

Back Issue of Military Postal History Society 'Bulletin': (Bulletin Sep 1950)

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>

List of Index Items for This Publication

Composition of Major Marine Corps Combat Units

V-Mail, Diagram of Flow

WAR COVER CLUB
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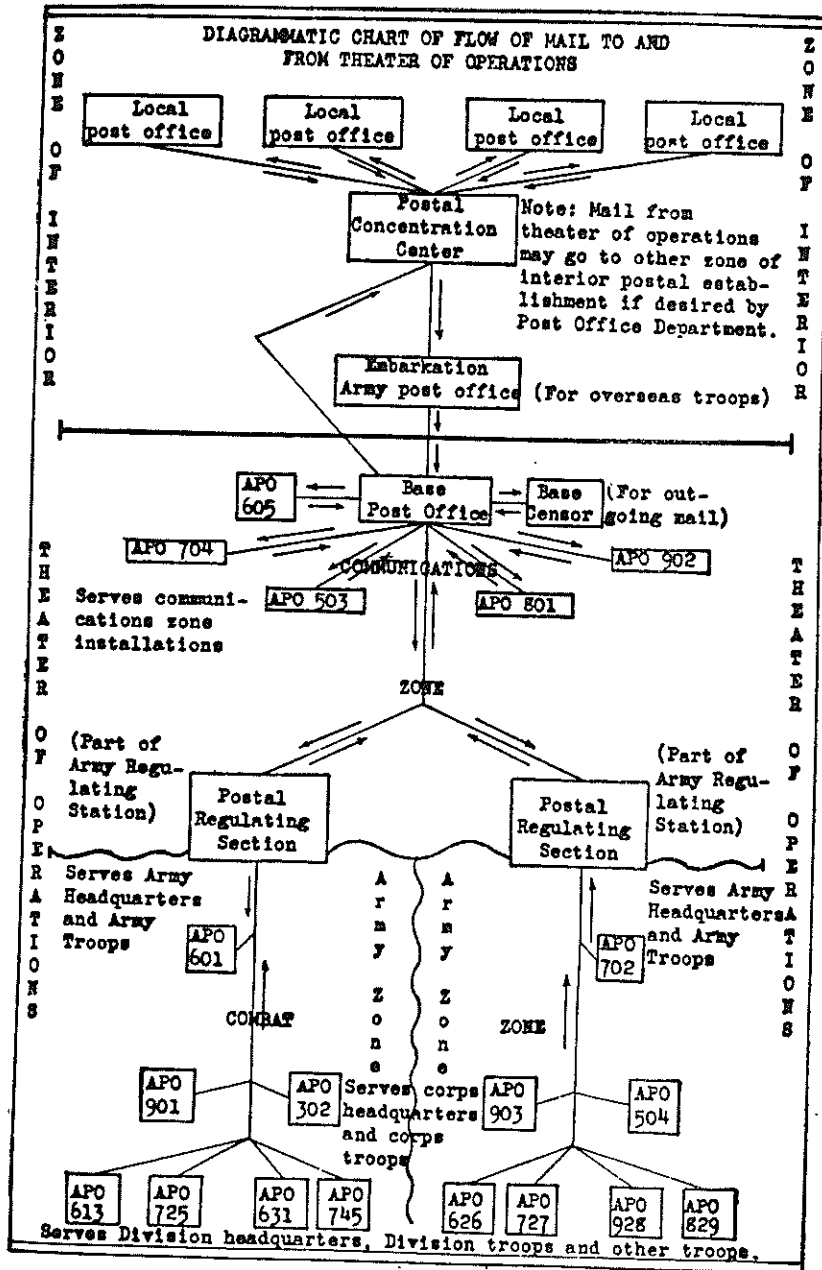
Vol. VI

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Whole No. 7

Well, summer is over which makes me very sad (in case anyone cares) for ye olde editor had a marvelous time. Hope all readers can say the same. However, I've lived long enough to know that all good things must end, so I am back at my desk pounding merrily away at the typewriter and at long last have managed to get this long awaited issue ready. Promise to do better next time!

