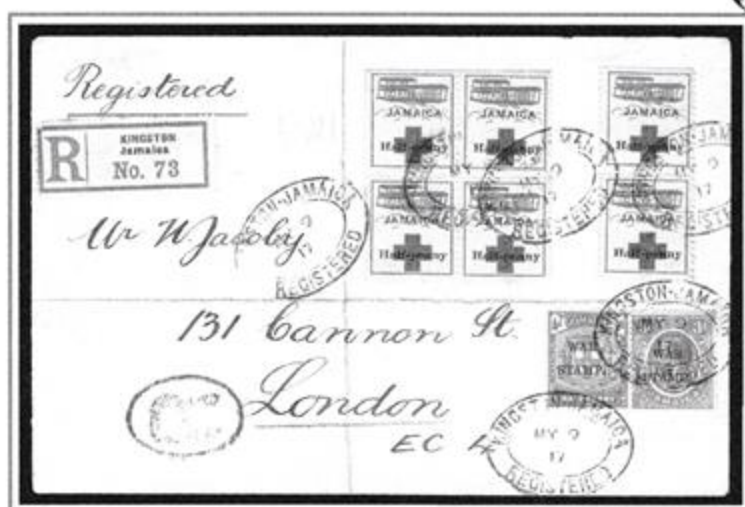


**THE  
ENCYCLOPAEDIA  
OF JAMAICAN  
PHILATELY**



PAUL FARRIMOND & RAYMOND MURPHY

**Additions & Revisions (2017)**

**BWISC**

**MILITARY  
MAILS**

**VOL 9**

## PREFACE

The revised edition of Volume 9 of The Encyclopaedia of Jamaican Philately (“Military, Censorship & Patriotic Mails”) was published in the middle of 2015, and it was always the intention of the authors to provide updates as new discoveries were made. Surprisingly in the eighteen or so months since publication many new items have been found, and these, together with updated dates of use and new Censorship numbers, are reported here.

Updated information is provided here for all chapters in the 2015 edition of Volume 9, with the exception of Chapters 1 and 3 where no new content is available.

This “Additions and Revisions (2017)” is the first such update, but it is envisaged that these may be issued annually, or whenever sufficient new or revised entries have been collated. With this in mind, the authors kindly request anybody with information, examples, illustrations, etc., that might improve this volume to contact one of the authors so that we can include them in the next update.

We were extremely gratified that this volume was awarded a Gold Medal and the Grand Award at Chicagopex 2015, and another Gold Medal at the APS Stamp Show in Portland in 2016. One of the comments from the Judges at Chicagopex 2015 was that it “would be good if there were a website where authors/users could post updates”; indeed, we are delighted to be able to provide this update to fulfil that recommendation. It is our hope that this aspect of Jamaican philately can be kept up to date through the cooperation of other collectors – we look forward to hearing from you.

Paul Farrimond and Ray Murphy

February 2017

## CHAPTER 2

### THE BRITISH ARMY IN JAMAICA

#### 09-02-9    **GH3A. PRIVATE SECRETARY**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 5 October 1925

LKD: 1 June 1931

#### 09-02-18    **LR16C. Bn. ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS, ORDERLY ROOM**

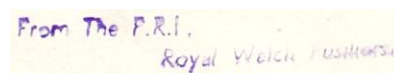
Revised dates of use

EKD: 2 January 1953

LKD: 3 August 1953

#### 09-02-18    **LR16E. FROM THE P.R.I. ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS** *(new addition)*

A two-line handstamp struck in purple ink reading "From The P.R.I." on the first line and "Royal Welch Fusiliers" below and to the right. The lines of text are in italic sans serif font and measure 23 x 2.5mm and 31 x 2.5mm, respectively. The abbreviation P.R.I. denotes the President of the Regimental Institute. Two examples of this mark have been recorded, both struck on the back of envelopes bearing a Royal Welch Fusiliers embossed crest and mailed from Kingston.



LR16E

EKD: 1 May 1951

LKD: 28 May 1951

#### 09-02-18    **LR17B. 1ST BN. D.C.L.I.**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 21 February 1956

LKD: 11 June 1956

#### 09-02-21    **GS3A. SECRET** *(new addition)*

A simple handstamp comprising the word "SECRET" in sans serif capitals, unframed and measuring 19 x 5mm. On the only example seen it is struck twice in the same purple ink as the GS3 handstamp on the same OHMS envelope. This envelope would have been sealed and enclosed within a second envelope with no classification marking sent by registered mail.



GS3A

EKD: 3 February 1940

LKD:

#### 09-02-26    **PY1. ARMY PAY OFFICE, JAMAICA**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 1 September 1917

LKD: 16 December 1920

#### 09-02-27    **PY4. ARMY PAY OFFICE/date/JAMAICA**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 3 November 1945

LKD: April 1947

#### 09-02-33    **AS4. ARMY SIGNALS**

Revised dates of use

Purple

EKD: 6 July 1951

LKD: 16 July 1956

**09-02-34 OR1. CHIEF ORDNANCE OFFICER, JAMAICA**

Revised dates of use    Purple                      EKD: 30 April 1918    LKD: 24 November 1918

**09-02-41 PM2. MILITARY POST/UP PARK CAMP**

Revised dates of use                      EKD: 21 May 1941                      LKD: 24 November 1941

**09-02-42 PM10. No. .../DATE.../CAMP OFFICE,/NEWCASTLE** *(new addition)*

A hill station at Newcastle had been established in 1841, and was used as a change-of-air camp by the British forces in Jamaica.

This marking is an unframed 4-line handstamp with all text in sans serif capitals, the only recorded example being struck in purple ink. Lines to the right of 'No.' and 'DATE' provide space for the relevant information to be added by hand.

EKD: 31 July 1947                      LKD:

**09-02-42 PM11. CAMP OFFICE/DATE.../NEW CASTLE, JAMAICA** *(new addition)*

An oval 'TRD' type of handstamp which was also used after independence by Jamaican forces (JRU5), having the wording 'CAMP OFFICE' at the top and 'NEW CASTLE, JAMAICA.' at the bottom, separated by five-pointed stars at each side. In the centre is the word 'Date' and a dotted line for the date to be added by hand.

