

# BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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*Peter C. Elias offers a follow-up on the "Hialeah Forgery"*

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# It's time for the Annual General Meeting!

The Annual General Meeting will be held over the Labor Day weekend, September 3-5, 2004, at The Baltimore Philatelic Society's Annual Show, BALPEX 2004. The 66th annual stamp show will take place from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday (September 3-4) and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, September 5, 2004.

The British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group's dinner will be on Friday, September 5 at a location to be determined. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held from 1 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, September 6, 2004.

Site of the AGM will be Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn, Interstate 83 at Shawan Road (Exit 20), in Hunt Valley, Maryland. For more information about the show, call (410) 332-4741 or contact by electronic mail at [balpex@aol.com](mailto:balpex@aol.com).

The enclosed insert asks all members contact Secretary Duane Larson as soon as possible with information about whether you will attend the dinner on Friday night and/or the Annual General Meeting. Please consult the insert, or contact

Secretary Duane Larson,  
2 Forest Blvd.,  
Park Forest, IL 60466.

Please make the necessary notification **BEFORE August 15, 2004!**

## British Caribbean Philatelic Journal

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### CHART OF DEADLINES

**January issue:** Deadline November 15, mailing December 30; **April issue:** Deadline February 15, mailing March 30; **July issue:** Deadline May 15, mailing June 30; **October issue:** Deadline August 15, mailing September 30.

## New issue survey

# Bahamas new issue salutes John Wesley

Perhaps it was because here in the far northland winter was still with us when advance information arrived in the post about the Bahamas issuing a set of stamps on April 27, 2004 saluting the tercentenary of the birth of John Wesley. The placid, pastoral view of Cupid's Cay, Governors Harbour on the 15¢ value captivated me. Likely it was the cold north wind and swirling snow that made me long for the scene. Or perhaps it was the theologian in me that appreciated a country philatelically honoring the father of Methodism.



In any event, this pretty new issue is chosen as the first of a regular series highlighting a particular new issue from the Caribbean. It is hoped that each issue will have room to feature a different "new issue."

While I am not Methodist by choice, I remember my doctoral studies at seminary included a fair amount of Wesleyan Methodism. Wesley was born in 1703 in England and during 2003 Methodists around the world celebrated the tercentenary of his birth. A year later, this set came from the Bahamas.

John Wesley was born into an Anglican clergy family and became an Anglican priest, but due to his convictions and calls for reform and renewal within the church, the Wesleyan Revival began, and thus started the Methodist Church. John Wesley was assisted by many individuals, including his renowned brother, Rev. Charles Wesley, who was the well-known hymn

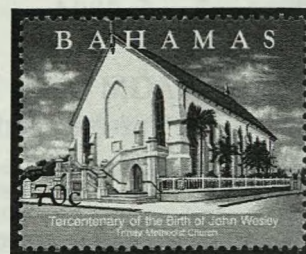
writer. The Methodist movement spread fast and widely. Before John Wesley died in 1791, the Methodist Church had been established in the Bahamas.

Among the pioneers of Methodism in the Bahamas were freed blacks Joseph Paul and his wife, Susanna Paul; Anthony Wallace and his wife, Susanna Wallace; James Johnson (minister); Henry Suttan; William Mitchell; Charles Randall; and Thomas Tanyard. The Methodist



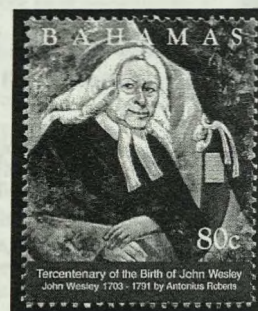
Church made an impressive and indelible imprint on the life and culture of the people of the Bahamas over the past 220 years.

The 15¢ stamp shows the Methodist Church at Cupid's Cay, Governors Harbour. The island of Eleuthera has the most churches of that denomination in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas. Eleuthera was the second island visited by the early Methodist missionaries. Many of the church buildings are imposing structures signifying the vital role of the church to the people.



The 25¢ stamp shows the Wesley Methodist Church at Baillou Hill Road and Chapel Street in Grants Town, Nassau. This church has a rich history beginning with Prayer Meeting in 1836. Wesley Methodist Church, up to the early 1990s, had the largest Methodist congregation in the Bahamas. The congregation, known for both religious and social reform, was the nucleus for three other Methodist congregations, the charter office for several choirs and organizations including the Boys Brigade movement.

The 50¢ value shows the wooden chapel at Marsh Harbour. The Methodist Church had spread throughout the Bahamas by the early 1800s, and work at Marsh Harbour began in the 1840s. The photograph used for the stamp was taken in the 1950s. The 65¢ stamp shows the Ebenezer Methodist Church. It was the first chapel built by Rev. William Turton. The Trinity Methodist Church is shown on the 70¢ value. It was one of the formative societies of Methodism in the Bahamas, originating with the influence of Anthony and Susanna Wallace and Rev. Turton. The congregation met at other sites before the cornerstone of the gothic structure of the present church was laid in 1861. Finally, the 80¢ stamp shows John Wesley as captured in a painting by Bahamian artist Antonius Roberts.



The Bahamas/Turks & Caicos Islands District Conference of the Methodist Church is one of eight district conferences in the Caribbean and the Americas.

-- Everett L. Parker

# Leeward Islands: the "Size F" envelope

By Wayne Menuz  
Of the USA

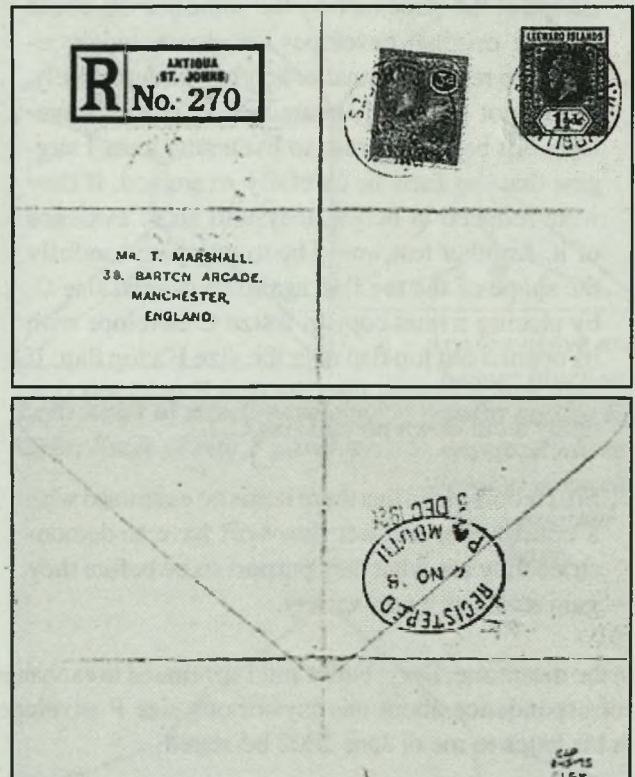
The article "Leeward Islands – Envelopes Known and Unknown" (*Postal Stationery*, January-February 2001, Vol. 43, No. 1) contained a listing of the postal stationery envelopes from this island nation that began with the following statements:

In the June 2000 issue of P.S., the journal of the Postal Stationery Society of Great Britain, there is mention of a display and talk given by Michael Oliver at their October 1999 meeting. The subject was the postal stationery of the Leeward Islands, and a comment in the section dealing with the envelopes caught my eye. It states:

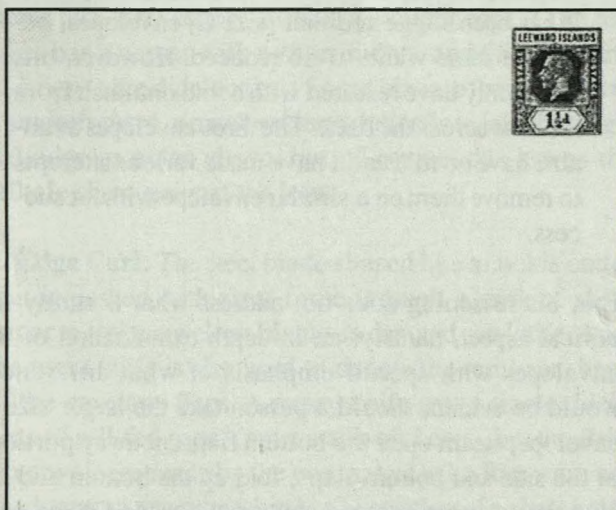
Other items of interest included . . . a 1 1/2d size F envelope used in 1928, of which only THREE are known used and NONE unused. Though there is no record of a requisition or invoice in the De La Rue Archive [ed.: the printing firm], the minimum order was 5,000 charged – so here is a complete mystery.

That reminded me of an article in the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, March 1994 by Darryl Fuller titled "Leeward Islands Postal Stationery: The King George V 1d Red Envelopes" and his subsequent "The King George VI Airmail Envelopes" in the September 1994 issue. He and I carried on a correspondence about Leeward Islands

envelopes at the time, and in one of his letters he wrote about this envelope: "Do you have a copy of a 1 1/2d red KGV envelope in what Michael Oliver calls size F which is similar to but smaller than [H&G] B6." He mentions that he and Michael each owned one used copy, and neither had a mint copy.



1927 issue 1 1/2d red envelope. Front and back of the size F (134 x 31mm) envelope.



1927 issue 1 1/2d red envelope, size C (134 x 108mm).

After reading this, I of course checked my collection, and alas, found I did not have a copy. But, the "size F" piqued my curiosity. It is stated as being 134 x 81 mm. I carefully checked my entire British Commonwealth collection, and could not find one envelope from any country of that size. Since De La Rue, and then later Waterloo and Sons, printed virtually all Commonwealth stationery not locally printed, the size F 1 1/2d KG V red envelope warranted further consideration.

It is just not reasonable that the printer would have incurred the expense for a new cutting knife to only make this one item. Cutting knives remain in use for years, as evidenced by the same knives being

*Continued on page 6*

used for envelopes throughout the Commonwealth for decades. It stretches credulity that an odd-sized knife was created for a very small printing (judging by only three copies now known), and never used again for Leeward Islands nor any other country.

The width of size F perhaps gives a clue. It is exactly the same as the normal size C. Since only three philatelically used copies are known, all registered at the same time by the same person, could they be original envelopes cut down and/or re-folded to result in a smaller height? Unfortunately, I have not personally examined a "size F" envelope, but before we rush to list a new item, I suggest that the facts be carefully examined. If they were reduced in height, they will show evidence of it. Another test would be to compare carefully the shape of the top flap against a normal size C, by placing a mint copy of a size C envelope with its opened out top flap over the size F's top flap. If they match exactly then the size F is almost certainly a cut down normal size C.

