

Back Issue of Military Postal History Society 'Bulletin': (Bulletin Jun 1953)

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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WAR COVER CLUB BULLETIN
Edited by Kevin P. Rogan, R. N.
Napanoch, New York
2 William Street

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Vol. VIII

June

1953

Whole No. 1
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Well, here I am again with my "Flight of Ideas." Summer has come in with a loud "bang" so please bear with me. First of all I must tell you about the meeting at the home of Winfred Grandy in New Haven, Conn. Those of you that couldn't make the meeting really missed a perfect day!!! The weather was kind to us; the hospitality of the Grandys' was out of this world; the food was...Oh Boy just thinking of the food makes me hungry. "Win" Grandy used 1911 and 1912 Navals to light the fireplace out in back of his den to cook the food on. We spent a lot of the day in his back yard admiring the scenery and the wonderful collections brought to the meeting. Mr. Grandy's den furnished and stocked so as to make nay War cover collectors dream come true. Mrs Burrell from Noroton, Conn. spoke on her Crimea covers and letters. Phil Baker was trying to get his girl friend interested in collecting covers. The last I saw of Isadore Willinger he was going back for his 9th hot dog. This meeting has convinced that we should have a monthly meeting in different parts of the country. How about the gang out in Ohio and thereabouts??? How about the gang in Philadelphia having one the week-end of September 26th and 27th??? (P. S. The Dodgers are going to take Philadelphia 3 games that week end at Philly)

Talking about meetings I went to the FEDERATION OF CENTRAL N. Y. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES 1953 SHOW AND EXHIBITION which was held in Sidney, New York, May 9th and 10th. The trend is definitely towards covers and more covers. There was quite a few frames of war covers...expecially Civil War covers that were worth hundreds of dollars. Saturday afternoon most of us were the guests of Scintilla Magneto Division of Bendix Aviation Corporation. I picked up a nice Civil War cover but my oldest boy hit the Jackpot. He got plateblocks by the score from the last 3 or 4 years for face value!

Those of you that are collecting KOREAN W/R covers look through your USS BoXer covers for the "error." In early 1953 on the machine cancel they also had 15689 Br. in the circle.

Some of our members are returning back from tours of duty overseas. Welcome back and how about a short article for use in the Bulletin? O.K.? Thanks! Sgt. Stewart took the "long" way home from Korea. Lt. Lasky is back in the states again.

Col. G. R. Crouch, M. C., T. D. has been elected president of THE FORCES POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY. Congrats and the best of luck. Our Clubs are going to exchange bulletins.

I see where some of our members have secured offices in the USCS. Deane C. Bartley, James Russell and CDR. H. F. Rommel were made directors.

Recently I re-read some of the old Bulletins and it was just like reading some new information. If your set isn't complete you may pick up the complete set for \$4.00 or back issues at 75 cents a year. Send your wants to your editor.

From the USCS LOG it is reported by our Jim Russell in re to a cover with a return address of USS MORGANSLAVE AMS 26. The ship was in Korean waters as the Free frank was used. It was cancelled US NAVY 17025 Branch. This is the highest number from the 17000 group he knows of. The cover has a rubber ca-het on the left; "Where the Fleet Goes We've Been."

Speaking of Korean covers...On page 2 of the New York Times in the official communiques you may find mentioned the names of naval ships from different countries and also mention of UN Troops in action. Drop them a line and hope for the best.

How many Field Post Offices do you have from Korea and Japan?? So far we have listed FPO 376, 406, 707, 734, 790, 748, 385, 949, 798, and 158. If you have any other British FPO numbers please send number, date and return address to your Editor. Thanks.

Please keep your Editor informed in re to any new APO number or type. For a very short time there was used FPO 798 by part of the 29th Brigade when the remainder moved elsewhere. This postmark is scarce and a very desirable item. I have one with a return of SAAF. Look closely at all covers.

This month again we continue the listing of the US Navy Shore Base Post Offices of WWII. These censored items form an interesting phase of Naval history of bases strung around the globe from Borneo and Australia to the Yap group in the Caroline Is. and Japan. We will also continue the random notes on British APO services and postal stationery from 1939 to 1945 by Eugene Jagger of England. Mr. Almon Tripp our hard working Secretary and Treasurer contributed the Shore Base items.

Hungarian Korea "Stamps"...With a view to raising funds for the Korean campaign, Hungary has issued a series of stamps featuring a Korean child in tears and bearing the inscription A KORWAI GYERMEKERT ("To the Korean Children"). A newspaper cutting states that the funds raised amounted to 20, 160, 000 forint, approximately 500, 000 Pounds sterling. The cutting (from an unknown source) tells the story going the rounds in Budapest that the child is crying "because it knows that it will never see the Hungarian money collected for it". A 5fo. value is mentioned. Mr. H. J. Hare has also shown us a 10 fo. black and turquoise and a 50 fo. black and lilac. There is no suggestion that these are postage stamps.

When did the President of the U. S. declare the Second World War to be ended?? Some collectors need that date for the ending of their WWII collections.

