

B.M.

15th March

32

The Secretary,  
Air Ministry,  
Kingsway,  
London, W.C.2.

Sir,

In connection with the movement on foot to connect up Inverness and Kirkwall for the delivery of Mails by air, it has been suggested that with its extensive and unrivalled Links, Dornoch would be an ideal place for an air centre.

I was instructed to communicate with the Town Clerk of Inverness on the subject, and I beg leave to enclose copy of his reply to my inquiries.

I have also been in communication with Sir Archibald Sinclair, Secretary for Scotland, who, being M.P. for this Constituency, knows Dornoch intimately.

In order that I may be in a position to report to the Town Council at next meeting, I shall be glad to be informed if the Air Ministry would be agreeable to send a Consultant, as suggested in the letter of the Town Clerk of Inverness, to inspect suitable landing places, and whether the Air Ministry would be pleased to grant Major Mealling's services free as was done in the case of Inverness.

I am,  
Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,

Encl/-

Town Clerk.

# JOHN GRANT & SONS

CHAS. GRANT - ROBT. GRANT

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

PURVEYORS OF

**MEAT, POULTRY, GAME, BACON, FISH & ICE.**

TELEPHONE  
AND  
TELEGRAMS

"DORNOCH 7"

OR

"GOLSPIE - 3"

DORNOCH (RLY. STN.)  
PRIVATE LINE



**DORNOCH,**

SUTHERLAND, N.B.

(BRANCH AT GOLSPIE)

2nd. March 1935.

J. Sutherland Esq.,  
Town Clerk,  
D O R N O C H.

1  
2  
35

Dear Sir,

Business men in Dornoch feel that it would be a great advantage were it possible to have the morning mails dropped here, by the Mail Aeroplane plying between Inverness, Wick and Orkney.

Under present arrangements our outgoing morning mail has to leave about an hour before the incoming mail is received. Missing this mail by an hour causes an approximate delay of twenty four hours in delivery in England. To have the hour reversed would, of course, speed delivery by twenty four hours.

We shall be glad if you will put this before the Council for their consideration.

Yours faithfully,

*John Grant*

Approved

B.M.

7th March

35

Messrs. J. Grant & Sons,  
Butchers,  
Dornoch.

Dear Sirs,

Your letter of 2nd instant relative to the delivery of the morning Mails by Aeroplane, was submitted to a recent Meeting of the Town Council, when they gave your suggestion their sympathetic support.

I have accordingly been instructed to communicate with the Postal Authorities drawing their attention to the considerable improvement that could be effected in the service by having the morning Mails by Air.

Yours faithfully,

Town Clerk.

*Write to me  
2/14/35*



Telephone :  
LAIRG 10

POST OFFICE  
LAIRG  
SUTHERLAND

P.O. Ref. 467/2

Your Ref.

13 March, 1935.

Dear Sir,

Delivery of mails by Inverness-Orkney Air Mail.

With reference to your letter of 7th instant, I am directed to inform you that the Department could only consider the transport of mails to Dornoch by air if a regular stop was included in the services provided by the Highland Airways Company. To drop mails from an aeroplane in flight is, of course, not a practicable arrangement at present.

Yours faithfully,

Head Postmaster.

John Sutherland, Esq.,  
Town Clerk,  
Dornoch,  
Sutherland.



B.M.

3rd April

35

B. E. Fresson, Esq.,  
Highland Airways Ltd.,  
36, Academy Street,  
Inverness.

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the Town Council, I have made representation to the Postal Authorities for the delivery of Mails by air at Dornoch. I have now been informed that the Postal Department could only consider transport of Mails by air if a regular stop was included in the services provided by your Company between Inverness and Orkney.

I shall accordingly be glad to have your observations on the matter.

Yours faithfully,

Town Clerk.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED TO THE COMPANY AND NOT TO INDIVIDUALS.

Telegraphic Address—  
" Dick, Inverness."

Telephone Nos.—  
Inverness 7, 8 and 19.

# HIGHLAND AIRWAYS, LTD.

## BRANCH OFFICES—

**Aberdeen**—The North of  
Scotland and Orkney  
and Shetland Steam  
Navigation Coy., Ltd.—  
Matthews' Quay. Tel.  
2860.

T. C. Smith & Coy.,  
Ltd., 21 Bon-Accord St.  
Tel.—Aberdeen 4130.

**Kirkwall**—Orcaidian Office.  
Tel.—Kirkwall 49.

**Wick**—A. Robertson &  
Son, 8 Bridge Street.  
Tel.—Wick 41.

## DIRECTORS—

R. Donald, M.B.E., B.Sc.  
E. E. Fresson.

J. W. MacKillop.  
Col. J. J. Robertson, D.L., D.S.O.  
R. Wotherspoon.

Registered Office—  
36 ACADEMY STREET,  
INVERNESS.

36 ACADEMY STREET,  
INVERNESS.

5th April, 1935.



HEM/HH

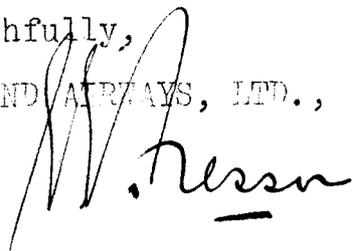
The Town Clerk,  
DORNOCH.

