

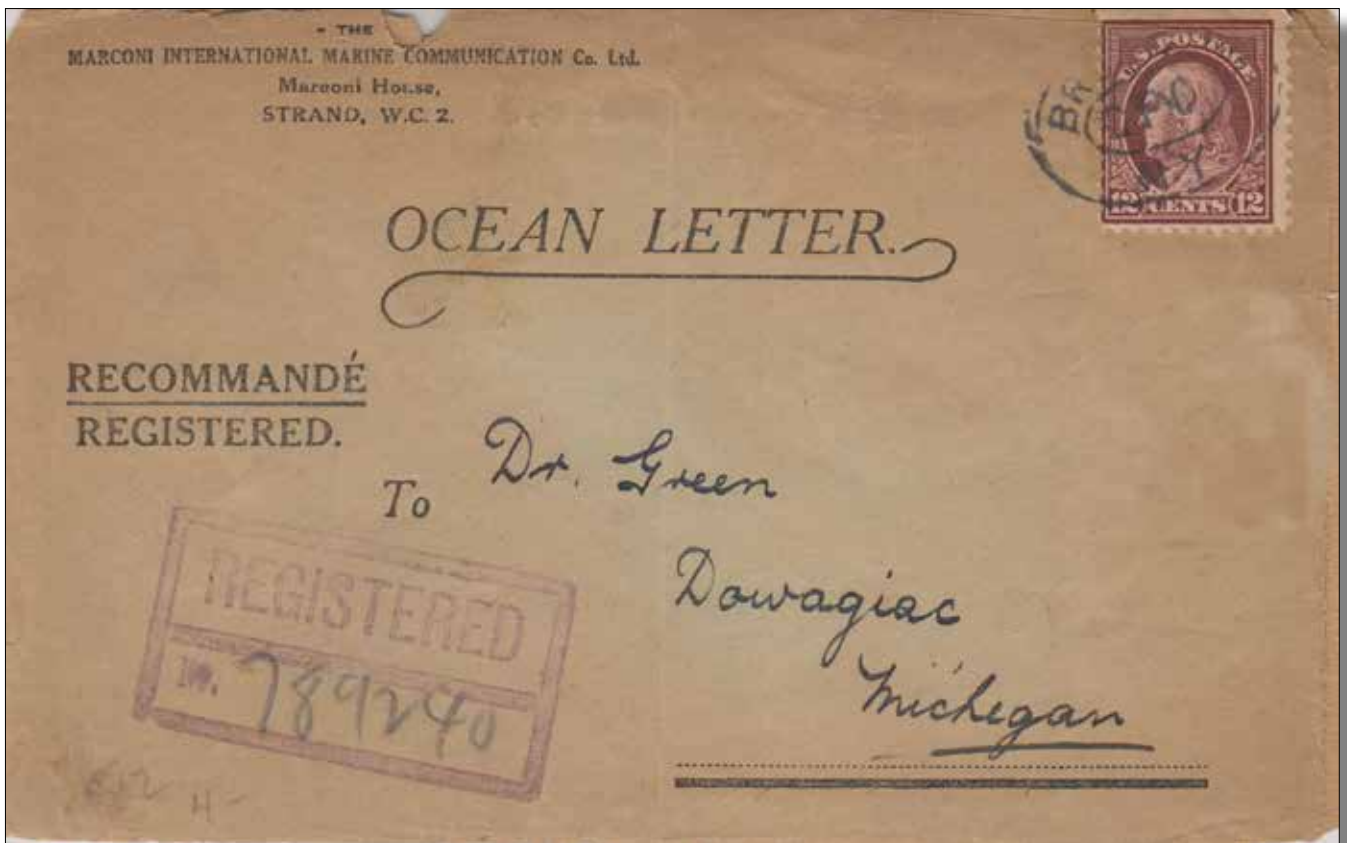
The Marconi International Marine Communication Company

The history of the Marconi Company is told in chapter one.



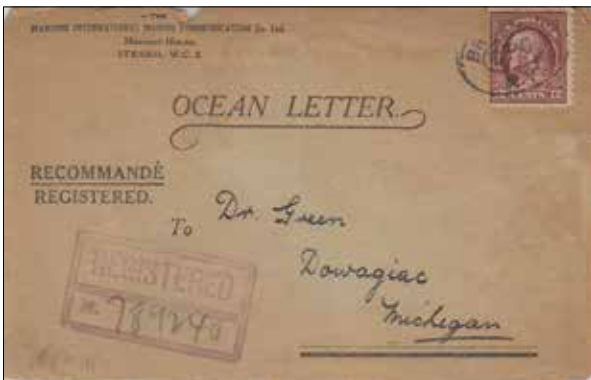
Marconi stuck to the type with a curlicue until 1924 when he also changed to a more functionalistic design with typeface sans-serif. A series of this type were printed only distinguishable by small changes in the design and the seize of the typeface. Round 1927 a type with a printer's imprint S.34 was printed on the usual faded green/blue envelopes but also on buff coloured paper (see below).

