

# International avis de réception (AR) in the British Empire, to 1950

## Introduction

This is a pseudo-virtual exhibit; *pseudo-* because it is intended to be printed (with real covers, not the scans) as an exhibit. I put it in this virtual form in order to expose it to criticism before I mount the pages, and also to see just what I have, what I need, and what I can dispose of.

There are undoubtedly many errors and omissions of fact, some page arrangements could be improved, the organization likely leaves something to be desired, the story line might be obscure, . . . , and I am uncertain about some of the rates, especially airmail from India and Iraq. Some of the material could be upgraded, too. I hope readers will send comments, criticisms, and suggestions (e-mail address below)—this is the main point of putting it on-line.

I am also interested in buying or trading for material that would fit in.

The scans are 150dpi, very low resolution, hence some of the images look a lot worse than the covers really are (and the appearance of some is considerably improved). This is another reason to call this *pseudo-virtual*. Had I intended to make this a real virtual (!) exhibit, I would have scanned at 300dpi. Many of the side images are in greyscale, as these are intended to be printed (as I intend to use a bw printer), and I will have to convert the coloured side images to greyscale as well. The images of the covers are within  $\pm 5\%$  of their actual size, or so I hope.

The index lists page numbers starting with the title page (page 1).

This was prepared in the typesetting language  $\text{\TeX}$  (but *not* straitjacket  $\text{\LaTeX}$ ). The font family is `rtc Elysium`. When text overlaps an image, it means that the cover will be mounted to the left of where it is shown.

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*Revised January 2013.* Reduced to five frames, deleted some material, combined items on same page.



# International *avis de réception* (AR) in the British Empire & Commonwealth

## Synopsis

*Avis de réception* (abbreviated AR throughout) is the official UPU term for the postal service which provides a card or form signed by the recipient of a (registered) letter to be returned to the sender, as evidence of delivery. It goes under many names, for example, *acknowledgment of receipt*, *advice of delivery*, *return receipt requested/demanded/desired/wanted* . . . , *Rückschein*.

Here, British Empire & Commonwealth means all British possessions, offices, dominions, occupied territories (at the time of their occupation), mandates, protectorates, and members of the Commonwealth.

This is a strictly postal history exhibit discussing international (as opposed to domestic—all items go from one country to a distinct one) AR service in the British Empire. AR material is generally very difficult to find in this group of countries (with the relative exception of India); seemingly AR service was highly unpopular with these postal administrations, so it is something of a challenge to find interesting material, even from the UK. We emphasize that this deals with international mail only—many countries had different treatment for domestic AR (for example, although UK switched to AR cards internationally, it persisted with domestic AR forms into the 1960s, and in addition, the AR fees were not always equal).

The evolution of AR and practises surrounding it are shown in this exhibit. Procedures concerning the forms to be signed and returned to sender (**AR forms**) changed twice (with the advent of the UPU Treaties of Vienna and Washington), and then the forms were (largely) replaced by **AR cards**, requiring different treatment. Many AR forms were to be returned under cover (rather than as folded letter sheets), requiring special **AR covering envelopes**, some official, some provisional. The registered envelopes that were sent with AR service (**AR covers**) reflect the change in procedures (for example, payment of the AR fee on the cover, form, or card—this varied both temporally and geographically). In addition, we show AR material that was mishandled by one (or more) post offices; often, incoming cards or forms were not signed or returned, even though the registered letter was delivered. *Mistreated* items appear throughout the exhibit.

Although AR had been around (under different names) since 1809 (Austria, *Retour Recepisse*), none of the countries here adopted it, until UK as a founding member of the UPU was required to offer it beginning in 1875. (Not mentioned in UK postal guides until 1891, there is a real paucity of AR material well into the twentieth century.) Canada began to offer it on April Fool's day 1879, which was the date of universalization of AR service—every jurisdiction that either was already a member or joined in the future was required to offer it from the time of joining.

Prior to 1 July 1892 (when the Treaty of Vienna became effective), the usual procedure concerning AR was as follows. A letter to be sent registered and with AR was taken to the post office, and the AR form was prepared, with the registration number, the address and the return address filled in. It would either be sent attached to the registered letter (which occurred in all known examples from the British Empire), or separately but in the same mailing. The AR fee would usually be paid in stamps on the form (although a few jurisdictions, such as India, required that the AR fee be paid on the registered letter). If delivery of the registered letter was successful, then the AR form would be signed by the recipient (failing that, the postal clerk), and the form would be returned—at no charge—to the sender. The form could either be sent as a folded letter sheet, or in a covering envelope, specially printed for this purpose. The form itself was returned as registered mail until sometime in the twentieth century, the actual date depending on individual postal jurisdiction.

There was no requirement to mark the registered letter with AR or anything similar, which means that without the form, it may be impossible to tell whether the registered cover was sent with AR (especially



if the AR fee were paid on the form). There are in fact no known international AR covers mailed from anywhere in the British Empire in this period, but a number of forms exist, and several covering envelopes for the return of AR forms [abbreviated *AR covering envelopes*, or simply covering envelopes] are also known (and shown here), as are a few AR covers.

With the [Treaty of Vienna](#) (effective 1 July 1892–31 December 1898), two changes occurred. The first is that registered letters sent with AR must be so marked, either with AR (handwritten or stamped) or with *avis de réception*. The second required the AR form to be prepared in the destination country; this forced payment of the AR fee on the cover (in the previous period, jurisdictions could decide on their own where the AR fee was to be applied). This meant that if you sent out a registered letter with AR (abbreviated, *AR cover*) and it was successfully delivered, you would expect to receive back an AR form printed and prepared by the destination country. An exception to this was Jamaica (and probably Barbados), which continued to use pre-Vienna procedures (attaching the stamped form) throughout the period.

This somewhat awkward procedure was reversed by the [Treaty of Washington](#) (effective 1 January 1899). Now AR forms were again prepared at the office of origin, and each jurisdiction could again decide whether to require payment of the AR fee in stamps on the form or on the cover. For the British Empire, there is an easy subdivision. For all British entities in the Indian subcontinent, some middle eastern occupied areas, and (based on just a few examples) eastern African colonies, the AR fee was paid on the AR cover; in addition, it was the case for New Zealand. Elsewhere in the Empire, the fee was paid on the form, later on the AR card. [There are no official references for this, but this is what I have observed.]

Late in 1921, most (but not all) jurisdictions introduced AR cards to replace AR forms; these are roughly the shape and thickness of postcards, and did not require a covering envelope; as with AR forms, they were sent free through the mail, any stamps on them paying the AR fee (with one obscure exception). Again, the AR fee could be paid on the AR cover, or on the AR card, with the same grouping of countries.

The goal is to show the variety of material possible and the various methods of enacting AR, and how these evolved in time. There are some similarities among the AR forms of the countries involved, but not much; the same applies to the format of AR cards and covering envelopes. Since AR involves two directions, it is important to deal with incoming AR material as well.

*Organization* The first division is into five sections: [AR forms](#), [AR covering envelopes](#), [AR cards](#), [weird AR](#), and [AR covers](#). Weird AR deals with free, duplicate (or replacement), and after-the-fact AR (see below for definitions), examples of which are extremely difficult to find. Each section (except for AR cards and weird AR) is then divided into three periods,

(I) **pre-Vienna**, 1875–30 June 1892 (that is, prior to the effectiveness of the Treaty of Vienna),

(II) **Vienna period**, 1 July 1892–31 December 1898,

(III) **post-Vienna**.

Within each of these subdivisions, we order by country: UK (and offices), then Canada, then west to Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Indian subcontinent and southeast Asia, Africa, middle east, Mediterranean, and finally Central and South America. For most of these places, even finding one AR item is little short of miraculous. Items showing postal [mistreatment](#) are scattered throughout.

**AR forms** In the pre-Vienna period (I), there are three quite different UK AR forms, the first one being the discovery copy to show (contrary to Mackay) that UK did indeed offer AR service prior to 1891. The only known Seychelles and pre-Vienna New South Wales forms are also shown, and then one from Aden. (A Canadian AR form is also known in this period, but it is used domestically, so does not appear in the exhibit.) A very early (1876) AR form from Luxembourg and a somewhat later one from Russia show mistreatment by the UK post office—they were not signed nor returned to sender, likely because the clerks could not read them.

In the Vienna period (II), the form is (normally) prepared in the destination office. Thus the first item shown is a Jersey AR form, for a registered letter from France. Based on numerous examples (of us forms to Canada), it appears that between Canada and the US, the Vienna conventions were suspended, that is, forms were prepared in the country of origin—we show the unique nineteenth century Canadian international use AR form, likely a replacement.

In the post-Vienna period (III), British AR forms seem to have vanished; I could only find one. This is followed by incoming AR forms to Canada from Laurenço Marques (mistreated by the Canadian post



office) and Norway (for a change, correctly treated), and Canadian AR forms to Beirut and Smyrna.

AR forms from India (to Indochina) and FMS demonstrate that in the Indian subcontinent, the AR fee was paid on the cover, not the form in this period.

The final item in this grouping is a remarkable AR form from **British Occupied Enemy Territory** in Palestine in the month in which it became a mandate.

**AR covering envelopes** Pre-Vienna (I), there are only three known for all of the Empire, and we show all (BPO Constantinople, UK, and a provisional covering envelope from Colombo).

In the Vienna period and later (II & III), UK used a number of covering envelope styles, and we show a sampling. We also show covering envelopes from India (oddly shaped), Cape of Good Hope, and Queensland in this period. This subsection is concluded with a New Zealand covering envelope together with the AR form that it contained (very few such pairs are known).

In the post-Vienna period (III), we continue with the wide variety of UK covering envelopes, including a mourning cover, and different kinds of provisional ones. We also show how they changed from being returned by registered mail to regular mail (early 1908; this date varies by jurisdiction). We do the same for New Zealand (changeover 1917–1920). Canadian AR covering envelopes are drab affairs (usually in fragile condition owing to cheap paper), but those of New South Wales are more interesting. We also have AR covering envelopes from Samoa, Malta, FMS, Natal, and Cape of Good Hope, and a different Cape of Good Hope AR covering envelope with the US AR form that it enclosed..

**AR cards** Introduced in most places in late 1921, they were (generally) postcard size and did not require a covering envelope. Typically, they were initially **yellow**, switching to shades of **pink** (or maroon in southeast Asia) in the early 1930s. We show examples from UK (somewhat difficult to find), from Canada (less so), Australia (more so, internationally), Palestine (less so), and then various places southeast Asia (much less so).

**Weird AR** Initially, we show a Cyprus AR card addressed to a British ship, sent for *free*, from a Government office. Then we have two examples of *duplicate* AR cards, prepared when the original is lost, damaged, or not returned to the sender of the registered item. The first is British, returned from Tuva (!), together with an official covering letter. The second is Canadian, returned from the US. Next, we show after-the-fact AR (arising when the card or form is sent out after the registered item had been mailed), from Iraq (under British Mandate), and Canada.

Finally, and perhaps most remarkably, we have an incoming (to India) AR form returned by air. From 1938, AR cards (and for those few entities who still used forms at this date) could be returned by air, if the airmail rate to the destination country was prepaid. This is a form from Indochina, with the airmail fee paid, used in 1938.

**AR covers** These are registered letters which were provably sent with AR. No international examples are known in the British Empire in the Vienna period (I), but we have (the only) two incoming, both to UK.

Vienna period (II) AR covers exist but are difficult to find (except for India); we show the earliest reported UK AR cover, a dilapidated but well-travelled BPO Constantinople AR cover, a couple of remarkable incoming to Canada AR covers, and the earliest and third-earliest Canadian AR covers. These are followed by the only two nineteenth century international AR covers from the Australian States (both NSW, one to Canada on the first run of the Canada-Australia steamship line). A couple of Indian AR covers appear, but these are much easier to find. We conclude with a Bahamian AR (likely unique), and one from Jamaica with postal fiscals.

Even in the post-Vienna period (III), British AR covers are seldom found. Shown is a very unusual combination, AR, *valeur déclarée* (that is, extra indemnity on a registered letter), and late fee. Next is an incoming to UK AR cover from China, on which the British clerk has noted that the **AR form is missing** (so a duplicate would have had to have been prepared).

Canadian AR covers are about as scarce as British; we have an early example to Cuba, and a cover, initially a drop letter, forwarded to Turkey, charged postage due (mistakenly doubled). There is an AR cover to Yugoslavia, and a China clipper cover to India mailed just before Pearl Harbor (and consequently returned to sender). The earliest known Newfoundland AR cover (to Canada) also appears here.

New Zealand and Australian AR covers are more difficult to find than Canadian, and we only show a



few; these are followed by Hong Kong, and then we cover India, for which AR is relatively common. Aden, Burma, Ceylon, Straits Settlements, Federated Malay States, Nepal covers appear next. These confirm that for the Indian subcontinent, the AR fee was paid on the cover.

Moving near and to Africa, Mauritius, and various African colonies and protectorates are represented (Kenya, Transvaal, Natal, Zanzibar, Nigeria, Sierra Leone). To the middle east, two from Iraq (each during periods of British occupation), Palestine, and a **wreck** AR cover from Egypt (one of three wreck AR covers worldwide). In the Mediterranean, Cyprus, Gibraltar, and Malta appear.

The exhibit concludes with AR covers from Central and South America, Bahamas, Trinidad, Bermuda, and Barbados, and three from British Guiana. The very last cover is an early airmail, for which the rates have not been accurately listed.

**Condition** Most of these things are so difficult to find that condition is irrelevant.

**Time period** It is considerably easier to find AR material after 1950, but with the proliferation of countries, increased use of airmail (complicating the rates), and more services, it seemed reasonable to cut the study off at 1950.

There are five levels of headings (excluding the exhibit title)

# Title

## Subtitle

### Subsubtitle

*Subsubsubtitle* (in-line) Practically all pages have a subsubtitle, and all descriptions of covers have a sub-subsubtitle.

**Research & References** There is a heavy research component in this exhibit, since the literature on AR is sparse. The only substantive work on British AR is my article in the London Philatelist (June 2007). I had been writing about Canadian AR for many years (PHSC Journal, 1990s; BNATopics during the period in which it was a *good* journal). In addition, the significance of the subdivisions of AR forms (folded letter/requiring covering envelope; stamps on form/stamps on cover) was my observation (especially crucial in determining rates on AR covers, since we can determine whether the AR fee was paid on the cover or form/card).

The standard British reference for registration, containing some information on AR is Mackay, *Registered mail of the British Isles*. For Canadian AR, the registration book by Arfken, Harrison, & Lussey should be avoided, as well as articles by Arfken & Pawluk, as they are written as though the authors had blinders on. (Go to my articles instead.) For 19th century NSW, the book by White contains a page on AR. There is also a long three-part article on AR in Australia. For general worldwide AR, my book appears to be unique (AR—*avis de réception*, Postal History Society of Canada (2002), Ottawa).

There are a few helpful websites and country specialists, dealing with AR, e.g., for New Zealand, Jamaica (which is how we know that Jamaica did not follow the Vienna conventions), and various others.

**View the exhibit!** A version of the exhibit (pages 1–96) and the synopsis, as of March 2010 can be downloaded as a .pdf from R Frajola's Mercury Project website; its url is

<http://www.rfrajola.com/mercury/mercury.htm>

It is likely that by March 2013, this will be replaced by the updated exhibit.

*Updated February 2013.* 80-page (final) version now appears on Frajola's website.



# Index

Virtual exhibits should have an index, and in any case, it will be helpful when I revise the exhibit. Omitted from the index are terms that occur so frequently that it would be moronic to include them—for example, US, UK, AR (by itself), airmail, registered, . . . .

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# International *avis de réception* (AR) in the British Empire & Commonwealth

**AR** refers to the UPU term *avis de réception* (acknowledgment of receipt, advice of delivery, return receipt, *Rückschein*, *Retour Recepisse*, . . . ) for the service of returning to the sender of a registered item a signed form or card *confirming delivery*. **British Empire & Commonwealth** includes British Isles, all offices, possessions, dominions, occupied territories (during the period of occupation), protectorates, mandates, Commonwealth members, . . . . Only *non-domestic* AR service is dealt with, with some incoming material (to illustrate **mistreatment** by the post office) are included.

Shown is the wide variety of material & methods of handling associated to AR, in addition to the evolution of procedures. AR material is sparse to nonexistent for all parts of the Empire except the Indian subcontinent, particularly in the nineteenth century.

After the formation of the GPU/UPU (1875) and the universalization of AR (1879), rules treating AR were significantly changed twice—at the beginning and at the end of the **Treaty of Vienna** period, 1 July 1892–31 December 1898. Pre- and post-Vienna, jurisdictions were free to require AR franking on either the form or the registered item, as they wished. During the Vienna period, this franking had to be on the registered cover. During and after the Vienna period, registered matter to be sent with AR had to be so marked (preferably with an AR handstamp).

The exhibit is divided into AR *forms*, AR *covering envelopes*, AR *cards* (the last only possible in the post-Vienna period), and AR *covers*, each subdivided into (I) **pre-Vienna** (1875–1892), (II) **Vienna** (1892–1898), and (III) **post-Vienna** periods. A handful of pre-Vienna British Empire AR items are known. Within each subsection, we proceed roughly geographically, beginning at UK, then Canada, Australasia, Indian subcontinent, Africa, middle east, and Central, South America, and Caribbean. Within the geographic divisions, there was relatively uniform treatment of AR. There is also a separate section on **Weird AR**. Postally mistreated items are shown throughout.

**AR forms** *Forms to be signed by recipient of registered item and then returned to sender.* Returned to sender as a folded letter sheet (for example, Canada), or under cover in an AR *covering envelope* (for example, New Zealand); UK used both styles. In the pre- and post-Vienna periods, the AR fee could be paid in stamps on either the form or the registered matter (depending on jurisdiction). The forms were themselves returned by registered mail, until sometime in the early twentieth century (date depending on jurisdiction). **Highlights:** (I) earliest UK AR form, only pre-Vienna NSW form; 1876 & 1881 incoming AR forms mistreated in UK; (II) earliest international Canadian; (III) pre-Mandate Palestine.

**AR covering envelopes** *Used to return to sender AR forms that were not of folded letter sheet type.* Most were formula envelopes intended for this purpose; when such were not available, *provisional* covering envelopes were created. **Highlights:** (I) only known pre-Vienna BPO Constantinople and UK covering envelopes, provisional Ceylon; (II) New Zealand with enclosed AR form; (III) coverage of UK, NSW, Malta, Palestine, Cape of Good Hope with enclosed US AR form, provisional Natal.

**AR cards** Around 1921–22, most (but not all) jurisdictions switched from AR forms to AR cards, the latter in the form of a postcard; these did not require covering envelopes. **Highlights:** (III) Australian AR card with additional US postage, Malayan states.

**Weird AR** *Free AR service (rarely) was used on some official mail. Duplicate forms or cards were required when the original was lost, damaged, or simply not returned to sender. After-the-fact AR service (form or card sent out after the registered item was posted) was available in the post-Vienna period, usually for an additional fee. Return by air (of the card/form) was available from mid-1930s and charged the air mail fee to the destination country.* **Highlights:** (III) Free from Cyprus, duplicate UK to Tuva, after-the-fact AR Iraq and Canada, Indochina AR form returned to India by air.

**AR covers** *Registered covers requiring AR service.* **Highlights:** (I) incoming to UK from Russia; (II) BPO Constantinople, NSW, unique Bahamas; (III) UK with VD & late fee, incoming with form missing, Hong Kong, occupied Iraq, Egypt (one of three international AR wreck covers), Kenya.



# AR forms (pre-Vienna)

Although UK was a founding member of the GPU (UPU from 1878), and Canada (and others) had joined by 1879, AR material to or from these countries is almost non-existent in the pre-Treaty of Vienna period (to 30 June 1892). AR forms were usually attached with gum, but India used thread.

*Acknowledgment of receipt of a Registered Article.*

TABLE I—to be filled up at the Despatching Office.

A Registered Article addressed to  
*Herrn Schenker & Co. Postfach  
 13 Lager Strasse Rostock  
 Mecklenburg*

is forwarded by this despatch, entered at  
 No. *13*. The Sender, whose name and  
 address appear on the third page, wishes  
 to know if it has been delivered; if so, to  
 whom; if not, how it has been disposed of.

*W. Schenker*  
 Registering Officer.

TABLE II—to be filled up at the Delivering Office. If the  
 Article has not been duly delivered, the manner in which it has  
 been disposed of should be stated.

*Don't deliver to Schenker*

Postmaster.

to the

land

## First British AR form (1886)

Properly signed and returned from Germany. *Only known example of this form.*

*Hedon—Rostock (Mecklenberg)*, 1886. Print-order date is March 1879 (in time for April 1879 change in UPU rules). *Not bilingual. Discovery example:* shows UK had AR service prior to 1892, contradicting the literature. Flimsy paper and “book” style reminiscent of French AR forms of the period.

- AR fee paid on form using 2½d stamp on reverse
- Returned as folded letter sheet

Application to the Delivering  
 disposal of a Registered Article.

For the Postmaster

G & S [1871] 20,000 379



## Second British AR form (1891)

Properly signed and returned from Germany. Only known example of this form, and one of two reported UK AR forms in the pre-Vienna period. Differs from earlier example in that it required a covering envelope.

17

Timbre d'affranchissement

13

Postmasters.—No. 68.

Administration de la Grande Bretagne.

**AVIS DE RECEPTION**

Acknowledgment of Delivery

Stamp of the value of 2½d. to be affixed here.

d'un objet recommandé adressé à } M Leon Christmann, Kunstverlag  
of a Registered Article addressed to } à Berlin Germany  
28 Brunnenstrasse

Le soussigné déclare qu'un objet recommandé a l'adresse susmentionnée  
The undersigned acknowledges that the Registered Article addressed as above  
et provenant de } M Messrs. Tho. Ridpath & Co  
and sent by } à Liverpool  
12 Church St

a été dûment livré le 10 July 18 91  
was duly delivered the \_\_\_\_\_ 18 .

Signature \*  
du destinataire  
of addressee

Signature \*  
du chef du Bureau distributeur.  
of the Chief of the Delivering Office.

11 Leon Christmann

\* Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire, ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le permettent, par le Chef du Bureau distributeur, puis être mis sous enveloppe et renvoyé sous recommandation par le premier courrier.  
† The name and full address of the sender of the Article must be entered in this form at the Issuing Office.

G & S [2243] 10,000 5/85

REGISTERED  
A  
8 JUL 91  
STAMP OF OFFICE OF ORIGIN

STAMP OF DELIVERING OFFICE

Victoria St (Liverpool) to Berlin, 1891. On very heavy paper. Print-order date is March 1886 in quantity of 10000. This and all later UK AR forms were accorded form number 68.

- AR fee paid on form using 2½d stamp
- Returned in covering envelope

Wise  
28 July 91  
P. 28

Postmaster  
10 JUL 91  
7/4-8/11/91



## Domestic (inland) British AR form used abroad (February 1892)

Improper use of form #87 to Germany; domestic AR fee paid (2d) rather than international AR fee (2½d). Underpayment was caused by inscription (hidden by stamp) of the amount for domestic service. Supports current conjecture that domestic AR service began in UK ca 1891, and this newly-issued form confused the postmaster at the small Scottish office.

Postmasters No. 87.

**Acknowledgment of Delivery of an INLAND REGISTERED Letter**  
[Insert Letter or Parcel.]

addressed to  
(1) *Franklin Wanda Guderian*  
*Indenstr. Wilhelmstrasse 6*  
*Berlin W. Germany*

I acknowledge that the registered article mentioned above and sent by  
(2) *Rev. Robert Paul*  
*Free Church Manse*  
*Dollar, Scotland*

Stamp of Office of Origin.  
*Postamt vom Postamt 62 412.92*

was duly delivered on the *4. 2.* 189*2*  
*M. Guderian*  
(Signature of Recipient.)

I certify that the registered article mentioned above was duly delivered the \_\_\_\_\_ 189 \_\_\_\_  
(3) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Postmaster of Delivering Office.)

Stamp of Delivering Office.

The names and full addresses of the sender and addressee should be carefully inserted by the sender, or at the issuing office, in spaces (1) and (2).  
If the recipient objects to complete and sign the acknowledgment (2), then the certificate (3) must be completed and signed by the Postmaster of the delivering office.

M. & G. — 2006 — 5/91.

**AR AR**

On Her Majesty's Service.

*Robert Paul*

**AR**

Stamp of Office of Origin.

FREE.  
M. CUNYNGHAME.

*Dollar (Scotland) to Germany, February 1892.* Printed in a run of 2000, May 1891 (this very small quantity is consistent with domestic AR having been recently introduced). Properly signed and returned to office of origin.

- AR fee paid on form using 2d stamp on interior of form
- Domestic UK AR forms were intended to be returned as folded letter sheets, but this one was returned under cover.



## New South Wales AR form (October 1891)

Mailed less than two weeks after all Australian states and New Zealand joined the UPU (1 October 1891) and initiated AR service. Properly signed and returned from Germany. *Only reported AR item from any Australian state in the pre-Vienna period.*

Timbre d'affranchissement. 5437

ADMINISTRATION DE LA NOUVELLE GALLES DU SUD.  
POST OFFICE OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

Stamp of the issuing office, to be affixed here.

**AVIS DE RÉCEPTION**  
ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DELIVERY

d'un objet recommandé adressé à } M. *F. Schlegel*  
of a registered article addressed to ..... } *Berlin W. Leipzigerstrasse 100*

Timbre du bureau d'origine.

Le soussigné déclare qu'un objet recommandé à l'adresse et  
The undersigned acknowledges that a registered article addressed as above, and

provenant de\* } M. *L. von Koenig*  
sent by \* ..... } *Humboldt*

Stamp of office of origin.

Timbre du bureau distributeur.

a été dûment livré le *Berlin 17 novembre* 1891  
was duly delivered the ..... 1891

Signature† du destinataire.  
of the addressee.

Signature† du chef du bureau distributeur.  
of the Chief of the Delivery Office.

Stamp of the issuing office.  
17.11.91.12-IV.

\* Le nom et l'adresse complète de l'expéditeur de l'objet recommandé doivent être inscrits sur cette feuille par le bureau d'origine.  
\* The name and full address of the sender of the registered article must be entered in this form, at the Issuing Office.

† Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire, ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le permettent, par le chef du bureau distributeur, puis être mis sans enveloppe et renvoyé sous recommandation par le premier courrier.  
† This acknowledgment must be signed by the addressee, or, if the postal regulations of the country of destination permit, by the Postmaster of the Delivering Office. It should then be enclosed in an envelope and returned, registered, by first mail, to the office of origin.

10a 756—91

*Sydney to Berlin, 12 October 1891. Illustrated in White (p 150).*

- AR fee paid on form using 2½d stamp
- Returned under cover



Seychelles AR form (1880)

Prepared, but never used. Presumably generic form for use in the colonies (no country name), modelled on the French book style, but unilingual English. *No other nineteenth century Seychelles AR material has been reported.* Unlisted in Farmer.

- To be returned as folded letter sheet.

Application to the Office of Delivery for information as to the disposal of a Registered Letter.

The Postmaster of

**Acknowledgment of receipt of a Registered article.**

TABLE I., to be filled up at the Office of origin.

A Registered article addressed to

is forwarded by this despatch, entered at No. . The Sender, whose name and address appear on the third page, requests to know if it has been delivered, and to whom, or how otherwise disposed of.

Registering Officer

Date Stamp of office of origin.

TABLE II., to be filled up at the Office of destination, and if the letter has not been duly delivered it should be stated how disposed of.

Date Stamp of Delivery Office

Postmaster

SEYCHELLES  
B 175  
A 173  
1880



## Aden AR form (1888)

Treated as part of (British) India, Aden is now part of Yemen. All offices in the Indian subcontinent or administered by India required the AR fee to be applied to the cover, not the form or card.

A<sup>bis</sup>.


ADMINISTRATION DE L'INDE BRITANNIQUE.  
ADMINISTRATION OF BRITISH INDIA.

**AVIS DE RÉCEPTION**  
**ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

d'un objet recommandé enregistré sous le No. ...., et adressé à  
For a registered article entered under No. 651, and addressed to

M. .... à ..... le ..... 188...  
Mr. Poratje Dinkas Adoulla Bombay on the 10-1- 1888.

Timbre du bureau  
Stamp of the despatching





Le soussigné déclare qu'un objet recommandé à l'adresse susmentionnée et pro-  
The undersigned certifies that a registered article to the address mentioned above  
venant de ADEN a été dûment  
and originating from ..... has been duly  
livré le ..... 188...  
delivered on the 17/1 1888.

Signature (\*)  
Signature (\*) Poratje Dinkas

de destination :  
of the addressee.

du chef du bureau distributeur :  
of the head of the delivering office.

Timbre du bureau  
Stamp of the delivering

distributeur  
office.

