# Postal history highlights

By 2000 BC Bahrain was known as wealthy Dilmun, hub of a vast trading empire. By 600 BC it was incorporated in the Assyrian Empire but remained largely independent. Bahrain was occupied by Portugal from 1522 to 1602 and then by Persia and Oman until the still ruling Al Khalifa family took control in 1783. In 1861 the Ruler agreed to British protection, until independence in 1971.

A post office was opened in 1884, using Indian stamps until "BAHRAIN" overprints were issued in 1933.

This collection covers the postal services of the Indian, Pakistani, British and independent post offices, including provisional postmarks, war-time routings, mixed frankings, destination and incoming mail, proofs and postal stationery with a focus on items of special historical interest.

#### Literature:

Neil Donaldson "The Postal Agencies in Eastern Arabia and the Gulf" (1975)

T.E. Jones, "A Postal history of the Arabian Gulf Post Offices" (1994)

Alan Parsons "The Indian Postal Agencies in the Persian Gulf Area" (2001)

# The Royal Philatelic Society London

# Certificate of Display



Patron Her Majesty The Queen

This is to certify that

#### Jakob Von Uexkull

Displayed:

"Bahrain"

at The Royal Philatelic Society London from 1st to 31st October 2016



1892 (6.10), underpaid cover to Bushire (arr. cds. 9.10), franked QV ½ A., with Squared Circle cancel. On the front boxed "POSTAGE DUE/ ONE ANNA". The earliest of the two recorded examples of this mark from Bahrain.

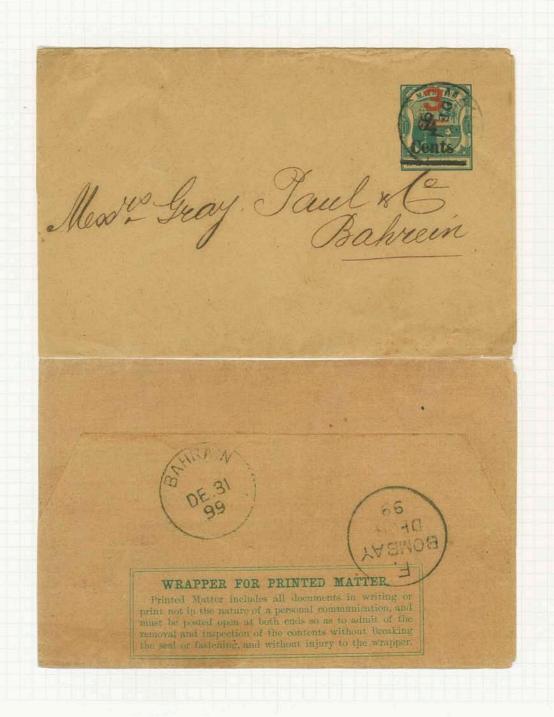


1893, Postcard "ONE ANNA" from Bahrain (9.7), sent via Basra (11.7) and postmarked there (Proud KD 9, over one year later than recorded), then via Sea Post Office A (28.7) to Bombay and London. A very rare early commercial usage and routing.

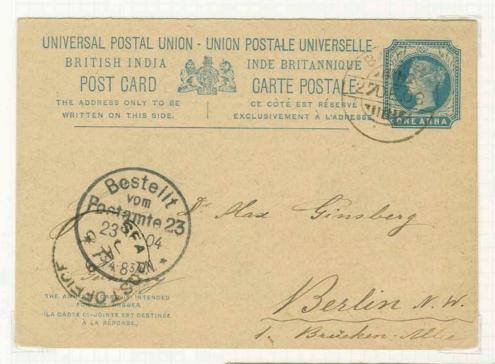


1899, incoming mail from Mauritius.

Newspaper wrapper 3 on 4 on 5c. from Mauritius (1.12) via Bombay (28.12) to Bahrain (31.12, Donaldson T.3). A very early and rare origin.



1903, pair of Reply Postcards 1A. with the reply sections still attached, sent from Bahrain (27.12) via Aden Sea Post Office (9.1.04) to Berlin (23.1). A very rare usage.





1905, incoming mail from Bushire (cancelled 17 May 05) to Manama, Bahrain (received 18 May 05); 2 1/2 annas postage affixed; large squared circle cancel; single circle BAHRAIN receiving cancel on reverse. The BUSHIRE canceler has the broken letters "R" and "E". The original letter is enclosed written in French.

Bonchir, le 15 mai 1905. Cher Monniem Perroune, Votre lettre du 24 avril m'en parvenne lain avant celle que vous avez en l'annalilité d'écure Monsieur G. Perronne Minamah Bahrein.

1908, the unique India "ONE ANNA" envelope used from Bahrain (7. Oct) via "SEA POST OFFICE/BOMBAY-ADEN/24.OC" (on reverse), to England with tax markings.



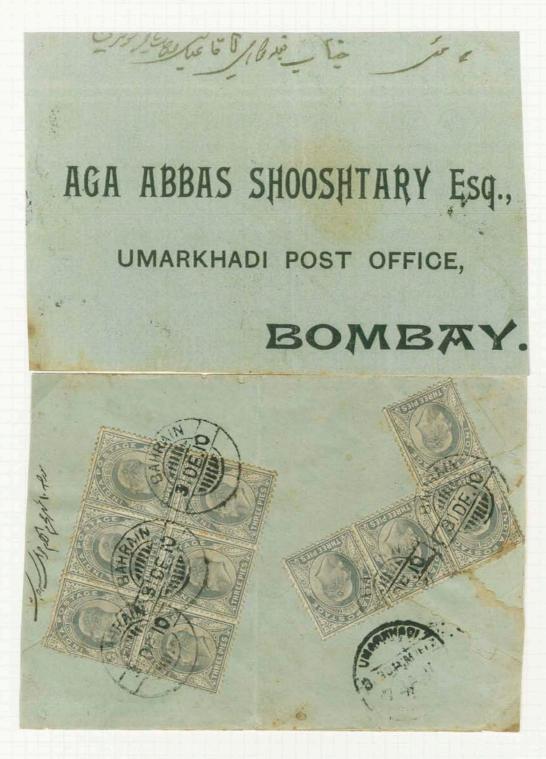
The writer expected to benefit from the soldiers' concessionary rate, but was taxed, with "30 c" and two strikes of a large "T" struck in Bahrain, plus British "3D F.B." (Foreign Branch) on arrival. Neither this envelope not the tax mark previously known from Bahrain.

1905, QV 3Ps. (pair) single rate (½A.) from Bahrain (20.4) to Bombay (29.4)





1910, E VII 3Ps. (10) on printed business cover from Bahrain (31.12) to Bombay (7.1). A very unusual 2 ½ As. franking.



1905, QV 3Ps. (pair) single rate (½A.) from Bahrain (20.4) to Bombay (29.4)





1912, registered cover from Bahrain (18.2) to Bombay (24.2), franked 3 As. and with the provisional registration label only recorded used this year.

Donaldson records the 3 As. as "occasionally" used in Bahrain.



1903-17, E. VII and G. V ½ Anna envelopes, both to Muscat with arrival cds. on reverse, the latter censored in transit in Bombay. A scarce pair.





1915, 1 A. rate to India.

Cover from Bahrain (15.1, Don. Type 4) to Bombay with hand-written censor's notes on the front, including "pro-Turkish" and "Enclosure for Medina". A remarkable survival!



1914-17, mail to Muscat

1914, KG V envelope ½ A. and 1917, postcard ¼ A., both to Muscat, the card via Bushire and censored there. Scarce usages.

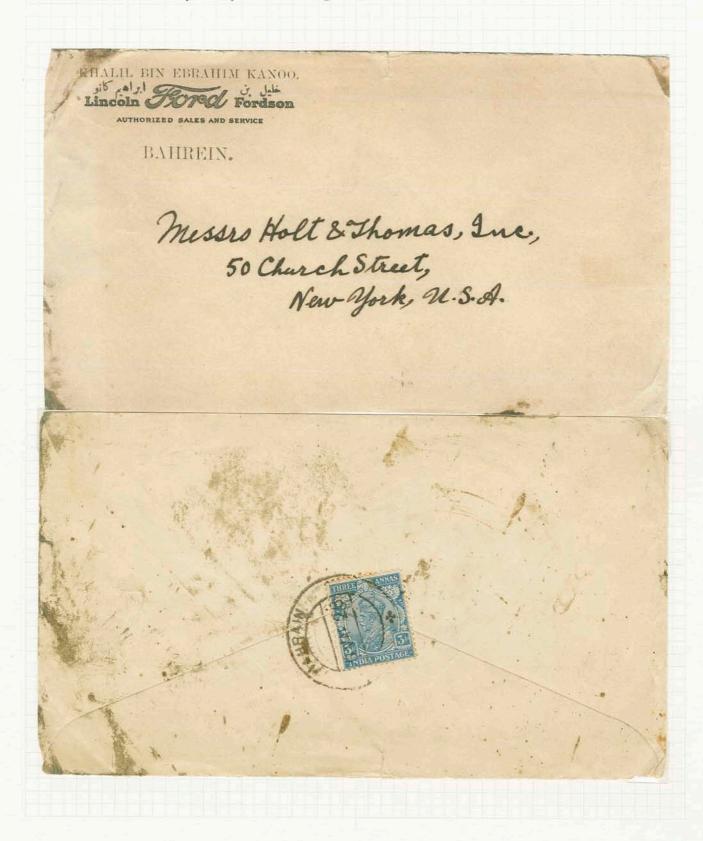






Bahrain 1926, Registered Envelope size J 2As. + 1A.from Bahrain (2.11) to Muscat (6.11). A very rare inter-Gulf usage of this size envelope, not previously recorded used in the Gulf.

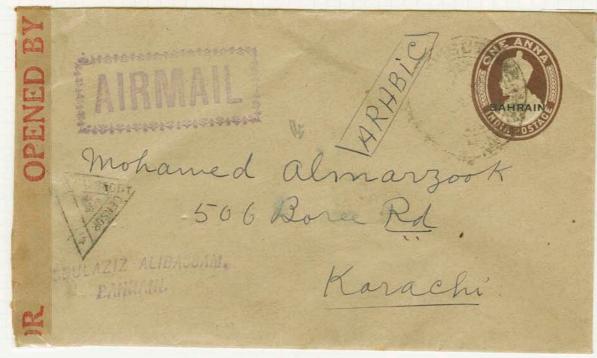
1928, Advertising cover, franked India 3As. for the surface mail rate to USA. A scarce rate and very early advertising cover.



1926-41, KG V. the "ONE ANNA" envelope

1926, used from Bahrain (22.4) to Kot (2.5) and 1941, overprinted "BAHRAIN", uprated with block ½ A. and 3 Ps. on reverse (3 As. 3 Ps. rate), by airmail to Karachi, re-sealed by censor.





1929, India ½ A. in marginal block of 18 on pre-printed business cover from Bahrain (17.11) via Basra (20.11) to Germany (9 As. rate). A rare multiple franking.



1932, 1A. (9) and 3 Ps. (=9 1/4 Ps.) on pre-printed business cover from Bahrain (16.11) to

Bombay (21.11) with the airmail label deleted with a red cross, possibly because underpaid. Still transit only 5 days. Cancelled with the "short-lived" (Donaldson) Type 5B cds. الحسين بن عيسى و اخوانه Messrs. BUSAIN ESSA & BROS? Itaram Bulding



Spl.-Bah, 8,



BAGHDAD The High Commissioner for Mesopotamia The Secretary to His Excellency

1930, registered OHMS cover front, franked 2 As. and 3 As. pair to the High Commissioner for Mesopotamia in Bagdad. Very unusual.



1932, India KGV ½ A., 1 A. pair and 6 As. (8 ½ As. rate) on first flight cover from Bahrain (8.10) to Leicester England where a ½ d. handling fee was charged. A scarce combination.



1932, Air mail cover from London (1.10), franked 7 d., to Bahrain and returned by sea mail (airmail label deleted). Arr. cds. 2.10 on reverse. The "REEXPEDIE" handstamp is very rarely seen from Bahrain.



1932, 3 As. 3 Ps. Rate to India. A scarce, short-lived rate.



To, MR.G.

N. MUSRY,

P. O. BOX No. 576,



BOMBAY, 1.

INDIA.

1931, First Flight cover from Brisbane (7.12) via Calcutta (17.12) to Bahrain (20.12). Very few flown.



1932, First Flight cover from Athens (8.11) to Bahrain (arr. cds. 10.11 on reverse), with special Flight cachet. Very few flown.





1932, First Flight covers to Greece and England.

Bahrain (5.10) to Athens (10.10), insufficiently franked with 6 As. (instead of 8 ½ As.), with very rare Bahrain "T" due mark and red Greek air cachet.





Bahrain (5.10) to Oxford (13.10), with 8 As. (instead of 8 ½ As.) taxed 1 d., also Bahrain "T" mark which "has only been recorded once" (T.E. Jones, p.57).

1932, First Flight cover to England (dep. 5.10, arr. 13.10), franked India 8 1/2 As. and 1933, Airmail cover to USA franked Bahrain 3 Ps. (2) and 3 As. (3) (9 1/2 As. rate),



1933, Imperial Airways first flight cover from Bahrain (29.3) to Athens (1.4), with Greek arrival cachet. Very few flown.



1932, First Flight Basra - Bahrain.

Cover from "BASRAH CITY" (5.10) via "BASRAH SOR" (5.10) to Bahrain (7.10), and returned from there (7.10) to Basra (15.10) by sea-mail. Donaldson states that the postage was 29 fils, but the cover has not been taxed despite bearing only 25 fils.

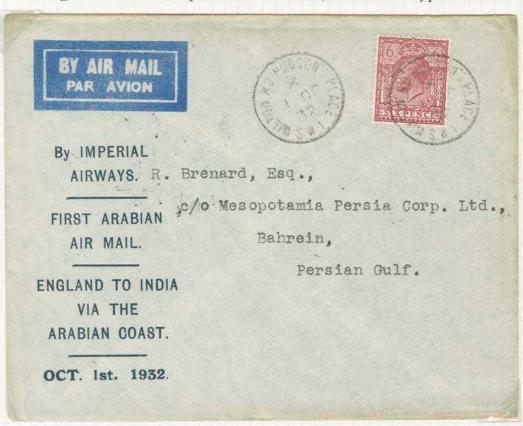


1932, pair of illustrated first flight covers from Basra (4.10) to Bahrain (arr. cds. 7.10 on reverse) and from Bahrain (5.10) via Basra (7.10) to Bagdad (9.10), underpaid and bearing the scarce distinctive Bahrain "T" cachet. On arrival it received the Bagdad horseshoe due cachet, with the charge (2 As. 6 Ps.) converted to 30 Fils.



1932, Imperial Airways First Flight London to Bahrain.

6 d. on cover from London (1.10) back-stamped "Bahrain" (7.10) and 2+3+4=9 d. on registered cover, dep. 30.9, arr. 6.10 (Donaldson Types 5A and 5B).





1932, pair of First Flight covers from London (1.10) to Bahrain (7.10), both backstamped on arrival with the "short-lived" (Donaldson) Type 5B. cds. A scarce pair.



By IMPERIAL ARWAYS.

R. Brenard, Esq.,

FIRST ARABIAN
AIR MAIL.

c/o Mesopotamia Persia Corp.Ltd.
Bahrein.

VIA THE
ARABIAN COAST.

Persian Gulf.

OCT. 1st. 1932.

BY FIRST AIR MAIL LONDON-BAHREIN ISLANDS





E. Seiler, Esq.

PERSIAN GULF

BAHREIN ISLANDS

1932, First Flight covers from Karachi.

Pair of covers from Karachi (1.10) to Bahrain (13.10), one returned to Karachi (dep. Bahrain 15.10).



FIRST KARACHI-BAHREIN.



UNIS ABDULLAH ESQ.
Care Post Master.

BAHREIN ISLANDS

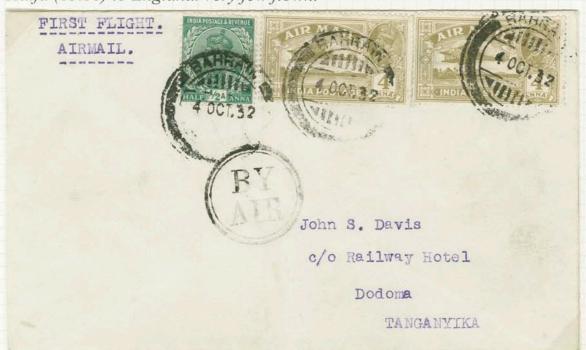
Karach

1932, First Flight cover from Basra (5.10) to Bahrain (7.10), marked "Sharjah" and with Bahrain dep. cds. (8.10), but no indication of arrival in Sharjah. Only 30 covers carried on this flight.



1932, First Flight covers to Africa.

Pair of covers from Bahrain (cds T.6, 4.10), one via Cairo (8.10) to Dodoma, Tanganyika (3.10), the other to Wadi Halfa, Sudan (9.10) and re-directed via Shellal Halfa (13.10) to England. Very few flown.





1932, pair of registered Imperial Airways First Flight covers from Bagdad (5.10) to Bahrain (6.10), then returned from Bahrain (8.10) via Basra (12.10) to Bagdad (14.10). Only 30 flown.



1932-34, First Flights to Egypt and Siam.

1932, cover from Bahrain (4.10) to Cairo (8.10), franked with India 6 ½ As. and 1934, illustrated cover from Bahrain (12.12) to Bangkok (17.12) bearing "BAHRAIN" overprints 6 ½ As. A very scarce pair.

FIRST FLIGHT.
AIRMAIL.





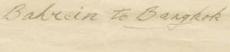


John S. Davis c/o Ch. Tsopolidis 27, Rue Tewfick Alexandria

BY AIR MAIL



OPENING OF THE AIR MAIL SERVICE BY IMPERIAL AIRWAYS AND QANTAS EMPIRE AIRWAYS BETWEEN ENGLAND AND AUSTRALIA











6. Peters do The Acreal Thansport Go of Siam Ltd.

Bangkok

1933, Airmail cover from Bahrain (11.10) via Bagdad (12.10) and Cairo to Malta (17.10).

Mixed franking India 3 Ps. (pair) and 2 As. in combination with BAHRAIN 12 As. (14 ½ As. rate).

A very scarce franking and destination.



1932, India 1A. (2) and 3 As. on underpaid cover to Cairo (dep. 5.10, arr. 8.10), with large "T" cachet (not recorded by Donaldson) and Egypt Postage Due 8 M. The 1931 Inauguration of New Delhi issue was not sold in Bahrain and is thus seldom found used from there.

