

1981 CANADA Postal Strike

Claude Parrot led a 42 day strike in 1981 (June 30 - August 12) for the right of its members to maternity leave. CUPW became the first federal civil service union in Canada to win the right to maternity leave for its members.

German Embargoed Mail

Brussels to Ottawa August 11, 1981

THE

PRIVATE POST

1977

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ETD
No 1

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uld not be forwarded
end in site. The post office

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

From 18th February 1979 until 25th June 1979 there has been no postal service in the Republic of Ireland due to a strike by the postal workers and organized by the Post Office Workers Union (P.O.W.U.). When the strike was called off after a period of 18 weeks, the biggest and costliest strike in the history of the Irish State was brought to an end. The return to work was agreed after a deal with the Department of Posts and Telegraphs which provided a 15 % pay increase for Postmen and Postwomen and Telephone Operators, with a little over 12 % for Post Office Clerks who had reached the maximum of their scale. Originally the postal workers had claimed an increase of their salary ranging from 37 % to 51 %.

The main reason for the long delay in ending the strike was due to the Government's fear that an increase for Post Office Clerks would have a spin-off effect throughout the public service. The result was that a huge quantity of mail bags dating back to the strike begin was being held back in particular in Great Britain, Europe and North America.

Unlike the British Post Office Strike – which during the 1971 strike in the U.K. private carriers had been licensed – the Irish Post Office refused to do so for fear of deteriorating the situation. However, a number of "Courier" Services, either already established or set up during the strike, carried mail or other items which were normally sent cross border or within Ireland by the Irish Post. Some of them are shown in this exhibit.

The exhibit is structured as follows :

- I. Foreign Mail Cachets / Stored Mail
- II. Foreign Mail Labels
- III. Backstamped Mail
- IV. Lack of Postage Dues
- V. Delivery Companies with Philatelic Influence
 - 1) Dublin Strike Post
 - 2) Collectorex '79 Labels
 - 3) Courier Mail Eire – Isle of Man
 - 4) Townsend Labels
- VI. Documents

Major sources :
Irish Stamp News 1979/1980 (ISN)
David Feldman Newsletters 1979/1980 (DFNL)

Please note :

The emphasis of this collection is the documentation of commercial correspondence to Ireland affected by the Irish Post Post Strike 1979. Most of this commercial correspondence has been destroyed and only few covers out of the hundred thousands of strike mail have survived (II. – IV.).

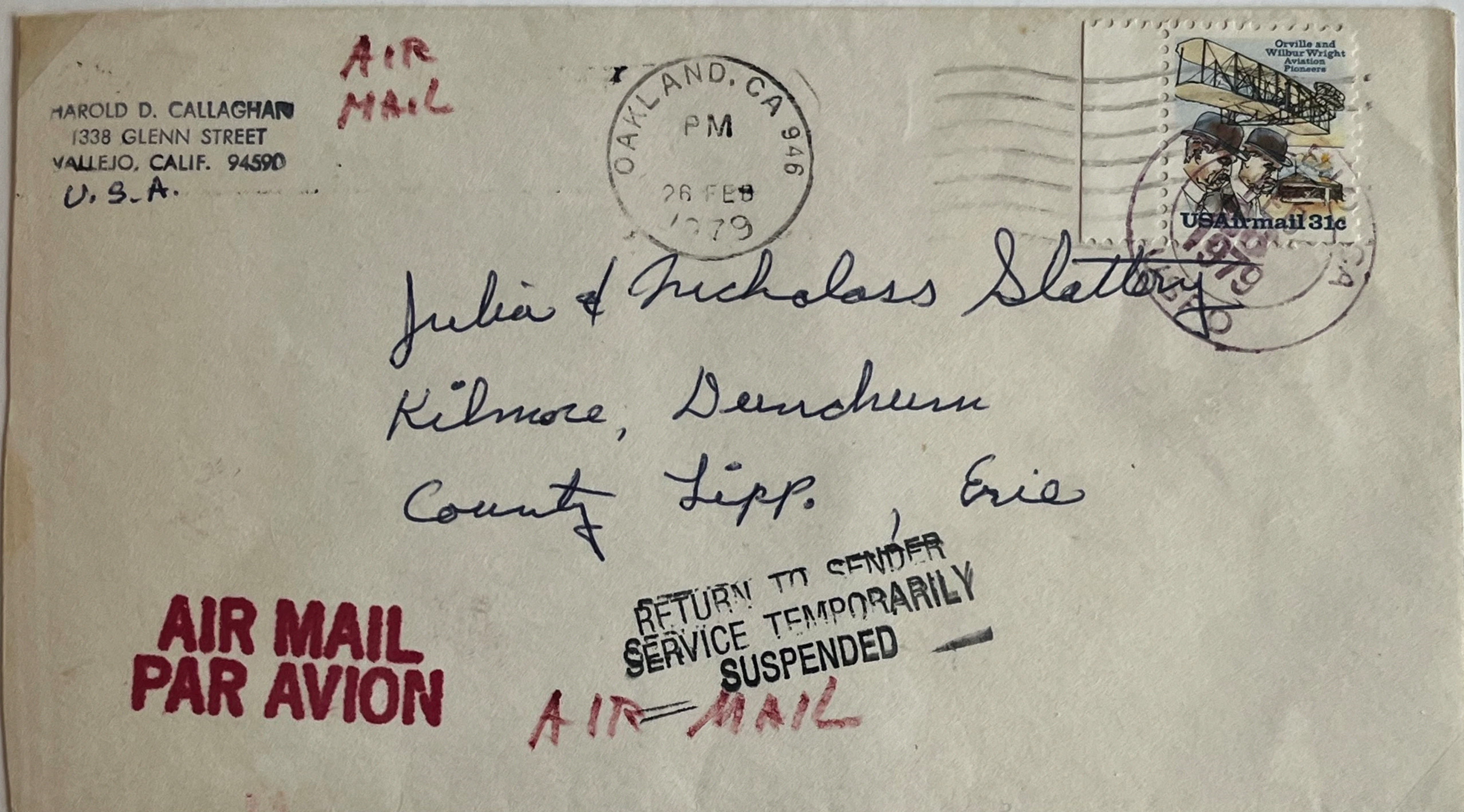
For reasons of complete documentation some items with Philatelic (V.) Influence are also shown

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

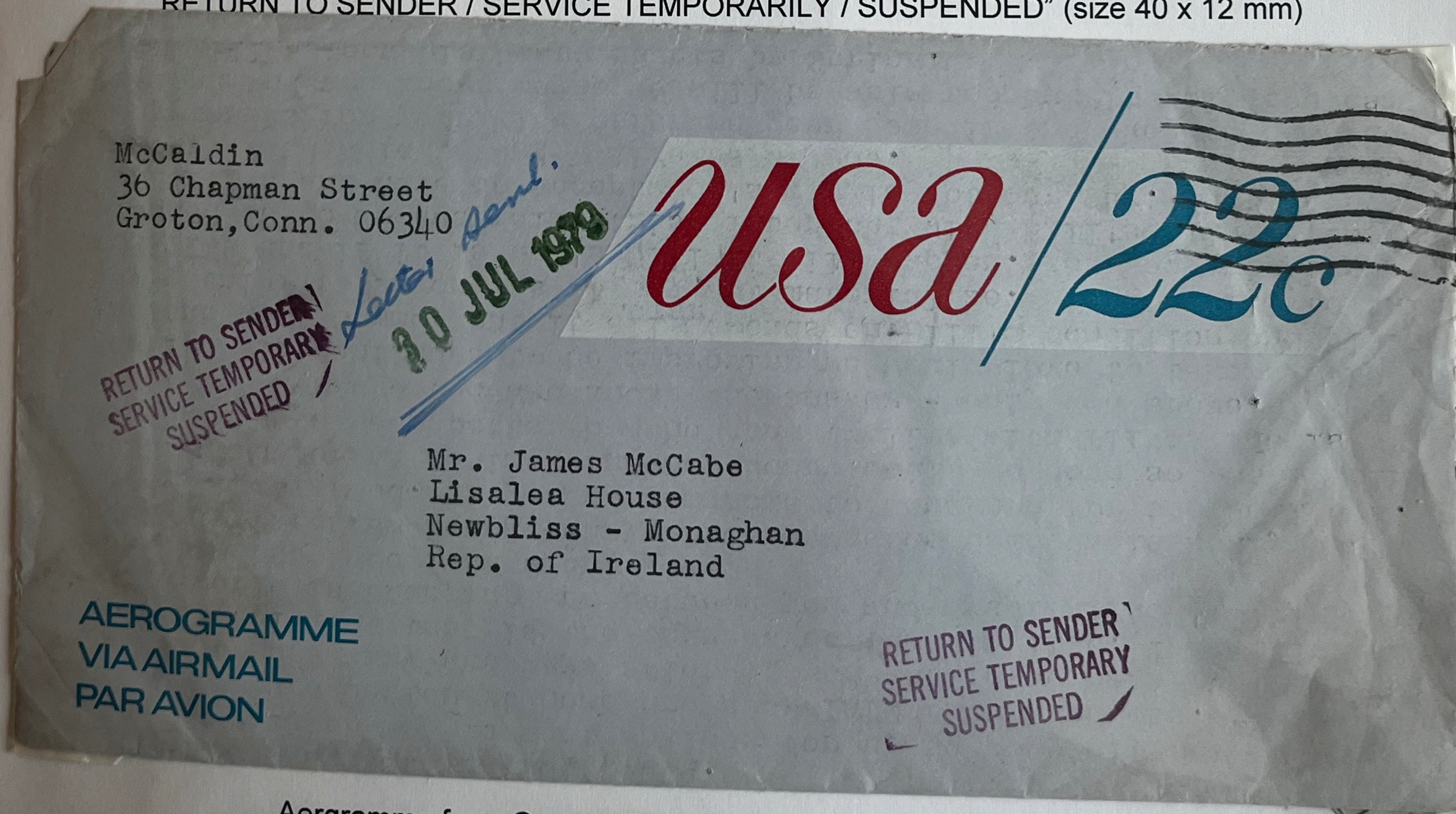
Foreign Mail Cachets

USA

Some foreign postal administrations treated mail addressed to Ireland during the strike as "Undeliverable" and returned it to senders. A few, like U.S., Canada and Germany used instructional markings such as "Return to Sender - Service temporarily suspended"; "Return to Sender", "Service Suspendu", "ZURÜCK" etc. in different sizes.



Letter from Oakland, CA to Kilmore, with handstamp Vallejo, dated 26 Feb 1979 and machine cancel dated 28 Feb 1979 with cachet "RETURN TO SENDER / SERVICE TEMPORARILY / SUSPENDED" (size 40 x 12 mm)

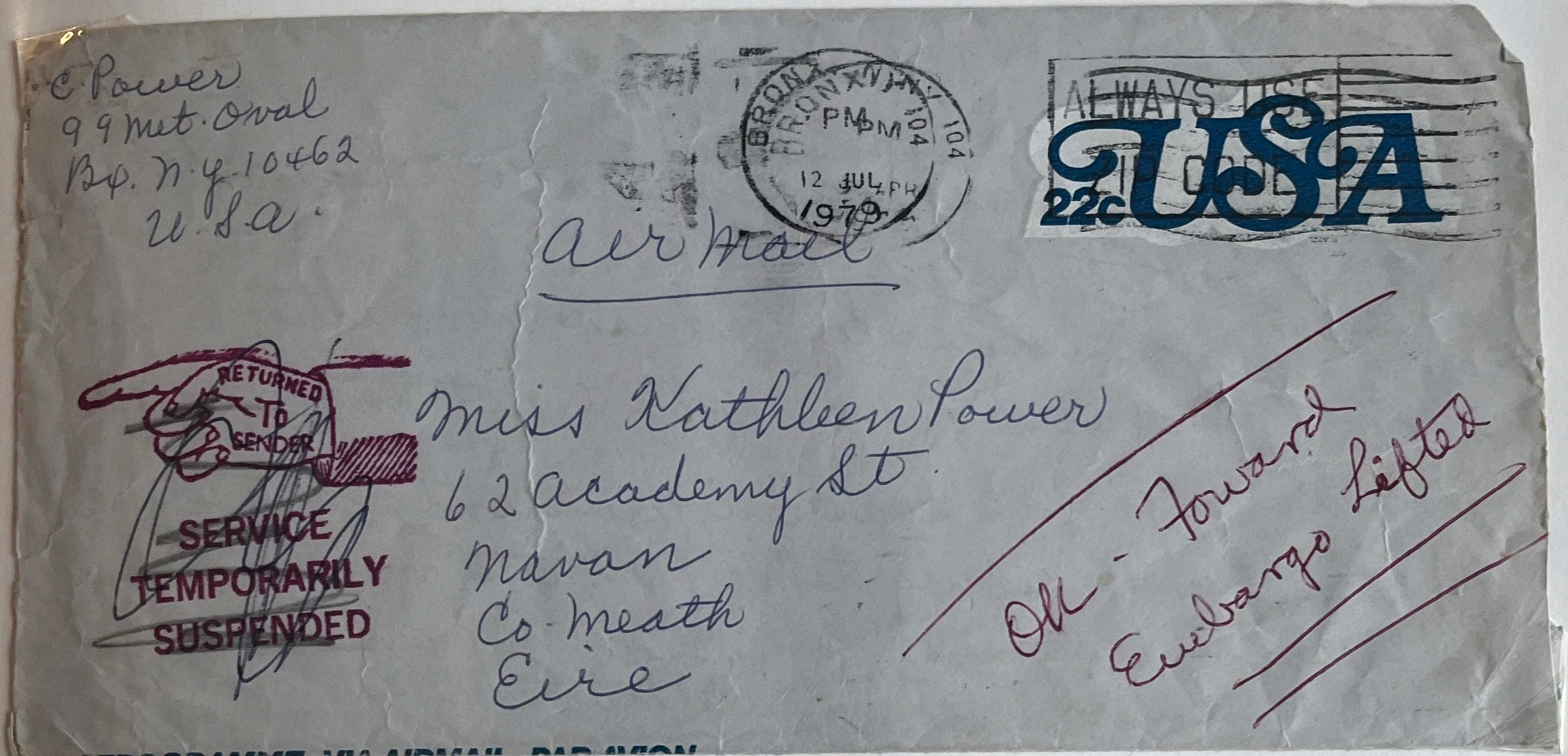


Aergramme from Groton, Ct. to Newbliss dated 19 Feb 1979 with machine cancel and cachet "RETURN TO SENDER / SERVICE TEMPORARILY / SUSPENDED" (size 31 x 13 mm) with manuscript notice Letter sent 30 JUL 1979