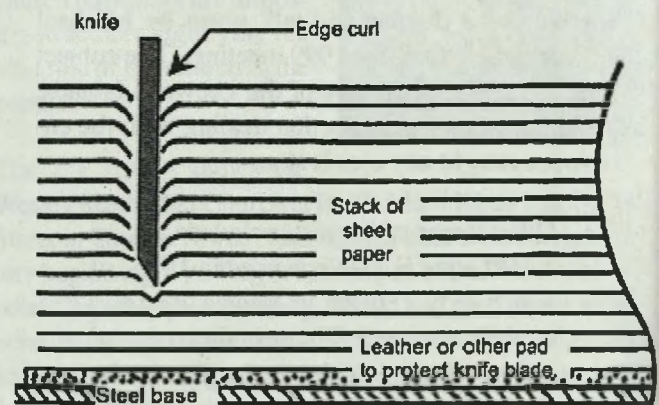
So, I recommend that these items be examined with a critical eye, and that they will have to demonstrate they are what they purport to be before they gain status as a new variety.

In the meantime, Daryl Fuller and I continued to exchange correspondence about this mysterious size F envelope. In his letter to me of June 2002 he stated:

I have often wondered whether the strange size F was faked by cutting down but a quick look suggested that it was okay. I have now compared this to a regular size C to check the knife, as far as is possible for a sealed envelope and in my opinion you are right. This item has been faked. The top half of the knife is identical to the normal 11/2d, there are traces of glue visible next to one flap (and you don't normally see this) but most tellingly the left and right flaps of the envelope are folded the opposite to all of the other Leewards' stationery. This is a clever fake but given its rarity it seems most likely that it was done as a joke rather than to defraud collectors. I think that Michael Oliver will now write an article on these fakes and I hope to for the *Postal Stationery Collector*. I haven't heard of other fakes like this. Postal stationery is usually considered not worth faking, although forged usages are known I am sure.

In a January 2002 *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* (Vol. 42, No. 1) article titled "Leeward Islands Postal Stationery Envelope, 1927-28," Michael Oliver postulates the size F envelopes are genuine. And, he reports that one copy of the 1d denomination has been found in size F, adding to the three known of the 11/2d value (the counterparts to H&G B9 & B8, and WM E10 & E11):

The 1d Violet and the 11/2d. Red envelopes also exist in "F" size (133 x 82 mm). Figure 1 illustrates the only known example of the 1d. and one of three known examples of the 11/2d., which were posted to Mr. T. Marshall on the same day with



*Schematic cross section of a stack of sheet paper being cut.*

Registered Label Nos. 269-271. There are no known unused examples of either duty.

After close examination by Darryl Fuller (who has a 11/2 d. envelope) and myself, we agree that they must be genuine De La Rue productions in respect of the impressed stamp, paper, shade and cut-out. This raises the question of what actually happened. It has been suggested that [size C] envelopes, being the same width, were reduced. However, this could only have resulted with a fold one-inch from the base across the back. The three envelopes available have no fold and I have made various attempts to remove them on a similar envelope without success.

But, his reasoning does not address what is surely the critical aspect, namely, an in-depth examination of the envelopes with special emphasis of what differences would be evident should a person take the larger size C envelope, steam open the bottom flap, cut away portions of the side and bottom flaps, fold up the bottom and re-glue the resulting reduced size creation. Mr. Oliver does spend a couple of pages of text noting there is no evi-

dence from the De La Rue record books of any ordering, printing or delivery of such a strange size, and he provides a number of hypotheses to explain away these facts. Until recently, my involvement has been purely theoretical since I had never had the opportunity to actually examine one. However, at Chicagopex where I served on the jury, an exhibit contained a 11/2d size F envelope. The jury exercised its right to have any item removed from the display for a closer inspection, and the item was duly removed and examined in minute detail by the jury. Since I had my digital camera with me, I also took photographs.

The item has a number of physical characteristics that warranted a close look, and that provide the physical evidence of whether it is an unusual British colonies issue of great rarity, or is instead a clever fake to create a bogus item. They devolve on four issues:

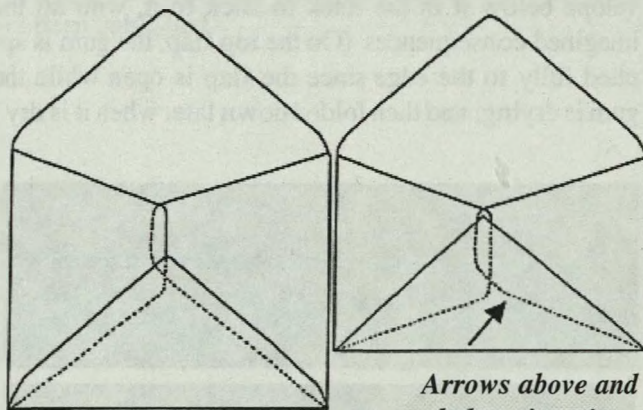
**1. Knife:** As noted earlier, the top half of the envelope knife is identical to the normal size C. Below are schematics of the knife of the original, as well as the size F. Also shown is a normal size C that has had its bottom flap unglued and opened out, showing where a faker could have cut away portions of the bottom and side flaps prior to refolding into the smaller size F.

The new bottom edge, *i.e.*, the new fold line, is exactly one inch above the old fold line. More about that in item 4 below. The shape of the right flap is interesting, in that it has an abrupt angle change about one quarter distance from the end, as noted above by the arrows. It would have been most unusual for the envelope knife maker to make this sharp angled bend on the steel knife, especially since it would have served no purpose at all. But, a faker who had to match up the new edge would have had to cut a rounded shape near the end of the flap, a much more difficult task than simply cutting a straight edge. (The left edge has a corner with a short radius, and this rounding of a new edge didn't exist.) So, to obviate the need to cut a smooth curve, a much easier solution is to join the original edge as noted above, but of course, this leaves the telltale sharp point at the joint.

**2. Edge Curl:** The steel blade shaped like a cookie cutter that is pushed with great force through a stack of sheet paper to make envelope blanks is denoted as a knife. And, the word knife is also used to denote the resultant shape of the envelope flaps. A rotary knife cuts a single thickness of roll-fed paper (not a stack of sheets), but the British envelopes made by the company De La Rue were not produced on rotary machines. The action of a sheet knife always causes the areas of the paper that touch the knife's

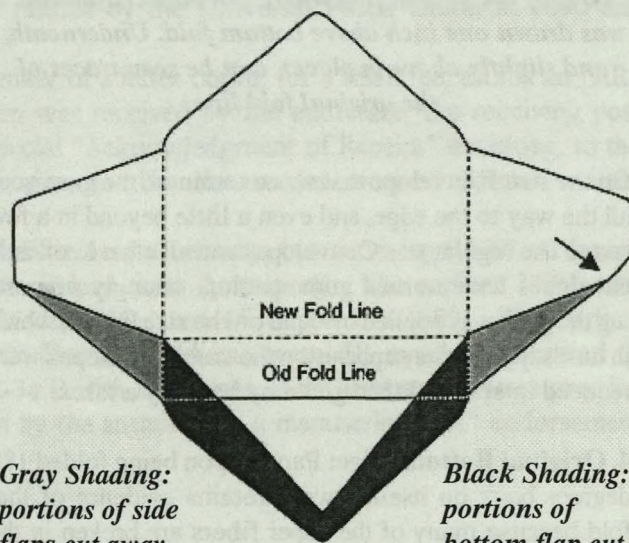
edge to curl down a little because the paper sheets underneath the sheet being cut tend to compress from the pressure above them before the edge cuts through to the next sheet.

This curl is evident on Leewards stationery envelopes, as well as on all paper edges of the size F envelope except on those edges that would have been cut down by hand



*Left: Knife of size C envelope.  
Right: Knife of size F envelope.*

*Arrows above and below: junction point on size F envelope where new cut abruptly joins original shape.*

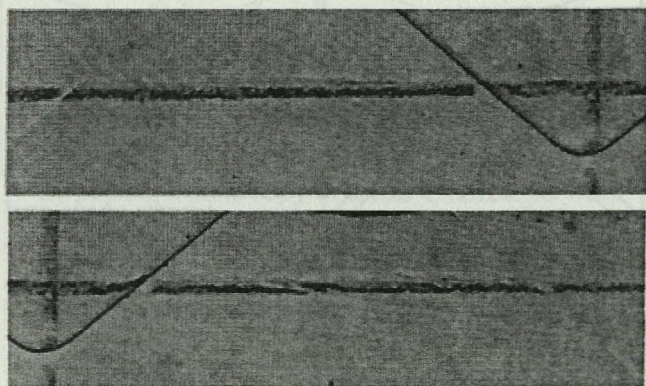


*Gray Shading: portions of side flaps cut away.*

*Black Shading: portions of bottom flap cut away.*

from a size C envelope. That is, a faker reducing a normal envelope would have used a scissor or razor to cut away the excess flap edges, but that action does not create any edge curl like a real envelope knife does. In this case, he probably didn't think of that fact, and in any case, it would have been extremely difficult to reproduce the effect even if he had.

**3. Glue Spacing:** On normal envelopes, the manufacturer sets his machines to apply gum to the bottom and side flaps a short distance from the edges. If glue were to be applied completely to the edges, then when the bottom and side flaps of the envelope are folded by the machine to form the envelope, there is a likelihood that some of the wet gum will be squeezed out from under the edge. Since the folded envelope is then placed in a stack with the glue still wet, any such errant glue will cause the envelope below it in the stack to stick to it, with all the imagined consequences. (On the top flap, the gum is applied fully to the edge since the flap is open while the gum is drying, and then folded down later when it is dry.)



*Size F envelope: enlargement of the left and right sides of the bottom flap where the blue crayon line was drawn one inch above bottom fold. Underneath, and slightly above in places, can be seen traces of the original fold line.*

On the size F envelope that was examined, the gum goes all the way to the edge, and even a little beyond in a few spots. The regular size C envelopes and all other Leewards envelopes have normal gum spacing, strongly suggesting the gum was applied by hand on the size F item, which in turn supports the supposition the size F envelopes were reduced in size and then glued by hand by a faker.

**4. Original Bottom Edge:** Paper, upon being folded 180 degrees back on itself, always retains evidence of that fold because many of the paper fibers are broken in the act of being folded so severely. The bottom flap of a size C envelope, if opened out, cut down in size and then re-folded into a smaller flap, would have retained some evidence of this fold line. The article by Michael Oliver states no such line was found. A quick check of the back of the example at Chicagopex also did not reveal any such line. If the size F envelope is a fake, how was that possible? If evidence of the old fold line did not exist, then we would be back to square one.

