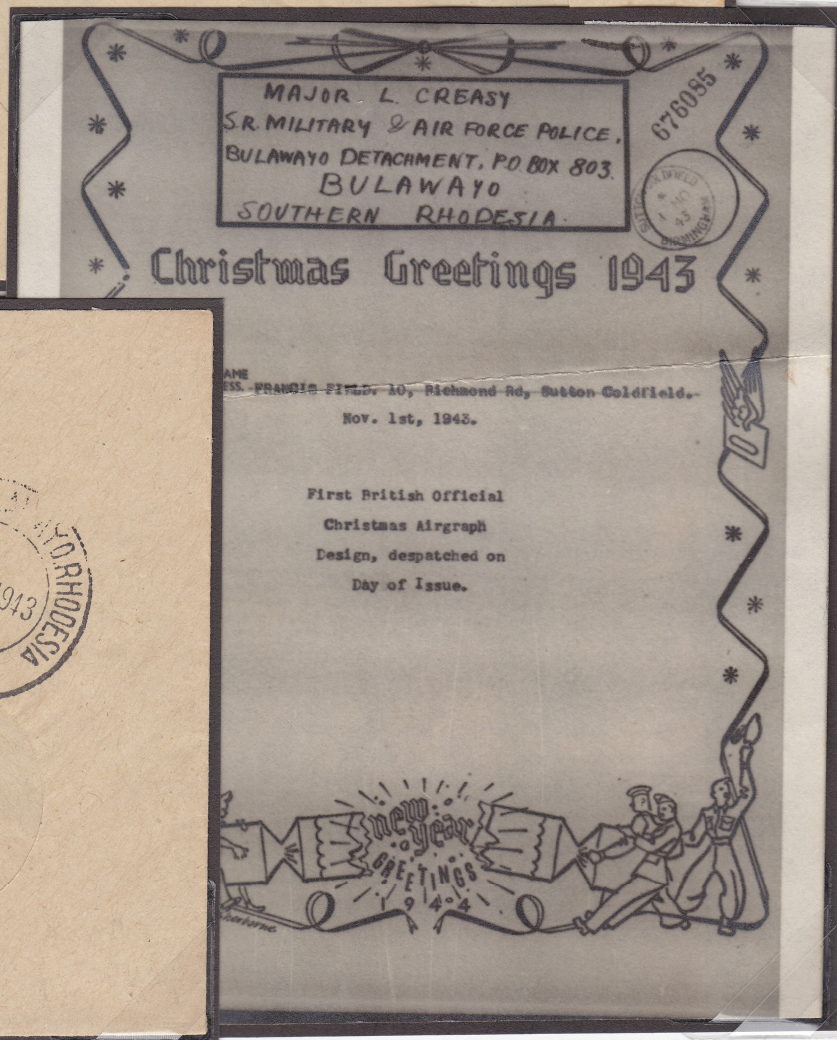


SOUTH AFRICAN ENVELOPES

Airgraphs for Southern Rhodesia processed in Johannesburg were initially sent in the standard South Africa envelope bearing the words AIRGRAPH FOTOBRIEF. Later a separate printing of envelopes for Southern Rhodesia was done without the Afrikaans word FOTOBRIEF.

