

Back Issue of Military Postal History Society 'Bulletin': (Bulletin Aug 1954)

Back issues of the Military Postal History Society 'Bulletin' are now available. The issues available span the period from 1937 to 2022. The MPHS is a non-profit organization for philatelists and stamp collectors interested in the collecting and studying of the postal aspects of all wars and military actions of all countries, including soldiers' campaign covers, naval mail, occupation and internment covers, patriotics, propaganda, V-mail, censorship and similar related material.

You are encouraged to join the MPHS to realize the additional benefits of membership. See: <http://militaryphs.org/membership>

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Doyel
VVV

WAR COVER CLUB BULLETIN
Edited by Kevin P. Rogan, R. N.
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Whole No. 6

A very successful meeting of the War Cover Club was held at the home of our Vice President Winfred Grandy in New Haven, Conn. on Saturday, July 10th. Bill Montgomery and Harvey Crowell had their World War I collections there. This turned the day into a WW I Day. Everyone there that at any time had heard of a certain WW I article was able to see one and sometimes many items of rare vintage. Our hosts again did themselves up proud with an outdoor meal that I still think of. Our President Philip Baker, our Sec-Treas. Willinger, Sales Manager Cippoli and your editor also enjoyed the day. Edith and Fred Faulstich and Sol Whitman were last seen swapping watermelons for some cameras. This meeting had pepped up the WW I collectors. We hope to see some articles from them in the near future.

PRISONER OF WAR COVER GRAND CHACO WAR by Carl T. Lemponen

By chance I picked up a POW cover of the Grand Chaco war between Bolivia and Paraguay. Through collector contacts and pen pals in many foreign lands I have managed to build a rather interesting collection of covers. It started as a war cover collection, but is ending up as a postal history collection. Buying, swapping, outright gifts and through bids on mail auctions I pick up some rather unusual items. The PW cover was found in a mail auction lot of war covers some time in 1946. At first I did not know what it was but after studying the item I came to see that it was a cover sent by a Bolivian who was a prisoner of war of the Paraguayans. This fellow had been held as a prisoner of war at Asuncion, Paraguay, "Escuadron" de Seg. #1. Purple censor marking: "Consuado" and a round purple marking that reads, "Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores" "Asuncion" "Interim Prisioneros de Guerra". Two Bolivian markings in red; a boxed "Oficina de Informacion Prisioneros" Revisado por la Censura" La Pax--Bolivia--Round "Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores-Bolivia" Oficina de Informaciones De Prisioneros. This war was fought 1932 until 1935 but the date on the cover is so faint that I cannot make out when it was posted. It is addressed to a party in La Paz, Bolivia. Bolivia did not do too well in this war as it lost most of the fertile Chaco region. In 1938 it did gain an outlet to the Atlantic through the Paraguay River.

Mr. Tripp has some more comments in re to the Australian article of last issue; Five Army transport ships bound for Hawaii during the attack on Pearl Harbor were redirected via radio to Brisbane, arriving there on Dec. 22, 1941. On March 8, 1942 the first convoy of US transports from the US landed at Brisbane, the first complete armed Infantry and Artillery forces. The 197th Coast Artillery (AA) Regt. arrived on that convoy and was sent to Perth Australia and were stationed there from March 20th to July 21, 1942. A former member of the WCC, Mr. Pelletier was with the above unit and received his mail through APO 926. The official Army list indicates APO 501 was the first APO in Australia showing the date of Jan. 1942 and APOs 920 thru 927 were assigned to ground and air forces during March 1942. Mr. Tripp continues: "MELF" indicates Middle East Land Forces. This was used by the British. APO 285 is now used by the Military Assistance Advisory Group (MAAG) in Spain. Should be a scarce item at this date.

FLIGHT OF IDEAS

I have a U. S. Post Office List of MILITARY POSTS AND STATIONS WITH POST OFFICES of November 13, 1942. Where can I obtain a later list?

In 1900 only 2% of the Merchant Marine consisted of Tankers. Today one out of every three American Merchant vessels is a tanker. Do you have any covers from the tankers of WW II fame? Modern Supertankers could tower over the Washington Monument which is 555 feet..tankers are 705 feet. It costs less to transport two gallons of gas from the Gulf to the Atlantic seaboard than to send a 2¢ postcard.

