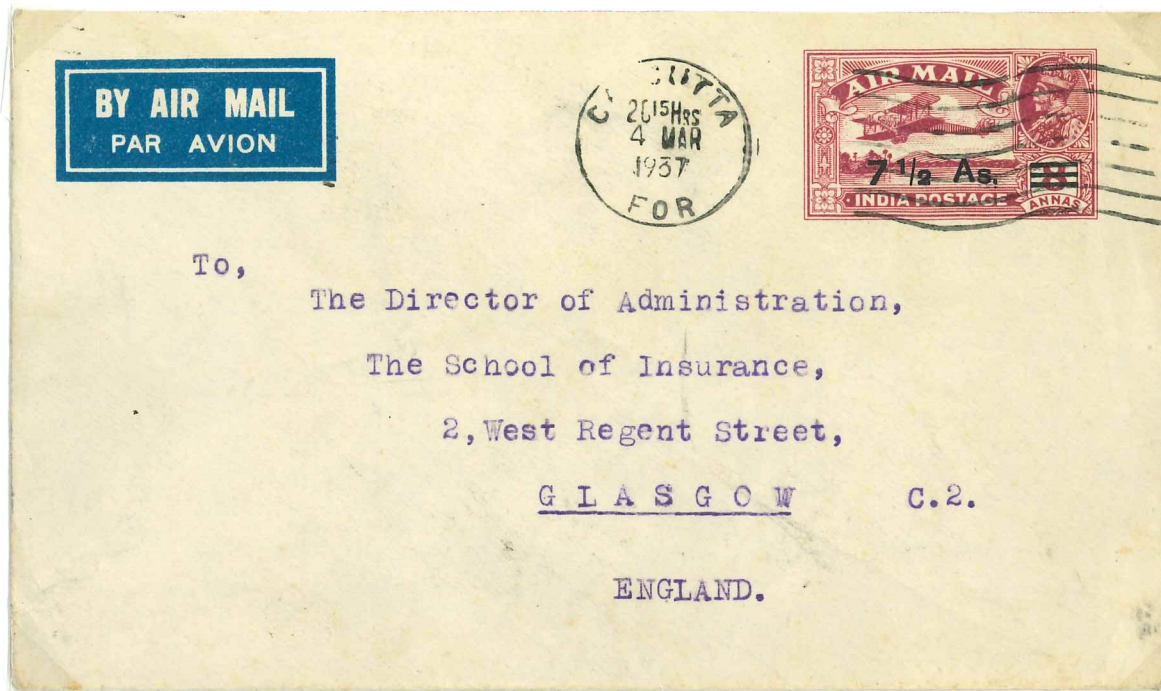




This cover despatched on the 24th July 1930 from Wellington, a town in the South of India which has an Army training barracks featured in "Billy Connelly's Who do you think you are". Sent by land to Bombay; then to Karachi Air and the by air to U.K. Postage 8 Annas.



The Air Mail rate for letters was reduced in 1936 to 7 1/2 Annas and the printed envelope was surcharged accordingly.



The first Air Mail envelope for 8 Annas was issued in 1933.





Throughout the 1930's, Air Mail postage became increasingly common and mail was carried all over India by air. In 1933, the air link between Calcutta and Karachi was opened. This enable mail from the business community to be sent and transferred to the Karachi-London service.

