

NYASALAND AND NORTHERN RHODESIA CIRCULAR SKELETON CANCELS

A Banks 2026

C D Twynam, (co-author of the Nodder and Twynam postmark book), is mentioned a number of times throughout this display. He was a noted philatelist who lived in Nyasaland and was a source of much information on postmarks and postal history.

NYASALAND TYPE 16 DOUBLE CIRCLE SKELETONS

These types, dimensions 32:21mm, are found used from 1932 to 1950, both as cachets and as temporary marks when offices first opened, or special offices opened for a limited period. Most of the postmarks are very rare, although some of the cachets are less so. All lettering in these marks is removable, meaning a lot of variation in positioning, and different abbreviations for 'Nyasaland', although some have no country name at all. All known types are illustrated here, in alphabetical order, except Balaka, which although recorded by Nodder and Twynam has not been seen recently. Others may well exist.

Delivered in London
4 April 1932 - 2 p.m.

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



G. J. M. Farlane Esq.
St Thomas's Hospital
Lambeth Palace
London
England.



Air Fee Paid Limbe, 19 MR 1932, a cachet, thought to have been used when mail left out of the normal airmail by mistake had to be specially handled.

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



Mrs. Inglis,
"Gorsewood"
Strutton Road
Beaconsfield
Bucks.
Hillcroft
Slangerly
in Ringwood
Slants.
2



England.

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



Lennards Limited,

Bristol



Air Fee Paid, AP 17 1935, and
Air Fee Paid Nysld, 27 DE 1935
presumably used in the same way.



Mr G. L. Ricketts
36, Chancery Square
London. W. 2.
England.

Blantyre Prepaid, Twynam stated that this was repaired after the damage that can be seen in the second scan, although later examples have the same curious date setting for a while after. The O between the words was also later dropped, possibly a new canceller, and the last scan shows a more normal date setting



original state (1935)



damaged



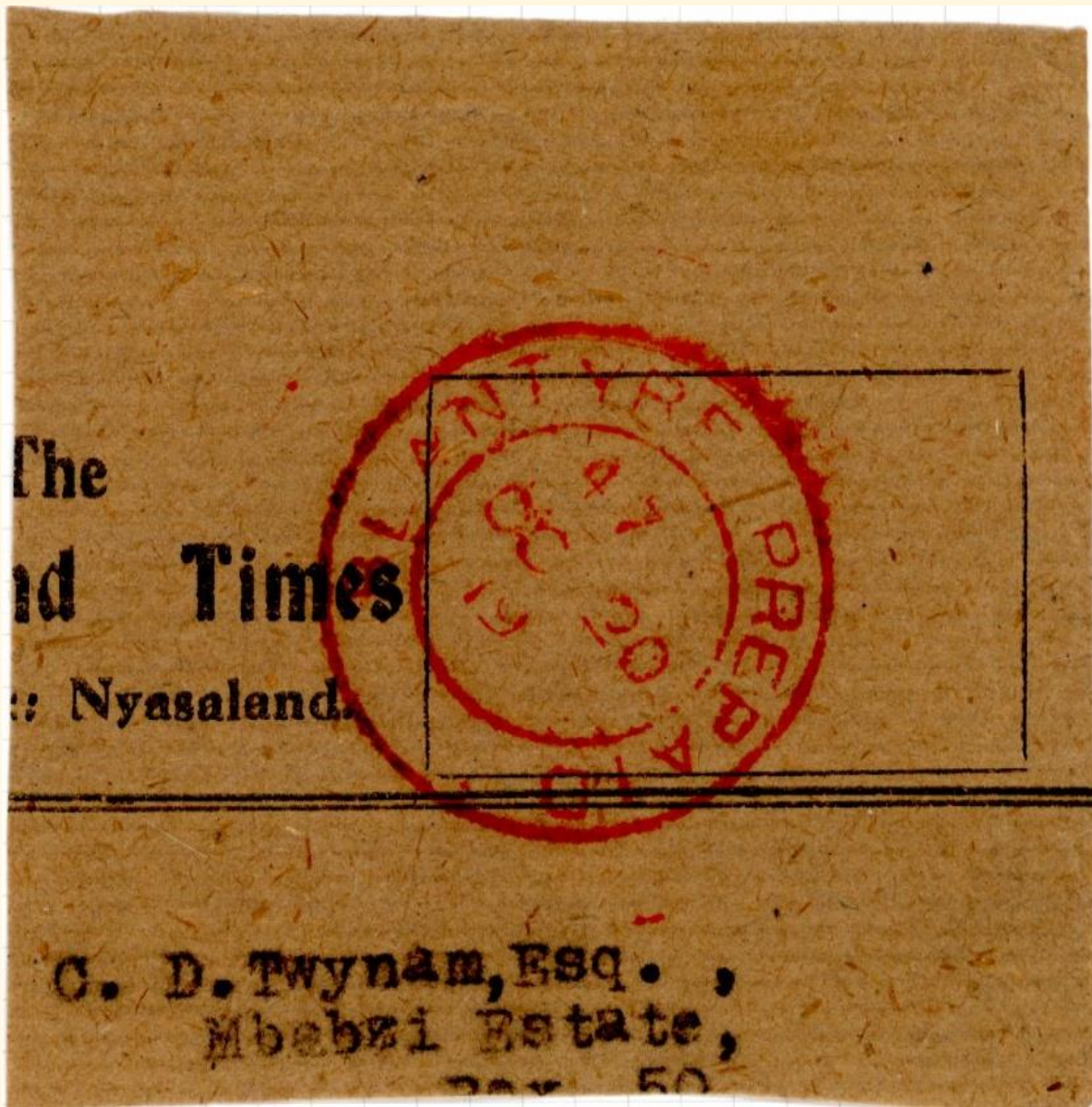
repaired?



later 1947 use (no O)



more normal date



Part of a newspaper wrapper addressed to Twynam in 1947

Blantyre Official, showing the same unusual format for the date, 47/OC 7/19
Only example known



Chileka Nyasaland, used
at the airport during the
air rally 23 to 30 May 1933



K. S. Loughe,
and Railway, Ltd.
Limb.

Chileka (only), ‘normal’ temporary mark used when the post office opened in 1936. According to Nodder and Twynam this was at the airport



