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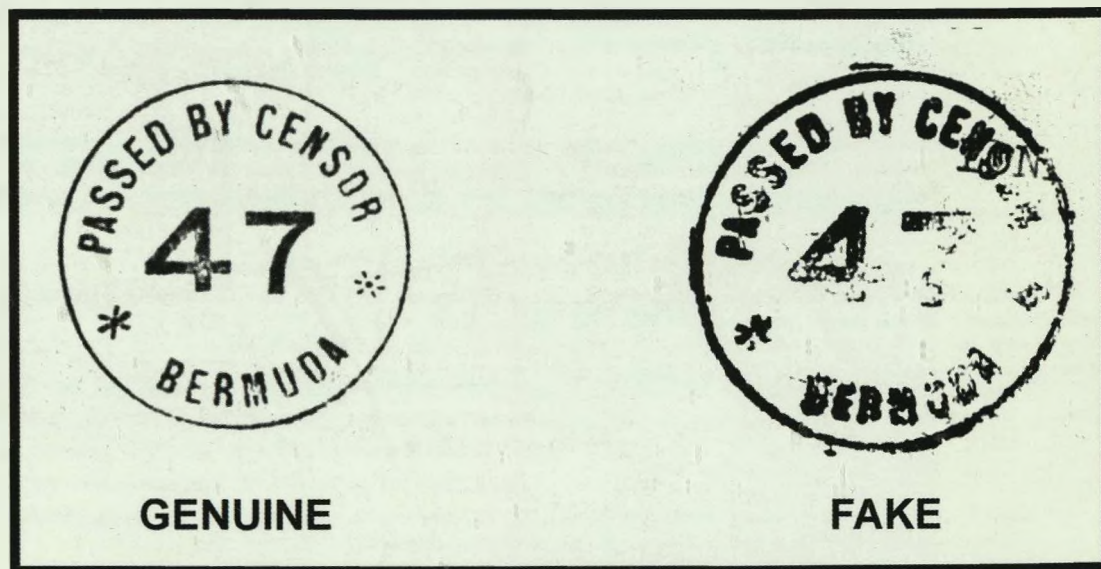
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WARNING

FAKE BERMUDA CENSOR MARKINGS



*Recently Discovered Fake Bermuda Censorship Handstamp, enlarged 150%
(See article by Michel Forand on Page 136)*

Also featured:

*Wesley Dominica Manuscript Cancellations
First Flight Covers from Trinidad
World War II Censorship in St. Kitts, Nevis and Anguilla
Some Recent Trinidad and Tobago Discoveries
Annual Index for Volume 38*



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Thanks for the Support

I must thank all of the 1998 authors for their help and support in providing a high-quality Journal. I hope all of the members were able to learn something new from the wonderful articles — I know I certainly have.

Author's Guidelines

I have updated *Michel Forand's* excellent *Author's Guidelines*. These will appear in the March 1999 issue, space permitting. I have basically added to Michel's

work by expanding on the computer aspects of writing articles, and some additional information that will allow us all to standardize our reference citations. These will also be provided to *Russ Skavaril* for posting on our Internet homepage.

The Annual Index

One of Michel's best efforts, for which he has received Felicitations at literature competitions, is the Journal annual index. In keeping with his tradition, you will find the index for Volume 38 on pages 142-144.

President's Message

by Rob WYNSTRA

In virtually every philatelic organization, most of the burden for the smooth running of the group falls on a few selfless volunteer. During the last eight years, *Barry Friedman* has wonderfully exemplified this spirit of dedication as our treasurer. Barry has always been available as a fiscal watchdog and a wise counselor for many of the policy decisions made by our officers and our board of trustees.

His investment expertise has played a key role in allowing us to maintain the high quality of our journal and our publications without resorting to unnecessary dues increases. Time after time, Barry has selflessly taken on much more than his share of the load. Most importantly, he has always been available as a valued friend — both to myself and to group members around the world.

For me personally, Barry has served as the ideal sounding board and a source of sound advice. Certainly, I would have found the task of coming in as the new president even more overwhelming without the benefit of his knowledge and friendship. His dedication to the group is no better exemplified than by his willingness to stay on as treasurer during the last year despite increasing job demands as an executive with the Smith Barney brokerage firm.

But, as with any volunteer job, the demands of work and family eventually take precedence. As a result, Barry reluctantly has asked to step down as treasurer effective on January 1, 1999. Fortunately, *Tim Tweddell* has agreed to succeed Barry in that position. (See the brief biography of Tim on page 132 — DLH) He and

Barry will be working together during the period of transition to make sure that the change-over will be as seamless as possible.

As we welcome Tim to his new position, I think it important to emphasize that all of the officers and study group leaders are volunteers. Each one of them is dedicated to doing the best job possible for the benefit of the entire group while balancing the demands of work and family. No one receives any payment. The only compensation for the many hours of dedicated service comes from the joy of seeing the group prosper.

Even though all of us strive to do our jobs as well as possible, we all occasionally make mistakes or inadvertently let something slipped through the cracks. When this happens, it is important to let us know with a brief letter or e-mail spelling out the exact problem. I think you will find that each of us will be more than responsive to your concerns and willing to rectify the situation as quickly as possible. Remember, we all share the same objective of seeing the group succeed and increasing our members enjoyment of British Caribbean philately

Although we have yet to meet face-to-face, I must express my gratitude to Barry as well. Without Barry, Michel Forand, and contributing authors the transition to my editorship would have been impossible. Barry provided direct support in making sure early issues of the BCPJ were printed and distributed from Florida. He also made certain that I had all of the necessary financial resources to do my job.

— DLH

Secretary's Report

by Peter KAULBACK

New Members

All applicants listed in previous volumes of the Journal have been accepted as members of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. We wish them a long and enjoyable association with the group, with benefits both to them as individuals, and to all other members as a result of their membership.

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Raul McGREGOR, 81 Beaconsfield Road, Blackheath, London SE3 7LQ, UK. Sponsored by: D. Druett.

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M. CHERRINGTON

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C. M. WENBORN

If any member has information, such as a change of address, to be included in the Secretary's Report, please contact me, either by mail (see inside front cover of the Journal) or by eMail at:

ekaulbac@netcom.ca

Fall 1998 Postage Stamp Mega-Event Offers New Format

by David L. HERENDEEN

For many years, New York City has had two World Series of Philately shows. Recently, the American Philatelic Society (APS) decided that no city could have two such events in a single year. The organizers and sponsors of these shows, the American Stamp Dealers Association (ASDA), the APS and the USPS, thus created a new format for exhibiting. The aim of this format was to encourage the exhibition of major collections which

often appear only at larger international shows. Held in New York City from 19-22 November 1998, the show introduced the *1998 Mega-Collections Dealers' Choice Awards*. Specifically, thirty-one exhibitors from throughout North America were invited to show five frame exhibits. These exhibits were to be judged by all of the booth holders and ASDA members attending the show. The jury was led by Thomas Mazza, president of the Collectors Club of New York. BCPSG member **Colin Fraser** was the Exhibition Coordinator.

The top three awards were a five ounce gold medal, a three ounce gold medal, and a one ounce gold medal, respectively. All other competitors received Prix d'Honneur represented by sterling silver medals.

As usual, the BCPSG fielded a strong group of five competitors, although none captured the top prizes. Our members, and their exhibits, were:

H. L. ARNOULD: *Transition of Prepayment of Postage — 1840 to UPU*

D. L. HERENDEEN: *The Evolution of Postage Due Stamps in the French Community*

R. MAISEL: *The Postage Issues of Edward VII (1902-1910)*

Dr. R. RAMKISSOON: *Tobago 1772-1905*

J. K. WEISS: *Seychelles Postal Affairs to 1902*

The show offered the opportunity to view some very high-powered exhibits in a very compact setting. The social events, which included an opening reception and an awards banquet, were well-attended.

For those who follow exhibiting, the first place award went to Dr. John L. Robertson for his wonderful exhibit *U.S. and B.N.A. Cross Border Mails 1845 to U.P.U.*; second place to Dr. Gene Scott for *Uruguay: The "Sun" Issues 1856-1864*, and third place to Frederick R. Mayer for *The United States Five-Cent 1856 Stamp and its Use*.

The format was viewed as a rousing success by the organizers. It is expected that the fall Mega-Event will repeat the format next year, and that the concept may also be extended to include the Mega-Event held in Anaheim, CA 22-25 June 1999. I recommend that any BCPSG members fortunate enough to be invited avail themselves of the opportunity. It gives the Group added exposure to many members of the collecting public.

Exhibits and Awards

by Paul A. LARSEN

Members of the BCPSG participated in a number of shows with considerable success, including Grand and Reserve Grand awards. Show results are summarized below.

ORAPEX 98

April 25-6, 1998, Ottawa, Ontario

R. IRESON: *The Panama Canal Story*, Grand, Gold, Chairman's Trophy

NAPEX 98

June 5-7, 1998, McLean, VA

G. MIGLIAVACCA: *Italian Prisoners of War in USA 1942-46*, Vermeil

National Topical Stamp Show

July 17-19, 1998, Falls Church, VA

A. TRIGGLE: *Ichthyology*, Reserve Grand, Gold

INDYPEX 98

September 4-6, 1998, Indianapolis, IN

P. LARSEN, *Federal Issues of the Leeward Islands 1890-1911*, Reserve Grand, Gold, BCPSG medal

D. LARSON, *Jamaican-British Transatlantic Mail*, Gold, APS Pre-1940 Award, Postal History Society Award

BALPEX 98

September 4-6, 1998, Hunt Valley, MD

R. RAMKISSOON: *Postal Stationery of Trinidad & Tobago 1879-1938*, Marcus White Showcase Reserve Grand Award, Gold

S. SHUMANN: *New Zealand Postal Stationery, 1876-1936*, Gold

W. D. WALKER: *Grenada's Tax Stamp Issues*, One Frame Exhibit, Gold

SESCAL 98

October 2-4, 1998, Los Angeles, CA

G. BOWMAN: *The First Type of 1d Stamp of Nevis*, One Frame Exhibit, Gold

Wesley Dominica Manuscript Cancellations

By Rob WYNSTRA

Probably no aspect of the early mail system in Dominica has attracted more interest from postal historians than the village manuscript cancellations. Once dismissed as mere fiscal usages, these items today are prized possessions in many collections and exhibits. The most familiar of these cancellations are from the small village of Wesley, located in the northeastern part of the island (Fig. 1). More than 70 manuscript cancellations from Wesley have been recorded to date. It is this relative abundance that for the first time has provided the information necessary for analyzing the various handwriting types in use at this tiny office.

The Early Village Mail System

The story behind the manuscript cancellations from Wesley begins on March 2, 1875, when the Dominica Official Gazette carried a proposal to extend the postal service to several rural villages around the northern part of the island. The inland postal system was proposed to operate out of the main police station at Fort Young on the outskirts of Roseau. The service was to run on a

regular schedule through four small villages, including Wesley.

The response to this initial proposal was swift and largely negative. Government officials responded on April 5 with a revised schedule and rate structure. Inland postage rates were set at 1d per 1/2 oz. for letters. Overseas mail could be sent at the standard rates for the Leeward Islands, with no surcharge added for the inland service. Village police stations were designated as the postal receiving houses. Policemen sold stamps and traveled the routes between the stations delivering mail. In 1875, Dominica had a population of approximately 25,000. Almost 8,000 of the residents were concentrated in the capital of Roseau. Portsmouth, which had a population of less than 2,500, was the only other town of any consequence. Many of the villages consisted of little more than a cluster of buildings at a crossroads or inlet.

According to a report to the Legislative Assembly, some 400 letters were carried between outstations from April 1875 to January 1876. Also, 1,729 letters, 591 newspapers, and 289 packages were conveyed from Roseau to the country stations during the same period. By 1880, the yearly volume of mail coming into Roseau from the rural offices was 2216 letters, 4 newspapers, and 223 parcels.

All the village offices operated without a cancelling device. By necessity, stamps on outgoing mail were canceled with an ink pen in manuscript. The markings most often included the name of the town in full or abbreviated form and the date in the British style: the day, followed by the month, and then the year. Surviving examples of the village manuscript marks from the police period are recorded with a wide variety of handwritings

By 1886, the postal system showed signs of crumbling under the strain of combining postal and police duties. In April of that year, the government finally rectified the situation by turning the postal system over to civilian control. On May 8, deputy postmasters were appointed in the various villages. They handled day-to-day operations with the help of a postal clerk or two. The handwriting on surviving examples from the civilian period generally exhibit a high degree of consistency.