Where to get copies of the restricted APO location bulletins? We need to get started on the BPO locations. Also PRS's.

Where to get P/W bulletins issued by RED Cross? This gives locations, numbers and names of such camps. We need things such as these for the Bulletins.

Does any member have any engravers blocks of cancels, etc? Perhaps they could be used in Bulletins or kept for research.

Does anyone have a civilian censoring mark index? Member James C. Wheat is interested in indexing and classifying them.

Do you have covers from the Navy's Military Sea Transportation Service? Vice Adm. F. C. Denebrink Commander of the MSTS reported that as of July 1953 the MSTS fleet comprised of 580 ships...a fleet larger than the entire maritime marines of many foreign maritime nations. This figure included 65 passenger ships! Also under the MSTS flag were freighters, tankers, five carriers for transporting aircraft, and a large fleet of miscellaneous craft. In May 1950 the MSTS fleet totalled only 170 ships. MSTS had headquarters in Washington, D. C. with area commands at New York, London, San Francisco and Yokohama. Sub-commands are spotted at Heidelberg, Germany; Leghorn, Italy; New Orleans, Honolulu and Seattle. Offices are scattered at far points of the world--from Inchon, Korea to Mobile, Alabama and Casablanca, North Africa.

Do you have covers of the Dongola Campaign of 1896? In 1896 the mixed Anglo-Egyptian Expeditionary Force left Egypt on its long march to Khartoum in order to put an end to what was considered the despotie rule of the Khalifa Abdullahi and his horde of fanatical Dervishes. The preliminary operation known as the Dongola Campaign was the seizure and consolidation of the northern portion of the Sudan.

Where could the Club borrow a few volumes of the STAMP SPECIALIST? During the period 1939 thru 1948, H. L. Lindquist, publisher the weekly STAMPS, produced a series of 20 volumes known as "The Stamp Specialist." It was certainly a radically different type of philatelic publication, and presented an array of material that would not be found in the ordinary stamp periodical.

It is a striking coincidence that 'American' ends in 'I can'.

Who has a list of FOREIGN Air personnel that trained in the USA during WW II ??

Our Soc-Treas. Isadore Willinger will be glad to meet our members at the A. S. D. A. show in November. He will be at the Bronx County Stamp Club Booth.

A. L. Nicholson has a lotter card of a North Korean held in a UN POW Camp. Speaks of glorious day of release, speaking of Rhoo's release order of week before. Later this POW was killed in an escape attempt. Odd that this happened as he was looking forward to release!!

Czechoslovakia

Czechoslovak troops in Slovakia and Silesia. (1918-1919)

RSt in several types and sizes: "Cs. polni posta 44/
Cis....." (see Fig. 6)

- Czech legion in Italy, 1919 in Czechoslovakia

RS^T, one line long stamp "RACCOMANDATO"

Mobilization against Germany (1938)

RL without division into fields. 50x19mm, red on white,
perforated, FPO by means of stamping it with FPO stamp.
(see Fig. 7)

RMan with blue pencil: "R" and number, FPO stamp applied
next to it.

WW II * Czech legion England:

RL a) large British form with red impression:

"Cs. POLNI POSTA/CZECHOSLOVAK/FIELD POST OFFICE"

b) small British form with red impression:

"BCZ 1"

France

Napoleonic wars (1804-1815)

RSt "Charge", usually together with the P. P.

(port paye) stamps of the FPO's

WW I RL

a) Normal form, black on pink, 44x19mm, perf.

b) Normal form red on white

c) the case of both (a) and (b) FPO is indicated by
stamping in the FPO stamp in long form or the

FPO date stamp is stamped in. (Nos. 1-250, 302-
311, 400-424, 501-530, and 600-630.) (see Fig. 8)

RSt "R" in octagon, 18x15mm, black, number manuscript.

(see Fig. 9)

WW II - unknown. Only official transmissions permitted.

GERMANY

Franco-Prussian War (1870-71) RSt - Charge, e.g. in script in the case
of Bavarian FP (see Fig. 10)

Boxer Rebellion (1900-01) Transmission of money letters permitted,
postage required, Registry marks - ?