(\*) Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le permettent, par le chef du bureau distributeur, puis être mis sous enveloppe et renvoyé, sous recommandation, par le premier courrier.  
(\*) This intimation should be signed by the addressee or, if the regulations of the country of delivery permit it, by the head of the office of delivery, and it should then be placed in an envelope and returned registered by the first mail.

Aden to Bombay, 1888. Received back in Aden 15 days after mailing. On heavy laid paper with large crown watermark.

- AR fee to have been paid on registered letter
- Returned under cover.



Only postmark on reverse.



## Incoming AR forms *mistreated* on arrival

On delivery of the registered letter, the AR form was supposed to be signed by the recipient and returned to the sender. Owing to unfamiliarity with the service and the absence of English on most early AR forms, some were neither signed nor returned. In all likelihood, they remained attached to the letter, ignored by postal clerks.

Extremely early (1876) AR form from Luxemburg to UK (AR service mandated for UK from July 1875). Likely intended for use in German-speaking countries only (unilingual German).

No 50.

Grand-Duché de Luxembourg.

Postamt zu *Luxemburg*

Des Empfängers

Name.	Stand.	Wohnort.
<i>Lincoln William</i>		<i>London</i>
<i>Dealer in Foreign and Colonial Stamps</i>		
<i>High Holborn 239</i>		

Daß ich *Endesunterschriebener* aus dem Postamt zu *London* einen recommandirten Brief aus *Luxemburg Stadt* von *Herrn Citz* richtig erhalten habe, becheinige ich hiermit.

*London* den 1876

Quittet zurückzusenden mit erster Post an das Postamt zu *Luxemburg Stadt*



London registered handstamp on reverse.

AR form, Luxemburg to London, January 1876. Earliest AR item to or from British possessions and dominions. Regrettably sent to stamp dealer, hence quasiphilatelic.

- AR fee paid on form, by rouletted 25centimes stamp
- Intended to be returned under cover; on delivery, form ignored.



Incoming AR form, mistreated  
Russia to UK (1881)

**Avis de réception à renvoyer d'un objet assuré  
ou recommandé.**

Подлежащее возвращению уведомление о получении страхового или заказного отправления.

Le destinataire soussigné (a) *J. Semmeyer*  
Нижесподписавшийся получил

déclare que l'objet sub N° *9*  
объявляет, что отправление под №  
lui a été remis aujourd'hui par le bureau de poste ci-dessous indiqué, à *Charles Jankine*  
было ему выдано сего дня нижеуказанном почтовом учреждении.

(c) le 187 Le destinataire  
Получатель

(a) { (Nom, prénom et domicile du destinataire indiqués par l'expéditeur de l'objet.  
Имя, фамилия и местожительство получателя, показываемые отправителем.

(c) { (Timbre du bureau qui remet l'objet. (d) Timbre du bureau d'origine de l'objet.  
Штампель места выдачи корреспонденции. Штампель места отправления корреспонденции.

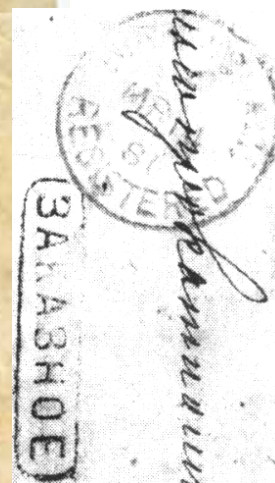
Sur le verso de l'avis l'expéditeur de l'objet indique son adresse détaillée.  
На обороте уведомления пишется отправителем полный и подробный его адрес.

Bitzkaya (Russia) to  
Birmingham, 1881.  
Postmarked in UK;  
unsigned, ignored  
on delivery.

- AR fee paid  
on form by  
7 kopek stamp
- Intended to be  
ret'd under cover.



Partial strike,  
(postal) wagon  
(Russian travelling  
post office).



Boxed straightline  
means registered;  
Birmingham reg'd  
cds in blue.



# AR forms (Treaty of Vienna, 1 July 1892–31 December 1898)

AR forms were now (almost always) prepared at the office of *destination* (rather than of origin, as previously) and the AR fee was (almost always) applied to the registered letter, not the form.

Postmasters.—No. 68.

Administration des Postes de la Grande Bretagne.  
Post Office of the United Kingdom.

**AVIS DE RÉCEPTION**  
**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DELIVERY**

d'un objet recommandé adressé à } Mme Gougand  
of a Registered Article addressed to } à Jersey

Le soussigné déclare qu'un objet recommandé à l'adresse susmentionnée, mis à la  
The undersigned acknowledges that a Registered Article addressed as above,  
poste le \_\_\_\_\_ 189 .  
posted on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of February 189 .  
et provenant de \* }  
and posted at \* } La Roche C. you Vendee  
a été dûment livré le \_\_\_\_\_ 189 .  
was duly delivered the 19 day of April 189 .

Signature †  
du destinataire.  
of the addressee.

Signature †  
du Chef du Bureau distributeur.  
of the Postmaster of the Delivering Office.

*G. Gougand*

\* Avant de remettre à domicile l'objet recommandé, le bureau distributeur doit inscrire à cet avis la date du dépôt à la poste, ainsi que (en face des mots "provenant de") la désignation complète du bureau d'origine, comme indiquées par le timbre du bureau d'origine.  
\* Before delivering the Registered Article, the delivering Office must enter on the form the date on which the article was posted, and also (opposite the words "posted at") the exact designation of the Post Office of origin, as shown by the date stamp.  
† Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire, ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le permettent, par le chef du bureau distributeur, puis être mis sous enveloppe et envoyé, sous recommandation, par le premier courrier, au bureau d'origine de l'objet qu'il concerne.  
† This acknowledgment must be signed by the addressee, or, if the postal regulations of the country of destination permit, by the Postmaster of the delivering Office. It should then be enclosed in an envelope, and despatched, registered, by first Mail, to the office at which the registered article was posted.

G & S : [2660] 20,000 7/93av

Form prepared at Jersey for registered letter from France, 1895. No backstamps. Printing of 20000, July 1893.

• AR fee paid on registered letter

• Returned (to sender, in France) under cover.



# UK AR form with very low print run (1898)

Postmasters.—No. 68.

Administration des Postes de la Grande Bretagne.  
Post Office of the United Kingdom.



**AVIS DE RÉCEPTION**  
ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DELIVERY

d'un objet recommandé adressé à } Mr. *William Straub*  
of a Registered Article addressed to } *Plongh Du Dalry*

Le soussigné déclare qu'un objet recommandé à l'adresse susmentionnée, mis à la  
The undersigned acknowledges that a Registered Article addressed as above,  
poste le 189 ,\*  
posted on the *24<sup>th</sup>* day of *Decr* 1898,\*  
et provenant de\* } *A. Berle, Notar*  
and posted at\* } *Neustadt*  
a été dûment livré le 189 .  
was duly delivered the *29<sup>th</sup>* day of *Decr* 1898.\*

Signature †  
du destinataire.  
of the addressee. *Mary Straub*

Signature †  
du Chef du Bureau distributeur.  
of the Postmaster of the Delivering Office. *W. Alexander*

\* Avant de remettre à domicile l'objet recommandé, le bureau distributeur doit inscrire à cet avis la date du dépôt à la poste, ainsi que (en face des mots "provenant de") la désignation complète du bureau d'origine, comme indiquées par le timbre du bureau d'origine.  
\* Before delivering the Registered Article, the delivering Office must enter on the form the date on which the article was posted, and also (opposite the words "posted at") the exact designation of the Post Office of origin, as shown by the date stamp.  
† Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire, ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le permettent, par le chef du bureau distributeur, puis être mis sous enveloppe et envoyé, sous recommandation, par le premier courrier, au bureau d'origine de l'objet qu'il concerne.  
† This acknowledgment must be signed by the addressee, or, if the postal regulations of the country of destination permit, by the Postmaster of the delivering Office. It should then be enclosed in an envelope, and despatched, registered, by first Mail, to the Office at which the Registered Article was posted.

M & G—1000—1-98

Form prepared at Dalry for registered letter from Neustadt, 1898. Printing of 1000, January 1893.

• AR fee paid on registered letter • Returned under cover.  
Some British AR forms were intended to be returned under cover, others as folded letter sheets. The UK appears to have been the only entity which used both styles. In all cases, until at least 1908 (later for some other jurisdictions), AR forms were returned as registered matter.



## Canadian AR form (1896)

Only reported used example of this form, & one of two Canadian AR forms known used in the nineteenth century. For an incoming registered letter from the US, which would be consistent with Vienna rules—but two US AR forms in this correspondence (Dayton) are known in the Vienna period for registered letters to Canada. If a US-Canada agreement existed to not abide by the Vienna rules, then this would be a *replacement* (or *duplicate*) form (so would be exceedingly rare, if it were not already so).

ADMINISTRATION DU CANADA.  
POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, CANADA.

**AVIS DE RÉCEPTION**  
**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT**

{ d'une lettre recommandée } enregistré sous le N° , et adressé  
{ d'un objet recommandé }

of a Registered letter entered under N° , and addressed to

M. *Catharine Supplé* le 1896  
to *Vancouver*

Le soussigné déclare { qu'une lettre recommandée } à l'adresse  
{ qu'un objet recommandé } mentionnée

The undersigned acknowledges that a registered letter addressed as at

Timbre du bureau distributeur. et provenant de *Dayton Ohio*  
and posted at

a été dûment livré le 1896  
was duly delivered on the

Signature (\*)

du destinataire : *Lawrence Kipt*  
of the addressee:

du chef du bureau distributeur : *S. C. Ginn*  
of the Postmaster of the office of destination:

Stamp of the office of destination.

(\*) Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire et par le maître de poste du bureau distributeur, puis être envoyé, sous recommandation, par le premier courrier, au bureau d'origine de l'objet qu'il concerne.

(\*) This acknowledgment of receipt should be signed by the addressee, and by the Postmaster of the office of destination; it will then be transmitted under registration, by the first mail, to the office of posting of the article to which it relates.

39 B.—2,500-2-11-92.

This space is reserved on counterpart for particulars connected with dispatch of registered piece.

red letter { No. 1239 Post Office, DAYTON, OHIO.  
Parcel }  
Received *11/10/96* 1896 from  
addressed *McArthur's Supply*  
*Vancouver B.C.*  
*P.C. 84. P.M. per B*

REGISTERED.  
AVIS DE RÉCEPTION.  
Le Receveur des Postes  
The Postmaster  
848 762  
6744  
Administration des Postes du Canada.  
POST OFFICE SERVICE  
PRIME  
Stamp of the office of destination.

Canadian form for registered letter US to Canada, with receipt, 1896. Print run only 2500, November 1892.

- Replacement form needs no stamps
- All Canadian AR forms returned as folded letter sheets.



# Treaty of Washington and beyond (1 January 1899)

From this date, handling of AR reverted to that of pre-Vienna: AR forms prepared at the office of origin. Britain and almost all other possessions and dominions (except those in or administered from the Indian subcontinent, and most of Africa) returned to their former practice of putting the AR fee on the form.

## British AR form returned from Germany (1914)

Extra spaces were added (on reverse) so they could also serve as inquiry forms.

1682

Postmasters—No. 68. C.

Administration des Postes de la Grande Bretagne.  
Post Office of the United Kingdom.

AVIS DE RÉCEPTION  
ADVICE OF DELIVERY

Timbre poste de 2½d. et Timbre du Bureau d'Origine

2½d. Postage Stamp and Stamp of Office of Origin.

Biffer, suivant le cas, l'une ou l'autre de ces indications.  
Strike out whichever of these items does not apply to the case.

d'une lettre avec valeur déclarée de } —  
of a letter insured for }  
d'un objet recommandé } ( 1 lettre ) (1)  
of a Registered Article }  
d'un colis postal avec valeur déclarée de } —  
of a parcel insured for }

enregistré ou valeur déclarée au bureau registered or insured at the Office

de } — { le } — { sous le No. } 61 (2)  
of } — { on the } — { under No. }

expédié par } M. A. Micklensteth 60 Barclay Road Leytonstone, (3)  
sent by } London W. E.

et adressé à } M. August Micklensteth { à } Stettin Germany. (4)  
and addressed to } { at }

Biffer, suivant le cas, l'une ou l'autre de ces indications.  
Strike out whichever of these items does not apply to the case.

Le soussigné déclare { qu'une lettre avec valeur déclarée } à l'adresse susmentionnée  
qu'un objet recommandé }  
qu'un colis postal avec valeur déclarée }

The undersigned acknowledges that { an insured letter } addressed as above  
{ a registered article }  
{ an insured parcel }

et provenant de } August Micklensteth  
and posted at (5) }

Volontor

livré le } 30 Juni 1914.  
delivered on the } Signature (6)

STAMP OF BUREAU D'ORIGINE  
STAMP OF DELIVERING OFFICE

Il a été dûment  
It has duly

Leytonstone (London)—Stettin, June 1914. Foolscap folded under (showing two-thirds).

• AR fee paid by 2½d stamp

• Returned under cover to office of origin.



## Canadian AR form to Beirut (1909)

Beirut was part of the Ottoman Empire. Canadian forms *printed* after 1908 were not intended to be returned as registered mail; however, this was printed in 1907 with a large **R**, so was returned registered.

ADMINISTRATION DES POSTES DU CANADA.  
POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, CANADA.

**AVIS DE RÉCEPTION**  
**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT**

{ d'une lettre recommandée } enregistré.....sous le N°....., et adressé.....à  
{ d'un objet recommandé }

of a Registered { letter } entered under No. 380 and addressed to  
M. Mik Aziz à Beirut le 17<sup>th</sup> apr 1909  
to Turkey on the

Le soussigné déclare { qu'une lettre recommandée } à l'adresse sus-  
qu'un objet recommandé } mentionnée

The undersigned acknowledges that a Registered { letter } addressed as above

Timbre du bureau distributeur et provenant de.....  
and posted at  
a été dûment livré le.....190.....  
was duly delivered on the

Signature (\*)

Stamp of the office of destination. du destinataire :  
of the addressee :

du chef du bureau distributeur :  
of the Postmaster of the office of destination :

(\*) Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire et par le maître de poste du bureau distributeur, puis être envoyé sous recommandation, par le premier courrier, au bureau d'origine de l'objet qu'il concerne.

(\*) This acknowledgment of receipt should be signed by the addressee, and by the Postmaster of the office of destination: it will then be transmitted under registration, by the first mail, to the office of posting of the article to which it relates.

39 B.—13,000-22-11-07.

*Am. adeel*



St Thomas (ON)—Beirut, 1909. Via London. Properly signed. Printed 22 November 1907, 13000.

- 5¢ AR fee paid by stamp
- Returned (registered) to office of origin as folded letter sheet.



## Canadian AR form to Smyrna (1920)

During the period 1919–22, the Turkish city of Smyrna was controlled by the Greek military.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, CANADA  
ADMINISTRATION DES POSTES DU CANADA

Stamp of the office of origin.  
BRANTFORD ONT. FEB 23 1920  
Timbre du bureau expéditeur.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT**  
**AVIS DE RÉCEPTION**  
(A. R. FORM.)

of a Registered { letter } entered under No. 458 { and addressed to  
d'une lettre recommandée { article } et adressé à  
d'un objet recommandé enregistré sous le N°

M. J. Jermakow  
(name)  
Smyrna  
(street and number)  
10 B. Brantford  
(Post Office address)

on the Feb 23 1920  
le

The undersigned acknowledges that a Registered { letter } addressed as above  
Le soussigné déclare { qu'une lettre recommandée } à l'adresse sus-mentionnée  
qu'un objet recommandé

Stamp of the office of destination  
BRANTFORD ONT  
and posted at  
et provenant de  
was duly delivered on the 191  
a été dûment livré le

Signature (\*)  
of the addressee: [Signature]  
du destinataire:  
of the Postmaster of the office of destination:  
du chef du bureau distributeur:

Stamp of the office of destination  
BRANTFORD ONT  
Timbre du bureau distributeur

POST OFFICE SERVICE  
FEB 23 1920  
BRANTFORD ONT  
10 B. Brantford

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT  
AVIS DE RÉCEPTION  
(A. R.)  
OF THE POSTMASTER  
Le Receveur des Postes  
BRANTFORD ONT  
Post Office Department, Canada  
Administration des Postes du Canada

(\*) This advice of delivery should have date of delivery filled in, be signed by the addressee, and by the Postmaster of the office of destination, date stamped and then transmitted, by the first mail, to the office of posting of the article to which it relates.  
(\*) Cet avis de réception doit être signé par le destinataire et par le maître de poste du bureau distributeur, après y avoir inséré la date de distribution, et l'avoir timbré avec le timbre à date, puis être envoyé par le premier courrier, au bureau d'origine de l'objet qu'il concerne.

39 B.—100,000-23-12-18.

Brantford (ON)—Smyrna, 1920. Two months travel time to Smyrna, via London. Properly signed. Printed 23 December 1918 in a run of 100000. Transit mark (Greek alphabet) of Mytilene (an island not far from Smyrna).

- 5¢ AR fee paid by stamp
- Returned as folded letter sheet to office of origin.



# Incoming AR form to Canada from Lourenço Marques, mistreated (1902)

A handful of AR forms to Canada are known. This was not signed; likely ignored by Canadian clerk.

Administration des postes de la  
Administração dos correios da  
Colonie Portugaise de  
Colonia Portuguesa de  
Mozambique  
Moçambique

B.

AVIS DE RÉCEPTION  
AVISO DE RECEPÇÃO

1573

LOURENÇO MARQUEZ S, E, AFRICA

d'une lettre valeur déclarée de  
d'uma carta com o valor declarado de  
d'un objet recommandé (1)  
d'un objet enregistré (1)

le... sous n.º 16621... (2) et adressé à Hon. Joseph T. Clarke.  
em... sob n.º 16621... (2) e dirigido ao

U.S. Consul, Windsor em Nova Scotia, Amérique du Nord.

Le soussigné déclare  
O abaixo assignado declara

qu'une lettre avec valeur déclarée  
que uma carta com valor declarado  
qu'un objet recommandé  
que um objecto registado

à l'adresse susmentionnée et provenant de...  
com o destino acima indicado e originari...  
le...  
em... de... de 1...

Do Consulado dos Estados Unidos  
d'America em Lourenço Marques

Timbre du bureau distributeur

Signature (a)  
Assignatura (a)

(Du destinataire)  
(Do destinatario)

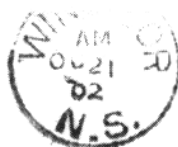
(Du chef du bureau distributeur)  
(Do chefe da estação destinataria)

Carimbo da estação destinataria

(1) Nature de l'objet (lettre, échantillon, imprimé, etc.)  
(1) Natureza do objecto (carta, amostra, impresso, etc.)  
(2) Bureau d'origine; date de dépôt à ce bureau, n.º d'enregistrement au même bureau  
(2) Estação de origem; data da entrega na estação, n.º de registo na mesma estação  
(a) Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le comportent, par le chef du bureau distributeur, puis être mis sous enveloppe et envoyé, sous recommandation, par le premier courrier, au bureau d'origine de l'objet qu'il concerne.  
(a) Este aviso deve ser assignado pelo destinatario ou, se os regulamentos do paiz de destino o permittirem, pelo chefe da estação destinataria, em reguida incluído n'um sobrescripto, modelo n.º 45, e enviado, registado, na volta do correio á estação d'origine do registo.

Lourenço Marques (Mozambique)—Windsor (NS), 1902.

- AR fee of 65 Reis paid by stamps
- Intended to be returned under cover to office of origin.





# Incoming AR form to Canada from Norway (1912)

Some incoming forms *were* properly signed and returned!

Blanket no. 93. *Norway*

C.

Det norske postvæsen.  
Administration des postes de Norvège.

Modtagelsesbevis  
AVIS DE RÉCEPTION

Afsendelsespostanstaltens stempel.  
Timl

for et brev med angiven værdi af  
d'une lettre avec valeur déclarée de

for en rekommanderet forsendelse  
d'un objet recommandé

for en pakke  
d'un colis

i *Kristiania* den *9-5-1912* under no. *4084*  
de *le* sous le no. *2*

afsendt af hr. *Centralkontoret for Norge*  
expédié par M. *Gunnar T. Lofto*

og adresseret til *Starbuck*  
et adressé à M. *Manitoba*  
(fuldstændig adresse)  
(adresse complète) *Canada*

at ~~et~~ værdibrev  
qu'une lettre avec valeur déclarée

at en rekom. forsendelse  
qu'un objet recommandé

at en pakke  
qu'un colis

Undertegnede erklærer  
Le soussigné déclare

med ovenstaaende adresse  
à l'adresse susmentionnée

og udgaaet fra  
et provenant de *Skien Kristiania* er rigtig  
udleveret den *May 27* a été dûment  
livré le *19 12*

Bestemmelsespostanstaltens stempel.  
Timbre du bureau distributeur.

Underskrift<sup>3)</sup>  
Signature

af adressaten:  
du destinataire:

af postfunktionæren:  
du bureau distributeur:

*Gunnar T. Lofto*

*G. E. Deichmann*

1) Gjenstandens art (brev, vareprøve, tryksag osv.)  
Nature de l'objet (lettre, échantillon, imprimé, etc.)

2) Udgangsstedets postanstalt, indleveringsdag, registernummer.  
Bureau d'origine; date de dépôt à ce bureau; no. d'enregistrement au même bureau.

3) Obs. Dette bevis skal underskrives af adressaten eller, hvor de i bestemmelseslandet gjældende regler tillader det, af en tjenestemand paa bestemmelsespostanstalten, derefter lægges i konvolut og sendes med første post til den postanstalt, hvorfra vedkommende forsendelse er udgaaet.

Nota. Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le comportent, par l'agent du bureau distributeur, puis être mis sous enveloppe et envoyé, par le premier courrier, au bureau d'origine de l'objet qu'il concerne.

Mai 1907.

Ø. T. v. S. J. nr. 11559. 12

Christiania (Oslo)–Starbuck (Manitoba), 1912. Very few Norwegian AR forms known. Properly signed.

• AR fee of 20 Øre paid by stamp

• Returned under cover to office of origin.



# India AR form to Saigon, French Indochina (1916)

*Sumas In In on P.L.*  
*Raman Chetty*

Ms. - 3.

ADMINISTRATION OF BRITISH INDIA  
ADMINISTRATION DE L'INDE BRITANNIQUE

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT  
AVIS DE RÉCEPTION

of a letter insured for  
d'une lettre avec valeur déclarée de

of a registered article  
d'un objet recommandé

entered at the office  
enregistré au bureau

under No.  
sous le N°

on the  
le

and addressed to Mr.  
et adressé à M.

The undersigned declares  
Le soussigné déclare

that an insured letter  
qu'une lettre avec valeur déclarée

that a registered article  
qu'un objet recommandé

to the address mentioned  
à l'adresse mentionnée

Stamp of the office  
Timbre du bureau

and originating from  
et provenant de

has been duly  
a été dûment

delivered on the  
livré le

Signature (3)

Signature

of the addressee,  
du destinataire.

of the head of the delivering office,  
du chef du bureau distributeur.

of delivery,  
distributeur

(1) Nature of the article (letter, sample, printed paper, etc.).  
Nature de l'objet (lettre, échantillon, imprimé, etc.).

(2) Office of posting; date of posting at that office; number under which registered at the same office.  
Bureau d'origine; date de dépôt à ce bureau; N° d'enregistrement au même bureau.

(3) Note.—This acknowledgment should be signed by the addressee, or, if the regulations of the country of delivery permit it, by the head of the office of delivery, and it should then be placed in an envelope and forwarded, by the first mail to the office of posting of the article to which it relates.  
Note.—Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le comportent, par le chef du bureau distributeur, puis être mis sous enveloppe et envoyé, par le premier courrier au bureau d'origine de l'objet qu'il concerne.

P. P. A.—43-2-11.—Regt. No. 127 of 11-12.

Konapet (Tamil Nadu)—Saigon (Indochina), 1916. Part of Chettiar (money-lender) correspondence.

- AR fee paid on cover, not form
- Returned under cover.



ADMINISTRATION DES ETATS MALAIS FEDERES

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

and addressed to

registered at the office

Under the No

à l'adresse mentionnée

to the address mentioned above.

delivered on the

Signature (3)

of the addresses

of the head of the delivering office.

- Note.—This intimation should be signed by the addressee or, if the regulations of the country of delivery permit it, by the head of the office of delivery, and it should then be placed in an envelope and returned, by the first mail, to the office of origin of the articles to which it relates.

- AR fee paid on cover, not form
- Returned under cover.



## Occupied Enemy Territory Postal Administration, Palestine

Administration des postes du territoire ennemi occupé Palestine

ادارة البريد لبلاد العدو المحتلة في فلسطين

הנהלת בתי הדואר בשטח האויב הנכבש א"

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DELIVERY OR PAYMENT — AVIS DE RECEPTION OU DE PAYEMENT

علم تسليم او دفع

הודעת מסירה או תשלום

Of  
De

(1)

Letter

registered under No.  
enregistré sous le No.

(2)

696

مقبذ تحت نمرة (٢)

من (١)

sent by  
expédié par

M. M. Zahi El-Haddad

اسم المرسل

M.O. Tiberias Palestine

سكنه في

on  
le

6th July 1920 بتاريخ

for the sum of  
pour la somme de

بمبلغ

للمرسل

بיום

and addressed to  
et adressé à

M. Noureddin Bey

في

معنونه باسم

على اسم

at  
à

Cousple

Date

6th July

سنة ١٩ ١٩٢٠

بحرر في

بיום

Stamp of Delivery Office.  
Timbre du bureau  
distributeur.خبر مكتب التوزيع  
ختم المرسد

The undersigned declares that a

(1)

le sousigné déclare qu'un

addressed as above and originating from

à l'adresse susmentionnée et provenant de

الوارد للاسم المذكور اعلاه وانطرح من

يقر الواضع اسمه ادناه ان (١)

has been duly

(2)

à été dûment

سكنه

الدوام (٢)

on

le

191

سنة ١٩

اليه في تاريخ

قد جرى (٣)

بיום

لغا المرسد

Addressee,  
Le destinataire,

المرسل اليه

ختم المرسد

Chief Clerk of Section,  
Le Chef du bureau,

رئيس القسم

ختمت المرسد

This notice should be signed by the Chief of Section and by the addressee, and then returned by first despatch to office of origin of article or to the sender as the case may be.

Cet avis est signé par le Chef du bureau et par le destinataire, puis renvoyé par le premier courrier à l'adresse de l'expéditeur ou au bureau d'origine selon le cas.

form,  
lestine  
ETPA to  
rkey  
ly 1920)  
uly 1920, civil-  
(Mandate) ad-  
nistration took  
r from the mil-  
y. Only known  
mple of this form.  
ilar one ex-  
for the Man-  
e. Both are  
heavily sized  
er, unlike all  
er AR forms  
m anywhere.

Tiberias to  
Constantinople,  
July 1920.  
Foolscap size,  
folded under  
(top two-thirds  
showing). Prop-  
erly signed.  
Tiberias skeleton.  
• 1Piastre AR fee  
paid by EEF stamp  
• Returned un-  
der cover.

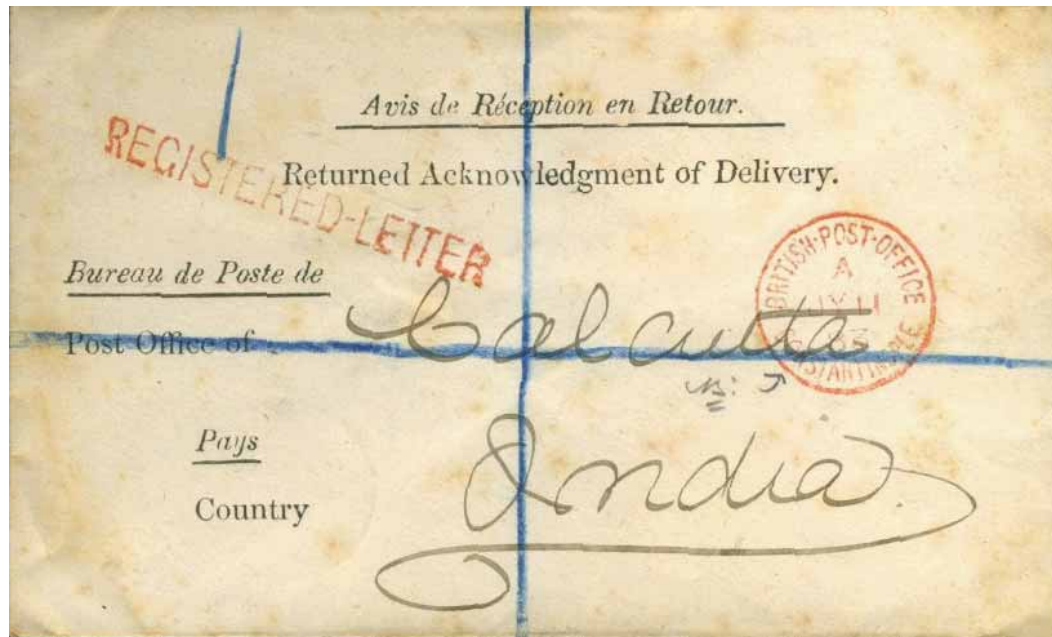


# Covering envelopes for AR forms

AR forms not of folded letter sheet style were returned in covering envelopes usually designed for this purpose. No postage was required. Returned as registered mail until early in the twentieth century (date of change depends on jurisdiction).