Marconi stuck to the rather boring message form. Round 1927 the design was changed to a green and black design. In spite of the change in the name in 1928 to BRITISK MARINE WIRELESS SERVICE, the design of the envelopes was the same.



In the 30ies they printed envelopes with the text POST-RADIOTELGRAM and MARCONIGRAM and used these for ocean letters. They are in bright orange, orange-red colours. A couple of ocean letter from after World War II have been found.






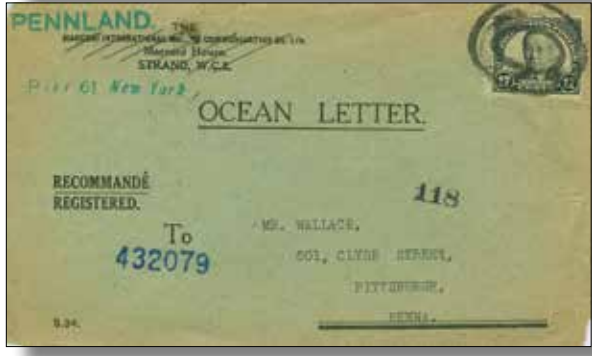
Rare type of Marconi envelope from 1923. The colour is darker than the first type and the typeface thinner.

The Marconi International Marine Communication Company			
Type	Envelope	Description of characteristics	Year
1a E1		No printer's imprint. "Ocean Letter" and "To" in italic print, header 4 lines. Buff or dull green, black print	1913
1b (E1)		No printer's imprint. Header only 3 lines now, top line disappeared. Buff, black print "OCEAN LETTER" in italics	1919
1c (E1)		No printer's imprint. Same as 1a , but right curved end of underling pointing skew upwards Buff, black print	1919
1d		No printers imprint. Like typa 1a but "O" in Ocean under W.C. in teh address line and now W.C. 2 in the address bottom line. Dark buff, black printing.	1923

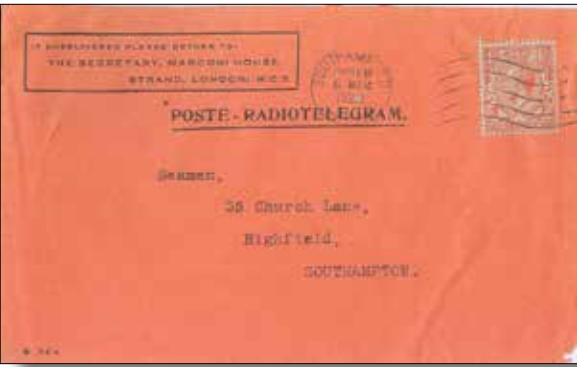

The Marconi International Marine Communication Company

Type	Envelope	Description of characteristics	Year
2 (E1)		Printer's imprint: S. 34. Printing information added and paper changed. Dull green, black print	1920
3a E2		Similar to 1a, but regular letter-type. "RECOMMANDÉ" is 26 mm long, Dull green, black print	1922
3b???		Similar to 3a, but regular letter-type, but right curved end of underling pointing skew upwards. "RECOMMANDÉ" is 26 mm long. Dull green, black print	
4 E3		No hyphen at beginning or end of top address line, Straight underlining of "OCEAN LETTER", "RECOMMANDÉ" is 26 mm long Dull green, black print	1925

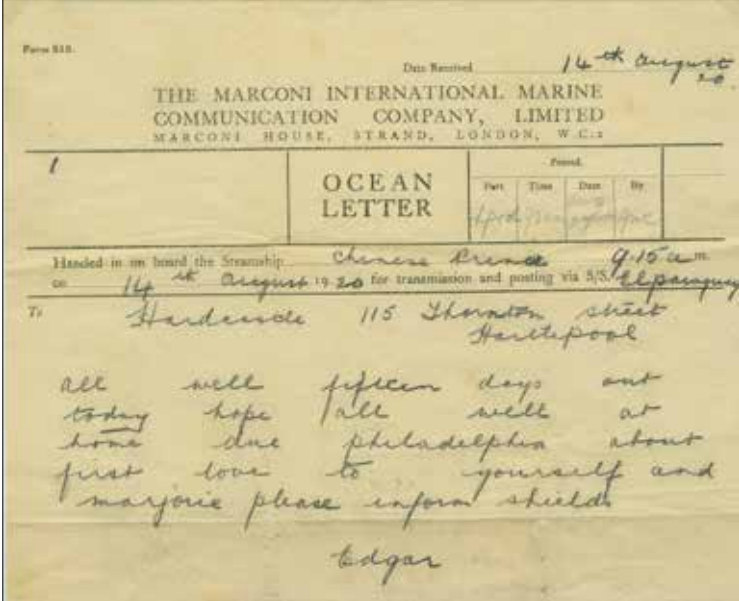
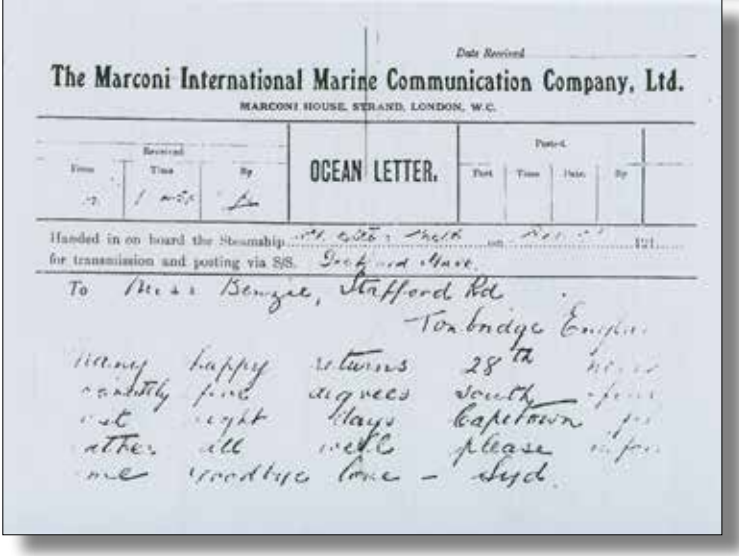
The Marconi International Marine Communication Company