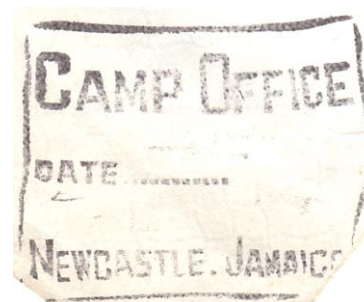


EKD: 5 January 1955                      LKD: 3 April 1962

PM11

**09-02-42 PM12. CAMP OFFICE/DATE.../NEWCASTLE, JAMAICA** *(new addition)*

This item is a boxed handstamp containing three lines of text: "CAMP OFFICE" at the top, and "NEWCASTLE, JAMAICA" at the bottom, with the word "DATE" and space for the date to be added by hand in the middle. All text comprises sans serif capitals, the initial letters of all words except "DATE" being larger. Two examples have been recorded, both struck in black ink, and both lacking the date. The frameline is distorted, indicating that the handstamp was made of rubber. It measures approximately 47 x 38mm, although this is likely to vary due to wear.



EKD: 21 August 1961                      LKD:

PM12

**09-02-45 AAL1. ARMY AIR LETTER FORM** *(new addition)*

Not listed separately, as it bears the same reference code 'Army Form W.3077' but with a stop after the letter 'W' and in normal rather than italic font. The example seen (20 August 1957) is printed in a lighter blue ink and on blue paper, and also has different folding instructions than the item shown in Fig. 2.29.

Revised dates of use                      EKD: 26 August 1944                      LKD: 20 August 1957

A further type of 'Armed Forces Air Letter' used in 1946 is believed to be Canadian in origin and is covered in Chapter 7.

09-02-53 **AC3. PASSED BY CENSOR/No. (number)** *(new addition)*

2796	Purple	28 February (no year plug)	
5785	Purple	14 November 1942	2 June 1943

09-02-55 **AC4. MILITARY CENSOR/JAMAICA/NO. (number)** *(new addition)*

1	Black	26 March 1942
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## CHAPTER 4

### THE ROYAL AIR FORCE IN JAMAICA

#### 09-04-3    **RAF2. ROYAL AIR FORCE/PALISADOES**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 25 January 1944

LKD: 8 August 1944

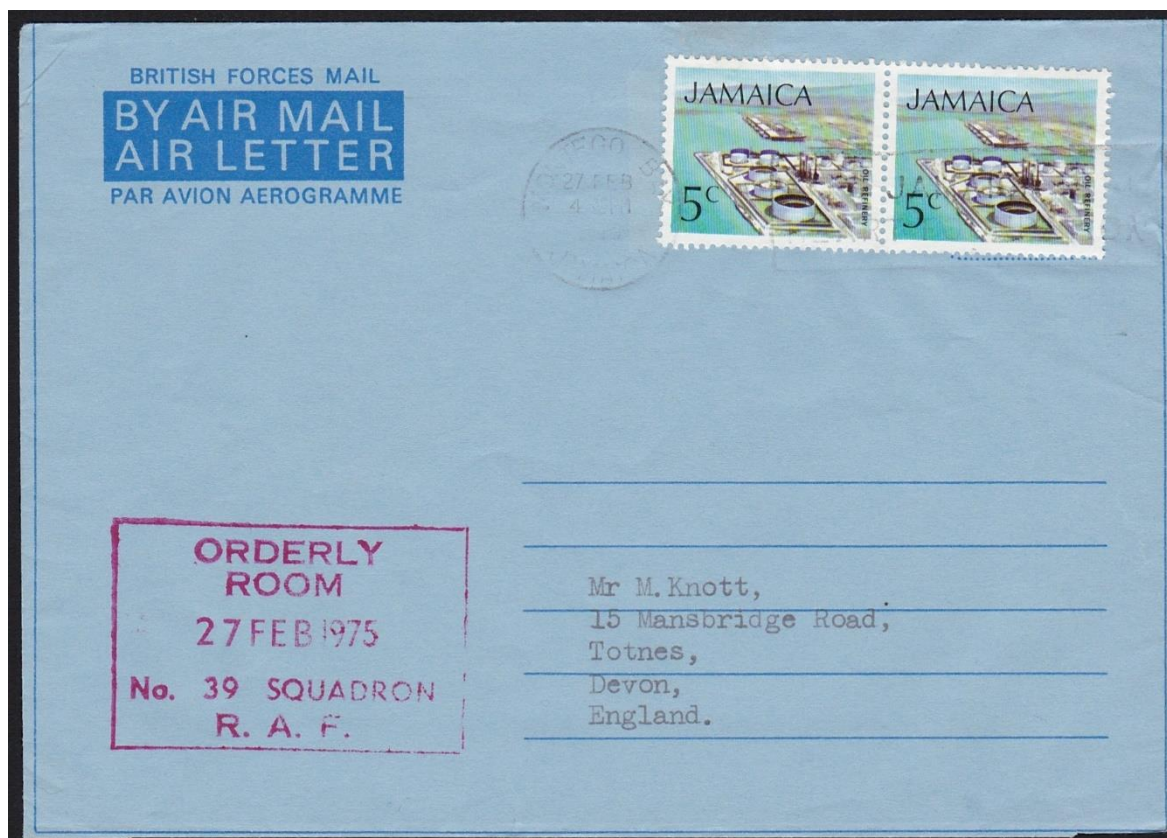
#### 09-04-8    **RAF9. ORDERLY/ROOM/date/No. 39 SQUADRON/R.A.F.**

Sixteen officers and fifty men of 39 Squadron flew to Jamaica in January 1975 for a six-week exercise carrying out a photographic survey of coastal regions of Belize, Antigua, Barbuda, Anguilla, Tortola and St. Kitts. They used three Canberra aircraft and were based in Montego Bay.

The figure below shows a British Forces Mail Air Letter posted during their stay in Jamaica. It has a boxed handstamp (46 x 29½mm) with five lines of text in sans serif capitals, struck in red ink. Like the Montego Bay machine cancellation it is dated 27<sup>th</sup> February 1975.

EKD: 27 February 1975

LKD:



## CHAPTER 5

### PRISONERS OF WAR, INTERNEES & EVACUEES

#### 09-05-16    **World War II – Envelopes used at the Camp**

A second example has been recorded of the printed envelope made of brown paper, dated just one day earlier (15 March 1940) than the previously recorded example shown in *Fig. 5.8*.

#### 09-05-22    **POWC3. INTERNMENT & P. OF W. CAMP/JAMAICA**

Revised dates of use    Purple    EKD: 1 February 1941                      LKD: 2 January 1946

#### 09-05-23    **POWC3A. INTERNMENT & P. OF W. CAMP/JAMAICA**

Revised dates of use                      EKD: 15 March 1940                      LKD: 16 March 1940

#### 09-05-23    **POWC4. INTERNMENT CAMP/CHECKED No. – /JAMAICA**

Revised dates of use    No.1                      EKD: 20 November 1945                      LKD: 25 October 1946

#### 09-05-25    **POWPS4. PRISONER OF WAR MAIL**

Revised dates of use                      EKD: 5 August 1943                      LKD: 25 October 1946

#### 09-05-26    **POWPS5. PRISONER OF WAR MAIL**

Revised dates of use                      EKD: 21 July 1943                      LKD: 19 October 1946

#### 09-05-37    **GC1. The Kingston dater**

Revised dates of use                      EKD: 13 November 1940                      LKD: 9 April 1943

#### 09-05-37    **GC2. GIBRALTAR CAMP**

This datestamp is Potter type B2 (reference 3280.03).