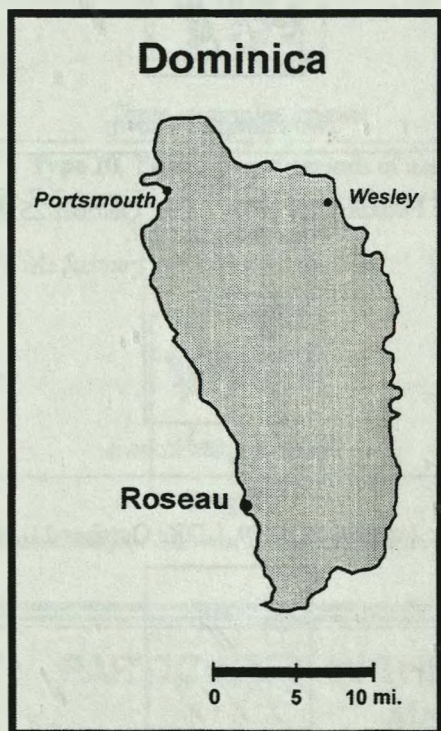


Figure 1. Wesley, Dominica

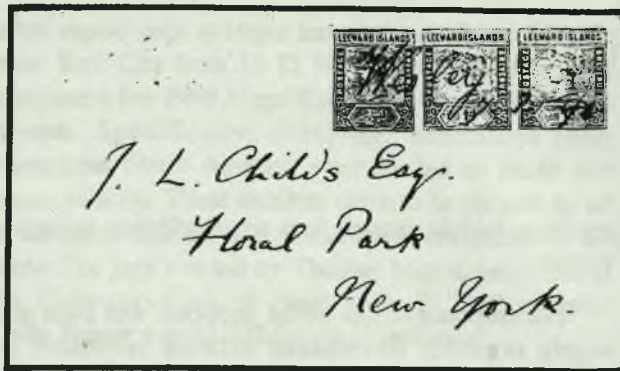


Figure 2. One of the two known manuscript covers.

The permanence of the inland postal system was finally recognized by colonial authorities on July 13, 1900, when steel circular datestamps were dispatched from London for the 13 sub-post offices then in operation. Manuscript cancellations are recorded through Aug. 7, 1900. The earliest recorded date for the new village datestamps is Aug. 16, 1900.

Wesley Handwriting Types

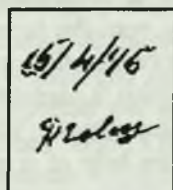
To date, a total of 73 Wesley manuscript cancellations have been recorded, including two examples on cover (Figure 2). Of these, 24 examples are recorded during the period of police control of the post office and 49 are recorded for the period of civilian control. Twenty-four of the examples from the civilian period are found on Leeward Islands federal issues which replaced Dominica stamps in October 1890.

The earliest date known for a Wesley manuscript cancellation is April 15, 1875, barely more than a week after the start of the first rural postal operations. This item also is the earliest recorded date for any of the Dominica village offices. The latest date known for a Wesley manuscript is March 29, 1897 on a Leeward Islands stamp.

Excluding a few partial examples, this wealth of data has revealed the following basic handwriting types:

Type 1

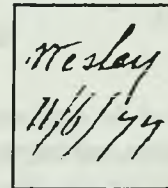
EDK: April 15, 1875, LDK: July 30, 1875



Two examples known, both with date on top

Type 2

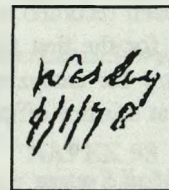
EDK: June 11, 1877, LDK: ?



One example known

Type 3

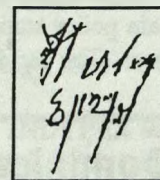
EDK: January 8, 1878, LDK: ?



Two examples known, only one fully dated

Type 4

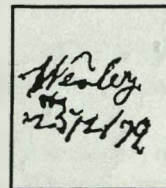
EDK: November 15, 1878, LDK: December 3, 1878



Two examples known

Type 5

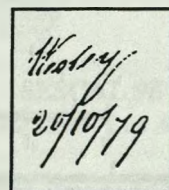
EDK: February 25, 1879, LDK: October 25, 188?



Two examples known

Type 6

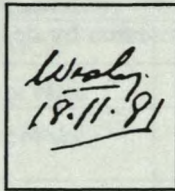
EDK: January 21, 1879, LDK: October 21, 1879



Three examples known

Type 7

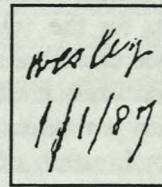
EDK: November 18, 1881, LDK: ?



Two examples known, only one fully dated

Type 11

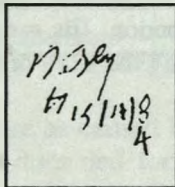
EDK: January 1, 1887, LDK: ?



One example known

Type 8

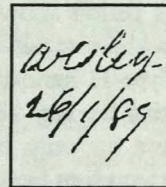
EDK: April 15, 1884, LDK: April 20, 1884



Two examples known

Type 12

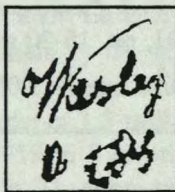
EDK: January 25, 1887, LDK: January 26, 1887



Three examples known

Type 9

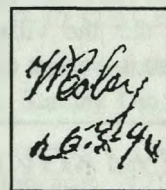
EDK: September 9, 1884, LDK: January 2, 1885



Three examples known

Type 13

EDK: March 26, 1894, LDK: January 7, 1895



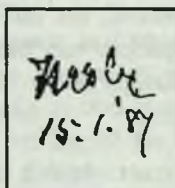
Six examples known, including one on cover

Type 10, Two distinct periods of use

EDK: February 26, 1886, LDK: November 9, 1893

33 examples known

EDK: January 30, 1895, LDK: July 25, 1897



Seven examples known, including one on cover

As expected, examples from the police period display a wide array of handwriting types. Many of these handwriting types have relatively brief periods of use as the policemen rotated duties around the island from station to station. Cases where there is only a lone recorded example must be looked at with some suspicion, although they cannot be definitively ruled as forgeries.

Of special interest are the early examples of the Type-10 handwriting style that predominates during the civilian period of postal operations. Although civilian deputy postmasters were first appointed at the village offices on May 8, 1886, this handwriting style associ-

PARTICIPATE IN THE GROUP AUCTION IN SARASOTA
Mail Your Bids Early

ated with the civilian postmaster at Wesley is recorded as early as February 26. A second example of this civilian-style cancellation is also recorded for March 31. A similar pattern exists for the village of Portsmouth where the civilian-style cancellation is known as early as January 5. This most likely indicates that the official appointment of civilian postmasters represents nothing more than official confirmation of a practice that had already been in place for several months.

Intriguingly, this Type-10 handwriting style shows two very distinct periods of use, the first from 1886 to 1893 and the second from 1895 to 1897. The exact reason for this gap remains a mystery. All the examples during the intervening period show the Type-13 handwriting style. Both of these types exist on well-documented covers. The Type-11 handwriting style with one recorded example during January 1887 and the Type-12 style which was in use for only two days during the same month probably represent business conducted by a postal clerk during brief absences by the deputy postmaster.

Yet, despite this wealth of information, the question of why there are so many more manuscript cancellations from Wesley than from any other village remains a major mystery. Reports that the village was the site of boarding school or that it was an especially busy com-

mercial terminus remain as unconfirmed explanations. As with many other mysteries about the rural postal system in the Leeward Islands, the answer will only come with further research by dedicated postal historians.

Acknowledgments

This study would not have been possible without the cooperation of numerous collectors from the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group in the United States and the British West Indies Study Circle in the United Kingdom. Special thanks are due to Bill Ashley who provided invaluable information gathered from archives in Dominica and London. His assistance proved indispensable in unraveling the story of the Dominica manuscript cancellations.

References

1. Lowe, R., *The Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps, Volume VI: Leeward Islands*, Christie's Robson Lowe, 1991.
2. Wynstra, R. and Cwiakala, C.E., "Inland Post Offices of Dominica," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, 31(1) March 1991, pp. 15-20 and 31(3), September 1991, pp. 109-114.

Jamaica: The 1½d KGV Green Pictorial 1919-29

By Hugh JAMES

The *Contingent Embarking* 1½d pictorial was an abnormally large stamp for Jamaica, and it was that which drew my attention to it as a child. Later I bought at auction a tin box containing "stamp collector's duplicates." It contained hundreds of Jamaica pictorials including the 1½d value. Among these were many unlisted varieties. This article examines those related to the 1½d value.

I will not go into the printing detail as this was well covered by Vokins.¹ Suffice it to say that there were 14 plates used in the printing of this value. There were 41 printings composed of 199,379 sheets of 40 stamps printed on MCA paper, and 304,773 sheets of 40 printed on MSCA paper.

As a starting point, the Gibbons catalogue² lists (under SG 80 and 93) only one variety, the "major reentry (R8/4)." Under the illustration, it states, "the greater part of the design is reentered, the hull showing in a very solid colour and the people very blurred. There are also minor reentries on stamps above (R7/4 and R6/4)" — not exactly enlightening.

Collett³ is much more explicit in identifying the varieties as summarized in Table 1. He also states that this double impression occurs only on unnumbered plates "observed over some hundreds of sheets, and at the same time there were other sheets in issue, also without marginal figures on which these subjects were quite clear and distinct, showing no suggestion whatever of double impression." Collett further adds: "... it is rea-

Table 1. Summary of Varieties

	DESIGN ELEMENT	NORMAL	VARIETY
1	"JAMAICA"	Letters not outlined	Outlined in white, lightly inked
2	Letters of value	Letters not outlined	Outlined in white, lightly inked
3	Shading of sky	Consists of broken lines and dots	Lines continuous, vary in width. No dots or broken lines
4	Stays of mast	Thin and clear	Thick and heavy, really two lines lightly inked between
5	Heads of men on deck	Clear, almost distinct	A blurred confused mass
6	Lines of hull	Clear, thin, distinct	Thick, heavy, running into each other
7	Contingent Embarking	Letters not outlined	Outlined, and as (1) and (2)
8	Cruciform ornaments	Clear and distinct	Blurred and as (1), (2) and (7)

sonable to regard these as caused by reentry of the die on a plate used and discarded for another less imperfect."

This provides a summary of the background which, incidentally, is repeated in the recent work of Sutcliffe and Jarvis.⁴ I turn now to the assumption that two unnumbered plate coexisted., one with the reentry and one without. We know that De La Rue were under pressure to supply 1½d pictorials by the end of May 1919, but the first printing of 5000 sheets was invoiced on 2 April 1919, and the first order of 1.5 million stamps was completed by 19 June 1919 in five printings. So, the pressure was not that great. There are two main reasons for a reentry to a plate: an irregular transfer resulting in a misplaced impression; and a damaged impression during use. Given the design background outlined by Vokins, and De La Rue's comments on the impracticality of the original design, and their redesign in an increased size, it seems to me that De La Rue would hardly launch the new issue with an imperfectly reentered plate.

A more likely reason is damage to the stamp impressions in the three stamps in rows 6, 7 and 8. For instance, there is a gap of one month from 26 April to 27 May 1919 in the printing of the first order which was so urgently required. Could it be that this is when the plate was re-entered?

As regards two unnumbered plates, is this really likely? I know De La Rue were not infallible, but it

seems to me unlikely. I have only one 40 set unnumbered sheet of the 1½d, and this does not show the re-entry.

References

1. Vokins, M.D.W. "Jamaica: The Pictorial Issue, 1919-1938," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, (23)2 April 1983) pp. 27-30; (23)3, July 1983, pp. 66-71.
2. *Stanley Gibbons Stamp catalogue, Part 1, British Commonwealth*, Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., London, 1993.
3. Collett, G.W., Edwards, W.B., Morton, C.S., and Nicholson, L.C.C. *Jamaica: Its Postal History, Postage Stamps and Postmarks*, Stanley Gibbons, London, 1928. Reprinted by Postillion Publications, ca. 1982, Chapter 14.
4. Sutcliffe, D., and Jarvis, S., *Encyclopaedia of Jamaica Philately, Volume 1: Postage Stamps to 1935*, British West Indies Study Circle, 1997; Chapter 10.

The Editor extends his appreciation to Mr. James' sister, Mrs. Wendy Swales, for forwarding the manuscript of this article in August 1998, the month after Mr. James' untimely demise. Thanks also to Michel Forand for his thoughtful review of the article. An obituary for Mr. James appears on page 132.

— DLH

SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL MEMBERS
From the Officers and Trustees

First Flight Covers from Trinidad

by Ron WIKE

I am currently preparing a book on the *Airmails of Trinidad and Tobago*. In the course of my research, I looked up two articles in the BCPJ. The first, by Roett,¹ and the second by Hill.² In these articles were two queries which I believe have not been answered. This article provides these answers.

The first query was over the return pilot of the return leg of the inaugural September 1929 Pan American service from Trinidad to Miami. Most records show the pilot to be J. (Jack) H. Tilton, although Roett's cover was signed by M. A. Brooke/PAA Pilot/NC 8020. W. A. Brooke was the copilot of the trailblazing plane NC75K flown by Basil Rowe two days ahead of Lindbergh to ensure that all of the preparations for the legendary pilot were in order. Lindbergh and his copilot, Charles Lorber, flew south in NC142M.

Lindbergh and Tilton both flew to Paramaribo, Dutch Guiana, returning to Trinidad. While the various planes were at Trinidad on the return, several courtesy flights were made carrying local dignitaries and their ladies. Lindbergh then flew to Venezuela and Central American, leaving Tilton and his copilot Donoghue to carry the return mails, but this time in NC142N. All this is well-documented in the local newspapers of the period. Presumably, W. A. Brooke flew NC8020 back to Miami. Neither this, nor the registration number of the plane Lindbergh flew to Venezuela, is recorded.

J. H. Tilton was the pilot of the second plane NC8020 required to carry the mail for the Lindbergh southbound leg since the volume was too great for one

plane. Tilton's copilot was John Donoghue. Lindbergh omitted the Castries, St. Lucia stop, and Tilton made the call there southbound. Despite this, he landed only ten minutes after Lindbergh.

