

Back Issue of Military Postal History Society 'Bulletin': (Bulletin Sum 2010)

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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WWII Censor Enclosure Slips and Return to Sender Labels

Military Postal History Society



Military Postal History Society BULLETIN

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"We of the Game..."

by Richard D. Martorelli

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"If you do well, you'll get no thanks. If you get in trouble, you'll get no help. Does that suit you?" is the question asked by the British spy chief R in *Ashenden* by W. Somerset Maugham. In idiomatic English, spying is frequently referred to as "the second oldest profession," noting its mention throughout the ancient histories of China, India, Egypt, Israel, Greece and Roman. The modern countries of the world were no slouches at "The Game" either, in activities in Europe, Asia and Africa. Lastly, the United States has done its part in spy craft as well. While there was always military service-based intelligence, U.S. civil government efforts were stopped in 1929 when Secretary of State Henry Stimson eliminated State Department intelligence efforts with the proclamation "Gentlemen don't read other people's mail." It took the massive conflagration of World War II for the United States to develop its efforts, which continue to this day. The following article does not attempt to be an all-inclusive history or catalog. It is a collection of vignettes that are known by association with a postal history or philatelic-related item. This topic could be the basis for a larger collection, which could include weapons, political events, and famous people. While Julia Childs' activities in the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) during WW II are well known, it is not as well known that the singer/dancer/actress Josephine Baker (on stamps of the U.S., France and Monaco) worked as a courier

for the French Resistance, and smuggled messages written in invisible ink in her sheet music.

Arriving in March 1941, Tadashi Morimura, Vice-consul at the Japan Embassy, rented a second story apartment that overlooked Pearl Harbor and would often wander around the island of Oahu, watching the U.S. Fleet movements and security measures. He rented small planes and flew around observing U.S. installations, and dressed like a tourist in aloha shirts, Morimura drove around Oahu and visited the U.S. Navy facilities, often in the company of young women from the consulate, he went to Honolulu bars, bought drinks for the servicemen, and listened to their conversation, including comings and goings of ships, supply and duty changes and the like. To most who saw him, he was simply a young man enjoying the assignment of a foreign posting in a beautiful country. No one suspected that he was really Ensign Takeo Yoshikawa, an officer in the Japanese Naval Intelligence with an expertise in the U.S. Navy. At this time, approximately 160,000 persons of Japanese ancestry lived in Hawaii. While Yoshikawa's actions contributed to the decision to intern Japanese Americans, he himself distrusted the Japanese-American community. In his



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Military Postal History Society



The Military Postal History Society (a non-profit corporation) was founded in 1937 as the War Cover Club. American Philatelic Society Unit #19. It promotes the study of the postal aspects of all wars and military actions of all nations.

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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.

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President's Message

by Tony Brooks

Our next formal MPHS convention and meeting is scheduled for November 18-20, 2011, in the Midwest at CHICAGOPEX in Itasca, Illinois; some 21 months since St. Louis in February, 2010. With so many active publishing projects underway or being discussed, the Board decided that an informal get together before CHICAGOPEX was highly desirable.

As a result, the MPHS will share a table with the Universal Ship Cancellation Society (USCS) at the August 12-15 APS StampShow 2010 in Richmond, Virginia. In addition to Board business, this informal get together will give us a 2010 East Coast regional presence. Please come by and sign the Guest book. Any MPHS members available to help man the club table for a two hour or longer stint should contact Editor Dave Kent to reserve their time slot. We need volunteers for all four days. Current publications will be available for sale. Of special interest will be Russ W. Carter's latest publication: *WW II US Censor Enclosure Slips and Return-to-Sender Labels*. It is selling well both domestically and overseas. It has an eye-appealing color cover (see below).

Some MPHS Board member responsibilities have been reassigned. Director Myron Fox will coordinate the annual determination of the most popular published article in our bulletin. Vice-President Ed Dubin will assume responsibility as APS representative. Director Jim Boyden will coordinate a formal "Query/Response" section to become a part of our quarterly Bulletin. We will assign a "Year/number" to each published query so that subsequent responses can be tracked and tied back at a later date to the original query.

We have been testing the sale of MPHS publications on eBay this year. Sales the first few months were disappointing and feedback received suggested that potential buyers were dubious about the purchase of a publication with a black and white cover; the implication being that it might be a reprint rather than an original. The change to publications with a color cover has made all the difference in the world. It would appear that "color covers" add a sense of legitimacy to publications and increase their sales potential. We are in the process of changing cover pages to color for all of our publications. Since color can convey more information, per se, than the equivalent black and white in many instances, this is another example of why we should judiciously move to the use of color in our *Bulletin*. How do MPHS members feel about the selected use of color in our bulletin? Would you be willing to pay a little more in dues to add color to the bulletin? Please give me your feedback.

Work progresses on the various publication projects. A more detailed report will be published in the next bulletin. In addition to those projects mentioned in the Winter 2010 issue of the MPHS Bulletin, interest is building to develop a second, revised edition of the Broderick and Mayo reference work *Civil Censorship in the United States During World War II*. As previously, this would be a shared project with the Civil Censorship Study Group. Please let me know if you are interested in being part of this project.

I hope to see you in Richmond, Virginia at APS StampShow 2010.

Editor's Notes

David A. Kent

We welcome author Richard Martorelli to this issue, with tales of spies well illustrated by philatelic material. He joins several of our regular authors to discuss a wide variety of subjects from an equally wide range of era of history. Nevertheless, we still need more articles for publication. As you consider what you can write for publication, please keep in mind technical considerations. Please send text separately from the graphic images, and graphics should be scanned at 300 dpi and sent as JPG (or preferably TIF) images.

Auction #191

Our auctioneer, Thierry Delespese, presents another auction in this issue. However, Thierry will be moving soon and will not have an auction in the next issue. He also asks that all correspondence be sent temporarily in care of the treasurer. Please see details at the end of the auction listing.

Deadlines

The *Bulletin* is written by its readers. We welcome your contributions to future issues. Here is the future deadline for the next issue:

Fall 2010 Oct. 9, 2010

If you want to have an article or notice published in a specific issue, it must reach me by the above dates.

Secretary's Report

Louis Fiset

Please welcome these new members:

- 3501 Miller, Lindsay, Chicago, IL
- 3502 Monday, Nyle, Campbell, CA
- 3503 Tacha, Mike, Silver Plume, CO
- 3504 Lowe, James Lee, Norwood, PA
- 3505 Bard, Anthony, London, UK
- 3506 Fettig, Phillip E., Orlando, FL
- 3507 Miller, Jerry R., Caroga Lake, NY
- 3508 Baka, John, Whippany, NY
- 3509 Tusing, Stephen, Ruckersville, VA

Reinstated

- 2143 Stubenrauch, John J., Deer Park, NY
- 3115 Moss, Douglas, Dallas, TX

Membership Summary

Membership, Apr. 11, 2010	456
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Reinstated	2
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Board Approves New Edition of AEF Handbook; Your Help Requested

The MPHS Board has authorized the preparation of a new 3rd edition of our extremely successful handbook on *The Postal History of the AEF, 1917-1923*. It has now been twenty years since the previous version was published and, even though we are considering events that occurred some ninety years ago, a great deal of new information has become available in the interim. As a result, this project is expected to be a substantial undertaking and will likely require an extended time period — probably at least two years — to complete. The Collectors Club of Chicago has tentatively agreed to publish the new edition.

The Board has designated Ed Dubin and Al Kugel as co-editors in chief for the new handbook. There is a great deal of work to be done to complete this project, and the cooperation of many members will be sought. Ed and Al expect that the new edition will have between 25 and 30 chapters, and they will be recruiting volunteers to serve as sub-editors for each chapter. (Fortunately, some of the sub-editors of the 1990 edition are still active philatelically, and it is hoped that they will be willing and able to contribute to the new one.) Tentatively, the chapters that are envisaged for the new edition are as follows:

1. The Vanguard 1914-1917
2. Early History of the AEF
3. Postal Markings of the AEF
4. Markings & History by APO
5. Railway Postmarks of the AEF
6. Special Services Mail
7. AEF Holiday Mail
8. AEF Mail to/from Foreign
9. APO 800 Postmarks
10. APO 901 in Italy
11. APO 975 & the Courier Service
12. Occupation of the Rhineland
13. Military Aviation
14. U.S. Navy
15. Marine Mail
16. The African-American Soldier
17. Postal Censorship (military/civilian)
18. AEF Medical Service
19. Red Cross & Other Relief Groups
20. American POWs in Germany
21. German POWs in France
22. POWs & Internees in the U.S.
23. AEF Guards & Russian POWs
24. Stationery used by the AEF
25. Patriotic covers used by the AEF
26. The Home Front
27. U.S. Training Camps/Facilities
28. North Russian Campaign
29. Siberian Campaign

Some members with expertise in certain areas have already indicated their willingness to participate, but more help will be needed. Volunteers should contact one of the editors-in-chief. Not everyone will want to be a sub-editor, but it is hoped that there will be a broad participation by members who have AEF material to review their holdings and report anything that was not covered previously or extends the dates of usage. Moreover, many of the illustrations in the 2nd edition and updates are not up to today's quality standards. If you own or know the whereabouts of significant items, we would appreciate receiving new color copies or scans, which will be forwarded to the appropriate sub-editor once we are up and functioning.

Ed Dubin (dubine@comcast.net)

Al Kugel (afkugel@hotmail.com)

"We of the Game..."

(Continued from Page 1...)

mind, they were loyal to America over Japan and he never made use of them for espionage activities.

Although he had no knowledge of a planned attack on Pearl Harbor, Yoshikawa assumed that the information he collected would help prepare for such an eventuality. In a September 1941 message from the Japanese Navy, he was told to divide Pearl Harbor into five zones and provide the location and number of warships in the harbor using a grid system. The report which he sent twice a week in response to this request was the information that enabled Admiral Yamamoto to finalize his plan for the December 7 attack. Figure 1 is a package wrapper mailed from Hawaii by a serviceman, and postmarked at the time of the December 7, 1941 attack. When Yoshikawa heard the code phrase on the short wave radio from Tokyo signaling an attack against America, he destroyed all evidence of his activities and although arrested that same day, the FBI found no incriminating evidence of his espionage. Yoshikawa eventually returned to Japan in August 1942 via the *MS Gripsholm* in a diplomat prisoner exchange. He never received any official recognition of his services while working for naval intelligence during the remainder of the war. After the war, he tried to open his own business, but it failed as people became aware of his role in the war, blaming him for preparing for the Pearl Harbor attack and the rest of the war. Penniless and jobless, supported by his wife, he died in a nursing home in 1966.

At approximately the same time as Yoshikawa was spying in Oahu, President Franklin Roosevelt appointed William J. Donovan of New York as the Coordinator of Information (COI), in July 1941. This was a new civilian office attached



Figure 1. Letter mailed from Hawaii by a serviceman, and postmarked at the time of the December 7, 1941 attack.

to the White House and the President wanted the COI to oversee and promote greater cooperation and coordination between the traditional military and civilian intelligence services in light of the worldwide German and Japanese military actions. The office of the Coordinator of Information (COI) constituted the nation's first peacetime, non-departmental intelligence organization. While this office was transformed into the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) and Office of War Information (OWI) in June 1942, the need for an "above the fray" coordinator was cited again by the 9/11 Commission in their report in July 2004. This led to the creation of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence in April 2005. Figure 2 shows envelopes from the OWI and different operational OSS units mailed from the ETO, MTO and the CBI during the war. The one with the OWI return address is franked with a 3 cent stamp, but it was not necessary. As an employee of the US government overseas in a war zone on government business, the sender was eligible for the free frank privilege for surface mail.

After the U.S. entry in WW II, the functions of propaganda and information dissemination, and control of the content and imagery of war messages were split off from the COI and in June 1942 put under the newly created Office of War Information. The Office of Strategic Services (OSS) had the mission to collect and analyze strategic information required by the Joint Chiefs of Staff. During the war, the OSS supplied policy makers with facts and estimates, but as a result of maneuvering by the domestic intelligence agencies (FBI, Naval Intelligence and Army G2), the OSS was only able to perform its mission of gathering and coordinating intelligence about the Axis powers and to support resistance groups behind enemy lines in Europe and Asia and to conduct special operations both human intelligence functions and special operations paramilitary functions not assigned to other agencies.

Since operations in the Pacific theater were limited by General MacArthur's reluctance to have any OSS personnel within his area of operations, the OSS operated primarily in the European and China-Burma-India (CBI) Theaters of Op-

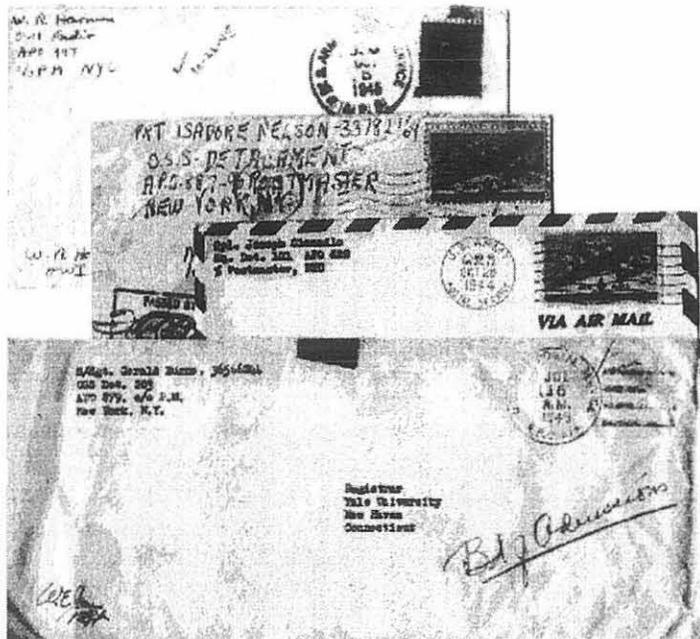


Figure 2. OWI and OSS envelopes from European, Mediterranean and China theaters of operation sent by different operational units.

"We of the Game..."

erations. In Europe, the OSS sent operatives into many countries that were behind enemy lines, including France, Norway and Greece, as well as into Germany itself. They helped arm, train, supplied and fought alongside local resistance forces against the Axis occupation. Much has been written about the OSS activities in the ETO, from the Jedburgh teams to Operational Groups that carried out direct action behind enemy lines. There are also lesser known stories, such as the Melanie mission in Holland from September 1944 to May 1945. This team was credited with providing the most accurate and complete intelligence picture for its assigned area of any intelligence operation during the war, and with its Dutch Resistance agents contributed substantially to Allied intelligence operations in Holland.

In the CBI, there were a number of units operating throughout India and Southeast Asia. Detachment 101 had a maximum strength of 1,000 officers and men, and created, supplied, trained, led, and fought with approximately 10,000 guerrilla troops known as the USA Kachin Rangers, in north Burma. Together, they made a strong, aggressive, intelligence gathering, fighting force, providing target intelligence for the Allied air forces; destroying enemy bridges, supply dumps, and rail lines; rescuing downed Allied fliers; and providing scouting and other help for the American infantry operating in Burma, including Merrill's Marauders. For the most part, Detachment 101 guerrilla forces fought in close support of allied military units and were organized in formations no larger than the size of a company. They were generally deployed widely, in small groups conducting reconnaissance, ambushes, and hit-and-run harassment operations. They were highly mobile, supplied almost entirely by air, and tended to rely more on dispersion than entrenched positions for defense. They were more effective when close to the fighting forces than when deployed deep behind Japanese army lines, because the continuing pressure of our conventional forces on the Japanese prevented the latter from disen-

gaging and attacking the guerrilla forces with enough strength to cut them off and destroy them.

Detachment 203 was an OSS operational group in the China Theater and was part of the SACO (Sino-American Cooperative Organization). In mid 1945 this group created a program of "poison pen" letters to be sent to Japanese nationals. The OSS created Japanese writing paper, envelopes, and counterfeit postage stamps in May and June 1945. For postage on the letters, the OSS forged the Japanese 5-sen brown-carmine Togo stamp of 1942. They were printed in sheets of 9, perforated 11 1/2 instead of the 13 x 13 1/2 of the genuine and without a watermark. About 4,800 stamps in all were printed to fill three orders from OSS Detachment 203. Unknown to the OSS staff, the 5-sen rate was no longer valid for postage in Japan, so it is possible that none of the propaganda letters were delivered.

Throughout World War II, there were many levels of secrets. The top tier on anyone's list would include the decryption of the Enigma machine and German military codes, the Norden bombsight, and ship and troop convoy sailings (Remember, Loose Lips Sink Ships!). At the top of the list would be date and place of the European invasion, and the activities related to the development and construction of the atomic bomb.

One of the most successful espionage and counterespionage activities during WWII was carried out by the British and was called "Double Cross (XX)". In an attempt to obtain strategic and tactical information about the buildup of US and British military forces and European invasion plans, the Abwehr (German military intelligence) sent a large number of spies into Great Britain. Due to a combination of counter-espionage work prior to the war and signals intelligence during it, British Military Intelligence (MI5) monitored and apprehended the German agents as they were sent into Britain. These agents were then turned into double agents and began working for the British authorities. The preferred communication with the Abwehr was by wireless telegraphy, and the double agents were used to broadcast mainly disinformation to their Nazi controllers.

One infamous German agent, codenamed Garbo, started running deception operations by himself. Living in Portugal, and using guidebooks, maps and a very vivid imagination, he convinced his Abwehr contacts that he was spying in the UK. He created an entire network of phantom agents and finally succeeded in convincing British authorities that he could be useful as a double agent. Garbo and his phantom network were incorporated into the main Double Cross system, and he became so respected by the Abwehr that they stopped landing agents in Britain after 1942. Garbo was even awarded the Iron Cross along with the congratulations of Adolf Hitler for his efforts. The Germans became dependent on the spurious information which was fed to them by Garbo's network and the other Double Cross agents.

Because of the success of the Double Cross activities, the Allies integrated those agents into the larger strategic deception operation for the Allied invasion of France, known as OPERATION FORTITUDE. The goal was not just to fool the Germans about where the D-Day landings would take place, but also when it would happen, by per-



Figure 3. Envelopes mailed from members of the deception force of the First United States Army Group (FUSAG) as part of "Operation Fortitude," the plan to deceive the Germans about the time and place of the European invasion.

