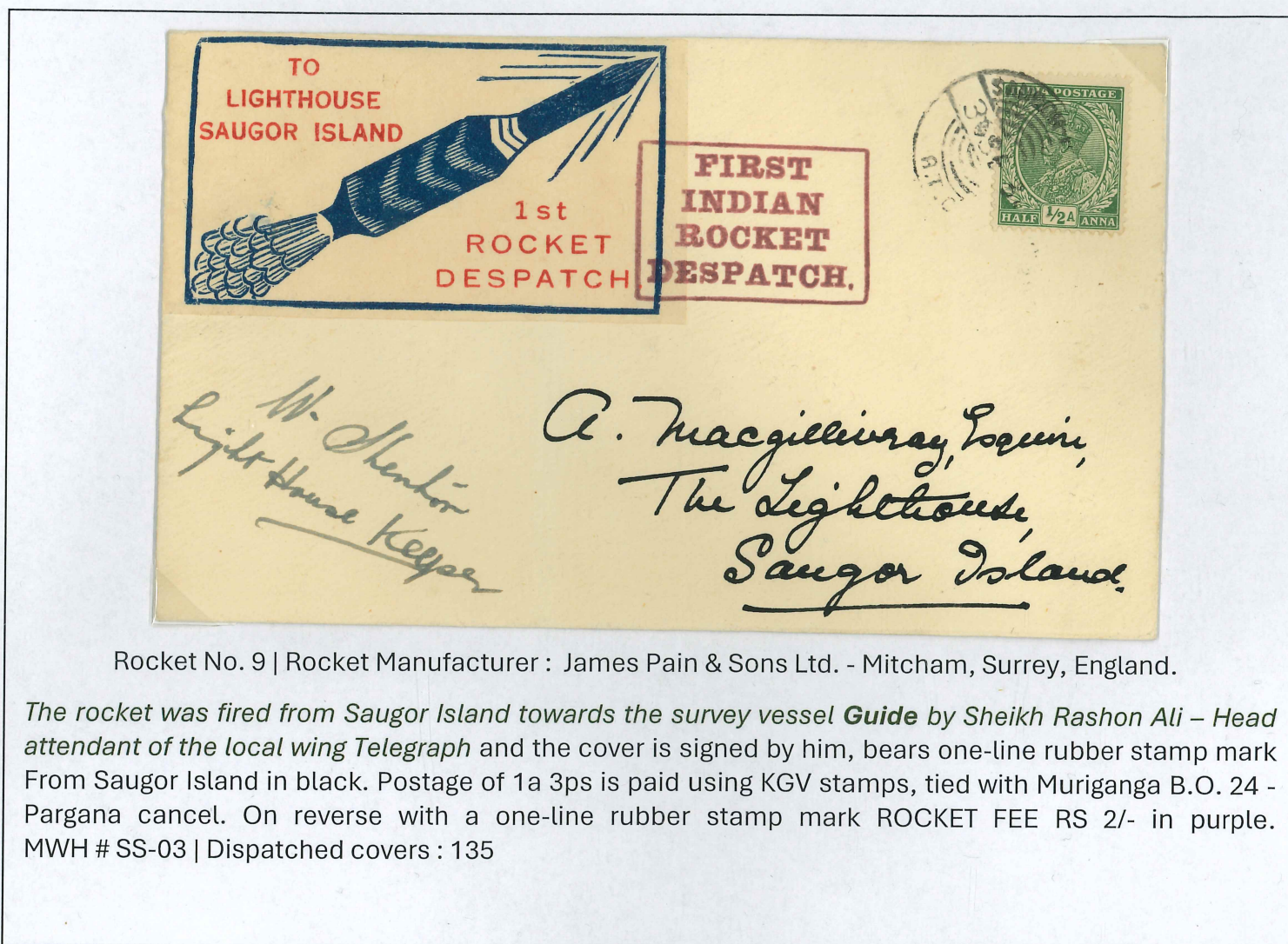


Chapter # 1 | Early Rocket experiment in India

Shore of Saugor Island to Ship | Date of firing : 3rd October, 1934 at 9.00 am.



First Rocket experiment of India

Ship to Shore – Saugor Island

Date of Firing 30th March 1934, 3.30 pm.



Rocket No. 1 | Rocket Manufacturer : Orient fireworks, Calcutta

First attempt to ignite the **India's first rocket (carrying the mails)** was done by Captain Charley Patteu of the dispatch Vessel **Pannesy** but it was not successful. After many attempts Stephen Smith ignited the rocket and it was lifted off, however it got burst in the mid-air.

MWH # SS-01 | Dispatched covers - 143 / 3 were lost in the sea and 140 were recovered.

Chapter # 1 | Early Rocket experiment in India

Shore of Saugor Island to Ship | Date of firing : 3rd October, 1934 at 9.00 am.

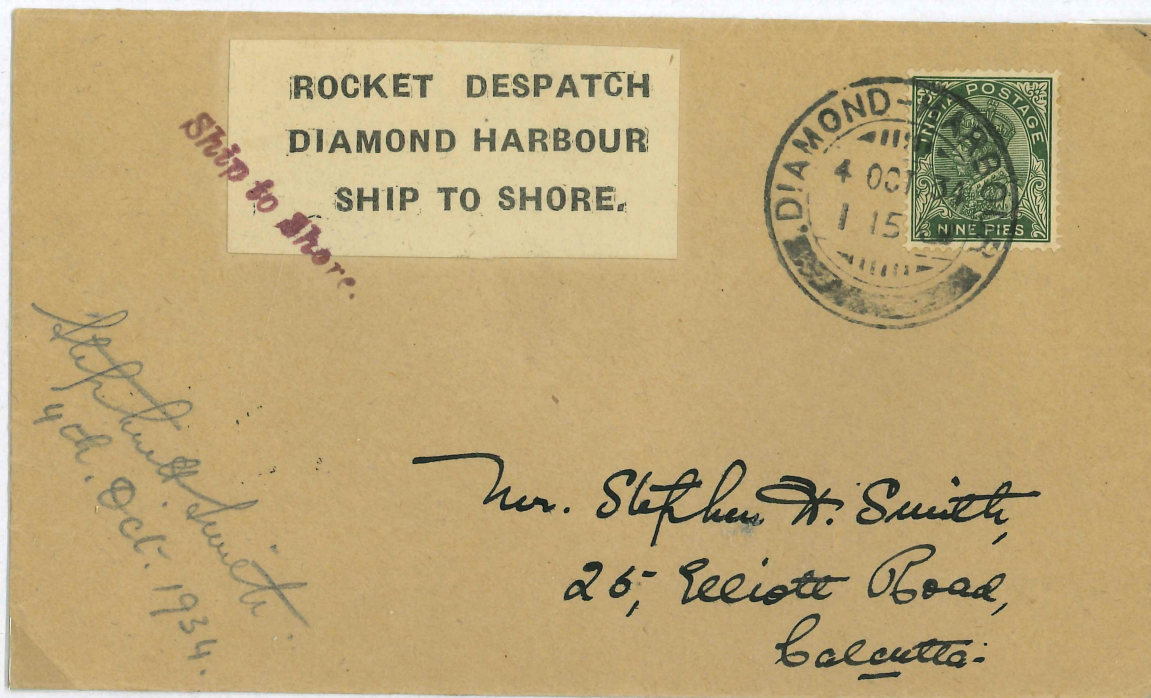


Rocket No. 9 | Rocket Manufacturer : James Pain & Sons Ltd. - Mitcham, Surrey, England.

The rocket was fired from Saugor Island towards the survey vessel **Guide** by Sheikh Rashon Ali – Head attendant of the local wing Telegraph and the cover is signed by him, bears one-line rubber stamp mark From Saugor Island in black. Postage of 1a 3ps is paid using KGV stamps, tied with Muriganga B.O. 24 - Pargana cancel. On reverse with a one-line rubber stamp mark ROCKET FEE RS 2/- in purple. MWH # SS-03 | Dispatched covers : 135



Ship to Shore at Diamond Harbour | Date of firing : 4th October, 1934 at 12pm



Rocket No. 10 | Rocket Manufacturer : Orient fireworks, Calcutta

The rocket was fired from a fishing boat to the shore of Diamond harbor, The rocket got exploded after travelling 67 meters, the covers were got scattered all over and just reached the shore. the rocket label is tied with one-line rubber stamp mark Ship to Shore in blue.

MWH # SS-04 | Dispatched covers - 75

ROCKET DESPATCH
DIAMOND HARBOUR
SHIP TO SHORE.

Chapter # 1 | Early Rocket experiment in India – First Night Firing

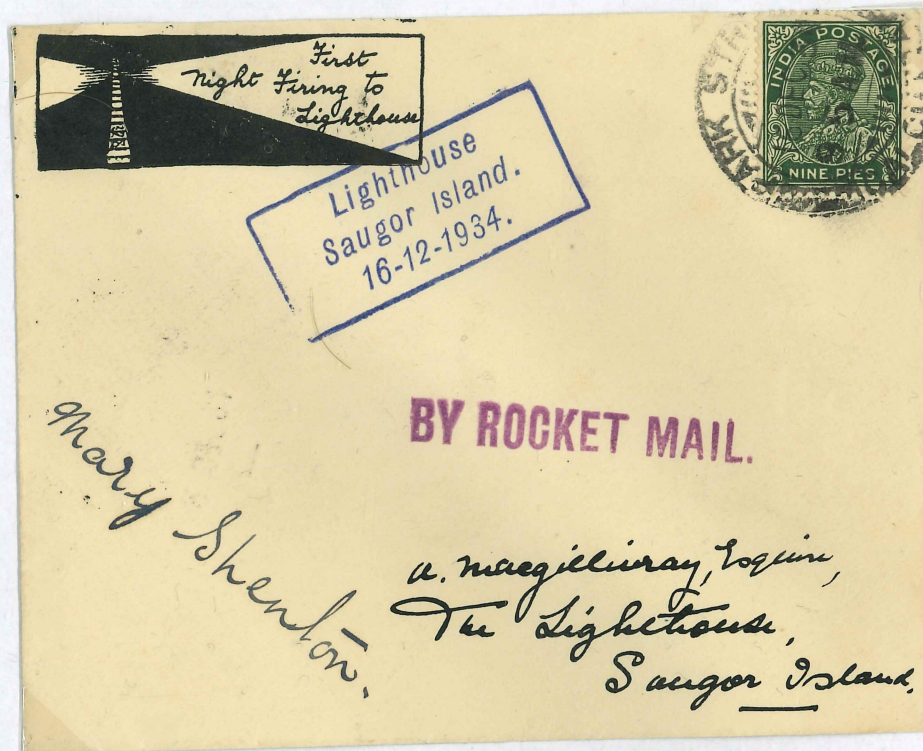
First Night firing from Ship to Shore | Date of firing : 16th December, 1934
at 9.00 pm.



Rocket No. 12 & 13 | Rocket Manufacturer : James Pain & Sons Ltd. - Mitcham, Surrey.
The rockets were fired from of a boat to Saugor Island during heftly swell, each rocket carried 110 mails along with a miniature sheet of Calcutta based daily newspaper *The Statesman*, the newspaper and the covers bear a one-line rubber stamp mark BY ROCKET MAIL in violet.



From Wing Telegraph (Semaphore Station) to Lighthouse | Date of firing:
16th December, 1934 at 9.30 pm.



Rocket No. 14 & 15 | Rocket Manufacturer : Orient fireworks, Calcutta.

The rockets were fired from Wing Telegraph (Semaphore Station) by Mary Shenton to Lighthouse and the cover is signed by her. Imprinted Rocket label tied with a rectangular box rubber stamp Light House Saugor Island. 16-12-1934 in violet.

Chapter # 1 | Early Rocket experiment in India – 2nd Night Firings.

Rocket mail with miniature copy of the newspaper - The Times of India



MWH # SS-07b | Dispatched covers – 110 | (with miniature of 4 different newspaper)

These newspaper advertisement covers were prepared Smith as a gesture to the print media,
as they were actively covering Smith's rocket mail experiment's news in their newspapers.



Rocket mail with miniature copy of the newspaper - The Times of India



MWH # SS-07b | Dispatched covers – 110 | (with miniature of 4 different newspaper)

These newspaper advertisement covers were prepared Smith as a gesture to the print media, as they were actively covering Smith's rocket mail experiment's news in their newspapers.

THE STATESMAN, SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 1931

NEW BOOKS REVIEWED.

CHARLES II.

SOCIAL PUBLICATIONS

FICTION.

SONG-GODDESS

Announcing the NEW Austin TWELVE-SIX

HERE is the new AUSTIN "Twelve-Six"—a car that is not only a masterpiece of engineering, but also a masterpiece of design. It is a car that is built for the modern family car, and it is a car that is built for the modern family car. It is a car that is built for the modern family car, and it is a car that is built for the modern family car.

NOW ON VIEW!

STEWART & Co., Ltd.
SHEPHERD, ST. PAUL, STREET, CALCUTTA.

KILL the Reeking ROACH!

FLIT

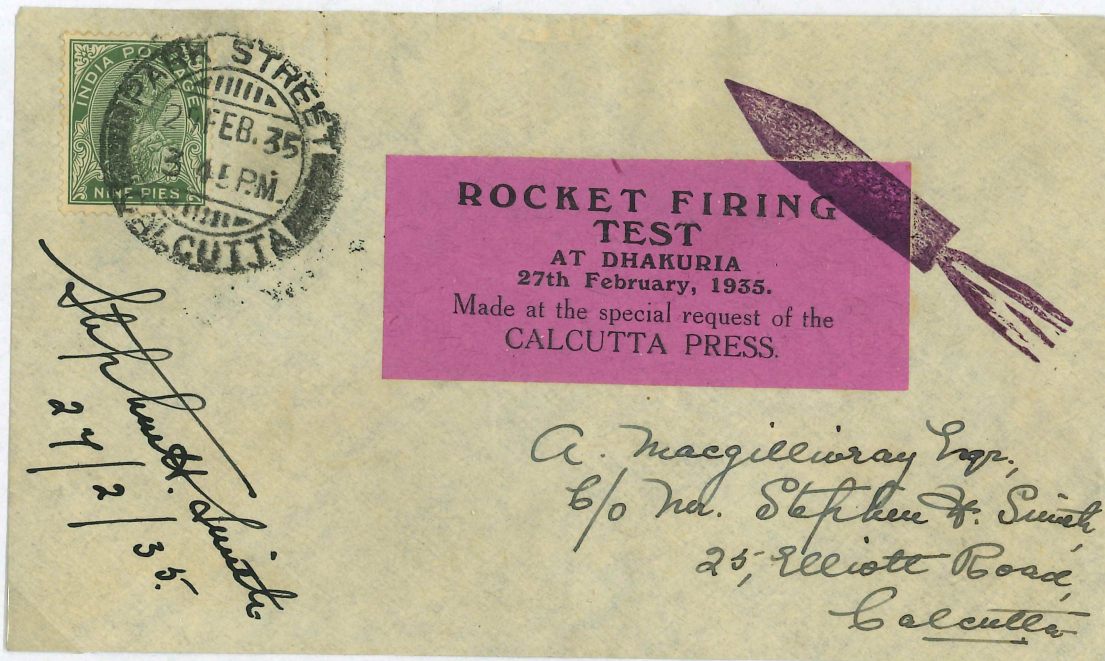
CHOICE RINGS

J. BOSECK & Co., Ltd.
CALCUTTA & LAMBHORE.

Chapter # 1 | Early Rocket experiment in India – Calcutta Press

Dhakuria (a suburb of Calcutta) | Date : 27th February, 1935 at 10.00 am.