1933 India 4As. mixed with BAHRAIN 1A. 3 Ps. on cover to Rangoon (dep. 27.9, arr. 1.10). Very few flown.

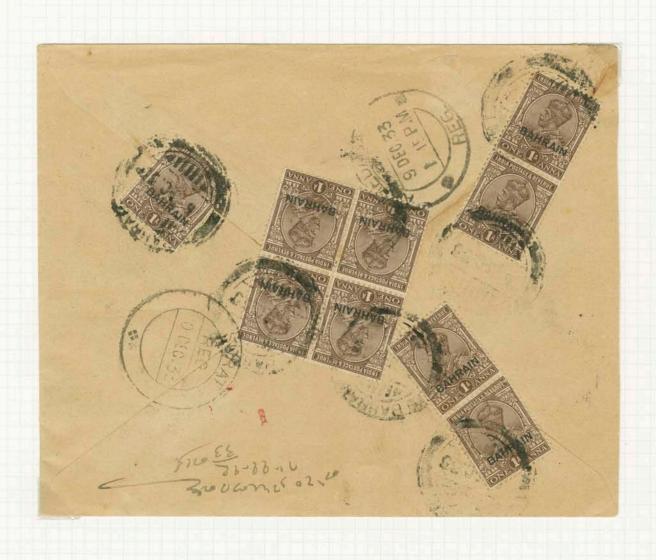




1933, airmail cover from Bahrain (27.9) to Bombay (1.10), mixed franking KG V. India  $\frac{1}{2}$  A. (3) and 1 A. with "BAHRAIN" 1 A. 3 Ps. (2) (=5 As. rate).



1933, 9 As. registered airmail rate to India from Bahrain (4.12) via Ahmedabad (9.12) to Surat (10.12), unusually franked with 9 x G.V 1A. including block of four. A scarce multiple franking.



1933, First Flights to India and Malaya.

Covers from Bahrain (5.7) to Asansol/ India (8.3), franked with India 5 As. 3 Ps., with framed "KARACHI – CALCUTTA / FIRST AIRMAIL" cachet (7.7), and from Bahrain (13.12) to Bandon / Malaya (arr. cds. 21.12 on reverse).





#### 1933-34 ZEPPELIN FLIGHT COVERS



1933, by
air from
Bahrain via
London to
Berlin, then
by Zeppelin
to Brazil

Registered, mixed franking. Four known.

1934, arrived too late for the Zeppelin Flight, carried by airmail with Zeppelin label deleted.



1933, registered First Flight cover from Bahrain (12.7) to Calcutta (15.7), which missed this flight but caught the "Second Flight". The cover was to be sent on to Cyprus but this was ignored and the cover held for collection until October when it was sent to the Dead Letter Office in Bombay (25.10) for disposal, but there the instructions were noted and the cover finally sent to Cyprus via Port Taufiq (5.11). A remarkable routing!



1933, 6 1/2 As. registered rate to Iraq.

3 Ps. (2), 1 A. and 2 As. 6 Ps. (2) on registered cover from Bahrain (4.3) to Basra (9.3).

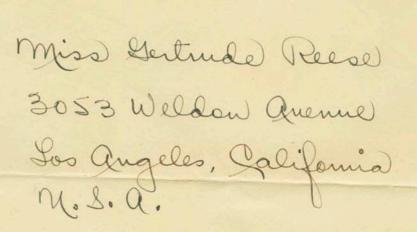


1934, overland and sea mail.

G.V. mixed 5 As. rate on cover from Bahrain (8.5) via Basra (17.5) to England with red man. "By overland mail Bagdad-Haifa", and G.V 3 ½ As. sea mail rate to USA.



SEA MAIL



1934, 9 1/2 As. via Greece to Austria.

Airmail cover franked with 3 Ps. pair, 1 A. and 8 As. from Bahrain via Cairo (13.10) and Athens (16.10) to Vienna (18.10). A very unusual routing!



1935-37, 9 1/2 As. rate to USA.

Pair of covers from Bahrain to California, one with Paris transit cds. on reverse, directional handstamp "PAR AVION/ NEW YORK TO SAN FRANCISCO" deleted by 4 violet bars, the other with "PAR AVION" deleted by black bars and box, to indicate that the airmail fee had been paid to Europe only.





1934, First Flight covers from Bahrain (12.12) to Australia, with arr. cds. on reverse of Brisbane and Longreach.



1936, ½ A., 1A. and 8 As. on airmail cover to USA, backstamped in Paris, and with unusual "PAR AVION/ NEW YORK TO SAN FRANCISCO" cachet.





1934, G.V 2 Rs. single franking on registered cover from Bahrain (26.8) with Cairo transit (31.8) and Mulhausen arrival (3.9) cds on reverse. A very scarce commercial use of this stamp.



1934, 9 P. + 9 P. double reply postcard, 1 A. envelope and 1 A. + 3 As. registered envelope, all from the GPO Archives with specimen "1934" overprints. Unique set. 1934





POST

WRITING SPACE



CARD

ADDRESS ONLY

1934



#### REGISTERED

LETTER.

THE ADDRESS MUST BE WRI TTEN ON THIS SIDE.



1934, KG V. 3 Ps. (4), ½ A. (2), 1A. (5) and 1A. 3 Ps. (2) on airmail cover from Bahrain (13.12) via Cairo (29.12) and Genoa (31.12) to Geneva.

A remarkable franking (9 1/2 As. rate).



1936, postcard (3 As.) and cover (2 ½ As.) to England with different overland mail handstamps. The Collins Handbook reports only 9 items of overland mail from Bahrain.



OVERLAND MA

Mr D. Irail

National Back of India,

Bishopsgahe,

London

1935, postcard showing the Ruler of Bahrain, franked 4 As. and sent by airmail via Paris to New York and onwards, as indicated by the special cachet. A scarce card.





1937, picture postcard by airmail via Paris to USA (5 As. rate). A scarce card.





1935, airmail cover (dep. 7.6) to Paris (21.6) with 9A. 3P. postage, damaged and resealed by the French P.O. with black "DETERIOREE PAR MACHINE TIMBRAGE/LE CONTROLEUR" (= Damaged By The Stamping Machine). A rarely seen P.O. instructional mark, not previously recorded on mail from Bahrain.



1935, George V 3 Ps. (6) and ½ A. in block of four on "Overland Mail" cover to Germany with "AIR" handstamp deleted. A very scarce 3 ½ As. Rate; only a few overland mail covers recorded from Bahrain.



1935 (ca.), G.V 3 ½ As. (3 As. + 2x3 Ps.) on airmail cover to Germany, charged postage due as overweight, with framed German "Nachgebühr" (= to pay) and large Bahrain "T" in circle. This mark has not previously been recorded used during the Indian agency period (T.E. Jones, vol. 1, p. 57).



1935, incoming sea mail from USA.

1935, sea mail cover (5c. Rate) from Omaha (22.7) via Bagdad (13.8) and Basra (14.8) to Bahrain (23.8). A rare rate.



1936-40, pair of covers sent overland via Basra, with "OVERLAND" and "OVERLAND MAIL" cachets (5 As. rate). A scarce routing.





1936, pair of covers from Denmark, franked 30 Øre, to a crew member on a Danish ship, sent to the Bahrain Petroleum Co., but arrived too late and forwarded to Belgium, with Bahrain KGV frankings (9 1/2/ As. and 11 As. rates). The only recorded examples.







1934, picture postcard from Bahrain (18.10) to Germany, franked KGV 3 As. and 4 As., with "AIR MAIL" deleted by black bars as insufficiently paid. A very scarce usage.



1936, disaster mail

Airmail cover from Bahrain (19.8) to USA (4.9), sent by the "SCIPIO" Flying Boat which crashed at Mirabella Bay, Crete on 22.8. The rescue mail received the cachet "AVION ACCIDENTE". Stamps fallen off in the water. A rare survival.



### Bahrein

1938, First Flight Unsurcharged Airmail Cover from Singapore (2.3) via Calcutta (3.3) to Bahrein, with rare cachet "IMPERIAL AIRWAYS LIMITED/ BAHREIN" on reverse, returned via Singapore (8.4) and London.



1939, 3 Ps. (12), 1 A. (2) and 1 R. on air mail cover to Denmark with the Bahrain censor's sealing label stapled to the envelope and tied by "BAHRAIN" postmark.





A remarkable cover, proving the use of this label in Bahrain, to a very unusual destination.

1936, "Scipio" Air Disaster Mail

Registered cover to England with one 2a. adhesive still on envelope. The Imperial Airways Flying Boat 'Scipio' crashed in Mirabella Bay, Crete. Handstamped 'DAMAGED BY ... WATER'. Only one other cover known emanating from Bahrain.



1953, from Beyrouth (22.2) via Bagdad (25.2) to Doha (2.3) with the rarely seen "Air up to Bahrain only" handstamp.



1937, KG V 3 Ps. (2), 9Ps. (2) and 1 A. (block of 4) on business cover from Bahrain (8.10) via Basra (14.10) and Bagdad (15.10), and then "By over land Mail" to Germany.

A very scarce usage and 6 As. rate.



1937, KG V. 3 Ps. (2), 1 A. (5) and 2 As. (2) on cover to Germany. "By Air Mail" deleted by bars, as underpaid, with rare "T" and German tax markings and man. "40c." Transit cds. Marseille (29.8) on front.



1938, pair of underpaid covers to Bahrain from New Zealand ("TO PAY/1d." hs deleted and replaced by "T/20/CENTIMES") and England with different "T" hs. The rare "BAHRAIN/DUE/AS." marks unusually have "1" and "2" respectively inserted in red ink. "BAHRAIN AIR" arr. cds. on reverse.





1939, pair of underpaid covers from New Zealand to Bahrain, franked 1d., with tax marks of New Zealand ("T/10/ CENTIMES"), India (two different types) and Bahrain (Donaldson: "Rarely used"). Transit and arrival cds. on reverse.





1938, incoming mail from Ceylon and Tanganyika.

"First airmail without surcharge", pair of covers from Colombo (23.2) to Bahrain (2.3) and Daressalam (7.3) to Bahrain (13.3).





1939, forwarded mail from Saudi Arabia.

Cover from "A. Khan CARE ARAMCO" (Arabian-American oil company) in Saudi Arabia, sent via Bahrain, bearing the 2 Rs. 11 ½ As. airmail rate to USA. A scarce usage.



1939, 6 As. rate to Sweden, unusually made up of G.V 2 As. and 3 As. 6 Ps. plus G.VI ½ A., transit cds of Basra (9.11) and Bagdad (10.11). Marked "By Overland, Bagdad/ Haifa Route". A rare destination and routing.



1939, incoming cover from Orange/Texas (6.11) to Bahrain, marked "Trans-Atlantic Airmail to Europe/Air mail to Bahrain. "Boxed "PASSED BY CENSOR/BAHRAIN" on reverse. A scarce combination.





1939-40, incoming airmail from USA (45c. rates).

Cover from S. Francisco (1.10) via Bagdad (15.10) and Basra (16.10) to Bahrain (26.10) with framed "PASSED BY CENSOR/ BAHRAIN" on the reverse and 1940, cover from Freeport (17.6) to Bahrain (7.8), delayed by the war, opened and resealed in the UK, with framed black Iraqi "NOT OPENED BY / CENSOR".



1939-41, censored mail to Switzerland.

1939, 3 1/2 As. rate, censored in Bombay, cds Don. Type 5C.

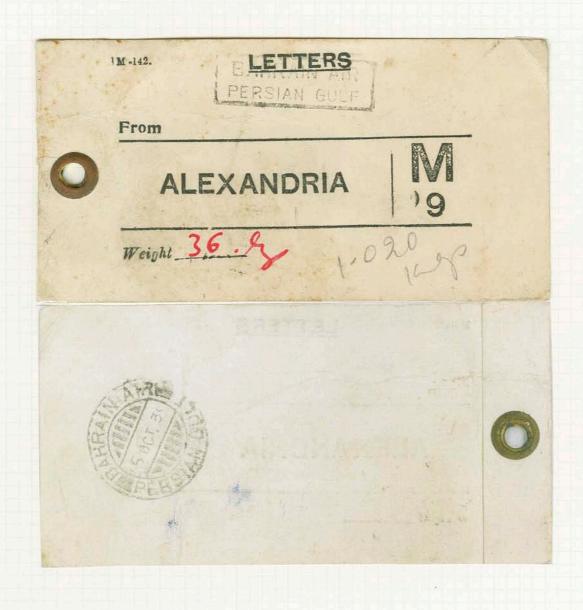




1941, 4 1/2 As. rate on bank letter, "NOT OPENED BY CENSOR", cds. Type 6.

#### 1939, "BAHRAIN AIR/ PERSIAN GULF"

Unrecorded boxed handstamp on mail bag label with "BAHRAIN AIR" cds. (5.10) on reverse, sent by Imperial Airways Flight SW 175 to Alexandria (arr. 6.10).



1940, Airmail envelope from Bahrain (4.11?!) via Karachi (2.11) to Dacca (4.11), franked 4 As., censored, re-sealed and with "DESPATCHED BY RAIL ROUTE/ TO

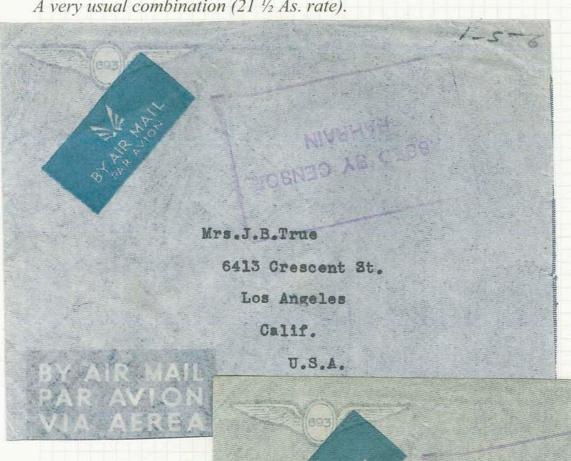


1937, airmail cover from Bahrain (1.12) (Don. Type 6) to USA, sent by Imperial Airways S23 Empire Flying Boat G-ADUZ 'Cygnus', which crashed at Brindisi (5.12). Postage stamps washed off, resealed with French post office tape and purple cachet. "SERVICE POSTAL FRANCAIS /Correspondence retardée/ par Accident d'Avion./ Priez de ne pas taxer" applied on the front. Very rare thus.



1940, airmail cover (dep. 17.6) to USA with boxed "PASSED BY CENSOR/ BAHRAIN", franked KG V. 3 Ps. (pair), 1 A., 4 As. (block of 4) and KG VI 1A. (2).

A very usual combination (21 1/2 As. rate).



NIVELYS CENSOR Mrs.J.B.True 6413 Crescent St. Los Angeles Calif. U.S.A.

1940, 1R. 5 1/2 As. rate USA.

GVI 1R., 2 As. and 3 As. 6 Ps. on pair of covers from Bahrain with Don. Type 7 "BAHRAIN AIR" cds., paying the 3 ½ As. letter and 18 As. airmail to England rate. In London the covers were stamped with two red bars to indicate that they would not be sent on by air.





1940, 1 R. 5 1/2 As. (21 1/2 As.) rate to USA.

Pair of airmail covers with different 21 ½ As. frankings (one mixed G.V and G.VI) paying the 3 ½ As. letter and 18 As. airmail fee to London, were the BY/VIA AIRMAIL inscriptions were deleted by red bars, to indicate that the covers would from now on be sent by sea.



1940, overland mail.

5 As. Rate (G.V. 2 As. pair + G. VI 1 A.) to England with Basra transit cds (2.2) on reverse and 6 As. rate (G.V. strip 2 As.) to USA from Bahrain (11.1) via Basra (22.1) with framed "PASSED BY CENSOR/ BAHRAIN" on reverse.





1940, 14 As. rate to Palestine.

G.VI 6+8 As. cancelled Don. T.8, boxed "PASSED BY CENSOR/ BAHRAIN" on reverse. A very scarce destination.





1940, registered official mail.

Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department envelope, registered to England with red man. "BY AIR", back-stamped "BAHRAIN / REG./ 26 FEB. 40" (Don. Type 9).

A rare survival.

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

No. Stp/48 Orb/s/40

To

The Mr. Alfred G.J. Mosley,

58 Hunter Road

South Sea, Hants

(Congland)

1940, "OVERLAND MAIL" cover from Bahrain (31.12) to USA (6 As. rate), with boxed "PASSED BY CENSOR/ BAHRAIN" and Basra transit cds. (12.1) on reverse.

Overland mail to USA is rare.



PASSED BY CENSOR BAHRAIN

1940, 1 A. (21) and 1 1/2 As. on censored cover to Italy.



A spectacular, probably unique franking.

1940-41, multiple frankings.

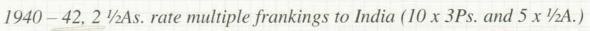
1940, 3 As. 6 Ps. (4 = 14 As.) on re-sealed cover to England and 1941, 6 x 8 As. (48 As. rate) on airmail cover to USA, with 3 different censor's re-sealing tapes.



1940, 14 As. Airmail to Egypt, cancelled "BAHRAIN AIR".

G.V~2~As.~(7) with cds Donaldson T.7, scarce multiple franking censored in Egypt only, and G.VI~2+4+8~As., also censored in Bahrain, cancelled T.8.







1940, photo postcard of the Rulers of Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, franked 3 As. 6Ps. and 12 As. (15½ rate), sent from Bahrain by Pacific Clipper to New York and re-directed, censored in Bahrain and Hong Kong. A remarkable usage.





1940-41, George VI 25 Rs. in central gutter block of four from the junction of four panes, unmounted mint. A rare survival.



1941, airmail cover from Bahrain (20.6) to Switzerland with 1R. 5 ½ As. postage, endorsed "VIA BAGHDAD/ISTANBUL" but sent via Cairo (17.7) and Lisbon (13.8)! Blue Egyptian censorship label and violet "POSTAL CENSOR" handstamp, plus (very rare) brown censor's label. A most unusual routing.



1941, 15 As. airmail rate to Iraq.

Cover from Bahrain (10.1), cancelled "BAHRAIN AIR" (Don. Type 7), via Basra (14.1) to Magil (15.1, arrival cds Proud Type D3 but 12 years later than recorded!). Exceptionally franked with 15x1A. including block of 14. Framed "PASSED BY CENSOR/ BAHRAIN".



