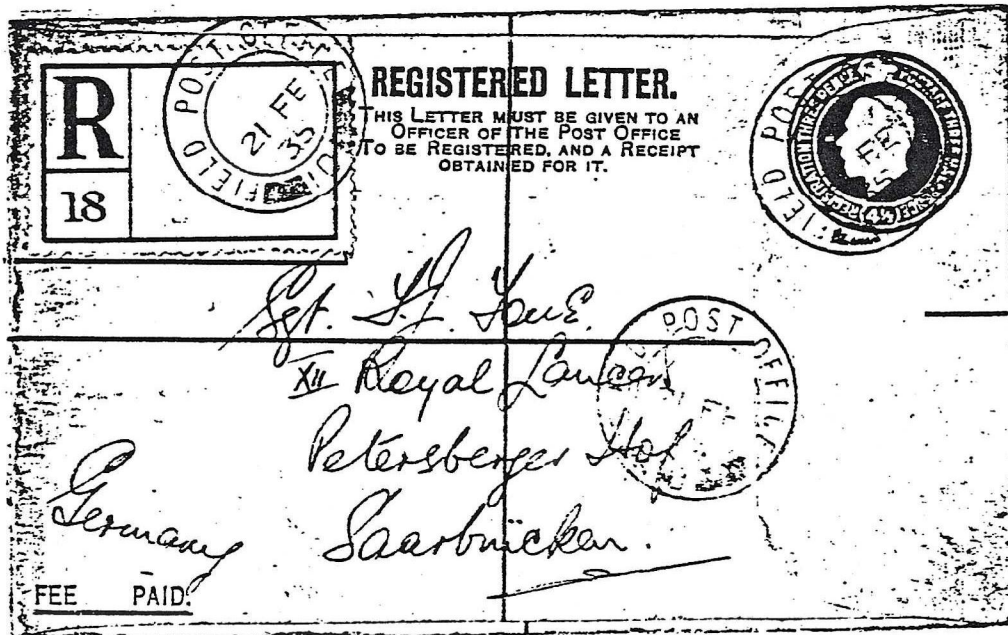
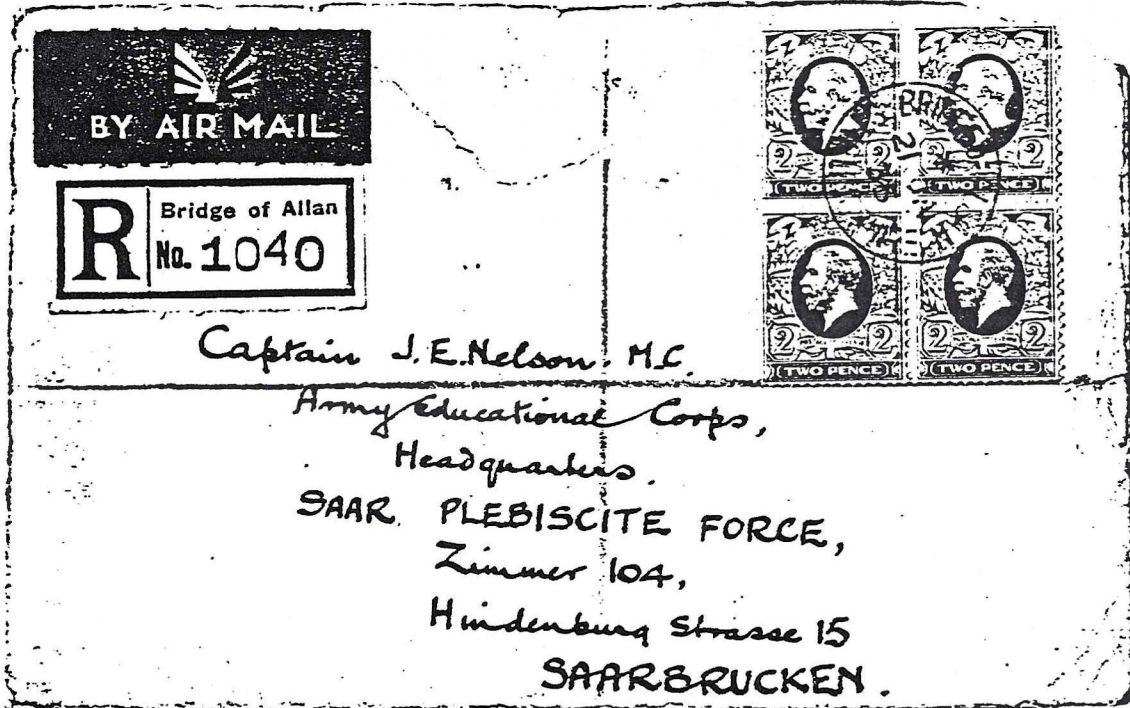
Saarbrücken
17 __ 1935