## Pre-Vienna period (to 30 June 1892)

For returning the AR forms of the country of origin of the registered letter.



BPO Constantinople–Calcutta, 1883. Earliest reported AR covering envelope for British possessions, colonies, or dominions. Likely the generic style used in UK at the time (only one pre-Vienna UK example is known, used five years later, below), with wordy description and no form number. Fourth reported use of straightline REGISTERED-LETTER handstamp at BPO Constantinople.



London–Paris, 1888. Earliest reported UK AR covering envelope. Only substantive difference is the (form) No. 26. at upper left; all subsequent UK AR covering envelopes were given this number.



## Pre-Vienna provisional covering envelope

If an official AR covering envelope were not available, a provisional one was created, either out of an official form envelope intended for other uses, or out of a random envelope.



Provisional covering envelope, Colombo (Ceylon)—Berlin, 1888. Earliest reported provisional AR covering envelope for British possessions, colonies, or dominions. Official envelope with embossed seal on reverse. Red Ceylon registered and Brindisi datestamps.





Covering envelopes, Vienna period (1 July 1892–31 December 1898)

UK

For returning AR forms of the destination country to the country of origin of the registered letter.

No. 26.

Avis de Réception en Retour

Returned Acknowledgment of Delivery.

Bureau de Poste de

Post Office of

Pays

Country

Quito.

Ecuador.

Hull (UK) to Quito (Ecuador), May 1894. Identical 1888 example, thus a holdover from pre-Vienna period.

Inexplicable partial crown cancels at top.

No. 26.

Avis de Réception.

Acknowledgment of Delivery.

Bureau de Poste de

Post Office of

Pays

Country

Hemington

New Jersey

U.S.A.

London–New Jersey, July 1894. Simplified wording at top.

No. 26.

Avis de Réception.

Acknowledgment of Delivery.

Bureau de Poste de

Post Office of

Pays

Country

Hemington

N.J.

usa

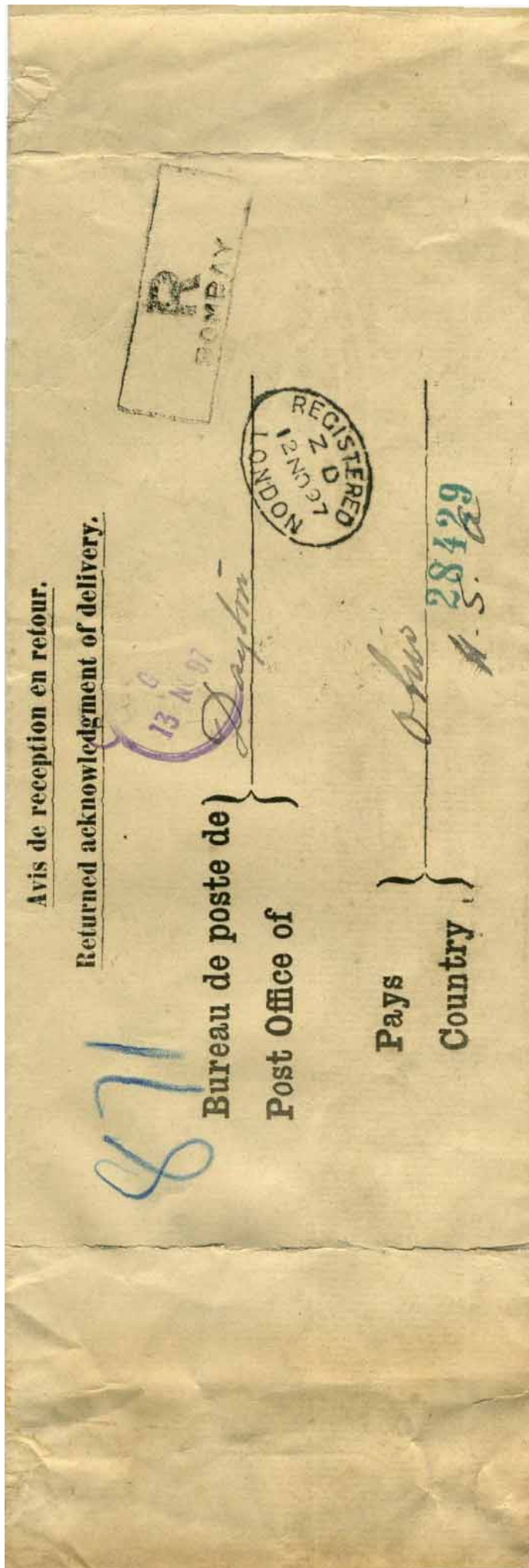
London–New Jersey, 1897. Full em-space between final *n* of *Réception* and period (all others have a hair space). Only example known of this variation.



## Vienna period, India covering envelope

Peculiar shape (not cut down, but top two centimetres are folded under).

*Bombay to Dayton via London, 1897.* No printed indication of country; missing accent on *réception*. About three weeks transit time to New York.





## Vienna period

Queensland & Cape of Good Hope covering envelopes; both have embossed seal of the colonies on reverse.



Brisbane to Southampton, 1893. UK is difficult to find as a destination for a covering envelope.



Cape Town—St Louis, 1895.



## New Zealand covering envelope with its enclosed AR form (1897)

Very few such pairs are known worldwide. In addition, *earliest reported internationally used NZ form*, and *earliest reported NZ covering envelope*. For a registered letter from the US to Auckland. Part of the Dayton correspondence, from a seller of religious material.



New Zealand covering envelope, 5 February 1897. Returned as registered letter enclosing the AR form below.

New Zealand AR form, signed 3 February 1897. Print run 20000, October 1892. ✓✓

P.O. No. 17.]

## NEW ZEALAND.

NOUVELLE-ZÉLANDE

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DELIVERY AVIS DE RÉCEPTION

of an article registered under No. 24, and addressed to  
d'un objet recommandé enregistré sous le No. et adressé à

M. Thos. Inghill at Auckland on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb 1897.

The undersigned declares that a registered article addressed as above and received  
Le soussigné déclare qu'un objet recommandé à l'adresse susmentionnée et provenant

from Dayton, Ohio has been duly delivered on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February 1897.  
de U.S.A. a été dûment livré le

Stamp of the  
Delivering Office:



Signature  
of the Addressee:  
du Destinataire

Thos. Inghill

Signature  
of the Postmaster at  
the Office of Delivery:  
du Chef du Bureau Distributeur:

S. D. Bess  
C. M. M.

This receipt should be signed by the Addressee and by the Postmaster of the office of  
Cet avis doit être signé par le Destinataire et par le Chef du Bureau Distributeur,  
delivery, then enclosed in an envelope and forwarded, registered, by first mail, to the office  
puis être mis sous enveloppe et envoyé, sous recommandation, par le premier courrier, au bureau  
of origin of the article to which it refers.  
d'origine de l'objet qu'il concerne.

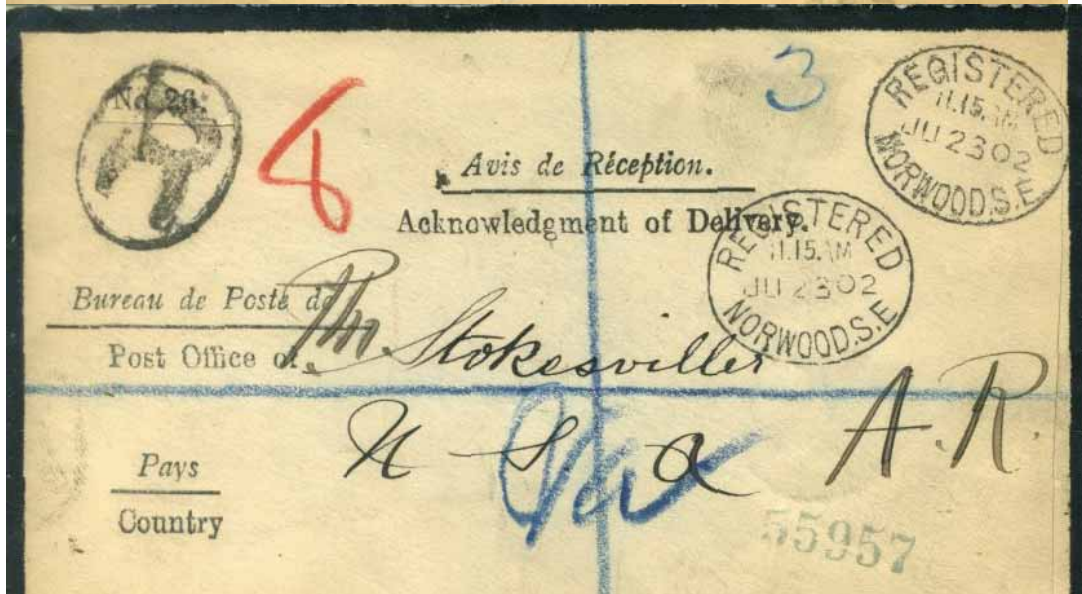


Covering envelopes, post-Vienna (from 1 January 1899)  
For returning AR forms of the country of origin.

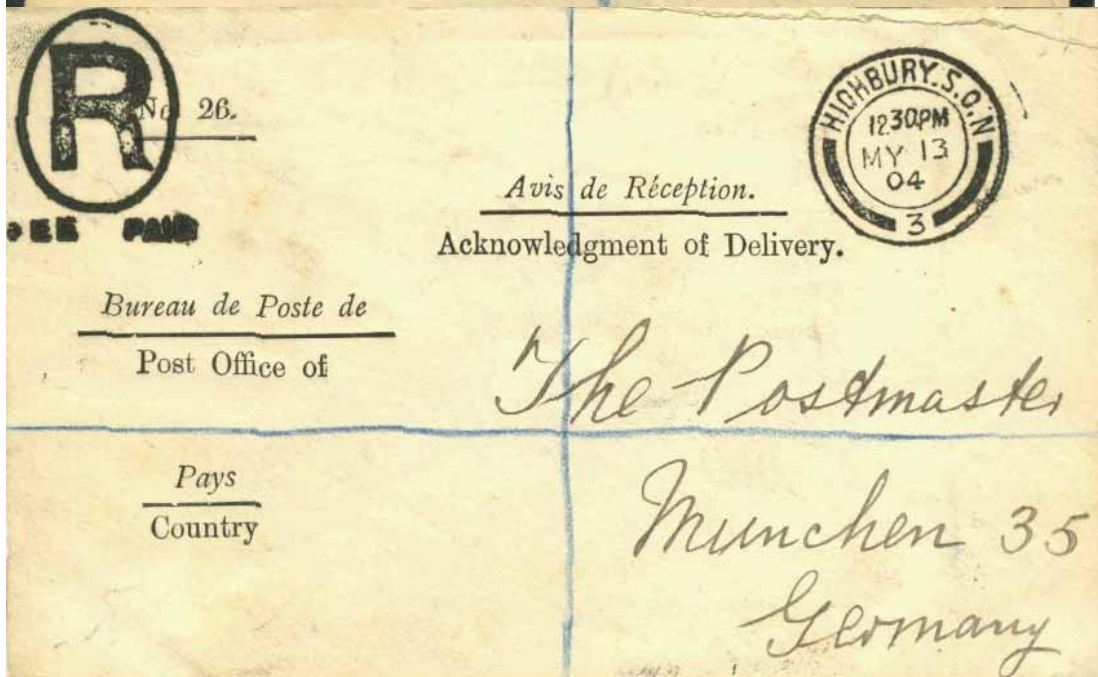
UK



Glasgow to Baltimore, 1901.  
Slightly shorter than other  
UK covering envelopes  
of the period.



Mourning covering envelope,  
Norwood (London)—Virginia,  
June 1902. For Victoria's  
death (early 1901); three  
examples reported. British  
official has added the state,  
Va.

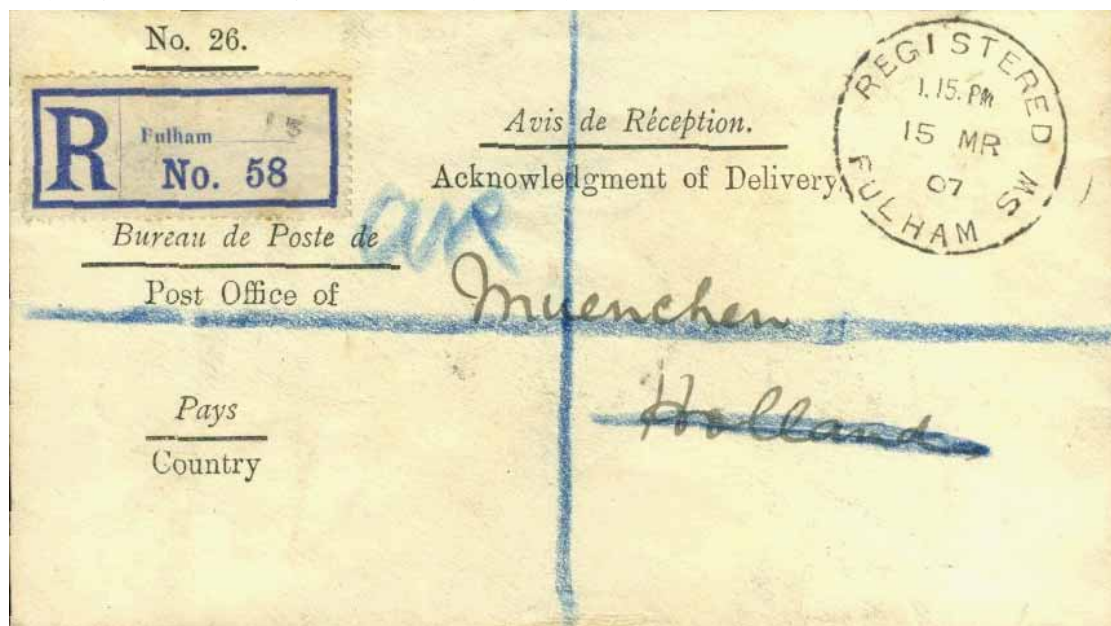


London—Munich, 1904.

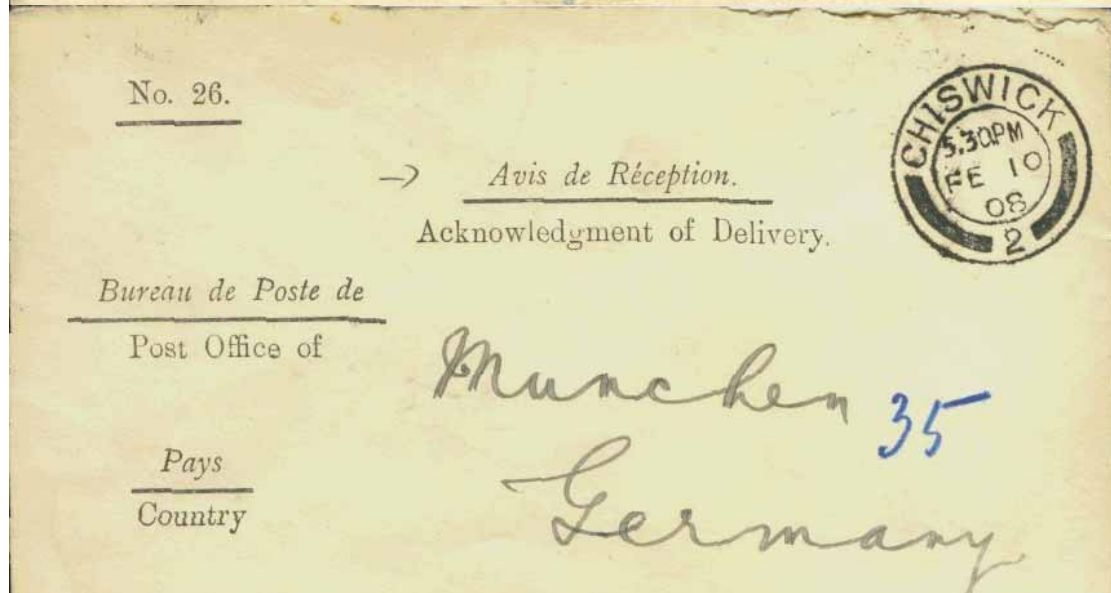
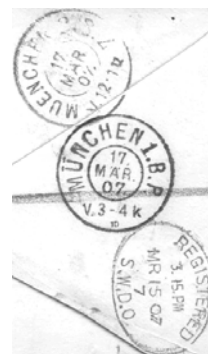


## Returned as non-registered matter (UK)

For the UK, covering envelopes were sent registered until early 1908. The top two bracket the change; slightly later in the year, wording changed to *advice of delivery*.



Registered, Fulham to Munich, 1907. Addressed to Holland but arrived at the correct Munich! Fulham registered skeleton.



Unregistered, Chiswick to Munich, February 1908. Ms 35 refers to Munich office number.

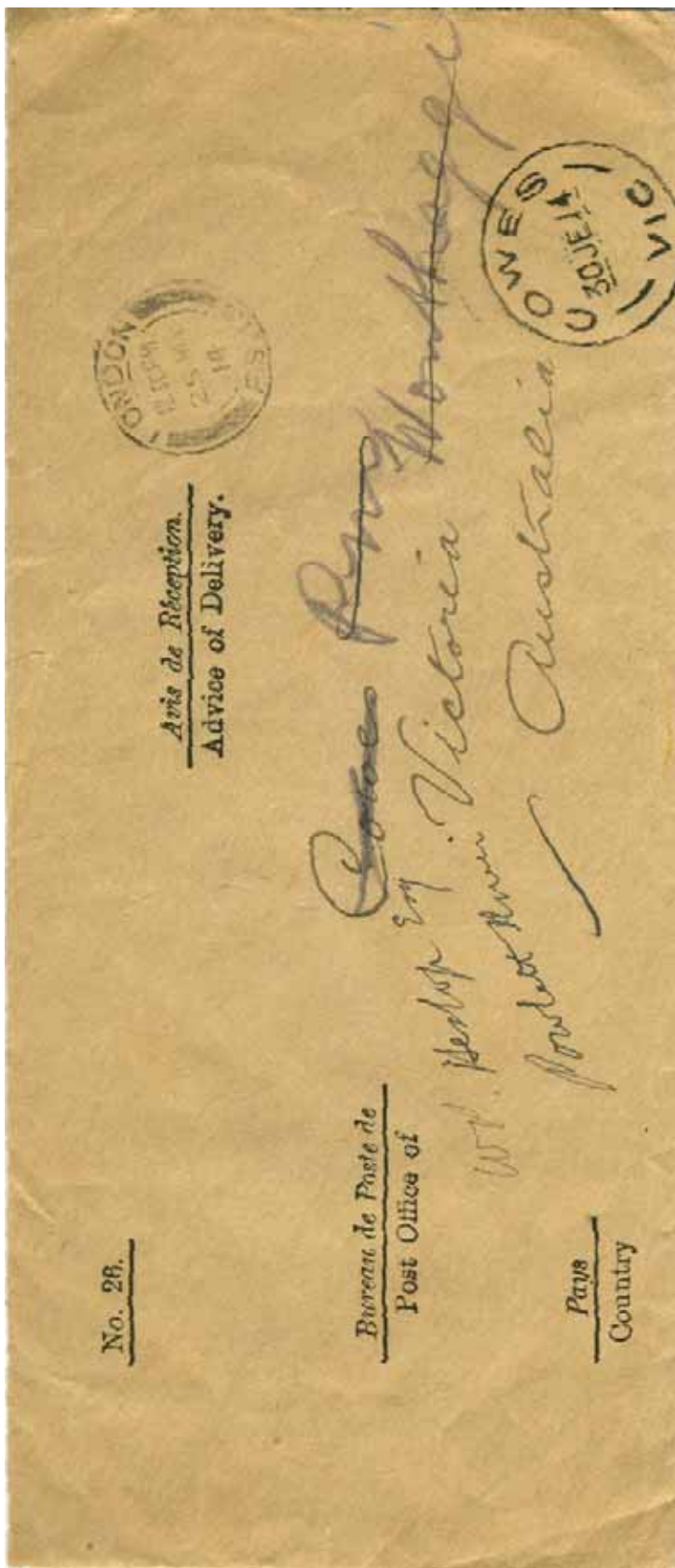


Change of wording, London–Munich, May 1908. Now *Advice of Delivery*.

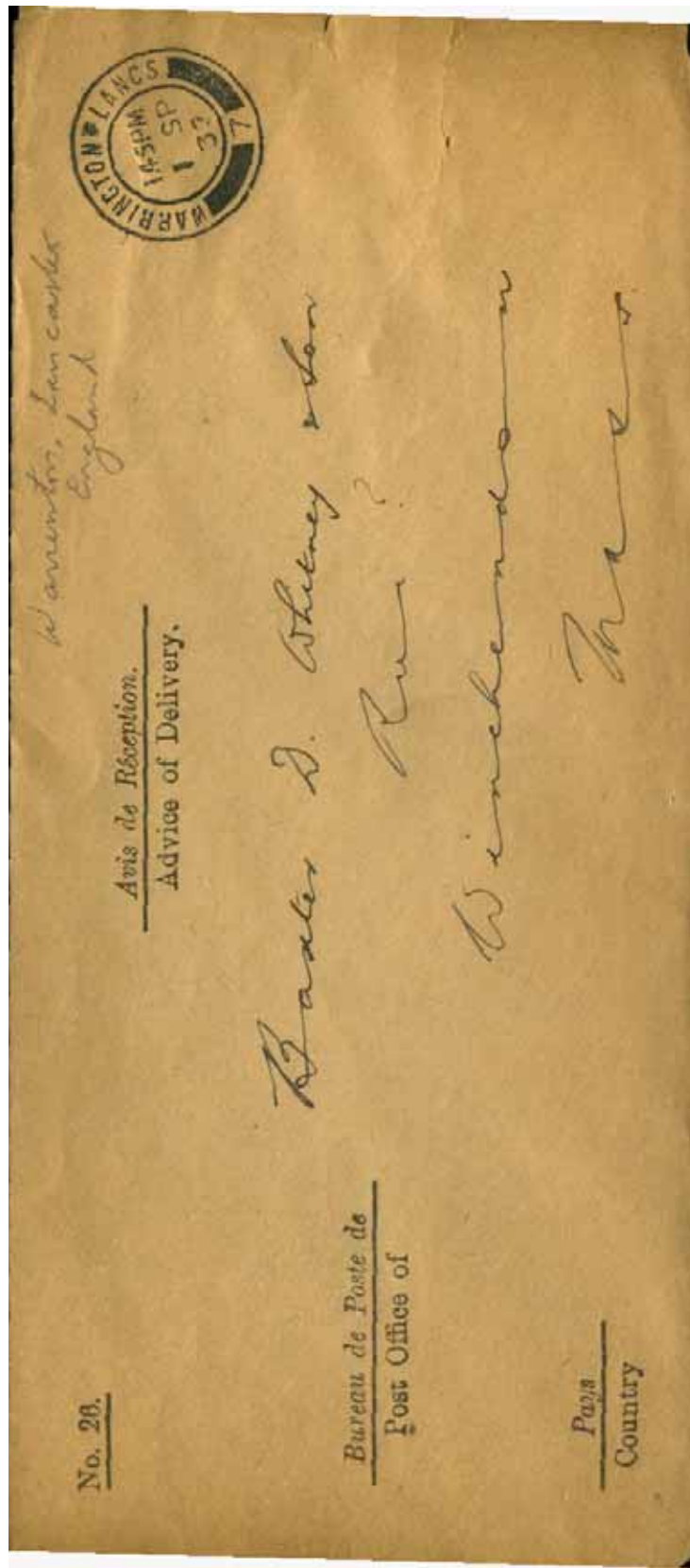


## Change of format for UK covering envelopes

In the 1910s, a long envelope of poor quality paper was introduced, and evidently used for a long time.



London to Victoria (Aus) 1914. To Wontaggi, via Cowes.

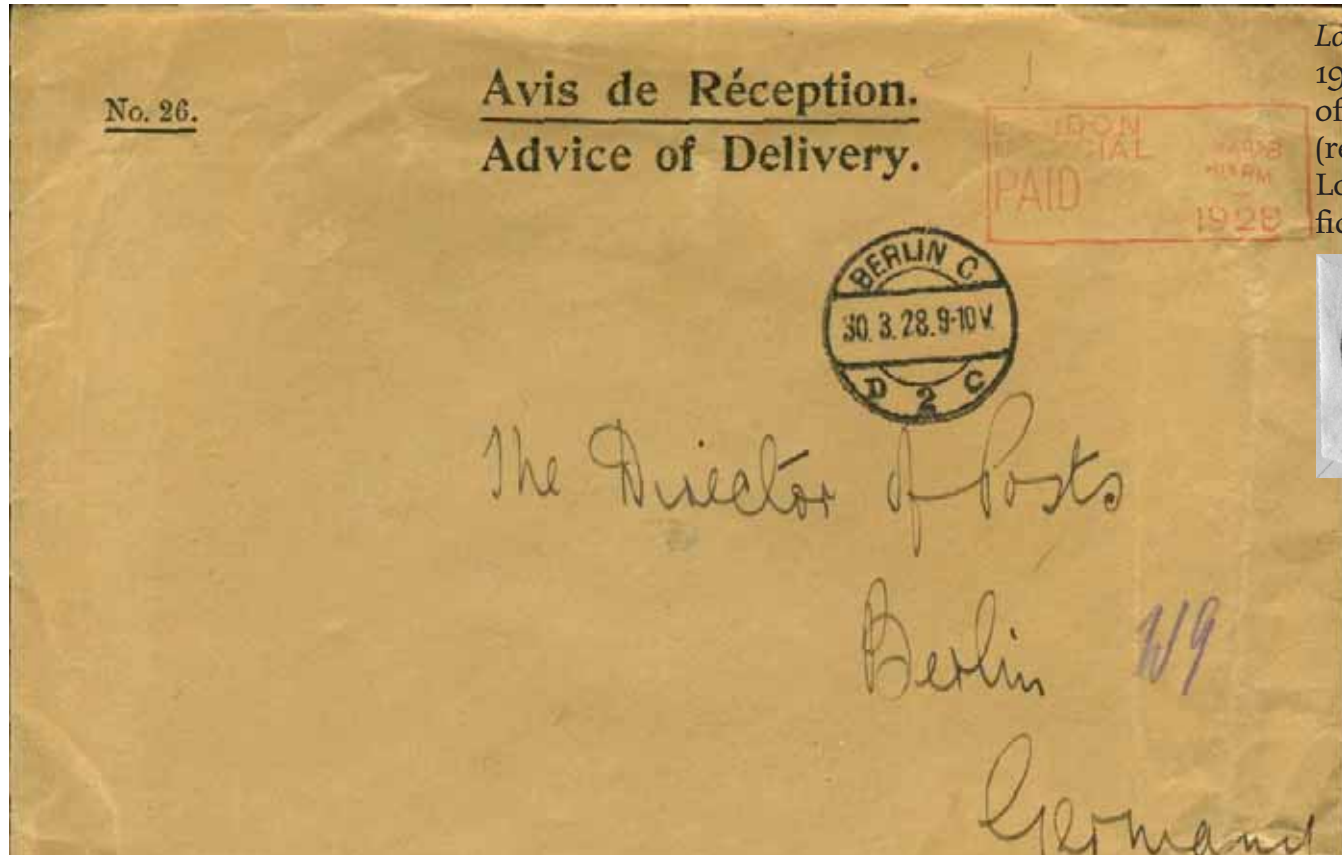


Lancashire to Massachusetts, 1932. Extremely late; the US adopted AR cards (requiring no covering envelope) in 1923, but some small offices continued to use forms in the 1930s.