La Philatelic Francaise for January 1952 illustrates and describes many naval cancels used in recent times by the French navy. Of chief interest to American collectors will be the one used by the French at Norfolk, Virginia. It is the normal "U. S. Navy" circle with an oblong box to the right with the wording "CENTRE ADMINISTRATIF NORFOLK" in three lines. The article also gives French ships captured by the enemy in the late wars, combats in which French ships took part, etc.

Some more late A-AF cancels from Bill Cippoli who incidently will be going to a Verteran's Hopital soon to have some "work" done. Here's hoping Cip the "Veep" will be back in the race again.. 3h, 16m 42h, 74m, 234 m, 301 h, 807h, 856m, 862 h, and 942 h.

Have you seen these "Hubba-Hubba Air Mail" Cachets from Korea and Japan? Sgt. Stewart states these rubber cachets are made by the Japs.

There are still 34 members who have forgotten their dues for the year. Please send in right away and we will be able to put lots of pictures in the next issue of the bulletin. Thanks.

I hear Mr. Lemponen has completed his collection of Ballot covers. Let's hear more about this Carl.

Did you check over the articles in March Bulletin on the Korean covers of Russell and Hare. What do you have that is not listed?? We have an article by Von Frederic Patka on Korea that will have to be translated... So please send all Korean info to Editor so that we can bring everything up to date in next issue.

Are you interested in American Military History? Write to the Secretary, American Military Institute, 1529 18th Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C. They issue a quarterly, "Military Affairs." The American Military Institute was organized in 1933. It has a revolving book fund. Rowland Gill is one of the members that I know of at this time.

CENSOR MARKINGS USED BY AMERICAN OCCUPATION FORCES IN GERMANY. WWII

By G. W. Bartiett

During those first years, immediately following the surrender of Germany in 1945 to the Allied Powers, Germany was divided into four distinct and separate parts or zones. Each zone was occupied by one of the conquering Allied Powers, each headed by a military governor assisted by appropriate supervisory and operating staffs. In the first years of Allied Occupation, the only civilian mail that was allowed to be sent was that which was to be delivered within the zone in which it had been mailed. All of this zone mail was censored by the Occupying Power. At first only domestic mail was allowed to be used but after a time mail was allowed to be sent from one zone to another but only within the limits of the occupation. The only foreign mail allowed to be sent out of Germany was the official military and the mail from the soldiers of the Occupation Forces. Each Nation had its own special methods and types of censor markings that were used on all of the civilian mail that was sent around inside the occupied zone. A study of such varied methods and ways of censoring is a most interesting field for research. So much political history is shown and can be learned from a study of these early covers with all of their different stamps and distinct types of postal markings. This article deals only with the common types of the postal censor markings that were used by the American Occupation Forces during those occupation years of 1945 to the lifting of the censorship in the American Zone in 1946.

The first American censor markings used on all of the civilian mails were the simple circle hand stamp types. These hand stamp censor markings were used on all types of mail sent by the civilians around within the limitations of their own zone, and also on the mail that was sent into one of the other occupied zones. This first hand stamp censor marking reads - Military Censorship Civil Mails with the censor's number in the center of the circle. These markings are found in black, blue and red.

This simple and easily applied censor hand stamp type was followed by the use of the printed label types. These printed labels served two purposes; first to close the cover and second to give the censor marking information. The first of these printed labels were the paper types. These paper types were followed by the Scotch tape types. The paper labels read - Opened By Mil. Cen. - Civil Mails. The paper labels are printed in black upon different colored papers, such as white, blue or gray. On these paper labels the lettering is of a different type and the space between the words Cen. and Civil is wider and the line between the words is longer and narrower than that found on the later used Scotch tape types. All of these censor label types of markings tie a circular hand stamp to the cover. The different hand stamps are found in a variety of changes and styles of wording and size of lettering.

This censor paper label type of marking was followed by the Scotch tape type. This Scotch tape type was used the longest of all types of the American Occupation censor markings. This type has the wording - Examined By - printed in black. This tape was used to securely close the left side (generally) of the envelope that had been opened so that the censor could draw out the letter, censor it and then return it back again into its envelope. The tape was so placed as to close the end of the envelope that had been opened and to tie the hand stamp to the cover. But the tape was transparent so that the lettering and the number within the hand stamps was not obliterated. By this method, the censor showed that the letter had been opened, examined, passed and by whom it had been cleared. This method took a longer time in passing than by the use of the simple hand stamp. But it was a much more thorough method. There are a great many variations

of the placing of the hand stamp and the tape on the covers. You will often find two different censors' numbers within the hand stamp. One is generally hand written in with ink. There are many covers with two different tape labels. The hand stamps also on such covers will have different numbers and different colors. These labels will be found on different parts of the covers. But it seems as though the left side was the one chosen in this war.