Type	Envelope	Description of characteristics	Year
5 (E3)		<p>The same as 4 but "RE-COMMANDE" is 25 mm long and accent on last E is shifted to the right. Dull green, black print.</p>	1925
6 E4		<p>No printers imprint. "OCEAN LETTER" and "To" in smaller and thicker sans-serif lettertype, "RECOMMANDE" has no accent on last E and is 30 mm long. Dull green, black print.</p>	1925
7 (E3)		<p>Printer's imprint: S.34 Same as 4 but "RECOMMANDE" is 24 mm long and printing information added bottom-left, but printed smaller than on type 03 and without interspacing. Dull green, black print</p>	1927
7????		<p>Printer's imprint: S.34 Different colour address changed to USA address???</p>	

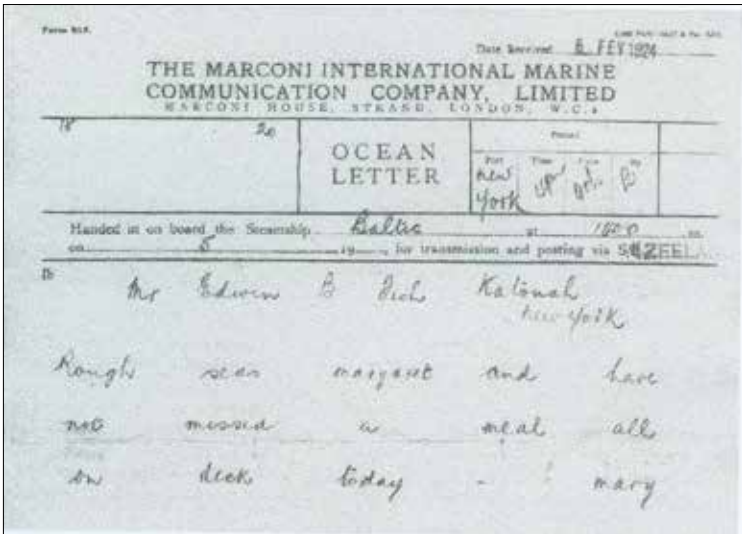
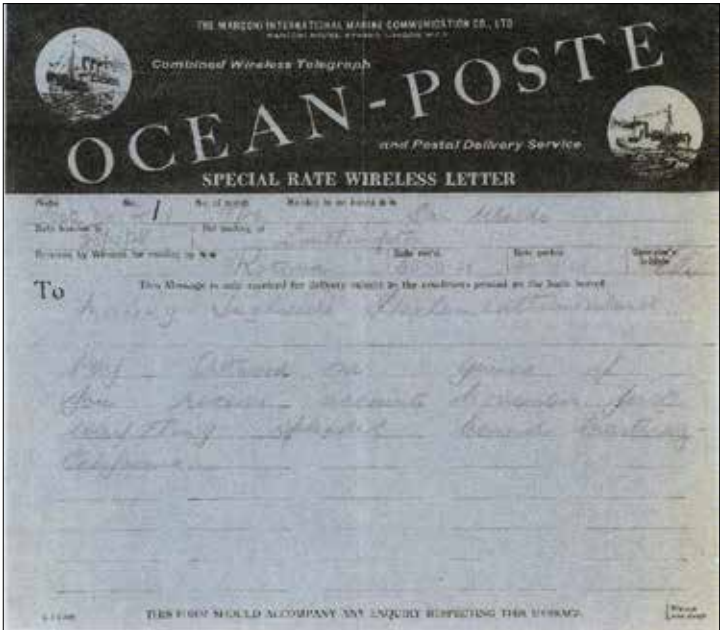
The Marconi International Marine Communication Company

