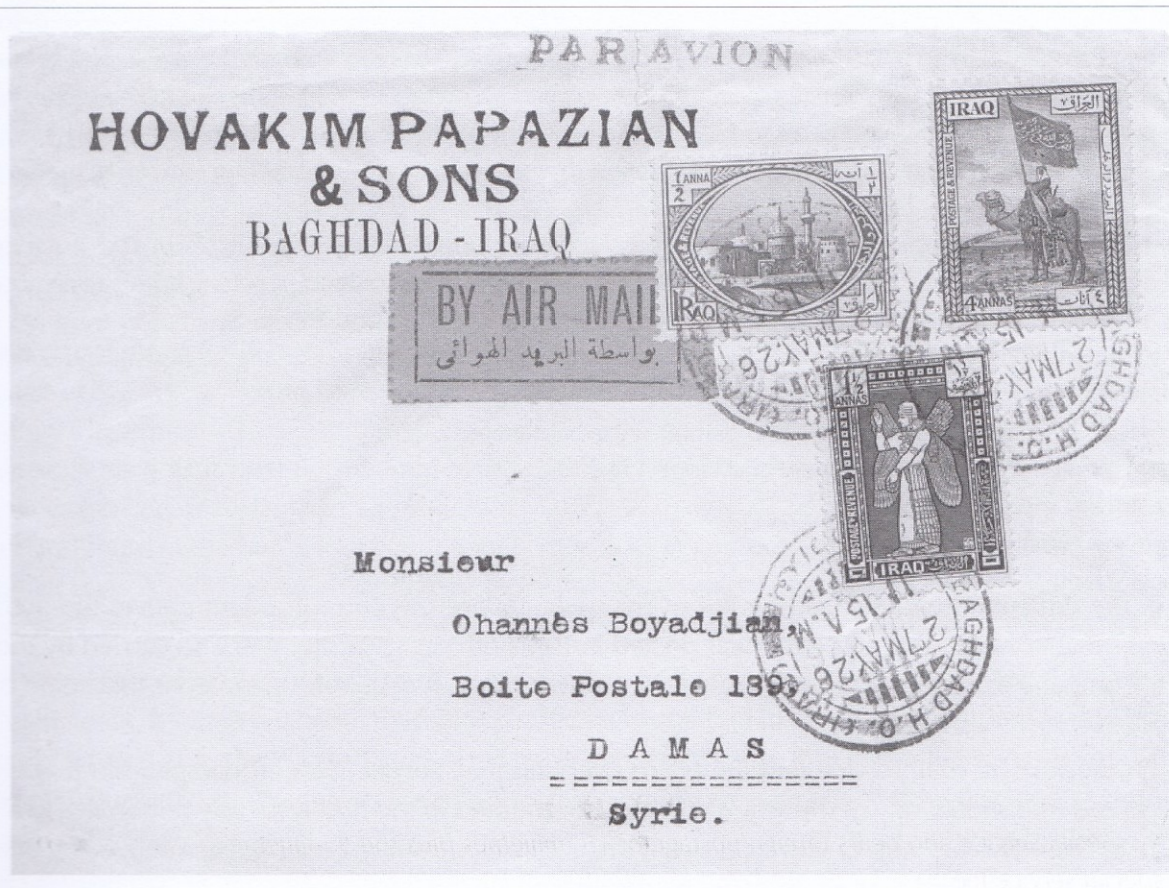




Above: cover from Port Said to Mosul by overland mail, dated 10 December 1924 and bearing stamps for 15 millièmes foreign postage plus the 15 millièmes fee for the overland service from Haifa to Baghdad.

Below: Cover from Baghdad to Damascus dated 27 May 1926. It was sent by the Cairo-Baghdad Air Mail Service when the faster overland route was disrupted by tribal uprisings in Syria.