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suading them that Normandy was merely a diversion. By doing so, the hope was that the German High Command would keep military forces at Calais in anticipation of the "real" invasion, and not reinforce the Normandy battlefield. Fortitude South was designed to induce the Germans to believe that the main invasion of France would occur in the Pas de Calais. The plan created a (fictitious) primary invasion force of the First U.S. Army Group (FUSAG) in England, commanded by General George Patton, complete with radio activity at all expected levels of Army, Divisions, and Regiments. FUSAG was concentrated in southeast England in Kent, at the narrowest part of the English Channel across from Calais in order to shape the Germans' thinking. At the same time, activities of the 21st Army Group under General Bernard Montgomery for the genuine Normandy invasion force were being staged further south on the English Channel. Figure 3 illustrates two envelopes. The upper one is from a Women's Army Corps soldier using the FUSAG return address, and is franked with English postage at the trans-Atlantic surface rate. This was required because the envelope was addressed to Canada, which made it ineligible for the servicewoman's free frank privilege.

On behalf of the Allies, the Double Cross agents transmitted misinformation or out-of-date information to the Germans. One part of the effort was a misdirection of assignment. Real military divisions were "identified" as "ready-to-go" parts of the imaginary Calais invasion force, when they were in fact in preparation for the real Normandy landing. The lower envelope in Figure 3 was sent from a member of the 7th Armored Division while it was in preparation for deployment in France. At the time of the mailing, it was identified as one of the component of the imaginary Calais force, still waiting to launch the "main" invasion. Note that the letter is endorsed "POLISH WRITTEN," so that the unit censor would know how to get it translated. Marking like this are not infrequent, as a number of the men under arms were first generation Americans of immigrant parents. These family members were often not literate in written English, and the best way to communicate was in the language of the "old country." Other parts of the deception included reporting sightings of "phantom" units' uniform shoulder patches, vehicle marking and movements, overheard bar-talk from soldiers, and other invasion related activities. These details allowed the Germans to construct a misleading order of battle for the Allied forces. The breaking of German codes and the ability to read messages from the Enigma system allowed the Allies to make an accurate assessment of whether the double agents were really trusted by the Germans and what effect their information had. The plan achieved its goal, because the Germans kept 15 divisions in reserve waiting for an attack on Calais which never came, which allowed the Allies to maintain and expand their foothold in Normandy.

Concurrent with the conventional military operations, a group of scientists gathered in a former boy's school in a remote section of the American Southwest. Their task was to think about experiment with and solve theoretical and practical problems related to the construction of a weapon that would use the power of the atom. Its code-

name was the Manhattan Project, and it set the United States on a course that changed its relationship with the rest of the nations of the world. Led by Robert Oppenheimer and General Leslie Groves, the work was carried out by teams of American, British and émigré European scientists, support by civilian and military technicians. Everything was done to preserve the secrecy of the work, including using a blind mailbox address for personal correspondence to and from all of the project personnel living and working at Los Alamos, N.M. Despite the best efforts of the U.S. military, spies working for Russia infiltrated the project. Scientists such as Klaus Fuchs, and Theodore Hall, long-time communists who volunteered their services, obtained critical information, and would pass it onto others working in the support staff for smuggling out and transmission onward to others. Another person involved was David Greenglass, an Army machinist at Los Alamos, where he worked for the scientists on the implosion process. Using his wife Ruth as the conduit, Greenglass soon began funneling information regarding the atomic bomb to his sister and brother-in-law. Julius Rosenberg was an American engineer who by the end of the war had been heavily involved in industrial espionage for years, both as a source himself and as the head of a network of like-minded engineers dispersed throughout the country. Ethel, Julius's wife, was also a devoted communist, who knew about and participated in her husband's espionage activities. Figure 4 shows an envelope mailed by a soldier at Los Alamos using the secret "PO Box 1663," as well as a Cuban stamp noting the twentieth anniversary of the execution of the Rosenbergs.

While leaks to the Russians were suspected during 1944-1945, the prevailing political thought was that since the Russian were allies, it could do no harm. That was a tremendous error in judgment, apparent as soon as active hostilities in Europe were finished. It wasn't until 1950 that enough information had been collected and analyzed that the role of the various scientific and support people involved was understood and acted upon. One of the major sources of information was the "VENONA" project. The U.S. Army's Signal Intelligence Service analyzed encrypted high-level Soviet diplomatic intelligence messages intercepted in large volumes during and immediately after World War II by American, British



Figure 4. Envelope mailed from one of the secret P.O. boxes used as part of the Manhattan Project, and a stamp noting the 20th anniversary of the death of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg.

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and Australian listening posts. A large volume of these messages were encrypted using a tool called a "one-time pad" system, where each page is used exactly once and then disposed of. Apparently, the manufacturers of Soviet secret-communication materials had reused pages of some of the "one-time" pads in other "one-time" pads, which were then used for other secret messages. In December 1946, a major break in decrypting the code was made, and it revealed the existence of Soviet espionage in the Manhattan Project. This information led to the arrest of Fuchs in 1950, after which he confessed and implicated others, leading to the unraveling of the espionage ring of the Rosenbergs. Because the USSR was an ally of the United States, the Rosenbergs were not charged with treason, but with conspiracy to commit espionage. The USSR denied that the Rosenbergs were spies for them, but the Rosenbergs were convicted, and were executed in 1953. Soviet espionage directed at the Manhattan Project probably hastened by at least 12-18 months the Soviet acquisition of an atomic bomb. When the Soviet Union conducted its first nuclear test in August 1949, the device they used was virtually identical in design to the one that had been tested at by the U.S. in 1944. A number of spies within the Manhattan Project have never been positively identified. Most are only known by their codenames, as revealed in the VENONA decrypts.

Another spy whom Russian initially disavowed was Richard Sorge. He was the son of German citizens who was born in Russia. After serving in the German Army in World War I, he studied Marxism and joined the German Communist Party. In 1925 he moved to the Soviet Union where he was soon recruited as a spy. Using the cover of being a journalist he was sent to various European countries and in November 1929 was sent to Germany. He was instructed to join the Nazi Party and not to associate with left-wing activists. To help develop a cover for his spying activities he obtained a post working for a newspaper. After several years in China and working with the Chinese Communist Party, he was assigned to organize a spy network in Japan. Continuing his journalistic cover, Sorge went to Nazi Germany and got credentials as a reporter for several newspapers. He arrived in Japan in September 1933, and organized his spy network with other journalists and Comintern agents. Sorge and his network developed access to and relations with important figures including the German Ambassador to Japan Herbert von Dirksen and Japanese Prime Minister Fumimaro Konoye. From these sources, Sorge was able to find out information about Germany's intentions

towards the Soviet Union and information about Japan's foreign policy. Sorge's greatest achievement was to inform the Soviet Union in December, 1940, of the proposed Operation Barbarossa, the invasion of Russia by Germany. At the end of August, 1941, Sorge was able to tell Stalin that Japan would not attack the Soviet Union that year. Two months later Sorge was arrested in Tokyo and was held in prison for three years. The Soviet Union refused to acknowledge Sorge as their spy, and he was hanged in November, 1944. It was not until 1964 that the Soviet Union did recognize Sorge's achievements, and he was commemorated on stamps of the USSR and East Germany. Figure 5 shows the stamps.

So, as "R" said at the beginning, there are no thanks and no help for the spies of the world. They have the secret pleasure of knowing how they have influenced and shaped world events, and perhaps changed history. In many ways, this profession demonstrates the power of what one person can do. While understanding the moral point behind Henry Stimson's decision, it ignored the political realities of human nature and of the world then, now and into the future.

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(2004) by ADRIENNE WILMOTH LERNER

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Detachment 101, Double Cross System, Operation Fortitude, OSS, Richard Sorge, Takeo Yoshikawa



Figure 5. Richard Sorge on East German and Soviet Union stamps.

Screaming Eagles and The Battle for Mother's Day Hill

by Don Kochi

When we think of the 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam, the battle for Hamburger Hill (Hill 937) seems synonymous in many people's mind to have been the singular defining combat event for the Screaming Eagles. A costly human meat grinder in casualty numbers, yes, but one occurring late (1969) in the division's Vietnam chronology. It was far back as 1965 when a piecemeal element of the division was first deployed to South Vietnam as part of the initial expeditionary effort to suppress the growing communist insurgency. Soon upon arrival they found themselves in heavy engagements fighting the Viet-Cong and North Vietnamese Army (PAVN).

Referred by several names, "Always-First Brigade," "Nomads of Vietnam," and "Eagle's Brigade," the 1st Brigade (Separate) of the 101st Airborne Division arrived at Bien Hoa/Vung Tau in July of 1965 and was immediately dispatched to II Corps (RVN) as their tactical area of responsibility (TAOR). Operating out of Camp Eagle's Roost at Phan Rang, units of the 1st Brigade (Sep.) assisted in the pacification of Phu Yen Province and experienced heavy combat action near Kontum. At the time, the 1st Brigade's table of organization consisted of three frontline maneuver battalions; the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 327th Infantry (Airborne) and the 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry (Airborne). Making up the Brigade's both assigned and attached organic assets were; the 2nd BN of 320th Artillery (ABN), A Co. of 326th Engineers BN (ABN), D Co. of 326th Medical BN. (ABN), and B. Co. of 501st Signal BN (ABN). Note that the supporting units were all airborne-qualified. All personnel assigned to the 101st Airborne Division had to be a bonafide paratrooper wearing their hard-earned jump wings. However with the increasing dependency on the helicopter as the primary assault vehicle in Vietnam, the famed Screaming Eagle Division sadly lost their "jump-status" by August 26, 1968 and was reconfigured strictly into an air-assault airmobile division, which it remains today.

In April 1967, Task Force OREGON a provisional division-sized command was formed to neutralize enemy activity in the Quang Ngai Province. Its secondary role was to relieve U.S. Marines units in the area permitting their movement further northwards to the DMZ vicinity to stem the growing NVA pressure. Additionally the task force freed the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) to move their operations further west and south-

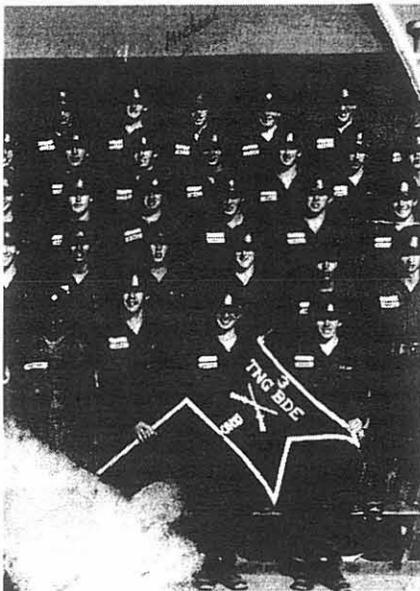


Figure 1. Section of 1966 basic training platoon graduation photo with Peterson pointed out

west into the moun-

tainous Central Highlands where their tactical air mobility gave them a distinct advantage. The three combat brigades constituting Task Force OREGON were the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, the 196th (Light) Infantry Brigade, and the 1st Brigade (Separate) of the 101st Airborne Division.

Directed by USARVN Headquarters and OPCON TF OREGON, the 1st Brigade (Sep.) 101st ABN DIV was assigned the Song Tra Cau Valley and western Ba To District vicinity (Quang Ngai Province, I Corps) as their primary tactical area of responsibility (TAOR) for their next operation. The airborne brigade was to conduct a series of search and destroy operations to find, fix, and destroy residing VC/NVA forces and weapons caches as well as eliminate their base camps found in sectors west and northwest of Duc Pho. The mission nomenclature given for this rather optimistic campaigning was "Operation MALHEUR," with Phase I commencing on May 11, 1967 and terminating on June 8, 1967.

In preparation, from May 1st to May 6th 1967, the brigade began effecting movement to Duc Pho from their main home base at Camp Eagle's Roost in Phan Rang. The first stage consisted of truck convoys up to Nha Trang, and was followed by a seaborne stage of LST ships transporting most of the brigade from Nha Trang to Duc Pho on the final northward leg. By May 8, 1967, all three combat maneuver battalions were firmly ensconced at CARENTAN Base, the brigade's forward base camp at Duc Pho. It was about this time a young paratrooper, PFC Michael E. Peterson joined the brigade as one of several new replacement "cherries" replenishing the depleted ranks for the upcoming operation.

A 19-year old draftee from Monrovia, California, Michael Peterson entered U.S. Army basic training at Fort Ord, Calif., in mid-1966. Graduating with 2nd Platoon, B Company, 5th Battalion, Basic Combat Training (CBT) 3rd Brigade (Figure 1), this infantry training virtually sealed a guarantee tour-of-duty in South Vietnam. The contents of a letter written to his boyhood friend is revealing of the Army's ramped-up training to meet manpower demands for a growing conflict in Southeast Asia. Postdated Sept. 13, 1966 with a Monterey Calif. cancellation (Figure 2), it said in part:

"...Sorry I've taken so long to write, but I've been pretty busy lately. They keep us going from 5AM to 9:30PM. We do a lot of physical training that's really hard. We got our M-14 rifles the other day and learned how to take them apart and clean them and put them back together again. I can hardly wait to start shooting them. All they do around here is yell at you. We've been having a lot of talks and films on guerrilla warfare and counterinsurgency. If you don't know what that means,

PETERSON, MICHAEL E
 U.S. 5669 3498
 B-5-3 (CBT) 2nd Platoon
 Fort Ord, Calif.



Bob Stakke
 16925 Grondale
 Conine, Calif.

Figure 2. Cover, Sept. 13, 1966 from BCT Fort Ord, CA.

Screaming Eagles...

ask your dad. I signed up to go into the paratroopers but I might not get it. They said they can only take about three out of our company. Well, it's almost time for light out, so I better sign off...."

Apparently he was successful in wrangling a limited jump-school slot at Fort Benning, Georgia, where he proudly earned his U.S. Army Parachutist Qualification wings (Figure 3). Finishing his advanced infantry training, Peterson's military occupational specialty (MOS) is listed on his service records, as 11C1P, Indirect Fire Infantryman Airborne-qualified. Next stop, a one-year combat tour in the Republic of Vietnam.



Figure 3. Peterson's Airborne Parachutist Qualification Wings

After a quick refueling layover in Honolulu, Michael Peterson stepped onto a broiling Bien Hoa airbase tarmac in mid-March 1967 and inhaled his first breath of scorching tropical humidity. Bussed to the 90th "Repo-Depo" Replacement Center on a fast sprawling US Army base at nearby Long Binh, Peterson spent a couple days undergoing the requisite in-country processing dealing both with reams of triplicate paperwork and armfuls of individual weapons, clothing, and field-gear equipment issues. Being an unassigned jump-qualified infantryman in March of 1967 there were only two possible unit assignments open to him, the Sky Soldiers of the 173rd Airborne Brigade

or the Screaming Eagles of the 1st Brigade (Sep.) of the 101st Airborne Division.

The Eagle's Brigade with its voracious appetite in replacement requirements quickly selected the lion's share of the newly arrived paratroopers. Before the personnel officers parceled them out to the brigade's three line battalions, Peterson along with all newly arrived "FNGs" were subject to a series of "P-Training" (i.e., preparatory training). During this time in the brigade's history, "P-School" was conducted at their main base camp at Phan Rang. Lasting approximately a week, experienced 101st cadre instructors imparted hard-learned lessons orientating the green troopers to the rigors of jungle warfare and cunning tactics of the enemy. Strenuous PT and running exercises were mixed in, more so to acclimate and condition the men to the brutal tropical weather in hopes of reducing heat prostration cases once out in the real "bush." When the rest of the division entered Vietnam in late November 1967, a formal inter-unit indoctrination course known as SERTS (Screaming Eagles Replacement Training School) was established at Bien Hoa.

Finally settled at Tent City in the brigade's main base at Phan Rang, Peterson on the day of his 20th birthday wrote another letter to his boyhood friend. The franked-FREE cover (Figure 4) displays a designated (to the 101st ABN DIV stationed at Phan Rang starting November 14, 1965 ending March 1968) APO 96347 with a March 22, 1967 APO postal cancel. The enclosed two-page letter written on divisional stationery from at the base camp's PX conveyed in part:

"...I've been in Vietnam now almost two weeks. It's pretty miserable over here. It's real hot and dusty. When I got here I had to go through another week of jungle training in the mountains. I'm now at my permanent base camp for the 101st Airborne Division. In another week we're going out into the field for about 3 months on some operation.... Hey, guess what? I'm not a teenager anymore. As of today I'm twenty years old. I hope the next twelve months go by fast. I can't wait to get home. Well, I gotta get going so write as soon as you can...."

Shuttled out among the pod of replacements to the brigade's forward operating base, CARENTAN Camp at Duc Pho, Peterson arrived in time for the commencement of Operation MALHEUR Phase-I. On May 9, 1967, he was finally assigned a company, marking the official start of his combat tour and where he was to spend the next 365 days. His new home was Alpha Company, 1st Battalion of the 327th Infantry Regiment.

Streaming a battalion motto, "ABOVE THE REST," the Alpha Company men were known within the First (BN.) and throughout the brigade as "ABU." Based on unit lineage and a former A/1327th officer's wild imagination, ABU was a mythical paratrooper monster serving as Alpha's figurehead. A bizarre concoction of a gorilla's body topped with a lion's head spouting a moose's horns, trailing an alligator's tail, wearing jump-boots, clutching a pistol in one hand and a trench knife in the other, needless to say, it was both ugly and ferocious at first look.

A couple of months before Peterson's arrival to CARENTAN, Alpha Company recently underwent a command change acquiring a new company commander. Never a good omen before the onset of a major field operation, the departing

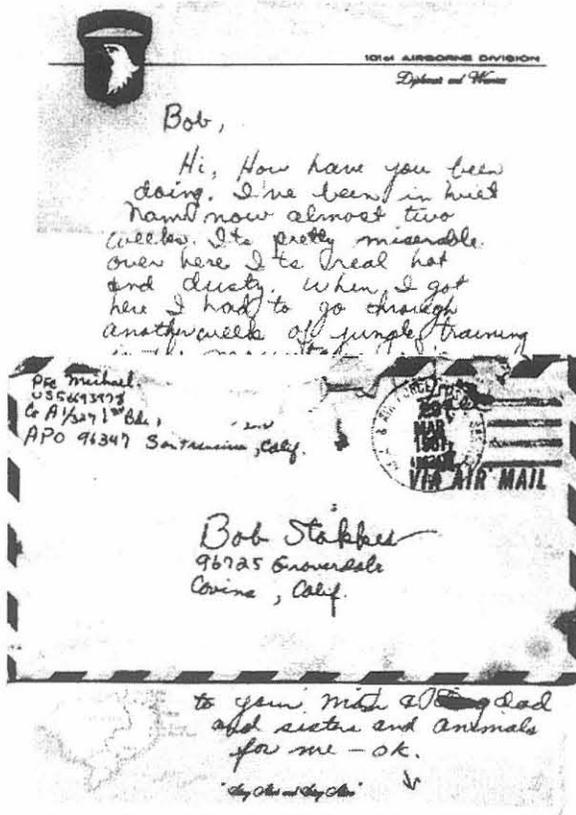


Figure 4: Letter and cover from APO 96347, mailed March 22, 1967.