One of the most important letters to reach us lately is from Major F. A. Spencer, of the Department of Defense, Office of Public Information, Washington, D.C., wherein permission is given to the War Cover Club to use in The Bulletin the chart showing flow of ordinary mail to and from Theater of Operations, and we promptly reproduce this chart herewith. This should be of great value and assistance to every war cover collector. Again Mr. Tripp and the many others who have assisted him should receive our heartfelt thanks for their continued cooperation and interest.



The Marines have been in the spotlight lately so, appropriately enough, it is nice to mention that in a letter received from Rowland P. Gill, he enclosed a list of Marine Combat Troops and organizations for the major U. S. Marine Corps Units during the Second World War, as well as a list of Navy Construction Battalion (C.B.) Units attached to Marine Corps Outfits for various South Pacific Operations. As this will probably prove of interest and help to members, this list is reproduced herewith:

I. Corps

1st Marine Amphibious Corps

Corps Troops

Headquarters and Service Bn.
 1st corps Signal Bn.
 1st Corps Medical Bn.
 1st Corps Mtr. Transp. Bn.
 1st Corps Medium Tank Bn.
 Naval Construction Bn., IMAC
 1st Aviation Engineer Bn.
 2nd Aviation Engineer Bn.
 1st 155th Artillery Bn. (How.)
 2nd 155th Artillery Bn. (Gun)
 1st Marine Parachute Regiment

H. & S. Co.

1st Parachute Bn.
 2nd Parachute Bn.
 3rd Parachute Bn.

Regimental Weapons Company

1st Raider Regiment

H. & S. Company
 1st Raider Bn.
 4th Raider Bn.

2nd Marine Raider Regt. (Prov.)

H. & S. Company
 2nd Raider Bn.
 3rd Raider Bn.

Supply Service, IMAC

Headquarters, S. S. IMAC

1st Base Depot

2nd " "

3rd " "

4th " "

Transient Center, IMAC

Assignment of U. S. Naval Construction Battalions to U. S. Marine Corps Units

8th on 5/16/45
 17th on 6/25/45
 90th on 1/15/45
 58th attached to 6th Marines Division 4/1/45 for Okinawa
 145th " " 1st Marines Division 4/1/45 for Okinawa
 4th Marines reinforced by 133th C. B. for Iwo Action
 5th Marines reinforced by 31st C. B.
 2nd Marines Division reinforced by 18th C. B.'s 9/12/42 and
 transferred to Norfolk. In April 1943 became 3rd Bn. 18th
 Marines of 2nd Marines Division.

3rd Marines Division reinforced by 25th C. B. and 2nd Spec. C. B.
7/21/44 for "D" Day on Guam.
53rd C. B. attached to 1st Provisional Marine Brigade for Guam
operations.
1st Special Bn. 6/16/45
6th Special Bn. 3/17/44
19th Special Bn. 5/1/44
28th Special Bn. 1/16/45

Composition of Major Marine Corps Combat Units
in World War II

IIIrd Amphibious Corps
H. & S. Bn.
Signal Bn.
Mtr. Transp. Bn.
Medical Bn.
III Amphib. Corps Artillery

7th Amphibious Corps
Corps Hdqs. Troops
Detch. H. & S. Bn.
Detch. Sig. Bn.
3rd AmTrac Bn.
Co. "A" 10th AmTrac Bn.
Co. "A" 11th AmTrac Bn.
III Corps Troops
III Corps Mtr. Transp. Bn.
III Corps Med. Bn.

II Divisions
1st Marine Division
1st Marines (Infantry)
5th Marines (Infantry)
7th Marines (Infantry)
11th Marines (Artillery)
1st Tank Bn.
1st Eng. Bn.
1st Pioneer Bn.
1st Service Bn.
1st Mtr. Transp. Bn.
1st Medical Bn.
Division Headquarters Bn.

2nd Marine Division
2nd Marines (Infantry)
6th Marines (Infantry)
8th Marines (Infantry)
10th Marines (Artillery)
Headquarters Bn.
2nd Tank Bn.
2nd Pioneer Bn.
2nd Engineer Bn.
Service Troops
2nd Service Bn.
2nd Mtr. Transp. Bn.
2nd Medical Bn.

