Bahraini 5 fils war tax stamps used on mail during the Arab boycott of Israel

Early shade in Israeli colours   Later aqua shade

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Meetings: The Australian Philatelic Society meets bimonthly on the third Monday of (February, April, June, August, October, December), at 7.45 pm at the RSL Canterbury Memorial Homes, 152 Canterbury Rd, Canterbury, Melway Ref: page 46 C 10/11. Visitors welcome.

Subscription. The annual subscription: In Australia: $A25.00 (Australian Journal of Philately by surface); Asia/Pacific - including New Zealand: $A30.00 (airmail*); USA, Canada, Europe etc: $A35.00 (airmail*). Joining fee for new members $A10. Society members receive four copies of The Australian Journal of Philately each year . (* airmail is now the only overseas option)

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2011 Programme

18 April	Marjorie Crawford	Flightless Birds (thematic display)
20 Jun	Michael Kalka & Max Bulley	Timor 1999-2002 & HM Transport Covers
15 August	AGM & then Members	Work in progress (6 - 10 sheets each)

Contents

Editorial   *Michael Barden*

No, Tony has not thrown in the towel, died or suffered a like fate. Having sat in the Editor's chair since March 2002, Tony has gone to Indonesia for two & a half months on behalf of the Church. Maybe this is long service leave of sorts, so that he can recharge the batteries and, when he returns, continue the high standard journal to which we have become accustomed.

Last time I edited AJP (Dec 2001), I still used Windows 98 on an older computer. Today, using XP3 makes the job of formatting and editing simpler - you see, I am not an up-to-the-minute computer programme freak. When it works well, why change?

In this issue, we have a variety of reading & study for you. Brian Fuller is seeking feedback concerning the history of AP in Melbourne. If this is not recorded accurately, how long will it be before errors become 'gospel'. If you can help, please either do so directly with Brian or via the Editor.

"Danks for the Memories pt 2 concludes this interesting little Melbourne history. Despite problems with Tony's computer last year, we have managed to let this story see the light of day.

The Arab-Israeli Boycott is an interesting cover story. Bahrain was the only Arab League country to issue a 'Military Matters' boycott stamp and this changed colour somewhere between 1976 & 1985. John possesses 8 covers (of which I have illustrated 5). Prospective new owners should contact either the Editor or the seller directly.

Judy Kennett (with a little help from your erstwhile editor) is working hard on letters from Romania to Australia in the lead up to and early WW2. You will be able to read these interesting stories shortly.

Thank you for the increased flow of articles. Please keep up the good work; it benefits us all.

Cover Story   The two colours of the Bahraini war tax stamp. See page 10 for the full story

From the President

John Young

Auctions can produce some surprising results. In November last year an Australian cover was offered under an express mail heading. It was franked 2 pence and mailed from Wild Duck Creek, near Heathcote in Victoria, on Monday 4 December 1939. It was addressed to The Bendigo Advertiser, the same as the one shown below. The cover had an estimate of $200 and was sold for $300, plus buyer's commission. The catalogue description of the cover carried a note –

There is no mention in Post Office Guides of a "press parcel" service. It appears to have been an arrangement with the Victorian Railways whereby letters so endorsed were treated expeditiously on arrival.
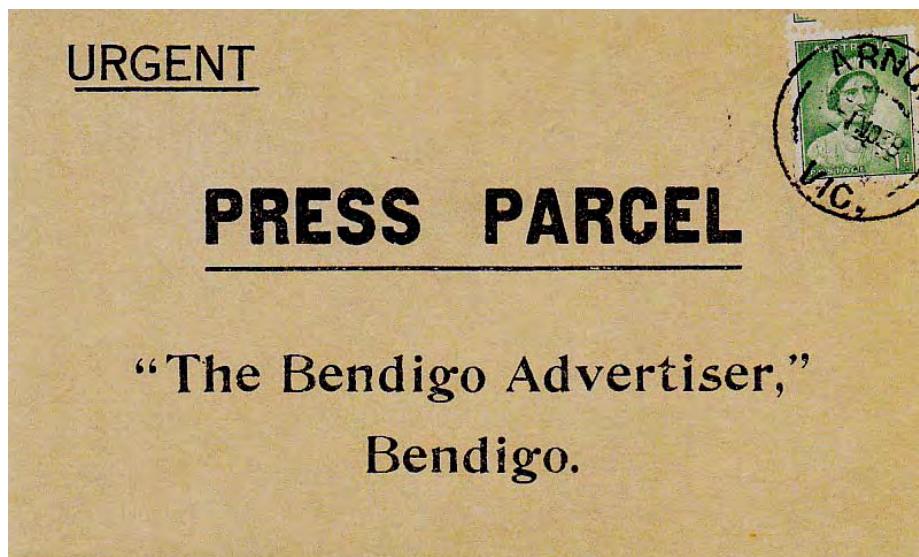
A couple of weeks before the auction I bought the cover shown above for about 10% of the other one's buyer's commission. I thought it was interesting and might be worth $20, on a good day. It was posted from Arnold, south of Bridgewater on Loddon, on Tuesday 1 November 1939. Franked 1 penny, it went as second-class unsealed mail, whereas the Wild Duck Creek one went as a sealed letter. (Wild Duck Creek , incidentally, is now beneath the waters of the Eppalock dam).

Now, Wild Duck Creek is a more desirable postmark than Arnold, but is it worth $300 more? And was the catalogue note about an arrangement with the Railways correct?

Both covers went by rail: Wild Duck Creek mail went to Knowsley station 4 miles away on the now defunct Heathcote Junction to Bendigo line, and Arnold is on the Dunolly to Bridgewater line.

Classing the cover as express is probably fanciful. Both would have travelled by ordinary Railways transmission to Bendigo and on to the *Advertiser* office for sorting and opening. It was a simple process to separate important press copy from invoices and other annoying correspondence. The *Advertiser* probably supplied the envelopes to their country correspondents, typically for reporting weekend sports results.

I think that the explanation is as prosaic as I've described; and I remain of the view that it's a $20 cover. Apparently at least two bidders thought otherwise.

Introduction of Penny Postage – Unexpected Problems

Colin Salt.

On 1 May 1911 the l d uniform rate was introduced into Australia and from that date mail for delivery in *Australia and to any country within the British Empire* was subject to the reduced rate of 1d per half ounce. The foreign rate remained at 2½d per half ounce, as it had been for many years.

Problems arose, particularly with letters addressed to the United States of America, which made up a significant proportion of the outgoing mail from Australia, The public had taken note of the l d rate but not of the fact that it did not apply to foreign countries. Although the underpayment could be dealt with by means of a tax charge, revenue was lost because the charge was collected at destination.

As part of a public awareness campaign, notices were displayed in post offices in New South Wales (possibly elsewhere) drawing attention to the correct postage rate to the U.S.A. An example is illustrated on the next page. My copy is showing its age and it is printed in black on a yellowish hessian and has been reduced for display from the actual size which is 195mm x 400mm.

For clarification I repeat the wording below.

NOTICE.

INSUFFICIENCLY PREPAID LETTERS
FOR PLACES OUTSIDE THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

SINCE the Introduction of penny postage
letters for the United States of America
are being posted to a considerable extent in
this State insufficiently prepaid and in
these cases double the deficiency has to
be collected on delivery.
The attention of the public is therefore
drawn to the fact that the penny postage
system does not extend beyond the British
Empire, and that all letters for places
outside the Empire (including the United
States of America) should be prepaid 2½d
per half ounce.

E.J. YOUNG.
Deputy Postmaster General.

General Post Office,
Sydney. 16th August 1912.

NOTICE

INSUFFICIENTLY PREPAID LETTERS
FOR PLACES OUTSIDE THE BRITISH EMPIRE

SINCE the introduction of penny postage letters for the United States of America are being posted to a considerable extent in this State insufficiently prepaid, and in these cases double the deficiency has to be collected on delivery.

The attention of the public is therefore drawn to the fact that the penny postage system does not extend beyond the British Empire, and that all letters for places outside the Empire (including the United States of America) should be prepaid 2½d. per half ounce.

E. J. YOUNG,
Deputy Postmaster General.

General Post Office,
Sydney, 13th August, 1902.

In addition to the posters, handstamps were prepared and used on outgoing taxed mail asking the addressee to 'advise their correspondent' of the problem. Examples are shown below.

Underpaid cover to U.S.A. taxed accordingly and showing the advisory handstamp

Used in Brisbane and Sydney.
Note incorrect spelling of LETTTERS
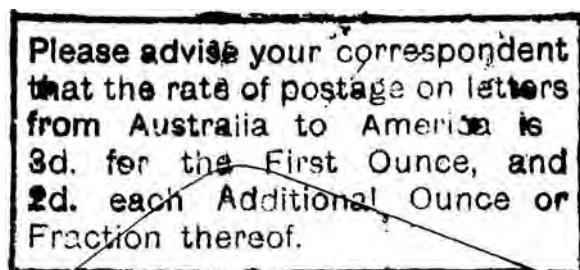
Used in Perth.