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Cachets

USA



Aerogramme-Front from Bronx, N.Y. with machine cancel dated 30 APR 1979 with cachet (alter crossed out) (Hand) RETURNED / TO / SENDER / SERVICE / TEMPORARILY / SUSPENDED" and after end of strike with manuscript "OK - Forward / Embargo Lifted" and resent with Bronx, machine cancel dated 12 JUL 1979

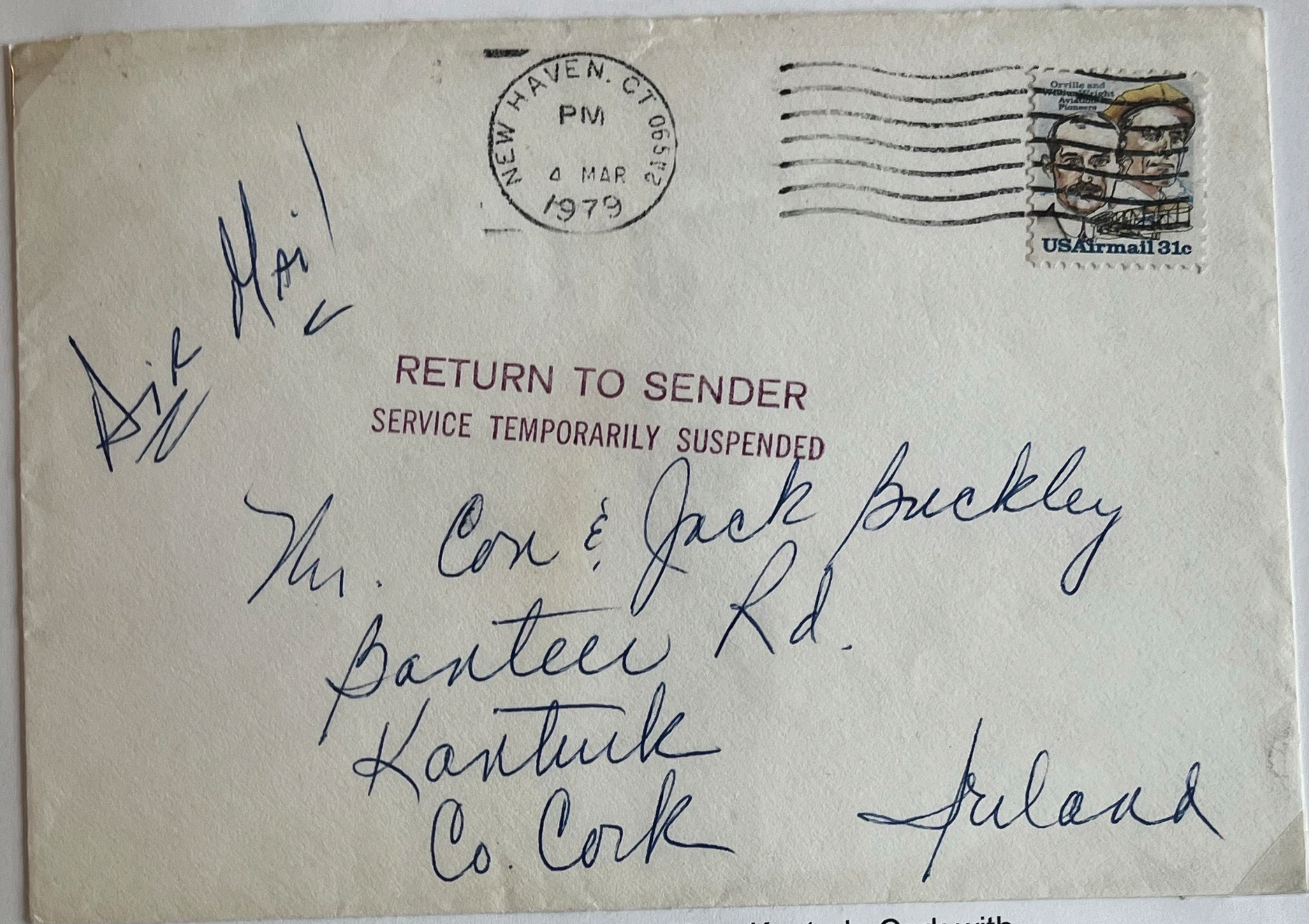


Letter from Riverside, CA. to Dundalk with machine cancel San Bernadino, dated 4 April 1979 and cachet "SERVICE TEMPORARILY / SUSPENDED" (later crossed out) and resent with San Bernadino machine cancel dated 30 JUN 1979

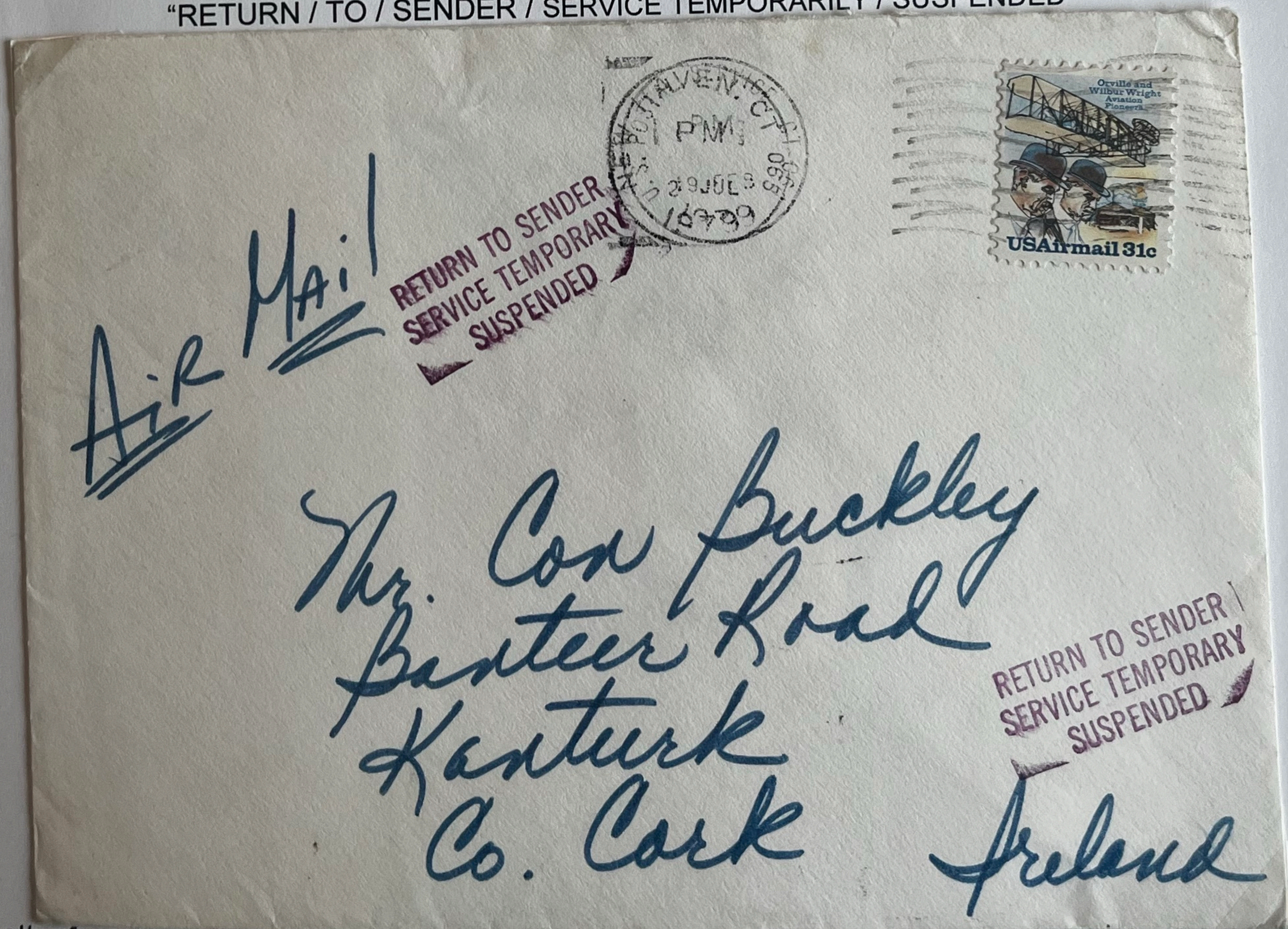
The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Cachets

USA



Letter from New Haven, CT to Kanturk, Cork with machine cancel dated 4 MAR 1979 with cachet "RETURN / TO / SENDER / SERVICE TEMPORARILY / SUSPENDED"



Letter from New Haven, CT to Kanturk, Cork with machine cancel dated 19 FEB 1979 and cachet "RETURN TO SENDER / SERVICE TEMPORARILY / SUSPENDED" (size 31 x 13 mm) and resent with New Haven machine cancel dated 2 JUL 1979

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Cachets / Stored Mail

USA



Air Mail Letter from North Suburban, IL to Newmarket-on-Fergus with meter mark dated 13 May 1979 with triple line blackblue cachet "RETURN TO SENDER / SERVICE TEMPORARILY / SUSPENDED", stored at post office and forwarded to Ireland on 13 July 1979 with meter mark North Suburban, IL, dated 13 Jul 1979. Before forwarding, however, the cachet was crossed out.



Letter from Wautoma to Ballygireen, Co. Clare dated 16 June 1979 with triple line blackblue cachet "RETURN TO SENDER / SERVICE TEMPORARILY / SUSPENDED", stored at post office and resent on 13 July 1979 with violet postmark WAUTOMA, dated 13 Jul 1979

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Cachets
USA

Baron Von Thoma
6048 Meteor Ave.
Toledo, Oh. 43623



**RETURN TO SENDER
SERVICE SUSPENDED**

VIA-MAIL

SHANNON AERADIO,
EIP, BALLYGIRREIN,
NEWMARKET-ON-FERGUS,
COUNTY CLARE,
IRELAND.

Air Mail Letter from Toledo, OH to Newmarket-on-Fergus dated 2 April 1979
with double line violet cachet (large letters)

"RETURN TO SENDER / SERVICE SUSPENDED"

It is not clear whether this letter has been resent to Ireland (most probably)
or only returned to sender.

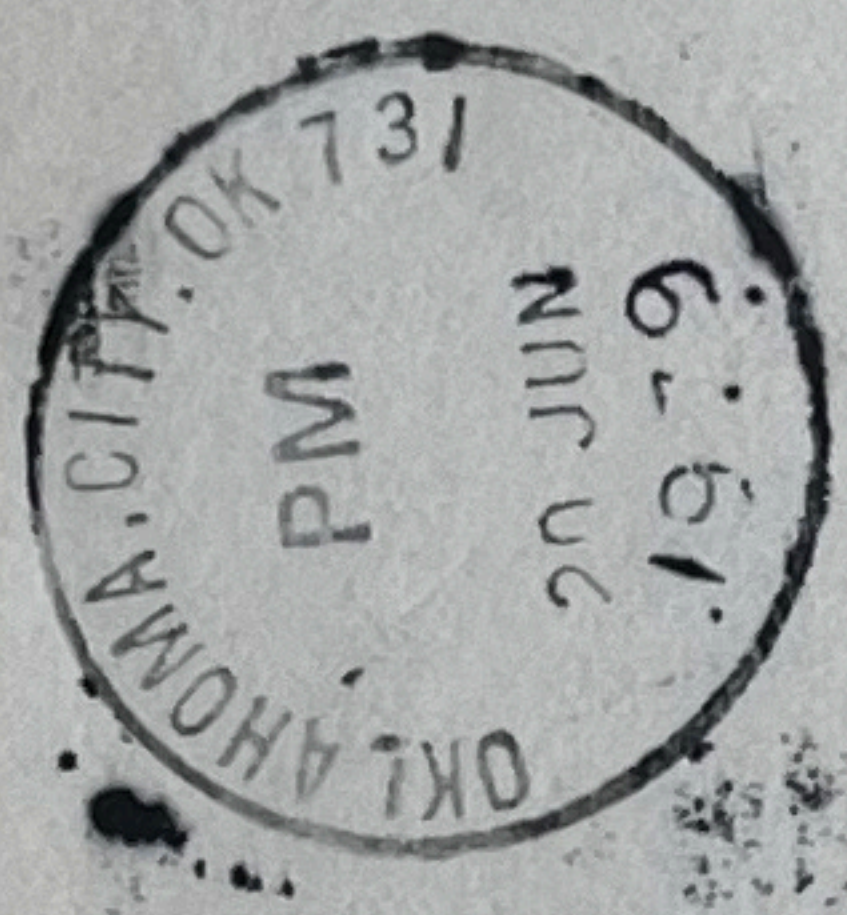
(underpaid by 1 c)

7

8

7 8 9 10

Some examples of the labels and how
U.S. Postal Service on letters for deal



Shannon Aeradio - EIP
Bally Irreir
Newmarket-on-Fergus
County Clare,
Ireland

~~SERVICE TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED~~

1413 DE SOTO
PONCA CITY, OKLA.
74601 USA

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Some examples from Canada. This one from my brother Micheal was not returned to him but was apparently stored until the service was restored. Note the endorsement on the back. The brown envelope ⑬ is from the Philatelic Service, Canada Post, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0B5 and contained preliminary information on the changes planned in the service for dealing with orders from collectors and dealers.