Domasi, used for about
a week when first
opened, August 8 1950



both covers posted on day of opening

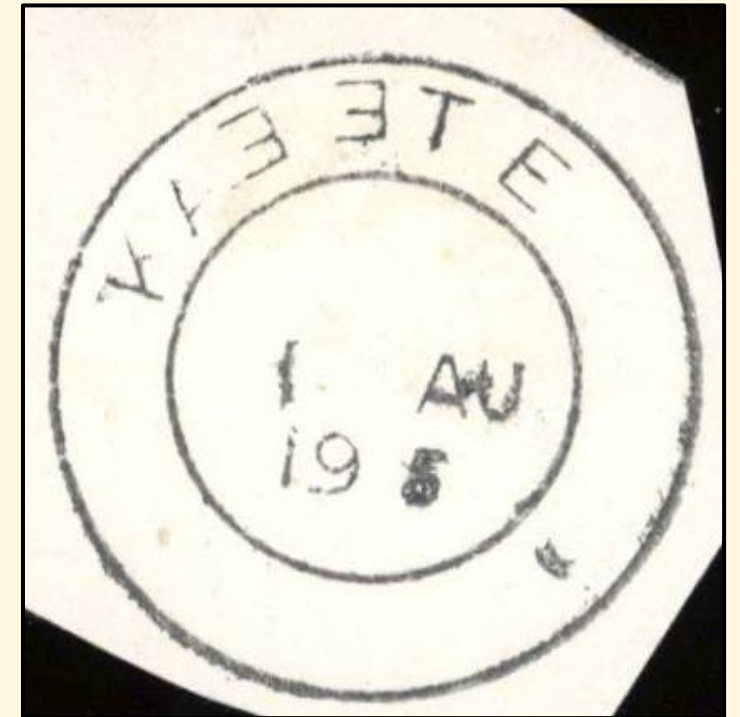
Ekwendeni, used for about a year when first opened in June 1933. The two stamps to the right are dated JU 1 1934, first day for this issue.



Embangweni Nyas(aland?), used when first opened,
May 1936, these copies used in June 1936



Katete, mixed up
lettering, not known
postally used



First Nyd Airmail, cachet used for the first flight from Zomba to Lilongwe.



Some covers sent from Limbe had the wrong year, 23 for 33 on the datestamp, these received a correction from the postmaster, as above.

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

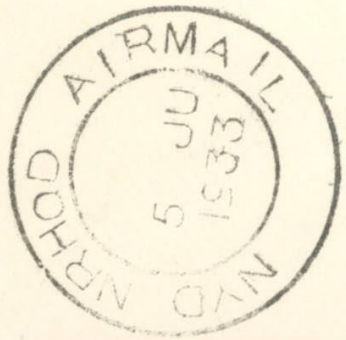
ZOMBA-LILONGWE-FORT JAMESON
R.A.F., 1933



NYASALAND
AIR MAIL



Nyd NRhod Airmail, cachet
used for the flight on to Fort
Jameson in N. Rhodesia



Mr. N. W. Th
C/o W. Mac
A. L.
Fort
NO

5. VI. 33
By first NYASALAND Air Mail
TO EXTERNAL DESTINATION

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

SMOKE NYASALAND TOBACCO



N. RHODESIA

W. D. POTLOCK Esq RE

P.O. FORT JAMESON

See over →

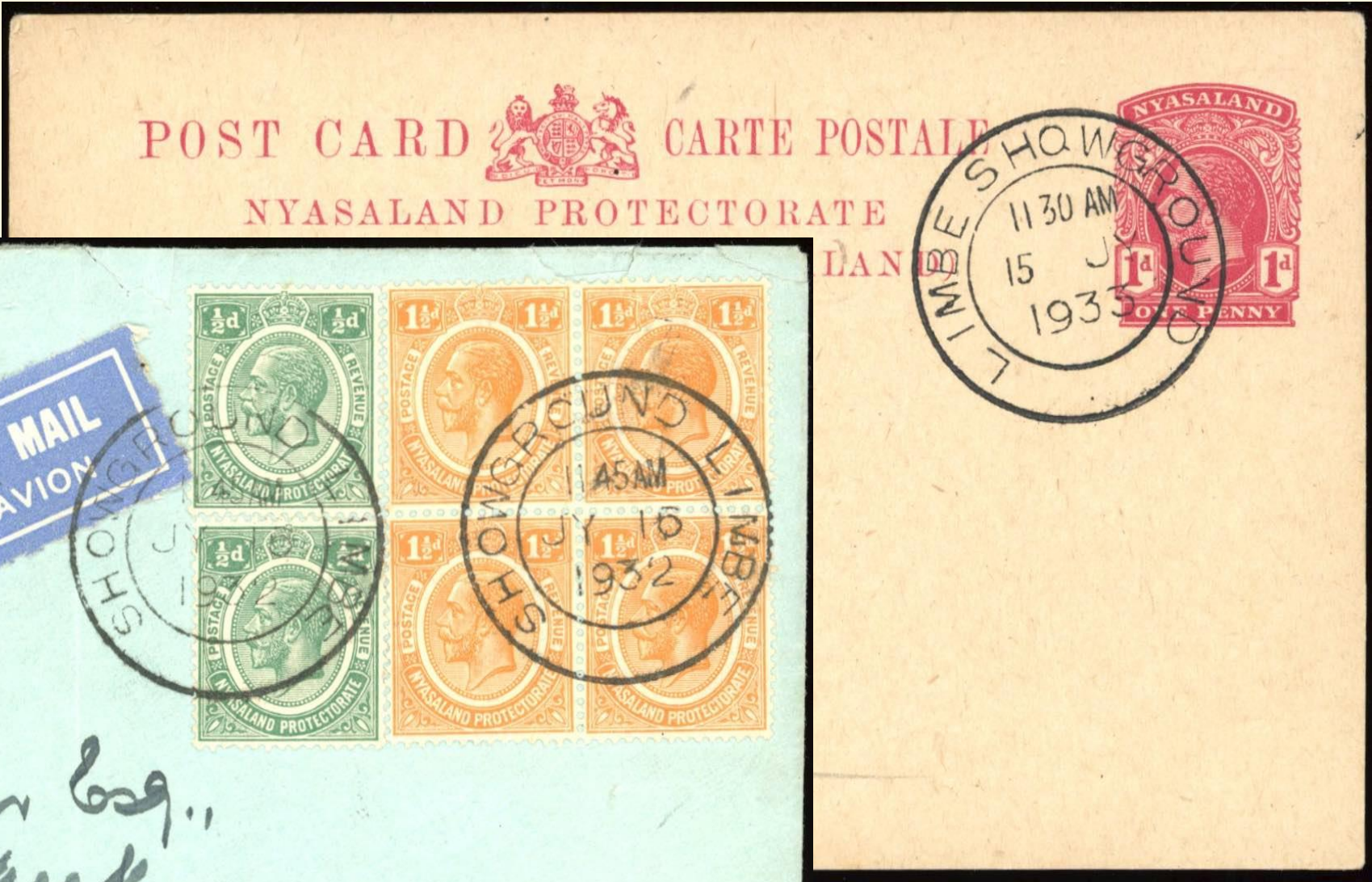
This and the previous cachet are
the commonest type 16 marks

