

# AIR MAIL

## WINTER SERVICES, 1922—1923.

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### A. LETTER POST. I.—CONDITIONS OF POSTING FOR AIR MAILS.

1. Any kind of Letter Packet may be sent by Air Mail, *i.e.*, letters, postcards, printed papers and commercial papers and samples. Air Mail packets can be registered, but cannot at present be insured.

2. An Air Mail packet may be posted in any of the ordinary ways of posting.

3. Any packet intended for transmission by Air Mail, besides conforming to the ordinary regulations of the letter post, must:—(1) bear an "Air Mail" label or manuscript equivalent, and sometimes a special marking in addition (*see* paragraph 4); (2) be prepaid with an Air Mail fee (*see* paragraphs 5 and 10), in addition to the ordinary postage (foreign or Imperial) payable on a letter for the country of destination.

4. "Air Mail" labels may be obtained free of charge at any Head or Branch Post Office, or on written application from the Secretary (Air Mails), General Post Office, London, E.C.1. The label should be affixed to the top left-hand corner of the cover of the packet. If a label is not available, the cover of the packet should be marked in manuscript as prominently as possible, "By Air Mail"; but the use of the label is greatly to be preferred. If a special additional marking is required (*see* notes E and F to paragraph 11), it should always be inserted *immediately beneath the label* (or its equivalent).

5. The Air Mail fee must be prepaid with postage stamps in the ordinary way. The amount payable in connection with each Air Mail Service is shown in paragraph 10.

**Important.**—Any packet which is not fully prepaid with the appropriate Air Mail fee will not be sent by Air Mail.

6. Express delivery in the country of destination is not included in the Air Mail fee. If express delivery is desired as well as transmission by air, an express fee of 6d. per packet must be prepaid in the same manner as the air fee (*see* paragraph 5). Packets intended for express delivery should be prominently marked with the word "Express" immediately below the Air Mail label (or manuscript equivalent). The delivery of Air Mail packets by the express service is carried out in France, Holland, Belgium, and certain other Foreign Countries where the express delivery of ordinary packets is undertaken. Similarly, if registration is required, the usual fee must be prepaid, in addition to ordinary postage and the Air Mail fee.

7. The ordinary postage due (in addition to the Air Mail fee) on an Air Mail packet should be prepaid at the rate applicable to the class of letter packet concerned, *i.e.*, at the letter rate, printed papers rate, sample rate, etc., as the case may be.

8. Certain special facilities are provided for the late posting over the counter at selected offices in London of letters for transmission by afternoon air service or services to the Continent (*see* table in paragraph 12).

### B. PARCEL POST.

9. At present air parcels are accepted only at specified Post Offices in London and in the larger towns in the Provinces, for the destinations shown in paragraphs 14 and 17. Such parcels may not be insured.

## II.—LIST OF (LETTER) AIR MAIL ROUTES, SHOWING FREQUENCY OF SERVICE, AND FEES.

10.

No.	Service.	Frequency.	Air Mail Fee (on outgoing packets).
1.	London-Paris - - - -	Once each weekday (in each direction).	2d. per oz.
2.	London-Brussels and Cologne -	Once each weekday to Brussels, and to and from Cologne.	2d. „ „
3.	London-Amsterdam (with call at Rotterdam).	Once each weekday (in each direction).	2d. „ „
4.	Cairo-Baghdad - - - -	Fortnightly (in each direction).	6d. „ „
5.	Toulouse-Casablanca - - - -	Daily (in each direction).	3d. up to $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., 6d. up to $3\frac{1}{2}$ oz., 3d. additional for each additional $3\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

## III.—TABLE OF (LETTER) AIR MAIL DESPATCHES, SHOWING ADVANTAGES OFFERED, USEFUL PERIOD (APPROXIMATELY) OF POSTING, ETC.

