

Back Issue of Military Postal History Society 'Bulletin': (Bulletin Fal 1994)

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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Free Mail in Rwanda (and Haiti) 1994

Operation Turquoise, French Military Intervention in Rwanda 1994



Military Postal History Society BULLETIN

Volume 33, Number 4

FALL 1994

FREE MAIL IN HAITI AND RWANDA

U.S. military actions in Haiti and Rwanda have brought free mail privileges for the participants. In a notice published in the October 27, 1994 *Postal Bulletin*, entitled "Free Mail Authorized for Armed Forces and Department of Defense Civilians," the Postal Service advised its staff that free mail had gone into effect in the Haiti area as of October 14. The notice reads:

"Effective October 14, 1994, the Secretary of Defense has authorized free mail privileges for members of the U.S. Armed Forces and designated Department of Defense (DOD) civilians assigned to the U.S. Southern Command, who are located in Suriname, and to the U.S. Atlantic Command, who are located in and around Haiti. This privilege also extends to members hospitalized in a facility under the jurisdiction of the Armed Forces as a result of disease or injury incurred from service in this designated area.

"Personnel who are authorized this privilege may mail without postage letters, postcards, and sound recordings (audio and video tapes) having the character of personal correspondence to any place in the United States, other APOs or FPOs, or possessions or territories of the United States.

"Free mail must have a complete APO or FPO return address, the word FREE in the upper right corner with an APO or FPO postmark, and a

complete delivery address. Free mail may not be registered, insured or certified.

"Do not collect postage on delivery or return this mail to the sender for postage. All employees who handle and deliver mail should be made aware of this free mail privilege."

The September 1, 1994 *Postal Bulletin* contained a similar notice about operations in Rwanda: "Effective August 5, 1994, the Secretary of Defense authorized free mail privileges for members of the United States Armed Forces and Department of Defense civilians assigned to the United States European Command who are located in Rwanda and in adjacent areas of Burundi, Uganda and Zaire that lie within a rectangle from 28 degrees 20 minutes east to 32 degrees 40 minutes east longitude, and from 00 degrees 40 minutes north to 03 degrees 40 minutes south latitude." The balance of the text of this notice was the same as the notice about Haiti.

(continued on page 4)

Postmaster
ATTN: SSG JONES
115th Postal Co
APO AE 09341

Entebbe, Uganda



George & Christine Cosentini
12421 Banuelo Cove
San Diego CA 92130-2277





The Military Postal History Society was founded in 1937 as the War Cover Club. Affiliated with the American Philatelic Society as Unit #19. It promotes the study of the postal aspects of all wars and military actions of all nations.

Volume 33, No. 4

Fall, 1994

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The *Bulletin* (ISSN 1075-5640) is issued quarterly. Subscription is included in annual membership dues: \$12.00 to United States addresses; \$15.00 to Canada (by first class mail); \$22.50 to all other countries (by air mail). Send membership inquiries and changes of address to the Secretary.

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Manuscripts and illustrations for publication are welcome. Send all material to the editor. While due care will be taken, no responsibility is accepted for material submitted. Enclose a stamped addressed return envelope with correspondence.

Produced/mailed by Adventure Graphics, Dallas, Texas.
Printed in USA.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Jesse Boehret

Since 1995 is an election year, a call for nominations for office is hereby made. The membership will elect a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and four Directors. In accordance with Article 16 of our By-Laws, I have appointed L. D. Mayo of Indianapolis, Indiana as Chairman of the Nominating Committee with James R. Adams of Indianapolis, Ind. and Paul A. Larsen of Park Forest, Ill. as members.

Candidates for all offices must have been members of the Society for a minimum of two years. Candidates for President must have previously served as a Society Officer. Any two members may endorse a third for any office, with that member's agreement to run for office, and serve if elected. Nominations must be submitted to the Secretary by March 1, 1995.

At our BALPEX meeting the Board voted to raise membership dues in all categories by three dollars effective January 1, 1995. Although this was done with great reluctance it was absolutely necessary due mainly to increased printing and postage costs.

In closing, I regret to announce the passing of long time member and loyal supporter of our Society, Richard M. Major, on September 2, 1994. We who knew Dick will long remember his meaningful friendship, keen intellect and exemplary life.

RICHARD M. MAJOR

We deeply regret the passing of Dick Major, a long time member and stalwart supporter of the War Cover Club/Military Postal History Society, on September 2, 1994 in Reston, Virginia.

For the past several years Dick made a courageous battle against Hodgkins Disease. He was supported in his illness by his strong religious faith, his family, his many friends and philately.

A native of Chester, Pennsylvania, he was a graduate of Albright College and the University of Pennsylvania. During World War II he served in the Army and participated in the Normandy landings and the Battle of the Bulge. Active in the Army Reserve, he retired as a Lieutenant Colonel.

During a distinguished government career Dick served with the National Security Agency and the Central Intelligence Agency where he was an anti-terrorism specialist. He wrote the CIA'S anti-terrorism "red book" and frequently traveled abroad to work with many foreign governments fighting terrorism. Fluent in twelve languages, he was the recipient of the CIA'S Certificate of Distinction and its Career Intelligence Medal. He retired in 1986.

His philatelic interests included the postal history of the Austrian-Hungarian Navy and military covers of World War I. He served as an officers and director of the Society of Czechoslovak Philately and was an editor of the *Czech Specialist*.

A memorial service took place at the Truro Episcopal Church, Fairfax, VA. He was buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery. Survivors include a son, Michael, two daughters, Marilyn Tanganon and Maggie Marcum, and eight grandchildren.

Editor's Notes

by David A. Kent

This issue brings more interesting articles for you from a wide variety of military fields. Recent American military ventures abroad bring major changes in active ZIP Codes, and we attempt to keep you up to date on these revisions now that the APO Book has been published. Free mail in World War II is the subject of a study by Irv Baron, and several items of news about the Society are offered for your information.

Myron Fox once again presents us with an auction of books, covers and other items that should attract all of us. As we have noted before, Myron depletes his supply of material with each of these auctions, so please heed his request and search through your old shoe boxes for material that needs to find a better home.

Deadlines

I understand our Board of Directors had a discussion at its BALPEX meeting on whether there are enough articles available for the *Bulletin*. As any editor will tell you, there are never "enough" articles in the files for comfort. So far we have managed to fill each issue with material for those of many tastes, but we can always use more and diverse articles. The emphasis lately has been on American participation in the World Wars and very recent military ventures. Is there anyone who can write interestingly on Korea or Vietnam? There are other conflicts and areas of the world that deserve some space in this journal.

The new year brings a slightly revised set of publication dates for the *Bulletin*. Here is the 1995 schedule of editorial deadlines:

Winter	Jan. 7
Spring	April 8
Summer	July 8
Fall	Oct. 7

Regular contributors are asked to adhere to these deadlines closely so that we can publish on a regular schedule. Occasional contributors, please remember that if you want to have an article or notice published in a specific issue, it must reach me by the above dates.

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SECRETARY'S REPORT

John J. Azarkevich

Welcome New Members!!!

2735 James A. Klinger
 2735A C. Bromser
 2736 Paul Huber
 2737 Vinalis Josep
 2737A Rene Chavez
 2738 John K. Kallman
 2739 Pierre Wertheimer
 2740 Donald M. Donze
 2741 Jonathan Becker
 2742 Kirsten Oftedahl
 2743 J.T. Holleman
 2744 Alexander J. Savakis
 2745 Russell Wright
 2746 Scot F. Ewing
 2747 Jerry Miller
 1107 Gordon McHenry (rejoined)
 2748 Nick Shestople
 2749 J.R. Mundy
 2750 William C. Rogers Jr.
 2751 Harvey Tilles
 2752 Louis E. Reif
 2753 Mark Kalman
 2754 Norman Camara
 2755 Jason Hyun
 2756 Tad Mackie

Quite a list, even if I missed reporting in the last two issues. In the short three years that I've been secretary, our society has brought over 180 new members on board. With the release of the new edition of the APO book, that rate shall continue.

If your mailing label has 12/93 on it, this is your last issue. President Boehret has allowed me to continue sending out *Bulletins*, but I must remove your name from the roster BEFORE I print the next issues' mailing labels. Removal from the roster also means losing the privilege of purchasing our publications at the discounted members price.

The MPHS Board of Directors met at BALPEX on Labor Day weekend, and it was decided that rising costs required a dues increase to \$15 for one year and elimination of a discount for multiple year payments. The new dues structure effective January 1, 1995 is as follows: USA and Canada \$15/year, Foreign \$22.50/year. As always, all funds are in U.S. dollars payable to the Military Postal History Society.

Due to a long term research and development project at my full time job, I now find very little time for relaxation. Sending out dues notices and reminders for procrastinators eats into that small amount of relaxation time. Please help me and send in dues payments now. Turn the bulletin over and look at the mailing label. If the top line reads 12/94 then send a dues check to John J. Azarkevich, 1400 Altamont Ave. Suite 111, Schenectady, NY 12303. It only takes five short minutes and you will be sure to enjoy the next four issues of this bulletin.

To find out if anyone read this, I will send a free gift (at my expense) to the first 50 people who send me a dues payment and a number 10 SASE. I'm even prepared to send gifts beyond the first 50 people as long as I get those checks before the end of the year.

Have a very safe and pleasant holiday season with your loved ones.

Free Mail in Haiti and Rwanda...

(continued from page 1)

The leader of our World-War-II-to-Present Study Group, George Cosentini, offers the cover illustrated on page 1 from the Rwanda operation. It was mailed from Entebbe, Uganda but was sent before the announcement of free mail was published. It presents a bewildering assortment of APO numbers in the postmarks and return address. The letter cancellation has APO AE 09227, from the Army parent unit in Kaiserslautern, Germany, while the double-circle registry cancel reads "APC NO 2 APO AE 09189," which is at Pirmasens, Germany. The return address is APO AE 09341, one of the Department of Defense's "contingency" ZIP Codes. It seems likely that authorities believed that postal operations in Rwanda would be of brief character and that the manufacture of special postmarks was not justified. Normal postmarking devices from the troops' home base in Germany were therefore issued.

Examination of APO announcements in the *Postal Bulletin*, which do not report the location of each APO, reveals that APO 09341 was opened as of August 18, 1994, along with APOs 09340, 09342, 09343 and 09346. All but the last of these has already closed (see the complete list of *Postal Bulletin* announcements on page 6). SSG Jones, who signed the return address as "postmaster," was also reportedly the only postal personnel at this APO in Uganda. Presumably the other APOs in this group also operated in the Rwanda area.

More recent arrivals are covers from Operation Safe Haven, the operation of refugee camps for those who have fled Haiti. The covers bear an Air Force Postal Service APO 09361 postmark, one of them with a clear return address of "Safe Haven Camp 4." Unfortunately, no location was given or suggested, although Panama is a possibility. An additional cover bears the return address of BGJN J. L. Wilson, commander of the Joint Task Force for Safe Haven. According to the *Postal Bulletin*, APO 09361 was authorized as of October

13, 1994. The covers show regular postage paid because they were submitted that way.

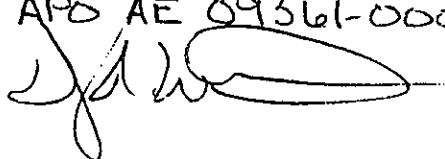
An article in *Linn's Stamp News* of October 31 claimed that free mail had gone into effect in the area surrounding Haiti as of September 29. The basis for the report was a cover mailed from the aircraft carrier *USS America* with a Free Mail endorsement postmarked Sept. 29, inscribed "First Day Free Mail." The carrier was operating south of Haiti at the time.

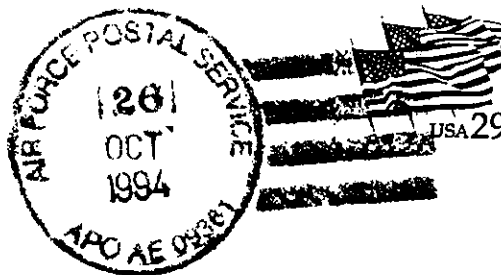
It is unlikely that postal personnel would challenge any APO or FPO mail with a Free endorsement, given the widespread nature of American troops' deployments these days. The *Haiti Postal Bulletin* announcement observed that Free Mail privileges remain in effect for DOD military and civilian personnel in Somalia, Kenya, the former republic of Yugoslavia and the Rwanda area. Early fall also brought troubles in the Near East, as Iraq massed troops on the Kuwait border, bringing an immediate response of thousands of American troops to the area. Numerous additional APO numbers were activated for these troops, along with those deployed to Haiti. Free mail remains in effect in southwest Asia from the days of the Desert Storm operations.

APO/FPO CHANGES

Since the new edition of the "APO Book" has now been distributed, we begin a new feature in this issue of publishing changes in the status of APO and FPO numbers from the *Postal Bulletin*. These changes are published periodically to advise postal personnel on the status of these military mailing addresses.

The introduction to the listing on page 6 provides information on the nature of the data provided. Briefly, since the establishment of the Joint Military Postal Service Agency in 1980, the Postal Service itself no longer assigns individual APO and FPO numbers, but leaves this task to the Department of Defense. The Postal Service allocates blocks of ZIP Code numbers for military addresses, and the MPSA assigns APO/FPO numbers within these blocks.

TSgt DIAZ WALLACE
24 AIRPS (Deployed)
JTF-SH SAFE HAVEN Camp 4
APO AE 09361-0004




GEORGE COSENTINI
12421 BANUELO COVE
SAN DIEGO, CA 92130



Mail to overseas military addresses is processed in joint postal/military facilities at ports of embarkation (today more often airports than seaports), and the Postal Service's only interest in these numbers is whether each is active, and whether there are mailing restrictions on letters and packages addressed to each. Mailing restrictions may be imposed by the nature of the transportation available to the overseas location, but more often reflect regulations contained in the Status of Forces Agreements under which American troops are stationed in each country. Common types of customs restrictions includes control over the importation of personal weapons, items of food, potentially controversial publications, and precious metals and currency. International customs declarations are usually required on parcels addressed to military personnel in other countries, and the contents may be subject to local import taxes, or worse, confiscation if import restrictions have not been observed.

While these matters are of importance to the Postal Service and the customs departments of the host countries, they are little significance to cover collectors, who often find the *Postal Bulletin's* emphasis on these matters frustrating and of no historical value. To make matters worse, study of the listings over a period of years reveals that they are incomplete and often inaccurate. APOs, for example, are often listed as being opened when our records indicate that they are already open, or being closed when they are not open. In recent years effective dates have usually been listed as "immediately," which in postal terms means as of the date of publication. Frequently other information proves that these notices are late, and that the postal facility has already opened or closed by the time the notice is published. Rarely are notices of openings or closings published in advance, and then usually only for planned exercises for which the address given is for the routing of mail only, and does not represent an operating post office.

Wise collectors consider these factors challenges rather than annoyances. The *Postal Bulletin* is only one tool with

which the collector can study the history of military mail. It is of use, but it is not the only useful resource.

ZIP PLUS FOURs

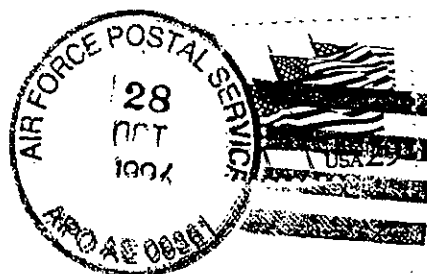
Although the Postal Service adopted its ZIP+4 (or 9-digit ZIP Code) program nearly a decade ago, the military has been slow to use them except in limited situations. The sudden deployment of large numbers of troops to the Kuwait border and to Haiti seems to have encouraged the Military Postal Service Agency to begin using these expanded codes. The *Postal Bulletin* of October 13, 1994 lists the activation of 22 base five-digit contingency ZIP Codes with no less than 375 four-digit extensions! In a letter to the editor of *Stamps* in its Nov. 5 issue, Richard Ropiak claims that these codes will allow the Army to direct mail down to the company level. In some cases mailing restrictions differ for some of the four-digit codes within a major five-digit group, indicating that not all of the units are deployed together.

The entire listing is too long to publish here, but may be obtained from the editor for a stamped addressed return envelope and 50¢ photocopy costs.

Commentary: Lest we forget an old wound, *The Washington Times* has repeated a report from a Korean newspaper that the United States plans to dispatch 500,000 troops, about 200 ships and 2,000 aircraft to defend South Korea if armed conflict breaks out on the Korean peninsula. The newspaper said that "the U.S. plan was revealed in a report submitted...to a lawmaker of the opposition party." A South Korean Defense Ministry spokesman confirmed the report, saying "South Korea and the United States have reached an agreement to substantially bolster South Korea's defense posture."

And where do you suppose such forces would come from?

BG J.L. WILSON
CDR JTF-5H
APO AE 09361-0005



GEORGE COSENTINI
12421 BANUELO COVE
SAN DIEGO, CA 92130



APO/FPO Openings and Closings

These APO and FPO actions were announced in the *Postal Bulletin* between March and October, 1994. These announcements are intended to advise Postal Service personnel that they may now accept mail addressed to APO/FPO numbers listed as "active," and may no longer accept mail addressed to numbers listed as "not active." Actual dates of operation of APO/FPO post offices may differ from the dates given. Some numbers may be Mailing Addresses Only (MAO), meaning that they are for the routing of mail only and do not represent operating post offices, but such information is not included in the *Postal Bulletin* notices.

APO/FPO	+4	ACTION	DATE
09066		NOT ACTIVE	07/07/94*
09105		NOT ACTIVE	08/04/94*
09132		NOT ACTIVE	09/30/94
09137		NOT ACTIVE	04/28/94
09137		ACTIVE	05/26/94*
09142		ACTIVE	03/31/94*
09187		NOT ACTIVE	08/04/94*
09260		NOT ACTIVE	09/30/94
09269		NOT ACTIVE	04/28/94*
09301	4080	ACTIVE	09/01/94*
09301	4180	ACTIVE	09/01/94*
09301	4210	ACTIVE	09/01/94*
09301	4220	ACTIVE	09/01/94*
09301	4240	ACTIVE	09/01/94*
09301	4310	ACTIVE	09/01/94*
09301	4380	ACTIVE	09/01/94*
09301	4410	ACTIVE	09/01/94*
09301	4420	ACTIVE	09/01/94*
09301	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09303	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09310	6120	ACTIVE	07/01/94
09310	6120	NOT ACTIVE	09/15/94
09310	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09317	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09330	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09332	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09334	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09335	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09336	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09337	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09340	1000	ACTIVE	08/18/94*
09340	1000	NOT ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09341	1000	ACTIVE	08/18/94*
09341	1000	NOT ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09342	1000	ACTIVE	08/18/94*
09342	1000	NOT ACTIVE	09/29/94*
09343	1000	ACTIVE	08/18/94*
09343	1000	NOT ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09346	1000	ACTIVE	08/18/94*
09360	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09361	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09370	0002	ACTIVE	09/15/94*
09370	0003	ACTIVE	09/15/94*
09370	0004	ACTIVE	09/15/94*
09370	0005	ACTIVE	09/15/94*
09370	2000	ACTIVE	08/04/94*
09370	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09371	0002	ACTIVE	09/15/94*
09371	0003	ACTIVE	09/15/94*
09371	0004	ACTIVE	09/15/94*

09371	0005	ACTIVE	09/15/94*
09371	2000	ACTIVE	08/04/94*
09371	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09372	0001	ACTIVE	09/15/94*
09372	0002	ACTIVE	09/15/94*
09372	0003	ACTIVE	09/15/94*
09372	0004	ACTIVE	09/15/94*
09372	0005	ACTIVE	09/15/94*
09372	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09380	6110	ACTIVE	04/29/94
09380	6110	NOT ACTIVE	07/10/94
09380	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09381	6430	ACTIVE	09/01/94*
09381	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09382	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09383	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09384	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09385	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09389	Ser.	ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09409		ACTIVE	04/28/94*
09415		ACTIVE	04/01/94
09415		NOT ACTIVE	04/28/94*
09466		NOT ACTIVE	09/30/94
09559		NOT ACTIVE	10/13/94*
09562		NOT ACTIVE	09/29/94*
09602		NOT ACTIVE	08/04/94*
09605		NOT ACTIVE	09/30/94
09641		NOT ACTIVE	09/30/94
09648		NOT ACTIVE	06/01/94
09717		ACTIVE	04/28/94*
09719		NOT ACTIVE	09/30/94
09848		NOT ACTIVE	04/28/94*
09881		NOT ACTIVE	08/04/94*
09881		ACTIVE	09/29/94*
34043		ACTIVE	04/28/94*
34043		NOT ACTIVE	09/01/94*
34045		NOT ACTIVE	04/28/94*
34046		NOT ACTIVE	07/07/94*
34078		NOT ACTIVE	10/13/94*
96339		ACTIVE	04/28/94*
96509		NOT ACTIVE	09/01/94
96513		NOT ACTIVE	10/13/94*
96529		ACTIVE	05/26/94*
96530		ACTIVE	05/26/94*
96547		ACTIVE	04/15/94
96550		NOT ACTIVE	05/26/94*

* indicates that the effective date was given in the *Postal Bulletin* as "immediately." The date listed is the date of the *Postal Bulletin* notice.

"+4" is the ZIP+4 extension when provided in the notice.

"Ser." indicates that an extended series of ZIP+4 Codes was given, too many to list here.

Postal Bulletin notices do not give locations, but some information can often be gleaned from the mailing restrictions given. APOs 09301, 09317, 09334, 09380, 09381, 09382, 09383, 09384, 09385 and 09389 may not receive packages containing alcoholic beverages, a common restriction for Islamic countries; these APOs may be in Saudi Arabia. Only small items of personal mail may be sent to APOs 09303, 09336, 09370, 09371, and 09372; these may be in Haiti. Three closed codes were assigned to large Navy ships: 09562 was USS GUADALCANAL (amphibious assault ship, decommissioned Aug. 31); 34078 was the aircraft carrier SARA-TOGA (decommissioned Sept. 30); and 09559 was the submarine tender HUNLEY, also decommissioned this fall.

RAINBOW DIVISION REUNION

by W. F. Robinow

On April 29, 1945 a Task Force of the 42nd Infantry Division, the Rainbow Division, liberated the Concentration Camp Dachau. The following day, another unit, part of the 242nd and 222nd Regiments, occupied Munich.

In the early morning of April 30, M/Sgt. Robinow, of the 242nd Reconnaissance Platoon, was told to advance into Munich "until you meet resistance". Two jeeps of the I & R Platoon, the lead one driven by Robinow, advanced into the City starting at the end of the Autobahn at 7 AM. It took them until 2 PM to reach the city center, the Marienplatz in front of Munich's City Hall. That jeep was the first Allied military vehicle in the city center. An article in the Munich newspaper of October 1993 reported this in detail. The Rainbow Division also liberated/occupied Salzburg, Austria.

Based on a proposal by Robinow to the Rainbow Division Veterans Association (RDVA), a group of RDVA members and their wives — about 150 persons — will arrive in Munich on April 26, 1995, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of these events. On April 28 the group will be guests of the City of Dachau at a luncheon at the Dachau Castle, preceded by a reception by the Mayor and the City Government. Dachau is creating a pin with the Dachau Coat of Arms and the Rainbow. Also, that day an exhibit "The History of the Rainbow Division," organized by the Historical Society of Dachau, will be opened.

