

The Runner Post



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SUMMER ISSUE - JUNE 1991

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LIST OF OFFICERS

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Editor's Comments

Your Editor was lucky enough to have spent two months in Cape Town recently, which largely accounts for the lateness of this issue. However, this was not time entirely lost as your Editor had the opportunity to study a complete set of 'The South African Philatelist' courtesy of the Editor of that publication - Mr Jack Grutter. The SAP was first published in 1923 and through the years many articles relating to the Bechuanalands have appeared and I have often thought we may well be re-inventing the wheel by publishing queries and discoveries in the RP that may have been raised and/or recorded many years ago. I have made many photocopies and notes which should be of considerable use to the RP in particular and the BBS as a whole.

It is not often that one sees a strong collection of the Bechuanalands offered at auction - as I recall, the last being the Barkaway sale at Harpers in 1986 - but on June 12th, Christies Robson Lowe held a sale in London in which a superb collection of the Bechuanalands was broken up into 150 lots, affording collectors the rare opportunity of acquiring many elusive stamps and covers.

Prices were firm to high, helped in no small part by a delegation from Botswana which included our member David Finlay, who are understood to have been buying on behalf of the Botswana Postal Museum. Indeed, I understand it was all but impossible to outbid them for anything they had set their heart on! We look forward to the time when these purchases and those from the Holmes sale and other sources are put on display in Gaborone.

It would be interesting to hear if there is any chance that part or all of the Postal Museum collection of Bechuanalands could ever be shown abroad, perhaps at International exhibitions or at selected Botswana High Commissions or Embassies, thus affording collectors the chance to enjoy the collection who may not otherwise ever get the chance to see it.

This issue also has a distinct Stellaland flavour, we are very pleased to publish 'Stellaland Revisited', also by Dr Alan Drysdall, covering the military mail aspect of Stellaland. Several new covers franked with Stellaland stamps have come to light and in a 'philatelic first' we illustrate the balance of all known covers.

NEW MEMBERS (BOTSWANA)

Prof. Hans Erik DAHL of Norway, but currently stationed in Angola as Head of the SADCC Energy Programme and a regular visitor to Gaborone. (For those interested, the SADCC or Southern African Development Co-ordinating Conference comprises nine Southern African Nations, including Botswana).

Dr Peter THY, Head of the Dept. of Geology, University of Botswana.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Aubrey reminds everyone that £10.00 subscriptions for 1st July 91 to 30 June 92 are now due and he will be grateful to receive these promptly (and without prompting please!).

NOTICE OF AUTUMN MEETING

The Autumn Meeting will be held at the Union Jack Club, Sandell Street, Waterloo, on Saturday 5th October 1991 at 2.00pm. (Please Note: this is not the Saturday of STAMPEX week). We hope to see as many members present as possible!

NEW BOTSWANA DEFINITIVES PLANNED FOR 1992

Under the policy to replace definitive sets only once in five years, Botswana Postal Services have announced a new series of 'Animals' for issue in 1992. The theme will be lesser Mammals and it is almost certain that there will be 16 values from 1t to 5 Pula.

The artist will be Judith Greenwood-Penny, who is married to a farmer living in the Tuli block on the Limpopo River. Designs will feature, among other animals, the lesser Bushbaby, the Honey Badger, the Striped Mouse and the Pangolin.

LIST OF BOTSWANA POST OFFICE AND AGENCIES (AS AT 14TH JUNE 1991)

We include the above listing as a supplement to this issue of the Runner Post and we hope members will find both interesting and useful. Andy Andersson informs us that the Botswana Postal Services are currently reviewing the status of Postal Agencies with a possible view to taking them over. More of this at a later date (with a revised list).

BBS AUCTION (U.K.)

Tony Chilton advises that he has not received sufficient lots to justify running an auction at this stage. Only ±30 lots are to hand but about 100 are required to make a worthwhile auction. Please search through your treasure chests or plunder your collections and send suitable material to Tony as soon as possible.

PHILATELIC BIBLIOGRAPHY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

James Ryan of Calgary, Canada, writes: "I am quite certain that a comprehensive philatelic bibliography for Southern Africa does not exist and that it would be worth taking on with the help of many collectors representing most if not all of the societies interested in this region. Responses from members would be welcome:

James Ryan, 4419-17 Ave N.W., Calgary, AB, Canada, T3B 0N7

OR c/o: S.D. Henderson, 189 Wanstead Park Rd., Ilford, Essex, IG1 3TW, U.K.

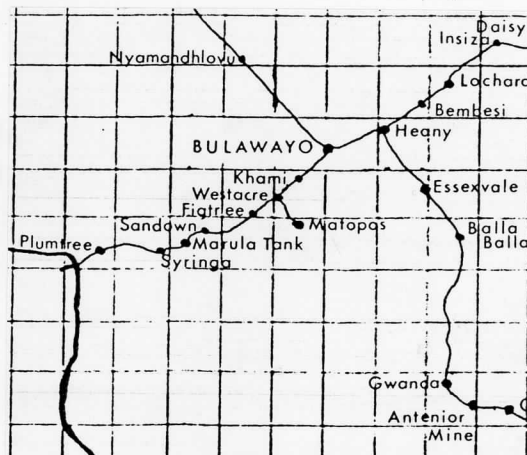
I have spent many hours thinking about the best way to approach this massive project. I would also like to hear your ideas if you have also given this some thought.

Jim Ryan"

MEMBERS' COMMENTS AND QUERIES

'TATI EXCISED' - Dr Karl Seligmann writes in response to the item in RP 22, p397:

"After studying the Tati excised item..., a look at a photocopy of a 1913 Bechuanaland Protectorate map clearly showed up Matopos as a station [Unfortunately Karl's map is not clear enough for reproduction. However, Map 3 in The Postmarks, Postal Routes and Principal Postage Rates of Southern Rhodesia by R.C. Knight and D.A. Mitchell serves the purpose admirably - Ed]. It was not on the main line, but a rail spur from Westacre Junction jutted out to the south-east with Matopos at the furthest end. Westacre junction was between Khami, the siding closest to Bulawayo on this map, and Figtree to the south-west on the rail line to the south.

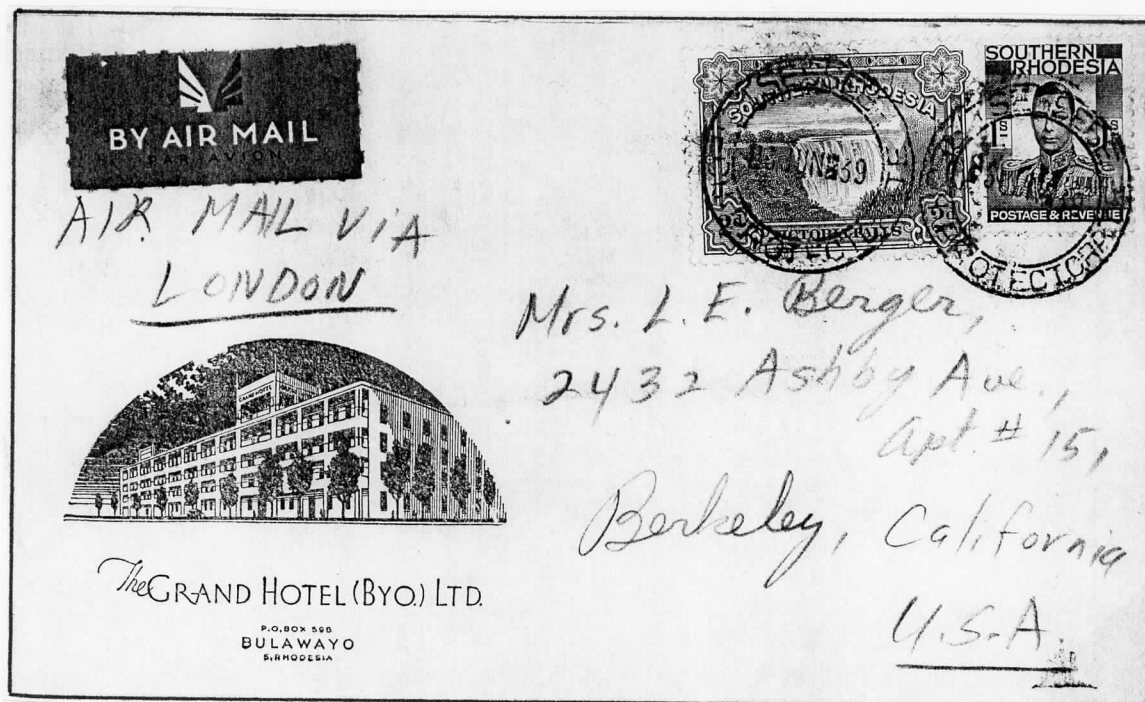


On December 24, 1897, the secretary to the Bechuanaland Railways Company gave the Imperial Secretary in Cape Town a list of sidings on the line with distances measured from Cape Town and Matoppos at 1323 miles, 37 miles from Bulawayo, and 14 miles south-west (sic) of Figtree! A note on the list indicated that it had been updated during 1898. Comparing the cancellation with the [card described by Otto Peetoom in RP 15, p261-2] there is no doubt that this was done by the same canceller. The LA of MATABELELAND is joined together, the second A and second E have similar defects in the two cancellations.

If the letter was handed to someone at Westacre junction, it could still have been cancelled at Francistown, but it does cause one to think."

SOUTHERN RHODESIAN STAMPS USED IN BECHUANALAND

Bill Wallace writes enclosing a photostat of a 1939 cover showing 2d and 1/- stamps of Southern Rhodesian cancelled by a double circle TSESSEBE/?? JUN 39/ BECH.PROTECTORATE datestamp. Bill is not sure if it is 'philatelic' but it is certainly unusual.

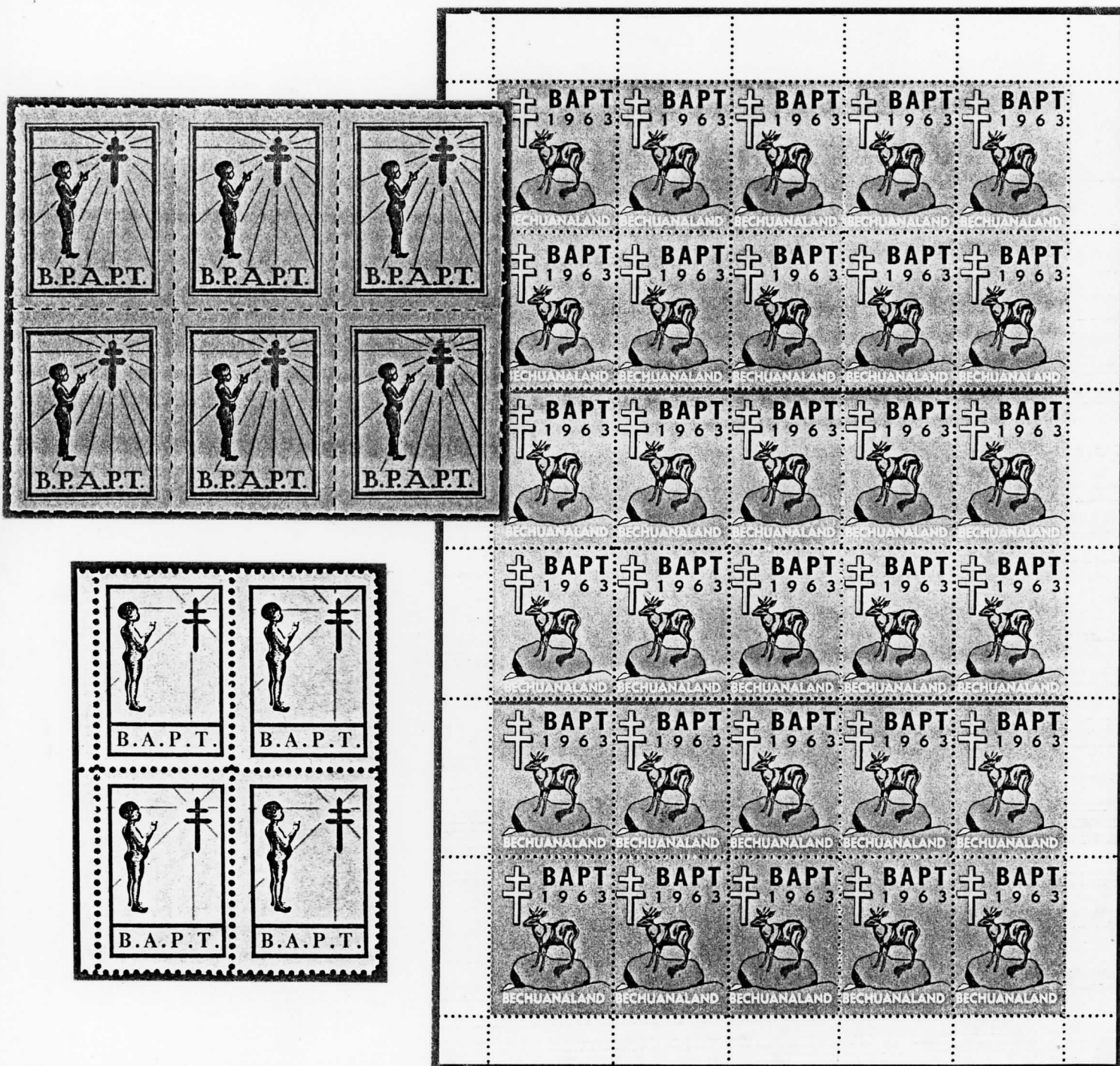


MEMBERS' COMMENTS AND QUERIES

B.P.A.P.T. / B.A.P.T. TUBERCULOSIS LABELS

These labels were mentioned previously in RP 15, p260 and RP 17, p298. Thanks to John Coates and Howard Cook we can now supply further information and record two new types. The significance of B.A.P.T. versus B.P.A.P.T. is not known.