#### 09-05-40    *(revised text to last paragraph)*

#### **GCU2. GIBRALTAR CAMP circular handstamps**

The next three types are different variants of a circular unit handstamp reading 'GIBRALTAR CAMP'. These listings have been revised from the first edition of this book following careful study of almost 40 dated examples (actual items or images). A similar numbering system has been used as previously, but the original type GCU2 is here renumbered to GCU2C, being the last of the three recognized types; other variants may exist. Dates of usage of the three types do not apparently overlap, and they are listed in chronological order. These handstamps were not used to cancel stamps, but were applied to covers and used in association with the Kingston double ring datestamp (GC1). Differences between the three types of 'GIBRALTAR CAMP' handstamp are shown in *Fig. 5.31*. *(The remainder of the paragraph is unchanged)*

09-05-41    **GCU2C. GIBRALTAR/CAMP**

Revised dates of use

EKD: September 1942

LKD: 9 April 1943



## CHAPTER 6

### THE POSTAL CENSORSHIP SERVICE

#### 09-06-2    **Section II** (*second sentence*)

On the outbreak of hostilities, or a little earlier, the Service established an office on the top floor in the General Post Office in downtown Kingston.

#### 09-06-5    **JCH1. POSTAL CENSOR/JAMAICA/PASSED/(No.)** (*revised dates of use*)

Blue (1 & 2)	EKD: 30 September 1939	LKD: 2 April 1941
Magenta/red (2 & 3)	EKD: 23 June 1941	LKD: February 1942

#### 09-06-9    **DS1. British style**

Revised dates of use	EKD: 19 June 1941	LKD: 27 May 1943
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#### 09-06-9    **DS2. American style**

Revised dates of use	EKD: 1 April 1943	LKD: 13 February 1944
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#### 09-06-10    **CMS1. Manuscript Censor number** (*additional number recorded*)

Censor numbers seen applied in manuscript are 1, 3, 8, 18, 19, 20, 28, 823, 4409, 8810 and 8823

#### 09-06-15    **JL14. OPENED BY / CENSOR.** (*carmine on white paper*)

Revised dates of use	EKD: 13 December 1939*	LKD: 29 August 1942
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#### 09-06-19    **JL30 OPENED BY / EXAMINER** (*additional number recorded*)

...seen used in Jamaica with censor numbers 823, 838, 2005, 5241, 5446, 5592 and 5577.

#### 09-06-20    **JL30A. OPENED BY / EXAMINER ('D' added in manuscript)**

Revised dates of use	EKD: 12 September 1942	LKD: 21 June 1943
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**09-06-20 JL31. OPENED BY / EXAMINER** (*new addition*)

P.C.90 9 x 2½mm sans-serif

OPENED BY 74 x 9mm sans-serif

EXAMINER 41 x 8½mm sans-serif

Number 8½mm sans-serif

This is another British-type label, corresponding to Morenweiser (2011) type 1B, not previously reported used in Jamaica. The type is distinctive in having a comma in the censor number. Two examples have been reported, both for censor number 4,140 (note comma), the later example having the addition of a manuscript 'ID', confirming its use in Jamaica.



JL31

EKD: 10 September 1941

LKD: 28 June 1942

**09-06-21 JL32. OPENED BY / EXAMINER** (*additional numbers recorded*)

Censor numbers on this label used in Jamaica are 622, 823, 838, 846, 848, 1260, 4599, 5682, 6106 and 6129.

**09-06-22 JL34. OPENED BY / EXAMINER** (*additional numbers recorded*)

It has been seen used in Jamaica with censor numbers 367, 450, 622, 823, 838, 848, 965, 1260, 1645, 1655, 1894, 2339, 2548, 2870, 3650, 3710, 4381, 4526, 4598, 4599, 4691, 6254, 6383, 6416, 7262, 7549 and 8811.

**09-06-22 JL34A. OPENED BY / EXAMINER ('D' added in manuscript)** (*additional numbers recorded*)

Censor numbers reported are 583, 1645, 2005, 2339, 3710, 3945, 4381, 4526, 4561, 4599, 4691, 6383, and 6416.

**09-06-23 JL34B. OPENED BY / EXAMINER ('ID' added in manuscript)** (*additional numbers recorded*)

This is the JL34 label with 'ID' added in blue pencil or ink; used with censor numbers 622, 2005, 3710 and 4561.

Revised dates of use

EKD: 3 November 1942

LKD: 5 October 1944

**09-06-23 JL38. OPENED BY / EXAMINER** (*additional number recorded*)

Known used in Jamaica by censor numbers 367 and 622.

Revised dates of use

EKD: 1 August 1941

LKD: 3 October 1943

09-06-23 **JL38A. OPENED BY / EXAMINER ('D' added in manuscript)** (*additional number recorded*)

Seen with censor numbers 583 and 4599.

Revised dates of use                      EKD: 26 August 1942                      LKD: 2 February 1943

09-06-23 **JL38B. OPENED BY / EXAMINER ('ID' added in manuscript)** (*additional number recorded*)

Used by censor numbers 583 and 622.

Revised dates of use                      EKD: 24 November 1942                      LKD: 8 November 1943

09-06-24 **JL40. OPENED BY / EXAMINER**

Revised dates of use                      EKD: 23 September 1941                      LKD: 10 May 1943

09-06-24 **JL40B. OPENED BY / EXAMINER ('ID' added in manuscript)** (*new addition*)

The JL40 type label has been seen with 'ID' added in manuscript; the only recorded example has the censor number 6084.

EKD    7 July 1942                      LKD

09-06-25 **JL44. OPENED BY / EXAMINER (with printer's code)**

Revised dates of use                      EKD: 31 October 1941                      LKD: 12 February 1943

09-06-26 **JL50A. OPENED BY / EXAMINER / D/number ('I' added in manuscript)**  
(*additional number recorded*)

Censor numbers 1260, 5717, 8801, 8802, 8804, 8807, 8809, 8816, 8818, 8823, 8827, 8828 and 8830.

