

Contrived but interesting – Calgary to London, England and back, 1964

Sent Airmail from Calgary to Staines, Middlesex 30th Jul 1964, postage paid by 2x 7c Jet stamps up-rated to 8c for a total of 16c. Stamps were cancelled with compass quadrants and slogan 'COMPASS DIRECTION NECESSARY ON MAIL FOR CALGARY'.



In England, address of recipient was covered using two International Botanical Congress stamps which had been issued on the 5th August 1964 and the envelope was re-directed back to Calgary using an arrow pointing to the senders address.

A machine cancel on the reverse shows the letter was processed at 7:30pm on 5th August at Staines, Middlesex. The envelope was flagged for manual inspection and the stamps were manually cancelled at 9:15pm on the same date.

The 1/6d paid by the two stamps overpaid the 1/3d rate that applied at the time for Air Mail to Canada. Presumably, the overpayment of 3d was necessitated by the need to use two stamps to cover the address.