Range of 3 to 4 colors are known and signed by Smith on reverse, however they cannot be considered as Proofs, since it is not mentioned by Smith.



Rocket No. 24 | MWH # SS08 | Dispatched covers – 130

This experiment was carried on special request by Calcutta Press, total 3 rockets were fired on this occasion, Rocket No. 24 carried the mails but 25 and 26 were fired without mails.



Chapter # 3 | Parcel Experiments for Quetta Earthquake relief fund

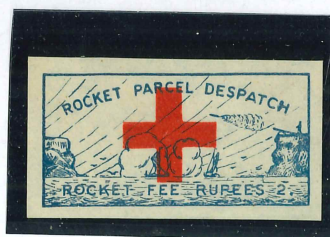
2nd Charity firing at Kolaghat with Red Cross label | Date : 6th June, 1935
@ 10.00 am.



Date of firing : 6-06-1935 | Rocket made from Metal and British cartridge paper.

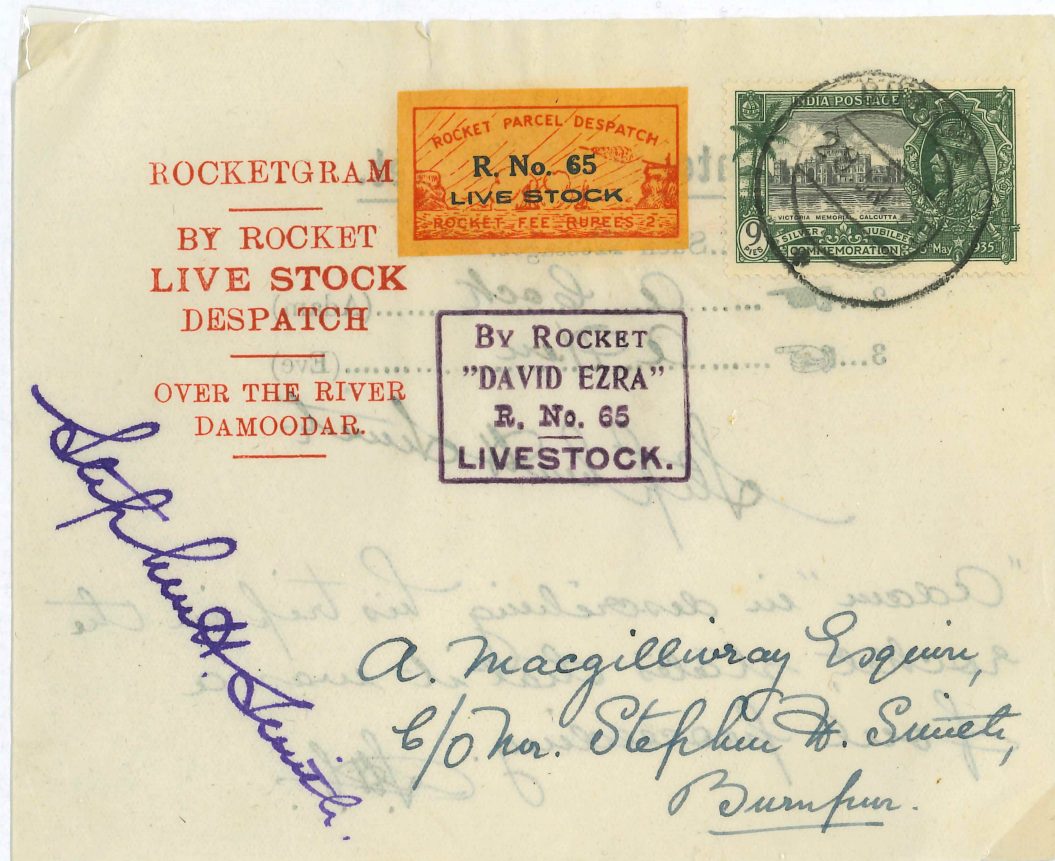
This rocket was fired by Smith after 20 minutes of Rocket No. 60 as the firing rack was so hot and can't be touched with bare hands, he used handkerchiefs and pieces of bags as pads to protect his hands.

The proceeds of the entire sale of these 2 firings were handed over to the Private Secretary to the Viceroy for His Excellency the Viceroy's Quetta Earthquake Relief Fund.



**Chapter # 3 | Parcel Experiments – World's 1st LIVE STOCK experiment –
A story of "Adam" & "Eve"**

Livestock firing of 2 birds | Date of firing : 29th June, 1935



Smith secured his name to be the 1st rocket experimenter in the world to transport the live birds (a Cock and a Hen) in the Rocket No. 65 named after a Calcutta based business man "David Ezra". Smith fired the rocket over river Damodar, it travelled 750 meter and landed successfully without any damage, both birds were survived uninjured, however they found restive perhaps of the confined space and the shock of the rocket.

Reverse of another missive is shown on top.

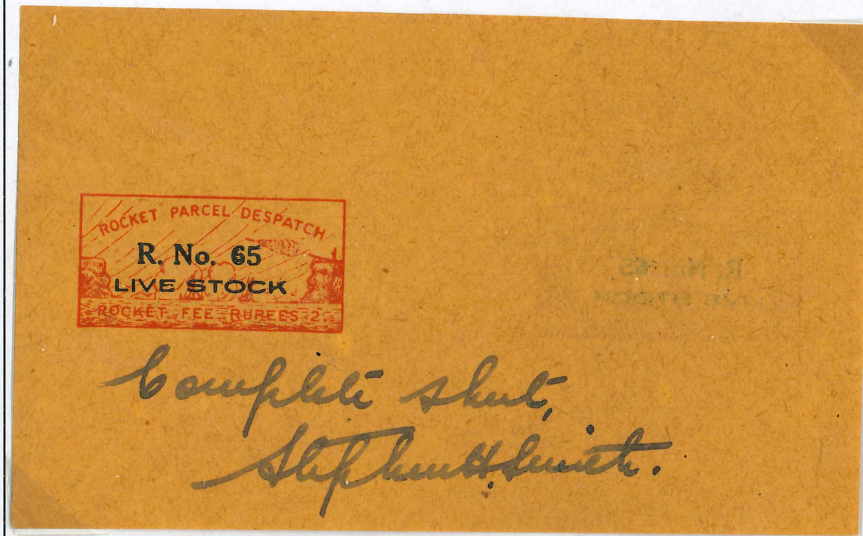
MWH # SS-21 | Dispatched Missives : 189



The scared Cock "Adam" is popping out from the rocket after landing.

Proofs of the label for LIVESTOCK experiment.

A complete sheet of the issued design of the label.



The issued labels were printed in red on thin orange paper and were overprinted in black.

R. No. 65 – Live Stock.

Printed on both side.

1 label on front
and 1 on back.



Chapter # 3 | Parcel Experiments – Bread - Butter in Rocket.

Parcel rocket with Bread-Butter | Date : 29th June, 1935 at 9.35am.

Obverse of a flown missive.



Rocket No. 66 | Rocket was made from Cartridge paper and wood

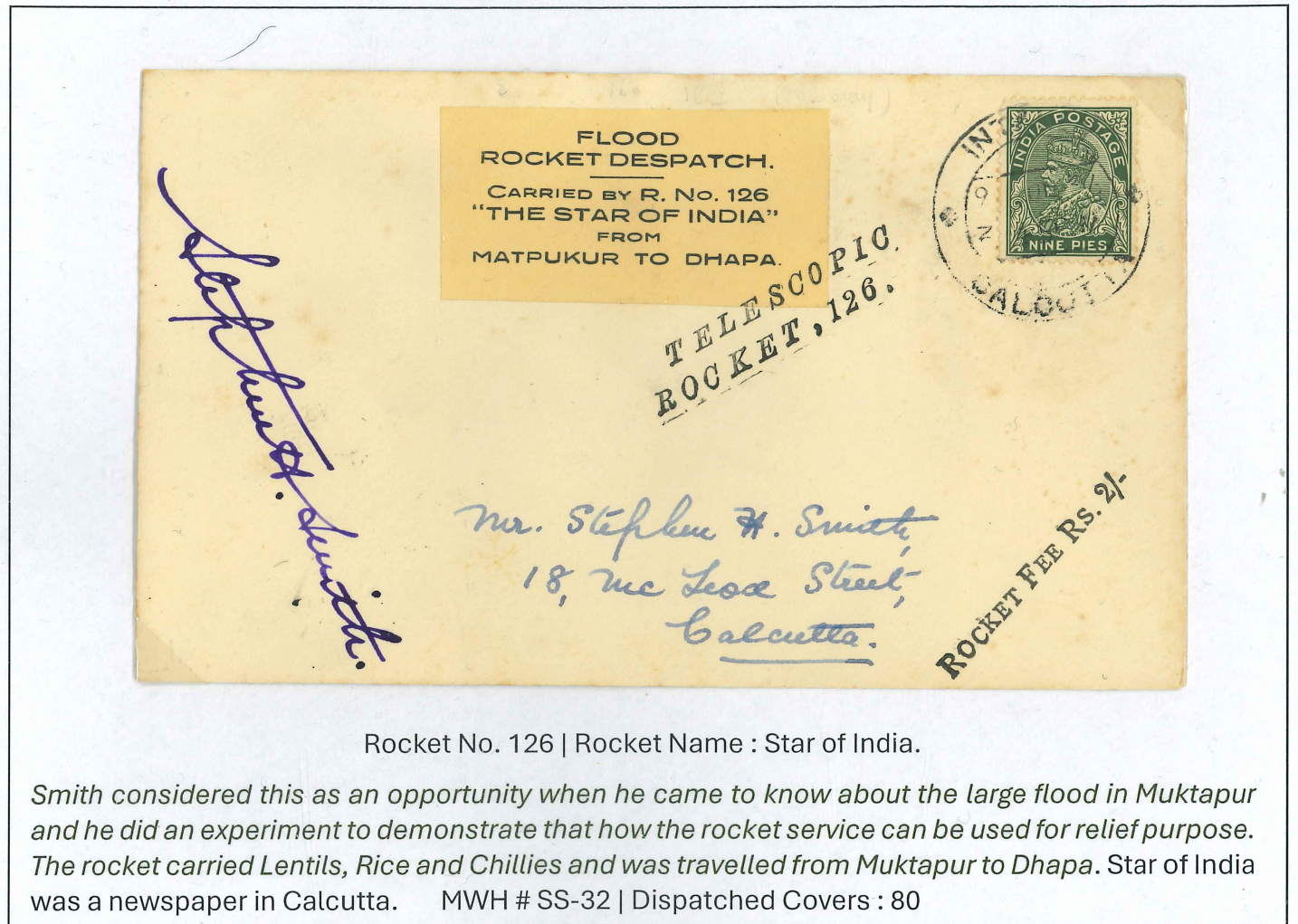
Smith fired this rocket within few minutes after the Livestock experiment with Rocket No. 65 to continue his parcel experiments over river Damodar, the rocket travelled approximate 850 meters carrying a small parcel of Bread, Butter, Ortal tablets and Di-Cal-Phos. The missives tied with the stamp of KGV nine pies - Silver Jubilee issue, the missives were then posted from Burnpur post office.

MWH # SS-22 | Dispatched Missives : 160



Chapter # 5 | Telescopic Rocket Experiments.

3rd Telescopic experiment for flood relief | Date : 9th June, 1936



Rocket No. 126 | Rocket Name : Star of India.

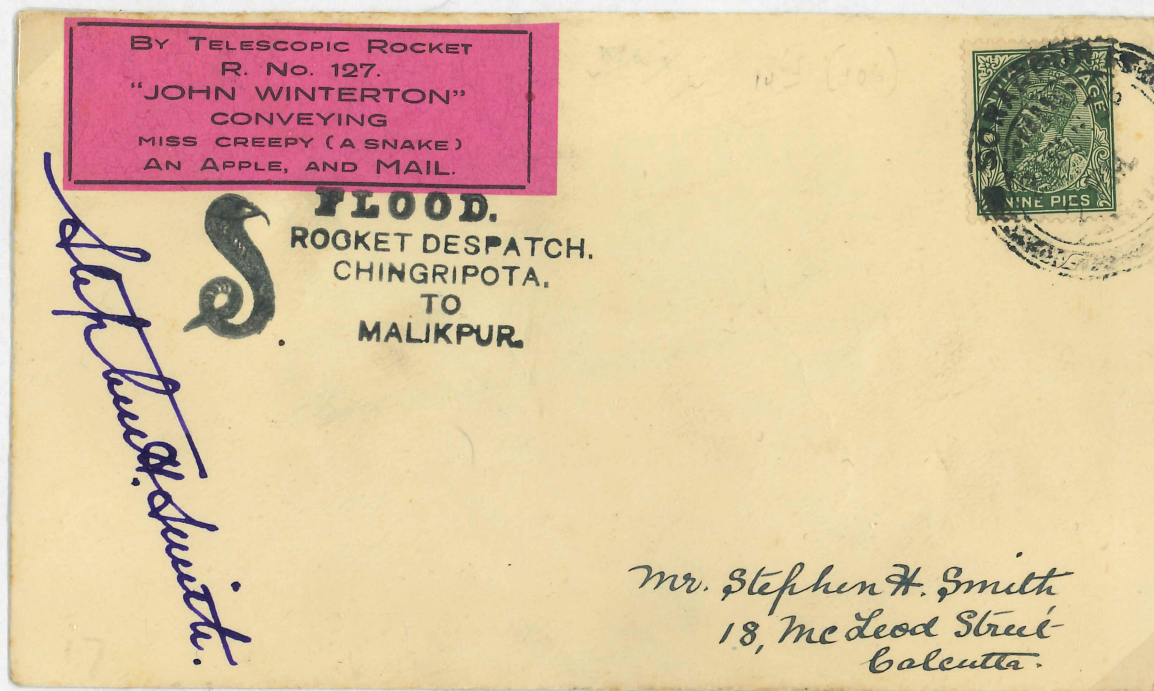
Smith considered this as an opportunity when he came to know about the large flood in Muktapur and he did an experiment to demonstrate that how the rocket service can be used for relief purpose. The rocket carried Lentils, Rice and Chillies and was travelled from Muktapur to Dhapa. Star of India was a newspaper in Calcutta. MWH # SS-32 | Dispatched Covers : 80

FLOOD
ROCKET DESPATCH.
CARRIED BY R. No. 126
"THE STAR OF INDIA"
FROM
MATPUKUR TO DHAPA.

Chapter # 5 | Telescopic Rocket Experiments.

4th Telescopic experiment for flood relief | Date : 21st September, 1936

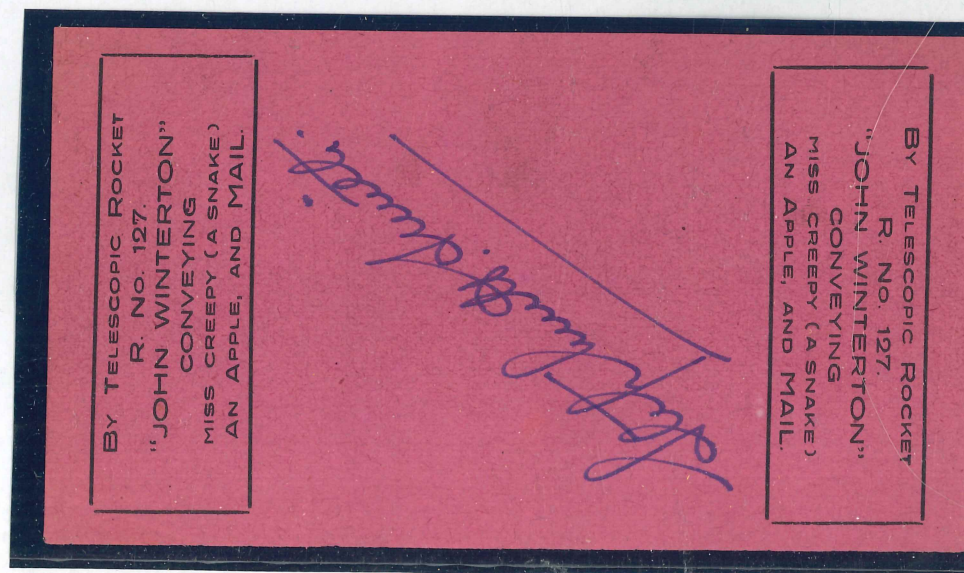
A live snake "Miss Creepy" was carried.