On April 29 a combined concert by the bands of the U.S. 7th Army and the 2nd German Mountain Division will take place in front of the Munich City Hall. This will be followed by a reception by the Mayor and the City Government at the "Old City Hall".

That evening the traditional RDVA banquet will take place. It will be held in the "Emperor's Hall" of the Bavarian king's castle in downtown Munich where the group will be the guests of the Governor of Bavaria and its government.

On April 30 the Governor of Bavaria is hosting a major event at the Concentration Camp, attended by many nationalities of survivors. The group will attend this event.

On May 1, the group will go to Salzburg, where the Division's Commanding General, Harry J. Collins, is buried. After laying a wreath at General Collins' grave, the group will attend a reception and a luncheon, hosted by the City and the State of Salzburg.

After the luncheon, some of the group will go to Alsace, where the Division was involved in very heavy fighting, in both World Wars, and suffered great losses.

GENERAL HARRY COLLINS

by Myron Fox

During our meeting at BALPEX, Jesse Boehret, Norm Gruenzner, myself, and I believe Alan Warren were sitting at the MPHS booth when Wolfgang Robinow dropped by. Wolfgang is the Director of International Affairs for the Germany Philatelic Society. The GPS was also having its convention at BALPEX. In fact, all of us, except perhaps Alan, are also active in the GPS. Though I had run into Wolfgang often over the years I really knew little about his background. He resides in Munich and I had always thought he was just a German member of the GPS.

This time, he was more talkative about his background, perhaps due to the discussions going on at the booth about the recently released MPHS Military Post Office book. He sat down and told us a story of how, as a refugee to the U.S., he ended up in the U.S. Army in WW II. This in itself was an interesting story involving dance instruction, the FBI, and Mrs. Roosevelt and should be told again some other time. Anyway, he ended up in the famous 42nd Infantry Division in WW II which participated in many battles and the liberation of Dachau and Salzburg. He finished as a Captain, as I recall, with a sliver star. He mentioned that the Commanding General, Major General Harry Collins, was so revered by the Austrians for keeping Salzburg from the scorched-earth policy that the SS had planned, that he returned to Salzburg after the war. After his death he, and eventually his wife, were buried in a Salzburg church cemetery, which is a rare honor since land there is at a premium.

He also told an interesting story of a love affair of the General with a Hungarian Countess and a plot to bring her to the States and divorce his wife, tales that are best told in some other medium.

As chance had it my wife and I found ourselves in Germany a couple of weeks later at the joint GPS-Bund Deutsche Philatelistin (the equivalent of the German APS) Salon. We followed up by a trip to Austria and Switzerland. By chance we visited Salzburg. As good tourists we took a guided tour on a horse-drawn cart and asked the guide about General Collins. He had never heard of him. The next day we walked the town on our own. As we walked along I seemed to remember the churches' name was St. Peter's. We saw some people walking along and lo and behold we were in a quite old cemetery. All of the graves seemed to be associated with former important people in the town and their descendants. We walked around and in the middle of all this we found to our surprise Collins' grave site (see picture). It is modest compared to some but still well kept after all these years. We took this photo of the grave.



MPHS at BALPEX

Myron Fox, our Auction Manager, won the Society's armature plate at BALPEX, held over Labor Day weekend in Hunt Valley, MD. He also received a show vermeil, and a Germany Philatelic Society vermeil for his display of "German Postal Censorship - World War II". At the general membership meeting on Saturday, seventeen members were present with Jesse Boehret presiding. Each member introduced himself and his collecting interests.

Norman Gruenzner, who was co-editor with George Cosentini of the new APO directory, described their many years of effort and its culmination in a much expanded work. Sixteen copies of the directory were sold at the show, including Norm's display copy! Norm also indicated that other publications were in the works and would be announced later on.

Alan Warren reviewed the upcoming regional and annual meetings. The Board of Directors decided to hold the 1998 meeting at ROMPEX in Denver. Our next Regional Meeting will be held April 28-30, 1995 at Philatelic Show '95 in Boxborough, Mass. The 1995 Annual Meeting will be in November, 1995 at the VAPEX '95 show at the Radisson Pavilion in Virginia Beach, Va., and the 1996 Annual Meeting will be held April 12-14, 1996 during COLOPEX 96, at the Franklin County Veterans Memorial in Columbus, Ohio.

The meeting concluded with a description of the society's auctions by Myron Fox. Myron is always looking for new material for the auctions. His address is in the masthead.

Several new members were signed up at BALPEX. Thanks to those who spent time at the table promoting the society, including Jesse and Diane Boehret, Myron Fox, John Azarkevich, Ted Bahry, and Norm Gruenzner.

Alan Warren



The MilPHS table at BALPEX. Germany Philatelic Society member Wolfgang Robinow explains to several MilPHS members the plans to celebrate in 1995 the 50th anniversary of the arrival of the Rainbow Division in Munich and the liberation of Dachau. L to R, Robinow, MilPHS director and Convention Chairman Alan Warren, Auction Chairman Myron Fox, and President Jesse Boehret. (photo by Arnold Engel)

On the Show Circuit

by Alan Warren

At the one-frame Ameristamp Expo 94 show Alfred F. Kugel won a platinum award and the reserve grand in the postal history section for his "Australian Contingents in the Boxer Uprising." Kugel also took a vermeil for "The Russo-Japanese War: Off the Beaten Track." Other vermeil winners were Stanley J. Luft for "French Offshore Military Expeditions of 1850" and Walter Brooks for "Siege of Paris Balloon Mail." Silver-bronze awards went to Robert G. Zeigler for "Swiss Internal Civilian Censored Mail of World War II", and George V. Keller for "Japanese Military Post in Siberia 1917-1923."

At ROMPEX in Denver, Steve Henderson received a silver-bronze for "U.S. Navy Censor's Handstamp Markings of World War II" along with the Modern Postal History Society award. At the same show, in the one-frame category, Donald G. Beuthel won a silver for "Colorado Military Cancellations."

Samuel J. Pezzillo's exhibit at BALPEX, "Atlantic Airmail W.W. II" included a number of censored covers. He won a show gold, an American Air Mail Society gold, and the APS post 1940 medal. Myron Fox won a show vermeil, a Germany Philatelic Society vermeil, and the Military Postal History Society award for his "German Postal Censorship: World War II". At the same show Franz Krieger received a vermeil for "Philippines 1898-1906: From the Manila Blockade until Issuing Own Postage Stamps." Another interesting 2-frame entry was "A Message to the Enemy" by N. O. Goode which showed some of the propaganda stamps and forgeries intended to defraud the government. It received a silver-bronze.

At STAmPSHOW 94 in Pittsburgh, PA I believe Alfred Kugel tied Gene Scott's previous record of having three grand award entries in the champion-of-champions category: "Italian Forces Abroad", "American Intervention in Russia", and "America's War with Spain." Another entry in the competition was Diane Boehret's "The Post of the German Military Mission in Turkey." In the open competition, Regis Hoffman received a vermeil for "Allied Forces in East Africa World War I." Regis also won a silver for his literature entry at the show, which was a special study entitled "World War I in East Africa: The Indian Expeditionary Force."

At the AIRPEX show in Dayton, OH, Bob Yacano received a gold and the APS post-1940 medal of excellence for his "Postal Services of Occupied Philippines 1942-45." At the Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition, Alfred Kugel took another gold with his "French Forces Abroad 1893-1939" along with the Postal History Society medal, and Arnold Engel received a vermeil and the Modern Postal History Society certificate for "Latvia During World War II."

THE 106th INFANTRY DIVISION

by Norman Gruenzner

The 106th Infantry Division was nicknamed "the Golden Lions". They suffered heavy losses during the opening of the Battle of the Bulge. They were criticized because they were division who let the Germans through December 19th. The criticism was not only unwarranted but inaccurate. This is not a definitive look at the Battle of the Bulge. This is a the view of one man who participated in the historic event.

The 106th Infantry Division was authorized by the War Department on November 29, 1942. The 106th was activated March 15, 1943 at Fort Jackson, S.C. The division moved to the 2nd Army Number 5 Tennessee Maneuvers and then transferred to Camp Atterbury, Ind., March 28, 1944. The division staged at Camp Myles Standish, Mass. October 10, 1944 and departed from Boston's Port of Embarkation November 10, 1944 aboard *SS Queen Mary*, *SS Aquitania* and *USS Wakefield*. The convoy arrived England November 17, 1944. It departed England December 1st and 2nd arriving in France December 6, 1944. The Division crossed into Belgium December 10, 1944 and went immediately into the line. It relieved the 2nd Infantry Division.

The Division was untried in combat. They had been on the Continent 15 days, and were placed in a quiet sector for conditioning and training. They were the youngest troops of any American Division that went into combat. Their average age was 22. They could truly be called a "Green Division". The Divisions occupied a 25 mile front, instead of the usual 5 miles. The 106th Division's troops had no overshoes, and in the short time span of 15 days many men had trenchfoot. Two to three days after the German assault began, the 106th Infantry Division suffered major casualties. According to many, the Division ceased to exist the day the two regiments surrendered, but this is factually incorrect. One Regiment, the 424th

and many of the supporting units did survive and did continue to fight until late in the war. They became part of an improvised unit of division size and remained active.

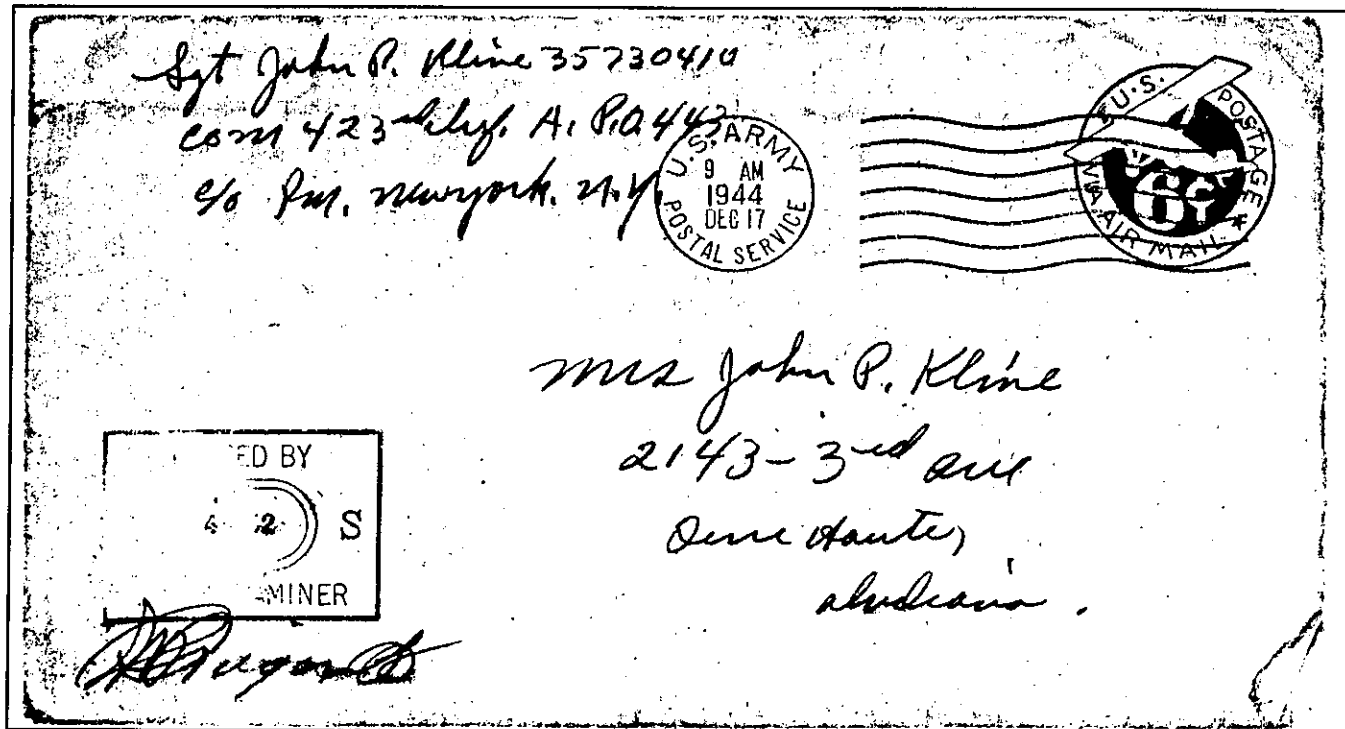
The 106th Division found itself with many problems, the least of which was that the division artillery was very short of ammunition. The 422nd and 423rd Regiments went into old Siegfried Line bunkers whose gun ports were facing not the Germans but their own rear areas. The 424th was in reserve. The road network was terrible. Both the 422nd and the 423rd Regiments had a high rate of trenchfoot because Supply was unable to provide overshoes. The 424th was issued the overshoes while they were in reserve. The 422nd and 423rd Regiments received very little information from the units they had relieved and the crew-served weapons were imbedded in mud. The huts and pillboxes were dry but cold, as the 2nd Infantry Division's troops had taken all the stoves. In the Main Line of Defense, there were seven infantry battalions and one reinforced cavalry squadron assigned to occupy a 25-mile long line.

On Dec. 9, 1944, Sgt Kline relates, "As we entered St. Vith, Belgium, the older, established troops gave us the normal new-kid-on-the-block salutations, *You'll be sorry*. On the 11th, we left the woods near St. Vith for our front line positions atop the Schnee Eifel (Snow Mountain). The positions were 12 miles east of St. Vith and were in Germany. Our duty was to support the I, K and L rifle companies of the 3rd Battalion, 423rd Regiment. That night we slept in rough but warm dugouts."

According to Kline's diary:

December 16th, 1944, 0530, Hitler's last offensive began. Kline's crew was not in the way of the main German attack and did not know of the offensive until two days later.

December 17th, Kline and many of the men of the 106th watched a Thunderbolt shoot down an ME-109.



December 18th, Kline was informed that the Germans had broken through their supply lines. He had already been informed that he may have to move his gun to help defend the company CP. Following what was to be his last hot breakfast in many months, Kline and the 423rd moved from the Schnee Eifel towards the town of Schönberg where they would be involved in expelling the Germans who occupied it earlier. According to Kline's eye-witness account:

"Our column did not come under fire until we were near our destination, a heavily wooded area southeast of Schönberg. As we approached the logging trail near Radscheid, we were shelled by German 88's. My driver drove our jeep into the ditch. That night the men of M Company spent trying to get their jeeps out of the mud.

"December 19th, early in the morning I was ordered to move our 30-caliber machine gun to the edge of the woods over looking the town of Schönberg. I could see 1,000 yards to the northwest and tops of the houses. Our company was assigned to support L company as they were attempting to clear the Germans from Schönberg. About 0900 we were hit by very heavy artillery fire. Shells were exploding all around us and men were yelling for the Medics. The M Company Commander, Captain Hardy had been killed and the Executive Officer had been wounded. My gunner Smitty was injured by an artillery shell. I caught a fragment from the same burst. We were pinned down almost the entire day and could not move. The day was going bad on the Schönberg hill. The Germans were waiting for their artillery to neutralize us before they moved in. We did not have our own artillery support from our 590th Field Artillery. They had been overrun by the Germans.

"I could see two German tanks on the edge of the woods; they were mopping up our troops that were pinned down in the fields and road below. It was L Company who was caught in the ditches. German troops were coming up from behind from the town of Bleialf. They were hitting our reserve companies in the rear. At one point, as I looked to the right

along the edge of the woods, I saw six or eight ground bursts, probably 88's. They hit where several men who were trying to find protection.... Sometime between 0400 and 0430 an American officer, accompanied by a German officer, told us we were surrounded. Our regiment was cut off from the 422nd and we were ordered to surrender. We disabled our weapons by breaking them on tree trunks or by taking them apart. After that the Germans led us to a clearing in the forest and directed us to throw down our equipment, ammo belts, packs, hand grenades and trench knives.

"We were in the lead of a small column down to Schönberg-Bleialf road in front of the rifle companies. There were Germans on one side of the road facing Americans on the other. They had been facing each other, in a fierce fire fight, from ditch to ditch. There were many dead. The wounded were still crying for help.... The Germans walked us in columns to Bleialf, where we were herded into a church yard. It had turned dark and the temperature was dropping. Most of us were without overcoats. We had only our field jackets. I recall that I wore two pair of pants, my longjohns and my field jacket.

"December 20th, left Bleialf at 0800 and we were on the road until 2300 that night. We had no food or water except for the snow from the ground. During the march, as we were going through a very small village the Germans stopped us in front of some civilians. They made us take off our overshoes and give them to the civilians. That was when I discovered that my right overshoe had been ripped open by shrapnel. It had cut through my rubber overshoe, leather combat boot and heavy sock.

"I remember as we were leaving Bleialf. I saw German troops in American jeeps. They were opening ration boxes and meat cans. They were eating our Christmas dinners. As we walked through the area, I was surprised to see my jeep with four Germans in it. I was positive it was mine. I had personally painted my son's name 'Teddie' on the jeep and the name was still there.

"December 21-22, 0600 at Gerolstein, we received our first food since the 18th. Arrived at Dockweiler Dries at 2300. We were given two old German army blankets to give us warmth. We slept in German Army barracks.

"December 22-25, the road alongside the barracks was strafed the 22rd. Delayed leaving because of the number of prisoners taken and we were clogging up their transportation system.

"December 25th, Christmas Day, departed 0630 and marched all day with no food or water, except for snow.

"December 27th, arrived in Koblenz in the afternoon and was fed soup and bread. A lot of bomb damage. We were walking in groups of 500. I was walking close to the curb and was hit by a German civilian. We were billeted in 3 large barracks. Departed Koblenz, December 29th.

"December 30th, Arrived Stalag XII-A, Limberg, Germany at 1030. It was a large POW transit camp. There were large circus style tents and there was adequate food. We were still not registered as Prisoners of War. Late in the war, the camps population rose to 20,357 POW's. We departed Stalag XII-A at 1600 hours. We boarded box cars commonly called 40 and 8's (40 people or 8 cattle). The trip lasted eight nights

TABLE OF ORGANIZATION OF THE 106TH DIVISION

HQ Co., 106th Division
422nd Infantry Regiment
423rd Infantry Regiment
424th Infantry Regiment
589th Field Artillery Battalion
590th Field Artillery Battalion
592nd Field Artillery Battalion
81st Engineer Combat Battalion
331st Medical Battalion
106th Counter Intelligence Detachment
106th Recon. Troop Mecz.
106th Signal Co.
HHB Div. Art.
HQ Service Troops
806th Ordnance Light Maint. Co.
Military Police Platoon
820th Tank Destroyer Bn. (attached 8 Dec 44-4 Jan 45)
440th AAA Auto-Wpns. Bn. (attached 18 Dec 44-25 Dec 44)
563rd AAA Auto-Wpns. Bn. (attached 9 Dec 44-18 Dec 44)
634th AAA Auto-Wpns. Bn. (attached 8 Dec 44-18 Dec 44)

and seven days. We passed through Leipzig and headed southeast of Dresden and then we reached Mühlberg which was 32 miles north-northwest of Dresden.

"January 10, 1945, we arrived at Stalag IV-B, Mühlberg, Germany. The day of my 20th birthday and I was spending it as a guest of the Germany government. I had 1/6 loaf of bread, one tablespoon sugar, one slice of margarine and a pint of grass soup with five boiled potatoes as a birthday meal. We were finally registered as Prisoners of War. I became prisoner #315136. At that time, we were allowed to send a prison post card. On the address side it says,

"Kriegsgefangenenpost" (War Prisoner mail), Location, M-Stammlager IV-B. It was written on January 10, 1945 and it was postmarked January 25, 1945. It was received by my wife around April 20th, a week after I was liberated."

The American offensive by units of the 1st and 3rd U.S. Armies to wipe out the "Bulge" and expunge the German units lasted until January 10, 1945. Approximately the same time Kline arrived at Stalag IV-B.

Sgt Kline was awarded The Combat Infantryman's Badge and Purple Heart for his wound.

Kriegsgefangenenpost

Postkarte

Communication
Reviewed By **
P.O.W INFO. BUREAU
Return Unnecessary

Gebührenfrei

24
Geprüft
Stalag IVB

25.1.45.-10

MRS. JOHN P. Kline

Absenders:
Vor- und Zuname: Sgt. John P. Kline
Gefangenennummer: 315136-1KB
Lager-Bezeichnung: M.-Stammlager IV B
II859
U.S. CENSOR

Empfangsort: 2143-3RD AVE
Straße: TERRE HAUTE
Land: INDIANA
Landesteil (Provinz usw.)

In January 1945, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson reported the 106th Division had lost 416 men killed, 1,246 wounded and 7,001 missing in action. This is a look at the postal history of one of those 7,001 men who was reported missing in action.

Our reference is taken from two sources, *Lions in the Way* by Col. R. L. Dupuy; and "The Service Diary", of Sgt John P. Kline, Co. M, 3rd Bn, 423rd Regiment, 106th Div. by John P. Kline.

Mrs Paul Kline
2143-3rd Ave
Terre Haute,
Indiana

TERRE HAUTE
NOV 20
1 PM

VIA AIR MAIL

Sgt. John P. Kline
Com. 423rd Regt
To Postmaster
New York, N.Y.

315136-1KB
to
315136-1KB
MISSING
1-4-45
1st Lt

GERMAN PROPAGANDA LEAFLET

by David A. Kent

Propaganda leaflets were an important part of World War II in Europe. Both sides dropped millions of them by air over enemy troop concentrations, although there is no great evidence that these leaflets had any significant impact on the morale of the troops, or the progress of the fighting.

An interesting German leaflet is shown on the next page, found enclosed with a letter written by a sergeant in the 352nd Quartermasters Company, XX Army Corps, at APO 403, then located in Nancy, France. The enclosed letter was dated Nov. 20, 1944 and postmarked the next day at APO 340 (Conflans, France). The censor seems to have passed the leaflet with no concern, nor did the writer seem impressed with it:

"Carl [a mutual friend] must have had quite an experience aboard the *NEVADA* on 'D' day. It must have been real tough going. I saw the wrecks in the channel as well as the blown up German pill boxes on the beach and felt as lucky as hell that I was not there on 'D' day. It sure must have been rough. The German pill boxes were of concrete, about fifteen to eighteen inches thick reinforced with steel bars. Just imagine getting off a landing barge and facing something like that. The boys who were there deserve a lot of credit. A good number of them will never return and those that do will not want to talk about it.

"As you are aware, another drive has started, quite a few prisoners are being taken. We see hundreds of them each day. Our army appears to be making good progress.

"I am with General Patton's Third Army. You can keep in touch with its progress thru the newspapers. You can also get a fairly good idea as to where I am. So far our unit has taken part in three battles and if we do not take part in any more it will not make me feel bad. Hope that this one, the battle of

Germany is the last one. Have one thing to be thankful for and that is that I am not a front line soldier.

"Enclosed is a German propaganda leaflet, thousands of these are being dropped by the retreating Germans. I know that you will get a kick out of it. We pay no attention to them."

Another letter was dated Dec. 6, after the unit had moved to Thionville, France, and was as before postmarked the next day. It reads:

"At present we are enjoying a much needed rest, getting up at 9 or 10 AM each day and just loafing until its time to go to bed again. I can assure you that this will not last very long, chances are that we shall move out in a few days. We have been here a few days only, previous to coming here we were at one location for nearly two months working from dawn to dark seven days a week (no union hours in the army) so I guess you will agree that we are entitled to a rest.