Screaming Eagles...

company captain, more for the welfare of his men, conducted a month long on-the-job training for his prospective replacement before handing over the reins. Older than the average company-grade officer, the untried honcho's age, suggestive of a promotion pass-over in some distant fitness report, made his nickname as "the Old Man" seem appropriate. Although sporting the mandatory set of airborne wings on his chest, the new captain's branch of service was engineer, not infantry, which did little to bolster the confidence of the men or enhance his leadership mantle in their eyes.

It was into this particular company brew and turmoil, Peterson joined his new comrades. Feeling conspicuous in his crisp unfaded OD jungle fatigues and unfamiliar among the salty battle-hardened ABU line doggies, he realized as a "new-guy" he was neither accepted or considered trustworthy until he met their approval in the face of combat. While anxiously pondering this crucible by fire, he was assigned the unenviable task as the Old Man's secondary RTO (Radio/Telephone Operator) in the company headquarters. Besides having to "hump" a twenty-seven pound PRC-25 field radio in addition to his usual combat load, the radio antenna often posed as an irresistible target for the first RPG round fired by an enemy hoping to waste the command element. While Peterson's radio monitored the sedate battalion net, the captain's primary RTO was a field-experienced trooper handling the busier and vital transmission traffic on the company (internal) net.

At CARENTAN on the morning of May 11, 1967, the men of the 1st Battalion burdened by their individual combat gear, waddled to and mounted the 176th Helicopter Assault Company slick-ships to kick-off the beginning phase of Operation MALHEUR. Air-lifted in a matter of minutes and deposited at their arty-prepped and gunship-saturated LZ at the bottom of Song Ve Valley river basin, the companies began to spread-out like groping fingers to locate their designated search-and-destroy coordinates. Accompanied by a three-man ABC reporter and camera crew, Alpha was further augmented by a scout dog handler from 42nd Infantry Platoon and a 320th Artillery forward observer (FO) team. Operating well within the arc of the artillery fan, the 2nd BN (ABN), 320th Artillery employed in a direct support role for the entire brigade, was prepared to deliver 105mm fire upon immediate request.

Although only 10 kilometers from the coast, the vicinity still touched upon the Central Highlands mountainous terrain of steeply plunging and rolling hills covered by a dense jungle canopy and heavy vegetation. Both the Song Ve and Song Tra Cau Valleys featured a hostile local populace and a deeply embedded VC infrastructure. According to brigade S-2 intelligence, the enemy facing the ABU troopers during this opening phase of the operation was the 2nd VC Regiment. Characterized by one participant as "hard-core," all three VC battalions were active in Base Area 124, Alpha's operating sector. Both valleys, a major food source for the local Viet Cong forces had several of its rice fields under defoliation consideration once the indigenous population was evacuated and resettled at the nearby detainee and relocation center during Phase-II. The gradual absence of local inhabitants also had the additional effect of permitting large four by six mile area swaths declared as free-fire zones throughout the lower valley regions. Daytime highs in the blistering upper 90's with

a punishing relative humidity pushing 60 to 90%, this was the malevolent slice of Vietnam Michael Peterson and the men of Alpha Company entered.

Enemy reaction to the incursion was swift. On the first day, the battalion recorded ten incidents of light contact resulting in an approximate eleven VC/NVA body count. The following day on May 12th, eight more incidents of contact were experienced by the battalion, once again racking-up the enemy body count, however at the cost of one US KIA and two US wounded. For Alpha Company moving on an easterly azimuth, they shortly encountered abandoned villages and deserted "hootches" which were quickly Zippo'ed on fire. Plodding under a merciless sun through a landscape strangely devoid of its inhabitants, the burial mounds and untended pottery seen in the empty hamlets added to the eerie spooky atmosphere permeating the air. In line with Alpha's movement, the prominent feature of "Nui Hon Vu" or Hill 464 soon loomed before the men. Reaching the hill's base by nightfall, the Captain decided to surmount the hilltop's bald promontory for a re-supply rendezvous with brigade choppers the following day. With this future objective in mind, Alpha Company bivouac-down for the night by a deserted ville, literally in the shadow of the hill.

On the morning of May 13th, the troopers with a collective mood of anticipation, saddled-up their heavy rucksacks and set the order of the march for the hill's ascent. Following the point squad, 2nd platoon was the lead off with the company command sandwiched between it and the 4th (Weapons) Platoon lagging directly behind. Each trooper spaced 5 meters apart, the entire column was strung-out for several hundred meters with the 1st and 3rd platoons in trailing echelon bringing up the far rear. Scanning the precipitous degree of elevation, the ABUs already low on water, knew it would be a difficult hump as they started up the single narrow trail. The dense vegetation with a high jungle canopy swallowing them, provided excellent cover and concealment but afforded poor observation and fields of fire. The smothering odor of decayed plant life coupled with the screeches and croaking of tropical birds and reptiles invaded the troopers' senses. As the long column of men slowly snaked further up the scissoring cut-backs, increasingly they saw disturbing evidence and sensed the overpowering presence of the enemy. Unoccupied spider holes, strewn ammo pouches, empty satchels, pieces of dropped field-gear and even commo wire laid before their path.

About noon the same day, Alpha halted the advance for a break. The entire column wearily flopped down onto the trail in a staggered herringbone posture, every alternate trooper faced the opposite direction covering both flanks. Within minutes, sudden contact was initiated at one point along 2nd platoon's ranks with their lead element pinned down at the head of the column. 4th platoon came on line to assist their endangered brother platoon and began to assault the enemy positions. Ordered by the captain, a dozen 4th platoon troopers splintered off to roll-up the enemy's right flank. After sustaining some casualties, the VC just as sudden, broke contact and retreated further up Nui Hon Vu Hill. Two 2nd platoon men, a M-60 gunner and a squad sergeant were wounded during the skirmish, and after preliminary medical attention were hoisted out by a hovering medevac's jungle penetrator basket. Alpha's

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presence and location was no longer a mystery to the enemy. Despite this, the Old Man after surveying the situation and conferring with battalion, directed the men to “keep on pushing” with their upward advance. Positioned only two-thirds up Hill 464 when faced by a rapidly approaching darkness, the company in a broken column formation, harbored-in a few feet off the trail for what was to be an apprehensive and sleepless night. Since Alpha would beat a hasty departure early the next morning, foxholes were not ordered dug, however a defensive perimeter along the file was erected. Reeling out claymores and situating early warning listening posts on their outer flanks; the entire company on high alert, placed grenades within easy reach, set the two-man watch and ate cold C-rats in total silence.

Mother’s Day in 1967 Vietnam fell on May 14th. The tense grunts pulled themselves off the jungle floor and reluctantly greeted the morning with a palpable tingling of doom and danger. They tried to shake off the nervous stiffness by focusing their mental effort and energy on readying themselves and their gear for the day’s final push. The men popped malaria pills, policed the immediate area, readjusted rucksack loads, locked and loaded weapons, and shared a last cigarette or swig of precious water with their squad-mates. While the captain reviewed plans for the day’s track with his inner command circle, both the acting 4th platoon leader, a senior NCO, and the 2nd platoon lieutenant vociferously “suggested” to the Old Man the inadvisability of continuing the route’s direction. The NCO, a seasoned infantryman with plenty of “field-time,” recognized the signs of enemy life and realized they would walk into harm’s way the closer the hilltop. Ignoring the advice, the captain’s only concern was meeting the projected supply drop as he once again set the order of the march. The 4th platoon point squad with anxiety and strain clearly etched on their faces, started off the column into the thick jungle gloom.

It was not even mid-morning when a fork in the trail was reached. After being advised of this, the captain split the column ordering 2nd platoon to take the right branch while keeping his command element intact with 4th platoon, veered off to the left angle. It was perhaps within a few minutes as

both platoons moving somewhat abreast entered the kill zone. The point squad of 2nd platoon had suddenly stumbled onto a bunker complex off the side of their trail and while the platoon LT was radioing the captain of this new development, the jaws of ambush snapped shut.

The enemy’s opening salvo was a tremendous volume of automatic weapons fire unleashed simultaneously at both platoons. Within seconds, the air was filled with flying lead, shredding and chopping the surrounding jungle foliage into bits of green confetti. A shower of Chicom grenades soon followed blowing back several of the troopers down the hill. The initial contact killed the 4th platoon point-man, SP4 Pat Phillips and the scout dog handler, CPL. Michael Bost, and wounded several others. Like muscle memory, the troopers shed their rucks, unlimbered weapons and began to lay down a base of return fire adding to the incredible noise and exploding violence. Snapping small arms fire whipped inches off the ground, muzzle flashes blazed in the dark undergrowth, endless bursts of machine-gun fire hosed down the area as the incoming rounds found, smacked and thudded into the bodies of the troopers desperately clawing for available cover. Without hesitation, the platoon medics along with the senior company aid-man, scuttled forward like land crabs low-crawling directly into the firestorm to retrieve and assist the wounded.

The command element edged up, not quite to the point of contact, but close enough to better assess the chaotic fluid situation. The company captain shouted into the radio for a priority fire mission while the forward observer (FO) called-in coordinates, and just as quickly a marking smoke round arrived. Since the battle terrain presented only a 20-meters visibility, restricting accurate observation, there is some confusion from the participants as to what followed once the first volley of 105mm artillery rounds hit. Some believed to have heard the point squad yell “Drop, Drop!”, when others heard shouts of “Stop, Stop! Check fire!”. Those near the command post heard the Old Man without waiting for an adjustment check, over-ride the FO by demanding fire support to “drop twenty-five and fire for effect!” The troopers who instinctively knew the first volley was “danger-close,” began to scramble wildly, burrowing for deeper cover when they heard the distant booming of the second volley on its way.

The second volley of six 105mm rounds screamed in like a freight train and struck the nearby upper tree-line. Time-delay fused for the enemy emplacements, the projectiles ricocheted off the canopy tops resulting in a classic tree-burst effect. One cone of deadly shrapnel spray deflected downward, blasting directly into the company CP. Killed immediately were SGT. Jerry Norris, and both of the company’s radiomen, CPL. Crawford Snow, a full-blooded Paiute Native-American Indian, and PFC. Michael Peterson. Others in the CP were wounded including the FO and the captain himself.

In the Department of the Army’s official combat after-action report on Operation MALHEUR, the Battle for Mother’s Day Hill was reduced to one (verbatim) sentence: “On 14 May, one company of the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry contacted an enemy force of unknown size in well fortified, dug-in positions, resulting in 8 US KHA and 36 WHA.” Michael Peterson’s body was handled and prepared on May 29, 1967 (Figure 5) for the somber return to CONUS

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20315

STATEMENT OF CASUALTY
DATE PREPARED: 29 May 1967

SERVICE IDENTIFICATION (Name, Service Number, Grade or Rate, Component, Branch and Organization)
PERSONNEL NUMBER: US 66 993 970; UIC: AUC; DO A, 1ST INF, 327TH INF, 1ST BRN, 105TH AIR DIV, AVIATION

DIED on 14 May 1967 in Vietnam as the result of gunshot wound received in hostile ground action.

COMMENCED TOUR IN VIETNAM 9 May 1967

1. NEXT OF KIN (NAME OF BIRTH)
2. DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH
3. GRADE AND PLACE OF LAST ENTRY ON ACTIVE DUTY IN CURRENT STATUS AND HOME OF RECORD AT TIME
4. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER, PAY GRADE, GRADE OF SERVICE FOR PAY, BASIC PAY, INCENTIVE PAY CHECKS IF APPLICABLE
5. ZIP CODE AND CITY

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:
KENNETH G. VICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

This document, when imprinted with the seal of the Office of the Adjutant General, is an official certificate of death. It requires no signature. It may be used to cash bonds, or to settle commercial insurance or other claims where proof of death is required. Copies of this document will not be required by governmental agencies, since these agencies are automatically furnished with proof of death.

FORM 52-2
REPLACES AG FORM 52-2, APR 64, WHICH IS OBSOLETE.

Figure 5. Statement of Casualty, Dept of the Army, 29 MAY 1967. Note the line: COMMENCED TOUR IN VIETNAM 9 MAY 1967.

Screaming Eagles...

by a Graves Registration Team from the 19th Supply and Service Company at CARENTAN base. Before the casket was sealed shut for shipping, one of his dog-tags (Figure 6) was removed and returned among his personal effects to his mother. The dog-tag's mate rests buried with his remains where he is currently interred at his hometown cemetery, Live Oak Cemetery in Monrovia, Calif. (Figure 6). In the Nation's capitol, Michael Peterson is also memorialized on panel 19E, line 121 of "The Wall."

Posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster and Valor device (Figure 6), his hometown newspaper featured, along with his photograph, a front-page article that read in part his Bronze Star citation; "Pfc. Peterson, a radio-telephone operator with the 1st Brigade of the 101st Army Airborne Division, received the Bronze Star for rushing to the side of his commanding officer and firing on the enemy when his company engaged the North Vietnamese in a fight. He was killed when his body caught the brunt of shrapnel from an artillery shell, saving the lives of several of his comrades along with his commanding officer."

With today's mounting battlefield deaths coming out of Iraq and Afghanistan, it is quite easy for Americans to lose sight of or become inured to the past sacrifices of our Nation's long-ago wars. To the memory of the eight courageous paratroopers who gave their lives on Mother Day's Hill, May 14, 1967.... ABOVE THE REST! ABU! DRIVE ON! Lest We Forget.

Special thanks and acknowledgment to Mike "Doc" Ainsworth (4th Plt., A/1/327th INF.), Ron G. Turner (2nd Plt., A/1/327th INF.), Steve Black (2nd Plt., A/1/327th INF.) and John "Jiggs" Patterson (4th Plt., A/1/327th INF.) for re-living that fateful day for me.
All artifacts courtesy of the R. Wade MacElwain collection.

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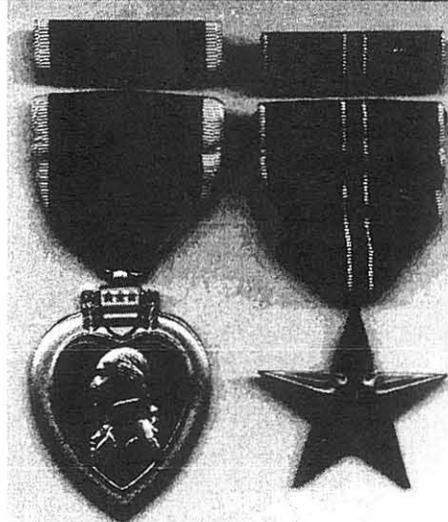
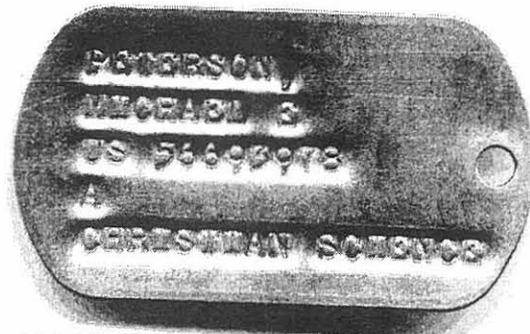


Figure 6. Peterson's M-1960 identification tag, sent to mother as part of his personal effects. Note the "US" prefix before the serial number which indicates draftee status. Below that, Peterson's grave marker, Live Oak Cemetery, Monrovia, Calif. Photo taken May 30, 2010. Below that, his Purple Heart and Bronze Star medals with ribbon bars.

Oral Interviews conducted via phone:

-Michael Ainsworth on 5/31/10 (Memorial Day), 6/4/10, 6/5/10, 6/10/10, 6/13/10

-Steve Black on 6/11/10, 6/15/10, 6/21/10

-John Patterson on 6/5/10, 6/10/10

-Ron Turner on 6/4/10, 6/10/10

Websites: www.327infantry.org/first/stories_poems/mothers_day_hill_thread (Dale Hansen/webmaster)
www.virtualwall.org

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The SMS Goeben and Breslau Odyssey

by Roger Callens

The Early Years

The SMS (Seine Majestät's Schiff) *Goeben* was a *Moltke*-class battle cruiser of the Kaiserliche Marine, launched in 1911 and named after the Franco-Prussian War general August von Goeben. *SMS Breslau* was a *Magdeburg*-class light cruiser launched on May 16, 1911.

When the First Balkan War broke out in October 1912 the German General Staff determined that a naval division was needed to give Germany the ability to project power in the Mediterranean. Therefore both ships were attached to the German "Mittelmeerdivision" (Mediterranean Division) under the command of Admiral Wilhelm Souchon. They left Kiel on November 4, 1912 and arrived on November 15 at Constantinople (in 1930 the city was officially given the Turkish name Istanbul). When war broke out between Austria-Hungary and Serbia on July 28, 1914 the ships were in the Adriatic. To avoid being trapped there, Admiral Souchon moved into the Mediterranean. At the outbreak of the First World War the ships were to interdict French transports transferring troops from North Africa to France however, due to concentration of British and French warships, *SMS Breslau* succeeded in conducting a nuisance bombardment of the embarkation port of Bône, Algeria on August 3, 1914 while the *SMS Goeben* bombarded Philippeville for about 10 minutes.

Admiral Souchon received secret orders instructing him to sail to Constantinople. While sailing to the port of Messina for refueling, the Germans encountered two British cruisers but were able to outrun them. The two ships departed Messina early on August 6, 1914 through the southern entrance of the Strait and then headed for the eastern Mediterranean. The only British naval force standing in Admiral Souchon's way was the 1st Cruiser Squadron which consisted of four armored cruisers under the command of Rear Admiral Troubridge. The Germans headed initially toward the Adriatic in a feint. The move misled Troubridge, who sailed to intercept them in the mouth of the Adriatic. Only the light cruiser *HMS Gloucester*

was in a position to pursue. Despite being outgunned, *HMS Gloucester* tried to delay the escape but the engagement ended without any hits being scored. Admiral Souchon's journey to Constantinople was now clear. In the early evening of August 10, 1914, the two ships entered the Dardanelles. They were met by a Turkish picket boat which guided them through the Sea of Marmara. In order to circumvent neutrality, Germany transferred the ships to the Turkish navy on August 16, 1914. The *Goeben* (Figure 1) was renamed "Yavuz Sultan Selim" and the *Breslau* (Figure 2) "Medelli." Admiral Souchon was offered command of the Turkish fleet.