1. The type illustrated in RP 17 ('B.P.A.P.T.') was printed on a blue background with all the printing in red except the child which is in black. The block of 6 illustrated is rouletted between labels. The sheet format is unknown.
2. A similar design but inscribed 'B.A.P.T.' in red (and cross) with yellow rays and the child in brown. A marginal block of 4 is shown.
3. A different design inscribed BAPT/1963 in black on a light green background. The T.B. Cross, buck and rock are in red while BECHUANALAND is left white. The sheet/pane? of 30 shown (reduced) is perf. 12½, through all margins.



ITEMS OF INTEREST

OPENING OF THE RAILWAY TO MAFEKING

Howard Cook has sent this illustration of an invitation to a banquet celebrating the opening of the Railway to Mafeking on October 3rd 1894 which is printed on thick card and is signed 'E.C. Baxter/Treasurer'.



MAIL BAG SEAL?

Ian Shapiro of Argyll Etkin Ltd has kindly supplied this illustration of a pair of the Protectorate 1/- (SG 46), cancelled with the Barred Oval Numeral Cancellor '677' of Kanye, and with what appears to be a 'Negative' or 'Mail Bag Seal' bearing the word BECHUANALAND at foot but no other (readable) wording. Holmes makes no mention of Bag Seals but presumably they existed for Bechuanaland as for other territories.

Possibly the postal official at Kanye(?) picked up and used the wrong canceller?



AFRICAN AUXILIARY PIONEER CORPS

After re-reading Philip Cattell's article on the AAPC (RP 15, p265), David Wessely sent an illustration of an interesting cover 'front' in his collection. David says that unfortunately the date is not legible other than (19)42 but the interest really lies in the addressee - 'Kgosi Tshekedi Khama'. Kgosi apparently is Setswana for Chief and Tshekedi Khama was the leader of the Bamangwato tribe. Seretse was his son and Botswana's first President.

[David's item is illustrated on the following page, along with three similar 'fronts' recently acquired by your Editor.]

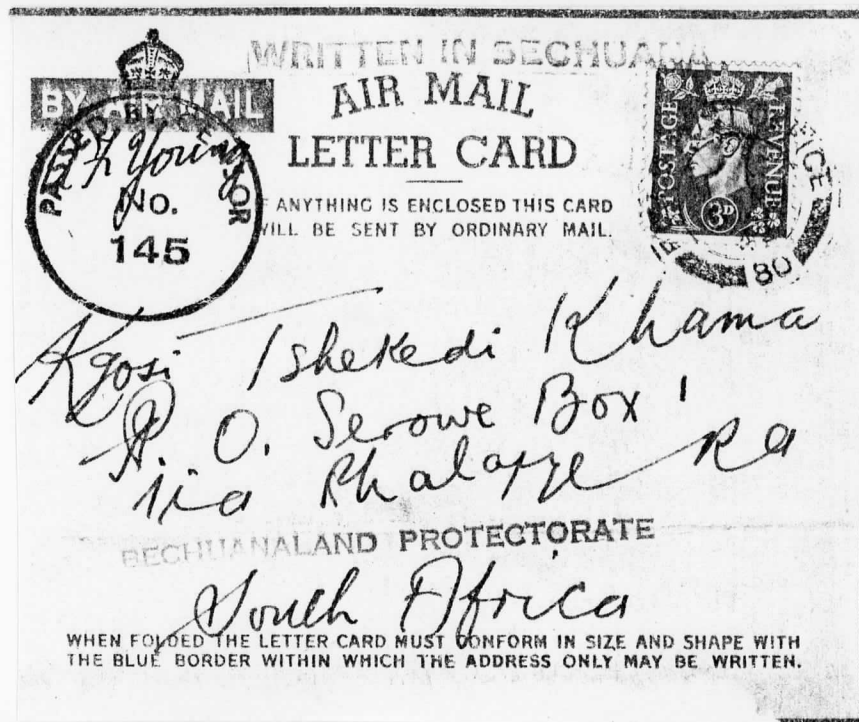
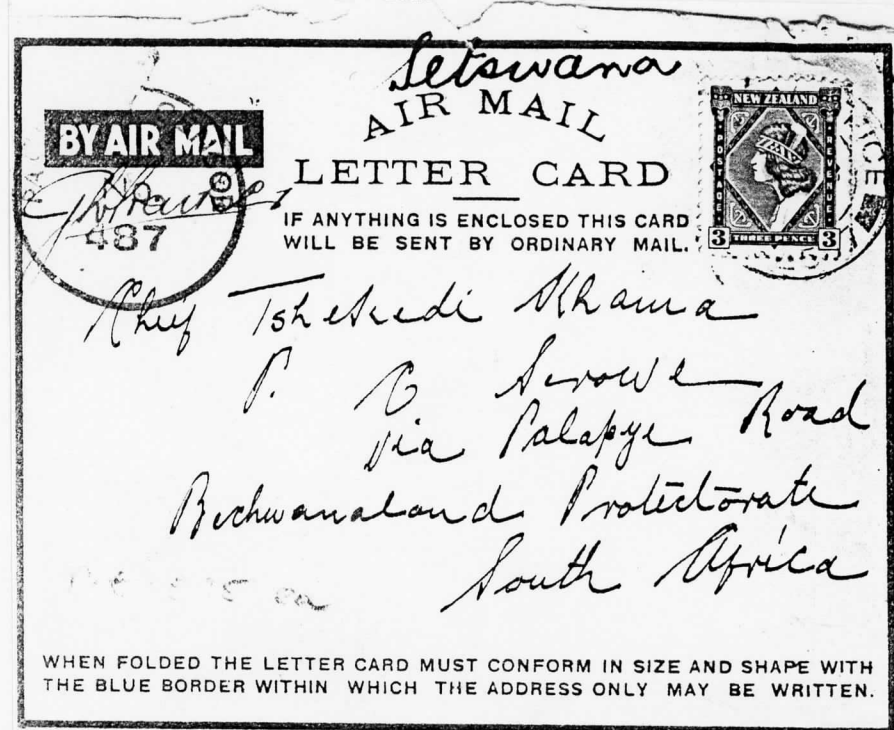


Illustration courtesy of David Wessely



STELLALAND REVISITED

Alan R. Drysdall

Introduction

Table 1 in the article describing a previous visit to Stellaland (*The Runner Post*, No. 22) contained no less than three errors. (The article was checked from beginning to end several times, but mistakes of this sort have an unfortunate inherent ability to survive.) I can only apologise and hope that prompt publication of this correction will prevent any misunderstandings or misquotations. The revised version of the table includes information concerning two additional covers reported since the original article was published.

The previous article was concerned primarily with civilian mail, and in particular the use of Stellaland stamps. However, a considerable amount of information regarding military mail also came to hand. Lt-Col. Sir John Inglefield-Watson drew my attention to references in the official records of the Bechuanaland Field Force, held by the Ministry of Defence Whitehall Library, to the postal service organised by the military, and with the assistance of the Librarian, Ms Judith Blacklaw, I have been able to track these down. (There are further extensive references to the telegraph service.) Moreover Kevin Ashworth was able to provide photocopies of a number of covers in his collection which were addressed by Col. Methuen, the Officer Commanding the 1st Mounted Rifles ('Methuen's Horse') to his wife. The information available concerning military covers is summarised in table 2.

It is known that a number of other covers sent by Col. Methuen exist, and also that there are incoming covers addressed to R.W. Anstruther of the Telegraph Section, R.E., and Capt. Lancaster, 4th Pioneers, other than those listed in Table 3. Your assistance in tracking these down would be very much appreciated.

Table 1 Known covers franked with Stellaland stamps

DATE OF POSTING	ADDRESSED TO	VIA	FRANKING		REFERENCE
			Stellaland	Transvaal / Cape*	
letter post					
5. 6.84	Cape Colony	Christiana	3d	6d + 4d (a)	1
30. 9.84	Pretoria	Christiana	4d	3d	2
2.12.84	Pretoria	Christiana	4d	3d	3
12. 3.85	Kimberley	Christiana	3d	2d (b)	4
19. 6.85	Cape Colony	Barkly West	2d	none	5
26. 6.85	Canada	Barkly West	3d	1s*	6
6.85	Sitlagoli		2d	none	7
7.85	Cape Colony	Barkly West	4d	2d*	8
9.85	Scotland	Barkly West	2d	6d*	9
10.85	Pretoria	Barkly West	2d (c)	2d*	10
10.85	Venterstad	Barkly West	2d (c)	2d*	11
book post					
2.12.84	Pretoria	Christiana	1d	1d	12
military mail					
12. 4.85	UK	Barkly West	1d	none	13

(a) 6d registration plus 4d postage
(b) underfranked and taxed

(c) the 'Twee' provisional

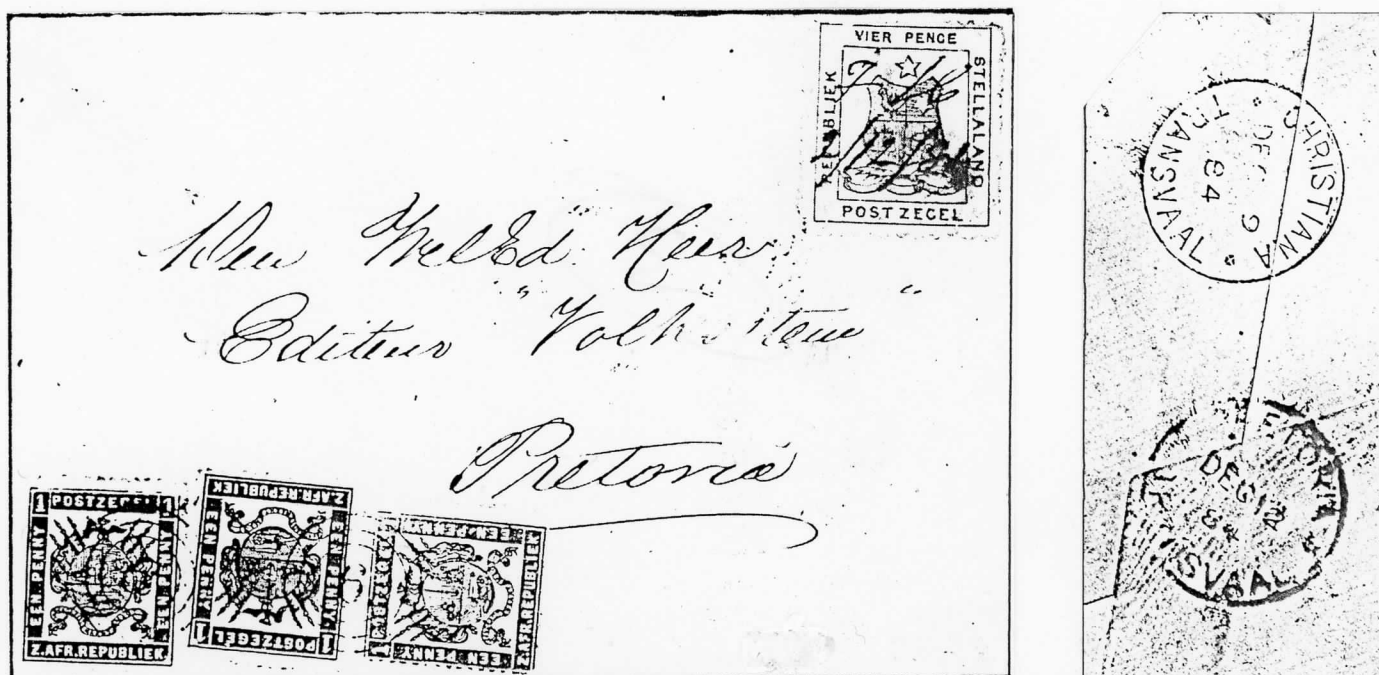


Figure 1 (Reference 3). 1884 Transvaal combination cover to Pretoria, franked with a Stellaland 4d stamp dated '2/12/84' in manuscript and three Transvaal 1d's cancelled '6' of Christiana. Backstamped CHRISTIANA (Dec 9) & PRETORIA (Dec 12).