"Have collected some interesting souvenirs, some of which I have sent home. At present we are not getting any. As you know we are not first line troops and therefore get what filters thru. We are in a position to get what filters thru because we serve combat troops primarily. Some of the things which I have are new and never have been used. They came direct from German warehouses which were captured by the infantry. Our outfit does not get in on any of those deals. We get what's left. At times there is so much that there is enough for everybody. The liquor situation is poor. For a while, while the army was moving fast, there was plenty, on several occasions the infantry captured warehouses filled with all kinds of stuff and all of the troops got their share.

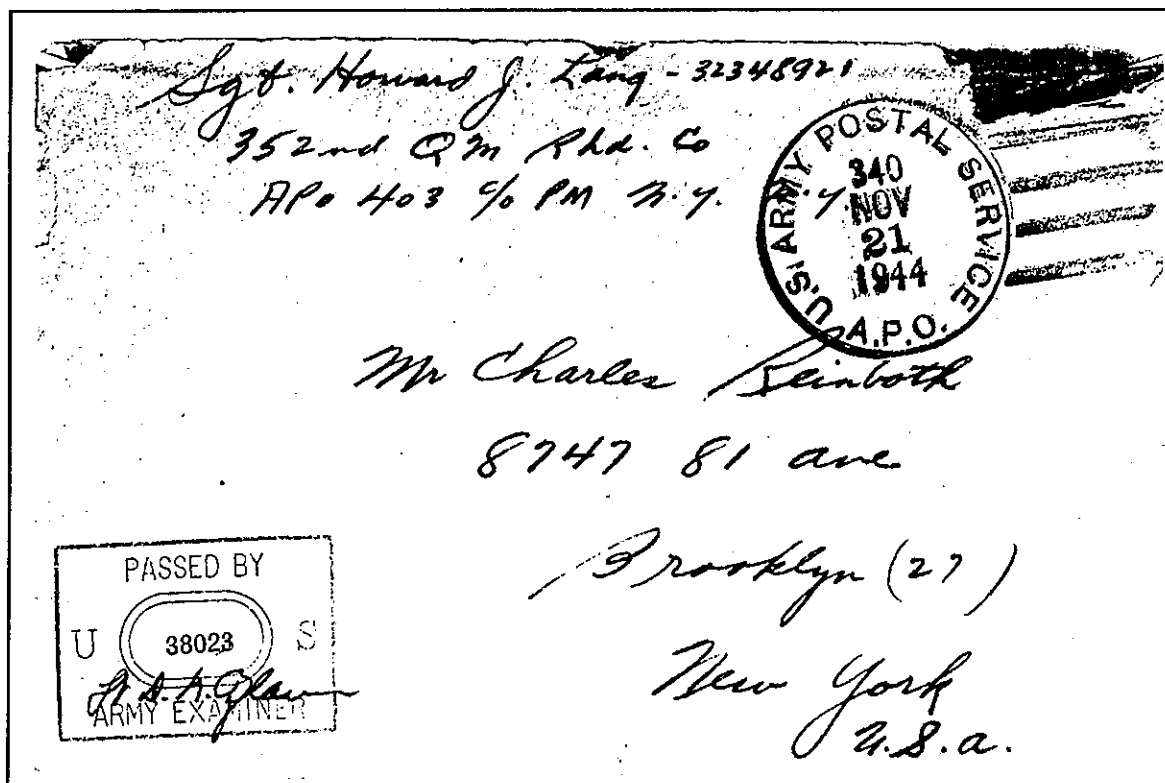
"The people in our present locality are pro-Nazi in their sympathies. We are not permitted to speak to them, as a matter of fact we are subject to heavy fines if we do.

"The Germans are using a scorched earth policy, leaving very little or nothing standing when they retreat. The towns look like ghost towns. They are applying the same principals

that the Russians used on them, whether or not they continue to do so remains to be seen.

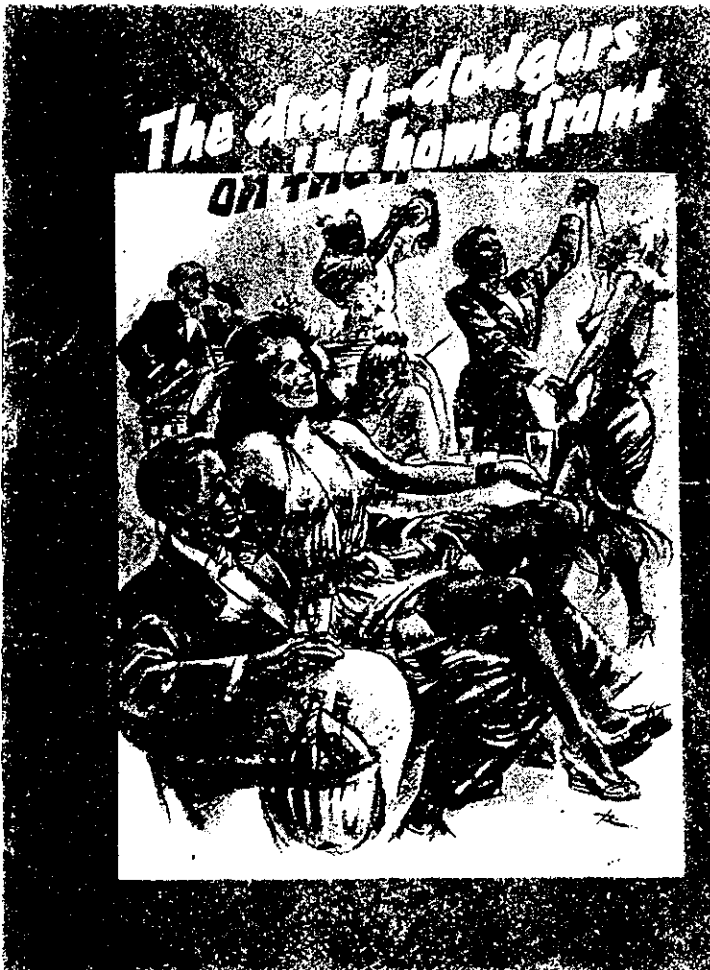
"Its a lucky break for an outfit like ours that the Germans do not have air superiority. They could really make things hot for us.

"Please accept my sincere thanks for the *Mirror* [newspaper]. We do not get very much reading material and these winter nights are long



and dreary. About all you can do at night is read, that is if you are able to or should I say fortunate enough to have light."

The Battle of the Bulge, of course, was about to begin.



G.I's have you ever figured it out?

- 70 American men out of a hundred are enjoying peace in civil life;
- 22 are training and stationed back home;
- 8 are doing their bit overseas —

4 men out of a hundred are engaged in actual fighting.

Some 60 divisions have reached the fronts; combat troops as well as service units, totalling more than

2 155 000 officers and men accompanied these divisions abroad.

Adding the million men of the Air Forces, there is a total of 3 055 000 G.I's on the world's battle fronts.

(Stars and Stripes, Sept 20, page 4)

And only about half of these are doing the grim, nasty job of actual fighting.

Almost every day you front-line men read of people at home leaving war jobs for something more secure which will carry them through the post-war period.

For you the advice of these people is.

Keep soldiers in the Army after the war till jobs can be secured for them.

*The draft-dodgers at home
expect every Joe to do his duty!*

FREE MAIL IN WORLD WAR II

by Irving Baron and David Kent

It was not until nearly four months after the United States formally entered World War II that Congress realized that it should grant free mail privileges to its military forces, following the custom of other countries and its own practice during the First World War. The privilege was granted in Public Law 507 approved by Congress March 27, 1942. The law was one of those huge catch-all bills that included, among other things, authority to the president to use the Civilian Conservation Corps (or what was left of it) to protect war and munitions factories from forest fires.

Section 901 of the law read:

"Any first-class letter mail matter admissible to the mails as ordinary mail matter which is sent by a member of the military or naval forces of the United States (including the United States Coast Guard) while on active duty or in the active military or naval service of the United States, to any person in the United States, including the territories and possessions thereof, shall be transmitted in the mails free of postage, subject to such rules and regulations as the Postmaster General shall prescribe."

These provisions were more generous than the free mail privileges granted during World War I, which had limited free mail only to servicemen on duty in the combat zone in Europe. The term "ordinary mail" restricted the privilege by excluding air mail and parcels, along with special service fees for registered mail, special delivery and so on.

On March 28 the Postmaster General issued a bulletin amending the Postal Laws and Regulations as follows:

"Letters sent by members of the military or naval forces of the United States, to be mailed free of postage under the conditions set forth [in the act of March 27, 1942] shall bear in the upper right hand corner the word "FREE" and in the upper left corner the name of the sender together with his rank or rating and the designation of the service to which he belongs, as, for example, Private John Doe, U.S. Army, or John Doe, Seaman 2 Cl., U.S. Navy, or Private John Doe, U.S. Marine Corps, or John Doe, Seaman 2 Cl., U.S. Coast Guard.

"Such letters shall be so accepted when deposited in the mails of the United States or its possessions or at any place outside the continental United States where the United States mail service is in operation addressed to any other place where this service is in operation, including army and navy bases, naval vessels, etc. Messages upon post cards may be accepted under this provision but it shall not apply to packages or parcels or any matter other than messages in the form of ordinary letters or cards. This free mailing privilege does not apply to matter sent by air mail, nor to any matter sent to the members of the military or naval forces by persons who are not members thereof."

This early provision that the return address include only the sender's branch of service has frustrated many collectors

studying early war covers, as it denies them information on the source of the cover. The regulations were subsequently refined to require that the serviceman's duty station or full military address be included in the return address. Further refinements specified that the word "free" be written by hand, in an effort to eliminate the use of assorted fancy markings and adhesive labels that appeared during the war.

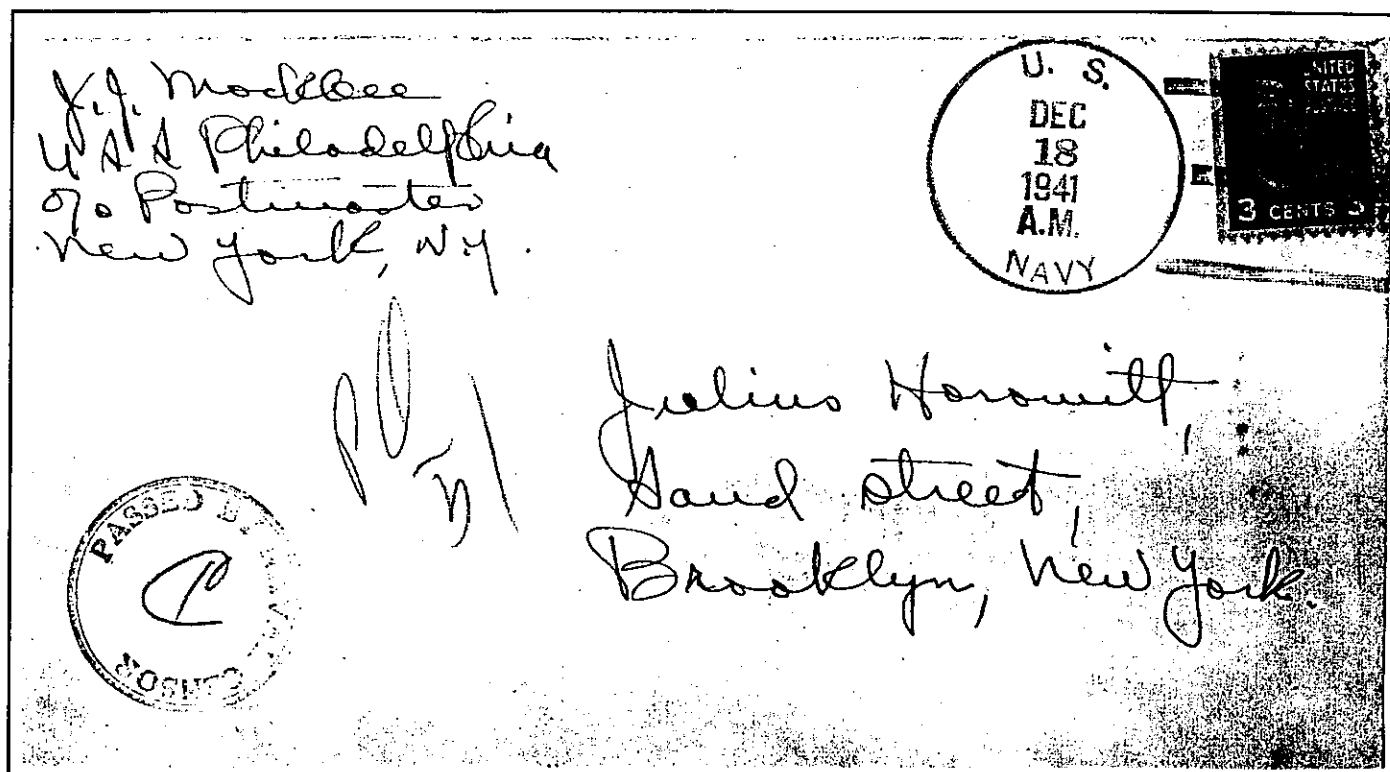
One of our objectives in preparing this article was to determine once and for all the official effective date when free mail began, since virtually all standard references are vague on the subject. It is interesting to note that none of these legal documents stated an official starting date for the privilege. In our democracy, however, Congress cannot pass a bill and have it take effect immediately; the essential provisions must first be published in an official government document for the public to see (normally the *Federal Register*), and a revision to postage rates (free mail, in effect, being a rate) must also be published in the *Postal Bulletin*, then a daily newsletter sent to all post offices. March 27, 1942 was a Friday, and although working on weekends was already common that early in the war, the intervening Saturday and Sunday inevitably delayed the announcement to those concerned with implementing it. The required notice finally appeared in *Postal Bulletin* #18418 dated Wednesday April 1, 1942.

But the *Postal Bulletin* is not just a simple newsletter, it is an official, legal government document. By law, when a policy or ruling is published in the *Postal Bulletin*, it constitutes the official promulgation of that policy or ruling, and it takes effect immediately unless stated otherwise. It is therefore our conclusion that Free Mail in World War II began on April 1, 1942, the date that all of the legal requirements were met for placing the rule into effect.

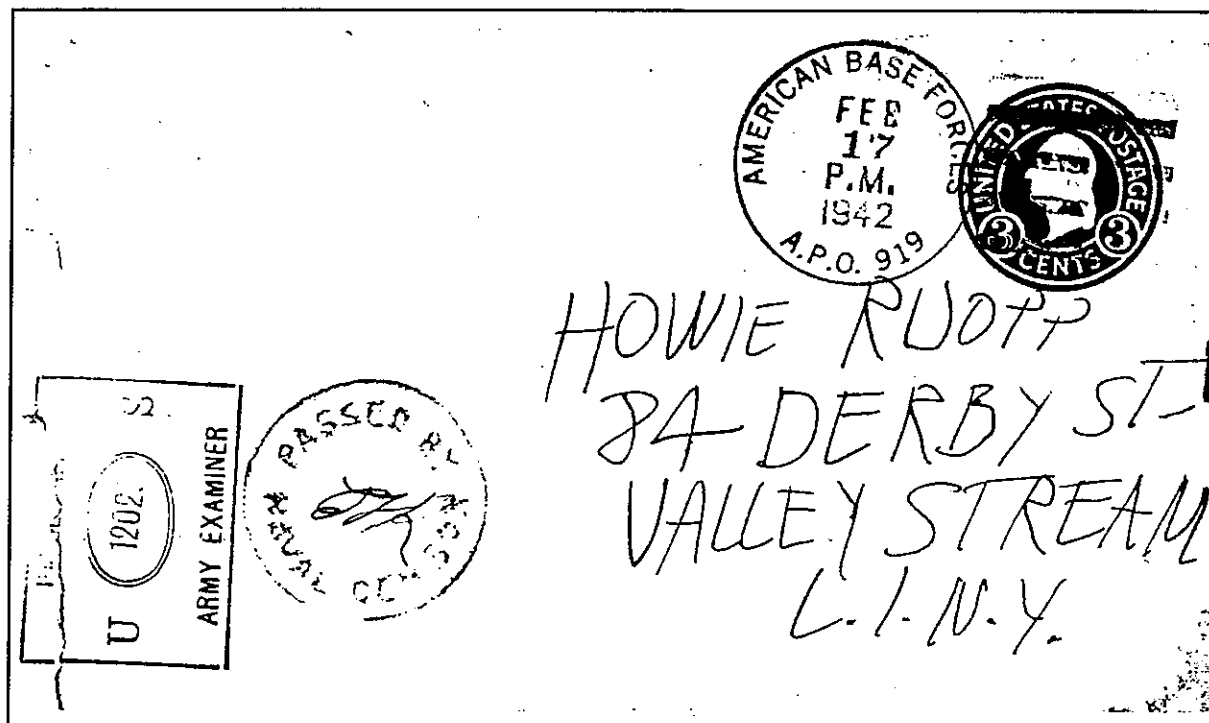
How promptly and effectively the rule was actually implemented is another story, as we shall see. With no fax machines, communications satellites or Information Superhighway to carry the news, the announcement had to travel by ordinary mail, even then not particularly speedy. Reaching more remote locations (for more than a year U.S. military forces had been pretty well spread over the globe) was a more serious problem. Getting the news out to ordinary troops took even more time. As an example, free mail was announced to servicemen stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas in Fort Information Bulletin #82 dated April 4, 1942. There is an old military saying, "Ten percent never get the word," and that proved to be true, even with a benefit such as free mail.

We propose here to review the use of postage-paid mail prior to the approval of free mail for servicemen during World War II, and the implementation and use of free mail, using covers as examples of the proper and improper use of the privilege, its extensions, and its eventual end long after the war was over.

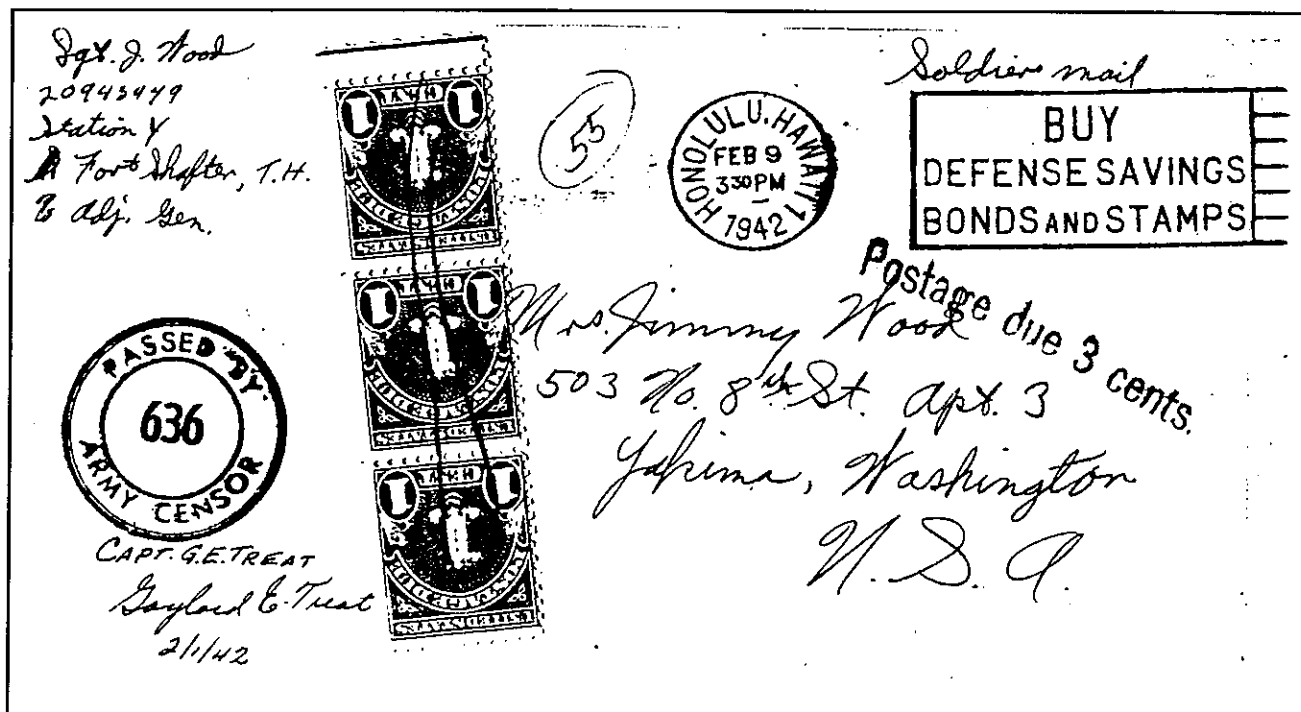
The examples shown here, of course, are only a tiny proportion of the rich variety of free mail that can be studied from World War II. Not even considered are the methods by which mail to and from POWs was handled; the postal aspects of internment camps of all sorts; merchant seamen attached to civilian ships on war duty; and mail from civilians attached to the armed forces. Perhaps these will be the subjects of future studies.



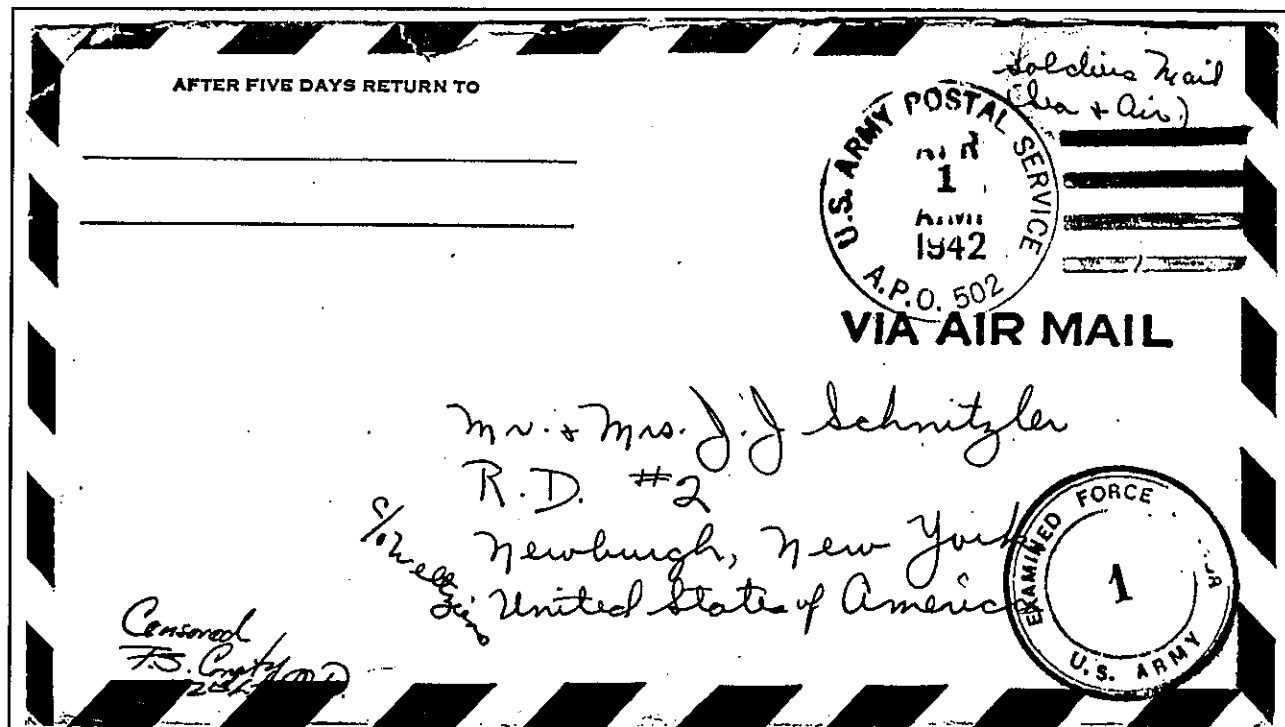
BEFORE FREE MAIL. Cover mailed from the light cruiser *USS Philadelphia*. Postage paid at the prevailing 3¢ rate prior to the introduction of free mail. Letter addressed to the well-known naval tailoring shop near the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Enroute to Maine and Newfoundland at the time, *Philadelphia* spent the entire war in the Atlantic and European Theater, and was loaned to Brazil after the war.