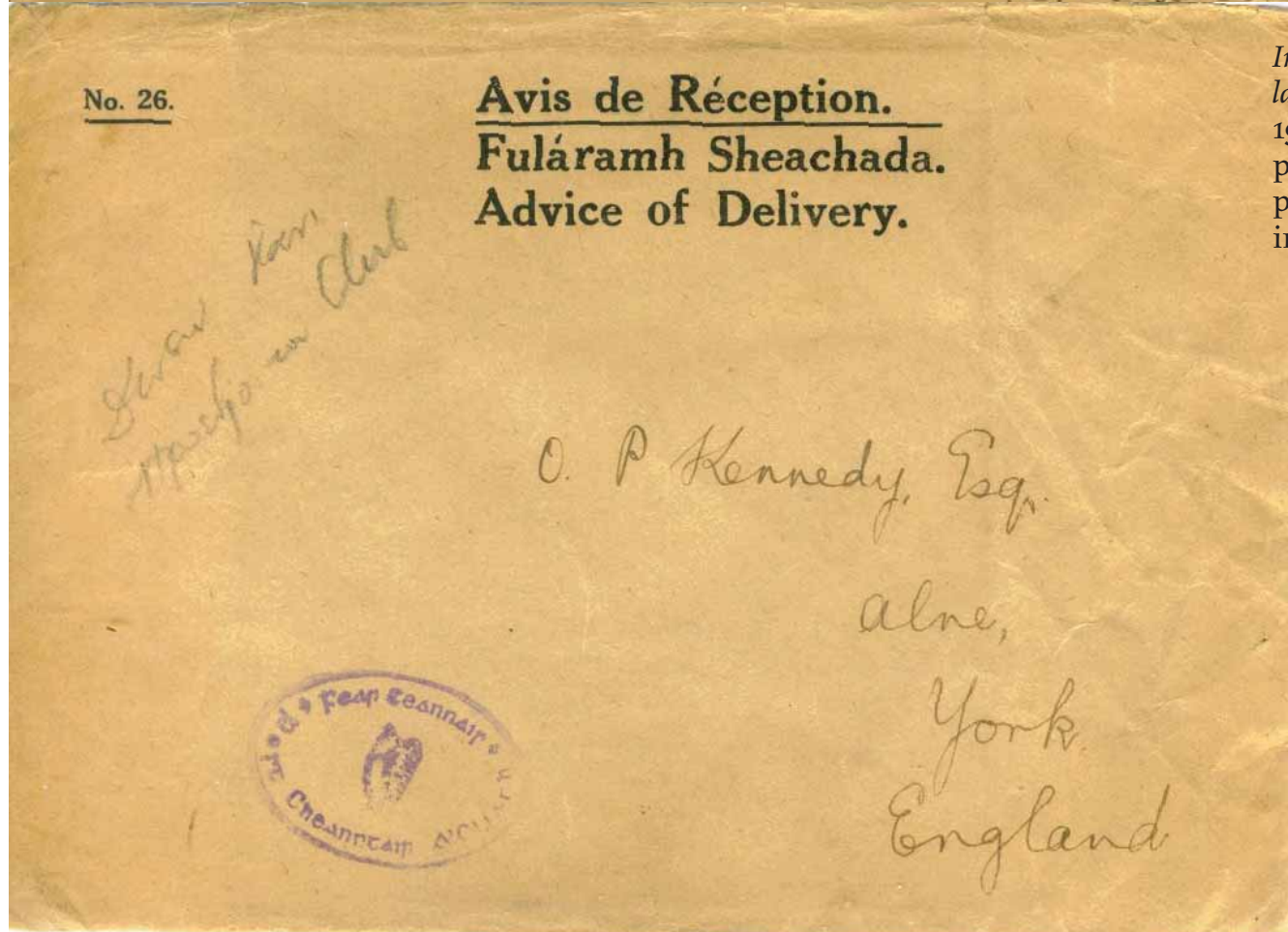


## More British Isles covering envelopes

This larger size was introduced in the UK in the 1920s, and an Irish version (after independence) also appeared. By this time, both destinations were using cards, so these covers are somewhat mysterious.



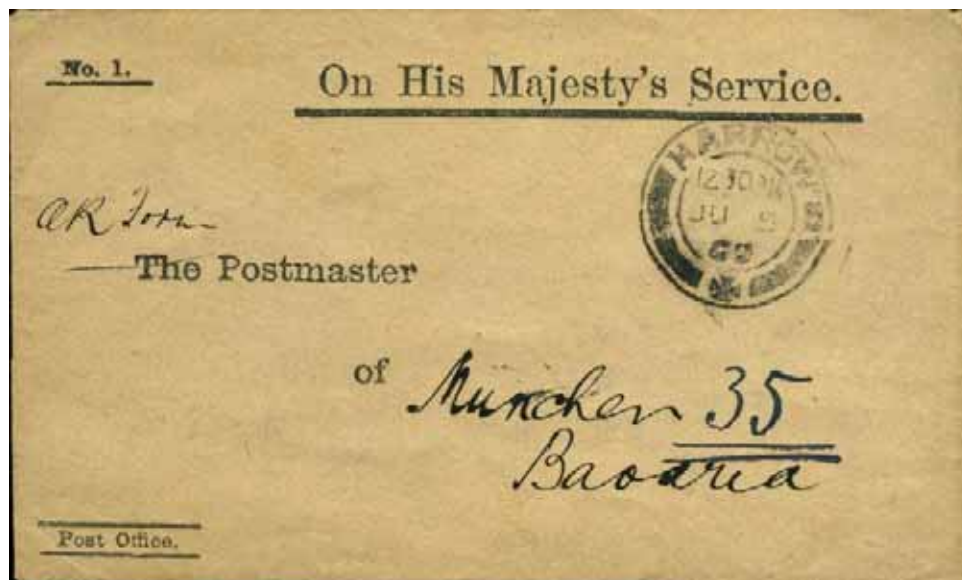
London–Berlin,  
1928. Berlin  
official seal  
(rev). Red  
London of-  
ficial meter.



Ireland to Eng-  
land, post-  
1925. Pur-  
ple hs: Dublin  
postal super-  
intendent.



## Provisional British covering envelopes



Official form No. 1, Harrow to Munich, 1909. Ms AR form.



Official form No. 2, Folkestone to Munich, 1909. Ms avis de reception.



Anomalously registered, Mastergeehy (Ireland) to Hartford (CT), 1921. Ms AR. Well after the 1908 cut-off date for registration of UK AR covering envelopes; likely due to unfamiliarity with the rules at a small office. Low registration number.



## Post-Vienna, Canada covering envelopes

All Canadian AR covering envelopes (fewer than 20) reported 1910–1921 and of poor quality paper



Canada to US, 1914, 1915, & 1920. Different print-order data; were returned to the US.



Post-Vienna covering envelopes  
New South Wales



Sydney to St Louis, 1900. With oval PAID ALL handstamp





## New Zealand covering envelopes

Showing change to non-registration sometime in 1917–20.



Hamilton to Buffalo, 1912.



Christchurch to Philadelphia, NZ military censor, September 1917. Different printing.



Registration struck through, Invercargill–Hartford (CT), September 1920.

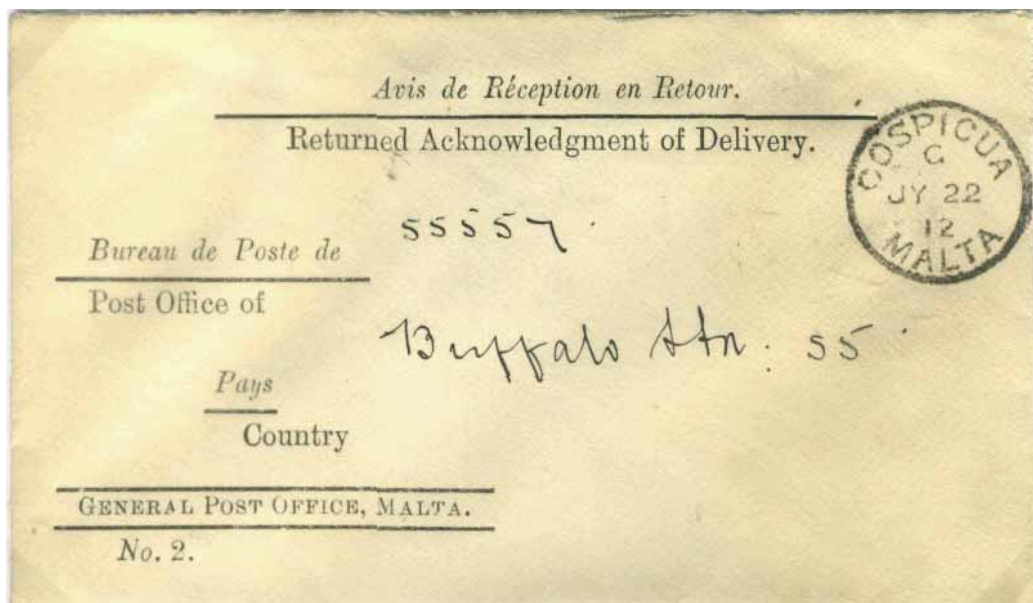




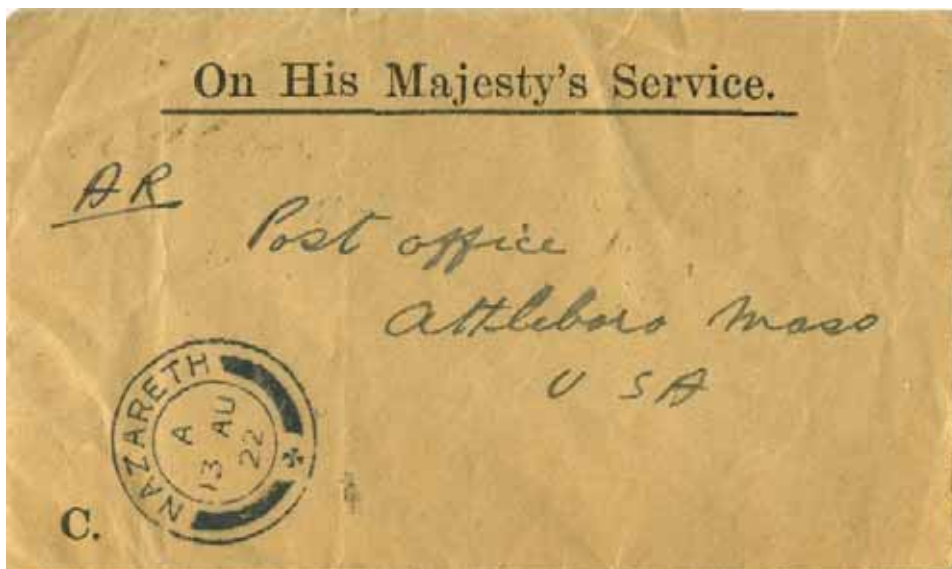
Post-Vienna covering envelopes: Samoa, Malta, & Palestine

Apia—Portland (OR), using New Zealand form envelope, 1921. New Zealand form 65 (as on previous page), returned registered.

NZ itself had ceased registering returned forms by this time.



Cospicua to Buffalo, 1912.

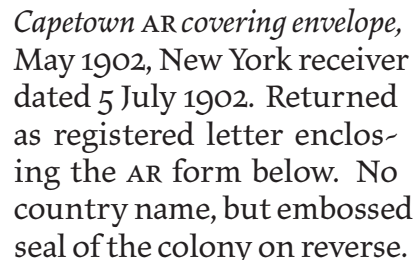


Nazareth to Attleboro (MA), provisional covering envelope, 1922. The US continued to use forms (requiring covering envelopes for their return) rather than cards through 1922. Via Haifa.





US AR form originally attached to registered letter addressed to Capetown where enclosed in covering envelope for return to Dayton PO (for subsequent pickup by sender). One of a handful of such pairs known for the British Empire. All US AR forms required covering envelopes.



US AR form, mailed 30 April 1897, signed 27 May (oval Cape reg'n hs, as on covering envelope). ✓✓



347

(3870.)

Administration of the United States. B.

RETURN RECEIPT.  
AVIS DE RÉCEPTION.

for a registered article (L. 4559) (1) entered at the office of  
d'un objet recommandé (L. 4559) (1) enregistré au bureau de  
Dayton Ohio Apr 19/07 under No. 3747 (2),  
le sous le No. (2),  
and addressed to M. Hon. Vander Hook at Cape Town  
et adressé à M. Hon. Vander Hook à Capetown S. Afr.

The undersigned certifies that a registered letter to the above address and originating at  
Le soussigné déclare qu'un objet recommandé à l'adresse susmentionnée et provenant de  
has been duly delivered 27th May 1907  
a été dûment livré le 1907

SIGNATURE (3)  
per A. C. Reynolds  
of the chief of the office of delivery;  
du chef du bureau distributeur

(1) Nature of the article (letter, sample, print, etc.)  
(1) Nature de l'objet (lettre, échantillon, imprimé, etc.)  
(2) Office of origin; date of mailing at that office; No. of entry at said office.  
(2) Bureau d'origine; date de dépôt à ce bureau; No. d'enregistrement au même bureau.  
(3) This return receipt must be signed by the addressee; or, if the regulations of the country of destination permit it, by the chief of the office of delivery; then placed in an envelope and transmitted, under registration, by the first mail to the office of origin of the article to which it relates.  
(3) Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le comportent, par le chef du bureau distributeur, puis être mis sous enveloppe et envoyé, sous recommandation, par le premier courrier, au bureau d'origine de l'objet qu'il concerne.

—4172

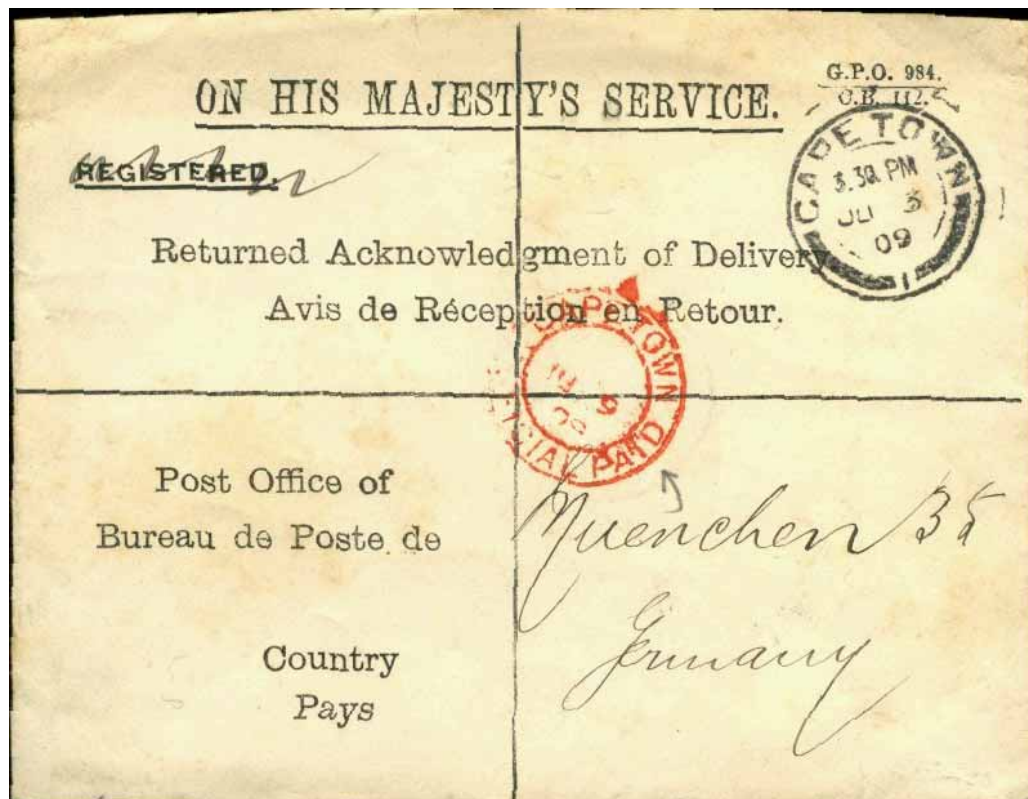


## Post-Vienna covering envelopes

Natal and Cape of Good Hope; registration had ceased for these two colonies by mid-1908 (mid-1909, respectively).



Provisional covering envelope, Mooi River to Massachusetts, 1908. On Money Order Advice form envelope, with ms A.R. Form.



Capetown to Munich, 1909. "Registered" struck through. Generic—no country name—and quite different from 1902 Capetown covering envelope.



# AR cards

Late 1921 or early 1922, international AR cards (postcard size, made of card) were introduced (by most entities) to replace AR forms. Until ca 1930, yellow-brown was the typical colour, subsequently shades of pink. They did not require covering envelopes. Any stamps applied were supposed to pay the AR fee (or rarely, air mail for the return trip), not postage (which was free). They were returned by regular mail. British jurisdictions in the Indian subcontinent and most of Africa did not pay the AR fee on the cards.

## UK AR cards

To France and India, showing early and slightly later cards, differently formatted.

Administration des Postes de la Grande Bretagne.  
Post Office of Great Britain.

**AVIS DE RÉCEPTION.**  
**ADVICE OF DELIVERY.**

*Registered*

d'une lettre avec valeur déclarée de  
of a letter insured for  
d'un objet recommandé  
of a Registered Article  
d'un colis postal avec valeur déclarée de  
of a Parcel insured for

le No. sous le No.  
under No. *3428*

expédié par M. *Angela Bellini France Colpa*  
sent by *Angela Bellini France Colpa*  
et adressé à M. *Angela Bellini France Colpa*  
and addressed to (full address) *Angela Bellini France Colpa*

Le soussigné déclare qu'une lettre avec valeur déclarée  
The undersigned acknowledges that (an insured letter  
qu'un objet recommandé a registered article  
qu'un colis postal avec valeur déclarée an insured parcel

et provenant de  
and posted at  
livré le  
delivered on the *24 December*

Signature (3)  
de l'agent du bureau distributeur  
of the Postmaster of the Delivering Office:

1. Nature de l'objet (lettre, échantillon, imprimé, etc.).  
Nature of article (letter, sample, printed paper, etc.).

2. Bureau d'origine, date de dépôt à ce Bureau:  
no d'enregistrement au même Bureau.  
Office of origin, date of posting at this office. No. of registration at the same office.

3. Nota.—Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le comportent, par l'agent du Bureau distributeur, et renvoyé ensuite par le premier courrier directement à l'adresse indiquée au recto.

Victoria Street (London)—Paris, 1928.  
Print-order data, 50000, July 1922  
(used six years after printing). Prop-  
erly signed and returned. French  
carrier marking.

- 3d AR fee paid by single stamp.

ADMINISTRATION DES POSTES  
POST OFFICE  
de la GRANDE BRETAGNE  
of GREAT BRITAIN

Envoi recommandé *Feb 4 1933*  
Registered article

Lettre—Boîte—Colis  
Letter—Box—Parcel *sixty pounds*  
avec valeur déclarée *£60.*  
insured for

enregistré au bureau de poste de  
registered at the office of  
*Stoke Poges Lane, Slough*

le No. sous le No.  
under No. *1000*

expédié par M. *Bureau T.C.*  
sent by *L. Kuthari*  
et adressé à M. *Calcutta*  
and addressed to *India*

1) Le recto est à remplir par l'Office d'origine.  
This half is to be filled in by the Office of origin.

2) Nature de l'envoi (lettre, imprimé, etc.).  
Nature of article (letter, printed paper, etc.).

P. 63 H.  
(Rev. 9391/2)

**AVIS DE RÉCEPTION.**  
**ADVICE OF DELIVERY.**

Timbre du bureau expéditeur de l'avis.  
Stamp of office of origin.

1) A L. Kuthari  
To 26 A. Madan Mitra Lane  
P.O. Beadon St.  
Calcutta

(Lieu de destination)  
(Place of destination)  
*India*

SERVICE DES POSTES  
(Pays de destination)  
(Country of Destination)

1) A remplir par l'expéditeur.  
To be filled in by sender.

Stoke, Poges Lane, Slough  
(Buckshire) to Calcutta,  
1933. Print-order 35000,  
June 1928. Very high  
valeur déclarée (£60);  
the combination VD  
& AR is seldom seen  
on UK material.  
Properly signed (on  
reverse) and returned.

- 3d AR fee paid by single stamp.



## Canadian AR cards

Colour changed from yellow to pink ca 1930. To Turkey, Romania, and British West Indies

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT**  
AVIS DE RÉCEPTION

"ORIGINAL" REGISTERED No. / Numéro original de recommandation: 1428

DATE OF POSTING / Date du dépôt: \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN TO / Retourner à: M. Dr. S. Surjick  
1175 Champlain St.  
Montreal P.Q.  
Canada

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, CANADA  
Administration des postes, Canada  
39 B-150,000-11-9-25

STAMP OF OFFICE OF ORIGIN  
Timbre du bureau d'origine

10c CANADA POSTAGE

Montreal to Galata, 1928. Print-order data, 150000, September 1925. Properly but illegibly signed.

- 10¢ AR fee paid by stamps.

**POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT**  
ADMINISTRATION DES POSTES  
CANADA

This side to be filled in by office of origin  
Le recto est à remplir par le bureau d'origine

REGISTERED ARTICLE  
Envoi recommandé

ENTERED AT THE OFFICE OF / Enregistré au bureau de poste: Toronto 2 Ont.  
June 24 / 218

DATE / UNDER NO. / sous le: June 24 / 218

ADDRESSED TO / Adressé à: Rev. W. Megard  
Solea - Roumdia  
La Romana

AT / à: \_\_\_\_\_

39B-175,000-22-4-36

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT**  
AVIS DE RÉCEPTION

To be filled in by sender  
À remplir par l'expéditeur

25 JUN 38 10

Apposez un timbre de 10c.

RETURN TO / Retourner à: 741 McCaul St  
Toronto 2 Ont.

STREET AND NUMBER  
Rue et numéro

PLACE OF DESTINATION  
Lieu de destination

CANADA

Toronto to Plaiul-Cosminului, 1938. Print-order data, 175000, April 1936. Properly signed (in pencil) and returned.

- 10¢ AR fee paid by stamp.

THE UNDERSIGNED ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE REGISTERED ARTICLE DESCRIBED ON THE OTHER SIDE WAS DULY DELIVERED ON THE 24 June 1938

Le soussigné déclare que l'envoi mentionné d'autre part a été dûment livré le 24 June 1938

SIGNATURE OF THE ADDRESSEE / Signature du destinataire: Megard

OF ADDRESSEE'S REPRESENTATIVE / Du représentant du destinataire: \_\_\_\_\_

OF THE POSTMASTER OF THE OFFICE OF DESTINATION / De l'agent du bureau destinataire: \_\_\_\_\_

(1) This advice should be signed by the addressee or if the regulations of the country of destination so provide, by the Postmaster of the Delivery office and returned by first mail to the address shown on the other side.  
Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le comportent, par l'agent du bureau destinataire et renvoyé par le premier courrier à l'expéditeur, dont l'adresse figure sur l'autre côté de cette carte.

(2) When delivery is made to the authorized representative of the addressee, both addressee's name and representative's signature must appear on this receipt.  
Lorsque la remise est faite au représentant autorisé du destinataire, le nom du destinataire et la signature de son représentant doivent paraître sur ce reçu.

THE UNDERSIGNED ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE REGISTERED ARTICLE DESCRIBED ON THE OTHER SIDE WAS DULY DELIVERED ON THE 5 June 1941

Le soussigné déclare que l'envoi mentionné d'autre part a été dûment livré le 5 June 1941

Date stamp of office of destination  
Timbre du bureau destinataire

SIGNATURE OF THE ADDRESSEE / Signature du destinataire: \_\_\_\_\_

OF ADDRESSEE'S REPRESENTATIVE / du représentant du destinataire: \_\_\_\_\_

OF THE POSTMASTER OF THE OFFICE OF DESTINATION / de l'agent du bureau destinataire: \_\_\_\_\_

(1) This advice should be signed by the addressee or if the regulations of the country of destination so provide, by the Postmaster of the Delivery office and returned by first mail to the address shown on the other side.  
Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le comportent, par l'agent du bureau destinataire, et renvoyé par le premier courrier à l'expéditeur, dont l'adresse figure sur l'autre côté de cette carte.

(2) When delivery is made to the authorized representative of the addressee, both addressee's name and representative's signature must appear on this receipt.  
Lorsque la remise est faite au représentant autorisé du destinataire, le nom du destinataire et la signature de son représentant doivent paraître sur ce reçu.

Armstrong (BC) to Blackstonedge (Jamaica), 1941. Print-order data, 200000, August 1940. Not signed—likely the registered letter was returned to sender.

- 10¢ AR fee paid by stamp.

**POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT**  
ADMINISTRATION DES POSTES  
CANADA

This side to be filled in by office of origin  
Le recto est à remplir par le bureau d'origine

REGISTERED ARTICLE  
Envoi recommandé

ENTERED AT THE OFFICE OF / Enregistré au bureau de poste de: ARMSTRONG, B. C.  
June 25 / 118

ADDRESSED TO / Adressé à: A. S. J. Newman  
Blackstonedge, P.O.  
Jamaica

AT / à: \_\_\_\_\_

39B-200,000-22-4-36

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT**  
AVIS DE RÉCEPTION

To be filled in by sender who is responsible for delivery  
À remplir par l'expéditeur qui est responsable de la livraison

25 JUN 41

RETURN TO / Retourner à: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET AND NUMBER / Rue et numéro: \_\_\_\_\_

PLACE OF ORIGIN OF REGISTERED ARTICLE / Lieu d'origine de l'envoi recommandé: \_\_\_\_\_

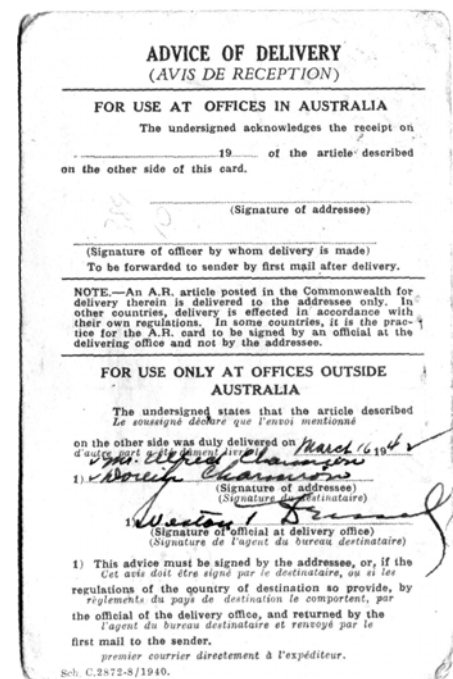
CANADA



Early printing bilingual; later, separate English and bilingual parts, for domestic and international service, respectively. To Germany and us. The second card represents a misunderstanding of AR at the small town of Belpre (Ohio); this is surprising, since stamps are almost never seen on US AR cards.



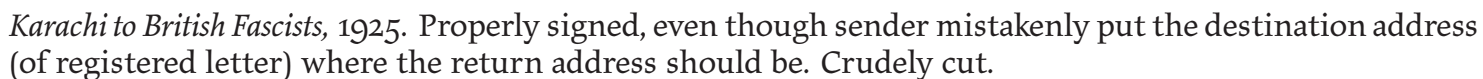
- 3d AR fee paid by stamp.



- 3d AR fee paid by stamp.



For all British colonies in this region, the AR fee was paid on the registered cover, not the card. Second one is part of the enormous moneylender correspondence, centred on south India.



Signed *Hilary Waddington, group leader, for British Fascists*. The British Fascists, under the name *British Fascisti*, formed in 1923, modelled on Mussolini's fascism; its name was anglicized in 1925. It became virulently anti-semitic and died in 1935. Mailed by Peshoton Sohrabji Dubash (DSc—he claimed), poet, eugenicist, and crank mathematician.





## Part of the moneylender correspondence

*Colombo to Tondi (south India), 1928. Not signed; likely registered item returned to sender. Accent on the wrong letter, R in réception.*

R P-54 (a)  
OG R. & P-4 (a).

*Valeur déclarée, Rangoon–Pulan Kurechi (Ramnad), 1937. VD (extra indemnity on registered matter)—in this case, for 100 Rupees. Not signed, likely returned to sender.*



5 C P. & T. R. & P. 10

ADMINISTRATION DES POSTES  
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS  
ETATS MALAIS FEDERES (1)

(Envoi recommandé / Registered Article / Colis / Parcel) (2)

Lettre-Colis / Letter-Parcel / avec valeur déclarée de / insured for } *AR*

enregistré au / bureau de poste de / posted at the / Post Office at *Penang*

le / sous le No. / on the / under No. *23-7-32 425161*

expédié par M. / sent by *K. V. A. L. A. L.*  
*Lakshmanan Chettiar*  
et adressé à M. / and addressed to *K. Annaswamy*  
*ayangara*

à / at *Karaikudi*

(1) This side to be filled in by the office of origin  
(2) Nature of the article (letter, printed paper etc.)  
(Lettre, imprimé, etc.)

AVIS DE RECEPTION  
ADVICE OF RECEIPT

*30-1-32 5 AM*

*Penang*

*K. V. A. L. A. L.*  
*Lakshmanan Chettiar*  
*No 140 Penang St*  
*Penang.*

of sender to be written here

SERVICE DES POSTES  
ON POSTAL SERVICE

(1) A remplir par l'expéditeur  
To be filled in by the sender

Straits Settlements  
& Malaya AR cards

Returned from south  
India, moneylen-  
der correspondence

Penang to Karaikudi  
(Ramnad), 1932.  
Tan. No print data,  
may be first printing.

Pig. 618/34 (P. & T. - R. & P. 10)

ADMINISTRATION DES POSTES  
DE MALAYA

(A remplir par le bureau d'origine,  
To be filled in by the office of origin.)