Type	Envelope	Description of characteristics	Year
8a		<p>Printer's impress: S 36A Address header 3 lines, boxed. No title Ocean Letter, designed for POSTE RADIOTELEGRAM. Orange.</p>	1925
8b		<p>Printer's impress: S 36A Similar to type 08, but now with title POSTE RADIOTELEGRAM. Orange.</p>	
9		<p>Printer's imprint: S33 CO Marconigram changed to OCEAN LETTER with typewriter</p>	1946

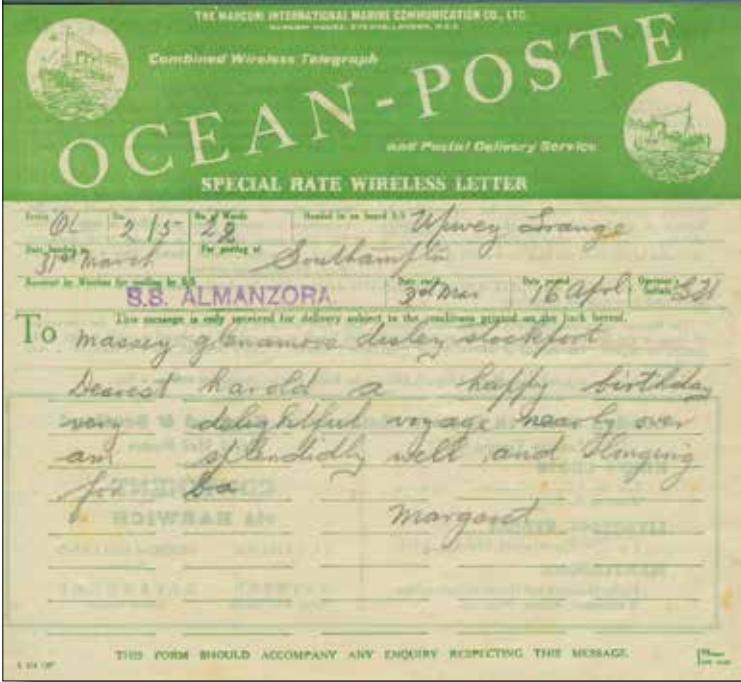
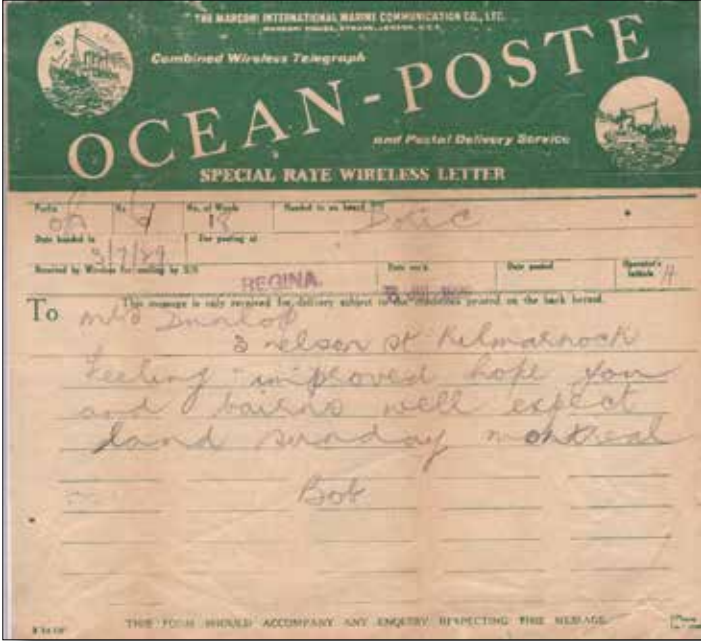
The Marconi International Marine Communication Company Message Forms

Type	Message Form	Description of characteristics	Year																
1 M40	 <p>Form 511.</p> <p>Date Received <i>14th August 20.</i></p> <p>THE MARCONI INTERNATIONAL MARINE COMMUNICATION COMPANY, LIMITED MARCONI HOUSE, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.1</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2">1</td> <td colspan="2">OCEAN LETTER</td> <td colspan="4">Paid</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Port</td> <td>Time</td> <td>Date</td> <td>By</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Handed in on board the Steamship <i>Chinese Prince</i> on <i>14th August 1920</i> for transmission and posting via <i>S.S. Albatross</i> at <i>9.15 am</i></p> <p>To <i>Hardacre 115 Thornton Street Liverpool</i></p> <p><i>all well fifteen days out today hope fall well at home due philadelphia about first love to yourself and marjorie please inform shield Edgar</i></p>	1		OCEAN LETTER		Paid				Port	Time	Date	By					Printer's imprint Form S 15	1919
1		OCEAN LETTER		Paid															
Port	Time	Date	By																
2 M1	 <p>Date Received</p> <p>The Marconi International Marine Communication Company, Ltd. MARCONI HOUSE, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Received</td> <td colspan="2">OCEAN LETTER.</td> <td colspan="4">Paid</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Time</td> <td>Time</td> <td>By</td> <td>Port</td> <td>Time</td> <td>Date</td> <td>By</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Handed in on board the Steamship <i>M. 28th Street</i> on <i>28th August 1920</i> for transmission and posting via <i>S.S. York and Great</i></p> <p>To <i>Miss Benzee, Stafford Rd. Tonbridge Kent</i></p> <p><i>many happy returns 28th north of me goodbye love - Syd</i></p>	Received		OCEAN LETTER.		Paid				Time	Time	By	Port	Time	Date	By		M1 without topline	
Received		OCEAN LETTER.		Paid															
Time	Time	By	Port	Time	Date	By													