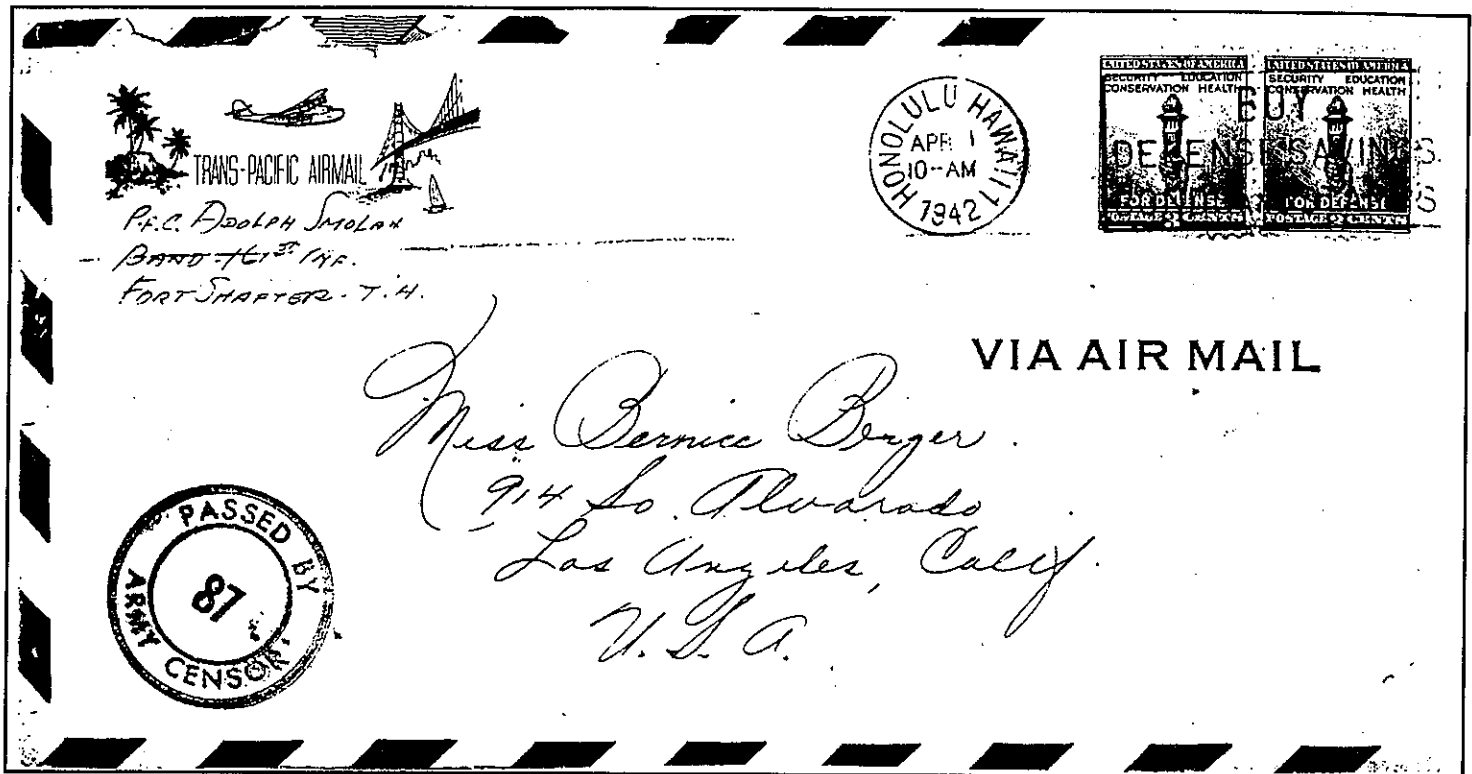
BEFORE FREE MAIL. Sent by a serviceman at the first SeaBee base in the Pacific (but no return address), at Bora Bora, Society Islands (French Polynesia). Both army and naval censor marks. Postmarked the day APO 919 opened; postage paid by 3¢ stamped envelope.



SOLDIERS MAIL. Sent without postage from Fort Shafter, Hawaii in February, 1942, before free postage was authorized. Considering the marking "Soldiers Mail," and the officer's signature, this may be an attempt to use Section 515, PL&R (see article on page 22). If so, the post office at Yakima, Washington treated the letter correctly, collecting 3¢ postage due upon arrival.



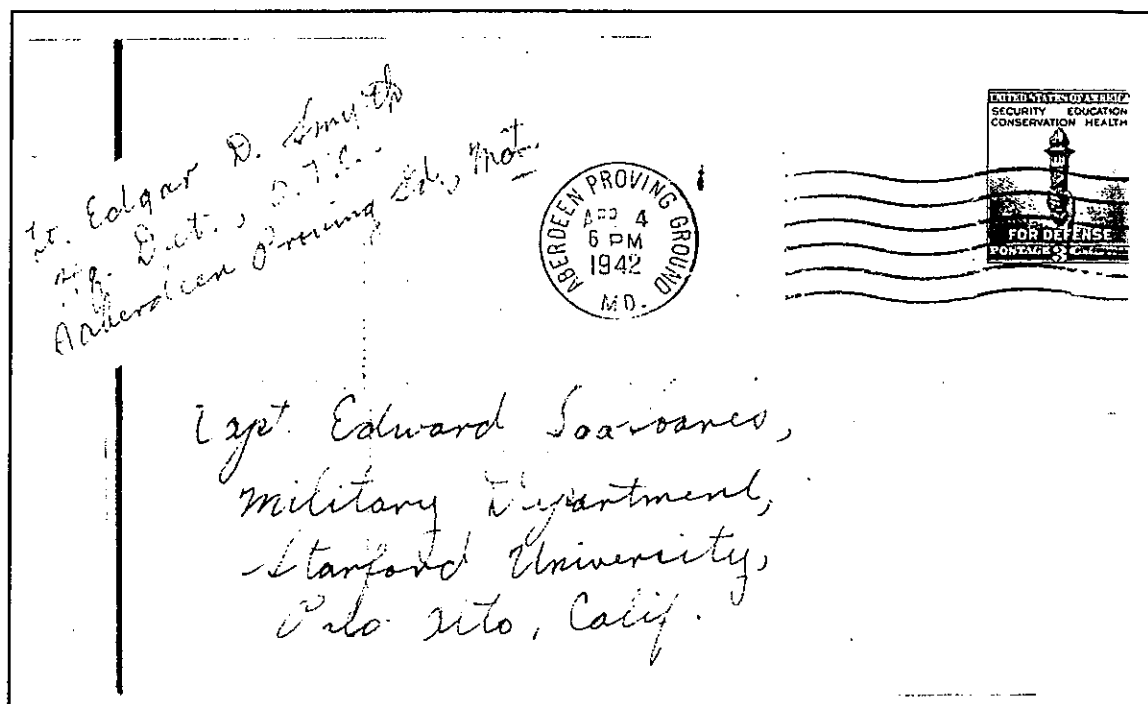
FIRST DAY FREE MAIL. If not philatelic, almost certainly a souvenir cover. Postmarked at APO 502, Headquarters U.S. Forces South Pacific in Noumea, New Caledonia. Incorrectly inscribed "Soldier's Mail (Sea & Air)" on air mail envelope. New free mail privilege did not include air mail. Given the remote location, the *Postal Bulletin* of April 1 with the free mail announcement could not have reached the base on the day it was mailed. Most likely personnel there either received a brief report by message or overheard a radio announcement of the privilege, and did not get the details correct.



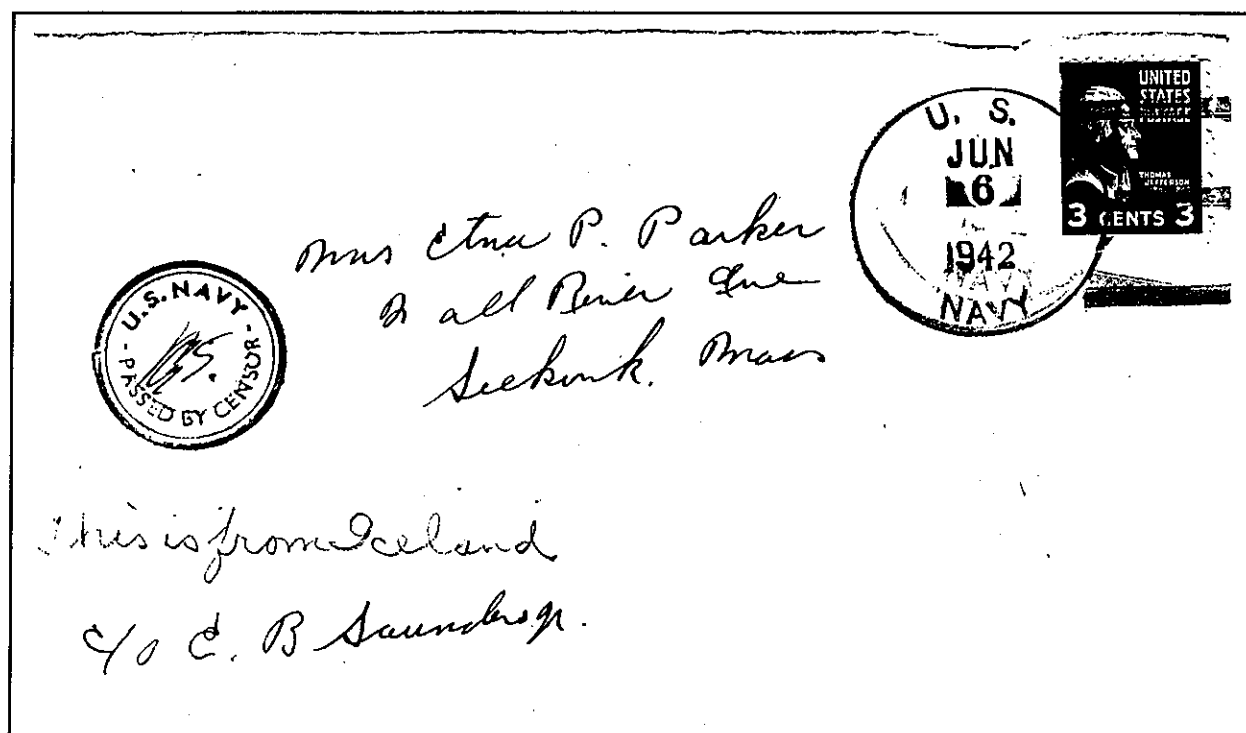
FIRST DAY FREE MAIL, April 1, 1942, but sent by air mail anyway because of the slow and uncertain surface transportation from Hawaii to the mainland. 6¢ air mail postage authorized for servicemen in all locations by *Postal Bulletin* #18354 dated Dec. 26, 1941, superseding the normal 20¢ clipper air mail rate from Hawaii to California.

AFTER 5 DAYS, RETURN TO <u>J.N. Lawrence. CPHM. USN.,</u> <u>Navy Sanitary Station,</u> <u>728 Second Ave.,</u> <u>San Diego. California.</u>			<p>FREE SAILORS MAIL</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>MARINE CORPS</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>BASE</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	MARINE CORPS		BASE							
MARINE CORPS													
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<p>FIRST DAY</p>		<p>DAVID BROCKTON BROWNE, 466 Fillmore St., PASADENA. CALIF.</p>											

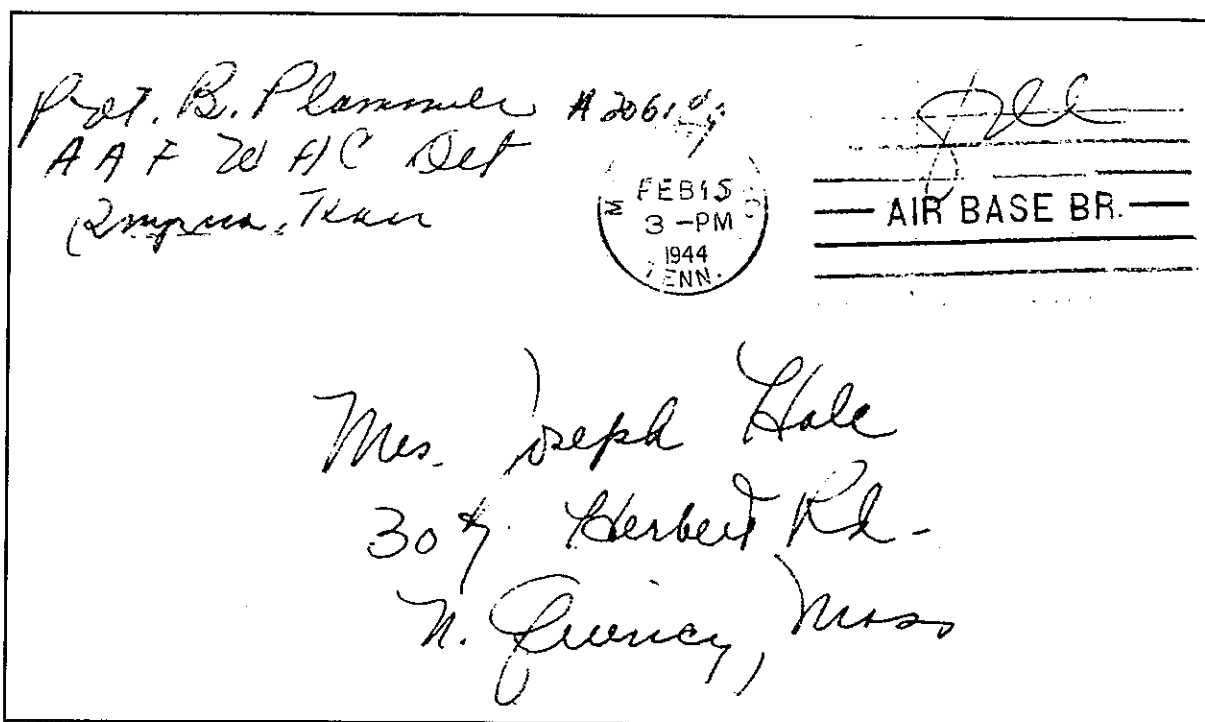
FIRST DAY FREE MAIL, at least at the San Diego Marine Corps Base. Sent by a well-known cover producer from the 1930s, Chief Pharmacists' Mate John N. Lawrence, to the former editor of the *USCS LOG*. Undoubtedly the first day that free mail was announced at that base.



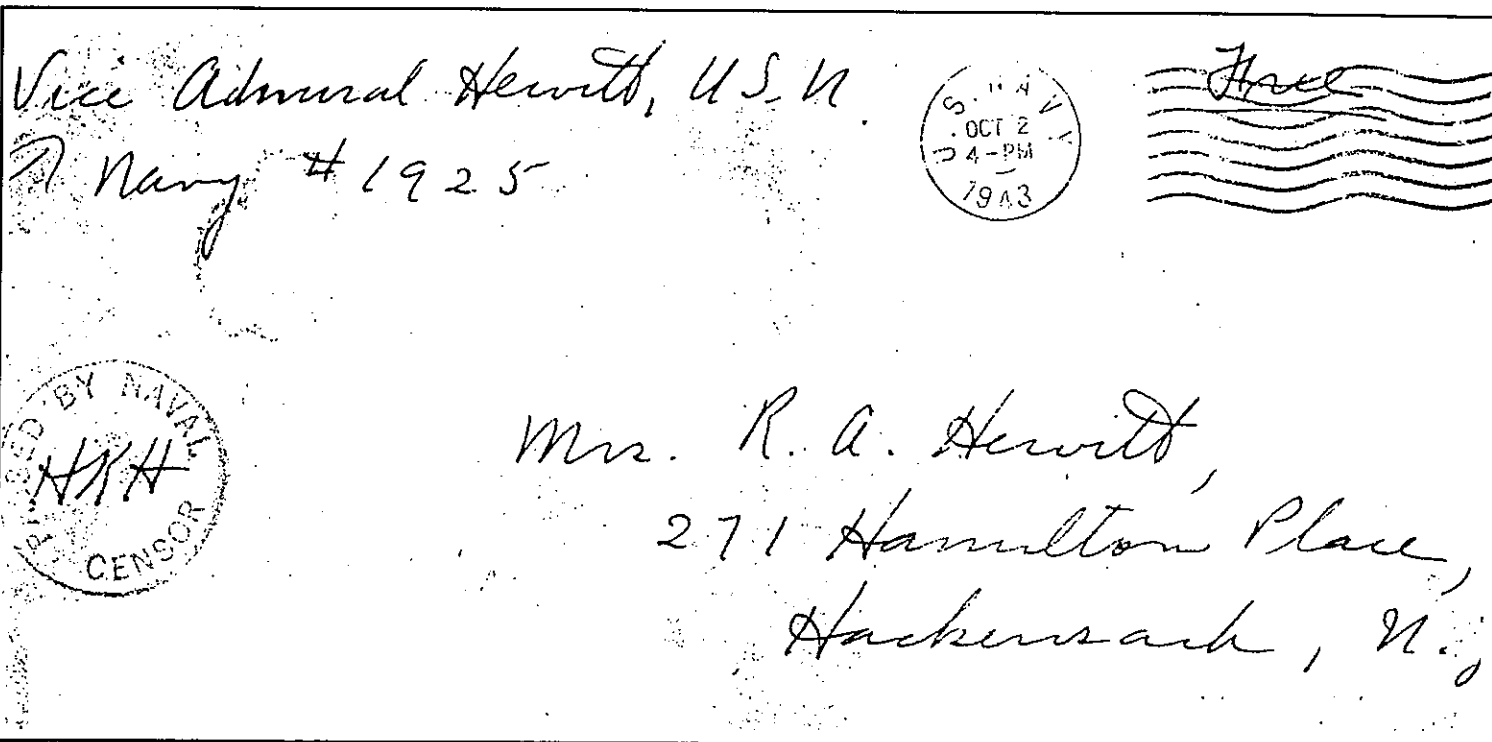
DIDN'T GET THE WORD. Postmarked four days after free mail was authorized, and getting the word from Washington to Maryland shouldn't have been a problem, but postage paid at the 3¢ rate anyway. From an officer at the Aberdeen Proving Ground to another officer; perhaps he thought officers were not authorized free mail.



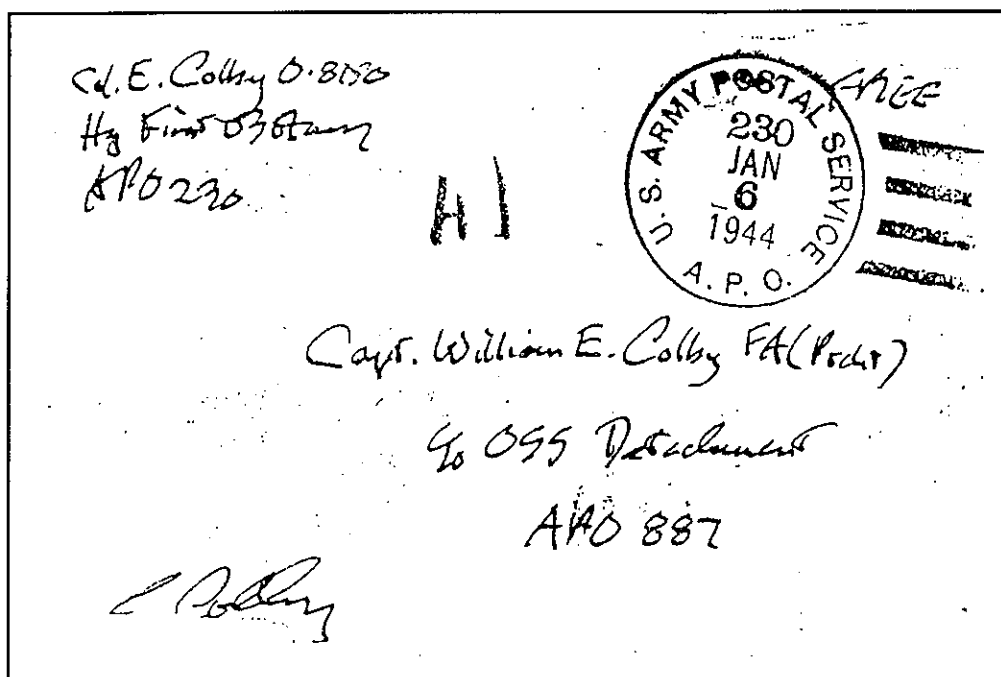
ALSO DIDN'T GET THE WORD. More than two months after free mail was authorized, postage still paid at the 3¢ rate. No return address, but docketed by the recipient as from Iceland, and the unique small censor marked is known to have been used in Iceland. Probably the Naval Operating Base at Reykjavik (Navy 101); possibly the Naval Fuel Depot at Hvalfjörður (Navy 25).



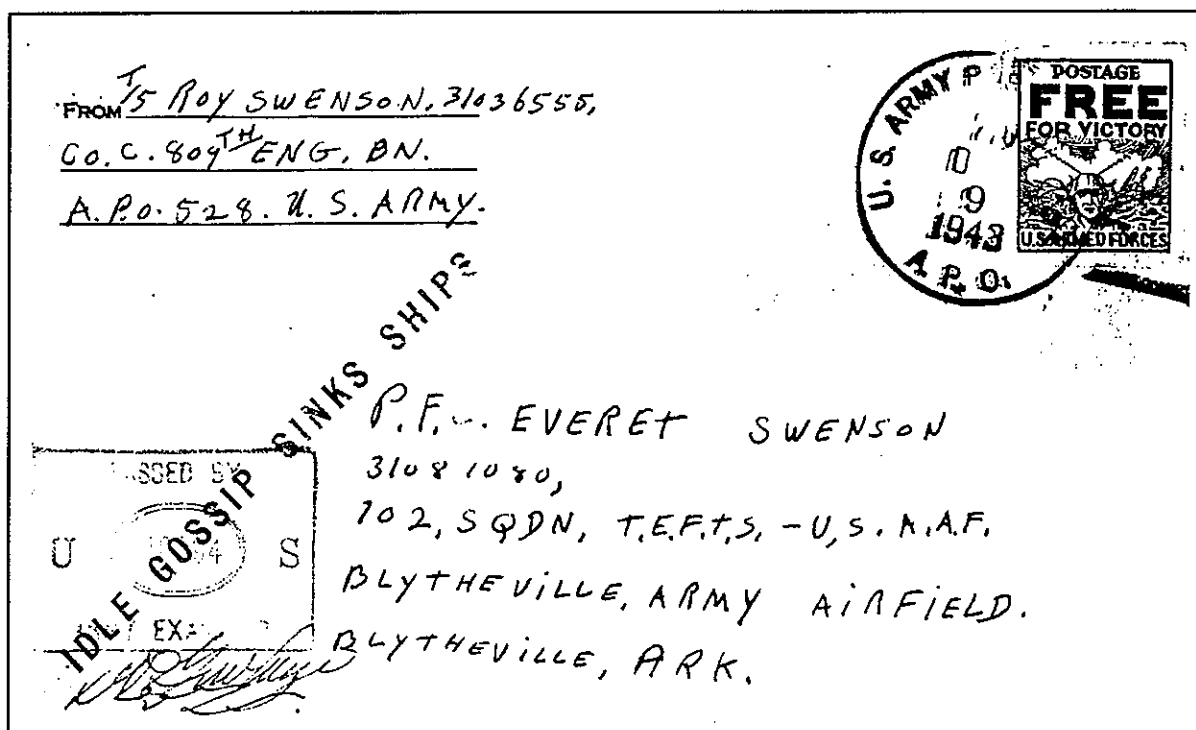
FREE MAIL FOR SERVICEWOMEN. Women were accepted only grudgingly into the armed forces during the war, and even then they had unequal status to that of men throughout the war. From a women's air force private stationed in Smyrna, Tenn. to a known collector. Free mail privileges were extended to the U.S. women's forces by act of Congress July 1, 1943.