II. (As regards Parcel despatches see Sections V. and VI.)

Service.	Mail closes in London (G.P.O.)	Destination.	Delivery or connexion to be secured by use of a given despatch from London.	Normal gain by use of air instead of ordinary route (for distant places).	Useful period of posting	
					in London (G.P.O.) (See Note A.)	in Provinces.
1. London-Paris.	11.10 a.m. (at counter) each weekday.	Paris - - - -	Delivery same evening	Up to 24 hours -	7.30 a.m. to 11.10 a.m.	See Note B.
		Most of France -	Delivery following morning.			
2. London-Brussels and Cologne.	8.15 a.m. (at counter) each weekday.	Spain, Switzerland, Italy, Austria, Jugo-Slavia, Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey.	Connexion with Night Mail trains from Paris same day.	Up to 24 hours -	6.0 p.m. to 8.15 a.m.	See Note C.
		Brussels - - - -	Delivery same afternoon.			
		Antwerp and most of Belgium.	Delivery same evening			
		Cologne (Rhine Army)	Delivery same afternoon or evening.			
3. London-Amsterdam.	8.15 a.m. (at counter) each weekday.	Cologne (civil addresses).	See Note D.	Up to 20 days -	6.0 p.m. to 8.15 a.m.	See Note C.
		Central Germany (Berlin).	Connexion with Night Mail trains from Cologne same evening, and delivery next morning.			
		South Germany (Munich).	Delivery same evening.			
4. Cairo-Baghdad (see Note E.)	6 p.m. on alternate Thursdays.	Rotterdam, Amsterdam.	Delivery same afternoon.	Up to 20 days -	6.0 p.m. to 8.15 a.m.	See Note C.
		The Hague - - - -	Delivery same evening			
5. Toulouse-Casablanca.	7.30 a.m. (see Note F.)	Rest of Holland -	Delivery same evening or following morning	From 3 days (Bushire) up to 20 days.	Continuous.	Continuous.
		Iraq (Mesopotamia) -	Delivery in Baghdad in about 10 days.			
		Persia, north and west (Tehran, Isfahan, &c., and as far as Bushire).	—			
		Morocco - - - -	Delivery evening of third day (inclusive)	1 or 2 days -	Continuous (see Note F.).	

A. A packet posted before or after the indicated times at the General Post Office, London, or corresponding times of collection elsewhere in London, would normally fall into an ordinary despatch by which it would reach its destination as soon as or sooner than by the next Air Mail (*see* paragraph 18).

B. Benefits only those packets which are posted too late to be forwarded to the Continent by the first day boat.

C. In the Provinces—the south-east of England excepted—between the time of closing of the latest Mail due to be forwarded to the Continent by boat the same night, and the time of closing of the general Night Mail to London.

D. Letters for civil addresses in Cologne must be prepaid for express delivery (*see* paragraph 6) if they are to reach the addressees the same afternoon or evening.

E. Packets must be plainly marked immediately below the Air Mail label (or manuscript equivalent) "Cairo-Baghdad." The dates of the next fortnightly despatches from London will be as follows:—(On the evenings of Thursdays) Nov. 30, Dec. 14, 28, Jan. 11, 25, &c.

F. Packets must be plainly marked immediately below the Air Mail label (or manuscript equivalent) "Par avion de Toulouse." Packets posted in time to be included in Mails forwarded to France by the first day boat, say on Monday, will normally be forwarded from Toulouse by air on Tuesday, and reach Casablanca on Wednesday afternoon.

#### IV.—LATEST TIMES OF POSTING (FOR THE LETTER AIR MAILS).

##### 12.—London Postal District and Croydon (not on Sunday).

Service.	How posted.	G.P.O.	Threadneedle Street B.O.	Lombard Street B.O.	Hatton Garden B.O.	Parliament Street B.O.	Charing Cross B.O.	W.C.D.O.	W.D.O.	149, Regent Street B.O.	S.W.D.O.	S.E.D.O.	Other Head District Offices.	Croydon.
London to Amsterdam, Brussels and Cologne	At Counter	a.m. 8.15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	In public letter box.	7.30	At District Offices in time for the collection at about 2 a.m. Elsewhere in London in time for the last collection overnight.											
Paris	† At Counter	11.10	10.50	10.50	10.55	10.40	10.45	10.50	10.25	10.30	10.35	9.0	9.0	10.45
	In public letter box.	9.30	E.C. District 9 a.m. at larger B.O.'s, and 8.45 a.m. elsewhere.		—	9.0	8.45	{ +10.30 φ 8.45	{ +10.0 φ 8.30	—	{ +10.0 φ 9.0	{ +9.0 φ 8.30	8.30	—

† Registered Packets 5 minutes earlier. \* Parcels for Paris (*see* par. 15) 5 minutes earlier. \*\* Paris parcels (*see* par. 15) only.  
‡ At Head Office. φ Elsewhere in Town District.

13. **Provinces.**—Air Mail packets must be posted in time to be forwarded in Mails for London conveyed by trains due to reach the London terminus well before the hour of closing the Air Mail at the G.P.O. Precise information will be supplied by the local Head Post Office.