09-06-27 **JL52. OPENED BY / EXAMINER / D/number**

Revised dates of use                      EKD: 17 December 1941                      LKD: 9 August 1942

09-06-27 **JL52A. OPENED BY / EXAMINER / D/number ('I' added in manuscript)**

Revised dates of use                      EKD: 19 July 1942                      LKD: 9 August 1942

09-06-28 **JL54. OPENED BY / EXAMINER / DI** (*additional number recorded*)

This label was introduced on 1 September 1942 initially for use by the Jamaican examiners censoring terminal mail in the newly-integrated censorship service.

JCH2 handstamp: 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 23, 27, 30 and 34.

Revised dates of use                      EKD: 1 September 1942                      LKD: 5 September 1943

**09-06-29 JL56. OPENED BY / EXAMINER / D./** *(additional number recorded)*

Found with the following censor numbers: 848, 2339, 5717, 6106, 6129, 8801, 8803, 8804, 8810, 8811, 8817, 8824, 8826, 8828, 8829-8832, 8835, 8838 and 8839.

Revised dates of use

EKD: 30 June 1943

LKD: 20 July 1945

**09-06-29 JL56A. OPENED BY / EXAMINER / D./** *(to add)*

This label is also known with a broken serif on the 'Y' of 'BY'.

**09-06-29 JL60. OPENED BY / EXAMINER / D/number**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 15 September 1943

LKD: December 1943

**09-06-30 JL62. OPENED BY / EXAMINER / D./** *(additional numbers recorded)*

This label is recorded with censor numbers 548, 561, 2339, 4140, 4190, 4526, 5662, 6106, 6129, 6383, 8803-8805, 8807-8811, 8817, 8818, 8824-8826, 8829, 8830, 8832, 8833, 8835, 8838-8840, 8844, 8847 and 8849.

Revised dates of use

EKD: 1 February 1944

LKD: 16 December 1944

**09-06-30 JL62A. OPENED BY / EXAMINER / D./ (printed number)**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 2 February 1944

LKD: 2 September 1944

**09-06-30 JL62B. OPENED BY / EXAMINER / D./ (PC90 line moved)** *(additional numbers recorded)*

Found with censor numbers 8824, 8826 & 8834.

**09-06-30 JL62C. OPENED BY / EXAMINER / D./number ('I' added in manuscript)** *(new addition)*

A variety of the JL62B label with the addition of a manuscript letter 'I' before the letter D, and with the examiner number (8801) inserted in manuscript. Only one example seen, with examiner number 8801, used on transit mail (Colombia to USA).

EKD: 28 December 1943

LKD:

**09-06-31 Section IX** *(line 7)*

However, labels with a printed 'ID' code begin to appear earlier in 1942 (from January)...

**09-06-37 JL45A. OPENED BY / EXAMINER number ('ID' added in manuscript)** *(additional number recorded)*

Known used by censor numbers 5403, 5446, 5448 and 6084.

Revised dates of use

EKD: 19 June 1942

LKD: 14 February 1943

09-06-38 **JL48. OPENED BY / EXAMINER number** (*additional number recorded*)

Censor numbers seen: 4381, 4561, 4599, 5610, 6106 and 6129.

Revised dates of use

EKD: 11 June 1941

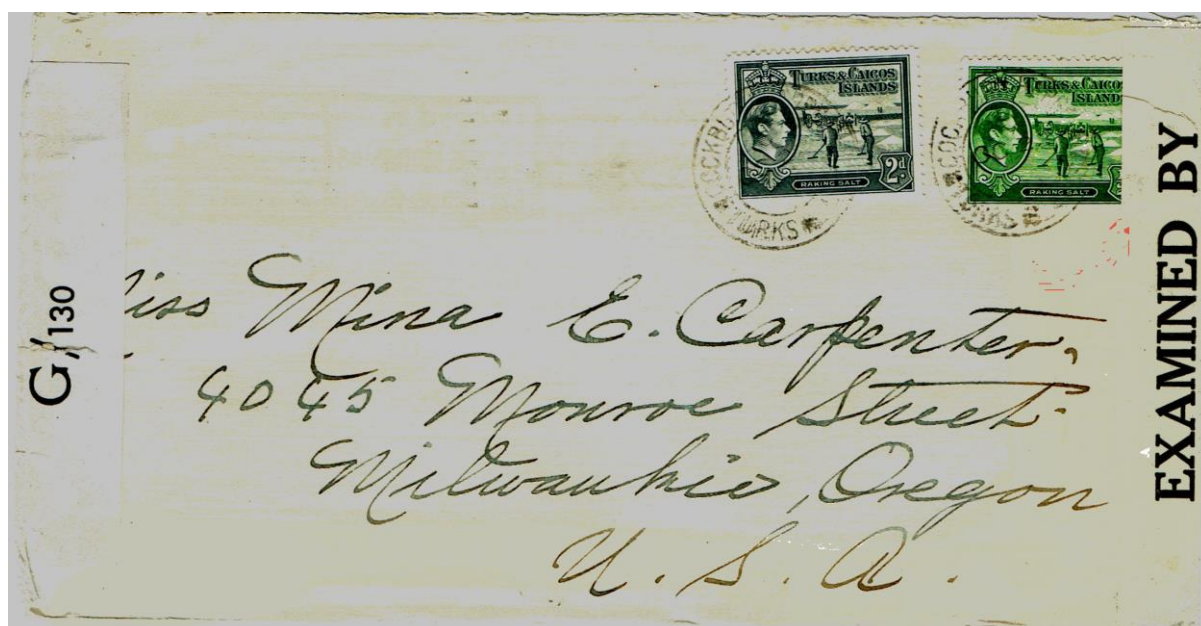
LKD: 11 October 1943

09-06-49 **9 – Winter 1941 – Spring 1942** (*add after 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph*)

This procedure was discontinued in late 1942.

09-06-71 **Section XIII** (*add after 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph*)

Surface mail from the Turks to the US (Oregon) via the Bahamas is known. The cover shown below is postmarked Grand Turk, but was uncensored either in Grand Turk or Jamaica (mailed in Grand Turk on 22 October 1942; postmarked in Nassau 29 October and with a Bahamas type CL1b censor label.