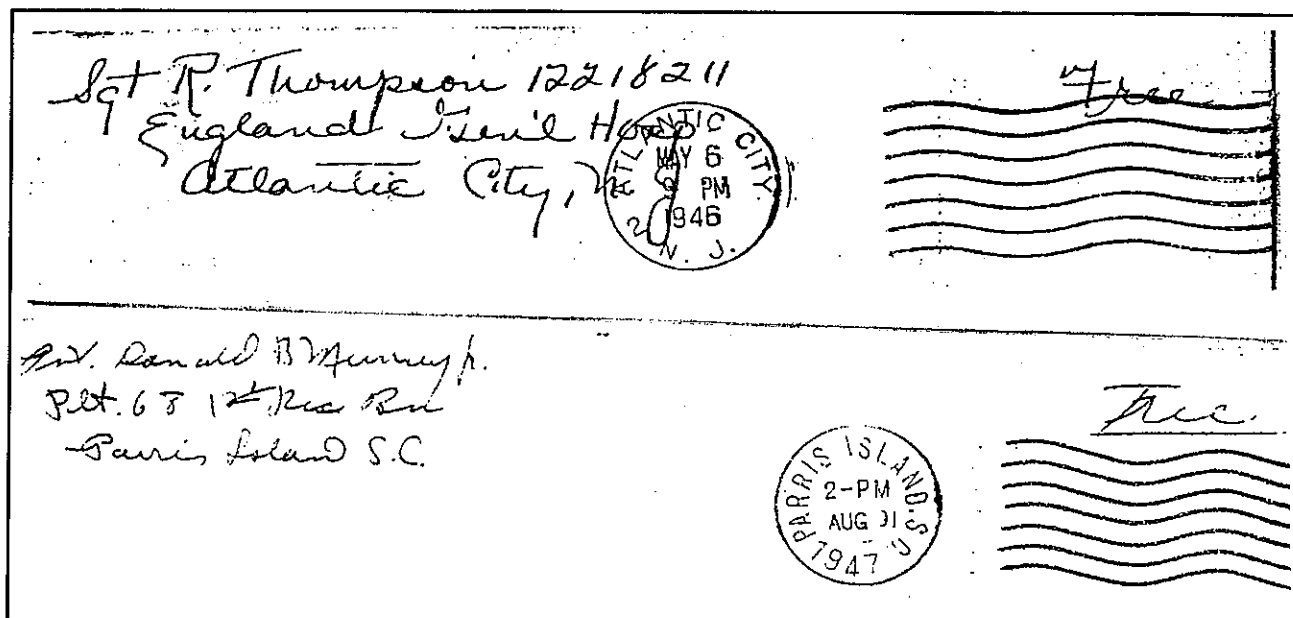
RANK HAS ITS PRIVILEGES, but no more than those of enlisted men when it came to free postage. From Vice Admiral H. K. Hewitt at Navy 1925 (Algiers, Algeria), serving at the time as Commander, 8th Fleet, Mediterranean. Self-censored officer's mail; addressed to a probable relative in New Jersey.



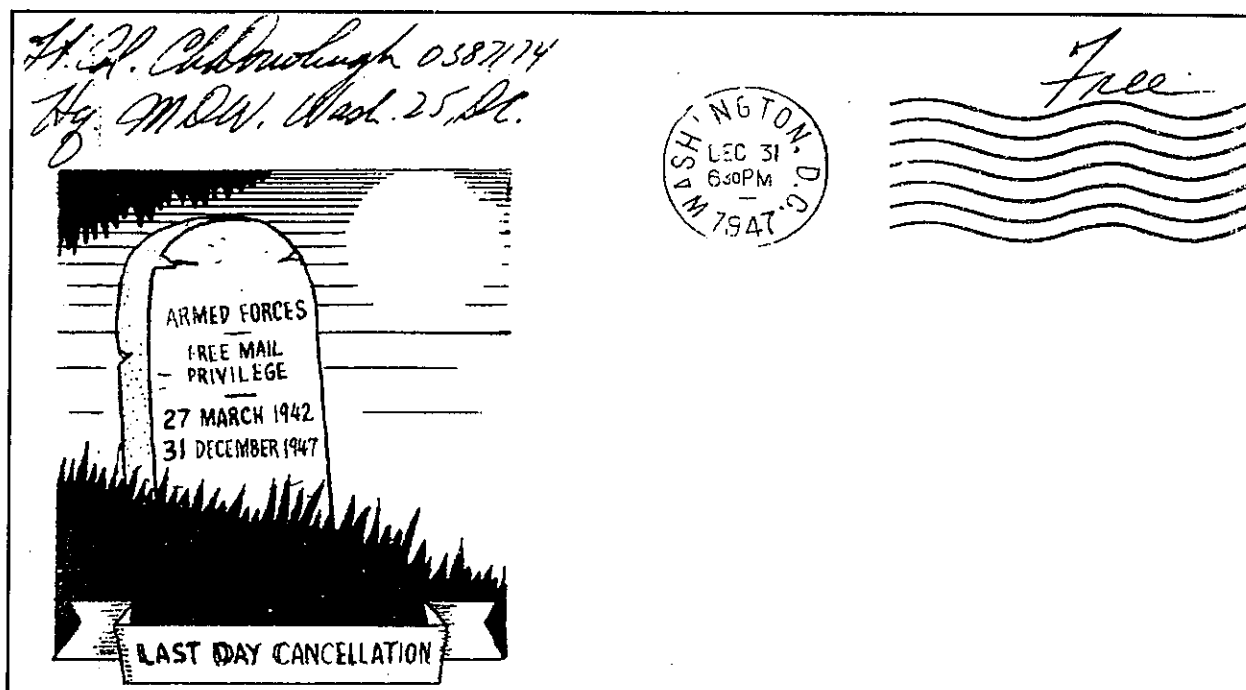
RANK AND HISTORY. From someone who knew free mail, Col. Elbridge Colby at APO 230 (Bristol, England) to his son William at APO 887 (London). The senior Colby wrote an article on the beginnings of free mail in World War II for the July, 1942 issue of *Scott's Monthly Journal* on which some of the information in this article is based. His son William was then serving with the OSS (Office of Strategic Services). William eventually became the Director of its Cold War successor, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).



"FREE" LABEL. Used from APO 528 (Algiers, Algeria); delivered without comment by the Post Office. Throughout the war the Post Office Department struggled with the use of "Free Mail" stickers and rubber stamps that it deemed improper, regulations requiring that the word "Free" be written by hand. In May 1944 President Franklin D. Roosevelt suggested to the Post Office that it issue an official free stamp for servicemen's mail, but the Post Office turned down the recommendation on the grounds that the hand-written frank was working well, and the use of the stamps would be too difficult to control. It was one of the few times that the Post Office refused to follow Roosevelt's wishes in stamp designs and issues.



POST-WAR FREE MAIL. Free mail remained in effect for almost two years after the war ended. Although the number of servicemen on active duty fell dramatically as time passed, free mail continued to be sent.



THE END OF FREE MAIL. *Postal Bulletin* #18871 dated Oct. 30, 1945 stated that free mail for servicemen would extend to Dec. 31, 1947 (Public Law 190), and the privilege ended that day. Although no particular effort was made to count all of the free mail sent during the war, tests made in June 1944, when 11,500,000 men and women were in uniform, disclosed that an average of 6.04 pieces of free mail were being mailed by each service member weekly — about one a day. If postage had been paid on this mail, postal revenues would have exceeded \$100,000,000 a year. The privilege did achieve its purpose: stimulate letter writing by soldiers and sailors for morale purposes, and at the same time get the homefolks to answer so that contact would remain close. There is no doubt that this was the most beneficial postal legislation enacted for the benefit of the armed forces.

References:

- Baur, Brian C., *Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Stamps of the United States, 1933-45*, Linn's Stamp News, 1993.
- Beecher (Henry W.) & Wawrukiewicz (Anthony S.), *U.S. Domestic Postal Rates, 1872-1993*, Traditions Press, Shawnee Mission, KS, 1994.
- Colby, Elbridge, "Military Mailing Methods," *Scott's Monthly Journal*, Vol. 23, #5, July, 1942.
- Cosentini (George) & Gruenzner (Norman), *United States Numbered Military Post Offices: Assignments and Locations, 1941-1994*, Military Postal History Society, 1994.
- Post Office Department: *A Wartime History of the Post Office Department, World War II, 1939-1945*.

SECTION 515, PL&R

Surprisingly little use was made of Section 515 of the Postal Laws and Regulations in the early days of World War II. This very old part of the postal regulations, reportedly dating in some form back to the Civil War, was based on authority in Title 20, Section 258 of Federal Law, approved by an act of Congress dated March 3, 1879:

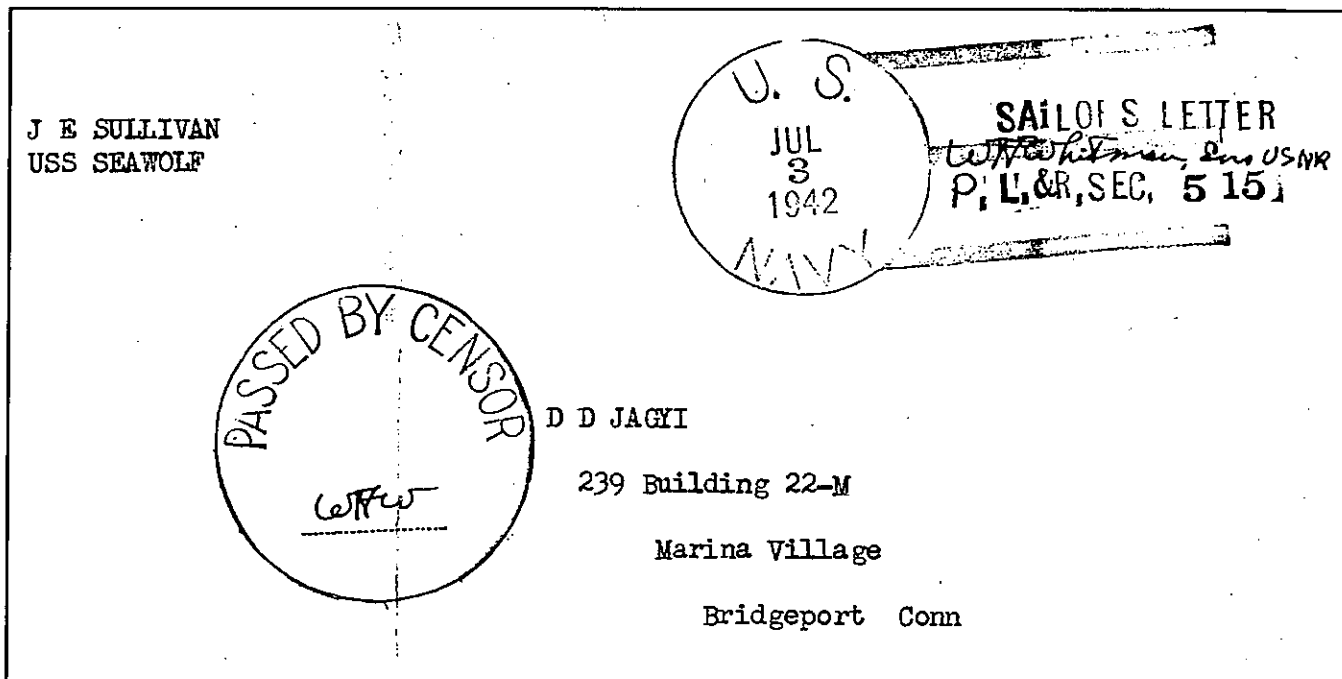
"The Postmaster General may...provide, by regulation, for transmitting unpaid and duly certified letters of soldiers, sailors and marines in the service of the United States to their destination, to be paid on delivery."

The Postmaster General implemented this law with Section 515 of the Postal Laws and Regulations:

"Letters sent by soldiers, sailors and marines in the United States service, located in the United States or any of its possessions or other places where the United States domestic mail is in operation, addressed to places in the United States or any of its possessions, when indorsed 'Soldier's letter,' or 'Marine's letter,' and signed thereunder either with facsimile hand stamp or in writing, with his official designation, by a field or staff officer, post or detachment commander, to whose command the soldier belongs, or by a surgeon or chaplain at a hospital where he may be; and in the Navy or Marine service by any commissioned officer attached to the vessel or officer commanding a hospital or detachment ashore, may be dispatched to destination without prepayment of postage, and only the single rate of postage shall be collected on delivery."

At the time the Post Office Department was authorized to refuse unpaid mail, and in the event that it could not be returned for postage, the deficient amount was collected from the addressee with a penalty. This law made an exception for soldiers and sailors "in the field," allowing them to send unpaid mail for which postage was to be collected at the regular rate with no penalty.

This section of the regulations was discovered by a number of Navy people stationed in China during the mid-1930s, when a dock strike in the United States prevented supplies of postage stamps from reaching the Far East. It was resurrected in 1937 by the Fourth Marine Division when it was effectively trapped in Shanghai at the beginning of the Japanese invasion of China. However, most of the surviving covers from this period are philatelic in origin, and few show any clear understanding of the provisions of the regulations by postal personnel.



This cover from the submarine *USS Seawolf* poses an interesting war-time use of this section. *Seawolf* was at the time based at Fremantle, Australia, to which she and more than a dozen sister ships had evacuated from the Philippines. She returned to Fremantle from a patrol on April 7, 1942, and set out on her next patrol on May 12. She returned again to Fremantle on July 2, 1942, and this cover was mailed the next day with this marking. The unusual postmark, with its large letters, is of a style known to have been issued to ships of the Asiatic Fleet in the Philippines in the fall of 1941, and was undoubtedly *Seawolf's* own cancel. As specified in the regulations, it is signed by an ensign from the boat.

It may seem likely that word of the introduction of free mail as of April 1 should have reached Fremantle by mid-May, but Fremantle, Australia was about as far away from the United States as you could get, and officials establishing the submarine base there had their hands full just trying to organize the remains of the dispirited Asiatic Fleet into an effective fighting force. It is entirely possible that news of the free mail did not reach *Seawolf* before she departed on her patrol to the Philippines. Wanting to get the mail off as soon as the boat returned, the mail clerk could have prepared each cover in advance, arranging for the ensign to sign (and censor) each one, and then postmarked each one with the date that he expected to deliver the mail to the post office. With free mail now in effect, of course, the letter was delivered without postage due. The cover is addressed to a known collector, but there is no clear evidence that it was made as a collectible, which would have required the coöperation of the ensign. The signed censor mark is repeated across the back flap of the cover; it has no other markings.

MY FAVORITE COVER

by William J. Griffiths

The pictured cover was sent by a French Foreign Legion officer involved in the recent French military intervention in Rwanda, "Opération Turquoise". Rwanda's three year old civil war restarted on April 6th, following the death of President Habyarimana in a suspicious plane crash. With the success of the rebels, a bloodbath ensued in which at least several hundred thousand perished or fled to neighboring countries. On June 22nd, a divided U.N. Security Council approved a two month period for states that wanted to intervene in Rwanda. In effect, this meant only France, as neither the United States nor Britain, nor any other country for that matter, was particularly interested in intervention. Since previous outspoken French policy statements supporting Habyarimana's Hutu-dominated government had already alienated neighboring states, the French were forced to use Zaïre as a staging area.

On June 24th, the first French soldiers entered Rwanda from Zaïre, with the stated aim of protecting and providing humanitarian relief for civilians, primarily the minority Tutsis. The French operation was opposed initially by the rebels (Tutsis-based Rwanda Patriotic Front) who felt they, the French, were biased towards the Hutu-dominated government who had, in fact, previously received military aid, arms and training from the French in defiance of a U.N. embargo. At the time of the French operation, there were 8,000 Tutsis in the camp at Cyangugu on Rwanda's Southwest border with Zaïre.

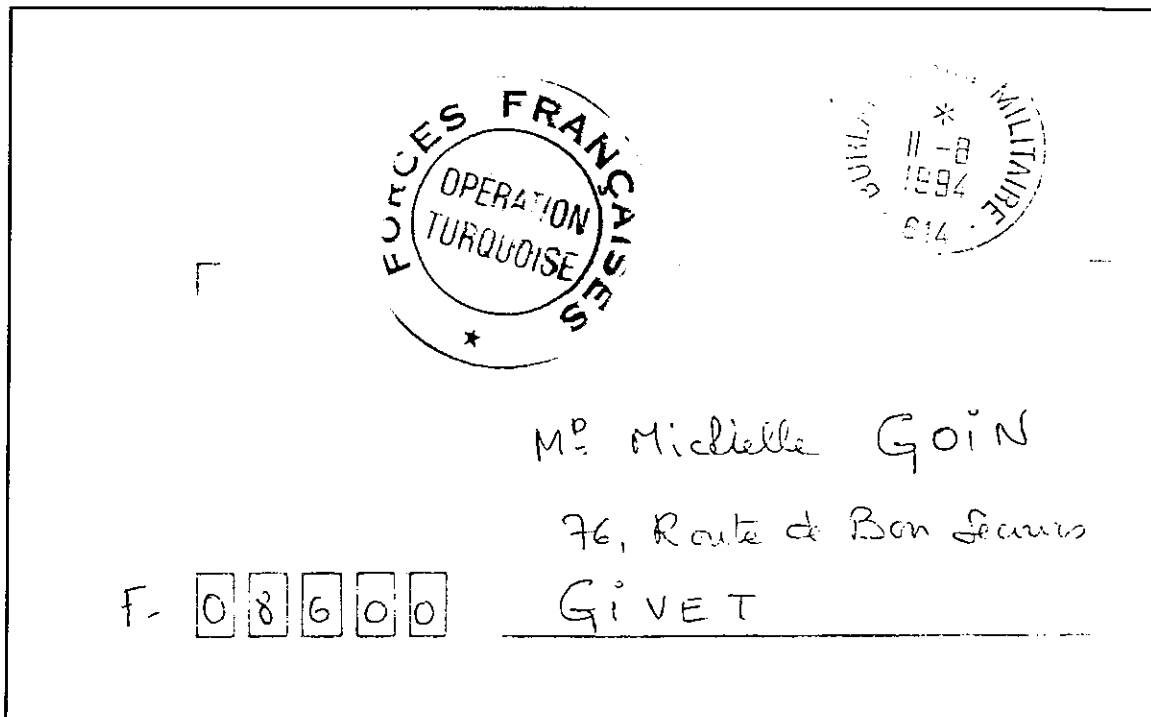
The French buildup of troops occurred from troops based in Paris and French bases in the Central African Republic and Gabon. The Force reached a peak of about 2,500 troops, including units of the French Foreign Legion, marines, infantry and artillery units. These units were backed by armor, ground attack aircraft, and transport planes. The ground forces were based at Cyangugu and Goma in Zaïre. The aircraft were based at Kinsangani.

Opération Turquoise is an example of the French emerging as the Western Power most eager to flex its military muscles

and don the cape of "gendarme of the world". French military contingents are busy around the globe in French uniforms and with the blue helmets of the U.N. Unlike Britain and the United States, Paris has made the most of the vacuum left by the Cold War to bolster its longstanding domain in Africa and embark on a drive to project its influence worldwide by posing as a guarantor of peace. All of its lofty aims do not get in the way of France's traditionally pragmatic (many say cynical) approach to promoting its interests, particularly in Africa where it remains in control of the destinies of most of its former colonies. In the interests of the Francophone family, France has used a combination of aid, military action, flattery and largesse towards leaders, to prop up a string of unsavory regimes.

Within such a short period of time and with such a limited mandate, Opération Turquoise may prove to be little more than a brief parenthesis in a drama of which the international community appears to have washed its hands. French soldiers have helped to alleviate some suffering. France has also shown that it still ranks among the major powers and that it is virtually the only country still willing and prepared to intervene in Africa. However, it should be pointed out that France has done no more than any other Western Power to resolve the core political problems, which means the Rwanda drama could last for years. The roots of the crisis have not been addressed, a thesis tragically exemplified by events in Bosnia/Herzegovina. On August 22nd, France pulled out its last troops from Rwanda into Zaïre. The brief enclave established by the French in Southwest Rwanda has been turned over to Ghanaian and Ethiopian U.N. peacekeepers. At one point up to 800,000 refugees were sheltered in the French Zone. The Foreign Legionnaires of Opération Turquoise were the last French troops across the border at Cyangugu into Bukavu, ending a two month operation which their government says was solely for humanitarian aims.

Covers from Opération Turquoise may well prove to be somewhat scarce, considering the short-lived nature of the operation as well as the refusal (according to my Paris contacts) by the major French post office in the area, BPM 614 at Goma, Zaïre, to honor philatelic requests.