1941, 5 Rs. 14 1/2 As. airmail rate on "CASOC" cover to USA.

Franked by George VI ½ A., 2 As., 4 As. plus 5x the scarce 8 As. (including a pair) and 1 R. strip of 3. Tied by "BAHRAIN AIR/ PERSIAN GULF" datestamps (6.4). A spectacular and rare franking.



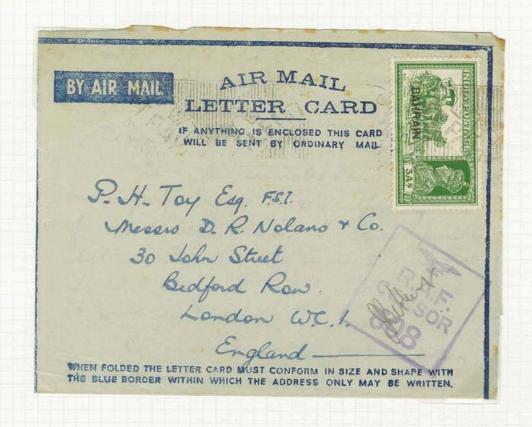
1940-41, routings to California.

1940, G.VI 3 As. 6 Ps., 8 As. and 2 Rs. (2 Rs. 11 ½ As. rate) on cover with framed BAHRAIN censor on reverse, sent via Hong Kong with triangular censor in green on the front, and 1941, GVI 3 Rs. 1 A. rate on cover from Bahrain (19.2) to Berkeley (25.3 arr. cds. on reverse) with directional handstamp "Via boat to Auckland/ and American Airways/ to San Francisco".





1943 (20.9), KG VI 3 As. on Air Mail Letter Card from a member of Paiforce to London, cancelled on arrival, with optimistic contents that the war will soon be over. "RAF CENSOR 608" cachet. A scarce usage.



1941, 1/2 A. (2) and 3 As. 6 Ps. on airmail cover via India to USA. On the reverse is a violet censor's handstamp "Please request sender in future/to write full name and address/on the envelope together with/the language used."



A very rare use of this handstamp from Bahrain.

the language nach

1941 (26.9), Northern Rhodesia-Bahrain. Airmail cover franked 3d. blue and 1s. yellow-brown and black tied by BALOVALE/NORTHERN RHODESIA datestamp in black.

Baghdad transit and Basra cds (20.10) on reverse, Iraqi circular Censor in violet and airmail label deleted. Struck with framed PASSED BY CENSOR/BAHRAIN in violet (Donaldson page 65) on arrival. A rare cover, the first recorded from Northern Rhodesia.



1941, George VI 1 A. (block of 8 and pair) with 1 R. in block of four on registered censored cover to Iraq, with Kirkuk arrival mark on the front.



The only recorded 1 R. block on cover.

1941, 15 As. airmail rate to New Zealand.

2 As. (3) and 3 As. (3), cancelled "BAHRAIN/ AIR" (Donaldson Type 7), on bank cover. A very rare destination from this period.



1941, overland mail cover from Bahrain to London, franked 2 ½ As. but underpaid, with "T" in circle applied in Bombay where the cover was censored. 1 ½ d. due charged on arrival. Red manuscript "DELENDA EST GERMANIA" (= Germany must be destroyed) - the slogan adapted from the one used by the Roman poet Cicero, during the wars against Carthage.



1940, underpaid airmail cover from Bahrain (15.12) to Karachi (20.12), franked 2 As., taxed 6 As., with the "BAHRAIN/DUE/AS" hs on the front which "was rarely used" (Donaldson) and octagonal "KARACHI/UNPAID" on reverse. Resealed by Censor.



Bahrain 1945, KGV 5 Rs. marginal pair on airmail cover from Bahrain (17.10) to USA. The highest recorded franking, probably containing photographs. Red "O.A.T." (onward Air Transport). A very rare cover and late usage of KG V stamps.

1941-42, censored mail to Iraq.

1941, 8 As. (4 As. marginal pair) overland rate to Bagdad with Arabic Iraqi censor's cachet on front, Bahrain Censor on reverse, and 1942, airmail cover (14 As. rate) to Basra with Bahrain and bilingual Basra censors, both on front.



Bollshine Bakker
American Mission

Sordan Mattison

American Counsel

Paghdad

Frag

1941-46, G. VI envelopes 1 A. (censored and uprated 3 Ps. + 2 As. on reverse) and 1 ½ As. (uprated 2 As.), both to Bombay with arr. cds.





1942, underpaid censored cover from Canada with the very rare "BAHRAIN UNPAID" handstamp.

Vancouver 18.8

Cairo 12.9

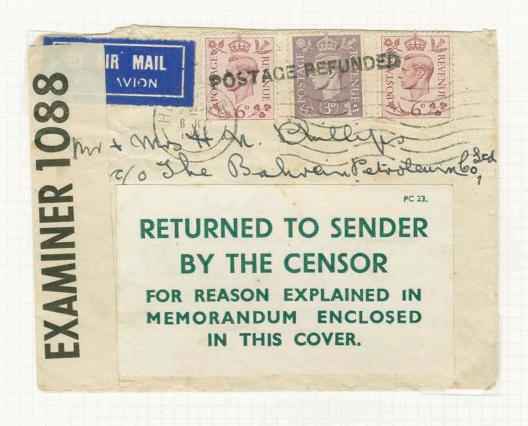
Bahrain 17.9

Canadian "T 100 CENTIMES" due stamp, "BAHRAIN UNPAID 19. SEP 42" Censored in Canada and Egypt



1942, Returned Mail

Airmail cover from Hereford, England (6.7) with GVI 3d and 2x6d, addressed to employees of "The Bahrain Petroleum Co. Ltd., Awali, Bahrain Island, Persian Gulf". Censored and returned to sender, due to the war-time interrupted service, with large green official label, and the stamps additionally cancelled with superb one-line "POSTAGE REFUNDED".



A very scarce marking.

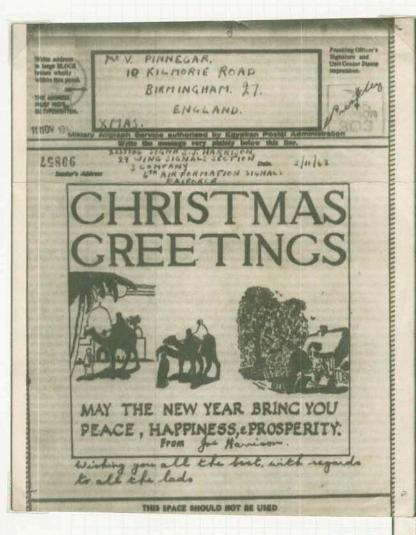
1942, 3Ps. slate, fine used block of twenty cancelled by wavy lined "Bahrain Air-Persian Gulf" handstamp. (Donaldson No.8.)

Also full strike of boxed bilingual purple "NOT EXAMINED/ IRAQ CENSORSHIP".

The largest recorded multiple.

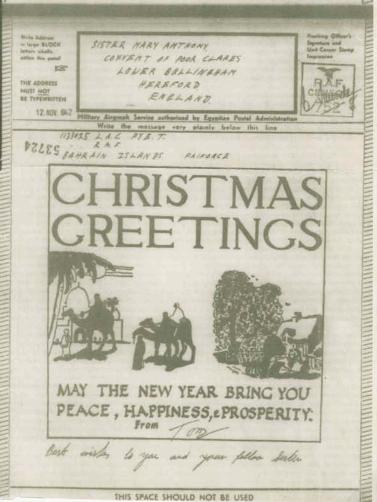


1942, microfilmed Christmas Greetings from British soldiers in Bahrain



From

PAIFORCE (Bahrain)



From

RAF, Bahrain

Very few have survived.

1942 (ca.), airmail bank cover from Bahrain to Bagdad, franked 3 As. 6 Ps. and 1 R. on reverse, with very fine strikes of the boxed "BAHRAIN" and "IRAQ" censor handstamps, and Iraqi censor's re-sealing tape.



1941, underpaid to Iran.

Cover with Bahrain, 1938 ½ A. (4), underpaid by ½ A. and taxed on arrival in Chabahar with Iran 1938 50 D. (2) cancelled "TCHABAHAR". A very rare combination.



1942, 2 1/2 As. rate to India.

Censored and re-sealed cover, the franking remarkably made up of 10x3 Ps. including block of 9, to Bombay with boxed arrival postmark (23.4), advertising war bonds.



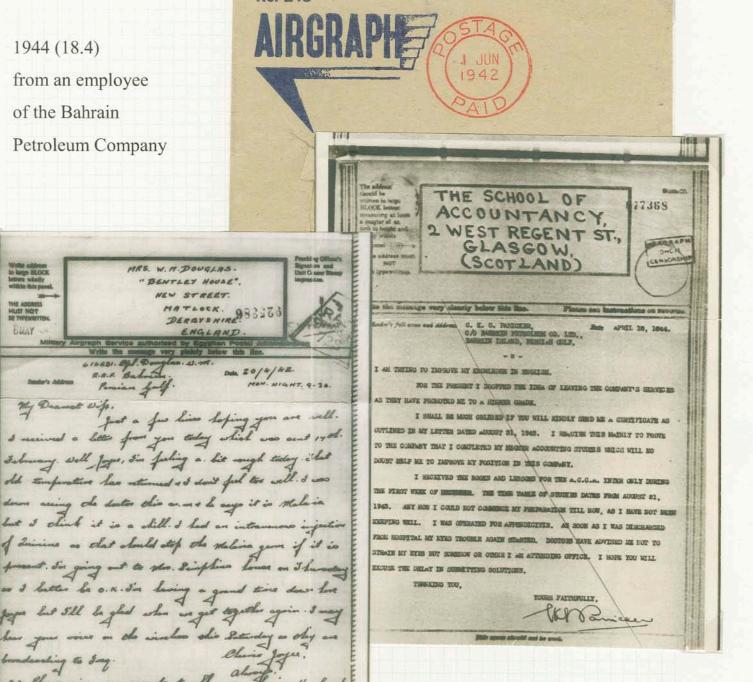
1943, 2 Rs. 11 1/2 As. airmail rate to USA.

G VI 4 As. (3) and pair 1 R. (overpaid  $\frac{1}{2}$  A.) on cover with large US purple "D" censor mark and  $\frac{1}{2}$  A., 3 As., 8 As. and 2 Rs. on cover with British and US censor re-sealing tapes.



1942-44, mimeographed 'Airgraph' letters with forwarding envelope.

1944 (18.4) from an employee of the Bahrain Petroleum Company



1942 (20.4), from the RAF.

"Few and far between from

Bahrain." (T.E. Jones)

1942, censored airmail cover to Bombay, under-franked by 3 Ps. (2 As. 3 Ps. instead of 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  As. = 2 As. 6 Ps.), with the scarce "BAHRAIN/DUE/ ... As." (Donaldson Type 20) and on the reverse octagonal "UNPAID" marks of Bombay and Mandvi.



1943, from the Political Agent to Baluchistan.

2 ½ As. rate, made up of 3 Ps. Block of 8 and ½ A. on censored airmail cover from E. B. Wakefield, Political Agent in Bahrain (15.2) to Loralai (22.2). A scarce



1944, "VP" Provisional registration label.

5 ½ As. registered airmail rate from Bahrain (11.4) to Bombay, with censor's handstamps and sealing tape. Due to a shortage of registration labels, a "V.P" (value payable) label was used. Donaldson records the brief use of such labels in Kuwait in 1943 and 1947 but does not record it used in Bahrain . A very rare cover.

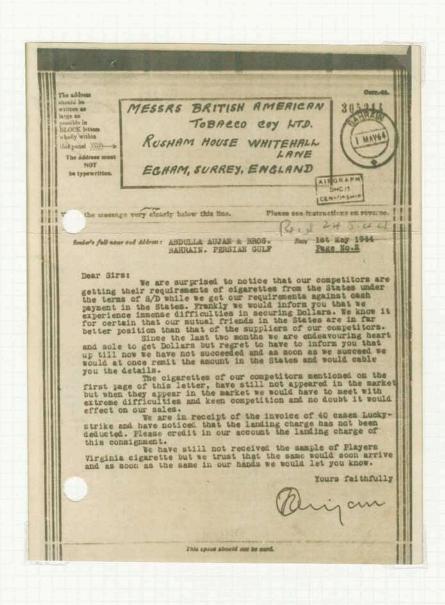


1943, official registered airmail cover from Bahrain (25.11) with the Type 18 registration handstamp used 10 years (!) later than recorded by Donaldson, to Altoona, USA (21.2.44), and re-directed. Resealed by censor. A rare usage.





1944, Airgraph from Bahrain (1.5) to England with commercial contents re the importation of cigarettes. Non-military airgraphs are rare.



1944, 3 Ps.(2), 1A. pair, 3 As. and 1 R. (=1 R 5 ½ As. rate) on airmail bank cover to Switzerland, censored in Bahrain and Egypt, with the very rarely seen Bahrain "OPENED BY EXAMINER" re-sealing tape, tied by the framed Bahrain censor.



1945, incoming mail from Egypt.

53 mils rate on cover via British, FPO 107 (30.7) etc., censored in Egypt with crowned "DEPUTY CHIEF FIELD CENSOR", in Persia with "ANGLO-SOVIET-PERSIAN CENSORSHIP" in English (front) and Russian (reverse) and in Bahrain.

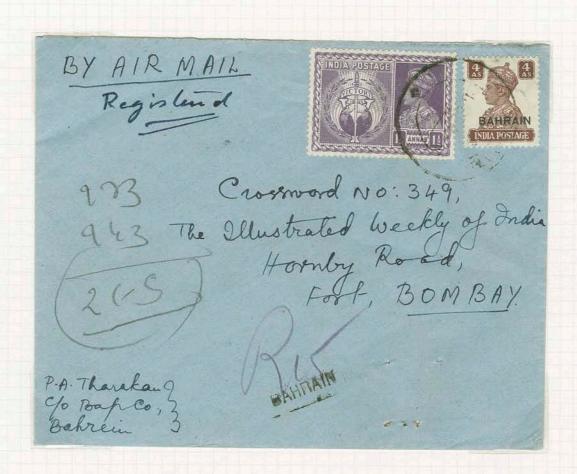


1944, cover to Alexandria via Basrah and Cairo with Bahrain and Iraq boxed censor's handstamps, Iraqi censor tape and circular Egyptian censor handstamp "M".



Extremely rare triple censorship.

1945, India Victory 1 A. mixed with Bahrain 4 As. on superb registered cover to Bombay



"Covers used in Bahrain bearing these stamps are extremely scarce."

(Donaldson Handbook p.68)

1945, KG VI registered envelope 4 ½ AS., sent by air from Bahrain (24.7) via Lagos (4.8) and Miami (30.8) to Sacramento (1.9), uprated 3Rs. 11As. 3Ps., total rate 3Rs. 15As. 9Ps. A remarkable franking and routing.



1945, airmail cover from Bahrain to USA, franked with 2As. block of 16 and ½ As. (32½ As. rate) with the O.A.T. (Onward Air Transport) handstamp (Type IX) to indicate multiple flights, which is scarce from Bahrain.



1945, 9 Ps. and 1A. (3) on censored airmail cover to Abadan from Bagdad, cancelled with the "ADVANCE POST OFFICE No. 7" cds. A very rare "used abroad".



1945-47, pair of airmail covers with multiple KG VI frankings, one to Basra (19 ½ As. rate), the other via Lagos to USA (43 ½ As. rate), re-sealed by censor.





1946, boat mail to USA.

3 As. 6 Ps. Rate.

Both with framed "PASSED BY CENSOR/ BAHRAIN" on reverse, one also with Iraqi "NOT OPENED BY/ CENSOR" on the front. A scarce rate.



1946, the only recorded 6 As. Air Letter.

Indian 6 As. Air Letter overprinted BAHRAIN, used to South Africa and redirected there, with arrival slogan cds. Pietermaritzburg (7.11). Not recorded by Donaldson or Jones and the only known example.



1946, "OAT" (Onward Air Transport) to USA.

Airmail cover (32  $\frac{1}{2}$  As. rate) and registered airmail (2 Rs. 3 As. 6 Ps. = 35  $\frac{1}{2}$  As. rate), both with framed red "OAT", indicating by consecutive flights. Very rarely seen from Bahrain.



1947, 17 As. rate registered airmail to Switzerland.

Cover from Bahrain (9.12, Donaldson Type 9) to Berne (17.12), re-directed to Basel (18.12), exceptionally franked with G.VI 17 x 1A.



1946, Registered O.A.T. (Onward Air Transmission) to USA



Unique
7 R. 12 As.
3P. franking
with very
rare use of
the 5R. and
the victory
1 ½ As.

1946, 14 As. rate to England.

Cover from the "Government of Bahrain/ Medical Department", but franked with 3 Ps. (8), ½ A. (6) and 3 As. (3). A most unusual combination!

#### GOVERNMENT OF BAHRAIN.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.



Miss Gawan Textor,

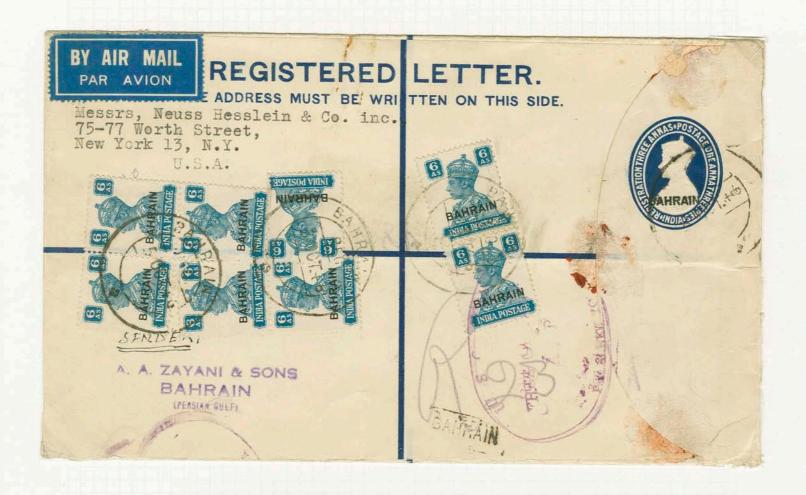
Secretary Overseas Nursing Association,

Imperial Institute,

ENGLAND.