A calculation of where the fold line should be on the size

F envelope, if it were a cut down size C, put it exactly under the blue line drawn on back as part of the crossed vertical and horizontal blue lines so familiar with British registration envelopes. A 20x power magnification glass was passed slowly over the area. It revealed soiling in a few places above and below the blue line, characteristic of the bottom of envelopes that have graced the shoeboxes of dealers and collectors. More importantly, there were broken paper fibers all along the blue line. Confirmation was made by running a fingertip lightly across the line. The previous fold line could be felt quite distinctly there, but nowhere else on the envelope. A number of judges made this simple test, and all agreed the fold line was felt. This line is short since much of it was cut away when the bottom flap was reduced, and part of it is under the top flap. So, even the visible portion under the blue line is only about an inch either side of the top flap's tip.

All four size F envelopes that have been reported are registered. This had also seemed strange to me, but now the reason can be deduced. A faker would have needed to have a line drawn over the old fold line so as to disguise it. It is interesting that the horizontal blue line on the back of the envelope is only one inch above the bottom edge, whereas the horizontal line on the front is in the normal center position. Again, the only reason for this unsymmetrical arrangement is the need to hide the old fold line under something.

There can now be no doubt that the so-called "size F" King George V envelopes are bogus. They were probably made by Mr. T. Marshall, sent back to the Leewards under cover, and then posted in the mails in Barbuda back to himself by a friend. They would have been accepted at the post office, as reducing the size of the envelope did not invalidate the postal validity of the postal stationery envelope. And, assigning these size F items to the bogus category also brings into harmony all the De La Rue and Colonial records as to number of printings, etc. The only thing still not known is why the faker did it. It's my guess that he did it for his own amusement. ☒

**Start planning for  
2004 annual meeting  
at BALPEX in  
Baltimore!**



# Miscellaneous handstamps, cachets and other endorsements

By Dr. Ian Matheson  
Of South Africa

*Part II will be in the  
October 2004 issue*

This study describes the miscellaneous markings applied by the Post Office of British Honduras, either to denote a service (e.g. Express Mail), a problem (e.g. Unclaimed, Postage Due), or simply to project a message, as in the case of slogan handstamps. Registration datestamps are listed in the "Postmarks of GPO Belize" (to be published) and registration labels and handstruck registration marks are shown in the section already published in the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* (Vol. 43 [4], et sub). Airmail markings were described in BCPJ Vol. 39 (2) and the section on maritime markings has not yet been published.

This chapter illustrates:

1. Avis de Reception (AR)
2. Express Mail/ Special Delivery (SD)
3. Late Posting, i.e., Too Late, etc. (TL)
4. Missent marks (MI)
5. Postage Due (PD)
6. "Received in this Condition" (DA)
7. Slogan Handstamps (S)
8. "Taken Out" (TO)
9. Undelivered Mail
  - Return to Sender/ Unclaimed (RTS)
  - Dead Letter Office (DLO)

*The code in parentheses represents  
the type code used in this chapter.*

## 1. AVIS DE RECEPTION

The international Avis de Reception (AR) service was ratified by the Universal Postal Union in 1890 and introduced by member countries in March 1891.

The AR or "Return Receipt" service provided that the sender of a letter could, for a small fee, attach an "AR" card with the letter he was posting. When the mail item was received by the addressee, the receiving post office would stamp the card and return it, usually in a special "Acknowledgment of Receipt" envelope, to the sender. This service surpassed the registered mail service, in that the sender received formal written confirmation of delivery.

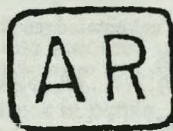
British Honduras has certainly participated in this service for over a century, but surviving "AR" cards and "Acknowledgment of Receipt" envelopes are very scarce indeed (see illustration). The earliest "AR" mail item recorded by the author emanating from British Honduras is dated 15 September 1893. The earliest recorded acknowledgment of receipt of a letter sent into British Honduras is an AR envelope returned to USA on 28 July 1893. Although the Types AR-1 to AR-3a British Honduras "AR" handstamps were proofed in London, almost all the Avis de Reception letters seen by the author bear a manuscript "AR" endorsement instead.

AR AR  
AR

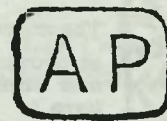
Type AR-1



Type AR-2



Type AR-3



Type AR-3a

A.R.

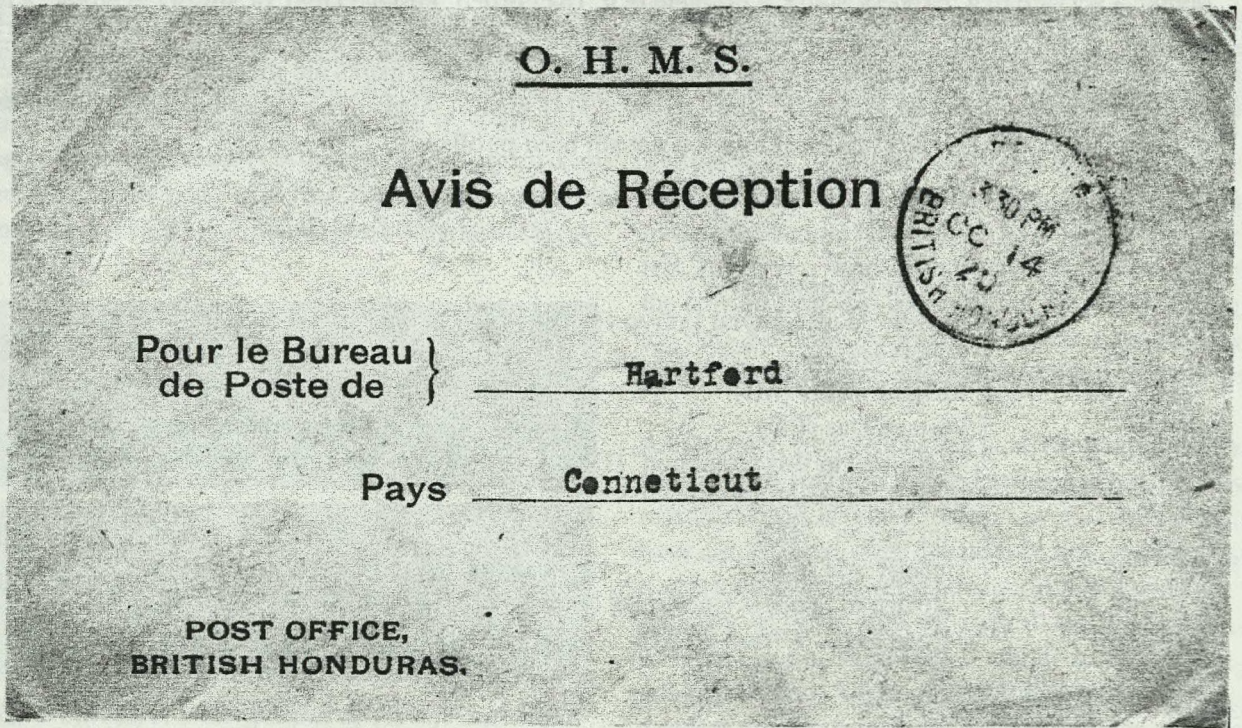
Type AR-4

### Type AR-1

Three brass handstamps were proofed in London and sent out on 25 November 1895.  
Diameter 7mm x 15-16mm. Not recorded used.

**Avis de Reception (Acknowledgment of Receipt) Stationery.**

**14 October 1920.** British Honduras AR envelope, used to send back an AR card for a postal item sent from Connecticut to Belize.



**28 October 1938.** British Honduras AR card from a letter posted to Chicago from Belize. Received in Chicago on 5 November. Card returned to Belize 14 November. Five cents adhesive denotes receipt of the 5c AR rate.

ADMINISTRATION DE HONDURAS BRITANNIQUE. POST OFFICE OF BRITISH HONDURAS

**AVIS DE RECEPTION. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF**

d'un objet recommande } No. 199W (1) } enregistre au bureau  
of a Registered Article } ..... } Registered at the Office

d'une lettre avec valeur declaree de } le } 28 } Octobre } 1938 }  
of a letter insured for } on the } ..... } ..... }  
de } Belyz } }  
of } ..... } }  
et adresee a } M. Montgomery Ward } at } Chicago.  
and addressed to } ..... }

Le soussigne declare { qu'un objet recommande } a l'adresse susmentionnee  
{ qu'une lettre avec valeur } declaree

The undersigned acknowledges that { a Registered Article } addressed  
{ an insured letter } as above  
et provenant de } ..... }  
and sent by (3) } ..... }  
livre le } ..... }  
delivered on the } ..... }  
Signature (4) } ..... }  
du destinataire: } ..... }  
of the addressee: } ..... }

Stamp of Deliver-Office: CHICAGO NOV 5 1938 5 PM

Stamp of the Postmaster of the delivering Office: 5 CENTS

du Chef du bureau distributeur: .....  
of the Postmaster of the delivering Office: .....

**Type AR-2** An oval handstamp was sent out from London on 23 May 1903. The oval dimensions were 20mm x 26½mm and the letters are each 10mm x 8mm. Not recorded used.

**Type AR-3** Two handstamps were sent to Belize from London on 12 July 1909. The proof book is endorsed "to town duty". One of the two (type AR-3a) was inscribed "AP" instead, possibly in error but this seems unlikely. The tax marks in the same consignment saw use in GPO Belize. Not recorded used.

**Type AR-4** One cover has been recorded to date with this handstamp, struck in purple (see illustration). The cover bears an additional red typed instruction "RETURN RECEIPT DEMANDED".

ERD = 27/3/42

LRD = ---

## 2. EXPRESS MAIL

In "Philatelic Terms Illustrated" James Mackay reports that Express labels have been in use in some countries since the 1890's to denote prepayment for an Express Mail service. This service was introduced in British Honduras from 15 May 1897 (to UK, for a 10c fee) and to other destinations on or before 1922.



Express Label

# EXPRESS

Express Handstamp

The only Express mail from British Honduras known to the author has been from the QE II period and had either a red handstamp or adhesive label to differentiate it from ordinary mail. In addition to the red handstamp, the stamps were sometimes postmarked in red too.

Covers have been reported with the Express label used in conjunction with a handstamp inscribed "AIR MAIL / SPECIAL DELIVERY". As most express mail of the period did not receive this handstamp and the postal rate was the same as normal Express mail, the significance is unclear. The types illustrated below show minor dimensional differences and it is probable that other similar handstamps were prepared around the same time.

**Type SD-1** 50mm x 14mm. Recorded used at Stann Creek P.O. on a cover rated 47c (10c surface rate + 12c airmail surcharge + 25c Express fee). Struck in purple.