(Envoi recommandé / Registered Article) (1)

Lettre-Boîte-Colis / Letter-Box-Parcel / avec valeur déclarée de / insured for } (2)

déposé au / bureau de poste de / posted at the / Post Office at *Kuala Kangsan*

le / sous le No. / on the / under No. *15-11-36*

expédié par M. / sent by *M. Muthu Kanyan Chellian*  
*G. P. K. N. M. N. Sivar*  
et adressé à M. / and addressed to *P. K. N. M. N.*  
*Saigaran Chellian*  
*Veguppatti*

(1) Indicate in parentheses the nature of the article  
(letter, printed paper, etc.)  
(2) Strike out indications not required.

AVIS DE RÉCEPTION  
ADVICE OF DELIVERY

(A remplir par l'expéditeur qui mentionnera  
ci-dessous son adresse complète.)  
(To be filled in by the sender who will  
indicate below his full address.)

Date stamp of  
the office  
forwarding the  
advice

*M. Muthu Kanyan Chellian*  
*G. P. K. N. M. N. Sivar*

Lieu de destination en grosses lettres.  
Place of destination in block letters.  
*No 44 Jalan Kangsan*  
*Kuala Kangsan*

Page de destination.  
Country of destination.

SERVICE DES POSTES  
ON POSTAL SERVICE

4481-98,000-24-11-55-12 35/8.

Kuala Kangsan-Veguppatti  
(Pudukotta), 1939.  
Print-order data,  
98000, Novem-  
ber 1936. Not signed.



# Kedah and Johore, Malayan states' AR cards, returned from south India

GENERAL POST OFFICE  
10 30 AM  
20 APR 35  
ALORSTAR KEDAH

AVIS DE RECEPTION  
ADVICE OF DELIVERY

Timbre Du Bureau  
Expéditeur

Stamp of the  
Despatching Office.

KEDAH

Pays de destination  
Country of destination

NOTE: The name and address of the sender of article to be written here.

Service Des Postes  
On Postal Service

ALORSTAR KEDAH  
16 10 35  
VETHIYUR  
8 APR 35  
RAMNAD

10,000-12-52

P.A.T.M. ADMINISTRATION DES POSTES DE KEDAH  
AVIS DE RECEPTION  
KEDAH POSTAL ADMINISTRATION  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Stamp of the Office  
of Delivery.

Signature of the head of the delivering office.

1. Nature of the article (letter, printed paper, etc.) 2. Nature of the article (letter, printed paper, etc.)

3. Nature of the article (letter, printed paper, etc.) 4. Nature of the article (letter, printed paper, etc.)

Alorstar-Vethiyur (Ramnad), 1935. Print-order data, 10000, year unknown. Properly signed.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT, JOHORE.

ADMINISTRATION DES POSTES DE POST OFFICE OF JOHORE

AVIS DE RECEPTION  
ADVICE OF DELIVERY

Remplir par l'expéditeur qui mentionnera ci-dessous sa sou adresse complète  
To be filled in by the sender who will indicate below his full address.

M. S. S. Raman Chettiar  
6, Jalan Penggarang  
Batu Pahat

(Lieu de destination, en gros caractères : Place of destination in block letters.)  
KARAIKUDI INDIA  
(Rue et numéro : Street and number)

(Pays de destination : Country of destination)

SERVICE DES POSTES  
POSTAL SERVICE

1. Indiquer la nature de l'article (lettre, papier imprimé, etc.)  
2. Strike out indications not required.

Johore AR card, Batu Pahat-Karaikudi, 1941. Unusual international AR card from Malayan state.



# Palestine AR cards

To Poland and Canada; two quite different cards

ADMINISTRATION DES POSTES DE PALESTINE  
POST OFFICE OF PALESTINE

AVIS DE RÉCEPTION.  
ADVANCE OF DELIVERY

25 mil

d'une lettre avec valeur déclarée de  
of a letter insured for  
d'un objet recommandé  
of a registered article  
d'un colis postal avec valeur déclarée de  
of a parcel insured for  
de  
of  
expédié par  
Sent by  
et adressé à  
and addressed to  
(full address)

M. *Moses Washberg*  
à  
*Chrzanow*  
*Allego Henryk*

(1) registered at this Office

Le soussigné déclare  
The undersigned acknowledges that  
et provenant  
and posted at  
livré le  
delivered on the

qu'une lettre avec valeur déclarée  
qu'un objet recommandé  
qu'un colis postal avec valeur déclarée

an insured letter  
a registered letter  
an insured parcel

à l'adresse susmentionnée  
addressed as above  
a été dûment  
was duly

Signature (3)  
*Moses Washberg*

de l'Agent du bureau distributeur  
of the Postmaster of the Delivering Office

Nature de l'objet  
Nature of article

1. Bureau d'Origine; date de dépôt à ce Bureau; No. d'enregistrement au même Bureau; Office of Origin; date of posting at this Office; No. of registration at this Office.

2. Note: Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire ou si le règlement du pays de destination le comporte par l'Agent du bureau distributeur et renvoyé ensuite par le premier courrier de rectement à l'adresse indiquée au recto.  
Note: This advice must be signed by the addressee, or, the postal regulations of the country of destination so provide, by the Postmaster of the Delivering Office, then sent by the first mail to the address shown on the other side.

Haifa to Chrzanow (Cracow), 1925. Print-order data, 15000, 29 March 1922—very early for an international AR card. Properly signed and returned to sender.

- 13 mil AR fee paid by over-printed EEF stamps

AVIS DE RÉCEPTION.  
ADVANCE OF DELIVERY.

Stamp of Office of Origin

Haifa

Inspector 9 ans 10 ans 15 ans 20 ans 25 ans 30 ans 35 ans 40 ans 45 ans 50 ans 55 ans 60 ans 65 ans 70 ans 75 ans 80 ans 85 ans 90 ans 95 ans 100 ans

REGISTERED  
5 JY 25

SERVICE DES POSTES  
POST OFFICE

Lieu de Destination  
Place of Destination

Pay de Destination  
Country of Destination

Administration des Postes de Palestine  
POST OFFICE OF PALESTINE

AVIS DE RÉCEPTION  
ADVANCE OF DELIV

d'une lettre avec valeur déclarée de  
of a letter insured for  
d'un objet recommandé  
of a registered article  
d'un colis postal avec valeur déclarée de  
of a parcel insured for  
de  
of  
expédié par  
Sent by  
et adressé à  
and addressed to  
(full address)

M. *Philip Joseph, Barrister-at-Law - Tel Aviv*  
à  
*Toronto*  
*Canada*

(12)

Le soussigné déclare  
The undersigned acknowledges that  
et provenant de  
and posted at  
livré le  
delivered on the

qu'une lettre avec valeur déclarée  
qu'un objet recommandé  
qu'un colis postal avec valeur déclarée

an insured letter  
a registered letter  
an insured parcel

à l'adresse susmentionnée  
addressed as above  
a été dûment  
was duly

Signature (3)  
*A. Rogul*

de l'Agent du bureau distributeur  
of the Postmaster of the Delivering Office

Nature de l'objet  
Nature of article

1. Bureau d'Origine; date de dépôt à ce Bureau; No. d'enregistrement au même Bureau; Office of Origin; date of posting at this Office; No. of registration at this Office.

2. Note: Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire ou, si le règlement du pays de destination le comporte, par l'Agent du bureau distributeur, et renvoyé ensuite par le premier courrier directement à l'adresse au recto.  
Note: This advice must be signed by the addressee or, if the postal regulations of the country of destination so provide, by the Postmaster of the Delivering Office, then sent by the first mail to the address shown on the other side.

Tel Aviv to Toronto, 1933. Print-order data, 15000, 17 October 1927. Properly signed and returned to sender.

- 13 mil AR fee paid by stamps

AVIS DE RÉCEPTION.

Stamp of Office of Origin

M. *Dr. Philip Joseph,*  
*P.O.B. 395*  
*Tel-aviv*  
(Lieu de Destination)  
*Palestine*  
(Pays de Destination)

SERVICE DES POSTES



# Weird AR

Including free (and to a ship), *duplicate* (replacement), after-the-fact AR, and return by air.

## Free AR, and to a ship

AR card from Cyprus, for which it is known that the AR fee was paid on the card, not the cover. As the registered letter was mailed by a Government official and there are no stamps, we infer that AR was free (very unusual). Addressed to the commanding officer of the HMS *Keith*.

(Form P.O. 189.)

ADMINISTRATION DES POSTES DE  
CHYPRE.

Envoi recommandé ( Letter )  
\_\_\_\_\_) (1)

Lettre—Boîte  
avec valeur déclarée de }  
enregistré au bureau } Famagusta  
de poste de }  
le 23/7/36 sous le No. 5720  
expédié par M. Commissioner Lqista  
et adressé à M. Commanding Officer  
the H.M.S. Keith  
à Cyprus  
(1) Nature de l'envoi (lettre, imprimé, etc.)

AVIS DE RÉCEPTION.

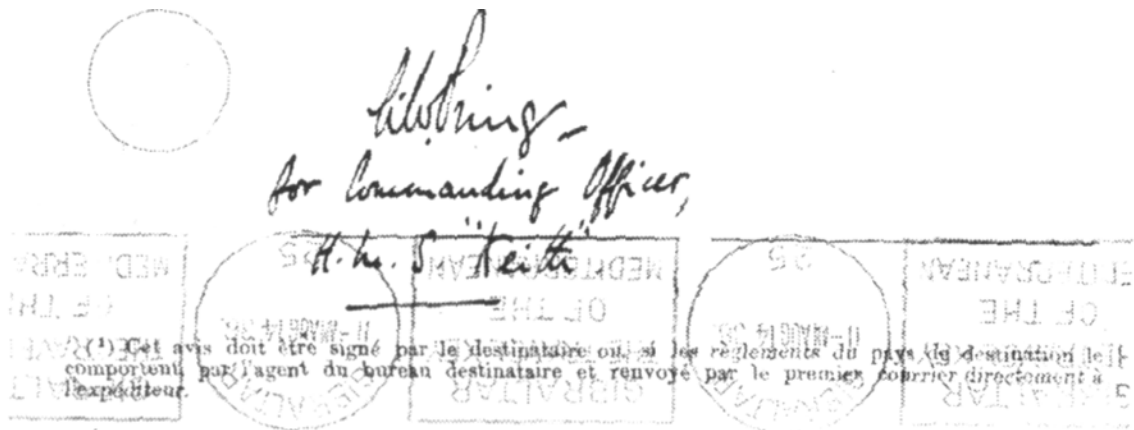
(A remplir par l'expéditeur.)

A The Commissioner  
Famagusta  
Cyprus  
(Rue et numéro)  
(Lieu de destination)

SERVICE  
DES POSTES }  
(Pays de destination)

REGISTERED  
9:30 AM  
23 JUL 36  
FAMAGUSTA, CYPRUS

Famagusto to CO of HMS *Keith*, 1936. Properly signed three weeks after mailing, and returned via Gibraltar (slogan cancel reads *The travel key of the Mediterranean*) four days later.





## Duplicate (UK)

If an AR card (or form) were lost, damaged, or simply not returned, either an office of the country of origin or of destination could prepare a *duplicate (replacement)* card or form. Very few examples (worldwide) have been reported. This British AR card was returned from Tuva (full name: *Tuvan Herdsman's Republic*), with a letter from the London Post Office.

**Administration des Postes de la GRANDE BRETAGNE.**  
**Postal Administration of GREAT BRITAIN.**

(A remplir par le bureau d'origine)  
 (To be filled in by the office of origin)

Envoi recommandé } (*Letter*)  
 Registered Article  
 Lettre—Boîte—Colis  
 Letter—Box—Parcel  
 avec valeur déclarée de }  
 insured for  
 enregistré au bureau de poste de } *FALKIRK*  
 registered at the office of

le } *2.11.38* sous le N° } *7784*  
 on } under No. }  
 expédié par M } *D. HUTCHISON*  
 sent by MR }  
 et adressé à M. } *THE POSTMASTER*  
 and addressed to }  
 à } *G.P.O. TURAN, TUVA*  
 at } *REPUBLIC N. MONGOLIA*

<sup>1)</sup> Indiquer dans la parenthèse la nature de l'envoi.  
 Indicate in parenthesis the nature of the article  
 (lettre, imprimé, etc.)  
 (letter, printed paper, etc.)

**AVIS DE RÉCEPTION**  
**ADVICE OF DELIVERY**

(A remplir par l'expéditeur)  
 (To be filled in by the sender  
 with the address to which the form  
 should be returned on completion)

A *MR D. HUTCHISON*  
 To *C/O LEISHMAN*

Rue et Numéro  
 Street and Number  
*L AURIESTON TERR.*

Lieu de destination  
 Place of destination  
*FALKIRK*  
*SCOTLAND*

Service des postes (Pays de destination)  
 Postal service (Country of destination)

*L.P.R. 22191/39*

*Stamp of office of origin*



TAR Kyzyl Post Telegraph Kontora, applied at Kizil en route; a Kontora is a larger post office. Likely where the translations were applied.

Duplicate UK card returned from Turan (Tuva), 1939. Original registered letter mailed 2 November 1938; card prepared 15 April 1939 at Falkirk (Stirlingshire), addressed to the postmaster in Turan (40 km northwest of the capital, Kizil). Properly signed; returned to the LPR by 15 June (undated signature).

No AR fee required as this was a duplicate—payment had been made on the original AR card.

Le soussigné déclare que l'envoi mentionné d'autre part  
 The undersigned states that the article mentioned overleaf

*Bheun-bheun*  
*Kyzyl Alcon*

a été dûment livré le *15.04.39*  
 was duly delivered on

Timbre du bureau destinataire  
 Stamp of Delivering Office

(Signature 1)  
 du destinataire: de l'agent du bureau destinataire  
 of the addressee: of the official of the office of destination

*notual apse* *notual ap*

<sup>1)</sup> Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le  
 par l'agent du bureau destinataire, et renvoyé par le premier courrier directement à l'expéditeur.  
 This advice must be signed by the addressee or, if the postal regulations of the country of destination  
 provide, by the official of the delivering office, and then sent by first mail directly to the sender.

P. 68 II. (554) W116726-2261 4000(A1) 4/34 M & C

HEADquarters 2206.

Tel.: *NATIONAL 6321*

Extension

Your Reference

P.O. Reference *L.P.R. 22191/39.*

Dear Sir,

With reference to your application of the 8th April 1939, concerning a registered letter, No. 7784 addressed to The Postmaster, G.P.O. Turan, N. Mongolia, I have now heard that the registered letter in question was duly received, and I enclose herewith a completed advice of delivery form in respect of the registered letter, for your information.

Yours faithfully,  
*Imund*  
 Divisional Controller.

DIVISIONAL CONTROLLER'S OFFICE,  
 LONDON POSTAL REGION,  
 KING EDWARD STREET,  
 LONDON, E.C.1.

15 June, 1939.



## Duplicate (Canada)

Again prepared at the office of origin, this time, three months after mailing, evidently because the first AR card had not been received by sender. *Only reported international Canadian duplicate AR card.*

*(Duplicate)*

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT**  
AVIS DE RÉCEPTION

STAMP OF OFFICE OF ORIGIN  
Timbre du bureau d'origine

"ORIGINAL" REGISTERED No. } 422-  
Numéro original de recommandation }

DATE OF POSTING } 15<sup>th</sup> November 1926  
Date du dépôt }

RETURN TO M. J. B. Dubé -  
Retourner à

45 Carson St -

*[Signature]*  
Place - Endroit

*[Signature]*  
Country - Pays

Post Office Department, Canada.  
Administration des postes, Canada.  
39 B-150,000-11-9-25

*[Circular Stamp: District Superintendent of Postal Service, Quebec, FEB 4 1927]*

Duplicate Canadian AR card returned from New York, 1926-1927. Registered letter mailed 15 November 1926; card prepared 4 February 1927 by the District Superintendent of Postal Service (city of Quebec), signed by two people, with delivery confirmed 18 November 1926.

No AR fee required on duplicate AR cards.

Post Office Department, Canada.  
Administration des postes, Canada.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT**  
AVIS DE RÉCEPTION

THE UNDERSIGNED ACKNOWLEDGES THE RECEIPT OF A REGISTERED ARTICLE, THE ORIGINAL NUMBER OF WHICH APPEARS ON THE REVERSE SIDE.  
Le soussigné accuse réception d'un objet recommandé dont le numéro original apparaît au verso.

Date of delivery } 11/18/1926 } 102 G  
Date de la livraison }

When delivery is made to the authorized representative of the addressee, both addressee's name and representative's signature must appear in this receipt.  
Lorsque la remise est faite au représentant autorisé du destinataire, le nom du destinataire et la signature de son représentant doivent paraître sur ce reçu.

*[Signature]*  
SIGNATURE OF ADDRESSEE'S REPRESENTATIVE.  
Signature ou nom du destinataire.

*[Signature]*  
SIGNATURE OF ADDRESSEE'S REPRESENTATIVE.  
Signature ou nom du destinataire.

OF THE POSTMASTER OF OFFICE OF DESTINATION.  
de l'agent du bureau distributeur.

*[Circular Stamp: NEW YORK, 11-18-1926]*

N.B.—When this receipt is properly signed by the addressee and Postmaster as required, it is to be date stamped and returned to address indicated on the other side of the envelope or card.  
Lorsque cet avis de réception sera dûment signé par le destinataire et l'agent des postes, tel que prévu par les règlements, il devra être timbré à date et renvoyé à l'adresse indiquée de l'autre côté sans enveloppe ou affranchissement.

POSTMASTER



## After-the-fact AR (Iraq & Canada)

Also known as *delayed* or *subsequent* AR. An AR card or form was sent out *after* the registered letter had been mailed. Possible internationally from 1899 but very seldom seen; a supplementary charge (above the ordinary AR fee) was possible from 1921.

Administration des Postes de l'Iraq.  
Post Office of Iraq.

**AVIS DE RECEPTION.**  
**ADVICE OF DELIVERY.**

de une lettre avec valeur déclarée de  
of a letter insured for  
d'un objet recommandé  
of a Registered Article  
d'un colis postal avec valeur déclarée de  
of a parcel insured for

de 21 - Square (Baghdad) on the 19th June 1932 sous le No. 133 (2)  
expédié par Messrs. Mahmoud Shabander & Co. Baghdad  
et adressé à M. Luigi Sarsen at Milano, Italy  
(full address) Via L. Albergo 20

Le sous-signé déclare qu'un objet recommandé ou un colis postal avec valeur déclarée a l'adresse susmentionnée  
The undersigned acknowledges that an insured letter or a registered article addressed as above  
et provenant de 22-6 a été dûment  
and posted at 1932  
livré le 22-6  
du destinataire  
of the addressee

Signature (3) [Signature]  
de l'agent du bureau distributeur  
of the Distributor of the Delivering Office

1. Nature de l'objet (lettre, échantillon, imprimé, etc.). 2. Nature of article (letter sample, printed paper, etc.).  
Bureau d'origine; date de dépôt à ce Bureau; no. de réenregistrement au même Bureau.  
Office of the origin; date of posting at this office; No. of registration at the same office.

Nota. — Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le comportent, l'agent du bureau distributeur, et renvoyé ensuite par le premier courrier directement à l'adresse indiquée au recto.  
Note — This advice must be signed by the addressee, or, if the postal regulations of the country of destination so provide by the Postmaster of the Delivering Office, then sent by the first Mail to the shown on the other side.

Iraq was under British Mandate until October 1932.

*Iraq after-the-fact card to Italy*, 11 August 1932. Original registered letter mailed 19 June 1932; card prepared two months later at Baghdad (note Indian style dater), addressed to Milan.

Properly signed 27 August 1932, with indication of date of delivery of the registered letter, 22 June 1932.

No postage was applied; presumably the after-the-fact AR fee was paid in cash.

Printed in a quantity of only 6000, May 1931.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT  
ADMINISTRATION DES POSTES  
CANADA

This side to be filled in by office of origin  
Le recto est à remplir par le bureau d'origine

**REGISTERED ARTICLE**  
Objet recommandé

ENTERED AT THE OFFICE OF  
Enregistré au bureau

DATE July 20/48 UNDER NO. 42  
Aug 4/48

ADDRESSED TO Bureli Hou  
Toyshan  
CHINA CANTON

225,000-10-6-43

ACKNOWLEDGMENT CARD  
AVIS DE RÉCEPTION

Date et Time  
To be filled in by sender who will indicate below his full address  
A remplir par l'expéditeur qui doit inscrire ci-dessous son adresse complète.

付明樹

RETURN TO TEAGARDEN REST  
342 (Kustura St. X)  
MARUJA ONT.

STREET AND NUMBER  
Rue et numéro

(1) PLACE OF ORIGIN OF REGISTERED ARTICLE  
Lieu d'origine de l'objet recommandé

(1) IN PRINTED CHARACTERS  
En lettres moulées

CANADA

*Canadian AR card returned from China*, refers to two registered letters, 12 August 1948. Registered letters mailed 20 July & 4 August 1948. Returned unsigned. Multiple AR.

Characters around the border say that the letter writer and his family are fine.

Printing data 225000, June 1943.

• After-the-fact fee of 20¢ paid by single stamp (ordinary AR fee was 10¢).



## Return by air

From 1938, some countries permitted the return of AR cards/forms by air, if the registered letter were sent airmail and the airmail fee to the destination country were paid. Here an Indochina AR form was returned by air from south India (some French colonies continued to use forms into the 1950s).

**Par Avion**

G

GOVERNEMENT GÉNÉRAL  
de l'Indochine

DIRECTION  
des Postes, des Télégraphes  
et des Téléphones

**AVIS DE RÉCEPTION**

d'un (1) *Lettre* { valeur déclarée \_\_\_\_\_ } enregistré au bureau  
recommandée { }  
de (2) *Saigon* le *1-10-* 193*8*, sous le n° *545* (3)  
et adressé à (suspension complète) M. *M. P. R. Periamann Serrai*  
*Ayappatti*  
*Saturusankarakottai Post*  
à *Ramnad Dist. (S. India)*  
(rue et n° s'il y a lieu)

Timbre du bureau  
d'origine

Nom et adresse { M. *Sou. Soupprama*  
à *V. 23 rue Olivier Saigon*  
de l'expéditeur { (rue et n° s'il y a lieu)

Le soussigné déclare que l (1) { valeur déclarée \_\_\_\_\_ } à l'adresse  
recommandée { }  
susmentionnée et provenant de \_\_\_\_\_ a été dûment  
livré le \_\_\_\_\_

Signature du Chef du bureau distributeur,

*[Signature]*

(1) Nature de l'objet : colis postal, lettre, boîte, échantillon, etc.  
(2) Griffe du bureau d'origine.  
(3) Date du dépôt et numéro d'inscription au registre de dépôt.

L'avis de réception est renvoyé à l'expéditeur par le premier courrier, sous  
enveloppe, comme correspondance ordinaire.

Imp. Ngo-tu-Hu, Hanoi - 1935

Saigon to south India, 1938. Properly signed and returned. Only known example of an AR form returned by air. Earliest international airmail AR form or card reported.

- 18centièmes of a Piastre (1.75 French francs) AR fee paid by left stamp, 30cmes (3 francs) airmail rate to south India paid by airmail stamp.

- AR form returned under cover.



## AR covers

Registered letters for which AR service applied. No outgoing AR covers are known from any British colonies, dominions, or offices in the pre-Vienna period.

Pre-Vienna, incoming to UK

486 *Mr Rückschein!*



Germany to London, 1890. At top, ms *Rückschein* (literally, receipt back), the term in Germany for AR used since the 1830s. **Rated** 20Pfennig for each of registration & first weight UPU fees; AR fee would have been applied to AR form. Likely the earliest known AR cover to the UK.





Pre-Vienna, Poland (Russia) to UK



Warsaw to Exeter,  
sextuple rate, 1891.

At lower left, ms  
*avec retour réexpédié*,  
misspelling Austrian  
term for AR (used from  
1806) *Retour Recepisse*  
(no accents), French  
for return receipt.

**Rated** 70kopeks, made  
up of 10kop for reg-  
istration and six times  
(per 15 g) UPU rate of  
10kop; AR fee would  
have been paid on the  
AR form.

Nine wax seals on  
reverse contribute to  
the weight.



# AR covers, Treaty of Vienna (1 July 1892–31 December 1898)

AR covers were now supposed to be marked AR or *avis de réception*, and forms prepared in the destination country. This required the AR fee to be paid on the covers.

## UK AR covers, Vienna period

Fewer than ten nineteenth century AR covers are known from UK.



Throgmorton Avenue EC  
(London) to New York, 1892.  
Standard oval UK AR hs  
(used for many decades).

**Rated** 2d registration, and  
2½d for each of AR fee and  
UPU rate, totalling 7d.

*Earliest reported AR cover from  
UK.*



Double rate, to Geneva, 1894.  
At top, ms registered & ac-  
knowledgegment prepaid, endorsed  
by sender at Maybury (Wok-  
ing); large ms AR at lower  
left, applied by clerk.

**Rated** 9½d, made up as above,  
but with double UPU rate.



BPO Constantinople AR cover, Vienna period



(British PO) Constantinople to New York, returned to sender, 1896. Standard oval AR hs.

**Rated** 40Paras for each of registration, AR fee, & UPU rate (agree with those of the rest of Ottoman Empire). Overprinted British 2d stamps.

After travelling extensively (via London), this was sent to the DLO in New York, recorded there (upper left), the *Parti* etiquette applied, and returned to sender. The "correct" oval DLO dat-estamp was intended for use on letter bills.





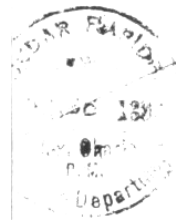
Canadian AR covers, Vienna period  
Saint John (NB) to Connecticut, 1893. Standard Canadian circle hs AR (in use for almost a century).

**Rated** 5¢ reg'n, 5¢ AR fee, and 3¢ to the US, paid by separate stamps. Earliest known Canadian AR cover.



Halifax-Cedar Rapids (Iowa), 1896. Standard AR hs. **Rated** as above; very unusual use of 8¢ small queen.

Third (or possibly second) earliest known Canadian AR cover.



London (ON)-Leipzig, 1897. Sender's endorsement, US style, Return receipt demanded, German rubber **Rückschein** hs applied to incoming AR covers.

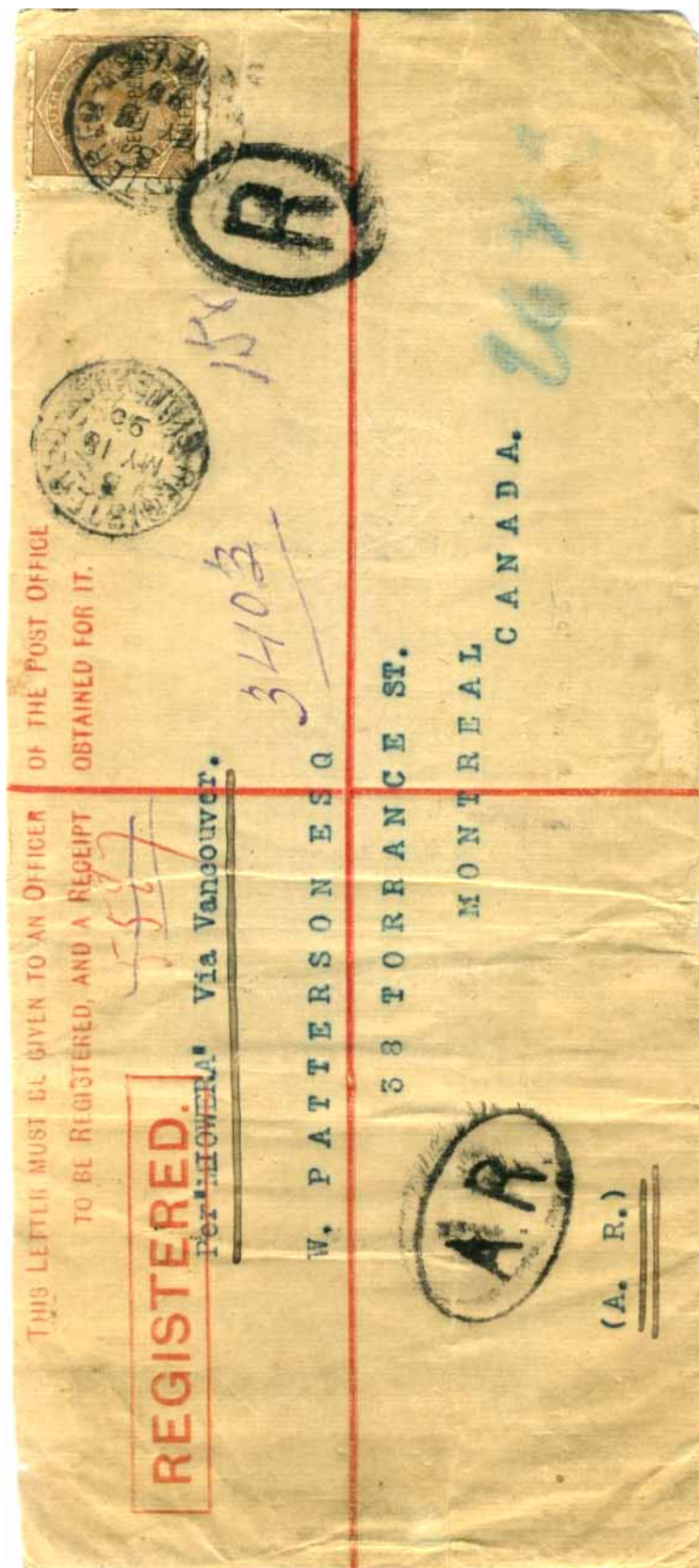
**Rated** 5¢ for each of registration, AR fee, and UPU rate.