Rebellion in German SW Africa (1903-06) - one FP station established
in 1903, which among others transmitted registered letters.

FP Expedition in Okahandja established March 4, 1904 with
own stamp and RL.

RL in normal form "Kaiserlich Deutsche/Feldpost expedition/
Sudwestafrika"

WW I - RL with Unit designation 1914 to February 1917 with "Detusche
Feldpost" or empty 1917-18 provisional RL in Belgium -
Belgium RE red/white with handstamp overprint "Feldpostamt/
XXVI. Res. K."

Military Mission to Turkey:

RL Normal form with impression of place-name, and/or unit.

German Colonies:

RMan with No. and place-name in German East Africa.

Unknown in German South West Africa

WW II - (Only official mail permitted for registration)

RL of FPO's (FP stamp with covernumber of office)

- a) with complete imprint of Office: "Feldpostamt 105, etc.
- b) with imprint "Feldpost...", number added in manuscript or with small stamp.
- c) with the general designation "Deutsche Feldpost" or "Feldpostleitstelle."
- d) Blank label, cover number added in manuscript or with handstamp.
- e) RL of Bavarian origin, recognizable by the "R"
- f) provisional RL, RL of German Reichspost with overprint.
- g) provisional RL, produced by typewriter.

RL of the Navy - Normal form but with roman numbers: "Fp XXIII"
(see Fig. 11)

RL for mail sent through the offices of the German Service Post (Deutsche Dienstpost) or German Reichspost.

- a) Germany proper and General Gouvernement (Poland): blank label without further designation together with mute cancellation (only date, no other designation)
- b) Netherlands: Blank Label with handstamp impression "Deutsche Dienstpost/ fb. 4a-2" amount others. (see Fig. 12)
- c) Bohemia Moravia: Normal form with small letters: a, g, l, o Military camps and training areas had in part their own post offices and therefore their own RL with corresponding text.

RL Normal form, red/white, perf. black text: "Fallingbostal/ (Lager)", "Heubert/Truppenubungsplatz", Mielau/ (Bez. Zichenau)/ Ubungsplatz Nord", Munster Lager" and many others.

GREAT BRITAIN

Characteristic is the use of own "Registered Letters"; that is envelopes of linen paper, with blue cross imprinted, and imprinted stamp.

Boer War (1900-01)

REvelope: with large imprinted "R" in vertical oval top left, blue imprinted stamp with Queen Victoria (Fig. 13)

RSt: FP cancel of Bloemfontein, Johannesburg, Kroonstad and Pretoria with added segment above, and "Registered" in it.

WWI-REvelope with empty space for pasting on the RL instead of imprinted "R"; George V

RL: a) large form 42x26mm, blue/white, perforated "R" left, running number below, in empty field to right impression of the FPO cancellation. (Fig. 14)

b) small form, normal form 42x18mm, blue/white, perf. FPO added with small long handstamp (Fig. 15)

Occupation Army in Germany (1919-29)

RL as b) above, FPO imprinted in blue "A.P.O. S 40"

1927-37 FPO's 1, 2, 3, in China)

1935 FPO No. 10 in Saarland) --- unknown

1936-37 11 FPO's in Palestine, large form

WW II REvelope as above 1914-18, George VI

Royal Army:

RL a) Large form as 1914-18

b) small form as 1914-18 with blue text imprint:

"F.P.O.D.S. No...", "F.P.O. No..." FPO number added by hand or with hand stamp (1-914)

c) small form, 40x15mm, blue/white, violet handstamp impression "F.P.O. 93" (Fig. 17)

FLIGHT OF IDEAS

Did you know that the CONFEDERATE STAMP ALLIANCE is holding their annual convention and show on October 8th, 9th, 10th, 1954 in the John Marshall Hotel, Richmond, Virginia?

Did you know that our WCC member, Postmaster A. L. Nicholson of Macon, N. C. won a bronze medal at the Phillipine Contonary Int. Philatelic Exhibition at Manila for his showing of Korean War covers?

