

BECHUANALAND				
No. of King George V Low Value Sheets (240 set) Requisitioned or Despatched				
Value	Requisitioned	Despatched (<i>including wastage</i>)		
	May/June 1914	04 Sep 1926	14 Dec 1927	26 Mar 1929
½d	1050		1575	2080
1d	525			
2d	55			
2 ½d	55			
3d	55			
4d	30			
6d	30			
1s		55		23

Source: P.O. Stores Dept (Post 52/1314)

Attempts to locate among other files, the missing requisitions made between 1914 and 1927 are continuing, though no one should hold their breath.

Maybe better luck will fall to any reader in South Africa prepared to trawl through their post office archives. It is conceivable a file may exist that contains the requests made either by the Resident Commissioner in Mafeking, or by the Postmaster General of South Africa, during the period of 1914 to 1932.

What we now know from this end of the trail is the last requests for supplies came via the Secretary of the High Commissioner based at South Africa House in London,

and were addressed to the Controller of the Post Office Stores Dept. at Somerset House. Apparently, there was no involvement of the Crown Agents.

The order, dated 25 September 1929, carried the number A9389 and requested the Overprinted Stamps be sent to the Controller of Stores (Stamps) G.P.O. Pretoria.

Those wishing to carry out more research should note the relevant file:-

POST 52/1314

Overprints - Bechuanaland Protectorate 1912-29

Official Free Markings Part 3 - Straight Line Markings (Installment 2)

by Dennis Firth

This is the first attempt to list all the known Official Free markings used in Bechuanaland Protectorate and Botswana, which, as far as I know, have not been recorded elsewhere.

The listing will be in three main parts:

- Bechuanaland Protectorate (Runner Post #63)
- Botswana markings which show the office of use and the words "Official Free" or similar on the same handstamp (Runner Post #64 -69)
- Official Free handstamps (usually straight line) which are used in association with departmental cachets. The cachets will not be recorded, but the known offices of use will be shown.

Part 3 - "Straight Line" Official Free markings used in association with Office Handstamps

Dates are in "dd-mon-yyyy" format. Handstamps are struck in black - unless otherwise indicated

This part is divided into four sections, the first two being in Runner Post #70. Each section is listed in order of ascending size.


- No surround (just the words OFFICIAL FREE)
- Line above and below OFFICIAL FREE
- Boxed OFFICIAL FREE
- Markings of an unknown size


Acknowledgment


I am indebted to the late Sir John Inglefield-Watson, John Schaerer, Gordon Smith and Bruce Warrender for sending me details of items they have in their collections.

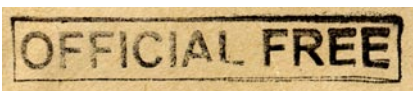
The number to the right of the description is my reference number. For a future update I would be looking for some assistance in using the postmark typology to describe the markings.





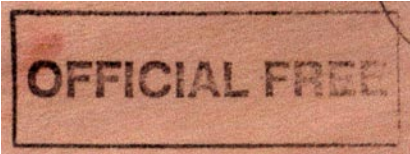
Section 3: Boxed Markings




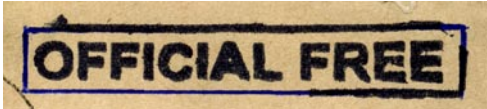
		42mm x 13mm	670
25-Jul-2000 to 19-Oct-2004	ARCHITECTURE AND BUILDING HEADQUARTERS GABORONE		
15-Nov-2004	DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL OFFICE P.O. BOX 93 BOBONONG		
13-Oct-2004 {STRUCK IN RED}	DISTRICT OFFICER P.O. BOX 59 MAHALAPYE		

		50mm x 8mm	674
08-Nov-2004 to 09-Nov-2004	DIRECTOR OF CROP PRODUCTION P.O. BOX 240 PALAPYE (rest is unclear)		
05-Nov-2004	DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL OFFICE P.O. BOX 51 HUKUNTSI		
07-Dec-2001	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE PRIVATE BAG 003 GABORONE		
27-May-2002 to 04-Oct-2004 {STRUCK IN RED}	SENIOR LIVESTOCK OFFICER ANIMAL HEALTH AND PRODUCTION P.O. BOX 223 LETLHAKENG		


		50mm x 8mm	676
07-May-2004 {STRUCK IN BLACK}	BOTSWANA CUSTOMS AND EXCISE MANAGER VAT DEFERRAL UNIT		
10-Sep-2004 and 08-Nov-2004 {STRUCK IN RED}	P/BAG 106 GABORONE		


		51mm x 8mm	677
11-Oct-2004 to 05-Nov-2004	ANIMAL HEALTH AND PRODUCTION TSABONG		
07-May-2002 to 11-Nov-2004 {STRUCK IN RED}	LETLHAKENG LAC P.O. BOX 223 LETLHAKENG		

