

The Safe Route in the South of Iran for British Vital Correspondence in World War II

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The sender of the envelope was Mr. AJS Gomez of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, who sent it from Abadan Island, in Iran's Khuzestan Province, to the Central Bank of India in Mumbai in October ,1942, during World War II. After a few days, it has arrived in Basra, on October 17, and from there has been transited and sent to Mumbai. The envelope has not been opened and the seal "not examined" has been stamped on it in Iraq. Then, it was reviewed by British forces in India and the British censorship label and the octagonal censorship seal with the Queen's crown emblem and the words DHC 21 have been stamped on it. On the back of the envelope, the word "Persian Gulf" is written. The phrase "airmail" also typed on it, although there are no airmail stamps on the envelope. It is probable that it was not sent to Basra by airplane, due to the problems caused by the war, but reached Basra by sea. On this envelope, both stamps of old and new kings are placed next to each other. Besides, both the sender and the receiver were important legal entities that were of vital economic importance to the British Empire. The content of the letter should not have been read by the Soviets and the Iranian forces, and for this reason, there is no trace of the Iran-Soviet-British triple censorship seal. Remember that most of the envelopes belonging to this period were reviewed by the triple forces and stamped with the censorship of the triple forces. The importance of this envelope is due to the lack of this seal, which indicates a safe path for such envelopes. Postal routes were mostly occupied by the Allies, and letters sent from about 1942 to the end of the war were reviewed by Allied forces, most of which were stamped "censored by the triple forces." The South of Iran was not like that, but the British forces used it as a safe route to send their important and confidential correspondence.