1946, overprinted registered cover 3 As. + 1 ½ As., uprated with 8x 6As. (52 ½ As. rate), sent from Bahrain (5.10) by airmail to New York (11.10). A rare high rate.



1947, Postcard "BAHRAIN 9 Ps.", handstamped "HALF ANNA", uprated 2x3 Ps. (=1A. rate), commercially used from Bahrain (5.10) and sent by airmail to Veraval/India (9.10, arrival cds. on front). This provisional postcard has previously only been recorded from Kuwait. A great rarity.



1947, Disaster Mail (23.8)

The BOAC flying boat "Portland" (S. 25 Sandringham V, G-AHZB) on the Dragon route, from Hong Kong to Great Britain, crashed into the sea when landing at Bahrein. The mail coming from different countries was partially saved. Cover from Madras, franked India 1R. 2 As., with boxed "DAMAGED BY SEA WATER".



BY AIR MAIL

Messrs. Alliance Oil Corporation, 902-9, Rockfeller Plaza, New York City, N.Y.

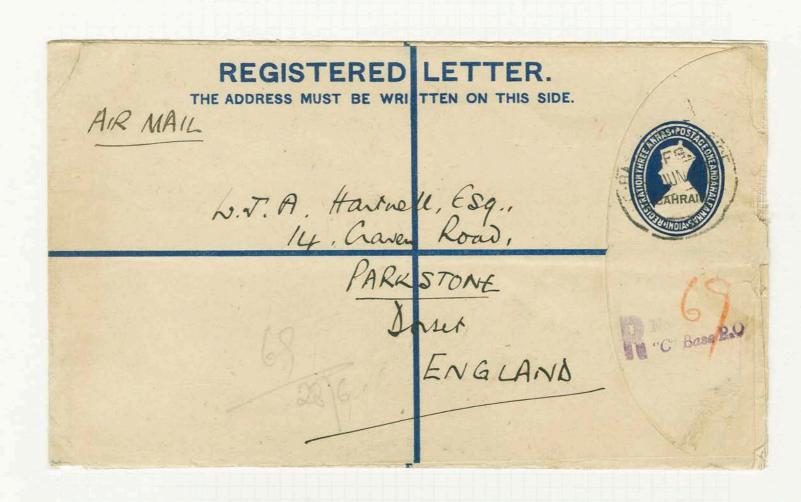
U.S. A.

DAMAGED BY SEA-WATER

1947, Formula Air Letters to Canada (9½ As. rate) and USA (2), one franked 8 As., the other 6 As. with man. "Stamps insufficient" but apparently no postage due charged. Ex Kasper.



1947, registered cover 3 As. + 1 ½ As. overprinted "BAHRAIN", used from "C" Base in Basra, to England. A very rare "used abroad" usage.



1947, disaster mail

The "Portland" Flying Boat crashed on landing in Bahrain on 23.8.47



Cover from Shanghai with framed cachet "DAMAGED BY/ SEA WATER". A rare origin.

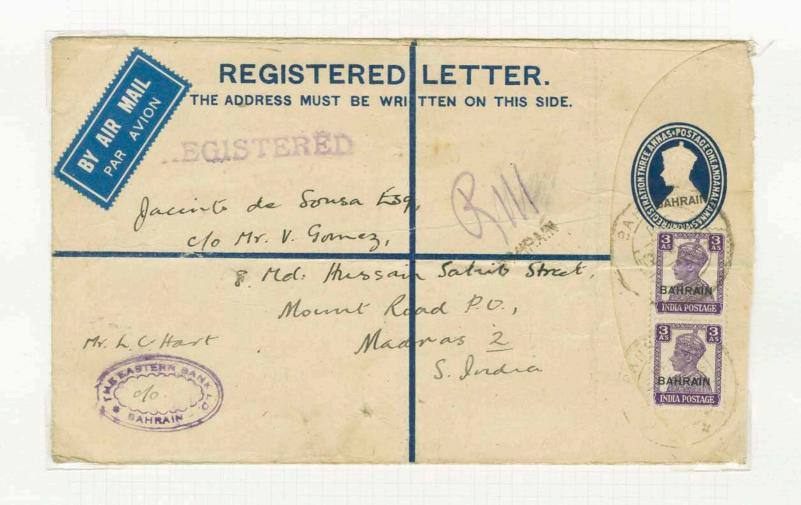


1945 – 47, advertising and registered covers (28 As.) to Switzerland.

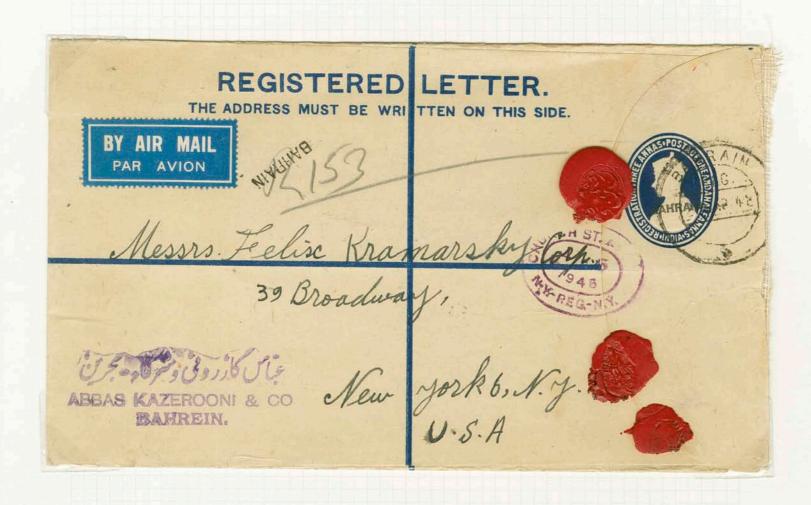




1946, KG VI Registered Letter 1 ½ + 4As., uprated with pair 3 As., to India (arr. cds. 18.12 on reverse). A very scarce envelope. HG Handbook: "Reported but never seen".



1948, G. VI. 3 As. + 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  As. registered envelope, uprated by 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  As. (2) and 8 As. (3) = 30  $\frac{1}{2}$  As. airmail rate from Bahrain (28.3) to New York (3.4). A very rare usage during the Pakistani Post office period and 3 days before the British P.O took over.



1948, the Pakistani P.O. period.

Registered airmail cover (5 ½ As. rate) from Bahrain (28.2) to Bombay (2.3), cancelled with Don. Type 9 and with the cachet impressed directly on the cover.



Bahrein



1948, taxed registered mail to England.

Heavy registered cover from Bahrain to England, on arrival found opened and re-sealed by the Post Office, then opened and re-sealed by Customs, with Charge label and the customs duty affixed in postage due stamps.



1948, Olympic Games 2 1/2 As. with error "overprint inverted", from the only known sheet. Certificates RPS and BPA.









No. 68971

# The British Philatelic Association, Limited EXPERT COMMITTEE

446, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2. 1 5 00T 1970 19

The Committee is of the opinion that the

Bahrain 1948, 22 an on 22d sultramarine, unused, with original gum, Surcharge double (S.G. 63 a) is genuine.



- Whinh

This opinion is given subject to the conditions printed on the back thereof.

# The British Philatelic Association, Limited EXPERT COMMITTEE

3 BERNERS STREET, LONDON, W.1 172 MAY 1965 19

The Committee is of the opinion that the

Bahrain 1948 Olympic Games 2½a. on 2½d.

ultramarine, with surcharge double (SG 63a)

unused with Original gum, is gehuine.

Rosenanton Al Grutulin



This opinion is given subject to the conditions printed on the back thereof.

# THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY



41, Devonshire Place, London, W1N 1PE

Meeting of

27 JAN 1982

In the OPINION of The EXPERT COMMITTEE the item submitted as

Bahrain: 1948 S.G. Nº 63 a. 21/2 a. in 21/22. Williamaine - Suichage

double - unused - is Genuine.

Observations



Chairman

Submitted by T.D. Barber.

1948, Olympic Games.

2 ½ As. "Value only" overprint used in Bahrain on cover to Bombay and 2 ½ As., 3 As. and GVI 1 A. on airmail cover to Switzerland. Scarce usages.





1948, Olympic Games.

6 As. airmail rate from Bahrain to England and 3 As. and 6 As. used in ENGLAND on a Recorded Delivery Letter. A very scarce irregular usage.





1948, Olympic Games.

3 As. with GVI  $\frac{1}{2}$  A. on airmail cover from Bahrain (3.1) to Bagdad (7.1) and 1R. on airmail cover to USA. This set was only sold in Bahrain for a short period.



على رضا ـ بحرين (خليج فارس) ALI R. REZA BAHREIN PERSIAN GULF

> The Neevel Manufacturing Co. Export Department, International Trade Mart. New Orleans 12, La., U. S. A.



1948, "K 121" experimental postmark.

GVI 6 As. rate to England. The rarest postmark of Bahrain. Donaldson reports that only two covers have been recorded (P.69).

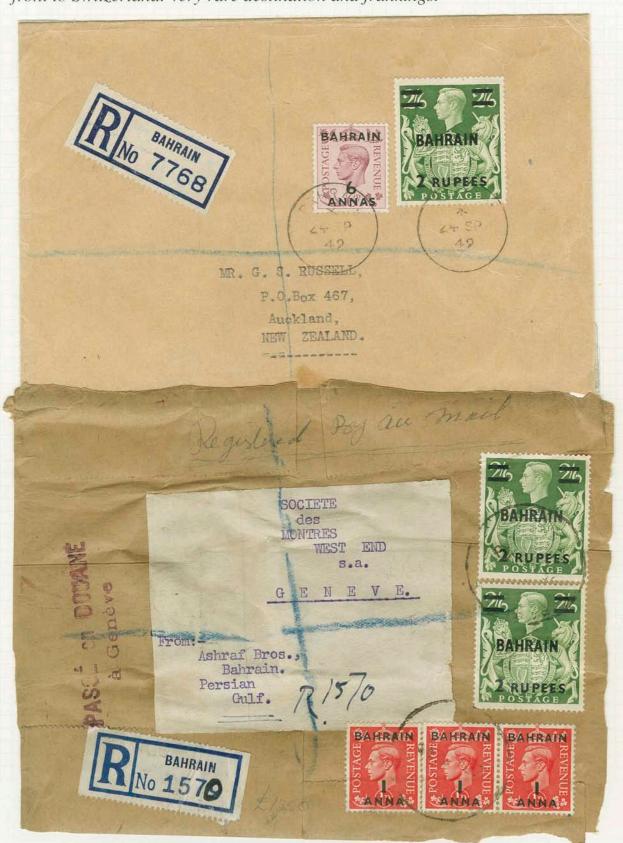


1948, mixed frankings with Kuwait.

Pair of registered airmail bank letters to India, both with Bahrain 6 As. and KUWAIT 3 As., sent during a shortage of Bahrain 3 As. stamps (November – December), one of the covers originating from the bank's Dubai office.



1948, 2 R. with 6 As. on sealed registered cover from Bahrain (29.9) via Sydney (3.10) to New Zealand and two examples with 1 A. (3) on registered parcel front to Switzerland. Very rare destination and frankings.



1949, registered airmail (15 As. rate) to England from a soldier at RAF Habbaniyah (Iraq) but franked with Bahrain stamps, cancelled at F.P.O. 756 (Shaibah/ Iraq), (12.3) with a customs form on the reverse and officially sealed as found open or damaged (16.3). Intriguing usage: possibly the sender was in Bahrain, using an Iraqi forwarding address.



1948-50, airmail to Rhodesia.

1948, registered cover (12 As. rate) from Bahrain (17.6, cds. Type 9) via Cairo (22.6), with oval censor's mark in blue, to Marandellas (1.7) and 1950 triple rate cover (24 As.) from Awali (3.12) to Hatfield (9.12). A very scarce destination.



1948, KGVI, ½ A. to 5 Rs., the issued set on FDC (1.4.48), locally used on the opening day of the British P.O.





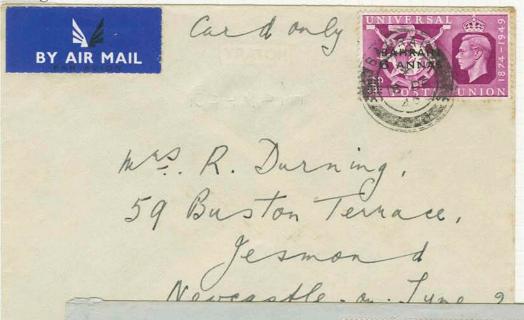
1950, "BAHRAIN" rubber exchange office handstamp (6.5) on pair G VI 5 Rs. An unrecorded cancellation.



1950, UPU 6 As.

Single rate "Card only" open letter to England (cds. Type 26) and block of 4 on airmail cover from Awali (cds. T25) to USA (24 As. = 1 ½ Rs. = triple rate). Scarce

usages.







MR. J. R. KEITH 176 WEBSTER ROAD SCARSDALE, NEW YORK USA

1950, G. VI 1Sh. Postal Order overprinted "B.P.O. AGENCIES/ PERSIAN GULF 2 ANNAS" cancelled "Bahrain" (16.6.50) but unused.

The only recorded G. VI postal order from any Gulf Post office.



1949 – 50, incoming airmail.

Cover from Bordeaux (12.11.49), franked 175 Fr. rate, with pencilled tax marking "T 0.34 c" but no sign of charge paid and cover from Lerida, Spain (9.1.50), franked 165



BAHREIN

(Persian Gulf.)

1952, Air Letter KG VI 6 annas used from Bahrain / Awali to Singapore and Australia. Very scarce destination. Ex Kasper.





1950-54, Muscat and Kuwait used in Bahrain.

1950, G.VI, 1R. 10 ½ As. on cover to Bahrain, cancelled by Bahrain T.26 cds, possibly an incoming letter from Muscat cancelled on arrival.





32 As. mixed franking Bahrain, Kuwait and Value only overprints on registered cover to Germany.

1950, KG VI 2 As., 6 As. and 1R. on air mail cover from Awali (3.12) to Hatfield/Rhodesia (arr. cds. 9.12 on reverse). A scarce destination and early usage of this postmark (Don. Type 24).



1951, G VI postage due and hotel cover.

2 ½ As. (instead of 6 As.) on cover to Belgium with "36" (UPU gold cents) marked in red and postage due stamps 3x 1 Fr. added.





12 As. airmail registered rate to Holland on an illustrated hotel envelope.

1951, the scarce 2 1/2 As. pale scarlet on registered mail 7 1/2 As. rate to Kuwait

Violet `REGISTERED BAHRAIN' 12.5.51

(Don. Type 22)

Registered.

BY AIR MAIL

Sheikh Marruddin Req,

Post Office.

Kuwait.

( Persian Gulf ).

10 As. rate to Portuguese India



Worn
black
'REGISTERED
BAHRAIN'
11.11.51

Donaldson reports this mark in black only from 1952.

1952, Air Letter KG VI 6A. with the overprint shifted to the right.

Jones records no varieties of this overprint. The only known example.





BY AIR MAIL	ON HER MAJESTY'S SER	VICE.
AIR LETTE IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOS THIS LETTER WILL BE SEI BY ORDINARY MAIL.	ED	\$ AHR 4 12 1 53 4 1 53 4 1
P.I	H. Robbs Esq.,	
	Grendon,	
	NORTHAMPTON.	U.K.

1953, official Air Letter from the Postal Superintendent in Bahrain, stating that the QE II Coronation Air Letters would not be overprinted for use in the Gulf. However, one month later they were!

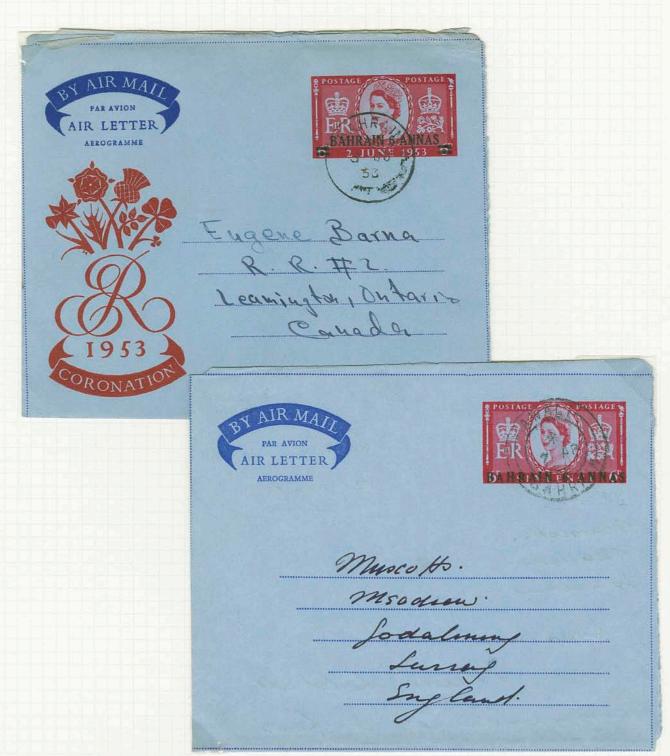
1952-53, multiple frankings to England.

G.VI 3 As. corner plate block of 8 (24 As. quadruple rate) and QE II ½ A. (6 pairs = 6 As. single rate). Very scarce frankings.



1953-56, Air Letters 6 Annas.

1953, Coronation Air Letter to Canada and regular issue from Awali to England. Scarce commercial usages.



1953, KG VI 2 Rs. (pair),
6 As. and QE II Jubilee 1 R. on
registered airmail cover
containing shipping documents
from Bahrain (13.7)
to New York (arr. 15.7 on reverse).
A very high and
exceptional 5 Rs. 6 As. rate.



1953-55, G. VI 2R. Harrison Printings

1953 2R, surcharge Type II, used block of four with Registered Bahrain datestamp of 1954. Extremely scarce block.



1955: 2R, surcharge Type III with thinner letters and 16mm gap, rejoined block of three, fine used with a violet Bahrain Parcel Post cancellation not recorded by Donaldson or Jones.



1953, Coronation issue mixed frankings.

Pair of airmail covers from Bahrain to England, one with Coronation 4 As. overprinted "BAHRAIN" and G.VI 2 As., the other with Coronation 4 As. overprinted "Value only" (for use in Dubai and Muscat) mixed with QEII BAHRAIN 2 As.



1953, Registered "Sample of No Commercial Value" to Sweden, with Swedish customs handstamp (= "Customs processing at place of delivery"), franked with Bahrain 1A. mixed with Kuwait Coronation 2 ½ As. and 12 As.