AUCTION SALE #142

Closing Date January 7, 1995

1. Book. *The United States Marines, a Pictorial History* by Montross. Official historian at this time 242 pages with 434 illustrations mostly official photos from 1775 through Korean War. In original jacket. VF. (005)
2. **Spanish American War.** Book. *The Splendid Little War* by Freidel. 314 pages. 300+ pictures. Original jacket. Library discard. Some tape stains on inside original jacket. F-VF. (005)
3. **Boxer Rebellion.** Book. *Fifty-Five Days of Terror* by Hirschfeld. 190 pages. Original jacket. F-VF. (005)
4. **United States.** Colored 1904 postcard "Present Arms" showing soldier, cannon, and woman. Mailed to Washington, D.C. with Scott 300 and with 1906 D.C. machine and hand Received cancels. Slight toning. (146)
5. Official 5½ by 7½ inch Penalty cover with printed cachet of War Department Bureau of Insular Affairs. No cancel but reverse has 1905 receipt cancel of Philadelphia. Slight smudges. F-VF. (661)

WORLD WAR I

6. **Austria.** 2 colored picture Feldpost cards written in Czechoslovakian. 1 of woman musician with 1917 cancel of FPN 383a and unit handstamp of Aquadukt Cadre Command to sailor *S.M.S. Bellona* at Pola. Small part of corner missing. Plus view card of Innsbruck with 1915 civilian cancel and handstamp of Garrison hospital. Corner bent. AVE-F. (703)
7. **Belgium.** Registered letter sent by officer in Belgian Army to Le Havre. Post Militaire 1916 cancel and blank registration label with Post Militaire #4 handstamp. Cancels not completely legible. F. SB \$3.50 (010)
8. **France.** Stampless cover from soldier with civilian cancel. Viewcard of Fontenay-Le-Comte (Vendée) with unit handstamp of 157 Rgt. but no cancel. Plus pocket multilingual tour book with large multicolored fold out map of Paris and vicinity. Slight tears on book cover. F. (661)
9. **France.** European size commercial cover from Le Havre to Holland cancelled 15 April 1915. Small blank censor tape with unusual 3 line handstamp, Deloste 13b, OUVERT/par/L'AUTORITÉ MILITAIRE. Backstamped Dongen. F-VF. SB \$10.00 (010)
10. **France.** Special colored postcard with French Soldier sponsored by French American Committee Paris with personal message from E. Boutox, famous philosopher, Educator and Vice President of the French-American Committee of Académie Française. Slight cut and stain. F. (005)
11. **Poland.** Special preprinted form card to Vienna with 10 heller Franz Josef stamp tied by Szczucin cancel 12.X.17 concerning particulars of 1916 money transfer from New York. 2 line Tarnow censor handstamp. Some staining on front and vertical fold. AVE. (005)
12. **Portugal.** 1¢ printed postcard from soldier at the Military School Lisbon with AMBULANCIA SULI cancel to soldier with 8th Infantry C. E. F. in France. Civilian censor handstamp. Rare soldier to soldier. Soiled. AVE. (005)
13. **Russian Poland.** Bilingual colored viewcard of Kowel with Hungarian type 1916 military cancel of FPN 163 and handstamp of K.K. Landsturm Etappen Bataillon 252. F. (703)
14. **Serbia. Salonica Front.** Stampless French military card written in Cyrillic from Corfu Greece with Serbian Fieldpost Unit 999 cancel and military censor handstamp. Said to be to military unit also. Unusual. VF. SB \$25.00 (010)

WORLD WAR I USAEF

15. War Department Official cover with scarce A4001 cancel from APO 793. Personal use Officer to Col. 11th Infantry. Folded once. F-VF. (661)
16. War Department Official cover with A2101 cancel from scarce APO 817 used personally to Secretary of Interior Lane. Wrinkles and no date in cancel. AVE. SB \$15.00. (661)
17. Larger size #10 envelope with flag type A6011 cancel from APO 717 endorsed Mother's Day. Some toning on cover. AVE. SB \$20.00 (661)
18. #10 Official Penalty cover used by Chaplain at APO 735 with Official cachet crossed out. Slightly blurred Type A2101 APO 817 cancel with no date. Some toning and slight tears. AVE. RES \$10.00 (661)
19. Book. *Infantry Drill Regulations United States Army* 1911 with 1917 corrections. Hard Cover. Water staining. AVE. (661)
20. **Naval.** Small cover with 2¢ stamp tied by August 28 1917 U.S.S. *Nevada* cancel and sender with straight line PASSED BY CENSOR and initials

Descriptions:

Envelopes are as expected for area: e.g. European size etc. and will not be described unless unusual (#10, etc.)

Books are hardcover unless stated softcover.

APO number is in cancel unless stated. * means Sender's Address Only.

Navy numbers in address unless stated to be in cancel.

On individual lots U.S. WW II APO covers are on stationery with imprinted stamps unless stated FREE or stamped. Larger lots are most likely mixed.

handstamp. "S. S." from cancel off envelope and part of flap missing. F. SB \$8.00 (005)

21. **Naval.** 4 Railroad Administration Furlough fare Certificates with embossed Navy Seal for U.S.S. *Roanoke*. 1 made out for Pittsburgh to Cleveland 1919. Unusual. VF. (146)
22. **Naval.** 4 colored postcards of sailor and woman in front of ships of the Series 603 Sailors 12 Des. Ser. 1 mailed 1918 from New York. 3 different pictures. F-VF. (146)
23. Book. *American Armies and Battlefields in Europe*. Prepared by American Battle Monuments Commission 1938. 547 pages including 103 maps and sketches, several colored pullouts, including 3 large in color in pocket of Aisne-Marne, St. Mihiel and Meuse Argonne, and numerous photos. A gold mine of information about military units including Order of battles, combat history, Rhineland Occupation, 6 colored pages of insignias and medals, numerous statistics, a detailed index etc. A library discard with some cover wear. F. This book has brought \$25 to \$50. from military book dealers. (005)
24. Book. *The Postal History of the AEF 1917-1923* War Cover Club edited by Theo Van Dam. 1990 Second Edition with errata. 265 pages richly illustrated. Besides expected AEF European campaign coverage with valuation guide also includes outstanding chapters on POW, Courier Service, Red Cross, Rhineland Occupation, Civilian Postal censorship, Aviation, and Russian campaign. New. (999)

PRE-WORLD WAR II NAVAL

25. Colored picture card of "Niobe" the First Warship of Canadian Navy. Colored photocard of German *S.M.S. Moltke* and *Admiral Paschwitz*. Humorous sketch card concerning "Iron Duke" and Malta. All unused. Dates not clear AVE-F. (146)
26. **North Pole.** Registered cover with pictorial handstamp for Wilkins-Ellsworth Trans-Arctic Submarine Expedition 1931 New York to North Pole. Printed send and to address to Expedition Leader Sir Hubert Wilkins. Mailed from New York May 8 to Wilkins General Delivery N.Y. Carried by Wilkins on attempted North Pole Underwater transit and mailed registered from London with his signature and with additional British stamps back to original sender in Pennsylvania with proper cancels October 1931. Paper clip stains. F. SB \$50.00 (627)
27. **North Pole.** Same as above but original sender in Wisconsin and different postage stamps. F-VF. SB \$50.00 (627)
28. **North Pole.** Same as above but original sender in Illinois and different postage stamps. No autograph. F-VF. SB \$25.00 (627)
29. **North Pole.** Same as above but original sender in Delaware and different postage stamps. F-VF. SB \$25.00 (627)
30. **North Pole.** Similar to above but handstamp New York to Spitsbergen and normal cover. Washington stamp tied by N.Y. May 8, 1931 RPO and Norwegian stamp tied by Longyearbven 18.8.31 cancel F-VF. SB \$25.00 (627)
31. **North Pole.** 3 similar unregistered covers to North Pole with U.S. and British stamps and cancels with different original senders to Wilkins. 1 soiled. AVE-VF. (627)
32. Penalty cover with sender's handstamp of U.S.S. *Quail* with May 8, 1934 ship cancel with Seattle in bars tying 3¢ Maryland stamp and box handstamp for 1934 Aleutian Islands Survey Expedition. Opening tears and some bars from machine cancel on front. F. (627)

33. 2 different Crosby type cacheted covers for U.S.S. *West Virginia* with ships photo attached. Each with Scott's C19 tied by 1937 and 1938 ship cancel at San Pedro, California. Roughly opened but intact. AVE-F. (703)
34. Cover with 25 pfg. German stamp tied by July 3, 1938 Wesermünde cancel to USA. Sender with U.S.S. *Wyoming*. Opening tears cuts into sender's address plus 2 slight ink stains. AVE. (005)
35. Softcover book U.S.S. *Shenandoah* by Keller. 26 page history with 24 photos. F-VF. (146)
36. Softcover book U.S. Navy *Ports of the World-Hong Kong*. Ditty Box Guide Series published in 1920 by Bureau of Navigation. 40 pages with photos and street map. Back cover has separated due to weight of map. F. (146)

BETWEEN THE WARS

37. Germany. Book. *The Hindenburg* by Mooney. "Minute by Minute account of final flight." 278 pages, 43 illustrations. Original jacket. VF. (005)
38. Spanish Civil War. Italian Forces. Small cover to Italy with 50 ct. Italian stamp tied by 18.8.38 Italian Military cancel U.P.S. 5 of Div. XXIII Marzo. Double strike on stamp. F-VF. SB \$20.00 (005)

WORLD WAR II

39. Algeria. 2 small stampless naval censored covers from same sender at U.S. Navy 147 and 1925. U.S. Navy Oct 18 and September 20, 1943 cancels with "Victory in 43" in bars. 1 has slight tears. F-VF. (005)
40. Algeria. Viewcard of Oran Grand Hotel sent Free with Navy "Victory in 43" cancel and Navy censor stamp. Plus cover with 6¢ airmail stamp tied by F-VF. (668)
41. Australia. Free envelope with cancel of U.S. APO 922 June 27, 1942 with circular U.S.A. F.I.A. Censor 29. Said by seller to be unlisted Helbock type A. F. (668)
42. Australia. Small cover to U.S. from member of Royal Aus. Air Force with Australian civilian censor label and stamp. 3½d Gloucester stamp, Scott 198, tied by indistinct April 1945 cancel. Slight tears. AVE-F. (005)
43. Australia. Small airmail cover to member of RAAF in Canada. Franked with Scott 172, 173, and 175(3). 5 indistinct Sydney -30 cancels and 2 line California Clipper handstamp. Censor Office 2 seal and handstamp. Back-stamped Halifax M.P.O. 609 Nov 22, 41 and forwarded. Part of label on back missing. Interesting usage. (005)
44. Australia. Cover to U.S. from Major at U.S. APO 927 with Officer censor endorsement. 3 1d Australian stamps tied by indistinct OONC. N.S.W. Australia cancel. Boxed Australian Military Forces censor 2247 cancel. Slight tears. AVE-F. (005)
45. Australia. 6¢ U.S. airmail envelope sent registered by member of 2nd Field Hospital APO 928 to USA. 15¢ Prexie and 3¢ Victory affixed to pay postage and cancelled by slight concentric circle cancels Various April 1943 back-stamps including APO's 922(2) and 928. Army censored. F-VF. (005)
46. Australia. 3 processed U. S. V-Mail covers with contents, and 1 without envelope from senders with APO 91, 922(2), and 17th Marines. 2 envelopes have opening tears. F. (005)
47. Austria. Special commemorative card for Mauthausen Concentration Camp. Card shows hand in chain in front of mountain and banner. Austrian stamp tied by Mauthausen 20.6.1957 Camp cancel. Unaddressed. SB \$10.00. (005)
48. Austria. 9 1940 stampless German Feldpost officially used covers from various components of 297 Infantry Division at Brück an der Leitha. All with dated eagle cancels and unit handstamps from FPN's 00960, 01619, 02280, 03068, 12833C, 13724, 14680A, 17206, and 38100. 1 slightly large. Also cover with seal of Nachr. Ers. Abt. 64 (Signal Training Bn.) with 1941 Vienna cancel. AVE-F. (200)
49. Belgium. Special numbered red and Green card to Philatelic Club for philatelic exposition 12 Sept. 1943 at Waremm. Scott B347 cancelled Waremm. No message. VF. (005)
50. Belgium. Greeting card size cover franked with pair of 3¢ Victory stamps to Lt. 502 Parachute Rgt. APO 472. 101st Airborne Div. Cover mailed airmail 12/27/44 in middle of Battle of Bulge. Boxed "Verified Return" handstamp of 1st BPO and 2 "UNKNOWN" stamps as well as manuscript notation "Missing". Slight wear. Plus airmail imprinted envelope with Jan 20 1945 APO 109 cancel and Army censorship. F. (668)
51. Belgium. Book. *Battle of the Bulge: Hitler's Ardennes Offensive 1944-45* by Parker. 316 pages with 250 photos and diagrams with some in color and complete Orders of Battle. Author was research consultant to Joint Chief of Staff on the battle of the Bulge. Ultimate reference work. Brand new. Lists at \$34.95. VF. (005)
52. Burma. Book. *The Marauders* by Ogburn. 305 pages. Some photos and maps. Detailed discussion of famous Merrill Composite Unit 5307. Detailed Index. F. (005)
53. Camerouns. Registered European size cover with pair of 1.5 FR stamps, Scott's 289. Stamp and registry label tied by Esekia 13 Jul 42 cancels. To French Lt. with 13th Co. Piece torn out below address. Unusual usage. AVE. (005)
54. Canada. Official U.S. Post Office publisher Change of Address card, Form 3578-P, from APO 997 to Yank APO 997 Aug 5, 1943 cancel. Seldom seen. VF. (005)
55. Canada. YMCA cover with British FPO 600 SP 22 1944 cancel with shield censor 3219. Letter enclosed on printed stationery of *The Maple Leaf Army* newspaper from Sgt. Cdn. Public Relations, GHQ, AAI, CMF. Some wrinkles. F. Also 1942 YMCA cover from R.A.F. Station Swift Current Sask. F. (005)
56. Canada. Registered airmail cover to U.S. from civilian at APO 724 then at Dawn Creek B.C. 2 APO 724 MAR 10 1944 registry cancels on back. 15¢ Prexie and 6¢ airmail stamp tied by killer registry cancel. F-VF. (005)
57. Canada. Registered airmail cover to U.S. from civilian at APO 702 then at Whitehorse, Yukon. APO 702 and 918(2) March 1944 registry cancels on back. 15¢ Prexie and 6¢ imprinted airmail stamp tied by killer registry cancel. VF. (005)
58. Canada. Canadian Army Overseas mail bundle facing slip to Victoria with British FPO 505 Jan 24 1944 cancel. Slight tear and soiling. F. (005)
59. Canada. 2 1943 covers to members of R.C.A.F. 1943 Halifax with 3 line forwarding handstamp of R.C.A.F. Section Canadian Forces overseas. Each with skeleton forwarding cancel on back. AVE. (005)
60. Canada. 2 cards and 3 covers with stamps tied by dumb blackout cancels to hide identity. However covers have printed commercial sender's return addresses and cards have scenes. Plus card from same sender as 1 card with normal cancel. Opening tears. F-VF. (005)
61. Canada. 18 stamped covers with M.P.O. in cancels from #s 101, 105, 202, 203, 211, 303, 305, 306, 307, 309, 310, 405, 603, 611, 612, 705, 1001, and 1203. Mostly to Canada. 1 censored. 1 currency control. Mostly F-VF. (005)
62. Canada. 3 1988 cacheted covers for 45th anniversary of Canadian participation Italian Campaign. Handstamp of C.F.B. Borden. VF. SB \$6.00(295)
63. Czechoslovakia. German Occupation. Stampless German Feldpost cover with seal of 32 Flight Training Rgt. Pardubitz with Dienstpost Pardubitz 1940 cancel. Unit handstamp partially off cover but full sender's address. F. (200)
64. Egypt. Stampless POW lettersheet from Italian POW in Egypt to Italy. Racetrack oval type dated December 1943 handstamp of 313 POW camp. Also German Vienna Ag censor handstamp and Munich (?) machine censor Staple holes. F. (005)
65. Egypt. Large approximately 5" by 10" OHMS envelope apparently carried by courier to A.R.C.S. HQ A.I.F. Alexandria. 3 different BASE AREA SIGNALS March 1941 dated handstamps plus double square and triangular military censor handstamps. Sealing label torn on opening of flap. F. SB \$15. (010)
66. Fiji. Processed V-Mail from sender at U.S. APO 716 May 4, 1943. Envelope tears. F. (005)
67. Finland. 2 stampless 1943 and 1944 military covers with machine cancels of Stations 5 and 7 with military sender's address. Also cover to U.S.A. with 2 mark stamp tied by Helsinki 14.12.40 hand cancel added since machine cancel did not touch stamp. AVE-F. (005)
68. France. 2 processed V-Mail letters from U. S. APOs 411 and 887. 1945 messages indicate in France. 1 without envelope. F-VF. (005)
69. France. 1¢ postal card to soldier APO 90 with various markings including Returned to Writer, No Forwarding Address and APO 802 cancel. Interesting cachet of corn and "Hoopseston, Illinois The Sweet Corn Capital of the World." plus covers from APOs 340, 522, and 579. AVE-F. (668)
70. France. 3 U.S. APO airmail covers with cancels of APO 472(2) and 150. Plus soiled stampless (not clear why) 1939 cover. AVE. Plus Stampless OAS cover with British December 1939 FPO 30 cancel with slight tears. F. Also 1944 British Base PO 8 Dec 44 machine cancel on stampless censored cover (Belgium). F. (661)
71. France. #10 envelope with red and blue cachet of the French American Journal for the Victory with small Arch of Triumph. Some writing on reverse and received manuscript marking on front. Unusual. F. SB \$6.00 (005)
72. France. German Occupation. 2 stampless German Feldpost covers with dated eagle cancels and unit handstamps of 09563D and 40900 identified as being 712 Inf. Div. then in France and Army equipment Depot Versailles. F-VF. (200)
73. France. Book. *The Collapse of the Third Republic—An Inquiry into the Fall of France in 1940* by William Shirer. 1082 pages in original jacket cover. VF. (005)
74. Germany. Postcard with special 6 pfg. stamp for Austrian Plebiscite tied by April 10 1938 Stuttgart plebiscite cancel "On April 10 give the Führer your 'yes'". No message. VF. (005)

75. **Germany.** 6 stampless German Feldpost covers and 1 card with civilian cancels and open address unit handstamps from Inf. Ers. Bns. 34 and 82; Reutlingen, Letzingen, and Emmerich military hospitals; flight training Det. 12 Magdeburg, and Koblenz Garrison (cut short). Mostly F. (200)
76. **Germany.** 2 official War Dept. penalty newspaper wrappers with printed return address for *The Stars and Stripes Germany* edition APO 887. One with APO 887 June 26, 1945 cancel (Paris). Other APO 175 Sept. 5, 1945 (Pfungstadt). Some separating and tears. F. (005)
77. **Germany.** Book. *The Ultra Secret* by F. W. Winterbotham. The first account of the most astonishing cryptanalysis coup of World War II. 199 pages in original jacket. VF. (005)
78. **Germany.** Book. *The Last Battle* by Ryan. Detailed eyewitness account of the battle for Berlin. 570 pages. Hardcover. Original jacket. 134 photos and maps. 31 pages of names and current occupations of participants. VF. (005)
79. **Gilbert Islands.** 5 Navy censored 6¢ airmail envelopes with Navy Feb 23-April 25 1944 cancels from same sender at CASU 16 listed by Murphy as Tarawa. 1 with illegible year and 1 with opening tears. F-VF. (703)
80. **Gilbert Islands.** 4 Navy censored 6¢ airmail envelopes with Navy November 1943-Sept. 1944 cancels from same sender as above at CASU 16 listed by Murphy as Tarawa. 1 with different type navy cancel. 1 with opening tears. F-VF. (703)
81. **Great Britain.** Small envelope with 1d stamp tied by special May 30, 1945 Chester peace cancel to Officer's Club 109 General Hospital. 2 lined "Returning to the United States" handstamp with unit handwritten in and London June cancel. Interesting combination illustrating Peace and troops returning home. Some slight soiling. F. (005)
82. **Great Britain.** 13 processed U.S. V-Mail letters from APO's 29, 134 (address change), 448, 557, 571(2), 584, 637(3), 871, 887, and 81st NCB. 4 without envelopes. Some say England in text. F-VF. (005)
83. **Great Britain.** 6 U.S. APO covers from APOs 1, 552, 559, 560, 579, and 871. 4 with airmail stamps and 3 with Army censorship. F-VF. (668)
84. **Great Britain.** *Defeat of the Wolfpacks* by Jones. Loss of U-Boat Fleet 1943-44. Original jacket. 38 photos and 1 map. Published in 1986 at \$16.95. VF. SB \$8.00 (106)
85. **Greece. German Occupation.** Stampless German Feldpost cover with eagle 9.11.42 cancel and handstamp of unit 04070 used by Inf. Rgt. 440 Fortress Brigade Crete. Some aging. Plus cover with 19.10.42 cancel and unit seal of FPN 05702 of German General at HQ of Italian Military concerned with Africa transportation located in Athens. AVE-F. (200)
86. **Greenland.** Processed V-Mail letter in envelope from sender at APO 679 April 1, 1944. Letter mentions location! VF. (668)
87. **Haiti.** Official cover from Military Attache Legation of Republic of Haiti to Haitian Lt. at Quartermaster School Camp Lee. 2 line Diplomatic Mail FREE handstamp tied by Washington, D.C. 1942 cancel. Cut short on opening. F. (005)
88. **Hungary.** 2 stampless German Feldpost covers. 1 with eagle 10.12.43 cancel and handstamp of unit 39835 used by Signal Officer attached to German Ambassador Budapest. Plus cover with 07.04.42 cancel and unit seal of FPN 40919 of Currency Exchange Station Szolnok. Cancels faint but legible. F. (200)
89. **Iceland.** Stampless Free cover from 327 Hospital U.S. APO 860 with Oct. 27, 1943 APO 860 cancel. Unusual handstamp "Changed from Hq. 2nd. Service Gp./USAAF, APO 610, New York". Unusual usage. High Facit value. Slight opening tears. SB \$25.00 F. (005)
90. **India.** Processed V-Mail from U. S. APO 205 without envelope. 6¢ imprinted airmail envelope from sender with APO 17572 with APO 487 Mar 6 1945 cancel and Unit and Base censor handstamps with partial cellophane censor tape. 2 3¢ PREXIES on airmail envelope from APO 215 with indistinct 1944 APO cancel and original letter roughly opened. AVE-F. (005)
91. **India.** 8 covers from U.S. APOs 429, 465(4-1 #10), 487. 4 with Base Censor handstamps and tapes. Plus 1946 airmail cover from States to APO 465 with return to Sender handstamp and backstamp of APO 465 and 1946 Official Penalty from 1946. Also 1 with no date. AVE-F. (165)
92. **India.** Processed V-Mail from sender with APO 493 6/22/44. F-VF. (643)
93. **Ireland. Northern.** 2 processed V-Mail letters in envelopes without cancels from U.S. APO 251 1942 and APO 16300 BE-12 Aug 7, 1944. AVE-F. (005)
94. **Italy.** Special colored postcard for American Red Cross in Italy with street scene with military personnel from APO 403 with APO 394 Aug 30, 1945 cancel. Slight tear. F. (005)
95. **Italy.** 7 mostly 1944 processed V-Mail letters with envelopes from APO's 34, 345, 464(2), 637 (Change of Address), 15227(2). many letters mention Italy. F-VF. (005)
96. **Italy.** 3 Army censored covers with 1944 cancels of U. S. APOs 306, 782, and 794. Plus processed V-mail with envelope from APO 765. Also viewcard of Palermo Catacombs with navy cancel. F-VF. (668)
97. **Italy.** Book. *Mussolini* by Fermi. 478 pages with 22 photos. Hard cover. Original jacket. Library discard. Some tape stains on inside original jacket. F-VF. (005)
98. **Italy.** Book. *AND NO QUARTER: An Italian Partisan in World War II.* Memoirs of Giovanni Pesce. 269 pages. Original jacket. Library discard. Some tape stains on inside original jacket and inner cover page cut. F-VF. (005)
99. **Japan. North China.** Military cover to Nigata 1939. Various chops. VF. SB \$25.00 (129)
100. **Japan.** Free Frank cover with colored drawing of temples from Mutankiang, Manshu, Watanabe Unit, Section #4 to Japan. Message says that as of last month our unit has switched from Tejima to Watanabe. Dated September 25, 1940. VF. SB \$25.00 (129)
101. **Japan.** Fieldpost card from unit 6866 FPO 711 to Japan. VF. SB \$15.00 (129)
102. **Japan. North China.** Military envelope from Expedition Mai Butai, Fujiyama Butai HQ to Japan. F. SB \$20.00 (129)
103. **Japan. South China.** Military view card issued by Army Finance Office Tokyo with patriotic marching song and Japanese flag at Renunko. Slight stains. F. SB \$20.00 (129)
104. **Japan. Manchuko.** Military Post card with pre-printed summer greeting to Imperial Reservist's Association. F. SB \$25.00 (129)
105. **Japan. Manchuria Occupation.** Military Free Frank card with orange helmet and bird from Manshu Expeditionary Forces #209 Butai, Sakamoto Tae c/o Manshu #410 Military Post Office. F. SB. \$18.00 (129)
106. **Japan. Central China Expeditionary Army.** FPO #47, Tokamarau Batai. Said to be located in Hangchow, China. F. SB \$25.00 (129)
107. **Japan.** Military Free Frank card with yellow helmet and bird from Manshu FPO 396 77th Butai. F. SB \$20.00 (129)
108. **Japan.** Military envelope with helmet and cherry blossoms covered by Scott #261 from Dairen, Kawasaki Tai to Mie Prefecture December 1939. Receiving date stamp. Flap ripped. F. SB \$35.00 (129)
109. **Luxembourg.** Cover with issue honoring Allies, Scott's B117-B120, with Liberation First day Cancel. Unaddressed. Had been folded at 1 time away from stamps. F. (106)
110. **Luxembourg.** Book. *Short General review of the postal history of Luxembourg during World War II* by Staar. Soft Cover. Mint. VF. SB \$5.00 (668)
111. **New Caledonia.** 2 #10 sized War Department penalty covers privately used in 1943 from APO 502 with stamps and registered. 1 with 15¢ Prexie and 6¢ airmail tied by interesting "R" registry cancel. Other with 5 and 10¢ Prexies and 6¢ airmail tied by double oval type registry cancel with Base censorship. Both have APO 502 registry backstamps. F. (005)
112. **New Caledonia.** Stampless cover with letter and cancel of U.S. APO 502 endorsed Force 6814. Partial circular early Army censor with #8 and black and white paper censor tape. Small piece of Scotch tape on censor tape. F. (668)
113. **New Caledonia.** Airmail envelope with May 13 1943 cancel from soldier at 24 Rplc. Bn. APO 502. Army base and Unit censor handstamps. Wrinkles. F. (171)
114. **Newfoundland.** 2 # 10 envelopes to U. S. with Newfoundland stamps tied by faint but legible Argentia 1941 cancels with early Newfoundland censor tapes with handwritten censor number. Edges appear to have been in fire. AVE-F. (005)
115. **New Guinea.** 4 processed 1943-45 letters from APOs 713 (2-1 change of address), 713-1, and 929. 2 without envelopes. F-VF. (005)
116. **New Hebrides.** Cover with Navy 4/28/44 cancel tying stamp and sender with MAG 21 (address cut short on opening). Also 6¢ airmail envelope tied by Navy July 3, 1945 cancel with Navy 140 return address. Stamp portion damaged in opening. AVE. (171)
117. **New Zealand.** 6¢ Presidential tied by Navy March 12, 1945 cancel. Sender with 2d. Medical Bn. Navy censor. U.S. of cancel off envelope. F. (171)
118. **New Zealand.** Large piece of package wrapper from soldier at APO 3225 with APO 715 1943 cancel tying 5¢ Prexie and 3¢ Win the War stamps with Base censor and Customs handstamps and U.S. receipt cancel. Unusual usage. Some wrinkling as to be expected. AVE-F. (005)
119. **Norway. German Occupation.** Stampless German Feldpost cover with eagle cancel of 8.9.43 and unit handstamps of 38348 assigned to Army Equipment Depot. F. (200)
120. **Persia.** Special printed 1943-44 Christmas card for Persia showing Russian and American soldiers and insignia of Persian Service Command. Army censored and used Free from APO 680 with indistinct APO ??? Nov 26, 1943 cancel. F. (668)
121. **Philippines.** 2 1945 processed V-Mail letters with envelopes from APOs 70 and 75. F. (005)