Did you know that for 50¢ you can get a "Catalogue of Forces Covers 1914-1954" from C. J. Curtis, The War-cover Specialist, 43 Showell Green Lane, Birmingham, 11, England?

Mr. Willinger, our Sec-Treas, has a good idea for the Bulletin. Each issue a different member will be a "guest speaker" and he or she will give a "talk" on items from their collection just the same as if they were at a meeting showing their stuff. They turn the pages of their album and describe each page. To start this off I think Mr. Willinger should give us a sample for the Bulletin. OK?

Did you know that there were Patriotic Lettersheets during the Civil War? An article by George N. Malpass in April Chambers Stamp Journal describes these occasionally found in covers written by soldiers or civilians during the Civil War.

Hope member C. D. Brenner had a good vacation in Europe recently.

The WASHINGTON, Famous as a troopship of WW II under the name Mt. Vernon, is one of the most famous American passenger liners. Her career has been entirely too short. She has been put in mothballs. Her war time travels took her on every ocean. She became a bride's ship when peace came again, bringing home war brides of American servicemen. She is now laid up at the Hudson River reserve fleet site of the Federal Maritime Administration. Do you have any mail from her??

Do you remember the YALE, the veteran of transport service in both wars. She was built in 1907 and scrapped in 1947. She ended her service as a barracks ship in Seattle. Who has a cover from her?

Talking of ships..do you remember the QUISTCONCK, first of the Hog Islanders, who was christianed August 5, 1918, by Mrs. Woodrow Wilson? She left the US flag in 1940 to become the British EMPIRE FALCON, was renamed BARNBY after the war, and finally went to a Scottish scrapyard flying the Italian flag, as the MARIANDREA.

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COVERS	WAR 1939 - 45	FOR SALE	
MILITARY	NAVAL	PRISONERS OF WAR	OCCUPATION
DUNKERQUE	MESSAGES OF THE RED CROSS	1951 to 54	KOREA
and INDOCHINA	<u>KANDAOUROW</u>	<u>27 Rue des Martyrs</u>	<u>PARIS</u>

.....

LIBRARY IS NAMED FOR BARTLEY The Collectors Club of Seattly has honored D. C. Bartley, one of the prime movers in the founding of the organization, by giving his name to the reference library which the club is building up in its rooms at 1505 Broadway, Seattle, Wash.

WORDS ARE WEAPONS

by Charles J. Molnar

Psychological warfare, as almost everyone must know today, is the science of using words and ideas as weapons. It has two targets; the enemy and the people of the countries the enemy has invaded. It likewise has two purposes; to weaken the morals of the enemy and thus reduce his fighting efficiency, and to encourage resistance on the part of the people living in occupied territories.

Thus a piece of paper can become a potent weapon. That is why, in all theatres of war, millions of leaflets were dropped from military aircraft in WW II. The first Allied Propaganda Leaflets in that war were dropped by the British in Sept. 1939, while the U. S. A. A. F. first droppage was in Nov. 1943. The use of leaflets was very definitely a "Step Towards Victory."

A great majority of leaflets and magazines were dropped during the hours of darkness in the European theatre, while in the CBI theatre they were disseminated for the most part during daylight hours.

Leaflets are divided into six categories: news, pictures, morale boosters, bomb warnings, and rescue appeals, directed to the people of occupied territories as well as the morale of enemy troops.

These historical documents of WW II give the student of world history an idea of the terrific scope of air power, and a record of every major military operation. Many leaflets are bi-colored or tri-colored, well illustrated with pictorial news and maps. They are usually identified by a serial number, which appears in one corner of the leaflet.

Before mentioning some of the leaflets themselves, I would like to mention two excellent books on the subject which may often be had for perusal at local public libraries, or purchased at bookstores. These are (1) Paper Bullets, by Loo J. Margolin, and published by the Froben Press (1946); (2) Psychological Warfare, by Paul M. A. Linebarger, published by Eashington Infantry Journal Press (1948). They cover the field thoroughly and contain many illustrations.

In the following few examples of genuine leaflets, which were dropped over Burma and Siam, I have selected one or more in each of six categories:

NEWS--CTN 3--Printed in Thai language (Siamese). It announced the death of President Roosevelt, but put across the idea that America's determination to crush the military forces of Japan and Germany had not weakened.