A remarkable sample post usage with a most unusual mixed franking to a rarely seen destination!

1953, England Coronation 4d. used in Bahrain (9.8) on cover to Stockport.

A very scarce usage.



1960, 50 NP. pair on commercial registered cover from Manama (27.4) via Safat (28.4) to Ahmadi/Kuwait (30.4) with transit and arrival marks on reverse.

Scarce inter-Gulf mail.

AIR WAIL
REGISTERED.
The



The Chief Engineer,
The Kuwait Oil Company, Ltd.,
Mena-al-Ahmadi,

KUWAIT.



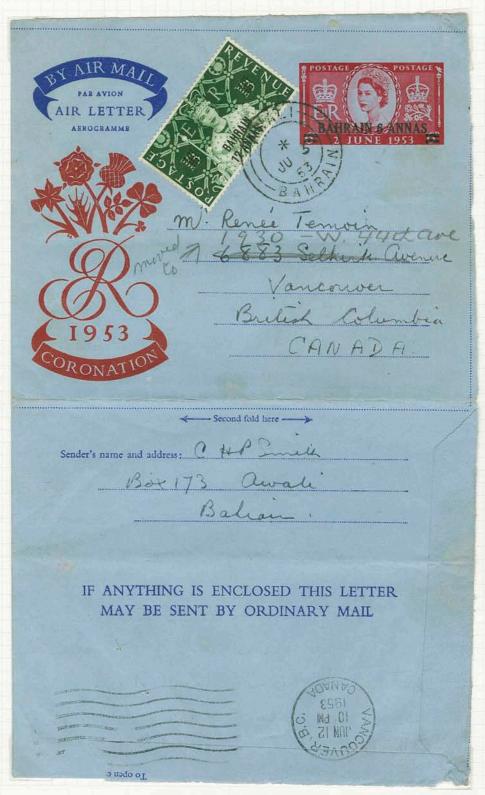


1953, Coronation 12 Annas to England.

Registered airmail cover from the "Political Agency, Bahrain" to London, franked with the "Value only" 12 As. which was issued for Dubai and Muscat but also valid in Bahrain and "BAHRAIN/ 12 ANNAS" on a double rate airmail cover.



1953, Coronation Air Letter 6 As., uprated with 12 As., presumably to pay for enclosure, used from Awali (3.6) to Vancouver (10.6) with interesting contents about local life. A scarce rate and destination.

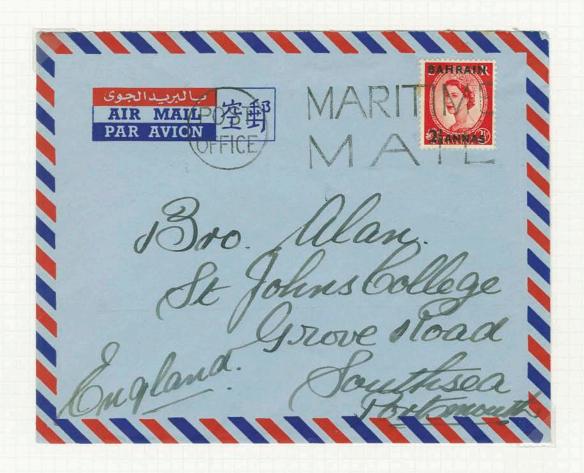


1953, KG VI 2 Rs. strip of 3 with QE II Coronation 12 As. pair on parcel piece, with customs label, cancelled with the rare large boxed parcel postmark, used one year earlier than recorded.



1953 (ca.), Maritime Mail.

Bahrain 2 ½ As. tied by undated "Post Office Maritime Mail" cancellation on cover to England. Such mail was despatched by the Bahrain Petroleum Company and handed to the Master of tankers or naval vessels returning from the Gulf. A rare usage.



1951, registered cover with 12 As. (= rate to UK), taxed "T48c" (UPU), converted to 40 Swiss cents and 1969, 20 F. On airmail cover, taxed 1,35 Fr.



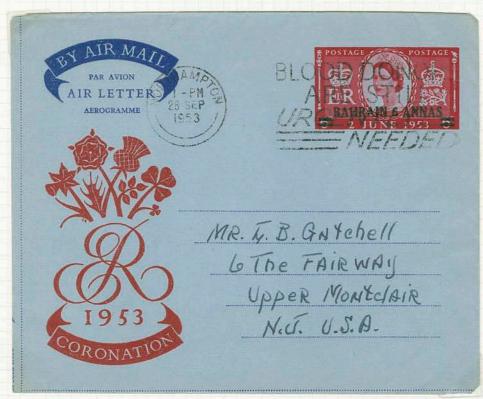
1953 – 54, Air Letters 6As., both commercially used to Australia, one from Awali. A scarce destination.





1953 – 54, pair of Air Letters commercially used from England to USA.

Very scarce examples of "Bahrain used abroad", ex Kasper collection.





1953, the ½ A. on ½ d. Error "½ omitted" in block of four and plate number block of nine.





1953, the 1/2 A. on 1/2 d error "1/2 omitted".

On 1 1/2 As. local rate covers from Muharrag (21.11) and Bahrain Head P.O. (18.12.)





No. 35839

# The British Philatelic Association, Ltd. EXPERT COMMITTEE

3 BERNERS STREET

LONDON, W.1 6.2.1959.

The Committee is of the opinion that the

Bahrain. 1952-4. 2 A on 20 variety

"1" omitted (S.G. 80a.) on cover

with IA. is genuine.



At Controlin At Churchin

This opinion is given subject to the conditions printed on the back hereof.

1953, cover from Awali (7.3), franked G. VI 1As. (late usage) and sent overland to England. The cover received the Bahrain "T" mark and manuscript "7 c." in error which was deleted by a "dumb" canceller. The rare Bahrain "T" mark is distinctive in that the circle is straightened at top right.

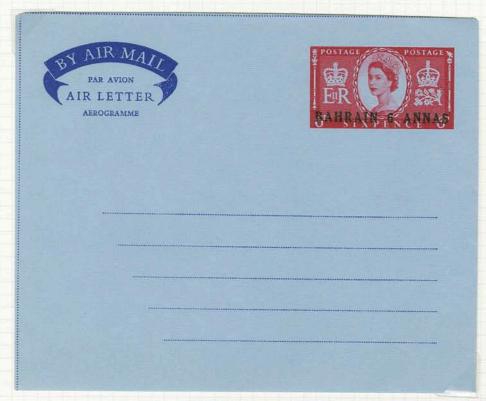


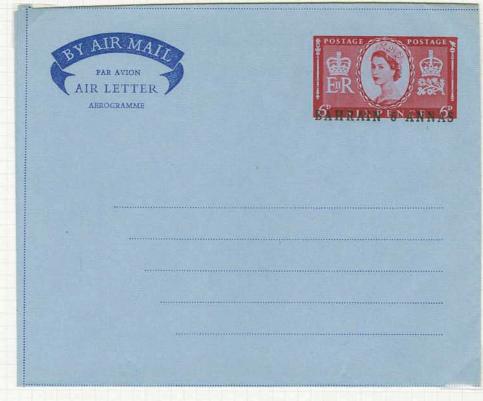
1953, Local issue ½A. and 1A. on cover from Awali (4.8.57) to Manama( (arr. cds. on reverse) and 1 ½As. in plate block of 12 on local cover from Bahrain to Awali, cancelled 2.3.53 (13 days before the official date of issue!)



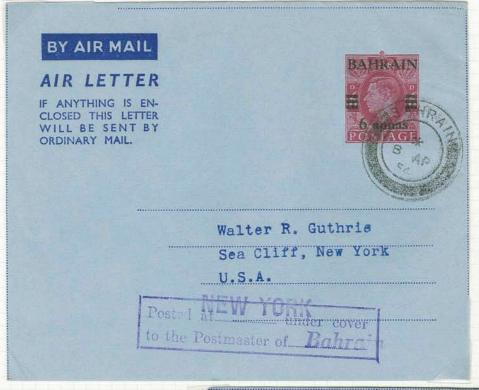


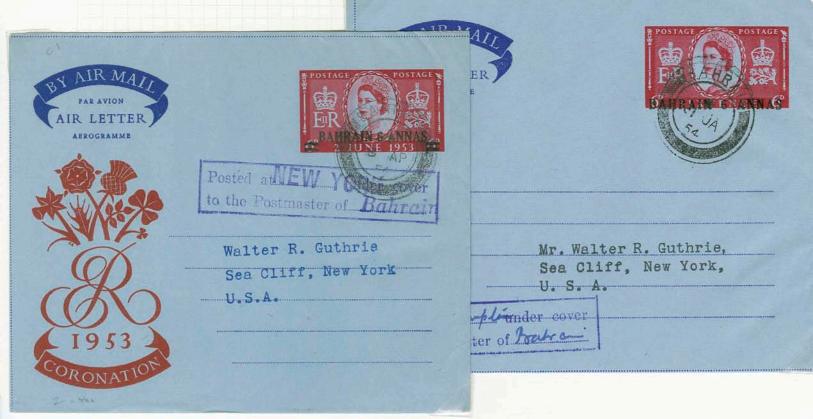
1954, Air Letter 6 Annas with the overprint shifted up and down. Very scarce varieties, ex Kasper collection.





1953 - 54, pair of Air Letters KG VI and QE II Coronation from Bahrain to USA, both with the cachet "Posted at New York under cover to the Postmaster of Bahrain" on the front. Jones (Vol. 4, p. 17) records this cachet only with "Bahrain" inserted by hand.





1955-65, pair of covers from the Political Agency, franked QE II 6 As. and Emir 40 NP., with different cachets.





1956, regional rates.

3 1/2 As. Airmail to Dubai.



Mr. Ali Abdulla Al-oWais,
D U B A I,
(PERSIAN GULF).

12 As. registered "AR" to Aden



1955, "BAHRAIN/½ A./ PAID" cds in red on cover used locally and then uprated with 6 As. and sent from Awali to England. Unrecorded. This mark is only recorded by Donaldson in violet with "5 NP" inserted and used 1963-68.



1955-56, FPO 551.

Pair of covers to England franked with the Forces Mail 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  As. airmail rate, both cancelled FPO 551, one with  $\frac{5x1}{2}$  A. "Value only" overprints, indicating it may have come from Sharjah or Oman.



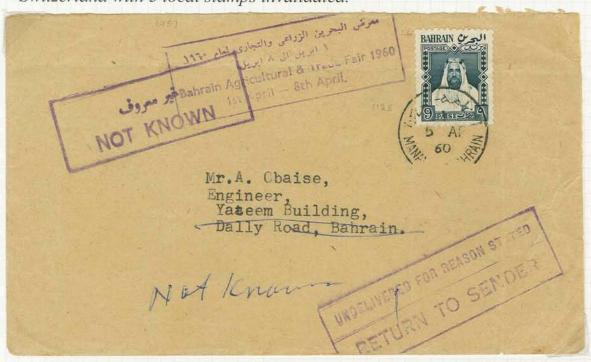
1955, registered cover franked with the 1953 Local Issue 1 ½ As. (5) to the Awali Cinema, tied by "REGISTERED/ BAHRAIN" (Don. Type 27).

"Only three local covers have been recorded using the registered mail service" (T.E. Jones, vol. 1, p.22)



1957, the second local issue.

9 Ps. on local cover from Awali (5.460), with framed "UNDELIVERED..." and bilingual "NOT KNOWN" etc., both very rarely seen, and airmail cover to Switzerland with 3 local stamps invalidated.





#### 1956-57, 1 Rupee DOUBLE OVERPRINT

"Only a very few copies are known". (Donaldson Handbook)

Sunsan Su



No. 79386



# British Philatelic Association

Limited

#### **EXPERT COMMITTEE**

London - England

2 2 MAY 1976

The Committee is of the opinion that the

BAHRAIN 1956-57 RI on 1/6 grey-blue of Great Birlain Work Multiple Cyphe and 5. Selvards Crows Pef 15 x 14, overprint and Swelways double, Used (S.G. 101a) is gennine.



Monthe Committee

Neither the Association nor the members of the Expert Committee can accept any liability, either collective or individual, for any opinion expressed.



Ref No:1986/11-16

In our opinion

Colour reproduction is subject to variation

Country: Bahrain

Description:

SG 101a 1957 1r on 1/6d grey-blue with surcharge double, used with light CDS, is genuine.



Signed: file Mr SMBald

Murray Payne Ltd, P.O. Box 1135, Axbridge, Somerset, BS26 2EW, U.K.

info@murraypayne.com www.murraypayne.com Tel: + 44 (0) 1934 732511 Fax: + 44 (0) 1934 733498

No 20441

#### DAVID BRANDON

EXPERT COMMITTEE

WELLINGTON HOUSE, GUILDFORD, SURREY GU3 IDE.

Date 24-2-1997

The Committee is of the opinion that the

British Postal Agencies in Eastern Arabia. 1957 (February). Airmail envelope from Bahrain to Qatar bearing 12a. on 12d. green of Great Britain, Work St. Edward's brown (pair) and 2a. on 2d. orange-red (5 G. 43 58a (pair)) is genuine.

1956, 'Value only', 1 ½ A. on 1 ½ P., watermarked St. Edward's

The unique pair
on cover from
Bahrain to
Doha

(Donaldson Handbook p.193)



M. B. Yacoob Esq;

Post Box 74.

DOHA. QATAR. (P.GULF)



1958, First Flight cover from Liechtenstein (29.10) to Bahrain (arr. cds. Type 29 on reverse). A rare origin.



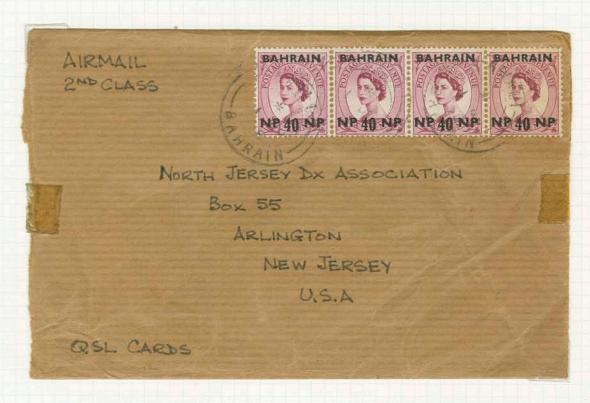
1962, parcel label printed 'FOR R.A.F. POST OFFICE, BAHRAIN' and 'VIA B.F.P.O. ADEN' dated in manuscript 18/9/62. A scarce survival.





1958, unusual frankings from Awali.

160 NP. 2<sup>nd</sup> class airmail wrapper to USA, with cds Donaldson T.24.



40 NP. to Lebanon, made up of blocks of 1 NP. and 9 NP. (Donaldson T.25).



1958, 20 NP. airmail rate to Gaza.

QEII, 1 NP.(2), 3 NP., 6 NP. and 9 NP. on censored cover from Bahrain (18.3) via Cairo (22.3) and Gaza City (24.3) to Khan Younis (25.3). A very scarce destination from this period.



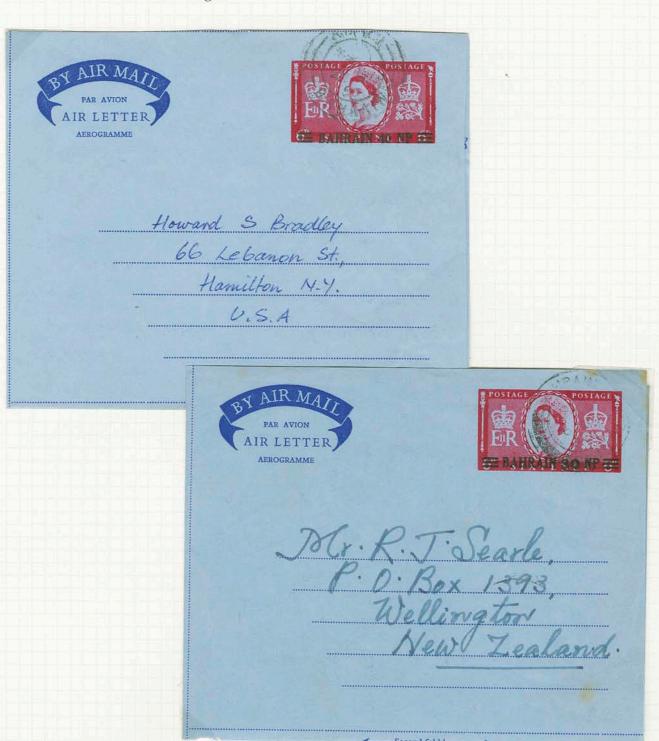
Bahrain 1959, sample post to Portugal, 40 NP. airmail rate. Marked "contents: 1 cork". Damaged in transit and resealed in London. Dep. 187 London 20.07 Arr. 22.7 A no doubt unique usage!

1958, QE II. 10 Rs. on registered parcel tags. Very scarce usages.



1959, Air Letters in new currency.

40 NP to USA (May) and reduced rate 30 NP. to New Zealand (December). Scarce commercial usages.



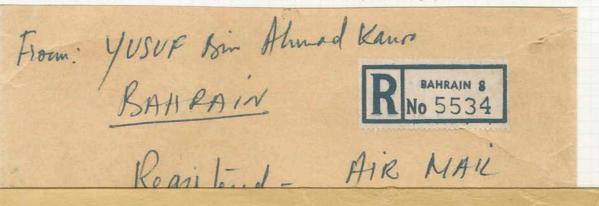
1959-60, the Agricultural and Trade Fair.

1959 cachet on cover to Singapore, most unusually franked with un-overprinted GB 6d., postmarked Bahrain (24.2) and accepted despite not being valid, and 1960 cachet on cover to Germany.



1960, 8 Rs. 80 NP. Registered airmail rate to India.

Heavy duty envelope sent by Yusuf Bin Ahmed Kanoo from the famous merchant family to Bombay, cancelled Don. T. 27 A., exceptionally franked with QEII 22x40 NP. The highest recorded commercial franking from the British P.O.







#### 1960, POSTAL SUPERINTENDENT'S REGISTERED MAIL

Such mail was supposed to be franked with 'Value Only' overprinted stamps and cancelled by a Bahrain date stamp. The registration labels are inscribed Bahrain P.S. (Postal Superintendent). This letter unusually has no stamps or Bahrain canceller on the front, but is "sealed" by Bahrain "REGISTERED" datestamps (Don.T. 27) on the reverse and bears a straight line 'Postal Superintendent' in violet with 'Bahrain' added in blue ink.