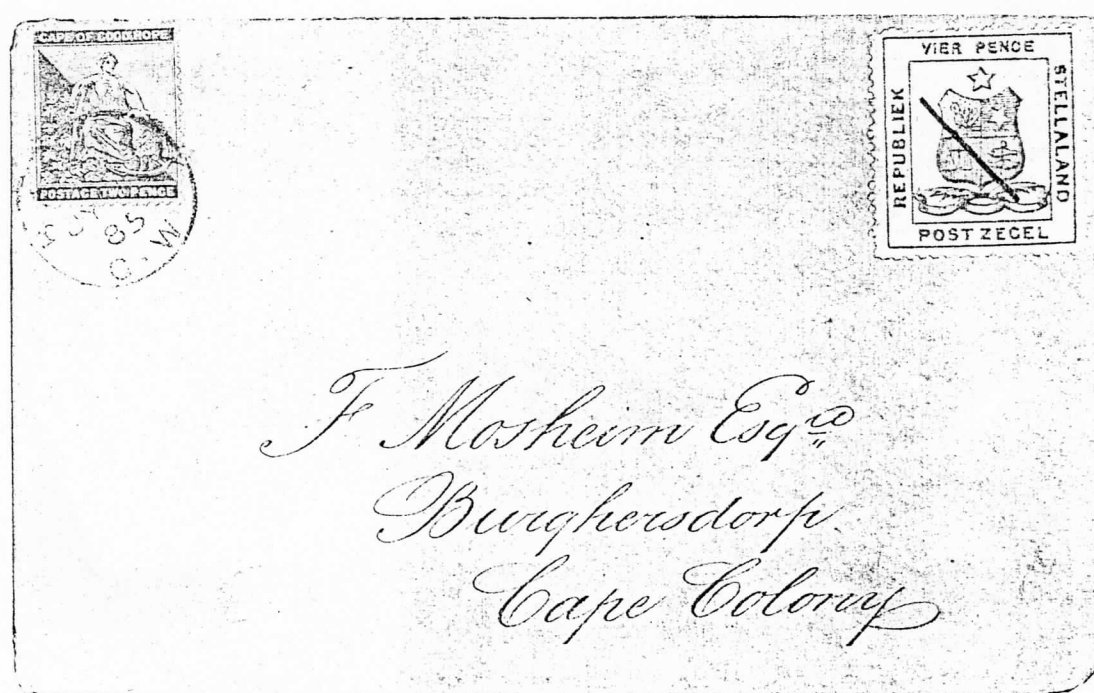


Figure 2 (Reference 8). 1885 Cape combination cover to Burghersdorp, Cape, franked with a Stellaland 4d stamp cancelled by a pen stroke. The Cape 2d stamp is cancelled by a BARKLY G.W. datestamp (JY 13/85). (Illustration courtesy of André Bezuidenhout)



Figure 3 (Reference 9). 1885 Cape combination cover to Scotland franked with a marginal pair of Stellaland 1d stamps (apparently uncanceled) and a Cape 6d cancelled BARKLY G.W. (SP 7/85). (Illustration courtesy of Dr G H Jonkers)

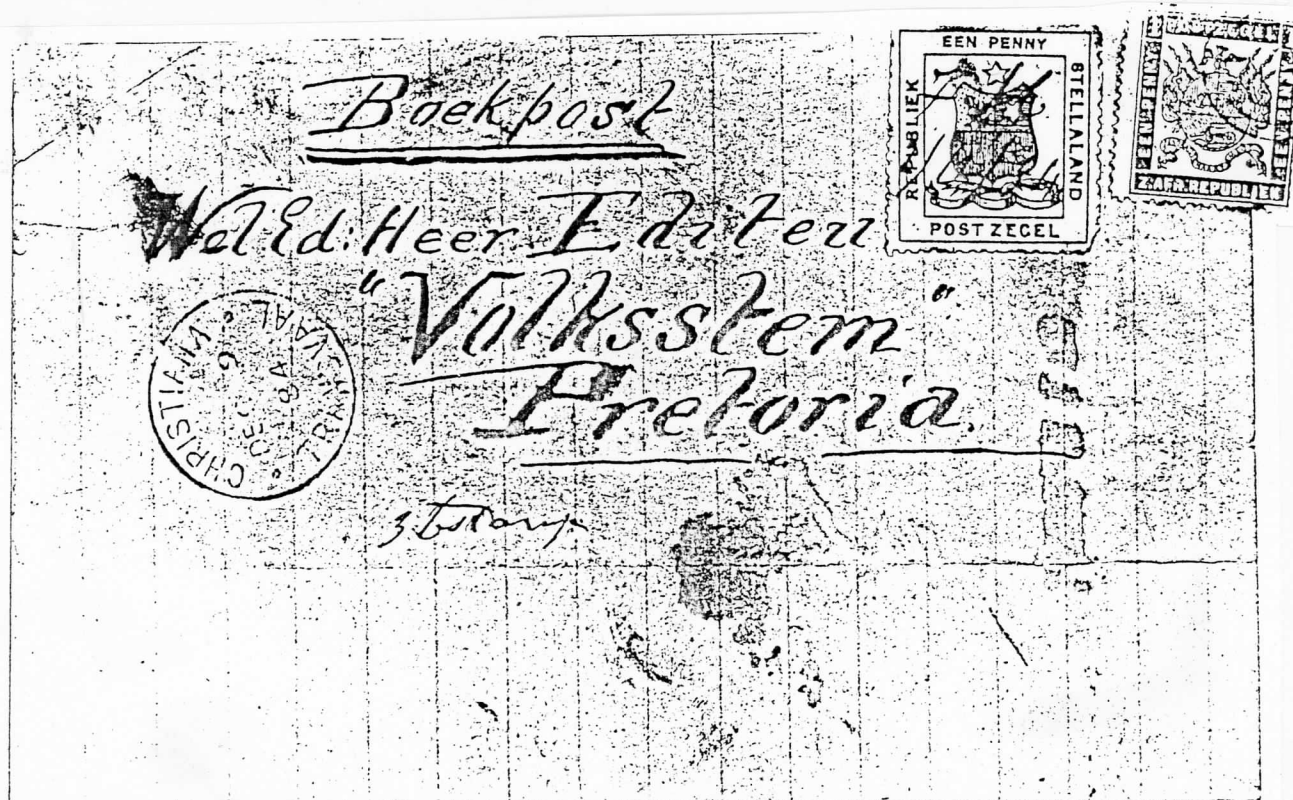
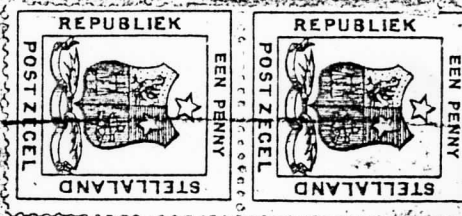


Figure 4 (Reference 12). 1884 Book Post/Transvaal combination wrapper addressed to Pretoria, franked with a Stellaland 1d stamp dated '2/12/84' in manuscript with a Transvaal 1d cancelled '6' of Christiana with a CHRISTIANA (DEC 9/84) transit datestamp on the front. Dec 9). This was despatched from Vryburg with the mail containing the cover shown as Figure 1 (Ref.3). (Illustration courtesy of Dr G H Jonkers)

Col. Cotton

Officer commanding Troops

Sitlagohli



This letter
came by the
despatch riders
this day at 3.15 p.m.
from Vrijburg,
and was delivered
to me -

Paul Methuen,
Col. Command
Sitlagohli

June 28. 1885.
Sitlagohli

Figure 5 (Reference 7)

1885 Cover addressed to 'Col. Cotton, Officer Commanding Troops, Sitlagohli' franked with a pair of Stellaland 1d stamps cancelled by a line drawn in coloured crayon,

The reverse of the cover bears the annotation 'This letter came by the despatch riders this day at 3.15p.m. from Vrijburg, and was delivered to me, Paul Methuen, Col. Comm(anding?), Setlagoli, June 28 1885, Setlagoli,

(Illustration by courtesy of Dr G H Jonkers)

Military mail

The arrangements made for the transport of military mail are detailed in various official reports relating to the Bechuanaland Field Force held in the Whitehall Library of the Ministry of Defence (14). The earliest reference is included in the Quartermaster-General's diary for the month of February 1885:

"Postal Arrangements for Line -- Barkley-Taungs.

"1. A troop of 3rd Mounted Rifles to be detailed to act as guides, post carriers, etc.

2. Captain Johnstone, 2nd Dragoons, Staff Officer of the Lines of Communication, to be posted at Alicedale.

The officers of the troop detailed to be posted as follows:-

Captain at Alicedale, Head-Quarters of Troop.

1 Subaltern at Banks Drift.

1 Subaltern at Mullers.

These Officers to act as Station Officers for these posts.

Creefdale and Wittefontein to be administered from Alicedale.

3. Eight post riders to be posted at each of the following places:-

Barkly Camp, Mullers, Wittefontein, Alicedale, Creefdale, Banks Drift, Taungs - 56 men and horses in all.

4. Two riders to start from Taungs and two from Barkly Camp respectively, at 3 a.m. daily.

Times of despatch riders from intermediate stations to be arranged by Staff Officer at Alicedale, so as to ensure up and down mails being promptly passed on.

At the rate of 6 miles an hour, and following a short time for change, the journey would occupy thirteen hours, so that the mails would arrive at each place at 4 p.m.

One large bag for Taungs and Barkly respectively, and small bags for the posts on the line.

The other men of the party to act as guides to parties of troops arriving and leaving each station - or as special riders.

5. A mail cart will start once a week from Barkly for Taungs, on the arrival of the British mail at the former place, returning at once from Taungs to Barkly with letters for England. Each journey will occupy about three days.

6. After the bulk of the troops has passed through, these post riders to be reduced to 6 men, then to 4, with 6 horses, which number should always be kept up for postal service.

By Order,

(Signed) C. W. MURRAY, Lt.-Col., D.A.Q.M.G., B.F.F.

Barkly Camp,

1st February, 1885"

Col. J. Duncan's *Report on the base and lines of communication* includes a description of the operation of the postal service following the occupation of Stellaland and Goshen:

"The mails have been conveyed from Cape Town to Barkly under the Colonial postal arrangements made by the Postmaster-General: the Commandant, general dépôt, Cape Town, rendering assistance in sorting the letters and papers, and co-operating generally with the postal authorities.

"The Field Postal Service has extended from Barkly to the front - the daily mails being conveyed by despatch riders, stationed at intervals of from 8 to 20 miles, and the weekly English mails in light mule carts, one cart

Figure 6 (Reference 13)

Soldier's concessionary rate cover franked with an uncancelled Stellaland 1d stamp posted by a Sgt. Cox serving with 'C' Troop of the 1st Mounted Rifles. It passed through Barkly West on 'AP 12/85' and was backstamped Cape Town (AP 15/85) & Derby (MY 7/85)

Illustration by courtesy of Argyll Etkin Ltd.)

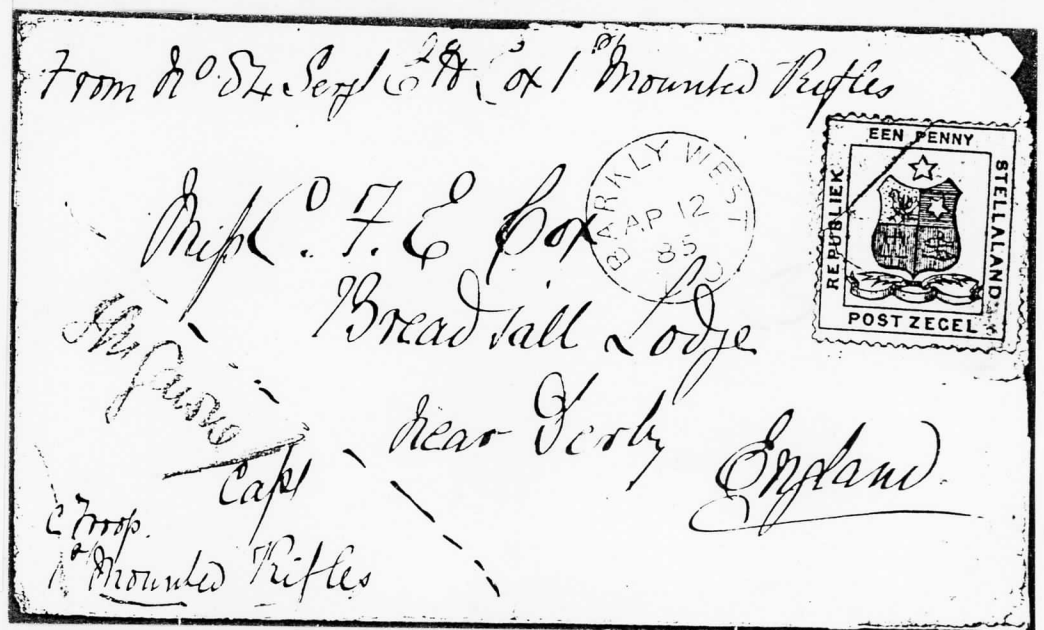


Figure 7

Soldier's concessionary rate cover franked with a 1d Cape stamp, posted by a Trooper C Yeates who was serving with 'H' Troop of the 1st Mounted Rifles.