This Scotch tape type and the hand stamp was followed by the method that was used the longest, the Scotch tape type with the eagle hand stamp type. This Scotch tape is printed in black, and now reads - Opened by Mil. - Civil Mails. The eagle hand stamp used now is a very ornate one stamped in red, blue or black, and if the censor did not clean his hand stamp well before using it with another colored ink, you will find a large assortment of shades and tints in these hand stamp markings. Inside the circle of this new hand stamp the reading is - U. S. Civil Censorship. This reading is around the new eagle design. In this new design the eagle stands with spread uplifted wings. The eagle is facing toward the left. Under the feet of the eagle is the word Passed and under this word is found the censor's number. Under the censor's number is the word Germany. On either side of the word Germany is a star. The printed Scotch tape is applied like the other tape types. If one wants to try for slight errors in the figure of the eagle, he may find some there. In this hand stamp there may also be found another number that has been written in by hand. I often wonder why this was done. Did not the second censor, who wrote his number over the first printed number, trust his fellow censors? Who knows? You will often find two different colored hand stamps and two very different censor numbers on the same cover. This method and type of censor marking was used the longest on all kinds of domestic and foreign mails posted within the American Zone of occupation.

In early 1946 there began to appear a new type of censor marking. This type was used off and on until the censors restrictions on all German mail was lifted. This is a machine censor cancellation and consists of six parallel straight red lines on either side of a single line circle. There are three lines above and three lines below a new wording. This new wording is the single word Passed. All of the lines are broken at regular intervals by a one line circle. Across the center of this circle is a crossbar with the name of the town in which the letter was posted. This censor type was changed again. This time the six straight lines are changed into six wavy lines but the word Passed is still between the lines. The crossbar has been removed from the circle and the reading within the circle is now U. S. Civil Censorship over the name of the town. This town name is now over one star. Again in 1947 this type of machine censoring was again changed. This time the six lines were changed into two long wavy lines. These lines are very much wider apart than in the other type of line machine censoring and are very much nearer the sides of the circle. Now between these two parallel lines are found four stars. The reading within the circle is the same as in the other two lined types. But here now are two stars under the name of the town. This censor mark was not used as a town cancellation but was run on the cover over the stamps and the regular town postmark.

In this type of censoring and marking a great many different changes are to be found, in the information that is within the circle. One of the earlier types, is the one in which the name of the town is over the two stars. There is no date in this type. This type was followed by the type which is like the above but in this new type a date has been added and the one star at the bottom has been removed. Once again this machine marking censor type of marking was changed. In this new type there is a

rectangle in the center of the circle which contains a date. Above this date rectangle, with rounded corners, are two stars. Below the date rectangle is the name of the town in which the letter was posted.

A far different type of machine censor markings is the small single line circle with the wording - U. S. Civil Censorship and the large letters F. K. T. Another very similar to this one, is the one with smaller lettering. This ones read - Passed U. S. Civil Censorship with the initials F. K. T. There is also found yet another similar type of marking. This type reads U. S. Civil Censorship with a " B " over F. F. M. The last of these small circle types is the one which reads - Released By Group " E. " In this type of censor marking in a great number of different letter markings. One cover with the out of the ordinary combinations of censor markings that I have in my collection is one with three different types of censor markings. It has the Scotch tape tying the eagle hand stamp in blue, a large single line circle in blue with the wording Civil Censorship over the name of the town. And the last marking is a large one line circle with the reading - Released C. C. D. over the Group A. There are two stars on either side of this circle. One of the single line circles is found in red. It is a large circle with the reading - U. S. Civil Censorship with the name of the town where it was posted over one straight line. These markings were used in early 1947.

The many different and varied censor markings from the civilian internment camps and the prison camps are a study in themselves. Here is a large field for farther study and much research. In this article I shall not attempt to do anything with the prison camps censor markings, but will touch briefly on some of the markings from the civilian internment camps. A short description of some of the internment camps common censor markings will show the scope of this field. Each camp had its own special type of wording and of censor marking methods. All of these censor markings are of the hand stamp types. But in all of these hand stamps is found the number of the camp. The location of this number often changes its position within the circle. There are many varieties of these internment camp censor markings. They may be roughly divided into two groups. The one for domestic mails and the other for the foreign mails. The simplest type of a camp marking, is the large single line circle hand stamp. This was used by the Civilian Internment Camps. It reads - Censored by Civilian Internment Camp and the number. This type was followed by the common double circle type. In this type of censor marking the reading is found between the two circles. It reads - Internierteniager (number) Zensurstelle. These double circular markings are of three distinct types. The first type is the clear center one. In this type of hand stamp the censor's information and the camp number are between the two circles. The next type has the censor's number in the center of the inner circle and the information is like the above type, between the two circles. The third type is the two lines of printing reading - Censored over Int. Camp (#). The American Third Army used the double circular hand stamp type with a crossbar over the center of the inner circle. This crossbar has the word Censor. In the reading between the circles is the same as in the other types of circular hand stamps. This marking is found on domestic and foreign cards and covers. In the hand stamp type there is also found the rectangle box censor stamp. This type reads - Internment Camp (number) Zensiert. Once in a while a far different type is found, that is the brown paper label type. This label has stamped in red the Internment Camp (number) over the name of the town where the prison camp was located. As late as June 1948 the two line censor marking with the rectangle box type are found on the same covers.