Rocket No. 127 | Rocket Name : John Winterton.

Smith fired a rocket from Chingripota towards the flooded area of Malikpur, the rocket contained Biblical symbols of the Fall of Man, A live snake named Miss Creepy and an apple. it travelled 1.6 km distance and got wedged in the undergrowth of a deep pond, the snake got scared and escaped immediately after the compartment was open. The covers were then cancelled at the Sonarpur post office.

MWH # SS-33 | Dispatched Covers : 106



Chapter # 1 | Early Rocket experiment in India – 2nd Night Firings.

Shore to Ship | Date of firing : 17th December, 1934 – Rocket No. 21 at 8.40pm and Rocket No. 22 at 8.45pm.



Rocket No. 21 & 22 | Rocket Manufacturer : Orient fireworks, Calcutta.

The rockets were fired from shore to the steamer **S.S.Kustang** by the Lighthouse keeper Walter Shenton who has signed the covers, both rockets were discovered by survey vessel **Sir Fredrick Dumayne**. The rocket information of all 4 covers on this page are same.

MWH # SS-07a | Dispatched covers – 150 (without newspapers)

Smith also dispatched the miniature copies of 4 newspapers in another 110 covers after a short break of 5 minutes.

The Times of India, Punch, The News of The World and Evening Chronicle.

It is not recorded that on which rocket no. the covers with the miniature of newspapers were carried; it is also not recorded that how many of each newspaper's miniature copies were carried in the total 110 flown covers.

Chapter # 2 | Royal Silver Jubilee Firing

Ship to shore of Diamond Harbour | Date : 23rd March, 1935 | Rocket
No.27 @ 10.30 & 28 @ 10.40 am



George V completed 25 years as a King of the United Kingdom, British Dominions and as Emperor of India. Silver Jubilee stamps were issued in India on 6th May, 1935, however Smith had started celebrating it from month of March and fired the Royal Silver Jubilee rockets at Diamond Harbour, near Calcutta.

The proceeds of the sale of these firings (Rocket mails) was donated to The Royal Silver Jubilee Fund.

MWH # SS-09b

Dispatched covers 180/200 flown.

The other 20 with a variety,

Rocket No. 27 and 28 | Rocket Manufacturer : Orient fireworks, Calcutta.

Smith fired the 2 rockets with in interval of 10 minutes, each carried 100 covers, a label is affixed and tied with a diamond shape rubberstamp, one of the rockets was landed in to the hidden tank behind the bushes and was recovered from the water. KGV 9pies stamp is affixed and the covers were then posted from Diamond Harbour post office on the same day.

Chapter # 3 | Parcel Experiments for Quetta Earthquake relief fund

1st Charity firing at Kolaghat with Quetta Earthquake relief label | Date :
6th June, 1935 @ 9.40am. Wrapper of Rocket No. 60



Rocket No. 60

Smith fired this rocket over river Roopnarain and it travelled 820 meter, this parcel rocket contained the food items, spices and biris as described on the upper part of the proof sheet on left.

MWH # SS-19

Dispatched missives 150

Rocket was made from Metal and British cartridge paper.

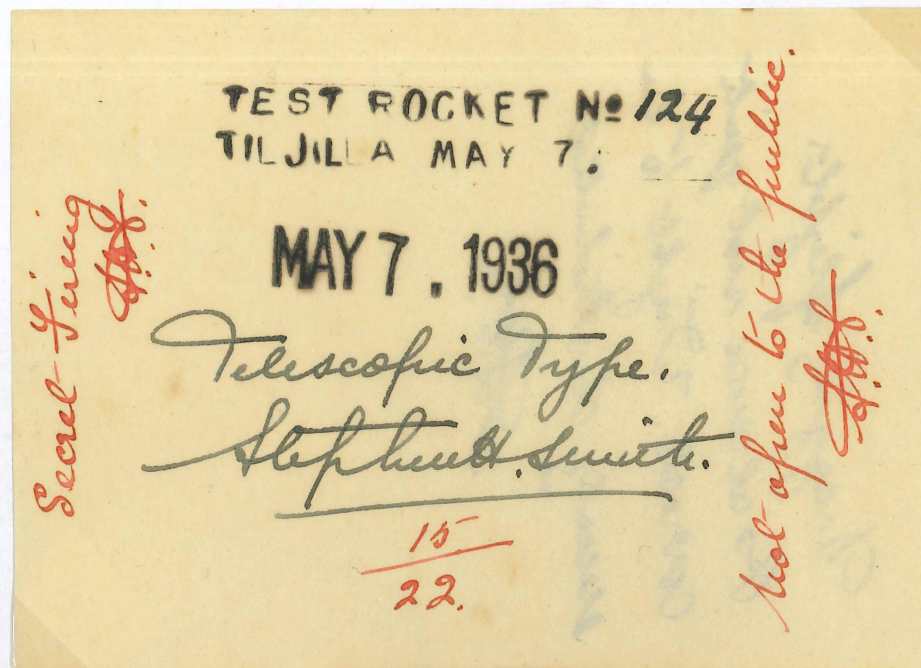
*After break of 2 months of the 1st successful series of firings in Sikkim, Smith planned for 2 more experiments at KOLAGHAT, but suddenly he came to know about the **Earthquake measuring 7.1 Richter Scale in Quetta.***

*Smith had then decided to help them through the charity and overprinted the labels in 2 different types one with 3 lines of **QUETTA EARTHQUAKE RELIEF** and the other with **RED CROSS** symbol.*



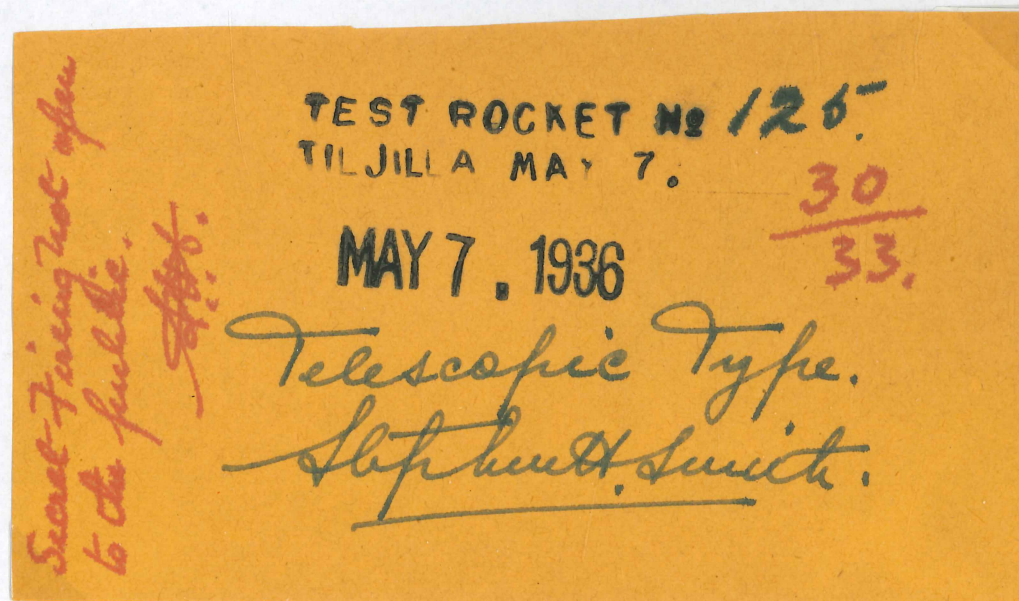
Chapter # 5 | Telescopic Rocket Experiments.

1st Telescopic Rocket experiment at Tiljillia | Date : 7th May, 1936



Rocket No. 124 | Rocket Details : Secret firing.

Smith carried his first Telescopic Rocket experiment privately at Tiljilla and was not open for public, the rocket carried Sand and Brick crumbs placed in extendible compartment and was not well balanced. This missive is on thin white paper bears 2 rubber stamps "TEST ROCKET No. 124 - TILJILLA MAY 7." and "MAY 7. 1936" in a bit larger font. Smith has mentioned on left in red manuscript "Secret Firing" and also the no. of flown missives 11-22. MWH # SS-30 | Dispatched Missives : 22



Rocket No. 125 | Rocket Details : Secret firing.

Smith did another Telescopic Rocket experiment on same day at Tiljilla the rocket carried Sand and Brick crumbs, this time it was well balanced and the rocket travelled a greater distance than the previous one. The missive is on thin yellowish orange paper. Smith has mentioned on left in red manuscript "Secret Firing not open to the public" MWH # SS-31 | Dispatched Missives : 33

Chapter # 6 | Demonstration at Boy Scouts camp – Delhi.

1st Rocket mail firing at Jamboree | Date : 1st February, 1937 at 5.00 pm.



Rocket No. 134 | Rocket name : Dr. R. Paganini

Smith fired this rocket at 5pm on the 1st day of the event at Boy Scouts Camp – Delhi, the cover is affixed with a special blue label, tied with a circular All India Boy Scouts Jamboree cachet and a single line By R. No. 134 "Dr. R. Paganini". The KGV 9pies stamp is tied with a pictorial post mark of 2nd Feb. because the Jamboree P.O. was closed for the day, on reverse del. mark 4 Feb. 37, Park St.-Calcutta. MWH # SS-35 | Dispatched covers : 87

Chapter # 6 | Demonstration at Boy Scouts camp - Delhi
2nd Rocket mail firing at Jamboree | Date : 2nd February, 1937.



Rocket No. 135 | Rocket name : Dr. M. Kronstein

Smith fired this rocket on the 2nd day of the event at Boy Scouts Camp – Delhi, the cover is affixed with a special red label, tied with a circular All India Boy Scouts Jamboree cachet and a single line By R. No. 135 “Dr. M. Kronstein”. The KGV 9pies stamp is cancelled with a special pictorial post mark of 2nd February.
 MWH # SS-37 | Dispatched covers : 176



Rocket No. 136 | Rocket name : Dr. H. Radasch.

Smith fired this rocket on the 2nd day of the event at Boy Scouts Camp – Delhi, the post card is affixed with a red label, tied with a circular All India Boy Scouts Jamboree cachet and a single line By R. No. 136 “Dr. H. Radasch”, Smith’s note on reverse, “Inform all scouts to beware of white ants destroying their Kit”
 MWH # SS-38 | Dispatched cards : 132

Chapter # 6 | Demonstration at Boy Scouts camp - Delhi

5th Rocket mail firing at Jamboree | Date : 3rd February, 1937



Rocket name : Lord Baden-Powell

Smith fired this rocket on the 3rd and last day of the event at Boy Scouts Camp – Delhi, the cover is affixed with a special blue label, tied with a circular All India Boy Scouts Jamboree cachet and a single line By R. No. 139 “Lord Baden-Powell”. The KGV 9pies stamp is cancelled with a special pictorial post mark of 4th February because the Jamboree Post office was closed for the day, on reverse - delivery mark of 6 Feb. 37, Park Street-Calcutta. MWH # SS-41a | Dispatched covers : 71

The cards were not posted and no stamps have been affixed.



Rocket No. 139 | Rocket name : Lord Baden-Powell

MWH # SS-41b | Dispatched cards : 90

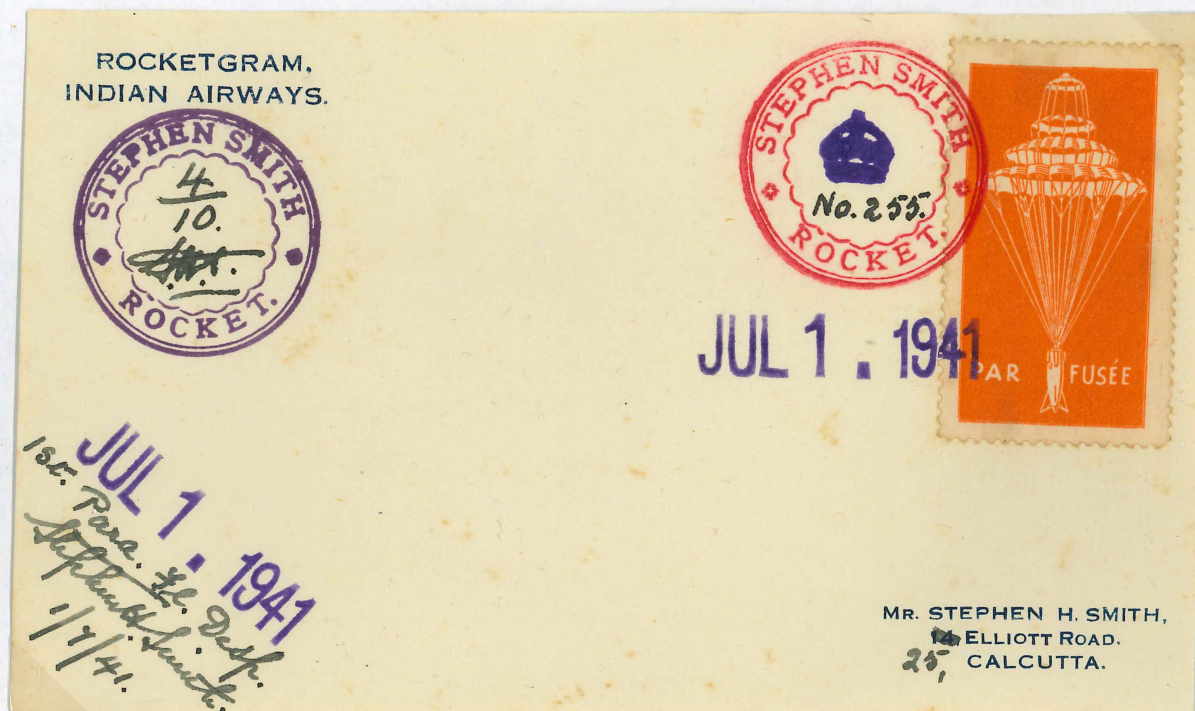
Chapter # 7 | Coronation Celebration firings.

1st Coronation firing in the early morning on 12th May, 1937



Chapter # 9 | Experiments during World War II

1st Parachute experiment at Hastings | Date : 1st July, 1941



Rocket No. 255 | Only 10 missives were carried.

Smith carried 2 experiments on 1st July at Hastings Maidan - Calcutta which was one of the world's largest Urban Park, Maidan is a Hindi word use for Ground. This is the first experiment with Rocket No. 255. Smith used his personalized cachet in red along with a cropped version of the crown in blue which he used earlier for his Coronation firings. MWH # SS-66

Chapter # 7 | Coronation Celebration firings.