⑬

Canada Post

Canada Post

Postes Canada

ON
POSTAL
SERVICE

SERVICE
DES
POSTES

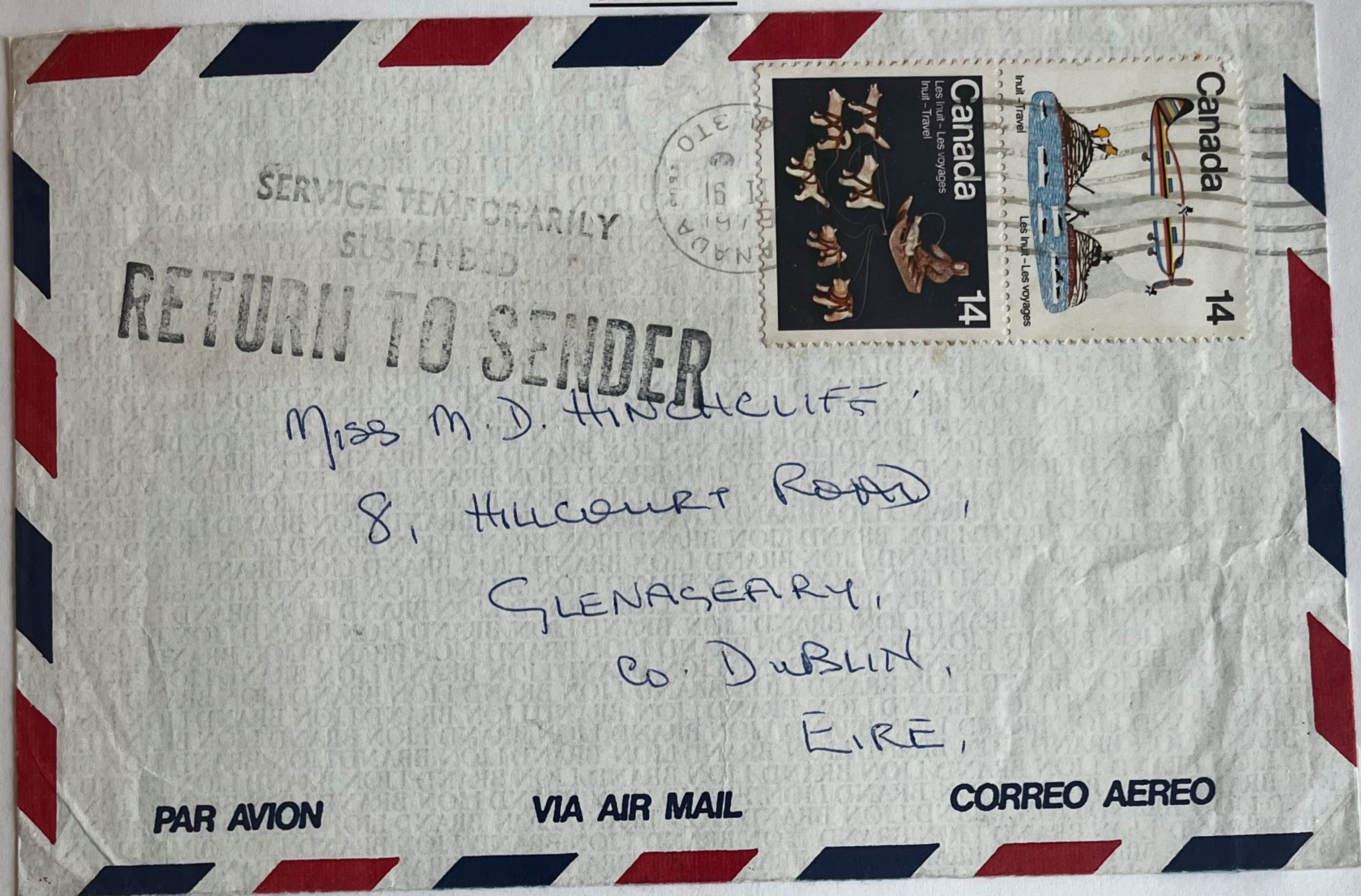
SERVICE TEMPORARILY
SUSPENDED

RETURN TO SENDER

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Cachets

CANADA



Letter from Toronto, to Glenageary, Dublin with machine cancel CANADA dated 16 FEB 1979 (inverted insert !!!) with cachet "SERVICE TEMPORARILY / SUSPENDED / RETURN TO SENDER"

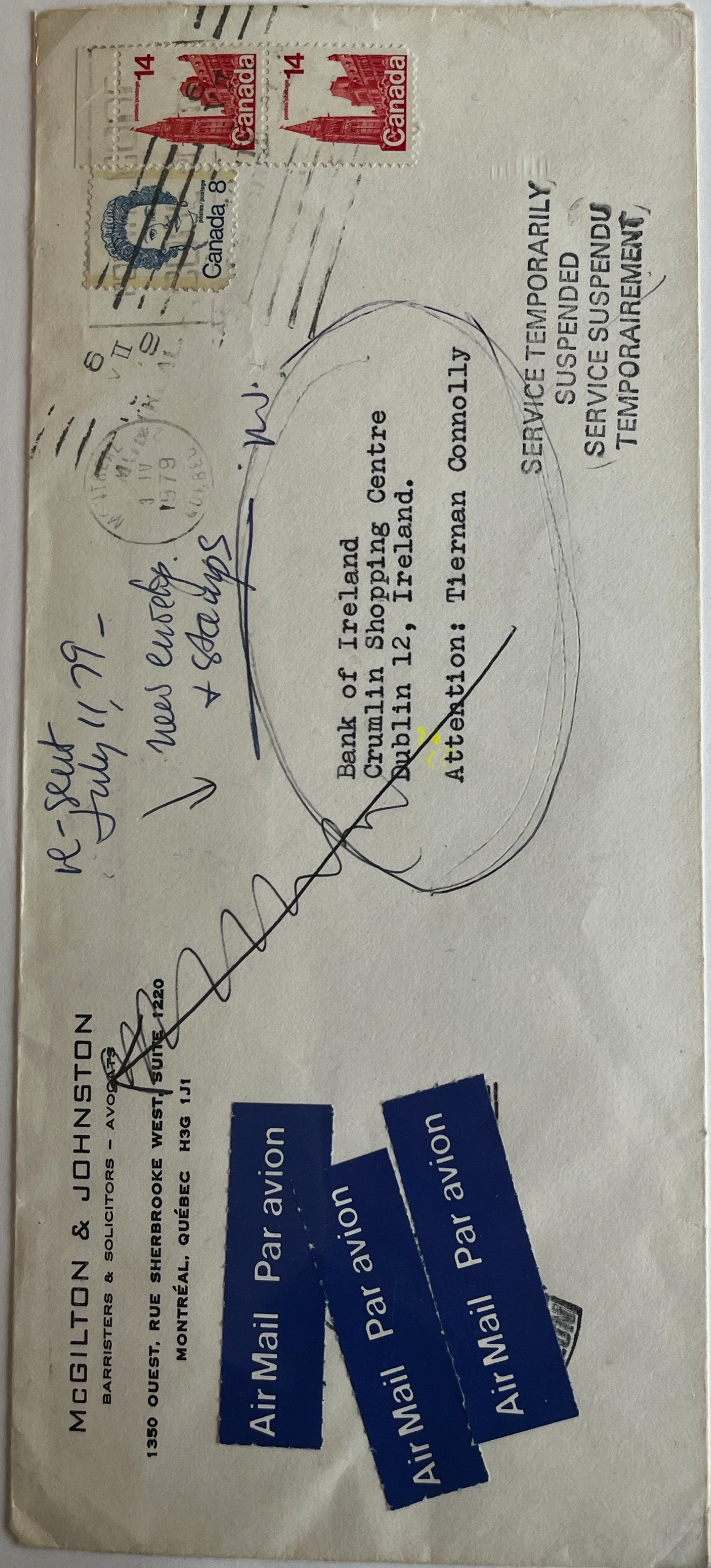


Letter from Winnipeg to Dalkey, Dublin with machine cancel dated 27 FEB 1979 and cachet "RETURN TO SENDER / POSTAL SERVICE / TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED" and possibly resent (see cachet "POSTAGE PAID / PORT PAYÉ")

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Cachets

CANADA



Letter from Montréal to Dublin with machine cancel Montréal dated 3 APR 1979 with bilingual cachet

"SERVICE TEMPORARILY / SUSPENDED / SERVICE SUSPENDU / TEMPORAIREMENT"

The black hand cachet has been labeled with 3 blue Air Mail labels as letter was resent on 6 JUL 1979

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Cachets / Stored Mail

CANADA



Letter from Waterloo to Shannon with machine cancel CANADA POST - MAR 1979 and cachet "SERVICES TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED / RETURN TO SENDE(R)

The letter was stored in Canada until end of strike and then forwarded with machine cancel CANADA POSTS - JUL 1979 to original destination. Before the forwarding the cachet was crossed out and changed in ms in "SERVICE RESTARTED". Upon arrival in Shannon the letter was redirected to New-Market-on-Fergus with transit machine cancel Limerick, dated 18 Jul 1979

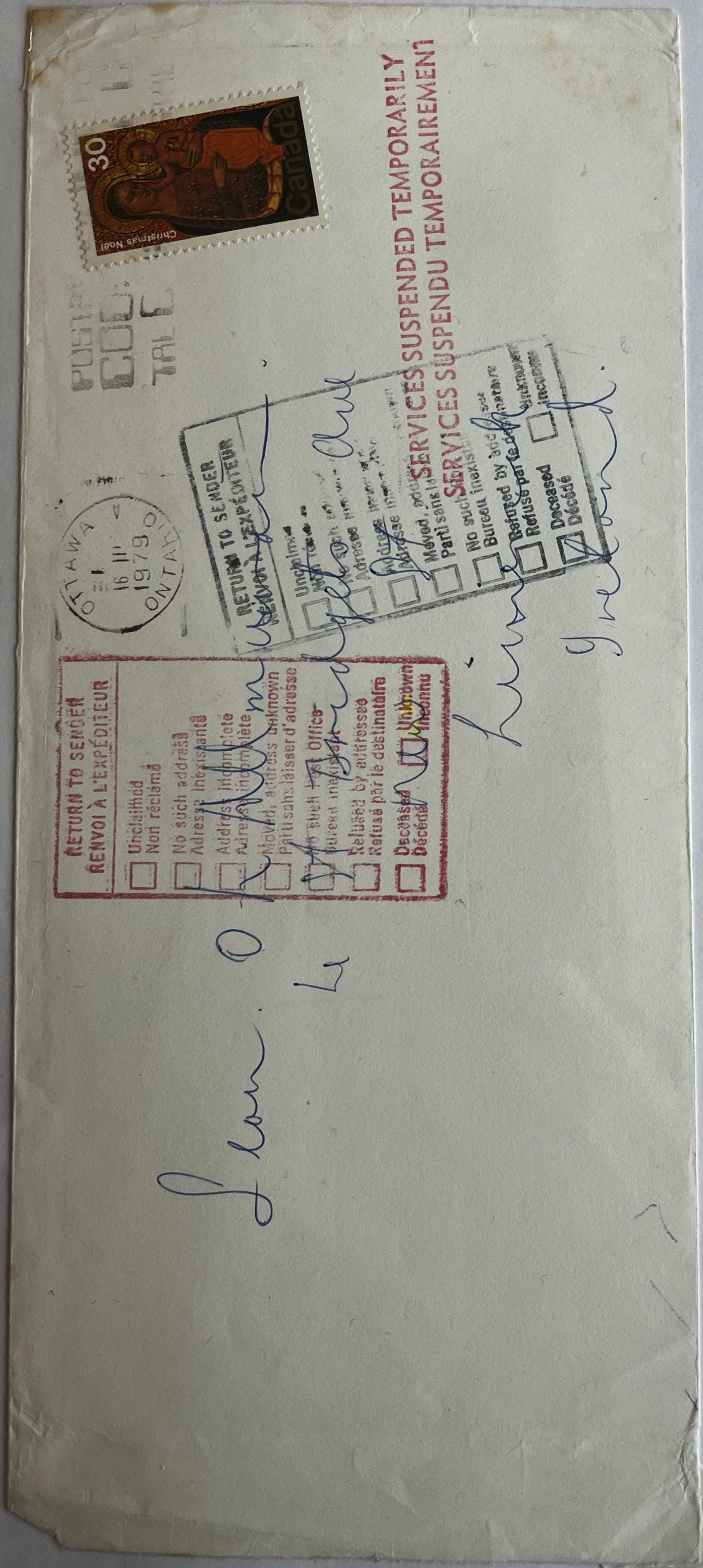


Reverse of letter - label "Foster Parents Plan of Canada"