Likoma Island, used for a year after
re-opening, 1 12 34. Inner circle is
incomplete on this mark



4 (day) inverted

Showground Limbe and
Limbe Showground
Used at the show in 1932
and 1933 for one day only



William Jenkin Esq.,
Edward Street,
Rosedaleport,
Transvaal, S. Africa.

Agric Show Limbe, used at the show in 1934 (with time) and 1935, and **Showground Limbe** used again in 1938, with time added. Examples from 1936 and 1937 not seen



Lombadzi, used for a few days each year from 1932-7 during the tobacco buying season. All years have been recorded, examples shown here are from 1933, 34, 35 and 37. A permanent office was opened here in 1961 called Lumbadzi



Loudon Nyasaland, used when first opened in 1934 for a year or so



Malamulo, used from opening in 1935



Mlangeni Nyasald, known
used early 1931



Njakwa, used for about a year after opening, August 1947. PO name position varies
Cover shows various Nyasaland postmarks including Njakwa type 16, 4 JY 1948

Njakwa, well to
the right



Nkatabay Nyasaland, known
used for a few months after
re-opening, 11 6 1934



strike showing first day of use



MISSION CATHOLIQUE
du Saint-Coeur de Marie

Palombé, Fort Lister, P.O.
Nyasaland, Afrique.

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



J. MONTEILS

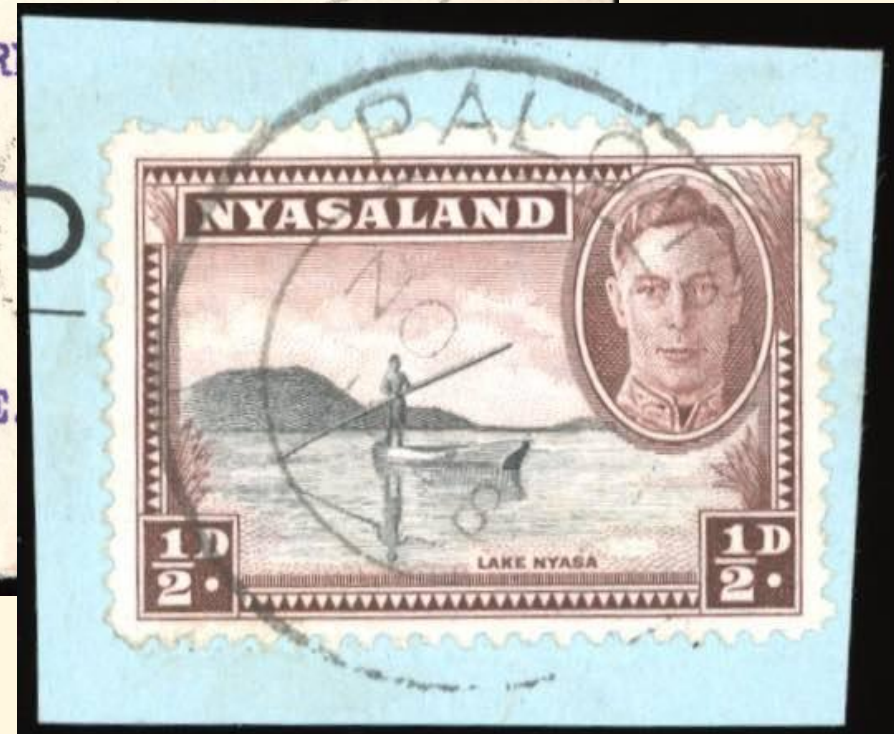
DIRECTEUR du GUIDE MISSIONNAIRE

20, RUE de la CHAISE,

S^t Benoit

PARIS (7^e)

FRANCE



Palombe Nyasaland, known used
for a few months from
opening 1 7 1935

Palombe (only) one copy known NO 2 1948 ²³

Tekerani, known used for a few months after opening 1 8 1934



strike showing first day of use

Vua Nyasaland, and Nyasaland Vua,
presumably different settings of the same
mark, known used early 1940



NYASALAND TYPE 17 SINGLE CIRCLE SKELETONS

Type 17 (31mm), was brought into use in 1950; a number of offices opened in the early fifties, and most of them initially used this skeleton. All lettering in these types is removable, this results in variation in positioning, also inverted letters etc. Last known year of use in Nyasaland is 1957. Again, most are scarce.

Twynam acquired examples of many of these type 17s, and sometimes these are the only dates known. In order to get the most individual postmarks from his covers he was happy to cut the postmarks out regardless of the stamps, so many of his examples involve a partial stamp. His copies tended to involve one date, so other dates are scarcer where they exist.

Here are some examples:



Benga PO, 23 and 25 NO 56 known, **CR SO Limbe** (Churchill Road Sorting Office), 5 JY 54 only date seen, a few copies noted.