This short description of the different types of internment camp censor markings will give an idea of the varieties of markings that can be found on cards and covers that came out of the different internment camps during the early years of the American Occupation of their zone of Germany.

NEW ZEALAND and the BOER WAR

By Fred Paulstich

The war that took place in South Africa over a half century ago attracted the interest of most of the contemporary world. Vast quantities of paper, ink and emotions have been expended on that event. Men and women of every race, creed and color became involved in that struggle. While the historical aspects may be found in many dusty books and papers, a more living and dramatic view may be had in a well written-up collection of the covers relating to this war.

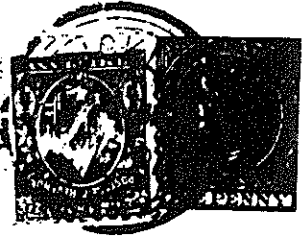
The postal history of this war has been ably written up by a number of writers and students. However, they best know how much has yet to be done to supply the missing links. It is in this spirit that I wish to bring up one phase among others of Boer War philately. I have not yet come across any reference to the postal history of the New Zealand contingents which served in South Africa.

Some years ago I acquired the three cards illustrated. In the Grosser Ganzsachen Katalog, 1926, Part V there is mention of this patriotic stationery. It is stated that sixteen different designs were issued to publicize the war in South Africa. The designs are in the same color as the imprinted stamp and inscription.

On the cards shown mention is made of only the First Contingent. At the outbreak of hostilities in October 1899 the various colonial governments immediately offered their assistance to the mother country. While this attitude was not shared by all her citizens, New Zealand contributed ten contingents in all, a total of 6500 troops. The First Contingent left for South Africa on October 21, 1899, less than two weeks after the opening of the war and were possibly the first overseas troops to arrive on the scene.

NEW ZEALAND.
INLAND AND AUSTRALIAN
POST CARD

The Address only to be written on this side.



CAPT. DAVIES FIRST CONTINGENT

*the manager.
the Anglo Californian
Bank L
San Francisco
Calif.*



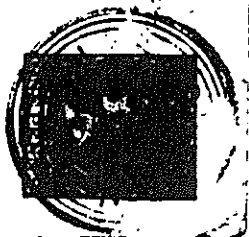
FIRST CONTINGENT STAFF FOR THE FRONT

NEW ZEALAND.
INLAND AND AUSTRALIAN
POST CARD.

The Address only to be written on this side.

Mr. J. H. Baillie

*Otago Municipality
Dunedin*



BREAKFAST IN CAMP.

NEW ZEALAND.
INLAND AND AUSTRALIAN
POST CARD

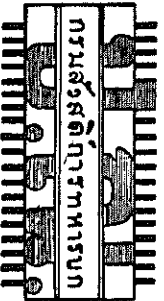
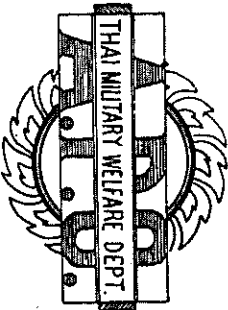
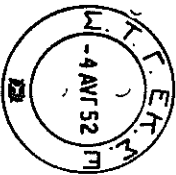
The Address only to be written on this side.

*W. P. Burgess, Esq.
Longue Pointe
Canada
N. America*



28/

MIXED UNIT
AP0 971-2



Mr. J. W. F. Wynn, C-15455
P.O. W. and No. 6
North Korea



Mr. Revin, P. Rogers, R. W.,
2 Williams Street,
New York, N.Y.



VIA AIR MAIL
A.P.O.



Mr. James Russell,
2209 Brighton St.

Philadelphia, Pa.

Penn. U.S.A.

From the
of the
of the
of the

RAYMOND W. MILLING
WESTERN PACIFIC
NAVY (Box 7) S.F. 400
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
1952



THE A.P.O. DAN CREST...
FROM PERSHING HEIGHTS...
DR. AND SEN. GEN. MARK...
CLARK'S HEADQUARTERS...
THIS WAS PREVIOUSLY...
LOCATED IN THE DAN...
ICHI BUILDING, THE...
HEADQUARTERS WAS...
TRANSPORTED AND THE...
P.O. MOVED LAST JUNE...
PREVIOUSLY THERE WAS NO...
NO. AT PERSHING HEIGHTS, THE...
NAME DAN ICHI BRANCH APPEARS IN...
THE POSTMARK LOCATED IN THAT...
BUILDING. THE SECURITY NATIONAL...
STAMP FOR THE SECURITY NATIONAL...
ATHLETIC MEETING WAS CANCELLED...
AT THE IMPERIAL HOTEL, WHICH...
WAS A BILLET FOR U.S. GENERAL...
AND FIVE OFFICERS AND THE A.F.W...
AND THE HOTEL STAMP IS FROM...
THE SECURITY NATIONAL



MR. ALMON J. TRIPP
16533 NEWPORT AV.
DETROIT 21, MICH.

