

Back Issue of Military Postal History Society 'Bulletin': (Bulletin Mar 1952)

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 Jean G. Koor
972 Sherman Avenue
New York 56, N. Y.

VOL. VII

MARCH 1952

WHOLE NO. 1

"VIA AIRMAIL" to JAPAN

Airmail from the States to the Army in Japan is carried chiefly by three services, the Military Air Transportation Service (MATS), Pan American Airlines and Northwest Airlines. The latter two have been contracted by the U. S. Post Office Department to help carry the tons of mail that arrive in Japan daily. Maj. Lee R. Ficklin, present Commanding Officer of the 7th Base Post Office tells our servicemen in Japan, "If your letter traveled the southern route to Japan, chances are it was picked up by the globe-trotting postmen from the MATS or Pan-American Airlines in San Francisco four days ago for the first lap of the Far East trip. Three days ago when the plane stopped for refueling, it was in the Hawaiian Islands, in the land of pineapples and palms (very often called Paradise of the Pacific). Twenty-four hours after the last Hula girl waved Aloha to the pilot of the mail plane, your letter was at Haneda Airport near Tokyo - in the hands of the 7th BPO, the largest Army mail center in the world."

When the mail is picked up by the Northwest Airlines, its route is a little more chilly, but not quite so long. Northwest cargo planes follow the Great Circle route to the Far East, often braving snowstorms at Anchorage, Alaska, when they land for refueling and then pay a touch and go visit to the loneliest spot in the world, Shemya Island Airbase at the far western end of the Aleutians.

Regardless of the route it takes, practically all Army air mail ends up in the hands of the 7th BPO. Mail for Korea is sent from Haneda Airport to Tachikawa Airfield where it is relayed to 2nd BPO at Pusan. The remainder is sorted locally by unit and APO and dispatched throughout Japan. On an average day recently (Feb.), 7th BPO received 914 sacks and pouches of mail, the same day 1,501 sacks and pouches of outgoing mail was serviced, 528 sacks of this total consisted of ordinary parcel post which were flown to the states to fill unused cargo planes, as when space permits ordinary

parcel post is sometimes sent by airmail, although it is the exception instead of the rule.

Article by Cpl. John Clock for Japan Logistical Command Journal.

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"AIR POSTAL SQUADRONS" are established, when authorized by the Dept. of the Air Force, to provide a complete postal service within the area of a numbered air force or higher command.

The squadron headquarters will function as the staff postal section of the numbered air force or higher command to which assigned. Four types of Squadron Headquarters are listed. Type "A" for Air Postal Squadrons having an aggregate section strength exceeding 175; Type "B" 100-175; Type "C" 50-99; Type "D" less than 50 personnel. Each "Postal Section" provides complete postal finance and mail handling service.

Mail Regulating Section provides mail regulating service at a major aerial or surface mail terminal.

Mail Director Section provides mail directory service for numbered air force or higher command.

Mail Transportation Section provides mail transportation services between land or aerial terminus and mail regulating stations or over designated routes serving two or more dispersed postal sections; and provides maintenance of assigned vehicles. The elements of this section may be increased as required by volume of mail or population of area served. As of to date, no markings on covers have indicated being serviced by such units. Mail from personnel can be identified by the return address, as indicated by one known cover which contained the unit "Air Postal Sqdn. #2 Flight #1".

When the North Korean Army crossed the 38th Parallel on June 25, 1950, there was only one APO active in South Korea, APO 404 was assigned to the U. S. Korean Military Advisory Group located at Seoul.

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In a letter dated May 9, 1951 from a mail clerk of APO 59 comes much interesting data. He writes that APO 59 was out of money order forms. (This was the old type with APO 59 printed on top of the form.) In view of the fact that on June 30, 1951 this type form was to be discontinued, no more forms were ordered so the money order forms from APO 244 were used at this office. Also, the letter was postmarked with the canceller APO 244. This is the canceller that is generally used on MOB or registered mail. Also, this mail clerk later was kind enough to send me money order from APO 244 on June 30, 1951 which is the last day this type of form was used. I also have an idea this was the last day of this APO but this is only a guess on my part. Just to make his last letter

a bit more welcome, a money order was enclosed from APO 59 dated July 1, 1951 on the new form. Guess I'll never be broke as both of these MOB's are made out for one dollar each. How many members have a cancel from APO 244 in their Korean collection?