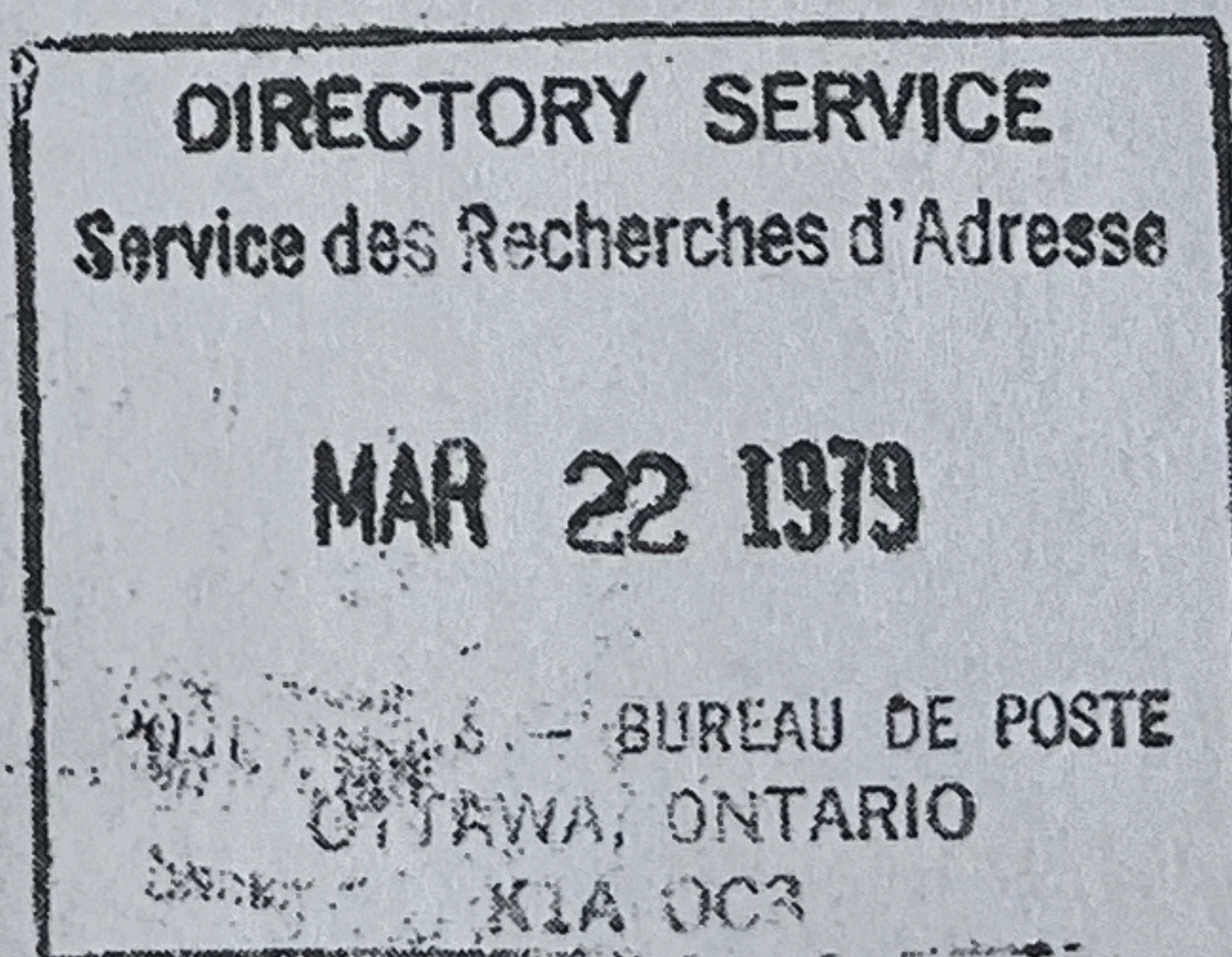
The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Cachets / Stored Mail

CANADA



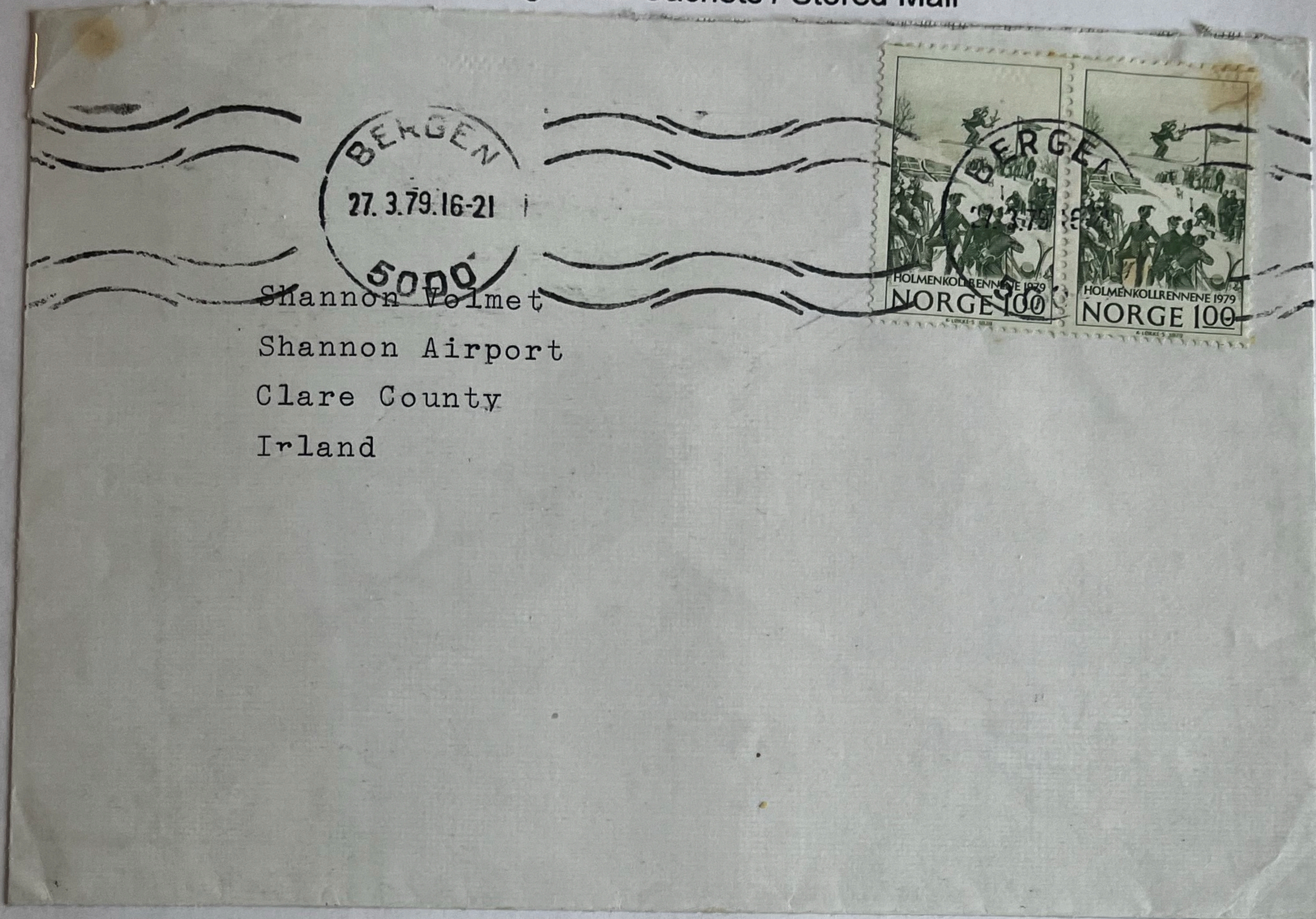
Letter from Ottawa to Limerick with machine cancel dated 16 Mar 1979 with bilingual cachet "SERVICES SUSPENDED TEMPORARILY / SERVICES SUSPENDU TEMPORAIREMENT" and red and black "Return to Sender" cachets as there was no sender's address.



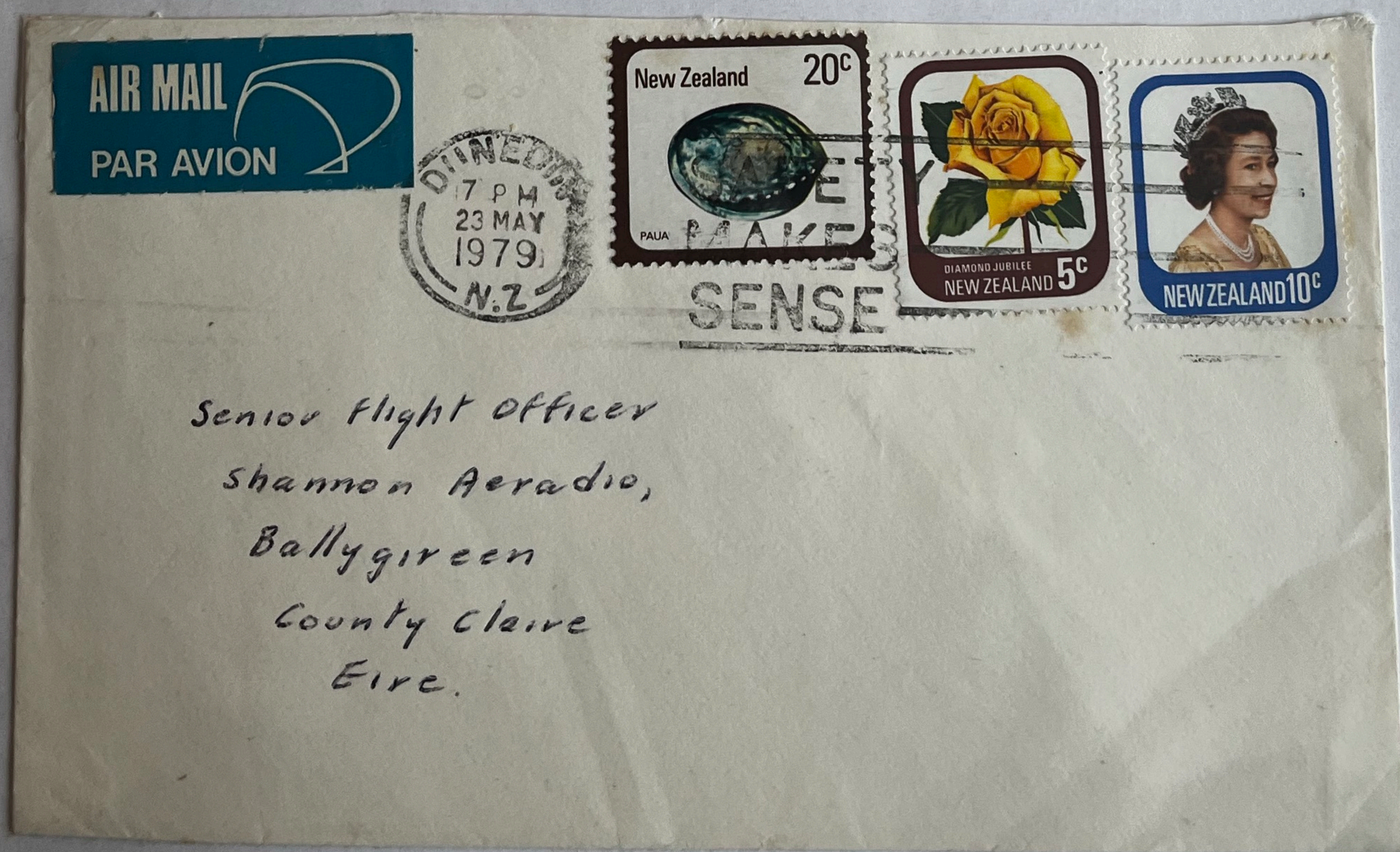
The letter was opened in Ontario on 22 MAR 1979 (see cachet on reverse) and stored there until end of strike and forwarded to original destination.

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Cachets / Stored Mail



Letter from Bergen, Norway to Shannon Airport, County Clare, dated 27 March 1979
The letter was stored in Norway until end of strike without further forwarding datesstamp.



Letter from Dunedin to Shannon Aeradio, County Clare, dated 23 May 1979
The letter was stored in New Zealand until end of strike without further forwarding datesstamp.