I have not seen or heard of any other examples of this stationery nor of any military mail to or from New Zealanders in the field. Doubtless such items exist. I regret that after much leg work I have only these few meager details to offer. I can only hope that further information will be brought to light as a result of this reference.

I would like to add another thought or two. In the light of modern warfare the Boer War may seem relatively small and unimportant and the contributions of New Zealand one of minor proportions. No war is ever small to those who must fight in it. In a broader sense, the Boer War was of vast historical significance. Perhaps that chapter is not yet ended as it is interesting to note that some of the issues of the Boer War again confront us in the newspapers with all of their former vehemence.

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Perhaps some of the WCC members will be interested in the following instructions found in "ADJUTANT GENERAL'S MANUAL, Army Postal Service."

Sec. 6--Par 40-p32, Duties of Postal Officers in the field (3) Agencies of the Army-Postal Service in an army, inform the postal officer daily of the changes in locations of the units they serve. (4) The Postal Officer will furnish daily information to the Postal Regulating Section or theatre postal officer of all changes in the locations of APOs and units of the particular army, and also advise as to the APOs which will serve these units at their new locations. These reports will be submitted in the most expeditious manner. D-3 The postal officer for the Communications Zone (bases in the rear) advise the theatre postal officer of any changes in locations or addresses of units in the communications zone.

Par.44-p38 Location of division APO

(c) The APO for the division will usually be located at or near the distributing point for class 1 supplies. It may be found necessary to establish branch APOs to serve division Hq's, hospitals & etc; and these will be under the supervision of the division postal officer.

26th. NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BN.

Aug. 21'42 "Boot" training started at Camp Allen, Va.
Personnel of 27 officers and 968 men.
Sept.18'42 Bn. organization completed, moved to Camp Bradford, Va.
Oct.10-15 The 26th. has a five day leave period.
Oct.17 '42 Boarded train at Camp Bradford
Oct.20 Arrived at Advance Base Depot, Gulfport, Miss.
Oct.30 Boarded train at Gulfport, Miss.
Nov. 3 Arrived at Camp Rosseau, Port Hueneme, Calif.
Nov.27 Boarded Ship
Nov.28 Sailed from Calif.
Dec. 4 Crossed the Equator
Dec.10 Arrived at Noume, New Caledonia
Dec.20 Boarded ship
Dec.26 Landed at Guadalcanal and Tulagi Is. Co.D. was stationed at nearby Tulagi I. from Jan. 1st to Sept. 13, 1943, taking over activities of one company of the 6th NCB's.
The balance of the 26th took over the camp of the 6th NCB's just north of Henderson Field. In March 1943, the 26th moved to a new camp area, 15 miles north of Henderson Field.
Dec.11 '43 Boarded ship, homeward bound.
Dec.12 Sailed from Guadalcanal.
Dec.31 Arrived in California, stationed at Camp Parks.
Detachments were sent to Nugu, Malaita and Munda Islands in the New Georgia group on various assignments.

45th. NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BN.

- Nov.5 1942 The 45th. N. C. B. assembled at Camp Allen, Norfolk, Va; and some were sent to Cp. Peary near Williamsburg, Va. where the Bn. was commissioned during the month. Later some of the personnel were stationed at Cp. Bradford, Norfolk.
- Jan.1 1943 The Bn. moved to Cp. Rousseau, Port Hueneme, Calif.
- Jan.24 '43 They boarded the SS WHARTON at Seattle, Wash.
- Jan.28 '43 Arrived at St. Paul's Harbor, Kodiak I. Alaska. The Bn. P. O. was located on Bells Flats near the village of St. Paul, A Quonset hut served as a PO and Censors office, chief mail clerk was U. S. Tillman with H. L. Hamilton as assistant clerk. Personnel of Co's. A-B-C & D were assigned as mail orderlies for their units. During this period, one detachment was sent to Sitka for a highway construction job. Weather conditions caused delays of incoming airmail, newspapers and parcel post was mainly received via surface ships. While some Seabee Bn's. restricted the outgoing mail to three letters per week, per man, the 45th. personnel had no such instructions, but were asked to keep their outgoing mail at a minimum.
- Sept.1 '43 The 45th. boarded the USS YALE, bound westward to Tanaga I. The ship was bought by the Navy from private contractors who had construction contracts on Kodiak I.
- Sept.4 '43 The USS YALE put in at Dutch Harbor, Unalaska I. for engine repairs, and while anchored there, it was blown ashore during a storm, the ship was then abandoned. The 45th. being held at Amaknak I. about 1 1/2 miles from the Naval Air Station.
- Sept.17 '43 They boarded the USS MONROE, debarked at Adak I. Sept 20th.
- Sept.24 '43 Liberty ship, Wm. Loyd Garrison took the first units to Tanaga I. while the LST 451 followed with the balance of the Bn.
- Sept.25 '43 The LST 451 entered Lash Bay, Tanaga I. late in the day, the last of the Bn. went ashore Sept. 29th. and until they completed the airstrip, all mail was brought over from Adak I, which was the postal collection point for the Aleutians by surface ships.
- Mar.3 1944 About 60 45ers were sent to Adak I, and the detachment left at Kodiak was ordered to Adak. During this month, the Fleet Po. was built -Navy 230-.
- May 8 1944 The entire Bn. left Adak I. on the SS MURLIN C. AINSWORTH.
- MAY 16 '44 Arrived at Seattle.
- May 23 '44 Landed at San Francisco, and three days after arriving at Camp Parks, they took-off on a 30 day leave.