ERD = ?/6/65

LRD = ---

**AIR MAIL**  
**Special Delivery**

**AIR MAIL**  
**Special Delivery**

**AIR MAIL**  
**Special Delivery**

Type SD-1

Type SD-2

Type SD-3

**Type SD-2** 47mm x 12mm. This handstamp is also recorded used at Stann Creek P.O. and differs from type SD-1 in the shape of the "R", "M" and "D" and the overall dimensions. Also used on a cover rated 47c as above. Struck in purple.

ERD = 9/10/65

LRD = ---

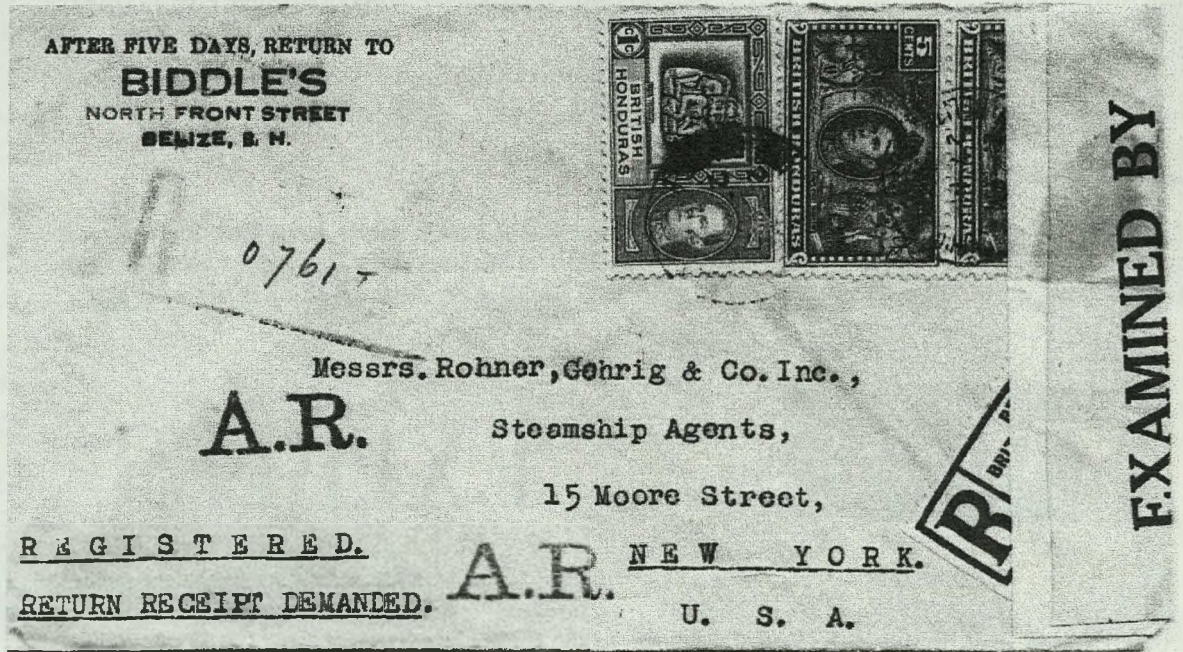
**Type SD-3** 51mm x 14mm This handstamp is recorded used on a cover from GPO Belize, rated 47c as above. Struck in light purple.

ERD = 27/2/67

LRD = ---

**Avis de Reception**

27 March 1942. Registered envelope from Belize to USA. Type 14 Belize registration label applied, but obscured by the censor strip, necessitating use of another registration mark (type 5 Belize handstamp) with the same registration number (0761T) to provide traceability. The cover was examined by three censors and was resealed with a Br. Honduras type CL2<sup>1</sup> censor label, then was further resealed by censors 3354 (San Antonio) and 1960 (Miami). The cover is endorsed "RETURN RECEIPT DEMANDED" and received the first recorded strikes of type AR4. Postal rate = 11c, comprising 6c postage + 5c registration. Evidently no AR fee was collected.



**Special Delivery**

9 October 1965. Air mail envelope from Stann Creek to USA bearing Express label and type SD-2 "AIR MAIL / Special Delivery" handstamp in black. Rated 47c = 10c surface rate + 12c airmail surcharge + 25c express fee. (i.e. no surcharge for the "Special Delivery")



1. Brian Rogers. Civilian Censorship of Mail in British Honduras During World War II. CCSG Bulletin 94(19), p75-106 (1992).

**3. LATE POSTING**

If a letter was posted after the closing date or time for the mails, it would be despatched at the next available opportunity - on the next mailboat or aeroplane (or in some countries, the next train). Such mail was handstruck with a "TOO LATE" cachet to explain the delay. This did not happen often as there was a wide awareness of the despatch time of the mails.

One alternative was to levy a surcharge on the letter to pay for a special service, whereby the mailbag was re-opened to take the letter, or the letter was expedited and caught up with the mailbag prior to despatch. This mail is generally endorsed "LATE FEE" or "LATE FEE COLLECTED". (In some instances the "TOO LATE" handstamp is known to have denoted payment of a late fee, but in British Honduras it seems always to have been struck to explain the delay.)

The earliest mention of a British Honduras late letter fee known to the author was a 10c fee introduced on January 1 1888, nearly eight years before type TL-1 was despatched from London.

Another alternative for the sender (in the case of missing the closure of the air mails) was to rush to the airport outside Belize and post the mail as "supplementary mail". There was no charge for this and letters sent in this manner can be identified by their postmark ("Radio Station", "Barracks", "P.A.A. Office" or "Airport"). If the sender decided not to chase the mailbag in this way, the letter would be struck with a standard "TOO LATE" handstamp.

**Type TL-1** 38mm x 6½mm "TOO-LATE" with hyphen. Three similar brass handstamps were despatched from London to Belize on 25 November 1895.

ERD = 14/2/08

LRD = ---

**Type TL-2** 36mm x 5mm "TOO LATE" without hyphen. Dispatched from London to Belize on 23 May 1903. Probably lost in the 1909 GPO fire. Not yet recorded used.

ERD = ---

LRD = ---

**TOO-LATE**

**TOO LATE**

**Type TL-1**

**Type TL-2**

**Type TL-3** 35mm x 6½mm "TOO LATE" without hyphen.

ERD = 21/11/13

LRD = 30/7/15

**Type TL-4** 56mm x 5½mm "LATE FEE COLLECTED" in a single line. All examples of type TL-4 known to the author are franked 5c to USA. The postage rate (excluding late fee) was 2c to 31/3/16 and 3c thereafter, the 1c increase being the war tax surcharge. The late fee was therefore 2c from 1/4/16 and 2c or 3c prior to that.

ERD = 15/12/15

LRD = 2/2/17

**TOO LATE**

**LATE FEE COLLECTED**

**TOO LATE**

**Type TL-3**

**Type TL-4**

**Type TL-5**

**Type TL-5** 27mm x 6-7mm (letters are not all of similar height). A 25mm x 6mm "TOO LATE" was recorded by Huber as having been introduced following the 1918 GPO fire. This is probably the mark he referred to, the rubber having become distorted with age. Struck in black.

ERD = 14/5/30

LRD = 9/7/37

**Type TL-6** 27mm x 5mm. Struck in violet or black.

ERD = 11/11/38

LRD = 17/10/44

**Type TL-7** 34mm x 5mm.

ERD = 1/7/45

LRD = 12/7/45

**TOO LATE**

**TOO LATE**

**TOO LATE**

**Type TL-6**

**Type TL-7**

**Type TL-8**

**Type TL-8** 27mm x 4m. Recorded used on a registered cover from Corozal to USA.

ERD = 6/4/65

LRD = ---


#### **4. MISSENT MARKS**

The "Missent to" marks are self-explanatory. It would appear that GPO Belize was the only office to use such marks during the period under review in this handbook. A postal stationery card has been seen addressed to Punta Gorda in 1893 with a manuscript "Missent" endorsement. However the card was not missent, but was rather forwarded to Cyprus as the addressee had moved on. Town marks (e.g. "Missent to Corozal", "Missent to Punta Gorda") have been seen used from the 1970's, but none has yet been recorded as early as 1973, the "British Honduras" period.

**Type MI-1** Manuscript endorsement "Missent to" used in conjunction with Type B-2 Belize datestamp.

ERD = 10 Aug 1861

LRD = ---

*Missent to* 

**Type MI-1**

**Type MI-2** 80mm x 5mm handstamp. Unseriffed letters. Struck in black. The ERD is an estimated date from an undated newswrapper sent from the Cape of Good Hope to Antwerp.

ERD = 1880's

LRD = 18/10/96

**Type MI-3** 55mm x 5½mm handstamp. Unseriffed letters. Proofed in London on 12 July 1909. There is a 1½mm space between "MISSENT" and "TO". Not recorded used.

**MISSENT TO BELIZE**

**MISSENT TO BELIZE**

**Type MI-2**

**Type MI-3**

**Type MI-4** It is presumed that type MI-3 was lost in the 1918 GPO fire. The replacement handstamp was in a similar type, but with a 2½mm space between "MISSENT" and "TO". The dimensions of this type are 54mm x 5½mm.

ERD = 26/1/36

LRD = ---

## MISSENT TO BELIZE

## MISSENT TO BELIZE, B. H.

### Type MI-4

### Type MI-5

**Type MI-5** 67mm x 5mm handstamp. Unseriffed letters. Struck in purple.

ERD = 13/5/46\*

LRD = 7/5/51\*

**Type MI-6** 76mm x 6mm handstamp. Unseriffed letters. Struck in violet.

ERD = 14/7/60\*

LRD = 14/12/64\*

## MISSENT TO BRITISH HONDURAS

### Type MI-6

**Type MI-7** 71mm x 5mm handstamp. Unseriffed letters. Struck in violet.

ERD = 12/6/68\*

LRD = 25/7/72\*

## MISSENT TO BRITISH HONDURAS

### Type MI-7

**Type MI-8** 85mm x 5mm handstamp. Unseriffed letters. Struck in violet.

ERD = 1/9/71\*

LRD = ---

## MISSENT TO BRITISH HONDURAS

### Type MI-8

\* Date of posting, not date of handling at GPO Belize.

### 5. POSTAGE DUE TAX MARKS

Underpaid mail from British Honduras was often endorsed in manuscript. These markings are excluded from the current study.

It is very probable that some of the postage due marks were applied at village post offices rather than in transit through GPO Belize. In most cases confirmation will depend on locating more examples.

All the tax marks are struck in black.

**Type PD-1** 12½mm x 13mm. This handstamp was probably lost in the 1909 GPO fire.

ERD = 10/5/88

LRD = 28/8/05

**Type PD-2** 11½mm x 12mm. Two similar marks were sent out from London on 12/7/09 following the destruction of the GPO in the fire of 30/5/09. Used at Belize, but also recorded on a 1910 card from All Pines, a 1914 cover from Punta Gorda and a 1916 cover from Northern River (Maskall Bank). There is no evidence that it was not simply struck in transit through GPO Belize.

