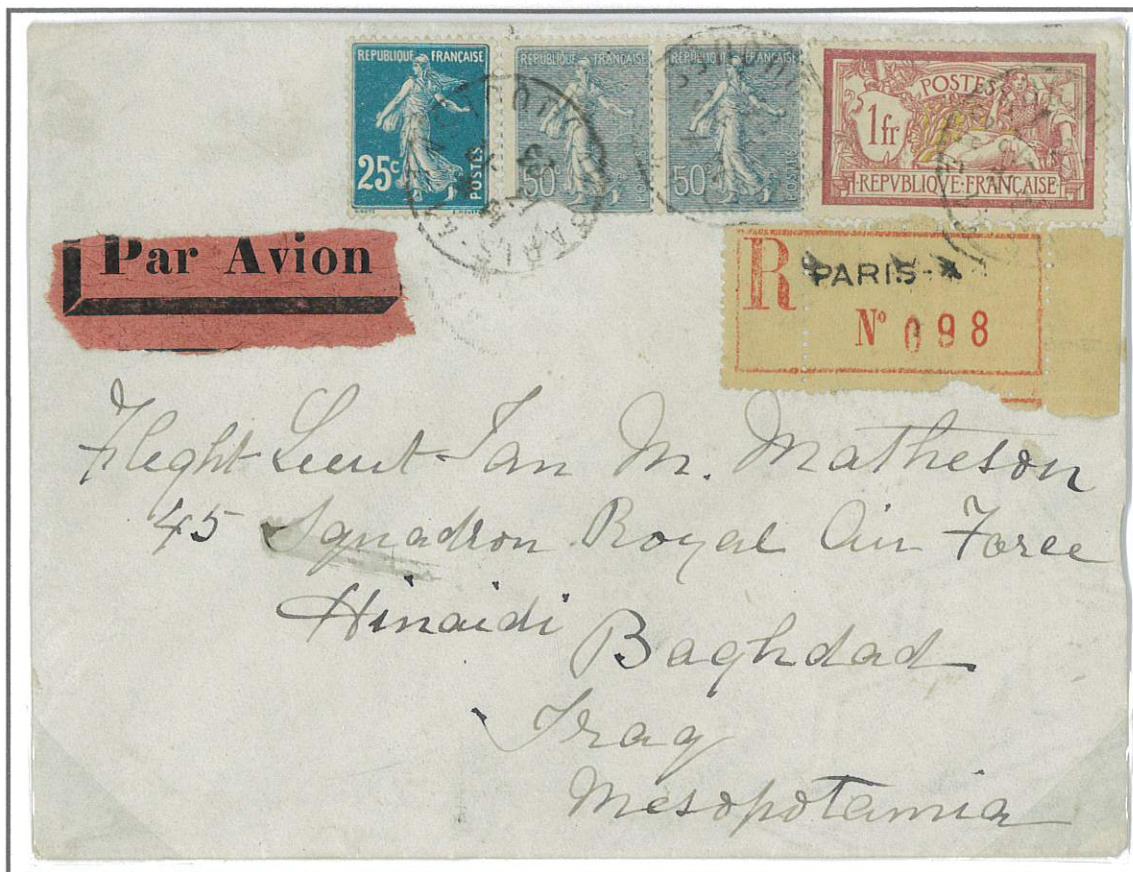


Cairo-Baghdad by Royal Air Force 1923



Route: Paris – Marseille by rail. Marseille-Port Said by sea. Port Said-Cairo by rail. Cairo-Baghdad by Royal Air Force. Posted 13 December 1923. Arrive Baghdad 27 December 1923

Rate: Surface 50c. Registration 50c. Air fee 1.25Fr. Total 2Fr. 25c.

Features. French mail accepted from 15 June 1922. Journey time reduced by ten days by use of RAF Cairo-Baghdad air service.



Cairo-Baghdad by Royal Air Force 1924



Route: Paris – Marseille by rail. Marseille-Port Said by sea. Port Said-Cairo by rail. Cairo-Baghdad by Royal Air Force. Posted 7 January 1924. Arrive Baghdad 22 January 1924. Arrive Cantonment 23 January.

Rate: Surface 50c. Air fee 1.25Fr. Total 1Fr. 75c.

Features. French mail accepted from 15 June 1922. Journey time reduced by ten days by use of RAF Cairo-Baghdad air service. Pre-dates air fee reduction to 1 Fr. on 19 January 1924



Iraq-UK by KLM 1936

Air route from Iraq to United Kingdom via KLM Batavia service 1936.



Route: Basra-Baghdad-Lydda-Alexandria-Athens-Naples-Amsterdam by KLM Batavia service
Amsterdam-London by Imperial Despatch 5 September 1936.

Rate: Surface 15f, air fee 24f. Total = 39 Fils.

Features: Route not recognised by UK but lower cost available by the KLM Batavia-Amsterdam service.



Iraq-UK Airmail rates
Iraq-UK via Imperial/BOAC 1940



Route: Baghdad-Gaza-Alexandria-Athens-Paris-UK by Imperial (Now BOAC). Despatch 26 April 1940.

Rate: Surface 15f, 2 x air fee 25f. Total = 65 Fils.

Features: Australia-UK flying boat route continued until fall of France in June 1940, at which point the new "Horseshoe" route was introduced with an air fee of 55 Fils/5g.



Iraq-UK Airmail rates
Iraq-UK via Horseshoe route 1940



Route: Baghdad-Lydda-Cairo by MISR/Egyptian Government. Cairo-Durban by BOAC Horseshoe. Durban-UK by sea. Despatch 28 September 1940.