The Marconi International Marine Communication Company Message Forms

Type	Message Form	Description of characteristics	Year
3 M1			
4 M1		without footnote	
5a M5			1926

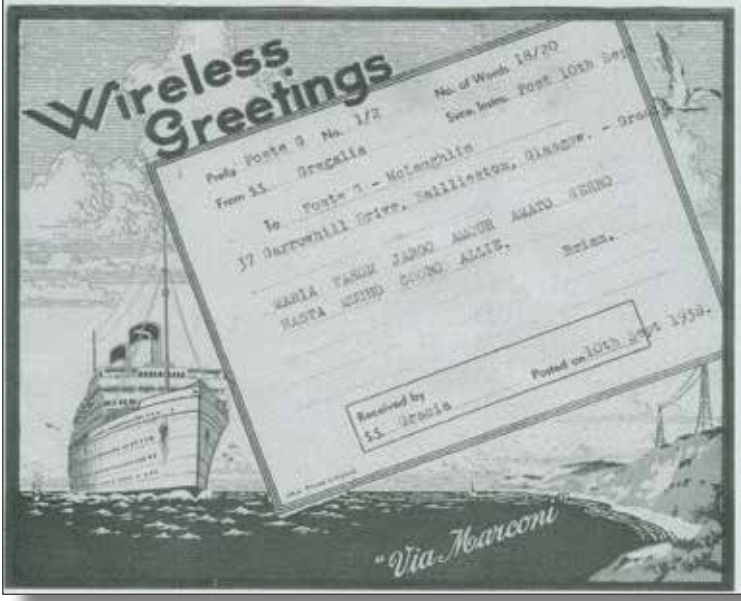
The Marconi International Marine Communication Company Message Forms

Type	Message Form	Description of characteristics	Year
5b M4		Printers's imprint: S34 OP Light green.	
5c		Printers's imprint: S34 OP Dark green.	
5d M6			

The Marconi International Marine Communication Company Message Forms

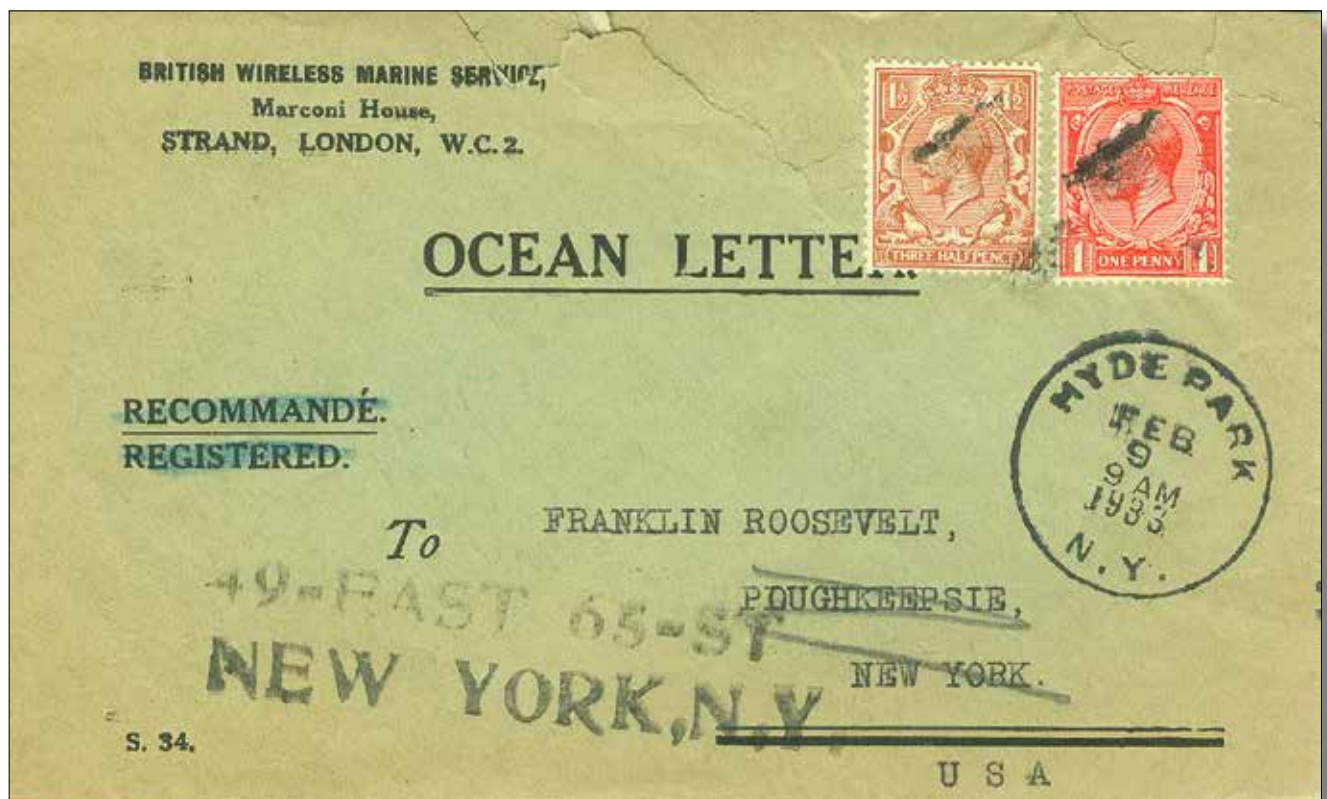
Type	Message Form	Description of characteristics	Year
6a		<p>Printer's imprint: X 3/4 Op. J.J.K. & CO 50m 49456</p>	1928
6b M7		<p>Printer's imprint: X 3/4 Op. W. & S. Ltd. 50m.</p>	1929
7 M8			

