

C.S.

Accounts
misc
Postal & Sels.
Postal

MAI/GEN/2#17

1930

No. 37930

20

C.S.O.

SUBJECT.

193

Previous Paper.

Registered Package No. R. 158.
from Edw. Joseph & Co., London, ~~London~~
said to contain £31-10-0 in £5's Currency.
Received at C.S.O. 26/9/30. and found
to contain copies & a folded portion
of newspapers.
258/28, 274/33

MINUTES.

Registered letter from Messrs E. Joseph 26/9/30

Hon. Col. Secretary.

I have the honour to report that
at approximately 4.10.p.m. today I received a Registered
Package :-

R. London. E.C.472.
No.158.

from the Post Office. The rubber stamp on the envelope
indicated that it had been despatched by Messrs Edward
Joseph, which Firm forward periodically Falkland Islands
Currency Notes for Exchange.

I, in the presence of Miss Vera
Riches, opened the envelope and found it to contain a
folded sheet of newspaper instead of £31. 10. 0. as stated
in the Account.

U. M. Riches

U. M. Riches.

26th September, 1930.

Col. Portman.

please see -

2. I shall be grateful if

you will kindly advise

Subsequent Paper.

action can best be taken

in this matter.

J. D. M.

26. 9. 30.

Hon. Col. Sec.

This letter was included with other regd correspondence in a sealed regd. letter bag received from the Regd. Letter Section, G. P. O. London.

The Regd letter bags were ~~not~~ opened by the mail offices, and on arrival here were found to have seals intact.

2. The letter in question did not show any signs of having been tampered with. Similarly a regd packet for Mr. Louis Williams was received without any indication of having been tampered with but on being opened by the addressee was found to have had part of the contents taken. The only packet which showed signs of having been tampered with was addressed to Mr. Dr. Watson, his attention was drawn to its condition before delivery but on examination the contents were found intact.

3. I am of opinion that the pilfering was carried out in the London Postal Service on the following grounds:-

- (a) That the seals on the mail bags were examined and found intact by the mail officer when he received the mail from the Wungungan Customs Authorities.
- (b) That the seals on the recd. letter bags were found to be intact when received here.
- (c) Since the seals were intact pilferage could not have taken place in transit.
- (d) That it was impossible for pilferage to take place in this office as from the time the bags were opened to the time of actual delivery (the same day) the packets were under my personal supervision.

4. The packet was recd. on the 23rd July 1930, and the sheet torn from an Irish newspaper which was inserted in place of the notes was dated 14th July 1930. Newspapers bearing that date were only received and delivered after the recd. mail.

5. Among recd. letters for the 'Camp' was one addressed to Mr^r Tombs, Pebble Island. This was found to have been opened, but the contents, a letter, appeared intact.

6. Perhaps you will inform the Senders so that they may make representations to the office of posting. I will send a Notification to the Controller, Reg. Letter Section G. P. O. London.

M. Marie Harker

Col. Postmaster

3.9.1930

g. 2. Schickel ? Under to the
senders of the letter, Messrs Joseph,
as suggested.
J. 10. 30.

Hon. C.S.

Please.

M

3/10

Letter to Mr. Joseph. 4/10/30.

2.

Postmaster.

To see.

for C.S.
4. X. 30

Hon. Col. Seem.

M. Craige Halkett

8. X. 30

Registered Envelope No. 243.

Post

8. 10. 30

(3)

Hon. Col. Secretary.

I have the honour to report that at the request of The Hon. M. C. Craige-Halkett I opened in his presence, and in that of several members of the Post Office Staff, a Registered Envelope the post mark of which indicated its despatch from London by Messrs Edward Joseph & Co on the 24th October, 1930.

The statement of account showed that the envelope should have contained £32 in Falkland Islands Currency notes, instead of which was found a folded portion of the Comic section of a U.S.A. Newspaper.

Reg. Package.
R. London. E.C.
472.
No. 243.

W. J. Jones
2/12/30.

but from the date of the Comic Section
of a U.S.A. paper which had been
inserted in the packet, it would seem
that the pilferage was carried out in
England. On the other hand transic
mails remain in the custody of the
Uruguayan Customs until just before
the "Futland" is ready to sail, and
they may have lead seals similar in
pattern to those used in the U.K.

Against pilferage in Uruguay is the fact
that the first packet from Messrs Joseph
had part of an Irish newspaper inserted, and
the packet now under report part of an
American paper - it is hardly likely
that Uruguayan Customs Officers would
have such papers.

M. Varji Hackett

~~From~~ Col. Postmaster

3. XII. 30

4 P. Submitted. A telegram might be sent to
Mr Joseph the cost being subsequently recovered
from him through the Crown Agents.