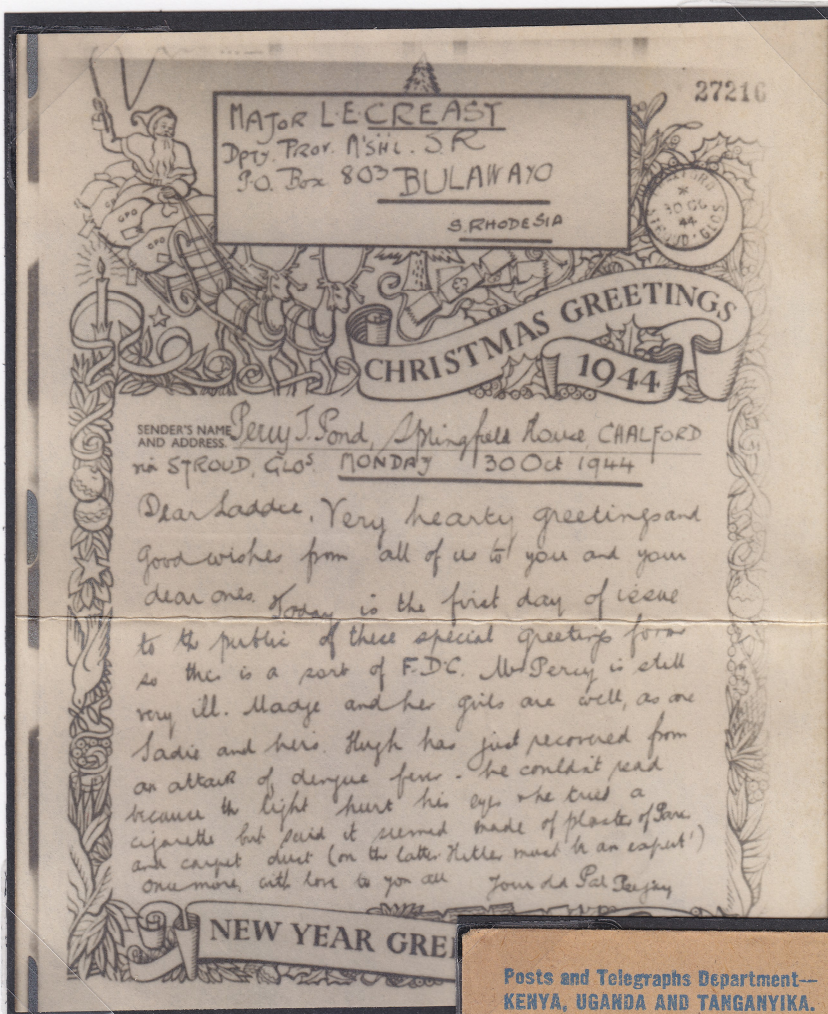
The first Airgraph to A Morgan was sent from Barry, Glamorgan on 11 SEP 42. The envelope is dated Bulawayo on 10 OCT 42 - passage time of 29 days. The second Airgraph to Major L. Creasy was sent from Birmingham on 1 NOV 43. The envelope is dated at Parcels Bulawayo 20 DEC 43 - passage time of 49 days.



EAST AFRICAN ENVELOPE

The Airgraph service into Southern Rhodesia was mainly processed in Nairobi, Kenya, from late 1943 onwards. When the printing was done in Nairobi the standard Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika envelope was used. This one is cancelled at Bulawayo on 21 DEC 44.

The Airgraph (Great Britain 1944 Christmas) is addressed to Major L.E. Creasy and dated 30 OCT 44 at Caalford. Passage time was 52 days.



CHRISTMAS AIRGRAPHS - NORTHBOUND

In Postal Notice 23 of 1943, issued on 7 October 1943, the Acting Postmaster General announced that a limited number of airgraph forms with Christmas greetings printed on them would be available between 15 November and 4 December 1943 at all post offices. The surplus stock of forms was made available for Christmas 1944.

The form used was the standard South African form (Keeton SA/4) and was probably overprinted by the Government Printer in Salisbury.

P. 1122.

The Address must be written in LARGE BLOCK LETTERS wholly within the postal envelope.

The address must NOT be typewritten.

Read Instructions overleaf. Write the message in ink very plainly below this line.

Sender's Name and Address: *Edward, New Year's Gift*
P.B. Umfolosi, S.R.

Date: *23 Nov. 1943*

Free Lance
Churt
MISS CARSON *Farnham*
~~THE CHALET~~
~~HIMBREAD~~
ENGLAND SURREY

681506 G.P.S.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR
GREETINGS
from
SOUTHERN RHODESIA

Message:— My dear H. — I was delighted to get airgraph of 27th Oct. with its news of your having found winter quarters. I am sending this to the Chalet as you don't give me a definite address. Besides your airgraph I have had letters of 26th Oct. and 8th Sept. (from Oxford) — which I will answer next post. Duke & Arthur are in Salisbury and he seeing the children. I note you have sent etc. for them, which will be thankfully received. This is just a p.s. to my last. The printed greetings fill up the sheet most adequately. Much love. E.

This space should not be used.

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS & TELEGRAPHS
SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

POSTAL NOTICE No. 23 of 1943.

CHRISTMAS GREETING AIRGRAPHS.

IT is notified for public information that a limited number of airgraph forms with Christmas Greetings printed thereon will be on sale at all Post Offices at the usual charges of 3d. and 8d. each from the 15th November until the 4th December next or such earlier date if supply becomes exhausted.