The franking was cancelled at Barkly West on 'MY 18/85' and the cover backstamped in Cape Town on 'MY 20/85'. A second backstamp shows that the letter reached Leeds on '18JU/85'.

(Illustration by courtesy of Kevin Ashworth)

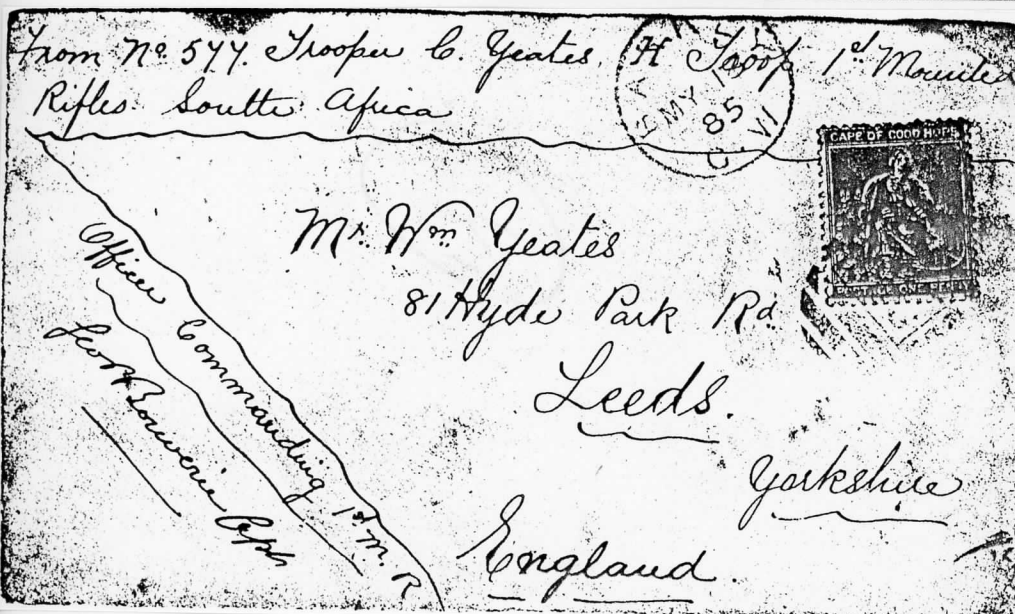


Fig.8, Cover which contained a letter written at Maritzani by Col. Methuen to his wife. The 6d franking was cancelled 'BARKLY WEST/MR 29/85' where the '2/3' may have been added. The 'T' was struck at Cape Town. It was found open & resealed by the Plymouth & Bristol Sorting Carriage on 'AP 22/85' & the '2/6' struck to indicate postage due, (Illustrated courtesy of Kevin Ashworth)

running between Barkly and Taungs, another between Taungs and Vryburg, and a third between Vryburg and the front.

"Barkly, Taungs, Vryburg and Mafeking have been the sorting stations, where the postal duties have been carried out by military postmasters, under the direction of Staff Officers of stations.

"These military postmasters have been selected from the N.C.O.s and men at the respective stations.

"Owing to the presence in the force of a corps, constituted as are the 1st Mounted Rifles, of which almost every man receives several letters and newspapers by each mail, the strain on the postal service has been very severe in proportion to the size of the force, and . . . there have been . . . a good many complaints; but inquiry has proved many of such complaints to be unreasonable and unjust."

The complaints referred to concerned loss of mail, particularly newspapers, damage to letters carried by despatch riders, and the procedures for handling insufficiently paid mail.

General Orders dated the 24th March, 1885, issued at Mafeking by Lt-Col. C.W. Murray, include more detailed information:

"1. The following posts are sorting stations: Barkly, Taungs, Vryburg, [and] Mafeking. All others are intermediate stations.

2. At sorting stations, bags or parcels of letters will be made up for all intermediate stations up to the next sorting station.

3. All letters to be tied up in parcels before being put in the mail bags, and labelled. Those for up-country to be sorted by regiments, those for down-country by places in the Colony, or by countries.

4. Letters handed in at intermediate stations must also be made up in separate parcels addressed to their several destinations.

5. Bags or parcels of letters to be opened only at the station to which they are addressed, whether sorting or intermediate.

6. For the present the mail-bags for regiments will be addressed as follows:-

For Royal Scots to Taungs.

For 3rd Mounted Rifles to Taungs.

For 1st Mounted Rifles to Vryburg.

For 4th Pioneers to Sitlagoli.

All others to Mafeking.

7. Letters for persons on detachment from the headquarters of their regiment or corps, to be redirected as fully as possible, so as to ensure their delivery.

8. A way bill will be sent from each sorting station, both with the mail cart and despatch riders, showing the number of parcels of letters or bags, and their destination. These way bills will be receipted when the parcels or bags are delivered at any stations, the time of arrival and departure being noted, and will be returned from the next sorting station to that from which sent.

9. All mail bags received up-country will be returned by the next down mail. Mail bags are on no account to be given out to regiments from post offices.

10. The Military Post will not be responsible for any money or valuables sent by despatch riders or post cart.

"POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS

"For the present letters and papers will be carried as follows:-

"DAILY BY DESPATCH RIDERS

Barkly West to Mafeking				Mafeking to Barkly West			
Leave	Barkly West	..	6.0 am	Leave	Mafeking	..	1.30 pm
	Mullers	..	9.0		Madibi	..	4.30
	Wittefontein	..	11.30	Arrive	Maritzani	..	6.30
	Alice Dale	..	1.30 pm	Leave	Maritzani	..	6.0 am
	Creef Dale	..	4.30		Sitlagoli	..	9.30
Arrive	Banks Drift	..	6.0		Van der Linden	..	12.0
Leave	Banks Drift	..	6.0 am		Groot Choing	..	2.30 pm
	Taungs	..	9.30		Leuw Pan	..	5.30
	Dry Hart	..	1.30 pm	Arrive	Vryburg	..	8.30
	Brussels	..	4.30	Leave	Vryburg	..	6.0 am
Arrive	Vryburg	..	7.0		Brussels	..	8.30
Leave	Vryburg	..	6.0 am		Dry Hart	..	11.30
	Leuw Pan	..	9.0		Taungs	..	3.30 pm
	Groot Choing	..	12.0	Arrive	Banks Drift	..	7.0
	Van der Linden	..	2.30 pm	Leave	Banks Drift	..	6.0 am
Arrive	Sitlagoli	..	3.30		Creef Dale	..	7.30
Arrive	Maritzani	..	6.0		Alice Dale	..	10.30
Leave	Maritzani	..	6.0 am		Wittefontein	..	12.30 pm
	Madibi	..	8.30		Mullers	..	3.0
Arrive	Mafeking	..	11.30	Arrive	Barkly West	..	6.0

"WEEKLY BY MAIL CARTS

UP

DOWN

Leave Barkly West	..	Tuesday daylight	Leave Mafeking	..	Tuesday daylight
Arrive Taungs	..	Wednesday evening	Arrive Sitlagoli	..	Tuesday evening
Leave Taungs	..	Thursday daylight	Leave Sitlagoli	..	Wednesday daylight
Arrive Vryburg	..	Thursday evening	Arrive Vryburg	..	Wednesday evening
Leave Vryburg	..	Friday daylight	Leave Vryburg	..	Thursday daylight
Arrive Sitlagoli	..	Friday evening	Arrive Taungs	..	Thursday evening
Leave Sitlagoli	..	Saturday daylight	Leave Taungs	..	Friday daylight
Arrive Mafeking	..	Saturday evening	Arrive Barkly West..	..	Saturday evening

"No person, baggage, or parcels to proceed by this mail cart; letters and papers only."

There appears to have been no military mail service north of Mafeking in late March 1885, but General Orders dated three months later - the 25th June - include a timetable for a service operated by despatch riders between Mafeking and Molepolole, leaving Mafeking at 1.30 pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and arriving at Molepolole at 7.00 pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. The 'down' service left Molepolole at 6.00 am on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and reached Mafeking at 11.00 am on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. The route was via "Ramatlambi, Korwe, Rachuenyana, Kanya and Pila's". (General Orders dated the 25th June, 1885, also included a slightly revised timetable for the daily service operated by despatch riders between Barkly West and Mafeking.)

There can be no doubt that military mail was sent via Barkly West from the outset of the campaign, as Holmes (15) lists seven covers sent by Trooper Norbury of the 1st Mounted Rifles from various locations in Stellaland and Goshen between February and September 1885 which bear Barkly West transit datestamps. The Ashworth Collection includes ten similar covers, eight of which were addressed by Col. Methuen, the C.O. of the 1st Mounted Rifles ('Methuen's Horse'), to his wife. Other covers from the Methuen correspondence were included in two auction sales,

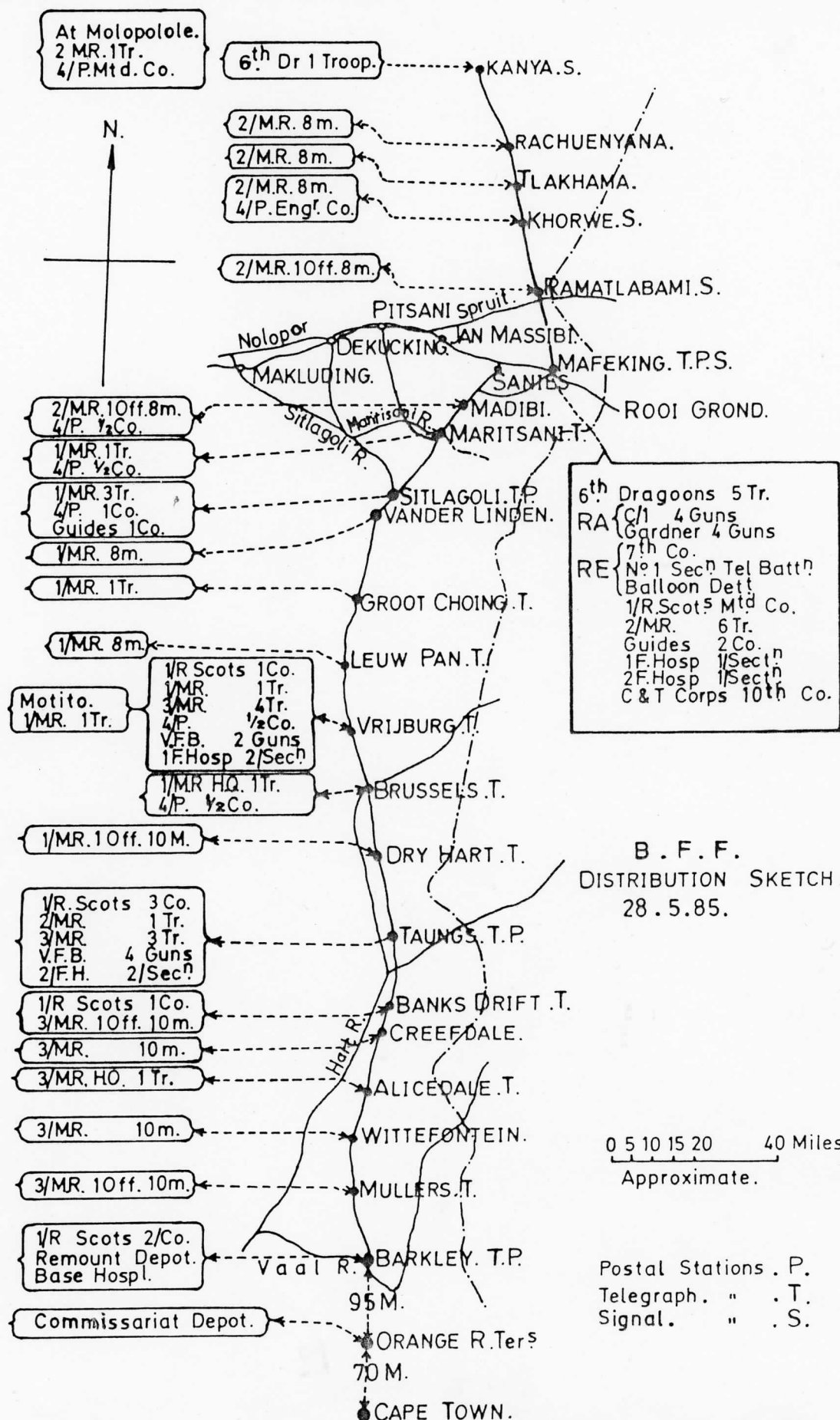


Fig.9 The military telegraph and postal route north from Cape Colony; reproduced from *Quarter-master General's Diary No. 9, from 1st May to 31st May (1885)*, in, *Diary of the Bechuanaland Field Force, 1884-85 (War Office)* (Redrawn by M Hayward)