Rate: Surface 20f, air fee 55f. Total = 75 Fils. (Overpaid by 1f.)

Features: With the fall of France in June 1940 the new "Horseshoe" air/sea route was introduced from 24 July with an air fee to Durban of 55 Fils/5g.

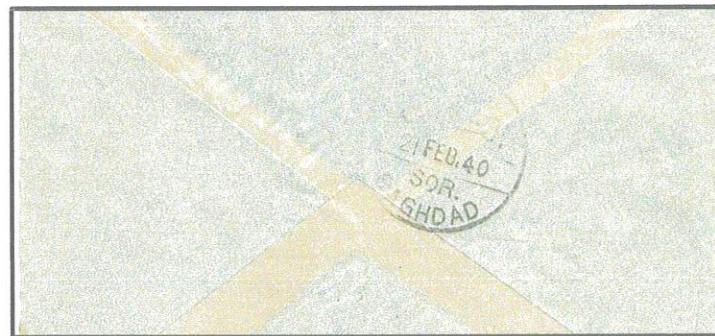
Iraq-UK Airmail rates
Iraq-UK via Imperial/BOAC 1940



Route: Baghdad-Gaza-Alexandria-Athens-Paris-UK by Imperial (Now BOAC).
Despatch 21 February 1940.

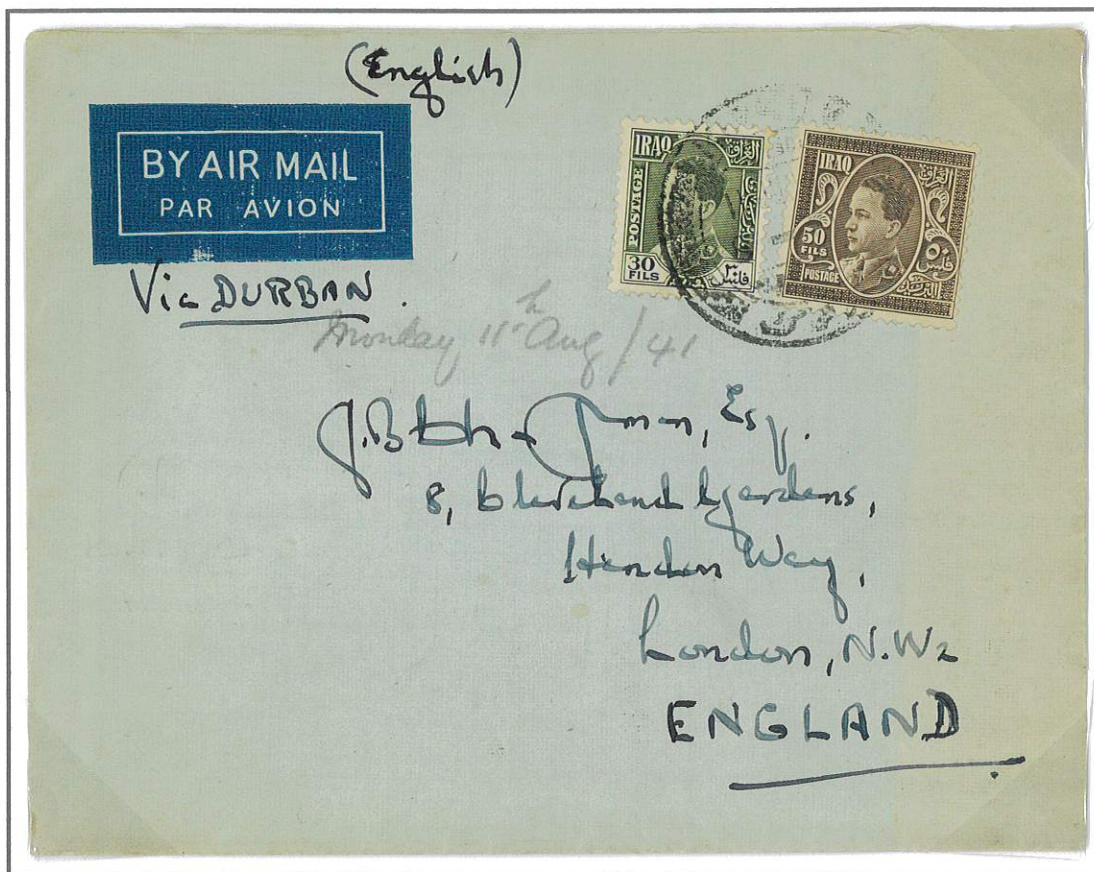
Rate: Surface 15f, 2 x air fee 25f. Total = 65 Fils. (Missing 15f stamp)

Features: Australia-UK flying boat route continued until fall of France in June 1940, at which point the new "Horseshoe" route was introduced with an air fee of 55 Fils/5g.



Iraq-UK Airmail rates

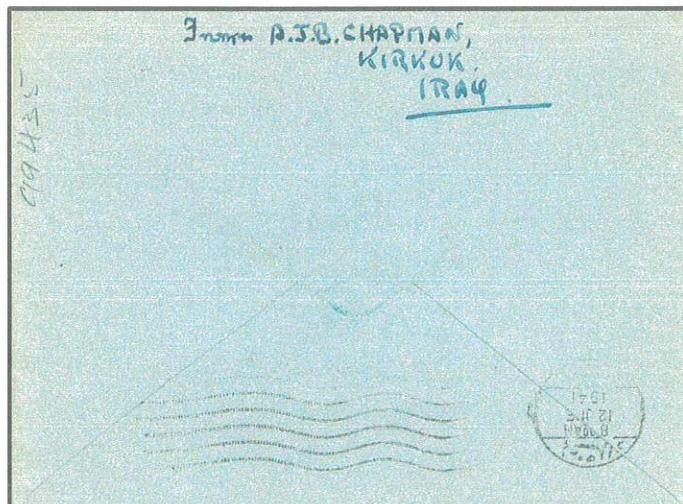
Iraq-UK via Durban 1941



Route: Baghdad-Lydda-Cairo by MISR. Cairo-Durban by BOAC Horseshoe. Durban-UK by sea. Despatch 12 June 1941. Received 11 August 1941.