Black Sea Operations

When the *SMS Goeben* and *Breslau* were transferred to the Turkish navy, their crews continued to wear the same German naval uniforms as before but replacing their usual naval caps with a Turkish red felt fez with a black tassel. They continued to wear this combination throughout the First World War. The land-based units from both ships were machine gun sections who fought at Gallipoli. At first they wore their naval uniforms but due to their conspicuousness in action and confusion about which side they were on, they were soon issued with standard Turkish army uniforms. On October 29, 1914 Admiral Souchon took *Goeben*, *Breslau* and a squadron of Turkish warships into the Black Sea and raided the Russian ports of Novorossiysk, Odessa and Sevastopol. At Novorossiysk 14 steamers were in the harbor sunk by *Breslau's* guns, while 40 oil tanks were set on fire. For 25 minutes *Goeben's* guns flashed and recoiled as her opening salvos exploded across Sevastopol. The Russians fired from a fort and hit the *Goeben's* aft smokestack, killing 14 men. On the return journey *Goeben* hit the Russian destroyer *Pushchin* and sank the minelayer *Prut*.

The activities of *Goeben* and *Breslau* helped to bring Turkey into the war. Russia declared war on Turkey on November 2, 1914 and France and Britain followed on November 5. The most important fact was the loss of the route via the Dardanelles for Britain and France to ship aid to their Russian allies, and for Russia to ship out its grain, one of the main sources of its foreign exchange. On December 26, 1914 the *Goeben* hit two Russian mines whilst entering the Bosphorus. About 2000 tons of water entered the ship. As there were no suitable docking facilities cofferdams had to be used for repairs which took several months. During the next sortie in the Black Sea on April 2-3, 1915 the *Goeben* sunk two Russian merchant ships and on May 10, 1915 there was an engagement with the Russian Black Sea Fleet pre-dreadnought battleships and was hit three times by 12-inch shells, but managed to achieve no hits herself. On November 14, 1915 the *Goeben* attacked unsuccessfully the Russian submarine *Morz*. On July 4, 1916 the *Goeben* bombarded Tuapse sinking a merchant ship and damaging others. The *Breslau* sank the troop transport *Rokkliff* with her torpedo's and raked the schooner *Rezvy* with gunfire. After these actions the *Goeben* returned for repairs. The appearance of superior Russian battleships curtailed further operations of *Goeben* and *Breslau* in the



Figure 1. Marine Schiffpost #29, feldpost postmark 17-1-1917. Allocated to *SMS Goeben*.

SMS Goeben and Breslau...

Black Sea. During the Gallipoli campaign, the *Goeben* tried to fight with the Great British-French fleet which was trying to pass over Canakkale, a seaport on the southern coast of the Dardanelles at their narrowest point, but she was alone and Admiral Souchon didn't want to face deadly risk. *Goeben* (*Yavuz*) was the only Turkish battle cruiser but there were 18 enemy warships including *HMS Queen Elisabeth* and three French cruisers. The *Goeben* (*Yavuz*) only exchanged gunfire with *HMS Queen Elisabeth* which was a super-dreadnought, but they weren't able to harm each other. In an attempt on January 10, 1918 the *Goeben* and *Breslau* emerged from the Dardanelles into the Aegean Sea. The ships encountered the British forces near the island Imbros. In the ensuing battle two British ships were sunk. However, *Goeben* and *Breslau* ran into a minefield. *Breslau* sank immediately with the loss of 330 men but *Goeben*, which struck three mines, managed to struggle back to the Dardanelles where she was beached at the Narrows. The British tried to bomb her, but *Goeben* survived and was refloated on January 16, 1918 and returned to Constantinople.

Epilogue

After the war *Yavuz* (ex *Goeben*) was the only German-built battle cruiser in service. The others were gone at Scapa Flow, when they were scuttled by their crews after a secret suicide order. *Yavuz* survived WW II because Turkey never entered this war. *Yavuz* served as the flagship of the Turkish navy for many years, but after fifty years of active career she began to show her age. She was decommissioned on December 20, 1950. When Turkey joined NATO in 1952 *Yavuz* was assigned the hull number B70, but she was never reactivated,

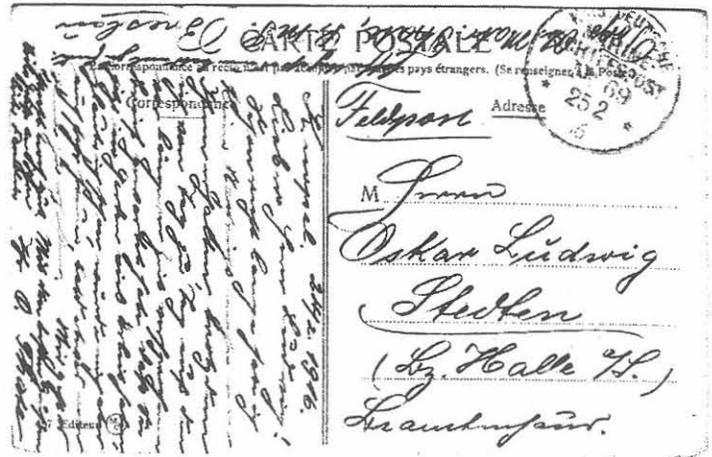


Figure 2. Marine Schiffpost #69, feldpost postmark 25-2-1916. Allocated to SMS *Breslau*.

and was stricken from the Navy register on November 14, 1954.

The Turkish government offered to sell the ship to West Germany in 1963 but the offer was rejected. In 1971 the authorities decided to give the *Yavuz* to breakers for scrapping. This decision was probably a mistake. As the the last Dreadnought-era battle cruiser of the world she could have been preserved as a living museum, but it never happened.

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A Progress Report

Parcels for Belgian Prisoners, II

by Charles LaBlonde CPHH, FRPSL

The original article on this subject, subtitled "A Search for Information," appeared in the Fall 2009 Bulletin of the *Military Postal History Society (MPHS)*. My purpose here is to report on the discoveries (and some lack of discovery) since the publication of the original article. My approach is to thank the many people who have helped in the project and to provide an insight into what has been learned as well as what still remains a mystery.

I will start with my colleagues of the Military Postal History Society, to whom I owe many thanks for getting this research project off to a great start:

- 1 — They published the original article.
- 2 — They allowed the original article to be reprinted in various Belgian philatelic journals at home and abroad.
- 3 — They awarded the article the 2009 MPHS literature prize.

The Report

My most interesting discovery to date is a June 5, 1943 report prepared in Washington, DC (and submitted to Brussels?) about the Society "Parcels for Belgian Prisoners." This document came to me via Rear Admiral W. Timmerman, the Belgian Defense Attaché in Washington, to whom I am greatly indebted. His staff located the report in the Centre for Historical Research and Documentation on War and Contemporary Society (CEGES-SOMA) in Brussels. Because of the importance of the information contained in the report I have translated it and included as an attachment to this article. For help with the translation from French to English I thank Claude Beaulieu, a Canadian gentleman that I met in the middle of the Atlantic on the *Grand Princess!*

The report, which speaks quite well for itself, provides an excellent insight into the background and workings of the parcels activity. It also establishes the scope of the program in numeric terms. From a postal history perspective, however, the report disappoints because it sheds little light on the postal aspects of the program. Nevertheless, there are some interesting tidbits in the report that tease us about the mail.

The report explains the two-sided shipping tags used on the parcels (shown in the original article and again here). The tag was both an address label and a delivery confirmation, completed by the POW and returned to Washington (via the Red Cross, I believe).

- The report notes that 4,000 letters were sent from Belgium to Washington between October and December 1941. These must be the covers that are circulating within the philatelic world.

- The report further tells us that after US entry into the war the parcels correspondence with Washington was sent via the Geneva Red Cross, instead of Belgium – Washington direct.
- Further contact with CEGES-SOMA has produced nothing more from their archives.

Belgium

With some help from the Internet I was able to establish contact with Patrick Maselis, President of the Academie de Philatélie de Belgique. He very kindly put me into contact with Piet Van San, Chairman of the Study Group World War I/II. Piet had the exciting news that a Belgian collector is about to publish a new book about WW II Belgian mail traffic with the USA and that the book will contain a section describing in detail the Parcels for Belgian Prisoners program. Sadly, he was not able to put me into contact with the author, to allow exchange of information before the book is published.

I also exchanged correspondence with Jean Oth, another

Belgian WW II specialist who has no parcel information, but who has written several fine books on WW II Belgian censorship (available in the CCSG Library – See Reference List).

Great Britain

Reg Harrison, editor of the GB publication "Belgapost," published my first article (in color) in his March 2010 issue. To date this has yielded no new in-

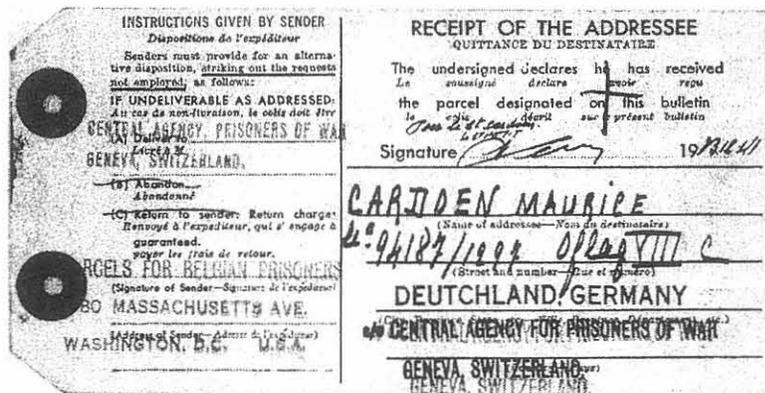
sights. Several members of the GB Belgian Study Circle did report having parcel covers.

At the Scottish Congress in Perth I obtained four parcel covers from an old friend, Sidney Fenemore, and we had a very interesting discussion about the parcel mail and why there is not more of it on the market, given the numbers shown in the report. Cost for Belgian parcel covers in GB seems to range from £15 to £45, based upon my limited data. As late as June 2010 I was actually able to obtain 19 parcel covers at the Channel Islands auction for £65. All 19 of the covers were dated in November 1941. Nobody seems to have an accurate feel for the scarcity of the covers.

Geneva Red Cross

Based upon the 1948 Red Cross end-of-the-war report and the December 1941 parcel covers known to me, it seems that the Red Cross should have some records of the parcel program. The Red Cross actually forwarded the parcels themselves, handled the arrival receipts for parcels from the POW camps and, after December 7, 1941, seems to have handled the parcel requests from the families in Belgium.

Daniel Palmieri, Historical Research Officer in the ICRC Geneva Archives, made a high level search for parcels infor-



Parcels for Belgian Prisoners...

mation but came up empty. He noted that the ICRC is very manpower limited at this time and offered me some help if I visit him in Geneva. I am hoping that one or more of the Belgian researchers will accept the invitation of the Red Cross to visit Geneva, since they are a little closer than me.

Germany

Wolfgang Vogt, the editor of the *AGZ Rundbrief*, very kindly published a request for parcels information in his Volume 124/2009. To date no new parcel information has been uncovered in Germany.

For those who have a broader interest in Belgium WW II mail and its censorship, the *AGZ Rundbrief* has had several fine articles in past issues. See the Reference List for specifics. O.C.A.

As an aside, in the course of my research I happened upon several articles in the Bulletin of the Civil Censorship Study Group (CCSG) about the O.C.A. Postcards that were sent from Belgium, via neutral Lisbon, to both GB and Canada asking for food parcels. O.C.A. stands for Office du Colis Alimentaire or Food Parcel Office. One writer postulates that this program was operated by a church organization in Canada and the food parcels were sent to Belgium via the Red Cross in Geneva. In any case, the O.C.A. is not directly related to the parcels for Belgian POWs.

Scarcity

Between the first article and the present I have seen only two parcel covers for sale on eBay. One was a triple rate cover and sold for over US\$60 (not to me, sadly). I have seen one or two parcel covers in dealer price lists and auctions. But, in general, the parcel covers seem to be reasonably rare, and fetch prices as noted above.

Censorship

I noted in my first article that the parcel mail from Belgium to Washington, D.C. was censored by the Germans — about five percent in Frankfurt (mostly earlier mail) and the rest in Berlin. Of particular interest is the lack of GB Bermuda or Trinidad censorship on this mail. Of approximately 150 covers known to me, only three show GB Bermuda censorship. I find this strange, given the fact that GB censored anything they got their hands on during WW II. Possibly there was a special arrangement with GB for the parcel mail? This will require more research. (I found nothing in the GB *Official History* on this subject. The censorship of this mail remains under investigation).

The Bottom Line

To understand the routing of the covers I believe we need to examine and correlate some key dates, from the report and from known covers. The following *speculative scenario* is based upon covers known to me at this time. As always, more information and opinions would be most welcome.

- September 1940 – Parcel organization founded in Washington, D.C.
- September 1940 to September 1941 – 6000 parcels sent to Belgian POWs, based upon German and Red Cross lists that were made available to the parcel organization. (The implication here is that parcels were sent automatically to POWs whose names appeared on the German lists. No family action was required, thus no mail from Belgium to Washington during has yet been reported during this period.)

- August 1941 – Red & blue coupon system established to organize parcels — parcel shipments controlled by the families in Belgium. (After this date we would expect to see a significant increase in letters from Belgium to Washington, DC and this is indeed the case.)
- July, August, September 1941 – Two letters from Belgium to Washington, DC known to me at this time. (There would have been some time required to promulgate the new parcel system procedures to the POWs and to the families). But, there is no reason that Belgian families could not have been writing to Washington at any time after establishment of the program.
- October – December 1941 – Parcels organization receives 4000 letters from Belgium. (This is the flood of covers that we find in the philatelic marketplace and in collections, mostly dated in November 1941.)
- December 7, 1941 — Parcel requests now handled by the Geneva Red Cross. (We would expect to see the direct letters from Belgium to Washington dry up here, and this indeed happens.)
- December 5-17, 1941 – A few letters known from Belgium to Washington, but opened and resealed by the Geneva Red Cross. (These letters would be the remains of the direct family mail to Washington, that was mailed while the families in Belgium were adjusting to the new parcel rules.)
- No later covers from Belgium to Washington known (so far) after this date.

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Parcels for Belgian Prisoners...

ATTACHMENT

Report on the Activities of the Society "Parcels for Belgian Prisoners" and its Branch "Aid to Consumptive Belgian Children in Switzerland"

The Society "Parcels for Belgian Prisoners" was founded in Washington in September 1940, with the purpose of sending aid to Belgian prisoners of war in Germany. It conforms to American legislation as regards its finances and the limits of its activities. It is registered with the State Department as Number 389.

The Society has been involved since its inception with sending packages (5 kilograms) to camps in Germany, to Belgian POWs designated by name. The packages contain either foodstuffs or clothing. The earliest parcels were sent based upon lists of names provided either by the Germans or by the Belgian Red Cross Delegate in Lausanne or the Belgian Legation in Bern. At the outset the lists were not very extensive but they have been completed little by little with subsequent information, resulting from the inauguration of a so called "tag" system.

The earliest shipments contained clothing items (scarves, socks and sweaters) and living supplies (sugar, powdered milk, dried prunes, chocolate, bouillon, cigarettes and soap) to be divided amongst:

- 36 Officers (OFLAGs III-b ((later II-a)), IX-b, IX-a/z, XVIII-b)
- 196 Soldiers (STALAGs I-a,b, II-c, III-b, IV-a, V-a, VI-b,c,f, VIII-a,c, IX-a, X-a,b,c, XI-a,b, XII-b, XIII-b,a,c, XVII-a & b).

To establish control of the parcel system each parcel was sent with a tag that had on one side name, rank and serial number of the POW. The other side of the tag had information about the parcel to include date of shipment and date of reception (as a receipt for the records of the Society).

Between September 1940 and September 1941, the first year of the program, 6,000 parcels were sent to Belgian prisoners, all by specific name. Around 4,500 parcels were dispatched free of charge via Switzerland by the American Post Office. Around 1,500 were sent by other means. After September 1941 all parcels, without exception, were to be sent by the US Post Office free of charge, via the Central Agency for Prisoners of War in Geneva, in accordance with the Geneva Convention. Special attention was taken to assure that no single POW had an advantage over any other. No soldier or officer was sent both a clothing and a food parcel in the same shipment.

Obviously, at the beginning, the number of recipients was necessarily limited to those POWs appearing on the German lists that were in the possession of the Society. But this problem was corrected little by little and finally completely eliminated with the introduction of the "tag" system in August of 1941. Each prisoner could only receive parcels from abroad that were marked with a tag, blue for provisions or red for clothing. The tags were distributed, in Germany, to the POWs by the camp administrators. Sometimes the Society received double or triple labels from an officer or soldier. In such situations the labels were kept on file and extra parcels were sent only after a delay of up to 4 months.

Following the implementation of the new procedures the Society received requests from the prisoners more and more with a certain regular periodicity, established either directly by the POWs themselves or indirectly by the families of the POWs in Belgium. (A periodic newspaper published within the camps reported the existence of the Society in Washington). Following the rupture of postal relations between the United States and the occupied countries, the parcel requests were handled by the Red Cross Central Agency for Prisoners of War in Geneva.

It is particularly interesting to note that the Belgian Red Cross, the clergy and the many administrators of our country knew about the Society "Parcels for Belgian Prisoners."

From October to December 1941 (when the USA entered the war) The Society received around 4,000

Parcels for Belgian Prisoners...

letters originating in Belgium, seeking parcels for Belgian prisoners. To overcome the loss of direct postal connections caused by the entry of the USA into the war, the tags that would have been sent by Belgian families directly to the Society in America were actually sent to America by the Red Cross Central Agency for Prisoners of War or by the Delegate of the Belgian Red Cross in Lausanne, Mr. Biart. Thus the post from occupied countries was continued because of his efforts.

Statistics on the shipment of parcels by the Society under the "tag" system are found in the following table.

(STALAG = Soldiers)

(OFLAG = Officers)

	<u>STALAG</u>	<u>Blue</u>	<u>Red</u>	<u>OFLAG</u>	<u>Blue</u>	<u>Red</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>OCT 41</u>	XIB	199	86	VIIIC	157	22	464
<u>NOV 41</u>	XIB	373	137	-----	---	---	510
<u>DEC 41</u>	XIIB	150	150	-----	---	---	<u>300</u>
Total October – December 1941							1,274

1942

<u>JAN</u>	XIB	302	---	VIIIC	115	17	
		---	---	XXA	16	---	
		---	---	IXa/z	5	---	
<u>FEB</u>	XIB	---	154	IIA	188	3	446
		---	---	VIIIB	81	20	
<u>MAR</u>	III	2	---	VIIIB	176	10	500
	IV	216	19	VIIIC	4	1	
	V	1	---		---	---	
	VI	56	---		---	---	
	XI	10	5		---	---	
<u>APR</u>	I	1	---	II	7	---	511
	II	1		IV	1	---	
	IV	26	15	VII	20	---	
	V	113	35	VIII	7	---	
	VI	132	44		---	---	
	VIII	107	1		---	---	
<u>MAY</u>		---	1		---	---	663
	I	44	55	II	26	1	
	II	1	1	VII	13	---	
	IV	9	---	XVIII	15	---	
	V	25	18		---	---	
	VI	14	2		---	---	
	VII	2	1		---	---	
	VIII	272	109		---	---	
	XVIII	29	2		---	---	
	XX	25	---		---	---	

Separate packages sent to soldiers from New York
Total January – May 1942

1000
3575

Grand Total 4849*

Parcels for Belgian Prisoners...

SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES: The activities of "Parcels for Belgian Prisoners" developed rapidly and grew constantly. The weekly post brought many tags, either from Belgium or Germany, via the Swiss intermediary. The arrivals were naturally very irregular and this affected the amount of materials needed. However, the overall numbers of tags from Belgium increased steadily and this caused problems because of mounting food shortages in the USA.

All correspondence and filing is done by the Society in Washington. The Washington office of the Society determines the contents of all parcels but, due to the expanding workload of the Society, the Abbey Roosens in New York is also starting to make up parcels, following instructions from Washington.

The pieces of clothing that go with the red tags are made by groups of Belgians who are provided the yarn/wool by the Society. They are made in many cities of the USA including New York, Chicago, Moline, Colorado Springs, San Francisco, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, etc. Several South American countries also help including Mexico, Colombia and Peru, etc.

The actual makeup of the parcels is as follows:

Provisions (Blue tag)

1 lb dried prunes
 1 lb coffee
 1 lb cocoa
 1 lb cheese
 2 lb sugar (may be limited)
 3 bars chocolate
 3 tins sardines
 2 tins milk powder
 2 tins meat
 2 bars soap

Clothing (Red Tag)

1 sweater, hand-knitted
 1 scarf, hand-knitted
 1 pair gloves, hand-knitted
 1 pair socks, hand-knitted
 1 work shirt
 1 pair underwear
 2 handkerchiefs
 1 towel
 2 bars soap

Fully 4/5 of the tags received were for provisions.

Without doubt the parcels arrived at their destinations about two months after posting in Washington. Arrival receipts are sent back to the Society showing receipt in the camps.

An example illustrates the procedure. 157 Parcels of provisions and 22 parcels of clothing were sent to the officers of OFLAG VIII-C in October 1941. Within a month 123 receipts of arrival had arrived at the Society. They announced arrival in time for Christmas 1941.

The soldiers are in general less attentive to sending reception receipts, but from STALAG XI-B which contains the most Belgian prisoners, many reception cards were received with personal notes to the Society.

It should be noted in closing that, based upon current finances the Society will not be able to continue to expand its activities.

To provide an idea of volume of requests being dealt with at the Society, in just 2 days they received over 10,000 new requests for parcels.

Washington
 5 June 1943

U.S. Internee Mail to Japan in World War II

by Louis Fiset

A recent acquisition of a small horde of correspondence generated by an interned, U.S.-resident, Japanese national during World War II brought a welcome surprise – a rare example of mail from the U.S. to Japan.

On the eve of World War II Japanese Americans (Nikkei) living in the continental U.S. numbered 127,000, of which 47,000 were first generation immigrants who had arrived prior to 1924. Up until the war many, if not most, maintained ties to the motherland though retention of cultural norms or by direct contact with periodic returns to Japan and postal communications.

With the bombing of Pearl Harbor and declaration of war against the Japanese Empire, normal mail service was suspended on December 11, 1941 and did not resume until September 10, 1946. In the interim period, 90 percent of the mainland Nikkei were forcibly removed from their homes and

placed into assembly centers, relocation centers, and internment camps, many for the duration of the war. And in Japan, as the war progressed its citizens lived through increasingly severe deprivations, including starvation.

Because of the war's impact on civilians of Japanese ancestry, good reason existed to communicate with family members and friends to every extent possible. The primary means of communication by Nikkei in the U.S. was through the American Red Cross Form 1616, which permitted messages of 25 words. These brief communications were forwarded to Geneva through Washington D.C, then sent eastward by rail through Teheran and across Siberia to Vladivostok, then southward by ship to Japan, a journey that took months to complete. The Tokyo Red Cross helped convey messages to North America following the same route.

An opportunity for quicker communication occurred during the two diplomatic exchanges with Japan when the mercy ship *Gripsholm* carried mail in her hold addressed to Allied POWs, Western civilians interned by Japanese forces in Asia, and citizens in Japan.

Although the numbers of people involved were large enough to generate significant volumes of mail to and from Japan, little of this correspondence appears to have survived. In 30 years of collecting I have documented fewer than a dozen postal cards and Red Cross forms sent to North America, and only four from North America to Japan. This article illustrates one of two known letters from the U.S. to Japan by Reverend Shodo Kawamura who was interned at the Santa Fe Detention Station. The one recorded here was written on May 9, 1944.

The poorly preserved correspondence, in Japanese, was composed on an **INTERNEE OF WAR** letterform. This stationery replaced the ARC Form 1616 some time in 1942-1943 and became the standard both for domestic and international correspondence by U.S.-held German, Italian, and Japanese civilian internees. This form, produced on moisture sensitive paper, permitted writers to include 24 lines of text, while the greenish tinged paper made difficult any attempts to generate secret writing with urine, onion, or lemon juice using a toothpick quill.

Reverend Kawamura was a Buddhist priest whose prewar home was in Honolulu. He was arrested for his ongoing social and cultural ties to Japan and spent several months at the Sand Island internment camp near Honolulu before his transfer to the mainland for internment

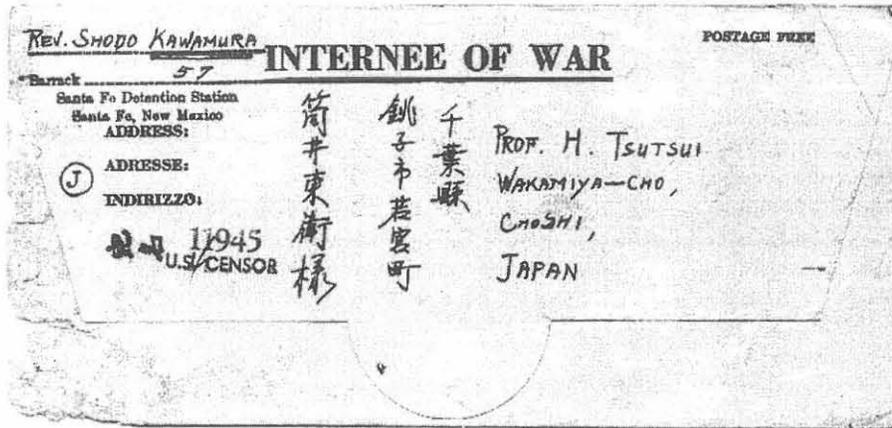


Figure 1.

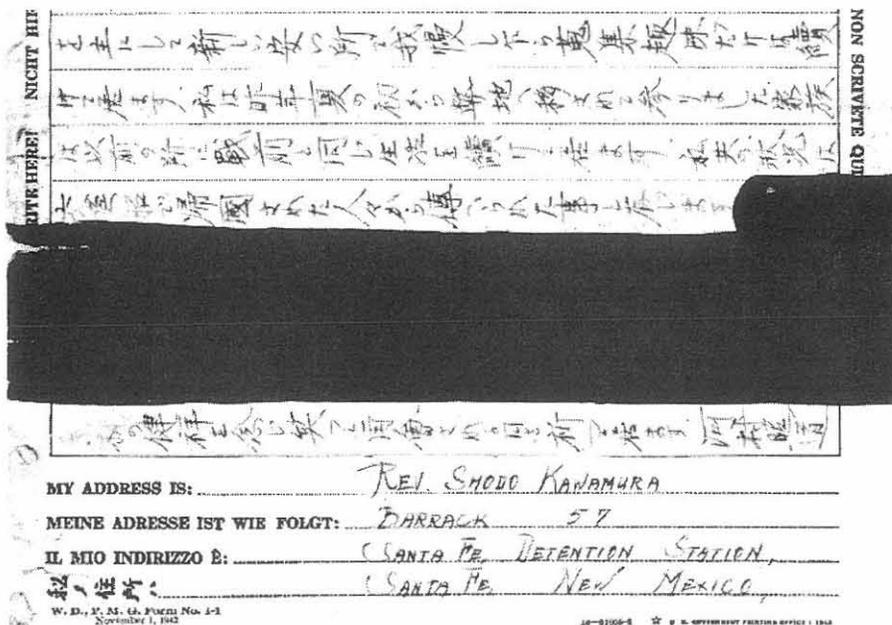


Figure 2.

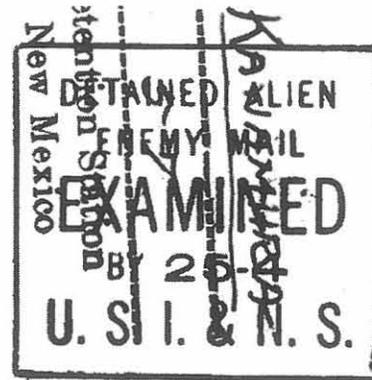
U.S. Internee Mail to Japan, World War II...

for the duration of the war. From other correspondence we know that he was interned at the Army's Lordsburg internment camp and the INS camps at Santa Fe and Crystal City.

Kawamura's correspondent, Professor H. Tsutsui, was a teacher at a girl's middle school in Choshi, on the east coast of Honshu, approximately 60 miles due east of Tokyo.

The letterform was censored twice. It was first examined locally by an INS-employed Japanese language censor assigned to the Santa Fe Detention Station. INS censors were instructed to make no alterations to documents they examined, but to take notes on proscribed subjects and generate submission slips for their superiors. A detail of the correspondence side of the letterform reveals heavy censorship. The ink outs were made by Censor 11945 at the New York censor station's POW Unit, him/herself a Japanese language reader. The letter was then sent to Geneva under separate cover, probably containing other Red Cross related mail destined for Japan.

That collectors in the U.S. have seen almost no wartime correspondence between Japan and North America is not surprising. Surely much of the correspondence to Japan was destroyed during the war, especially mail addressed to correspondents in larger cities subsequently incinerated by Allied bombing attacks. Most of the reported correspondence to North America was in the form of postal cards accompanying the *Gripsholm* on her return to the U.S. during the second voyage, in 1943. This one-time special opportunity was highly



publicized in the Japanese press. Details of this voyage, and illustrations of an ARC Form 1616 to Japan and postal cards to the U.S. have been published elsewhere.

Likely, more examples of this elusive material currently reside in collectors' hands. Perhaps this article will shed light on examples not yet recognized for their importance.

References:

Louis Fiset, *Detained, Interned, Incarcerated: U.S. Enemy Noncombatant Mail in World War II* (Chicago: Collectors Club of Chicago, in press.)

Special Censorship for Nisei Soldiers

by Russ Carter

In an article in the Weekly Station Journal of the San Francisco Office of Censorship for the week of June 11-18, 1945, there appeared the following:

"Eleven letters written in Japanese and referred to CPSF from CPNO contained this notation on the transfer sheet. 'On release should show no mark of postal censorship.' They were written by Nisei soldiers at the port of embarkation. They were sealed with plain scotch tape and released."

S. J. DeLanoy, Chief, Postal Section of the Office of Censorship in Washington, D.C., immediately wondered why it was requested that no censorship mark be shown. The answer came through a series of letters in late June from the District Postal Censor (DPC) in New Orleans and the DPC in San Francisco.

The New Orleans Port of Embarkation Post Office had no Japanese translators and would send the mail to the New Orleans DPC. The New Orleans DPC did not have a Japanese translator either. After opening the mail and finding that it was in Japanese, they would re-seal the envelope with plain scotch tape, mark it with the following impression (Figure 1), and send it to the DPC San Francisco. The San Francisco DPC thought that since this was Army mail, it should be handled in a military manner and went along with this method.

The reason for the request by New Orleans to not indicate censorship by the DPC San Francisco was that it was already marked with the Army examiner mark. It would be odd to have both military and civilian censorship markings on this mail. The DPC San Francisco also indicated that they thought that this was being done everywhere else.

There is no indication in these records as to how long this procedure had gone on but it was probably very short because on July 2, 1945 the Office of Censorship ordered this procedure to stop immediately. The mail was to be sealed with standard labels of the DPC and stamped "This article referred to District Postal Censor by U. S. military authorities."

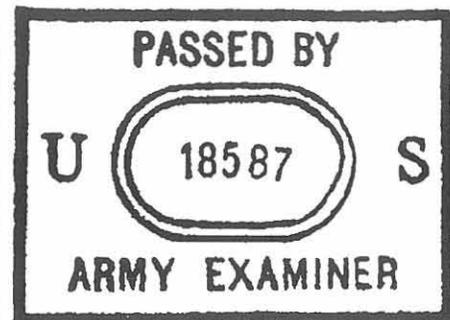


Figure 1: Army examiner mark applied by civil censorship to Nisei soldier mail.

APO/FPO Openings and Closings

These APO, FPO and DPO actions were announced in the *Postal Bulletin* between May and July, 2010. Announcements advise Postal Service staff that they may now accept mail addressed to numbers listed as "Active," and may no longer accept mail addressed to numbers listed as "Closed." Actual dates of operation of offices may differ from the dates given. Some numbers may be Mailing Addresses Only rather than representing an operating post office.

APO/FPO #	ACTION	DATE
APO 09313	Active	6/17/10
APO 09317	Close	5/ 6/10*
APO 09317	Active	5/20/10*
APO 09328	Active	6/ 3/10*
APO 09347	Active	5/ 6/10*
APO 09352	Active	5/ 6/10*
APO 09370	Active	6/17/10
APO 09403	Active	5/ 6/10*
APO 09633	Active	6/ 3/10
APO 09829	Active	5/ 6/10*
DPO 34008	Active	5/20/10*
DPO 34011	Active	7/15/10*
APO 34061	Close	5/15/10
APO 34062	Close	5/15/10
APO 34063	Close	5/15/10
APO 34064	Close	5/15/10
APO 34065	Close	5/15/10
APO 34066	Close	5/15/10
APO 34067	Close	5/15/10
APO 34068	Close	5/15/10
APO 34069	Close	5/15/10
APO 34080	Close	5/15/10
APO 34081	Close	5/15/10
APO 34082	Close	5/15/10
APO 34083	Close	5/15/10
APO 34084	Close	5/15/10
APO 34085	Close	5/15/10
APO 34086	Close	5/15/10
APO 34087	Close	5/15/10
APO 34088	Close	5/15/10
APO 34089	Close	5/15/10
APO 96577	Active	6/17/10

In many cases the *Postal Bulletin* does not publish actual effective dates, saying only "immediately" for the action. The dates of these announcements are marked with an asterisk to show that this was the date of the *Postal Bulletin* notice.

The huge number of codes opened in the Caribbean in February, assigned to units involved in the Operation Unified Response earthquake relief efforts in Haiti, were all closed effective May 15. Announcements from the Pentagon in late May reported that most of the troops, drawn primarily from the Army's 82nd Airborne Division, were leaving the country. A contingent of about 500 National Guard troops will remain to provide humanitarian assistance through September.

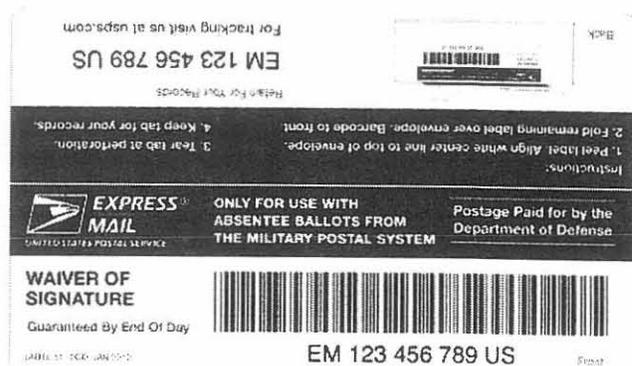
The double listing for APO 09317 makes it look like a typographical error and a correction.

An interesting announcement in the June 3 *Postal Bulletin* gave a long list of Diplomatic Post Offices and instructed that no Official Mail was to be sent to these codes. At first this seems to make no sense — what is the value of a system for delivering mail to an embassy if no official mail can be sent through it? Second thoughts, however, recall that personal mail sent through these channels is undoubtedly subject to customs and other inspection by the host nation. This is a

reminder, then, that potentially sensitive official mail may only be sent through the diplomatic pouch, which is immune from such inspections.

Military Absentee Ballot Label

With mid-term elections approaching, the Postal Service has announced a new Express Mail label for use on absentee ballots mailed from overseas APO/FPO locations. The new service and label is a follow-up to the controversy over the handling of military absentee ballots in the disputed year 2000 presidential election in Florida.



The text of the Postal Service announcement reads:

New Express Mail Label for Military Absentee Voting

Military personnel in APO/FPO locations will be able to return absentee ballots via Express Mail service using the new Express Mail Label 11-DOD. This blue Express Mail label will be affixed to the top of the absentee ballot return envelope or flat. The absentee ballot return envelope may be as small as a #10 business-sized envelope or as large as a flat-sized envelope.

This label is unique and only for use with absentee ballots originating from overseas military postal locations. These Express Mail shipments will arrive from International Service Centers in Express Mail sacks and must remain in the Express Mail stream to the delivery unit. Both the Waiver of Signature request and Guaranteed by End of Day endorsement are printed on the blue label. No deviation for delivery by a specific time is necessary, and the shipments should always be delivered on the day they arrive at the delivery Post Office facility.

This is a joint federal agency initiative between the Postal Service and the Military Post Office of the Department of Defense. The Express Mail Label 11-DOD affixed to the absentee ballot envelope or flat will allow United States service men and women to track their vote all the way to the county or parish election office while generating new revenue for the Postal Service.

On the Show Circuit

by Alan Warren

[Note: The purpose of this column is to bring to the attention of MPHS members the awards obtained in recent shows of exhibits that are basically about military postal history. This may include exhibits by non-members. While there are many non-military related exhibits by members, these are not recorded here.]

Two military area exhibits won vermeil awards at TEXPEX in Dallas in April. Peter Thy's "Southern African Pioneers in World War 2" also won the United Postal Stationery Society's single frame award. The second vermeil went to Dick Phelps for "The WWII Censor Markings of Curaçao."

Al Kugel took two awards at the Plymouth (MI) Show in April. He received golds for "Serbian Military Mail 1876-1885" and for "Postal History of the Armed Forces in China 1900-1941," the latter taking the MPHS award as well. At the same show Ed Dubin won a vermeil for "Civilian and German POWs Interned in the U.S. During World War I."