Nearly all of the signed returned covers have Tilton's signature as shown in Fig. 1. The one signed by W. A. Brooke is an oddity and could be a favour cover. He was certainly neither the pilot nor the copilot of the return mail flight.

The second query concerned the origin of the two separate two-line cachets reading "FIRST FLIGHT/FAM 6" and "from/TRINIDAD." From my research, and from both of the covers illustrated in Ref. 1 and Ref. 2, the cachets were privately produced by C. R. Stollmeyer, a prominent Trinidad philatelist. He used up the surplus envelopes from the inaugural September 1929 Pan American Service on covers for the New York, Rio, Buenos Aires Airline flight in the following year. Most of his covers for this latter service have the handstamps covered by a standard airmail etiquette and the special NYRBALINE etiquette affixed one below the other. Occasionally, as on the cover shown in Fig. 2, one of the handstamps is only partially visible.

References

1. Roett, F., "A First Flight Cover from Trinidad," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, 14(4), 1974, p. 106.
2. Hill, T., "Trinidad First Flight Cover Update," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, 15(5), 1975, p. 144.

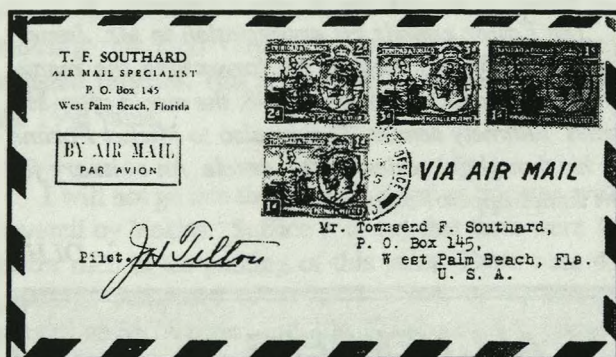


Figure 1. NC8020 cover signed by pilot Tilton.

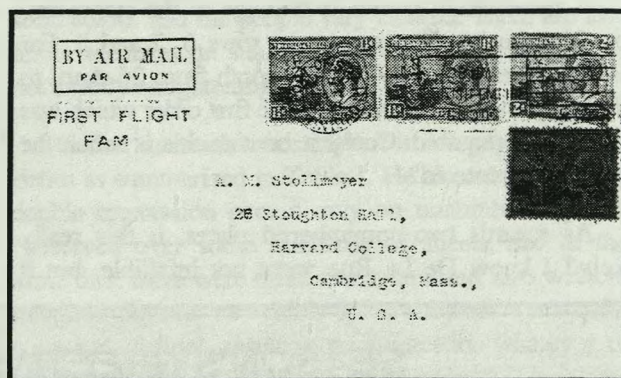


Figure 2. Example of a Stollmeyer cover.

World War II Censorship in St. Kitts, Nevis and Anguilla

by Edward T. TWEDDELL

The basis of this study is Shepherd's 1977 article¹, hereinafter referred to as "Roses." Data from over 300 items which were censored in these colonies were added to that from Roses to produce the results presented. All principal illustrations of censorship devices are shown full-size, and as accurately as possible.

The standard abbreviations are used for Earliest Known Date (EKD) and Latest Known Date (LKD), and dates are given in the form DDMYY. Conclusions are based on the assumption that the data collected are a representative sample of all the mail handled. Tables frequently enumerate only a part of the sample for any device because of incomplete or missing data.

The Geographic Area of Interest

Fig. 1 shows the positions of the principal island colonies involved in this study. While St. Kitts and Nevis were virtually one nation at the time, Anguilla is distant and separated from them by the French/Dutch island of St. Martin which, for part of the period under study, were colonies of nations under German control. The other islands are mentioned only collaterally. Antigua was designated the principal censorship island for the Leewards group, having been given *Imperial Censorship Status*, for the handling of transit mail, although a

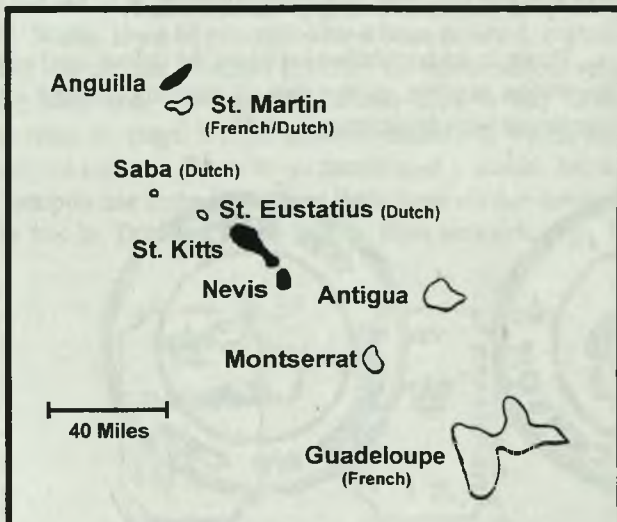


Figure 1. Area of interest.

Figure 2. Manuscript censorship notation.

fair amount of this type of mail was also handled on St. Kitts, as will be seen.

Manuscript Censored Covers

The only record of manuscript censored covers appears in Roses, which notes that:

"There is evidence that prior to 3SP39, mail in transit to and from other West Indian islands was opened and censored by someone acting as a postal censor at Basseterre. Covers have been recorded with the manuscript endorsement seen in Figure 2, these covers having been opened and resealed with brown tape."

A discussion with Mr. Shepherd has confirmed that the initials associated with this manuscript mark are in fact "C.M.W." as shown.

The Principal Handstamps

This section addresses the three handstamps which were in use almost exclusively for the first three years of the war. They are discussed separately, followed by general observations and comments.

Handstamp CH1 (Roses H1) — EKD: 31AU39 LKD: 19JY42. The first device, shown in Fig. 3, was probably locally produced and bears the unusual message **PASSED THE CENSOR**, rather than the more common **PASSED BY CENSOR**. Given the distortion which took place with use, the handstamp appears to have been made of rubber.

Thirty three examples have been recorded, the vast majority having been applied in red. Five occur on incoming mail, and four on transit mail. Three of these are bound for the neighbouring Dutch island of St. Eustatius, and one is from St. Kitts' other Dutch neighbour, Saba, on its way to the U.S. Virgin Islands. All of the

PASSED THE CENSOR

a.

PASSED THE CENSOR

b.

Figure 3. Handstamp CH1.

recorded items concern only North America and the Caribbean.

All but three of the reported examples are dated before 18JA41, thereafter dates are 11DE41, 10JA42, and 19JY42. The reintroduction of this handstamp coincides with the new regime in Colonial censorship: the introduction of new devices which did not include the name of the colony.

About half the examples had been opened and resealed with brown tape, usually tied by the handstamp; the remainder were unopened. Very few of the examples reported give a length measurement for the handstamp, but those that do cover virtually the whole period of usage. Lengths reported vary from 61mm to 64mm, with a tendency for the lengths to increase with time. This suggests that the change may be due to the spreading of the device. The top example in Fig. 3 is dated 31AU39, and the bottom example 25JU40, a date which represents the median of the recorded examples.

The two earliest covers deserve special mention. The first was sent from Nevis to the USA and has both Nevis and St. Kitts date stamps of 31AU39. The resealing tape bears the initials "C.M.W." in red ink, in the same hand as the manuscript covers, described above.

The second cover, dated 1SP39 was sent from St. Kitts and has the number "17" added in blue crayon on

the resealing tape. The remarkable thing is that this is the only example of a number added to this handstamp; and the number "17" next occurs in manuscript on a label in 1943. Could there have been a censor with this allocated number so early? It seems unlikely, but what other explanation is there?

Handstamp CH2 (Roses H2) — EKD: 16OC39 LKD: ??MR42. The period of usage of this handstamp, shown in Fig. 4a, agrees very closely with those for a similar device used in Antigua,² albeit with the numbers excised. There is reason to believe it was produced in Trinidad, and made of rubber. It was taken out of service when the order came for censorship devices not to include the country of origin.

This handstamp was used commonly for about two years, with a total of 119 examples reported. The majority are outgoing, but 36 are incoming. Additionally, there are two items from M.S. Lady Hawkins — one being the only postcard recorded for this device — and two are transit. Both of these were addressed to the U.S. Virgin Islands and dated in 1940, one from Saba, and one, surprisingly, from British Guiana. It appears from the number of covers encountered throughout this study that St. Kitts was a staging post for the U.S. Virgin Islands mail.

As noted above, virtually all of this mail is destined for the Caribbean or North America, however, Sweden, Romania and Japan are also noted.

While the handstamp was applied in various colours, it is predominantly red. Numbers are incorporated into the handstamp and range from "2" to "6". The frequency of these numbers is given in Table 1.

There is no correlation between the colour used and the device number, except that all blue impressions are associated with device number "3".



a.



b.



c.

Figure 4. Handstamp CH2.

Table 1.
Frequency of Numbers for Handstamp CH2

NUMBER	TOTAL	NOTES
1	—	Not recorded
2	39	
3	28	
4	23	
5	2	From Nevis
6	1	From Anguilla
None	1	Number removed

There is one impression in light mauve, which occurs on a cover from Nevis having the censor number "5" (seen in Fig. 4b). In this example, "St. Kitts" has been excised. The author has not seen the other example having device number "5" to see whether "St. Kitts" is also missing from that one.

Finally, Fig. 4c shows the example which is missing "SOR" and the number. It is a strong impression in red, and there appears to be no explanation for it, as this is an otherwise quite ordinary cover.

An outgoing cover dated 27JA42 has the manuscript "E. Hobbs." This was at a time when the censorship offices were undergoing reorganization, so presumably this was a new censor who had just arrived and erroneously added his name.

Handstamp CH4 (new) — EKD: 17FE42 LKD: 10JU43. It is surprising that this item was not recorded by Roses, since 68 examples have been reported, including one picture postcard (PPC). This device effectively replaced both CH1 and CH2, and there is very little overlap in usage. It is an unusual handstamp which has curved corners. There is no mention of a similar handstamp in use in the U.K.,³ but there were similar devices in use in Trinidad⁴ from March 1941 onwards. Fig. 5

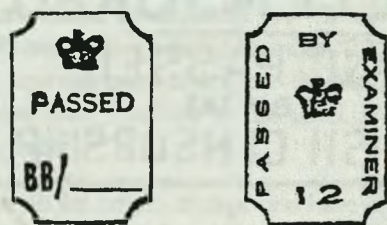


Figure 5. Handstamp CH4.

shows the CH4 handstamp alongside one of the Trinidad handstamps, showing a "12," for comparison. They are identical in size, both have the King Edward's crown and use a very similar font. The obvious conclusion is that this handstamp was made in Trinidad.

CH4 is the first device to demonstrate the country code allocated to St. Kitts, which is "BB" (somewhat confusingly, neighbouring Antigua was allocated "B"). There is one incoming cover, one outgoing to UK, and all other items have North America or Caribbean addresses. The majority of the impressions are again in red, and about half the covers have tape, usually tied by the handstamp.

The principal difference is that for this device numbers are added in manuscript, in black ink. Their frequency of occurrence is summarized in Table 2.

Table 2.
Frequency of Numbers on Handstamp CH4

NUMBER	TOTAL	NOTES
1	12	New number
2	2	
3	30	
4	10	
5	—	Not recorded
6	1	From Nevis
7	—	Not recorded
8	2	New, from Anguilla
9	1	New, from Anguilla

CH4 was the last handstamp to be commonly used for the general censorship of mail. It was superseded by printed labels, although the usage of the earliest labels overlaps by about two months.

General Comments and Observations

The frequencies of occurrence, by year, of the three handstamps is shown in Table 3. In 1939, CH1 is rela-

Table 3.
Occurrences of Principal Handstamps

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
CH1	11	8	2	2	—
CH2	6	18	28	12	—
CH4	—	—	—	28	21

tively common, because it began to be used some weeks before the introduction of CH2; thereafter it is used more sparingly. There was no CH2 handstamp bearing the number "1," but there are twelve examples of CH4 with this number in manuscript. It is tempting to think, therefore, that CH1 was used exclusively by censor number "1," who was probably the chief censor.

The type of mail censored is fairly consistent throughout the period; the vast majority outgoing to the North America and the Caribbean, with a smattering of incoming mail, transit mail, mail to further afield, and the odd postcard.

For all three labels, about half the mail is opened and resealed with brown tape, and half is not opened at all. There is no discernable pattern of use relating colour, number, opened/unopened, type of mail and date. The usage appears to be random except for minor relationships mentioned under handstamp CH2.

Table 4 lists the occurrences of the various colours: as will be seen, some are rather rare.

Other Handstamps

Fig. 6 illustrates three other handstamps which are discussed in the following sections.

Handstamp CH3 (Roses H3) — EKD: 2JA45. Even more surprising than the omission of CH4 in Roses is the inclusion of this handstamp, as it is the only one recorded! It was applied in red on a postal stationary card sent from Nevis to USA, and includes the code "B.B." with number "435" added in manuscript on the line provided. This number also occurs on labels used at the same time. There is a space for the censor number to

Table 4.