Table 2 Mail from the Warren Expedition - transit dates

DATE OF LETTER	SENDER'S LOCATION	BARKLY WEST	CAPE TOWN	SOURCE
25. 1.85	Radliff's Farm (Ho)	26. 1.85 Monday	28. 1.85 Wednesday	Visser Collection
27. 1.85	Barkly West (Hu)	1. 2.85 Sunday	(no datestamp)	Ashworth Collection
	? (Ch)	6. 2.85 Friday	10. 2.85 Tuesday	Argyll Etkin
10. 2.85	Taungs (N)	15. 2.85 Sunday	17. 2.85 Tuesday	Holmes, 1971
	Taungs (M)	15. 2.85 Sunday	(17. 2.85) (Tuesday)	Christie's Robson Lowe, 18.3.86, lot 101
	Taungs (M)	23. 2.85 Monday	?	Christie's Robson Lowe, 22.7.86, lot 10
23. 2.85	Vryburg (M)	1. 3.85 Sunday	?	Globe International
27. 2.85	Vryburg (N)	9. 3.85 Monday	11. 3.85 Wednesday	Holmes, 1971
	? (Ha)	16. 3.85 Monday	?	Argyll Etkin
14. 3.85	Maritzani (M)	23? 3.85 Monday	25. 3.85 Wednesday	Christie's Robson Lowe, 22.7.86, lot 11
	Maritzani (M)	29. 3.85 Sunday	1. 4.85 Wednesday	Ashworth Collection
17. 3.85	Tsilokolo (N)	30. 3.85 Monday	1. 4.85 Wednesday	Holmes, 1971
	(Co)	12. 4.85 Sunday	15. 4.85 Wednesday	Argyll Etkin (11)
29. 3.85	Maritzani (N)	13. 4.85 Monday	15. 4.85 Wednesday	Holmes, 1971
	Setlagoli (M)	13. 4.85 Monday	(15. 4.85) (Wednesday)	Christie's Robson Lowe, 18.3.86, lot 102
	Setlagoli (M)	#19. 4.85 Sunday	?	Christie's Robson Lowe, 18.3.86, lot 103
19. 4.85	Setlagoli (N)	27. 4.85 Monday	29. 4.85 Wednesday	Holmes, 1971
21. 4.85	Setlagoli (M)	27. 4.85 Monday	29. 4.85 Wednesday	Ashworth Collection
	? (Ch)	27. 4.85 Monday	29. 4.85 Wednesday	Ritchie Bodily
26. 4.85	Setlagoli (M)	3. 5.85 Sunday	6. 5.85 Wednesday	Ashworth Collection
	Setlagoli (N)	3. 5.85 Sunday	6. 5.85 Wednesday	Roché Collection
	? (G)	3. 5.85 Sunday	6. 5.85 Wednesday	Holmes, 1971, pl. 1
4. 5.85	Setlagoli (N)	#10. 5.85 Sunday	12. 5.85 Tuesday	Holmes, 1971
	?	#10. 5.85 Sunday	(12. 5.85) (Tuesday)	Stephan Murray
	? (Y)	18. 5.85 Monday	20. 5.85 Wednesday	Ashworth Collection
3. 6.85	Mafeking (Hu)	14. 6.85 Sunday	17. 6.85 Wednesday	Stephen Murray
	? (N)	14. 6.85 Sunday	(17. 6.85) (Wednesday)	Stephan Welz, 7.11.90, lot 104
18. 6.85	Setlagoli (M)	22. 6.85 Monday	24. 6.85 Wednesday	Ashworth Collection
19. 6.85	Setlagoli (M)	22. 6.85 Monday	24. 6.85 Wednesday	Ashworth Collection
	Mafeking (M)	25. 7.85 Saturday	*29. 7.85 Wednesday	Ashworth Collection
	Mafeking (M)	10. 8.85 Monday	*12. 8.86 Wednesday	Christie's Robson Lowe, 22.7.86, lot 13
12. 8.85	Mafeking? (M)	17. 8.85 Monday	*19. 8.85 Wednesday	Ashworth Collection
	Mafeking (M)	19. 8.85 Wednesday	*?	Christie's Robson Lowe, 18.3.86, lot 104
	? (S)	22. 8.85 Saturday	26. 8.85 Wednesday	Ashworth Collection
29. 8.85	Barkly West (M)	29. 8.85 Saturday	*2. 9.85 Wednesday	Ashworth Collection
2. 9.85	Vryburg (N)	7. 9.85 Monday	9. 9.85 Wednesday	Holmes, 1971
4. 9.85	Barkly West (M)	4. 9.85 Friday	*9. 9.85 Wednesday	Globe International

Letters written prior to late January 1885 were posted while the column was en route from Cape Town to Stellaland
 Letters sent later in September 1885 by Col. Methuen were all posted at Barkly West

Telegraph office datestamp

* Wynberg datestamp (letter addressed to Wynberg, Cape Colony)

Ch Trooper R.B.B. Christie, 1st Mounted Rifles

Co Sergeant E.H. Cox, 1st Mounted Rifles

G Captain R.H. Gamble, Diamond Field Horse

Hu Lieutenant W.C. Hussey, R.E.

Ha Letter addressed to Mrs Haynes, probably by one of her two sons, Lieutenants C.E. and A.E. Haynes, R.E.

Ho Trooper R. Holmes, 2nd Mounted Rifles

M Colonel Methuen, O.C. 1st Mounted Rifles

Y Trooper C. Yeates, 1st Mounted Rifles

N Trooper Norbury, 1st Mounted Rifles

S Lieutenant E.C.A. Sanford, 1st Mounted Rifles

Christie's Robson Lowe, 18.3.86, lots 101-105 and 22.7.86, lots 10 and 11. It is evident from Table 2 that mail was normally despatched southwards from Barkly West on a Monday and reached Cape Town two days later. However, on two occasions the mail was despatched on a Sunday and reached Cape Town the following Tuesday. Nine other covers, representing seven different despatches, which bear Barkly West transit marks dated Saturday or Sunday may have been datestamped when the mail cart from Mafeking (or a despatch rider) arrived at Barkly West, as they all reached Cape Town on a Wednesday. It is certainly significant that letters datestamped at Barkly West on the 29th and 30th March both reached Cape Town the following Wednesday, as did letters datestamped at Barkly West on the 12th and 13th April.

The Orange River - Kimberley section of the railway was opened on the 28th November, 1885, but Methuen's letters posted at Barkly West in September (not listed) suggest that a daily service linking Cape Town and Barkly West may have been in operation before the line was completed.

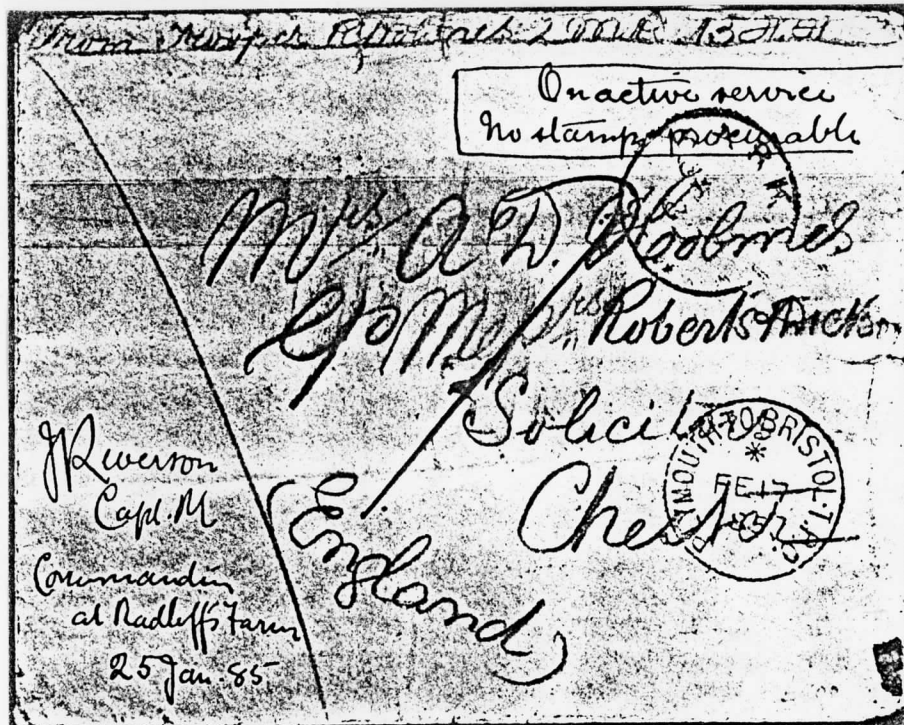
None of the covers listed in Table 2 bear any indication as to where they were posted. However, all the covers sent by Hussey and Norbury contain the original letters, and many of those comprising the Methuen correspondence contain photocopies of single pages of the original letters recording when and where they were written. The earliest Methuen cover sent from Maritzani, near Mafeking, is franked with six Cape 1d stamps, which were cancelled at Barkly West on Sunday the 29th March, 1885. The letter was therefore probably carried on the mail cart which was scheduled to leave Mafeking on Tuesday the 24th March and arrive at Barkly West on the evening of the 28th. The 'T' mark indicating that it was underfranked was struck at Cape Town on 'AP 1 / 85' (backstamp). The manuscript annotation, "2/3", indicating the amount may have been written at Barkly West as it was normal practice for Cape Town to indicate such amounts with a handstamp. (The receiving office would indicate whether or not any additional penalty was to be applied.) However, 2s 3d must have been incorrect as the Cape rate to UK was 6d per half ounce. The letter was found open and resealed with an official label by the Plymouth and Bristol Sorting Carriage on 'AP22 / 85'. The manuscript annotation "2/3" was cancelled with strikes of the obliterator coded 'B16', and a further handstamp struck to indicate that the addressee was required to pay 2s 6d. The letter therefore presumably weighed between 2½ and 3 oz.

The Methuen cover which contained a letter written at Sitlagoli between the 22nd and 26th April, 1885, was presumably despatched with the mail cart scheduled to leave Sitlagoli on Wednesday the 29th April and arrive at Barkly West during the evening of Saturday the 2nd May, as the franking, a single Cape 6d stamp, was cancelled there on 'MY 3 / 85'. This letter was also underfranked, and was treated similarly to the first. The 'T' mark was struck at Cape Town on 'MY 6 / 85'. The manuscript annotation "9" is more likely to be an inverted '6', but was in any case again cancelled with the 'B16' obliterator and a further handstamp struck to indicate that the addressee was to pay 1s. This letter therefore weighed between 1 and 1½ oz.

Also illustrated is a cover franked at the 1d soldier's letter rate posted by No. 577 Trooper C. Yeates of the 1st Mounted Rifles. The franking was cancelled at Barkly West on 'MY 18 / 85'. Backstamps record that the letter reached Cape Town on 'MY 20 / 85' and Leeds on '18JU / 85'.