117th NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BN.

- Sept.26 '43 Commissioned at Camp Peary, Williamsburg, Va..
- Sept.28 Left Camp Peary
- Sept.31 Arrived at Camp Hollyday, Gulfport, Miss.
- Feb.20 '44 Left Camp Hollyday
- Feb.22 Arrived at Embarkation Port, Norfolk, Va.
- Feb.26 Departure on the USS Fremont
- Mar. 2 Entered Panama Canal, passing out on the next day.
- Mar.16 Arrived at Pearl Harbor. One of their many assignments included the building of a new Navy Post Office on Ford Island.
- Oct. 8 Left Pearl Harbor on the USS Mormacdove.
- Oct.12 Crossed the International Date Line.
- Oct.17 Arrived at Eniwetok, Marshall Is.
- Oct.29 Left Eniwetok
- Nov. 2 '44 Arrived at Saipan I. Marianas Is. Among their various assignments, they built the Fleet Post Office at Garapan.
- Nov. 3 '45 The Tour ended, the 117th. returns to the U.S.

911 Mombasa, Kenya Colony	Box F	
911 Capetown, S. Africa	"" G	
911 Athens, Greece	"" H	
911 Ankara, Turkey	"" J	
913 Bremerhaven, Germany		
915 Bremen,	""	
916 Weymouth, England		
917 Aden, Arabia		
918 Calcutta, India		
918 Madras	""	Box M
918 Rangoon, Burma	""	R
919 Manana, Oahu, T. H.		
922 Algiers, Algeria		
924 Cherbourg, France		
926 Guam, Marianas Is.		
927 Aitape, New Guinea		
928 Madang,	""	
929 Brest, France		
930 Kunming, China		
931 Paris, France		
932 Morlaix	""	
933 Port de Bouc, France		
934 Le Havre	""	
935 Lorient	""	
936 Morotai I. Neth. E. Indies		
937 Antwerp, Belgium		
938 Rouen, France		
939 Orote, Guam I. Marianas Is.		
940 Granville, France		
941 Talasea, New Britain I. Sol. Is.		
942 Cape Hoskins	""	
943 Agana, Guam I. Marianas Is.		
945 St. Malo, France		
948 Frankfurt-on-Main, Germany		
949 U. S. Ports & Bases, Germany		
950 Clipperton I. S-E Pacific		
951 Cognac, France		
954 Cavite, Luzon, P. I.		
956 Orly Field, Paris, France		
957 Kobler, Saipan I. Marianas Is.		
958 Kagman,	""	
959 Marpi,	""	
960 Calapan, Mindoro, P. I.		
961 Sangley Point, Luzon, P. I.		
962 Clark Field,	""	
963 Berlin, Germany		
964 Jinsen, Korea		
965 Seishin,	""	
966 Pusan,	""	
967 Miyagahama, Kyushu, Japan		
968 Fukushima Gawa,	""	
969 Hongkong, China		
1133 Casiguran Sound, P. I.		
1155 Batavia, Java		
1156 Balikpapan, Borneo		
1157 Tarakan,	""	
1158 Banjermassin	""	
1159 Cotabato, Mindanao, P. I.		
1160 Kogo Shima, Japan		
1161 Shibushi, Kyushu, Japan		
1162 Miyazaki, Kyushu, Japan		
1163 Kushikino	""	
1164 Yokohama, Honshu	""	
1165 Tokyo	""	
1166 Osaka	""	
1167 Kobe	""	
1168 Khabarovsk, Siberia		
1169 Petropavlovsk, Kamchatka Pen. Siberia		
1170 Katchin Hanto, Okinawa, Ryukyu Is.		
1171 Motobu Pen.	""	
1172 Bishi, Gawa,	""	
1173 Chimu Wan,	""	
1174 Awase,	""	
1175 Yonabaru,	""	
1176 Aomori, Honshu, Japan		
1177 Fukuoka, Kyushu,	""	
1178 Hiroshima, Honshu, Japan		
1179 Okayama	""	
1180 Wakayama	""	
1181 Wake I.		
1300 Christmas I.-Line Is. (Ferry Transp)		
1301 Canton I. Phoenix Is. (NATB)		
1403 Thursday I. Australia		
1503 Narsarsuak, Greenland		
1504 Midway I. Terr. Hawaii		
1506 Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico		
1915 Dakar, French W. Africa		
1955 Coco Solo, C. Z.		
3000 Jaluit, Caroline Is.		
3001 San Antonio, Luzon, P. I.		
3002 Subic Bay	""	
3003 Masinloc,	""	
3004 Batangas	""	
3006 Balayan	""	
3011 Ulithi, I. Caroline Is.		
3012 Sorol I.	""	
3013 Chimu Wan, Japan		
3014 Yap I. Caroline Is.		
3015 Ie Shima, Ryukyu Is.		
3016 Ngeregong I. Palau Is.		
3017 Fukae Shima, Japan		
3019 Tungao, China		
3020 Hinghwa	""	
3021 Southern Kyushu, I. Japan		
3022 Ningpo Peninsula, China		
3027 Kossol Roads, Caroline Is.		
3028 Baler Bar, Luzon, P. I.		
3029 Naha, Ryukyu Is. Japan		
3030 Nakagusuku,	""	
3031 Takasu, S. Kyushu, Japan		
3032 Petropavlovsk, Kamchatka Pen. Siberia		
3036 Medinilla I. Marianas Is.		
3037 Namonuite, I. Caroline Is.		
3038 Minto Reef	""	
3039 Pulap I.	""	
3040 Taroa I. Moloelap Atoll, Marshall I.		
3041 Anatahan I. Marianas Is.		
3042 Davao, Mindanao, P. I.		
3043 Sourabaya, Java		