Occurrences of Handstamp Colour

COLOUR	CH1	CH2	CH4
Red	16	81	33
Purple(1)	2	12	14
Blue(2)	(4)	13	—
Black	3	2	1
Light Mauve (3)	—	1	—

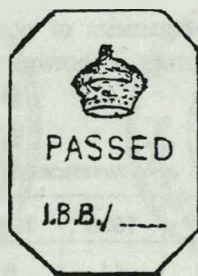
1. Includes violet and similar shades
2. Device number 3
3. Device number 5
4. Reported in Roses

be added above a solid line. I know of no other device similar to this in the Caribbean area.

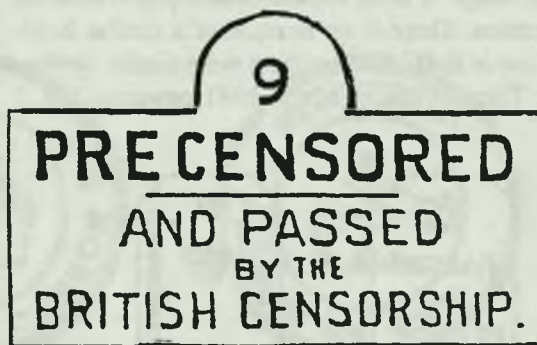
Handstamp CH3a (new) — EKD: 24MR43 LKD: 25JU44. A variant of CH3 in that the code is "I.B.B." Only two examples recorded, also applied in red, both sent to Canada. The earlier is surprisingly on a cover, the latter on a PPC. The earlier date coincides with the introduction of similar handstamps in other Caribbean colonies. The numbers added in manuscript are "3" and "27," above a dotted line. This is the only device for these islands having the prefix "I." There has been some discussion in censorship articles on the meaning of this additional letter. I think it indicates that a censor had been vetted or trained at some official level in dealing with censored mail; and that these individuals were then giving the more responsible posts, such as handling transit mail, or acting as chief censors.



CH3



CH3a



CH5

Figure 6. Other handstamps.

Comparison of These Two Handstamps

Given the differences between these two handstamps, it appears that they were produced independently; CH3 could not have been derived from CH3a by removal of the "I," for example, because of a solid line rather than the dots appears below the space provided for the censor number. CH3a would appear to have been part of a general issue of this type of handstamp, while CH3 was specially commissioned, perhaps for use in Nevis.

Handstamp CH5 (new). This handstamp, described in Ref. 5, was assigned to various Caribbean colonies for use on pre-censored mail. It is rarely recorded anywhere, and none have shown up for St. Kitts. The number "9" was the one assigned for use in this colony.

The Resealing Labels

The labels, shown in Fig. 7, effectively replaced the handstamps. This meant that all mail handled by the censors had to be opened. Only three reported examples of the last major handstamp CH4 have dates which overlap the usage of these labels.

Label CL5 (new) — EKD: 9AP43. Although not the earliest label, so far as EKD is concerned, I think that this was probably the first produced, because of its basic design and lack of a printed number. Almost certainly it was produced locally, and in very limited quantity. There are only two reported occurrences, both on outgoing covers from St. Kitts, one to the USA, and one to St. Eustatius. Manuscript numbers are "1" and "3." Only the year, 1943, is known for the second example.

Label CL2 (Roses L2) — EKD: 1AP43 LKD: 1SP43. In use for five months, this label is of a British type although there is no equivalent label.³ However, "OPENED BY" is identical to that on British label type 1C, sufficient to indicate that this label was produced in Britain. All of these labels bear a printer's code of the form "(C47730)." There are 26 recorded examples, all outgoing to North America or the Caribbean, except two transit covers sent from Dutch islands to USA. All the labels reported have the numbers "1," "2" or "3" printed on them. Roses reports printed number "22." It is difficult to see how this number fits into the pattern and how it could have been fitted on to the label. It may be an error of reporting.

In addition, all the covers except one have a manuscript number added in blue ink or blue crayon. Table 5 lists the printed numbers and the associated manuscript additions. Roses also reports manuscript numbers "41," "57"

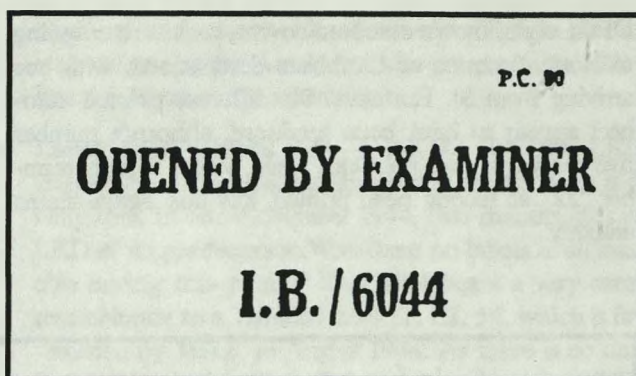


Figure 8. Antigua label.

and "114" which seem to be consistent with the numbers in Table 5.

The cover without the manuscript addition is important. It allows us to conclude that the censorship office had three principals, for whom the printed labels were produced and a number of subsidiary censors working under them, each of whom was assigned another, larger number. This sample yielded 20 different manuscript censor numbers, including number "8" which was also seen on handstamp CH4.

Label CL1 (Roses L1) — EKD: 19SP43 LKD: 3NO43. A very interesting label was then introduced only 3 weeks after the LKD of CL2. The format is the same as labels recorded for other colonies, with appropriate country codes. For comparison, the label issued for Antigua is shown in Fig. 8. This has a letter "B" in the country code which is in a similar font to the other letters on the label, whereas the St. Kitts label would appear to be a hybrid printing done locally, since the "B" used has a distinctive large lower loop. All the examples I have seen are on a brownish paper. (The EKD reported by Roses is assumed to in error by exactly one year).

This label was in use for only about six weeks, and could have been produced as a stopgap when supplies of earlier labels ran out.

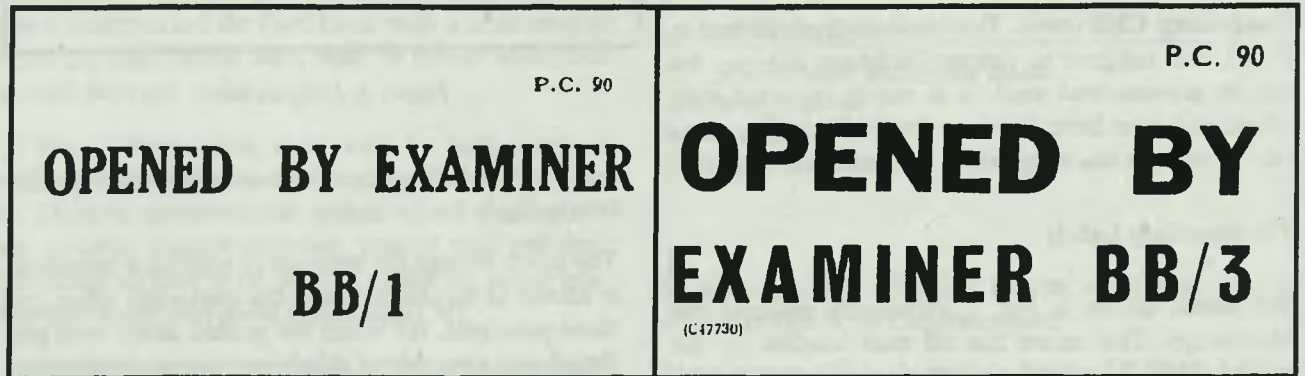
Table 5.
Manuscript Numbers Seen on Label CL2

PRINTED NUMBER	MANUSCRIPT ADDITIONS
1	10, 12, 17, 35, 105, 110, 119, 214
2	8, 30, 32, 99, 102, 129
3	37, 40, 42, 44, 137, 218

Of the eight known censored covers, seven are outgoing to North America or Caribbean destinations, with one arriving from St. Eustatius. Six different printed numbers appear to have been produced, although number five has yet to turn up. Once again, Roses reports number "22" as having been printed, and this again seems unlikely.

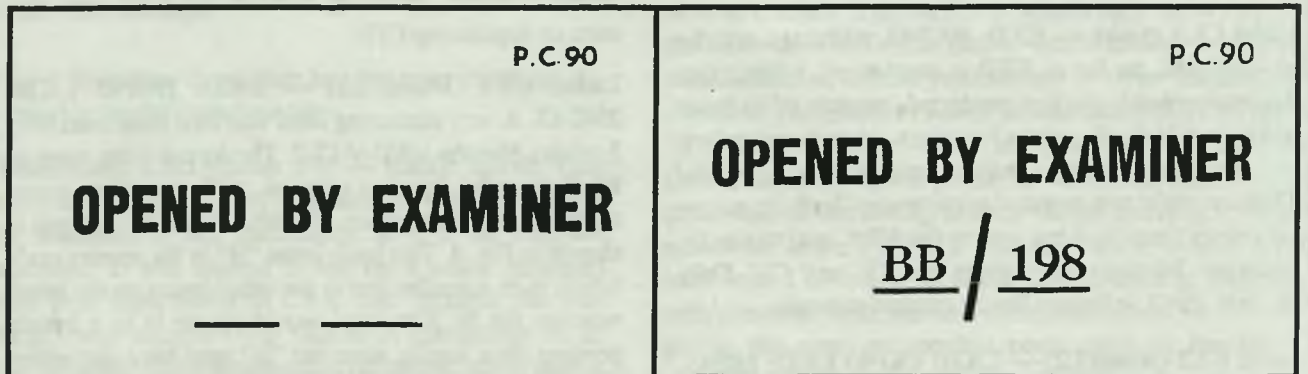
Manuscript additions appear in blue ink or crayon on all reported covers. Complete data is available for seven items and is shown in Table 6.

Label CL3 (Roses L3) — EKD: 9OC43 LKD: 12SP44. Still no labels printed specifically for St. Kitts were forthcoming and for almost a year, a universal label was used — the kind seen in other colonies when



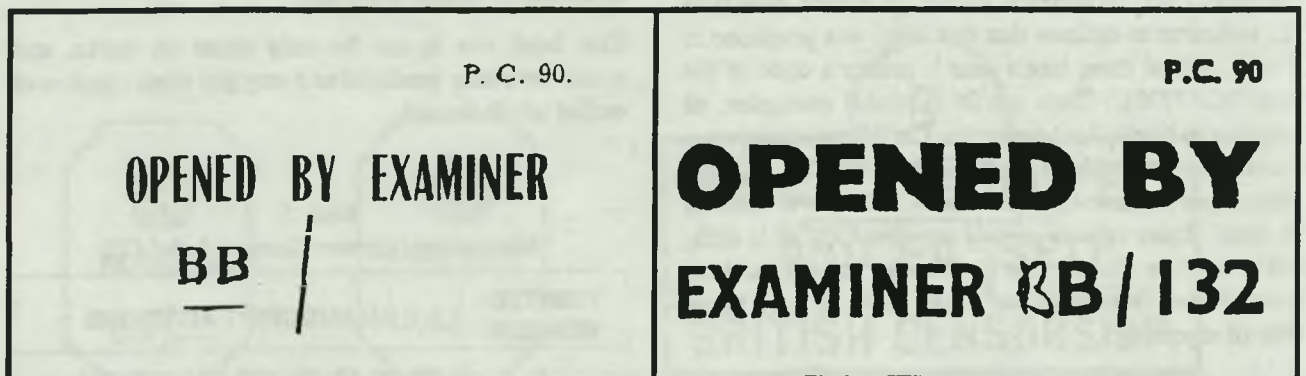
CL1

CL2



CL3

CL4



CL5

CL6

Figure 7. The resealing labels.

Table 6.
Censor Numbers Seen on Label CL1

PRINTED NUMBER	MANUSCRIPT ADDITIONS
1	308
2	(Roses)
3	55, 57
4	59
6	159, 314

Table 7.
Manuscript Numbers Seen on Label CL3

17, 49, 52, 54, 56, 78, 90, 99
113, 117, 118, 119, 185
208, 221, 224, 233, 248, 282, 289, 291
328, 366, 368, 386

Table 8.
Censorship Device Summary

	NUMBER	EKD	LKD
CH1	33	31AU39	19JY39
CH2	119	16OC39	??MR42
CH4	68	17FE42	10JU43
CH3a	2	24MR43	25JU44
CL5	2	9AP43	9AP43
CL2	26	1AP43	15SP43
CL1	8	19SP43	3NO43
CL3	34	9OC43	12SP44
CL6	1	15SP44	15SP44
CL4	25	20NO44	26JU45
CH3	1	2JA45	2JA45

similar shortages occurred. It was used concurrently with the previous label for a few weeks. There are 34 reported examples, again primarily on outgoing mail to a variety of destinations in North America and the Caribbean, but also three to UK. Incoming items (2) are from neighbouring islands, and there are four transit covers, which might have been expected to go through Antigua. The transit items are as follows: BVI to Curacao (2), St. Eustatius to Curacao, and Montserrat to Barbados.

Numbers and country identifier were added in blue ink and crayon, as previously, but also in graphite. Table 7 lists the 25 numbers recorded.

Label CL4 (Roses L4) — EKD: 20NO44 LKD: 26JU45. A label specifically printed for St. Kitts is finally seen in late November 1944, two months after the LKD of its predecessor. Were there no labels at all available during this period? This label bears a very strong resemblance to a Trinidad label TR CL 5ii, which is first recorded by Wike⁴ in August 1944. As there is no similar label listed for use in Britain,³ there is the possibility that this was produced locally, perhaps in Trinidad. Significantly, both of these labels occur on a pale grey paper.