Unit markings on mail from the British Saar Force are uncommon and sought after by specialists. Above examples are from the Commander of the Royal Lancers and the Headquarters of the British Contingent.

BRITISH FORCES
Saar

Field Post Office 10
23 January 1935
21 February 1935



Registered mail involving the Saar Force is very unusual. Above covers provide examples of both incoming and outgoing correspondence.

BRITISH FORCES
Ethiopia

Addis Ababa
13 March 1936

Aden Camp
16 August 1936



G. P. Cutress,

17 Rosedale Road,

Stoneleigh Park,

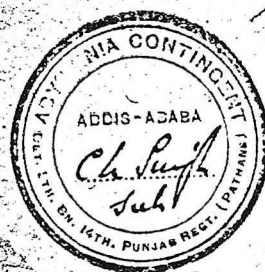
Ewell, Surrey, Eng.

چھاونی احمد انگر

پاک سردار احمد غلام احمد کو

بجی

4 AT

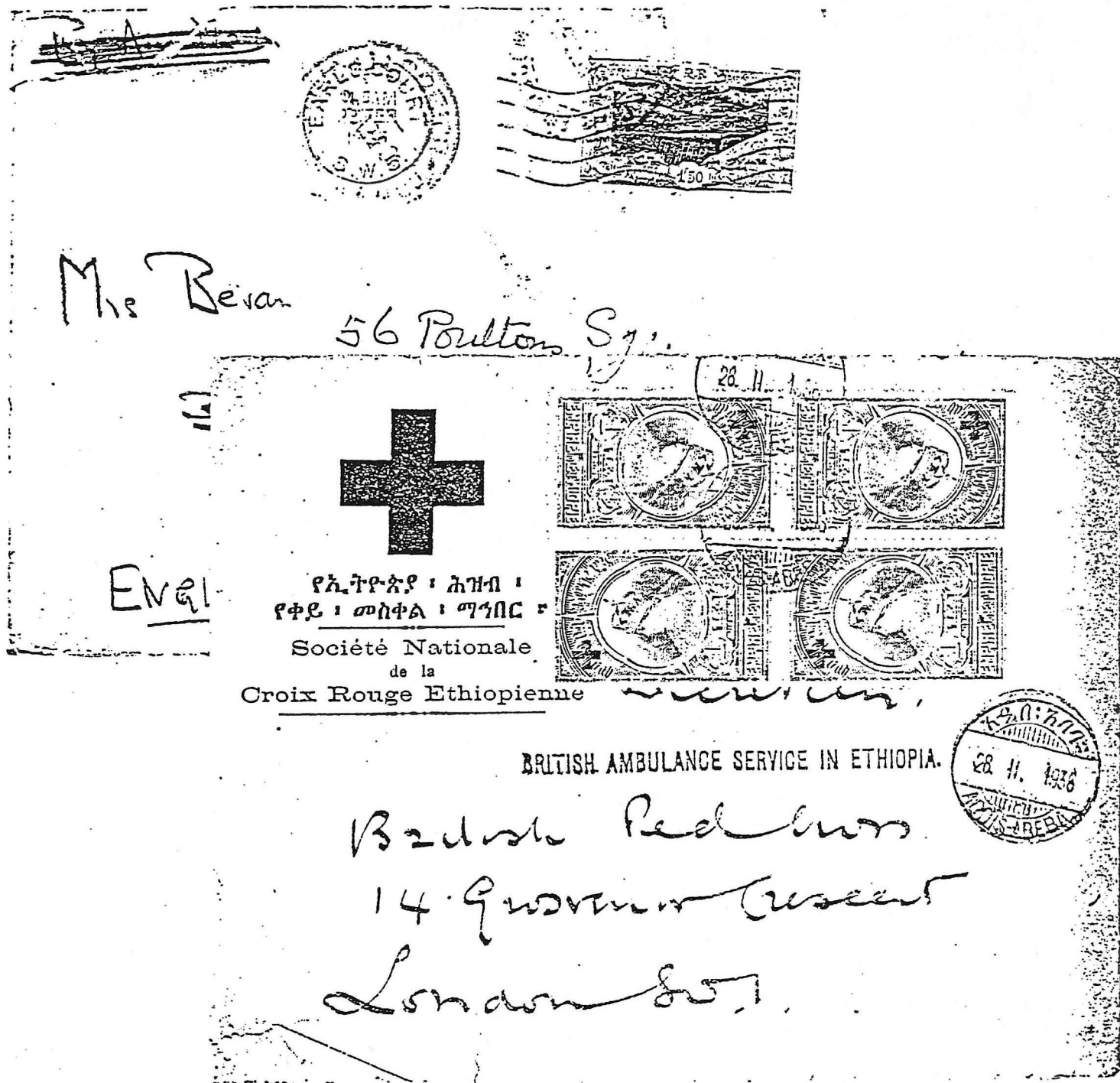


Following the outbreak of war between Italy and Ethiopia, a detachment of Pathans from the 5th Battalion of the 14th Punjab Regiment was sent from Aden to guard the British Legation at Addis Ababa at the beginning of 1936. A special cachet reading "Abyssinia Contingent" was applied to their mail. In May 1936, these 130 men defended the Legation during riots and looting just prior to the Italian entry into the capital. Mail sent subsequent to that time was taken by special bag to Aden for postmarking.

BRITISH FORCES
Ethiopia

Djibouti
16 February 1936

Addis Ababa
28 February 1936



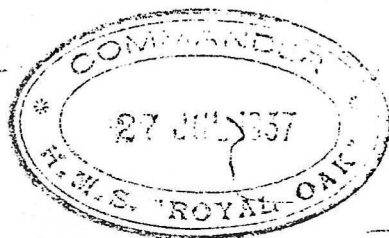
During the fighting, the British Red Cross organized an Ambulance Service in Ethiopia to care for the wounded. The above covers show circular and straight-line cachets used on mail from this unit, one dispatched via the post office in French Somaliland and the other through the Ethiopian civil postal service.