2nd Coronation firing in the morning on 12th May, 1937

Date of
firing
12-5-1937



L. P. Atkinson had fired the rocket "Coronation Rocket No. 141" at same venue just after the Rocket No. P.IX, Since the post offices were not fully functional on the Coronation Day and Smith had no more postage stamps, 50 cards couldn't be posted, the rest 350 were posted at Park Street P.O. - Calcutta. MWH # SS-45 | Dispatched cards : 400



Chapter # 7 | Coronation Celebration firings.

2nd Coronation firing in the morning on 12th May, 1937

Date of
firing
12-5-1937



L. P. Atkinson had fired the rocket "Coronation Rocket No. 141" at same venue just after the Rocket No. P.IX, Since the post offices were not fully functional on the Coronation Day and Smith had no more postage stamps, 50 cards couldn't be posted, the rest 350 were posted at Park Street P.O. - Calcutta. MWH # SS-45 | Dispatched cards : 400



Chapter # 8 | Special Rocket firings | World's 1st Rocket Train
carried Mouse, Whiskey and more...

World's 2nd Rocket Train Experiment with 4 compartments | Date : 22nd
September, 1937



Rocket Name : Herbert E. Barber

John L. Winterton, President of the Indian Air Mail Society fired this rocket at Behala, Smith had used John's name on the label of the Telescopic Rocket No.127, fired on 21st Sept., 1936, Ref.: Page-22 in this frame. The rocket length was 2.18 meter and it travelled 550 meter, all the postcards were cancelled at Park St. Calcutta. MWH # SS-47 | Dispatched cards : 300

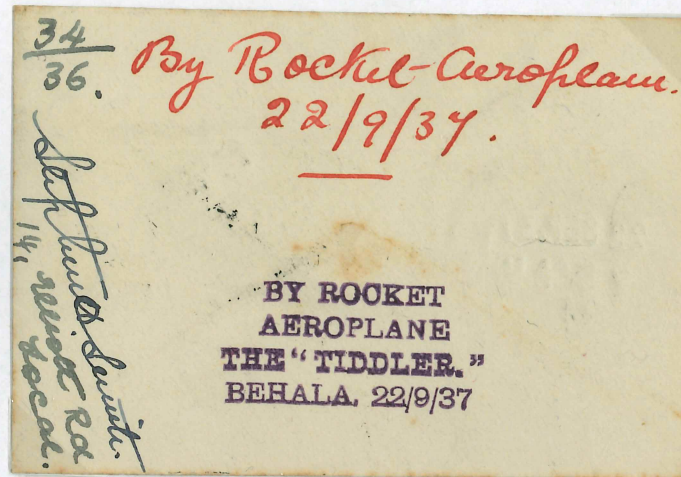


A complete sheet of the issued design of the label printed in 2 tete beche pairs.

Chapter # 8 | Special Rocket firings | Rocket Aeroplane and Boomerang Experiments.

1st Rocket Aeroplane | Date : 22nd Sept. 1937

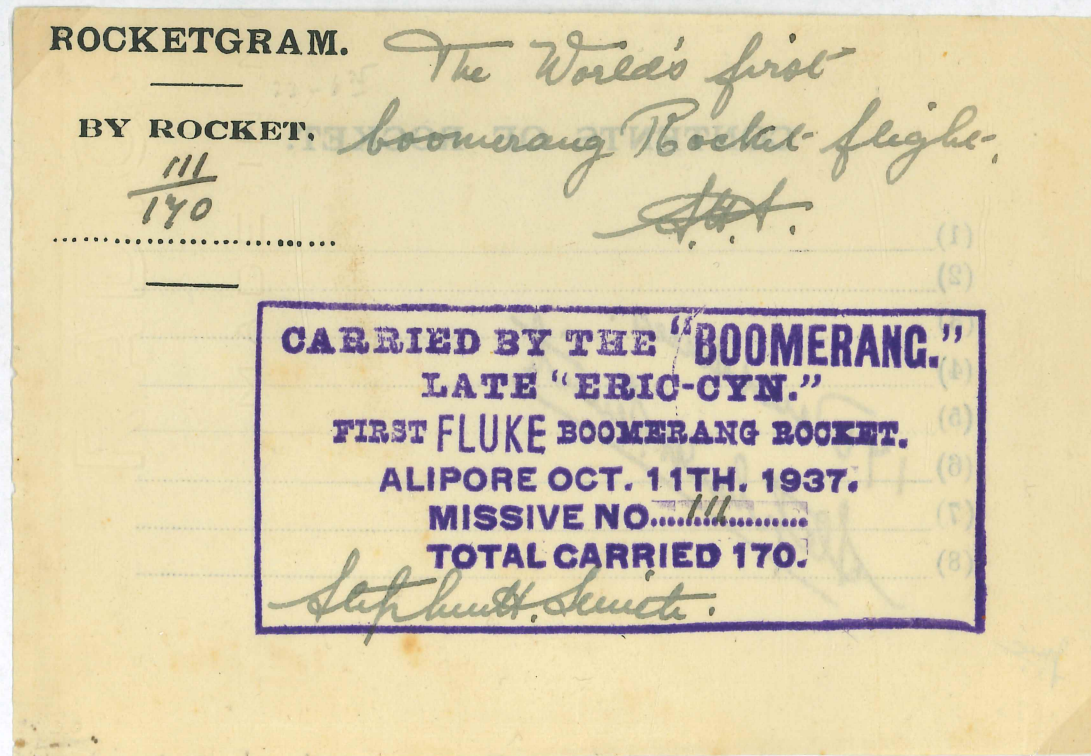
Smith carried his 1st Rocket Aero plane experiment just after the two Rocket Train experiments at, Behala, he wrote Train then strike out and rectified with Aero plane.



Rocket Name : The Tiddler. | Cover No.17

Smith used a small rocket plane with only 36 small size covers to make it lighter to travel, immediately after the take-off the plane nosedived and the experiment was unsuccessful.

MWH # SS-48 | Dispatched Covers : 36



Rocket Name : Boomerang AKA Eric-Cyn.

The Rocket train Eric-Cyn was reused with a new name Boomerang after dismantling two of its compartments and fired at Alipore near Calcutta. The missives' design is same as the missives of SIKKIM's 2nd series, for this experiment Smith trimmed the top edge to remove the word SIKKIM on top left. It travelled 180 meters then turned around and landed 23 meters away from the launching rack.

MWH # SS-49 | Dispatched Missives : 170

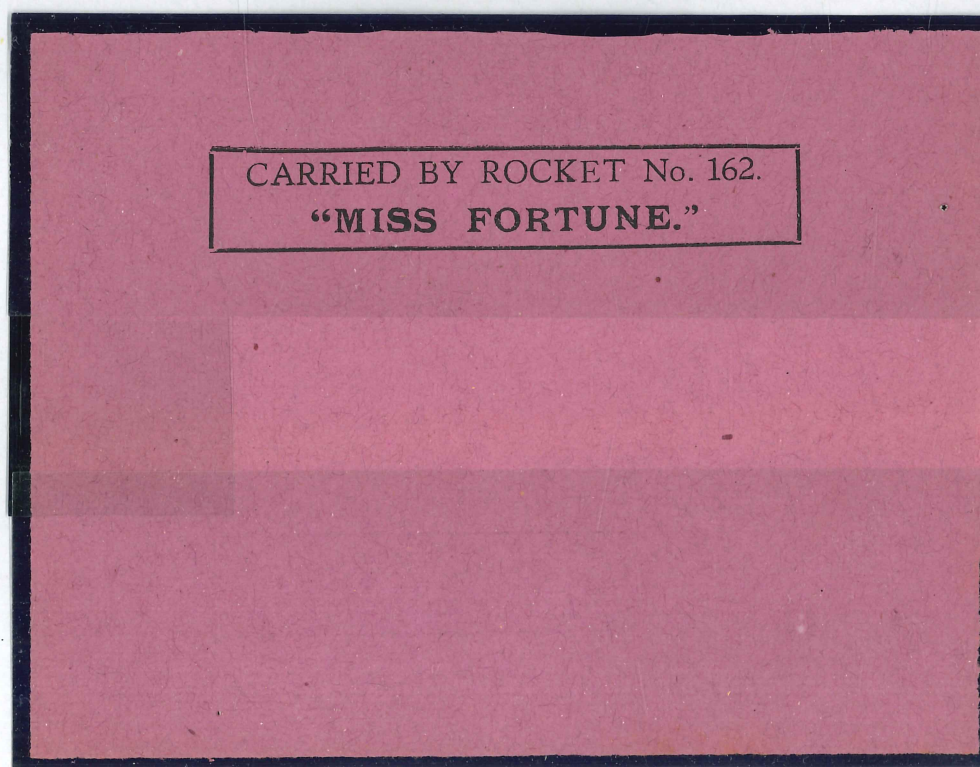
Experiment at Garia | Date 25th April, 1938 | a flown cover.

A complete untrimmed sheet of Rocket Name – Miss Fortune



Rocket No. 162 | Rocket Name : Miss Fortune.

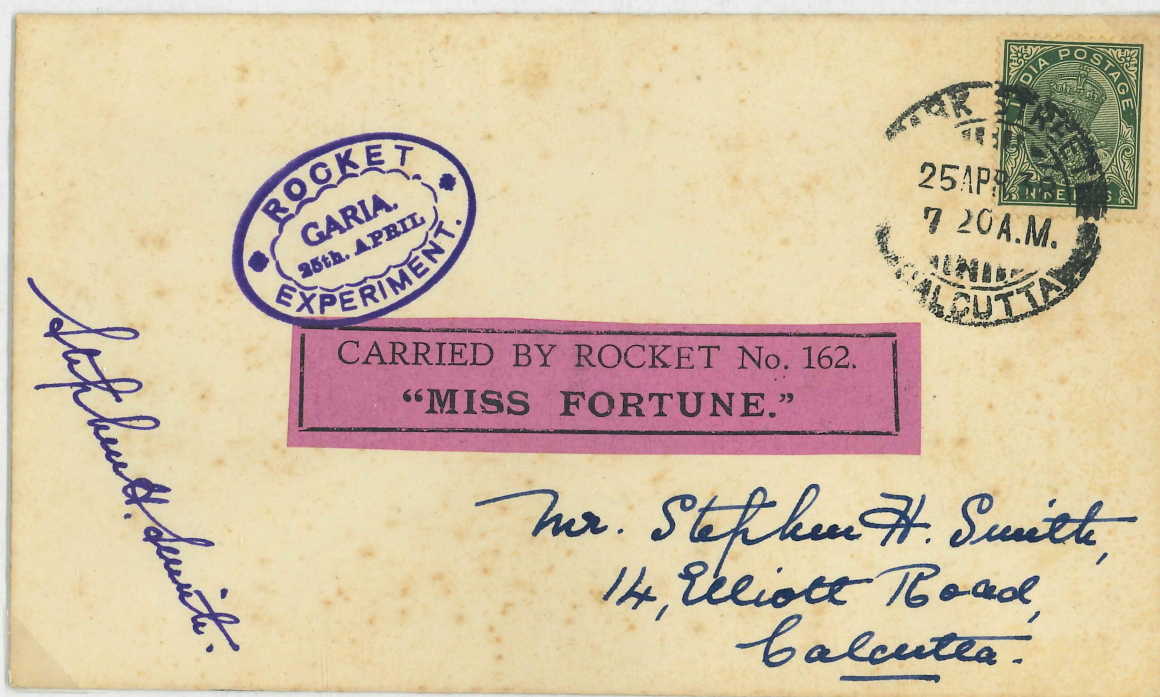
As explained for the left card Smith carried this experiment at Garia, the rocket carried 56 cards along with 25 covers, above is an example of the carried cover on Rocket No.162. The card on left is addressed to Dr. Max Kronstein who later published the book titled Rocket Mail Flights of the World in 1986.
MWH # SS-50 | Dispatched Covers : 25



Printed on both sides. 1 label on front and 1 on back.

Chapter # 8 | Special Rocket firings | Rocket Aeroplane and Boomerang Experiments.

Experiment at Garia | Date 25th April, 1938 | a flown card.

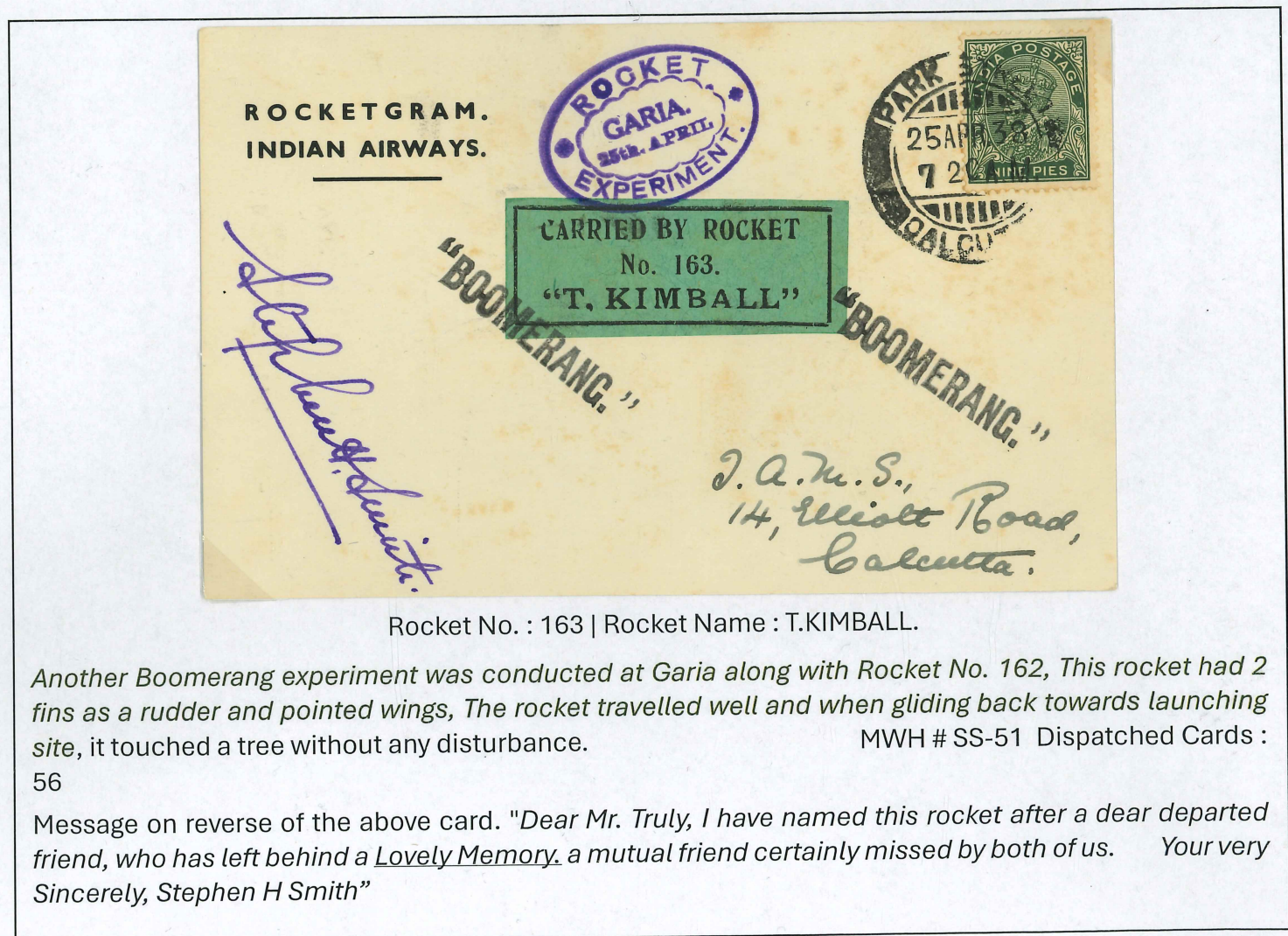


Rocket No. 162 | Rocket Name : Miss Fortune.