This label was in use until the end of the war, and 25 examples have been recorded. There is a similar pattern of usage to the previous label, with numbers recorded being "118," "198," "202," "282," "435," and "561." For the first time, these numbers appear with some frequency, as many as five times each. Three of the labels with printed "282" have a manuscript "1" added — all are outgoing to USA. This was probably the chief censor using this label to examine specific items.

Label CL6 (new) — 15SP44. This unique example was reported by Addiss.⁶ It is on a cover sent from Anguilla Valley to USA, routed via the U.S. Virgin Islands. The label itself was issued to Antigua and had been in use there some four months earlier, listed as type L5 at Ref 2. The Antigua code "B" has been amended to read "BB". This censor, number 132, who did work in Antigua, also used these labels while performing censorship duties in Montserrat later the same year.

Summary of Censorship Devices

The censorship devices are shown in Figure 9 on a timeline to get an impression of their chronology. Solid lines indicate continuous usage, with isolated examples also shown in relevant boxes. Table 8 gives specific EKDs and LKDs and the number of items encountered. The frequency occurrence is a general guide to their scarcity.

The Censors

The period up until March 1943 is fairly straightforward, as the only numbers recorded on the handstamps are between one and nine, and the mysterious "17" seen once in the first days of the war. Presumably these are all locally recruited censors simply numbered sequen-

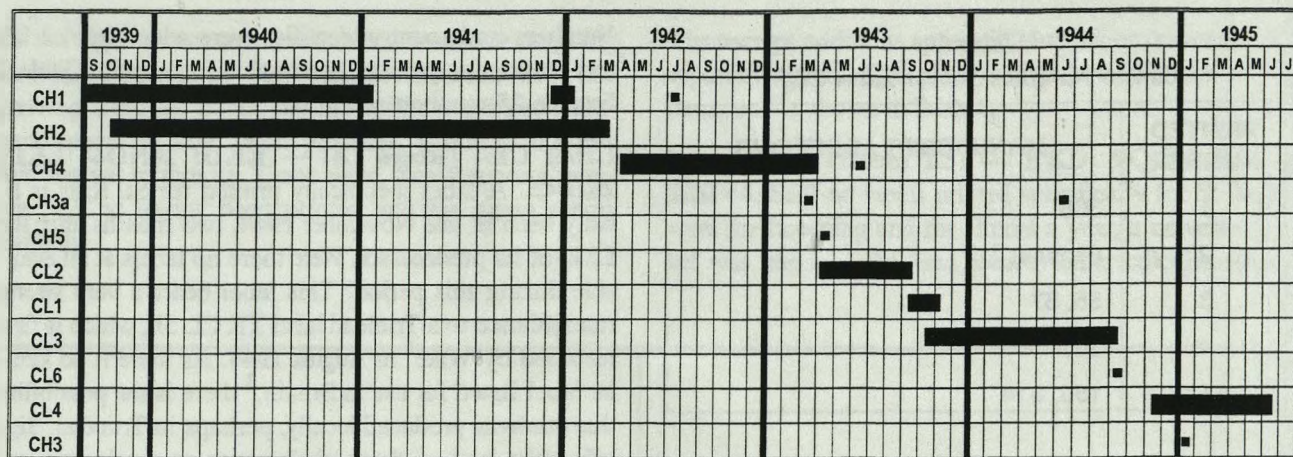


Figure 9. Chronology of censorship devices.

tially for identification, with the chief censor being number "1."

Thereafter things become more confusing, with a bewildering array of censor numbers appearing in a seemingly random chronological order, although with a general tendency for the assigned three-digit numbers to increase with time, as might be expected.

There are 23 different numbers of two digits, which in my opinion are assigned to local censors by the chief censor. Then there are 31 additional numbers of three digits, ranging from "102" to "561," which I feel belong to a broader numbering system. Very few of these numbers have been recorded elsewhere in the Caribbean.

Rate of Censorship

Table 9 shows the number of covers seen in each year and the different censor numbers. In the case of labels

Table 9. Rate of Censorship

YEAR	Censored Items	Censors	Rate
1939	17	6	2.8
1940	26	6	4.3
1941	31	6	5.2
1942	41	7	5.9
1943	55	34	1.6
1944	25	24	1.0
1945	12	5	2.4

with printed numbers and manuscript additions, only the latter have been included.

The "Rate" is the number of covers divided by the number of different censors. There is a massive increase in the number of censors for 1943 and 1944, but the amount of work done by each censor falls off. The sparsity of the data does not allow for any deeper comparison as most numbers are seen only once, and the amount of time each censor was there is not known. However, the maximum difference between EKD and LKD for any censor in nine months which is similar to the pattern that occurred in Bahamas.⁷

Censorship on Nevis and Anguilla

A very small sampling of censored mail from Nevis and Anguilla exists. Table 10 summarizes the censors concerned in these supposed operations. A summary of these, along with additional notes describing them, is presented in Tables 11 and 12.

The evidence that there was a censorship office on Nevis is overwhelming, and there are strong indications that there was a censor on Anguilla.

Table 10. Censors on Nevis and Anguilla

CENSOR	NOTES
5	Nevis only.
6	Anguilla, then Nevis replacing number 5.
9	Anguilla, replacing number 6.
8	St. Kitts, then Anguilla replacing number 9, then back to St. Kitts (see CL2).
132	Anguilla, much later.
435	Nevis, much later.

Table 11. Censored Items from Nevis

DATE	DEVICE	CENSOR	NOTES
31AU39	CH1		
13JU40	CH2	5	One of only two occurrences of censor number 5. "ST. KITTS" removed from the handstamp and applied in light mauve.
????40	CH2	2	
??????	CH2	5	The only other occurrence of censor number 5.
24MR43	CH4	6	The only occurrence of censor 6 on device CH4.
2JA45	CH3	435	One of only two occurrences of censor number 435 (see below). The only censor to have been recorded in Bermuda. Also the only example of this handstamp, which has the identifier "B.B." It was probably especially commissioned (see CH3). Finally, this item was cancelled in Nevis, the handstamp was applied in red, and a St. Kitts datestamp with the same date was added in black over the censorship mark.
13AP45	CL4	435	The only other occurrence of censor number 435.

Table 12. Censored Items from Anguilla

DATE	DEVICE	CENSOR	NOTES
????41	CH2	6	The only occurrence of censor 6 on device CH2.
12AP42	CH4	9	The only occurrence of censor 9 in the whole study.
????43	CH4	8	This is one of two reports of censor 8 using this device. (All of the strikes of the the items in this table are in red, and the other example of device CH4 with censor number 8 was struck in purple and reportedly from St. Kitts dated 2AP43. This may indicate that censor 8 moved from St. Kitts to Anguilla.)
15SP44	CL6	132	This is the only example of this label and this censor number. It was addressed to the USA, and has a datestamp of Charlotte Amelie, U.S. Virgin Islands, but no St. Kitts transit mark. Not conclusive evidence, but strongly indicative of its having been applied in Anguilla. (This censor was formerly in Antigua and later in Montserrat using this same label.

Financial Regulations

For a period of time, the censors were tasked with examining mail being sent to Canada, for possible infringement of the Financial Regulations. Two devices used to indicate this are shown in Fig. 10.

CFL1 — EKD: 19JY41 LKD: 30NO41. I have recorded three examples of this label, first described in Ref. 8. There is not much to add except that it seems to be a hastily composed label with various fonts and was probably made locally, although, paradoxically, the words "OPENED BY" appear to be identical to those on label CL2.

CFH1 — EKD: 3JA42. There are also three recorded examples of this handstamp, always applied in red to

covers which have been opened and resealed with plain brown tape. First described in Ref. 9. Unfortunately, only one example has a complete date; another has only the year 1942 legible.

From this sparse data available, it may be correct to conclude that the handstamp replaced the label. I suspect that the practice of using the censors to examine this type of mail ended in early 1942, when the censorship system was being overhauled.

Announcement

An announcement appearing in the St. Kitts-Nevis Daily Bulletin dated 1 September 1939, contained the following information:

OPENED BY CENSOR

Examined in connection with
Finance Regulations.
ST. KITTS-NEVIS

CFL1

EXAMINED BY CENSOR
IN CONNECTION WITH
FINANCE REGULATIONS.

CFH1

Figure 10. "Financial Regulations" devices.

"CENSORSHIP: It is notified for general information that full censorship of all postal and telegraphic communications have been imposed throughout the Presidency. The following appointments have been made:

Telegraphic Censor: E.A. Evelyn

Assistant Censor: D.B. Clarke

Postal Censor: H.B. Thompson

Assistants to the Postal Censor: A.C. Tibbits, Miss Lucille Todd, Miss R. Williams.

The office of the Postal Censor has been established at the Post Office."

Note that there is no mention of anyone having the initials CMW. Mr. Evelyn was also the Clerk to the Administrator, and I would suspect that CMW was either the Administrator, or the Post Master.

Conclusion

From the data available, a picture emerges of an orderly transfer from handstamps to labels as the war progressed. Most of the devices used appear to have been made locally. It is probable that censors were stationed on the smaller islands of Nevis and Anguilla for at least part of the period. Many censors appear to have been recruited locally, and none of them have four digit num-

bers generally seen with "British" censors. Censorship started earlier than in most colonies thanks to "C.M.W.", who appears to have pre-empted the official order to begin examining the mails.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the St. Kitts Archivist, Mrs. Victoria O'Flaherty, and the following members of the BCPSG, BWISC and CCSG who have provided data and advice:

Horst Augustinovic	Edward Barrow	Peter Flynn
Charles Freeland	Barry Friedman	Paul Larsen
Derek Lilley	John Little	Tom McMahon
Mike Mead	Chris Miller	"Hap" Pattiz
Charles Sacconaghi	Tony Shepherd	John Tyacke

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1. Shepherd, A., *West Indian Censorship Devices*, Handbook No. 2, Roses Caribbean Philatelic Society, 1977, pp. 87-91.
2. Tweddell, E.T., "World War II Civil Censorship in Antigua," *BCPSG Monograph 15*, May 1997, pp. 49-67.
3. Torrance, A.R. and Morenweiser, K., *British Empire Civil Censorship Devices WWII*, United Kingdom, Civil Censorship Study Group, 1991.
4. Wike, R.G., *British Empire Civil Censorship Devices World War II: Trinidad and Tobago*, Chavril Press, 1993.
5. Mayo, L.D., "A Trinidad Handstamp Previously Ascribed to the US.," *CCSG Bulletin*, February 1987, pp. 43-44.
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7. Tweddell, E.T., "World War II Civil Censorship in Bahamas," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, March 1998, pp. 17-24.
8. Shepherd, A., "Censorship Update - St. Kitts & Nevis," *Caribbeana*, No. 8, April 1979, p. 27.
9. Shepherd, A., "A St. Kitts Cover," *Caribbeana*, No. 9, March, 1980, p. 13.

Some Recent Trinidad and Tobago Discoveries

by E. BARROW

Recently, while looking through various piles of recent Trinidad and Tobago stamps, I came across what appears to be an unreported cancellation, and several plate flaws. These are described below.

An Unrecorded Machine CDS

While looking for town cancels, the illustrated stamp came to my attention.



It appears to be cancelled by an unrecorded machine CDS dated 11:15 AM, 9 DEC 1983, as shown in the following enlargement.



I feel confident that it is a machine CDS as:

- it corresponds with the size of the other recorded machine CDS
- it has a time included
- the CDS shows the typical oval shape which suggests movement of the letter through the machine
- there are small dashes on the right of the cds which is often seen with machine CDS.

Ali and Wike¹ list 12 different CDS' used at five different post offices. Reviewing their data it seems reasonable to say that this cancel may have been used at one of the following post offices: GPO Port of Spain; San Fernando; or St. Vincent St. (possibly, as this post office had a machine in use in early 1984).

I would be interested in hearing from anyone who has seen this particular CDS, especially on cover. Or anyone who has examples from the other offices mentioned on this day (9 December 1983).

Two Flaws of the 10c Flowers 1986 imprint

I also came across two flaws of the 10c Flowers definitive stamp with the 1986 imprint, shown in the adjoining Figure. In both the '8' in 1986 was damaged leaving what looks like a '3' in one case and an '&' in another. As the illustrations show the date looks like '1936' in the former and '19&6' in the latter.



These appear to be constant flaws as I have seen three or four examples of each used at different times and at different post offices. They are also non-recurring as I have seen flawed examples still attached to a normal example. However, as I do not have any sheets of these stamps I cannot say where on the pane these flaws occurred or if they are related (i.e. the same flaw at different stages of decay or repair). Also I'm not sure if these flaws occurred throughout the whole printing.

1936

1986

I would be interested in hearing from anyone who has a sheet of this particular stamp or who may be able to shed some light on the questions raised. Letters may be sent via the editor or I may be reached directly by eMail at: e.barrow@cwix.com

Reference

1. Ali, B.C., and Wike, R.J., *Machine Cancellations of Trinidad and Tobago 1923-1997*, Philatelic Society of Trinidad and Tobago, 1st edition, March, 1997.