A number of these marks exist with different wording although the message remains the same. To date I have recorded 13.

A slogan cancellation was introduced in 1926 drawing attention to the USA rate. Over the next 15 years a number of different types were used throughout Australia and, although they were not officially withdrawn until 1949, very little use was made of them after 1941 [1]

A change in procedure took place sometime in 1930, possibly earlier – I have been unable to determine the exact date - but underpaid mail was retained whilst an attempt was made to secure the payment of the correct postage by the sender, thus ensuring that The Australian General Post Office was correctly remunerated for the service provided.

Universal Postal Union regulations were silent on the subject of mail retention so the view was probably taken that what was not specifically forbidden was allowed.

1712. Insufficiently Prepaid Articles.—An air mail article addressed to a place within the Commonwealth, or to Papua or New Guinea, which is insufficiently prepaid should be surcharged double the deficiency, and sent on for collection of the amount upon delivery. An air mail article addressed to the United Kingdom should be similarly treated if the sender's error cannot be rectified without causing the article to miss the next outward mail. Where the sender is known, and delay would not result, endeavour should be made to arrange for the sender to place the necessary further postage stamps on the article before despatch from the office of posting.

1713. The sender of an insufficiently prepaid air mail article addressed to a country other than those mentioned in the preceding paragraph should (when the sender is known) also be asked to pay the deficiency before the despatch of the article. If the sender is unknown, or if he refuses to pay the additional amount, the postage stamps on the article must be cancelled with the office date stamp. The article, unsurcharged, must then be enclosed in a departmental envelope (together with a slip bearing a notation, "Sender unknown," or "Sender refuses to pay deficiency," as the case may be), and forwarded to the Superintendent of Mails (Air Mail Section), General Post Office.

I recently bought an accumulation of postage due covers at auction. This brief extract from GPO regulations was included. A pencil note '1935' is on the back.

The cover illustrated below with a 1930 date suggests that the change took place before 1935,

Returned for an additional 1d which has been stuck over the original machine cancel.

The following covers show variation in the way the additional payment was requested

8

The label appears to have been cut from a duplicated sheet and the left edge glued to the envelope

Label fixed with a pin. A remarkable survivor

The situation changed in the late 1950's with the introduction of cards PM28 and PM 28a from which point the letters were held for a brief period at the GPO or sorting office pending full payment rather than sending them back to the originator for that purpose.

Reference and acknowledgement.

1, Australian Slogan Cancellations 1917 – 1990 Voulme 2. R.C. Occleshaw. Pub. Magpie Publications 1991

Thanks to Ken Snelson and Michael Furfie for their helpful comments regarding U.P.U. regulations.

Cover Story: The Arab – Israeli Boycott

John Lancaster

As one gets older one requires less stuff around clogging up the familial ties; so better to consign whilst able to do so. The eight covers, which form the basis of this brief article (*5 illustrated – Ed*) will now be passed onto the Brotherhood to raise money for their missionary efforts – unless some deserving soul places a large amount of folding material in the writer's hands.

War tax stamps have been used in one form or another since the Spanish wars of 1874, extensively throughout the First and Second World Wars and even by the Office of the Arab Boycott of Israel, especially during the 1967 Arab-Israel war.

The airmail covers below from Bahrain to various major Australian export companies were mailed from 1974 to 1988. Each has the locally produced Bahrain War Tax 5 fils blue stamp [SG T 198] issued in 1974 applied to the cover. The American Scott catalogue lists war tax stamps using the "MR" prefix. Letters in the 1980s show an aqua coloured stamp. The Universal Enterprises Bahrain cover of 18 April 1974 to Camberwell is probably one of the earliest recorded to Australia.

Airmail letter cancelled Manama (2) Bahrain with 5 fils blue war stamp

The background to the boycott issue is interesting, being bound up in the ever-changing politico-economic issues of the Middle East. Arab boycotts of Jewish interests started as early as 1922, some 26 years before the establishment of Israel. The original boycott forswore with any Jewish owned business operating in the British Mandate of Palestine.[1] However an officially organized boycott was only adopted by the Arab League after the 1948 Arab-Israeli War. The implementation of the boycott has varied over time among member states with a number of the Arab League countries no longer enforcing the boycott.

In 1951, the Arab League established the Office of the Arab Boycott of Israel based in Damascus, Syria in order to boycott companies that did business with Israel from operating in the Arab world. The boycott list

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[1] With considerable assistance from Wikipaedia and Dr Septimus Google

was maintained by a special office within the Arab League called the "Central Boycott Office". Each participating Arab League state had its own national office. The Central Boycott Office has always been headquartered in Damascus, although there was no meeting of the co-ordinating committee from 1993 to 2002 due to the fact they have not had a quorum.

The Arab League is a regional organization of Arab states in Southwest Asia, and North and Northeast Africa. It was formed in Cairo on 22 March 1945 with six members: Egypt, Iraq, Transjordan [renamed Jordan after 1946], Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and Syria. Yemen joined as a member on 5 May 1945. The Arab League currently has 22 members. The main goal of the league is to "draw closer the relations between member States and co-ordinate collaboration between them, to safeguard their independence and sovereignty, and to consider in a general way the affairs and interests of the Arab countries."

Arabic lettering in the centre translates as 'Military Matters'
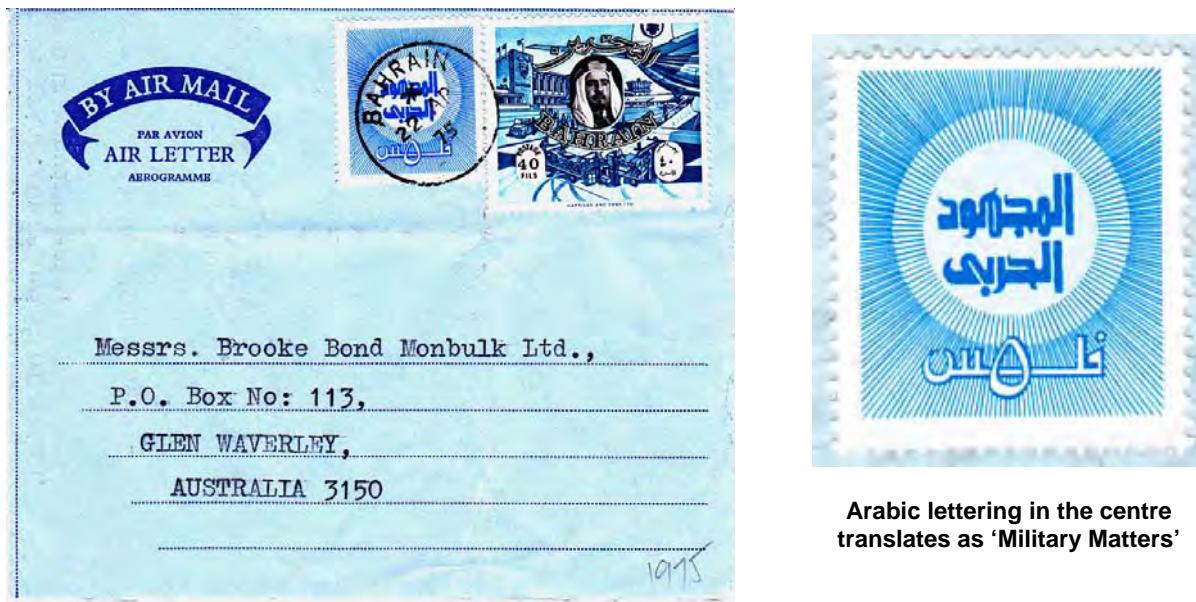
Aerogramme posted 22 Apr 75 from Bahrain requesting lamb tongues

The Gulf Co-operation Council consists of the following countries – Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the 7 UAE members (Abu Dhabi, Ajman, Dubai, Fujairah, Rasal-Khaimana, Sharjah & Umm-al-Quwain)

In its heyday, the Arab boycott office blacklisted more than 8,500 companies, including Coca-Cola [bottling plant in Israel], the Ford Motor Co and Elizabeth Taylor films, thus effectively being banned from all of the other Arab countries. This resulted in quite a significant boon for cokes competitor Pepsi as well as for Japanese car manufacturers. There are sixteen countries that do not accept Israeli passports. Because of the boycott, certain products, which were ubiquitous elsewhere in the world, such as Pepsi, McDonald's and most Japanese cars, were not to be found in Israel until the boycott began waning in the late 1980s. A similar situation existed in the Arab world which boycotted the products of companies that were selling in Israel as in the case of Coca-Cola.