Jim Russell

Added Notes on Korea --- The translation of the worn Greek cancel is "Mil PO of the Greek Expeditionary Force."

The Danish Red Cross Hospital Ship has a large stamp used for a corner card. The one I have is hit off in red ink and is very nice. The cover was canceled with a U. S. Navy 17009 canceller. I believe this is in Japan.

The 60th Indian Field Ambulance Group have two different types of letter sheets. One is printed in blue and the other I would call gray.

The French Forces are using a new cancel. Around the top of the circle (2/3 of the upper part of the circle) is POSTE aux ARMEES and at the bottom 222. This is hit off twice on the cover I have, once on the French stamp and again below the stamp. This comes on a Christmas card from Korea.

The First Marine Air Wing is using a new canceller. This is one that reads U. S. Navy 14009. Also 14009 Unit3 started canceling mail again and first day on this was January 4, 1952.

Canadian Forces in Europe are using a PP cancel, double oval type with CFPO 40 at top, date below. This one seen is dated 3 Dec 1951.

Just received a copy of 1951 Yearbook of the Asociacion Filatelica de Filipinas, 179 Aviles, San Miguel, Manila, P. I., a very neat 56 page publication written in both Spanish and English. This should interest our readers as it contains 5 pages on our APOs in the Philippines, and a 13 page article by the President of the AFF, Jesus Cacho, on the GI slogans "No Boats-No Votes" very well illustrated, plus another interesting article on the Philippine Guerrilla Postal History by the AFF editor, Pablo M. Esperidion, which should be quite helpful to add to WW-II postal history. While price is not mentioned, would suggest you send mint U. S. commemorative blocks for your copy AT ONCE.

IN LAVA's book on the British FPOs, the authors state that FPO 177 was the only FPO number assigned to the U. S. Forces, the 5th U. S. Army in Italy. Has any WCC member any information or clue to its use? Perhaps the number was assigned to British personnel located and on duty at the Hq. 5th U. S. Army. And it also could have been the FPO which served our 91st Inf. Div. which was attached to the British 8th Army during its last drive up the east coast of Italy in the Trieste area. Who knows?

New Members -

#323 EVEREL KEYS, 14742 Center Ave., Harvey, Illinois
Specialty: Free French Covers

#324 ROBERT H. GOLDEN, 4610 Sheridan Road, Chicago 40, Ill.
Specialty: U. S.-Mexican War, 1845-48 covers; relics;
broadsides; old newspapers and published articles.

Welcome to the War Cover Club - We welcome your aid and cooperation and likewise hope to be of assistance to you through our Bulletin and membership. Think an article on the U. S.-Mexican War would be most interesting. How about it, Bob Golden?

SPRING MEETING IN NEW YORK TO BE HELD MAY 3, 1952,
AT OFFICES OF SCOTT PUBLICATIONS, Inc., 1 WEST 47th ST.
ALL DAY SESSION - BRING A GUEST - MEET YOUR FRIENDS
SWAP TALK AND MATERIAL - MEET SOME OF THE FOLKS
YOU READ ABOUT. PLAN TO COME - DO IT TODAY!

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE FOR YOUR CHOICE FOR OFFICERS
DETACH BALLOT PROPERLY MARKED AND SEND TO
SECY. A. J. TRIPP, 16533 MENDOTA AVE.
DETROIT, MICH.

1952-53 CANDIDATES

VOTE FOR ONE - FOR PRESIDENT - H. K. HURLBURT, DETROIT, MICH.
KEVIN ROGAN, NAPANOCH, N. Y.

VOTE FOR ONE - FOR VICE-PRES. - JAMES J. RUSSELL, PHILA., PA.
WM. J. CIPOLLI, TILLSON, N. Y.

VOTE FOR ONE - FOR SECY.-TREAS.- A. J. TRIPP, DETROIT, MICH.
BULLETIN EDITOR - JEAN G. KOOR, NEW YORK, N. Y.
SALES MANAGER - M. R. BAGGETT, CHARLOTTE, N. C.