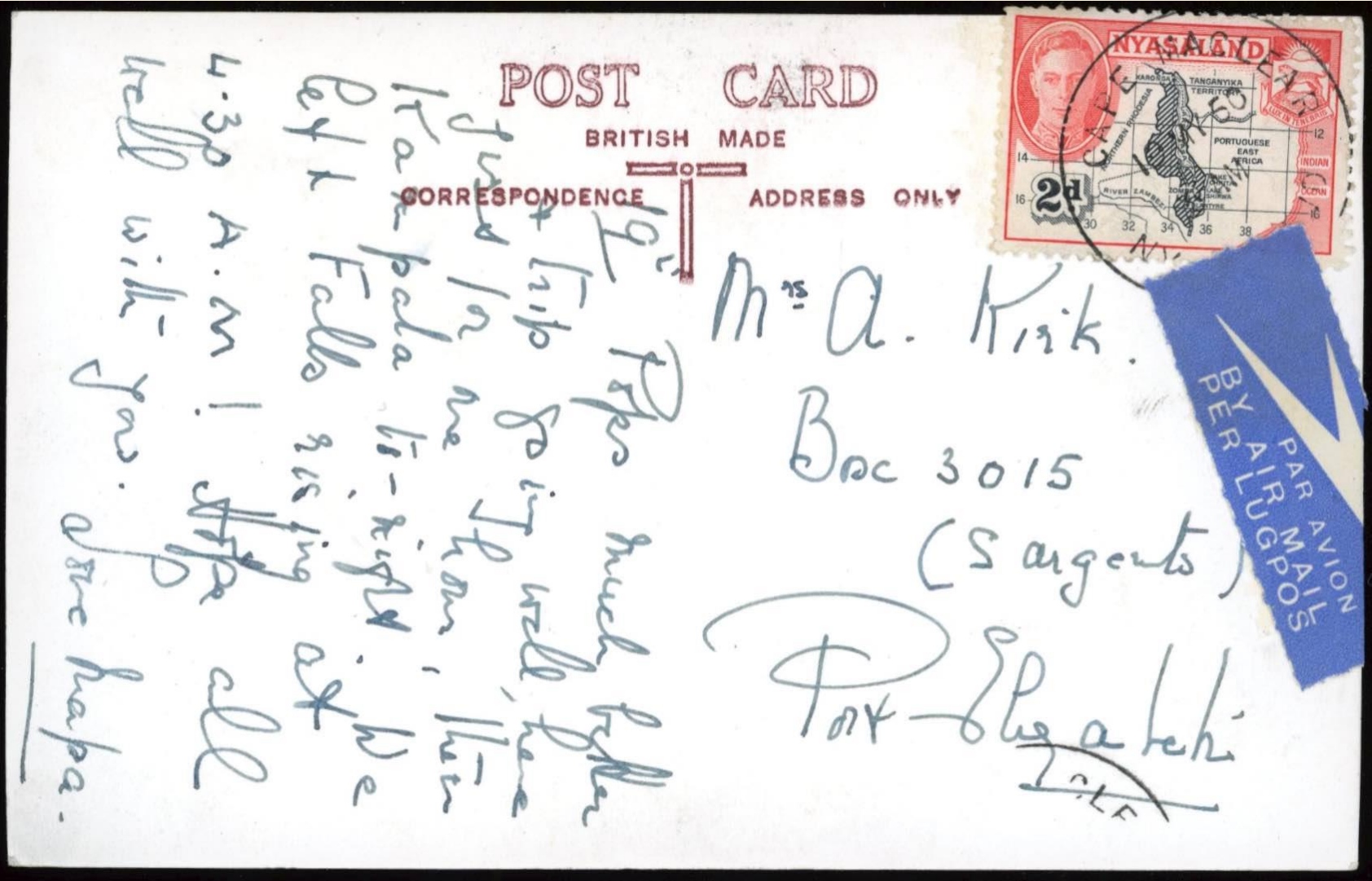
Embangweni, only example seen





Cape Maclear, only type used at this office which was opened in connection with the flying boat service, 24 April 50. Used for a few months before postal business was moved to Monkey Bay

Cape Maclear showing
inverted Y in Nyasaland
seen in June and July (50)



Y normal

Chikwina, used when first opened, 18 October 51, for a few months



Chileka, used for over a year when re-opened in 1953. Small changes in spacing and date setting over the period of use.



Chileka, no Nyasaland at base; according to Twynam, this was used at the airport. Only this one date is known, examples presumably cut from the same cover.





FEDERATION OF RHODESIA AND NYASALAND.
REGISTERED LETTER.

THIS LETTER MUST BE GIVEN TO AN OFFICER OF THE POST OFFICE
TO BE REGISTERED, AND A RECEIPT OBTAINED FOR IT.
THE ADDRESS MUST BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

66386

To the Editor.

"The African Listener"

OR

The Editor of

"LOOK UP"

P.O. Box 208
LUSAKA,
N. R.



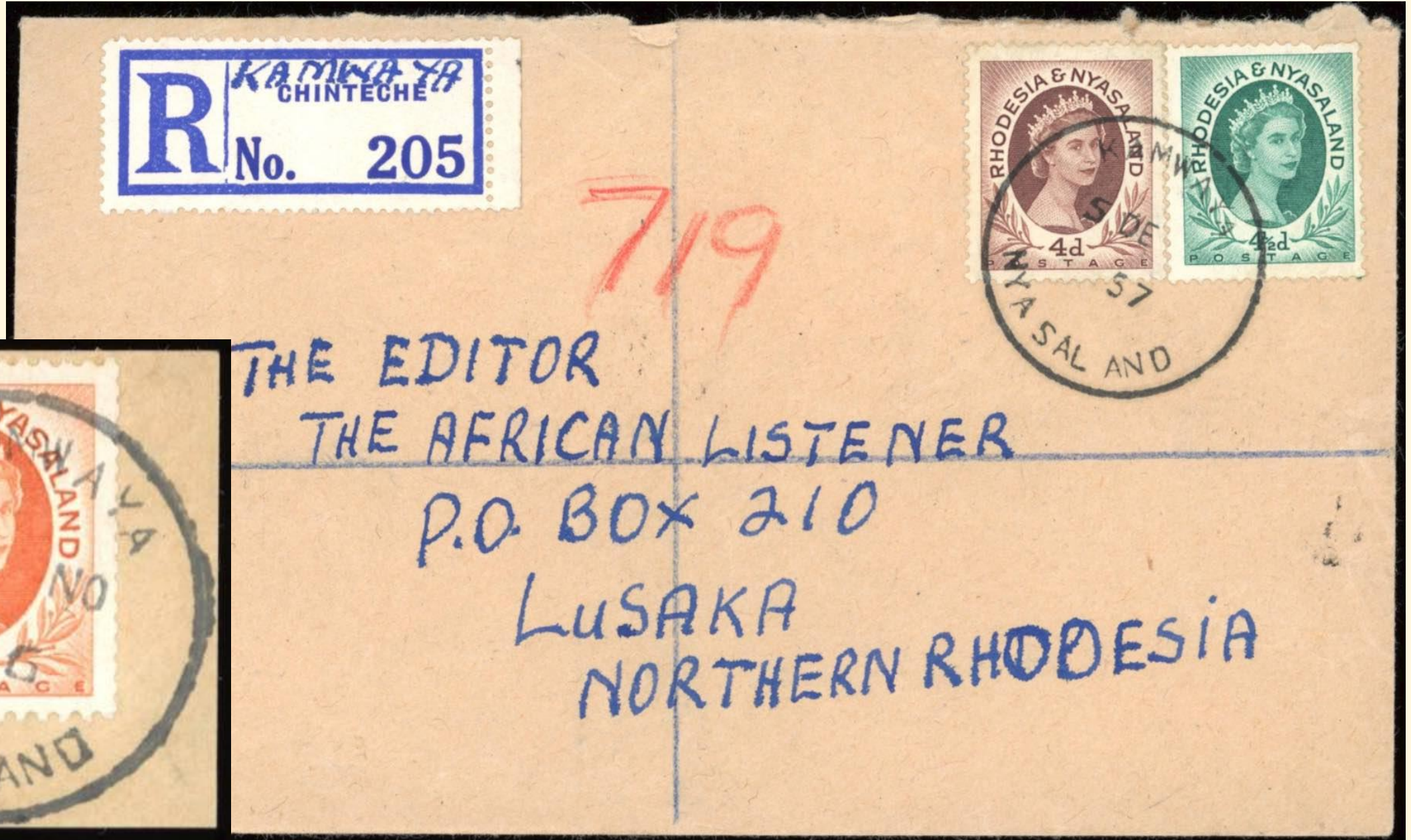
Chingale PA, used for a few months from opening, 15 August 1955. Two different date settings on these examples