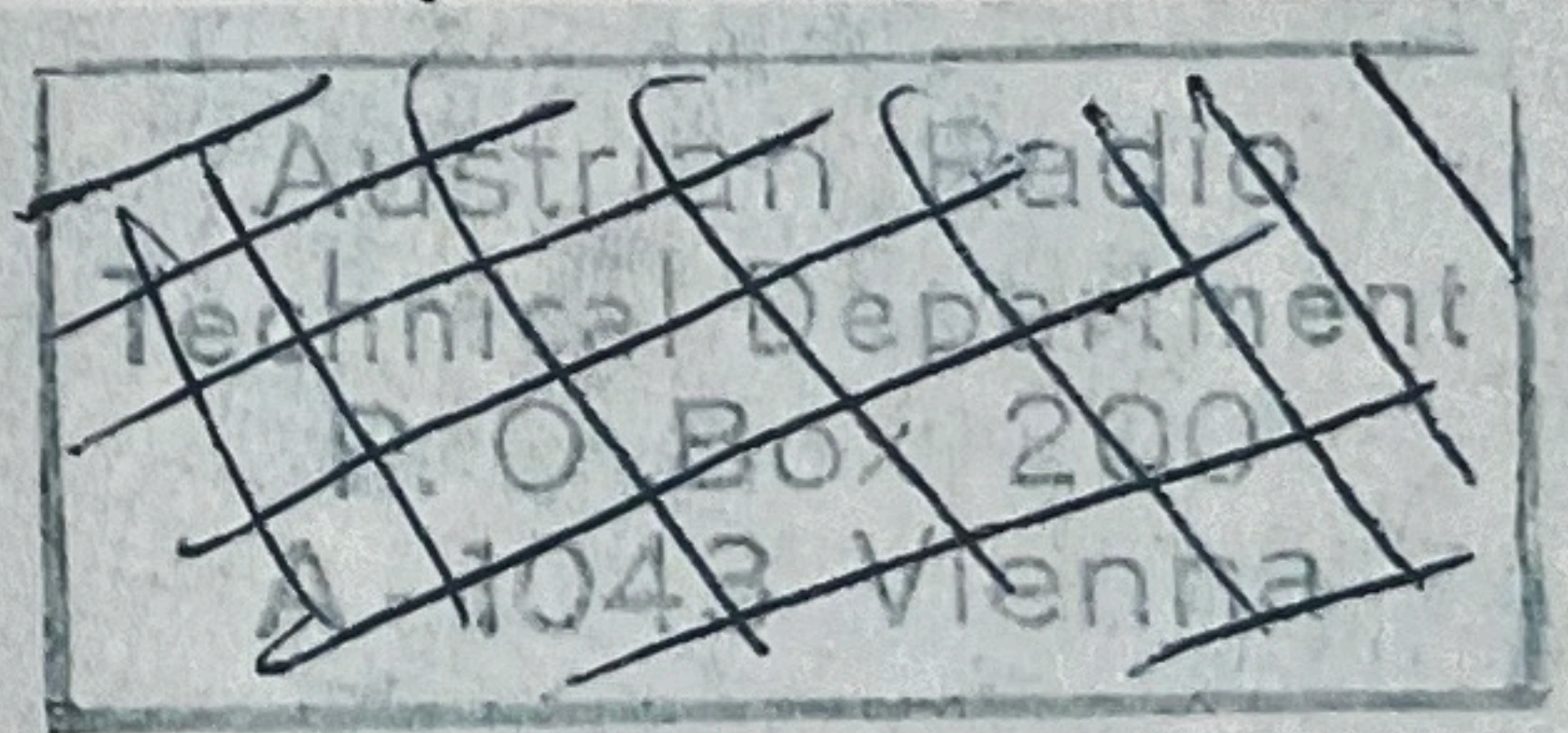
The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Cachets / Endorsed Mail

CANADA



Letter from Antigonish, dated 8 July 1979 and addressed to the International Communications Centre at Ballygirrein. It was endorsed by the Austrian Radio Authorities (ORF) on receipt.



Presumably, the letter was included in the current batch of Austrian mail for Ireland. Somewhere along the line a quick witted check spotted the error and endorsed the letter on the back "SORRY - LATE DUE TO STRIKE"

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Cachets / Stored Mail

Some foreign postal administrations treated mail addressed to Ireland during the strike as "Undeliverable", the mail was not returned to the sender but stored until the end of strike, sometimes with a written notice referring to the postal strike



Letter from a Norwegian Officer of Buøy, dated 23 April 1979 to a captain of the Irish Army at McKee Barracks with manuscript notice "POSTSTRIKE IN IRELAND!", the letter was then stored in Buøy. At the end of the strike this notice was crossed out and forwarded from Buøy to Dublin on 18 Sep 1979.

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

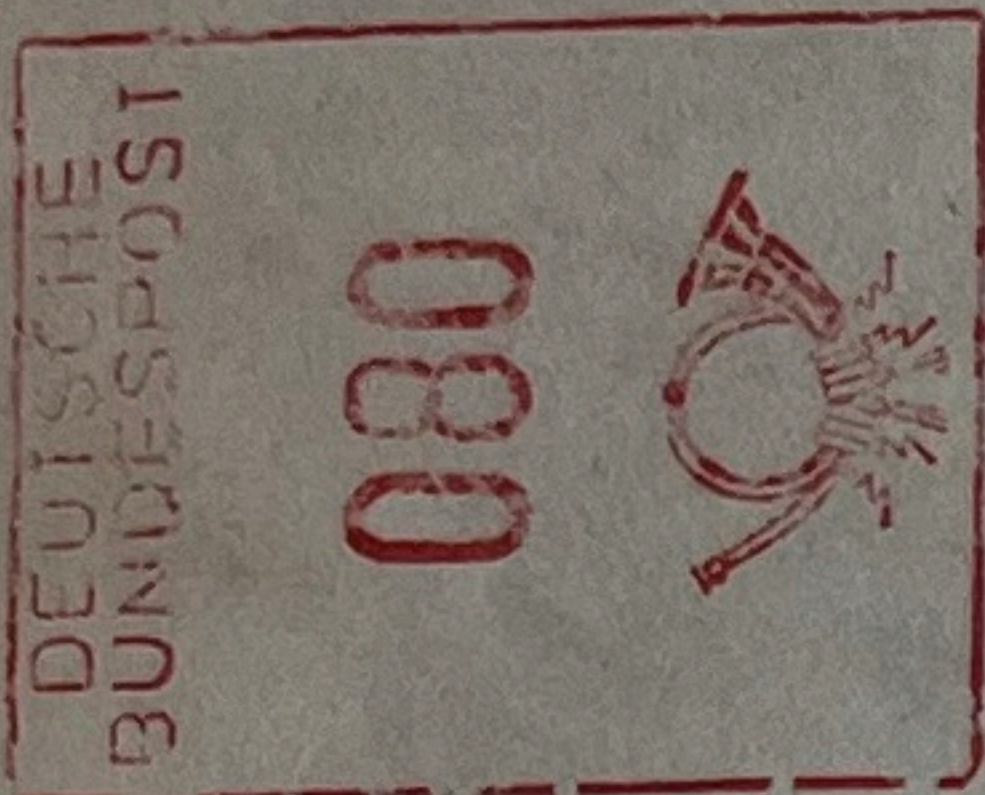
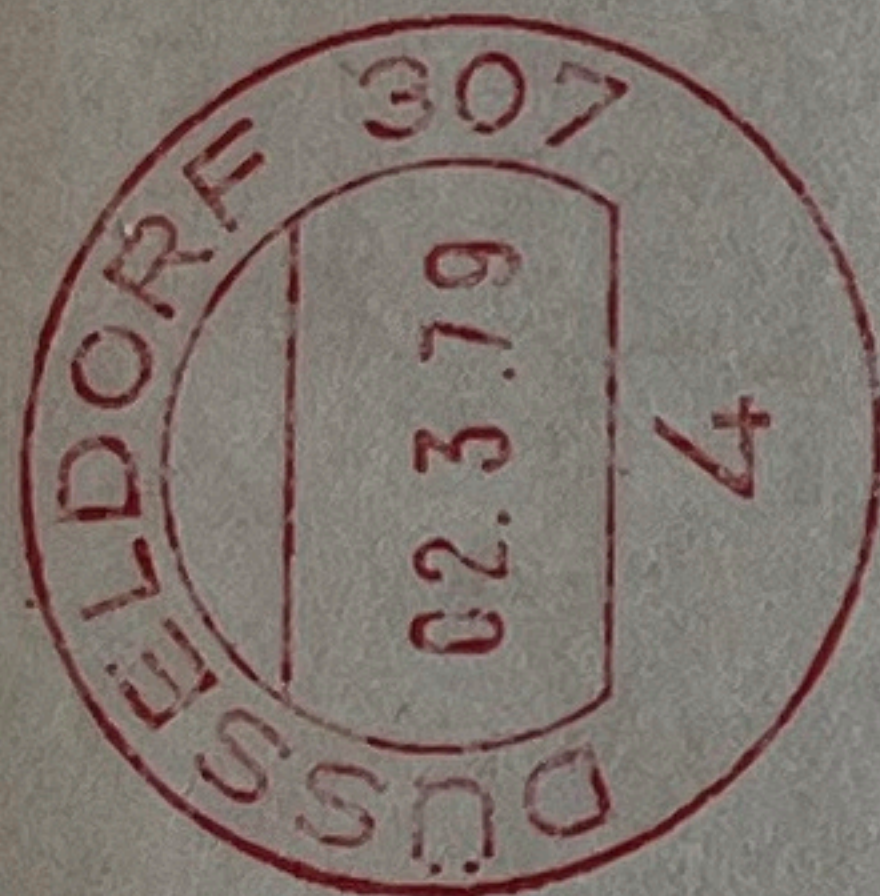
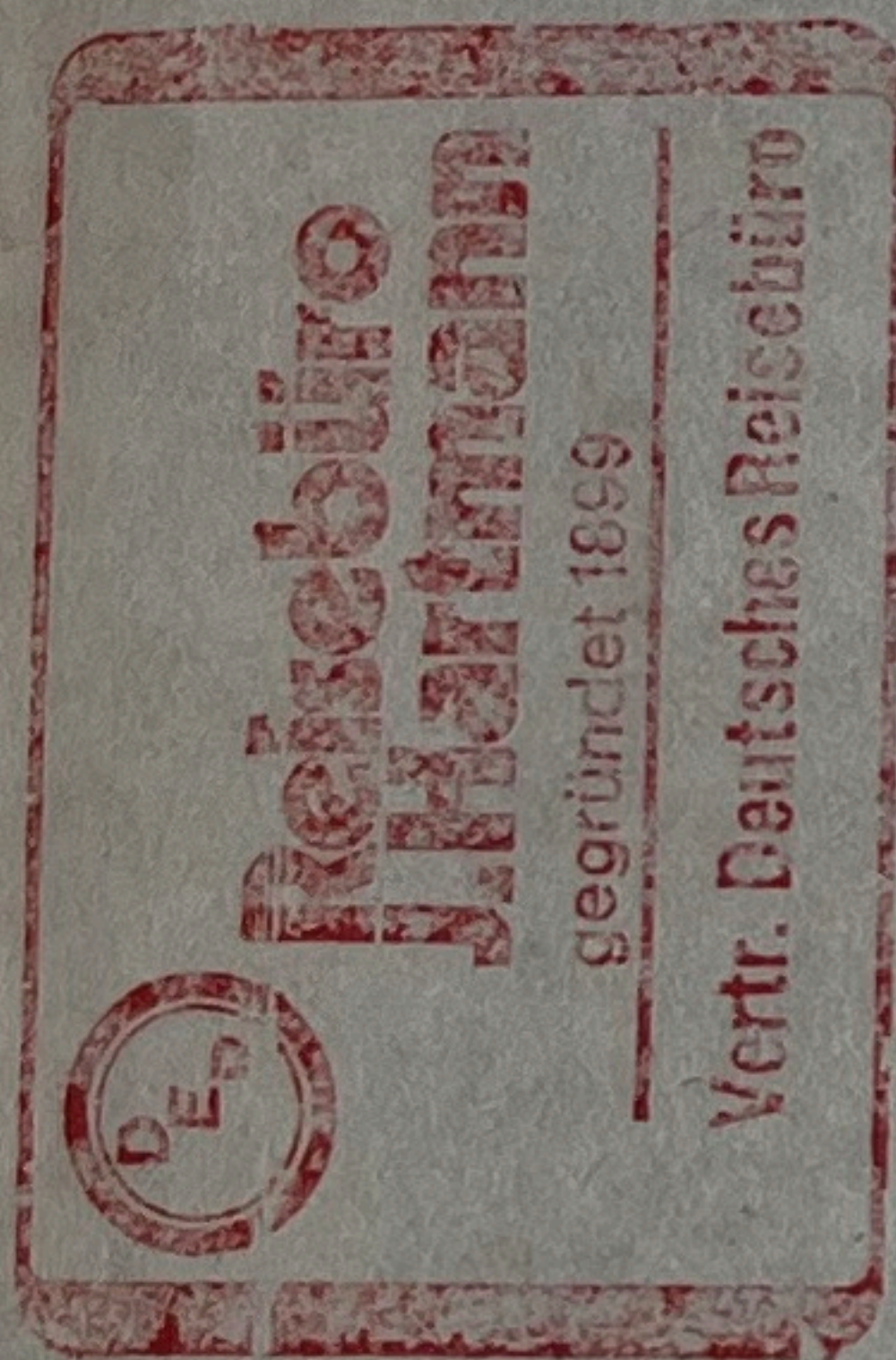
Foreign Mail Cachets
GERMANY

Letter to Ireland with meter mark from Düsseldorf dated 02. MAR 1979 with red framed cachet

"Zurück / Wiederaufnahme des Postverkehrs nicht abzusehen" with red manuscript „received as returned mail on 23 / 5 / 1979“

LEITZ 4734
Made in Germany

*Zurückgekommen am
23/5/79*



Zurück

Wiederaufnahme des
Postverkehrs nicht abzusehen

Drucksache

*H. Schmidt
Heidestraße 6a*

4800 Bielefeld 12

Tel. 0521/49058



Zurück
Wiederaufnahme des
Postverkehrs nicht abzusehen
Mr. H. Schmidt
Horst Schaper
Marlton House
Wicklow / Rep. Ireland