ERD = 25/2/10

LRD = 25/4/18

**Type PD-3/3a** "T" in circle of 24mm diameter. This rubber handstamp was introduced in Belize following the GPO fire of 17/8/18. It appears that type 3 must have deteriorated rapidly, as an identical fresh handstamp (type 3a) is known used a little later than the poor type 3 strikes.

Type PD-3

ERD = 9/2/22

LRD = 24/3/22

Type PD-3a

ERD = 31/5/23

LRD = ---

**Type PD-1**

**Type PD-2**

**Type PD-3**

**Type PD-3a**

**Type PD-4** "T" in hexagon 12½mm high. Used in Belize.

ERD = 23/5/29

LRD = 30/5/29

**Type PD-5** 14mm x 14½mm. Used on cover from Corozal to USA.

ERD = 18/11/40

LRD = ---

**Type PD-6** Serifed "T" in 17mm square. Used on cover from Seine Bight to Honduras Republic.

ERD = 8/11/45

LRD = ---

**Type PD-7** 69mm x 4mm handstamp, comprising "RETURNED FOR ADDITIONAL POSTAGE" in sans serif capitals.

ERD = 17/1/49

LRD = ---

**Type PD-4**

**Type PD-5**

**Type PD-6**

**Type PD-8**

**Type PD-9**

RETURNED FOR ADDITIONAL POSTAGE

**Type PD-7**

**Type PD-8** Serifed "T" in twin circles of diameters 19mm and 17½mm. Used on cover from Roaring Creek to St. Lucia.

ERD = 12/2/52

LRD = ---



**Type PD-9** Small sans serif "T" in 25mm circle. Used on cover from Gales Point to South Africa.

ERD = 14/3/54

LRD = ---

**Type PD-10** Small sans serif "T" in twin circles of diameters 26mm and 27½mm.

ERD = 6/3/61

LRD = ---

**Type PD-11** A very similar instrument to Type 4. Found at Ladyville P.O. during a visit by Gale Raymond in 1969. Not recorded used at Ladyville.

**Type PD-12** Serifed "T". 12mm x 12mm. Used at GPO Belize.

ERD = 12/12/69

LRD = ---



Type PD-10



Type PD-11



Type PD-12

## 5. "RECEIVED IN THIS CONDITION"

These cachets are self-explanatory, indicating that the Post Office found the item damaged in the mail. Such items were resealed if necessary, and the cachet applied to the cover or package.

**Type DA-1** 61mm x 13mm handstamp. The only example is struck on the back of a cover to USA, which has been sealed with a small piece of selvage.

ERD = 24/3/22

LRD = ---

**Type DA-2** 49mm x 10mm handstamp. The earliest known example is struck on the reverse of a cover posted in Benque Viejo on 18 January 1938.

ERD = 19/1/38

LRD = 25/8/40

Received in this condition  
Belize P. O.

Type DA-1

Received in this condition  
Belize Post Office.

Type DA-2

Received in this condition  
Belize Post Office.

Type DA-3

Received in this Condition  
BELIZE CITY POST OFFICE

Type DA-4

**Type DA-3** 48mm x 13mm handstamp. Struck on a censored cover from Belize to New York.

ERD = 17/3/43

LRD = ---

*End of Part I*

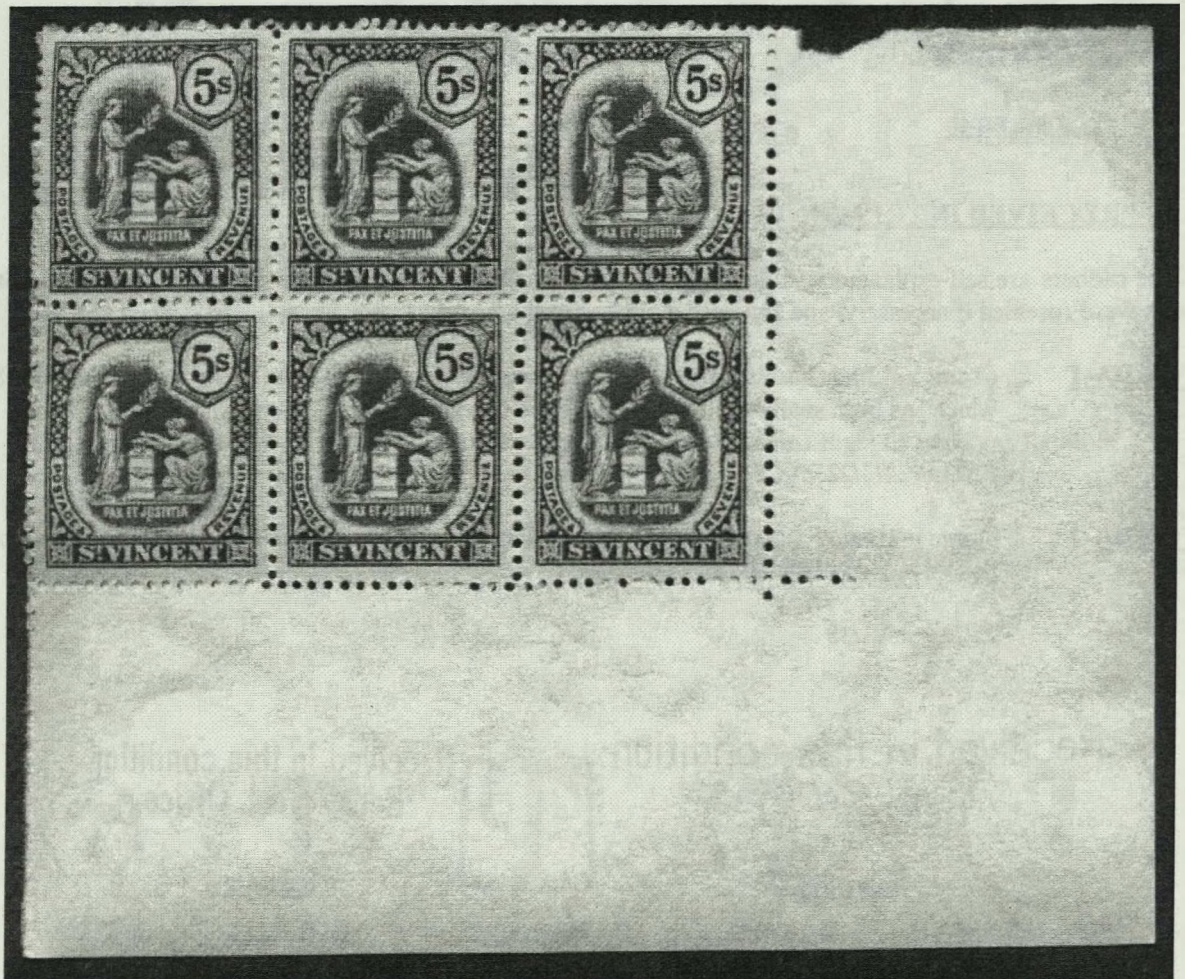
# “Hialeah Forgery” follow-up

By Peter C. Elias

*St. Vincent Study Group Leader*

In the April 2003 issue of the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, I had a write-up of the Hialeah 5 shilling forgery. At the time it was only “available” as an imperforate copy (as part of a whole sheet). In the meantime, the same eBay seller (“atdinvest”) is now offering this same forgery as a “perforated” item (see the illustration below). The perforations measure 14 all the way around (same as the original issue).

When asked whether the “perforated” varieties came from the same stock, the reply was: “Hi. These are from the same lot, I always wanted to keep the perforated for myself but decided to start listing now.” As mentioned before, the stamps shouldn’t really fool anyone (hopefully), but having them perforated makes them just a bit more dangerous.



# BVI Philatelic Museum and Library under way in Road Town, Tortola

During 2003, members of the British Virgin Islands Philatelic Society participated in stamp exhibitions in both hemispheres. In the USA, they brought home Vermeil Medals; at Temex 2003 Gold and Silver; and Vermeil at Bangkok 2003. However, the main focus of the year was the planning for a permanent stamp exhibit in the first ever Philatelic Museum in the English-speaking Caribbean.

In recent years and until December 2003, His Excellency the Governor of the British Virgin Islands resided at Beef Island while the construction of a new Government House (the official residence of the Queen's Representative) was under way in the immediate vicinity of the Old Government House, in Road Town, Tortola -- the capital island of this United Kingdom Overseas Territory.

Since January 2004, the almost 100 year-old building has become a museum, and a large room has been reserved to host a comprehensive British Virgin Islands collection on permanent loan from the British Virgin Islands Philatelic Society. The Virgin Islands Philatelic Museum will therefore become an integral part of the Old Government House Museum. In addition to the permanent exhibit consisting of British Virgin Islands stamps and postal history, one area has also been reserved for displaying collections on temporary loan and it is planned to have at least two or three different collections exhibited in succession every year in order to attract greater attention from both tourists and people who live or reside in the islands. The guest exhibits will focus on themes or collecting areas that will generate great interest.

Dr. Giorgio Migliavacca, president of the BVI Philatelic Society, pointed out that the air-conditioned and newly designed Philatelic Museum will have an adjacent room entirely devoted to a philatelic library where visitors can consult various publications and catalogues. It is hoped that publishers, philatelic writers, postal historians and philatelic clubs and federations will send their publications for the Library at the Philatelic Museum of the Virgin Islands. Donations of over 200 books have already

been received, and the address for sending such publications to be added to the library is: Virgin Islands Philatelic Museum, P.O. Box 704, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands. (e-mail: [issun@candwbvi.net](mailto:issun@candwbvi.net))

New professional frames are being imported from the USA for the Philatelic Museum. The Virgin Islands Postal



*Maximum card showing Old Government House*

Administration is planning to issue two commemorative stamps to mark the launching of the museum at the Old Government House, with one stamp entirely devoted to the Virgin Islands Philatelic Museum. It is hoped that these stamps will be issued in conjunction with the inauguration of the museum, which is slated for summer 2004.

Many Royal Visits took place at the Old Government House: Princess Alice Mary in 1960; the Queen Mother in 1964; Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip in 1966 and 1977; Princess Margaret in 1972; Princess Alexandra in 1988; and Prince Philip in 1993. Except for the 1960 and 1993 visits, all of the Royal Visits of the last 40 years are reflected in stamp issues of the British Virgin Islands.

Old Government House has been depicted on at least two stamps issued locally (1976 and 1996); and since it opened as a museum over a year ago thousands of tourists have already visited the historic building to view the exhibits consisting of memorabilia, autographs, historic maps and photographs, as well as archaeological items and paintings.