Smith carried this experiment at Garia, a neighborhood in southern Calcutta with an all-metal rocket, the rocket carried 56 such cards which Smith prepared previously for Rocket Train experiment, Smith strike out the word Rocket Train on reverse of the card. 25 covers were also flown, total 81 rocket mails carried, all were cancelled at Park St.-Calcutta-7.20am. MWH # SS-50 | Dispatched cards : 56

Chapter # 8 | Special Rocket firings | 2nd Boomerang and 1st Postal Rocket Experiment in The British Empire.

2nd Boomerang Experiment | a flown card... and... a flown cover. | Date: 25th April, 1938



Rocket No. : 163 | Rocket Name : T.KIMBALL.

Another Boomerang experiment was conducted at Garia along with Rocket No. 162, This rocket had 2 fins as a rudder and pointed wings, The rocket travelled well and when gliding back towards launching site, it touched a tree without any disturbance.

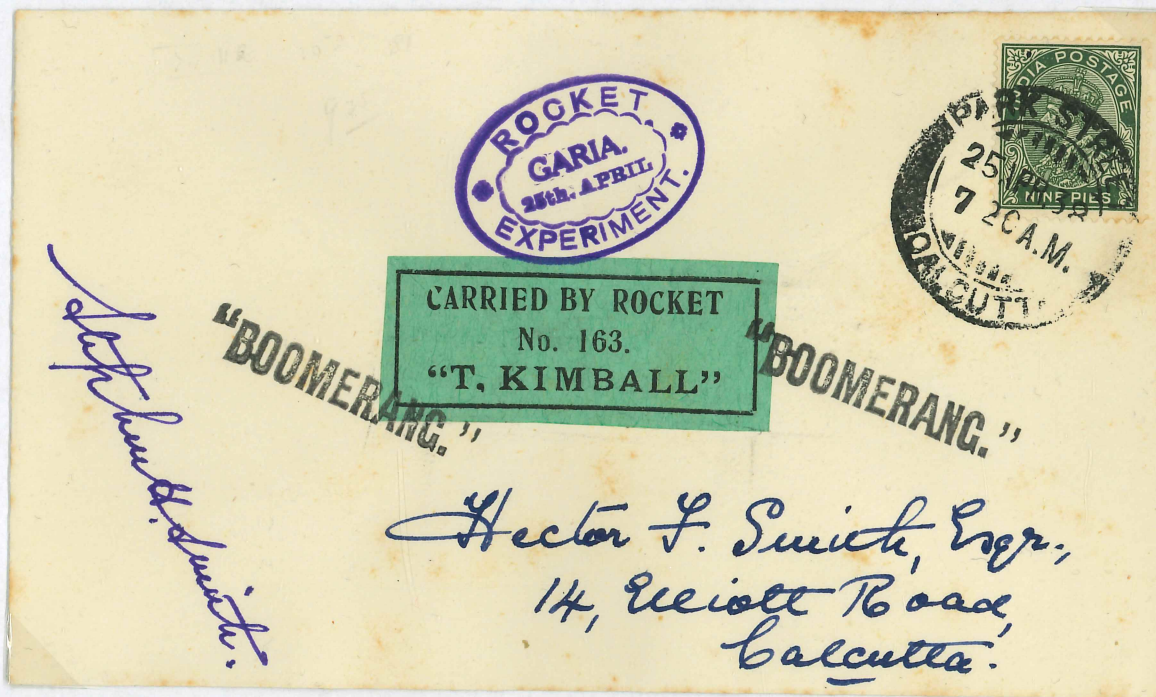
MWH # SS-51 Dispatched Cards :

56

Message on reverse of the above card. "Dear Mr. Truly, I have named this rocket after a dear departed friend, who has left behind a Lovely Memory. a mutual friend certainly missed by both of us. Your very Sincerely, Stephen H Smith"

Chapter # 8 | Special Rocket firings | 2nd Boomerang and 1st Postal Rocket Experiment in The British Empire.

2nd Boomerang Experiment | a flown card... and... a flown cover. | Date: 25th April, 1938



Rocket No. : 163 | Rocket Name : T.KIMBALL.

A flown cover tied with a beautiful label of 1938 PRAGA International Stamp Exhibition Smith had obtained only 20 such labels which he used on various rocket mails, Smith again used the 56 cards of Rocket train and 25 such covers, **total 81 rocket mails** and all were cancelled at Park Street-Calcutta at 7.20am. MWH # SS-51 | Dispatched Covers : 25

1st Postal rocket firings in British Empire | Date : 26th June, 1938.

Smith was invited by the department of Post - India for first time to demonstrate his experiments to check the possibilities of practical postal usage of Rocket mails, in auspicious presence of Mr. M. D. Murtrie - Presidency Postmaster of Bengal and Joanna Pratt Johnson - Deputy Postmaster of Bengal Presidency, the first 2 rockets were fired by Mr. Murtrie and the 3rd one was fired by Joanna Pratt Johnson.

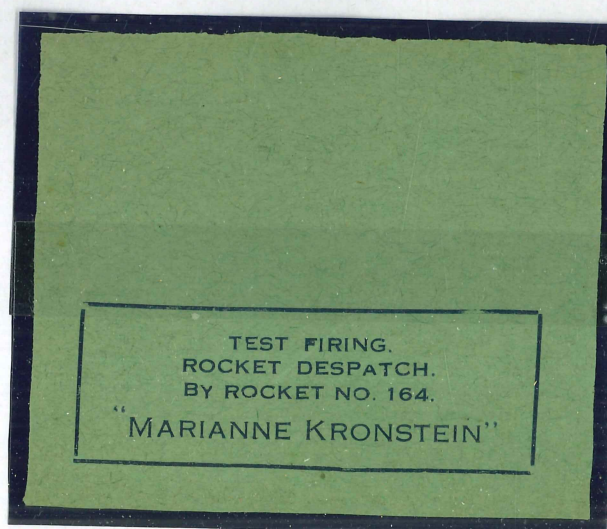


Rocket No. 164 | Rocket Name : Marianne Kronstein

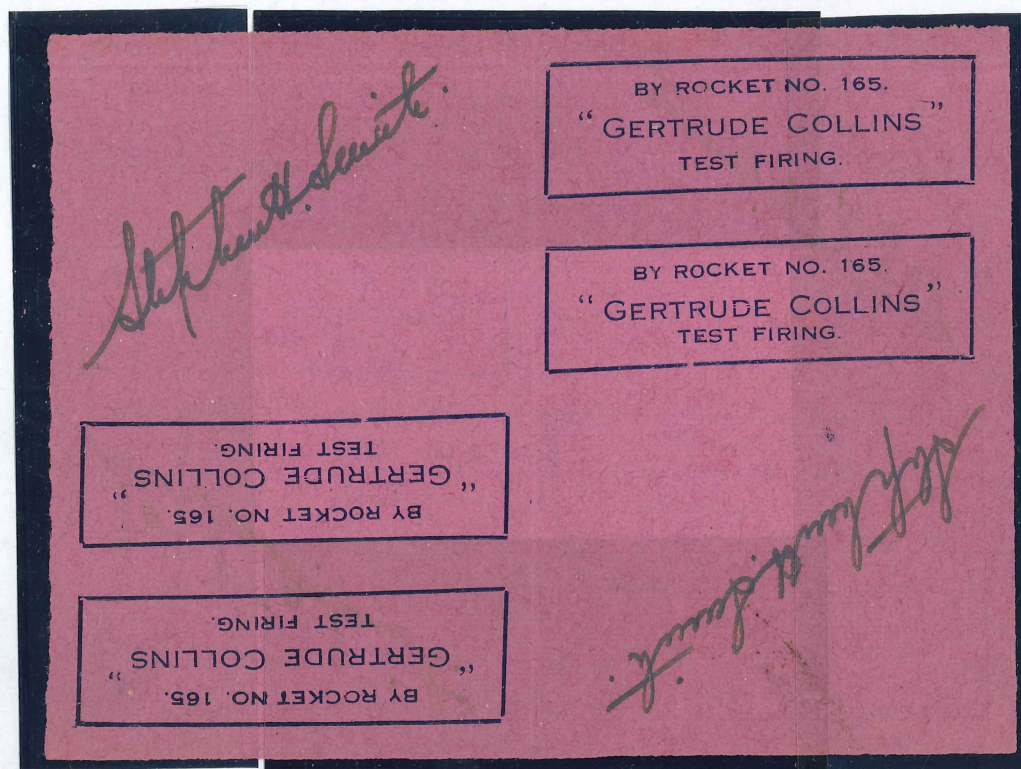
.A series of 3 rocket experiments were successfully carried at Alipore this day.

This 1st test rocket was fired by Mr. M. D. Murtrie,. Smith introduced personalised rubber stamp with his name "Stephen Smith Rocket" around circle and "Rocketgram" in center, which he used on all of his rocket mails afterwards apart from few experiments. The cards were cancelled at Park St. P.O.Calcutta at 7.20am.

MWH # SS-52 | Dispatched Cards : 102



1st Postal rocket firings in British Empire | Date : 26th June, 1938



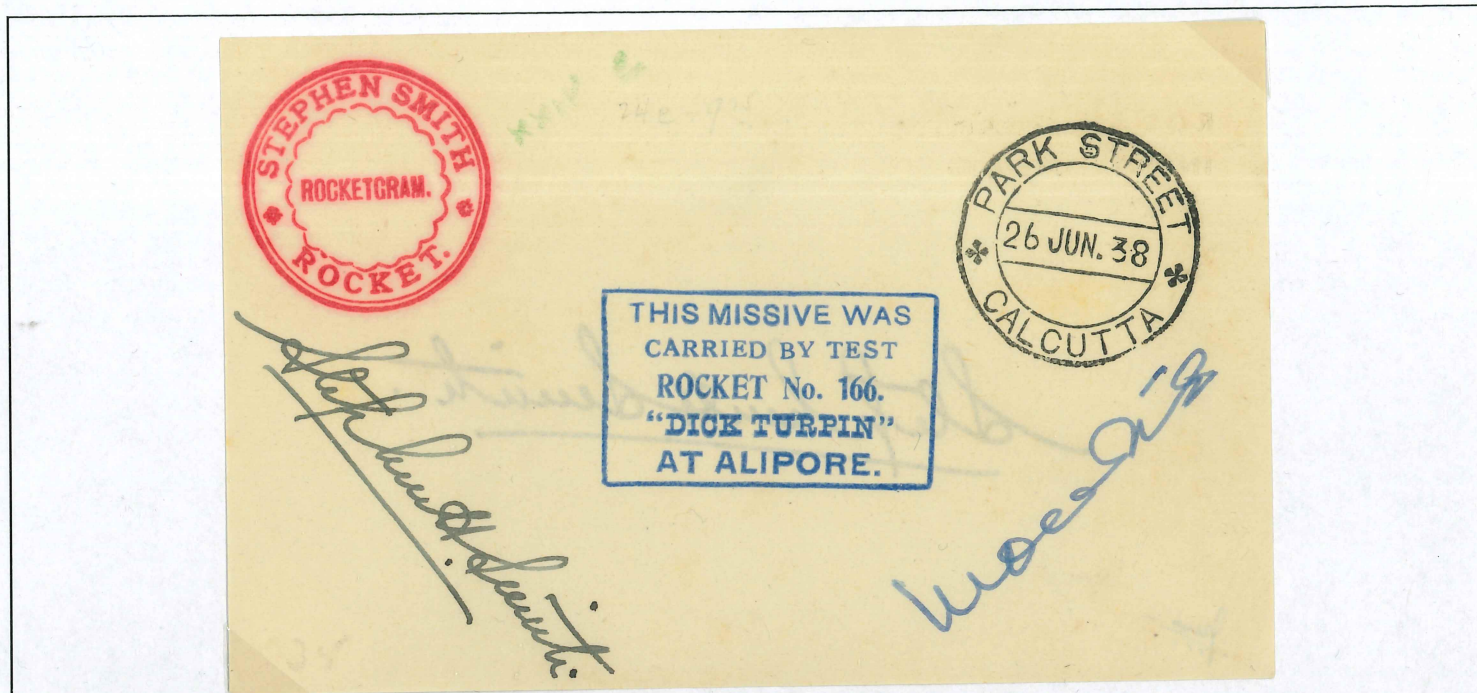
A rare example of untrimmed complete sheet, Total 8 labels on the sheet printing format is 2 labels on top and 2 at bottom – vertically cross tete beche pairs on both side of the sheet, printed in blue color on thin violet paper.



Rocket No. 165 | Rocket Name : Gertrude Collins.

This 2nd test rocket was also fired by Mr. M. D. Murtrie, the presidency postmaster of Bengal at Alipore, who has also signed this missive, The flown missives were then cancelled at Park Street-Calcutta at 2.50pm.

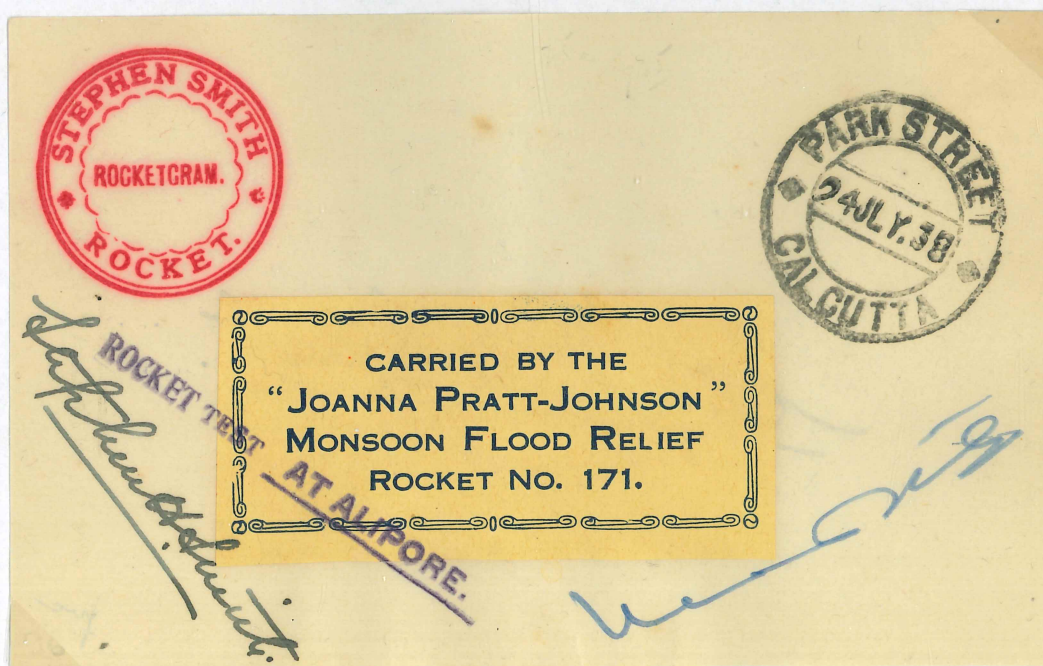
1st Postal rocket firings in British Empire | Date : 26th June, 1938



Rocket No. 166 | Rocket Name : Dick Turpin.