Printed matter from Bielefeld to Wicklow dated 9 MAR 1973 with red framed cachet "Zurück / Wiederaufnahme des Postverkehrs nicht abzusehen"

ce



ELECTRONIC PRODUCT NEWS

c/o Lithographic Universal
BRAY Co WICKLOW
IRELAND

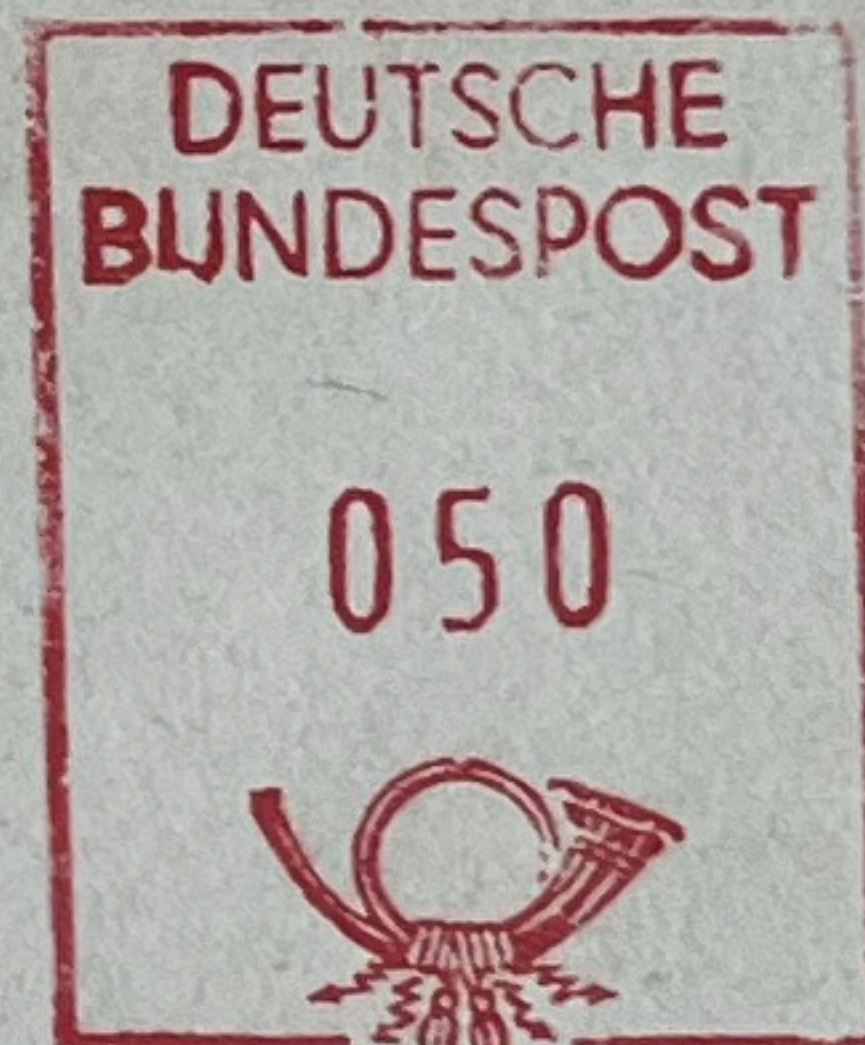
342

Posto

1979 with red framed
"nicht abzusehen"
able"

Birkner & Co., Verlag
2000 Hamburg 52
Wichmannstraße 4

DRUCKSACHE / IMPRIME



Zurück

We	v. H.	Auftr.	Kart.
Dr	22. MAI	1979	
Re	von	Beantworten	

Bunzl Pulp & Paper Ltd.
Macroom Co. Cork
Ireland

Postaustausch

Printed Matter with meter mark from Hamburg to Macroom dated 15 May 1979 with two different violet single line cachets "Zurück" and „z.Zt. kein Post austausch“ - „Retour“ and "actually no postal exchange" and green company cachet dated 22 may 1979 upon return of letter

4734 copysafe

LEITZ

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Cachets

Germany



Private T
Ewald
Postf
6233 H

Letter fro

line violet cachet



Postcard with meter mark from Heidelberg dated 10 April 1979
with double line violet cachet

“ZURÜCK AN ABS. / z.ZT. KEIN POSTVERKEHR”
„RETOR to sender, actually no Postal Traffic”

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The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Labels

Germany – United States

Beside different cachets applied at sorting offices on mail to Ireland specific labels have been used at regular German sorting offices, at various German Air Mail Direction Offices (Air Mail Facilities) and at the United States Postal Services.

These were printed labels with a notice "Return to Sender" and the information that the postal services to Ireland or the Irish Free State (!!!) or the Air Mail Service has been (temporarily) suspended.

The German labels include also statements like : "it is totally uncertain when the services with this country will be resumed" and /or with the additional notice that "it has been decided that from 9 May 79 onwards (Air Mail Sorting Office, München Airport) – or from 14 May 79 onwards

(Air Mail Sorting Office, Hamburg Airport) - no mail to Ireland will be accepted", The Hamburg Airport label also states that "the public has been informed about the stop of mail acceptance via Radio, Press or Television on 15 May 79"

The first German standard label was issued at sorting offices within the responsibility of the General Postal Directorate Frankfurt" and with the general information that "forwarding of mail to the Republic of Ireland is temporarily not possible".

Special labels of the Air Mail Direction Offices (Luftpostleitstelle) in Germany are known from the Air Mail Facilities at Hamburg, Köln, Stuttgart and from Hannover (Auslandsstelle)

United States



Letter from Rochester, dated 8 Apr 1979 to Ballygerrin, County Clare.

The only known US-label stating

"AIR MAIL SERVICES TEMPORARILY / SUSPENDED / RETURN TO SENDER"

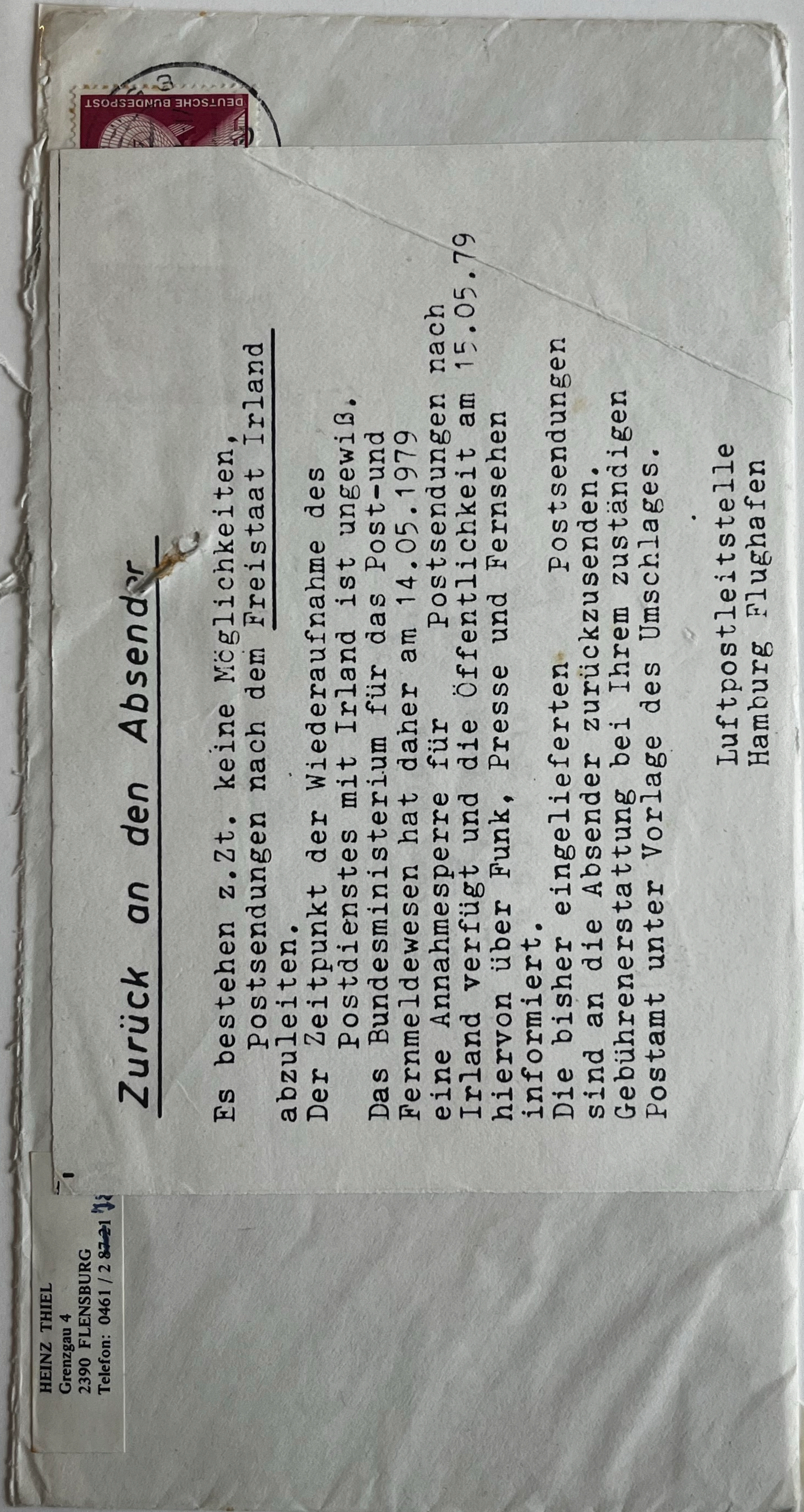
This letter was obviously not returned to sender but stored at a US postal facility and forwarded to Ireland after the end of strike. Before forwarding, however, the text of the label was crossed out.

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Labels

Germany

Labels of Air Mail Direction Office Hamburg



HEINZ THIEL
Grenzgau 4
2390 FLENSBURG
Telefon: 0461 / 2 87 21

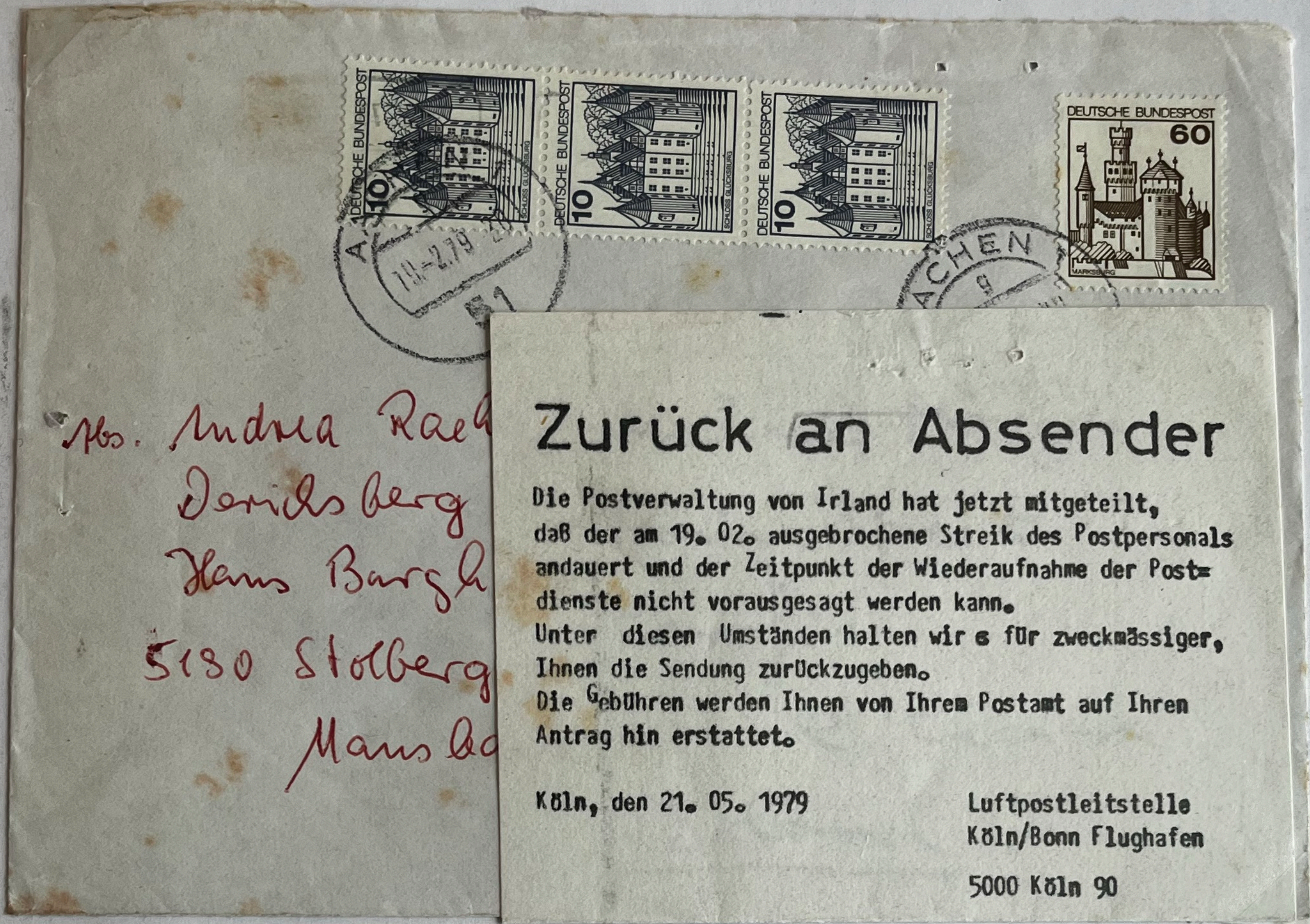
Letter from Flensburg to Dublin dated 15 March 1979
with Air Mail Direction Office Label Hamburg.
The date when the letter was returned is unknown.