# Here's help for finding a free web site

By Peter C. Elias

*St. Vincent Study Group Leader*

Two years ago I wrote (in the Mid-Cities Stamp Club *Stamping Around* monthly newsletter) about how fairly easy it was for me to create my own "St. Vincent Stamps" web site. To summarize, I purchased the domain name "**www.stvincentstamps.com**" from a company called Register.com (at **www.register.com**). Once you own your domain name, you have to create (or have someone create for you) a web site (one or several pages) and find a hosting service to host (store) your website. Luckily, Register.com gives you a free email address with your domain name (I chose "**info@stvincentstamps.com**"), and it will host three free pages of your website on their servers. These three pages have to be designed using their own on-line webpage creation tools. You'll get a simple, but functional, web-site (unfortunately, they do have banner advertising on the top of each page).

So far, this has been working out okay. Of course, once you have a web site, you have to advertise it (you knew there'd be a clincher!). After all, if no one knows that you have a web site, how can they surf to it? Other than telling all your family, friends and fellow philatelists about your new wonderful site, you can also submit your web site name to various search engines (such as Yahoo!, Google, and others), or to various philatelic portals such as Joe Luft's website (at **http://my.execpc.com/~joeluft/resource.html**) or **www.stamp2.com**. This way, if people are doing searches on-line, they can find your web site!

Recently I stumbled across a free website hosting service at **www.freewebs.com**. This is a service that promises to host your web site free of charge AND without annoying "banner ads" or "pop-up ads." They offer up to 100 MB of disk space, a guest-book, counters and other features.

Signing up was simple and straightforward. You do need to have your own email address though, as they will not provide one. This should not be a problem, as there are many places where you can get a free on-line email address if you need one. Hotmail (from Microsoft) is popular (although spam-riddled); other free email services can be found at **www.yahoo.com**, **www.netscape.net**, and at **www.juno.com**, just to name a few, or just use the email address that your ISP provides you with (such as from AOL, Compuserve, Earthlink, etc.). Once you have signed up with **www.freewebs.com**, you can create a web site using their free on-line design tools (you get to have

up to seven pages). Their web site design software includes quite a few different styles and you have the ability to store images (up to a certain size) and include payment boxes for PayPal (in case you're selling something). You can get to the site at **www.freewebs.com/stvincentstamps** <**http://www.freewebs.com/stvincentstamps**>. (Note: At the bottom of the main page is a link for you to create your own free web site).

As with anything that is "free," you are probably asking yourself "what is the catch?" Well, I haven't found one yet. Obviously, businesses have to make money in order to survive (unless you are a philanthropist). Obviously, you only get so much for free, if you want more (and I'm presuming that **www.freewebs.com** is hoping for this); you are willing to pay for extra or "premium" services, such as more than seven webpages, more on-line disk space, more bandwidth, domain name registrations, etc.

On the other hand, seven pages is quite a bit for a basic hobby website (remember that a "page" can be fairly long), although in my case I could use quite a bit more pages, as well as several hundred megabytes of disk space if I wanted to showcase all of my various St. Vincent reference images. It took me about one hour to get this new web site up and running. As a hint, if you are displaying scans, don't make them too large in resolution for the simple reason that the screen resolution is generally 72 dpi, so even a 300 dpi scan may be too large. An image at 150 dpi is probably just about right. You don't have to worry about "uploading" any changes to the page layouts; they are instantaneous when you press the "DONE" or "SAVE" buttons! When designing your pages, it helps to have a fast (broadband) Internet connection; while a dial-up Internet connection will work, I would highly recommend either a cable-modem or DSL connection.

A service such as this is fine, but it could of course shut down without much notice or decide not to host your pages (for whatever reasons -- remember, you get what you pay for), so I would highly recommended that you download a copy of your entire site to your hard drive, that way you could easily rebuild the site, information, and images somewhere else without have to re-enter everything.

In summary, if you want to showcase some of your collection and philatelic knowledge on-line for a very reasonable cost (*i.e.*, free), then give this a try! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at **info@stvincentstamps.com**. Happy Surfin!

# Some new Caribbean Departure Tax Stamps

By way of Steven Zirinsky of New York City

**OFFICIAL PASSENGER DEPARTURE RECEIPT**

AIRPORTS ADMINISTRATION CENTRE  
 PIARCO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
 CARONI, NORTH BANK ROAD, PIARCO  
 PHONE: 1-868-669-3047; FAX: 1-868-669-2319  
 CROWN POINT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, TOBAGO  
 PHONE: 1-868-669-3577; FAX: 1-868-639-6146

**Airports Authority**

**\$100**

4223047

TOTAL AMOUNT RECEIVED: \$100.TT

DETAILS:  
 DEPARTURE TAX: \$75.TT  
 AIRPORT SECURITY FEE: \$25.TT

NOT REFUNDABLE  
 PASSENGER

No 6257

AIRPORT SERVICE CHARGE  
 SAINT VINCENT  
 AIRPORT SERVICE CHARGE

\$40.00

(Eastern Caribbean Currency)

PASSENGER TICKET

**NEVIS AIR & SEA PORTS AUTHORITY**

DEPARTURE TAX

US\$17.00 EC\$25.00

(Holder of any Passport)  
 Passenger's Receipt

09 PAID

\* 12 years and over

Islands represented, clockwise from upper left, Trinidad & Tobago, St. Vincent, Nevis, St. Kitts and Nevis, Nevis.

ST. KITTS AND NEVIS

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (SWMC)

NEVIS AIR AND SEA PORTS AUTHORITY

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

US\$1.00 EC\$1.00

Passenger's Receipt

120617

**Nevis Air And Sea Ports Authority**

Facility / Security Fee

\$5.00 EC or \$2.00US

Newcastle Airport

B PAID 5243

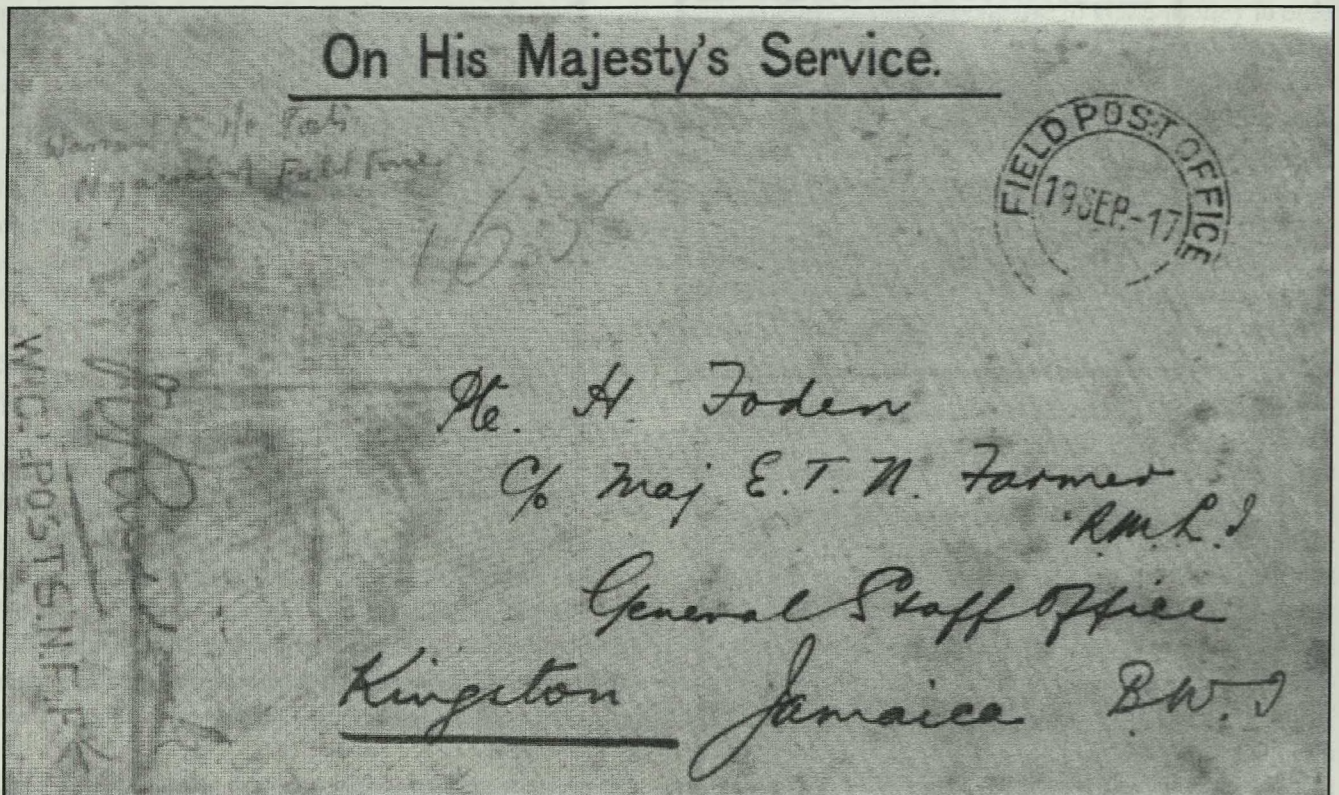
# Help provided on Jamaica Forces cover

By Bob Swarbrick  
Of the United Kingdom

In Vol. 43, No. 4, page 21 (October 2003) of the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, fellow member Regis Hoffman sought information on a most interesting cover. I believe I can provide some of the necessary information to assist him in his research into its history and background.

pean Theater, it enabled the superb facilities existing in Jamaica to be utilized to the fullest.

Major E.T.N. Farmer, of the Royal Marines Light Infantry, was placed in charge of the RM detachment, based in Kingston, with the somewhat grand title "General Staff Officer (Naval)." As no accommodation would exist in Kingston for "other ranks," it could be assumed that they would be billeted with civilian families, and probably Farmer acted as an unofficial "Poste Restante" for men



This cover is from a fairly large, and comparatively uninteresting correspondence which has been around for years, but this particular one is most interesting, given its connection with the Nyasaland Field Force in World War I. On the outbreak of hostilities, it was decided to withdraw the main British naval presence from Bermuda to Jamaica for various strategic reasons. The increased importance of blockade running by German merchant ships, and the threat of armed merchant cruisers which preyed on lone unescorted vessels was met by the British cruiser force "H," which had, in peacetime, been known as the North American & West Indies Squadron.

Greatly increased in size, albeit with many older ships which had passed their "sell by" date for use in the Euro-

under his command.

There was a small book published by Frank Cundall in Jamaica after the war which listed all the men who had served with the West Indian Regiments, giving the war service of all officers in great detail. Perhaps someone has a copy? If one could be found, it would be a great acquisition for the study group, and would provide many answers to these questions.

