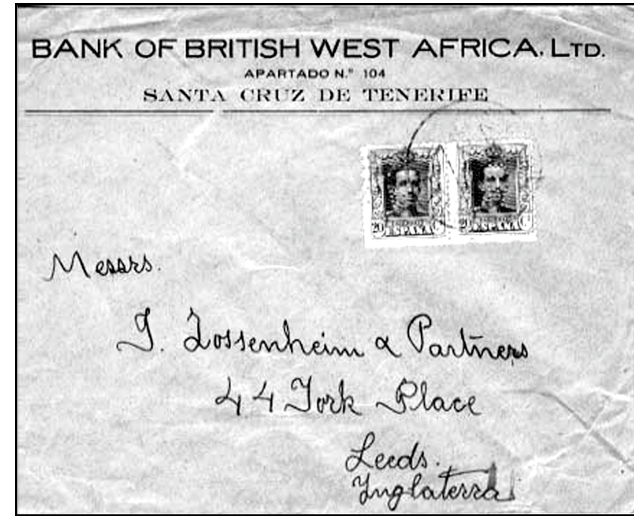


ADDITION TO SPANISH AFRICA

Bob Szymanski (LM145)

An E-bay lot earlier this year proved to be more than what was described as a Spanish perfin cover sent to England. As you might see in the cover picture, the user is listed as the Bank of British West Africa, Ltd. The perfin is BB/WA. The cover lists the Bank's address as Santa Cruz de Tenerife. This may or may not have been noticed by some collectors viewing this lot as the cover went for the minimum price. Luckily, I paid attention to Geography class in grade school as Tenerife rang a bell indicating the "Canary Islands". I quickly pulled out the World Perfin Catalog African Section - Bob Schwerdt, Editor printed in 1995. There was one listing for the Canary Islands but not this one. Wow! This was a lucky find!

Sometime later, I was working on my Spanish stamps and noticed the same perfin on other Spanish stamps. Since the Canary Islands did not have their own postage stamps but used those of Spain, I called Bob Schwerdt to see what his Spanish catalog had on the topic. Bob was kind enough to pull out his copy of the "Catalogo de Perforaciones" by Rodriquez printed in 1992. Bob



found reference to the perfin and identification of the user and place of use as confirmed by the cover. Although it is known, the Spanish catalog considers this as a Spanish perfin. This information will be forwarded to our Foreign Catalog Editor for consideration of inclusion in the Canary Islands section of the World Perfins - Africa.