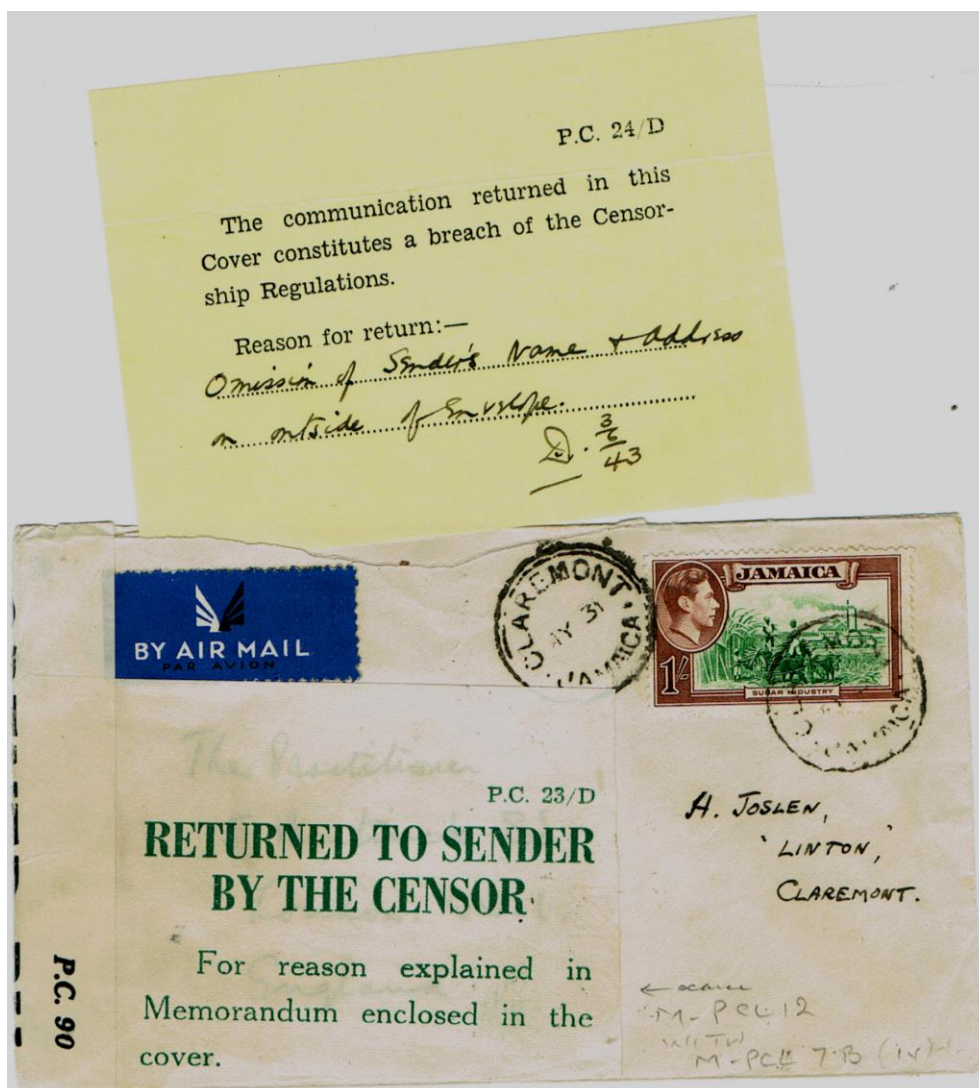


09-06-74 **JL94A. P.C. 24/D Breach of Censorship Regulations notice** (*new addition*)

Printed in black on cream paper, this notice has the notation 'P.C. 24/D' at top right, and four lines of text reading: 'The communication returned in this / Cover constitutes a breach of the Censor- / ship regulations. / Reason for return :--'. Beneath this text are two dotted lines for the reason to be added in manuscript by the censor. In the example shown below, the reason is because the sender had failed to show their name and address on the outside of the envelope. The censor has initialled the form, and added the date (3/6/43). The regulation requiring the sender to give their name and address on the outside of items of mail had been introduced on 20<sup>th</sup> September 1941 (initially applying to both internal and external mail, but on 8<sup>th</sup> November 1942 this was relaxed to only apply to outgoing mail).

EKD: 3 June 1943

LKD:



09-06-85 **APPENDIX 6.4** (*new additions*)

Censor numbers confidently assigned to a period in Jamaica:- (*add*) 2239 & 5142.

09-06-89 **APPENDIX 6.6 WHO WERE THE CENSORS WHO USED THE OCTAGONAL CENSOR HANDSTAMP** (*to add*)

Use of the octagonal handstamps may have been by MI5 operatives, either in the Jamaica Intelligence Centre or in the Dependencies. These are not censor marks of the Imperial Censor Service since they cover the period before the ICS was in charge, and the use of more than one censor marking was expressly forbidden by the ICS. Use of duplicate handstamps in the Jamaica Intelligence Centre could explain why incorrect numbers are seen on covers, for example a D/41 mark on a Turks cover or D/40 on a Jamaican cover. This is also supported by the presence of such handstamps on POW correspondence which was reviewed by military intelligence instead of civil censorship.



## CHAPTER 7

### THE CANADIAN FORCES IN JAMAICA

#### 09-07-4    **CA1. CANADIAN ARMY/OVERSEAS.**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 13 April 1942

LKD: 23 November 1942

#### 09-07-5    **CAU1A. A & S H of C (P.L.) / ORDERLY ROOM**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 6 April 1942

LKD: 23 November 1942

#### 09-07-9    **CAC3B. 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Argyll & Southern Highlanders of Canada**

This marking with number 4 in purple is found both with and without inverted commas around the letter 'Y' (*i.e.* CAC3 and CAC3B).

#### 09-07-11    **CAC4. MILITARY CENSOR / Y FORCE**

Revised dates of use

Purple

EKD: 29 August 1942

LKD: 4 January 1944

#### 09-07-12    **CAC5A. Irish Fusiliers of Canada (The Vancouver Regiment)**

Revised dates of use

Blue

EKD: 17 March 1944

LKD: 20 June 1944

#### 09-07-13    **British Army Censor handstamps on Canadian military mail** (*add to end of 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph*)

Canadian mail is also known with British Army censor mark AC4 (see note on page 09-02-55: Military Censor No.16 on 24 August 1942 cover from 1 Bn. Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders of Canada to Toronto).

#### 09-07-17    **CPS7. ARMED FORCES AIR LETTER** (*new addition*)

An Armed Forces Air Letter (Fig.) bearing a sixpenny Jamaican adhesive stamp is recorded used in Kingston on 30<sup>th</sup> April 1946, the sender's details reading: "Major Ian Morgan / Paymaster 6<sup>th</sup> Hussars / C.A.". Mailed to Queens University in Kingston, Ontario, the sender would appear to have been in the Canadian Army in Jamaica, although the last Canadian unit, the Brockville Battalion of Rifles left the island early in April 1946.