Officially, the boycott covers three areas:[2]
- Products/services originating in Israel [referred to as the primary boycott and still enforced in many Arab states];
- Businesses in non-Arab countries that do business with Israel [secondary boycott];
- Businesses shipped or flown into Israeli ports [the tertiary boycott].

---

[2] See also http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/RL33961.pdf

**1986 letter carried to Australia in the Diplomatic bag, then posted in Melbourne,
The 5 fils war stamp is aqua now**

At one point the boycott was observed by the entire Arab League. Today, only Lebanon and Syria adhere to it stringently. Bahrain would appear to have been the only Arab state to produce and apply an actual boycott label – significantly in the Israeli colours originally.

Enforcement of the boycott remains the responsibility of individual member states and enforcement efforts vary widely from country to country. It would appear that the Arab boycott had effectively ceased to exist by 1996 however, in 2008 Bahrain's parliament started to press its government to reopen the country's Israel Boycott Office, which was closed in 2006 under pressure from Washington. Prior to its closure, the boycott office had overseen government efforts to bar entry to Israeli-made goods in accordance with the Arab League's economic and trade embargo against the Jewish state

For more information one may read detailed synopses from the US State Department at

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/RL33961.pdf

http://ustraderep.gov/assets/Document_Library/Reports_Publications/2005/2005_NTE_Report/asset_upload_file43_7451.pdf

Sep 1985 letter with 5 fils aqua war stamp and with 900 fils franking

Jun 1988 letter with roller cancel. 5 fils aqua war stamp and 200 fils franking
**This was the last of the eight letters**

The three letters not illustrated were as follows:

Aerogramme Mar 75 to SPC Ltd
Aerogramme Jan 76 to SPC Ltd
Letter 1976 to SPC Ltd

Australian QEII Definitive Stamp, Part 3

John Young

This part describes the non-portrait definitive stamps issued between 1959 and 1961, the re-issue of the 2/6 Aborigine stamp and the last two portrait letter-rate definitives before the change to decimal currency in 1966.
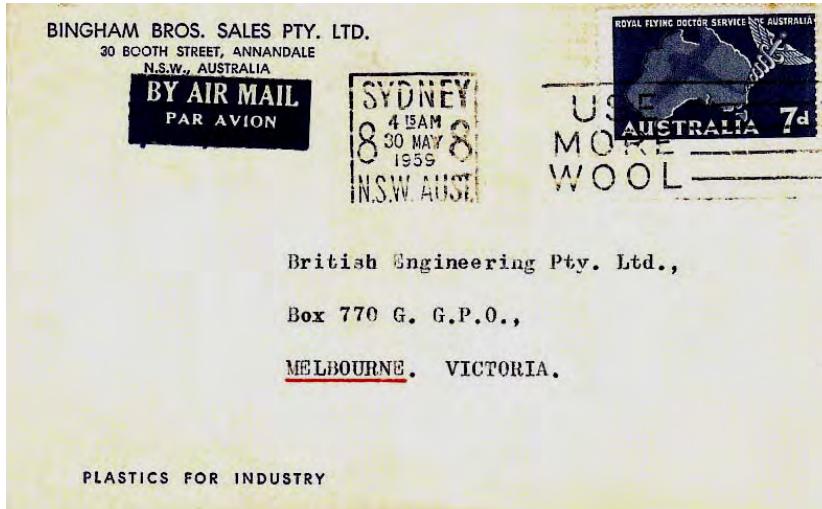
7 pence

The flying-doctor airmail stamp, issued 21 August 1957 for ordinary domestic airmail letters.

The 7d rate came into effect on 1 October 1956 and ended on 1 October 1959, when the rate was reduced to 5d.

2 shillings and 6 pence

The re-issue of the Aborigine definitive on unwatermarked paper came out on 30 Jan 1957.

It was used for parcels & airmail letters to central and South America and make-up purposes. It also paid the basic telegram rate until 1959. (In 1964 there was another re-issue on very white unwatermarked paper).

Cooktown. Bank NSW mailed money to an Iron Range miner: 1½ oz envelope costing 1/3d registration, 9d airmail (3x3d), 6½d postage (4d + 2½d)
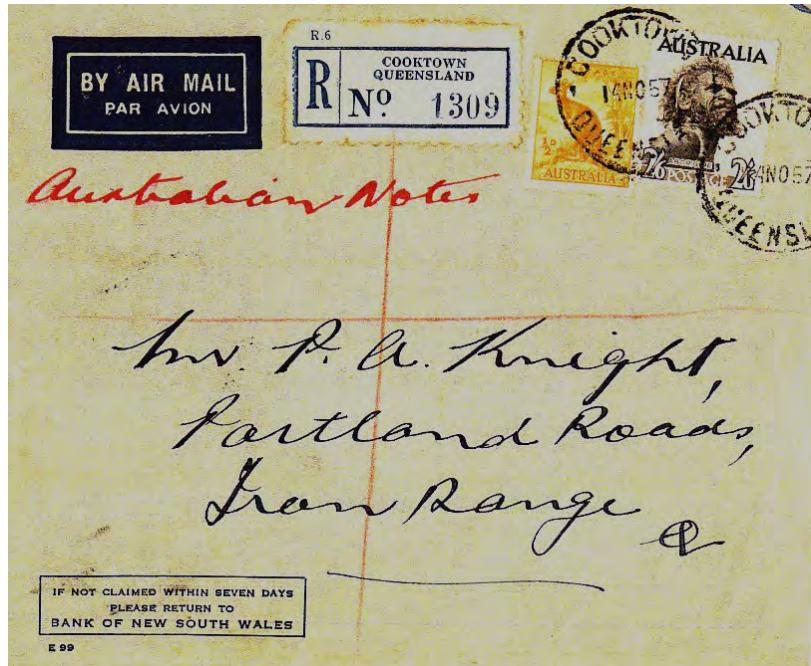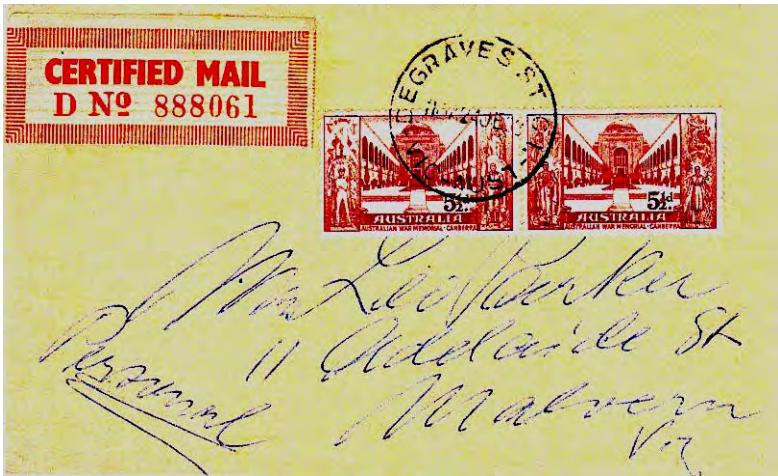
5½ pence (2 stamps)

These se-tenant stamps marked the final completion of the Australian National War Memorial, Canberra, and were issued on 10 February 1958.

5 ½d paid for –

4-8oz. printed matter and 2-4oz. commercial papers to Australia and British Commonwealth;

2-4oz. printed matter to foreign countries; 2-4 oz. merchandise to anywhere until 30 September 1959

After then 2x5½d stamps paid for certified mail (5d letter rate + 6d certified-mail fee).

Flowers, 5 values, 1959-60 and 1964

1 shilling and 6 pence

Issued 3 Feb 1960, carmine on yellow paper, for ordinary airmail letters to Asia, except Indonesia /Malaysia region.

Correctly franked 1/6d for airmail to Japan
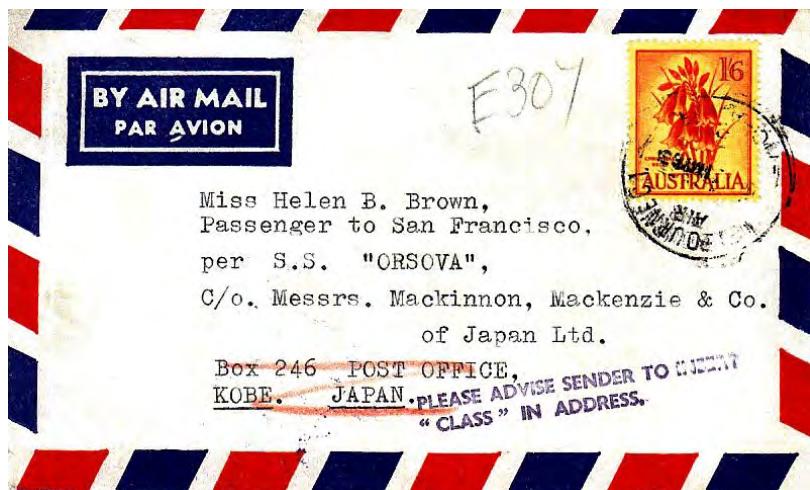
2 shillings

Issued 8 April 1959 for ordinary airmail letters to Middle East, Canada and USA.