#### V.—AIR PARCEL POST (SEMI-OFFICIAL) TO PARIS.

14. **Parcels addressed to Paris**—but not to any other place in France—can be handed in at certain Post Offices in London and in the provincial towns mentioned below for despatch by Handley Page aeroplane service leaving Croydon aerodrome each weekday. The parcels are cleared through the French Customs by the Air Company, and should normally be delivered in Paris on the day of despatch from Croydon or the morning after. They should thus reach their respective destinations up to 5 or more days earlier than if sent by the ordinary parcel post. A Customs Declaration and a Despatch Note must be made out for an air parcel in the same way as for an ordinary parcel; and in order that full benefit may be obtained from the use of the air post it is important that these forms should be completed with the utmost care and accuracy.

15. In **London** special arrangements have been made so that air parcels can be posted in the morning at certain of the offices in the Table in paragraph 12 until the times shown in the Table for despatch by air on the same day. They may also be handed in (for despatch on the following day) at Church Place, Piccadilly; East Strand; Fenchurch Street; Finsbury Park; Fleet Street; High Holborn; Kilburn; Knightsbridge; Leadenhall Street; N.D.O.; N.W.D.O.; 191, Oxford Street; Peckham; 21, Regent Street; 294, Regent Street; St. James's Street; Shaftesbury Avenue; Spring

Street, Paddington; Stratford; Throgmorton Avenue; Westbourne Grove; Young Street, Kensington. They may be posted in the Provinces at Aberdeen, Birmingham, Blackburn, Bradford, Brighton, Bristol, Burnley, Cardiff, Coventry, Derby, Dover, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Halifax, Huddersfield, Hull, Ipswich, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, Luton, Manchester, Market Harborough, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Newport (Mon.), Norwich, Nottingham, Reading, Rugby, Sheffield, Southampton, Walsall, West Bromwich, Wolverhampton.

16. An inclusive fee is payable as follows :—For parcels weighing up to 2 lb., 1/9; 2-5 lb., 3/-; 5-8 lb., 4/6; 8-11 lb., 6/-. Further particulars can be obtained on application at an accepting Office in London, or at the Head Office in any one of the provincial towns mentioned above.

#### VI—EXPRESS AIR PARCEL POST (OFFICIAL) TO HOLLAND.

17. Parcels addressed to any part of Holland may be posted for conveyance from London to Rotterdam or Amsterdam by air and for express delivery by the Dutch Post Office. Such parcels will be accepted at any Post Office authorised to accept air parcels for Paris (*see* paragraph 15). They will usually be forwarded from Croydon by air on the morning after posting, and be delivered in Rotterdam and Amsterdam the same evening, and in other parts of Holland by the second morning after posting. They should thus reach their respective destinations two or three days earlier than if sent by the ordinary parcel post. The scale of charges, inclusive of express delivery at the place of destination, will be as follows :—For parcels weighing up to 3 lb., 3/6; 3-7 lb., 6/6; 7-11 lb., 9/-. On parcels addressed "Poste Re-tante" the charges will be 6d. less. Further particulars can be obtained on application at an accepting Office in London, or at the Head Office in any one of the provincial towns mentioned in paragraph 15. (*See* last sentence of par. 14 as to Customs Declarations, two of which are required with each parcel for Holland, and Despatch Notes.)

#### VII—MISCELLANEOUS.

18. An Air Mail letter which is posted at such a time that it will certainly reach its destination earlier if forwarded by the next ordinary Mail is so forwarded, unless it bears some indication that the sender desires Air Mail transmission for its own sake, and not for the sake of obtaining speedy delivery of the letter.

19. On production of the cover the Postmaster-General is prepared to enquire into any case of alleged delay in transmission of an outgoing Air Mail letter, and to refund the amount of the special Air Mail fee prepaid upon it, when it is clear that, through the fault of the Air Service or of the Post Office at either end, there has been no gain by the use of the Air Mail.

20. **Warning.**—The Air Mail Services are liable to be altered from time to time. Alterations will be announced in the Press, and correction slips to this Leaflet will be issued from time to time until a new edition becomes necessary. Any member of the public who wishes to use the Air Mails should make sure that he has a copy of the current edition, and of any correction slips issued.

21. The issue of new editions of this Leaflet will be notified in the newspapers. Copies are obtainable on application to the Secretary (Air Mails), General Post Office, London, E.C.1.