Military postage rates

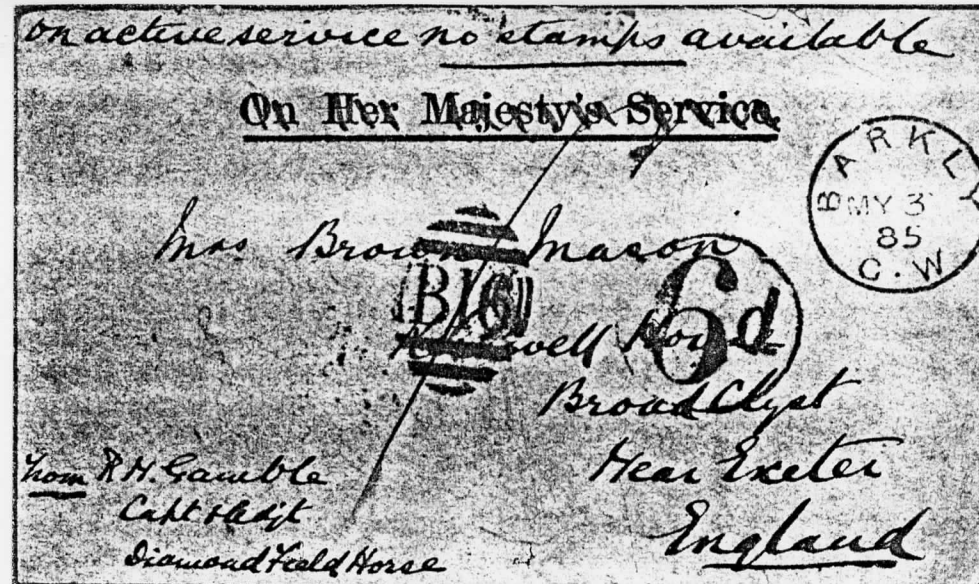
Soldier's letters are usually franked at the 1d concession rate. Holmes (16), for example, records that all the letters he listed (see Table 2) were franked with 1d Cape stamps. Officers were, however, required to frank their mail at the appropriate Cape rate, hence Col. Methuen's letters to UK, when stamps were available, were



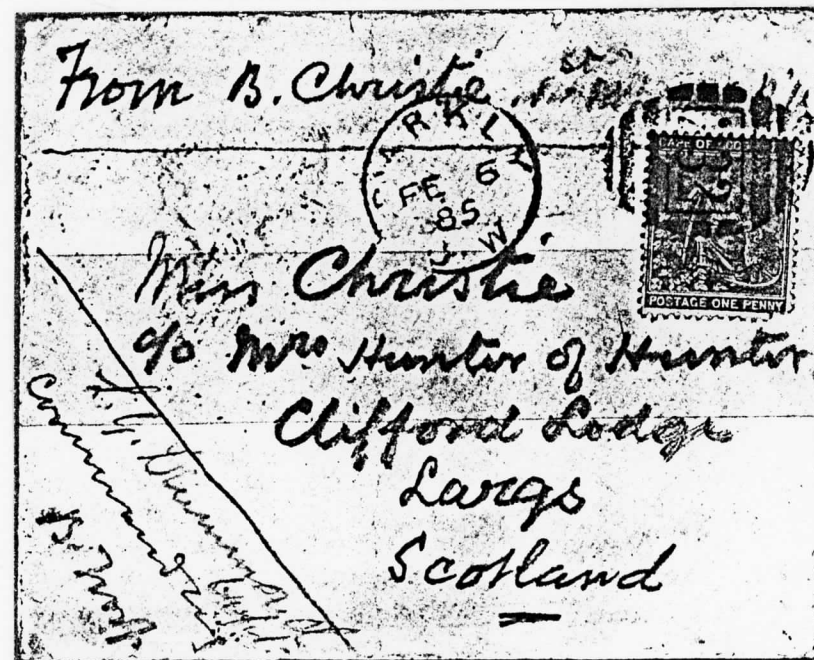
1885 Stampless cover to UK from Trooper R Holmes, 2nd Mounted Rifles, Barkly G.W. cds (JA 26/85), (Courtesy J L Visser),



1885 1d soldier's rate cover to UK from Trooper Norbury, D Troop, 1st Mounted Rifles, Cape 1d cancelled Barkly G.W. cds (MY 3/85), (courtesy C Roché)



1885 Stampless 'On Active Service' cover to UK from Capt. R H Gamble, Diamond Field Horse, Barkly G.W. cds (MY 3/85), (Holmes, 1971 pl.1)



Soldier's rate cover to Scotland from Trooper B Christie, 1st Mounted Rifles, Barkly G.W. (FE 6/85) cds, (courtesy Argyll Etkin)

franked 6d and his letters to the Cape, where his wife was resident during the later stages of the campaign, 2d. He probably had no means of weighing his letters and several were underfranked. In most cases no penalty was applied and his wife paid only the deficient postage. (This was normal practice in the case of mail from troops on active service.) Some underfranked mail was apparently not charged, but this was probably an oversight.

Incoming mail

In May 1983 *Stamp Magazine* reported the discovery of six covers addressed to Lt Ralph W. Anstruther (later Sir Ralph Anstruther, Bart.), Officer Commanding No. 1 Section, Telegraph Battalion, Royal Engineers, then serving with the Bechuanaland Field Force. A further cover was included in the Holmes Collection. Unfortunately the transit markings have generally not been reported. What is known regarding incoming items of mail is summarised in Table 3.

According to the official diaries (17) No. 1 Section, Telegraph Battalion, R.E., did not leave Cape Town until the evening of the 21st December, 1884. The first two letters listed in Table 3 would therefore have been delivered in Cape Town. (The barred oval diamond obliterator coded '1' was used at Cape Town - not Kimberley - to cancel the '3d' tax mark on the earliest cover.) The third letter must have been delivered before No. 1 Section arrived at Barkly West on the 8th January, 1885, as there is no Barkly West arrival mark. Anstruther was in the Maritzani - Madibi area, northeast of Sitlagoli in mid-March when he received the fourth letter listed. He was appointed Inspector of the Groot Choing - Mafeking section on the 2nd April, and may have been anywhere between those two points when he received the letter which passed through Barkly West later that month.

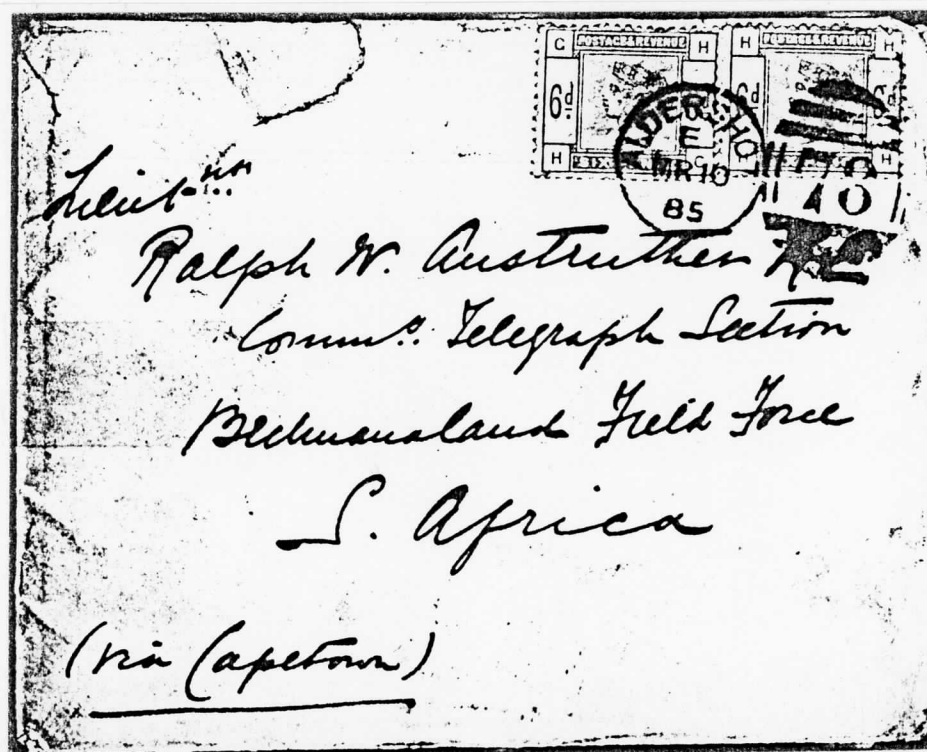
Table 3 Incoming military mail

PLACE AND DATE OF POSTING	CAPE TOWN	BARKLY WEST	REFERENCE
Pittenweem# 1.12.84	26.12.84	- -	<i>Stamp Collecting</i> , May 1983, p.89 Ashworth Collection
Cairo# 2.12.84	? ?	- -	Rigby Postal History Auctions, 13.2.65, lot 221
Edinburgh# 10.12.84	? ?	- -	Harmers, 29.10.81, lot 1297
S. Kensington# 19. 2.85	13. 3.85	16. 3.85	Ritchie Bodily
Aldershot# 10. 3.85	1. 4.85	6. 4.85	Argyll Etkin
Cape Town* ? ?	? ?	16. 4.85	Douglas Roth
Ballybrophy** 1. 4.85	22. 4.85	? ?	Stephen Murray
Cape Town* 28? 5.85	28? 5.85	1. 6.85	Roché Collection
Cape Town* 15. 6.85	15. 6.85	18. 6.85	Stephan Welz, 13.11.89, lot 172

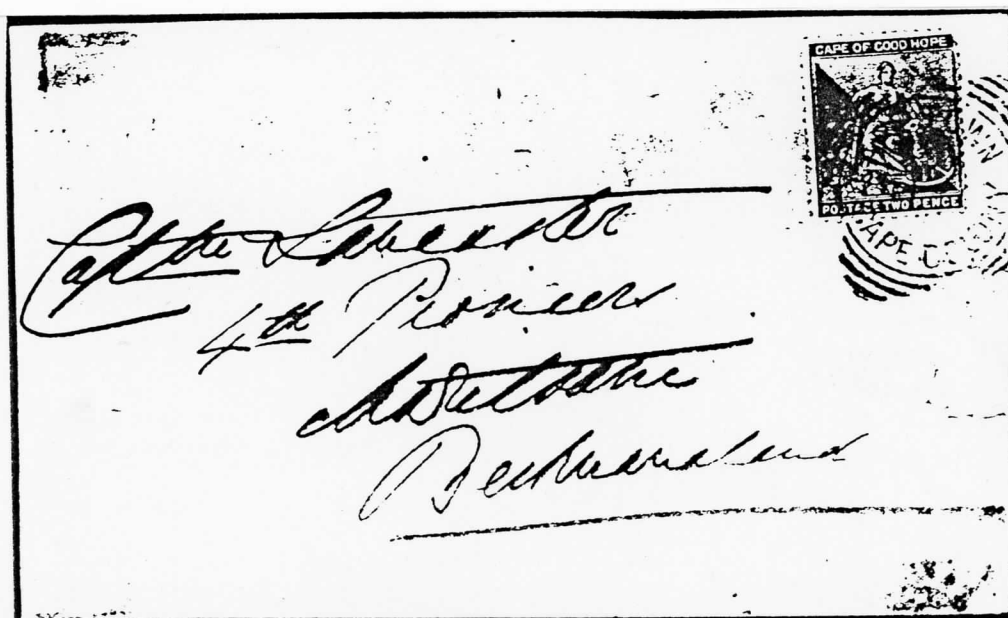
addressed to Lt R.W. Anstruther, RE

* addressed to Capt. Lancaster, 4th Pioneers

** addressed to Lt. F. Higginson, Methuen's Horse



1885 Incoming cover from Aldershot (Mar 10), U.K. addressed to Lieutenant Ralph W Anstruther who was the Officer Commanding No.1 Section, Telegraph Battalion, Royal Engineers then serving with the Bechuanaland Field Force. Backstamped Cape Town (Apr 1) and Barkly G. W. (Apr 6). (Illustration courtesy of J L Visser)



1885 Incoming cover from Cape Town (May 8) addressed to 'Captain Lancaster, 4th Pioneers, Maritsani, Bechuanaland'. The 4th Pioneers were one of the four Volunteer regiments which were raised in Cape Town and which accompanied the Warren Expedition. Backstamped Barkly G. W. (Jun 1). (Illustration courtesy of C Roché)

Acknowledgements

Lt-Col. Sir John Inglefield-Watson, Bt, drew my attention to the official records of the Warren Expedition held by the Whitehall Library of the Ministry of Defence, and I am indebted to the Librarian, Ms J.M. Blacklaw, for her assistance in locating the information I required. Kevin Ashworth provided photocopies of other references and covers from the Warren Expedition in his collection. Argyll Etkin Ltd, John Taylor, Ritchie Bodily, Stephen Murray, Lt-Col. Sir John Inglefield-Watson, Dr Gerrit Jonkers and Alan MacGregor also provided photocopies of relevant covers.