The Marconi International Marine Communication Company Message Forms

Type	Message Form	Description of characteristics	Year
8 M9			

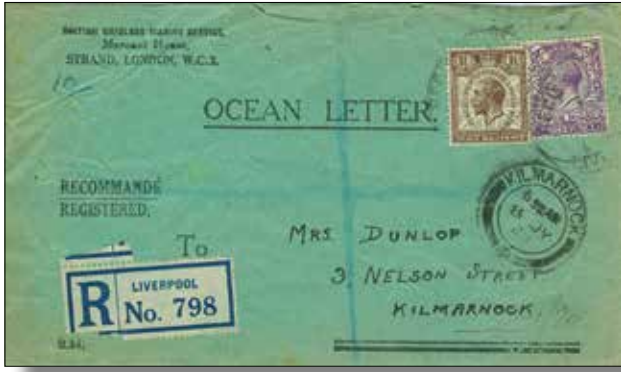
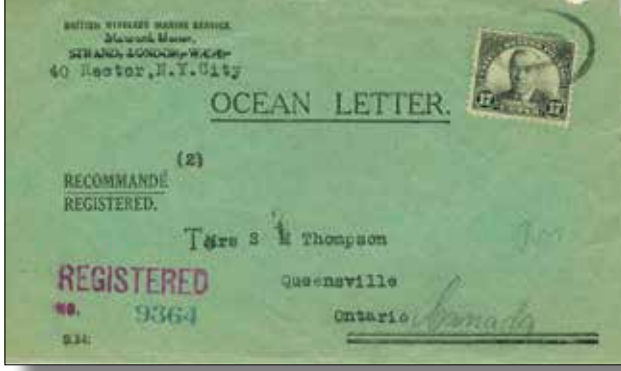

British Wireless Marine Service

In 1924 Marconi bought a controlling interest in a company called Radio Communication Company and seems to have merged them in 1928, from now on calling his company British Wireless Marine Service. Again a series of envelopes were printed with slight differences in design.

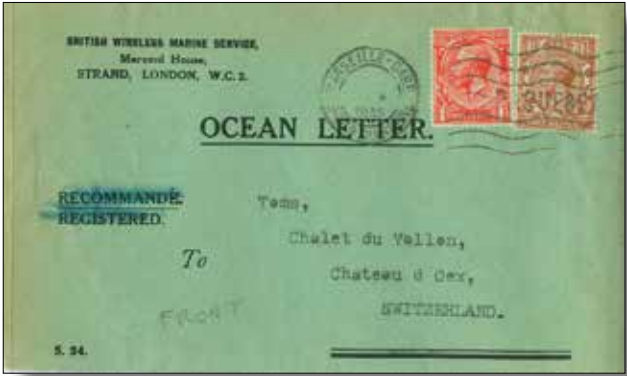




Ocean letter cancelled in New York on 9 February 1933 to the future President of the USA in the new more functionalistic design.