09-07-18    **CA2A. Nimrod Leap**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 12 November 1969

LKD: 14 November 1969

## CHAPTER 8

### AMERICAN FORCES IN JAMAICA

#### 09-08-2    **List of known cacheted mail from visiting US ships:-** *(new additions)*

<b>USS BRIDGEPORT</b>	8 March 1924	destroyer tender AD10
<b>USS MERCY</b>	23 March 1927	hospital ship AH4

*Revised date:*

<b>USS CAMDEN</b>	24 March 1927	submarine tender AS6
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#### 09-08-8    **List of known uncacheted mail from visiting US ships:-** *(new addition)*

<b>USS GREBE</b>	9 March 1939	minesweeper AM43
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#### 09-08-12    **Section III. The General Position in World War II** *(insert at the end of the section)*

Army, Army Air Force, and Navy personnel assigned to Jamaica were served by one APO. It was initially established as APO 804 on 15 March 1941 onboard a ship taking the initial force to Jamaica. It was authorized at Fort Simonds on 17 November 1941 and continued operation until suspended on 5 May 1942. The number was reused in Europe in 1945. With the rationalization needed to support the rapidly growing military, a new number, 861, was established on 1 February 1942, and authorized at Vernan Field on 5 May 1942. Please note that the established or authorized date is when the Post Office Department began accepting mail, not when an APO opened for business. The Postal Concentration Center, or where the mail for the APO was sent by the Post Office, was New York. This was changed to Miami on 1 February 1944, but reverted to New York on 16 October 1949. The APO was closed officially on 6 December 1949, and the number retired on 1 January 1950.

There were 36 temporary APO's authorized. A temporary APO (TAPO) was used for replacement individuals and units coming to an area. Thus, when an individual completed training in the US, they were given a temporary APO for their mail. On arrival, the person was permanently assigned to a unit, and given their permanent APO number. For example a clerk could be assigned to any number of jobs - the specific job would not be assigned until inprocessing. In the case of Jamaica with only one APO, this was a redundant exercise, however, in light of its planned mission as a training base, this would have been an appropriate means of handling the students mail. The table below identifies numbers and dates of service. It is unknown how much mail, if any, was actually processed through these addresses.

#### ***TAPO's ASSIGNED TO APO 804***

APO	AUTHORIZED	CEASED
1882	29 May 1942	October 1945

#### ***TAPO's ASSIGNED TO APO 861***

APO	AUTHORIZED	CEASED	APO	AUTHORIZED	CEASED
1023	12 June 1942	January 1945	1516	12 June 1942	August 1945
1418	12 June 1942	June 1945	1521	12 June 1942	August 1945
1487	12 June 1942	June 1945	1547	12 June 1942	August 1945
1487	12 June 1942	June 1945	1559	12 June 1942	August 1945
1492	12 June 1942	June 1945	1565	12 June 1942	August 1945
1498	12 June 1942	August 1945	1576	12 June 1942	August 1945
1501	12 June 1942	August 1945	1597	12 June 1942	August 1945

APO	AUTHORIZED	CEASED	APO	AUTHORIZED	CEASED
1644	12 June 1942	September 1945	2246		June 1945
1707	12 June 1942	September 1945	2303		
1725	12 June 1942	September 1945	2339	30 July 1942	
1727	12 June 1942	September 1945	2390	3 August 1942	
1762	12 June 1942	September 1945	2391	3 August 1942	
1820	12 June 1942	October 1945	2539	15 August 1942	
1832	12 June 1942		6944	21 November 1942	
1833	12 June 1942		8359	2 December 1942	
2011			10090	23 October 1942	
2057			10354	2 November 1942	
2082					

Further information is available on CD's produced by the Military Postal History Society. "Numbered Army & Air Force Post Office Locations Vol. 1 & 2" by Russ Carter.

#### 09-08-21 **USM1B. MAR. DET. PORTLAND BIGHT/JAMAICA BR**

Revised dates of use    Black    EKD: 20 September 1941    LKD: 19 February 1942

#### 09-08-28 **USNC3(i). NAVY INSPECTOR NO.....**

Revised dates of use    EKD: 2 October 1941    LKD: 16 May 1942

#### 09-08-29 **2. US Navy Postmarks** (*insert after second paragraph*)

U.S. Navy units were also stationed in the Jamaican Dependencies of the Cayman Islands, and the Turks and Caicos Islands.

##### CAYMAN ISLANDS

A Naval Aviation facility was constructed on Grand Cayman to support PBY (Catalina) anti-submarine seaplanes, and originally commissioned 1 May 1942. Up to 4 seaplanes (types PBM [Mariner] and PBY) were stationed there at various times. Mail was directed to Navy Number 512. Flight operations ceased 16 November 1944 with only a weather unit remaining. The facilities were turned over to the US Coast Guard as a weather station in February 1945 and closed in 1946.

##### TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

A submarine hunting unit of (possibly) Patrol Torpedo (PT) boats was located in the North Caicos in 1941 or 1942. No unit identity has been established to date. [Note: These may have been other Navy auxiliary vessels rather than PT boats, per se.].

A US Navy Oceanographic Research Station was built on Grand Turk Island in 1946. This was made permanent in 1957, and the runway at Grand Turk airport later improved by the Seabees (Naval Construction Battalion 7). The purpose was to track Russian submarines passing through the Puerto Rico Trench. It operated initially as Navy Number 104, changed to Navy Branch 17037 until January 1965 when it became FPO 09558. It closed in 1980. See remarks in Section VIII.

#### 09-08-29 **USN1. U.S. NAVY**

A variant of this datestamp has been seen (dated 23 October 1942) with the year and time plugs exchanged.

**09-08-29 USN1A. U.S. NAVY**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 8 August 1942

LKD: 27 August 1942

**09-08-32 USAC4 (Army Unit Usage). PASSED BY/ARMY EXAMINER**

Revised dates of use

101

EKD: 20 September 1941

LKD: 7 March 1942

113

EKD: 6 July 1942

LKD: 19 November 1943

**09-08-35 USA1BB. REGISTERED box**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 15 December 1941

LKD: 20 April 1942

**09-08-35 Returned to Writer (pointing hand) (new addition)**

An American-style instructional mark believed to have been applied by APO 804 in Jamaica, comprising a pointing hand containing the text 'Returned / TO / Writer' above a checklist of reasons for returning (Fig.). The only example seen is on a cover from New York (5 March 1942) to the Jamaica Base Contractors in Kingston, and has 'Moved, Left no address...' as the option selected with a pencil tick mark, and with 'Return to sender' added in pencil at the bottom. The rear of the cover bears an APO 804 datestamp (type USA1) dated 26 March 1942. The letter had been opened for censorship by the Jamaican censors (resealing label at right) and the US Army Censors in Jamaica (USAC4 mark).