Rate: Surface 20f, 2 x air fee 30f. Total = 75. Via Durban rate applied from 1 January 1941.

Features: New lower air fee to Durban from 1 January 1941, previously 55f/5g. Posted in Baghdad despite sender's address at Kirkuk.



Iraq-UK Airmail rates

Iraq-UK via Durban 1941



Route: RAF Habbaniya-Cairo-Durban by BOAC Horseshoe. Durban-UK by sea.
Despatch 19 September 1941.

Rate: Surface 15f in error, 2 x air fee 30f. Total = 75 Fils. Via Durban rate applied from 1 January 1941.

Censor: RAF Censor 181 Type C3 used at Habbaniya.

Features: New lower air fee to Durban from 1 January 1941, previously 55f/5g. Sender used earlier surface fee of 15 Fils instead of correct 20 Fils.



Iraq-UK Airmail rates

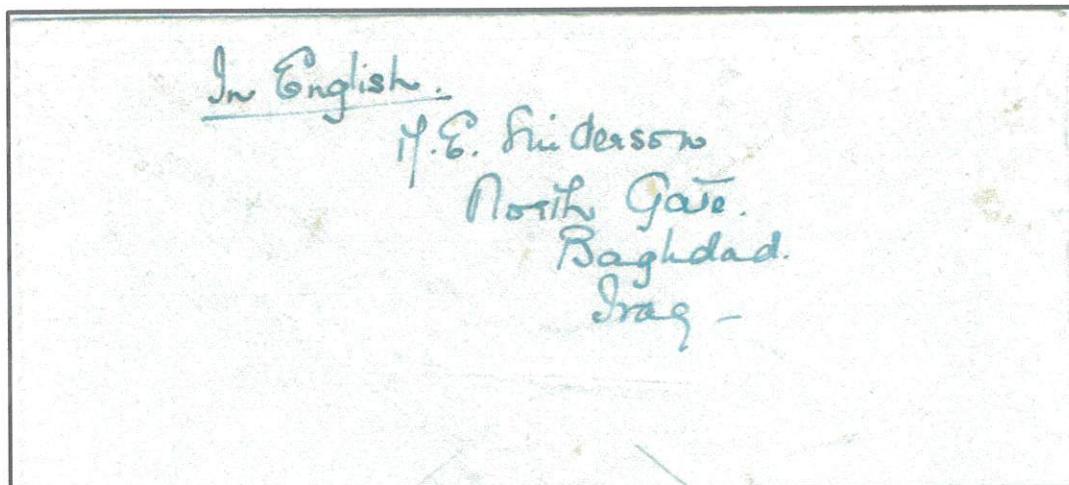
Iraq-UK via Durban 1941



Route: Baghdad-Lydda-Cairo by MISR. Cairo-Durban by BOAC Horseshoe. Durban-UK by sea.
Despatch 9 February 1941. Received 4 April 1941.

Rate: Surface 20f, 3 x air fee 30f. Total = 110 Fils. Via Durban rate applied from 1 January 1941.

Features: New lower air fee to Durban from 1 January 1941, previously 55f/5g.



Trans-Atlantic Air-Sea mail

Air/sea route from Iraq to United Kingdom via Durban 1942.



Route: Baghdad-Haifa-Cairo by BOAC/MISR Airworks. Cairo-Durban by BOAC Horseshoe. Durban-UK by sea. Posted 29 May 1942, Arrival UK not known.

Censor: Iraq censor cachet and resealing label. UK PC-90 2294.

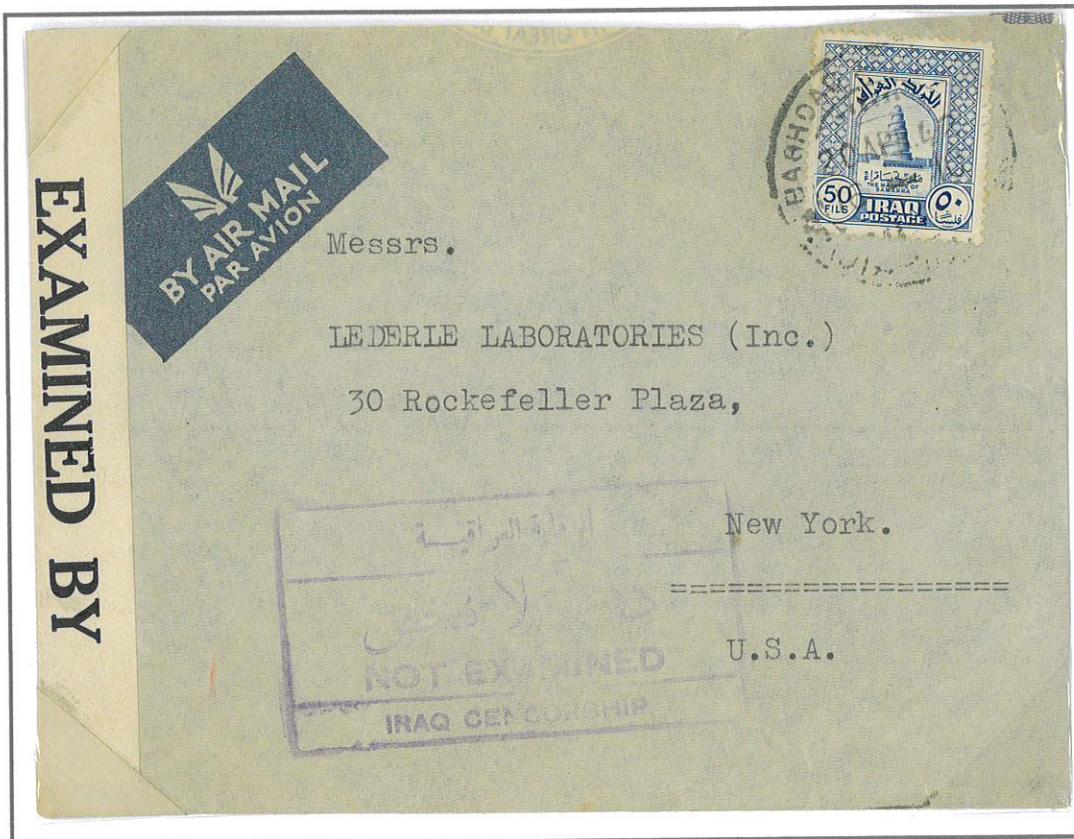
Rate: Surface 20f, air fee to Durban 0.5g 30f. Total = 50 Fils.