CONTINUING THE RANDOM NOTES ON BRITISH APO SERVICES AND
POSTAL STATIONERY 1939 to 1945 by EUGENE JAGGER OF ENGLAND

AIR MAIL SERVICES . On Sept. 2nd, 1941 an air mail service commenced carrying forces letters between Northern Ireland and Britain, an additional air mail fee of three pence was necessary in addition to the inland postage rate of 2½d. No concession was allowed to H. M. Forces who were stationed in the British Isles. I do not think the service lasted very long, as there didn't appear to be much time saving over the ordinary means. In view of the high cost of 5½d. against 2½d. for an ordinary letter it wasn't very popular. With the declaration of War by Italy in 1940, communications between Great Britain and the Middle East became somewhat difficult and most convoys had perforce go the long route by the Cape of Good Hope involving a journey of approximately 12,000 miles instead of through the Mediterranean, an additional 9,000 miles which took ordinary letters nearly 3 months to reach their destination, so that air mail services were introduced. Air mail was flown from Cairo to Freetown, Sierra Leone where it was shipped by sea to Britain. The outward mails to the Middle East were carried by sea to Freetown and thence by plane to Cairo. This arrangement carried on until 1943 when the Axis forces were driven from North Africa.

The air mail rate between Britain and forces in the Middle East was one shilling and three pence for each half ounce. Later on postcards of a thin type were allowed to go by air at a charge of sixpence. This latter type of communication was not in use very long as it was soon superseded by the air-graph at a charge of three pence, but the air letter cards were more popular still. The air letter cards were rationed to the troops at the scale of one per week and were issued at the same time as the men drew their pay, the postage rate was three pence or three annas.

The air letter cards from Great Britain cost sixpence which were prepaid originally by adhesive stamps, but in July 1943 an air mail letter card was issued which bore an imprinted sixpenny British stamp. This was superseded by a buff colored air letter card bearing a three half penny stamp which was issued during April 1945. About the same time, April 1945. About the same time, April 1945, the one shilling and three penny air mail rate to the forces was abolished and all mail up to half an ounce in weight conveyed whenever possible by air.

HONOR AIR MAIL LETTER CARDS Sept 1st, 1943 was the first day of issue for the honor air mail letter cards as far as the Persian and Iraq Command of the British Indian forces there but it doubtful if many got that days postmark as the one I dispatched that day was only cancelled with a Sept. 3rd, 1943 date. The issue of these was one per man per month. The first type issued were printed on white paper, in fact they were ordinary forces letter cards which were additionally printed with a blue triangle at bottom left hand corner on the address side. The reverse side bore a declaration in English and Roman Urdu languages with a certificate which required signature of the sender. A similar type but on blue paper with slight alterations in the composing of the settings of each line. Both the above were of a provisional

A specially printed air mail letter card was issued on 15th of Jan., 1944, the blue triangle appeared in the bottom left hand corner with letter IAFF-1083 (TRIANGLE) on reverse certificate in English language only with certificate and note., This was of Indian Manufacture and the initials IAFF stand for Indian Army Field Force. A British production was in use Dec. 1944 in the Middle East inscribed Air Mail Letter Card with a blue triangle in the bottom right hand corner with declaration on reverse. Later issues are found inscribed AIR LETTER across center with blue triangle in bottom left hand corner. These also exist without a blue triangle. Afterwards another type was brought into use inscribed Air Letter in top left corner, open triangle in bottom left, with words Army Form W3077A. These were printed on Blueish paper and printed in blue ink. It is therefore possible to find many shades of same, light blue, dark blue and ultramarine, etc.

