

Lot Type Grading Description

Est \$A

**COCOS ISLANDS POSTAL HISTORY - RAAF Post Office 1951 to 1954**

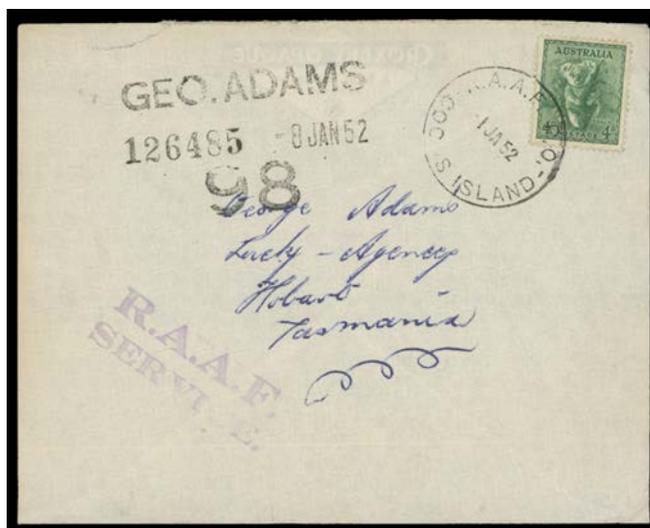
Australian airforce personnel arrived in late 1951 to reconstruct the WWII airfield on West Island. The RAAF Post Office opened 24.12.1951 and closed 21.1.1954. Australian stamps were used. Forces mail was carried at concessional rates, & civilian mail at normal rates.

2463 C 1952 Exhibit pages with Arthur Bergen 'INAUGURAL FLIGHT/Courier Service/COCOS ISLAND/TO/AUSTRALIA' cachet & cds of 31JA52, similar changed to 'SECOND' with cds of 15FE52 & Tatts cover, attempted barrel mail cover to WA with boxed 'TIN CAN MAIL/COCOS-KEELING IS' cachet but flown - the attempt to tie the barrel to the 'Orion's trailing rope failed - with letter, intermediate flights to & from South Africa and from Mauritius, 1952 soiled cover endorsed "Per SS Dorsetshire" which returned the Construction Squadron to the mainland, 1952 RAAF Christmas card with printed Cocos imprint, also 1953 London-Christchurch Air Race pilot-signed cover from the RAAF 'Canberra' bomber that was the first competitor to land but burst a tyre which put it out of the race, etc. (23 items)

400<sup>T</sup>

Lot 2464

2464 C B - cover endorsed "Per RAAF mercy flight..." to Department of Civil Aviation in Perth with KGVI 3½d tied by 'RAAF PO/3JA52/COCOS ISLAND' cds, repaired flap, AAMC #1288c. Ex Kim Dwyer: acquired for \$920. [On 1.1.1952, an airman suffered a fractured skull when struck by the winch handle of a landing barge. A 'Lincoln' bomber was sent from RAAF Pearce (WA) to airlift him to the mainland. **Only four covers were carried on what was the first mail from the RAAF PO:** the first official mail was dated 31JA52. The Dwyer sale was in 2006. This flight was first listed in the 2008 edition of the AAMC, inexplicably priced at one-third what this cover had sold for]

500<sup>T</sup>

Lot 2465

2465 C B - Bibby Line cover with "2ACS/Cocos Island" endorsed on the flap, to Tattersalls in Melbourne with 4d Koala tied by 'RAAF PO/1JA52/COCOS ISLAND' cds (ERD), 'RAAF/SERVICE' h/s in violet, light horizontal fold at the base. [Carried on the so-called Mercy Flight of 3.1.1952]