Shh B
for C.S.
4 Dec 1930

Hon C.S.

Please, this is a very serious matter.

Put up again next week.

$\frac{5}{12}$ 30.

Att.

Telegram to Mr. Joseph. 5/12/30.

4.

379/30

3.

M. 10/12/30.
a. 22. 4/12/30

y. 2.

Just despatch schickel.

pd

22. 12. 30.

AM
22/30
12

5-8. Despatch to S. of S. no. 3 of 2. 1. 31.

col Postmaster,

10 re.

a. 22.
L. 22.
3/1/31

Hon. col. Sec.

Thank you.

M. Manji Hatthar

5. 1. 31

9. Letter to Brown Agents. 6/1/31.

10. Letter to Edward A. Joseph, Esq. 6/1/31.

✓ W. G.

Hon. Treasurer,

To note

C. S.
7/1/31.

Hon. Sol. Sec.

Noted.

M. Brajji Kalketa
7. 1. 31.

P.A.
7/1/31

Letter from Messrs Joseph 19/11/30 (11)
" " 8th Dec 30 (14)

G.S.

Sd/- Col. Portman

to see.

jud

14/11/31 C.S.

24. 1. 31.

Done.

(24/31) A.H.

Col Portman.

Atcords please

Hon. Sol. Sec.

jud

Seen

M. Brajji Kalketa

26. 1. 31.

26. 1. 31

P.A.
27/1/31

A
G.P.O. BOX
530.
E.C. 2.

EDWARD
G.P.O. BOX
530
E.C. 2.



The Colonial Secretary,

Post Stanley,
Falkland Islands

REGISTERED

R
London, E.C. 472
No. 243

57-4p

00 - (300) 508-8339

079/30.

4th October,

30

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to inform you that the enclosed registered letter was delivered at this office by the mail which arrived in the Colony on the 20th of September, with its contents exactly as they are now returned.

2. I am to state that the package showed no signs of having been tampered with and that on enquiry at the local post office it was ascertained that the seals on the registered letter bags were found to be intact. It was further ascertained that from the time the bags were opened to the time of delivery on the same day the packages were under the personal supervision of the Colonial Postmaster and that pilferage at this end was impossible.

3. I am to add that the Colonial Postmaster has notified the Controller of the Registered Letter section General Post Office, London, in the matter.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. J. Brown
for Colonial Secretary.

Edward A. Joseph, Esq.,
19 Bishopsgate,
G.P.O. Box 530.
London.

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES.

SENT.

Number	Office of Origin	Words	Handed in at	Date
				5 /12 /30.

To EDWARD JOSEPH
 19 BISHOPSGATE
 LONDON E.C.2.

MY LETTER 4TH OCTOBER PACKAGE DESPATCHED UNDER DATE 24TH
 OCTOBER RECEIVED IN SAME CONDITION.

SECRETARY.

Time

MEMORANDUM.

Theft of contents of packages in registered mails.

Included in the registered letter mail which arrived in the Colony on the 26th of September, 1930, was a packet addressed to the Colonial Secretary stamped in various places on the envelope "Edward A. Joseph, G.P.O. Box 530, E.C.2". The Post Office label affixed, indicating registration, was marked "R. London, E.C. 472, No. 158."

Messrs. Edward Joseph are a firm of Exchange Brokers carrying on business at 19, Bishopsgate, London, which frequently sends Falkland Islands currency notes to this Colony for exchange.

The package was delivered at the Colonial Secretary's Office on the afternoon of the same day, and on being opened in the presence of two Secretariat Clerks, Mr. W. D. A. Jones and Miss V. Riches, was found to contain the usual 'form' letter and statement used by this firm indicating that notes to the value of £31. 10/- were enclosed. The only other content of the envelope was a folded sheet of an Irish Newspaper, "The Northern Whig", dated the 14th of July, 1930. At the time the packet was opened newspapers of that or any subsequent date had not been delivered in the Colony. In reporting on the matter the Colonial Postmaster stated that the letter was included with other registered correspondence in a sealed bag received from the Registered Letter Section of the General Post Office, London, the seal of which was examined on delivery at Stanley, in accordance with the usual practice, and found to be intact. He also stated that the letter in question on being taken from the bag bore no

sign/

sign of having been tampered with and further that it was impossible for the contents to have been abstracted in the Stanley Post Office as from the time the bags were opened to the time of actual delivery (the same day) the registered packets were under his personal supervision.

A similar theft came to light in the case of a further packet received from Messrs. Joseph by the mail which arrived on the 2nd of December, 1930. In this instance the registration label was marked 'R. London, E.C. 472, No. 243' and the value of the notes the envelope was said to contain was £32. In place of the notes was found the comic section of a San Francisco Newspaper, the "Call Bulletin", dated the 11th of October, 1930.