Features: Route determined by rate. "Via Durban" applied until 13 September 1942 when route was changed to "Via Lagos" and then sea from Lagos. Rate remained at 30fils air fee.



Trans-Atlantic Air-Sea mail

Trans-Atlantic air/sea route from Iraq to United States 1942.

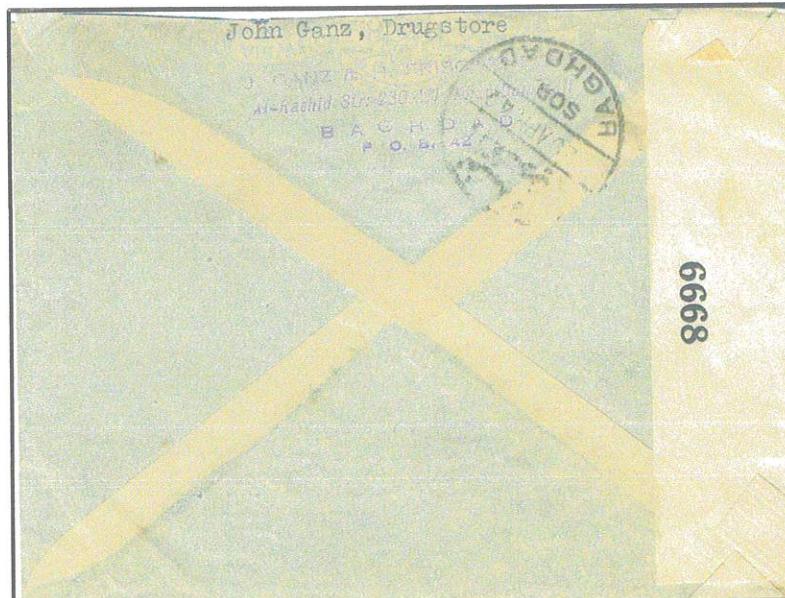


Route: Baghdad-Haifa-Cairo by BOAC/MISR Airworks. Cairo-Durban by BOAC Horseshoe. Durban-New York by sea. Posted 20 April 1942, Arrival New York not known.

Censor: Iraq censor cachet. New York Examined By 6688.

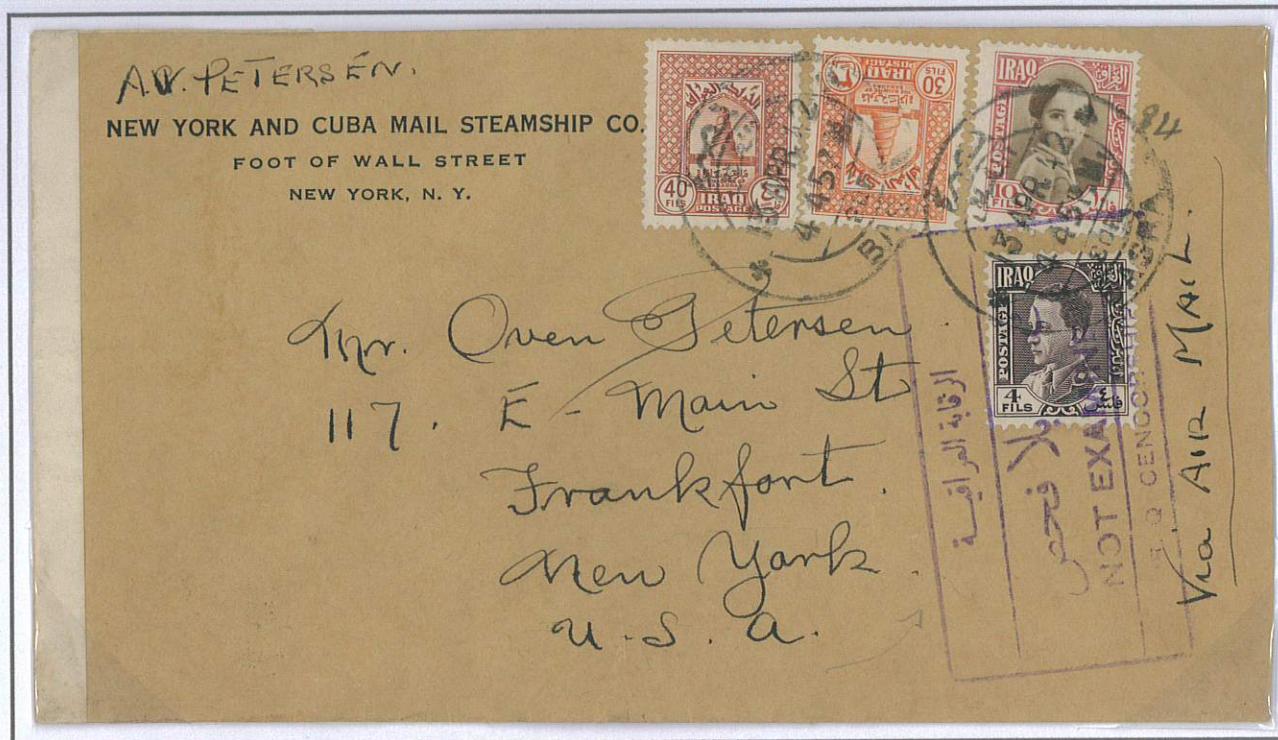
Rate: Surface 20f, air fee to Durban 0-5g 30f. Total = 50 Fils.