[Trimmed substantially at left.]



## New South Wales AR covers, Vienna period

Two of the three nineteenth century international AR covers reported for all Australian States.



*Sydney—Montreal, 18 May 1893.* Standard Australian AR oval, in use for many decades.

First run, Canada-Australia Steamship line (carried on the *Miowera*, Sydney—Honolulu—Vancouver); one other cover to Canada (unregistered) is known from this run.

**Rated** 3d reg'n, 2½d each for AR & UPU, totalling 8d; stamp is overprinted only 7½d, so shortpaid ½d (no evidence of missing half-penny stamp).

*Third earliest reported AR cover to Canada.*



*Sydney—Cincinnati, 1894.* **Rated** as above, but double UPU; 7½d applied in stamps on front, and embossed 3d (registration fee) on back flap. ↓↓



Registered formula envelopes with AR are very difficult to find in most periods.

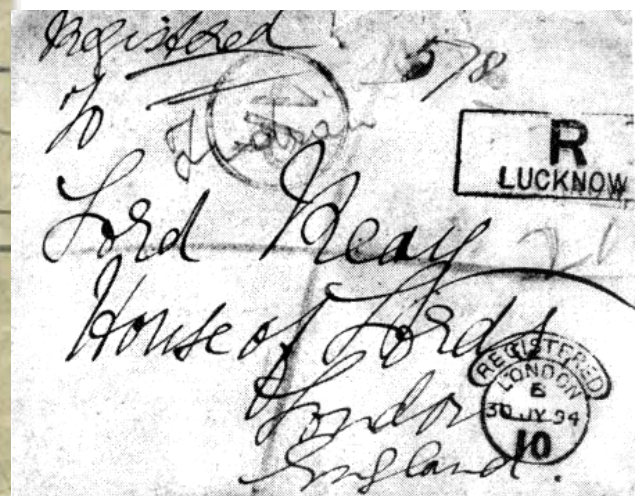


## India AR covers, Vienna period

Both addressed to UK.



Madras to Tiverton (UK), 1897. **Rated** 2 Annas registration, 2 As AR fee, and 2½ As UPU; paid by official stamps (**On H. M. S.** overprint). Standard India double circle AR handstamp.



Lucknow to Lord Reay, House of Lords, 1894. **Rated** 9 Annas, made up of double UPU rate and other rates as above; shortpaid 1 Anna.

Lord Reay (Donald James Mackay, born Netherlands, 1839–1921, GCIE [Knight Grand Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire], GCSI [KGC of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India], PC [Privy Counsellor], Knight of the Thistle) was Under-Secretary of State for India 1894–95.



## Bahamas & Jamaica, Vienna period

The limited known sample (about six items) of AR material from Jamaica in the Vienna period strongly suggests that it did not abide by the Vienna rules: their outgoing AR covers were accompanied by Jamaican AR forms, and the AR fee was paid on the form. It is also possible that Bahamas had the same policies, but the cover below is the only 19th century Bahamian AR cover known to me.



Nassau to London, 29 September 1892. Red ms in quotes, *Avis de Reception*/A.R. Early in the Vienna period (began 1 July). **Rated** 2d registration (embossed) and either 2½d AR fee & 2½d UPU rate or double UPU rate, with AR fee paid on the form (which would violate the Vienna rules). Faint red Nassau registered cds, and red oval London registered cds. Likely the only known nineteenth century Barbados AR cover.



Jamaica to New York, 1 March 1893. Ms *Registered with return* [receipt], US term for AR, used by expatriots. **Rated** 4d reg'n, double 2½d UPU rate, 2d AR fee, overpaid 1d; postal fiscals.

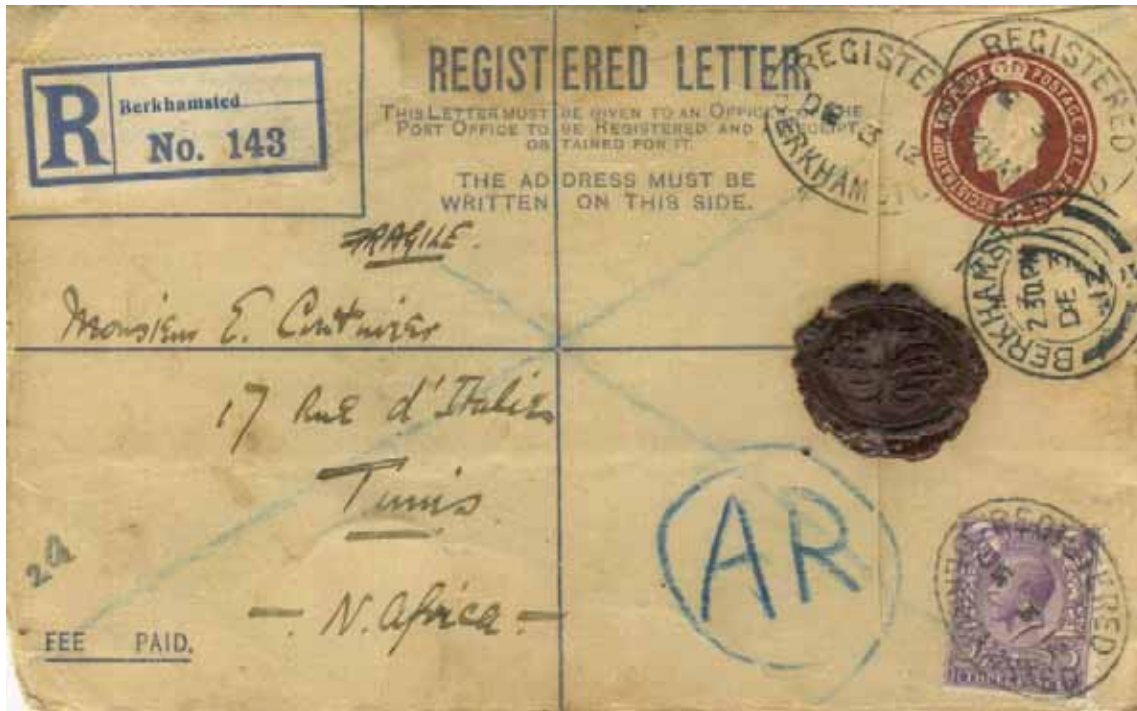


# Treaty of Washington (1 January 1899–) & beyond

Most if not all British possessions, colonies, dominions, etc outside southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, and Africa, reverted to their pre-Vienna practise of paying the AR fee on the form (later card).

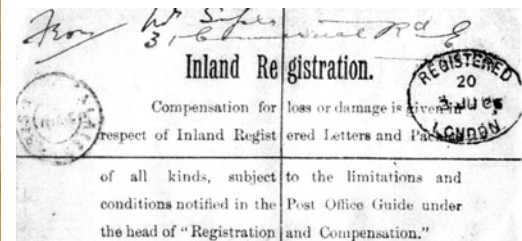
## UK AR covers

Surprisingly difficult to find.



Berkhamsted–Tunis, 1912. **Rated** [anomalously] 2d reg'n (embossed) and 2½d UPU rate to Tunisia, but 6½d postage paid (the AR fee—which should have been paid on the form—was 2½d).

## AR, VD, and late fee



AR, VD (*valeur déclarée*), & late fee. Eastern District Office (London) to Paris, 1906. **Rated** 3d reg'n with indemnity (here £12) [normal registration fee was 2d], 4d (medium) late fee, and 2½d UPU rate, totalling 9½d. Ms *Late fee paid* (upper right) and *Insured for twelve pounds £12.0.0*. Very unusual combination of services.

French *CHARGÉ* marking is an old handstamp equivalent to *registered*. Red wax seals (typical of UK VD covers) have been removed.



## Incoming UK, missing AR form

Note by London clerk that the AR form that should have accompanied the cover was not there. This would have caused a *replacement* (or *duplicate*) AR form to be prepared in London. One other such cover is known, from the US post office in Shanghai to UK (1921).



*Triple rate, Peking to Aberystwyth (Wales), May 1922.*  
US-worded typescript

RETURN RECEIPT DESIRED

(one of many variations: requested/desired/demanded/...) indicating AR.

**Rated** 40¢, made up from 10¢ for each of registration and AR fees (for China, the latter always paid on cover), and triple UPU rate, 10¢ for first ounce & 5¢ each additional. This multiple UPU rate was in effect only 1 January–31 October 1922.



*Absence of AR form noted in IS*

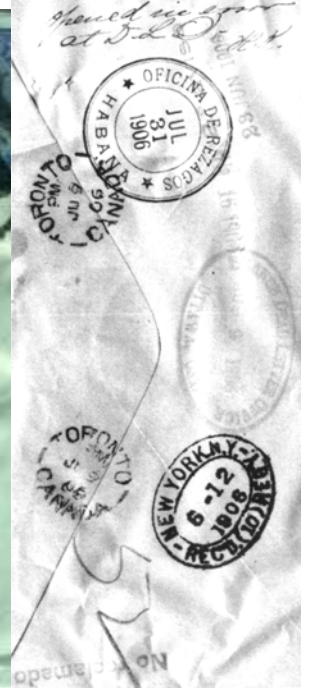
*Absence of AR form noted in IS (Inland Service).*  
London hooded registration handstamp. Encircled ms AR endorsed by same clerk.

FROM  
W. G. ANCHING KUNG,  
8, West Yuan Kwong Tze Street,  
Outside of Shuen-Chin-Men,  
West City,  
PEKING.

Via Moukden (Manchuria) & London. Transit time at least five weeks.



Canada AR, post-Vienna  
To Cuba and Turkey



Toronto to Havana, returned to sender, 1906. Standard Canadian AR hammer, nonstandardly in purple. **Rated** 5¢ for each of registration and UPU fees. Returned to sender, mistakenly sent to DLO (having a return address, it should have gone directly to the sender), *Opened in error at DLO* on reverse, along with faint Ottawa Branch Dead Letter Office ovals (one of several nearly identical hammers).



Montreal to Constantinople, postage due caused by forwarding, 1925. Originally addressed within Montreal, forwarded to Galata (Constantinople); the difference between drop letter (2¢) and UPU rate (10¢) was chargeable, but it should not have been doubled, as it was here. **Rated** 10¢ registration and 2¢ drop letter; deficiency mistakenly doubled to 16¢, converted to 80centimes postage due.



Canada AR

To Yugoslavia and China



Windsor (ON) to Yugoslavia, forwarded & returned to sender, 1938. **Rated** 10¢ registration and 5¢ UPU fee. Forwarded, then Parti (left) etiquette applied and returned to sender.



Clipper mail halted by Pearl Harbor, Holtyre (Kirkland Lake, ON) to China, 1 December 1941–March 1942. From Chinese restaurant in small town Northern Ontario, it reached Vancouver 4 December, likely reached San Francisco as Pearl Harbor was attacked and clipper flights cancelled. Passed for export (Kirkland Lake) and censored (Vancouver?). Held until 18 March 1942 (Ottawa DLO) and returned to Holtyre next day.

**Rated** 90¢ China Clipper mail rate (via Vancouver, SF, Honolulu, & Hong Kong) and 10¢ registration.



## Newfoundland AR

Earliest known AR cover by 20+ years. No Newfoundland AR forms, cards, or covering envelopes have been reported.



St John's to Waterford (ON), forwarded, 1904. [Quasiphilatelic] Ms us wording, *Return receipt demanded*, and in the same hand and ink, A.R., likely by clerk. **Rated** 5¢ registration, 2¢ to Canada; AR fee presumably paid on the form.

Originally addressed to Waterford, forwarded to Preston. Two different St John's registered ovals. Faint type v Montreal precursor (scarce) on reverse (just to the right and below the Royal Canadian Yacht Club insignia). Three different Ontario RPOs.





## Australia & New Zealand

Double, Hobart (Tasmania) to Berkeley (CA), 1923. Distinctive city AR hs. **Rated** 3d reg'n & double UPU, 4d first ounce, 2d second (AR fee paid on card).



Double, Wellington (NZ) to Venezuela, 1906. NZ paid the AR fee on cover. Boxed A.R. **Rated** 10½d: 3d reg'n (embossed), double 2½d UPU, and 2½d AR fee. Via Rio & Barbados.



Tauranga to Cleveland, 1939. Ms

Acknowledgement of delivery requested.

**Rated** 8½d: 3d for each of reg'n & UPU, and 2½d AR fee.





## Hong Kong

*Double registered:* translation of Chinese term for AR.

*Hong Kong to Storminster Newton (Dorset), 1907.*  
Ms blue crayon AR. **Rated** 10¢ reg'n (embossed) & 4¢ Empire rate; AR fee paid on form.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

An acknowledgment of the due receipt by the addressee may be obtained on payment of an extra fee of 10¢ (10¢).

INSURANCE OF REGISTERED LETTERS.

Letters for certain insurances may be insured against loss in accordance with Regulations and according to the following table:

Amount	Rate
\$ 100	25 Cents
\$ 200	50 "
\$ 300	75 "
\$ 400	1 00 "
\$ 500	1 25 "
\$ 600	1 50 "
\$ 700	1 75 "
\$ 800	2 00 "
\$ 900	2 25 "
\$ 1000	2 50 "
\$ 1100	2 75 "
\$ 1200	3 00 "
\$ 1300	3 25 "
\$ 1400	3 50 "
\$ 1500	3 75 "
\$ 1600	4 00 "
\$ 1700	4 25 "
\$ 1800	4 50 "
\$ 1900	4 75 "
\$ 2000	5 00 "

The fee for insurance is to be paid to the postage and freight office.



*Hong Kong to Kansas City, 1926.* Worn standard HK A.R. hs. **Rated** 10¢ reg'n (embossed) & 10¢ UPU to US.



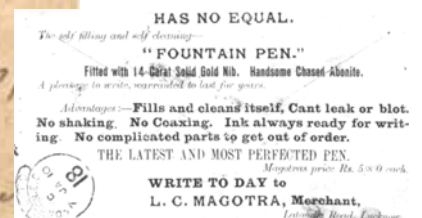
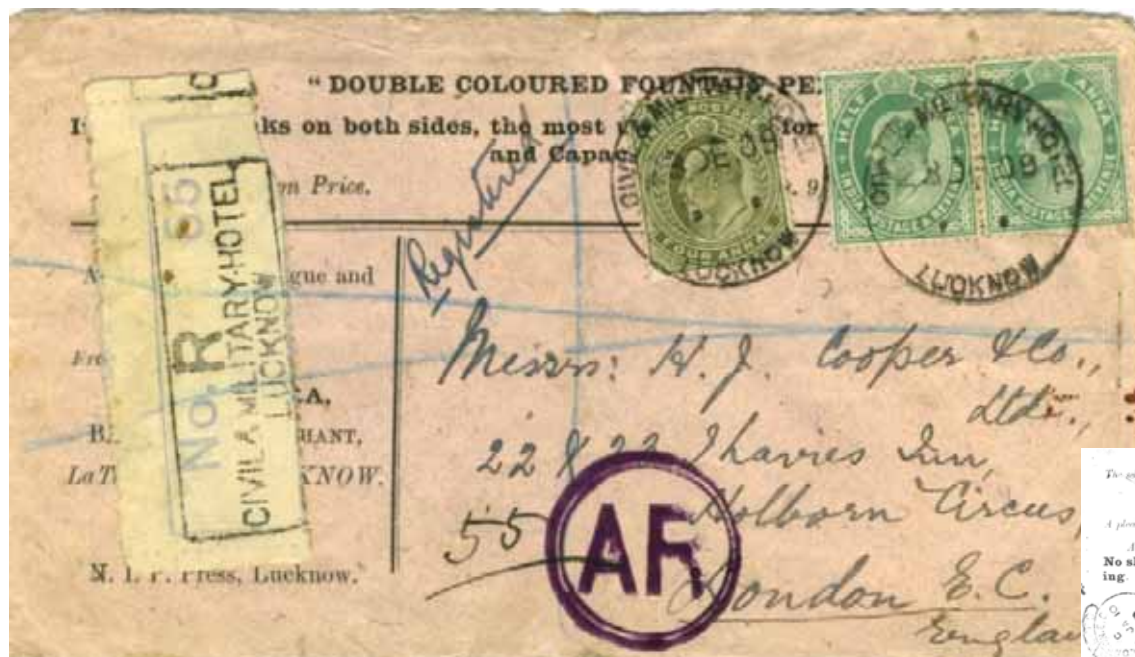
*Hong Kong-SF, 1947.* Typescript DOUBLE REGISTERED. **Rated** 25¢ reg'n and \$4 double airmail (\$HK1 = 17¢ US).

Based on about a dozen AR covers & AR cards of Hong Kong, the AR fee is paid on the *card*, never on cover.

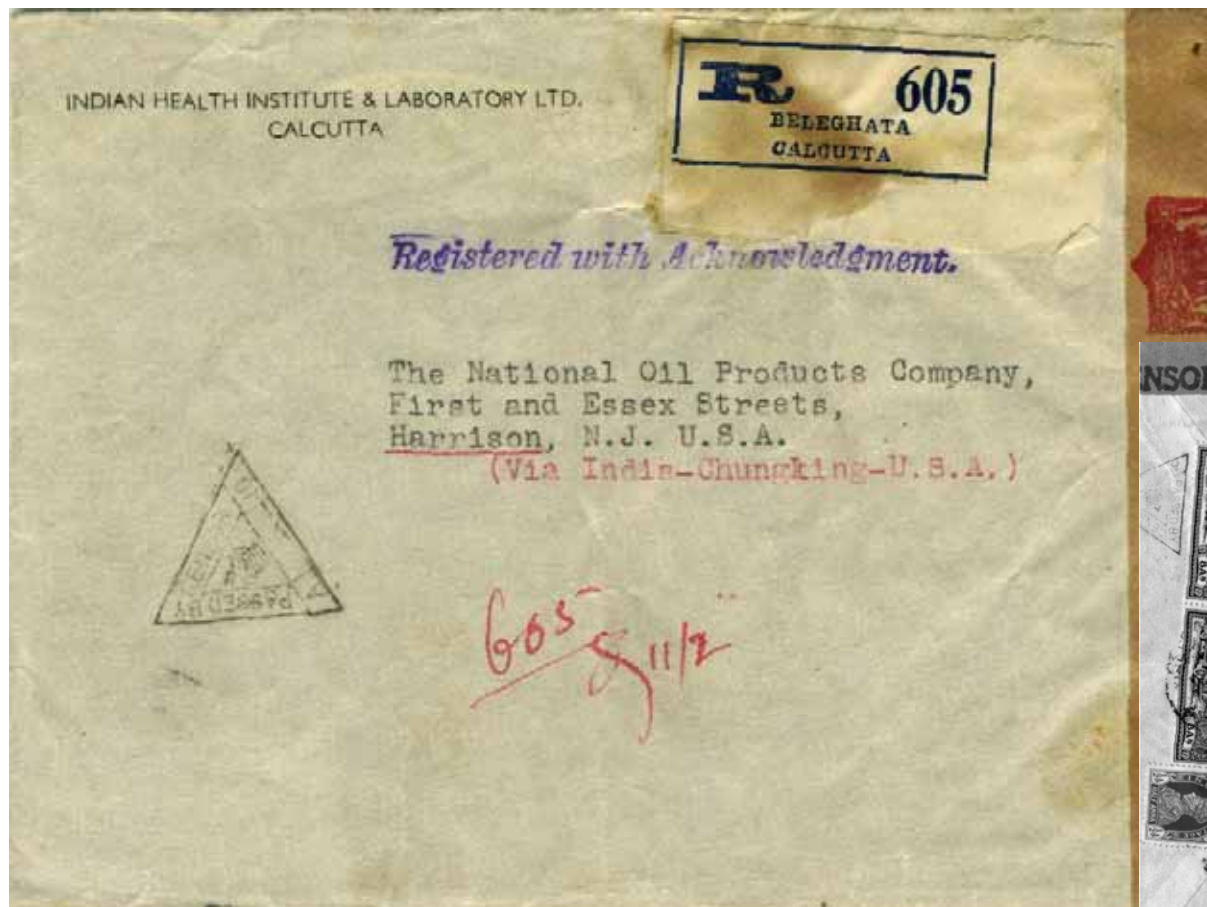


India AR, post-Vienna

AR fee invariably paid on the cover (as for all of southeast Asia)



Lucknow to London, 1909. **Rated** 2d each for registration and AR, and 1d Empire rate. Mailed from the CIVIL & MILITARY HOTEL.



Calcutta to US, airmail via Rangoon, Chungking, Hong Kong & SF, February 1941. Registered with Acknowledgment handstamp. **Rated** 49½Annas: 3As for each of registration and AR, 3½As UPU, and airmail supplement of 40As (per half ounce). Indian censor hs and tape.



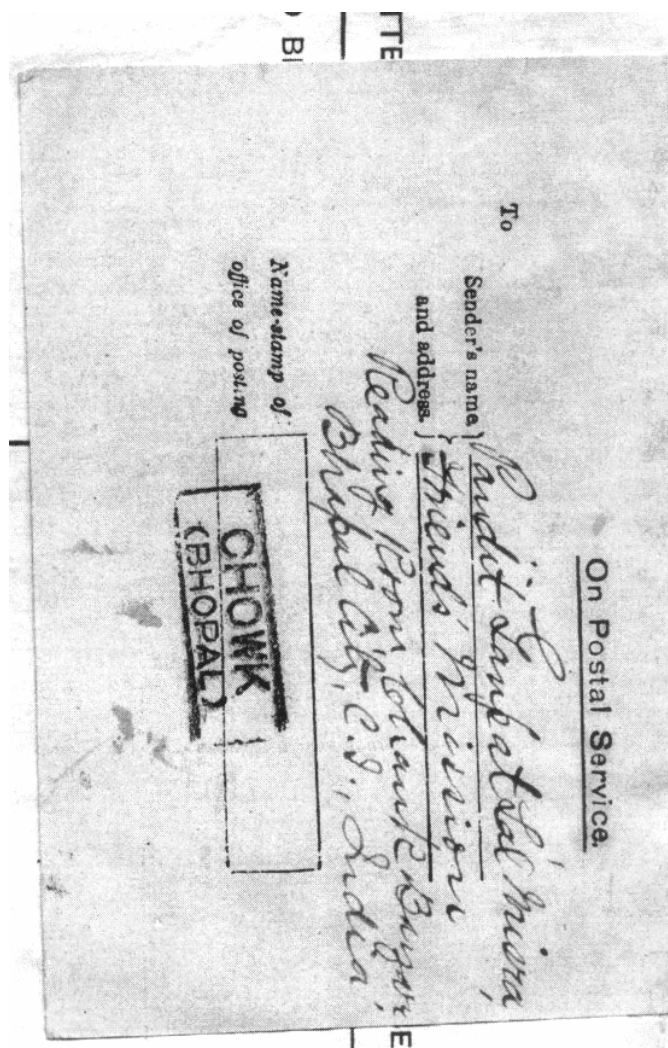


India to Canada with *domestic* AR card still attached; mistreated at origin *and* destination

Mistaken domestic unilingual AR card used; ignored in Canada when item delivered.

*Chowk (Bhopal) to Norwich (ON), 1924.* No indication of AR on cover, but AR card still attached. Formula registered envelope.

**Rated** 3Annas reg'n (using pre-1922 stationery with embossed 2As), 3As AR fee, and double 1Anna Empire rate.







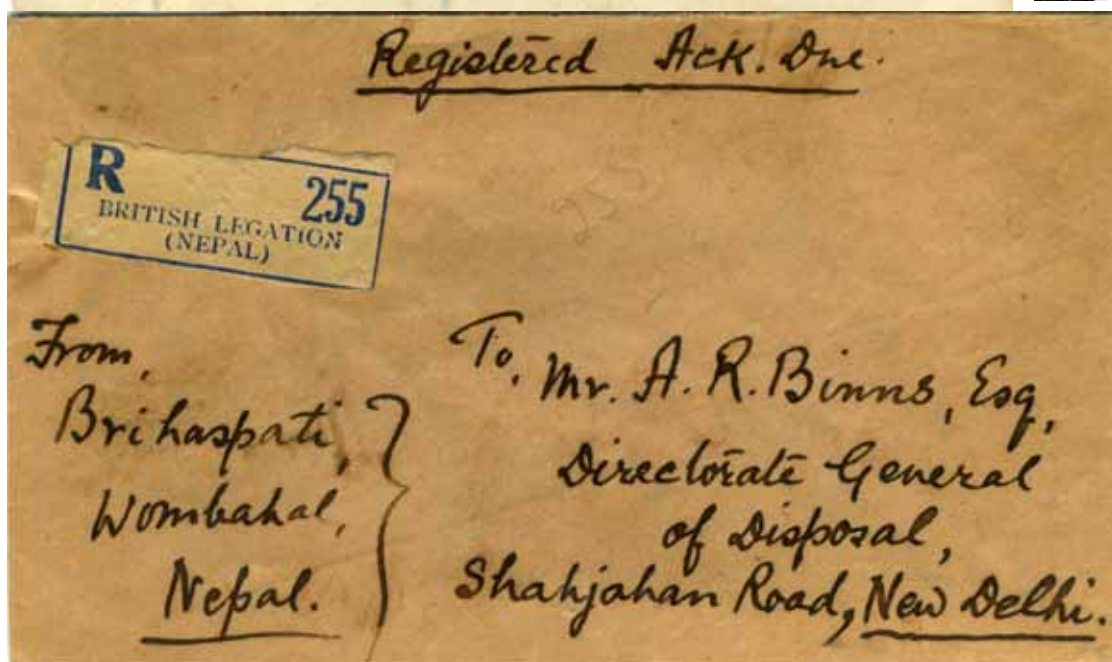
Use of A/D: Aden, Burma, Nepal

A/D: advice of delivery or acknowledgment due (used in Indian subcontinent).

Aden to Hamburg, 1925. Ms AD. **Rated** 9Annas: 2As for each of registration and AR; double UPU rate (2½As first weight, 1½As next).



Rangoon to London, 1925. Ms A/D. **Rated** 8Annas: 3As for each of registration & AR, and 2As Empire rate.

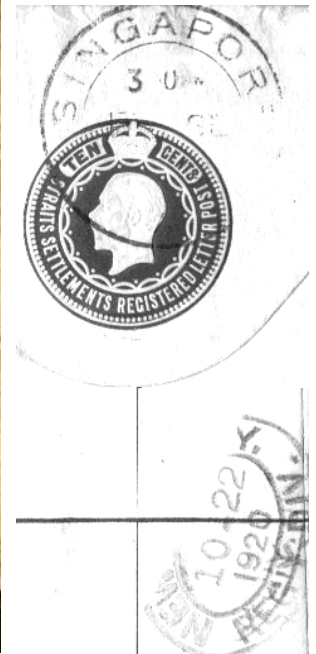


Nepal to India, 1946. Ms Ack. Due **Rated** 5½Annas: 2As for each of registration and AR; 1 Anna to India.