BRITISH FORCES
Spain

St. Jean de Luz
27 July 1937

May 1938

ST JEAN DE LUZ
27 JUL 1937
H.M.S. Royal Oak
North Coast Spain
Patrol
Visits
St. Jean de Luz.



ROSS ROBERTSON
CONVICT STN.
LANCOLIVER IS.

DOVER 17.5.38.

17 MAY 1938
VALENTINE'S
POST CARD

FOR CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ADDRESS ONLY

Brit originati: demandepte
Kungo! - litz iim esum ity
his no sp. franciumu nimmu
Dover. Qui x-Qris iert inadu
liddicus metnos, eie zium, iet
vnt laged bibraktura. lue abg
nopr-cijumis sua fto varerit
an eundis Palerduo paradet
maida liden, Dover gan is
feti angrs, un nejanis lue
hani gan nexo Palerduo verifia
izelust ia vareru palint of
Sueu. Noukan fenu jank
dicas. inonipim s verci
nien P. un V. Cime.



OBSERVING OFFICER SIS
E. KADAŠS

NON-INTERVENTION-BOARD

PALERMO.

ITALY

The British role in the Spanish Civil War was a minor one, in which units of the Royal Navy participated in the international blockade of Spain designed to prevent the seaborne inflow of weapons. The cover above was from the H.M.S. Royal Oak on patrol off the north coast of Spain.

Postcard mailed from England to an "Observing Officer" of the Non-Intervention Board located at Palermo on Sicily. This group was charged with oversight of the blockade, and mail related thereto is extremely elusive.

WITH BRITAIN'S ENTRANCE INTO WORLD WAR II, THIS EXHIBIT COMES TO AN END. THUS, LATER EXAMPLES OF BRITISH FORCES ABROAD ARE OMITTED, SUCH AS THE MILITARY MISSIONS IN VARIOUS ALLIED COUNTRIES AND POSTWAR OCCUPATION ACTIVITIES.