Features: Route determined by rate. Sea carriage confirmed by arrival at New York.



Trans-Atlantic Air-Sea mail

Trans-Atlantic air/sea route from Iraq to United States 1942.

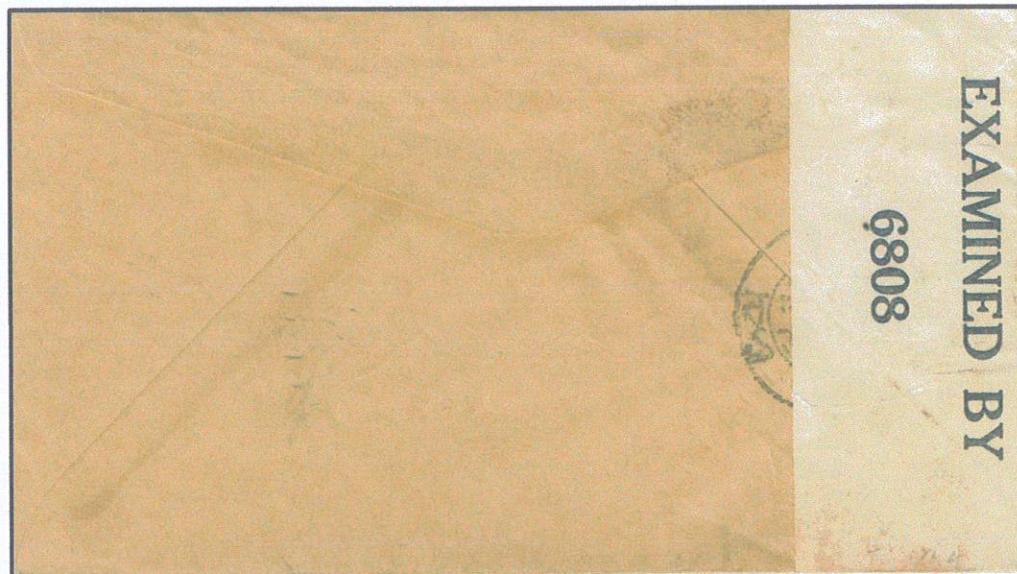


Route: Basra-Baghdad-Haifa-Cairo by BOAC/MISR Airworks. Cairo-Durban by BOAC Horseshoe. Durban-New York by sea. Posted 20 April 1942, Arrival New York not known.

Censor: Iraq censor cachet. New York Examined By 6808.

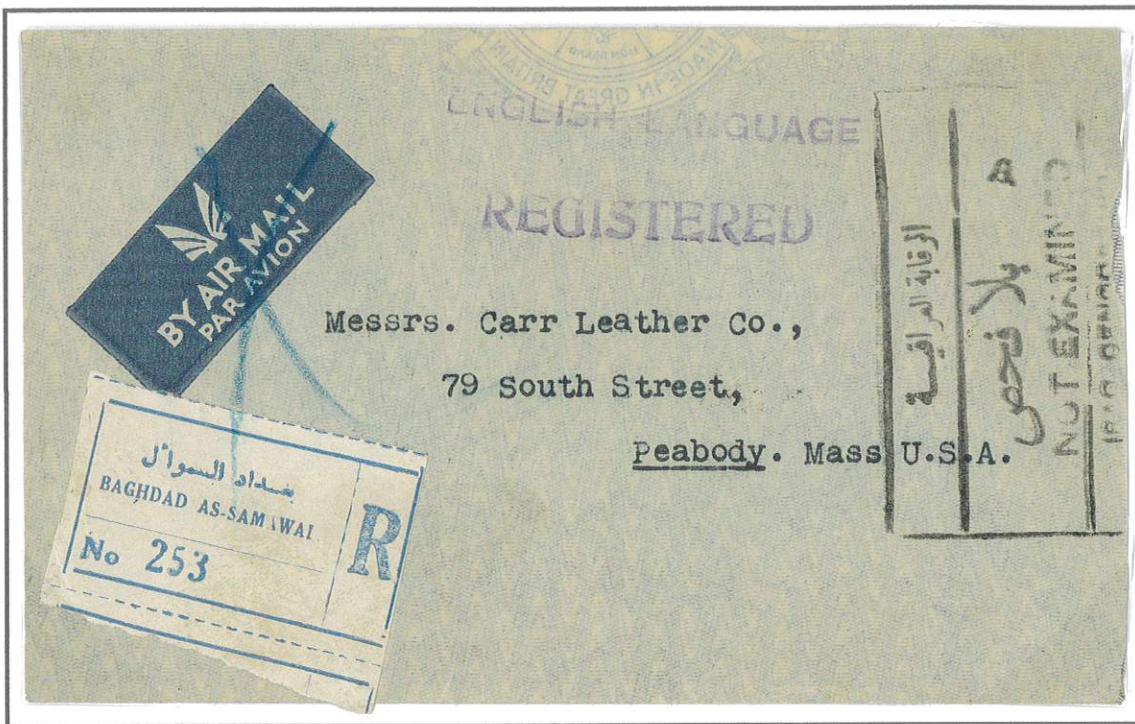
Rate: Surface 20f, internal air fee Basra-Baghdad 4f, 2 x air fee to Durban 60f. Total = 84 Fils.

