

1st FEBRUARY, 1956



AIR MAIL

AIR PARCELS

As from the 1st February Air Parcels may be accepted for Afghanistan, Indonesia, The Philippines and Samoa (British).

NOTES. This leaflet is issued monthly and contains information effective on the first of the month. Air mail services are subject to alteration from time to time, and particulars of any important changes which occur between successive issues of the leaflet may be obtained on enquiry at a post office.

Leaflets will be supplied free of charge if a standing order is placed with the Head (District) Postmaster. For general information about air mail services, see page 6.

EUROPE—LETTER MAIL

Letters, letter packets and postcards for all European countries, prepaid at the ordinary international postage rates, are in general despatched daily by air or surface transport*, whichever offers earlier delivery. The postage rates, except for Gibraltar and Malta are :—Letters, 4d. for the first ounce and 2½d. for each additional ounce ; Postcards 2½d. For Gibraltar and Malta the rates are :—Letters 2½d. for the first ounce and 1d. for each additional ounce ; Postcards 2d.

Postings should be made as early as possible in the day. At the London Chief Office the latest time of posting (Monday to Friday) for the night mail despatch to the nearer European countries is 8.30 p.m. (9.30 p.m. for Belgium and France, except Alpes Maritimes).

PAYMENT OF AIR POSTAGE IS UNNECESSARY ON CORRESPONDENCE TO EUROPE AND AIR MAIL LABELS SHOULD NOT BE USED.

*There is no air service to Poland for letters (or letter packets) exceeding 2 oz. in weight.

EUROPE—AIR PARCELS

Insured parcels may now be sent by air to a number of European destinations. These are indicated by a § in col. 1 in the table below.

Destination	Rates of Postage		Destination	Rates of Postage		Destination	Rates of Postage	
	First lb.	Each additional lb.		First lb.	Each additional lb.		First lb.	Each additional lb.
1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
ALBANIA ...	s. d.	s. d.	§GIBRALTAR ...	s. d.	s. d.	§PORTUGAL ...	s. d.	s. d.
§AUSTRIA ...	5 9	3 3	§GREECE ...	3 6	3 0		4 3	2 9
	4 0	2 3		5 6	4 3			
§BELGIUM ...	2 9	1 3	§HOLLAND ...	(See Netherlands)		ROUMANIA ...	No service	
BULGARIA ...	4 6	3 0	§HUNGARY ...	4 0	2 9			
§CORSICA ...	4 0	1 9	ICELAND ...	No service		SPAIN (inc. Balearic Is.)	6 0	3 6
§CZECHOSLOVAKIA	3 9	2 9	ITALY ...	4 3	2 3	§SWEDEN ...	4 3	2 6
						§SWITZERLAND ...	3 0	1 9
§DENMARK ...	3 6	2 0	§LUXEMBOURG ...	2 9	1 3	§TURKEY ...	5 6	4 6
			§MALTA ...	4 0	3 6			
§FINLAND ...	5 0	3 3	§NETHERLANDS ...	2 6	1 3	U.S.S.R. (Europe)	No service	
†FRANCE ...	3 6	1 6	§NORWAY ...	4 0	2 6	VATICAN CITY STATE ...	4 3	2 3
§GERMANY ...	3 3	1 9	POLAND ...	No service		§YUGOSLAVIA ...	5 0	3 9
(All Zones and all Sectors of Berlin)								

†The express service is not available for air parcels for France as such parcels receive special treatment in delivery

AIR MAIL SERVICES—GENERAL INFORMATION

GENERAL CONDITIONS : The normal regulations governing the make-up and acceptance of the various categories of postal packets and parcels apply with equal force to items sent by air. The regulations are set out in detail in the Post Office Guide which may be consulted at any post office.

Air mail label : A blue air mail label, obtainable free of charge at any post office, must be affixed to each air mail item (except letters, letter packets and postcards for Europe) at the top left-hand corner on the address side; alternatively the indication "By Air Mail" may be written boldly in the same position, but the absence of an air mail label may lead to delay.

Air Letters : Air Letters, postage 6d., written on special Air Letter forms, may be sent to all countries. Enclosures are not permitted. The special forms may be obtained at post offices. Privately manufactured forms may be used only if they bear an indication that they have been approved by the Postmaster-General. Forms which do not bear such an indication will be treated as ordinary air mail letters.

Second Class Mail : Printed Papers, Commercial Papers, Samples, Small Packets (to those countries which admit them) may be sent by air to countries outside Europe at the rates shown in col. 4 on pages 2-4; special rates apply to Newspapers and Literature for the Blind—see below. There is a minimum charge of 7½d. for Small Packets to those countries which admit them. Second class mail items must be clearly superscribed in the upper left-hand corner of the cover, below the air mail label, for the particular service intended.

Newspapers : Publications registered as newspapers at the G.P.O.—and these items only—may be sent at the special rates of postage for newspapers shown on pages 2-4. Such items must be clearly superscribed "Newspapers" below the air mail label.

Literature for the Blind : This may be sent by air mail to countries outside Europe at the special standard postage rate of 3d. for each 2 oz.

NOTE : There is no Second Class air mail service to European countries. When it is desired that items be despatched by air (where this will offer quicker delivery), they should be prepaid at the appropriate full letter rate of postage shown on page 5. Items of Literature for the Blind for which no postage has been prepaid are eligible for air conveyance (where this offers earlier delivery) provided that they do not exceed 2 lb. in weight. The air mail label is not used in the service to Europe.

Insured Letters and Boxes : Insured letters and boxes may be sent by air mail to those countries outside Europe against

which an indication appears in col. 6 on pages 2-4. The insurance fees are payable in addition to the letter rate in the case of insured letters, and in addition to the class air postage rate in the case of insured boxes. Boxes are subject to the minimum charge of 1s. 3d. insurance fee. Insured letters are sent by air to those countries in Europe which admit them where this will give quicker delivery.

Air Parcels : Air Parcels may be sent by air at the rates indicated in col. 5, pages 2-4 (countries outside Europe) and on page 5 (Europe). Where no postage rate is shown on pages 2-4 there is no service at present. The same restrictions apply to parcels as for surface parcels are available except that parcels can be accepted for insurance only to those countries in col. 1 on page 5. A blue air mail label must be affixed to the address (or to each address if the parcel is addressed to more than one place), to the relative despatch note if one is used, and to the trade charge card for C.O.D. parcels. In addition to the acceleration afforded by air conveyance, air parcels are subject to speedy customs clearance abroad. The information given in cols. 7 and 8 on pages 2-4 is not applicable to air parcels but col. 8 gives some guidance to the likely transmission times.

Posting Times : The times of posting shown in this leaflet are those applicable to unregistered correspondence posted at the London Chief Office, King Edward St., E.C.1, and are closely related to the despatch of the mails. The latest posting times elsewhere, which in general are earlier than the London Chief Office times, can be ascertained by inquiry at the local Head Branch post office.

Times of Transmission : A guide to the times of transmission of letter mails sent by air to the principal cities of countries outside Europe is given in col. 8 on pages 2-4. The times are calculated from the time of posting at London Chief Office. The times shown do not allow for intervals between arrival and delivery in the country of destination. No guarantee can be given that the times shown will invariably be achieved.

Services to H.M. Forces : Special air mail rates, particulars of which are given in a leaflet (PL89) obtainable at all post offices, apply to correspondence for members of H.M. Forces overseas (but not Merchant Navy personnel).

ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE

To :—

Post Office

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