Large Silver Medal For Giorgio At International Show

The first ever book in English on the stamps of Somalia has earned a most distinguished honour at an international stamp exhibition in Johannesburg, South Africa. *The Stamps of Somalia and their Story* by BCPSG member **Giorgio Migliavacca** has been awarded a large silver medal by an international jury at IIsapex '98, a world stamp exhibition held at the Gallagher Estate Exhibition Centre. Giorgio is one of our growing number of members in Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

After winning the Grand Award in Literature Class for best handbook at Colopex '97 (Columbus) Ohio and a number of impressive awards at national exhibitions in the USA, Migliavacca's book has now attracted a very impressive award at international level.

Giorgio's participation in the literature class was at the personal invitation in 1996 of then IIsapex chairman, the late David Stern, RDPSA, FRPSL.

Giorgio, in addition to his interest in Caribbean philately, has been a renowned Italian stamp expert since 1967. He has written over 300 articles on philately and postal history. Many of his 14 books have received awards at international exhibitions, including a *Prix d'Honneur* at Tembal 83 held in Basel, Switzerland. In 1980 he received a Large Gold Medal from the Postal History Society Inc. (USA) for the best article published in that year by the *Postal History Journal*. He is also an active exhibitor who has garnered many awards for both Caribbean and Italian-area exhibits.

Edward T. "Tim" Tweddell Accepts Treasurer's Post

Edward T. "Tim" Tweddell, long-time member of the BCPSG has accepted the treasurer's post for the club. He succeeds long-time Treasurer Barry Friedman (See article page 112). Tim was born in Hull, Yorkshire, England in 1942. He was awarded his BS in Math and Physics from London University in 1964. He then worked for the UK Government as a researcher until 1968, when he

emigrated to the U.S. He continued his education and was awarded an MS in Numerical Science from Johns Hopkins University in 1970.

He was engaged in mathematical analyses for various US Government Departments until 1972. Then he became principal scientific adviser to NATO. Tim spent 17 years in this post until leaving in 1989 and now lives in West Virginia. He and his wife Jane have two daughters aged 27 and 24.

Tim's collecting interests include censored mail, principally World War Two in the smaller Caribbean islands, and early postcards of selected Caribbean islands. He is a member of the BCPSG, BWISC, CCSG. Tim has only begun publishing the results of his research in censorship. He has presented three articles in the *BCPJ* this year. We all hope he tries his hand at exhibiting in the near future.

He is currently working on a study of the picture postcards of A. M. Losada (who published cards almost exclusively of St. Kitts and Nevis), and would welcome contacts from any members with information.

Hugh A. H. James

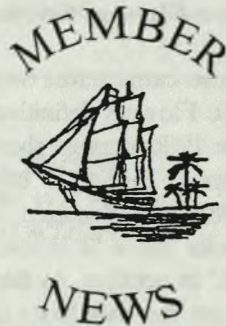
Hugh died in June 1998 from a Brain Tumor after a short illness. He was just 70 years old. He was our Jamaica Study Group leader and for a considerable time wrote "Jamaica Jottings" for the Journal.

Hugh was a man who rarely attended events and social functions, although I knew him for many years I never met him face to face. He kept meticulous records of many aspects of Philately and a short note or a phone call always produced a serious full answer. His great help in the production of our book "The Postal Markings of Jamaica" cannot be under valued.

His interest in Philately emanated from his father who specialised in Persian stamps. Besides his membership of our Group, he was a member of the British West Indies Study Circle and the Jamaica Philatelic Society. He was also active in the British Aerophilatelic Federation and the Postal Stationary Society. He has a book about to be published by the King George VI Collectors Society where he was very active.

His many articles on Jamaica Philately in various magazines but especially our Journal were a pleasure to read and his help and support will be sadly missed.

Ian Potter



A New Resource for the King George VI Specialist

The Editor has recently received a copy of *GEORGE VI*. This is a new quarterly publication directed to the needs of the specialist collector of the stamps of the reign of King George VI. Each issue contains eight or more pages of solid information of particular use to the specialist.

The current issue includes articles on: the Bahamas 2d. "T" flaw by BCPSG member *Mike DeLise*; the 1948 printing of the St. Kitt's 6d.; and the use of the Bermuda large 12/6d for paying passenger tax. Past issues have included many articles relating to the issues for all the British Caribbean islands. Member *Tom Cusick* is also a regular contributor. *George VI* is a good quality publication that appears to contain valuable information on the myriad varieties of GVI issues.

This commercial publication is edited and published by Larry Goldberg, of Buffalo Grove, IL. Larry is known to many of our Chicago-area members. His firm, GVI Publishers, LLC, is a for-profit company with a primary mission of publishing works of interest pertaining to the postage stamps of the reign of King George

VI. Two additional monographs on this subject are currently being prepared.

Under a reciprocal agreement with Mr. Goldberg, the BCPSG library will receive the publication for use by members. However, those interested in this specialty will probably want to subscribe directly.

Subscriptions are currently \$10 for 4 issues U.S. & Canada (\$15 elsewhere), and \$17.50 for 8 issues U.S. & Canada (\$26.25 elsewhere). Subscription prices will be increased in January, 1999.

The subscription price also includes access to the *GEORGE VI* Internet mailing list, a list and discussion group on the Internet for the exclusive use of *GEORGE VI* subscribers, a benefit unique to this publication.

For a sample issue, members can write: GVI Publishers, LLC., P.O. Box 7170, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089-7170 USA, or they may make their request by eMailing subs@kg6.com.

—DLH

Update on the Red Cross In Trinidad and Tobago

by Ron WIKE

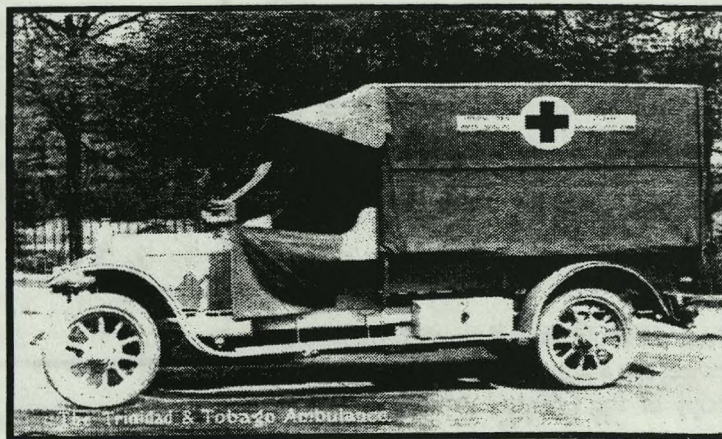
In a previous article on this subject,¹ I displayed an appeal sent out using the Red Cross label on 18 September 1914. The label achieved notoriety by being cancelled and is now catalogued by Stanley Gibbons as a postage stamp when used on that day only.

I recently purchased a postcard sent to Port Mourant, Berbice, British Guiana depicting "The Trinidad & Tobago Ambulance" inscribed "BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY/ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION" on its side as shown in the adjacent figure. What makes the card interesting is the message "This is the ambulance given by this place & these cards are sold for the Red X Fund."

Obviously the appeal of 18 September 1914 was very effective as the card is postmarked Belmont, Trinidad 29 July 1915. It has a Port of Spain cancel of the same date and unreadable date cancels of Georgetown and New Amsterdam. It was sent at the 1d Imperial Postcard rate in force from 1 August 1892 until 30 November 1921.

References

1. Wike, R., "The Red Cross in Trinidad and Tobago," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, 37(3), 1997, pp. 123-131.



Leeward Islands GV 1d Airmail Envelopes

by Charles FREELAND

The cover illustrated in Fig. 1 will mean nothing to 99% of our membership, but to the 1% that are active collectors of Leeward Islands postal stationery it will be both an inspiration and a challenge. It will also serve as a reminder that there are still great finds to be made by those persistent and lucky enough.

The story starts in 1970 when Paul Larsen illustrated a hitherto unrecorded envelope (not complete.)¹ It was a 1 1/2d airmail envelope, similar to the elusive GVI airmail envelopes, but bearing the indicium of George V. It was mailed from Antigua to the U.S.A. on 3 July 1934. There is another used example in the International Large Vermeil collection formed by Darryl Fuller. Subsequent unpublished research by Fuller, using data extracted from the De La Rue records by Malcolm Lacey, has revealed that there was not only a 1 1/2d envelope, but also a 1d envelope, both invoiced on 28 April 1934. Fuller has managed to obtain a "cut-out" of this envelope, but has been unable to record a complete example, either used or mint. Imagine my excitement when the cover shown in Fig. 1 appeared in a mixed lot in a small U.K. auction.

For the record, the envelope is complete if a little roughly opened at the top right. There is a light St. Johns datestamp of 12 Oct 1935. The size is 152x90mm, the same as the GVI airmail envelopes, but a different size from any of the other GV printings. The paper is thin with a light grey mesh pattern and it is inscribed "All British."

STOP PRESS

Just to show that lightning can strike twice, the author has just acquired a used copy of the Leeward Islands George V

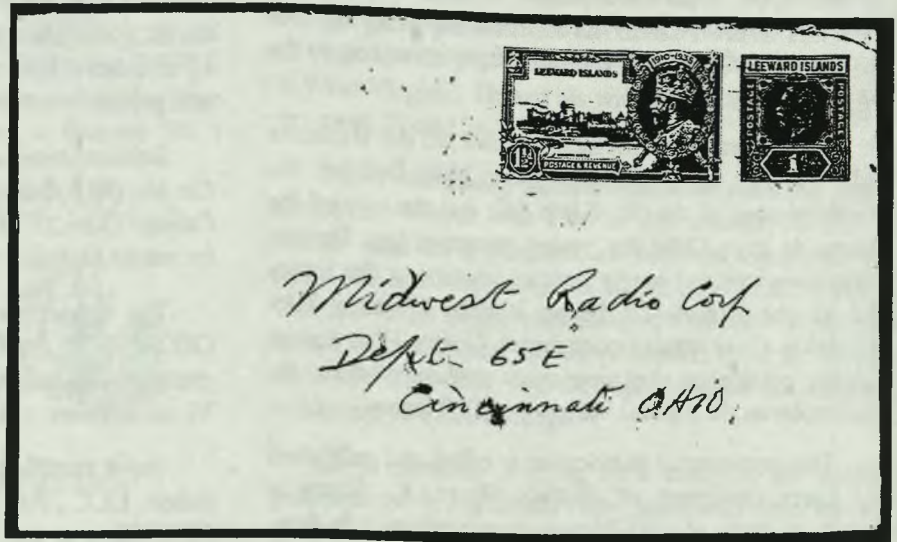


Figure 1. The 1d KGV airmail envelope.

1 1/2d envelope already discussed. Sent from Barbuda to the U.S.A. on 17 April 1936, it is shown in Fig. 2.

Reference

1. Larsen, P.A., "Leewards Information Wanted," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, (10)5, October 1970, p. 145.

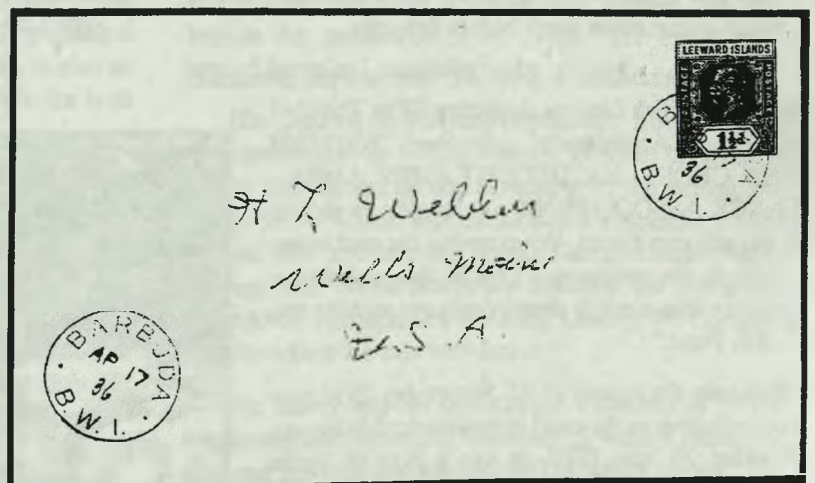


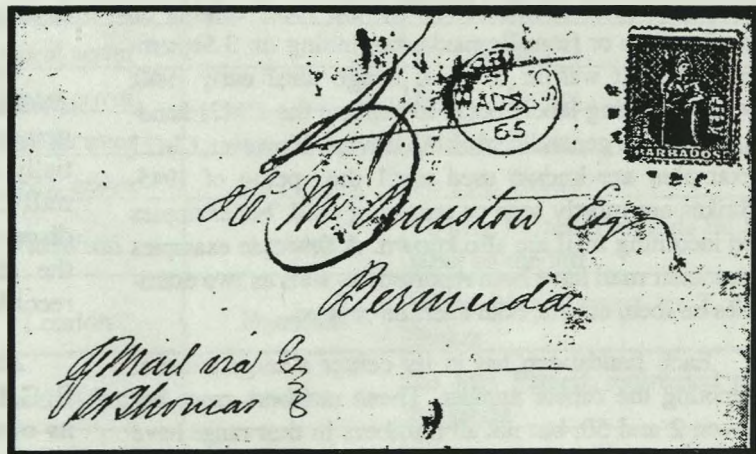
Figure 2. Newly acquired 1 1/2d KGV envelope.