This 3rd test rocket was fired at Alipore by Joanna Pratt Johnson, deputy postmaster general of Bengal, the rocket had pointed wings and a tail fin as a rudder, it was named after "Dick Turpin" who was known as a highway man in 18th Century and travelled 320 kms on a horse "Black Bess" overnight from London to York, he was executed for horse theft. Signed by Joanna Pratt-Johnson, only 7 known so far. MWH # SS-54 | Dispatched missives : 166

Smith was invited second time by the Department of Post – India to demonstrate his experiments, instead of his friends names this time **Smith used the names of the Postal authorities.**



- 1) Joanna Pratt-Johnson - Deputy Postmaster General of Bengal.
- 2) Rowland Hill.
- 3) James H. E. Cook - Postmaster General of Bengal.

Rocket No. 171

Rocket Name : Joanna Pratt-Johnson

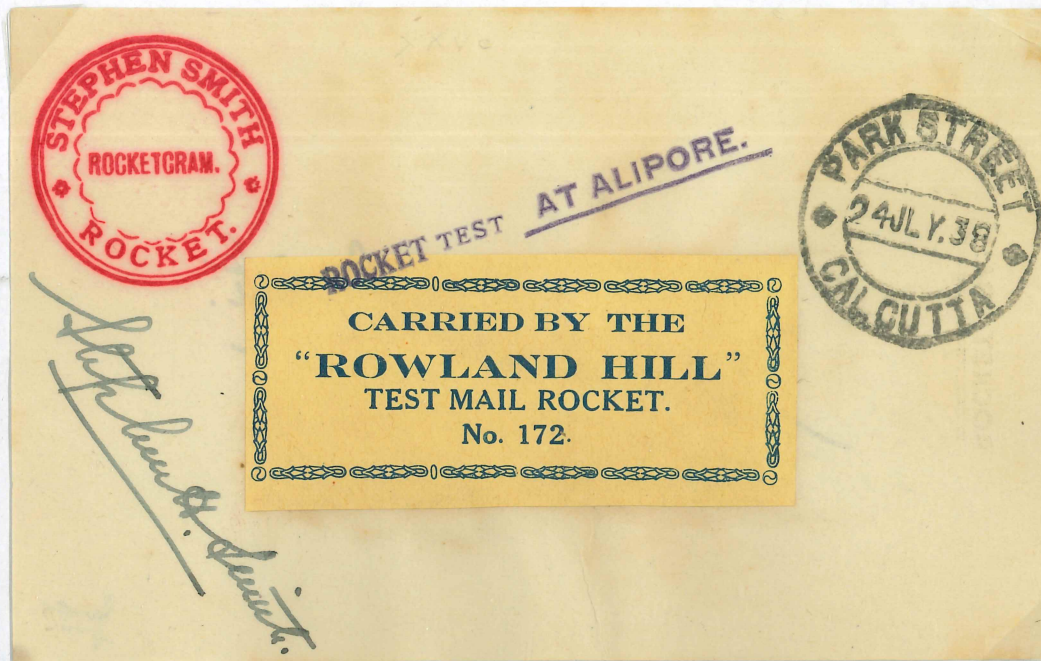
This rocket was fired by James H. E. Cook to support the flood victims suffered by the heavy rain fall.

MWH # SS-55

Dispatched missives : 202

Tied with Bright Yellow label.

Chapter # 8 | Special Rocket firings | 2nd Postal Rocket Experiments
in The British Empire



Rocket No. 172

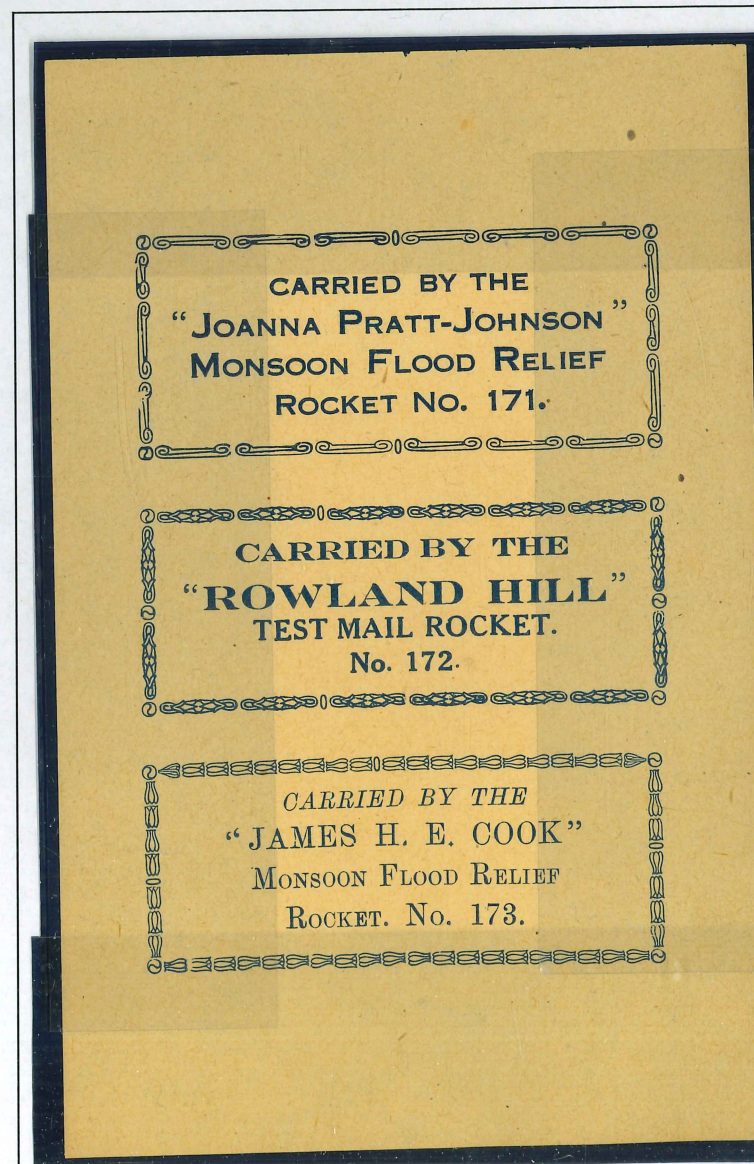
Rocket Name : Rowland Hill.

*This test rocket was again
fired by
James H. E. Cook and the
rocket
was named after Sir Rowland
Hill
who in 1840 introduced the
world's first postage stamp
"Penny Black" in Great
Britain.*

MWH # SS-56

Dispatched missives : 194

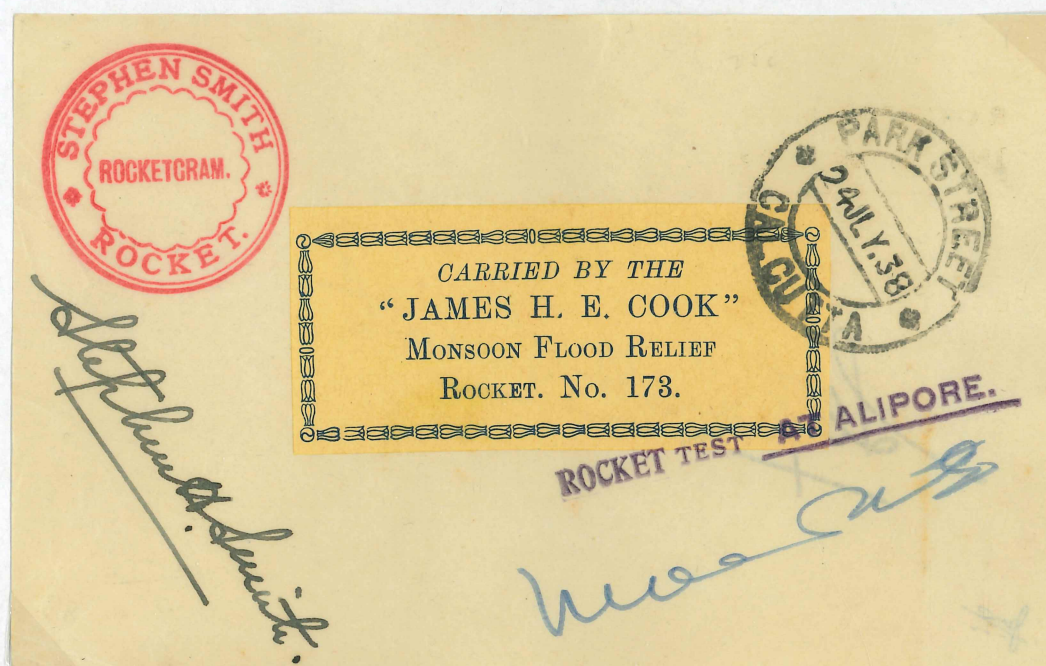
Tied with Bright Yellow label.



A complete untrimmed sheet in blue on buff paper.

**Chapter # 8 | Special Rocket firings | 2nd Postal Rocket
Experiments in The British Empire**

**2nd Postal rocket firings | A series of 3 Postal rocket experiments. | Date
24th July, 1938**



Rocket No. 173

Rocket Name : James H. E. Cook

*This rocket was fired by
Mr. M. D. Murtrie, the presidency postmaster of Bengal to support the flood victims.*

MWH # SS-57

Dispatched missives : 102

Tied with Buff color label.

These 3 postal experiments were carried at Alipore, all missives are signed by M. D. Murtrie, the flown missives were cancelled at Park Street-Calcutta on 24th July, 1938.

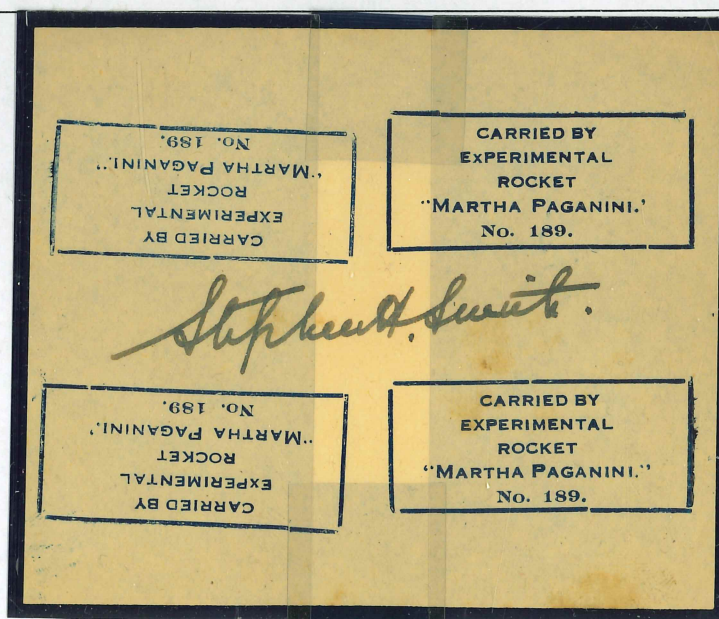
Christmas Relief – Fund raising rocket firing | Date : 25th December, 1938



Rocket No.189 | Rocket name : Martha Paganini.

Smith fired this rocket in name of Martha who was wife of his friend Dr. Robert Paganini, a Switzerland based advanced Air Mail collector and a well wisher of Smith. The rocket was fired at Alipore in aid of a local Christmas fund. The flown missives were then cancelled at Park Street-Calcutta at 10.50am.

MWH # SS-58 | Dispatched missives : 150

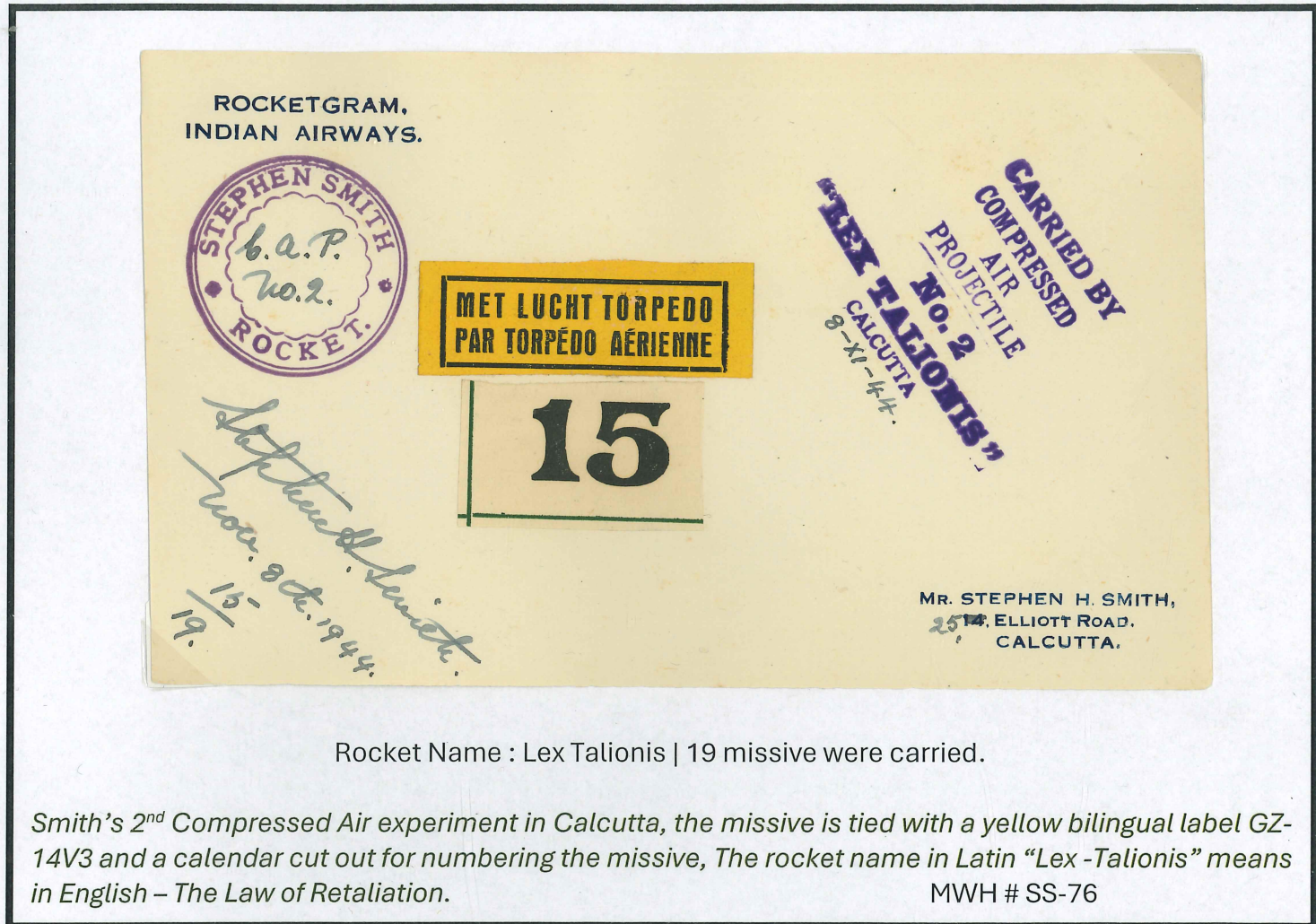


Smith was not only experimenting the rocket mails, he was also keep changing the designs, color and the paper for the labels, cards, covers, cachets and the missives time to time to give a new and different look to each of his rocket mail.

For this small label of Rocket No. 189 "MARTHA PAGANINI" Smith has changed the printing format, it is printed in 2 horizontally tete beche pairs only on front side of the sheet, reverse part of the sheet was not used. Printed in blue color on thin yellow paper.

Chapter # 10 | Gas and Air Propelled Rocket experiments.