Features: Route determined by rate. Sea carriage confirmed by arrival at New York.



Trans-Atlantic Air-Sea mail

Trans-Atlantic air/sea route from Iraq to United States 1942.



Route: Baghdad-Haifa-Cairo by BOAC/MISR Airworks. Cairo-Durban by BOAC Horseshoe. Durban-New York by sea. Posted 4 February 1942, arrive New York 23 March 1942.

Censor: Iraq censor cachet. No US examination.

Features: 1st step surface 20f, registration 20f, air fee to Durban 0-5g 30f, 5-10g 30f. Total = 100 Fils. Air Mail cancelled at Durban.



Trans-Atlantic Air-Sea mail

Trans-Atlantic air/sea route from Iraq to United States 1942.



Route: Baghdad-Haifa-Cairo by BOAC/MISR Airworks. Cairo-Durban by BOAC Horseshoe. Durban-New York by sea. Posted 23 June 1942, arrive New York 12 July 1942.

Censor: Iraq censor cachet. New York Examined By 5766.

Features: Complex rate: Internal fee 12 fils. 1st step surface 20f, registration 20f, air fee 0-5g 30f, 5-10g 30f, 10-15g 30f, 15-20g 30f, 20-25g 30f, 2nd step 10f, air fee 25-30g 30f. Total on cover 242f. Missed 6f 2nd step internal fee. $12+20+20+30+30+30+30+10+30 = 242$ Fils.



Trans-Atlantic Air mail

Pan American trans-Atlantic route from Iraq to United States, 5 November 1942.



Route: Baghdad-Haifa-Cairo by BOAC/MISR Airworks. Cairo-Khartoum-Lagos by BOAC. Lagos-Miami by Pan American/ATC. Despatch Baghdad 5 November 1942. Miami arrive 10 December.

Rate: 20f surface, 20f registration, 150f air fee. Total 190f as on cover.

Censor: Iraq censor and re-sealing label. Palestine KK/6.

Features: Almost one month in transit? Clear "Clipper via West Africa" confirms route.



Trans-Atlantic Air mail

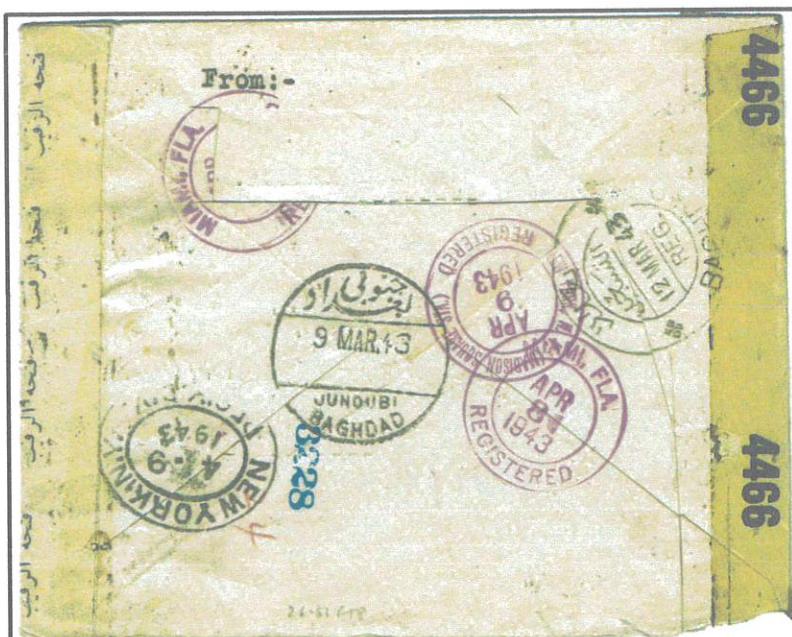
Pan American trans-Atlantic route from Iraq to United States 1943.



Route: Baghdad-Haifa-Cairo by BOAC/MISR Airworks. Cairo-Khartoum-Lagos by BOAC. Lagos-Miami by Pan American/ATC. Despatch Baghdad 9 March 1943. Arrive Miami 8 April.