On and after Dec. 17th, 1944 non privilege air letter cards ceased to be rationed and from that date no restriction was placed on the number issued to personnel entitled to use them. Green envelopes and blue triangle air letters were distributed at the weekly rate of one each. Owing to the increase in the number of privilege lettercards being allowed, stocks ran short and personnel were allowed to write their own certificate on the back of ordinary air letter cards. However it was decreed by GHQ MEF on Dec 31, 1944 that only officially printed declarations would be utilized and a written declaration would not be accepted after Dec 31, 1944, however, units which did not possess any printed blue triangle air letter cards were allowed to use ordinary air letter cards with a written declaration up to the end of Jan 1945.

On Jan 15, 1945 it was announced that the non privilege air letters bearing a three penny adhesive stamp would be on sale at the APO and that it was possible to dispatch same in unlimited quantity. On April 6, 1945 all letters including air mail letter cards honor envelopes up to one ounce in weight were carried free by air. Prior to this all air mail letters from the Middle East theatre and Italy cost tenpence to Great Britain. From Persia, Iraq, India, Burma, etc. the cost was 8 annas which is the equivalent of ninepence in British currency.

Letters exceeding one ounce were carried by sea at surface rates, but could be sent by air on prepayment of sixpence for the first ounce and an additional sixpence for each half ounce thereafter. Sea Mail up to 2 ounces was free. From 2 to 3 ounces the charge was 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and for each additional ounce one penny was charged. The charge for airgraphs service remained at 3d. per letter. Due to the above mentioned concession, the airgraph despatches from this date onwards was very meagre, so that it was no surprise to learn that the airgraph service was to be suspended after the 31st of July 1945. From April 1945 air letter cards were allowed to contain enclosures. Previously it was prohibited to enclose anything.

INDIAN AIR MAIL Envelopes. Airmail envelopes specially printed for letters to and from the armed forces were printed on pink paper "By Air Mail Par Avion" in top left hand corner, 8 Annas Indian imprinted stamp, across top centre "For Correspondence from H. M. Forces Only. Weight not to exceed half an ounce" These letters were subject to censorship and a somewhat similar type of colored envelope with imprinted stamp specially

inscribed for sending to Forces overseas. On June 7, 1945, letters from the Middle East to India by air mail were carried free between 1 ounce and $1\frac{1}{2}$ ounces. The charge was sixpence or if franked with Indian stamp was $5\frac{1}{2}$ annas. On or about June 8, 1945 unit or regimental censorship ceased, letters could be sealed which was then impressed with the unit or regimental censor stamp, but was liable to be censored by the base censor. The issue of Green Envelopes and blue triangle envelopes were suspended.

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Thule, Greenland

Thule - pronounced Toole - is called "The Northernmost Post Office in the World" as per sign on same, its located on the N. shore of Cape York due E of Ellsmere Is; Thule is shown on very few maps, about 1200 mi N. of Narassuak. W coast. During WW-II, Walrus Bay Weather Sta. #41, about the same distance up the E coast, was the fartherest N. but having a personnel of about 11 men, their mail was handled at Narsarssuak. Early spring, the big construction gang returns to Thule, and as The Army has eased up on its security - no doubt much postal news can be had then.

-- NEW MEMBERS --

- 338 CROWELL, Harvey V. R. 1039 North St. Pittsfield, Mass.
WW-I covers and posters
- 339 ROMMEL, USN; CDR. H. F. 1922 N. Quincy St. Arlington 7, Va.
Navy cancels WW-I & II, Spec. Slogans.
- 340 RITZ, John G. 1342 Bryan Ave. S-W; Canton 6, Ohio
Pats. WW-I & II -V-E and V-J Days
- 341 GORDON, Robert PO Box 145 Northfield, Vt.
General

-- CHANGE of ADDRESS --

- 331 Lt. Lasky to -162-05 89th Ave. Jamaica 32 N. Y.
- 56 Maj. Ian C. Morgan 22 Holton Ave. Westmount 6, P. Q. Canada
- 189 Philip E. Baker 4 Dartmouth St. Apt. 39; Forest Hills 75 L. I. N. Y.

-- RESIGNED --

- 151 Homer W. Fusmer

-- CHANGES --

- 210 LANGER, Robert A. 70 Fairmont, Ave. Glenbrook, Coon.

NOTE -- Alfred Langer died last Aug; his son continues membership and states "if any of the members are interested in this material, he will be glad to hear from them" - I assume he wishes to dispose of the collection.

- 310 Lane Blackburn Jr. enlarges his specialty items-
WW-I & II - China and Hong Kong.
- 224 Ryan, F. W. Change Zone number to "36".
- 328 Lewandowski, A. E. 845 Intervale New York 59, N. Y.
- 228 Vacura, Capt. Harold J. (7650 Hq.Hq. and Serv. Co.) change in address
- 320 Lane Blackburn Jr. /change apec./ WW-I & II - China and Hong Kong.