Sent to Chepstow, UK (9.2) and re-directed.



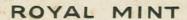
1959, unissued Petro-Chemicals set 25 NP. and 50 NP. and 1965, 5F. (2 different) and 1D. in unadopted designs, as contemporary photographs from the record books of the printers (Bradbury Wilkinson). A unique documentation, as the original artwork was destroyed. The 1959 set would have been the first issue after postal independence.



1964, 1 R. (2) and 5 R. (2) with subtle differences to the issued designs, including "POSTAGE" omitted (1 R.) and value denominations transposed (5 R.), as original photos from the printers' record books. Unique, as the artwork for the rejected designs was destroyed.

### 1960, the unique 40 NP. typo die proof

Mounted on a sunken card from the Printer's archives. The stamp was later printed by De La Rue in photogravure.





PROOF No. 4 7646

1960, 10 Sh. DE LA RUE on reg. parcel tag, with 40 NP. pair. This printing is not recorded used and this is the only known entire. A remarkable commercial usage.





1960, 20 NP., 40 Np., 1R. and 2 Rs. on registered commercial cover from Manama (Don. Type 37) to Switzerland (dep. 10.5, arr. 13.5). A scarce high rate.



Registered









M/s.Brown Boveri & Co.Ltd., Baden, Switzerland



1962, mixed franking to Pakistan.

Registered heavy weight cover from Bahrain (20.5) to Karachi (25.5), franked with Bahrain GVI 3 As., QE II 6 As., 12 As. and 1R. and New Currency 15 NP., mixed with "Value only" overprints 3 As., 12 As. and pair 15 NP. A very high and unusual 3 Rs. 70 NP. rate.



1960 (ca.), unissued Mosque design.

These were printed in Pakistan but never issued. One sheet of 10 F. and 2 sheets of 100 F. were part of the printer's archive sold in 2012.

Bahrain Mosque, 10 F. and 100 F.

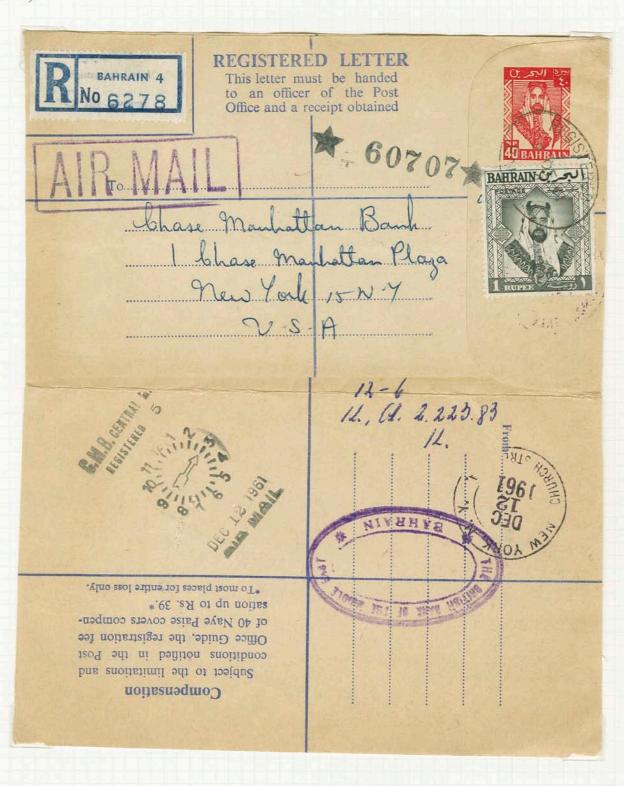




1961, registered envelope 40 NP. from Manama (28.5) to England, uprated 20 NP. pair and 40 NP. (1 D. 20. NP. rate).



1961, Registered Postal Envelope 40 NP., uprated 1 R., from Bahrain (9.12) to New York (12.12).

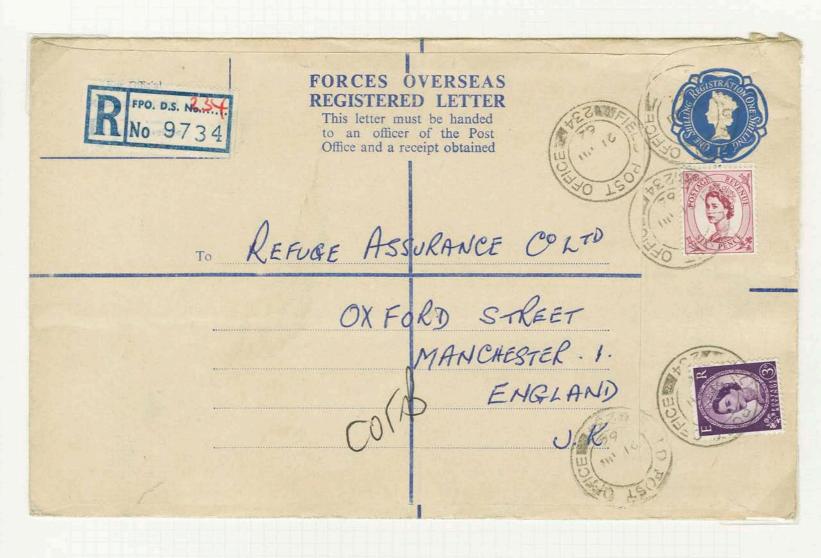


1963, airmail cover with unrecorded machine frank 0.40 R. from Manama (17.10) to Göteborg/ Sweden (21.10), and then forwarded to Sydney/ Australia!



1964, "FPO 234" registered field post.

British registered envelope (size H) 1 sh. with 3d. and 6d. added, with "Royal Air Force, Bahrain, BFPO 63" sender's address on reverse, but cancelled and provisional registration label FPO 234. This FPO was located in Egypt in 1953. Its 1963 location in Bahrain was previously unknown.



1904, Aerogramme 30 W. Jinai primer 31 tale 1700, and immed and

# Bahrain

and address:	ER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED ENT BY ORDINARY MAIL,	BAHRAIN 30	
Sender's name and address:	EN EN	AEROGRAMME	To open cut here ->
	First fold here		

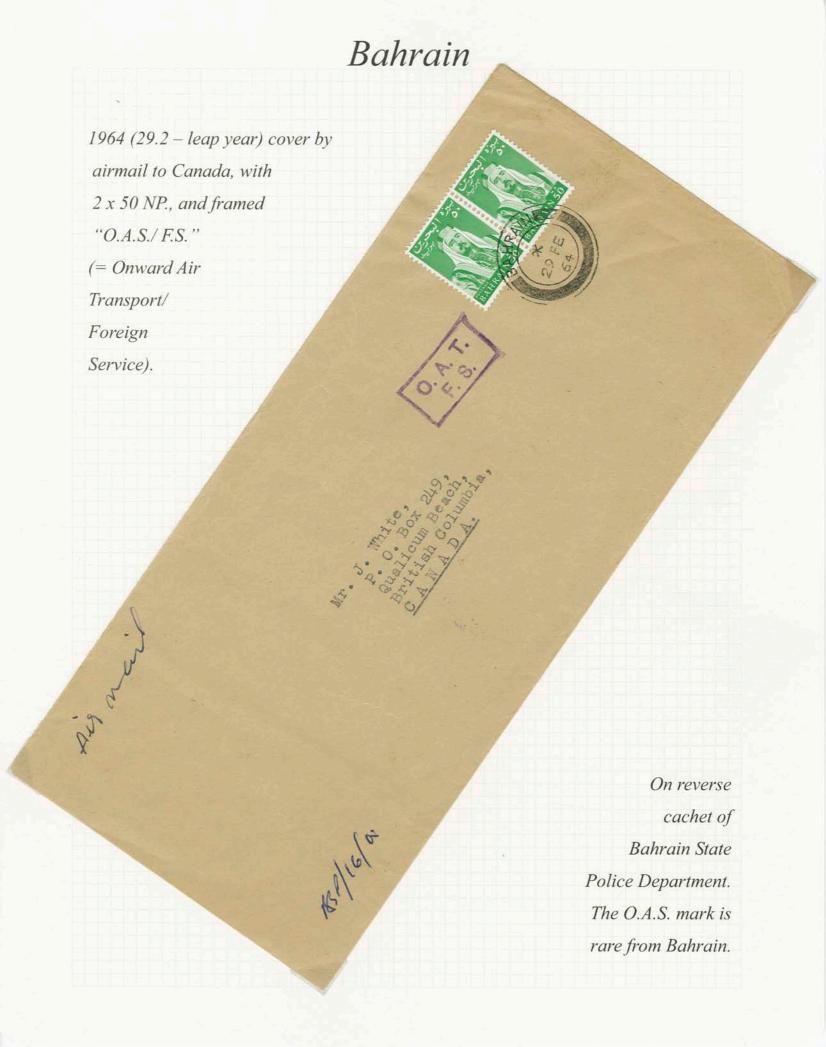
Sender's name and address:  AN AR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED

Second fold here

-First fold here-







1964-66, undelivered mail from Germany.

1964, cover from East Germany (45 Pfg. rate) with bilingual "INSUFFICIENTLY ADDRESSED" and 1966, registered cover from West Germany (110 Pfg. rate), both with the framed British type "UNDELIVERED..." marking.



1965, "BAHRAIN / PAID" (30.11) in violet (Don. Type 43, only recorded in black) on OHMS airmail cover to Holland.



On Her Majesty's Service

MR.C.H.W.HEUSDENS, P.O.BOX NO.619, ROTTERDAM, NETHERLAND. PH(F)327



No. 185 POST OFFICE

69 951

1966, 1 D. on airmail cover to USA.





MESSRS. THE C. M. ATHEY PAINT CO., P. O. BOX. 2896, CLEVELAND. OHIO. 44116 - USA.

مبارك حمد السليطي

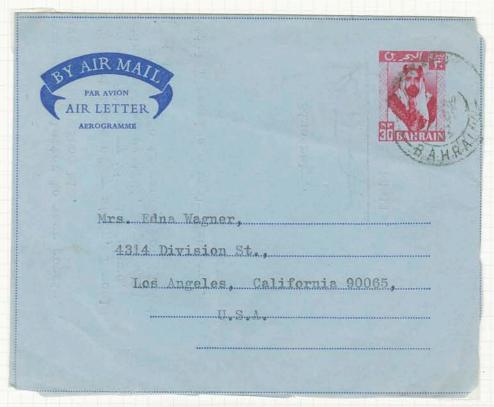
صندوق البريد المنامة - البحون

MUBARAK HAMAD ALSULAITI P. O. Box No.

P. O. Box No.

MANAMA - BAHRAIN

1963 - 68, pair of 30NP. Air Letters (1960 and 1964 issues) commercially used with Donaldson Type 21 and 24 cds, one from a sailor en route to Diego Suarez, the other asking for help in finding a "foreign girl-friend who might be my wife in the future".



Sender's same and address:

Se

1968, underpaid cover to Canada with late use of the British PO "T/P.G." (Tax Persian Gulf) postage due mark and 1971, airmail cover from Bahrain (15.9) to England, misdirected to India with Bombay cds (17.9) on reverse and on the front framed "MALDIRIGE". Very rarely seen on mail from the Gulf.



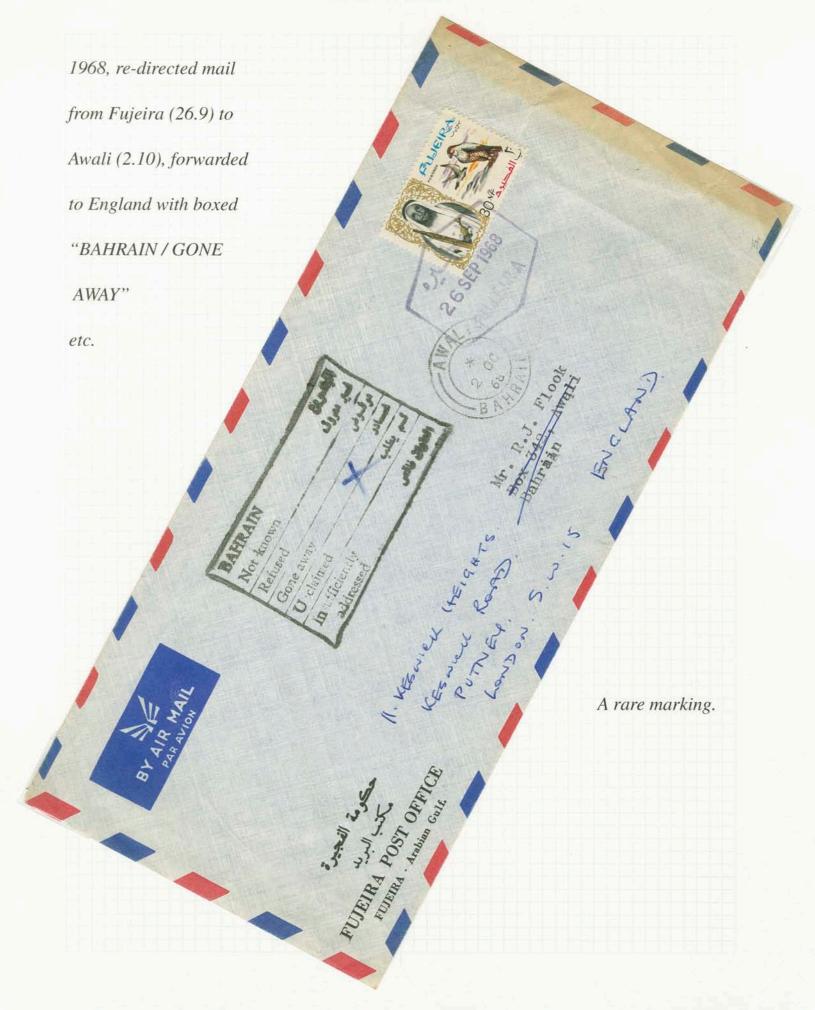
Mr. Claude W. Hunt, 534 Birchmount Road, Scarboro, Ontario, CANADA.



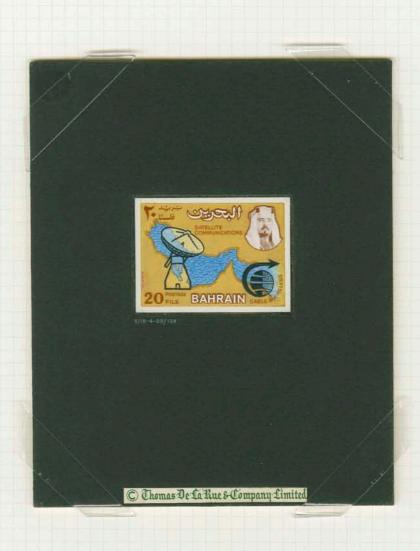
1965-66, registered envelopes.

1965, 100 NP. airmail registered rate to Pakistan (1964 issue) and 1966, 160 Fils





1969. De La Rue working photographic and painted Die Proof for 20F. value in yellow, blue & black, composite and imperforate on card. Unique. As SG 165.



1970, Gulf Aviation First Flight, 30 F. and 60 F., imperforate proofs mounted on cards from the printers. Three sets known, of which this is the only one in private hands.



HARRISON AND SONS LIMITED
7, Cavendish Square, London, W.1.
PHOTOGRAVURE STAMP SPECIALISTS





7, Cavendish Square, London, W.1.

PHOTOGRAVURE STAMP SPECIALISTS



1970, Gulf Aviation.

120 Fils imperforate proof on card from the printers. The only example in private hands



HARRISON AND SONS LIMITED 7, Cavendish Square, London, W.1. PHOTOGRAVURE STAMP SPECIALISTS



1971, Postal order "65 FILS" on 1Sh. with poundage fee 50F. on 20F. on 3d., unused, cancelled 20.3.71 with Donaldson T.21 cds with sans-serif "1" in place of an asterisk, which is only recorded by him from 1956-57.

Postal orders from the Gulf are extremely rare and not recorded by Donaldson. An example from Kuwait is illustrated by T.E. Jones (p.39), but none from Bahrain.



1971, Independence Day 30 fils in a rejected design with an inaccurate map of Bahrain on proof card. (3 known)



BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MALESTY THE OLEEN PRINTERS HARRISON & SOUR LTD COMPONE

#### HARRISON AND SONS LIMITED

38 Warren Street, London, W.1.
PHOTOGRAVURE AND LITHOGRAPHIC
STAMP SPECIALISTS

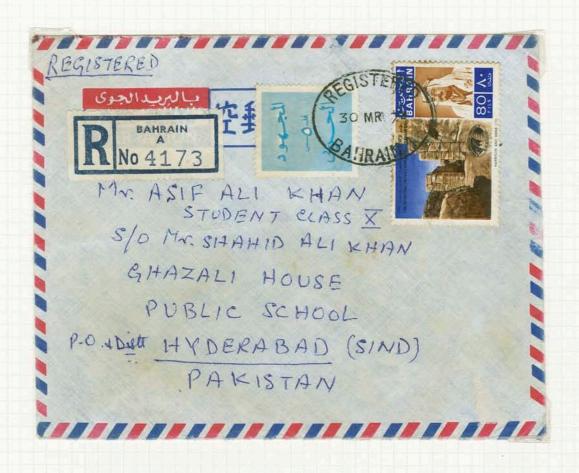




The issued stamp without the map.

1974, the first refugee tax stamp.

Registered airmail cover to Pakistan, with the postmark very unusually tying the tax stamp. The proceeds were used to support Palestinian refugees.



1979. Shaikh Isa bin Sulman al-Khalifa High Value Definitives.

Zeinars State of Bahrain

185/5

Zeinars State of Bahrain

185/5

Zeinars State of Bahrain

Resident From Bahrain

De la Rue original 1980 Final Proofs of the two High Values

Imperforate on dark grey gold rimmed De La Rue card with manuscript notation

`16-10-79' and file numbers under each Proof.

Both values are in paler than issued shades, the 2 dinar value being in a shade of pale pink rather than the issued shades of reddish lilac & pale reddish lilac.

Manuscript 'approved A E Matta, Director of Posts, 13-11-79'.

Unique

1980, Falconry 100F., block of imperforate se-tenant proofs on printer's card (3 known).



1980, Falcons 100 F., imperforate se-tenant block of proofs on printer's card (3 known).





