

Back Issue of Military Postal History Society 'Bulletin': (Bulletin May 1948)

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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European Wing, Air Transport Command

THE NEW OFFICERS

The recent election resulted in the choice of the following officers to serve the Club for the next two years: President, Paul Klinger; Vice-President, Dr. A. E. Perry; Secretary-Treasurer; Rev. H. K. Robinson; Directors, D. C. Bartley, Arthur F. Black, C. D. Brenner, Dr. Fred C. Brock, Major Ian C. Morgan, Almon J. Tripp.

Members are reminded that dues of one dollar and a half for the Club year just starting are now payable and should be sent to the treasurer, whose address is: 315 Mulry Lane, Lawrence, New York.

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

I count it a privilege and a pleasure to serve as President of your Club. I sincerely hope that in the next two years we can have many happy hours of war-cover-collecting fellowship. With this in view, we are planning a regional meeting for early this summer. Each of you will receive notice of the date and place of meeting nearest your home. Those of you who have attended War Cover Club meetings know the pleasure derived from these get-togethers.

And now, work for each of you! Please write to me or to one of the other officers or directors and tell us what you would like from the Club in the form of activities. We shall try to use all the ideas and plans sent to us. By so doing, we shall have an active club that will satisfy each member and draw in new members.

In closing, I want to thank Prof. Brenner and Dr. Perry for their fine work on the Bulletin, and express appreciation to M. R. Baggett for his excellent handling of the Sales Department. I sincerely hope that they will continue in these capacities during the next two years.

Sincerely yours,

PAUL KLINGER

Mr. A. K. Hurlburt, a member of the Club and a leading authority on V-Mail, has just issued another of his publications in that field. It consists of an illustrated type list of V-Mail envelope windows, a study of the colors of paper used, a list of permit numbers and the companies to which they were issued, a location list of Army and Navy V-Mail stations, and a list of form numbers on government printed letter sheets. Interested persons should communicate with Mr. Hurlburt at 1100 Balfour Road, Grosse Pointe Park, Detroit 30, Michigan.

In order to include the results of the election and the several reports, publication of this issue has been delayed.

EUROPEAN WING, AIR TRANSPORT COMMAND

By Virgil H. Hemmelskamp

By July 1943, the A.T.C. had set up the following bases in the United Kingdom: Nutt's Corners, near Crumlin, N. Ire. (636); Valley, Anglesey Is., Wales (515A); Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, Scot. (648A); Prestwick, Ayrshire, Scot. (643); St. Mawgan,

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Cornwall, Eng. (641); with Headquarters at London and Hendon Airport, located N. W. of London, using APO 887.

I was stationed first at Valley, Wales, before the Army Postal Unit arrived, and the earliest letter I have with this postmark (515A) is dated June 28, 1943. I helped the mail clerk, attached to us from APO 515 at Chester, Eng., set up the first post office. All the postmarks for the first week or so were APO 515 with the "A" written in with pen and ink. This airfield, originally assigned to the 69th Ferrying Sqdn., was designated EW-ATC Sta 7, on about October 1, 1943, later changed to AAF Base 1005, and again later to AAF Base Unit 1407. At this time the "WING" had expanded to a "DIVISION" and I was assigned to Div Hq. at London on March 20, 1944, where we used APO 887, then APO 413 after Hq ETOUSA moved to Paris on August 31, 1944.

Stornoway had a personnel of about 100 men. It was an emergency landing field between Meeks Field in Iceland and Prestwick, Scotland. A small radio signal unit was located at Redbrae, near Prestwick, and I believe that APO 648A was used there.

I returned to Valley for a few days on temporary duty on intelligence work in August 1944, and found the base being served by APO 64, which had replaced APO 515A on July 15, 1944. I believe that the APO 64 postmark is more common than the 515A. as by that time they had there a detachment of WAC's and much redeployed personnel was passing through.

When APO 641 at St. Mawgan closed, its personnel went to our first German ATC base, located at Frankfort. By this time all of our ATC bases were using APO 741, all of our mail being distributed through our base at Orly, France, which is about nine miles south of Paris. Bovingdon was our English terminal after we moved to Orly about September 7, 1944, and was also served through APO 741. The 18th Weather Sqdn. and the Army Airways Communication Service were both attached to the European Division, ATC, and they also used the ATC's APO 741 wherever they were located.

During the war, we had control of a top-secret airline between Leuchars, Scotland, and Bromma Airfield at Stockholm, Sweden. All personnel of this airline, which was designated as "The American Air Transport Service", used APO 648, but I do not think that there was anything to distinguish its mail. Although military, the personnel dressed in civilian clothes. Its planes often landed near the German transports, as Sweden was neutral. For obvious reasons guards were placed around the planes of both countries.

Collectors of occupation covers may be interested to know that routine censorship of internal and external civilian mail in the British Zone in Germany ceased March 1, 1948.

General Orders No. 11, Department of the Army, 31 October 1947, read: "Effective as of 1 October 1947, Fort Read, Trinidad, British West Indies, was discontinued as a separate installation and consolidated with Waller Field, Trinidad, British West Indies."

ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO LIST OF APO'S

6-1. Korea, Hq. 1st Inf. Regt.
 6-4. " Hq. 1st F. A. Bn.
 7-3. " Hq. 31st Inf. Regt.
 25-1. Japan, Hq. 27th Inf. Regt.
 25-3. " Hq. 35th Inf. Regt.