Complexities of Pre-U.P.U. Postage Due

by Geoffrey OSBORN

Prior to the standardization of postage rates resulting from the formation of the U.P.U., the computation of postage due for both unpaid and shortpaid mail could be quite complex, even within the Empire. The adjoining figure illustrates such a problem for a letter sent from Barbados to Bermuda via St. Thomas on 23 August 1865. The 1d Britannia franking represented the domestic letter rate in the Barbados. Section XL of the Bermuda Post Office Act authorized the collection of deficient Imperial ocean postage of 4d — as indicated by the blue manuscript “4” applied in Barbados — plus an inland charge of 1d for colonial revenue. Hence, the Bermuda Postmaster overwrote the “4” with a manuscript “5.” A St. Thomas transit back-stamp, dated 29 August 1865, confirms that

the letter was carried aboard the *S.S. Alpha*. It was received in Bermuda on 5 September 1865.



The Barbados Diamond Jubilee Issue

by Robert LEBOW



The Gibbons Catalogue¹ lists the issue date for the Diamond Jubilee issue (SG 116-124 and 125-133) of Barbados as December 1897. This date has been additionally confirmed by Bayley.²



It came as quite a surprise to the author to find four examples of the issue, in his own collection, clearly dated in November 1897. Further study resulted in discovering that the actual issue date was either 15 November 1897³, or 16 November 1897.⁴ Michael

Hamilton, who keeps detailed records of this issue, has reported at least three other uses prior to December. The earliest dates of use, by office, are: Bridgetown (6d, 25 November); St. Peter (½d, 27 November); St. James (1d, 29 November); and St. George (½d, 29 November).

Since the earliest known use appears to be about ten days after the issue date, it is quite possible that earlier

uses remain to be discovered.

The author is interested in any earlier dates that members may have in their collections, information may be directed to:

Bob Lebow
1322 East Brooklake
Houston, TX 77077-3204
e-mail: bobtex@prodigy.net

References

1. Stanley Gibbons Stamp catalogue, Part 1, British Commonwealth, Volume 1, Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., London, 1993.
2. Bayley, E., *Stamps of Barbados*, Bridgetown, Barbados, 1989.
3. Tilleard, J.A., *London Philatelist*, Vol. 17, 1908.
4. "New Issues and Varieties," *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal*, December 31, 1897, p. 96.

Fake Censorship Handstamp: Bermuda's Type CM21, No. 47

by Michel FORAND

The circular "PASSED BY/CENSOR" handstamp (Ludington¹ type CM21) is well known to collectors of Bermuda censored covers from World War II. This device was applied extensively by the local censors on mail sent to or from Bermuda, beginning on 3 September 1939. It was in common usage until early 1940, when resealing labels began to replace the CM21 handstamp as the general censorship device. However, CM21 examples are known used until the spring of 1945. Strikes are mostly seen on outgoing mail, but examples on incoming mail are also known. A few rare examples on transit mail have been reported, as well as two examples on local covers, both internee-related.

Each handstamp has in its center a large numeral denoting the censor number. These numbers range between 2 and 50, but not all numbers in that range have been recorded. Some numbers are very common because they were used on mail to and from the general population: '2', '3', '4', '8', '9' and '23' fall into this group. Others numerals are scarce or even very rare, with only a few examples having been reported. Included among these are '10', '15', '17', '26', etc. Some numbers (e.g., '5' and '7') were apparently used exclusively by cable censors and as a result have never been seen on covers.

One of the scarcest numerals is '47'. In a survey conducted in 1995-97 in which more than 720 covers with a CM21 handstamp were recorded, only three had the numeral '47'. Thus when it was learned last year that a British dealer was offering four new examples,

that came as a bit of a surprise. Soon, the four grew to 12, and some of these have recently been offered at auction by two other British dealers. Surprise became astonishment and, upon closer examination, disbelief.

As a point of reference, Fig. 1 illustrates three handstamps. Fig. 1a is an example of censor '3' known to be genuine. Fig. 1b shows a genuine '47' which is essentially identical in all elements except the number. Finally, Fig. 1c shows the '47' handstamp under discussion. Table 1 lists the information available about the 15 '47' covers known to me, including the three recorded in the survey (shaded in Table 1).

Among the 15 examples listed, I have seen seven: B, C, D, J, M, N, and O. Item A was described to me by its owner, while the others were described briefly in a list provided by the dealer who first offered them last year.

Characteristics

The major characteristics of covers C, shown in Fig. 2, and O, first reported in the survey (I have not seen example A), are as follows:

- the green ink in the handstamp is identical to that seen in the great majority of CM21 marks
- as in most CM21 examples, the strike is clear, the circle is clean and perfectly circular, the rosettes (stars) are very sharp (although not always complete)

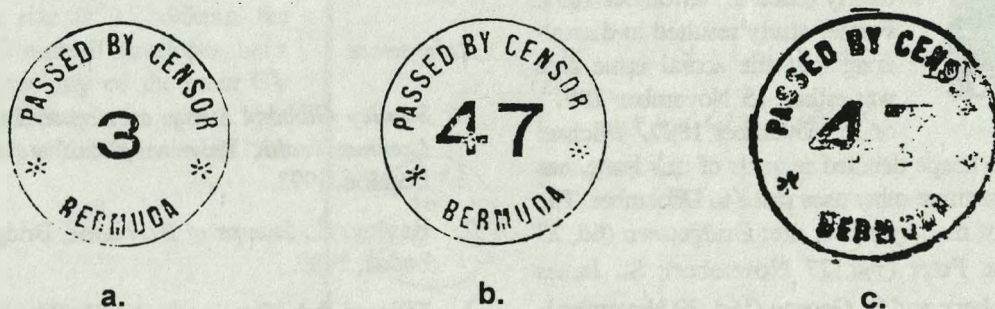


Figure 1. Examples of the Bermuda censor handstamps.

Table 1. Characteristics of the Known CM21 Covers

	POSTMARK DATE	COLOR	ORIGIN	DESTINATION	REMARKS
A	Feb 10	Green	Hamilton	London	
B	Feb 21	Red	Local cover		To T.A. Stokes
C	Jun 29	Green	Union, N.J.	St. Georges	To an internee
D	Jul 16	Red	Local cover		To T.A. Stokes
E	Jul	Red and Blue	Local cover		To T.A. Stokes
F	Jul	Red	Local cover		To T.A. Stokes
G	Jul	Red	Local cover		To T.A. Stokes
H	Jul	Black	Local cover		To T.A. Stokes
I	Jul	Violet	Local cover		To T.A. Stokes?
J	Nov 3	Black	Hamilton	London	To Mrs. Parrett; Bermuda BC1 label on the left
K	Nov	Red	London	Hamilton	From Mrs Parrett to T.A. Stokes
L	Jan	Violet	South Africa	London	To Mrs Parrett, redirected to Bermuda
M	Nov 9	Violet	South Africa	London	To Mrs Parrett, redirected to Bermuda
N	Jan 9	Red	Hamilton	Surrey, England	To T.R. Stokes
O	Jan 12	Green	Hamilton	Philadelphia	To the Saturday Evening Post

– as in all other CM21 strikes, the diameter of the circle is 31 mm

– the vertical in the numeral '4' is a shade over 7 mm long

Based on my knowledge of CM21 handstamps, I am confident, even convinced, that examples C and O are authentic and legitimate because they are virtually identical to all other CM21 strikes. Thus covers C and O can serve as the norm for comparison with the 12 covers offered in 1997-98. While I have not seen a copy of example A, its owner (a reputable collector and specialist of Bermuda censorship) has reported that it is also in green and that the cover has been in his collection for a number of years. Thus example A can reasonably be assumed to be legitimate.

On the other hand, all twelve '47' covers offered from the Stokes/Parrett correspondence in the past 18 months have the following characteristics:

– the colors of the '47' strikes are red, blue, black and violet

– all of those I have seen are somewhat blurry and have a rough appearance

– the circle is somewhat irregular and roughly drawn, with *shavings* along the circumference; three of these, in particular, appear just outside the circle in all clearly struck examples I have seen: at the top above 'BY'; on the left opposite 'P'; at the bottom, under 'E'

– the diameter of the circle is 33 mm

– the rosettes are misshapen and very blurry

– the vertical in the numeral '4' is about 8.5 mm long

– virtually all of the 1941 covers are addressed locally to "T.A. Stokes, Princess Hotel, Hamilton;" the two 1942 covers are addressed to a Mrs Parrett in London and redirected to the Princess Hotel; one cover is addressed to her from Bermuda, and one was sent by her to Stokes in Bermuda.

There are three aspects of the Stokes/Parrett examples that, in my view, disqualify them as genuine CM21



Figure 2. Cover 'C': Genuine '47' handstamp in green from the U.S. to an internee in Bermuda.

strikes: their color(s), their usage, and their size and general appearance.

Color

Examples C and O are struck in the same green ink that is typical of the large majority of CM21 marks. That, and the fact that those two examples are also identical in size and appearance to the more common CM21 numerals, convinces me that they are genuine.

By and large, the various CM21 censor numbers are found in only one color, and in most cases that color is green. Some numbers are associated with a different color, however. For example, '6' is always in red, '12' in violet, '29' in black (the only numeral recorded in that color), '48' in blue, etc. Fig. 3 illustrates the fake cover 'D' which has a red handstamp.

A few numbers exist in more than one color — '3', for example, is known in both green and violet — but no single censor number is known in more than three colors. Even in the case of '39', where the colors reported in the survey include purple, violet, mauve, blue, red and magenta, it seems likely that only two, or at most three, different colors were used. Various factors will influence the perception of color, such as discoloration, the color of the paper, one's preconceived idea of a particular color, so that a given color will often be vari-

ously described as purple, violet, mauve or even blue. In the survey, red and magenta are also likely to be the same color.

Often, when one than one color has been reported for a given censor number, there appears to be some sort of pattern: a particular color may be associated with a particular type of mail (red often appears to be associated with mail from naval personnel) or may have been used during a particular period ('3', for example, was used exclusively in green from September 1939 to April 1940, and exclusively in violet from January 1941 to September 1943, then again in green from November 1943 to at least January 1945).

When all of the '47' strikes are viewed in chronological sequence (see Table 1), on the other hand, the changes from one color to the next do not reveal any pattern. There are no examples among the 720+ covers recorded in the survey of the multiple changes of color displayed within about a year in the Stokes/Parrett correspondence — from red to blue, to black, to violet, etc. Nor has any cover ever been recorded with two CM21 strikes in different colors, as in example E.

Usage

Another argument against the genuineness of the Stokes/Parrett '47' strikes is the fact that seven of them

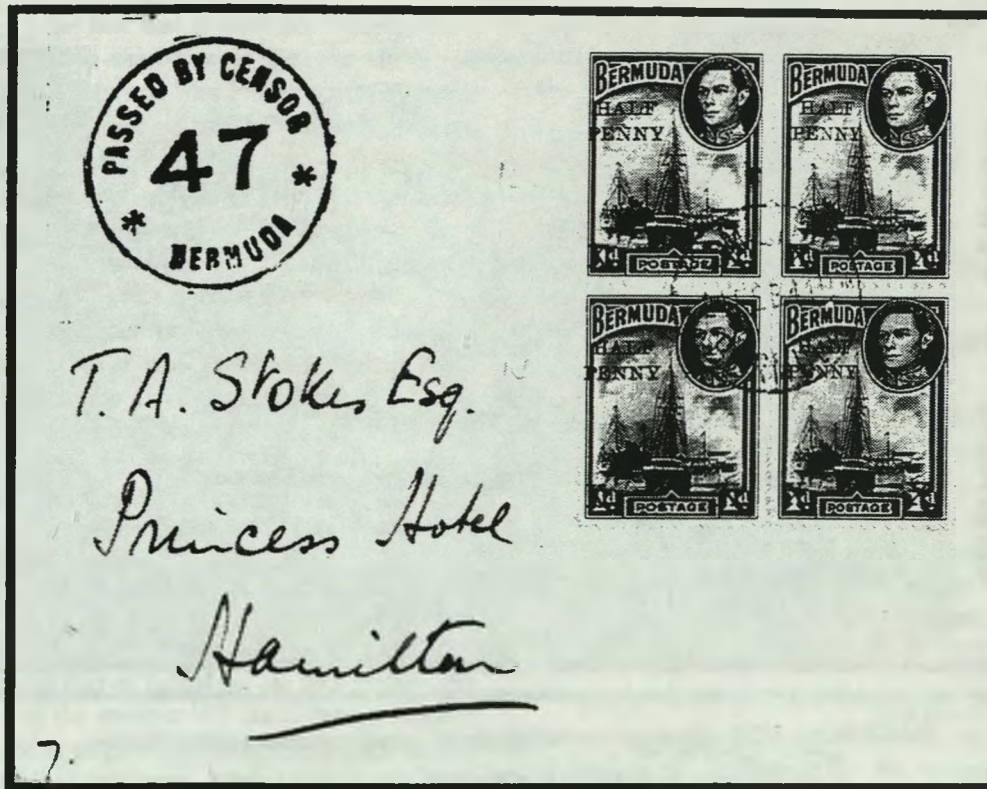


Figure 3. Cover 'D': Fake '47' handstamp on a local cover addressed to Imperial censor Stokes.

are on local mail. Of the 720+ covers recorded in the survey, only two — both internee-related — are local. Regular local mail did not receive any sign of censorship during World War II, in contrast with the practice during World War I. Thus the sudden appearance of seven local CM21 covers, such as the one shown in Fig. 3, with no apparent internee connection is improbable, to put it mildly.