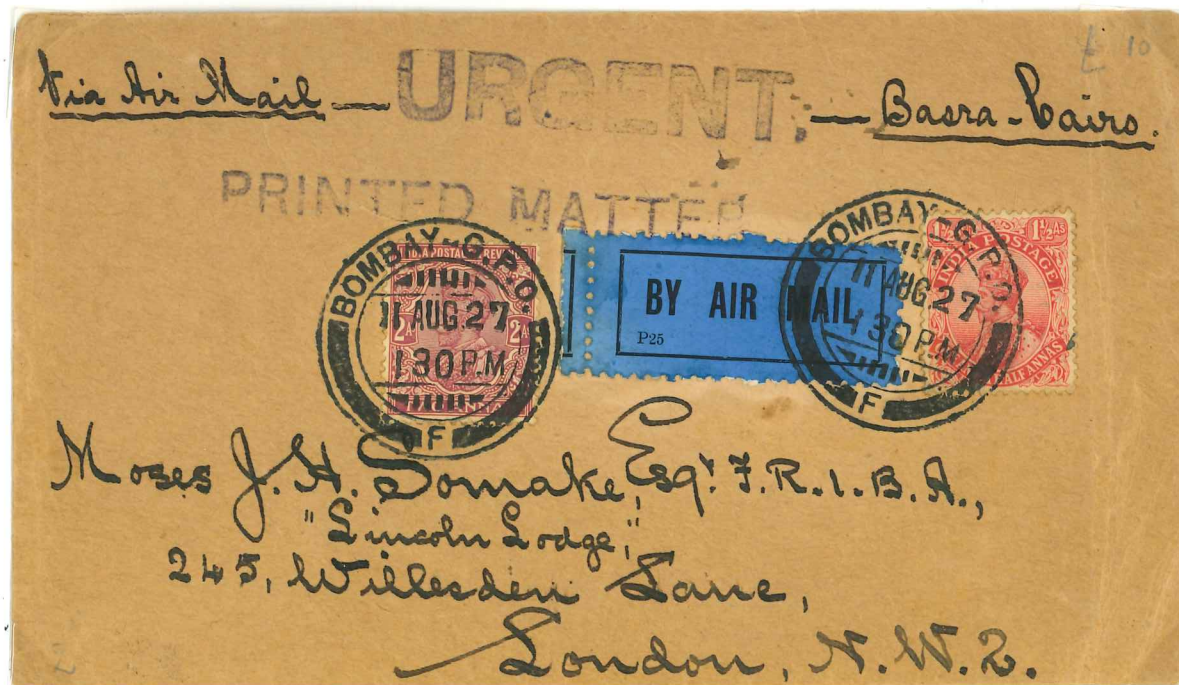


INDIAN AIR MAILS

The advantages of an Air Mail Service to and from the U.K. were recognised from the early part of the 1900's and much of the pioneering work was done by the R.A.F. In 1919, a Handley Page aircraft took off on the 113th December 1918 from the U.K. and reached Karachi on the 17th January 1919.

It was not until the formation of the Imperial Airways in 1924, however, that concrete steps were taken to develop a commercial air route from the U.K. to India. Between 1927 and 1929, various sections of the route were opened up, but it was not until 1929 that a through air service was started. The first Air Mail service left Karachi on the 7th April 1929 and reached Croydon, U.K. on the 14th April.

Two covers sent by Air for part of the way



BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

OPENING OF THE REGULAR
AIR MAIL SERVICE BY
IMPERIAL AIRWAYS AND
INDIAN TRANS-CONTINENTAL
AIRWAYS - THROUGH
INDIA TO CALCUTTA



Wessex
Chestnut Cooper Esq
18 Creechurch Lane
London EC3 England

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



FIRST FLIGHT **J. R. MOTISHAW ESQ.**
MADRAS-CALCUTTA. *C/o Messrs. N. L. Roy & Co.*
7, Lyons Range,
CALCUTTA.

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



FIRST FLIGHT
MADRAS-CALCUTTA.

J. R. MOTISHAW ESQ.
C/o Messrs. N. L. Roy & Co.
7, Lyons Range,
CALCUTTA.

Per Air Mail.

AIR MAIL



The Malabar Press, Malabar, Madras, India.

UNIVERSAL MOTOR & TRADING CO.
209, GARDEN ROAD, KARACHI.

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



Lt Col A. L. Hadow
C.M.G.
Kester
Kensington
England. Kent

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

INDIA-England.



The Reverend
15 Carden Place
Canon MacCulloch, D.D.
Aberdeen ~~The Bridge of Allan,~~
STIRLINGSHIRE. SCOTLAND.

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



W. Winc Esq.,
70, Warkham Road,
Harrow Weald.
England *Middx.*

AIR MAIL



G. B. Kempster Esq.
5 Drayton Terrace,
South Kensington
England.

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



Mr D. Munro
Q. M. G. Branch
A. H. Q
Simla
India

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



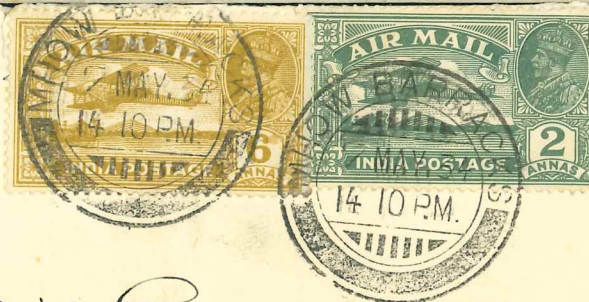
Mr D. Munro
Q. M. G. Branch
A. H. Q.
~~New Delhi~~
India *Simla*

AIR MAIL



Air Mail
The Principal
School of Accountancy,
2, West Regent St.
Glasgow.
Scotland

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



Mr Dighton
The Windmill House
Muckinhampton
NR Strand
Bournemouth
ENGLAND

AIR MAIL

England

India England air mail

Peter Fairbairn Esq,
80, Hills Road,
Cambridge.