A. T. HARPHAM,
Acting Postmaster General.

General Post Office,
Salisbury.
7th October, 1943. Gen. A. 1409/11

Printed for the Government Stationery Office by The Rhodesian Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., Salisbury.

Postal Notice for
Christmas 1943

P. 1122.

The Address must be written in LARGE BLOCK LETTERS wholly within the postal envelope.

The address must NOT be typewritten.

Read Instructions overleaf. Write the message in ink very plainly below this line.

Sender's Name and Address: *Angela, Mrs. Greasy*

Date: *9th Nov. 1944*

DEPUTY
PROVOST MARSHAL
S.R.
MILITARY & AIR FORCE
POLICE
P.O. Box 4023
PHONE NO. 4023
AGENCY CHAMBERS,
ENGLAWAYO

F. J. FIELD ESQ.,
SUTTON COLDFIELD,
ENGLAND.

695099
485035
G.P.S.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR
GREETINGS
from
SOUTHERN RHODESIA

Message:— A very poor design, I think, and the same as last year.

Alfred

This space should not be used.

CHRISTMAS AIRGRAPHS - SOUTHBOUND

Two examples of Christmas greetings Airgraphs sent south to Southern Rhodesia.

The one for 1942 is on a standard British form (Keeton GB/9) gives the history of the Pigeon Post from Paris in 1870.

The 1943 Christmas greeting is one of many examples of illustrated Airgraphs for that year.

Write address in large BLOCK letters wholly within this panel →

The address must NOT be typewritten.

TO:- MR. A. MORGAN,
PO BOX 596.
BULAWAYO.
S. RHODESIA.

112519
12 50 5
CRWINGHAM

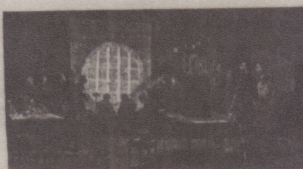
Write the message very plainly below this line.

The proprietors and Editor of "The Aero Field" send their greetings for Christmas and the New Year by the 72 years old method that has been revived in the present emergency.

These illustrations of the 1870 service transmitted by the new method are an interesting souvenir of both events.



Inflating the balloons by which pigeons for flying the micro-photographic messages into the city were carried from Paris.



On arrival in Paris the pigeon post "Air-graphs" were enlarged by a lantern for transcription.

By Command of the Postmaster-General.

GENERAL POST OFFICE.
10th November, 1918.
(British P. O. Notice of 1870.)

THE Director-General of the French Post Office has informed this Department that a special Despatch, by means of Carrier Pigeons, of correspondence addressed to Paris has been established at Tours, and that such Despatch may be made use of for brief letters, or notes, originating in the United Kingdom, and forwarded by post to Tours.

Persons desirous of availing themselves of this mode of transmission must observe the following conditions:-

Every letter must be posted open, that is, without any cover or envelope, and without any seal, and it must be registered.

No letter must consist of more than twenty words, including the address and the signature of the sender, but the name of the addressee, the place of his abode, and the name of the sender—although composed of more than one word—will each be counted as one word only.

No figure must be used, the number of the house of the addressee must be given in words.

Combined words joined together by hyphens or apostrophes will be counted according to the number of words making up the combined word.

The letters must be written entirely in French, in clear, intelligible language. They must relate solely to private affairs, and no political allusion or reference to the War will be permitted.

The charge for these letters is five pence for every word, and this charge must be prepaid, in addition to the postage of cipher for a single registered letter addressed to France.

The Director-General of the French Post Office, in notifying this arrangement, has stated that his office cannot guarantee the safe delivery of this correspondence, and will not be in any way responsible for it.

MAKE SURE THAT THE ADDRESS IS WRITTEN IN LARGE BLOCK LETTERS IN THE PANEL ABOVE

M 1003
CPL. SHEPHERD, A.E. 505351

1st RHODESIAN FLD AM
PARK RIVER CAMP
UMTALI, So. RHODESIA

Christmas Greetings 1943

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS. James A.R. Dryden, 5 Comely Bank Rd., Edinr. 4.

My dear Alex,

Here's wishing Hilda and you a Very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

How are you keeping? I hope you are very much better. I have just come out of hospital after another spell of 8 weeks during which I was twice on the table. These fistulas seem to be the very devil to heal. Mine is still discharging and the operations have been of no use.

Alex Cosser is back from West Africa and I got a great surprise when he walked into the ward one afternoon. I thought he was still in Sierra Leone. He has a baby daughter. Peter Wilkie was married recently.