References

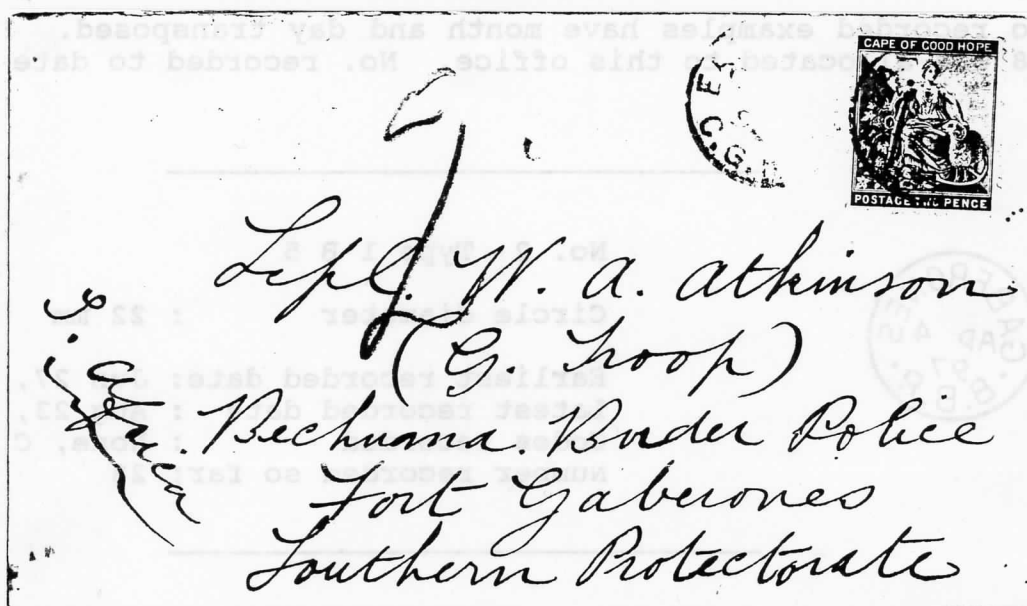
- 1 Shanahan Auction No. 84, 7.2.59, lot 278
Holmes, H.R., 1985, Stellaland; an interesting fake: *The London Philatelist*, v. 94, no. 1105-06, p.2-3
- 2 Holmes, H.R., 1971, *The postage stamps, postal stationery, and postmarks of the Bechuanaland*: The Royal Philatelic Society, London, pl. 1
Forerunners, v. 3, no. 3, p.16
Royal Philatelic Society of London certificate no. 97505
- 3 H.R. Harmer, 26.11.75, lot 631
The Transvaal Philatelist, v. 11, p.10 and v. 19, p.48
- 4 Harvey Pirie, J.H., and Redford, W., 1951, *The world's rarest group of stamps - a short description of the "Curle" Collection of the stamps of the Transvaal*: Africana Museum, Johannesburg, p.11
- 5 Christie's Robson Lowe, 22.1.90, lot 436
The Runner Post, 1989, no. 17, p.308
- 6 Stanley Gibbons, 22.1.90, lot 677; Stanley Gibbons, 19.5.88, lot 382; Proud Bailey, Chicago, 28.5.86, lot 208
The Runner Post, 1986, no. 4, p.5; 1988, no. 11, p.187
Forerunners, v. 4, no. 1, p.12
- 7 Photocopy supplied by Dr G.H. Jonkers
Royal Philatelic Society of London certificate no. 103963
- 8 Photocopy supplied by A. Bezuidenhout
- 9 Scott Auction Galleries, 15.5.79
Photocopy supplied by Dr G.H. Jonkers
- 10 Holmes, 1971, pl. 2
Royal Philatelic Society of London certificate no. 97506
- 11 Harmers of New York, 14.3.91, lot 338
- 12 Photocopy supplied by Dr G.H. Jonkers
Royal Philatelic Society of London certificate no. 97504
- 13 *SA Philatelist*, July 1984, p.196
Photocopy supplied by Argyll Etkin Ltd
- 14 Warren, Maj.-Gen. Sir C., 1885, *Report of proceedings of the Bechuanaland Field Force 1884-85*: War Office (Harrison and Sons)
Diary of the Bechuanaland Field Force, 1884-85: War Office (Harrison and Sons)
Quartermaster General's Diary No. 4, from February 1st to February 15th, 1885, p.45-46
Quartermaster General's Diary No. 7, from 29th March to 11th April, p.68-70
Duncan, Col. J., *Report on the base and lines of communication*, p.121-23
- 15 Holmes, 1971, p.33
- 16 Holmes, 1971, p.33
- 17 see reference 14

CHECKLIST OF BECHUANALAND POSTMARKS: THE LETTER 'G'

Hamish Campbell & Brian Trotter

This checklist covers all postal markings so far recorded for post offices and agencies in the Bechuanalands that begin with the letter 'G'. It continues with the same format as the previous checklists published in the Runner Post.

This checklist is dominated by Geberones postal markings. The original Village of Geberones was established around 1887. The Bechuanaland Border Police set up a fort there in the early 1890's. An 1892 cover to a Lance Corporal Atkinson in G. Troop Stationed at Fort Geberones is illustrated below. The cover is back-stamped Geberones, October 1892. This must have been at around the time that the Geberones Office opened, though it doesn't appear to have been listed in the Cape P.O. Guide until August 1893.



In 1897 the railway being built from Mafeking to Bulawayo passed about 4km from Geberones. A post office was opened at Geberones Station as well, first being listed in the Cape P.O. Guide in October 1897. Geberones became a District Headquarters for the Protectorate Administration, and the Administrative Headquarters of the country was moved to the newly built capital before Independence in 1966.

From 1897 onwards the P.O. Guide lists 2 Geberones offices. First at Geberones and Geberones Station, then Geberones Village and Geberones Station, and finally Geberones and Geberones Village.

GABANE



No. 1 Type 2 B 63

Circle diameters	:	17.5mm & 26mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Sep 28, 1948
Latest recorded date	:	Apr 23, 1965
Codes recorded	:	A, E
Number recorded so far	:	5

GABERONES



No. 1 Type 1 A

Circle diameter : 22mm
Earliest recorded date : Oct 14, 1892
Latest recorded date : Nov 24, 1895
Codes recorded : None
Number recorded so far : 6

Two recorded examples have month and day transposed. BONC No. 568 was allocated to this office. No. Recorded to date: 1.



No. 2 Type 1 B 5

Circle diameter : 22mm
Earliest recorded date : Jun 27, 1893
Latest recorded date : Aug 23, 1899
Codes recorded : None, C
Number recorded so far : 28



No. 3 Type 1 B 18

Circle diameter : 24mm
Earliest recorded date : Apr 21, 1900
Latest recorded date : Jun 9, 1911
Codes recorded : None
Number recorded so far : 10

Three recorded items have one digit of the year missing. These have not been considered in the earliest and latest recording.



No. 4 Type 2 G

Circle diameters : 21mm & 32mm
Earliest recorded date : Mar 1, 1965
Latest recorded date : Jan 24, 1966
Codes recorded : A
Number recorded so far : 15



No. 5 Type 2 G

Circle diameters : 21mm & 32mm
Earliest recorded date : Jan 5, 1965
Latest recorded date : Nov 8, 1965
Codes recorded : A, B
Number recorded so far : 8



No. 6 Type 2 G

Circle diameters : 21mm & 32mm
 Earliest recorded date : Feb 16, 1965
 Latest recorded date : May 16, 1966
 Codes recorded : A, B
 Number recorded so far : 4



No. 7 Type 2 G

Circle diameters : 17.5mm & 26mm
 Earliest recorded date : Mar 1, 1965
 Latest recorded date : Apr 15, 1965
 Codes recorded : A
 Number recorded so far : 4



No. 8 Type 2 G

Circle diameters : 17.5mm & 26mm
 Earliest recorded date : Apr 15, 1965
 Latest recorded date : Apr 15, 1965
 Codes recorded : A
 Number recorded so far : 2



No. 9 Type 2 A

Circle diameters : 21mm & 32mm
 Earliest recorded date : Nov 1, 1965
 Latest recorded date : Nov 1, 1965
 Codes recorded : A
 Number recorded so far : 1

GABERONES STATION



No. 1 Type 1 B 3

Circle diameter : 25mm
 Earliest recorded date : Mar 10, 1890
 Latest recorded date : Mar 2, 1914
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 33

Eleven recorded items have day and month transposed. One recorded item has day and year omitted, but other markings on the same cover indicate 1900 as the year. Two recorded items are struck in violet, and two in blue. Four recorded items have one digit of the year omitted, probably the "0" for the first decade of the century, as one of them is on cover, where the year 1904 is confirmed by other markings (This cancellation shows JU 1/ 4).

The 2 earliest recorded markings are MR 10/90 and JY 1/90. The next earliest is AU 10/98. The railway only reached Gaberones (or rather by-passed it by about 4 kilometres) in 1897. So these 2 very early strikes are probably errors or 'by favour' cancellations.



No. 2 Type 2 B 20

Circle diameters : 21mm & 32mm
 Earliest recorded date : Jul 14, 1914
 Latest recorded date : Nov 11, 1936
 Codes recorded : See note below
 Number recorded so far : 25

Recorded items have visible 'stops' after day and/or month, and a hyphen before or after the year. One recorded item has a 'block' before the year.



No. 3 Type 2 B 20

Circle diameters : 18mm & 26mm
 Earliest recorded date : Sep 30, 1937
 Latest recorded date : Aug 23, 1968
 Codes recorded : A, B, C, D, None
 Number recorded so far : 47

Recorded items dated 1940 or before have no codes. No recorded item is dated 1941, but the next recorded item is 25 IV 42 has code A. Presumably codes were introduced between 3 I 40 (last recorded item without a code) and April 1942.



No. 4 Type 2 B 14

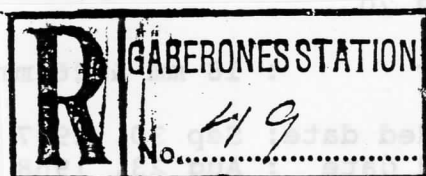
Circle diameters : 19mm & 30mm
 Earliest recorded date : Dec 9, 1957
 Latest recorded date : Dec 22, 1964
 Codes recorded : A, B
 Number recorded so far : 12



No. R1 Type 1 F 73

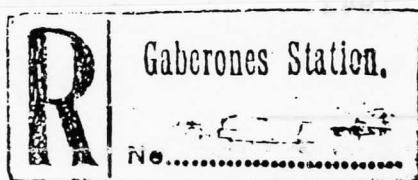
Circle diameter : 23mm
 Earliest recorded date : Oct 8, 1935
 Latest recorded date : Oct 11, 1935
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 2

The Oct 8 item recorded is on cover with 4 strikes of this relief canceller.



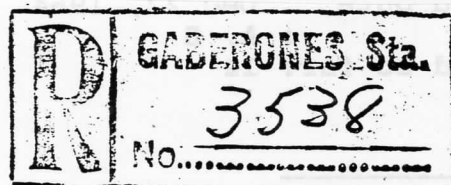
No. RG 1

Box dimensions : 22mm & 55mm
 Earliest recorded date : Jan 2, 1923
 Latest recorded date : Jan 2, 1923
 Number recorded so far : 1



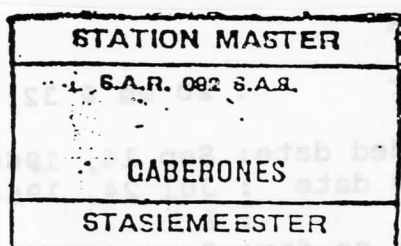
No. RG 2

Box dimensions : 23mm & 54mm
 Earliest recorded date : Dec 21, 1932
 Latest recorded date : Dec 21, 1932
 Number recorded so far : 1



No. RG 3

Box dimensions : 23mm & 59mm
 Earliest recorded date : Jan 3, 1940
 Latest recorded date : Apr 12, 1947
 Number recorded so far : 5



No. RL 1

Box dimensions : 30mm & 50mm

None have been recorded so far. The illustration comes from the article "The Railway Letter Post in Bechuanaland Protectorate" by Helmuth Hagen that appeared in Runner Post No. 3, Spring 1986.

GABERONES VILLAGE



No. 1 Type 2 A

Circle diameters : 18mm & 27.5mm
 Earliest recorded date : Aug 15, 1921
 Latest recorded date : Aug 26, 1958
 Codes recorded : A, F, hyphen, double hyphen
 Number recorded so far : 32

Recorded items have 'stops' after day and/or year, and code is usually the year.



No. 2 Type 2 A

Circle diameters : 20mm & 32mm
 Earliest recorded date : Dec 11, 1959
 Latest recorded date : Dec 11, 1959
 Codes recorded : 6 - see note
 Number recorded so far : 2

The two items recorded differ from No. 3 below by:

1. Month in 3 letters vs Roman numerals
2. Office name in shorter, thicker letters.

Both recorded items have a small '6' between month and year where the code is normally recorded. Day and month are not clear in the second recorded item, so only the single clear item has been used for earliest and latest recording.