3rd Marine Division

3rd Marines (Infantry)
9th Marines (Infantry)
21st Marines (Infantry)
12th Marines (Artillery)
19th Marines (Engineer)
Service Troops
3rd Engineer Bn.
3rd Pioneer Bn.
3rd Tank Bn.
Headquarters Bn.

4th Marine Division

14th Marines (Artillery)
23rd Marines (Infantry)
24th Marines (Infantry)
25th Marines (Infantry)
Service Troops
4th Mtr. Transp. Bn.
4th Med. Bn.
4th Service Bn.
4th Amphibious Truck Co.
Headquarters Bn.
Headquarters Co.
Reconnaissance Co.
Military Police Co.
1st Provisional Rocket Det.
4th Tank Bn.
1st Joint Assault Co.
4th Engineer Bn.
4th Pioneer Bn.

5th Marine Division

13th Marines (Artillery)
26th Marines (Infantry)
27th Marines (Infantry)
28th Marines (Infantry)
Service Troops
Headquarters Bn.
5th Service Bn.
5th Mtr. Transp. Bn.
5th Med. Bn.
5th Eng. Bn.
5th Pioneer Bn.
5th Tank Bn.

6th Marine Division

15th Marines (Artillery)
4th Marines (Infantry)
22nd Marines (Infantry)
29th Marines (Infantry)
6th Tank Bn.
6th Joint Assault Signal Co.
Headquarters Bn.
Service Troops

Mr. Gill is doing considerable research with a view to publishing articles in the Bulletin covering The History of U. S. Marine Corps Mail and Postal Services, The Handling of U. S. Merchant Marine Mail for the Period of the Second World War, and a Checklist of Types and Identifications of Censorship Markings and Procedures Used by the U. S. Military in World War II. If any members have covers, data, etc. covering the above three studies, Mr. Gill would be glad to trade, sell or have the loan of such material. Of particular interest would be covers from U. S. Navy and Army Units associated with Marine Corps actions or units in the Gilbert Islands area, as follows:

FPO Br. 10726, Dates between 1/1/44 & 6/1/45
NPO Br. 10730, Dates between 9/20/43 & 6/1/45
NPO Br. 10674, Dates between 10/25/43 & 11/14/44
NPO Br. 10709, Dates between 12/10/43 & 11/13/44
FPO Br. 10695, Dates between 12/16/43 & 8/24/45
NPO Br. 10817, Dates between 7/15/43 & 1/3/46
(above first three are Tarawa, 4th is Makin, and 5th is Finafuti, 6th is Canton)

APO 242 dates between 3/27/44 and 6/19/45
APO 718 dates between 11/20/44 and 3/28/45
APO 930 dates between 4/15/45 and 12/31/46
(1st is located at Abemama, 2nd at Nukufetau, and 3rd is located at Nukufetau)

NOT FOR SALE

Chas. W. Weinert

Among the various war covers which we all have, I'm sure many of us have one or more which, for sentimental reasons, we prize more than others. I have one such cover which has no great value but which cannot be bought from me for money. This cover (or envelope) was not opened and contents read until two years after it was mailed. But then - let us relate the story in its sequence.

Danny was a young friend of mine, a bookkeeper and stenographer for a general contracting firm when World War II involved us in it. He, like many other young men, wondered when his turn would come to be drafted. After quite some waiting Danny's turn came and he proceeded to a camp in the south for his basic training. When after a year and more had passed Danny was still in this country and in the same camp. His C.O. had long discovered that Danny was an expert stenographer, one of those rare young men who could take dictation at the rate of one hundred fifty words per minute and make a typewriter sing. I know, for I never saw anyone who could dictate too fast for him. So such a rarity was stuck in the front office as a sort of private secretary. In War One he would have been given a truck to drive with such talents. But Danny yearned for action and so one day he found himself on the shores of France. He didn't know it at the time but the war in France had only months to go. Eventually he reached the front and I remember one letter written on German Fieldpost stationery in which he said, "please excuse pencil, my pen is dry and fox-holes have no one selling ink." He also sent me several other letters, always cheerful and witty in his own way. He never complained. I remember well the letter he wrote me asking my advice about seeking further education at the government's expense after he came back. I remember as though it were only yesterday answering it advising him by all

means to take advantage of the G. I. bill and going to college as he was still very young. All that I put in that letter is still very vivid for that letter was returned to me with the envelope stamped: -

DECEASED
Return to Sender
Verified
Basepost Office

Capt. Joseph Cordato

Now you know why that cover is not for sale.