- 122. Philippines.** 3 airmail censored covers with 1945 cancels of U. S. APO 719. F-VF. Also APO 12 with corner missing. Poor. (661)
- 123. Philippines.** Cacheted FDC for Scott 486 Victory Overprint with cancel and C.C.D. censor handstamp. Commercially used cover with Victory issue, Scott 487, to USA. Plus Book. *American Guerilla in the Philippines* by Wolfert. 301 pages. Slight scrape damage to hardcover. Also cacheted cover for Philippine American Philatelic exhibition 1976 with UN, US, and Manila special cancels as well as Colonel Vilamoor WWII Aviator issue. F-VF. (106)
- 124. Philippines.** 9 covers from U.S. APOs 75(2*-1 with 13¢ Special Delivery), 247, 719(4), 925, 9PRS. Also 3 postwar from APO 73 (larger than #10), 359, and 22BPO. AVE-F. (165)
- 125. Poland.** #10 envelope with corner card of Polish National Alliance Chicago with coat of arms and Red Cross War fund 1944 meter. VF. (005)
- 126. Poland. German Occupation.** 5 stampless German Feldpost covers with 1940-43 eagle cancels and unit handstamps of FPN's 01133, 02774, 03735, 14783, and 19447 of various identified units of 2nd Panzer Division. F. (200)
- 127. Rumania. German.** Feldpost cover with 1940 eagle cancel and slightly blurred unit seal of FPN 04868 used by Railway Engineer Instruction Bn. R. Plus cover with 1941 cancel and unit handstamp of FPN 10900 of German Army Mission to Rumania. F. (200)
- 128. Russia.** Feldpost card with eagle Dec 1941 cancel and unit seal of FPN 01635 of 3rd Panzer Div. Message datelined Russia. Plus slightly soiled cover with 1942 eagle cancel and seal of FPN 06074 used by Art. Rgt. 109 assigned to 17th Army. AVE-F. (200)
- 129. Russia.** Stampless 1942 military cover with cancel of unit 1929, triangular handstamp, and with censor stamp and Ubanovo 23.6.42 receipt handstamp on reverse. Roughly opened. F. (703)
- 130. St. Lucia.** American Base Forces APO 805 cancel tying 1½¢ Prexie with Army censor #800. F-VF. SB \$10.00 (668)
- 131. Samoa.** 4 Navy censored airmail covers from different addresses at U.S. Navy 129. 2 with stamps and 2 imprinted stationery. 1 torn on opening. F. (005)
- 132. Solomon Islands.** 9 Naval censored airmail covers with Navy 1943-45 cancels from different units at Navy 60, 145 (3), 152, 250, 338, Base Hospital 7, and 37th NCB. Some opening tears. 1 roughly. Overall F. (005)
- 133. Solomon Islands.** 27 Naval censored airmail covers with mostly Navy 1944-45 cancels from different Marine units including components of 1st, 3rd, and 6th Marine Divisions, VMF 531, (2), 1st MAW, MABS-1 (2), MAG-24, MAG 25, and VMSB 235 Navy 250. 1 Special delivery. Most to Movie Stars. AVE. (005)
- 134. Solomon Islands.** 3 Navy censored covers 1 Red cross envelope sent from 1st Marines with 6¢ airmail stamp tied by less common 1st Mar Division May 20, 1944 cancel. VF. Cover with less distinct same cancel from 7th Marines. AVE. Cover from 3rd Marines with double circle Navy Nov 27, 1943 cancel AVE. (005)
- 135. Solomon Islands.** 3 1943-44 processed V-Mail letters from APO 709(2) and 1st MAC. 1 without envelope and 1 uncanceled. F. (005)
- 136. South Africa.** Stampless OHMS cover to member of U.D.F.I. Durban with orange Department of Defense U.D.F.I. Johannesburg handstamp. Some bleed through of gum. F. (005)
- 137. Switzerland.** 2 1944-45 covers to Red Cross Geneva from France and Switzerland (latter with Scott B139). Also 1943 cover with Swiss stamp tied by cancel showing soldier indicating silence to group of people. F-VF. (005)

WORLD WAR II UNITED STATES

- 138.** Mint POW airletter sheet Form 111 April 1944. VF. Plus 2 1945 stampless covers addressed to Postmaster Prisoner of War. AVE. (005)
- 139.** Airmail cover to Prisoner care of Red Cross Geneva. 3 line returned handstamp stating War Department states that can not be delivered as addressed i.e. without camp. Civilian cellophane censor tape and June 1945 backstamp after returned. Roughly opened near stamp. F. SB \$20. (010)
- 140.** Small War Department Safe Arrival card W.D., A.G.O. Form 206 with Staten Island 1942 cancel from member of 14th Fighter Group. New address APO 1255 not in MPHS book. Safe Arrival cards less common in WW II. VF. (005)
- 141.** Airmail cover from member of 8th Wea. Squadron Presque Island, Maine. 1944 Presque Island cancel on 6¢ airmail stamp. Unusual location. VF. (005)
- 142A.** 7 Free covers /card from Home bases including pink Public Relations card and Fleet records card uncanceled. Also 1949 cover from U.S.S. *Catawba*. AVE. (668)
- 142B.** 14 Greeting card size covers from different domestic bases. F-VF. (661)
- 143.** 7 covers/cards from domestic camps with APOs in address from APOs 37, 76, 254(2), 445(2), and 938. F-VF. (661)

- 144. Alaska.** Navy censored airmail cover from Marine at M.B. NAS, Sitka. 6¢ airmail stamp tied by NAV. AIR. STA. SITKA ALASKA Br. Seattle Wash. July 10, 1942 cancel. VF. (005)
- 145. Alaska.** Official registered War Department #10 penalty envelope from APO 942. 15¢ Prexie tied by double oval cancel and backstamped Seattle APO 942 June 7, 1943. Slight opening tears. F. (005)
- 146. Alaska.** Processed V-Mail Change of Address letter from Lt. Jg. Navy 230 14 December 1943. Slight writing on letter. F-VF. (005)
- 147. Alaska.** 3 6¢ imprinted airmail stationery covers. 1 with APO 980 May 30, 1943 cancel and Army censored. "To" Address in very fancy script. Plus 41st and 43 Construction Battalions then at Kodiak. Navy censored and 43rd Special delivery with 10 Special Delivery stamp added. F-VF. Also 2 airmail covers with stamps tied by 1943 Navy cancel and censorship. Sender with 8th Spec. Battalion. Roughly opened. Plus 1973 cover from Clear with cachet of BMEWS LIAISON. AVE. (668)
- 148. Alaska.** 6¢ imprinted airmail stationery used from U.S. Naval Operating Base Kodiak with U.S. Navy May 4 1943 Naval Air Station cancel and Navy censorship. Slight opening tears. F. SB \$10.00 (668)
- 149. Canal Zone.** Airmail registered #10 envelope with 15¢ PREXIE and 6¢ airmail tied by interesting V in circle cancel and backstamped with U S Navy cancels. Plus Navy censored airmail cover from sailor at Navy 1955 tied by 1943 cancel. VF. (005)
- 150. Canal Zone.** 4 U.S. APO covers from APO 827, 834(2), and 837. Plus 2 Official #10 Penalty 1946 with Quarry Heights cancels and Unclear. Mostly F-VF. (165)
- 151. Hawaii.** 3 normal registered covers from APO's 24 (Base censored), 27 (roughly opened) and 953 (via Clipper and civilian censor tape). Each with proper APO registry APO cancels and with 15¢ Prexies added to 6¢ airmail stamp or stationery. AVE-F. (005)
- 152. Hawaii.** ID pass for Hickham Field 27 June 1941 for civilian relative of Captain with embossed Hickham seal; flag label "Remember Pearl harbor Dec. 7, 1941" with no gum; and registry receipt with registry type cancel of APO 874 Aug 25, 1944; plus Wake Island patriotic used by Marine at unit 210. F-VF. (005)
- 153. Hawaii.** 4 processed letters from 331 (2 with printed blue 1945 cancels on envelope-1 roughly opened) and 2 without envelopes from APO 959 (Change of Address) and NCB 10. Also larger envelope from APO 953. AVE-F. (005)
- 154. Hawaii.** Airmail cover with navy 1044 cancel and censorship from sender at Navy 91. Also 4 1951-4 covers from APO's 925(3) and 994. AVE-F. (668)
- 155. Hawaii.** 6 covers from U.S. APOs 952, 953*, 957(2), Navy 28*, Navy 10088. Also 1948 Navy 28. 3 are #10. AVE-VF. (165)
- 156. Puerto Rico.** War Department Official registered cover with 2 15¢ Prexies and 2 3¢ Defense issues tied by registry cancel. Similar Airmail registered cover with 1 15¢ Prexie to Caribbean Division with 1943 BPO 3 backstamps. Slight opening tears and staining. F. (005)
- 157. Book.** *Day of Infamy* by Lord. 243 pages. 48 photos. Attack on Pearl Harbor. Library discard. Some tape stains on inside original jacket and inner cover page cut. F-VF. (005)
- 158. Book.** *Enola Gay* by Thomas and Witts. Bombing of Hiroshima. 327 pages. Detailed bibliography. Library discard. Some tape stains on inside original jacket and inner cover page cut. F-VF. (005)
- 159. Book.** *The Brass Ring* by Bill Mauldin. 276 pages with numerous cartoons of famous cartoonist memoirs with heavy emphasis on wartime, Willy and Joe, experience largely with 45th Division in Italy. Includes photos of Mauldin created V-Mail's for Christmas etc. Original jacket. F-VF. Also Mauldin's *Up Front* with 228 pages and many cartoons. AVE. (005)

WORLD WAR II PATRIOTICS

- 160.** Collector's Society Victory in Japan red and blue cachet with 3¢ Washington tied by red Victory, Wis. Sep 2, 1945 cancel. VF. Cover with V Victory cachet at Sender's address with David City, Nebr., cancel on 3¢ Defense issue with gum bleed through and opening tears. AVE-F. Unaddressed cover with V handstamp at all edges and Victory, VT Nov 19 1945 cancel tying Win the War stamp and 1945 Christmas stamp. Said to be day before start of Nuremberg War crime trial. VF. (668)
- 161.** 5 humorous Navy cards. 3 mint of Mutoscope series. 2 of EX. SUP. CO. CHGO. 1 used and 1 mint. F. (146)
- 162.** 4 covers. V-J Day. Patriotic Cover with Win The War stamp cancelled on VJ Day in Washington, D.C. Roosevelt Memorial cover with Abel cachet and VE and FDC(?) cancel. Abel cachet with VE cancel. FDC for Iwo Jima Issue. VF. (661)
- 163.** #10 size cover to promote War bonds with colored picture of Hitler, Tojo, and Mussolini in noose. Mailed by Marine at Norfolk with pair of Win the War stamps tied by Navy cancel. F. (661)

164. 3¢ Win the War Issue with cachet for U.S. Army Postal Service "Back the Attack" campaign. "Back the Attack" Army Postal Service Washington D.C. 9/9/43 cancel. Unaddressed. VF. (643)

POST-WORLD WAR II MILITARY

165. **United Nations.** UNDOF Austrian air letter sheet used by member of Canadian contingent CFPO 502 with Austrian Battalion cancel to Canada. No message. F-VF. SB \$4.00(295)
166. **United Nations.** UNEF. 5 postally used UNEF covers from members of Canadian contingent CFPO 5002 with 1975 UNEF cancels. Genuine usages with messages. SB \$25.00 F-VF. (295)
167. **United Nations.** Lebanon. UN military Aerogramme used by member of Nepalese contingent with 1979 Forces in Lebanon cancel. Genuine usage with message. SB \$20.00 F-VF. (295)
168. **United Nations.** UNMEF. Canadian Contingent. #10 airmail envelope with Printed sender of Canadian Forces United Nations Middle East to Canada with 7 stamps tied by 4 March 7, 1983 CFPO 5002 cancels. VF. (295)
169. **Cambodia.** Greeting card size cover from civilian at U. S. APO 153. 4¢ Lincoln tied by 11/27/61 APO 153 cancel. Slight line on front. F. (005)
170. **Cuba.** 3 ½¢ Presidential series tied by Navy 9/15/50 13607 Br. cancels. Also U.S. Naval Operating base Guantanamo and New York 13607 Br. cancels. Philatelic. One cancel smudged slightly. F. (171)
171. **Egypt.** Bilingual cachet of Notre-Dame Parish Heliopolis to Catholic Mission Guinea. UAR stamps, Scott's 478 and 476, tied by multilingual Cairo cancel. Guinea 1960 backstamps. Censor and Postage Due handstamps. Slight soiling and tearing. F. (010)
172. **Germany.** German 40 pfg. postcard with picture for 7170 Schwäbisch Hall with 1978 machine cancel of U.S.S. Nimitz. Message side has large handstamp for visit of Nimitz to Wilhelmshaven. VF. (005)
173. **Germany.** 1950 letter from Argentina to Schleswig Holstein with British censor tape and handstamp. F. (010)
174. **Germany.** 15 mostly #10 official covers from U.S. army units in Germany in 1967. Most to APO addresses in Germany. 1 has 1963 German-American Friendship Week handstamp. Some roughly opened. AVE-VF. (171)
175. **Germany.** Book. *Passing in Review German Postwar Postal History 1945-1949* by Halle. Includes copies of many official documents from Archives. New. VF. (005)
176. **Iran.** Book. *Delta Force the U.S. Counter-Terrorist Unit and the Iran Hostage Rescue Mission* by the Commander Col. Beckwith and Knox. Also includes 1965 rescue of Plei Mei Special Forces camp Vietnam. 310 pages. Original jacket. VF. (005)
177. **Israel.** Book. *Spies in the Promised Land Iser Harel and the Israeli Secret Service* by Bar-Zohar. Biography of builder of well respected Israeli Secret Service. Many cases covered. 292 pages. AVE. (005)
178. **Israel.** Book. *The Great Victory in Pictures. 1967 War.* 167 photos. Bilingual. Original jacket with tears. AVE-F. (005)
179. **Korea.** Buddha cover of Kwanchok temple used by soldier with 1964 APO 24 cancel. Slight toning. Also cover with USAFCS OSAN AMT APO 96570 handstamp and 3 stamps cancelled by red violet OSAN AMT cancels of 8/26/73 (registry and normal). Light toning. F. (171)
180. **Korea.** Book. *Bucher: My Story* by Commander Bucher. 442 pages. U.S.S. Pueblo in Korean Captivity. 53 photos. Original jacket. Slight tears. F. (005)
181. **Lebanon.** Book. *The Root: The Marines in Beirut August 1982-February 1984* by Hammel. List of dead. 448 pages. 23 photos. Original jacket. VF. (005)
182. **Lebanon.** Book. *The Longest War: Israel in Lebanon* by Timerman. 163 pages. Original jacket. VF. (005)
183. **Palestine.** Book. *O Jerusalem* by Collins and Lapierre. 1948 War. 637 pages. 60 photos. Library discard. Some tape stains on inside original jacket and inner cover page cut. F-VF. (005)
184. **Philippines.** 1947 airmail cover sent by civilian with Philippine War damage Commission U.S. APO 900. 1947 22 BPO cancel on 5¢ airmail. Slight tears. F. (005)
185. **Russia.** 4 imprinted envelopes with different scenes used in 1990 by Lithuanian soldier in Soviet Army back to Lithuania. 3 backstamped in Lithuanian. 1 has armored truck and is stampless. Rest have 5 Kop printed stamp. Cancels slightly blurred. Covers roughly opened. Unusual. AVE. SB \$8.00 (424)
186. **Saudi Arabia.** Piece of cardboard used as postcard by U.S. Lt. with Det. A 7th Air Postal Squadron Dhahran with 1950 APO 616 cancel tying 1¢ Prexie. No Message. F-VF. SB \$2.00 (424)
187. **United States.** Unaddressed cover with special Mar 19, 1960 U.S.C.&G.S. Explorer cancel for National Oceanographic Expedition Swan

Island tying 3¢ 1957 Coast and Geodetic Survey stamp. Plus Article from Stamp magazine indicating CIA role in Swan Island. VF. SB \$15.00 (010)

188. **United States.** 3 Vandercraft wood postcards showing latest military aircraft the F15, F16C, and SR-71. Different! VF. (146)

189. **United States.** Alaska. 5¢ airmail stamped envelope, UC15, sent registered from D.P.S. N.O.B. Adak. 25¢ Prexie added to pay registered rate and cancelled with neat double oval. Various 1948 cancels on back including Aug 2 APO 980. F-VF. (668)

DESERT STORM

190. 172 PRO SET all different Collecting cards. All showing some aspects of War. VF. (146)

191. 173 PRO SET all different Collecting cards. All showing some aspects of War. These are doubles of previous lot. VF. (146)

192. Embossed cachet "Desert Storm begins" on 25¢ imprinted envelope with Washington D.C. January 17, 1991 cancel. Unaddressed. VF. (151)

POST-WORLD WAR II U. S. NAVAL

193. **North Pole.** Special cover carried on 1960 first underwater worldwide sailing, following original Magellan route, by nuclear submarine U.S.S. Triton. #10 size cover to National Geographic society from Commander Captain Beach with his cachet and cachets for event and for submarine SSV 586, with sender handstamp. Mounted on album page with reproduction of lead in article about same. F-VF. SB \$70.00 (627)

194. **Submarines.** 4 addressed covers with handstamp cachets of U.S.S. Skipjack with blurred 1961 ship cancel, Halibut with 1961 Honolulu Sub Base cancel, Gato and Nautilus with 1968 Groton, Conn. Sub Base cancels. F-VF. (627)

195. Unaddressed envelope with U.S. International Geophysical Issue for 1957-58 tied by 1960 U.S.S. Sargo SSV 583 North Pole Under Ice Exploration cancel and Sargo North Pole cachet. VF. (005)

196. 2 unaddressed Crosby-like patriotics with photos of ships affixed to embossed covers for submarines U.S.S. Blue Fish and Spikefish with 1952 cancels of New London Submarine Base. VF. SB \$16.00 (146)

197. 7 unaddressed Crosby-like patriotics with photos of ships affixed to embossed covers for Destroyers DD-442, 460, 539, 711, 785, and 883 with 1951-55 cancels. 4 with ship cancel, 3 with ship registry cancels, and 2 with Navy yard and dated ship Received handstamps. VF. SB \$16.00 (146)

198. 6 unaddressed Crosby-like patriotics with photos of ships affixed to embossed covers for DDR's 873, 881, 883; DE-509; DER-318 and EDE-791 with 1951-54 cancels. All with ship cancel and 3 with ship registry cancels. VF. SB \$48.00 (146)

199. 11 unaddressed Crosby-like patriotics with photos of ships affixed to embossed covers for A series ships including AD-16, AGC-8, AGS-15, AGS-16, AO-24, APA-36, APA-44, AS-11, AS-17, AV-14, and AVP-55 with 1951-54 cancels. All with ship cancel and 7 with ship registry cancels. VF. SB \$88.00 (146)