Do you remember Charlie Campbell, the little chap next door? He is a Lieut. Colonel. Gosh, how time flies. He has a son.

I have resigned from the S.F.S. I had a nasty letter from Stevens but he's a funny chap.

All the best for now,

Yours aye,

Jimmy



CHRISTMAS AIRGRAPHS - SOUTHBOUND

Two examples of Christmas greetings Airgraphs sent south to Southern Rhodesia in 1944.

The first, on a standard British form (Keeton GB/19), is from the Recce HQ of 21 Army Group, with the Polish badge and the greeting in Polish.

The second is one of many examples of the illustrated Airgraphs for that year (Stephen 44/8), and, although sent to Major LE Creasy, is clearly not produced for the philatelic trade.

Write the address in large BLOCK letters in the panel below.
The address must NOT be typewritten.

561171

TO:-
MAJOR L.E. CREASY,
DEPUTY PROVOST MARSHAL,
BULAWAYO,
S. RHODESIA.

Write the message very plainly below this line.

Sender's address: *Det. Adv. Recce HQ 21 Army Group - S.L.A. XMAS 1944*



*Świętdecznie Królowia
Świąteczne i Noworoczne*

Jimmy

This space should not be used.

MAK SURE THAT THE ADDRESS IS WRITTEN IN LARGE BLOCK LETTERS IN THE PANEL ABOVE

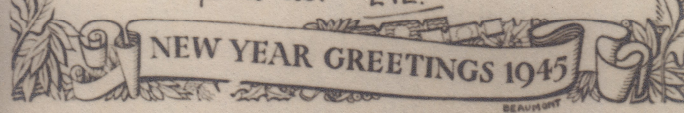
931317

MAJOR L.E. CREASY,
DEPUTY PROVOST MARSHAL
Box. 803
RHODESIA BULAWAYO



NAME: *L.M. Cook, The Mount, Whitchurch, Oxon.*
ADDRESS: *Nov. 1944.*

Dear Leonard - Joyes
Just a few lines to send my
best wishes to you. It is long since I heard from you
& I hope you are all well. I expect your grandchildren
are lovely. Hilda has two little girls & a boy of
8 months. Mother is about the same, she is always
in bed now but is very contented. What is Nigel
doing now? I know he is very clever. I often wonder
how long it will be before you come home -
not long I hope! My best love and good
wishes - I shall think of you on Christmas Day!
Yours ever L.L.



INDIAN CHRISTMAS 1944 GREETINGS AIRGRAPH FORM

Airgraph form printed in India (Keeton IN/46B), probably not processed as there was no service to Southern Rhodesia from India, but paid for and passed censor - see copy of the back.

The address should be written in large BLOCK letters, measuring AT LEAST A QUARTER OF AN INCH IN HEIGHT and wholly within this panel >>>

The address MUST NOT be typewritten.

(D)

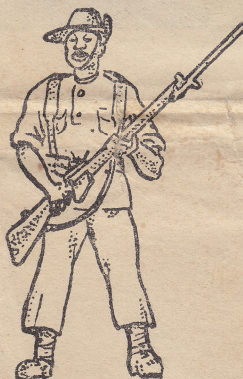
To MR W. E. LLOYD.
P. O. WEST NICKOLSON
VIA BULAWAYO.
S. RHODESIA