PICTURES--CBP3--Each fortnight the people of Burma and Thailand received picture papers. This one is in Burmese. Up in the corner, under the flag of the USA, is the message: "This news comes from your friends the Americans." The subjects are self-explanatory: President Truman; the passing of President Roosevelt, the United Nations Conference at San Francisco, and the Allied victories in Burma.

MORALE BOOSTERS--CBM 58 and CTM 62--Here you will find two examples of morale boosters. CBM 58 is in Burmese, and drove home the fact that instead of "co-prosperity", the Japanese had brought the Burmese nothing nothing but poverty. CTM 62 is a message from the American People to the people of Thailand, announcing that the U. S. respects Thai sovereignty.

BOMB WARNINGS--STA 35--This leaflet explained to the Thai people why their country had to be bombed if the Japanese were to be driven out; and it warned them to stay away from railways and other military targets.

RESCUE APPEALS--CBA 41--These were to aid Allied airmen who had been forced down in occupied territory. Burma and Thailand were targets for leaflets such as this one. It informed the Burmese that the airmen were assisting to drive out the Japanese, and it appealed to the people to help any airman who might be forced down in their neighborhood.

JAPANESE MORALE LEAFLETS--XJM 69 and SJ 117--All Japanese soldiers had been indoctrinated since childhood with the belief that they must never quit fighting. America's propoganda job was to undermine that belief. These are examples of how it was done. XMJ 69 approached the task from the historical angle, re-telling the story of a famous Japanese warrior who persuaded his son not to die in battle, but to live for the future of Japan. SJ 117 is a bi-lingual (English and Japanese) "Safe Conduct and Surrender" leaflet.

From Harvey V. R. Crowell comes a note that fits in with the above article. This is in regards to a leaflet dropped in October 8, 1918 behind the American lines by a Bosche Aeroplane. It is addressed to the "Americans of German descent". It asks them why they are over here fighting them, that their leaders headed by that English subject in disguise, Wilson is misleading them. It ends up by telling them to lay down their guns and come over with Gormany.

Are Censors Human ?

The U. S. Postal Censor has become the target of many reflections. We collectors of censored covers know that all this censorship was necessary and for the most part it was accepted in good faith. The censor doesn't mind the griping, but the thing that gets his goat more than anything else is the rumor spreader. Such a writer present a special problem, because actually there is nothing concretely censorable. Yet much of this loose talk, if allowed free circulation, would be detrimental to a war effort. For the most part, the censor returns such letters to the writer with a friendly note of warning.

Censorship cost the nation \$26, 500, 000 annually, in times of war, but has paid for itself many times over.

There was 15,000 mail-pouch specialists, 60% of whom were women. Lt. Col. N. V. Carlson, director of U. S. Postal Censorship, says he is partial to women because female censors seem to possess a kind of intuition that their male colleagues lack.

Actually, a censor's job is pretty routine, and not much different from that of an office-worker anywhere. The letters which reward his sherlocking are few and far between.

Bryon Price has this motto hanging on the office wall, "A censor needs the eye of a hawk, the memory of an elephant, the nose of a bloodhound, the heart of a lion, the vigilance of an owl, the voice of a dove, the sagacity of Solomon, the patience of Job, and the imperturbability of the Spinx."

That's a mighty big order, and since censors are only human, none of them quite measure up to these specifications. You'll find many of them though, in varying combinations among the men and women, whose unhappy task it is to rifle the United States mails during war times.

On November 1952 there was an article on the U. S. Navy in WW I by W. M. Grandy. I ran across quite a few sheets of the ending of this article. These were missing recently in full bulletins I had for sale. If you are missing this last sheet, please let me know and I will send you one.

FLIGHT OF IDEAS

Dr. Brock is in the process of writing an article on the Russian Campaign of 1812. He has for illustration covers of this expedition. Dr. Brock is in correspondence with Dr. Carroll Chase who is finishing a book regarding THE POSTAL MARKINGS OF THE OCCUPIED DEPARTMENTS DURING THE FRENCH REVOLUTION AND OF THE FIRST EMPIRE (1792-1815). Book to be published in French by E. de Beaufond in Paris. Dr. Brock with the help of Alfred Clément helped with the book. Incidentally Dr. Brock in 1952 won a Gold cup at the Seccal (Los Angeles) for showing POSTAL HISTORY OF FRENCH WARS OF 18th and 19th CENTURY. This may be exhibited again at the San Francisco APS convention. Good luck Doc!