From 1 October 1959, this value was used for the registration fee.

Correctly franked 2/-, USA airmail rate

Correctly franked 2/- for the registration fee

2 shillings and 3 pence

Issued 9 September 1959, green on yellow paper, for ordinary airmail letters to UK, Europe and Africa. Re-issue, 28 October 1964, green on white paper, when supply of yellow paper ran out.
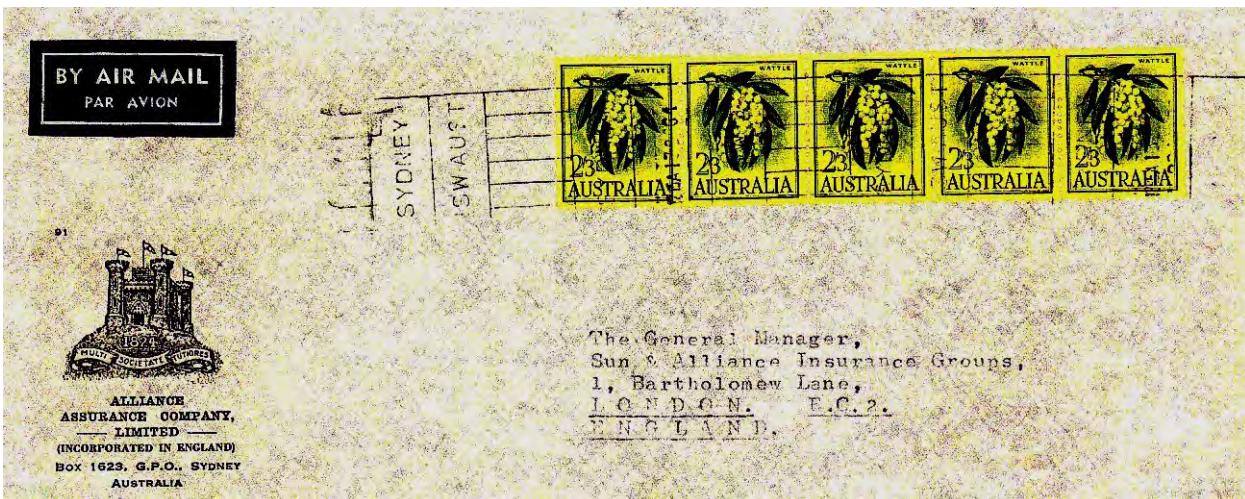
Correctly franked 11/3[d] for 2½ oz airmail to UK

2 shillings and 5 pence

Issued 16 March 1960, brown on yellow paper for registered air/surface mail letters in Australia and surface mail letters to British Commonwealth.
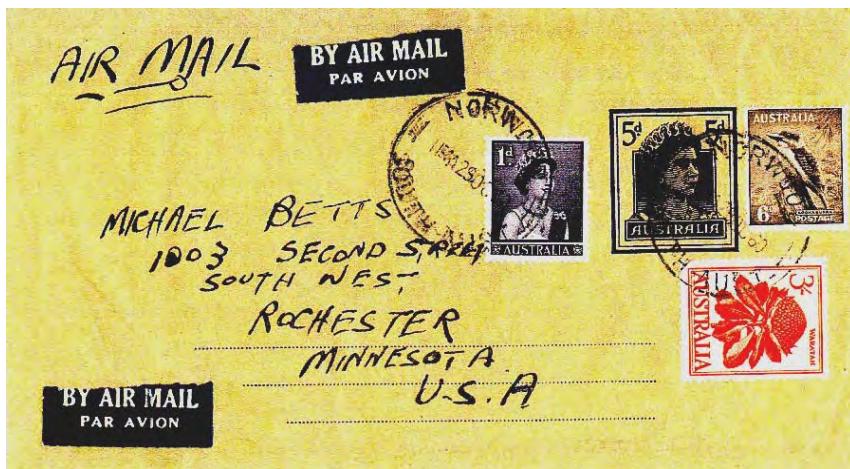
3 shillings

Issued 17 July 1959 for basic telegram rate, parcels and make-up use.

Make up use for 1 oz (double weight) journal to USA

Colombo Plan, 1 shilling.   (letter below correctly franked for airmail to British Solomon Islands)
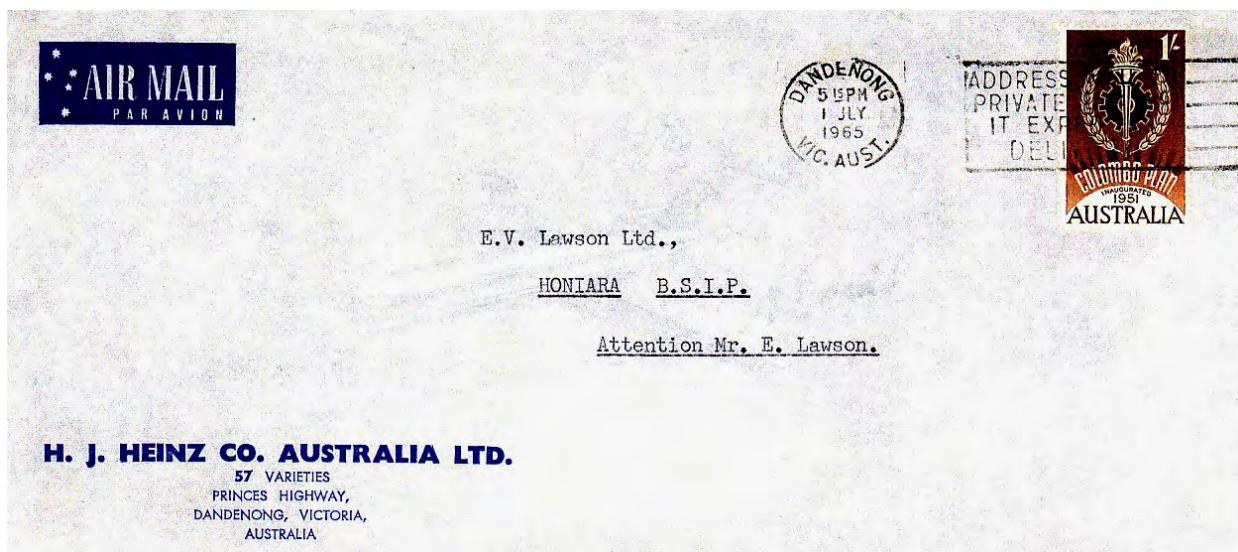
Issued 30 June 1961, upon the 10th anniversary of the formation of the Colombo Plan for financial and technical aid to South East Asia.

Used for ordinary airmail letters to the Indonesian/Malaysia region and the South Pacific (except NZ). Also used for airmail postcards to USA, Canada and the Middle East.

Airmail postcard to USA
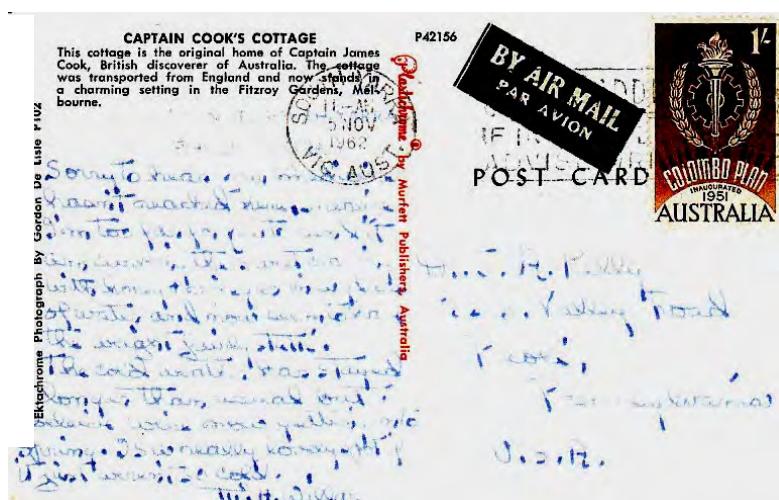
5 shillings

Issued 26 July 1961 for longer than basic telegrams, parcels, airmail charges and make-up