Second experiment of Compressed Air Projectile. | Date : 8th November, 1944



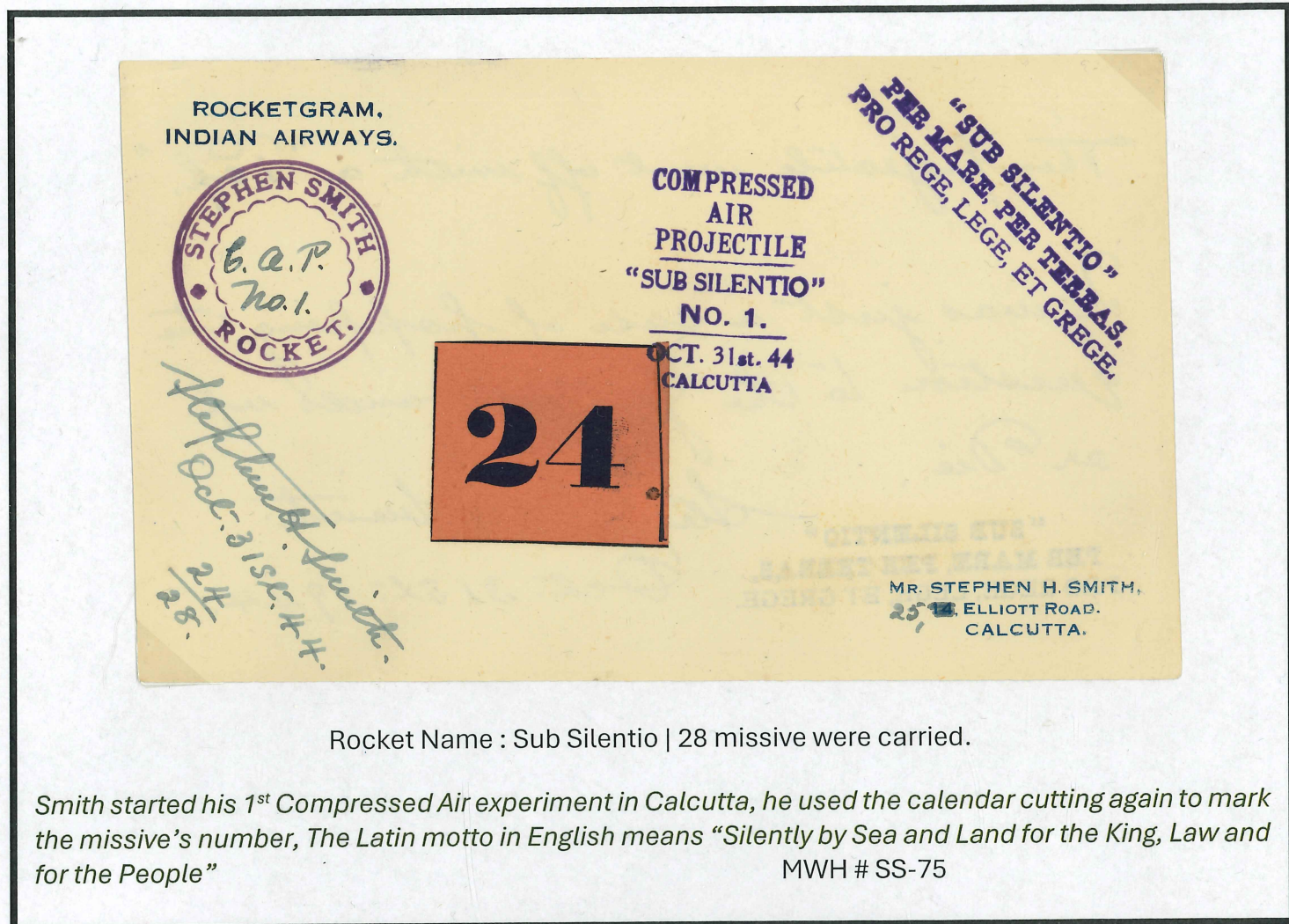
Rocket Name : Lex Talionis | 19 missive were carried.

Smith's 2nd Compressed Air experiment in Calcutta, the missive is tied with a yellow bilingual label GZ-14V3 and a calendar cut out for numbering the missive, The rocket name in Latin "Lex-Talionis" means in English – The Law of Retaliation.

MWH # SS-76

Chapter # 10 Gas and Air Propelled Rocket experiments.

First experiment of Compressed Air Projectile. | Date : 31st October, 1944



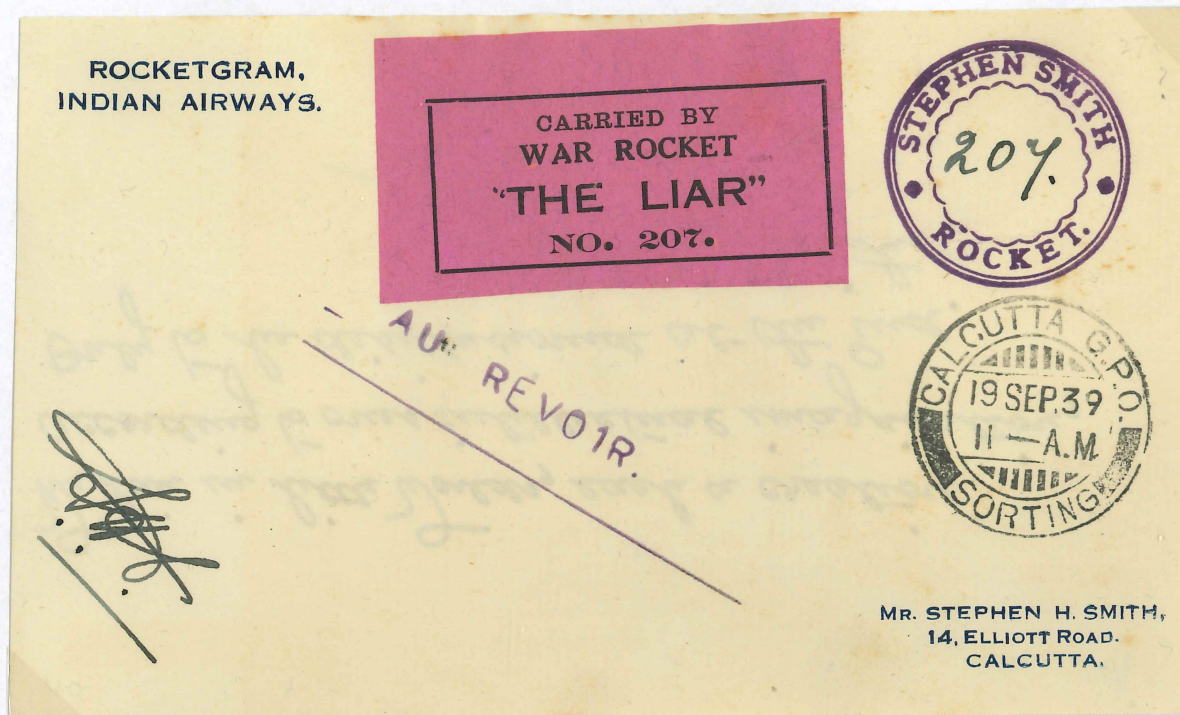
Rocket Name : Sub Silentio | 28 missive were carried.

Smith started his 1st Compressed Air experiment in Calcutta, he used the calendar cutting again to mark the missive's number, The Latin motto in English means "Silently by Sea and Land for the King, Law and for the People"

MWH # SS-75

Chapter # 9 | Experiments during World War II

1st War Rocket | Date : 19th September, 1939 | Label Printed double.



Rocket no. 207 | Rocket Name : The Liar

This experiment was carried in a secret place and Smith has not disclosed the place in his diary rather he mentioned "Suburbs of Calcutta", The rocket was named after Adolf Hitler, the tied label is printed double and is signed across by Stephen Smith for authenticity.

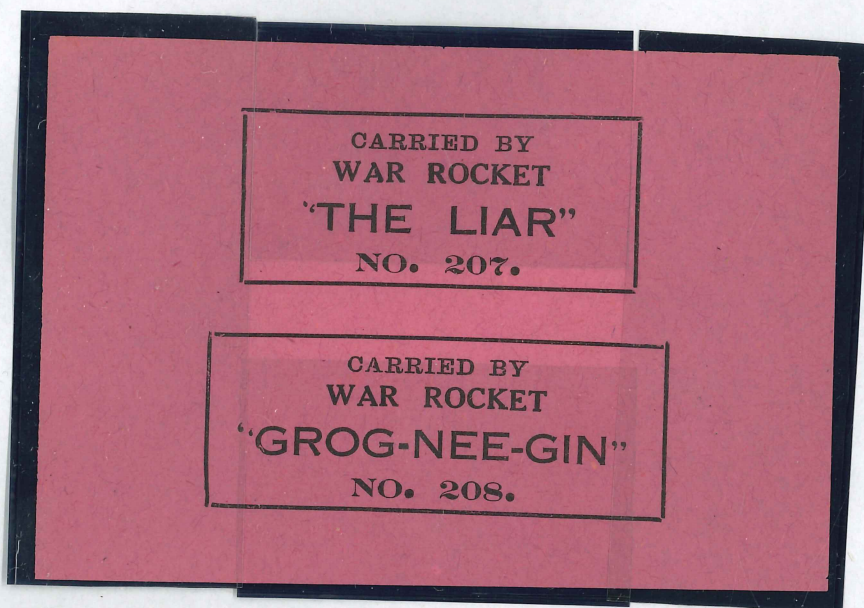
Smith's philosophical lines on reverse of the missive in connection with the WWII.

*"We live in little worlds, each a creation according to ones intellectual imagination,
Only to be disillusioned at the End."*

MWH # SS-59 | Dispatched Missives : 91

Chapter # 9 | Experiments during World War II

A complete sheet of the last 2 labels.



These 2 labels of Rocket No. 207 and 208 on a sheet are the last labels prepared by Smith.

British Military had restricted Smith's activities and he started using the missives from his old stock, he also used postal stationery, plain covers etc. along with European rocket mail labels on some of the missives.

However, he was fortunate to manage with his rubber stamp supplier and he used various rubber stamps for his further rocket mails.

Chapter # 9 | Experiments during World War II

2nd War Rocket | Date : 19th September, 1939 | Label Printed double.



Rocket no. 208 | Rocket Name : Grog-Nee-Gin

This experiment was carried on the same day and same place at "Suburbs of Calcutta" just after the Rocket No. 207, bears a single line cachet in French satire AU REVOIR (Bye Bye) The tied label is printed double and signed across by Stephen Smith for authenticity.

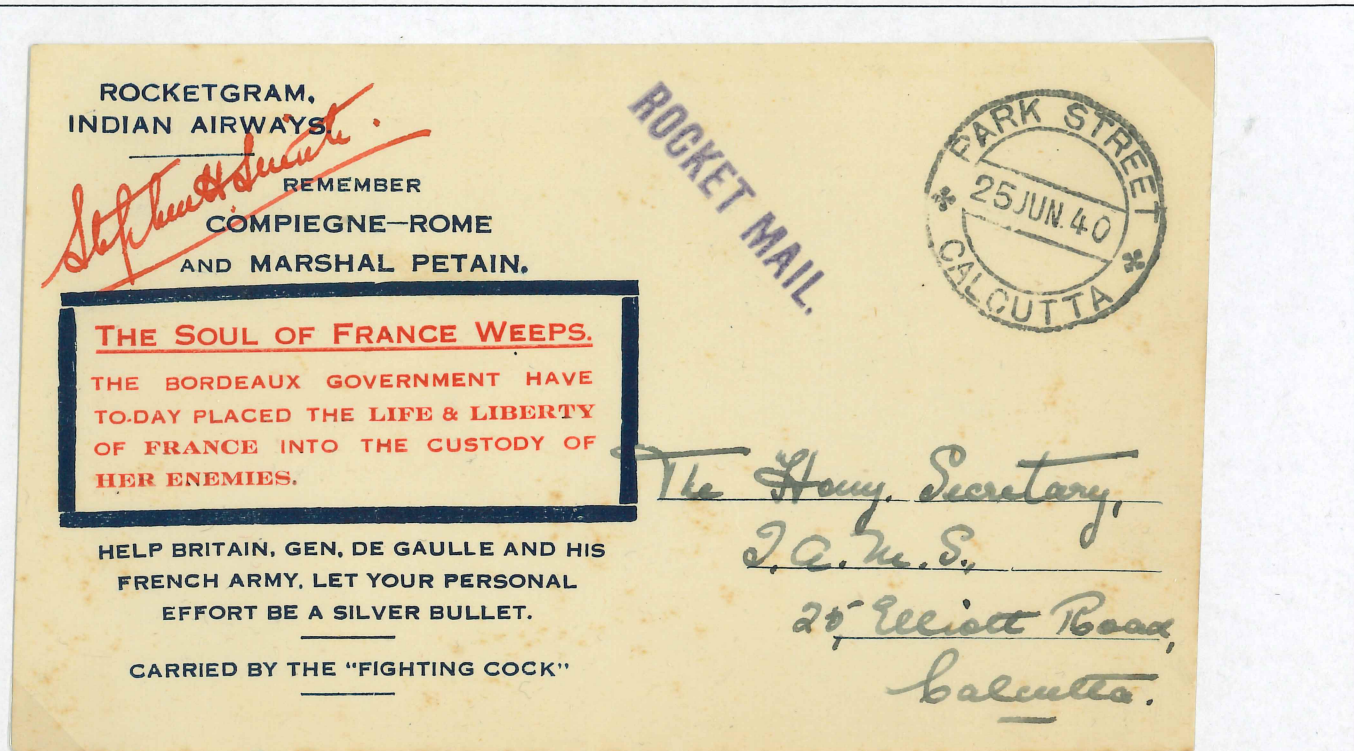
Smith's philosophical lines on reverse of the missive.