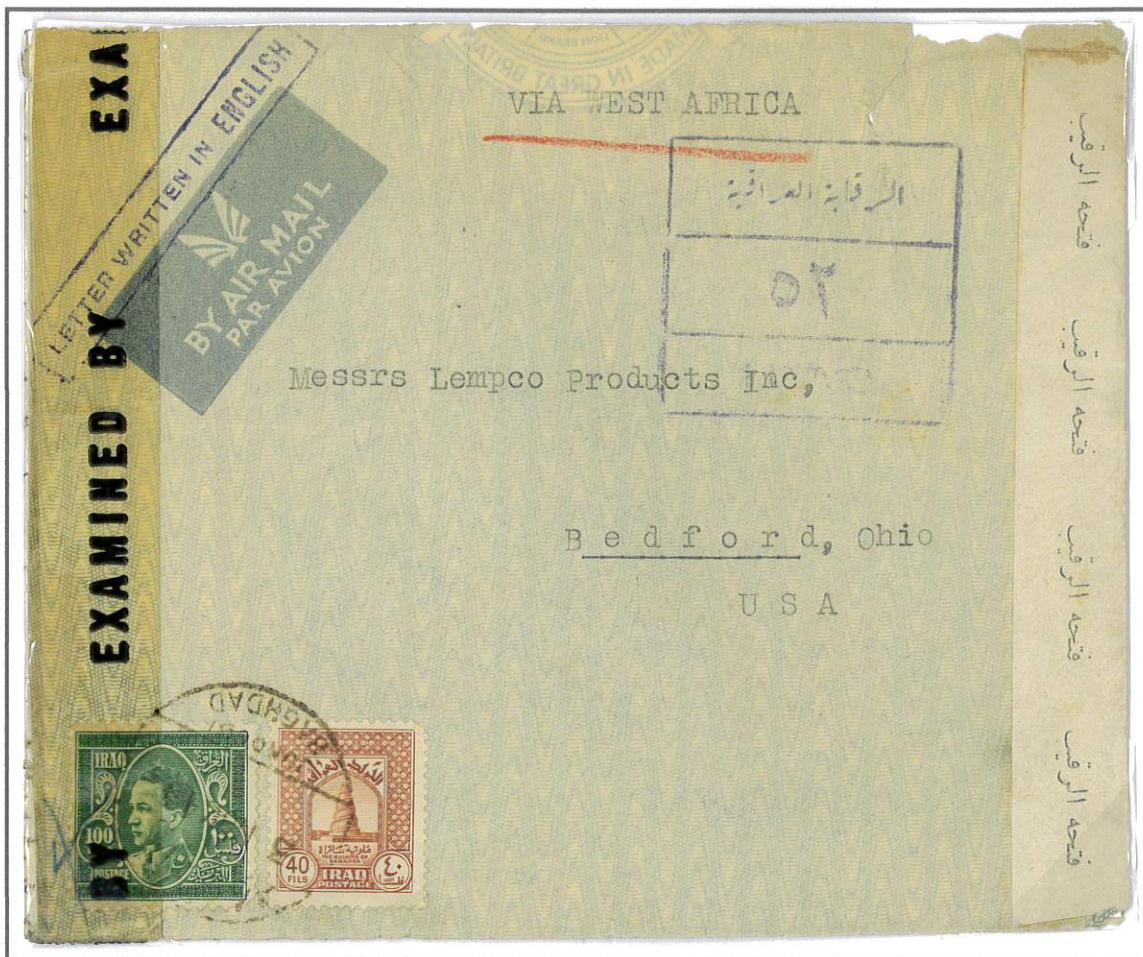
Rate: 20f surface, 20f registration, 120f air fee. Total 160f as on cover. Rate applied 5 February 1943.

Censor: Iraq censor and re-sealing label. Miami Examined By 4466. Miami tracking number 3228.



Trans-Atlantic Air mail

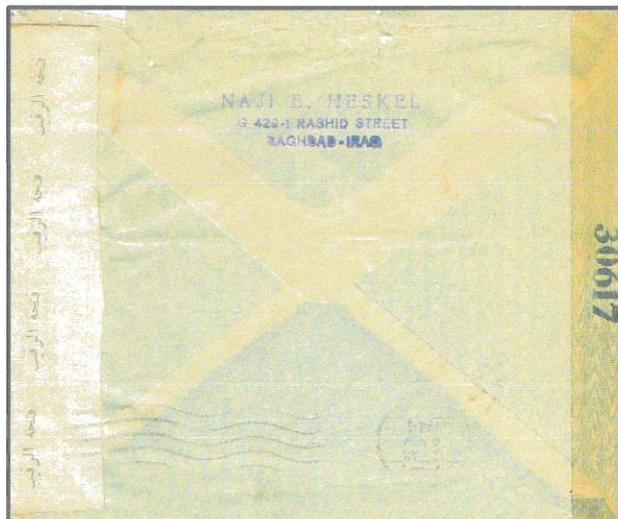
Pan American trans-Atlantic route from Iraq to United States 1944.



Route: Baghdad-Haifa-Cairo by BOAC/MISR Airworks. Cairo-Khartoum-Lagos by BOAC. Lagos-Miami by Pan American/ATC. Despatch Baghdad 4 November 1944.

Rate: 20f surface, 120f air fee. Total 140f as on cover. Rate applied from 5 February 1943.

Censor: Iraq censor and re-sealing label. Miami Examined By 30617.