Parcel fragment: 2/- registration fee plus either a 5 lb parcel within 30 miles or a 3 lb over 30 miles from Melbourne
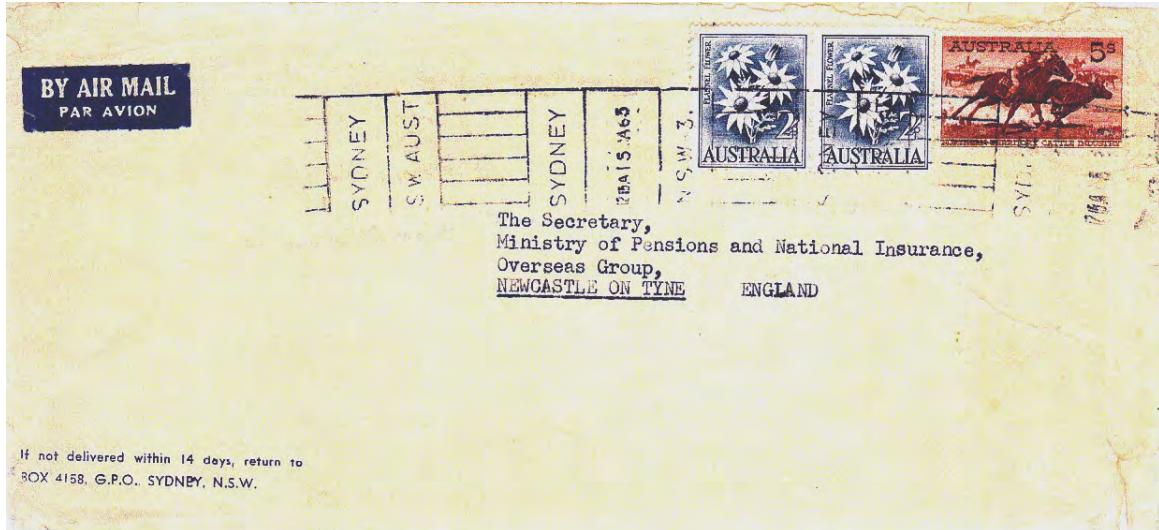
Make up for 2 oz airmail letter to UK

5 pence

Two stamps, based on the portrait used for the Royal Visit letter-rate stamp issued earlier in 1963. First issue, green, 9 October 1963 and second issue, red, 30 June 1965. Both colours were issued in booklets and the red issue was sold in coils. They paid for –

basic air/surface-mail letters and postcards in Australia and territories;
basic surface mail letters and pc s to the British Commonwealth;
basic commercial papers, printed matter, newspapers and magazine rates to anywhere;
occasional make-up use, of which two examples are shown here.
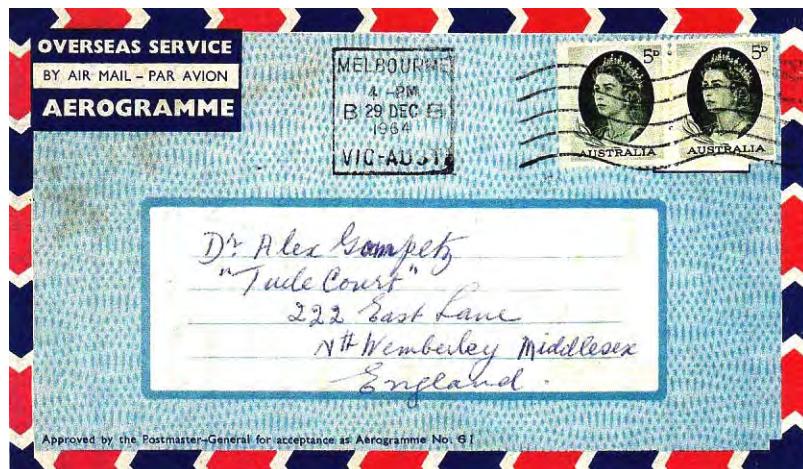
2 x 5d green affixed to blank aerogramme

18

<div style="border:1px solid; padding:10px;">

Australia Post Melbourne Timelines

</div>

Brian Fuller

The Post Office has been in Victoria since very early times of settlement. The very early period did not have official post offices but gradually developed as civilization exploded into Victoria.

As volumes increased, so did the number of offices and facilities and their roles. As efficiency and delivery of the service became more critical, many facilities were formed or amalgamated, and roles changed. The information regarding these formations and devolutions is rather disparate and I will try to amalgamate the plethora of information.

Many of the dates are conflicting as are their locations and roles. Dates conflict for many reasons, including operating date and official opening dates. Functions changed as the operational or control need arose. Titles changed for the same reason, even though the facility might continue to do what it has always done.

Many facilities have roles unknown to me. Readers might appreciate their roles and share them with us. I do not intend to detail the roles of the major facilities I am listing. I am also ignoring administrative and engineering facilities; likewise for other non-mail processing facilities, such as post offices within the Melbourne Central Business District (CBD). The GPO is included because of its fundamental importance.

This paper may assist those marcophilists who have CDS or cachets etc, on or off envelopes, to deduce at which facility the mark was actually made irrespective of the wording on the imprint. For example: in the 1970s the Melbourne MC loaned its CDS to the State MC until it acquired its own. See my paper **The State Mail Centre Melbourne, A Postmark Review** supplement in the Date Stamp [#]4, Aug 85. The Earliest (ERD) and Latest (LRD) dates for a facility can also be confidently established.

AP has recently been updating its records for its 200 years of existence and I have taken extracts from disparate documents produced over the years, hence minimal acknowledgement. Most of the other dates originate from my and a few from David Wood's scribings (DW). I also commend George Knights' research (GK) on **The Postal History of Melbourne 1835 – 1912** in the Date Stamp [#]10 Supplement, Nov 83. Australia Post Public Relations Office also released a document "History of the GPO Melbourne".

Symbols used   < = earlier than   > = later than

First Mail   receiving station was at John Batman's house at Batman's Hill (GK). Batman and his family settled at what became known as Batman's Hill at the western end of Collins Street, building a house at the base in April 1836, where he lived until his death (Wikepedia).

13 Apr 1837   Mr E J Foster appointed as Melbourne's first official postmaster. Post Office established in Collins St opposite the National Mutual Centre and according to AP is still there.

Jan 1838   PO transferred to Flinders St around the corner from King St. The 3rd postmaster was Capt Benjamin Baxter and his residence was owned by J P Fawkner (GK).

Apr 1839 (GK) PO transferred to Collins St (Postmaster Skein Craig's store) near the RIALTO. Apparently a crude bark-covered hut (AP).

1 Sep 1839 (GK) The Postmaster, David Kelsh, took up his post. PO transferred to Lt Collins St between William/Queen St possibly then called Chancery Lane. First official PO.

1841 (GK)   PO transferred to a portion of the site fronting onto Bourke St (GK).

11 Aug 1841   First official PO building opened on the Elizabeth St / Bourke St GPO site.

1859   Whole building sold and site cleared for a new building. A Section, facing Post Office Place, was left standing to enable business to be continued during building operations (AP).

1 Jul 1867 GPO - Crouch and Ramsay designed building corner Bourke & Elizabeth Streets opened.

< 1888   Spencer Street PO (SSPO) opened with its counter entrance in Spencer St(?). Formed in pre CME building circa 1888(?). I suspect it was subsumed with the opening of the GPO being transferred to Spencer St.

4 Jun 1917 GPO transferred to corner Bourke & Spencer Streets. Formation of the complex at Bourke and Spencer streets Melbourne was called ? The building facade says CME but was it only the GPO ? The GPO and ALL its functions are believed to have been transferred there. Elizabeth St still received, cancelled, and distributed mail including letters, newspapers, and parcels.

PO renamed Elizabeth St PO ? ELIZABETH ST Krag continuous roller currently has ERD 25 JUL17 and LRD 3 JUL18.

c 1930-32 (hypothesis) Chief Parcels Office created at 300 King St Melbourne controlled by MEB. I suspect the MEB was an HQ function and postally was the GPO and ME ?

1936 Mail Branch (MB) formed. Within GPO is unknown

1954 MB changed to Mail Exchange (ME). Were the ME and GPO co-located ?

1957 ME changed to Mail Exchange Branch.

It is the period post 1JUN64 that is of primary interest to me and the establishment of many major postal facilities. It is also the area most fraught with inaccuracies in regards structure and sequence. Please provide corrections ASAP else they might continue uncorrected. Many catalalogues issued by auction houses have inaccurate or supect dates and data when referring to a facility's location and opening or closing date.