VOTE FOR SIX - DIRECTORS - REV. H. K. ROBINSON, LAWRENCE, N.Y.
C. D. BRENNER, BERKELEY, CALIF.
S. S. TAYLOR, SEATTLE, WASH.
H. K. HURLBURT, GROSSE PT. PK., MICH.
R. S. KERSHAW, AKRON, OHIO
H. J. HARE, KENT, ENGLAND
MAJ. IAN C. MORGAN, MONTREAL, CANADA
I. WILLINGER, BRONX, N. Y.

What do you think of the suggestion of a free membership to those in the Service overseas? What do you think of the idea of half-rates for Shut-Ins or those who are retired? Or, possibly, free membership? When sending in your marked ballot, why not jot down your thoughts on these suggestions. Do it today!

Secy. Tripp has advised that WCC member H. K. Hurlburt won the Grand Award Trophy at the Detroit Edison Philatelic Society's annual exhibit on February 4, 1952. His exhibit of V-Mail covers not only took top honors (which he holds until the 1953 Exhibit, but he also received a certificate and a medallion which is a permanent award. Mr. Hurlburt's collection contains many varieties of covers seldom seen, a vast amount of detailed information which indicates the time and care taken in presenting the material, and should be exhibited at some of the national philatelic exhibitions. Wonder if Mr. Hurlburt could be induced to send an exhibit to our May 3 meeting here in New York?

Another WCC member, H. J. Hare, of England, has also been busy spreading the gospel of War Covers. Exhibiting last October, a display under the title of "Korea:-The United Nations" and again opening the New Year's Season of the Bromley & Beckenham Philatelic Society, part of his collection of Campaign Covers under the title of "Philately in War Time", War Cover Collecting has received a terrific impetus through the fine efforts of WCC H. J. Hare.

VOTE FOR YOUR CHOICE - MAIL MARKED BALLOTS TO SECY. TRIPP

DO IT TODAY !

Results of February 25th Auction Sale:

Lot #1, \$2.25; 2-3 each \$2.10; 4, \$2.90; 5, \$1.35; 6, \$1.50; 7, \$1; 8, \$1.60; 9, \$1.75; 10-16 each 75¢; 17-35 each 50¢; 36-37, \$2; 38-41 each 50¢; 42, \$2; 43-45 each 50¢; 46, \$2; 47-50, each 50¢; 51, \$2; 52-55, each 50¢; 56, \$2; 57-62, each 50¢; 63-65, each 35¢; 66, 60¢; 67-68, each 35¢; 69, 75¢; 70-71, each 35¢; 72-75, each \$7; 76, 50¢; 77, \$1; 78, 50¢; 79, \$2; 80, \$2; 81, \$1; 82, \$3.50; 83, 75¢; 84, 50¢; 85, 25¢; 86-87, each 20¢; 88, 15¢; 89, 20¢; 90, 35¢; 91, 30¢; 92, 30¢; 93, \$6; 94, 15¢; 95-96, each 50¢; 97, 50¢; 98, \$2.50; 99, 30¢; 100, --; 101, \$1.75; 102, \$2.75; 103, \$1; 104, \$1; 105, \$2; 106, 50¢; 107, 30¢; 108, \$1.30.

Hope you were able to send in bids for the coming April 1st auction. By supporting your auctions, you can do a lot by helping the Club's Treasury and at the same time acquire some mighty fine items for your own collection.

When space permits, we will try to furnish list of prices realized on the Sale.

Of possible great interest to WCC members is the following announcement:

The Sixth National Convention of the Universal Ship Cancellation Society will be held on June 7th and 8th, 1952, at the Hotel Douglas, Newark, New Jersey.

A large exhibit of naval and ship covers and ships on stamps, and dealers' bourse tables will be open during the entire convention.

Why not plan to attend - there should be much material exhibited of interest to all WCC collectors.

I COLLECT PRISONER OF WAR COVERS &	REMEMBER THE DATE
I NEED ANY JAPANESE P.O.W's.	MAY 3, 1952
STERLING S. TAYLOR	WAR COVER CLUB MEETING
9612 FREMONT AVE. SEATTLE 3, WASH.	at
	SCOTT PUBLICATIONS
	OFFICES

AN SOS FROM THE EDITOR ! ! !

Getting to the point where I am noticing the sad lack of articles and stories for the Bulletin. Please, please keep in touch with me and send me some articles for publication. And please don't forget to vote for your officers.

May 3rd May 3rd May 3rd May 3rd May 3rd