Favor usages of some CM21 handstamps are known on outgoing or incoming philatelic mail - a number of '23' covers and all of the '48' covers, for example - but they took place during the war. Favor examples of '23' are identical in size, color, and appearance to those on "commercial" covers. The '48' strikes are identical to those of other numerals at the time.

Size and Appearance

The five Stokes/Parrett examples that I have examined all have identical characteristics not found on either example C or O, or on any of the hundreds of other CM21 numerals I have seen: the circle is not perfectly circular and has an irregular appearance; there is a short line

outside the circle above 'BY' and a slightly longer line very close to the circle, opposite 'P' of 'PASSED'; there is a dot outside the circle, opposite 'E' of 'BERMUDA'; the diameter is 33 mm (as opposed to 31 mm in all other CM21 handstamps), etc.

One might argue that blurry CM21 strikes are not unknown, but in fact CM21 strikes tend to be clear - they are not always complete and not always strong, but almost always the circle is clear, and the lettering and numbers are sharp-edged. This suggests that the handstamps were made of steel. The main exceptions are numbers '33', '36', and '39', of which, for reasons that are not entirely clear, some strikes do appear blurry though quite unlike the '47' strikes in the Stokes/Parrett correspondence. In some cases, the blurriness or distortion was caused by the fact that the handstamp was struck on an envelope with thick contents or on a post-card folder.

The sequence shown in the table from example B to example C, and from C to D — that is, from a poor strike to an excellent one, back to a poor one — is highly improbable in itself, and it is equally improbable when compared to the two most extensively used nu-

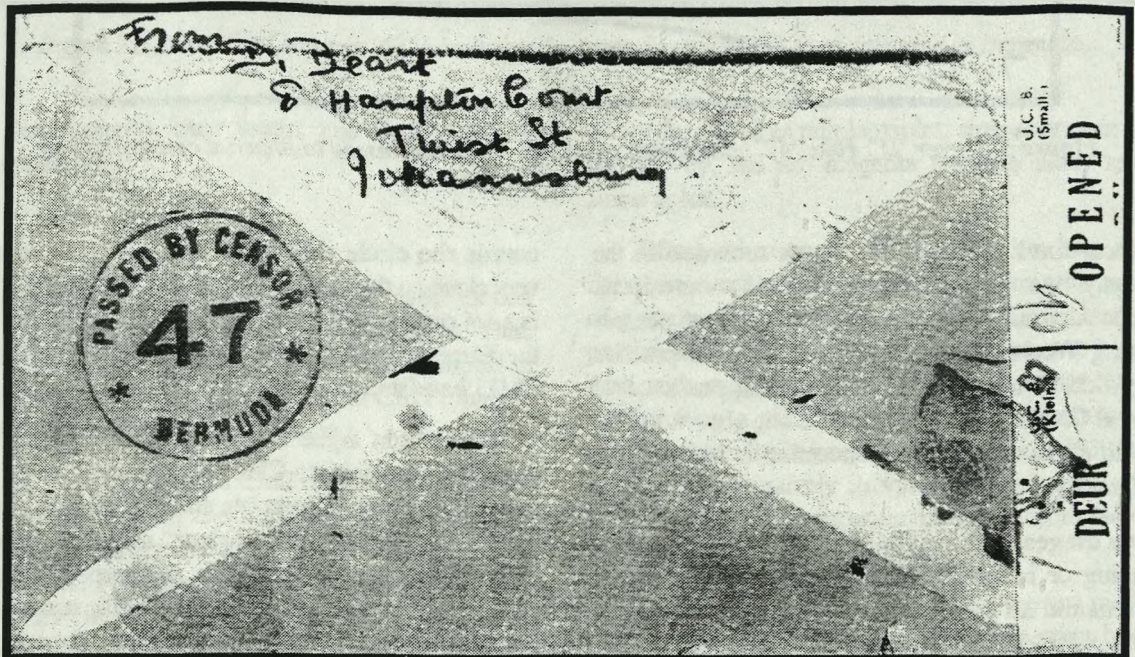
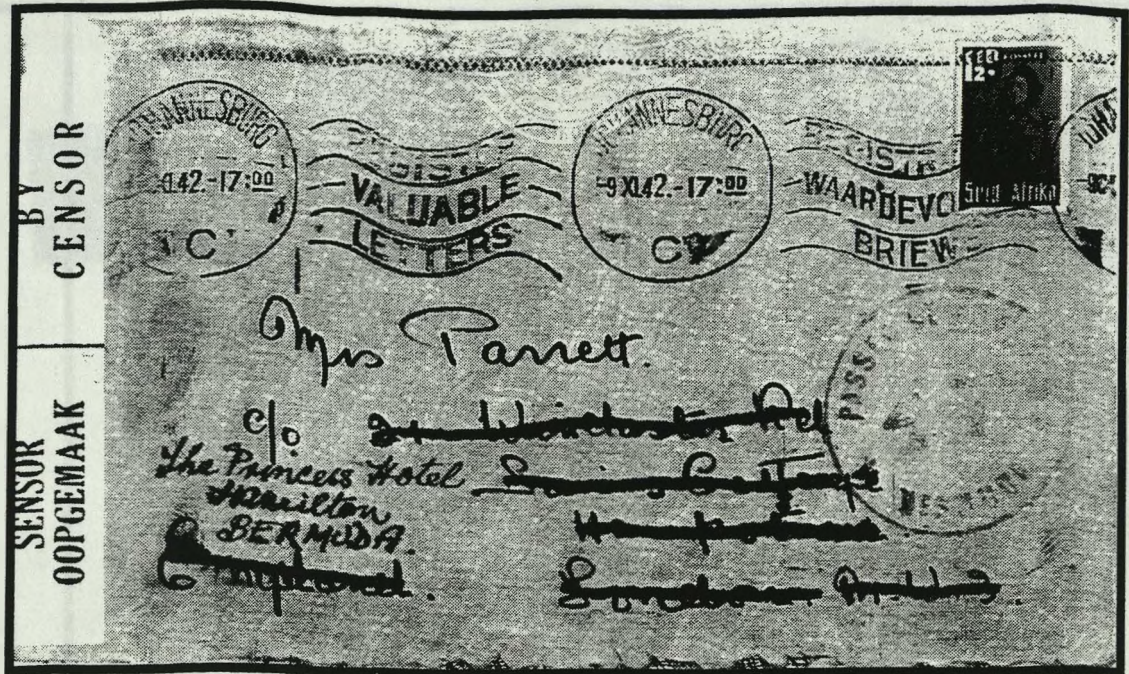


Figure 4. Cover 'M': Front and back showing two strikes of fake '47' in violet.

merals in the series, '23' and '3'. These two were by far the most commonly used CM21 handstamps during the war. Yet, despite intensive usage from 1939 to 1943 and from 1939 to 1945, respectively, neither shows any evidence of lasting handstamp deterioration such as constant or progressive distortions, broken letters, breaks of flaws in the circle, etc. There is no evidence to suggest that any of the CM21 handstamps ever had to be replaced during the war because of wear and tear.

Conclusion

The dealer who first offered the Stokes/Parrett correspondence last year (there were a few additional covers without a CM21 handstamp) reported that these covers were originally purchased about 10 or 12 years ago by an old-time dealer from someone in the Parrett family. The shoe box containing the covers was apparently left intact until early in 1997, when a collector found it.

Of interest is the fact that at least one letter to T.A. Stokes is addressed to the Princess Hotel in Hamilton and that one of the letters to Mrs Parrett was redirected from London to the same address. From late 1940 to May 1944, the entire Princess Hotel was occupied by the staff of the Imperial Censorship Department, which reached a peak establishment of 974 in July 1941. During that period, the censorship of all transit mail took place at the Princess. Thus it seems certain that T.A. Stokes was an Imperial censor, and fairly likely that Mrs Parrett was also a censor who came to Bermuda from London sometime in late 1941 or early 1942. We know from documents that have recently come to light that two small contingents of Imperial "examiners" arrived in Bermuda in November and December 1941. The T.R. Stokes to whom cover M in the table is addressed was presumably a relative of T.A. Stokes.

The pattern (or lack of pattern) revealed by the information provided above, including the data on the size and appearance of the various '47' hand-stamps, makes it clear to me and to others who have seen both items C and O and the Stokes/Parrett examples that the '47' handstamps found on the latter are spurious — out-and-out fakes that were not applied to those covers in the course of official censorship operations. But are they forgeries intended to deceive collectors? Given their crude appearance and the background information provided by the dealer who offered them last year, that seems unlikely - although some collectors have apparently been deceived in the past 18 months.

What is one to make of these handstamps? My theory is that when Mr Stokes or Mrs Parrett returned to England, one of his or her children found the correspondence and, having seen an authentic CM21 handstamp on mail, decided to create these fantasies to have a bit of fun, probably using cork, wood or plastic to make the handstamp. These creations then were forgotten and went unnoticed for more than 50 years. Today, they are offered as rarities - the prices on the covers offered last year were as high as £450 - but one can confidently say that they are mere curiosities.

References

1. Luddington, M.H., *The Postal History and Postage Stamps of Bermuda*, Quarterman, Lawrence, MA, 1978.

BCPSG Regional Meeting at Australia 99

By David INGLE-SMITH

The Melbourne World Stamp Expo, Australia 99, will be held from 19th to 24th March 1999 at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre which is the newest and most prestigious convention complex in the city.

A regional meeting of the BCPSG is scheduled at 10:00AM on Monday, March 22. The event will be held in Meeting Room 2 which is booked for two hours. Display frames will be available, and Australian-based BCPSG members will ensure that there will be BWI material to view and discuss. If overseas visitors wish to bring material, it would be most welcome, even if limited to a small selection of items.

Darryl Fuller or I will arrange for an informal dinner on March 22. This can be arranged at short notice as Melbourne is renowned for the versatility and high standard of its cuisine.

Although BCPSG membership in Australia is limited by our geographical isolation, we are proud that Australia supplied the only three postal stationery exhibits at the FIP exhibition in Finland in 1996. Indeed, all three exhibits were provided by members of the Philatelic Society of Canberra. Philatelic prowess apart, we are pleased to welcome all overseas members (and potential members) at Melbourne in 1999.

In addition, the BCPSG has purchased a prize, an Aboriginal word carving, which the Jury of Australia 99 will award to the best BWI exhibit at Australia 99.

Information for Australia 99 can be obtained on the web at:

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or from:

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Any members who would like more details on the regional meeting can contact me by eMail at:

dingle@cres.anu.edu.au

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Compiled by David L. HERENDEEN

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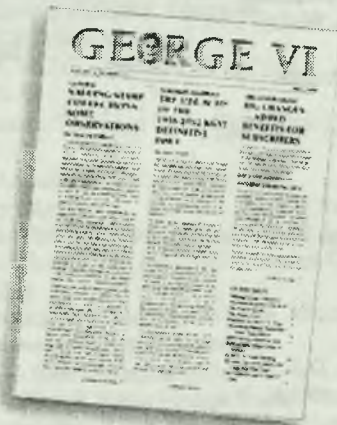
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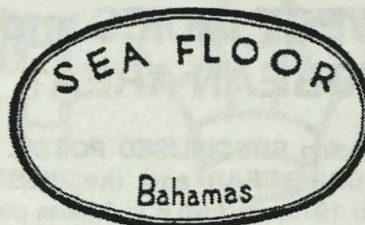
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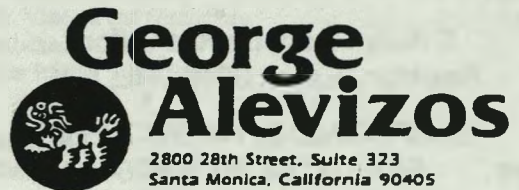
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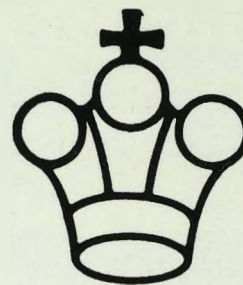
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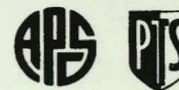
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AUCTION NEWS

Next sale on February 25 will be a postal auction. Consignments so far received include:

- ☒ *John Tyacke's collection of Bahamas censored mail including very scarce handstamps and labels*
- ☒ *The Cartwright collection of West Indies is strong in postmarks, particularly St Kitts Nevis*
 - ☒ *A good section of Barbados classic stamps*
 - ☒ *The first portion of the late Hugh James collection of Jamaica*
- ☒ *Colin Bayley's collection of British Guiana postal stationery air letters*

The September 26 London room auction was a great success. 51 room bidders competed against a strong book to create some spectacular realisations. Ken Bolton's collection of the Jamaica pictorial issue fetched £5200 and the proof material which had been lotted separately went for strong prices. The crown circle "Paid at English Harbour" h/s went for £3100 and the Caymans 1932 hurricane provisional made £3900.

I shall be attending the BCPSG meeting in Sarasota and look forward to meeting old and new customers. If you would like me to bring any items from stock please advise as I hold a small stock of covers and postcards from all the islands.

Copies of the catalogue will be available from January 25.

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