Domasi, mark was used for about a week in June 1952



Kamwaya, originally opened in 1955, apparently closed for a while before re-opening in July 1957.

Latest use of
this type of
canceller in
Nyasaland



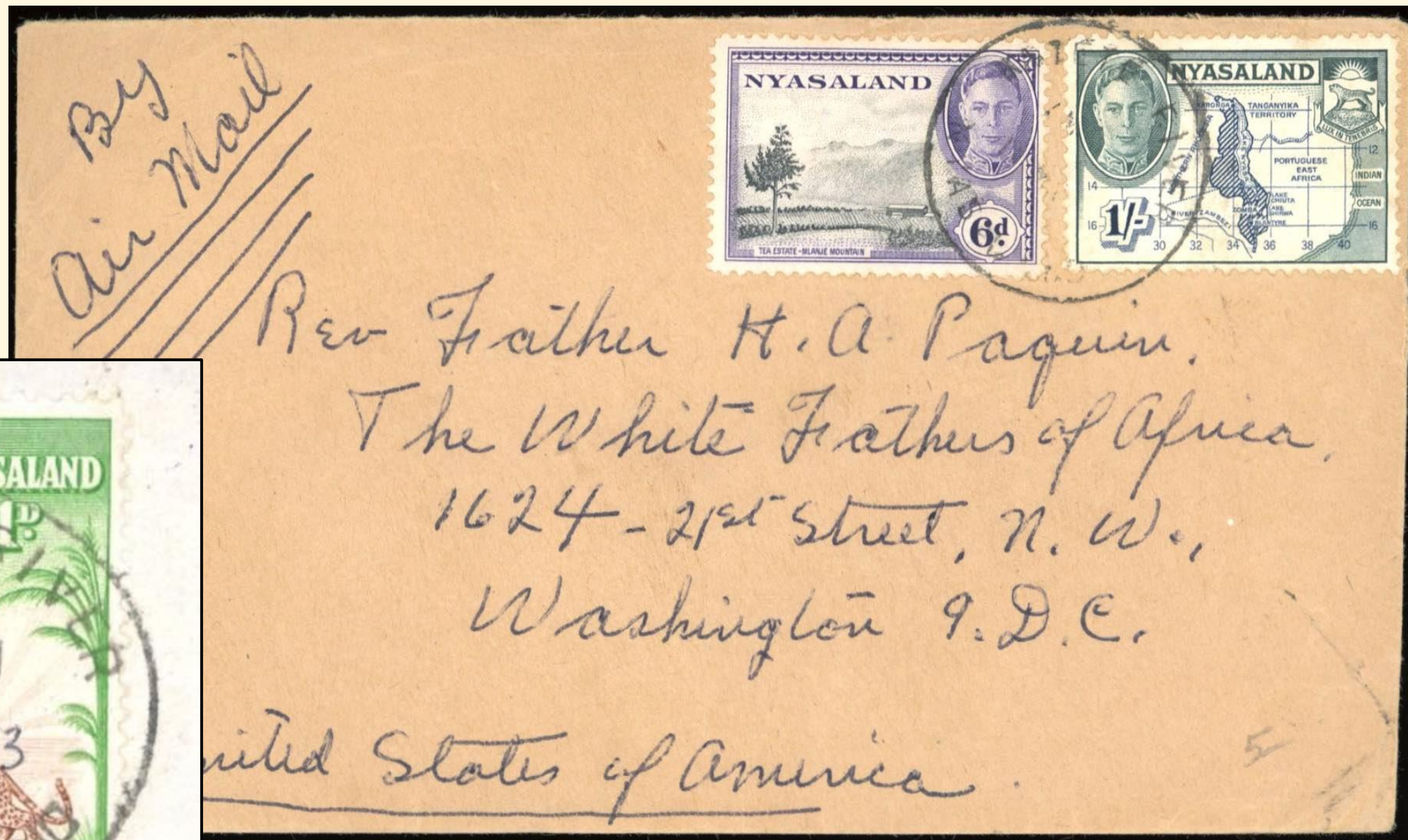
Kapeni, used for a few months from opening in 1951



Kasupe, only used for a month or two after opening in 1954



Katete River,
used for about
nine months after
name change
from Katete,
7 December 52



Stamp on piece shows the year in manuscript

Katumbi and **Kilupula**, unusually, both these marks are inscribed Postal Agency at the base and had short periods of use after opening in 1952. Hillman also records Kilupula with Nyasaland at base, possibly an error?