EKD: 26 March 1942

LKD:

**09-08-36 USA2. U.S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE/A.P.O. 861**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 5 May 1942

LKD: 6 July 1942

**09-08-36 USA2A. U.S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE/A.P.O.**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 23 November 1942

LKD: 3 May 1943

**09-08-37 USA3. U.S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE/A.P.O.**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 23 February 1944

LKD: 27 May 1948

**09-08-38 USAC4 (continued) (Army Air Force Unit Usage). PASSED BY/ARMY EXAMINER**

Revised dates of use

125

EKD: 28 May 1943

LKD: 11 September 1943

**09-08-41 Section VIII: Post WWII Activities (to be added)****CAYMAN ISLANDS**

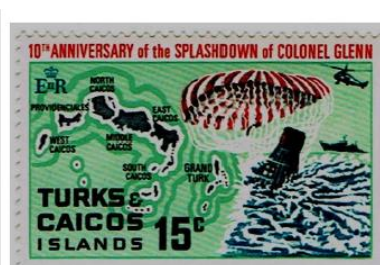
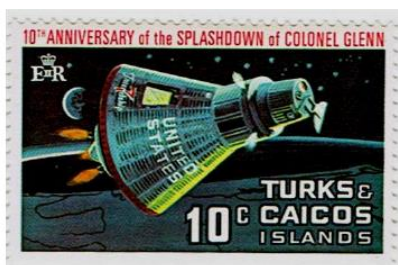
The former Navy seaplane station was converted into a US Coast Guard weather station. It closed in 1946.

**THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS**

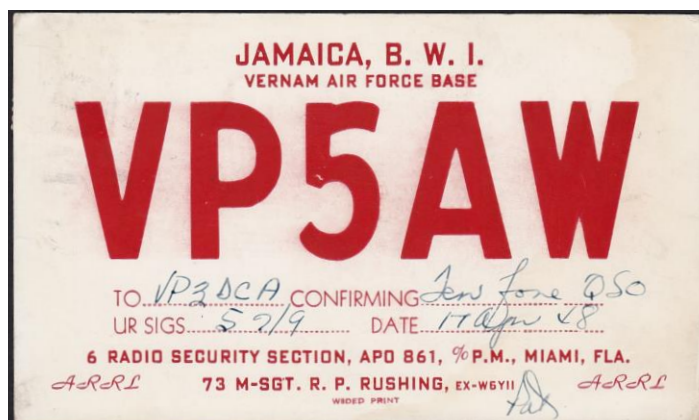
The US Army Air Force, and later the US Air Force had an Aircraft Command and Control radar station on South Caicos Island. This used APO 855 (?) and closed in 1952. Its parent unit, the ACCS was located on Borinquen AB (later Ramey Air Force Base), Puerto Rico (APO 845).

The US Coast Guard LORAN-A navigation station, call-sign (Waldo II), was installed temporarily on Grand Turk adjacent to the Navy base. A permanent station was later built on South Caicos island in 1958. Mail was handled by the US Navy on Grand Turk.

The US Air Force also had a small radar station run by PanAm contractors tracking missiles launched from Patrick Air Force Base (later Cape Kennedy). This facility was turned over to National Aeronautics and Space Administration as a part of the Mercury Project, and later as part of the Atlantic Missile Test. Astronaut John Glenn was recovered from his history-making orbital flight in nearby waters, and transferred to land-based aircraft on Grand Turk. The Turks & Caicos issued a set of stamps commemorating this event. Closure date unknown.

**09-08-42 USAPS4. QSL CARD (A.P.O. 861) (new addition)**

This item is a QSL card (confirming radio contact) of a radio station with call sign VP5AW at Vernam Air Force Base in Jamaica. The card (143 x 86mm) is printed in red ink, and was mailed on 27 May 1948 acknowledging radio contact on 17 April 1948 with radio station VP3DCA – this apparently being within APO 857 according to the postal address. The card is franked with a 1 cent US stamp, cancelled with an APO 861 datestamp type USA3.





09-08-43 **Section IX. Patriotic Covers** *(add to the end of the section)*

Of the over 8,000 patriotic cover designs of WWII listed in 'United States Patriotic Covers in World War II' by Lawrence Sherman, M.D. (1999), only two mention the word Jamaica. If the search is broadened to include Destroyers for Bases, then the total reaches four. It wasn't that most Americans weren't aware of the build-up of the bases - on the contrary, they were quite well informed, but other events overshadowed the base buildup.

There follows a listing of known Jamaican-related covers by Sherman catalogue number, caption and illustration in Volume IX (where shown). The 'xxx' indicates no listing in Sherman.

- xxx1 'U.S. Defense Base Jamaica Portland Bight', p.09-08-20, Fig. 8.24
- xxx2 'United States / Marine Base / Portland Bight / Jamaica' with a copy of the 1919 Return of War Contingent to Jamaica stamp (SG82/Sc79) in an area bounded by an American Flag, a Union Jack, an eagle and a lion.



- 4515 'Marine Detachment, Portland Bight, Jamaica'

Related event covers listed by catalogue number and caption:

- 776 'Bases Leased for 99 Years from Great Britain for 50 Destroyers', p.09-08-9, Fig. 8.12
- 6114 'The Eagle Has Talons, Keep America Free in the Air', shown below (a Gimbels cover)



In addition to these covers, generic or non-location/event specific covers are sometimes seen posted from and to the American forces in Jamaica. Some, like xxx3, were part of a series which was modified for a specific location. Some examples are listed here, but there will be many others:

- 1455 'Commemorating the National Defense Issue'
- 4068 'Let's Keep It the Land of the Free', p. 09-08-43, Fig. 8.45
- 8118 'Flag Billowing with Two Tassels', p. 09-08-16, Fig. 8.18
- xxx3 'From Patriots of Yesterday to Americans of Today...' Webster, stick-on label cachet on FDC of the Defense Issue
- xxx4 'Hemispheric Defense Bases/ First Day of Post Office/ Marine Detachment Jamaica' (shown below)
- 2596 'Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death' multicolored
- 2703 'Home of the Free'
- 2705 'God Bless America / Home of the Free'
- 2706 'God Bless America / We will protect it'





## CHAPTER 9

### PROVINCIAL FORCES

09-09-14 **WIRU4. HQ 1<sup>st</sup> BATTALION / date / The West India Regiment** (*new addition*)

A double ring marking seen struck in either purple or black ink, the lettering around the outside reading 'HQ 1<sup>st</sup> BATTALION' at the top and 'The West India Regiment' at the bottom, all in serif font, with the date in the centre. The outer ring has a diameter of approximately 40mm.

Purple EKD: 27 February 1959

LKD:

Black EKD: 10 November 1961

LKD:

The 1961 example in black ink shows a much more worn appearance than the 1959 strike shown here.