1 Jan 64 GPO title transferred back to Elizabeth St. Did Spencer St PO open then?

1 Jan 64 Central Mail Exchange (CME) created when GPO vacated Spencer St retaining all functions of the "departing GPO". From a FEB1965 paphlet these included: INLAND & RECEIVING SECTION, INTERSTATE & OVERSEAS SECTION, CHIEF PARCELS OFFICE, REGISTRATION SECTION, CITY SECTION, plus Mail Officer Training School (Degraves St(?)), DLO (next door with Investigation Branch), Waybills Office, Canvas Workshops, and Printing Office. 66 million articles processed 13-25DEC64.

1965 I have two cryptic notes MEB (Branch) formed – where HQ ?, and MEP (Processing?)

1 Jul 75 Post Master General's Dept split into Telecom and Australia Post. Decentralization of mail processing began.

3 Aug 75 Blackburn MC opened (changed to Eastern MC 1 Oct 91 (DW)).

26 Oct 75 Geelong MC opened.

16 May 76 Ballarat MC opened.

30 Oct 77 Morwell MC opened.

13 Nov 77 Bendigo and Seymour MC opened.

7/8 Oct 78 Clayton South MC opened (changed to Southern MC 1 Oct 91 (DW)).

26 Feb 79 City Delivery Centre(CDC) formed. Servicing Melbourne City mails.

1 Apr 79 Spencer Street MC (SSMC) opened. Servicing Melbourne mails on 3rd and 4th floors of Bourke/Spencer streets building.

State Residue MC(SRMC) formed from remnants of CME. Ground, 1st, and 2nd floors of Bourke / Spencer streets building. Interstate and overseas functions of mail processing.

19 Nov 79 Preston MC opened (changed to Northern MC 1OC91 DW)

Apr 79 Footscray W MC opened in State MC (DW)

13 Oct 79 Footscray W MC closed in State MC and relocated. (DW)

14 Oct/23Nov 79 Footscray West MC opened (changed to Western MC 1OCT91 DW).

1970/80s(?) Asbestos found in the CME building. Relocation of responsibilities inevitable and floor changes of the resident MCs would have been precipitated.

1980 Form PPC (8/80) - AP/Customs Assessment Notice indicates The Customs Section of Overseas Inwards Parcel Section was located at 172/184 Roden St, W Melbourne.

1 Nov 81 International MC Maffra St opened. SRMC function SHIP MAIL ROOM closed.

1 Nov 81 SRMC became State Bulk MC (SBMC). Only interstate mail processing and CPO.

82/83 ? CDC became City Delivery MC(CDMC).

82/83 ?   City Street DC became City Street Delivery MC (CSDMC).

1 May 83   SSMC became Melbourne MC (MMC).

1 May 83   SBMC became State MC.   Parcels for Melbourne city transferred from CPO to City Delivery Section/Centre(?). Roden Street (Opened/Closed ?) was the delivery depot (City Parcels Delivery Centre (CPDC)).

86-88 ?   Interstate Surface Mail Transit Centre (ISMTC) formed from State MC and CPDC.

24 Jun 89   CPO King St Closed

25 Jun 89   State Parcel Centre Bertie St Port Melb Opened see 24APR92 comment.

23 Jul 89   Melbourne MC(MMC) transferred to XXX Spencer St Melbourne on the corner of Latrobe and Spencer Streets.

23 Jul 89   SBMC became State MC and was officially opened 28AUG89.

6 Aug 89   Eastern Suburbs Parcels Centre opens 18 Joseph St Blackburn.

6 Aug 89   Western Suburbs Parcels Centre opens Minnie St Yarraville.
6 Aug 89   Southern Suburbs Parcels Centre (SPC) opened in Fairbank Ave Clayton.

22 Jul 90   Northern Suburbs Parcels Centre opens Newlands Rd Reservoir.

27 Nov 90   South Eastern MC opened Ferntree Gully Rd.

1 Oct 91   Blackburn MC becomes Eastern MC still at Joseph St Blackburn

1 Oct 91   Preston MC becomes Northern MC

1 Oct 91   Footscray West MC becomes Western MC

24 Apr 92   State Parcel Centre opened in Bertie St Port Melb from some ISMTC functions. DW implies 25 Jun 89 ? I think he is inaccurate due to title changes.

> 9 Sep 92   Northern Suburbs Parcels Centre closes (latest CDS).

7 Nov 92   Eastern MC changes location to Rooks Rd Nunawading

22 Mar 93   MCMC formed by CDMC & GPO Box Room (part of CDMC) and CSDMC amalgamating with MMC.

16/17 Apr 93   Inward CBD mail processing discontinues at Eliz St but Box Room continues.

> 18 May 93   Western Suburbs Parcels Centre closes (latest CDS).

11 Aug 94   Morwell MC renamed Gippsland MC (DW)

93 – 96   City Delivery Centre (CDC) formed.

> 1 Jan 96   Southern Suburbs Parcels Centre closes (latest CDS).

18May 96   Western MC integrates with MCMC. (Ken Sparks – Modern Philately May96)

< 18 Apr 96   City Street Delivery Centre (CSDC) formed – 621 Lt Bourke St (includes DLO).

18 Apr 96   City Delivery MC (CDMC) functioning. (I have date stamp).

1996   Melbourne City MC Box Room officially renamed from informal GPO/Elizabeth St Box Room.

Early 97   IMC closes and integrates with MCMC.

Jan 99   Box Room function transfers to Delivery BU (When formed & where??). I believe it is the CDMC as I have CDS – "CITY MAIL PC & 14000 BOX ROOM of 17MAY02".

> 9 Apr 99   Eastern Suburbs Parcels Centre closes (latest CDS).

16 May 99   Northern MC closes – integrated with MCMC.

Mid 99   Melbourne Letters Centre(MLC) (a management cell) formed from functions of MCMC, State MC, and Melbourne Airmail Transit Centre(MATC) (formed ?? ISMTC function at airport?) and 2-8 Sperry Drive Tullamarine).

1 Jul 99   South Eastern MC replaced by Scoresby Business Centre 1/7/1999(DW)

26 Jul 99   Dandenong Letters Centre (DLC) opens.

< 18 Oct 99   Box Room renamed GPO Box Room (CDS)

31 Dec 99   Southern MC closes.

          Eastern MC closes????

10 Sep 01   Fire in Elizabeth St GPO Postal Hall destroys GPO and terminates operations there.

??   GPO functions transferred to a now defunct PO diagonally opposite in Elizabeth St and possibly to A'Becket St PO. I am unsure if a GPO legally exists but the title has been "adopted" by 250 Elizabeth St PO. The Box Room I think also went to two locations and is now located at 380 Bourke St.

< 28 Jan 02   City Mail Delivery Centre (CMDC) formed.

          CMDC became City Mail Processing Centre (CMPC) at 127 A'Beckett St.

< 24 Oct 02   GPO Box Room becomes GPO Private Box Centre (CDS).

25 Nov 02(?)   MATC changed to Melbourne Gateway Facility (MGF). Have MATC green tape dated 14FEB05. 26NOV97 expected as near IMC closure date!

Nov 02   MCMC Taxation staff transferred to DLC.

10 Apr 03   MCMC closes

13 Apr 03   SMC closes but 12JUL03 is the latest SMC FSM date!

Oct 06   MGF became fully operational

Summary   After 1 Jun 64 many major postal facilities were established. It is from this period marcophilists need to be assured that for their collections they have accurate data to enable them to confidently arrange their collection or purchase appropriate items.

I believe that this is the first time such an exercise to sequence facilities for a city, particularly one as complex as Melbourne, has been attempted. Please provide any corrections ASAP, else they might continue uncorrected. If catalogues issued by auction houses have inaccurate or supect dates and data when referring to a facility opening/closing please attempt to confirm their source of data and if different from mine, please advise me.

Australian QE 2 Definitive Stamps, part 3 (contiued from page 18)

Unusual use: 1d concessional surface mail plus 2/- registration   (green stamps)

Red booklet stamp on postcard from Brampton Island, Qld

"Danks" for the Memories, part 2

John Lancaster   (*Continued from AJP Nº 114 – Ed*)

September
1882

December
1888
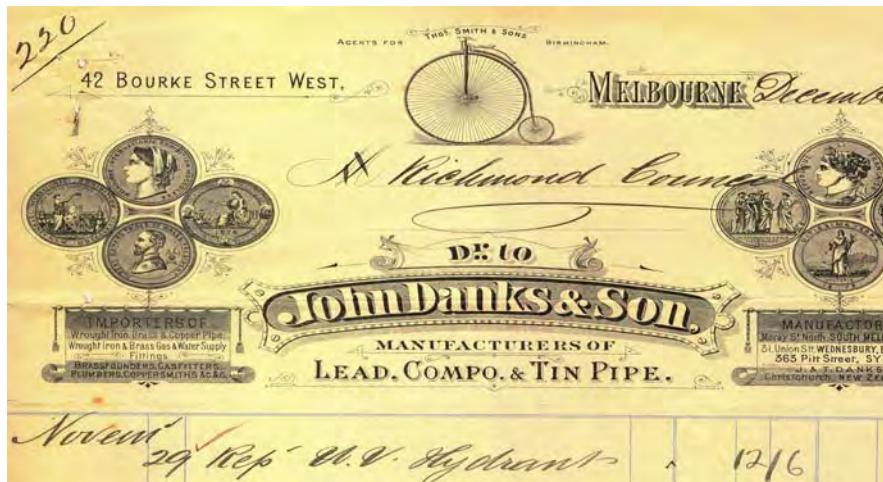
November
1895

John Danks died after a short illness at his South Melbourne home on 28 February 1902, being survived by his wife Ann and by a daughter and son of their eight children.