Dear Sir,

We acknowledge receipt of your letter of 3rd  
April, in connection with the morning Air Mail delivery  
at Dornoch.

If the Post Office will approach this Company,  
giving the particulars of weights, etc., we shall endeavour  
to make the necessary arrangements.

Yours faithfully,  
for HIGHLAND AIRWAYS, LTD.,

  
Managing Director.

9th April

35.

The Postmaster,  
Lairg.

Dear Sir,

Delivery of mails by Inverness-Orkney Air Mail

With reference to your letter of 13th ulto., I  
communicated with the Managing Director of Highland Airways,  
Limited, and he now writes me as follows:-

"If the Post Office will approach this Company,  
"giving the particulars of weights &c, we shall  
"endeavour to make the necessary arrangements".

In view of the Company's reply the Town Council  
hope that a practicable arrangement can be come to.

Of course, The Council are acting in this matter  
in response to representations made to them by business people  
in the Town and district and it must be understood that they  
are not prepared to undertake any financial obligations in  
connection with the project.

Yours faithfully,

Town-Clerk.

POST



OFFICE

EASTERN SCOTLAND SURVEYOR'S DISTRICT

Telephone: 32364.  
EDINBURGH 240H --- Extension: .....

GENERAL POST OFFICE,

EDINBURGH, I.

Your Reference ✓  
P.O. Reference ✓

22 May, 1935.

Dear Sir,

Conveyance of mails to Dornoch by Inverness - Orkney  
Air Service.

Your letter of 9th ultimo has been referred to me and I have to explain that the Post Office is at present only sending mails by air to places to which there is an existing passenger service and it is not prepared to pay the cost involved in making special arrangements with Air Transport Companies for the conveyance of mails only.

The matter has been discussed with the Highland Airways Limited who were unaware of the volume of postal traffic concerned. On going into the proposal afresh it was clearly indicated that the small load of mails alone did not justify the considerable expense involved in a daily landing at Dornoch.

I regret, therefore, that the request of the Council cannot be acceded to.

Yours faithfully,

Surveyor, G.P.O.



The Town Clerk.

B.M.

5th June

35

The Surveyor,  
General Post Office,  
Edinburgh, 1.

Dear Sir,

Conveyance of Mails to Dornoch by  
Inverness-Orkney Air Service.

I duly received and submitted your letter of 22nd ulto to a Meeting of my Council last night when I was instructed to ask if you would consider the possibility of a delivery of Mails during the Visitor season only, i.e. mid June to mid September. If this could be accomplished, it would be a great boon to the tradespeople and visitors alike, and there would also be a great possibility of a passenger service developing.

I shall be glad to hear from you.

Yours faithfully,

Town Clerk.

POST



OFFICE

EASTERN SCOTLAND SURVEYOR'S DISTRICT

Telephone:

EDINBURGH 24011 Extension 32364

Your Reference

P.O. Reference

GENERAL POST OFFICE,

EDINBURGH, I.

7/ June, 1935.

Dear Sir,

Conveyance of mails to Dornoch by Inverness -  
Orkney Air Service.

With reference to your further letter of the 5th instant, I am sorry that in the present circumstances the Post Office can take no action. The discussion with the Highland Airways Limited brought out that the expense of a daily landing at Dornoch is considerable, and entirely out of proportion to the small load of mails, even during the season period.

Yours faithfully,

J. D. Davies  
Surveyor, G.P.O.



The Town Clerk,  
Dornoch.

7th Augt;

35

The Surveyor,  
G.P.O.,  
EDINBURGH. 1.

Dear Sir,

I am instructed to again approach you with regard to an air mail service to Dornoch at least during the summer months.

At present the Highland Airways Ltd.; Inverness, run a daily service from Inverness to Dornoch with newspapers arriving at Dornoch at 9-15 a.m. It is thought that this would be an opportune time to reconsider the possibilities of an air mail service, and my Council would greatly appreciate any steps taken by your Department in this direction.

Yours faithfully,

Town-Clerk

7th Augt;

35

Sir Archibald Sinclair Bart. M.P.,  
Robinhood Farm,  
Kingston Vale,  
LONDON S.W.

Dear Sir Archibald,

The Town Council have instructed me to again approach the Post Office Authorities to consider the possibility of having the local mail delivered by air at least during the summer months.

At present the Highland Airways Ltd., Inverness, have a daily service to Dornoch with newspapers and it is thought that this service could be taken advantage of and the mail brought here also.

The Council have accordingly instructed me to ask if you would kindly do anything in your power to persuade the G.P.O. to favourably consider the proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Town-Clerk

TELEPHONE:  
HEADQUARTERS 1234.



G.P.O. HEADQUARTERS,  
ST. MARTIN'S LE GRAND,  
LONDON, E.C.1.

19 June, 1946.

*Dear Mr Skinner,*

You wrote to me on the 5th June about the possibility of an air mail service to Dornoch.

As far as the Post Office is aware there is no regular civil air service in operation which includes Dornoch in its itinerary and I regret therefore that your request for an air-mail service cannot be entertained.

I can promise however that if such an air service should be established, the Post Office would give full consideration to the possibility of using it for air mails.

*Yours sincerely,  
J. S. Vincent*

W. Skinner, Esq.