1-2-6

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



Monsieur Ch. KUENEGEL,
Courtier Assermenté
93, Boulevard de Strasbourg, 93
LE HAVRE. (Seine Inférieure)
(FRANCE)

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

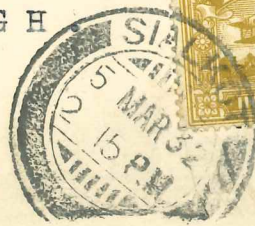


Miss R A Milne
Western Villa
The Boundary
Walsend on Tyne
England.

via KARACHI - LONDON.

AIR MAIL

W. M. McLachlan, Esq., W. S.,
General Secretary,
Foreign Mission Committee, Church of Scotland,
121, George St.,
EDINBURGH
Scotland.



AIR MAIL
KARACHI - ENGLAND

AIR MAIL

W. M. McLachlan Esq. W.S.
General Secretary F.M.C.
Church of Scotland Office
121 George Street
Edinburgh
Scotland



W. M. McLachlan
Kalimpong

By Air Mail

To,
The Principal,
The Glasgow School of Accountancy,
2. West Regent Street,
GLASGOW.
Scotland
(United Kingdom)

AIR MAIL



AIR MAIL



Registered Air
Karachi - London

AIR MAIL

R 288
JUBBULPORE

The Manager,
Midland Bank Ltd,
Plymouth.
England.



AIR MAIL

Messrs. GROVES & LINDLEY,
Lion Buildings,
Station Street,
HUDDERSFIELD,
England.

109
4/6

R 109
KALAMATI
DE MONGHAI

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

RAWALPINDI
15 OCT 1936
7 HAS



Tas. Ferguson Esq.
57. Murrayfield Gardens.
Edinburgh.
Scotland £1.50

AIR MAIL



PORTSMOUTH
11 AM
15 OCT 1936
SOUTHSEA HANTS

Go Mrs. J. M. Russell
White Lodge ~~Horsington Road~~
East Stoke ~~London Road~~
Hayling Island ~~Portsmouth~~
~~via Banchin & Hants~~ England
£1.50

AIR MAIL



M^{rs}. V. Towne
Kent Hall
Queens Crescent
Southsea
Hants
England

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



Tas. Ferguson Esq.
57 - Murrayfield Gardens
Edinburgh.
Scotland £1.50

Trans - India - Rangoon
Air Mail.

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



Mr. B. J. H. Somake,
c/o The Postmaster,
RANGOON.

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



The Director of Studies,
The School of Accountancy
Regent House, 2 West Regent
Street
Glasgow C2
Scotland

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



From: MULLER & PHIPPS (INDIA) LTD.
POST BOX 604
RANGOON

Messrs. Keston, Limited,
Maddox House,
Regent Street,
LONDON W.1

7/2 on Air Mail rate

Alfred Palmer Esqr.,
Director of Studies,
The School of Accountancy,
2 West Regent Street,
GLASGOW.



Englewood
London S.E.1.
145 Mice Street,
Hambeth,
 Mrs. A. Powell.

AIR MAIL



BY AIR MAIL
 PAR AVION

OPENING OF THE REGULAR AIR MAIL SERVICE BY IMPERIAL AIRWAYS AND INDIAN TRANS-CONTINENTAL AIRWAYS - THROUGH INDIA TO CALCUTTA

IMPERIAL AIRWAYS

INDIA POSTAGE
 KARACHI
 11 JULY 33
 7 - A.M.

AARON A.D. JENSEN.
 % OF IMPERIAL AIRWAYS LTD.,
 VICTORIA STATION,
 LONDON, S.W.1.
 ENGLAND.

BY AIR MAIL
 PAR AVION

KARACHI
 to
 LONDON

W.M. McLachlan Esq W.S.,
 121 George Street,
 Edinburgh
 Scotland.

INDIA POSTAGE
 AIR MAIL
 5 45 P.M.