OUR WCC AUCTION SALES

A brief review of our auction sales of war covers and related material which has been so efficiently handled by our President Robinson, should be of much interest to all members of the WCC.

The first auction was our "donation auction" containing 74 lots which brought us the sum of \$114.15. It is to be noted that the expense of mimeographed sales lists, postage and stationery, would reduce this amount approximately 10-15 per cent.

Auction #2 - 76 lots	total receipts	\$100.50
" #3 - 73 "	" "	54.70
" #4 - 54 "	" "	57.25

(There were no bids received on 33 lots of #3 auction)

Only a small number of the WCC members have submitted bids on these sales, and many fine lots and items have been offered in the various auctions.

There is a great variation in the bidding on certain lots that many have been interested in. The following records will show the variation in the bidding on such lots:

From \$2.60	to	\$10.00	From	.30	to	\$4.00
.60	"	2.05	.20	"	1.80	
1.05	"	4.10	.50	"	3.50	
.55	"	3.00	.35	"	2.00	
.15	"	1.00	.55	"	4.00	

A majority of the bidders have received their lots below their bids, and often for a fraction of their top bid (think this one over.) This indicates that no advantage has been taken of such liberal bidding and it should encourage others to bid more liberally also.

This service is something more than a "Fair Deal" (no pun) for the fact that if you are not entirely satisfied with the material received through your bids, your money will be refunded cheerfully.

(Sorry this could not be run before the September auction which we hope was a successful one.)

President Robinson stated that if there was an overload of material for the September auction, the surplus would be shown at the New York meeting on November 18th, and put on sale in the late November auction.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1959-50

RECEIPTS		EXPENSES	
Held for members	\$30.40		
Members dues	153.50		
Bank interest	1.94		
Back issues	51.25	Auctions, printing	
Auctions	43.45	postage, supplies	195.72
Bank Bal. as of			
April 1, 1949	<u>142.51</u>		
Total	423.05	Total receipts	423.05
		Expenses	<u>195.72</u>
		Bank Bal.	228.33
		(as of April 1, 1950)	

Check for the above amount has been sent to the new Sec-treas. Thus we start off with the best working balance which we have ever had of practically \$200. Dues are now due, so send them along to the new Sec.-Treas. Mr. A. J. Tripp. Please use commemoratives on your correspondence whenever possible.

While we are on the subject, why not send in something for the Donation Fund? We are going to need some extra funds if the location list is to be published by Nov. 1st and there is also the cancel and markings chart expense to plan for. Such publications will be sold to WCC members at a fraction above cost.

One more thing, how about some prompt action on the circuits? The more we can keep these circulating the better it is all around. Kindly send in your reports to M. R. Baggett. Keep the circuits going and report to M. R. Baggett when you forward same. Your cooperation in this respect will be most helpful.

WAR COVER CLUB MEETING TO BE HELD SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18
at the 34th Street Armory, 34th St. & Park Ave.

This will be the first meeting presided at by Rev. Robinson as President. Why not make up your mind now to attend the meeting, meet other members of your War Cover Club, and enjoy an interesting talk by Stephen G. Rich on Boer War Covers. It promises to be a fine and unusual meeting as the talk will be illustrated by slides. Further details forthcoming in next issue of the Bulletin but do plan to attend.

There are just a few members who have not as yet paid their 1950 dues and to those members we would point out that this is the last Bulletin to come their way unless! So speed in your dues and make sure to receive future issues of the Bulletin which promise to be more interesting and timely as the present world situation goes on.

All of which makes me wonder. Have any members received interesting covers from the Korean war area to be publicized or any information they want to pass along to the rest of us? Let's hear from you with some more articles for YOUR Bulletin.

SEE YOU IN NOVEMBER!