In July Burge Thomas was in Burbank, California. Where next??

A. L. Nicholson reports: "In a recent communication with a commandant who took part in the evacuation of Dien Bien Phu, the famous Fortress in Indo China which after a long heroic defence finally fell to the Communists, he used as a return address Sector Postal 50.916 Saigon, Indo China. The cover was franked with French stamps and cancelled POST AUX ARMEES 402." He continues, "Most collectors of APO Korean War covers know that mail for UN forces other than the U. S. was addressed to their own APO number such as FAPO 5200 (French), GAPO 5800 (Greeks) etc. in care of our own APO's. The mail in many cases were cancelled with USAPO's but there are cases of their using the numbers mentioned above. Two such covers in my collection are CAPO 5000 (Canada) and YAPO 5700 (Belgium) Have others been seen?" Continuing he states, "The Netherlands Detachment in Korea made use of US stamps and our APO 248 in many cases. They also had letter sheets issued them for use there. Through a friend I have a cover in my collection from this detachment which is unlike either of the above. It is a "free franked" envelope mailed to Europe. The cancel is an USAPO hand cancel from which the wording has been removed. The date was retained in its usual place. This is evidently the idea of the Dutch Postal Officer to create a cancel which would be distinctive to their forces."

Was there a Shorbrook Camp near Quebec during WW II? I heard that German aliens in England were sent there.

There was a "Freedom Train" providing exhibition of important documents. Did this have military protection? Was there mail from this?

I have mimeographed copies of Histories of US ships from the Navy department that members may have for free by dropping me a line. They are: Cincinnati, Oregon, Montpelier, Brooklyn, Chicago, Texas, Oklahoma, Astoria, Constitution, Chicopee and Mississippi.

As of July 16th we have 65 paid up members! Dues are now \$2.00 per year.

Our secretary has written to the Collector's Club of NYC to be placed on their permanent specialist group listing of groups who will regularly meet at their Club. The Board of Governors will decide on this soon. We must prove that we are a study group on war cancels, etc.

What is your wants? Write to Bill Cippoli, 260 Clinton Ave. Kingston, N. Y. to be put on the sales lists. He will send you most anything you need. Send your duplicate material to him also.

COVERS FROM THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA

USE OF UNITED STATES STAMPS AND ENVELOPES IN THE SOUTHERN STATES AFTER SECESSION The United States continued its postal service in the South after secession until June 1, 1861. United States stamps and stamped envelopes were used, and mail was carried in the seceded States, between the South and the North and abroad. On June 1, 1861 the Confederacy put its rates into effect, and use of its handstamps or stamps was required. United States stamps then became invalid, and interchange of mail ended. Mail was sent by private express Companies for a short while, but thereafter the only mail between South and North was delivered via Flag of Truce.

THE POSTMASTERS PROVISIONALS STAMPS AND ENVELOPES After June 1, 1861 when United States stamps were invalidated in the territory comprising the seceded Southern States, until the issuance of the Confederate State Government stamps, the postmasters prepared temporary substitutes for the franking of letters. These were printed, lithographed or handstamped adhesive stamps and printed or handstamped envelopes which were sold to the public in advance of use.

THE HANDSTAMPED PAID MARKINGS Where Provisional stamps and envelopes were not available or had not been purchased in advance of use, Confederate Postmasters handstamped "PAID" and the amount of postage on citizens letters as they were brought to the Post Office for mailing. Required postage was then either paid in cash or charged to the citizens account.

THE GENERAL ISSUE STAMPS More than four months elapsed after the Confederate Government commenced operating its own postal service before it succeeded in producing stamps for general use. On Oct. 16, 1861, the lithographed 5¢ Green stamps were first placed on sale, and the 10¢ Blue and 2¢ Green followed. Later these colors were changed to Blue for the 5¢ and Rose for the 10¢. There came the 1¢ and 5¢ stamps from typographed plates made in England, and finally, the engraved 2¢, 10¢, and 20¢ stamps which were produced in the Confederacy.