INDIA POSTAGE
 1d

BY AIR MAIL
 PAR AVION

OPENING OF THE REGULAR AIR MAIL SERVICE BY IMPERIAL AIRWAYS AND INDIAN TRANS-CONTINENTAL AIRWAYS - THROUGH INDIA TO CALCUTTA

IMPERIAL AIRWAYS

INDIA POSTAGE
 CALCUTTA
 10 JULY 1933
 FOR

AARON A.D. JENSEN.
 % OF IMPERIAL AIRWAYS LTD.,
 VICTORIA STATION,
 LONDON, S.W.1.
 ENGLAND.

BY AIR MAIL
 PAR AVION

OPENING OF THE REGULAR AIR MAIL SERVICE BY IMPERIAL AIRWAYS AND INDIAN TRANS-CONTINENTAL AIRWAYS - THROUGH INDIA TO CALCUTTA

IMPERIAL AIRWAYS

INDIA POSTAGE
 CALCUTTA-KARACHI
 11 JULY 33

AARON A.D. JENSEN.
 % OF IMPERIAL AIRWAYS LTD.,
 VICTORIA STATION,
 LONDON, S.W.1.
 ENGLAND.

AIR MAIL

W. Ross or Mrs
Woolfield
J. G. Wibley Esq
Wesley House
England
 12-25

AIR MAIL



BY AIR MAIL
 PAR AVION

Regis.

INDIA POSTAGE
 BULANSHAHR KUTUB
 AIR MAIL
 8 ANNAS

12/16/32.
 157

DOUGLAS GRANT & DOLD,
 SOLICITORS,
 502-503, Bank Chambers,
 Southampton Buildings,
 Chancery Lane,
 LONDON.

from
 Saobaren Singh
 V. Chingrawli
 P.O. Jhajhar,
 Distt. Bulandshahr.

BY AIR MAIL
 PAR AVION

OPENING OF THE REGULAR AIR MAIL SERVICE BY IMPERIAL AIRWAYS AND INDIAN TRANS-CONTINENTAL AIRWAYS - THROUGH INDIA TO CALCUTTA

IMPERIAL AIRWAYS

INDIA POSTAGE
 CALCUTTA
 17 15 Hrs
 10 JUL

AARON A.D. JENSEN.
 % OF IMPERIAL AIRWAYS LTD.,
 VICTORIA STATION,
 LONDON, S.W.1.
 ENGLAND.

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

120

India - England

Madras Governors
Camp.

Majr B. H. Matthews

Pickwick End

Croshaw

See over

Wilks

England



MESSRS HUNTLEY & PALMERS LTD.

BISCUIT MANUFACTURERS,

READING (ENGLAND)

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

21 -

FROM:-

Tele:—"DIVIPI."

RATILAL & Co.

MORARJI GOKULDAS MARKET, KALBADEVI ROAD,

BOMBAY, 2.

TO,

Messrs A Garblit's Son Inc

324 Canal Street

New York

LONDON

U.S.A.

(SEE OVER)

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

Hi in India

Rec. Jan 15.
1935.

Mrs. Inglis.

Green Lane

Delston

England

Cumberland



First Flight by India-
Transcontinental Airways.



Jodhpore

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

C.V. D'Eca Esqr.,

6 Duplex Lane,

New Delhi.

f2-50

An Airmail Postcard printed by the Security Press, Nasik colour printed blue on buff and issued on the 24th June 1931 prestamped with a Four Anna stamp. This postcard sent from Ahmednagar City on the 23 July 1931 to the U.K. with Handstamp BY AIR in a circle.. No arrival date. Sender clearly does not trust airmail postage.



2) Via Chunking (The Hump) until Japan entered the War. Note the considerable increase in the cost of Postage



A First Flight cover on the Karachi-London schedule. Posted in Karachi on the 5th April 1929. The Airmail rate 8 Annas. The first "By Air" hand stamp and the first adhesive Blue sticker..



With the outbreak of World War 2, the Mediterranean Area was closed to commercial aircraft and therefore Air Mail postal services were suspended.

Air Mails were sent by two routes.

1) Via Lagos in Africa.

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

AIR MAIL
AVION

Registered Letter

LAGOS.

U.S.A.



Mr. N. A. Davis

Comptroller,

Gnaton & Knight Co.,

Worcester,

Mass., U.S.A.

R B 892

BOMBAY G. P. O.

DHC/324

Ferguson & Co.
Mabelle Street,
Bombay (India.)