## Singapore and Federated Malay States



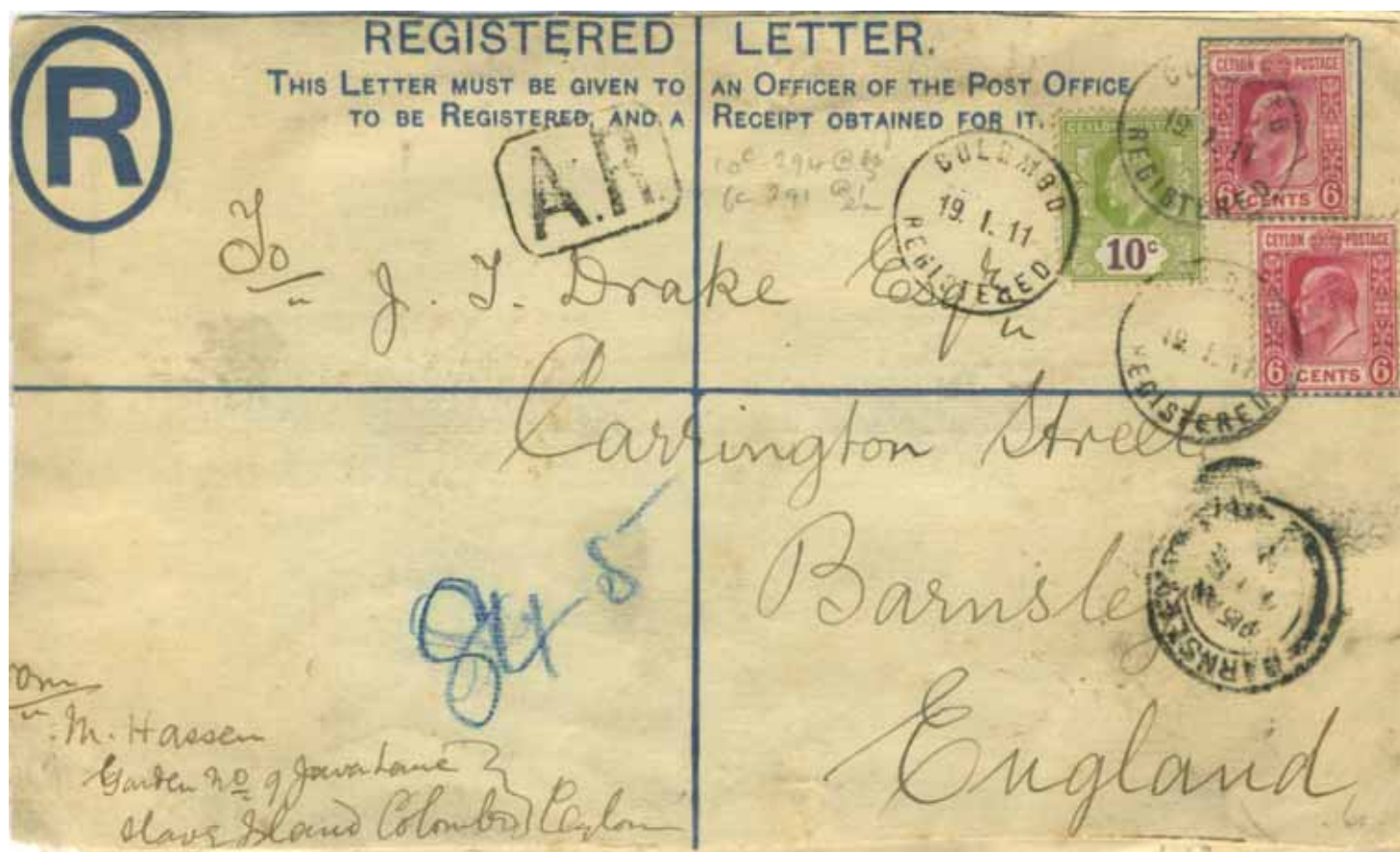
Singapore to New York, 1920. Unframed A.R. **Rated** 10¢ for each of registration (embossed on reverse), AR and UPU rates.



Seremban to south India, 1929. Encircled A.R. **Rated** 15¢ registration, 12¢ AR, and 6¢ to India. Between-the-Wars censorship (civil unrest) at Madras. Part of moneylender (Chettiar) correspondence.



# Ceylon and Mauritius



Colombo to England, 1911. [front] Rounded rectangle A.R. Rated 10¢ for each of registration (embossed on reverse) & AR, and double Empire rate at 6¢ per ounce.



Curepipe to Berlin, 1902. Heavy encircled AR, similar to Indian hs. Rated 12¢ registration, 15¢ AR (one of the few entities for which AR fee exceeds that of registration), and double UPU rate, at 15¢ for the first weight and 6¢ for the second.

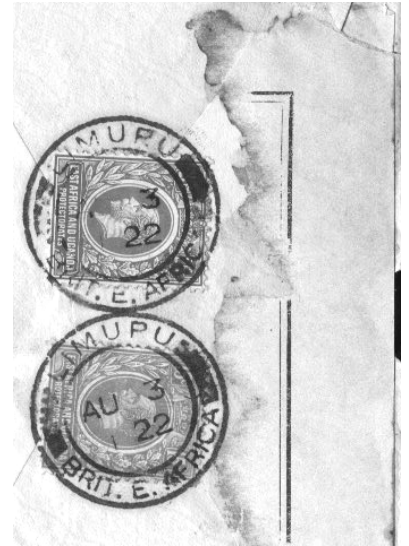


Berlin receiver



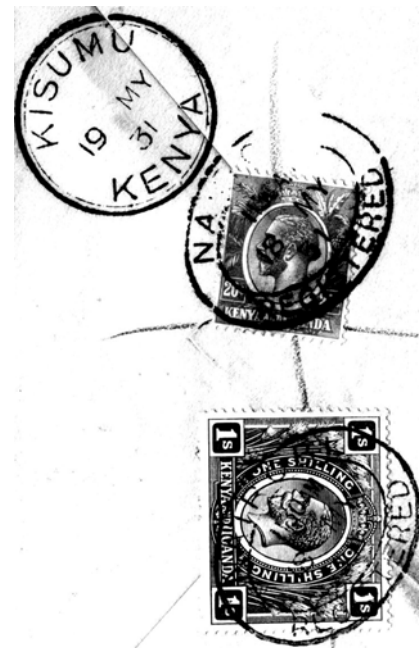
## African colonies: Kenya

British colonies in and around the eastern side of Africa generally followed postal practises of the Indian subcontinent. In particular, the AR fee was paid on the *cover*. BEA was a British protectorate; most of it became part of Kenya in 1920.



Limuru (British East Africa/Kenya) to South Africa, 1922. Crude **AR** hs. Portion of AR form still attached to reverse. **Rated** 40¢: 12¢ (of a rupee) registration, 12¢ AR fee, and 16¢ Empire rate to South Africa.

Registration etiquette and cds of Limuru (a small town in central Kenya) show BEA; stamps are those of East Africa & Uganda Protectorate.



Kisumu (Kenya) to London, early airmail 1931. Heavy **AR** hs. **Rated** 1.20Rupees: 30¢ (of a rupee) for each of registration and AR fee; 60¢ airmail to London, via Nairobi, where the stamps may have been applied.

Stamps are those of Kenya & Uganda. Kisumu is a major port city in western Kenya.





Natal, Transvaal,  
 and Zanzibar

AR fee paid on cover.  
 Fox Hill (Natal)–Bogota  
 (Colombia), 1904. Handmade  
 handstamp. **Rated** 4d reg'n,  
 2½d AR fee paid on cover,  
 and 2½d UPU.



Transvaal–Canada, 1909.  
 Ms AR. **Rated** as above,  
 but ½ d underpaid.



Zanzibar to London, 1908. Oval hs  
 AR. **Rated** .12 Rupee for each of reg'n  
 (embossed) and AR, and .06 Rp Em-  
 pire rate (equivalent to 1d).

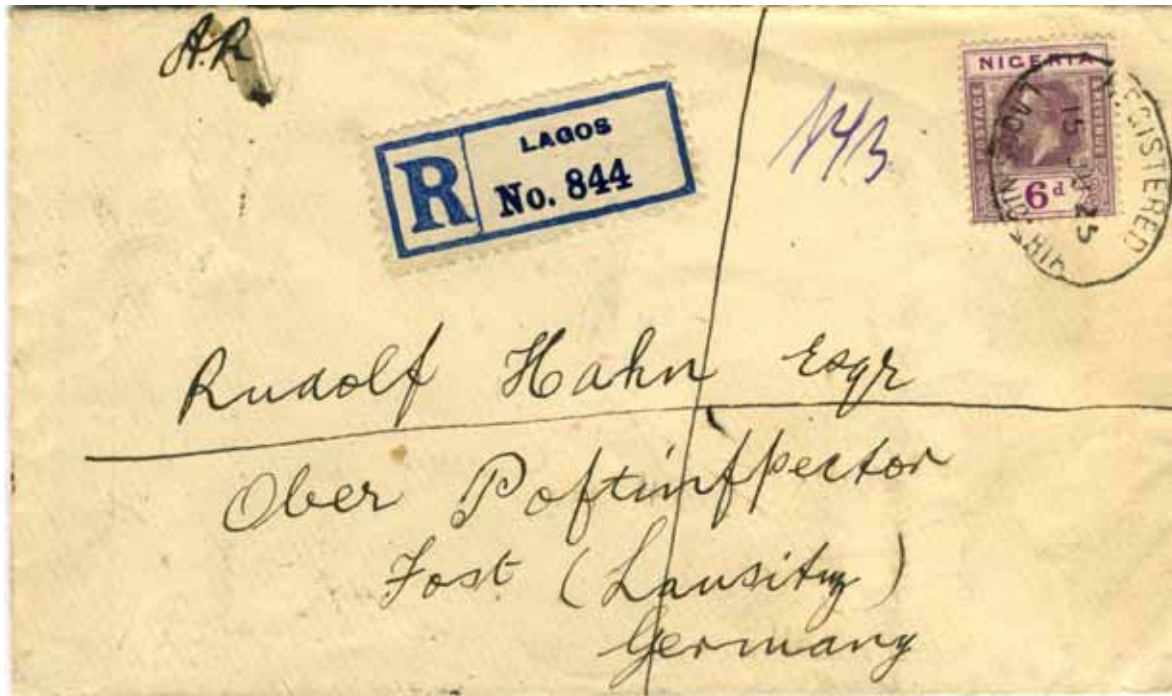
Zanzibar was a British Protectorate  
 (not a colony) from 1896.





## Nigeria and Sierra Leone

For western African colonies, the AR fee was paid on the AR *form or card*, not the cover.



Lagos to Forst (Germany), 1925. Ms AR. Portion of AR form still attached to reverse. **Rated** 2 d registration, 3 d UPU, 1 d overpaid.



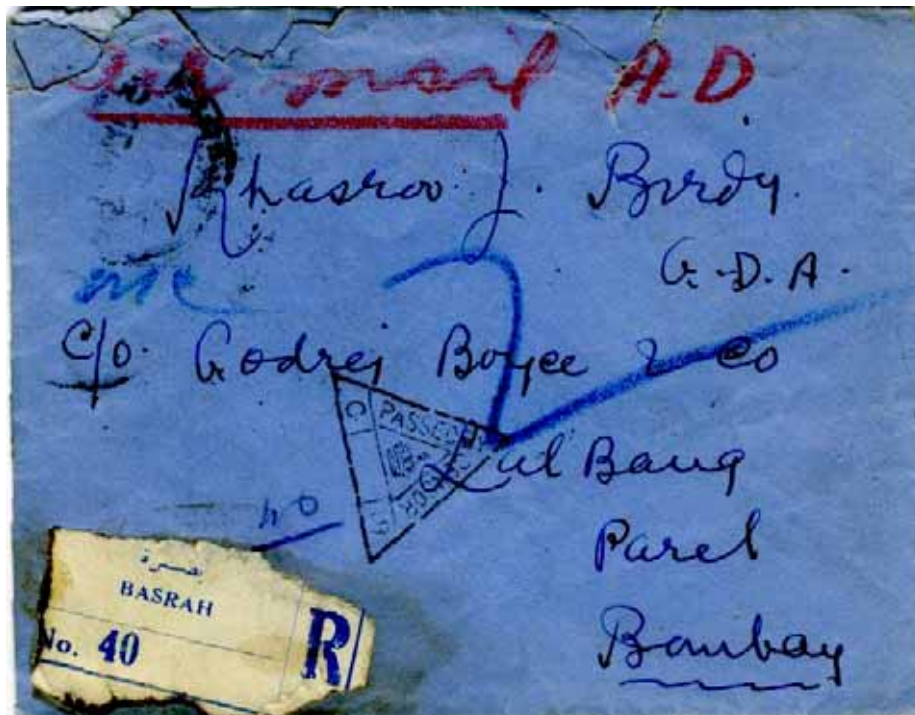
Freetown (Sierra Leone) to Philadelphia, airmail 1937. Oval AR hs. **Rated** 3 d registration and double 1/1 (per half-ounce) airmail to us.



Middle east & Mediterranean: British occupation Iraq, 1918–1921 & May 1941–1947



Baghdad to Bombay, 1920. Ms Registered A/D. **Rated** 5½Annas, made up as 2As for each of registration and AR (paid on the cover) and 1½As Empire rate to India.



Basrah to Bombay, airmail, July 1941. Ms Air mail A.D. **Rated** 115fils: 20fils for registration, 15fils AR (paid on cover), 20fils surface Empire rate (up to 20 g), and double 30fils per 5g airmail supplement to India. Indian censorship.





## Palestine

Early in Mandate. AR  
fee paid on form or  
card.

Nazareth to US, sep-  
tiple 1923. Crayon  
ms AR. Via Haifa and  
New York.

**Rated** 13millièmes of  
a pound, reg'n; UPU,  
first 20g, 10 mils, each  
add'l 20g, 6mils UPU  
rate; overpaid 1mil  
(1piastre = 10mils).  
Postage paid with 5pi-  
astre and 1 pi EEF stamps,  
second London over-  
print (1921-1922).





## Egypt and Cyprus

Egypt was a British Protectorate 1914–1922

One of five reported international pre-1950 AR **wreck covers** (worldwide). Most likely carried on the British ship *Kingstonian* (Leyland & Co), torpedoed by German sub U-68 on 18 April 1918 in the Mediterranean, en route from Alexandria to Marseilles; towed to Sardinia, it was torpedoed again 29 April and sank.



Cairo to London, April 1918. Egyptian AVIS DE RECEPTION, and purple boxed outline A.R. The two remaining stamps have been put back in the wrong places, if they belong at all. London purple boxed DAMAGED BY IMMERSION IN SEA WATER. What little is left of the back has been water-damaged, so there are no backstamps.



Nicosia–Boston, 1918. Boxed AR. Rated 2Piastres for each of registration (embossed) and UPU rate (AR fee paid on form/card).



## Gibraltar & Malta



Gibraltar to Oran (Algeria), 1925. British style oval AR. **Rated** 3d for each of registration and UPU rates.

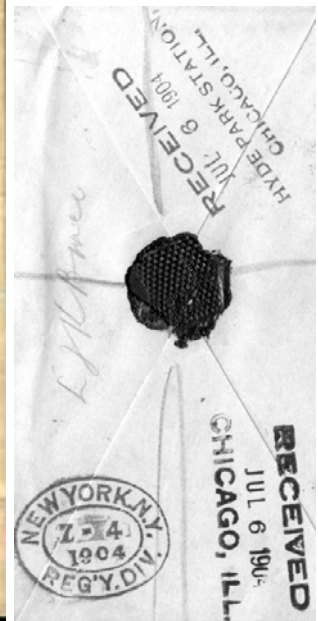


Valetta to Prague, triple rate, 1927. Oval A.R. **Rated** 3d registration and triple UPU at 1½d first 15g (!) and 1d each additional. Four wax seals, hence the weight.



## Central & South America, and the Caribbean: Bahamas & Trinidad (Tobago)

AR fee paid on form or card, not on cover



Nassau to Chicago, 1904. Red ms AR. **Rated** 2d registration and triple 2½ d UPU rate to US. Forwarded to Ephraim (W1).

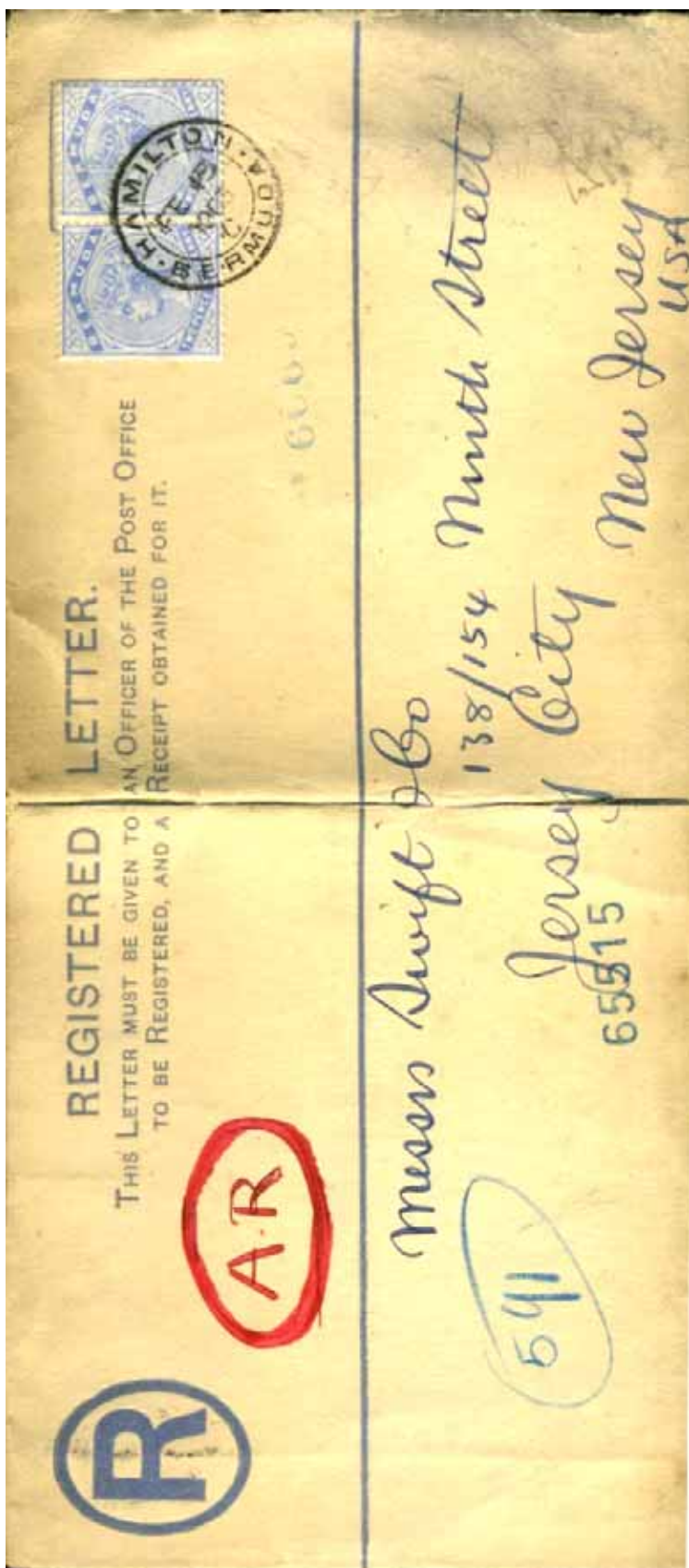


Tobago to New York, 1903. Ms AR. **Rated** 2d reg'n, and double 2½d UPU to US; 2½d AR fee paid on form.

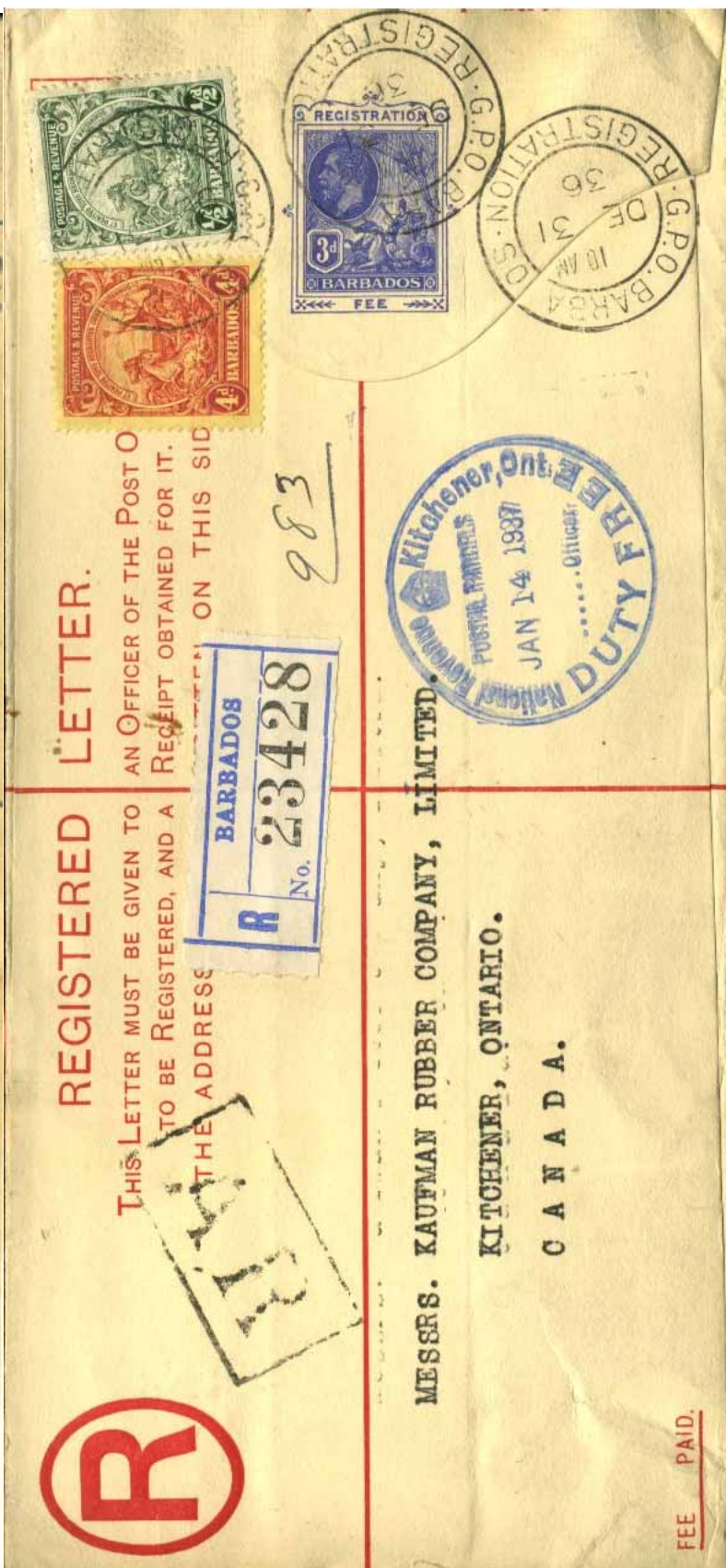


# Bermuda & Barbados

## Formula registration envelopes



Hamilton-Jersey City (NJ) February 1903. **Rated** 2d reg'n (embossed on reverse) & double 2½d UPU.



Quadruple, Bridgetown to Kitchener (ON, Canada), 1936. Large boxed **AR**. **Rated** 3d reg'n (embossed) & quadruple Empire rate 1½ first weight, 1d each additional.



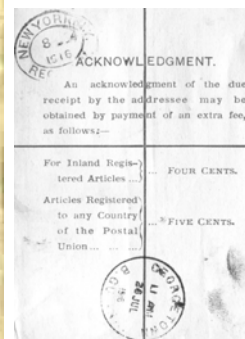
## British Guiana



Georgetown to Westfield (MA), 1905. Encircled ARhs, & sender's US-worded version. **Rated** 5¢ reg'n & 4¢ to us.



New Amsterdam to Surrey (NB, Canada), 1916. Ms AR. **Rated** 4¢d reg'n (embossed) & 2¢ Empire rate to Canada.



BrG's AR fees!



Kitty—New York, air-mail, 1931. Ms Return receipt. **Rated** 48¢: 4¢ reg'n; surface 4¢ first ounce, supp air-mail may be 20¢ per half-ounce.





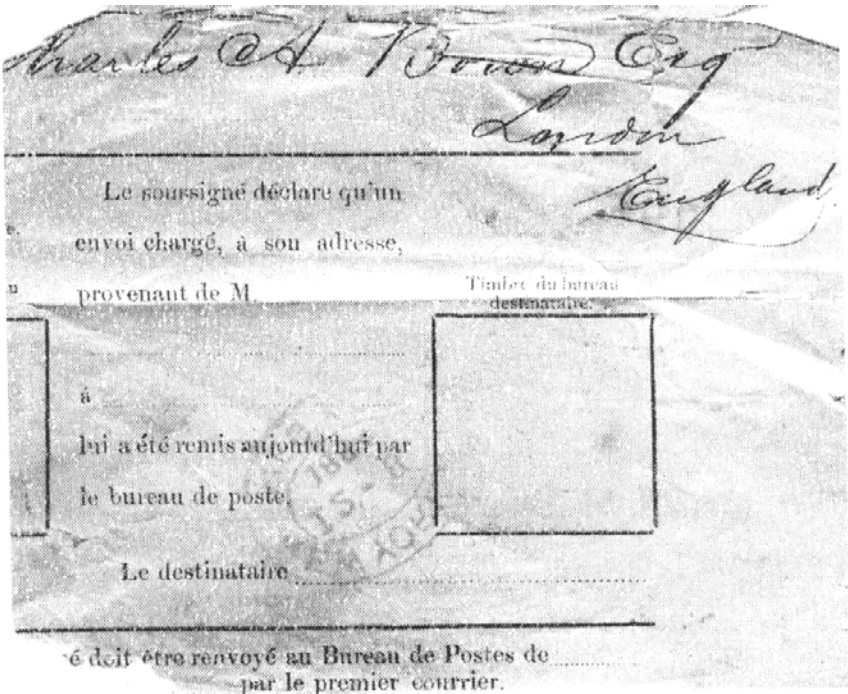
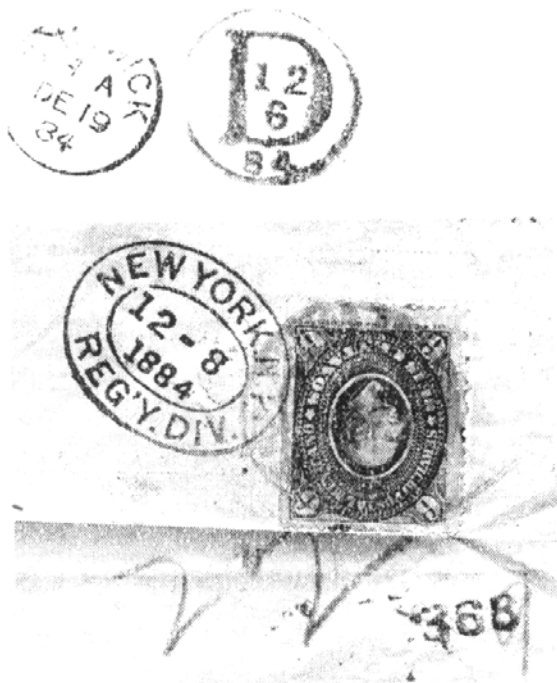
The following items didn't make the cut and are not part of the exhibit.

Incoming AR form  
Mexico to UK (1884).



Mexico to London, 1884. Transited through New York.

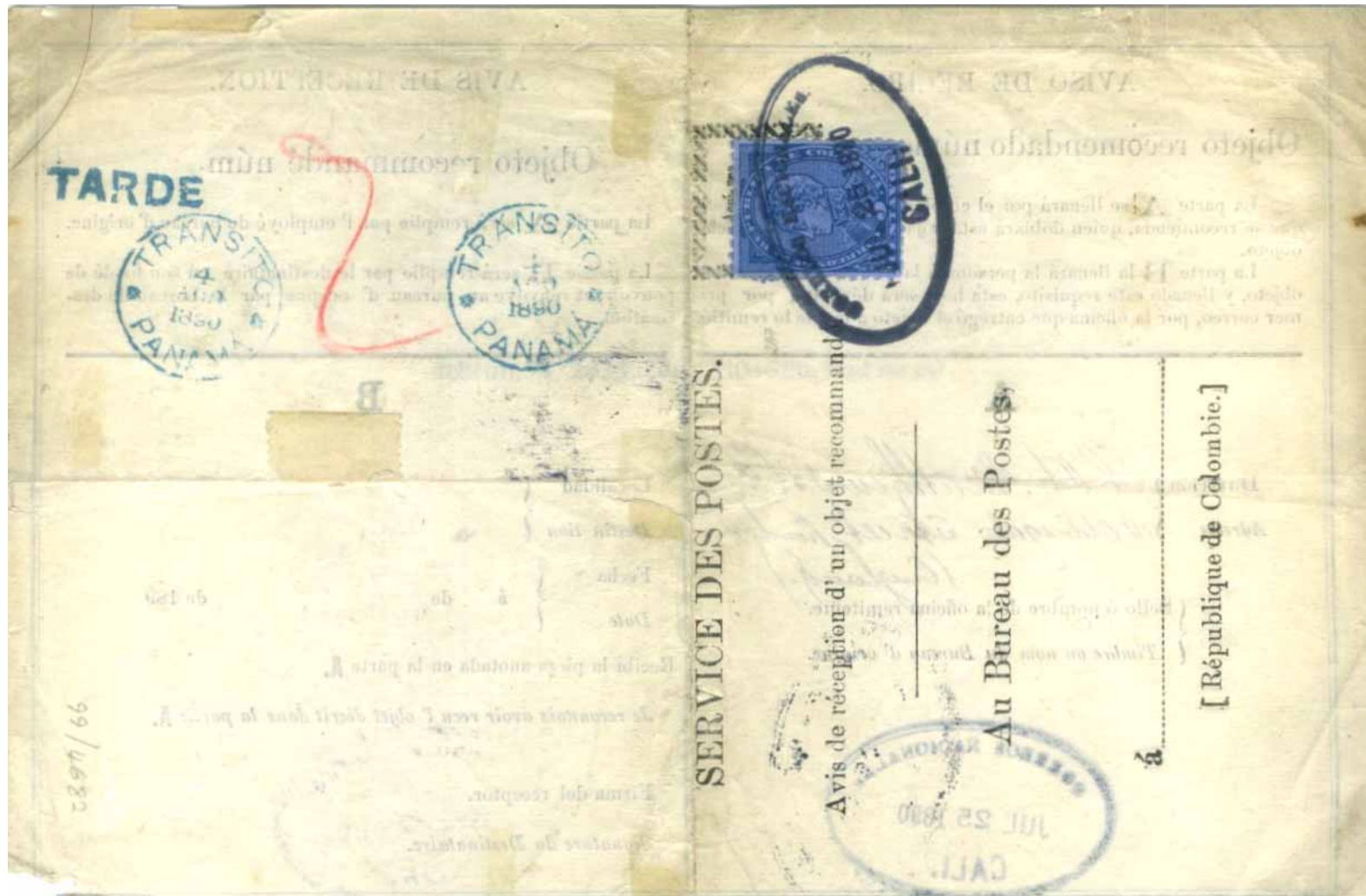
- AR fee paid on form, by 6centavos stamp
- Intended to be returned as folded letter sheet





# Incoming AR form

Colombia to UK (1890). Colombia joined the UPU in 1881.