Sadly for fellow member Hoffman, Farmer had no connection with the West Indies Regiment, but a wonderful cover full of interest to me ... I am quite green with envy! ☹

# Two appeals for research assistance

**B**oth Darryl Fuller of Australia and Philip MacMurdie of the United Kingdom are seeking assistance from fellow members of the BCPSG. First, Mr. Fuller:

I am hoping that members of the study group can assist my research into Leeward Island postal stationery. We currently know what stationery was issued and how many of each was printed, as detailed in Michael Oliver's excellent book. What I need assistance with is the period of use – earliest and latest known usage, where posted and destination.

In addition to the above information, I believe that it would be an opportune time to take a census of Leeward Island postal stationery. Censuses are often taken of known rarities and postmarks to establish relative rarity. With stamp rarities this is often done using auction catalogues; however, this is not possible for Leeward Island postal stationery. I don't know whether this has been done before for an entire colony's postal stationery, but I believe that it is feasible for the Leeward Islands with only about 60 different types of stationery.

The main reason I would like this information is to establish survival rates for stationery. A good example of the number printed not being a good guide to relative rarity are the 1922 KGV size F registered envelope versus the 1938 KGVI 1/2d wrapper. The size F registered envelope had the lowest printing of any Leeward Island stationery item with only 307 printed and all sent to the Virgin Islands.

This last fact may have aided their survival because I have records of six used copies, a survival rate of about one in 50. The KGVI wrapper is a different story, having the highest printing of any KGVI stationery item. Yet I have only recorded two full copies used and a large part copy. That's a survival rate of about 1 in 10,000. The information I require is as follows:

H&G or Oliver Listing Number  
Mint/Specimen  
Usage  
Where Posted  
Date Posted  
Destination  
B1  
2 mint/1 specimen  
St Johns- Antigua  
15 DE 1893  
London

Montserrat  
1 JY 1899  
New York, USA

All of the information received will be treated as confidential and I will only use the information in aggregate. I will publish the results of my research when collated. Therefore, I would greatly appreciate it if anyone who has Leeward Island postal stationery would send me a listing as per the above example. I appreciate that for some members it will be a large task and I am happy to send them a pro forma to fill in, either by mail or email.

Your assistance would be greatly appreciated and any information or request for further details can be sent to me as follows:

**Darryl Fuller**  
**130 Bandjalong Crescent,**  
**ARANDA ACT 2614 Australia**  
E-mail: [djbsfuller@netspeed.com.au](mailto:djbsfuller@netspeed.com.au)

And now Mr. MacMurdie:

I am currently completing a research work with the aim of completing a book on the Bahamas 1938 series. The overall objective of this study is to identify the printings and shades of the King George VI definitive series and describe the evolution of the associated printing errors and flaws.

In order to achieve this, the following were targeted:

- To produce a complete requisition and despatch history across all values;
- To correlate differing shades of each value to specific printings;
- To identify any associated printing flaws upon each value;
- To chart the evolution of such flaws, noting the first occurrence, subsequent repair or degradation, and identify any progressive "states" of such flaws.

I therefore appeal to those members interested in assisting me with the completion of this study, as I am seeking to review any respective holdings, with the aim of answering some of the outstanding questions I have managed to note.

**Phil MacMurdie**  
**HBOS Plc Group Internal Audit**  
**33 Old Broad Street**  
**London EC2N 1HZ United Kingdom**

# Jamaican War Stamps

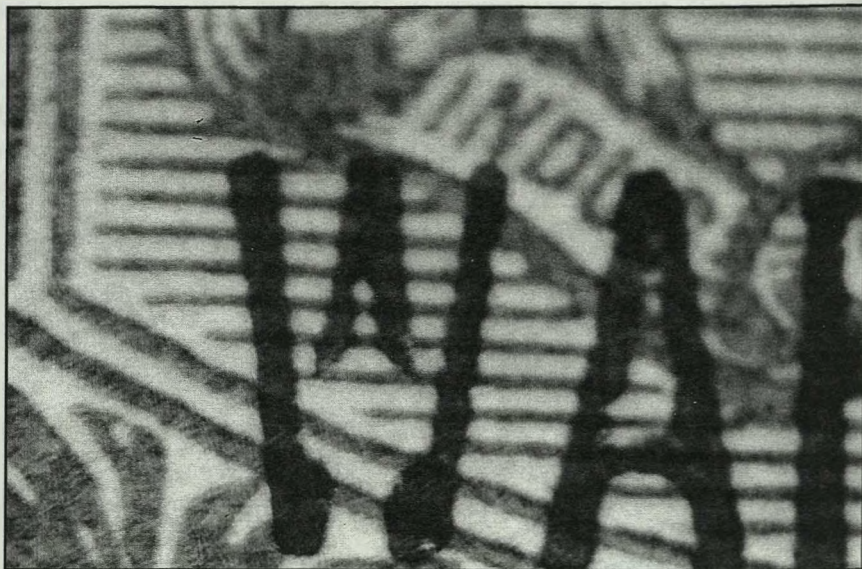
By Raymond H. Murphy  
Of the USA

The Jamaican war stamps (Scott #MR1-MR11; Gibbons #68-77) are catalogued with numerous varieties, with the exception of the Fourth Issue. This issue, Scott #10-11; SG #76-77, was overprinted in London by De La Rue. The stamps are notably different from their predecessors overprinted in Jamaica. The single line overprint is the phrase "WAR STAMP" without the trailing period, printed in several shades of red. Because of De La Rue's stringent quality control, and the use of better equipment, these issues are often dismissed by Jamaican collectors as "uninteresting -- no varieties," especially when compared with the multitudinous problems observed on their island-printed kin.

While going through a selection of war stamps, a few of them looked "odd" and were set aside for closer examination. Two different types of oddities were noted. First, primarily on the 1/2d stamps, it was apparent that there were un-inked portions of some letters, primarily the "W" and "M." The voids were generally circular in shape and vary by location. Since only a few have been seen, it is not known if these are variable or fixed, or if they can be linked to certain plate positions. To date, these holes have been seen only when the ink is carmine colored on either the 1/2d or 3d stamps. The cause of these voids is also unknown since there is no ink residue in the center, which would indicate the presence of foreign matter. Figure 1 shows a typical void on the center of the "W."

A second oddity has been noted on the 3d stamps. This is the bridging of ink between parts of the letters, again the "W" and "M." Again, this has only been noted on carmine colored overprints. Closer examination shows both complete and partial bridges, as can be seen in Figure 2.

Your assistance is requested in determining if these are true errors or oddities. If you have Jamaican War Stamps in your collection, please look for circular ink voids or bridging on the Fourth Issue overprints. If you find any, please contact the author with the location of the error on



*Figure 1: Void in mid-center of "W" on 1/2d stamp, completely severing both interior segments of the "W." Note rough circular shape. This is approximately 30x magnification. Photo by author.*

the letter, the ink color, and, if known, the plate position.

Raymond Murphy  
1933 76th Avenue North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33702-4837



*Figure 2: Bridging on "W" of 3d issue is shown here. Note the complete bridges on the right section of the letter at the top and middle, and the partial bridge at the left top of the central part. Shown at approximately 30x magnification. Photo by author.*



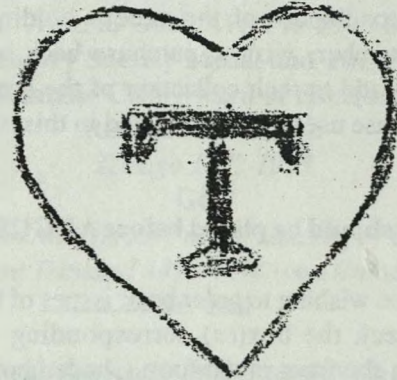
# Is this a St. Lucia or other West Indies tax marking?

By Alister Kinnon  
Of the United Kingdom

I have recently acquired a cover posted from St. Lucia to Barbados on January 14, 1892, and posted using a provisional halfpenny on half of sixpence stamp. There is nothing unusual in that, or in that it attracted attention by being underpaid. However, the tax mark is one which I have not seen reported as being used in St. Lucia.

It is an 11 or 12mm "T" with serifs, enclosed in a heart shaped border measuring approximately 24mm from top to bottom, an enhanced copy of which is shown with this article. Is such a mark known to have been used in St. Lucia or in any other West Indies territory?

Please contact me with any information: Alister Kinnon,  
14 The Bury, Pavenham, Bedford MK43 7PX, United Kingdom.

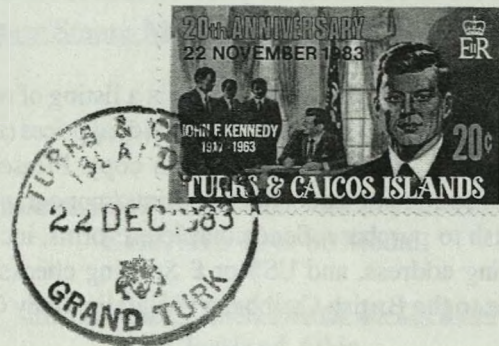


## Have you noticed this oddity on Turks & Caicos cachet?

TURKS & CAICOS  
20th Anniversary  
John F. Kennedy



OFFICAL  
FIRST DAY COVER



*It's a rather common and otherwise perhaps unimportant cover from the Turks & Caicos Islands.*

*Issued on December 22, 1983, it recognized the 20th anniversary of the assassination of*

*U.S. President John F. Kennedy. The CDS is the appropriate Grand Turk marking.*

*Yes, nothing remarkable about the cover ... until you notice the spelling of "Official" -- here "Offical."*

*It's one that got by the proofreaders, so when you see a typo in these pages, remember .... everyone*

*makes a mistake now and then!*

# Back issues of *Journal* now available

After a review of the group's holdings of back issues of the *Journal* and various monographs, it has been decided that we hold more copies than ever will be sold to the members in the normal course of events. We are now planning to dispose of the excess holdings. Should BCPSG members wish to purchase back issues of the *Journal* or add to their collection of the group's monographs, please use the form inserted in this issue to place orders.

**Orders should be placed before AUGUST 31, 2004.**

For those wishing to order back issues of the *Journal*, please check the box(es) corresponding to relevant issue(s) on the front of the form (shaded boxes indicate that an issue was not published or that the Publications Officer has no copies available for sale). For sales to North America, the cost of a single *Journal* is US \$3.00 including shipping. Members wishing to order more than one issue (or multiple copies of the same issue) pay US \$2.50 (including shipping) for each additional journal. For sales outside North America, the price of each *Journal* is US \$2.00 plus actual shipping costs.