Woolworths entered an agreement with the US home improvement retailer Lowe's Companies Inc to buy Danks. Danks supplies more than 580 independently owned and operated shops through the Home Timber & Hardware, Thrifty-Link Hardware and PlantsPlus brands. It also supplies another 980 independent retailers. The Woolworths and Lowe's joint venture is offering $13.50 per Danks share, valuing the company at $87.6 million. Lowe's is a US Fortune 50 company with more than 1600 stores across the US and Canada, serving about 14 million customers a week. Its only significant competitor is Home Depot. It will have a one-third interest in Woolworth's hardware and home improvement business.

Notes
James McEwan & Co was established in 1852. In 1977 their address was shown as 387-403 Bourke Street, Melbourne. James McEwan Ltd was deregistered on 28 April 1997.

References
1. Sands & McDougall's Melbourne & Suburban Directory 1867
2. A Sutherland "Victoria & Its Metropolis Past & Present" Melb McCarron Bird 1888
3. G F Witton "Commercial Directory of Victoria 1895-6 Melbourne ANZ Publishing Co
4. J Smith [ed] "Cyclopaedia of Victoria [Illustrated] Melbourne F Niven & Co 1903
5. H G Turner "History of Colony of Victoria From Its Discovery to Its Absorption into Commonwealth of Australia 1854-1900" London Longmans Green & Co 1904
6. A M Laughton [Gov't Statist] Victorian Year Book 1909-10
7. J B Cooper "Victorian Commerce 1834-1934" Melbourne Robertson & Mullens
8. Australian Dictionary of Biography

1946 International Reply Paid Coupon from Couvin, Belgium

Surcharged using 182 Brussels 1 before being sent to Couvain
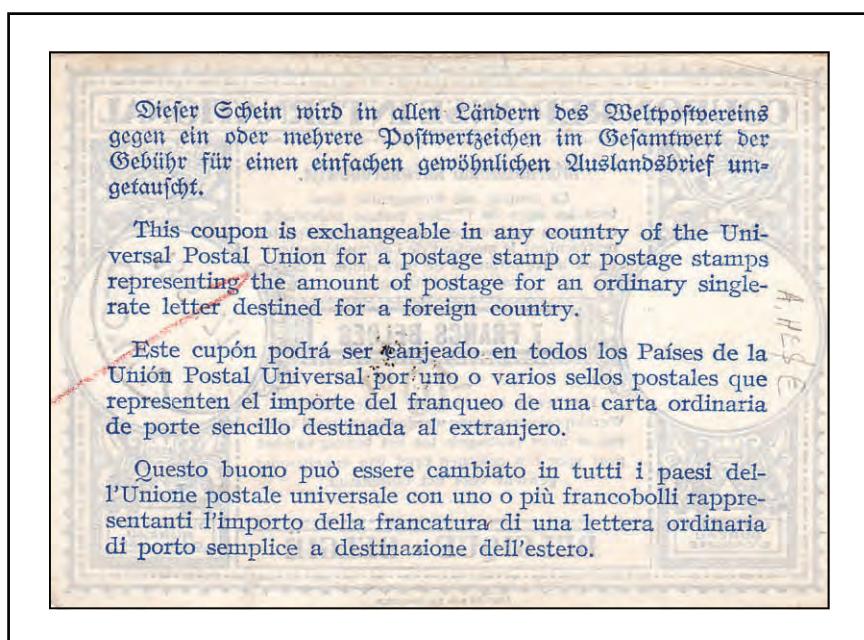
Reverse in four more languages

International reply coupons were (and still are, I believe) exchangeable at any post office within a UPU member country to pay the return postage cost. From 20 May 1946, external single rate postage was 3^{15} Fr of the 6^{30} Fr new value of the coupon (7 Fr -10%). Registration was also 3^{15} Fr. Airmail costs varied, but could be included as part payment

-10% coupons are exceedingly rare and are known only with 800 Brussels 1 surcharge. This provisional issue commenced on 20 May 1946. Provisional surcharges on stamps and postal stationery ended with the Belgian government ordering all provisional cancellers to be handed in (Service Note 38 of 17 September 1946), something which was not always obeyed properly. This resulted in many forgeries, particularly to obsolete stamps. However, postage remained the same until 15 December 1948.

Hand-Held Date Stamps

Co-ordinated by George Vearing

Further to the story about the Wunghnu Post Office in last month's Journal, residents are now receiving their mail and I will endeavour to find out how this is being done.

I had an informative letter from Peter Dearie about Permanent Pictorial Datestamps and he says that about 180 post offices have discontinued their datestamp without announcement. These include Wangaratta (both Air World and Jazz Festival), Kaniva, Healesville, Ascot Vale and Bayside Frankston. Peter says that one of his biggest problems is Postal Managers not answering his requests. If any of our readers have any information, please let me know and I will pass it on.

Many thanks to Richard Peck, John Tracey, John Young, Simon Alsop and all the others who have sent in postmark material.   (Please note George's new email – see p 2 – Ed)

A.C.T   N.S.W.:-Earlier datestamps-KARANGI(78/42) MOONAN FLAT (83/36)

QLD: S.A.:-Earlier datestamps-MILLICENT(98/32)
                                           YANKALILLA(98/32) dateline off centre

S.A.:-(cont)

KAPUNDA PAID 28 MAY 2010 S-AUST 5373

MILLICENT 27 FEB 2009 S. AUST. 5280

POSTAL MANAGER 30 JUN 1995 MOUNT GAMBIER S.A. 5290

PORT PIRIE A3 31 MAY 2010 S.A. 5540

STANSBURY 6 APR 2010 SA 5582

STREAKY BAY 6 AUG 2009 SA 5680

POST SHOP 0 SEP 2010 UNLEY 2

YANKALILLA 2 6 MAY 2010 SA 5203

TAS:- Earlier datestamps- HOBART BATHURST STREET (103/31), RICHMOND (83/38)

BATHURST STREET & P.M. 28 MAY 2010 HOBART TAS 7000

GPO HOBART PAID 24 AUG 1999 7000

POST SHOP 28 SEP 2010 LINDISFARNE TAS 7015

RICHMOND 29 JUL 2010 TAS 7025

VIC.:- Earlier datestamps-BROADFORD(106/27),CARISBROOK(96/33),EMERALD (103/32), GOLDEN SQUARE (95/31), KOROIT (96/34), METUNG (83/37), NUMURKAH (100/61), SHEPPARTON SOUTH (105/27), TATURA (107/29), TRAFALGAR (97/29) and earlier datestamps with different datelines- ARARAT (88/34), CONGUPNA (101/29), DOOKIE (98/25), NATHALIA (108/29).

ARARAT -9 JUN 2009 VIC 2 3377

PSO No. 2 0 9 SEP 2009 SHEPPARTON VIC 3147

BLACK HILL 18 NOV 1995 VIC 3350

BRIDGEWATER ON LODDON 8 DEC 2010 VIC 3516

BROADFORD 10 MAY 2011 VIC 3658

BURWOOD 3 15 MAY 2009 VIC 3125

CARISBROOK 30 NOV 2010 VIC 3464

COLLIVER 0 2010 VIC 3630

CONGUPNA 16 NOV 2010 VIC 3633

DARNUM 26 VIC

DOOKIE 22 MAR 2010 VIC 3646

AUSTRALIA POST SHOP 29 NOV 2010 2 EMERALD VIC

27

DANDENONG
EL SPB
VIC 3175
LETTERS CENTRE

EUROA
1 3 AUG 2008
VIC. 3666

GOLDEN SQUARE
8 FEB 2010
VIC AUST 3555

HORSHAM
- 8 JUL 2009
VIC 3400

KOROIT
1 0 MAY 2010
VIC 3282

KYABRAM
- 5 NOV 2009
VIC 3620

McCRAE
VIC 3

METUNG
2 JUL 2008
VIC 3904

MITIAMO
1 JUL 2010
VIC 3573

NUMURKA
1 7 FEB 2010
VIC 3636

PHEASANT CREEK
2 3 APR 2010
VIC 3757

POINT COOK
2 6 MAR 2010
VIC 3030

POREPUNKAH
1 6 NOV 2010
VIC 3740

POST SHOP
4
- 9 JUL 2009
SALE
VIC AUST 3850

AUSTRALIA POST
- 9 MAR 2
SERPENTINE
VIC 3517

SHEPPARTON SOUTH
- 9 DEC 2010
VIC 3630

Australia Post
Reply Paid Section
1 0 NOV 2010
Port Melbourne Delivery Centre
509 Williamstown Rd Port Melbourne
VIC 3207