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Labels

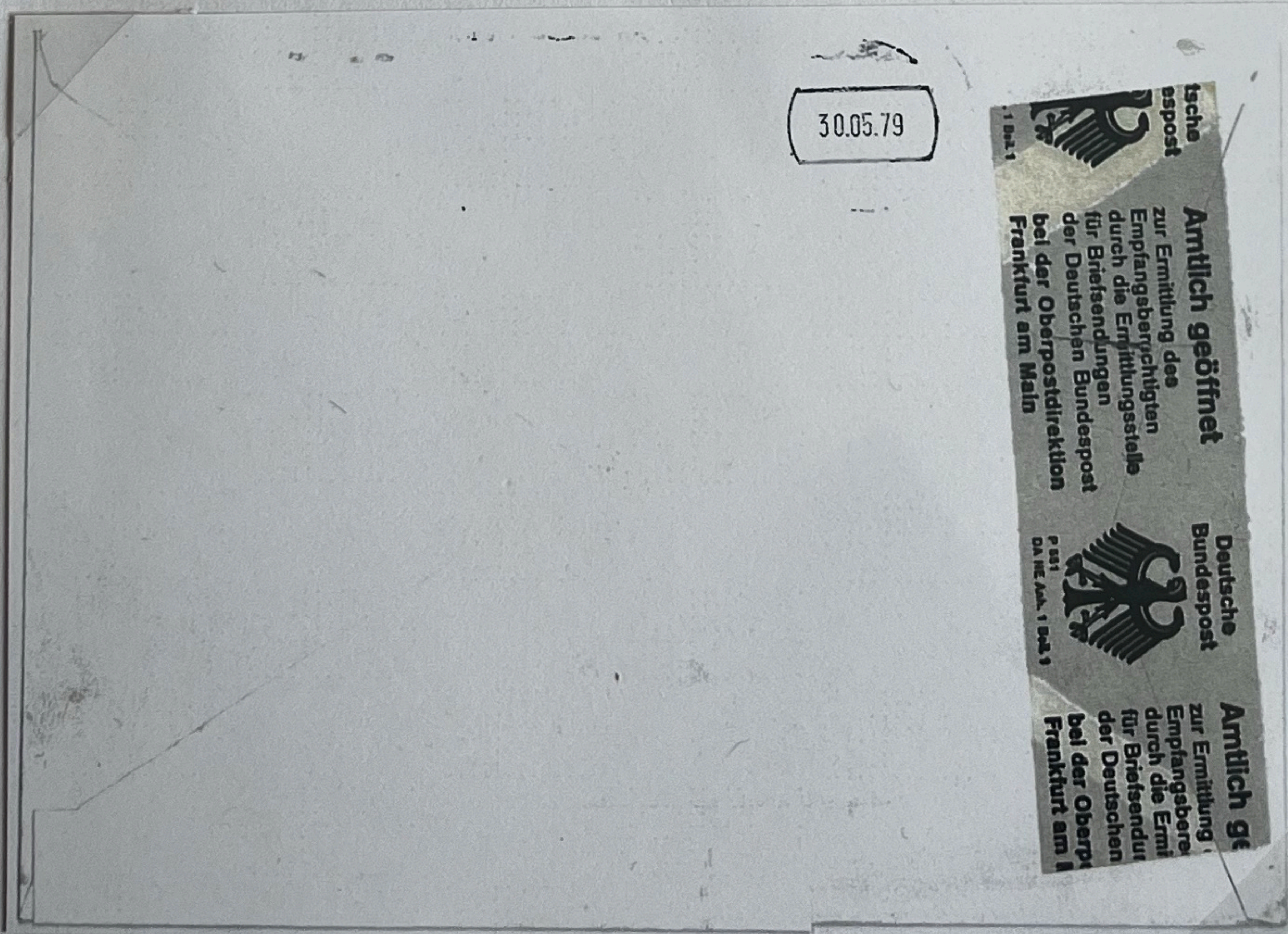
Germany

Labels of Air Mail Direction Office Köln/Bonn Airport



Letter from Aachen to Corofin, Co. Clare dated 19 Feb 1979,
(the day of the outbreak of the postal strike) with the label of the
Air Mail Direction Office Köln/Bonn Airport

Obviously the Air Mail Direction Office at Köln/Bonn Airport issued
two different labels with various typing, e.g. 3rd line 4th word "Z" half line higher,
5th line 6th word letters "es" merged into one letter



As there was no sender given on front or reverse the envelope was "officially" opened by the
"Investigation Office for letter Mail of the Federal German Post Office at the Regional Postal
Directorate Frankfurt am Main", resealed with cello tape,
cancelled on 30 May 1979 and provided with the sender's address in red ms on the front

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Labels

Germany

Labels of Air Mail Direction Office Köln/Bonn Airport

Kurt Rappold
5064 Rösrath
Wollenweberaue 10
Tel. 02205/5382

Zurück an Absender

Die Postverwaltung von Irland hat jetzt mitgeteilt, daß der am 19. 02. ausgebrochene Streik des Postpersonals andauert und der Zeitpunkt der Wiederaufnahme der Postdienste nicht vorausgesagt werden kann.

Unter diesen Umständen halten wir es für zweckmäßiger, Ihnen die Sendung zurückzugeben.

Die Gebühren werden Ihnen von Ihrem Postamt auf Ihren Antrag hin erstattet.

Köln, den 21. 05. 1979

Luftpostleitstelle
Köln/Bonn Flughafen

5000 Köln 90

Letter from Rösrath to Ireland dated 30 Apr 1979

The label reads :

"RETURN TO SENDER

The Irish Postal Authority has now advised us that the strike of the Postal workers which commenced on 19 Feb 1979 still continues and that it is not possible to forecast a date on which the service will resume. Under these circumstances we deem it expedient to return the consignment to you.

The postage will be refunded by your Post Office upon application.

Köln, 25 May 1979

Air Mail Direction Office Köln/Bonn Airport
5000 Köln 90"

This label differs from the previous one (Aachen to Corofin 19 Feb 1979) as follows :

e.g. 3rd line 4th word "Z" one line higher,
5th line 6th word "es" (in correct spelling)

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Labels

Germany

Labels of Air Mail Direction Office München



ZURÜCK an den Absender

Sehr geehrter Postkunde!

Angesichts des andauernden Streiks des Postpersonals in Irland bestehen z. Z. keine Möglichkeiten, Postsendungen nach Irland abzuleiten. Der Zeitpunkt der Wiederaufnahme des Postdienstes mit diesem Land ist gegenwärtig völlig ungewiß. Auf Anweisung des Bundesministeriums für das Post- und Fernmeldewesen sind deshalb alle seit 19.02.79 lagernder Sendungen an die Absender zurückzugeben. Gleichzeitig wurde am 09.05.79 für Sendungen nach Irland eine Annahmesperre ausgesprochen.

Die Gebühren werden von Ihrem Postamt unter Vorlage dieses Briefumschlags erstattet.

Bahnpostamt München
Luftpostleitstelle

al Airport

Letter from München to Dublin dated 24 March 1979 with Air Mail Direction Office Label München. The letter contained prepared envelopes for the first flights Dublin-Brussels and Dublin Zürich on 2nd April 1979. The letter was returned to the sender end of May 1979

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Labels

Germany

Labels of Air Mail Direction Office München

LEITZ

4734
copysafe

ZURÜCK an den Absender

Sehr geehrter Postkunde!

Angesichts des andauernden Streiks des Postpersonals in Irland bestehen z. Z. keine Möglichkeiten, Postsendungen nach Irland abzuleiten. Der Zeitpunkt der Wiederaufnahme des Postdienstes mit diesem Land ist gegenwärtig völlig ungewiß. Auf Anweisung des Bundesministeriums für das Post- und Fernmeldewesen sind deshalb alle seit 19.02.79 lagernden Sendungen an die Absender zurückzugeben. Gleichzeitig wurde am 09.05.79 für Sendungen nach Irland eine Annahmesperre ausgesprochen.

Die Gebühren werden von Ihrem Postamt unter Vorlage dieses Briefumschlags erstattet.

DM 1,90
München 26/5.79

Bahnpostamt München
Luftpostleitstelle

Blume
Kempton/Allgäu
89600
Telefon 0831/93990



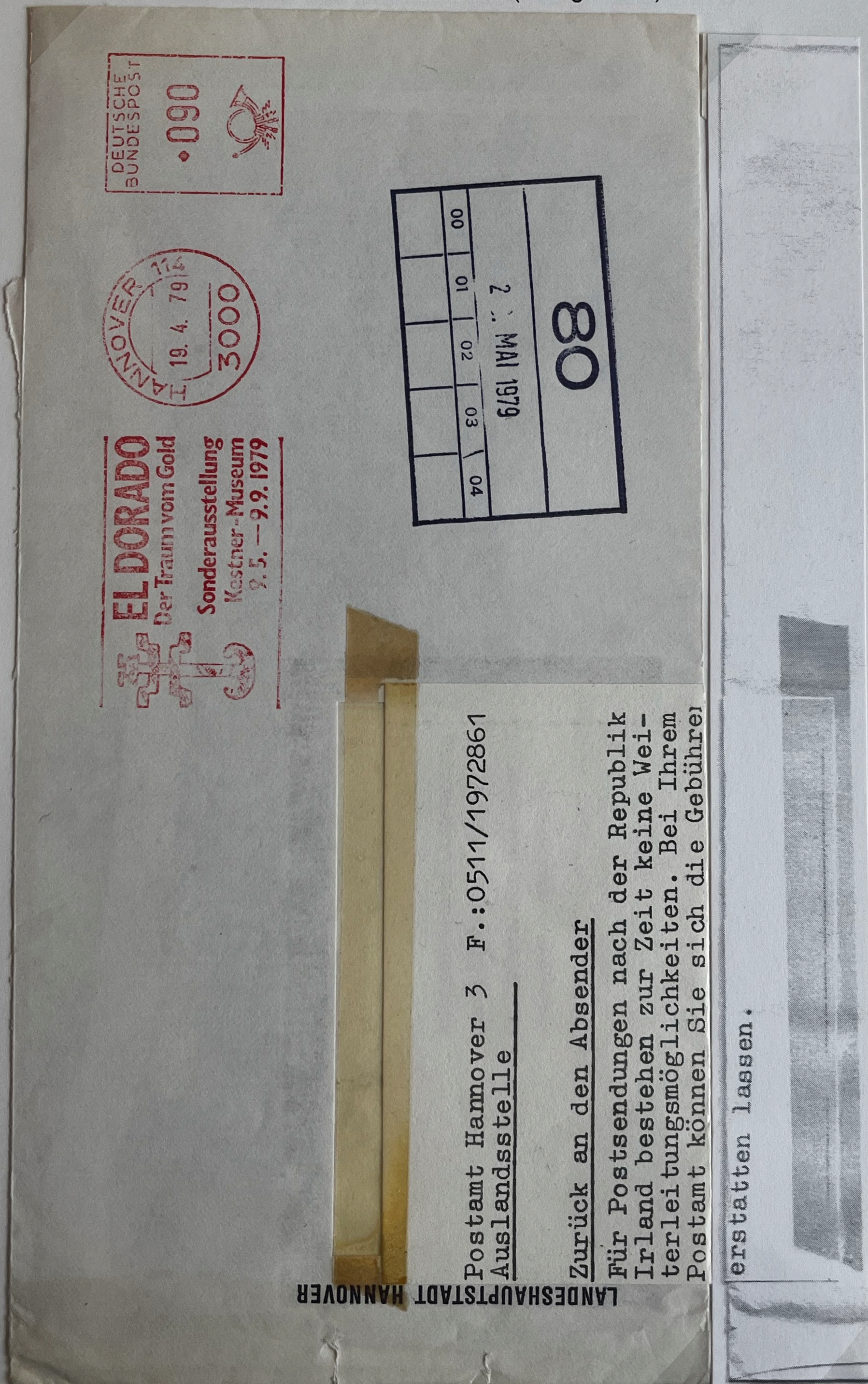
Letter from Kempton, Allgäu to Dublin dated 8 March 1979. Obviously the letter was neither forwarded nor returned before 09 May 1979 (see explanation in the label : no mail acceptance for Ireland since 09.05.79). The letter was returned to the sender on 26 May, see manuscript notice on the label. The postage of DM 1,90 was also returned.

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Labels

Germany

Labels of Air Mail Direction Office (Foreign Mails) Hannover



Letter from Hannover to Ireland with meter mark dated 19 April 1979 and Air Mail Direction Office Label (Foreign Mails) Hannover. The letter was returned to the sender on 28 May 1979.

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Labels

Germany

Standard printed post office label



Postcard from Niedernhausen to Dublin dated 2 July 1979 with standard printed post office label
Although the postal strike was already finished 25 June 1979
The standard printed label has been affixed.