400<sup>T</sup>

## COCOS ISLANDS POSTAL HISTORY - RAAF Post Office 1951 to 1954 (continued)

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Lot 2466

2466	C	A	- Administrator's cover with light but clear strike 'ADMINISTRATOR, COCOS-KEELING, ISLANDS/[arms]COLONY OF SINGAPORE' cachet in violet on the reverse, to GB with Platypus 9d pair paying the civilian airmail rate tied by 'RAAF PO/3JA52/COCOS ISLAND' cds. <b>The only recorded example of the cachet.</b>	500 <sup>T</sup>
2467	C/CL	A/B	- OHMS covers 1) irregular use of 'TAXATION OFFICES/...MELBOURNE' envelope with 3½d tied 'RAAF PO/23MR52/COCOS ISLAND' cds, minor opening fault; and 2) very late usage of WWII <i>Department of Air</i> propaganda envelope registered to Melbourne with ½d & 6d x3 with cds of 8SE52, 'RAAF Cocos Island' 'R' label (2)	300 <sup>T</sup>
2468	C		- Australia-South Africa flight various intermediates x5 plus invitation to <i>Sir Hudson Fysh</i> to witness the departure from Sydney & a large piece of the ribbon cut for the occasion; also 1948 Sydney-Johannesburg-Sydney covers flown in both directions with the two different <i>Qantas</i> labels & signed by the pilot "LR Ambrose". (9 items)	250 <sup>T</sup>



Lot 2469

2469	C	A	- <i>Qantas</i> cover to South Africa with von Mueller 2½d x8 tied by 'RAAF PO/23JY52/COCOS ISLAND' cds. The only recorded Cocos intermediate carried on the <i>Qantas</i> Proving Flight. [The <i>PMG</i> advised no mail would be carried on this flight but small numbers were carried unofficially. Until this cover was discovered, there was only anecdotal evidence of Cocos intermediates]	500 <sup>T</sup>
2470	C	B	- (Oct) commercial cover to a <i>RAAF</i> Warrant Officer with 2 <i>Airfield Construction Squadron</i> on Cocos with KGVI 3½d tied by Melbourne cds, redirected to Perth then back to Victoria, a bit grubby.	150 <sup>T</sup>
2471	CL/L	B/A-	- 1953 <i>PMG's</i> <i>Department</i> stampless envelope to GB with fine strike of the rare 'RAAF PO/COCOS ISLAND' cachet in violet & cds of 18AP53, minor defects. <i>Ex Kim Dwyer</i> : acquired for \$529. [With the enclosed letter headed "Sgt Warburton KJ/Post Master/RAAF PO". OHMS covers on post office business did not require postage] (2 items)	400 <sup>T</sup>

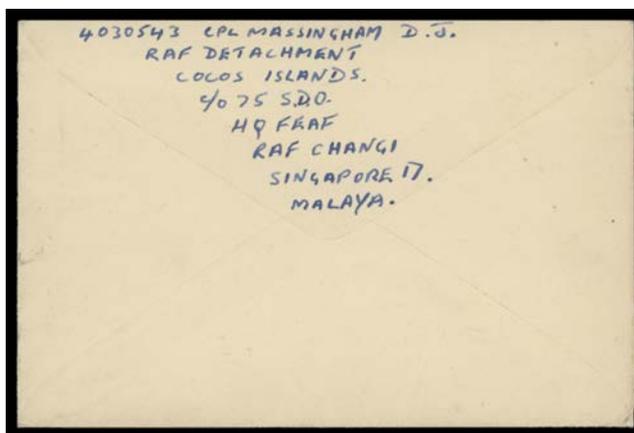
**COCOS ISLANDS POSTAL HISTORY - RAAF Post Office 1951 to 1954 (continued)**

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**Ex Lot 2472**

- 2472** C/L B - PMG's Department stampless envelope with fine strike of the rare 'RAAF PO/COCOS ISLAND' cachet in violet & cds of 24AP53, to Rex Allison in Melbourne, flap removed & minor spotting. With the testy letter from Sgt K Warburton, the RAAF PO postmaster: "...this Post Office is not run for Philatelists...Cable and Wireless have informed me they have been plagued with letters from you...I have not the time to waste on your personal requests..." Marvellous! (2 items)

400<sup>T</sup>**Lot 2473**

- 2473** C A- - cover with sender's address "RAF Detachment/Cocos Islands/..." on the flap & endorsed "Forces Mail/By Air Mail", to the BBC in London with Singapore Coronation 10c tied by 'DEMPSEY ROAD/28OCT53/SINGAPORE' cds, opened-out. [A RAF detachment was sent to Cocos to provide support for the RAF's entrant in the London-Christchurch Air Race. However, the plane failed tropical tests & was withdrawn from the race]

400<sup>T</sup>