On this occasion at the request of the Colonial Postmaster Mr. Jones opened the packet in his presence and that of other members of the Post Office Staff, who verified the contents as above described.

The following other cases of theft, or intended theft, were also reported by the Colonial Postmaster as having occurred in the mails by which these two letters were delivered:

By the mail which arrived on the 26th of September, 1930.

A registered packet addressed to Mrs. Louis Williams, Stanley, bearing no sign of having been tampered with, when opened by the addressee was found to have part of the contents missing.

Registered packets addressed to Mr. D. R. Watson, Stanley and Mr. Tombs, Pebble Island, respectively appeared to have been tampered with. That addressed to Mr. Tombs was received open. In neither case had the contents been taken.

By the mail which arrived on the 2nd of December, 1930.

When this mail was received it was noticed that certain packets had the seals broken and the wrappings torn. In consequence, the Colonial Postmaster requested the addressees or their representatives to open the packets in his presence and in that of the First Clerk in the Post Office.

The cases were as follows:

A packet addressed to the Falkland Islands Company. This was stated to contain a watch which was missing.

A packet addressed to the Estate Louis Williams. This contained shipping documents which were found intact.

A packet addressed to Mrs. Richardson, Stanley. This did not contain a letter of advice and in consequence the addressee was unable to say whether part of the contents had or had not been taken.

From the foregoing it would appear that the registered mails are being subjected to systematic scrutiny by some person or persons with the object of abstracting articles of value.

In the case of both mails the bags were transhipped at Monte Video; in the former to the s.s. "Falkland" which vessel carried a mail officer in the service of this Government, and in the latter to H.M.S. "Danae".

In commenting on the improbability of the thefts having taken place while the mails were in the custody of the Uruguayan Authorities the Colonial Postmaster points out that even admitting the possibility of the thief having lead sealers similar in pattern to those used in the United Kingdom, it was in his opinion unlikely that newspapers of so recent date as those inserted in the packages received from Messrs. Joseph would have been in his possession at the time he could have gained access to the mails at Monte Video. In the opinion of the Colonial Postmaster all the evidence obtainable in the matter points to the fact that the thefts were committed in the London Postal Service.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
STANLEY.

2nd January, 1931.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 3.

My Lord,

I have the honour to enclose a memorandum relating to certain cases of theft which have been discovered in registered mails received from the General Post Office, London, and particularly to the loss of Falkland Islands Currency Notes to the value of £63. 10/- sent to this Government for exchange.

In duplicate.

2. From the facts stated it will be seen that no suspicion can fall on any official in this service and that the probability of the mails having been tampered with while awaiting transshipment at Monte Video is remote.

3. I shall be glad if the information furnished can be communicated to the Postmaster General for such action as it may be possible to take in the matter.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most
obedient humble servant,

ARNOLD HODSON.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
LORD PASSFIELD OF PASSFIELD CORNER, F.C.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

379 /30.

6th January,

£1.

Gentlemen,

I am directed by the Governor to inform you that Messrs. Edward Joseph 19 Bishopsgate, London, E.C. have been asked to pay to you the sum of £1, being the cost of a telegram despatched from the Colony on their behalf, and to request that you will credit the Colony's General Account with this amount when received.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

LS

Colonial Secretary.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies,
4, Millbank, Westminster,
LONDON, S.W.1.

379/30.

6th January,

31.

Sir,

With reference to my telegram of the 5th of December, 1930, a copy of which is attached, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that the Controller of the Registered Letter Section of the General Post Office, London, has been duly notified regarding the loss of the contents of the further package received from you by the mail which arrived in the Colony on the 2nd of December.

2. I am to request that you will be so good as to refund the cost of the above-mentioned telegram viz. £1 to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W. who have been authorised to receive the amount on behalf of this Government.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



Colonial Secretary.

Edward A. Joseph, Esq.,
19 Bishopsgate,
C.P.O. Box 530,
London.

EDWARD A. JOSEPH.

EDWARD A. JOSEPH. H. CECIL OFFEN.
LESLIE E. A. JOSEPH.

TELEPHONES: LONDON WALL { 4940, 4941.
4942, 4943.

TELEGRAMS: OMONEJOSH, STOCK, LONDON.
CABLES: OMONEJOSH, LONDON.
PETERSON'S INTERNATIONAL BANKING CODE.
(5 LETTER)

COPIED

11

19, Bishopsgate,

G.P.O. BOX 530.

London, 19 November 1930.
E.C.2.

The Colonial Secretary.
Stanley.



Recd.



Dear Sir,

We are obliged for your favour of 4th October enclosing our letter to you of July 23rd from which the Sinducter had been removed en route to your Colony.