Bahrain is a small island in the Persian Gulf. The word "Bahrain" stands for "Two Seas" (in Arabic) referring to the abundant availability of fresh water on the island in contrast to the very salty Arabian Gulf around it. The recorded modern history of Bahrain relates to the arrival of Al-Khalifa family in 1783 - following a Portuguese presence. Traditional crafts, pearl diving and shipping were means of income for long time. The development of manufactured pearls in Japan resulted in difficult times for Bahrain but in 1932 oil was struck in commercial quantities - Bahrain being the first place in the Gulf.

In 1884 the first post office was opened in Bahrain under the management of the postmaster in Bushire as part of the Bombay Circle. The country adapted building its future around the oil industry and under the protection of the British. In 1947 this protection briefly became the responsibility of the government of British India, which had both commercial and strategic interests in the Persian Gulf, but it reverted to Britain following India's independence in 1947.

During 1933-1937 British Indian Stamps and Postal stationery of King George V overprinted with the word 'BAHRAIN' were in use. Later from 1937 to 1945 similar stamps and stationery of King George VI were put to use. Though several items appeared in the earlier, only 1½ Anna Dark Purple (inland) envelope with 'BAHRAIN' overprint was issued during the later period.

### THIS EXHIBIT

This brief display of one frame is the extract of long toiled hours studying under magnification some over 2000 envelopes in several years. This study of the KGVI 1½ Anna Envelopes Overprinted 'BAHRAIN' includes a study of the original KGVI Indian envelope (the imprinted stamp) and the 'BAHRAIN' overprint, done by the highly experienced Indian Security Press at Nasik. As the printing and the overprinting was extremely accurate, to be able to assemble a 16 page frame was a difficult task. Pioneered knowledge include the two dies of the imprinted stamp, The Ghost Images, The Reverse Blanket Impressions and a variety of the lettering variations of the overprint.





Overprint almost perfect.

Blind 2nd 'A' in 'BAHRAIN' (additional characteristic)



#### Type B

Crooked 'AH' in 'BAHRAIN' (constant characteristic)

> Blind 2nd 'A' of 'BAHRAIN' (additional characteristic)











Overprint almost perfect.

Blob on oval frame at 4 o'clock

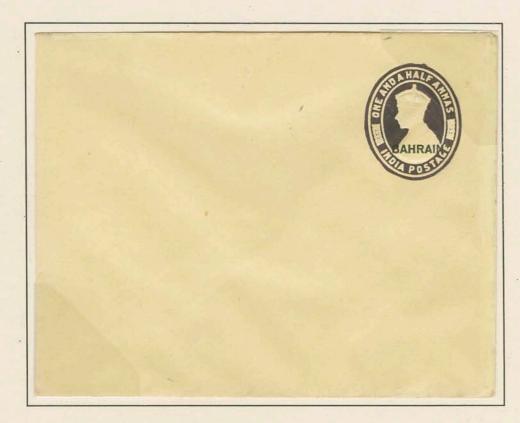


### Type B

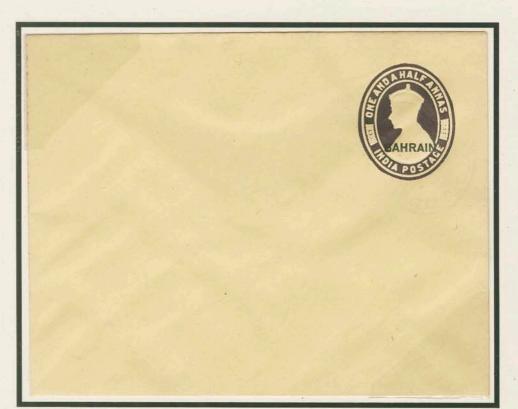
Overprint almost perfect.

Blob on oval frame at 4 o'clock









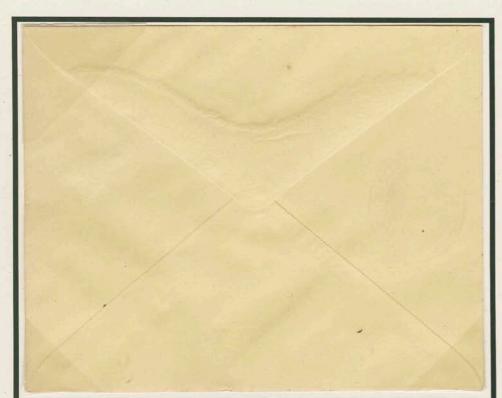
Very Rare Light
Reversed
blanket
Impression
shows almost in
centre of front.
Very Rare.



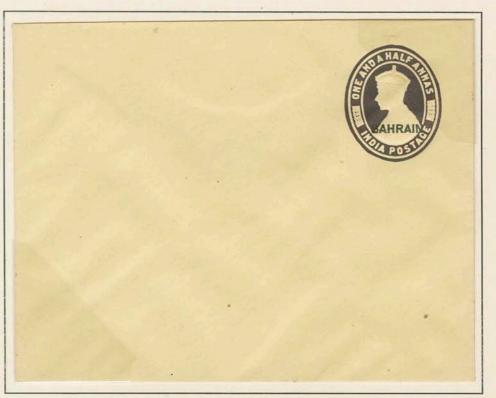
#### Type A

Very Rare Light
Reversed
blanket
Impression
shows on the
reverse side of
envelope. Very
Rare.









Crooked 'AH' in 'BAHRAIN' (constant characteristic)

Pointed serif at top of 'l' of 'BAHRAIN' (additional characteristic)





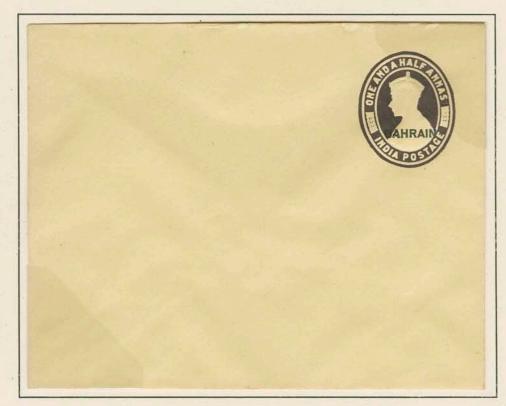
#### Type B

Crooked 'AH' in 'BAHRAIN' (constant characteristic)

Heavy base serif of the Crooked 'A' in 'BAHRAIN' (additional characteristic)











# Type B

Crooked 'AH' in 'BAHRAIN' (constant characteristic)

Short lower bar of 'F' in 'HALF' (Inscription in oval frame) (additional characteristic)





#### Type B

Crooked 'AH' in 'BAHRAIN' (constant characteristic)

Short 1st 'l' in 'INDIA' (Inscription in oval frame) (additional characteristic)











# Type B

Overprint almost perfect.

Short left vertical of 'H' in 'HALF' (Inscription in oval frame) (additional characteristic)

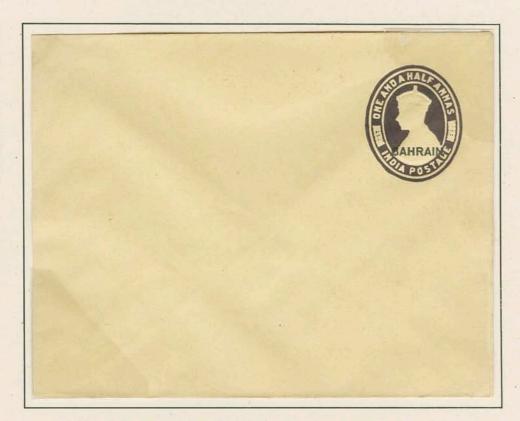


# Type B

Overprint almost perfect.

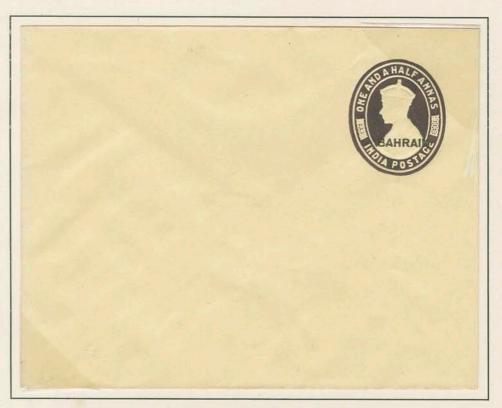
Dented 'O' in 'POSTAGE' (Inscription in oval frame) (additional characteristic)







# TWO SUB-TYPES OF THE IMPRINTED STAMP



# Type A

- 1. Open 'A's in the text of oval frame.
- 2. Squarish centre bar of 'E' in 'ONE' and 'POSTAGE'
- 3. 19 dots in screened panel on right side.

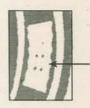




#### Type B

- 1. Blind 'A's in the text of oval frame
- 2. Pointed centre bar of 'E' in 'ONE' and 'POSTAGE'
- 3. Five dots in screened panel on right side











# Type B

Overprint almost perfect.

Thick 'H' (additional characteristic)



# Type B

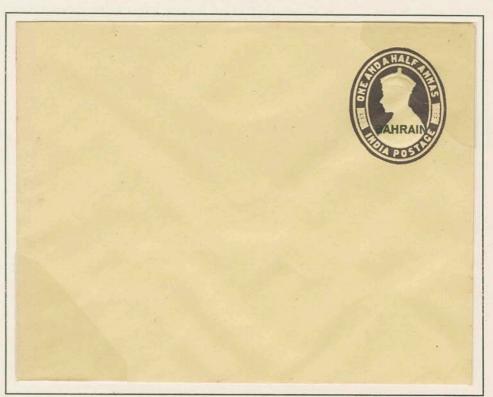
Overprint almost perfect.

Short 'LF' in 'HALF' (Inscription in oval frame) (additional characteristic)









# Type B

Crooked 'AH' in 'BAHRAIN' (constant characteristic)

Blobed right foot of 'A' joined to 'H' (additional characteristic)





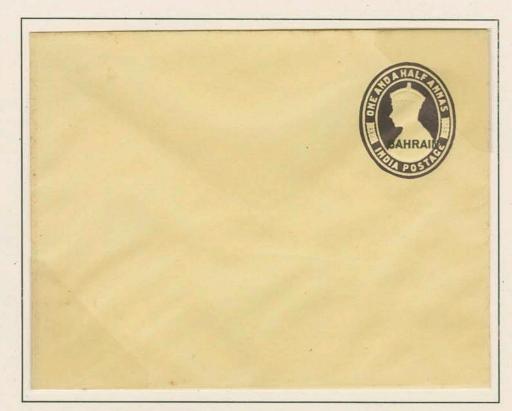
#### Type B

Crooked 'AH' in 'BAHRAIN' (constant characteristic)

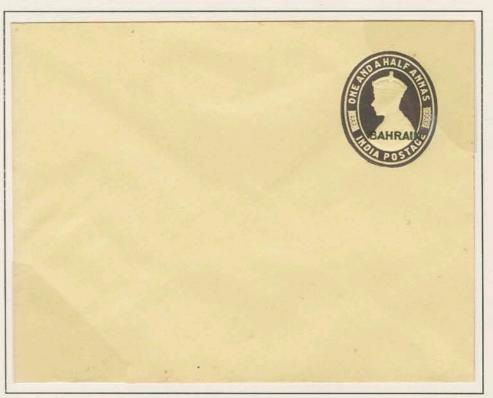
> Blind 1st 'A' of 'BAHRAIN' (additional characteristic)











Crooked 'AH' in 'BAHRAIN' (constant characteristic)

Thick 'A', 'R' and 'AIN' in 'BAHRAIN' (additional characteristic)





#### Type A

Crooked 'AH' in 'BAHRAIN' (constant characteristic)

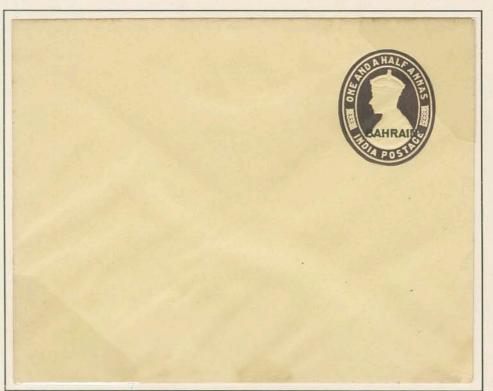
> Dot under 'H' of 'BAHRAIN' (additional characteristic)











Crooked 'AH' in 'BAHRAIN' (constant characteristic)

Thick foot of 'A' almost joined to 'B' (additional characteristic)





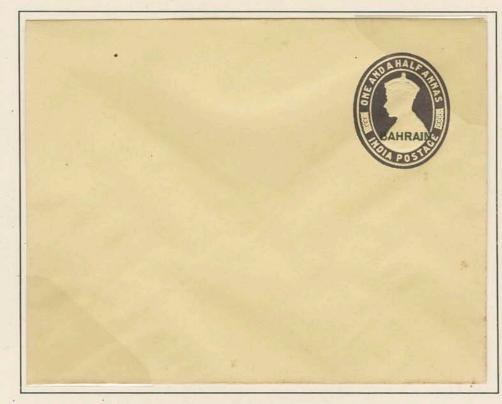
#### Type A

Crooked 'AH' in 'BAHRAIN' (constant characteristic)

Thick 'I' and 'AI' of 'BAHRAIN' joined at foot (additional characteristic)











Crooked 'AH' in 'BAHRAIN' (constant characteristic)

Serifed 'IN' in 'BAHRAIN' (additional characteristic)





#### Type A

Crooked 'AH' in 'BAHRAIN' (constant characteristic)

> Serifed 'IN' and Hooked 'I' in 'BAHRAIN' (additional characteristic)











Ghost Image in the solid background of the imprinted stamp, at right of King's profile. Rare.

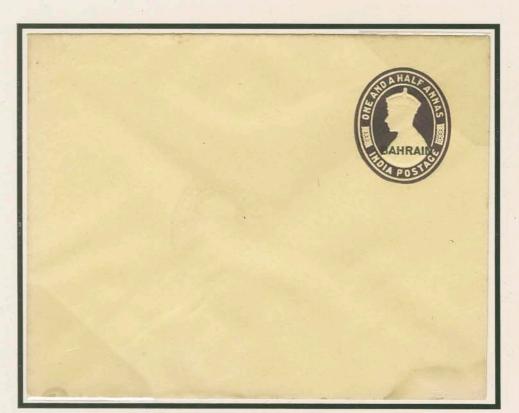


# Type B

Very rarely had this envelope been seen showing even light litho set-off (inside). Rare.





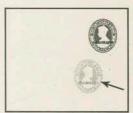


Very Rare Light
Reversed
blanket
Impression
shows almost in
centre of front.
Very Rare.



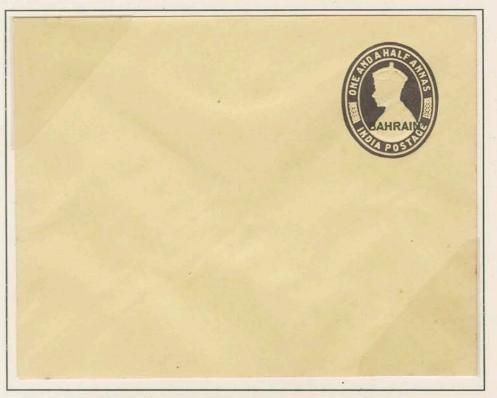
#### Type A

Very Rare Light
Reversed
blanket
Impression
shows about
10mm below the
imprinted stamp
Very Rare.









Crooked 'AH' in 'BAHRAIN'. This has almost become a subtype of the overprint and be termed as 'constant characteristic'



#### Type A

Crooked 'AH' in 'BAHRAIN' (constant characteristic)

'I' Spiked to left in 'BAHRAIN' (additional characteristic)









Mr K Oldfield esq.,

British Political Agency

Bahrain

1967, FP0 218 (Muharrag) with blue CERTIFIED OFFICIAL, used locally

1969, to England.

AIR MAIL

On Her Majesty's Service

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

OFFICE MET. 016d

MARROROLOGICAL CERTICER RS.W. METEOROLOGICAL

LONDON ROAD

BRACKNELL

BERKS

RG12

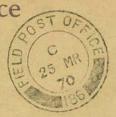
252

CERTIFIED OFFICIAL

VIOLET and signed

# BAHRAIN

On Her Majesty's Service



No. J. N. GILLHAM.
C. STATS O.
HQ AG.