Quite a few military area displays were seen at WESTPEX in San Francisco in April. Frank Wiatr took a gold, a Polonus Philatelic Society gold, and the SESCAL award of Merit for "Fortress Krakau 1914-1918." Hugh Lawrence received a gold, the Michael Rogers award for best Asian exhibit, and the MPHS award for "The Late Civil War Forerunners and Provisional Issues of East China: Philatelic Footprints on the Road to the Liberation of Shanghai."

At the same show Paul Phillips took a gold, a Polonus gold, and the AAPE creativity award for "Gruss aus Paradies (Greetings from Paradise): Life in WW2 German Occupied Poland." A gold and a Polonus gold went to Roy Koczarski for his "Camp Posts in Gross Born, Neubrandenburg, and Murnau Oflags."

Chris Kulpinski received a vermeil, a Polonus gold, an AAPE award of honor, and the Rossica award for "Soviet Occupation of Poland 1939-1941." Chris also took another vermeil, a Polonus gold, and the Germany Philatelic Society bronze for "Polish Displaced Persons in Postwar Germany."

Vermeil awards along with Polonus golds went to Jan Niebrzydowski for "One Polish Family WW II Ordeal," and to Andrew Urushima for "The 1944 POW Olympics: Gross Born and Woldenberg." Regis Hoffman took a show silver and Polonus silver for "Polish Refugees in Africa, World War II."

At the Philatelic Show in Boxborough Mass. in May, Phil Rhoads won a gold, the APS 1940-1980 medal, and the John Broderick, Sr. award for his "The Murder of Lidice." He also

took a vermeil and an AAPE award of honor for "Lidice Remembered." A certificate went to Walter Powell for "Germany Russian Occupation Zone Local Issues."

Frank Wiatr won a gold and the MPHS award at the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show in Denver in May with his "Fortress Krakau 1914-1918." At the same show Janet Klug received a vermeil and a certificate of appreciation from the Ephemera Society of America for her "Terror in the Jungle: Insurgency during the Malay Emergency 1948-1960." A vermeil award went to Mike Deery for "Suspended/Intercepted Returned Mail during WW II" at the Royal 2010 show in Windsor, Ontario, Canada in May.

Military area exhibits were prevalent at the NOJEX show in Secaucus, N.J. in May, which hosted the annual convention of the Universal Ship Cancellation Society. Henry Nogid won a gold and the SIP third place medal for "The Four Siege Cities of 1948 Rishon Lezion, Safad, Namarita, Jerusalem." A vermeil and the SIP award for highlighting Jewish history went to Morris Rosen for "Ghetto Post and Labor Camps in German Occupied Europe 1939-1944." Steve Henderson took a vermeil, the APS research medal, and the MPHS award for "They Were Soldiers Once: A Study of Vietnam War Postal History." At the same show John Barbour also won a vermeil for "Restoration of the German Mail Service under Allied Occupation in 1945 and 1946."

Michael Dixon received a gold and the APS 1940-1980 medal of excellence for his "British Forces Air Mail Letter Cards and Air Letters Used in World War II" at the NAPEX show in McLean Va. in June. Another gold along with the MPHS award went to Jerome Kasper for "Illustrated WW II British Military Air Letters." Jon Johnson's "Canadian Military Hospitals at Sea" was in the court of honor at ORAPEX, held in Ottawa, Canada in May.

Philatelic Militaria

by Alan Warren

[The following articles appeared in recent issues of a variety of journals and may be of interest to military postal history collectors. Copies of the complete articles can usually be obtained through the American Philatelic Research Library at APS headquarters in Bellefonte, Pa.]

Rolf Scharning shows examples of mail to and from prisoners at the camp in Teie, Norway, in the December issue of the *Norwegian War and Field Post Journal*. He briefly describes the history of the town, a former submarine base, and its use as a POW camp for German and Austrian prisoners after WW II. This issue of the journal also has the initial cataloging of letter seals and labels relating to Norway and used in the 1940-1945 period. The first installment shows labels printed in the United States and Canada regarding "Norwegian Relief."

Writing in the January/February issue of *Stamp Insider*, Chip Scoppa describes a clever code on addressed covers to family members, using the 6-cent airmail stamp, Sc. C25 during WW II. He wanted to convey where he was at the time using a code. While surface delivery was free, this soldier, Scoppa's father, paid for air delivery on seven letters sent over a period of several weeks in April and May 1945 to his family in Brockport, N.Y.

Each letter was sent from an APO in Germany and addressed to a family member—his parents and his siblings at the same address.

Future MPHS Conventions

November 18-20, 2011

CHICAGOPEX, Itasca, Ill.

April 27-29, 2012

WESTPEX, San Francisco, Calif.

Aug. 30-Sept. 1, 2013

BALPEX, Hunt Valley, Maryland

He used a different middle initial in each name in the envelope address, spelling out K.O.B.L.E.N.Z. when all seven covers were seen together.

Interesting markings on covers of the WW I period from Japan to the USA are described in the December issue of *Japanese Philately* (no author's name given). One was the manuscript "For Permission" and the other was a handstamp marking from Yokohama with the word "Permitted." The markings appear on covers sent by German nationals living in Japan, and not prisoners of war.

The December issue of *The Aeroletter*, published by the Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa, shows FPO and APO mail recovered from a 1945 crash in Lake Victoria shortly after a South African Air Force Douglas C-47 took off from Kisumu airport. The plane was also carrying some South African officers who had been POWs in Italy and later interned in Switzerland. The crew and passengers died in the crash.

David Tett discusses POW mail in the Philippines in the first of a 2-part series in the April 2010 issue of *Stamp Lover*. He provides a table with a listing of the POW camps, their location, opening and closing dates, approximate number of prisoners, and types of cards sent from the camps. Robert Johnson authored a 2-part series in the November-December and January-February issues of the *Collectors Club Philatelist* on U.S. mail during WW I and immediately afterward that bears service-suspended markings. He includes the effects of the Russian Revolution on U.S. mail as well.

The August 2009 issue of *War Times*, journal of the BNAPS World War II Study Group, documents slogan cancels used in Canada such as "Help the Red Cross," "Conserve Coal," and "Save Time - Use Air Mail." Jerome Jarnick shows mail sent in 1943 from the Dhurringile POW camp in Victoria, Australia to another German prisoner at Camp 30 in Bowmansville, Ontario, Canada, in the January 2010 newsletter of the Canadian Military Mail Study Group.

Kjell Nilson writes about return markings and labels enclosed with mail returned to the sender by Swedish authorities during the WW II period in issue No. 1, 2010 of *Svensk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. In issue No. 2 he continues his series with the handling of Swedish insured mail sent abroad. His third installment in issue No. 3 addresses many other aspects of war time handling of Swedish mail including blackened cancels, return of a military postal stationery letter that was destined for outside Sweden, mail conveyed by such means as under cover letters or carried in a diplomatic pouch, and items marked "Condemned" and later "Released."

Michael Dattolico writes in detail about blockade mail in the Philippines during WW II with a focus on the chaplains and their correspondence and fate in the Spring issue of *La Posta*. In addition to showing some examples of mail he discusses the identification of APO #2 at Bataan and APO #7 at Corregidor. He also lists some three dozen chaplain prisoners by name, unit and location, and their date of death, with many of the last occurring in prison camps or aboard the Japanese "hell ships."

Two separate articles by Lee Dowsley and David Collyer discuss POW mail from Australia to Canada during WW II in the March newsletter of the Canadian Military Mail Study Group. In the May issue Dowsley contributes another article about a letter sent from Italy to a POW (internee?) in the

Citadel in Quebec in 1940. The cover was censored by the Italians and the British.

Henk Burgers begins a series about Canada's Military Post Offices (MPOs) in the January-March *BNA Topics*. The first installment shows mail sent in the early 1940s from MPO 101 at St. Thomas, Ontario. He shows proof strikes of the cancels from proof books and describes the facility in some detail, in this case an RCAF training center.

Oskar Sørensen describes fieldpost mail to, in, and from Denmark during WW II in the March issue of *Posthistorisk Tidsskrift*, journal of the Danish Postal History Society. He cites many of the official announcements of the Danish Post & Telegraph that bear on such mail.

Edward B. Proud shares his research on the so-called cancels and handstamp overprints used largely on the stamps of India by the India Expeditionary Force on Mafia Island, German East Africa, during WW I in the April *London Philatelist*. He provides historical information about the British occupation and the use of these stamps and markings at the time.

Gerald O. Zedlitz writes a column in the *German Postal Specialist* on collecting Warsaw locals. His installment in the May issue discusses prisoner of war postcards delivered by the Warsaw local post. He shows two examples of postcards from POWs in German camps during 1916 that were sent to Warsaw and bear local post markings.

The battleship *Admiral Graf Spee* and air mail sent to a crew member who became a POW in Argentina are discussed in David Crotty's article in the May issue of *Airpost Journal*. Covers shown were sent from Germany during the period 1940-1944 via LATI and then Pan American Airways. Some of the POW crew members married natives in Argentina. When they were shipped back to Germany at the end of the war, many of them were allowed to return to Argentina and their descendants are still living in Cordoba.

Meer Kossoy discusses Anglo-Soviet-American cooperation during WW II in the Spring issue of *Rossica*, journal of the Rossica Society of Russian Philately. He shows a number of Russian illustrated mail and other propaganda items that reinforced the support of its allies against Germany. In the same issue George Werbizky describes the support of Russia's World War I efforts by the Russian Red Cross and the All-Russia Cities Union. He shows examples of mail with special handstamps or cachets related to these organizations.

John Wilson shows an example of airmail sent to the *Graf Spee* internees from Germany to Argentina in 1942 in the June *Airpost Journal*. On this same topic in the same issue of the journal, Louis Fiset shows an airmail registered crash cover from a *Graf Spee* interned seaman, sent from Argentina to Germany via Natal. Through an agreement, such mail was diverted to Puerto Rico and then to Trinidad or Bermuda for censorship. This letter then went by FAM-18's *Yankee Clipper* to Lisbon, which crashed in February 1943 in the Tagus River. Much of the mail was recovered and this letter reached its destination after nearly two months in transit.

Tony Wawrukiewicz shows a cover sent in 1956 from the Swedish Red Cross hospital in Pusan, Korea to Houston, Texas in his modern U.S. mail column in the June 14 issue of *Linn's Stamp News*. The "origin" is APO 59, San Francisco and the cover is franked with a 6-cent Roosevelt from the Liberty series, an air mail rate permitted from APOs. Mike

Sanders focuses on the MEF (Middle East Forces) overprinted issues of Great Britain used in the Dodecanese Islands immediately after the English took over the area at the end of World War II, in an article in the June *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*. He shows numerous examples of use of the stamps, often tied with old Italian cancellers.

In the July issue of *GSM*, Tony Sanford shows some of the military telegraph stamps of Great Britain used in military campaigns during the period 1884-1902. The Telegraph Battalion was instrumental in reestablishing communications in occupied areas. The November 2009 issue of *War Times*, published by the World War II Study Group of BNAPS, carries a discussion on varieties of the Quebec blackout cancellers of WW II. Arguments are presented that rather than die varieties of the cancellers, there were simply anomalies caused by under- and over-inking.

BOOK REVIEWS

reviewed by Alan Warren

WW II Censor Enclosures

WW II US Censor Enclosure Slips and Return-to-Sender Labels by Russ W. Carter. 92 pages, 8 1/2 by 11 inches, spiral bound, stiff covers, Military Postal History Society, Cypress TX, 2010. ISBN 0-9770649-8-0, \$16.50 (\$15 on CD) for members postpaid in USA, higher abroad and for non-members of the society, from Military Postal History Society, PO Box 32, Cypress TX 77410-0032; www.militaryPHS.org.

Russ Carter's exploration of the censorship files at the National Archives continues to result in serendipitous discoveries of new areas for research. In his efforts to organize the finding aids in the censor records he realized there were files of forms that were inserted in censored mail and also labels applied to the outside of envelopes sent to or from military personnel.

These small forms were used in cases where an item was found missing or removed from a letter, and when a letter was returned to the sender for a specific reason. Many of these bits of instructional paper were not recorded in the Broderick and Mayo book, prompting the author to assemble this handbook. The slips and labels were printed or reproduced by mimeograph or other duplicator. Dimensions are not shown as they appear to have been made to size with paper cutters or scissors, yielding widely different measurements.

Both military and civil censorship materials are shown. Most of the military forms were used by the United States Army although a few were identified as used by the Navy and Marines. Carter has organized the descriptive listings by purpose and form number. Listed are return-to-sender labels applied to envelopes and post cards, and return-to-sender slips inserted into letters, explaining why the postal item was handled in a particular manner.

Few military forms were found, limiting those listed to a dozen pages. The civil censorship forms comprise most of the handbook. Many have imprinted form numbers that help in compiling the lists. Carter developed his own numbering system to expand this organization. The slips and labels are scanned and printed so that the text is easy to read.

The reasons for using the forms are wide ranging and include improper format of name and address, mention or

enclosure of military sensitive matters, enclosure of currency, delays due to use of foreign language, photographs or postage stamps enclosed without proper permit, printed matter not sent directly by the publisher, lack of export license, damage to contents *not* caused by censorship personnel, failure to follow instructions on mail to prisoners of war, and many others.

A brief bibliography concludes the book. In addition to a few typos, the pages are numbered with the even ones on the right instead of the odd page numbers. Author Russ Carter recognizes that his handbook may lack some forms unknown to him, and he invites readers to send him additional examples. The handbook is a wonderful tool for students of censorship who are fascinated by the original forms used to advise senders of their failure to observe rules.

German Censorship in WW II

Die Zensur von Zivilpost in Deutschland im 2. Weltkrieg (Censorship of Civil Mail in Germany in World War II) by Horst Landsmann. 462 pages, 8 1/4 by 11 3/4 inches, card covers, perfect bound, in German, Gröbenzell, Germany, 2008. ISBN 9783837017489, approximately \$40.

For those who have relied heavily on Karl-Heinz Riemer's *Die Überwachung des Auslandsbriefverkehrs während des II. Weltkrieges durch deutsche Dienststellen* for many years, Landsmann brings a welcome and expanded reference on the censorship offices in WW II Germany that screened foreign mail. His detailed table of contents outlines the structure of the book that takes one Auslandsbriefprüfstelle (foreign letter control station) at a time and tabulates the censorship devices used at each location.

The censorship offices begin with Königsberg, Berlin, Köln, Munich, Frankfurt, and Hamburg followed by those in occupied territories like Copenhagen, Lyon, Marseille, Oslo, Paris, and many other subsidiary stations. The introduction identifies the type of censorship, the entirely new catalog numbering system, a 6-level scarcity scale, and acknowledgment of the help received from other collectors in compiling this work. A summary of the introduction is given in English.

The tables for each censorship office follow the same scheme throughout the book: handstamps, machine marks, paper seals, transit handstamps (passed but not inspected), enclosed slips, etc. Each entry is identified with a catalog number, an illustration of the marking, characteristics such as dimensions and color, date range of use, and scarcity. The thoroughness of Landsmann's catalog is seen with the listings of handstamp and some manuscript numbers of the individual censors.

The final chapter tabulates additional auxiliary markings like returned to sender (for many specified reasons), service suspended, forbidden, and includes additional enclosure slips. As with many catalog/handbooks, the structure is so defined that an index is not needed. The reproduction of the markings is quite good and the descriptions are easy to follow with the help of a German dictionary.

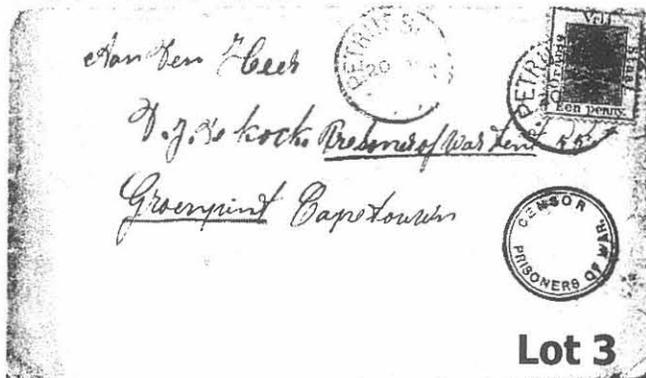
Postal history collectors of civil censorship mail will find this catalog a vast and much needed improvement over the earlier work of Riemer. The book is available in two formats—CD and printed book. Sources in the United States can be found with online search engines. I obtained my copy from A1Books in Netcong N.J. (www.a1books.com).

AUCTION SALE #191

Closing Date September 25, 2010

PRE-WORLD WAR I

1. Naval - PC 1c stp cancel *USS New Hampshire* - Nov 22, 1909 (VF). VF - MB \$10.00 (0901)
2. POW - BOER WAR - 1c Cape of Good Hope stp cancel "Simons Town" 5 JU 00 (VF) addressed to POW at "tent 4 - Groen Punt Camp - Kaapstad". Circular handstamp "Prisoner of War Censor". Opened roughly on top. MB \$10.00 (0901)
3. POW - BOER WAR - 1d Oranje Vrij Staat ovpt V.R.I. stp cancel "Petrus Steyn" 20 SE . (F) addressed to "Prisoner of War Tent 55 - Groenpunt - Capetown". Circular handstamp "Prisoner of War Censor". VF (Small tear on right) MB \$10.00 (0901) *PICT*



Lot 3

WORLD WAR I

4. Belgium (4). 4 commercial covers franked with German Occupation Ovpt "Belgien" stps. All censored. 1 with 3 Cent, 1 with 10 Cent, 1 with 10 Cent + 5 Cent, 1 with 15 Cent. F/VF (0901) *PICT*
5. Belgium. Free franked cover from Belgian soldier in France (CC on back) mailed to England. Cancel Coutances - Manche 25-9-16 (VF). Handstamp "Correspondance privee - (Armee) Belge". VF (0901)
6. Censored (7). 2 US to England censored (1 #10). 2 England to US censored. 1 front only New Zealand franked with NZ Stps Ovpt WAR STAMPS to US censored (Passed by the Military Censor N.Z.). 2 US to APO (702/746). Ave/F (0905)
7. Germany. Free franked Feldpost cover. Cancel K.D. FeldPostexped - der 1 Marine Div - 10.1.17 (VF). Official handstamp. VF (1003)
8. POW - RUSSIA. Red Cross POW PC. Sender POW in Budejovice (Bohemia - now Czech Rep). Cancel Budejovice 10-5-17. Russian Censor (?) + German Wien Censor. F (0901)
9. POW - RUSSIA. Cover from POW in Russia (see scan). Several Russian Censors Incl Moscow 28-5-16. Russian Censor + label on back. F/VF (0901) *PICT*
10. US AEF (3). 3 P/C (Monaco - Marseille - Beilstein) - All Canc. US Army Post Office MPES 1918/19 - numbers unclear. Censored. F/VF (0901)

PRE-WORLD WAR II MILITARY

11. WAR Department - Surgeon (3). 3 Official Business #10 covers from Surgeons. 1 from Fort Screven, GA. cancel ... Screven, 1928 (Ave). 1 from (Ft) Holabird, MD - cancel Baltimore, MD 1928 (VF). 1 from Fort Benning, Ga - cancel Fort Benning, GA 1928 (F). All addressed to CO Army medical School Washington DC. F/VF (0901)

PRE-WORLD WAR II NAVAL

12. *USS Constitution* (2). Both handstamp cachet "Welcome". 1 Cancel *US Frigate Constitution* (26 Apr 1933) with "Vallejo - California" in KB (VF). 1 Cancel *US Frigate Constitution* (7 May 1934) with "Boston - MASS." in KB (VF). VF (0901)
13. *USS Constitution* (2). 1 Cancel *US Frigate Constitution* (11 Mar 1934) with "San Diego - Calif." in KB (F) with letter. 1 cacheted Cancel *US Frigate Constitution* (15 Apr 1934) with "St Peters - Burg - Fla." in KB (VF). VF (0901)

WORLD WAR II MILITARY

14. P.O.W. BR - Patriotic cover 3c Iwo Jima Stp Cancel Hereford. Tex - Internment Camp BR (1945 - VF). VF (1003)

Descriptions:

Envelopes are regular size unless described otherwise (#10 or bigger)

Franking: After WW II all covers are stamped unless otherwise stated. Official business covers don't have postage unless otherwise stated. "6¢ air" has either a stamp or is stamped postal stationary.