THE OFFICIAL, SEMI-OFFICIAL, AND STATE OFFICIAL ENVELOPES Only the official correspondence of the Post Office Department was carried FREE in the Confederacy, and then only when enclosed in specially imprinted envelopes, each signed by an authorized official. Supplies of United States stamped envelopes were overprinted and used as well as regular commercial envelopes. When used for private correspondence postage was required.

Semi-Official envelopes were those imprinted by the other Government Departments, Military units, various Bureaus and Offices, as well as those of the several State Governments and their divisions on which payment of postage was required for all usages.

EXPRESS COVERS During and immediately after the War many letters, especially valuable ones, were carried by private expresses. Such covers were handstamped and the fees noted on them. The law, requiring that Confederate stamps be attached and cancelled, was often violated. Southern Express, successor to Adams Express, was the largest of these companies.

THE FLAG OF TRUCE, PRISONER OF WAR, AND SOLDIERS COVERS Under certain strict rules, letters were permitted to pass "through the lines" between the North and South. Whether sent by or to Civilians or prisoners of war, they were subject to examination, and had to be addressed via Fretross Monroe, Va. endorsed "per Flag of Truce". Often enclosed in outer envelopes bearing postage of the side from which sent, the inner envelopes bore the stamp of the other side, or were sent through postage dup. Sometimes only one cover was used, bearing both stamps. Prisoner of war letters were usually endorsed "Examined" or so handstamped by the prison censor upon sending or receipt. "Through the lines" letters occasionally went by other routes or were secretly passed through. Soldiers letters could be sent "Duo" when endorsed with sender's rank and regiment.

SOLDIER'S LETTERS By Act July 19, 1861 privilege was extended to soldiers of all ranks to send letters "Collect," each letter to bear the name, rank & Reg't of the soldier. Such letters are stamped "Duo" or merely "5" or "10".

BLOCKADE COVERS Mail to or from abroad went on blockade-runners, chiefly through the seaports of Charleston, Wilmington and Mobile. Such covers were usually postmarked STEAM or STEAM SHIP and an additional ship fee of 2¢ was charged. Mail also went across the blockaded Mississippi River by Government express at a special rate of 40¢, some was secretly run out of captured cities such as New Orleans to Confederate points, and some went via Mexico, Cuba or the West Indies to or from the North or Europe.

PATRIOTIC COVERS Covers manufactured in the Confederacy bearing Patriotic designs are far rarer than their Northern counterparts, largely because of shortages of supplies and manpower in the South. As many envelopes bearing Confederate designs were printed in the North and sold as "Rebel souvenirs", very few, other than covers showing actual postal usage in the Confederacy can be accepted as genuine. Matching Patriotic lettersheets are rarely found, but home made Patriotic covers are occasionally seen, as are Patriotic labels or stickers. Covers bearing Confederate flags are the commonest, with their stars reflecting the growing number of the seceded states, while Cannon, Soldiers, Tents, Portraits and other Patriotic designs also exist. Captured Northern Patriotic covers, postally used in the Confederacy, are occasionally found.

TURNED AND HOMEMADE COVERS Shortage of paper in the Confederacy was the cause of turning envelopes inside-out for re-use a second and sometimes a third time. It also resulted in envelopes being made at home out of any available paper. Wall-paper, book pages, maps, checks, forms and wrappers of all kinds, if printed only on one side, were often so used.

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Now Members

353 S. L. Bayof c/o Penny Black Stamp Co., 116 Nassau St., NYC 38, N. Y.
 Cover Dealer

Changos

172. Dickel, John C., 3116 Welsh Rd., Phila. 36, Pa.
 310 Blackburn, Lane Jr., RD #2, Washington, Pa. Collect WW1, WW11 Spec
 285 Clomont, Alfred Graz, Austria Schwimmschulkai 6/11 China

Now Members

354 Whitman, Saul, 1462 Taylor Ave, NYC 60, NY, Aerogrammes and Air
 Letter Sheets