Letter from Wiesbaden to Port Laoise, Laoise with handstamp dated 20 May 1979 and standard printed post office label. The letter was resent to Post Laoise with machine cancel Wiesbaden dated 30. July 1979.

4734
copysafe

LEITZ

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Label
- substitute post office label -

Germany

LEITZ 4734



Letter from (postal code:) 6300 Lahn to Dublin dated 19 June 1979 with a yellow substitute label "Zurück an den Absender" and in ms : „Poststreik / in Irland” (Return to sender....in ms „Postal Strike in Ireland“

Obviously the standard labels issued by the Regional Postal Directorate (Oberpostdirektion) Frankfurt am Main, - the responsible directorate for all postal codes 6000-6999 - were actually not available or had run out and substitute labels have been used instead.

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Foreign Mail Label
- substitute post office labels -

Germany



Letter from (postal code:) 6236 Hofheim to Kiltarney dated 29 May 1979 with a white substitute label from 623 Frankfurt am Main 80

“Zurück an den Absender” and in ms : „Poststreik in Irland” / Annahmesperre”
(Return to sender....in ms „Postal Strike in Ireland / Stoppage on acceptance“)

Obviously the standard labels issued by the
Regional Postal Directorate (Oberpostdirektion) Frankfurt am Main,
- the responsible directorate for all postal codes 6000-6999 -
were actually not available or had run out and substitute labels have been used instead.

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Backstamped Mail

During the strike period some First Flights from abroad to Dublin had been scheduled and respective covers were either cancelled on the day of First Flight or on the day of the real flight at the airport of departure.

Due to the strike all such mail was stored and forwarded to Dublin on 2 July 1979 the first day when mail from abroad was accepted again by the Irish Mail.

After arrival these covers were backstamped in Dublin on 3 July 1979 for returning to the sender

SWISSAIR-Erstflug SR 850 Zürich-Dublin am 1.4.1979



Miss
Atja Götzova
poste restante

Baile Atha Cliath

Dublin - Airport

Rep. of Ireland

Letter from Zürich prepared for the Swissair DC-9 First Flight SR 850
Dublin - Zürich on 1 April 1979 with cancel Zürich-Flughafen, dated 1 April 1979

in case of undelivery please return to :

Heinz-Jürgen Kumpf
Euckenstr. 5/Postfach 701126
D-8000 München 70 / Germany



Backstamped Dublin 3 July 1979

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Backstamped Mail




ZÜRICH - DUBLIN
ERSTFLUG 1. APRIL 1979




SWISSAIR DC-9 Erstflug SR-850
Zürich-Dublin, 1. 4. 1979
Erste Postbeförderung, wegen Poststreik
in Irland, erst am 2. 7. 1979

Luftpost
einschreiben

SWISSAIR
Anne Street South
34 Grafton Street
DUBLIN/Ireland



9490 Vaduz
Postwertzeichenstelle
der Fürstl. Regierung
332

SWISSAIR DC-9 Erstflug SR-850
Zürich-Dublin, 1. 4. 1979
Erste Postbeförderung, wegen Poststreik
in Irland, erst am 2. 7. 1979

Green cachet Vaduz



Backstamped
Dublin 3 July 1979

Registered letter from Vaduz/Liechtenstein prepared for the Swissair DC-9 First Flight SR 850 Dublin – Zürich on 1 April 1979 with cancel Vaduz dated 30 March 1979 and green cachet stating that mail was forwarded on 2 July 1979 due to the Irish Postal Strike



DC-9-ERSTFLUG
ZURICH - DUBLIN
SR-850



SWISSAIR DC-9 Erstflug SR-850
Zürich-Dublin, 1. 4. 1979
Erste Postbeförderung, wegen Poststreik
in Irland, erst am 2. 7. 1979




9494 Schaan



171

PHILA SERVICE
Poste restante
DUBLIN -Airport
Flugpost

SWISSAIR DC-9 Erstflug SR-850
Zürich-Dublin, 1. 4. 1979
Erste Postbeförderung, wegen Poststreik
in Irland, erst am 2. 7. 1979

Violet cachet Schaan



Backstamped
Dublin 3 July 1979

Registered letter from Schaan/Liechtenstein prepared for the Swissair DC-9 First Flight SR 850 Dublin – Zürich on 1 April 1979 with cancel Schaan dated 1 April 1979 and violet cachet stating that mail was forwarded on 2 July 1979 due to the Irish Postal Strike

LEITZ 4734

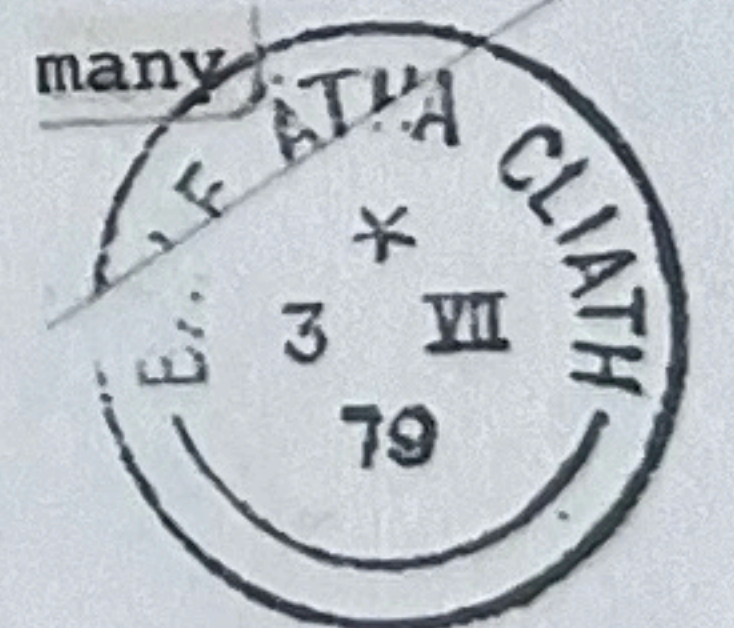
The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Backstamped Mail



Backstamped
Dublin 3 July 1979

Registered letter from Ruggell/Liechtenstein prepared for the Swissair DC-9 First Flight
SR 850 Dublin – Zürich on 1 April 1979 with cancel Ruggell dated 26 March 1979



Backstamped
Dublin 3 July 1979

Letter from Brussels prepared for the Sabena First Flight
SN 631 Brussels – Zürich on 2 April 1979 with cancel Brussel - Bruxelles dated 2 July 1979.
This cover was not cancelled on the day of the originally scheduled First Flight on 2 April 1979
but only on 2 July 1979, the day of the real flight.

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Lack of Postage Dues

When the postal workers went back they faced a mammoth backlog. The Department continued refusing to accept first-class mail for a couple of weeks, and second-class mail and parcels were not accepted until about four weeks after the strike had ended.

One of the first noticeable effects was the lack of postage dues. Ordinary postage stamps were used as postage due labels in a number of cases. The time slugs were removed from most post-marks (as they were from the pillar boxes).



26 Nov 1979



Nov 1979



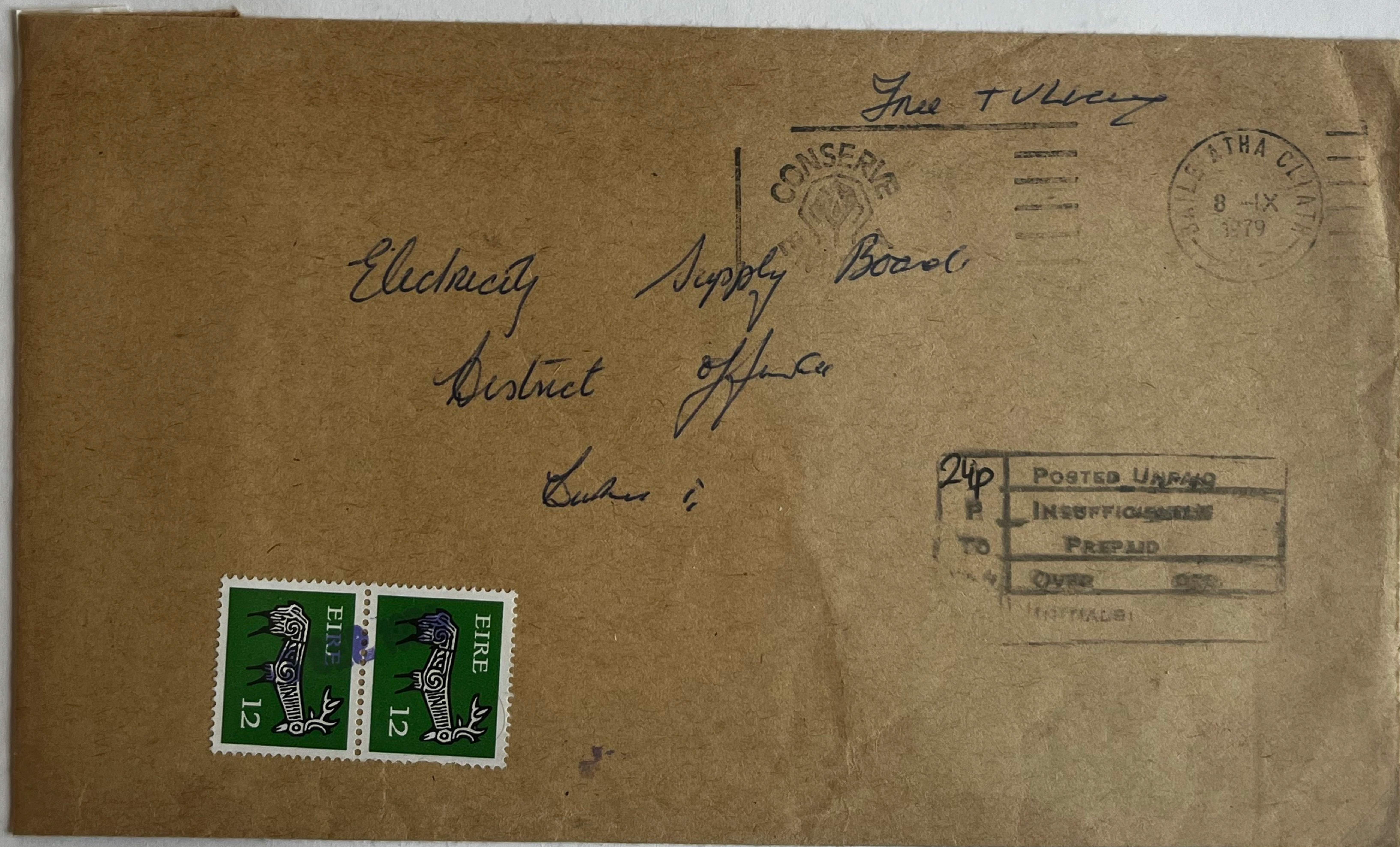
Letter to the Electricity Supply Board, posted without stamps and taxed with handstruck 20 P on cachet TO PAY / POSTED UNPAID, charge collected by way of 20 p Gerl definitive tied by linear 3 AUG 1979 in violet as provisional use of Definitives as Postage Dues during the Postal Strike

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Lack of Postage Dues



Cut out dated 3 May 1979
this must be an error and
should mean 3 May 1980



Letter to the Electricity Supply Board, posted without stamps but cancelled with
Dublin machine cancel dated 8 Sep 1979 and taxed with
handstruck 24 P on cachet TO PAY / POSTED UNPAID, charge collected by way of
Gerl definitive 12p stag, pair tied by linear 13 Sep 1979 in violet as
provisional use of Definitives as Postage Dues during the Postal Strike

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Lack of Postage Dues



Letter to the Electricity Supply Board, posted without stamps but cancelled with Dublin machine cancel dated 13 July 1979 and taxed with handstruck 24 P on cachet TO PAY / POSTED UNPAID, charge collected by way of Gerl definitive 8 p dog stag, strip of three tied by linear 13 Sep 1979 in violet as provisional use of Definitives as Postage Dues during the Postal Strike

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Lack of Postage Dues



Letter to the Electricity Supply Board in Dublin 2, posted without stamps and taxed with handstruck 24 p on cachet TO PAY / POSTED UNPAID, charge (12x2 = 24 p) collected by way of Postage 8 p red, strip of three, tied by linear 27 Sep 1979 in violet as provisional use of a plain datestamp during the Postal Strike.

The 1979 Irish Post Office Strike

Lack of Postage Dues

15 Terenure Road, East, DUBLIN 6

31 vii 80

Dear Uncle Stafford,



This postmark is eminently collectable if on envelope with postage due charge marks.

When last year's P & T strike came to an end there was a shortage of postage due labels and the Central Sorting Office improvised with the postal definitives, cancelled by the single-line datestamp.

I believe that the staff concerned are continuing the practice and genuinely used postage dues are quite rare! There is little effort to collect from individuals, but concerns like the ESB who can be charged a few pounds every day are mulcted.

I had great joy at Ian Whyte's auction last week, obtaining a hitherto unrecorded stamp in a small lot of mixed fiscals. It is a £10 LEGACIES George III, and from my study of the duty at the time it must have been applicable only when there was a penalty for late stamping.

There was a hectic rush yesterday, all the speculators trying to buy the limited stocks of the miniature sheet. St. Andrew's Street were sold out by 9 a.m. I did not join the rush having placed my limited order in advance.

Good Wishes

Freddy

Letter from Fred Dixon to Stafford Johnson dated 31 July 1980 explaining inter alia
The provisional use of plain datestamps during the Postal Strike and afterwards