For individual lots, I try to mention the quality of the cancel in parenthesis (VF) as well as the condition of the cover in general at the end of the listing.

Abbreviations: MS = Manuscript - Stp = Stamp - PC = Postcard - Pict = Lot is pictured.

Censors: KB = Killer bar - MC = Machine cancel - DR = Double ring (all purpose)

APO or Navy Branch number is in the cancel unless specified otherwise.

V-Mails have been processed and are with envelopes unless stated otherwise.

MB = Minimum Bid - SB = Suggested Bid (this is just a suggestion, not a minimum).

MINIMUM BID \$2.50

15. P.O.W. BR - Patriotic cover 3c Prexie Cancel Coolidge, Ariz - Internment BR (1945 - VF). VF (1003) *PICT*

16. P.O.W. Patriotic (Norway) cover 5c Norway Flag Stp US Censor. Cancel York - PA - 1944 (ave) to Capt. with Intelligence Corps - India Command - India. British Censor + Bombay cancels. Forwarded to Intelligence Corps - 211 Prisoners of War Camp - NAD - B.N.A.F. F/VF - MB \$10.00 (1003)



Lot 15

17. P.O.W. Guard - Patriotic (USMC) cover Free franked Cancel Fort Warren - Wyo. (1944 - F) Sender Pfc with Det MP No 2 - Prisoner of War Camp - Fort Warren, Wyo. With letter. VF (1003)

18. P.O.W. Guard - Florence Internment Camp - Coolidge, Arizona printed CC cover. Free franked cancel Cancel Coolidge, Ariz (1942 - F). Sender Pvt with 307 M.P.E.G. Co. With letter. VF (1003) *PICT*

19. P.O.W. - France. POW stationary cancel Viroflay - Seine Oise (1940 - F) to French POW at Stalag 1VB (Muhlberg - Germany). Stalag Censor (triangle). VF (1003)

20. P.O.W. - France. French FM PC cancel Viroflay - Seine Oise (1940 - F) to French POW at Stalag 1VB (Muhlberg - Germany). Stalag Censor (round). VF (1003)

21. P.O.W. - France. French POW stationary PC no cancel but dated 1946. Large "Depot des Prisonniers de Guerre - Censure 118" (faint). Sender German POW with "Service du Deminage Vannois - Morbihan (Mine Clearance Unit). VF (1003)

22. P.O.W. - Free franked POW form letter. Sender German POW - Camp Swift, TX. US Censorship marking. Cancel New York, NY (1944 - F). To Elmhurst, NY. VF (1003)

23. P.O.W. - Free franked cover from Germany to German POW - Camp Co 2-7 - Camp Bowie via New York. Back US Censor + Red Cross "Delegation de Ravensburg" handstamp. No Cancel. VF (1003) *PICT*

24. P.O.W. - Free franked cover from Germany to German POW - Camp Fort Leonard Wood - Missouri via New York. US + German Censor Tape. Cancel Schlitz (1944 - VF). VF (1003)

25. P.O.W. - Free franked cover from Germany to German POW - Camp Fort Leonard Wood - Mo. US Censor. Handstamp "Taxe Percue - -RM 80 Rpf (faint). Cancel Hagen (1943 - F). VF (1003)

26. P.O.W. - Free franked cover from Germany to German POW - Camp Swift - Tex. via New York. US + German Censor Tape. Cancel Bad Liebenwerda (1945 - VF). F (1003)

27. **P.O.W.** – Cover from Germany to German POW – Camp Papago Park (Arizona) via New York. US + German Censor Tape. German (Hitler) stp Cancel Schorndorf (1945 – F). F - tears (1003)
28. **P.O.W.** – Free franked POW form letter to Germany. Sender German POW – Fort Sam Houston. US Censorship marking. Cancel New York, NY (1944 – F). Several lines in letter removed by censor. F - fold (1003) *PICT*
29. **P.O.W.** – Cover from Jamaica to Buffalo, NY. Front has Jamaican (?) censor mark. Back has faint rubber “From (with written name) No (461) – Internment Camp – Jamaica”. Also oval rubber stamp “Internment & P. of W. Camp * Jamaica * 27 May 1942”. VF (light toning) (1003)
30. **P.O.W.** – Free franked Kriegsgefangenenpost. Sender US prisoner – M.-Stammlager II B. Mute cancel 1944. Stalag IIB – 16 Censor. To Detroit. VF (1003)
31. **P.O.W.** – Free franked Kriegsgefangenenpost. Sender US 1st Lt – Offizierlager 64. Mute cancel 1943. US + Oflag 64 Censor. To Oneida, NY. VF (small tear) (1003) *PICT*
32. **P.O.W.** – Free franked POW form letter. From Indiana to US S/SGT at Stalag 3C. US Censor – Cancel New York, NY (faint). Return to Sender marking. VF (1003)
33. **Alaska (2)**. 2 War Ballots APO 985 and 986 (damaged on top). Both 1944. Ave (0909)
34. **Alaska (5)**. 5 covers. 980 (2 x 6c air), 983 (6c air), 986 (2 free) - 4 censored, 1 Inter Alaska. + 6 censored 6c air covers APO cancel no # (1943). F/VF (0909)
35. **Alaska (2)**. Censored Business Reply Envelope cancel APO 729 (KB 1944 – VF). + P/C with patriotic label “Proud I’m an American” cancel APO 942 (MC 1945 – F). F/VF (0909)
36. **China**. Official Business HQ Fourteenth Air Force. Cancel APO 627 (KB 1945 – VF) with “US Army Press Censor – China-Burma-India” marking. F (Fold) - SB \$5.00 (1026)
37. **Fiji (2)**. 2 covers 6c Air. 1 sender 578 Signal A.W. Bat Apo 913. 1 sender 21st Recon Troops APO 716. Both cancel APO 913 (KB 1943/44 – F). Censored. VF (1020)
38. **Great Britain (5)**. 5 censored covers. APO 161 (6c air – 1944 faint), 312 (6c air 1944), 2 x 510 (6c air 1944), 516 in sender (free - KB 1944 no # - Base censor). F (0910)
39. **Great Britain (2)**. Official Business Size 10 (base censor). APO 871 in sender (KB 1942 no #). 5 Auxiliary markings incl. Missent To APO 305, NO Record 112 ENGRS, Directory Service Given Fort Meade, RTS (all F/VF). + 6c air censored cancel APO 134 (KB faint 1944). Ave/F. (0910)
40. **New Guinea (2)**. 1 Censored 6c air cover sender APO 322 – cancel APO no # (MC – 194?). 1 Censored 6c Prexie cover sender APO 565 – cancel APO no # (part cancel year?). F/VF (1002)
41. **Returned to Sender by Censor**. Cover cancel Island Creek, Mass (1943 – F) to a Pvt - POW in Tokyo, Japan. Examined by Censor – address covered by label “Returned to Sender by Censor”. Enclosed two form slips from censor office. *This cover was illustrated in MPHS bulletin vol 47, # 1 WINTER 2008 – “Don’t Kill the Messenger” – page 11/13. F (0900)*
42. **V-Mails (2)**. NO envelopes. 1 x Sender 232 INF - APO 17797. 1 x Sender 242 INF - APO 17798. VF (0909)
43. **V-Mails (2)**. 1 x NO envelope Sender 155 F.A. Bn - APO 36 - 1943. 1 x unprocessed V-mail same Sender – cancel APO 36 (KB 1943 – F). F/VF (1002)
44. **4 APO covers (4)**. Censored 6c air. Sender 72 – APO No # (1945 - with letter), 709 (1943), Sender 716 – faint APO cancel (1945), 7th Base PO (sender APO 923 - 1943). F/VF (1002)
45. **7 APO (4/5 digits) covers**. Sender APO 1216 (Trenton 1942) – APO 1256 (APO 652 – 1944) – APO 4913 (size 10 Official – US Navy 1943) – APO 7823 (Postage Due stps – APO 129 – 1944) – APO 9826 (censored letter 1944 – mute cancel) – APO 12453 (APO 673 – 1943) – APO 17971 (A17 BPO – 1945). F/VF (0909)

WORLD WAR II NAVAL

46. **SS KENTUCKIAN**. Cover 25c Niagara stp cancel Los Angeles, Calif (1926 – F) to *S.S. Kentuckian in New York*. Forwarded to Philadelphia *This cover was illustrated in MPHS bulletin vol 48, # 3 Summer 2009 – “SS Kentuckian: Two Wars, Two Services” – page 8/9. Ave (0900)*
47. **22 covers Hawaii (22)**. Censored 6c air. All same sender 10th 155 mm Gun Bn. All KB US Navy cancels 1944. F/VF (0901)
48. **Midway NAS**. Free franked cover cancel US Navy (MC 1942 – F). Sender CC NAS Midway Is. Naval Censor. *This cover was illustrated in MPHS bulletin vol 48, # 2 Spring 2009 – “1942 Midway Naval Air Station” - page 8/9. VF (0900)*
49. **NCB (4)**. 4 covers 6c air. Same sender 24th NCB Co.B. Cancel US Navy 1945. 1 x Ave – 3 x F/VF (1002)

KOREAN WAR

50. **APO 6**. 6c Air – Sender HQ 2n Bat, 40th Inf, APO 6. Cancel APO 6 (KB ..., 51 – faint). Located Sendai, Japan. VF (0900)
51. **APO 7**. Free franked – Sender 32n Inf Rgt APO 7. Cancel APO 7 (KB Nov 22, 52 – F). Located Chunchon (Airfield K-47), Korea. VF but a few stains (0900)
52. **APO 24**. Free franked – Sender 24th Div Arty, APO 24. Cancel APO 234 (MC Aug 8, 53 – VF). Located Taegu, Korea. VF (0900)
53. **APO 25**. Free franked – Sender HQ Co 25th Div, APO 25. Cancel APO 25 (KB Jan 11, 52 – F). Located Yongdungpo, Korea. F (0900)
54. **APO 25**. Free franked – Sender 21st AAA W bat, APO 25. Cancel APO 25 (MC Feb 9, 54 – VF). Located Taekwang-ni, Korea. VF (0900)
55. **APO 86**. Free franked – Sender HQ Co 279th RCT, APO 86. Cancel APO 86 (MC May 16, 52 – F). Located Taekwang-ni (Airfield K-16), Korea. VF (0900)
56. **APO 201**. Free franked War Dep size 10 – Sender 5th Cav. Rgt., APO 201. Cancel APO 201 (MC Aug 12, 51 – F). Located Tongduchon-ni, Korea. VF (0900)
57. **APO 201**. #10 6c Air – Sender SV Co 5th Cav. Rgt, APO 201. Cancel APO 201 (KB Nov 23, 52 – Ave). Located Makonomi, Japan. F (trimmed slightly on top). (0900)
58. **APO 201**. 6c Air – Sender 16th Recon Co, 1st Cav. Div, APO 201. Cancel APO 201 (MC Nov 4, 52 – F). Located Chitose, Japan. F (trimmed slightly on top). (0900)
59. **APO 248**. Free franked – Sender 2nd Inf Div, APO 248. Cancel APO no number (MC Oct 4, 52 – Ave) Located Yongcho, Korea. F (0900)
60. **APO 248**. Free franked – Sender 38th Rgt. Cancel APO 248 (KB Dec 31, 51 – partial) Located Chunchon, Korea. Ave (large tear repaired) (0900)
61. **APO 264**. Free franked – Sender Hq Btry, IX Corps, APO 264. Cancel APO 264 (MC Mar 2, 52 – F) Located Chunchon, Korea. F (0900)
62. **APO 301**. Size #10 Free franked – Sender Armor section EUSAK, APO 301. Cancel APO 301 (MC Nov 8, 51 – very faint) Located Taegu, Korea. VF (0900)
63. **APO 301**. Size #10 Free franked – Sender HQ EUSAK SSO, APO 301. Cancel APO 301 (MC May 18, 52 – F) Located Taegu, Korea. F (0900)
64. **APO 468**. Free franked – Sender 3rd Inf Div, APO 468. Cancel APO 468 (MC Dec 6, 5? – F but year blurred) Located Changyang-ni, Korea. VF (0900)
65. **APO 468**. Free franked – Sender HQ Co, 3d Inf Div, APO 468. Cancel APO 468 (MC Sep 26, 54 – F) Located Chonkok, Korea. VF (0900)
66. **APO 909**. Size # 10 PO Dept Free franked – Sender Postal Officer, APO 909. Cancel APO 909 (KB Nov 23, 51 – VF) Located Pupyong-ni, Korea. VF (0900)
67. **APO 970**. Free franked – Sender 2nd Med Bn, APO 248. Cancel APO 970 (KB Jan 25, 51 – Ave) Located Taegu, Korea (970) – Sanju, North Korea (248). F (fold) MB \$15.00 (0900)

VIETNAM WAR

68. **Vietnam KBC (2)**. 2 special blue covers with map - Vietnam stamps. Both Cancel Quan-Buu 1973. 1 with KBC 3799 handstamp, other KBC 3222. VF (0908)

POST-WORLD WAR II MILITARY

69. **Douglas Aircraft Co (6)**. 6 #10 Douglas (aircraft) stationary 7c air. Cancel APO 12 (MC 1960 – F), APO 116 (KB 1960 – VF), APO 132 (MC 1960 – VF), APO 168 (MC 1960 – VF), APO 179 (MC 1960 – F), APO 301 (MC 1960 – VF). F/VF (0909)
70. **Hawaii (8)**. 8 covers 1946/47. 957 (1), 958 (1), 959 (6). Ave/F (0906)
71. **Israel (3)**. 3 free franked military covers with triangular unit markings. 1 cancel Misrad #6 (1948) unit 276, 1 cancel Misrad #7 (1948) unit 456, 1 cancel Misrad #8 (1948) unit 332. Ave/F - SB \$15.00 (1026)
72. **Israel (3)**. 3 free franked military covers with triangular unit markings. 1 cancel Misrad #3 (1948) unit 391, 1 cancel Misrad #4 (1949) unit 218, 1 cancel Rhevot 5(1952) unit 204. Ave/VF - SB \$15.00 (1026)
73. **Israel (4)**. 4 free franked military covers with triangular unit markings. 1 Registered cancel Tel Aviv (1948) unit 2369, 1 cancel Tel Aviv (1956) unit 2116 (faint), 1 cancel Tel Aviv (1955) unit 2457, 1 cancel Haifa (1960) unit 2552. Ave/VF (Folds)- SB \$22.00 (1026)
74. **Israel (2)**. 2 free franked military covers with triangular unit markings. 1 cancel Jerusalem (1957) unit 2276 (staple holes), 1 PC no cancel dated 1973 - unit 1224 (Fold). F - SB \$15.00 (1026)
75. **Misc. APO (6)**. 6 covers: APO 354, 450, 731, 942, 22 BPO, 96274. Ave/F (0906)

POST-WORLD WAR II NAVAL

76. **Alaska (7)**. 7 covers 6c/8c air (3 size 10). Cancel US Navy Branch in cancel. Navy 230 BR (1), 13608 BR (3), 13609 BR (2), + 1 from Canada to Navy BR 13609. 50s/60s. F/VF (0909)

77. **Colombia.** Official size 10 stationary "Republica de Colombia - Armada Nacional - Base Naval A.R.C. 'Bolivar' - Cartagena". Colombian stamps cancel Correo Aereo - Cartagena - 1947. VF (0901)
78. **Newfoundland.** 10,000 Atlantic Barrier Flights (DEW Line) handstamp - Cancel 10957 BR (MC 1961 - VF). With info letter from Commander Barrier Forces. VF Philatelic (0909) *PICT*
79. **Navy Branch (8).** 8 covers 40s/50s 5/6c air. Sender Navy 117 (2 - 1944), 230 BR, Sender Navy 939, 10499 BR, 10506 BR, 12859 BR. + Sender Hedron 14-2 F.A.W.4 (1944). F/VF (1002)
80. **USS Hermitage Welcome Aboard pamphlets.** *USS Hermitage* (LSD-34) 12 pages. F - SB \$8.00 (1026)
81. **USS Yorktown Welcome Aboard pamphlets.** *USS Yorktown* (CG-48) 8 pages. F - SB \$8.00 (1026)
82. **USS Yorktown Commissioning book.** *USS Yorktown* (CG-48) 76 pages. F - SB \$20.00 (1026)
83. **VAW-125 info sheets.** 4 pages of info from the mid-80s. VF - SB \$5.00 (1026)
84. **USS D.D. Eisenhower Misc.** Large color picture of the *USS D.D. Eisenhower* (CVN-69) + 7 color pages bio sheets of CO, XO, CMDCM, CO CAW-7, DC CAW-7, CO DESRON 28, CO Carrier Strike Group 8. VF - SB \$7.00 (1026)

MODERN MILITARY (after 1965)