Cali to London, January 1890. Once more, unsigned by recipient (and presumably ignored by postal clerk on delivery). Transited through the Department of Panama, where TARDE (late) was applied.

- AR fee paid on form, by 5centavos stamp
- Intended to be returned as folded letter sheet

AVISO DE RECIBO.		AVIS DE RECEPTION.	
Objeto recomendado número 540.		Objeto recommandé num. 540.	
<p>La parte A se llenará por el empleado que reciba el objeto que se recomienda, quien doblará esta hoja y la atará a dicho objeto.</p> <p>La parte B la llenará la persona a la cual va destinado el objeto, y llenado este requisito, esta hoja será devuelta, por primer correo, por la oficina que entregó el objeto a la que lo remitió.</p>		<p>La partie A sera remplie par l'employé du bureau d'origine.</p> <p>La partie B sera remplie par le destinataire ou son fondé de pouvoir; et renvoyé au bureau d'origine par le bureau de destination.</p>	
<p><b>A</b></p> <p>Dirección } R. A. Matthews &amp; Co</p> <p>Adresse } 54 Abchurch Lane, London</p> <p>England.</p> <p>Sello ó nombre de la oficina remitente.</p> <p>Timbre ou nom du Bureau d'origine.</p>		<p><b>B</b></p> <p>Localidad {</p> <p>Destination {</p> <p>Fecha { } á de</p> <p>Date { } de 189</p>	
<p>Recibi la pieza anotada en la parte A.</p> <p>Je reconnais avoir reçu l'objet décrit dans la partie A.</p> <p>Firma del receptor.</p> <p>Signature du Destinataire.</p>		<p>Recibi la pieza anotada en la parte A.</p> <p>Je reconnais avoir reçu l'objet décrit dans la partie A.</p> <p>Firma del receptor.</p> <p>Signature du Destinataire.</p>	



Postmasters.—No. 68.

Administration des Postes de la Grande Bretagne.

Post Office of the United Kingdom.

## AVIS DE RÉCEPTION

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DELIVERY

d'un objet recommandé adressé à

of a Registered Article addressed to

*Mr. Maria geb Harrison  
Schervin Lt 51 Nottingham*



Le soussigné déclare qu'un objet recommandé à l'adresse susmentionnée, mis à la

The undersigned acknowledges that a Registered Article addressed as above,

poste le 189 .\*

posted on the 7 day of March 1898.\*

et provenant de \*

and posted at \*

*Neustadt (Scharnwald 195)*

a été dûment livré le 189 .

was duly delivered the 9th day of March 1898.



Signature †

du destinataire

of the addressee.

Signature †

du Chef du Bureau distributeur.

of the Postmaster of the Delivering Office.

† Nom et adresse de l'expéditeur

† Name and Address of the Sender

*Maria geb Harrison  
Neustadt  
Scharnwald*

\* Avant de remettre à domicile l'objet recommandé, le bureau distributeur doit inscrire à cet avis la date du dépôt à la poste, ainsi que (en face des mots "provenant de") la désignation complète du bureau d'origine, comme indiquée par le timbre du bureau d'origine.

\* Before delivering the Registered Article, the delivering Office must enter on the form the date on which the article was posted, and also (opposite the words "provenant de") the exact designation of the Post Office of origin, as shown by the date stamp.

† Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire, ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le permettent, par le chef du bureau distributeur. Autant que faire se peut, le destinataire sera prié de désigner le nom et l'adresse de l'expéditeur de l'objet recommandé. Le chef inscrira ces indications sur l'avis, qui sera envoyé, sous recommandation, par le premier courrier, au bureau d'origine de l'objet qu'il concerne. L'avis sera mis sous enveloppe par le bureau d'échange.

† This acknowledgment must be signed by the addressee, or, if the postal regulations of the country of destination permit, by the Postmaster of the delivering Office. Whenever possible, the addressee should be asked to give the name and address of the sender of the registered article. The Postmaster should inscribe these particulars on the acknowledgment, which should then be despatched, registered, by first Mail, to the office at which the registered article was posted. The acknowledgment should be enclosed in an envelope at the office of Exchange.

4 & S 1 [5961] 20,000 1/97sv



## Incoming French AR form to British APO in France (1915)

Addressed to Brigadier-General (later Major-General and KCMG) Morrison (Canadian Expeditionary Force) at Boulogne-sur-Mer, signed by the President of the Claims Commission for the British Army in the Field.

**N° 514.**  
(Régime 1915.)  
(Mod. G de l'Union.)  
Sous-secrétariat d'Etat  
DES POSTES  
ET DES TÉLÉGRAPHES.

**RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE.**

**AVIS DE RÉCEPTION**

d'un (1) *896* valeur déclarée *896* enregistré au bureau  
de (2) *Paris 1* recommandé *911*  
et adressé à (suspension complète) M. *Brigadier general* sous le n° *856*  
*Morrison*  
à *Boulogne s mer*  
(rue et n° s'il y a lieu)

Nom et adresse de l'expéditeur (A):  
*M. Becquart Amour*  
*39 av Victor Hugo*  
*Paris*  
(rue et n° s'il y a lieu)

Le soussigné déclare que (1) *75-856* valeur déclarée ..... à l'adresse  
recommandé, ..... à l'adresse  
susmentionnée a été dûment livré le *30-11-15*

L'agent du bureau distributeur, du destinataire,  
(En France la signature du destinataire n'est pas requise.)

Signature (4) *A. S. Wolley*  
de l'agent du bureau distributeur

**CLAMS COMMISSION**  
**BRITISH ARMY IN THE FIELD**

(1) Nature de l'objet (lettre, boîte, échantillon, etc.). — (2) Griffe du bureau d'origine. — (3) Date du dépôt et n° d'inscription au registre de dépôt. — (4) Dans les offices où les règlements le comportent, la signature de l'agent du bureau distributeur est remplacée par celle du destinataire. L'avis est ensuite renvoyé par le premier courrier:

Dans le régime intérieur: Sous enveloppe n° 819 comme correspondance ordinaire..... à l'expéditeur..... de l'objet  
Dans le régime international: Sous enveloppe n° 289 recommandée d'office..... au bureau d'origine... qu'il concerne.

(A) Dans le régime international le nom et l'adresse de l'expéditeur ne sont consignés qu'à la rentrée de la formule n° 514 au bureau d'origine.



Paris to Boulogne-sur-Mer, November 1915. Stamped at British APO S.11 on 1 & 3 December 1915.

- AR fee paid by 10ctm stamp

- Returned under cover to office of origin.



## Incoming AR form to Canada (1895)

One of at least **seven** US AR forms in the Vienna period for a registered letter *from* the US to Canada (several different correspondences, all prepared at cross-border points); none (US or Canadian) are known for registered letters in the reverse direction. Presumably a treaty between US and Canada permitted this apparent violation of the Vienna rules.

(3870.)  
A bis

U. S. Post Office Department.

RETURN RECEIPT  
AVIS DE RÉCEPTION  
RÜCKSCHEIN

for a registered article entered under No. 544, and addressed to  
d'un objet recommandé enregistré sous le No. \_\_\_\_\_, et adressé à  
für eine Einschreibsendung No. \_\_\_\_\_, an  
Kwong Yuen Tai Co, at \_\_\_\_\_, 18  
M \_\_\_\_\_, 18  
M Victoria, B.C., 18

Stamp of the office of origin.  
Timbre du bureau d'origine.  
Stempel der abliefernden Postanstalt.

The undersigned certifies that a registered article to the above address  
Le soussigné déclare qu'un objet recommandé à l'adresse susmentionnée  
Der Endesunterschriebene bescheinigt dass eine Einschreibsendung an die obige Adresse  
and originating Portland Or, has been duly  
et provenant de Woodward & Woodward, was duly  
und aufgegeben in \_\_\_\_\_, wurde vorschrifts mässig

Stamp of the office of delivery.  
Timbre du bureau distributeur.  
Stempel der abliefernden Postanstalt.

delivered the \_\_\_\_\_, 18  
livré le \_\_\_\_\_, 18  
abgeliefert den \_\_\_\_\_, 18

Signature (\*)  
Signature (\*)  
Unterschrift (\*)

of the addressee:  
du destinataire:  
des Empfängers:

of the Chief of the office of delivery:  
du chef du bureau distributeur:  
des Chefs der abliefernden Postanstalt:

Kwong Yuen Tai Shakespeare

(\*) This Return Receipt must be signed by the addressee, or if the regulations of the country of destination allow it, by the Chief of the office of delivery, placed in an envelope, and returned under registration by the first mail.  
(\*) Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le permettent, par le chef du bureau distributeur, puis être mis sous enveloppe et renvoyé sous recommandation, par le premier courrier.  
(\*) Dieser Rückschein muss vom Empfänger unterschrieben werden, oder wenn die Bestimmungen des Empfangslandes es erlauben von dem Chef der abliefernden Postanstalt, in einen Briefumschlag gelegt, und als Einschreibsendung mit der ersten Gelegenheit zurück geschickt werden.

REGISTERED  
APR 29 1895  
SEATTLE, WASH.

US form for registered letter to Canada, 1895. Standard trilingual US AR form. Arrived same day in Victoria, and back in Portland two days later! Signed by recipient and by postmaster of Victoria (N Shakespeare).

• AR free option on registered letters from US

• All US forms returned under cover.



Canadian AR form to Brazil, returned to New York

Instead of the default post office of origin, clerk had addressed it to General Delivery, New York. (Extremely unusual.) At New York, the address was inked over, the actual address determined (at top), and complaining advisory mark applied.



- Windsor (ON)–Brazil–Windsor–New York?, November 1915–June 1916. Signed but not date stamped.
- 5¢ AR fee paid by stamps
  - Returned as folded letter sheet to New York.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, CANADA  
ADMINISTRATION DES POSTES DU CANADA

Stamp of the office of origin.  
WINDSOR ONT JUN 27 1916  
Timbre du bureau expéditeur.

**ADVICE OF DELIVERY**  
**AVIS DE RÉCEPTION**

of a Registered { letter } entered under No. 266 { and addressed to  
(d'une lettre recommandée { article } enregistré sous le N° { et adressé à  
M. Almeida & Macmillan  
(name)  
Brazil  
(street and number)  
Brazil  
(Post Office address)  
on the 6 Nov 1915  
le

The undersigned acknowledges that a Registered { letter } addressed as above  
article }  
Le soussigné déclare { qu'une lettre recommandée } à l'adresse sus-mentionnée  
qu'un objet recommandé }

Stamp of the office of destination  
and posted at  
et provenant de  
was duly delivered on the 1915  
a été dûment livré le

Signature (\*)  
of the addressee: of the Postmaster of the office of destination:  
du destinataire: du chef du bureau distributeur:  
Almeida Macmillan

(\*) This advice of delivery should have date of delivery filled in, be signed by the addressee, and by the Postmaster of the office of destination, date stamped and then transmitted, by the first mail, to the office of posting of the article to which it relates.  
(\*) Cet avis de réception doit être signé par le destinataire et par le maître de poste du bureau distributeur, après y avoir inséré la date de distribution, et l'avoir timbré avec le timbre à date, puis être envoyé par le premier courrier, au bureau d'origine de l'objet qu'il concerne.

39 B.—100,000-19-1-14.



# Canadian AR form to Czechoslovakia (1920)

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, CANADA  
ADMINISTRATION DES POSTES DU CANADA

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT**  
**AVIS DE RÉCEPTION**  
(A. R. FORM.)

Stamp of the office of origin  
TIMBRE DU BUREAU D'ORIGINE  
CANADA  
16 NOV 1920  
Winnipeg

of a Registered { letter } entered under No. 638  
{ d'une lettre recommandée } enregistré sous le N°  
{ d'un objet recommandé }

on the 19th day of December 1920

Addressed to  
Adressé à  
M. O. Lukianovych  
(Name) (Nom)  
(Ukrainian Labor) (Ukrainien Travail)  
(Street and number) (Rue et numéro)  
Liberec (Reichenberg) wjg  
(Post Office address) (Bureau de poste)  
Czechoslovakia

Sent by  
Envoyé par  
Ukrainian Canadian  
(Name) (Nom)  
Citizen League  
(Street and number) (Rue et numéro)  
(Post Office address) (Bureau de poste)  
Winnipeg

The undersigned acknowledges that a Registered { letter } addressed as above  
article }  
Le soussigné déclare { qu'une lettre recommandée } à l'adresse sus-mentionnée  
qu'un objet recommandé }

Stamp of the office of destination and posted at  
office of destination et provenant de  
WINNIPEG, Man  
was duly delivered on the 8 December 1920  
a été dûment livré le

Signature (\*)  
of the addressee: O. Lukianovych  
du destinataire:  
of the Postmaster of the office of destination:  
du chef du bureau distributeur:

Stamp of the office of destination  
TIMBRE DU BUREAU DISTRIBUTEUR  
REICHENBERG  
30

NOTE.—When this form is used for a registered article addressed to a Post Office outside of Canada, the signature of the addressee, or of the addressee's authorized agent, will not necessarily be obtained.

AVIS.—Lorsque cette formule est employée pour un objet recommandé adressé à un bureau de poste en dehors du Canada, il ne sera pas absolument nécessaire d'obtenir la signature du destinataire ou de son représentant autorisé.

39 B.—125,000-21-7-19.

Reichenberg (Czech Liberec) was capital of briefly independent Czecho-Slovakia just after WW I, and again after Munich. However, this is from the Ukrainian-Canadian Citizen League.

Winnipeg (MB) to Liberec, 1920. Properly signed. Large format, printed in run of 125000, 24 July 1919.  
• 5¢ AR fee paid by stamp • Returned as folded letter sheet.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT  
AVIS DE RÉCEPTION  
(A. R. FORM.)

The Postmaster  
Le Receveur des Postes

WINNIPEG, Man

POST OFFICE SERVICE  
FRIE

Stamp of the office of destination  
TIMBRE DU BUREAU DISTRIBUTEUR  
REICHENBERG  
30



Newfoundland, incoming AR form  
No Newfoundland AR forms have been reported.

Form 3870.

Administration of United States of America.  
Administration des États-Unis d'Amérique.

C

Stamp of dispatching office.  
Timbre du bureau expéditeur.

RETURN RECEIPT  
AVIS DE RÉCEPTION

for a letter with declared value of \_\_\_\_\_  
d'une lettre avec valeur déclarée de \_\_\_\_\_  
for a registered article ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) (1)  
d'un objet recommandé ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) (1)  
of Cleveland, Ohio. the \_\_\_\_\_, 19 \_\_\_\_\_, under No. 4367 (2)  
de \_\_\_\_\_ le \_\_\_\_\_, 19 \_\_\_\_\_, sous le No. \_\_\_\_\_ (2)  
mailed by M. W. H. Leary 1922 E. 6<sup>th</sup> St.  
expédiée par M. \_\_\_\_\_  
and addressed to M. Hubert Channing, at St John's Newfoundland  
et adressé à M. \_\_\_\_\_, à \_\_\_\_\_  
(complete address) \_\_\_\_\_  
(adresse complète) \_\_\_\_\_

The undersigned declares { that a letter with declared value } to the above-mentioned address, and  
that a registered article  
Le soussigné déclare { qu'une lettre avec valeur déclarée } à l'adresse susmentionnée, et  
qu'un objet recommandé

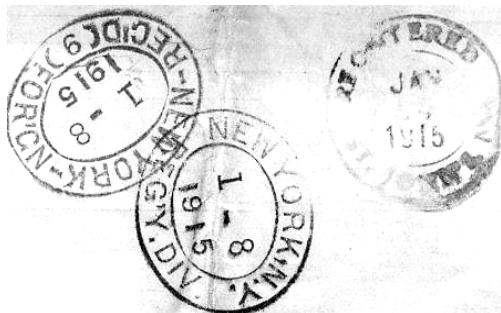
Stamp of delivering office.  
Timbre du bureau distributeur.

originating at \_\_\_\_\_, has been duly  
provenant de \_\_\_\_\_ a été dûment  
delivered the 15<sup>th</sup> Jan'y 1915  
livré le \_\_\_\_\_, 19 \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (3) of the addressee: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (3) du destinataire: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (3) of the postal official of the office of delivery: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (3) de l'agent du bureau distributeur: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mrs Channing O. Beretoux

(1) Nature of the article (letter, sample, print, etc.).  
(1) Nature de l'objet (lettre, échantillon, imprimé, etc.).  
(2) Office of origin; date of mailing at that office; registration No. of that office.  
(2) Bureau d'origine; date de dépôt à ce bureau; No. d'enregistrement au même bureau.  
(3) NOTE.—This receipt must be signed by the addressee or, if the regulations of the country of destination permit it, by the postal official of the office of delivery, then placed in an envelope and sent by the first mail to the office of origin of the article to which it relates.  
(3) NOTE.—Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le comportent, par l'agent du bureau distributeur, puis être mis sous enveloppe et envoyé par le premier courrier, au bureau d'origine de l'objet qu'il concerne.

5-1172

US AR form for registered letter to Newfoundland, 1915. Faint purple St. John's oval at lower left, and double circle St. John's registered handstamp on reverse.





## Incoming AR form to India from Laurenço Marques (1903)

A quite different form from that used to Canada (1902). A Portuguese colony issuing its own stamps 1893–1921.

814

**AVISO DE RECEPÇÃO DE CORRESPONDENCIA REGISTADA**  
**AVIS DE RECEPTION DE CORRESPONDANCE RECOMMANDÉE**

O abaixo assignado <sup>(a)</sup> *Francis Buvap Mehta*  
Le soussigné  
declara que um <sup>(b)</sup> *Carta*  
certifico qu'un  
a elle destinado, procedente de <sup>(c)</sup> *Inde Bombay*  
à son adresse, provenant de  
lhe foi entregue pela estação de <sup>(d)</sup>  
lui a été remis par le bureau de

em *21* de *Br* de 1903

(Assignatura do destinatário)  
(Signature du destinataire)  
*R. A. Mehta for Francis C. Mehta 7/6/03*

(1) Nome do destinatário.  
(2) Nome do destinatário.  
(3) Carta de valor postal, ou carta, bilhete postal, impressa, manuscrita ou amostra.  
(4) Letra com valores desenhados, ou letra, carta postal, jornal, papéis de comércio ou de banquiers.  
(5) Estação onde foi feita a entrega.  
(6) Estação destinatária.  
(7) Bureau d'origine.  
(8) Bureau destinataire.

Laurenço Marques—Bombay, 1903.

- 65 Reis AR fee paid by overprinted 5 Reis stamp of 1893.
- Returned under cover.

(Modelo 49)

814

**AVISO DE RECEPÇÃO**  
**AVIS DE RECEPTION**

Este aviso de recepção deve ser devolvido, depois de assignado pelo destinatário,  
Cet avis de reception doit être renvoyé, après signature du destinataire,

ao <sup>(a)</sup> *Mehirji Bhicaji*  
à Monsieur  
morador  
demeurant

2207 no 159. de e. 1903

Marcas de dia  
da estação que fez  
a entrega do objecto

(a) Nome do remetente do objecto registado.  
(a) Nom de l'envoyeur de la correspondance recommandée.

9 — Imprensa Nacional — 1903



Currently Diego Suarez (at the northernmost tip of Madagascar) is known as *Antsiranana*. Madagascar was annexed by France in 1896, explaining the French style form. Junagatt (*Junagadh*) is a city in Gujarat.

*Diego Suarez—Junagatt,*  
1916. Properly signed.

- 10ctm fee paid with single stamp
- Returned under cover.





# India AR form to Selangor, FMS (1920)

S. a. S. Nagasamy  
+ Bms

5

S. F.  
F. Ms.-9.

ADMINISTRATION OF BRITISH INDIA.  
ADMINISTRATION DE L'INDIE BRITANNIQUE.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT  
AVIS DE RECEPTION

I am the holder of  
Je suis détenteur d'un  
of a registered article  
d'un objet recommandé

of  
de Paramakudi 21/10

and addressed to Mr. S. P. G. S. B. S. at Jeram  
et adressé à M.

The undersigned declares  
Je déclare

that an insured letter  
qu'un objet recommandé

to the address mentioned  
à l'adresse mentionnée

Stamp of the office  
Timbre du bureau

and originating from  
et provenant de

has been duly  
a été dûment

delivered to the  
livré le

Signature  
Signature

of the addressee.  
du destinataire.

of the head of the delivering office.  
du chef du bureau distributeur.

of delivery.  
distributeur.

(1) Nature of the article (letter, sample, printed matter, etc.).  
Nature de l'objet (lettre, échantillon, imprimé, etc.).

(2) Office of posting; date of posting at that office; number under which registered at the same office.  
Bureau d'origine; date du dépôt au bureau; et d'envoi, si connu, au même bureau.

(3) Note.—This acknowledgment should be signed by the addressee or, if the regulations of the country of delivery permit it, by the head of the office of delivery, and it should then be placed in an envelope and forwarded, by the first mail to the office of posting of the article to which it relates.  
Nota.—Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le comportent, par le chef du bureau distributeur, puis être mis sous enveloppe et envoyé, par le premier courrier au bureau d'origine de l'objet qu'il concerne.

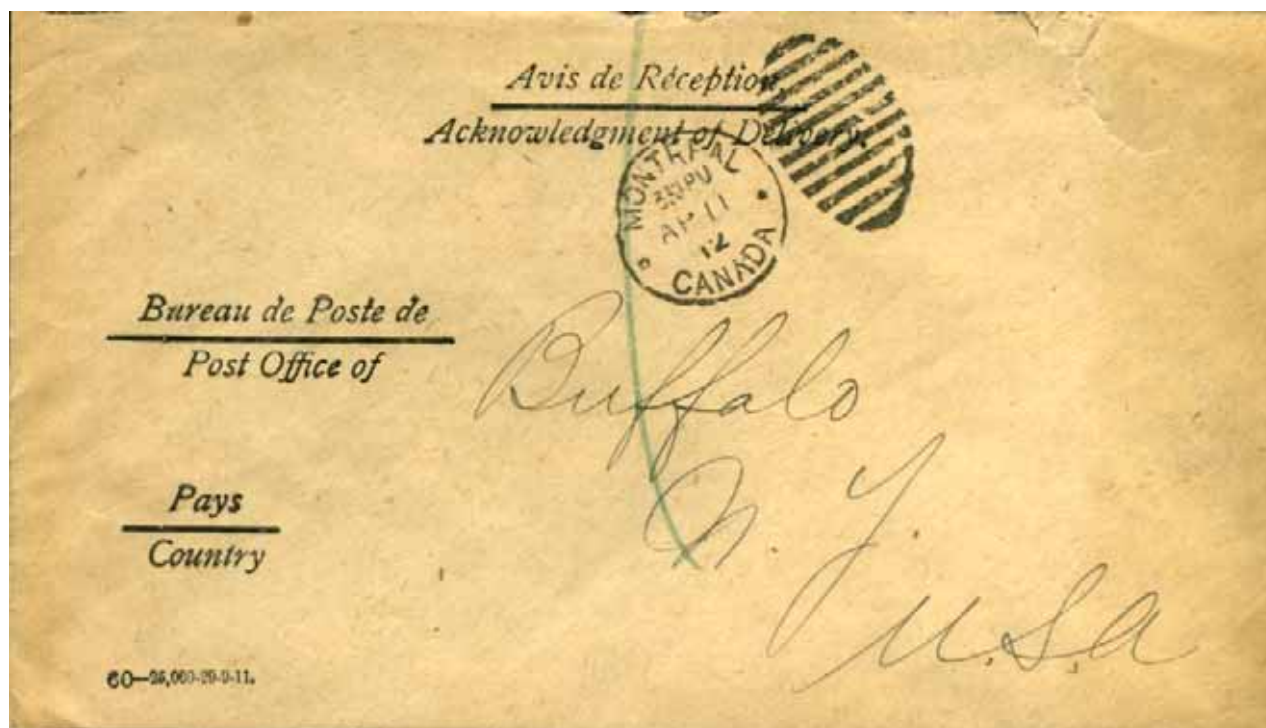
F. P., A.—21-8-11—Regt. No. 187 of 1912.

Trivandrum (Kerala)—Jeram (Selangor, FMS), 1920. From the district court in what is now Thiruvananthapuram, with docketing filed . . . .

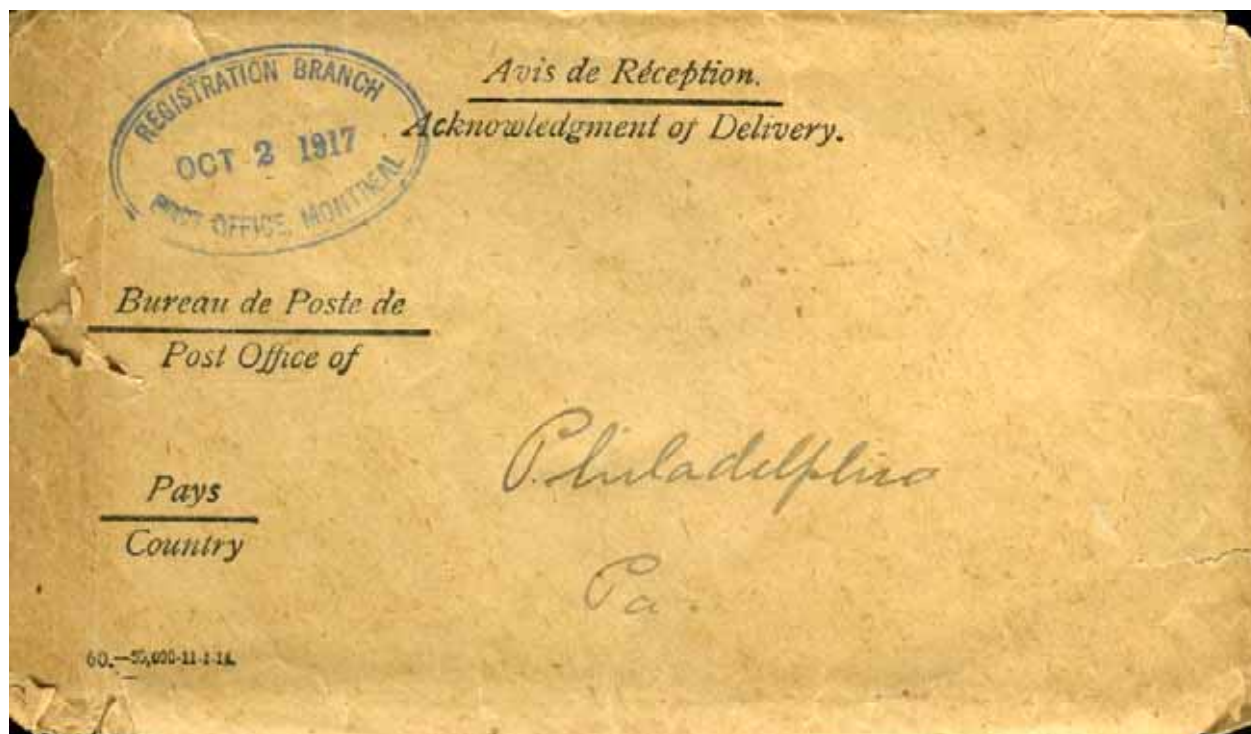
- AR fee paid on cover, not form
- Returned under cover.



## Post-Vienna, Canada



Montreal to Buffalo, 1912. Print-order data, 25000, 29 September 1911.



Montreal to Philadelphia, 1917. Print-order data, 50000, 11 January 1914.