WIRU4

09-09-17 **JRU3. H.Q. 1<sup>st</sup> BATALLION/Jamaica Regiment.** (*note error in spelling*)

Revised dates of use

EKD: 17 December 1962

LKD:

*Correction to dimensions:* a double-lined outer circular marking, 40mm in diameter, with a thin single-lined inner circle, 26mm in diameter.

09-09-17 **JRU3A. H.Q. 1<sup>st</sup> BATALLION/Jamaica Regiment.** (*new addition*)

This handstamp is extremely similar to type JRU3, but with the spelling error now corrected to read 'BATTALION'. The dimensions are the same (outer ring 40mm, inner ring 26mm diameter). Like JRU3 it is struck in purple ink.

EKD: 25 February 1963

LKD: 23 July 1968



JRU3A

09-09-18 **JRU7A. 3<sup>rd</sup> BN THE JAMAICA REGIMENT/National Reserve** (*new addition*)

This handstamp is similar to JRU7 but with less widely spaced lettering, and with stars at the sides separating the upper and lower text. The only example seen has an outer diameter of 37mm and an inner circle measuring 24mm diameter, and is struck in purple ink. The handstamp itself is undated, the date of use being taken from the postal marking cancelling the stamps on the cover.

EKD: 20 July 1971

LKD:



JRU7A

**09-09-18 JRU8. THE JAMAICA REGT / HARMAN / KINGSTON / BARRACKS** *(new addition)*

This handstamp is of a similar style as the JRU2 and JRU2A markings, although the only recorded example is used much later. The outer circle measures around 44mm in diameter (slightly wider than it is tall) and the inner circle is around 30mm diameter. All lettering is slightly crude sans serif style.

EKD: 27 January 1978

LKD:



JRU8

**09-09-18 JRU9. H. Q. 1<sup>st</sup>. BATTALION / date / JAMAICA REGIMENT** *(new addition)*

Bearing the same wording as type JRU3, this more modern marking has all lettering in sans serif capitals, with a datestamp in the centre. With a diameter of approximately 37mm, this marking is struck in purple ink; only seen to date on a philatelic cover bearing a set of the 1977 issue showing the Jamaica Military Band.

EKD: 27 January 1978

LKD:



JRU9

**09-09-21 JDFU2. HEADQUARTERS JAMAICA DEFENCE FORCE**

Revised dates of use    Purple    EKD: 24 July 1964

LKD: 31 August 1971

**09-09-21 JDFU2A. HEADQUARTERS JAMAICA DEFENCE FORCE / "AQ" BRANCH** *(new addition)*

Exactly the same style of handstamp as JDFU2 but with the addition, beneath the date line, of "AQ" BRANCH in sans serif lettering, indicating use by the Adjunct Quartermaster's office.

EKD: 4 December 1962

LKD:



JDFU2A

**09-09-21 JDFU5. MAJOR S.M. STEWART handstamp** *(new addition)*

This is a 5-line text marking of Major Stewart of the Jamaica Defence Force. The five lines are in sans serif font of differing size for the different lines, reading 'MAJOR S.M. STEWART', 'H.Q. JAMAICA DEFENCE FORCE', 'UP PARK CAMP', 'KINGSTON' AND 'JAMAICA'. The only example seen by the authors was applied to the back of an envelope in dark blue ink (not illustrated).

EKD: 13 January 1967

LKD:

**09-09-23 GP6. GARRISON POST OFFICE**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 27 January 1978

LKD: 31 October 1979

**09-09-26 GP12. GARRISON POST OFFICE**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 19 April 1990

LKD: 23 November 1993

09-09-27   **GPR3. Registration handstamp**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 13 April 1992

LKD: 23 November 1993

## CHAPTER 10

### **PATRIOTIC MAIL**

**09-10-8 PT9. The black 'JAMAICA' overprint**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 15 January 1916

LKD: 12 March 1918

**09-10-11 PT13. The 'Half-penny' surcharge**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 11 March 1916

LKD: 3 April 1918

**09-10-19 PT23. The British Bulldog**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 8 January 1941

LKD: 27 April 1943

**09-10-22 PT25D. Red Cross 1945 Victory Drive** *(new addition)*

This item is a further type of envelope inscribed 'Jamaica Central War Assistance Committee' (132mm in length), but with a further inscription above reading 'RED CROSS 1945 VICTORY DRIVE' in 2mm high sans serif capitals (72mm in length). The envelope itself measures 152mm x 90mm, bears a printed address to the 'Royal Bank of Canada, Kingston', and has a printed Official/Free mark in black which is 32mm diameter. There are no postal markings on the only example seen.



**09-10-25 PT29D. CHURCHILL V envelope** *(new addition)*

This patriotic envelope was also produced by G. Minott of Hector's River, and the design is similar to type PT29C, being printed in red and dark blue ink. The only two examples seen are both unused, and thus undated, and one is shown below. The envelope measures 165mm x 92mm.

DESIGNER: G. MINOTT, HECTOR'S RIVER.

DOCKET, SEC. 2 -- -- FILE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

(TO BE FILLED IN BY RECEIVER)

WHEN RECEIVED \_\_\_\_\_ 194

INSIDE DATE \_\_\_\_\_ 194

BRIEF CONTENTS \_\_\_\_\_

REPLY? \_\_\_\_\_ WHEN? \_\_\_\_\_ 194

NATURE OF REPLY \_\_\_\_\_

FOR COPY OF REPLY TO THIS LETTER-  
REFER: LETTER BOOK-  
No. \_\_\_\_\_ PAGE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCKET SEC. 1.

FROM : \_\_\_\_\_

To : \_\_\_\_\_ P.O. \_\_\_\_\_

**V**

CHURCHILL

**09-10-29 PT33I. NEVER BUY --- GERMAN STAMPS**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 24 February 1940

LKD: 21 March 1940

**09-10-41 RX1. Red Cross Message Bureau envelope**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 28 May 1942

LKD: 4 July 1942

## REFERENCES

*Add the following references:*

**Carter, R.** *Numbered Army and Air Force Post Office Locations, Volumes 1 & 2*, 7th Edition, available on CD from Military Postal History Society.

**Carter, R.** *Numbered Navy & Marine Corps Post Office Locations, Volume 3*, 7th Edition, available on CD from Military Postal History Society.

**Commissioner of the Turks & Caicos Islands.** *The Gazette, Turks and Caicos Island, Grand Turk*, 28 March 1942, 6 April 1942 and 17 April 1943.

**Times Publications Ltd.** *Times of the Islands*, published quarterly, containing *The Astrolabe - Newsletter of the Turks & Caicos National Museum*, Providenciales, Turks & Caicos Islands, BWI, ISSN 1017-6853.