*"The life is a mirror, the good and the bad seen in others
are hazy reflection of our own."*

MWH # SS-60 | Dispatched Missives : 81

Chapter # 9 | Experiments during World War II – Armistice
between France and Germany

A secret firing at Tollygunge in Calcutta | Date 25th June, 1940



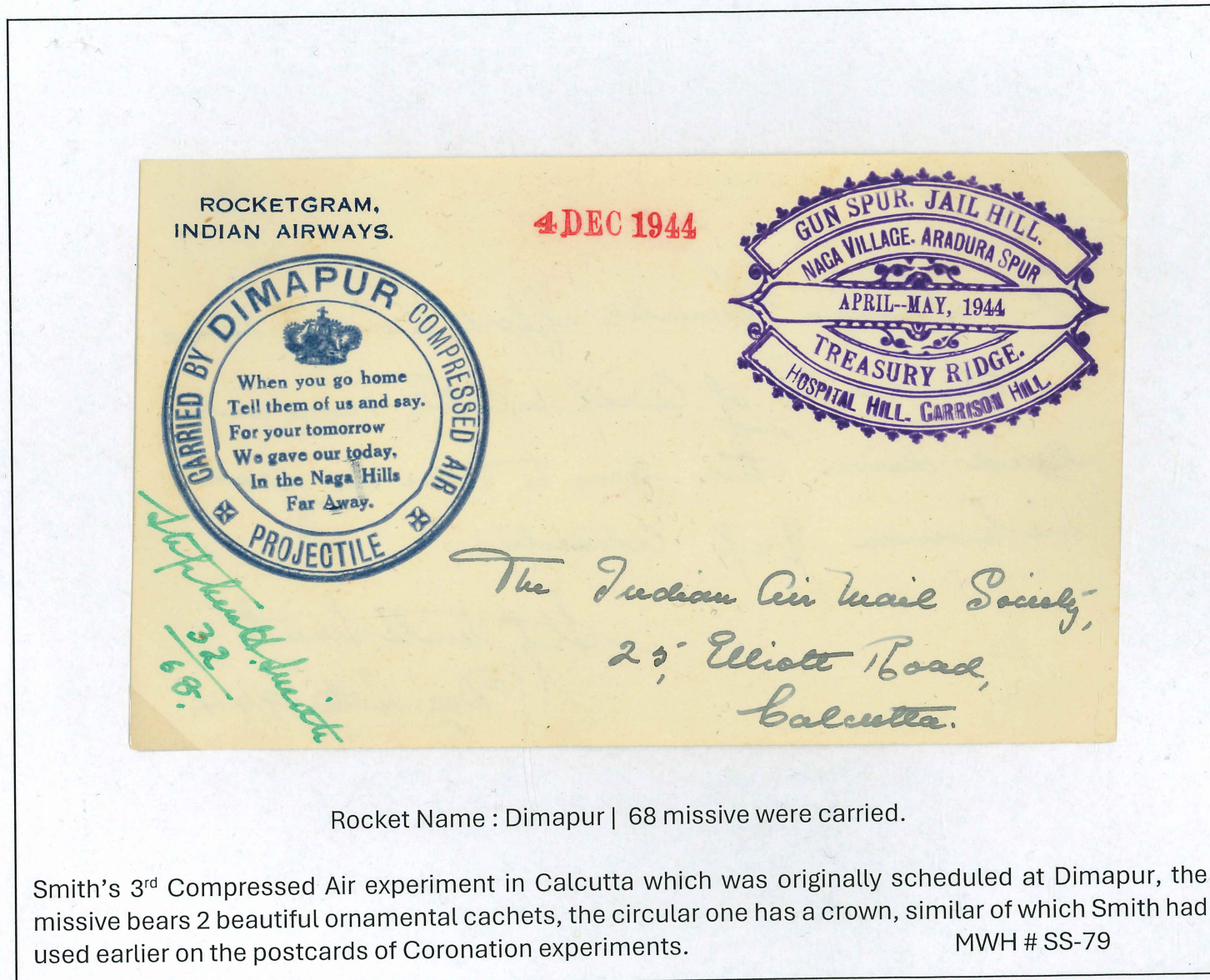
Rocket No. 228 | Rocket Name : Fighting Cock

Above is an example of rocket no. “ # 228 ” in black. This missive is signed by Jal Manekji Cooper as “JMC” at bottom left, Smith further criticised “The Bordeaux Government have today placed the Life and Liberty of France into the custody of her enemies.”. then he ends with an inspirational message “Help Britain, Gen De Gaulle and his French army...” Gen. Gaulle led the Free France movement against Nazi. MWH # SS-61 | Dispatched Missives : 53

EMERALD BOOKS

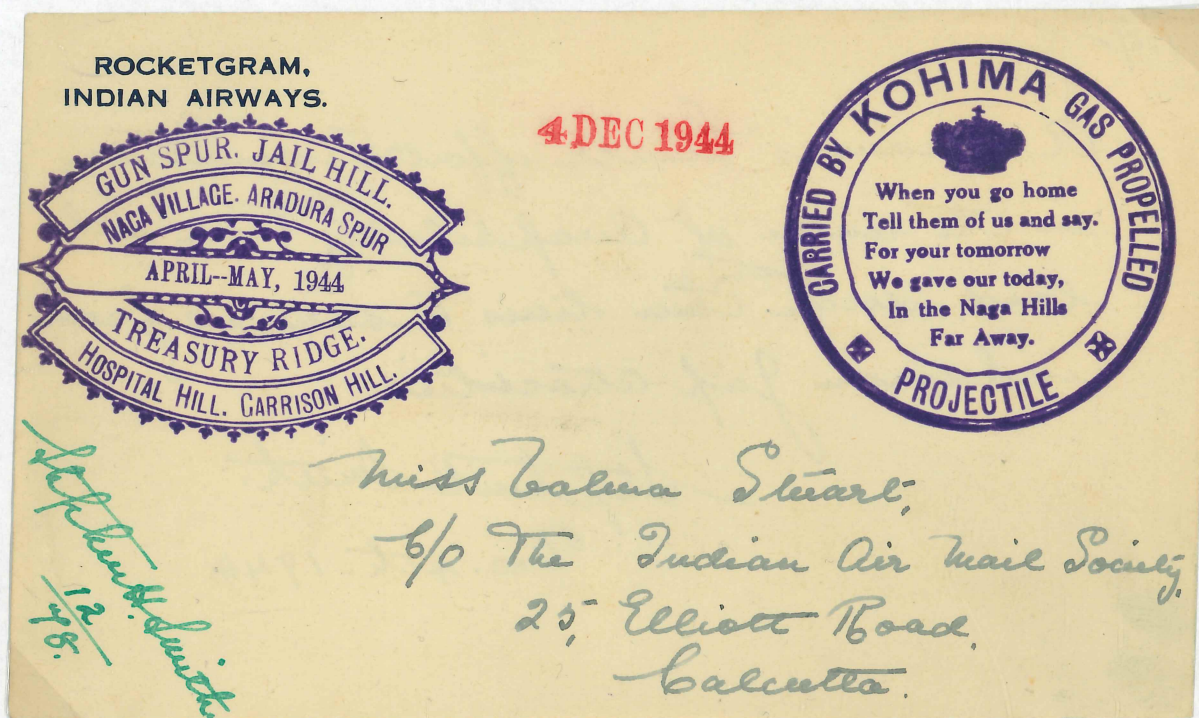
Chapter # 10 | Gas and Air Propelled Rocket experiments

Third experiment of Compressed Air Projectile. | Date : 4th December, 1944



Chapter # 10 | Gas and Air Propelled Rocket experiments.

Fourth experiment of Gas Propelled Projectile. | Date : 4th December, 1944



Rocket Name : Kohima | 78 missive were carried.

Smith's 4th Gas-Propelled experiment in Calcutta which was originally scheduled at Kohima, Smith mentioned Garrison Hill below the Treasury Ridge in the ornamental cachet, which was a battlefield and key defense place for British army during the battle of Kohima. MWH # SS-78

SIKKIM
ROCKETGRAM.

BY ROCKET.

OR YON., R. 86

DESPATCHED BY H. H.
THE MAHARAJAH.



SEP 29 1935

Stephens & Smith

Mr. Stephen D. Smith,
Gangtok
Sikkim.

SIKKIM
ROCKETGRAM.

BY ROCKET.

R. 89

Princess Ponsalon



SEP 29 1935

FROM TELEGRAPH OFFICE,
Princess Ponsalon
Stephens & Smith
4/10/35.

Mr. Stephen D. Smith,
Gangtok,
Sikkim.

SIKKIM
ROCKETGRAM.

BY ROCKET.

COMDR. NOR DOCK. 85

DESPATCHED BY H. H.
THE MAHARAJAH.



SEP 29 1935

Stephens & Smith
DESPATCHED BY H. H.
THE MAHARAJAH.

Mr. Stephen D. Smith,
Telegraph Office,
Gangtok,
Sikkim.

SIKKIM
ROCKETGRAM.

BY ROCKET.

CHUMBI
R. 88.

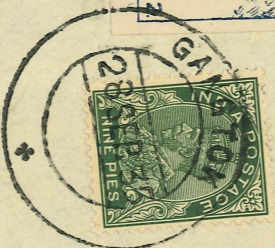


J. T. Fricker
SIR TASHI NAMGYAL FIELD
79, BRITISH RESIDENCY.
R. P. R.

Master Hector Smith,
Gangtok,
Sikkim.

SIKKIM
ROCKETGRAM.

BY ROCKET.



SIKKIM, R. 84

FROM TELEGRAPH OFFICE,
GANGTOK
28 SEP. 35

Mr. Stephen D. Smith,
Gangtok,
Sikkim.

SIKKIM
ROCKETGRAM.

BY ROCKET.



SIR TASHI NAMGYAL FIELD
79, BRITISH RESIDENCY.

Stephens & Smith
R. 87
R. P. R.

Master Hector Smith,
Dak Bungalow,
Sikkim.



DESPATCHED

Message

INDIAN

offer their Homage

to Their Imp

KING G

QUEEN

DESPATCHED BY ROCKET

Message of Loyalty

INDIAN SCOUTS

offer their Homage and Loyal Affection

to Their Imperial Majesties

KING GEORGE VI

and

QUEEN ELIZABETH



SAT., OCT. 6, 1934.

Mails By Rocket

CALCUTTA EXPERIMENTS

NEW BID OF SCIENCE

Will the Rocket post beat air mails, the telephone and even the wireless?

Sending mails by rockets is the latest speed bid of science and India is ahead of most countries of the world in testing out the rocket system of delivering mails, experiments having been carried out not many miles out of Calcutta in this direction this week.

Whizz! Whizz! Open up your rocket and there is your mail inside!

Rocket posts mean the despatch of mails by a flying body, which is propelled at enormous speed by the intense compression of steam. The Rocket has been known for a long time in war, as signal lights and for illuminating purposes, but it is now being experimented upon for transport purposes in Germany, France and England.

In the Continent it can be claimed to have passed its early pioneering stages. The imaginative and romantic aspect of their nature and purpose quickly captured the readily receptive public eye and mind.

In England on June 6 this year, the first experiment was carried out early in the morning at Sussex Downs, two miles from Rottingdean. The trial was conducted by Herr Zucker the inventor of the rocket and was witnessed by only four men, all newspaper representatives. The two experiments proved extremely successful. After being recovered from the rocket the covers were taken to the Brighton Post Office where they were postmarked 9-15 a.m. June 6th.

The next experiment to be tried is to shoot mail from England to France across the Channel, a distance of 21 miles, in one minute. The Zucker aluminum rocket will be used.

Questioned as to whether he considered the possibility of the use of postal rockets, the British Postmaster General, Sir K. Wood, replied that he shall be prepared to consider their use, if such a method is found to be practicable.

America is also interested in these experiments and will shortly start her own trials.

India has an Air Mail Society consisting of such air-minded people as Lady Ezra, General Riding, Col. Gilbert and Sir David Ezra conducted by its Honorary Secretary, Mr. S. Smith.

And India is ahead in this matter.

Realizing that the rocket mail is most invaluable in the case of islands where it is difficult to land the mails experiments were carried out this week at Saugor Island, where the delivery of mails entirely depends on the condition of the sea.

On the 30th September a rocket was successfully carried 122 yards with 220 despatches and another ship to shore with 173 despatches. The latter exploded and the mails had to be picked up.

On the 3rd October shore to ship with 125 despatches on the 4th October ship to shore with 75 despatches proved unsuccessful, the rocket exploding.

Special labels and special cachets were on each despatch.

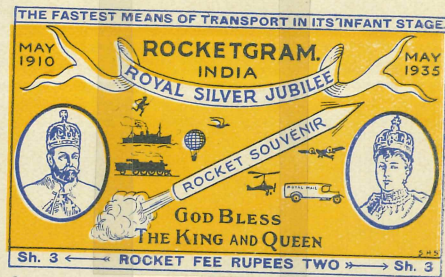
In two cases English rockets were used and in the other two, the ordinary country-made rockets which exploded.

The experiments were considered at disappointing and are encouraging to future efforts said Mr. Smith to *Star of India* representative.

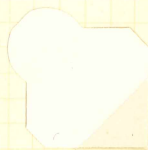
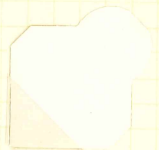
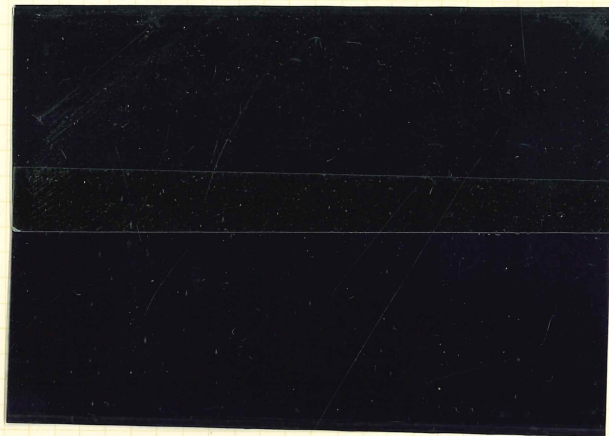
Incidentally Mr. Smith speaks of Saugor Island as the pearl land of milk and honey. Milk is ridiculously cheap while honey is a commodity within the reach of everyone.

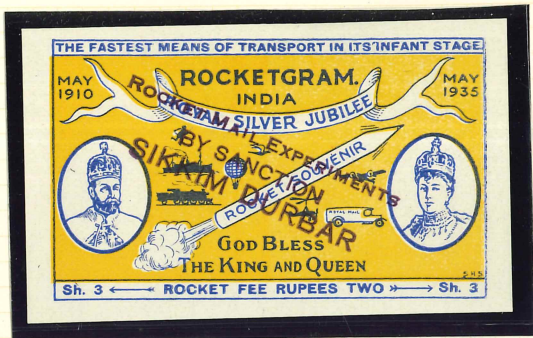
POSSIBILITIES

The possibilities of the future are great, while, of course, the experiments now being carried out with any particular service in mind there is no reason for instance from a given point, mails cannot be shot down the valley from the Darjeeling cart road to Siliguri, enabling Darjeeling to have a late-fee post an hour or two after the mail has left with the regular post.



*Stephens & Smith.
Bombay India.*





ROCKETGRAM
CARD

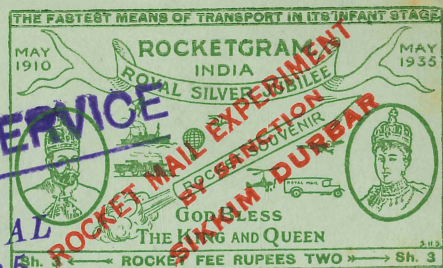
SIKKIM.

ON SIKKIM DARBAR SERVICE

TASHI NAMGYAL
FIELD 8/4/35

Tashi Namgyal

Seong Lamee.
Co Stephen H. Smith -
Gautok.





**ROCKETGRAM
CARD**

SIKKIM.

ON SIKKIM DARBAR SERVICE

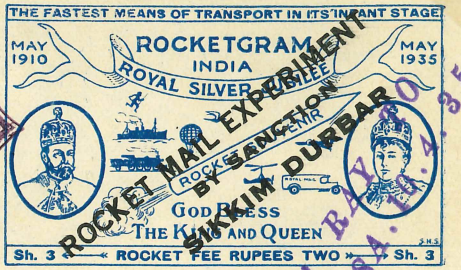
**TASHI NAMGYAL
FIELD 8/4/35**



Tashi Namgyal

*A. Macgillivray, Esquire,
Gangtok,
Sikkim*





ON SIKKIM DARBAR SERVICE

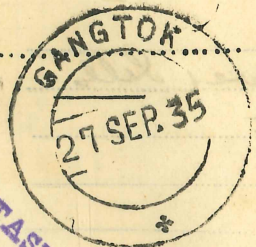
Over the RANAKHALI RIVER

A. Macgillivray, Esq.,
Surumoa
Sikkim

SURUMOA SIKKIM



SIKKIM
ROCKETGRAM.
BY ROCKET.



SIR TASHI NAMGYAL FIELD
TO. GANGTOK POST OFFICE.

Stephens Smith

MY--ON 1., R. 83

*Mr. Stephen W. Smith,
Gangtok,
Sikkim.*