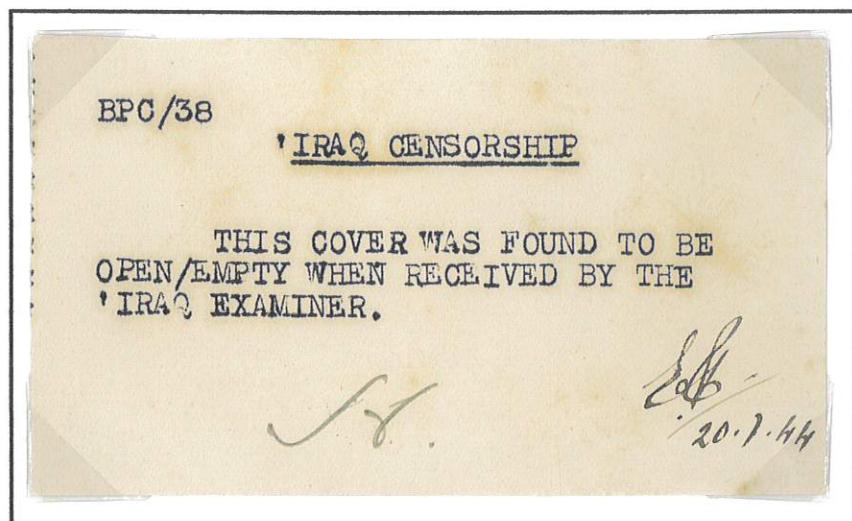
World War 2 Airmail

Iraq – UK via Cairo

Airmail cover from Baghdad to London 1944. Enclosed Iraq censorship slip saying "This cover was found to be open/empty when received by the Iraq examiner" Slip dated 20.7.44. Cover endorsed "By direct air service to UK" and Baghdad canceller dated 19th July 1944.

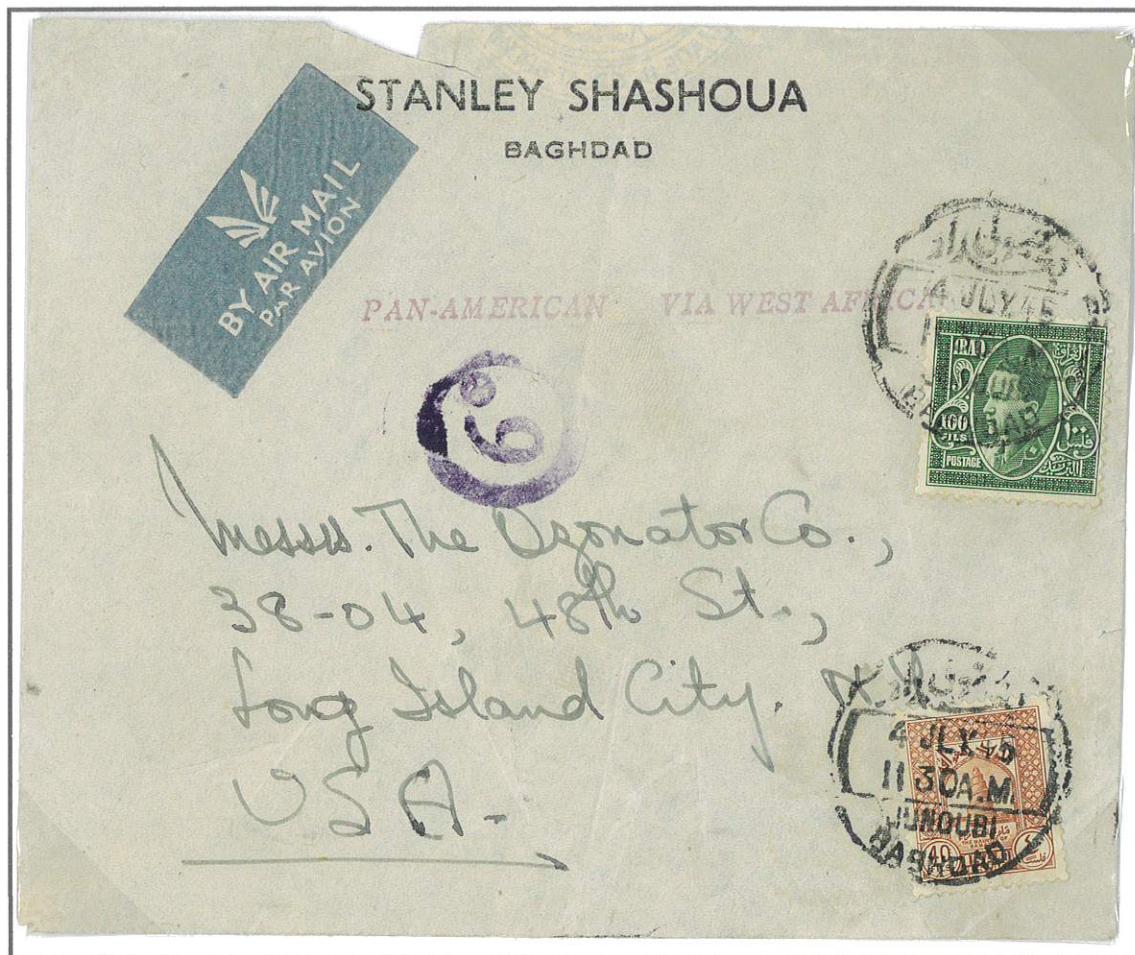
The India – Cairo route had been Karachi – Jiwani – Sharjah – Bahrein – Basrah – Habbaniya – Lydda – Cairo but on the 19th of July 1944 the Iraq stop was transferred from Habbaniyah to Baghdad, so this cover travelled on the first direct flight from Baghdad to UK via Cairo.

Rate paid 100 Fils including registration fee.



Trans-Atlantic Air mail

Pan American trans-Atlantic route from Iraq to United States 1945.



Route: Baghdad-Haifa-Cairo by BOAC/MISR Airworks. Cairo-Khartoum-Lagos by BOAC. Lagos-Miami by Pan American/ATC. Despatch Baghdad 4 July 1945.

Rate: 20f surface, 120f air fee. Total 140f as on cover. Rate applied from February 1943.

Censor: Iraq censor 6* applied in Baghdad (Boyle p. 536).

Features: Late censorship. No US censorship. Hand stamp "Pan-American Via West Africa".