NATHALIA LPO
2 DEC 2010
VIC 3638

OFFICER
2010
809

SMITHS GULLY
POST OFFICE
2 3 APR 2010
VIC 3760

SOMERVILLE
1 0 SEP 2010
VIC 3912

AUSTRALIA POST
1 5 JUN 2009
STANHOPE
VIC
3623

STANLEY
1 6 JUL 2009
VIC 3747

STAWELL
3
– 5 AUG 2010
VIC 3380

POSTAL MANAGER
– 5 AUG 2009
STAWELL VIC 3380

PAID
06 AUG 2010
STAWELL
VIC 3380

SUNBURY HILLS SOUTH
20 AUG 2010
VIC 3121

TARNEIT
1
26 MAR 2010
VIC 3029

TATURA
PAID
21 DEC 2010
VIC 3616

THORPDALE
3 6
VICTORIA AUST 3835

LONGILA
– 8 FEB 2010
VIC 3621

AUSTRALIA POST
★ 10 SEP 2010 ★
TOORADIN L.P.O.
VIC
3980

AUSTRALIA POST
★ 10 SEP 2010 ★
TOORADIN L.P.O.
VIC 3980

TRAFALGAR
27 SEP 2001
VIC AUST 3824

TRAFALGAR
10 MAY 2010
VIC

TYABB
10 SEP 2010
VIC 3913

Australia Post
27 JAN 2011
UPWEY LPO 3158

VINES ROAD
5 JUL 2008
VIC 3215

AUSTRALIA POST
5
23 MAR 2010
WANGARATTA VIC 3677

POST OFFICE
?
– 6 MAY 2010
WENDOUREE VIC 3355

WENDOUREE VILLAGE
3
06 MAY 2010
VIC 3355

WONGA PARK
30 JUL 2010
VIC 3115

WONTHAGGI
3
2 JUL 2009

YACKANDANDAH
PAID
– 1 DEC 2010
VIC 3749

YACKANDANDAH
03 OCT 2010
VIC 3749

YOORALLA
13 AUG 2010
VIC 3104

29

What YOU can do to help
the Australian Philatelic Society

- ♦   **Sign up a new member**

- ♦   **Write an article for the Journal (Better still, write two!)**

- ♦   **Send the Editor any interesting philatelic news**

- ♦   **Come to the bi-monthly meeting if in Melbourne**

- ♦   **Help George Vearing with his Datestamp Notes**

- ♦   **Get involved in one of the Study Groups**

- ♦   **Enter the Society Competitions**

- ♦   **Volunteer to display your collection at the monthly meeting**

- ♦   **Ensure the Council receives your feedback and suggestions for the Society**

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Thrice censored inter-bank letter from Morocco to Martinique
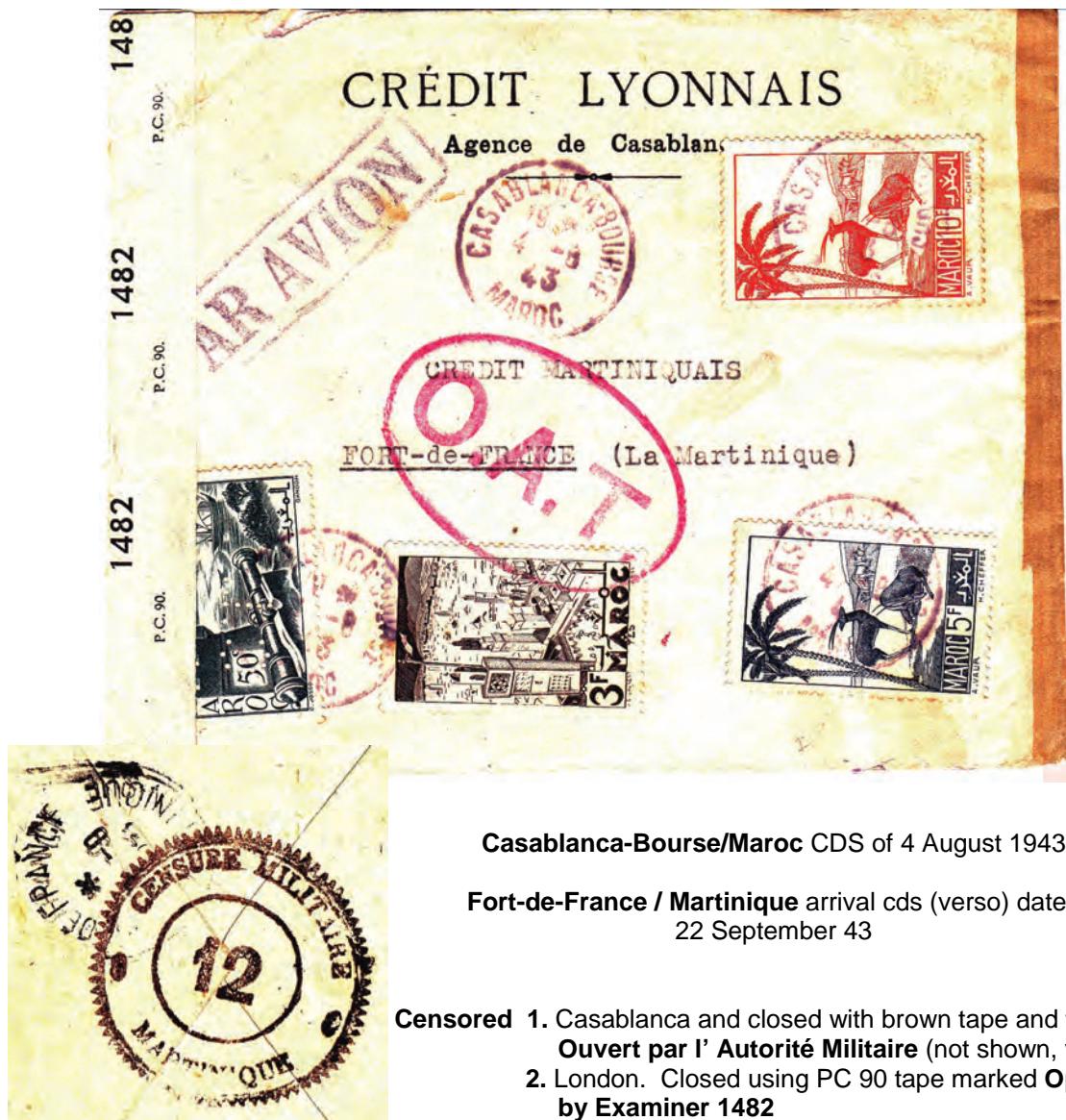
Casablanca-Bourse/Maroc CDS of 4 August 1943

Fort-de-France / Martinique arrival cds (verso) dated
22 September 43

Censored 1. Casablanca and closed with brown tape and tied by
Ouvert par l' Autorité Militaire (not shown, verso)
2. London. Closed using PC 90 tape marked **Opened
by Examiner 1482**
3. **Censure Militaire / Martinique / 12** censor's cachet
(verso), but unopened this time

Postage	1^{50} Fr (≤ 20 gm) (French inter-Colonial rate)
Airmail to Martinique	17 Fr (≤ 5 gm)

Probable Route Casablanca to Tangier by rail. Flown by Iberia from Tangier to Seville, Madrid and Lisbon (CAIS 191 of 10 Feb - wef 10 Jan) . BOAC or KLM charter to Shannon. Shuttle flying boat from Shannon to Poole. To London by train (censored and red OAT I cachet applied to top of 60 letter packet). Either a) BOAC northern route to New York via Foynes (Shannon), Gander & Shediac to New York, or b) Shannon, Lisbon, Pan-Am FAM-18 flying boat to New York. Train to Miami and then on Pan-AM's Caribbean route to Martinique. The intended routing as paid was from Lisbon to go trans-Atlantic, not via London.

The letter took 7 weeks to arrive. Not bad when you consider many flights were often at weekly intervals and the queuing for censoring. As we saw previously, London was keen to censor letters from previously Vichy French Colonies in an effort to learn anything, hence the routing via London. This was probably arranged in Lisbon. Vichy money laundering?

Boyle p 8, 446, 563, 682
Wingent p 141