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 Dr. A. E. Perry, Associate Editor

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25-4. Japan, Hq. 64th F. A. Bn.
31-3. Morotai, 31st Div. Finance Office
31-4. " Hq. 31st Div.
31-A. New Gui., Co. D, 124th Inf. Regt.
31-D. " " , Co. L, 124th Inf. Regt.
57. Rhein/Main Air Base (official designation)
58. Eng. '44; Hq. ATC France; US Graves Reg. Cmd. '47.
64. BPO 20 (July '45)
85-A. Hq. 339th Inf. Regt.
88-D. Italy, Hq. 349th Inf. Regt. (88th Div.)
132. Langford Lodge, N. Ire. (1) (W. of Belfast, on shore of Lough Neagh)
139. Bamberg (Ger.) Military Post.
143. 106th Gen. Hosp. (July '44)
166. ETO, POW Enclosure No. 7 (Sept. '44)
169. 388th Sta. Hosp.; Hq. ETO QM Depot '47.
171. Hq. Kassel Military Post '47.
178. Hq. 5th Constab. Regt. (Ger.) '47.
198. New Gui. (1).
201-2. Hq. 8th Cav. Regt.
207-1. Hq. 1st Engrs. '47.
209. Hq. US Troops, Trieste, '47.
215. 20th Bomber Cmd., Fwd. Area, Det. 2 (correction)
218. 25th Field Hosp. '44; 18th Gen. Hosp. '45.
228. 12th POE.
317. Okayama Mil. Govt. Team '47.
331-2. Okinawa, Transportation Units '47.
331-3. " Corps of Engrs.
331-4. " 9th and 37th Sta. Hospitals
331-5. " Hq. 44th Inf. Regt.
331-6. " AA Art. Units.
343-2. Hq. US Army Signal Corps School
349-A. 114th Evac. Hosp. '45.
358. Hq. PI Base Cmd. '47.
366. 40th Sta. Hosp. '43.
387. Italy '44.
396. Sta. No. 8, AAFW-ATC
407. 98th Gen. Hosp. '47.
432-1. ATC Base, Ceylon.
433. AAF Area "A", Jan. '45.
465. Hq. AGRS I-B Zone, '47.
468-1. 11th Airborne Div. Units '47.
469. 18th Field Hosp. '45.
502-1. 149th AACS, Noumea '45.
503. 2nd Major Port '47.
506. 5th POE.
508. 298th Gen. Hosp.
513. 2nd and 177th Gen. Hosp. '45
515-A. EW-ATC Sta. 7.
518. 56th Gen. Hosp. '43.
519. 5th ('43) and 344th Gen. Hosp.
523-A. Mil. Ry. Units.
528. Hq. 2nd Air Ser. Area Cmd., N. Af.
528-1. ADG Units (Repair)
565. 51st Gen. Hosp.

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574. 81st Gen. Hosp.
 591. 141st Gen. Hosp.
 600. 46th Gen. Hosp.
 616-2. Base Engrs. Det.
 617-A. U.S. Legation '44.
 630. IC-West Bengal Wing, ATC '45.
 636. "Nutt's Corners", Crumlin, N. Ire. (1).
 640-A. 307th Sta. Hosp.
 645. 32nd. Gen. Hosp. '43.
 648. AAF Sta. 1001 (Prestwick) '43.
 648-A. Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, Scot.
 648-B. AACS Unit, Redbrae, Scot.
 649. 124th Gen. Hosp. '45.
 660. 28th Gen. Hosp. '47.
 667. 180th Sta. Hosp., Fr. '44.
 671. Hq. IB Sect., CBI '44.
 676-1. U.S. Engrs. Units '45.
 677. Naw-ATC Sta. 4, '44.
 680. Quarry Camp and Camp Lowe, Ahwaz, Iran.
 696. Hq. 26th Inf. Regt. (1st Div.) '47.
 707. Hq. Phil.-Ryukyu Cmd., Judge Advocate.
 719-4. Laoag Army Air Base '47.
 722-F. Sta. Hosp., Edmonton, Alberta.
 757. 97th Gen. Hosp. '47.
 760. Sicily (1).
 763. 33rd Gen. Hosp. '43. 26th Gen. Hosp. '46.
 785. Sicily '43 (1).
 787. Am. Legation.
 795-A. Bahrein Petroleum Co. '44.
 829-1. Post Exchange.
 837. 210th Gen. Hosp. '43.
 839. Air Base 15 (Guatemala City).
 851. 298th Sta. Hosp. '44. Rodriguez Gen. Hosp. '47.
 856-1. Post Exchange.
 861. First Day of Operation, May 5, 1942.
 890. CBI '44.
 900. Hq. PHILRYCOM, PW Stockade Branch. '47.
 901. 382nd Sta. Hosp. '47.
 929. 118th Gen. Hosp. '47.
 938-1. ACS Unit '44 (Army Airways Commun. System)
 942. Alaska Graves Reg. Sect.
 947. 202nd Sta. Hosp.
 965-1. Prov. Hosp. No. 5, '43.
 999-A. ? '43.
 1000. 333rd Qm. Bn. '46.
 1111. 153rd Sta. Hosp., Australia '42.
 1117. Brisbane '42.
 3024. Sub-office of Albrook Field, C. Z.
 3197. AAF Units (loc.?).
 3307. Tripoli, Libya '43.
 3310. 18th Field Hosp.
 4350. Mil. Govt. Units, Naples.
 20th BPO. APO 64, July '45.

(Note: The above list and similar lists in recent Bulletins have been contributed
By A. J. Tripp.)