Example showing inverted W
in Lilongwe



Lilongwe, rare mark from a common office, used in 1952

Limbe C S O, first period of use, September 51 to January 52 recorded



Limbe C S O often
seen cancelling
stamps missed by
a machine mark



Limbe C S O with **A** inverted to left
and with **A** upright at right,
external registration transit marks,
used in late 1951



Limbe C S O with **B**
upright at left, transit
and internal
registration mark



Strip showing all the different skeleton marks used at **Limbe CSO** when first opened. The last two types are only known as strikes



Limbe C S O, Federation use, one with no year,
probably 1955 as well



Limbe Paid mark in red, only
known example





Mlanda two examples, one with inverted second A of Nyasaland
Used for a few months from opening, 17 May 1951



Luchenza, copies seen dated 17 and 18 SP 1956



Monkey Bay, in use for about a year, 51-52



Cover also has a Limbe CSO type 17 on

Monkey Bay, inverted M, two examples, same date, one with 2 only as year, the other has 52, the 5 in manuscript, the 2 set at an angle.



Normal mark

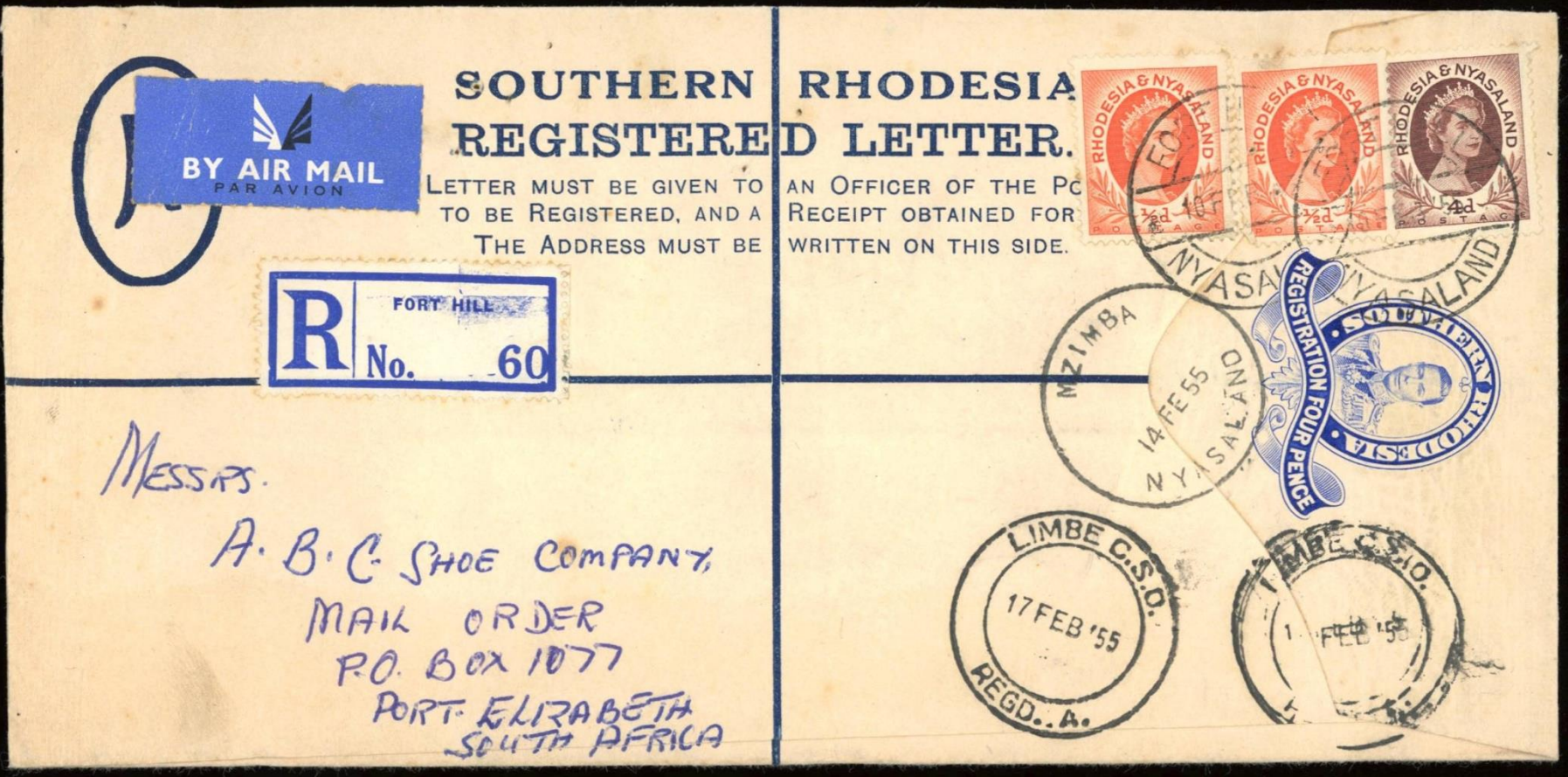
Mpiri, used from opening 30 June 1952 for a few months.



Mzimba, GVI use, unreadable date



Mzimba, second period of use, 1954-5. Here used as a registration transit mark



Mark is very different on the two covers dated only a week apart, possibly two different cancellers?