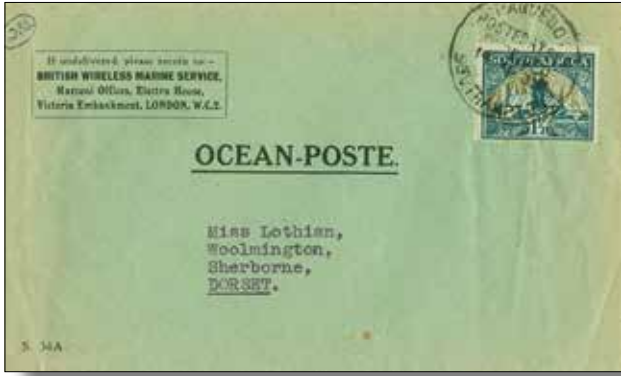

British Wireless Marine Service

Type	Envelope	Description of characteristics	Year
1a E5		<p>Printer's imprint: S 34 identical to MIM type 7, but new company name. Dull green to bluish green, black print.</p>	1928
1b (E5)		<p>The same as type 1a but with address changed into the address of the USA sub-office.</p>	1931
1c E6		<p>No printer's imprint: "RECOMMANDÉ" is 30mm long, "To" is printed in italic, Dull green to Blueish green, black print.</p>	1932

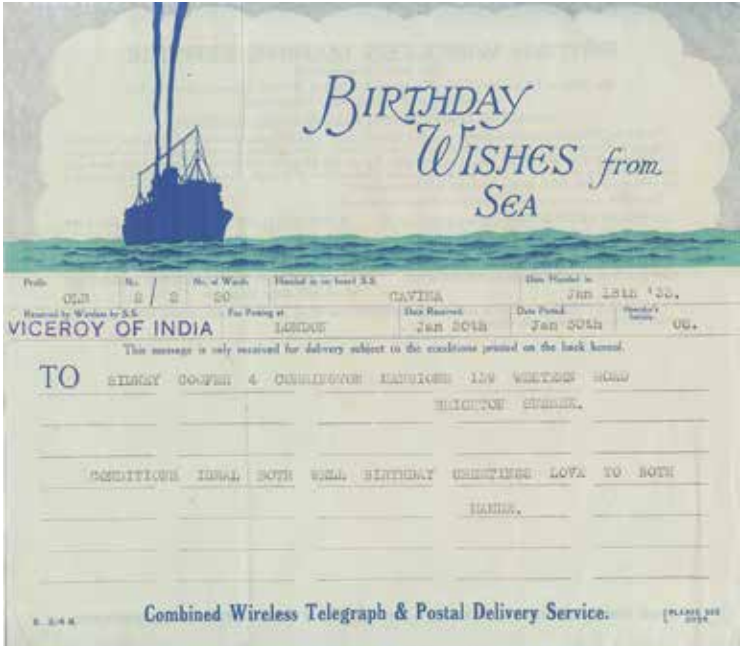
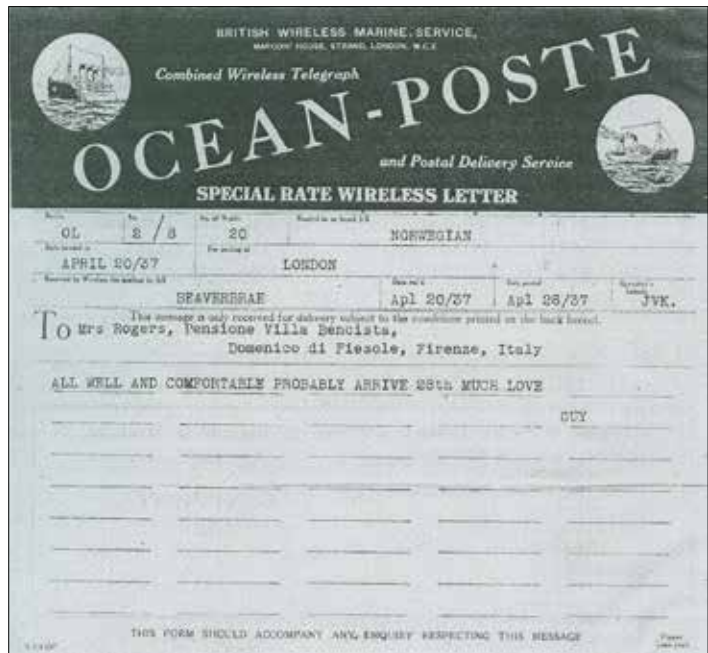
British Wireless Marine Service

Type	Envelope	Description of characteristics	Year
1d (E6)		<p>Printer's imprint: S. 34 "RECOMMANDÉ" is 30mm long, "To" is printed in italic, Dull green, black print.</p>	1933
1e		<p>Printer's imprint: S. 34 "RECOMMANDÉ" is 30mm long, "To" is printed in italic, Brown, black print.</p>	
2		<p>Printer's imprint: S. 36a POSTE RADIOTELEGRAM, identical to MIM type 8a, but new company name in 4 lines Orange</p>	1931
3a E7		<p>Printer's imprint: S 34A Address header 4 lines, boxed, Third line "Marconi House", Title OCEAN POSTE. Dull green to Blueish green black print</p>	

British Wirelesss Marine Service

Type	Envelope	Description of characteristics	Year
3b (E7)		<p>Printer's imprint: S 34A Addres header 4 lines, boxed. Third line "Marconi Offices, Electra House," Title OCEAN POSTE. Dull green to Blueish green black print</p>	1939
3c (E7)		<p>Printer's imprint: S. 34A. Printed in England. Identical to type 3b, but added text line in bottom-left corner. Dull green to Blueish green black print</p>	1938
4a E8		<p>Printer's imprint: S 47 WIRELESS LETTER, decorated frame around, bigger size.</p>	1937
4b E8		<p>Printer's imprint: S 47 OCEAN LETTER, decorated frame around, bigger size. WHITE, blue print.</p>	1937

British Wireless Marine Service Message Forms



Type	Message form	Description of characteristics	Year
1 M25			1923
2			1928

Radio Communication Company Ltd.