We much appreciate the trouble you have taken at your end to ascertain that all was in order & that the theft occurred prior to the package's delivery at Port Stanley.

We note that the Colonial Postmaster has reported the matter to the Controller, G.P.O. London & with whom we are now in correspondence.

Yours faithfully
Edward Joseph

COPIED.

14

EDWARD A. JOSEPH.

EDWARD A. JOSEPH. H. CECIL OFFEN.
LESLIE E. A. JOSEPH.

TELEPHONES: LONDON WALL { 4940, 4941.
4942, 4943.

TELEGRAMS: OMONEJOSH, STOCK, LONDON.
CABLES: OMONJOSH, LONDON.
PETERSONS INTERNATIONAL BANKING CODE.
(5 LETTER)

19, Bishopsgate,

G.P.O. BOX 530.

London, 8th Dec 1930
E.C.2.

The Colonial Secretary,
Post Stanley.

Redst



Dear Sir,

We are obliged for your cable of the 5th inst reading as follows: "my letter fourth October package despatched under date twenty-fourth October received in same condition"

We thank you for cabling us this information and now await return of our envelope so that we can make our claim from the Postal Authorities.

We also acknowledge your favour of the 20th Oct enclosing your bill £30-3-11 your ref 324/29.

Yours faithfully,

Edward Joseph

15

379/30



FALKLAND ISLANDS.

NO. 38

DOWNING STREET,

21

March, 1931.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Arnold Hedson's despatch No. 3 of the 2nd of January regarding certain cases of theft which have been discovered in registered mails received from the General Post Office, London, and to transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a letter from the General Post Office on the subject.

25.2.31.

I will address you further in the matter when any additional information is forthcoming. I have to point out, however, that in these cases it is desirable that the mail bag, string, and seals should be sent home for examination.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

(Sgd) Pasfield

250

THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING
THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

GENERAL POST OFFICE,

LONDON, E.C.1.

25th February, 1931

86790/31

20039/31

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 17th of February, transmitting a copy of a despatch from the Governor of the Falkland Islands enclosing a memorandum relating to ^{certain} / cases of theft discovered in registered mails received from London, and particularly to the loss of Falkland Islands Currency Notes to the value of £63.10s., I am directed by the Postmaster General to say, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that these losses have been under investigation for some weeks. The enquiry has, however, disclosed no reason for supposing that any of them have occurred either in this country, or on the ships by which the mails were despatched from this country, particularly as the various mails were conveyed by different ships. No definite evidence has emerged which would indicate where the losses took place, but as it seems possible that the violations may have occurred at Monte Video where the mails lie awaiting onward transmission to the Falkland Islands, a special representation on the subject is being made to the Uruguayan Post Office.

As regards the loss from the Registered Letter, London E.C.472 No.158, the fact that a sheet of the Irish Newspaper "The Northern Whig", dated the 14th July 1930, was substituted for the contents cannot be admitted as proof that the violation must have taken place in London, seeing that Mails for Monte Video were despatched from London on the 16th

17th

The Under Secretary of State,
COLONIAL OFFICE.

17th, 19th, 21st and 23rd of July, and a copy of the newspaper in question could have been despatched to Monte Video to reach that port before the Mail of the 24th of July, by which the registered letter No. 158 was forwarded.

So far as the question of the finding of the seal intact is concerned, I am to say that the Postmaster General is unable to express any opinion, as neither the bag, the string nor the seals have been forwarded for examination by the Falkland Islands Post Office, as is required in such cases of violation by the Postal Union Convention.

A further letter shall be sent to you when any additional information is forthcoming.

I am, etc.

(Sgd) A.R. KIDNER

13-15

Despatch from S. of S. No. 38 of 21/3/31

WfE.
Submitted
to Col. Postmaster

C. J. J.
9/6/31

Off. Sec.

Yes; please. Hon. Treasurer
might also care to see.

J. J.

9.6.31.

Hon. Treasurer.
Col. Postmaster,

To see.

C. J. J.
7/6/31

Hon. Sol. Sec.

Dear Sir. After many years
experience as Col. Postmaster, I have
known a single mistake
to be done, a

While such mails have been under their control. English newspapers show prosecutions almost daily against postal servants for tampering with mails and particularly registered mails. A few years ago (1928) similar pilfering was carried on and in one instance a letter sent to the Postmaster by a stamp dealer in the Strand contained a London Daily newspaper poster instead of the notes advised - Surely the Hongkong Postal & Customs ~~Officers~~ ^{Officers} would not have such posters.

M. Sargi Halket
Ficus.
10.6.31.

Colonial Postmaster

Passed to you.

MCH
10.6.31.

W.C.S. Seen. W.C.S.
Colonial Postmaster.
3 July 1931.

P. H. J. J.
3.7.31