Close-ups of the two marks, showing how different they are



Mzuzu, first period of use, 49-50, when first opened



AIR MAIL



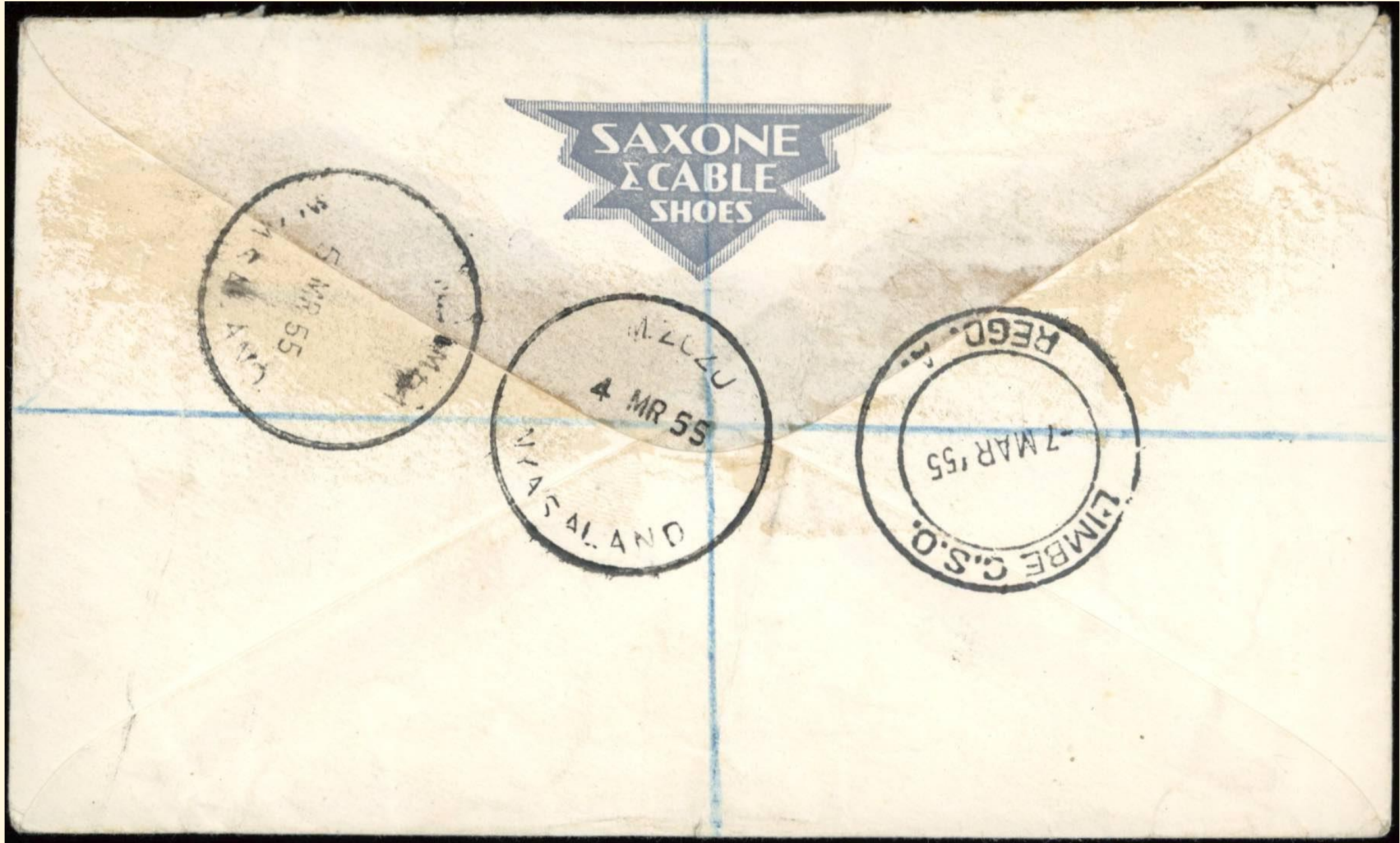
*Some old stamps,
but a brand-new
postmark. My name
is where you hang
out - the P.O. man*

T. S. ATKINSON, Esq.,
4, MERESIDE,
SCARBOROUGH,
YORKSHIRE,
ENGLAND.

Mzuzu, use in
1955 during
Federation



Back of the previous cover showing Mzimba and Mzuzu skeletons used together



Mzuzu, two variations:

year and first A of Nyasaland inverted



M of Mzuzu positioned at front of Nyasaland,
also first A of Nyasaland inverted



Nathenje, temporary office open for the tobacco buying season in 1951 and 1952. 1951 use not seen



Nkhunga, used for a few months after opening in September 1951



Rumpi, cover registered at Nchenachena, but cancelled at Rumpi. Used July and August 54.



Neno, Sharpe Vale and **Visanza**, all used when the offices were opened, 1952-53 or re-opened in the case of Neno, which although used during the period Twynam acquired postmarks, he had no example of.



Hillman records a type 17 for Sinyala, this may be an error as he does not list the normal double circle, type 25. If existing, it would be the latest use by three years of this type (1961)

Tembwe PO,
used early 1956
when the office
first opened



Mlanje, only Nyasaland office to use this type of skeleton, Rhod and Nyld fixed at base (type 24).
All copies seen used in November 1956