In 1924 Marconi bought a controlling interest in a company called Radio Communication Company and seems to have merged them in 1928, from now on calling his company British Wireless Marine Service. Again a series of envelopes were printed with slight differences in design.


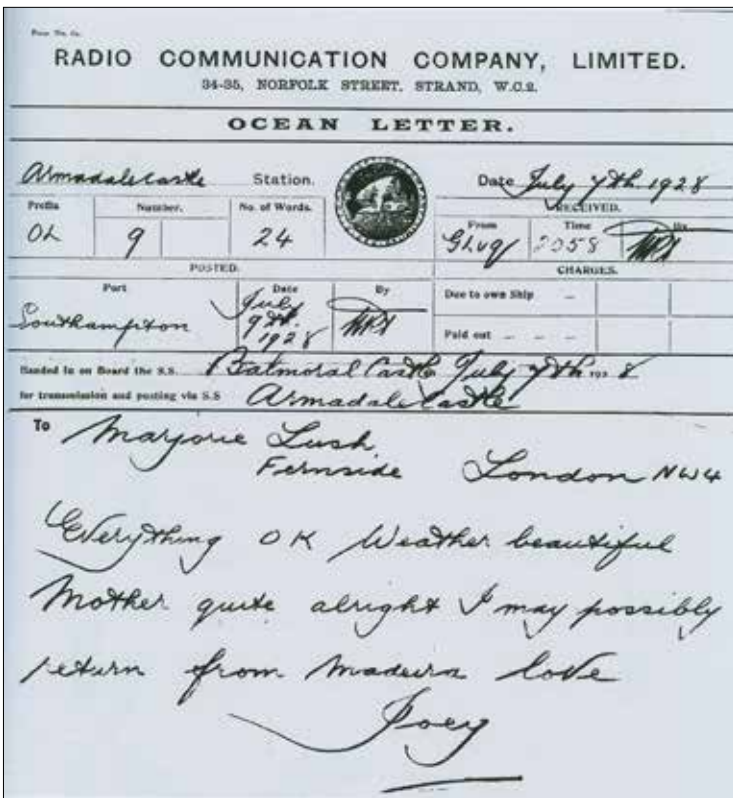
Radio Communication Company had envelopes printed distinguishable only by the position of the company logo on the front, but they are much more scarce than Marconi's stationary, but also used under this name after the Marconi takeover of the company.

Radio Communication Company Ltd

Type	Envelope	Description of characteristics	Year
1		<p>Printer's imprint: Form 20a. Company address at left top, thin underlining of OCEAN LETTER, space between OCE- AN and LETTER is 5mm. Light brown.</p>	1923
2		<p>Printer's imprint: Form 20a. Company address at left top, thick underlining of OCEAN LETTER, space between OCE- AN and LETTER is 4mm. Light brown.</p>	1926
3		<p>Printer's imprint: Form 20a. Company address at left bottom, thick underlining of OCEAN LETTER. Light brown.</p>	1924

Radio Communication Company Ltd

Message Forms

Type	Message form	Description of characteristics	Year
1 M10	 <p>From The Co. RADIO COMMUNICATION COMPANY, LIMITED. 24-26, NORFOLK STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.</p> <p>OCEAN LETTER.</p> <p>Armadale Castle Station. Date 1st NOV 1923</p> <p>Prefix: QZ, Number: 3, No. of Words: 29</p> <p>From: MGT, Time: 1030, By: MGT</p> <p>Part: Cape Town, Date: 19th, By: JPR</p> <p>Handed in on board the S.S. ... on 1st NOV 1923</p> <p>To Eugene Marais, Box 1. Pretoria.</p> <p>Anna Louisa voyage and thoughts</p>		1923
2	 <p>From The Co. RADIO COMMUNICATION COMPANY, LIMITED. 24-26, NORFOLK STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.</p> <p>OCEAN LETTER.</p> <p>Armadale Castle Station. Date July 7th 1928</p> <p>Prefix: OK, Number: 9, No. of Words: 24</p> <p>From: G.L.V.G., Time: 2058, By: MGT</p> <p>Part: Southampton, Date: July 7th 1928, By: MGT</p> <p>Handed in on board the S.S. ... on July 7th 1928</p> <p>To Margorie Lusk, Farnside London NW4</p> <p>Everything OK weather beautiful Mother quite alright I may possibly return from Madeira love Joey</p>		1928