On the reverse of the form, there is a listing of reprints and monographs available, with individual prices (including shipping and handling) for each copy. Please circle the publication number of those reprints/monographs that you wish to purchase. Send completed forms, including a mailing address, and US\$ or £ Sterling checks made payable to the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group, to :

David A. Wilson,  
BCPSG Publications,  
P.O. Box 1135, Great Falls, VA 22066 USA.

Questions may be directed to this address by mail or by electronic mail to wilsondajx@aol.com.

If for any reason you misplace the insert, contact the editor for an additional copy.

## 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BWISC!



To celebrate the founding of the BWISC in 1954, we are planning to hold a event in London on the last weekend of October. This will consist of a Saturday meeting at the Royal Philatelic Society with 2 major displays and numerous smaller (but no less important) ones. On Sunday we will be meeting at Spinks' salerooms in Southampton Row (almost opposite the Bonnington Hotel) with dealers' tables, a members table and a Golden Jubilee Sale of 50 Rarities from the West Indies. Members of the BCPSG who happen to be in London that week attending PHILATEX are cordially invited to attend. Further details are available on the BWISC website at [www.bwisc.org](http://www.bwisc.org).

## We are in serious need of research articles!

There is very little in the way of articles  
(especially research articles)  
for the October issue of the *Journal*.

Now is the time for our learned  
members to be preparing something for the coming  
fall and winter issues.

Please "go to work" on the problem as soon as possible -- without input of lengthy articles, we won't have an October or January issue!

# BCPSG Exhibits and Awards

By Paul Larsen  
Awards Chairman

Following is a listing of recent British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group (BCPSG) member exhibit participants and awards:

## Mid-Cities Stamp Expo 2003, November 8-9, 2003

### Grapevine, Texas

Peter Elias

*4 Rings - History of the Audi*

**Silver, ATA First Place**

## Ameristamp Expo 2004, January 30 - February 1, 2004

### Norfolk, Virginia

Jerome Kasper

*Southern Rhodesia Military Air Letters* (one frame)

**Platinum, American Air Mail Society Award**

*Australia's Official Areogrammes* (one frame)

**Gold**

*Illustrated W.W. II British Military Air Letters*

**Gold**

## Sandical, February 6 - 7, San Diego, California

George Bowman

*Railroad Traveling Post Offices in Victoria*

**Gold, Postal History Society Medal,**

**American Philatelic Congress Award**

Jerome Kasper

*Illustrated W.W. II British Military Air Letters*

**Reserve Grand, Gold, Postal Stationery Society**

**Marcus White Award**

*The Aerogrammes of Iceland*

**Silver**

Reuben Ramkissoon

*Air Letter Sheets (Aerogrammes) of Trinidad &*

*Tobago 1942-2003*

**Vermeil**

*The Trinidad W.W. I Red Cross Label That Became a Halfpenny Postage Stamp* (one frame)

**Gold**

## Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition 04,

### February 6-8, 2004, Sarasota, Florida

Raymond Murphy

*Overprints of Jamaica Prior to 1930* (one frame)

**Silver**

## COLOPEX 2004, February 13-15, 2004

### Columbus, Ohio

Peter McCann

*Turks and Caicos Islands Postal History*

**Grand Award, Gold, APS Pre-1900 Medal,**

**Postal History Society Medal and The Columbus**

**Philatelic Club Award of Excellence**

Reuben Ramkissoon

*Tobago 1772-1913*

**Gold**

*The 400th Anniversary of the Landing of Columbus on Trinidad 1498-1898* (one frame)

**Vermeil**

## ARIPEX 04, February 20-22, 2004, Mesa, Arizona

Reuben Ramkissoon

*Tobago 1772-1913*

**Gold**

*The Trinidad W.W. I Red Cross Label That Became a Halfpenny Postage Stamp* (one frame)

**Platinum, Best Single Frame Award**

## Postage Stamp Mega Event 2004, March 4-7, 2004

### New York City

Jerome Kasper

*The Aerogrammes of Iceland*

**Gold**

*Illustrated W.W. II British Military Air Letters*

**Gold, APS 1940-80 Medal**

## March Party 2004, March 26-28, 2004

### Cleveland, Ohio

Millard Mack

*US 1869 Pictorial Issue*

**Gold**

Paul Larsen

*Barbados Seal Issues 1892-1935*

**Silver**

*Leeward Islands Judicial FEES Revenue Stamps* (one frame)

**Gold**

# President's Message

By Jack Harwood

Included with this issue is an insert concerning our upcoming meeting at BALPEX in Baltimore, Sep-tember 3-5, 2004. If you plan to attend, and I hope you will, please complete and mail the registration form as soon as possible. We have many members in that area of the country, so the meeting and other activities should be interesting and fun. This is a chance for you to meet Group officers and members who share your interests.

David Wilson has completed our publications inventory, and an insert listing available books and journals is enclosed. Do not delay if you wish to order from the list, as we plan to dispose of much of the excess inventory shortly.

My thanks to member Frederick Lutt for volunteering to undertake the position of Statutory Agent for the Group. The BCPSG is an Ohio corporation, but our corporate status lapsed a number of years ago. With the assistance of our corporate attorney, Tom Olson, we have reinstated our corporate name and status.



I look forward to seeing many of you at the meeting in Baltimore. If you'll be there, why not bring a friend or two and introduce them to the enjoyment of belonging to the Group. See you there!

## Golden Jubilee program for BWISC to be held Oct. 30-31

The 50th anniversary of the formation of the British West Indies Study Circle (BWISC) will be observed with celebrations planned for October 30-31, 2004. On Saturday, October 30, the society will meet at the Royal Philatelic Society's rooms at 41 Devonshire Place, W1, London, where major displays will be shown by Large Gold medal winner Joseph Hackmey RDP (Barbados) and Michael Medlicott. The latter will show his previously unseen Revenues of the Caribbean.

In addition to a number of informal displays covering British Caribbean territories, an additional one or two extra items will remain a surprise until the day of the event. In the evening, a special celebration dinner has been arranged in central London. On Sunday, October 31, the group will move to a venue which will allow trading and some well known BWI dealers will be setting up shop. The Spink Auction room in Southampton Row, opposite the Bonnington Hotel, will be the site. But this is not all -- Simon Goldblatt and Charles Freeland are currently finalizing the BWISC's prestigious anniversary auction, "The Golden Sale." The format will be an auction of 50 lots from across the territories. There will be a minimum value for all lots and one item being offered with a catalogue value of £12,000. Among the lots already promised for the sale, the following will give some idea of its character:

- British Guiana: A yellow cotton-reel on cover;
- British Honduras: 1899 25¢ missing N in REVENUE;
- Cayman Islands: KEVII 5/- used with dented frame (Glover flaw);
- Dominica: \_d in red on half 1d mint with double surcharge;
- Jamaica: 1\_d R inserted in WAR STAMP, mint strip of three, watermark inverted;
- Montserrat: \_d bisect on piece with inverted 'S';
- St. Lucia: 1891-2 surcharge on Garraway cover with inverted overprint;
- St. Vincent: 1880 1d on half 6d unsevered pair mint with double central perforation.

For hotel accommodations, contact the following: The Bonnington, Southampton Row, London WC1; email: sales@bonnington.com. The Grange, same address as The Bonnington, email: holborn@grangehotels.co.uk; and Bedford Hotel, Southampton Row, London WC1B 4HD. There is a web site at www.imperialhotels.co.uk. All of these hotels are close to Spink.

# Membership Director's Report — By Tom Girdali

## New Members

All new applicants listed in the last issue of the Journal have been accepted as members of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. Congratulations and welcome to the Group.

## New Applicants

Wallace A. Craig, P.O. Box 3391, Fullerton, CA 92834 USA, Philatelic Interests: Caribbean, Jamaica & others. Sponsored by Ben Ramissoon.

Bart A. Fletcher, 418 S. Fairview Dr., Luverne, MN 56156 USA, Philatelic Interests: Bahamas, Jamaica, General BWI. Sponsored by Thomas Girdali.

Paul Fletcher, 541 Distel Dr., Los Altos, CA 94022-1718 USA, Philatelic Interests: Postage Dues of Grenada, St. Lucia & Trinidad. Sponsored by Peter McCann.

Richard W.S. Hemmings, Apt. 668, Vale Do Lobo, 8135-034 Almancil, Algarve, Portugal, Philatelic Interests: Jamaica. Sponsored by Thomas Girdali.

John M. Perry, 30 Spring Hill Rd., Anandale, NJ 08801 USA. ( Re-joined)

Steve Sirianni, 719 2nd Ave., Seattle, WA 98104 USA, Philatelic Interests: Barbados, Br. Guiana & St. Vincent. Sponsored by Thomas Girdali.

Martin Taylor c/o De Montfort Stamp Co., P.O. Box 6, Thurnby, Leicester LE7 9ZU UK, Philatelic Interests: Stamps, Postal History, Revenues & Postal Stationery of the BWI. Sponsored by Thomas Girdali.

Ron Rhodes, 2122 Ilwaco Ave. NE, Renton, WA 98059 USA. Philatelic Interests: British Commonwealth. Sponsored by Thomas Girdali.

## Change of Address

Jerone R. Hart, P.O. Box 206789, New Haven, CT 06520-6789 USA

Bruce Walker, 2 Thomas Glover Place, Bridge Of Don, Aberdeen AB22 8JR Scotland

## New Email Address

Tim Jen

Michael Kluherz: kluherz@comcast.net

*If any member has information, such as a change of address, to be included in the Membership Director's Report, please contact me, either by mail (see inside front cover of the Journal) or by email, at [TEG43@aol.com](mailto:TEG43@aol.com) Thank you.*

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by

Steve Jarvis

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## AUCTION NEWS

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[www.pennymead.com](http://www.pennymead.com)

TODAY

My last sale on October 11 was a success with 87% of the lots selling.

In the near future I will be offering a further batch of Dan Walker's  
Grenada covers for direct sale on my website.

The next sale is scheduled for March and will include the balance of Mike  
Oliver's Leewards collection plus more Grenada and Virgin Is. covers.

As I am now in charge of the sale of BWISC publications, I will be updating  
my West Indies philatelic literature stock on the website and will hope  
to be inundated with orders.

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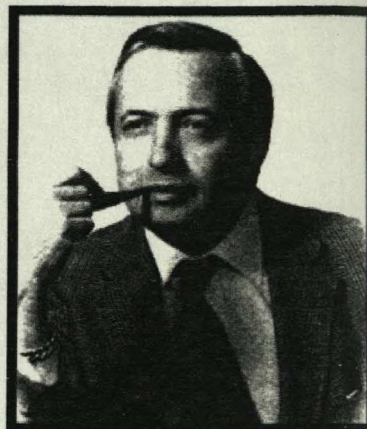


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