		51mm x 9mm	679
06-Sep-2000 to 12-Aug-2002	ARCHITECTURE AND BUILDING HEADQUARTERS GABORONE		
19-Apr-2004 to 20-Sep-2004	BUILDING AND ENGINEERING SERVICES HEADQUARTERS GABORONE		
12-Oct-2004	MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PRIVATE BAG 0414 GABORONE REGISTRY		
		51mm x 10mm	681
16-Apr-1993	NATIONAL MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY GABORONE		
		51mm x 11mm	683
22-Mar-2002	TECHNICAL COLLEGE SELEBI PHIKWE		
		51mm x 13mm	685
08-Jan-2004 {STRUCK IN DARK GREEN}	DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIAL AFFAIRS INTEGRATED FIELD SERVICES P.O. BOX 1593 JWANENG		
09-Nov-2004	REGISTRY ANIMAL HEALTH AND PRODUCTION P/BAG 12 LOBATSE		
11-Oct-2004 to 12-Nov-2004	VETERINARY OFFICER ABATTOIR LOBATSE		
		51mm x 18mm	687
03-Nov-2004 (Sent from Tatitown)	TONATA DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL OFFICE P.O. BOX 83 TONATA		


		52mm x 8mm	689
07-May-2004 {STRUCK IN BLUE}	BOTSWANA CUSTOMS AND EXCISE MANAGER VAT OPERATIONS UNIT P/BAG 106 GABORONE		
12-Jul-2002 to 01-Sep-2003 {STRUCK IN RED}	BOTSWANA CUSTOMS AND EXCISE VALUE ADDED TAX ADMINISTRATION NO 1 HEADQUARTERS GABORONE		
03-Sep-2002 to 16-Jan-2003 {STRUCK IN RED AND BLACK}	BOTSWANA CUSTOMS AND EXCISE VALUE ADDED TAX REGISTRATION NO 1 HEADQUARTERS GABORONE		
31-Mar-2003 to 30-Oct-2003	BOTSWANA CUSTOMS AND EXCISE VAT CUSTOMER CARE UNIT P/BAG 106 GABORONE		
14-Oct-2003 {STRUCK IN RED}	BOTSWANA CUSTOMS AND EXCISE VAT OPERATIONS UNIT NO 1 HEADQUARTERS GABORONE		
14-Nov-2003	BOTSWANA CUSTOMS AND EXCISE VAT OPERATIONS UNIT NO 2 HEADQUARTERS GABORONE		
		54mm x 11mm	691
21-Jan-2002	RECORDS MANAGEMENT UNIT 41 INFANTRY BATTALION BOTSWANA DEFENCE FORCE SELEBI PHIKWE		
		58mm x 8mm	693
27-Jul-2001	VILLAGE GARRISON BOTSWANA DEFENCE FORCE (First part of handstamp is illegible)		
		58mm x 8mm	694
25-Oct-2004 to 11-Nov-2004	SENIOR VETERINARY OFFICER P.O. BOX 17 JWANENG		

		58mm x 13mm	696
27-Oct-2004 to 09-Nov-2004	PRINCIPAL FRANCISTOWN RURAL TRAINING CENTRE		






		58mm x 14mm	698
09-Nov-2004	DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HEALTH AND PRODUCTION P.O. BOX 12 (OR 13) FRANCISTOWN		
18-Oct-2004 to 03-Nov-2004	LIVESTOCK ADVISORY CENTRE P.O. BOX 40 RAKOPS		

		59mm x 9mm	700
03-May-2002	NATIONAL AIDS CO-ORDINATING AGENCY GABORONE		
21-Oct-2004 to 11-Nov-2004	REGISTRY ANIMAL HEALTH AND PRODUCTION P/BAG 12 LOBATSE		

		60mm x 13mm	702
25-Oct-2004 {STRUCK IN RED}	ANIMAL HEALTH AND PRODUCTION TSETSEBYE		

		51mm x 9mm	704
12-Aug-2002 {STRUCK IN PURPLE}	SUB-TRIBAL AUTHORITY THEBEPHATSHWA		
14-Oct-2004 to 11-Dec-2004	Similar mark also used on covers sent from PALAPYE and POTA without office cachet.		

Section 4: Markings of an unknown size

		unknown (from received scans)	708
07-Oct-2004 {STRUCK IN DARK GREEN}	PRINCIPAL VETERINARY OFFICE P.O. BOX 19 FRANCISTOWN REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA		
		unknown (from received scans)	709
06-Nov-2004 (Sent from Kang)	REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL OFFICE WESTERN		
		unknown (from received scans)	710
20-Oct-2004	DEPARTMENT OF AGRIC. RESEARCH P.O. BOX 10275 FRANCISTOWN		
		unknown (from received scans)	711
18-Oct-2004	SENIOR TECHNICAL OFFICER ANIMAL HEALTH AND PRODUCTION P/BAG 12 RAMATLABAMA BOARDER GATE LOBATSE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA		
		unknown (from received scans)	712
03-Nov-2004	THE SECRETARY AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES BOARD PRIVATE BAG 00424 GABORONE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT WILDLIFE AND TOURISM		

If any member has Botswana items in their collection which are not listed in this or in the early installments appearing in Runner Post #63 to #70, or are used outside any date range shown, or differ in place used or ink colour - please send me full details.

Photocopies of unlisted items would be appreciated which show the date and place of use and the colour of marking if other than black.

Images, scans and e-mails can be sent via the Editor.

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