To wish you
A Happy Christmas
and
Good Luck



in
1945

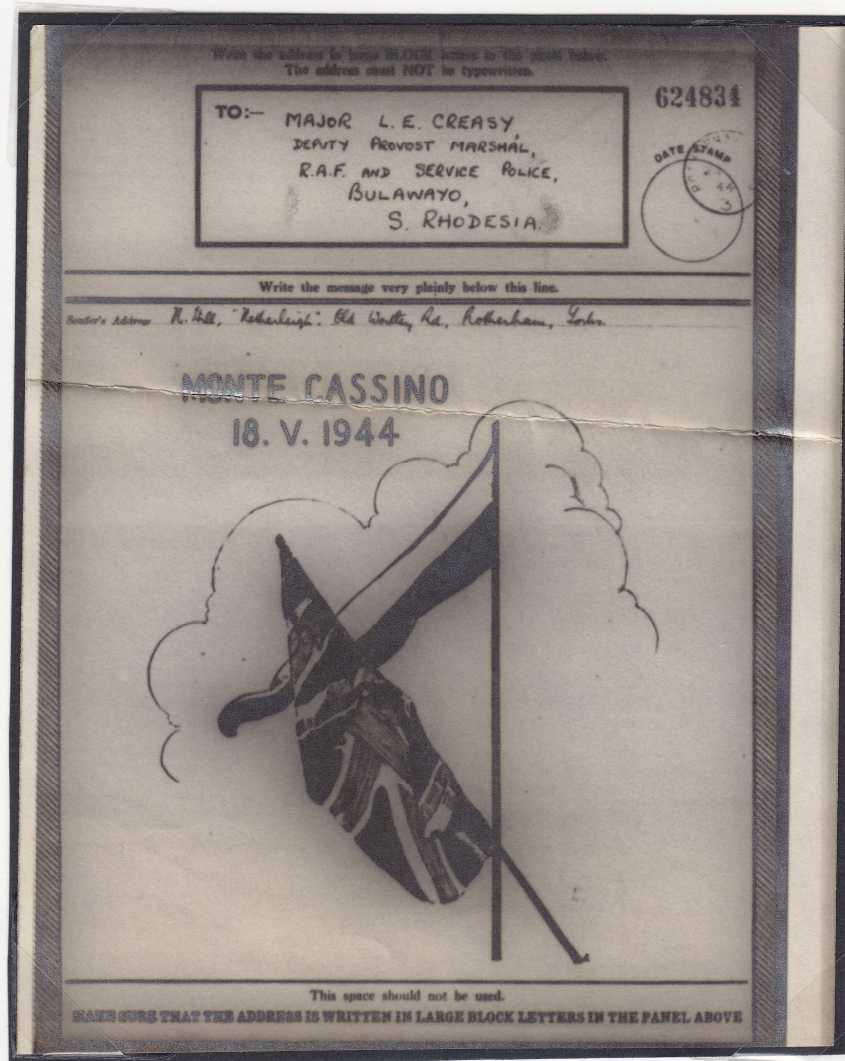


CELEBRATORY AIRGRAPHS

Many Airgraphs were produced to celebrate significant events in the latter part of the war.

The Airgraph below celebrates the last day of the battle for the Abbey of Monte Cassino about 130 km south-east of Rome. On 18 May 1944 Polish troops of the 8th Army finally entered the Abbey after the withdrawal of German forces. The monastery was virtually destroyed in the fighting and by the bombing by the Allied air forces.

The Airgraph (Keeton GB/17) is addressed to Major L E Creasy. The date stamp is indistinct.



LAST DESPATCH OF AIRGRAPHS ON CLOSURE OF SERVICE

The last day of the Airgraph service to and from Southern Rhodesia and Great Britain was 31 July 1945

Airgraph (Keeton GB/16) to Major N Creasy from Norman Hill of Rotherham. This last Airgraph from the UK is from the same address as the first known Airgraph sent to the UK on the RAF concessionary service to 'Miss Hill' in November 1941

Airgraph (Keeton SA/4) from Major L E Creasy in Bulawayo to Francis Field, who edited 'The Aero Field', in Sutton Coldfield, England

Write the address in large BLOCK letters in the panel below.
The address must NOT be typewritten.

TO:- MAJOR N.H. CREASY,
DEPUTY PROVOST MARSHAL,
BULAWAYO,
S. RHODESIA.

921082

DATE STAMP
JUL 31 1945
SOUTHERN RHODESIA

Write the message very plainly below this line.

Sender's Address: "Netherleigh",
Old Witley Rd.,
Rotherham.

31st. July, 1945.

Farewell to a wonderful Service!

1941 - 1945.

T.

This space should not be used.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE ADDRESS IS WRITTEN IN LARGE BLOCK LETTERS IN THE PANEL ABOVE.

P. 1173

The Address must be written in LARGE BLOCK LETTERS within the panel alongside.

The address must NOT be typewritten.

Read Instructions carefully. Write the message in ink very plainly below this line.

Sender's Name and Address:
The Editor
"The AEROFIELD"
SUTTON COLDFIELD,
ENGLAND

130023

921083

DATE STAMP
JUL 31 1945
SOUTHERN RHODESIA

31st, July, 1945

—SOUTHERN RHODESIA—

AIRGRAPH SERVICE ENDS

15th November 1941—31st July 1945.

L. Creasy

This space should not be used.