OPENED BY EXAMINER



BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

Mrs. A. E. Jordan

10 A Baron's Court Road
West Kensington
LONDON

England



POSTED AT:
STATION... Nagpur
TIME.....

FIRST ALL-UP AIR MAIL-1-4-1949.

Please Return



Lt. Col. J. W. C. Lincoln-Gordon.
P.M.G. Central Circle
C/o Postmaster General
Bengal Circle
Calcutta



R D 994
BOMBAY G. P. O.

Handwritten: J. B. Higgins Esq.
Whitehouse House
Hartlebury

AIR MAIL

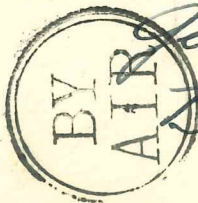
By Air Mail

3/1559

AIR MAIL



B. G. Marj
The Wholesale Store,
George Street,
BIRMINGHAM
ENGLAND



Scotland
via KARACHI

AIR MAIL

with G. Mackin
c/o G. O'Shane,
Barbery Barracks,
Edinburgh.

"AIR"
MAIL



KARACHI - LONDON
Air Mail

AIR MAIL



Miss E. J. Millen.
59 Melville Street.
Edinburgh.
SCOTLAND

Gannon, Dunkerley & Co., Ltd., Bombay.

AIR MAIL



Messrs. TWEEDALES & SMALLEY, (1920) Ltd.

CASTLETON,

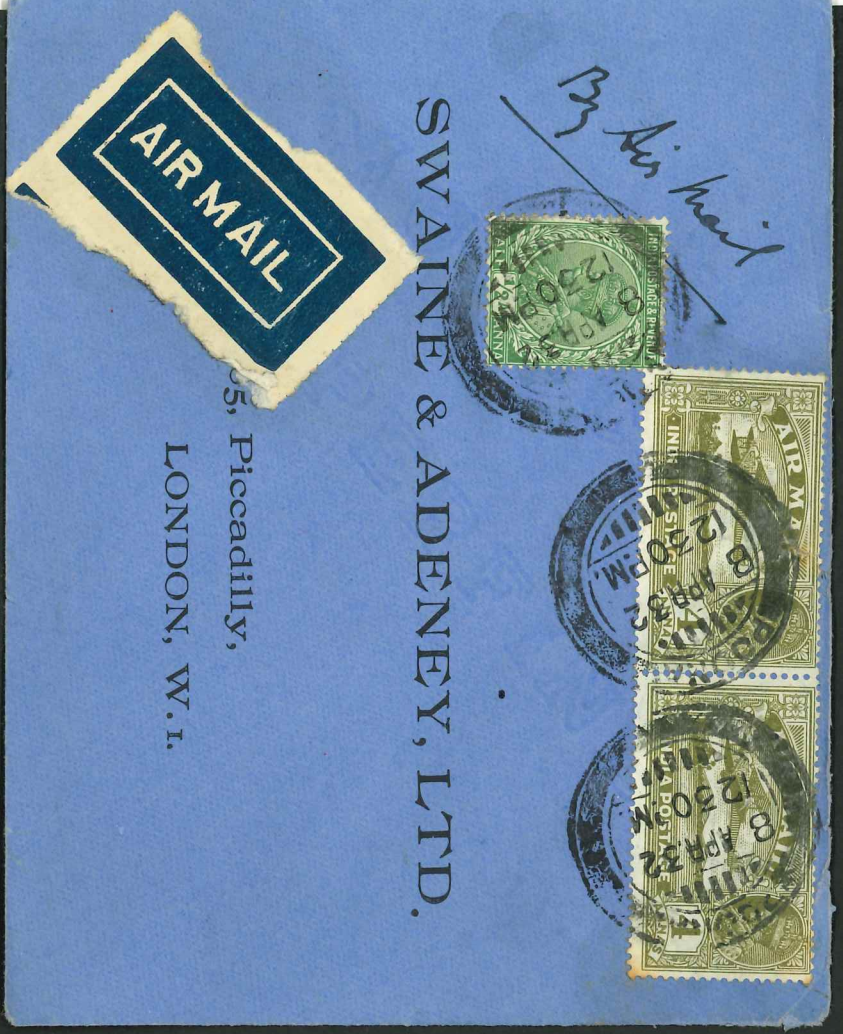


Nr. MANCHESTER.

(ENGLAND.)



Handwritten: 2/2 S.N.



The Start of an Historic Flight—the early morning scene at Karachi, on April 7th, 1929, when the first through Air Mail to England was inaugurated.