No. 3 Type 2 A

Circle diameters : 20mm & 32.5mm
 Earliest recorded date : Sep 16, 1960
 Latest recorded date : Jul 24, 1964
 Codes recorded : A
 Number recorded so far : 8

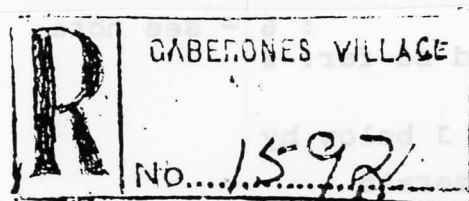
Some items recorded show a 'stop' after day. This canceller continued in use after Independence.



No. 4 Type 3 B 2

Circle diameters : 18mm & 31mm
 Earliest recorded date : Sep 5, 1964
 Latest recorded date : Jul 29, 1966
 Codes recorded : Block, hyphen
 Number recorded so far : 8

Year slugs are followed by a combination of lower hyphen, higher hyphen, single block, 2 vertical dots and double block (see illustration above) or lower hyphen, 2 higher hyphens, 2 vertical dots, and double block.



No. RG 1

Box dimensions : 24mm & 60mm
 Earliest recorded date : May 8, 1958
 Latest recorded date : Aug 26, 1958
 Number recorded so far : 2

GELUK

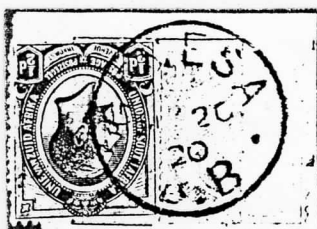


No. 1 Type 1 B 3

Circle diameter : 21mm & 32mm
 Earliest recorded date : May 31, 1894
 Latest recorded date : Jan 30, 1916
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 19

BONC No. 181 was allocated to this office. No. recorded so far: 4. Six of the recorded items have the second digit of the year omitted and two have a raised second digit of the year for 94. Eighteen of the recorded items are either for 1894 or have the first year digit as 9 and the second digit omitted. This makes the latest recorded item of JA 30/16 suspect. Seven recorded items have month and day transposed.

GENESA



No. 1 Type 1 B 3

Illustration from Stanley Gibbons sale June 26, 1987. No details recorded. The office was opened just before British Bechuanaland was annexed to the Cape in 1895.

GHANZI



No. 1 Type 2 E 62

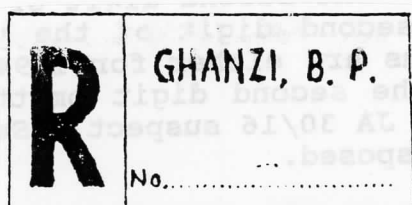
Circle diameters : 17mm & 26mm
Earliest recorded date : Jul 7, 1922
Latest recorded date : Aug 22, 1938
Codes recorded : A, B, F, Block
Number recorded so far : 14

Incomplete dates of Jan 1922 and Feb 1942 recorded show earliest and latest recorded dates before and after those listed above. Since the full date is not known (only day missing), they have not been used.



No. 2 Type 2 B 18

Circle diameters : 19mm & 29mm
Earliest recorded date : May 27, 1957
Latest recorded date : Aug 24, 1966
Codes recorded : None
Number recorded so far : 23



No. RG 1

Box dimensions : 25.5mm & 53mm
Earliest recorded date : May 27, 1957
Latest recorded date : May 27, 1957
Number recorded so far : 1

GROOT CHWAING



No. 1 Type 1 B 3

Circle diameter : 23mm
Earliest recorded date : Jan 16, 1894
Latest recorded date : Oct 4, 1894
Codes recorded : None
Number recorded so far : 5

One of the 5 recorded items is for Nov 1894, but day is not known, so it has not been used for latest recorded usage. BONC 478 was allocated to this office. No. recorded so far: 3.

GUBULAWAYO



No. 1 Type 1 B 11

Circle diameter : 23mm

Several strikes of this rare marking are known; but not all recorded by this group. The word 'Bechuanaland' was subsequently excised to prevent difficulties with Lobengula. See No. 2 below.



No. 2 Type 1 A

Circle diameter : 23mm

Earliest recorded date : Mar 7, 1895

Latest recorded date : Jun 11, 1895

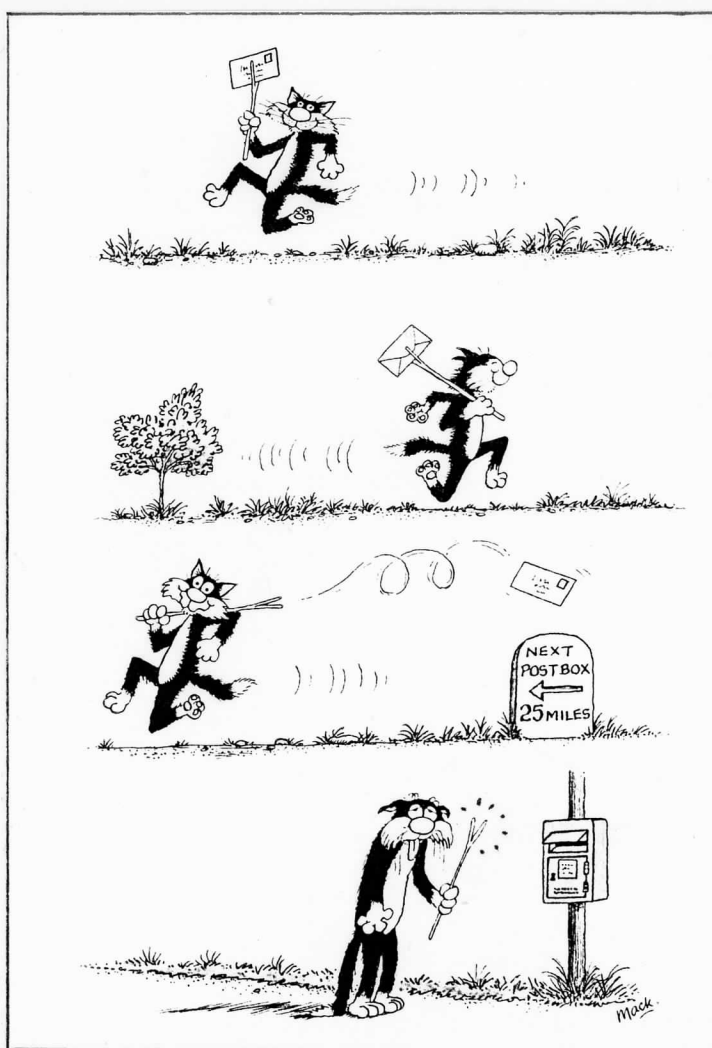
Codes recorded : 2 - see note
below

Number recorded so far : 11

All except the 2 recorded items used for earliest and latest usage have incomplete dates, 5 with the second year digit omitted (the first digit always being 9), three of them with a hyphen instead of the second year digit. One in which only the year is visible is reported to be 93. Three of the recorded items have a '2' above the date. BONC No. 678 was allocated to this office. No. recorded so far: 3. Most strikes are on BSAC stamps. Only Gubulawayo No. 1 really belongs in the Bechuanalands postmark Checklist, No. 2 is recorded only because it is the same canceller with the word 'Bechuanaland' excised.

We have received help from Howard Cook, Jim Catterall, Dennis Firth, Mike George, Sir John Inglefield-Watson, Alan MacGregor, Roy Setterfield, Anne Southwood, and Birgit Sten-Jensen.

Note that illustrations can be slightly enlarged or distorted due to photocopying.



LIST OF POST OFFICES AND AGENCIES AS OF 14-06-1991

1.	Bobonong	MTto	56.	Mahalapye	MTto
2.	Bokaa	POA	57.	Mahikana	MTto
3.	Bokspits	POA	58.	Maitengwe	MO
4.	Bontleng	MTto	59.	Majwaneng	POA
5.	Boribamo	POA	60.	Makaleng	POA
6.	Botshabelo	MTto	61.	Makalamabedi	POA
7.	Broadhurst	MTto	62.	Makwate	POA
8.	Charleshill	MTO	63.	Manyana	POA
9.	Dibete	POA	64.	Maokatuma	MO
10.	Digawana	MO	65.	Maokane	POA
11.	Dutlwe	POA	66.	Mapoka	POA
12.	Etsha	MO	67.	Marapong	POA
13.	Francistown	MTto	68.	Masunga	MO
14.	Gabane	MTto	69.	Mathathane	POA
15.	Gaborone	MTto	70.	Mathangwane	POA
16.	Gaborone Village	MTto	71.	Matsiloje	MTto
17.	Gantsi	MTto	72.	Mathubantwa	MTto
18.	Gomare	MO	73.	Maun	MTto
19.	Good Hope	MO	74.	Maunatlala	MTto
20.	Gweta	MTO	75.	Mmadinare	MTto
21.	Hebron	POA	76.	Mmankgodl	MO
22.	Hukuntsi	MTO	77.	Mmaphashalala	POA
23.	Jwaneng	MTto	78.	Mmashoro	POA
24.	Kalakamati	POA	79.	Mmathethe	MO
25.	Kalamare	POA	80.	Mmatshumo	POA
26.	Kalkfontein	POA	81.	Mmutlane	POA
27.	Kang	MO	82.	Metlobo	POA
28.	Kanye	MTto	83.	Metlojane	POA
29.	Karakubis	POA	84.	Middlepits	MO
30.	Kasane	MTto	85.	Mochudi	MTto
31.	Kavimba	POA	86.	Modipane	POA
32.	Khakhea	POA	87.	Moeng	MTto
33.	Khudumelapye	POA	88.	Mogapi	POA
34.	Khumaga	POA	89.	Mogoditshane	MTto
35.	Kobojango	POA	90.	Mogobane	POA
36.	Kole	POA	91.	Mogorosi	POA
37.	Kopong	POA	92.	Moiyabana	POA
38.	Kumakwane	POA	93.	Molalatau	POA
39.	Lecheng	POA	94.	Molapowabojang	POA
40.	Lehututu	POA	95.	Molepolole	MTto
41.	Lentswe-le-Moriti	POA	96.	Monarch	MTto
42.	Lentsweletau	MTto	97.	Mookane	POA
43.	Lerala	MTto	98.	Mopipi	POA
44.	Lephephe	POA	99.	Morwa	POA
45.	Letlhakane	MTto	100.	Mosu	POA
46.	Letlhakeng	MTto	101.	Moshupa	MTto
47.	Lobatse	MTto	102.	Mosomane	POA
48.	Lokgwabe	POA	103.	Motokwe	POA
49.	Lotlhakane	PA	104.	Nata	MTO
50.	Mabeleapudi	POA	105.	Nlaphwane	POA
51.	Mabule	POA	106.	Nkange	MO
52.	Mabutsane	MO	107.	Nojane	POA
53.	Machaneng	MTto	108.	Nswasi	POA
54.	Madiba	PA	109.	Ntlhantlhe	POA
55.	Magopane	PA	110.	Odi	MTto

111. Orapa	MTto	139. Seretse Khama Airport	MTO
112. Otse	MTto	140. Serowe	MTto
113. Paje	POA	141. Serule	MTto
114. Palapye	MTto	142. Shakawe	MTO
115. Pallaroad	POA	143. Shashe	MTto
116. Papatlo	POA	144. Sherwood Ranch	MTto
117. Parakarungu	POA	145. Shoshong	MTto
118. Peleng Village	POA	146. Sikwane	MTto
119. Pilikwe	MTto	147. Sojwe	MO
120. Pitsane	MTto	148. Takatokwane	POA
121. Radisele	POA	149. Tamasane	POA
122. Rakops	MTO	150. Tatitown	MTto
123. Ramokgonami	POA	151. Thabala	POA
124. Ramokgwebane	MTto	152. Thamaga	MTto
125. Ramotswa Station	MTto	153. Tlokweneng	MTto
126. Ramotswa Village	MTto	154. Tonota	MTto
127. Ranaka	POA	155. Toromoja	POA
128. Rasesa	POA	156. Tsabong	MTO
129. Satau	POA	157. Tsetsebye	MO
130. Sebina	MTto	158. Tshane	POA
131. Sechele	POA	159. Tshesebe	MTto
132. Sedibeng	MTto	160. Tshimoyapula	POA
133. Sefhare	MTto	161. Tutume	MTto
134. Sefhophe	MTto	162. Werda	MTO
135. Sehitwa	MTO	163. Wood Hall	POA
136. Seleka	POA	164. Xhomo	POA
137. Selibe Phikwe	MTto	165. Zwenshambe	POA
138. Semolale	POA		

KEY

MTto	=	Money Order, Savings Bank, Telegraph and Telephone Offices
MTO	=	Money Order, Savings Bank and Telephone Office
MO	=	Money Order and Savings Bank
POA	=	Postal Order Agency
PA	=	Postal Agency