ORG STAFF REGISTRY

26 MAR 1970

HQ AIR FORCES GULF

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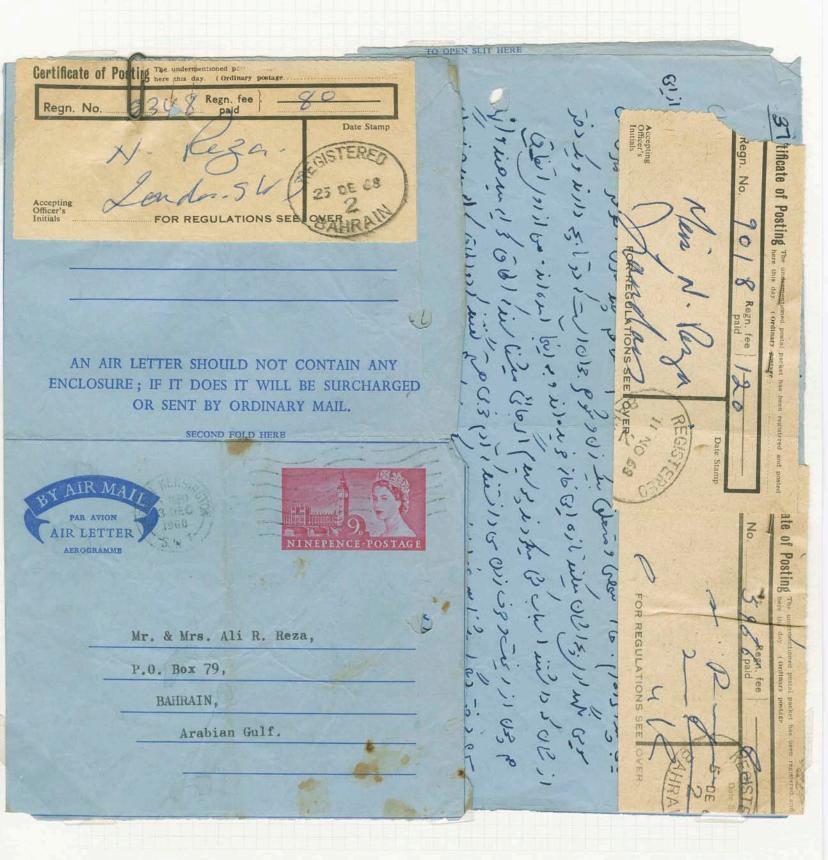
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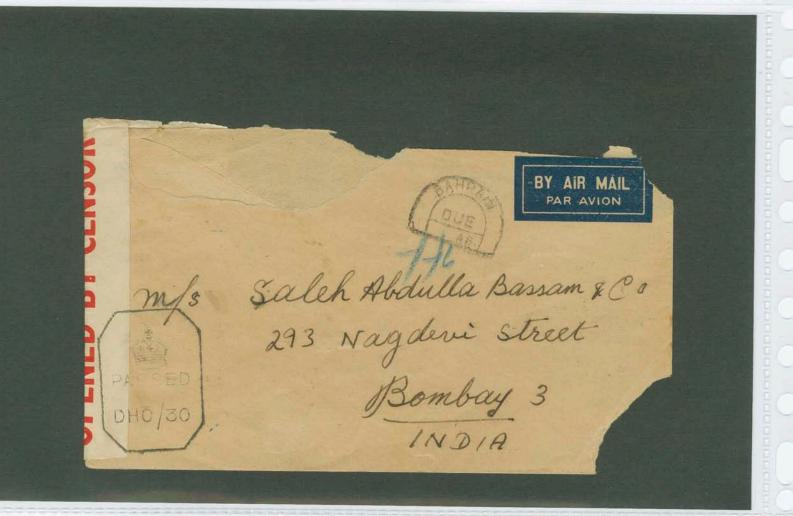






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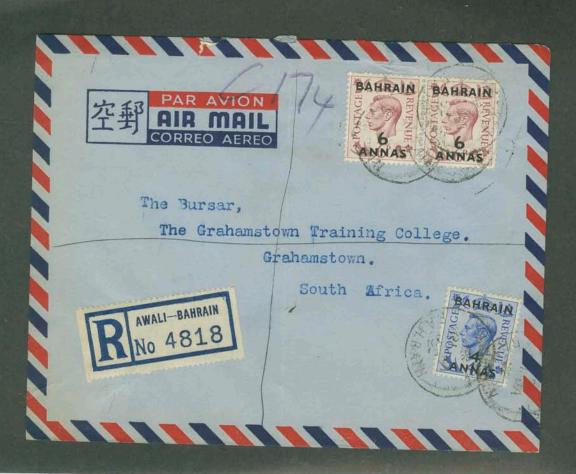




















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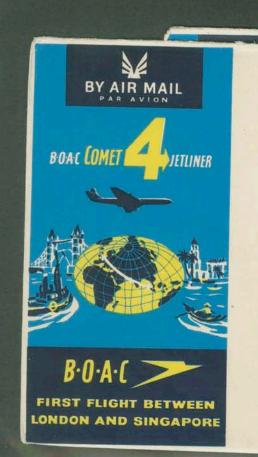






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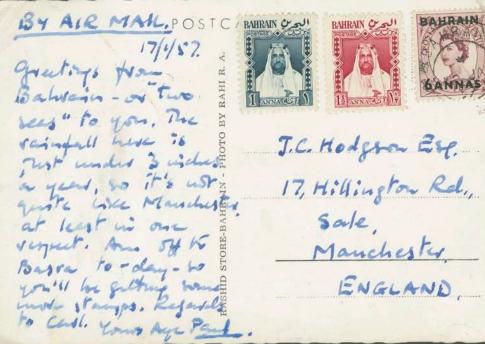








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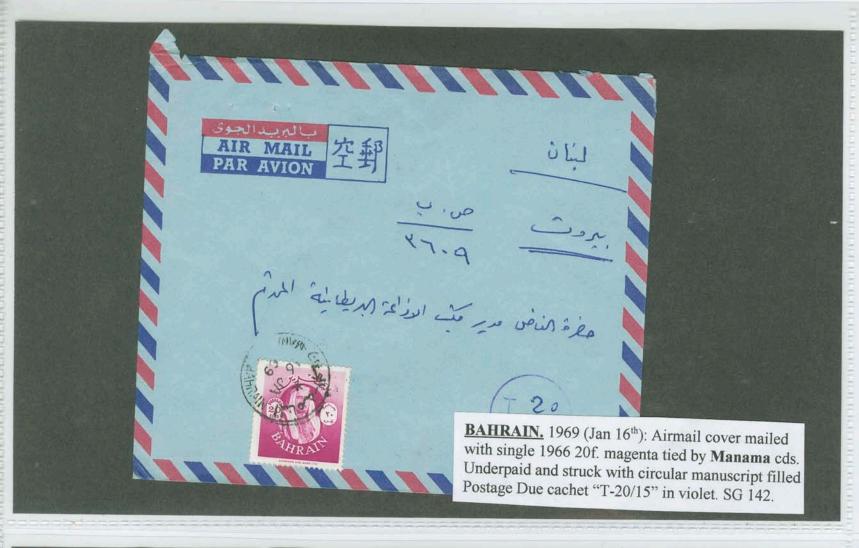
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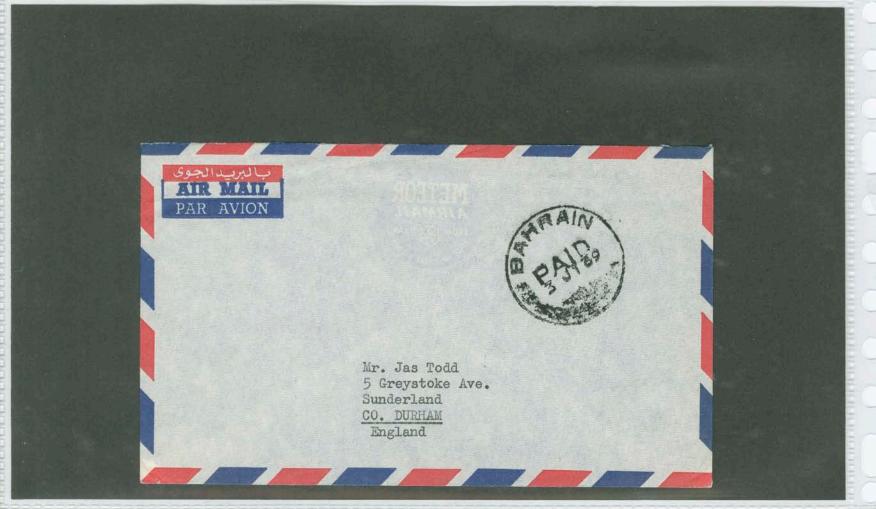
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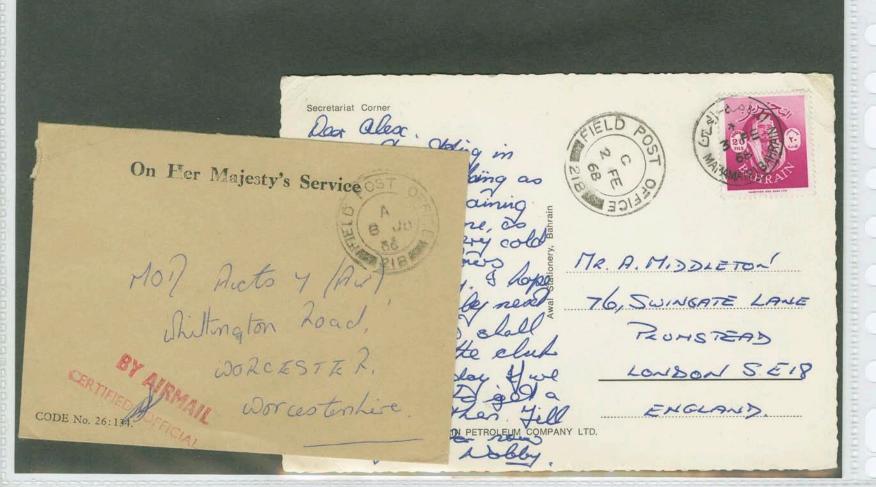
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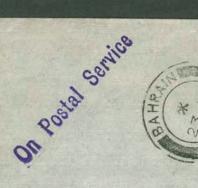




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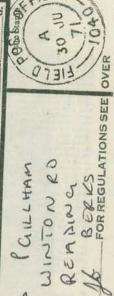
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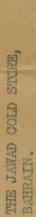
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Bahrain Philatelic Society's On the occasion of (1980-2005)Silver Jubilee

03.04.05



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Commander: Capt. A. M. KAPUR. Date & time of departure from Bombay: May 1, 1962: 1950 GMT. Date & time of arrival at Bahrain: May 1, 1962: 2325 GMT. Distance from Bombay to Bahrain 2,437 Kms. Name and registration mark of Aircraft: 'ANNAPURNA' VT-DJJ.



Political Agency, Bahrain. The 28/4

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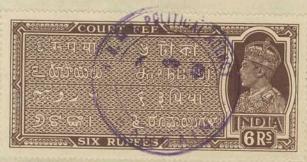


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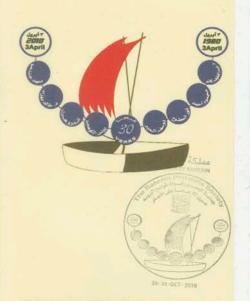


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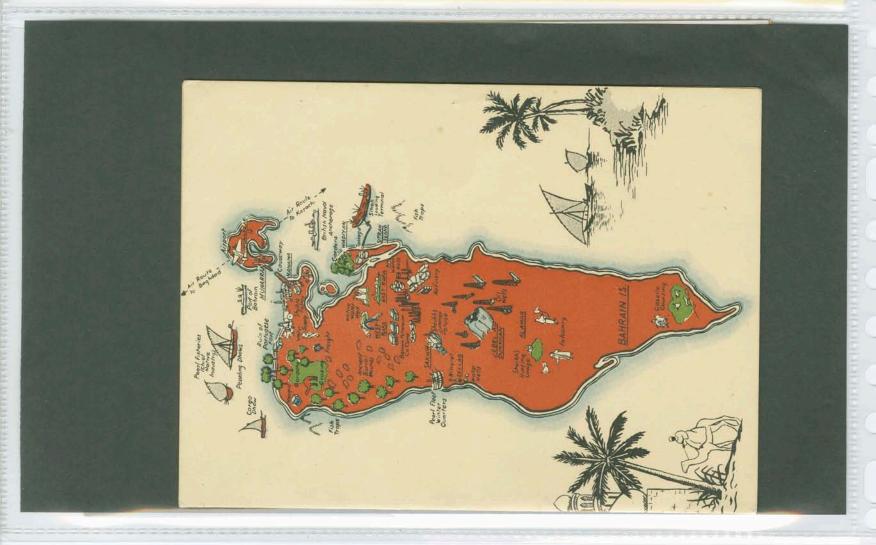




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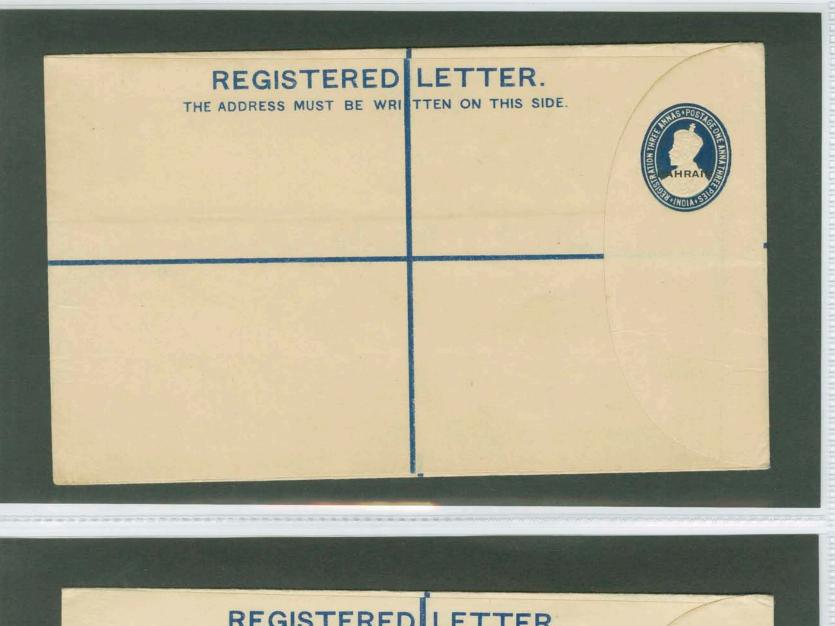
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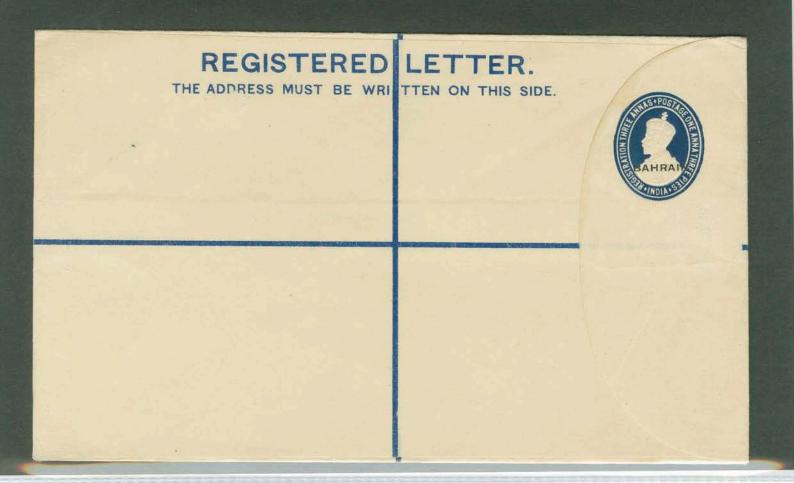


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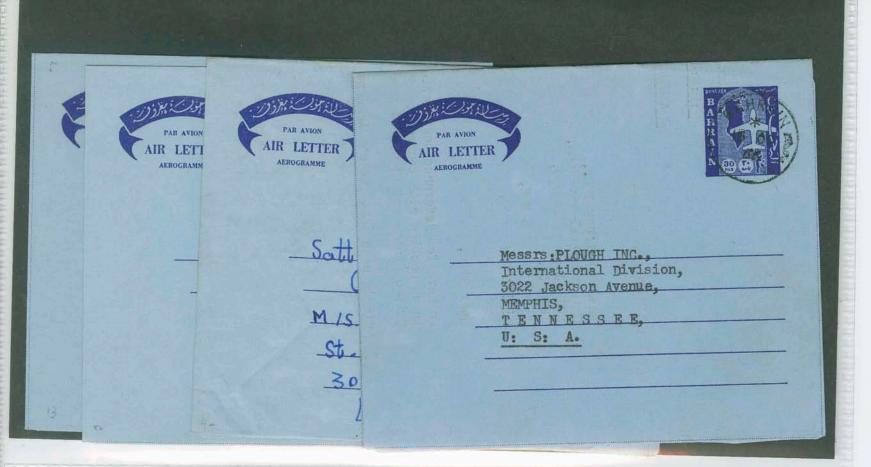
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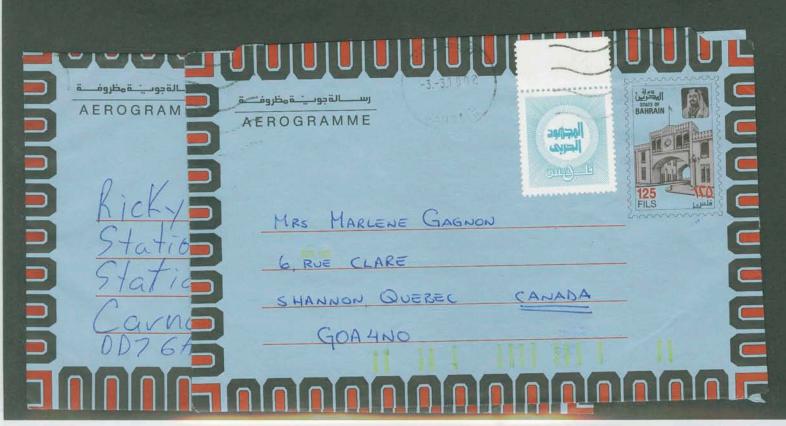


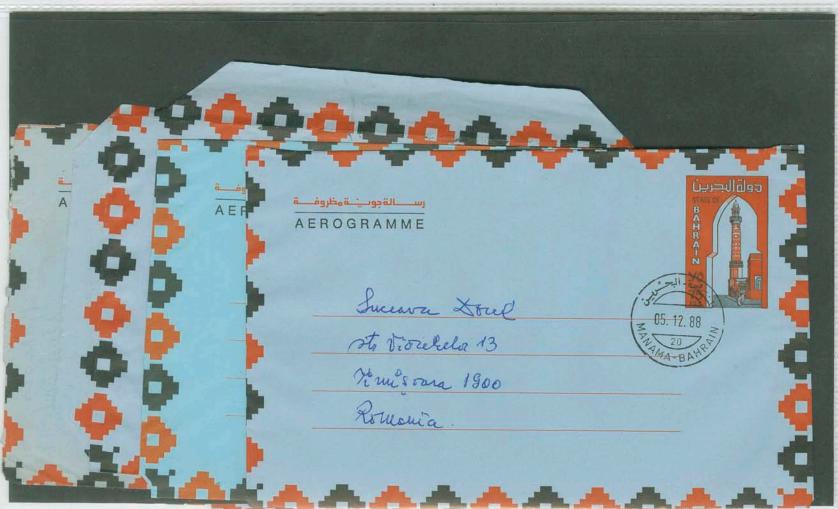












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and, Persian Gulf



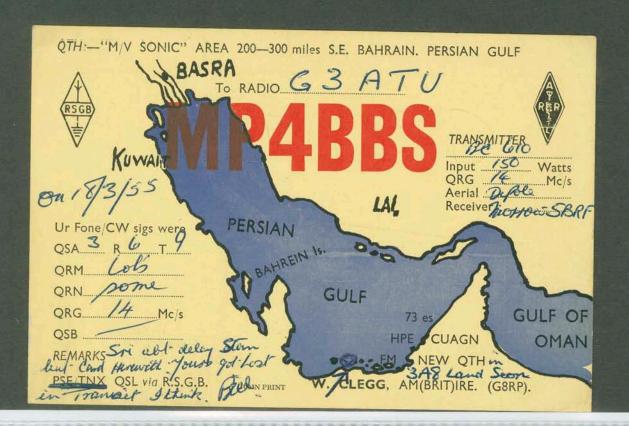
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