85. **Israel.** Blank Size #9 unaddressed cover - 2 x 10c stp cancel APO 09672 (1984 - F). No return address. VF Philatelic - SB \$25.00 (1026)
86. **Israel.** Blank unaddressed cover - 2 x 20c stp cancel APO 09672 (1982 - Ave). No return address. VF Philatelic - SB \$25.00 (1026)
87. **USS Independence.** Unaddressed #10 cover - 20c stp cancel *USS Independence* (23 Sep 1983 - F). Ship's cachet. Sellers says during Multinational Force Lebanon operations. VF Philatelic - SB \$9.00 (1026)
88. **USS DD Eisenhower.** Unaddressed #10 cover - 20c stp cancel *USS Eisenhower* (14 Sep 1983 - F). Ship's cachet. During Multinational Force Lebanon operations. VF Philatelic - SB \$8.00 (1026)
89. **USS America.** Unaddressed cover - 20c stp cancel *USS America* (15 Oct 1982 - VF). Ship's cachet. Sellers says during Multinational Force Lebanon operations. VF Philatelic - SB \$11.00 (1026)
90. **USS Forrestal.** Unaddressed cover - 20c stp cancel *USS Forrestal* (11 Sep 1982 - Ave). Ship's cachet on back. During Multinational Force Lebanon operations. VF Philatelic - SB \$8.00 (1026)
91. **USS Hermitage.** Unaddressed cover - 20c stp cancel *USS Hermitage* (17 Oct 1982 - VF). Ship's cachet. During Multinational Force Lebanon operations. VF Philatelic - SB \$9.00 (1026)
92. **USS Nashville.** Unaddressed cover - 20c stp cancel *USS Nashville* (11 Sep 1982 - F). During Multinational Force Lebanon operations. VF Philatelic - SB \$9.00 (1026)
93. **USS Guam.** Unaddressed cover - 20c stp cancel *USS Guam* (28 Aug 1982 - F). During Multinational Force Lebanon operations. VF Philatelic - SB \$10.00 (1026)
94. **Operation Enduring Freedom - France.** French Army stationary - CC Captain CO Logistic Unit. Cancel Bureau Postal Interarmees 240 (2003 - VF) located in Kabul, Afghanistan. VF Philatelic - MB \$4.00 (0901)
95. **Operation Enduring Freedom - France.** French Army stationary - CC Colonel RepFrance. Cancel Bureau Postal Interarmees 240 (2004 - VF) located in Kabul, Afghanistan. VF Philatelic - MB \$5.00 (0901) *PICT*
96. **Operation Iraqi Freedom.** Business reply cover - cancel APO AE 09316 (2007 - VF). Located in Baghdad, Iraq. VF - SB \$10.00 (1026)
97. **Operation Iraqi Freedom.** Discover Card Business reply cover - cancel Marine Post Office FPO AE 09370 (2007 - Ave). Located at Camp Al Qaim, Iraq. VF - SB \$10.00 (1026)
98. **Operation Iraqi Freedom.** Pink Mail Bag Tag - US Mail Destination SDA Baghdad Saddam Iraq. Mint. VF - SB \$5.00 (1026)

DESERT STORM

99. **Desert Storm unofficial FDC (USS).** Patriotic D.S. Victory unaddressed unofficial FDC 29c Desert Storm stamp. Cancel *USS Arkansas* (CGN-41) - JUL 2, 1991 (KB + DR - VF). VF Philatelic - MB \$5.00 (0901) *PICT*

UN MILITARY MAIL

100. **KFOR + IPTF - Turkey (2).** 2 covers with unit handstamps. 1 size 9 x 6 Free franked to National Support Unit - TU Coy - HQ KFOR Rear - Skopje / FYROM (2 unit markings) - Military cancel Maltepe Askeri Lisesi {military school} (1999). 1 PC from "IPTF - Police Monitor - ITPF Central Station - Ilidza BIH" - military cancel K.K.KOMUTANLIGI - BAKANIKLAR 2003 {General Staff HQ}. 1 Philatelic (?) VF - MB \$8.00 (0901)
101. **KFOR - Turkey (2).** 2 covers Turkish stps (1 size 9 x 6) with unit handstamps. Both are from Task Force Command / Dragash-Kosovo. 1 military cancel "Genelkurmay - Ankara" 2003 {Naval Forces HQ}. 1

cancel "IS.OK.Veeg... - Narlidere" 2001. Both receiving military cancel "Maltepe Askeri Lisesi" {military school}. VF - MB \$8.00 (0901) *PICT*

102. **ONUC CONGO - Canada.** Size # 10 Free franked - sender Canadian Capt - 57 Cdn Sigs Unit - CAPO 5046 - ONUC. Cancel Organization des Nations Unies au Congo - Jan 25, 1962. F (fold) - MB \$5.00 (0901)
103. **ONUC CONGO - India.** 2 Page letter (official ONUC stationary) in English from Indian Capt - 4 Raj Rif - ONUC - PO Box 7248 - Leopoldville - dated 17 Dec 1962. No envelope. VF - MB \$5.00 (0901)
104. **ONUCA El Salvador.** Official ONUCA stationary Size 10 x 6 cover. El Salvador stps cancel Correos ... El Salvador - 1 OCT (no year). VF - MB \$5.00 (0901)
105. **SFOR - Turkey (2).** 2 covers (1 size 9 x 6) with unit handstamps. 1 Registered from "Turk Taburu - SFOR Zenica" - Turkish stps military cancel "Genelkurmay - Ankara" 2001 {Naval Forces HQ}. 1 free franked (official ?) to SFOR Bosna-Hersek Turk Ugayi - military cancel "Maltepe Askeri Lisesi" 2000 {military school}. VF - MB \$8.00 (0901)
106. **UNEF - Canada (2).** 2 Free franked covers. 1 sender RCAMC (Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps) CDN Forces Middle East - CAPO 5049. Cancel United Nations Emergency Force (MC 1958 - VF) VF. 1 Official UNEF size #10 cover - Cancel United Nations Emergency Force (MC 1964 - VF). Ave (fold) - MB \$8.00 (0901)
107. **UNEF - Denmark + India (2).** 1 Danish Stp cancel Kobenhavn OMK. 1957 - handstamp Dansk FN Kommando. VF. 1 Indian stp cancel FPO No 712 - 1957 (VF). F (fold) - SB \$30.00 (1026) *PICT*
108. **UNEF - India.** # 10 official UNEF stationary *intra theater* use. Cancel in back FPO No 712 - 1959(F). Addressed to OC Indian Postal Unit UNEF - Gaza. VF - MB \$10.00 (0901)
109. **UNEF - PIO.** # 10 official UNEF stationary. Lebanese stp cancel Beyrouth RP 22.10.58 (VF). PIO - HQ UNEF GAZA marking. F (a few wrinkles) MB \$5.00 (0901)
110. **UNEF - PIO (3).** 3 x Wrappers from Public Information Officer - Gaza (handstamp). 1 Free franked cancel UNITED NATIONS EMERGENCY FORCE * - 12 FEB 1961 (VF). 1 Lebanese stps cancel Beyrouth RP 22.7.59 (F). 1 UN Meter NO DATE (VF). F/VF MB \$7.50 (0901)
111. **UNEF - Sweden.** Complete Militarbrev (stamp in back flap still attached). Sender 1 Komp Sta - Sv-FN-Bat - Malmo 1. Cancel Svenska FN-Bataljonen - Egypten *-30-8-57 (F) Early! VF - MB \$10.00 (0901)
112. **UNIFIL - Nepal.** Blue UN Air Letter - sender 8505 NEP Batt Sig PL - Tel Aviv Israel. Cancel United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon - 6 Jul 1978 (F). F (folds) - SB \$25.00 (1026)
113. **UNIKOM - KUWAIT/IRAQ.** UNIKOM official stationary size 10 x 7. 5 x Kuwaiti stps cancel ... General Post - 1996 (ave). Sender Lt Col with CMPO-MPM - Safat - Kuwait City. VF - MB \$5.00 (0901)
114. **UNPROFOR - France.** Handstamp Office of the Force Commander + United Nations UNPROFOR. French Stp cancel Bureau Postal Militaire 653 - 13-12-1994 (Located in Zagreb - Croatia). Addressed to officer at APO in Turkey via Frankfurt - Germany - APO cancel on back! VF Philatelic - MB \$5.00(0901)
115. **UNTSO.** SELA Maritime Service - Tel Aviv - letter folded and mailed to UNTSO. Israeli stp + meter from Tel Aviv 04.9.1967. United Nations handstamp + note inside. VF (punch holes) SB \$10.00 (1026) *PICT*
116. **UNTSO.** Official size #10 UNTSO stationary - Sender Lt Col UNTSO HQ. Israeli stps cancel Jerusalem ... 1969 (faint). F (fold) SB \$15.00 (1026)

Front
T.C.
GENELKURMAY BAŞKANLIĞI
KOSOVA TÜRK BARIŞ GÜCÜ 6/K KLİĞİ
DRAGAS/KOSOVA

Back



Sample Lot 101

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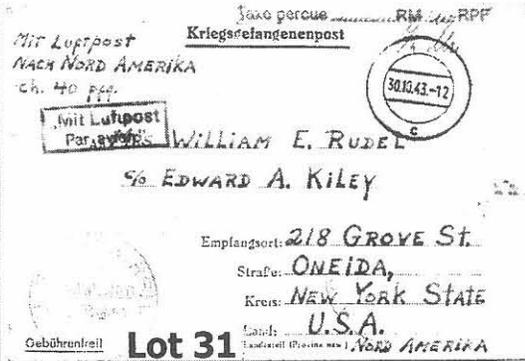
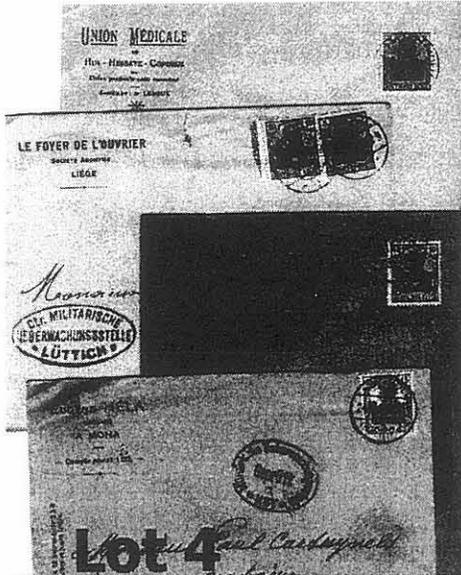
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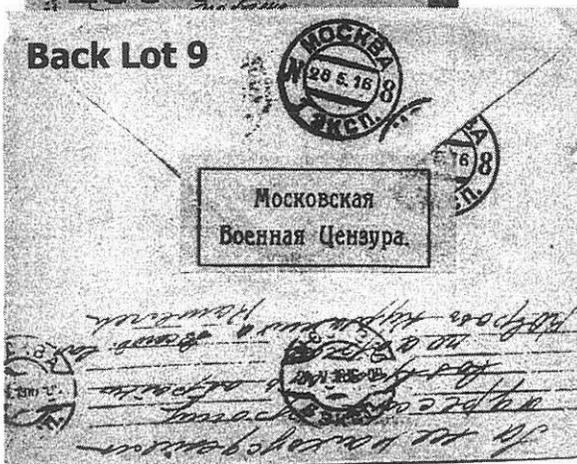
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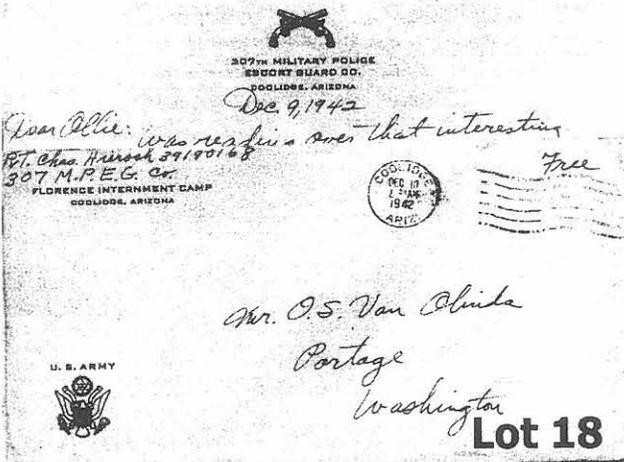
Mr. Peter L.N. Schilling
c/o Dempsey
5 Harbor Terrace Drive
Rye, N.Y.

Lot 78

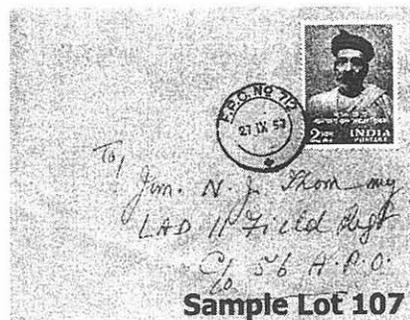
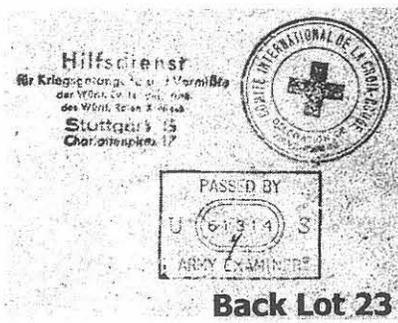


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Lot 95



Lot 99



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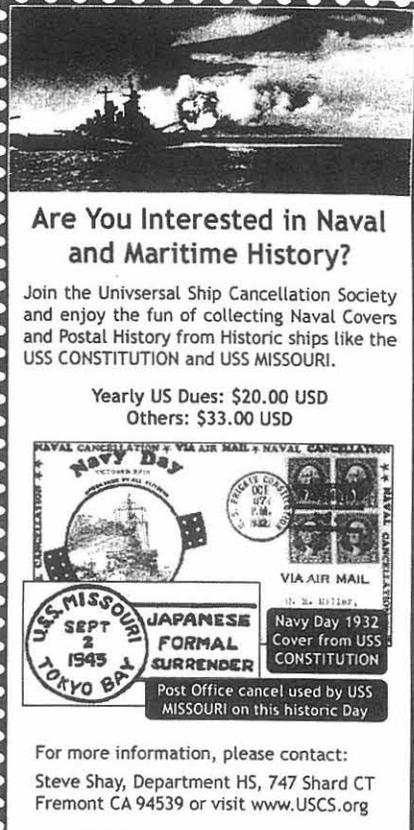
WANTED: COVERS

WW II COVERS and letters relating to malaria. Looking for covers related to Navy malariology and Army malaria survey and control units. Kelly Horn, kfhorn@bellsouth.net. [10/4]

COVERS with CLIPPERTON ISLAND in the cancellation or cachet. Ken Sanford, 613 Championship Dr., Oxford, CT 06478-3128. Email: kaerophil@gmail.com. [10/3]

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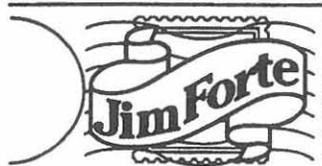
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NAVY DAY
COVERED BY ALL NATIONS
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SEPT 2 1945
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Friendly Fire

“Friendly Fire” casualties are nothing new in warfare. During the Battle of Guadalcanal it led to the loss of one of the Navy’s newest destroyers.

USS Duncan was built by the Federal Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co., Kearny, N.J., and commissioned April 16, 1942, LCDR E. B. Taylor in command. She sailed from New York in June for the South Pacific. In October *Duncan* was ordered to join Task Force 64, a group of four cruisers and five destroyers under the command of RADM Norman Scott, to repel Japanese attempts to resupply their troops on Guadalcanal. In the afternoon of October 11 a reconnaissance plane spotted a Japanese force heading down “the Slot” toward Guadalcanal. Scott ordered his ships into a looping patrol line Northwest of Guadalcanal and Savo Island to wait for the Japanese force, expected to arrive around midnight. The U.S. ships took station a couple of hours early and prepared for battle.

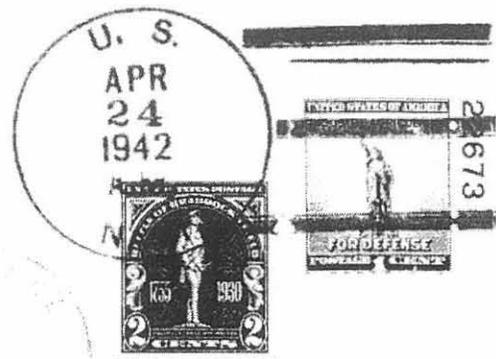
The Japanese force was finally spotted at 11 p.m. The Japanese lacked radar and, blinded by some heavy rain bands crossing the area, were unaware of the presence of the U.S. ships. Admiral Scott ordered the battle line to turn into formation to “Cross the T” of the approaching Japanese formation, but a delay in the execution of the turn led to the three leading destroyers, including *Duncan*, to slip out of formation as they approached the Japanese fleet.

Being the only radar-equipped destroyer, *Duncan* could see the enemy position, but her companion destroyers did not realize how close the Japanese force was. As the destroyers finished their late turn they increased speed to regain station at the lead of the column. Captain Taylor in *Duncan* took the sudden increase of speed as a signal that they were beginning their attack, and ordered flank speed, closing on the largest target on his radar, the Japanese heavy cruiser *Furutaka*.

Making almost 37 knots, *Duncan* raced toward the Japanese cruiser and fired two torpedoes. As he came broadside to the Japanese force, Taylor realized his ship was all alone and had just alerted a massively superior Japanese force to his presence. Rather than attempting to withdraw, Taylor ordered his gunners to open fire as soon as their torpedoes detonated on their target. Unfortunately, neither torpedo hit *Furutaka* (or they failed to detonate), and when the rest of the U.S. force opened fire on the Japanese *Duncan* followed suit, firing salvo after salvo of 5-inch rounds into the Japanese cruiser at point blank range. But shortly after firing began, *Duncan* was stuck several times by friendly fire from the rest of the U.S. force, which had assumed *Duncan* to be a Japanese destroyer. *Duncan* peeled away and began flashing recognition signals toward the U.S. ships, but fires onboard and her blinking signal light gave the Japanese gunners a perfect target in the dark night, and *Duncan* was raked with shell fire from the entire Japanese force, causing massive damage. Taylor steered a course for Savo Island hoping to beach the ship, but several more rounds found the burning *Duncan* and the ship gradually lost power and slowed to a halt, no longer able to operate her guns. Reluctantly, Captain Taylor ordered his crew to abandon ship.

After the two sides parted, other destroyers found the abandoned, burning and drifting *Duncan*, and after rescuing 195 survivors from the waters attempted to tow her to more protected waters. All efforts to save the six-month-old ship failed, and *USS Duncan* rolled over and sank off Savo Island in the early morning hours of October 12, taking 50 members of her crew with her to the bottom.

Captain Taylor did accomplish something. At least in part as the result of his gunners’ incessant shelling, the Japanese cruiser *HIJMS Furutaka* sank at about the same time.



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