200. 11 unaddressed Crosby-like patriotics with photos of ships affixed to embossed covers for C and misc. series ships including CA-73, CA-132, CL-106 (2-1 Last Day of Service with unclear cancel), CL-120, CLAA-119 (2 with different cachets), DMS-34, LSD-8, LSD-25, and IX-25 with 1948-55 cancels. All with ship cancels 6 with ship registry cancels, 2 with embossed ship's seals, and 3 with untied holiday seals. F-VF. SB \$88.00 (146)

201. 3 unaddressed Crosby-like patriotics with photos of ships affixed to embossed covers for AGS-16, DD-539, and EDE-791 with 1951-53 cancels. All with ship cancel and 1 with ship registry cancels. VF. SB \$24.00 (146)

202. 4 Crosby-like patriotics with photos of ship affixed to multicolored embossed covers for celebration of 3rd Anniversary of V-E Day with 8 May 1948 AGC 8 Mount Olympus cancels. 2 Addressed. VF. SB \$32.00 (146)

KOREAN AND VIETNAM WARS

203. **Korea.** Book. *A Pictorial History of the Korean War with MacArthur Reports.* VFW 1951 Memorial Edition. 600 Front-Line Photographs, 384 pages, 4 maps and 16 Full color photos. Original jacket torn. F. (005)

204. **Korea.** Book. *The Pusan Perimeter* by Hoyt. Early dark days of war. 310 pages. 17 photos, 15 maps. Original jacket. VF. (005)

205. **Vietnam.** Australian Forces. 14 stampless free airmail covers with 1968-70 cancels of AFPO's 3 (4) and 4(10). 1 with special Australian Forces map cachet. All cancels are indistinct but with AFPO legible as is typical for these. AVE. (005)

206. **Vietnam.** Australian Forces. 9 stampless free airmail covers with 1968-70 cancels. 5 with special Australian Forces map cachet. Most cancels are legible except for AFPO's which are obtainable from return addresses. AVE. Also 11 covers, 4 with map cachets, with no postal markings (005)

207. **Vietnam. Australian Forces.** 5 1967 covers, 3 airmail, with different handstamps for Defence Forces Concession Postage. 4 with 1 or 2 5c stamps. Cancells are indistinct but AFPO's 1, 3, and 4 are legible. 3 have George Adams dated receipt handstamp. Stampless badly cut in opening. AVE. (005)
208. **Vietnam. Australian Forces.** 2 unaddressed 1966 Christmas Aerogrammes with Australian AFPO 1 31 MR67 and 4 18AP67 cancells. AFPO sheet has handstamp and signature of Master *M.V. Boonaroo*. Philatelic. VF. (005)
209. **Vietnam. Canadian Forces.** 4 covers: 1- Official cover with typed sender Cdn. Contingent Vietnam CFPO 5005 with CFPO 5005 cancel on 8¢ stamp. 2- U.S. Army Official used by Canadian Commander Region V HQ Bien-Hoa to Canadian Ben Cat Team Leader Lam-Son Region. No cancel but MCCD ICCS BEN CAT TEAM boxed receipt handstamp. 3- cover from MCCD/ICCS Saigon with no cancells to same address with same handstamp. 4- U.S. Official envelope with handstamp of UNC Liaison Group for Canada with 1966 APO 96503 cancel which is listed as Japan by MPHS but cover is annotated Vietnam 2nd day of use. Covers all # 10 or slightly smaller or larger. F-VF. (005)
210. **Vietnam. New Zealand Forces.** Cover with 2 3d 1965 Christmas stamps tied by Auckland 22SP66 cancel. Front has boxed 2 line NZ ARMY FORCE VIETNAM handstamp. Back has circular handstamp with V in center and 161 NZ VIETNAM. Philatelic. VF. (005)
211. **Vietnam. United States.** Greeting card size cover with return address of Air Sec MAAG Indo China Box S APO 74 with Aug 5, 1955 APO 74 machine cancel tying 5¢ airmail stamp. Box S not listed in MPHS book. Slight opening tear. F-VF. (005)
212. **Vietnam. United States.** Airmail Special Delivery cover sent from APO 96204 to states with 30¢ stamp added for extra services and tied by 1967 APO 96204 cancel. Slight scotch tape on stamp from original sealing. Unusual usage. F. (005)
213. **Vietnam. United States.** Special letter bundling facing slip for Firm mail of 1960 series with slightly blurred handstamp of APO 96307 at Tan Son Nhut. Slight tobacco stain? Unusual usage. F. (005)
214. **Vietnam. United States.** 3 stamped 1963 covers, 2 airmail, with cancells of APO's 27, 40, and 143. Plus Free cover with 1966 cancel of APO 137 with sender at 96337 and handstamp VIETNAM OPERATION/WAR PATROL. Also 1964 cover APO 146 and 1960 cover APO 96310 from Thailand. F-VF. (005)
215. **Vietnam. United States.** 25 mostly Free covers with different units and/or cancel types from APO's 96204, 96215(2), 96225, 96238(4), 96240, 96262, 96291, 96307, 96312(4), 96337(2), 96345(2), 96357, 96490(2), 96491, and 96599. Plus APO 93 Box 101 (2-Japan). Also 6 with no postal markings. Not unusual for latter part of war. F-VF. (005)
216. **Vietnam. United States.** 6 official stampless penalty covers with APO 96291, 96295, 96307, 96308, 96312, and 96345 cancells. 1 is airmail. F-VF. (005)
217. **Vietnam. United States.** 6 covers with special cachets including Vietnam dragon with APO 96262; FIRST ANNIVERSARY FREE MAIL FROM VIETNAM with 96215; VIETNAM OPERATION/WAR PATROL with 96295; Vietnam map with 96312; FROM U.S. FORCES/VIETNAM SEA with 96321; and Vietnam map with Vietnam service patch replica on reverse used at 96307. AVE-F. (005)
218. **Vietnam. United States.** 7 covers from MCB's or Seabees. MCB 4 with Danang hand stamp on official cover with Navy 17014 cancel; MCB 8 anniversary cachet with Navy 17066; MCB 10 Vietnam cachet with Navy 17028 cancel; MCB 40 Chu Lai cachet with Navy 17076; and 25th anniversary cachet with Navy 17079 cancel. Also Free covers with no cachets from MCB 9 and 11. F-VF. (005)
219. **Vietnam. United States.** Official penalty cover from U.S.S. *Monmouth County* LST 1032 with ship and APO 96238 cancel. Plus 2 Free covers with cancells of U.S.S. *Tutuila* and *Ingersoll*. VF. (005)
220. **Vietnam. United States.** Cacheted cover for Marine Civic Action fund with drawings of Marines and printed Vietnam Aug 30, 1966. 50th anniversary of Marine Reserve. F-VF. Marine Reserve stamp tied by Navy 14009 1966 cancel. Plus 2 different Vietnam cachets sponsored by Lake County Phil. Society. All postally used. VF. (005)
221. **Vietnam. United States.** 2 registered covers from wife in Bayreuth, Germany to member of Adv. Team APO 37 via San Francisco. German stamps. Backstamped with 1965 APO Saigon and/or 96295 registry type cancells. Unusual usage. Roughly opened. AVE-F. (005)
222. **Vietnam. United States.** 2 airmail envelopes, UC35, tied by APO 96304 and 96355 cancells. Each with FROM U.S. Forces/THAILAND (sic) or Vietnam Sea. Philatelic. Plus Vietnam Map cover used Free with APO 96326 cancells. Cancells imperfect but legible. Also airmail cover from APO 108 in Germany. F. (668)
223. **Vietnam. United States.** 3 well traveled airmail covers from different senders to Marine with L. CO. 3-26. Numerous handstamps and manuscript

markings including FPO 96673 Okinawa, III MAC, St. Albans Hospital, and Cam Ranh Bay. 1 with stamp missing. Interesting but tatty. (999)

224. **Vietnam. United States.** Books. *In Love and War* Jim and Sybil Stockdale. Highest ranking Navy POW experience as prisoner and family on home front. 472 pages in original jacket. VF. Plus *Every Effort* by Keenan. Missing Pilots Wife's experience in MIA movement. (005)
225. **Vietnam. United States.** Book. *A Rumor of War* by Caputo. Author's experience as young Marine Officer in 1965. Library discard. Some tape stains on inside original jacket and inner cover page cut. 346 pages. F-VF. (005)
226. **Vietnam. United States.** Book. *Summons of the Trumpet U.S.-Vietnam in Perspective* by Palmer. American involvement starting in 1954 until end. 273 pages. Library discard. Original jacket. 346 pages. F-VF. (005)
227. **Vietnam. United States.** Book. *The Lessons of Vietnam* by Thompson and Frizzell. Collection of invited papers from key participants originally for a seminar on at Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. These included Ambassador Lodge and Generals S. A. Marshall, Westmoreland, and Admiral Zumwalt. Topics included Attrition, Rear Bases and Sanctuaries, Air power, Tactics and technology, Vietnamization, etc. 288 pages. Original jacket. Slight tears. Text highlighted. F. (005)

MISCELLANEOUS

228. **Great Britain.** Pamphlet *The Last of England's Infamous Felon Fleet Official Catalog 1920*. Published to support the world tour of "oldest ship afloat" the Convict ship *Success* which was launched in 1790. Includes ship history including stories of several prisoners and catalog of artifacts and photos. 20 pages. F-VF. (146)
229. **Great Britain.** Picture postcard of *RMS Titanic* with words about her 1912 sinking used with 1913 West Brooksville cancel tying 1¢ Washington series. Some signs of handling with small tape piece on address side. F. (146)
230. **Italy.** Cover to U.S. with 5 Scott 218's tied by Natana Como 2/8/38 Lake Como Mail steamer cancells. Forwarded. Roughly opened. Also cover with 2 1939 Agenzia Postale Motonave "Vulcania" cancells. AVE-F. (010)
231. **United States. Texas.** Cover to France with Galveston Texas 1917 flag cancel. WW I French censor tape and handstamp with latter tying large colored Galveston seal of woman in bathing suit(?) on back of cover. Unusual for Texas specialist. Some wrinkling of cover. F. (146)
232. **United States.** Special airmail Foreign Service #10 cover from American Consulate Havana, Cuba with Havana 1940 cancel tying Cuban Airmail stamp. Reverse has 2 American Consulate dated handstamps and 2 line handstamp "FROM THE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT COLLECTION/AUTHENTICATED BY H. R. HARMER INC." AVE-F. (005)
233. **United States.** Airmail cover to Cable Editor *Herald Tribune* with 16¢ Air mail Special Delivery Stamp with straight edge, Scott CE1, tied by El Paso 1936 cancel and 2 line "Fee Claimed by Office of First Address" with suitable backstamps. Original enclosure copy of telegram from Mexico with interesting report on Mexican unrest etc. Cover repaired. F. (005)
234. **United States.** Unusual canvas/cloth Mail bag label with "U.S. Mail from U. S. Army" and eagle. Period not clear but would guess WW II or later. VF. SB \$10.00 (668)

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SOUTH VIETNAM, CANADIAN ICCS aerogrammes with cancels from Saigon, My Tho, Can Tho, Phan Thiet, Hue, Pleiku, Danang and Bein Hoa. All \$4.50 each. Larry Thibodeau, POB 158, Hunt Valley, MD 21030-0158. Call 410-667-8728 evenings. [95/1]

VIETCONG AND NORTH Vietnamese army covers for sale, or trade for Vietnam war postal history. R. Munshower, P.O. Box 3484, Boulder, CO 80307. [95/1]

MAIL SALES FEATURING many military covers. Free catalogs. We also buy all stamps and covers. Juno Stamps, 1765 Juno, St. Paul, MN 55116-1467. [96-3]

FOR SALE: MISCELLANY

BUY, SELL, TRADE: Military Club tokens, woods, and chits. Near monthly sales lists, occasional auctions, consignments accepted. Cash Coin Connection, P.O. Box 868, St. Joseph, MN 56374. [95-3]

PUBLICATIONS

WORLD WIDE CATALOGS such as Michel, Gibbons, Facit, etc. Also handbooks, many maritime, military, including exclusive imports such as Riemer, Stich and others. Over 300 titles. For free pricelist send SASE. VanDam, Box 8809W, Anaheim, CA 92812. [95/2]

WANTED: COVERS

I NEED APO covers from Salzburg, Austria 1945-1950's: 3, 19, 139, 168, 400, 411, 436, 472, 541, 578, 777, 777A. Eisen, 4 Ganna Lane, Huntington Sta., NY 11746. [94/4]

WANTED: MILITARY MATERIAL related to Haiti (APO 2494, USMC, USN, etc.) Write G. Boarino, 834 Pierce, Port Townsend, WA 98368. [95/1]

WANTED: ALL BETTER covers to/from Greenland, Iceland, and Faroe Islands during WW II. Gerhard Müller, Friedrich-Stoltze-Str. 42, D65824 Schwalbach/TS, Germany. [95/1]

I NEED COVERS from the following U.S. ships in Spain, 1936-39: CASE, DRAYTON, CLAXTON, ERIE, HATFIELD, KANE, MANLEY, OKLAHOMA, OMAHA, QUINCY, RALEIGH, SELFRIDGE, WYOMING. Eisen, 4 Ganna Lane, Huntington Sta., NY 11746. [94/4]

WANTED: BERMUDA CENSORED covers, all periods. Thomas McMahon, 364 Nash Rd., Purdys, NY 10578 [96/4]

DESERT SHIELD/STORM covers wanted. Also covers from recent U.N. military operations in Somalia, Yugoslavia, Lebanon, Cambodia, etc. W. J. Griffiths, M.D., 1541 Florida Ave., #200, Modesto, CA 95350. [95/1]

WANTED: MARINE/NAVAL covers/postcards that went through the post office at Port Royal, SC; Parris Island, SC, and Parris Island, SC between 1 Jan 1913 and 31 Dec 1923. Also Marine Corps covers/postcards, used or unused matchbook covers, pictures and autographs from 1893-1945. Dwight Stuckey, 1235 Hillside Dr., Hanahan, SC 29406. [95/1]

WANTED TO PURCHASE WW II Navy covers with designations of UUU, UUB, UUX or any combination of letters found in sender's return address. Any Navy covers with Navy Numbers in the 9000 series. Also Navy 3092. Any Navy cover with a code name in the superinscription and any registered covers with the code name postmark used as a backstamp. As an example CACTUS, WHITE POPPY or BUTTON. Please send photocopies and prices to: S. C. Jersey, Box 713, Carlsbad, CA 92018 FAX 619-720-JEAN. [95/1]

WANTED TO PURCHASE WW II APO's in good condition. 720, 721, 919, 930, 1221, 1222, registered covers from any of the above plus APO 292, 708, 709, and 932. Any V-Mail addressed to any unusual destinations. Send information to S. C. Jersey, Box 713, Carlsbad, CA 92018. [95/1]

WW I CANADIAN INTERNMENT Camp covers/cards. Photocopies/prices: Dean Mario, Box 342, Saskatoon, Sask. S7K 3L3, Canada. [95/2]

WANTED COVERS ITALY WW II: British FPO 134, 448, 530, 550, 711, 721, 796, 594, 600, 797; Indian FPO 15, 28, 53, 213; New Zealand MPO: KW, KW2; U.S. APO 88, 209. Thomas Matha, Bindergerasse 3, I-39010 Andrian, Italy. [95/1]

WILL BUY-TRADE TOKYO Bay ship cancellations — autographs of signers, 9/2/45. Ernie, 1642 Surrey, Havertown, PA 19083. [95/3]

WANTED: U.S. MILITARY, WW II APO covers Sept. 1944-Dec. 1945. Belgium, Germany. I pay \$2.00 for each cover I need. Contact H. Petersen, Rt. #1, Box 292, Midway, AR 72651. [95/3]

WANTED: WW II censored covers and KG VI postal stationery from MAURITIUS, BRITISH HONDURAS and BRITISH GUIANA. Eric Yendall, 1110 Second Ave., Ottawa, Ontario K1H 8E1, Canada. [95/3]

WANTED: MISCELLANY

INTERESTED IN BUYING photos of flying boats and float aircraft for documentation in drawing radio-control high scale plans. Gene Falada, Sea-Clusion Aeronautics, 22 W 070 Byron, Addison, IL 60101. [94/4]

DESERT STORM SAFE conduct leaflets, especially southern area. Send photocopies and asking prices. Bob Spooner, Box 820, Spring House, PA 19477. [94/4]

WW I: APOs, domestic facilities, picture post cards, patriotics. Write for list. Paul Bourke, Box 125, Ashland, MA 01721. [94/4]

MILITARY LETTERS ALL U.S. wars through Vietnam. Paying min. \$3 each WW I, \$1 each WW II, \$1 each Vietnam. Looking for groups of letters, no individual pieces. Pay much more for pre-WW I material. Schmitt, P.O. Box 67, Woodbury, NY 11797. 516-367-4030. [95/1]

WANTED: AEROGRAMMES, AIRLETTER sheets, airletter cards, military or otherwise. All countries, mint/used; unusual or better items or lots. Jerry Kasper, 1752 Westwood Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90024-5608. [95/1]

WANTED TO BUY, A BOOK: Stanton, Shelby L., "Order of Battle, U.S. Army, World War II." Also APO covers. Heinrich Petersen, Rt. 1, Box 292, Midway, AR 72651 [95/2]

GULF WAR PATRIOTIC postcards. Especially want cards used by the Coalition partners. Gulf War aerial propaganda leaflets. Herb Friedman, 734 Sunrise Ave., Bellmore, NY 11710. [95/2]

WANTED: MILITARY CARDBOARD chits used by clubs, exchanges, ship's services, POW, etc. Singles or collections. Barry Arva, 421 Manarstone Lane, Clarksville, TN 37042. [95/3]

WANTED: EXONUMIA RELATING to the Vietnam conflict. Commemoratives, club chits and tokens, pin-backs, propaganda leaflets, etc. Barry Arva, 421 Manarstone Lane, Clarksville, TN 37042. [95/3]

PUBLICATIONS

Update II to the Second Edition of the Postal History of the AEF, edited by Theo Van Dam. 168 pages, 388 illustrations, incorporates updates that have appeared in this Bulletin, plus new sections on Army Camps in the U.S. and Naval markings. Only \$20.00 to MPHS members (add \$2.00 for overseas postage). Order from the treasurer, Norman Gruenzner, P.O. Box 32, Cypress, TX 77429. [tf]

SERVICES

Back issues of the Bulletin are available from the Secretary at \$2.50 each, postpaid. A limited number of issues is available. Send inquiries and orders to the Secretary, John J. Azarkevich, 1400 Altamont Ave., Suite 111, Schenectady, NY 12303. [tf]

DISPLAY ADVERTISING RATES

Display advertising rates for the Bulletin are:

Full Page	\$70.00
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"APO BOOK" IS READY

"United States Numbered Military Post Offices: Assignments and Locations 1941-1993," the new edition of "The APO Book," is now available. 575 pages in three sections: APO and Navy/Marine Corps numbers dating from 1941 to 1965; Navy Branch Numbers (numbers assigned by the Post Office to Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard post offices from 1943 to 1980); and ZIP Codes, which replaced these earlier numbers in 1965. Ample introductory material is included, with a geographic cross reference.

The book is as up-to-date as possible, with extensive listings of ZIP Codes for APOs that served in Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Operation Restore Hope, and recent American military operations in Somalia, Bosnia and Macedonia.

The section on ZIP Codes is especially extensive and detailed. The Postal Service and the military "recycle" ZIP Codes, reassigning them to new units not long after they have been discontinued for old units. The extensive date listings in this edition will be helpful in determining the location of a number. Limited information on Navy ship's ZIP Codes has also been included.

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TENDING THE TENDER

In the Navy, a tender's job is to care for her brood — indeed, tenders are often called mother ships. But sometimes the cared-for must offer care.

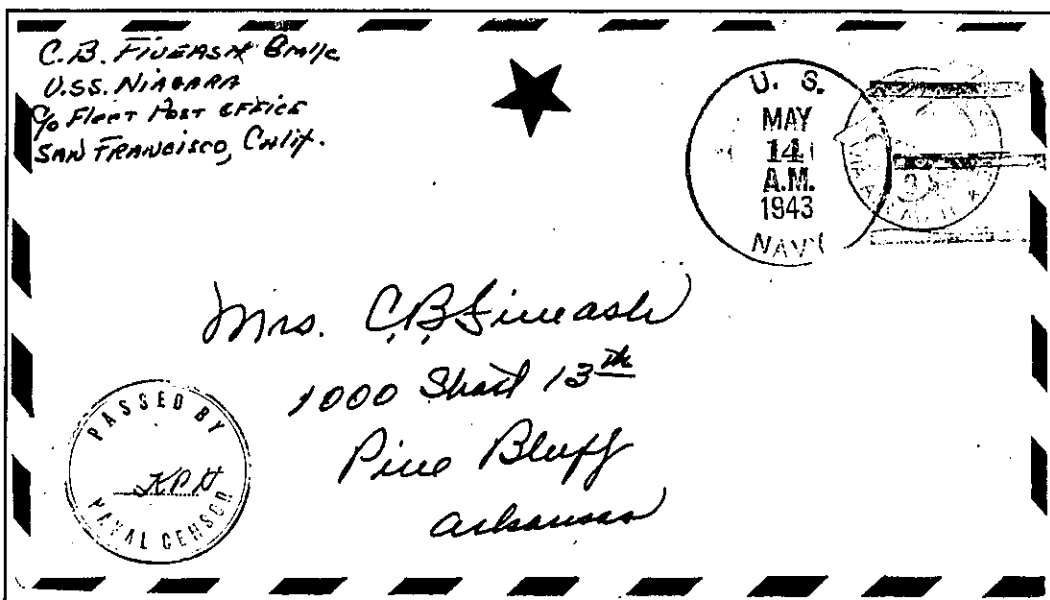
The diesel yacht *Hi-Es-mar* was built by the Bath Iron Works in 1929 for the industrialist H. Edward Manville, purchased from his widow in 1940 by the Navy and named *Niagara*. Although she was at first designated a gunboat, she spent her entire, if brief, career in the Navy tending PT boats. After service on both coasts, caring for PT-boats and training their crews, she arrived in Noumea, New Caledonia in January, 1943 as tender to Motor Torpedo Boat Division 23. On the way there she was officially designated as the Navy's first Motor Torpedo Boat Tender (AGP-1). In February she and her division moved to Tulagi, Solomon Islands to support operations around Guadalcanal.

A week after gunner's mate Fiueash mailed this letter to his wife in Arkansas, *Niagara* and her progeny set sail for a new base in New Guinea. One day out, a Japanese twin-engined bomber found the division and dropped four bombs, damaging the mother ship. Six more twin-engined bombers arrived a half-hour later and dropped over a dozen bombs. One of them struck *Niagara's* forecandle, smashing a foot-wide

hole in her hull. Fires below decks raged out of control, threatening to reach the large tanks of gasoline carried for the PT boats. "Abandon ship" was ordered.

PT-146 and PT-147 came alongside her stern to take off some of the crew, while other boats of the Division circled around to pick up survivors from the water and lifeboats. Although *Niagara* was now aflame along most of her length, the PT boats saved every one of her crew of 136 without serious injury. With everyone safe, PT-147 backed off and fired a torpedo into her gasoline tanks. A sheet of flame 300 feet high exploded from *Niagara*, and she went down in less than a minute.

Despite the dangerous missions assigned to PT boats and their mother ships, *Niagara* was the only PT-boat tender lost during the war.



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