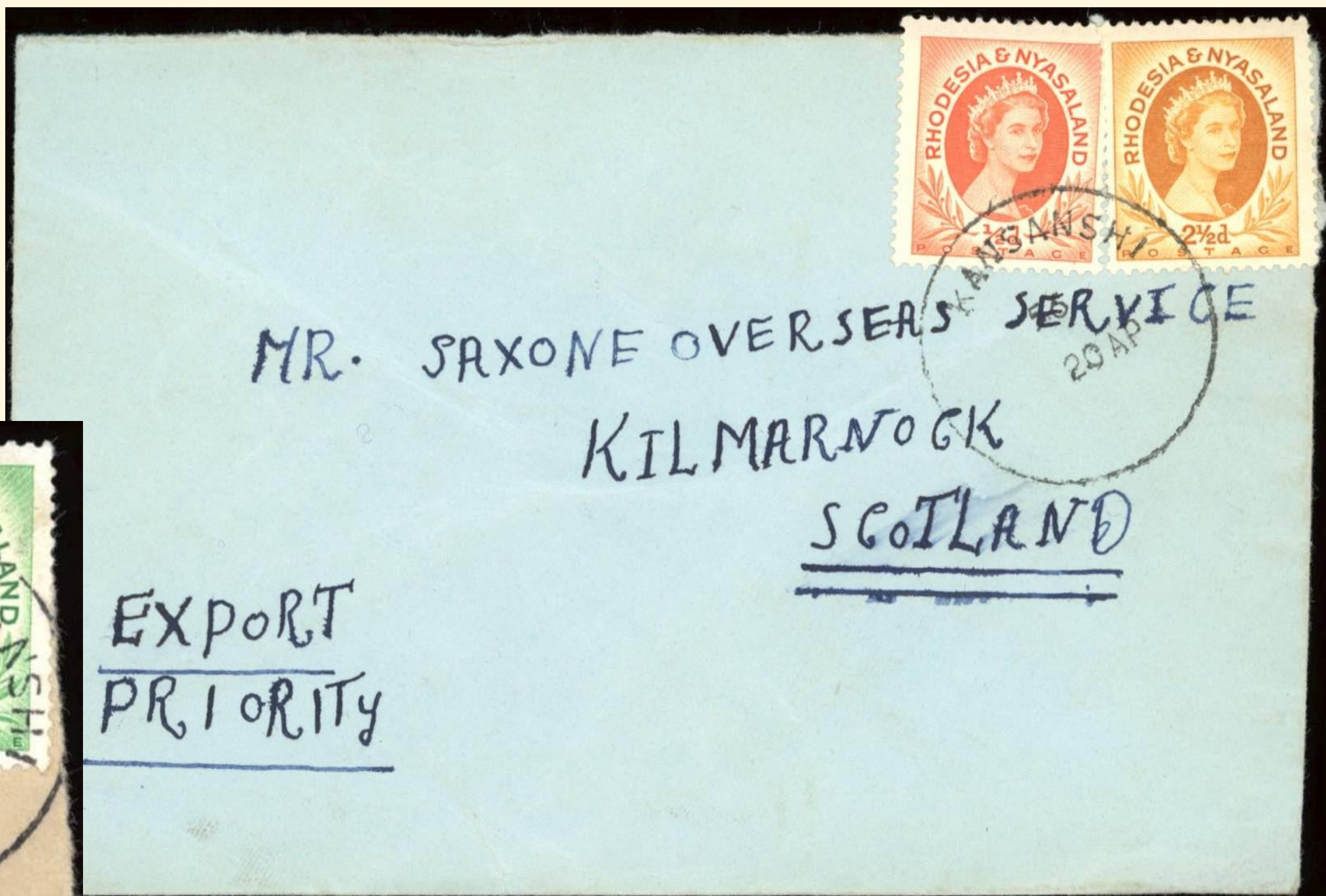
NORTHERN RHODESIA TYPES

Buchi, type 24, (31mm SC as used in Nyasaland), blank at base, known used from 29 May to 7 June 1958



Kansanshi, type
24, blank at base,
known used
sporadically from
1955-7.

Different date
settings on these
two examples

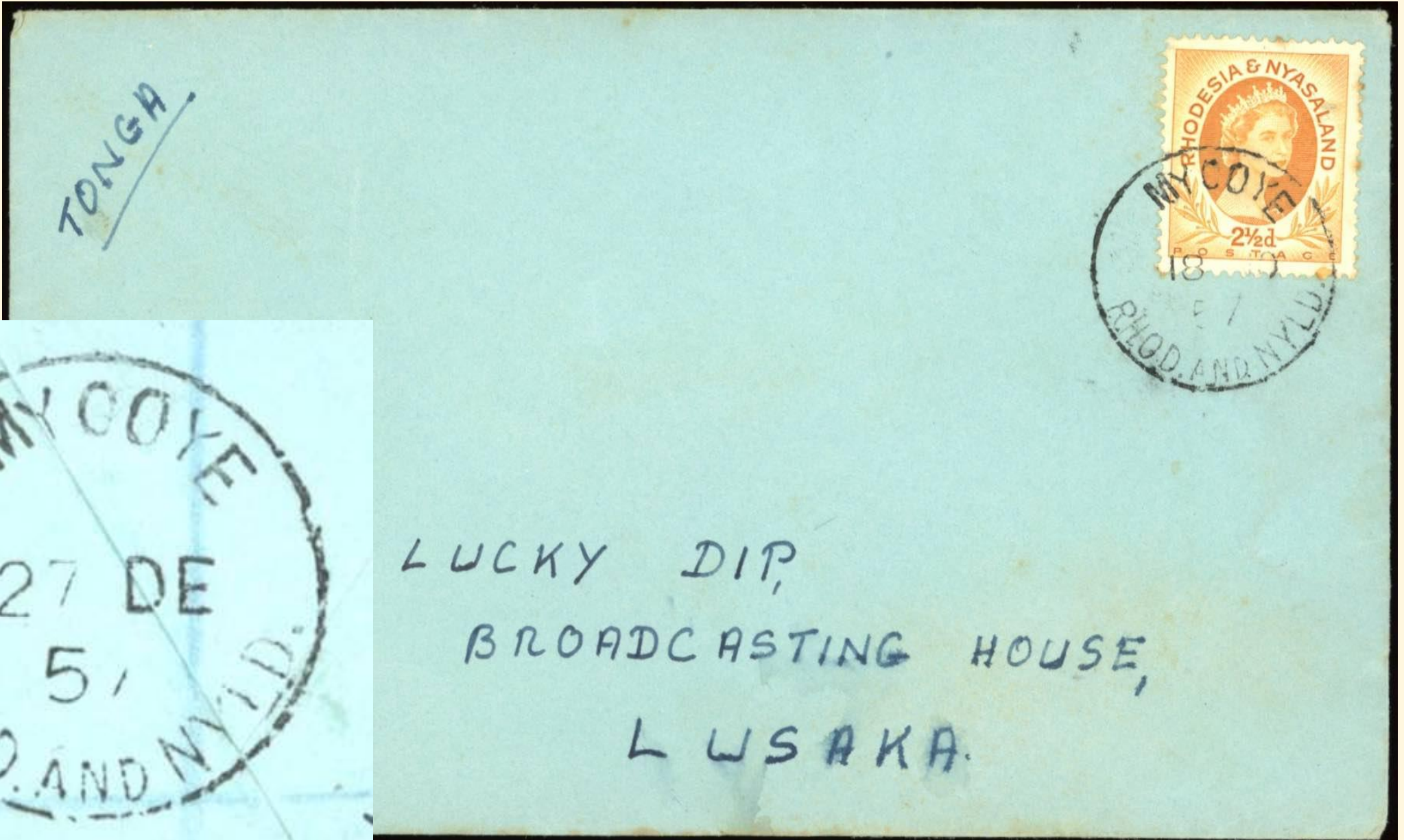


Kanchele, type 23, used
for about a year and a half
after opening, 5 June 56



Position of Kanchele
varies over period of use,
as these two examples
show

Myooye, type 23, used for about a year from opening, January 1957. Although scarce, it is more often come across than the regular canceller that replaced it, type 25



Mwinilunga, (type 23A) type 11 of S. Rhodesia with the S removed, known used in late 1956

