Set and Match

On seeing an envelope bearing a complete Jubilee set, anyone could be forgiven for assuming it to be a philatelic cover. But, is that necessarily so?

With at least the Crown Agents denominations determined on an individual basis, (see table to the right), it is perhaps unlikely that all four values add up to a recognisable postage rate.

However, with the near completion of our pages on postage rates, a number of dark-shaded rate boxes have appeared....



Although an airmail label fails to appear on this segment of a package from Montserrat, the 1/5 postage could have paid the 3d registration and 1/2 for the ½ oz airmail (via Miami) fee to the UK.

a	Current inland letter rate
b	A denomination not to exceed 6d
С	Current foreign letter rate
d	1/- or local equivalent

Territory	Set value	Paying the rate
Bahamas	1/10	Air letter: Barbados, Br Honduras, Madagascar, Zanzibar
Basutolamd	1/-	Air letter: Europe except Russia, Karachi
Bechuanaland	1/-	Air letter: Europe except Russia, Karachi
Grenada	1/2	Air letter (after steamer to UK): Russia in Asia
Jamaica	1/8½	Air letter (New York-UK by ship) South Africa
Kenya, U & T	2s 15c	Air (to UK & from USA) letter (from July): Guatamala, Honduras, Nicaragua & Salvador
Newfoundland	40c	Parcel (7 to 9 lb); inland
N. Rhodesia	1/-	Air letter: Afghanistan
Nyasaland	1/6	Air letter: Madagascar & (from June) Algeria, Burma
Swaziland	1/-	Air letter: Europe except Russia, Karachi
Trinidad & Tobago	35c	Air letter, Br Honduras
Morocco Tangier	3d	Air postcard: UK
Australia	2/5	Air letter (with additional air service): Rhodesia, Nyasaland
S. Africa pairs	1/9	Air letter to over a dozen countries
S. Africa singles	10½d	Air postcard to the same dozen or more countries
S. W. Africa	1/-	Air letter, continental Europe, India (air to Karachi)
S. Rhodesia	1/-	Parcel, Bechuanaland (min. rate), Mozambique (½ lb)
Nauru	1/6	Air letter: UK, Canada, Gaza
New Guinea	3d	Letter, foreign

...and of course, Egypt, whose single value had but a single purpose.

With a bit of contrivance, more sets may be added.....

Territory	Set value	Paying the rate
Antigua	1/5	Air (to Miami) registered letter to UK
Barbados	1/5	Parcel up to 3 lb & insured to £12: Bermuda, Br Guiana, Br West Indies
Br Guiana	44c	Parcel 8 to 9 lb inland
Br Honduras	37c	Air letter registered & express: empire beyond the Americas
Cayman Is	1/9	Parcel up to 3 lb registered to UK
Ceylon	85c	Air (via Karachi to London) letter to USA (& air therein)
Dominica	1/5	Air (to Miami) registered letter to UK
Falkland Is	1/7½	Small packet 12 to 13 oz, insured to cover £24 to £36, abroad
Gambia	1/101/2	Air letter express till July 15, foreign except USA
Leeward Is	1/5	Air (to Miami) registered letter to UK
Montserrat	1/5	Air (to Miami) registered letter to UK
St Christopher	1/5	Air (to Miami) registered letter to UK
St Lucia	1/5	Air letter, registered, express: Leeward Is, Puerto Rico, Trinidad & US Virgin Is
Seychelles	1r 38c	Air letter, registered & insured up to 360 rupees, to Europe from September
Sierra Leone	1/9	Air letter express, empire till December
Somaliland	1r 6a	Air letter ½ to 1 oz: Nyasaland, the Rhodesias, continental Europe
Straits Settlements	50c	Air letter, double weight, UK
Virgin Is	1/5	Air (to Miami) registered letter to UK
Great Britain	5½d	Letter, registered, foreign
Morocco Br Zone	5½d	Letter, registered, foreign
Morocco Sp Zone	55c	Letter, registered, UK &, till June, group A
India	17½a	Air letter, double weight, registered to UK

Nick Levinge pointed out the India set rate and kindly suppied the scan of the cover below. However, he is less than confident that it is not philatelic.



The India set, total: $17\frac{1}{2}$ annas, could pay for the inclusive airmail rate to UK of $7\frac{1}{2}$ a for the first $\frac{1}{2}$ 0z, 7 a for the second $\frac{1}{2}$ 0 z and 3 a for registration.

With a little ingenuity, readers would no doubt be able to come up with further examples which we can then add to these tables.



Of the 2s 15c this KUT set provides, 1s 95c would be accounted for by the ½ oz airmail rate to Gold Coast (if the "By air to Cape Town" was a last minute decision) leaving 20c possibly for the feeder service though this seems unlikely.

AJA -June 2014