Appendix B: Squadrons and Aircraft

These are the details of the RAF squadrons and aircraft that operated the Cairo–Baghdad air mail and ancillary services between August 1921 and December 1926:

No. 1 Squadron

Stationed at Hinaidi 1 May 1921 to 1 November 1926 then disbanded.

Aircraft Snipe.

Duties Policing desert areas.

No. 6 Squadron

Stationed at Baghdad West 18 July 1919 to 8 October 1922, Hinaidi 9 October 1922 to 18 May 1924, Mosul 19 May 1924 to 19 October 1926, Hinaidi 20 October 1926 to 27 October 1929.

Aircraft Bristol F2B 'Brisfit'.

Duties Patrol and policing desert areas to protect towns from marauding bands of raiders.



A De Havilland D.H. 10 of No. 216 Squadron at Abu Sueir airfield in 1921.
(Photo: Royal Air Force Museum)

Issued with the Post Office Circular, 21st December, 1921

TO ALL HEAD AND BRANCH OFFICES AND TELEGRAPH SUB-OFFICES.

AIR MAIL INFORMATION.

For the guidance of counter and other officers who may have to answer enquiries from the public. In EVERY PUBLIC OFFICE a COUNTER COPY in a suitable cover must be kept handy for reference by the counter officers. This copy must be carefully corrected up-to-date in accordance with instructions which will be issued from time to time in the weekly Post Office Circular.

Members of the public may, pending the reprinting for general distribution of the Air Mail Leaflet, obtain a free copy of this Notice by applying to the Secretary, Air Mails, G.P.O., London, E.C.1.

I. GENERAL REGULATIONS.

1. Packets admissible. All classes of letter packets, i.e., letters, postcards, packets of printed papers and commercial papers, and samples, are admitted to the Air Mail services. Any letter packet may be registered, but insured packets are not accepted for transmission by Air Mail.

Parcels are accepted at certain Post Offices for conveyance by semi-official air service to Paris only—see section V. With this exception, parcels are not accepted for transmission by Air Mail.

2. Facilities for posting. Air Mail packets may be handed in for registration at any Post Office or, if registration is not required, may be posted in any public posting box. In addition, special arrangements have been made to accept packets for the Paris service **over the Counter**, at a later hour than would normally be possible, at certain Offices in London. (*As regards latest times of posting, see paragraphs 8 and 9.*)

3. Special "Air Mail" label. Every packet intended for transmission by Air Mail should bear in the top left-hand corner a blue label printed with the words "By Air Mail." The label enables each packet to be specially selected during the process of sorting. It can 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. In the absence of a label, the cover of the packet should be prominently marked "By Air Mail" in manuscript in the top left-hand corner; but the use of the label is desirable in order that any risk of exclusion from the next Air Mail may be avoided. Any additional special marking required, e.g., on packets for Morocco (*see paragraph 6, Note ii.*) should be inserted *immediately beneath* the label (or manuscript equivalent).

4. Express Delivery. If express delivery in the country of destination 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 7*). Packets intended for express delivery should be prominently marked with the word "Express" immediately below the words "By Air Mail" on the blue label (or manuscript equivalent) referred to in paragraph 3. The delivery of Air Mail packets by the express service is carried out in France, Holland, Belgium, and certain other Foreign Countries (of which a list may be seen on application at any Post Office) where the express delivery of ordinary packets is undertaken.

II. ROUTES AND FREQUENCY OF SERVICE; ADVANTAGES OFFERED.

5. Letters and other letter packets (*see paragraph 1*) can be posted in all parts of the United Kingdom for transmission by any of the Air Mail services shown below:—

Service 1.	LONDON—PARIS	Frequency.	Each Weekday.
„	2. TOULOUSE—CASABLANCA		On four days a week.
„	3. EGYPT—IRAQ (MESOPOTAMIA)		Fortnightly.
„	4. KINSHASA—STANLEYVILLE (BELGIAN CONGO)		In connexion with Belgian Packets.

For the Air Parcel Post to Paris *see* Section V.