

Back Issue of Military Postal History Society 'Bulletin': (War Cover Philatelist Apr 1943a)

Back issues of the Military Postal History Society 'Bulletin' are now available. The issues available span the period from 1937 to 2022. The MPHS is a non-profit organization for philatelists and stamp collectors interested in the collecting and studying of the postal aspects of all wars and military actions of all countries, including soldiers' campaign covers, naval mail, occupation and internment covers, patriotics, propaganda, V-mail, censorship and similar related material.

You are encouraged to join the MPHS to realize the additional benefits of membership. See: <http://militaryphs.org/membership>

List of Index Items for This Publication

Military Postal Stations & Branches established 1 May 1941 to 15 Dec 1941

Classification System for Listing US War Postal Markings

THE AMERICAN CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM FOR LISTING U.S. WAR POSTAL MARKINGS

(Section 1)

This classification system is designed for listing postal markings used in connection with all wars and military expeditions in which the United States has participated.

It must be borne in mind that, as this is a philatelic classification

system, items are grouped and terminology is used in some cases at variance with the actual designation of military and naval organizations, campaigns, or with geographical and political classifications.

The following terminology is used in connection with certain general groups of postal markings -

SHIP - SHORE - CIVILIAN

SHIP (usually referred to as NAVAL.) Postal markings used on naval vessels, including transports, supply ships, &c., containing the name of the ship; also indefinite naval and marine markings, such as U.S.NAVY, FLEET MARINE FORCE, &c., even though actually used at shore stations.

Note: Certain Naval postmarks contain the name of the port (between slogan bars) at which the ship was anchored, or the name of the post office in the U.S. of which the ship post office is a station. These, however, retain their status as Naval postmarks.

SHORE. Postal markings used at post offices on land, both in the United States and Overseas, established primarily to serve the armed forces (Army Navy, Marines, &c.). These postal markings usually contain some designation indicating a military, &c. establishment. Postmarks indicating Arsenal, Red Cross P.O., Proving Ground, &c. are included in this classification.

Note: During this Global War many Naval shore stations use indefinite U.S.NAVY postmarks. Such postmarks are classified as SHIP (NAVAL) postmarks even though actually used at shore stations.

CIVILIAN. Use is frequently made by the armed forces of regular civilian post offices. Postmarks on such mail are classified as Civilian.

Postal markings on ordinary civilian mail having a war-time significance, such as slogans, are also considered as War Postal Markings.

UNITED STATES - OVERSEAS

UNITED STATES. Postal markings used in the continental United States, territories and possessions, such as Alaska, Hawaii, Canal Zone, as well as peace-time protective forces, such as those in China and Cuba during the World and Global Wars.

OVERSEAS: Postal markings used abroad by military expeditions during war time.

Note: Cuba, Philippine Islands, Puerto Rico and Guam items are classified as OVERSEAS when used during and immediately after the Spanish-American War, and as UNITED STATES when used during the World and Global Wars.

Mexican War of 1846-48 and Occupation of Vera Cruz in 1914, as well as marine occupations of Central America, are classified as OVERSEAS.

British "Lease-Lend" bases are classified as OVERSEAS, even though they were taken over before U.S. participation in the present Global War.

KEY-LETTER WAR DESIGNATIONS

Initial mnemonic key-letters may be used to indicate the war or campaign during which particular postal markings were used.

Note: These key-letter designations should be used in articles dealing with postal markings of more than one war, otherwise their use is unnecessary.

- R- Revolutionary War, War of 1812;
- M- Mexican War of 1846-48, Texas Republic items;
- C- Civil War, both Union and Confederate;
- F- "Fort" items used mainly in connection with Western Indian campaigns following the Civil War;
- S- Spanish-American War, Philippine Insurrection, Boxer Uprising;
- O- Occupations of Caribbean countries during the 20th Century, such as Vera Cruz, Haiti, Nicaragua;
- W- World War;
- G- Global War (World War 2).

GENERAL GROUP CLASSIFICATIONS

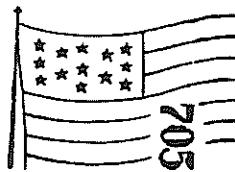
Lettered designations are given to various groups of postal markings. Mnemonic letters are used where practical, such as A for AEF or Overseas, C for Civilian, F for Franks, O for Obliterations (Cancellations), R for Registered, S for Slogans.

A certain amount of overlapping exists as certain postal markings may be classified under more than one group. However, suitable cross-indexing should eliminate confusion in such cases.

Postmarks

Postmarks are postal markings applied to indicate the locality at which a letter is mailed (or the organization handling the letter) in addition usually to the date of mailing. Backstamps are considered as postmarks.

Postmarks combined with REGISTERED are classified under Group R, postmarks combined with Slogans (meters) are classified under Group S.

Group A -

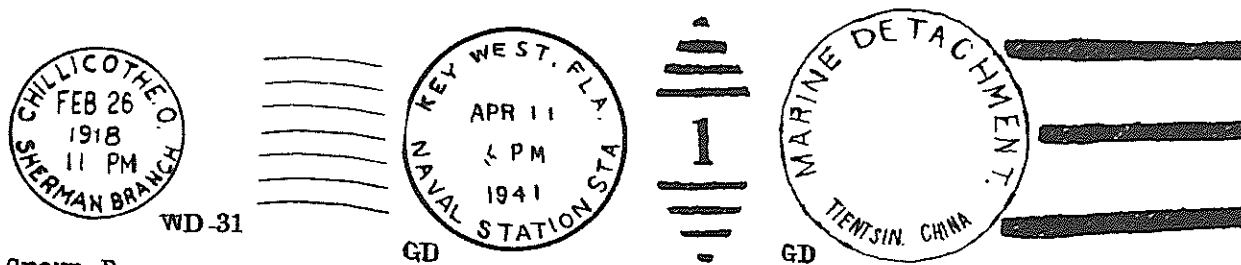
Overseas (AEF) postmarks of the armed forces used at shore post offices operated either by the Post Office Dept., Postal Express or Army Postal Service, or at shore based naval post offices. (See p. 1.)

Group B -

Postmarks applied on mail of American forces overseas at post offices of other countries (British, French, &c.) either military or civilian.

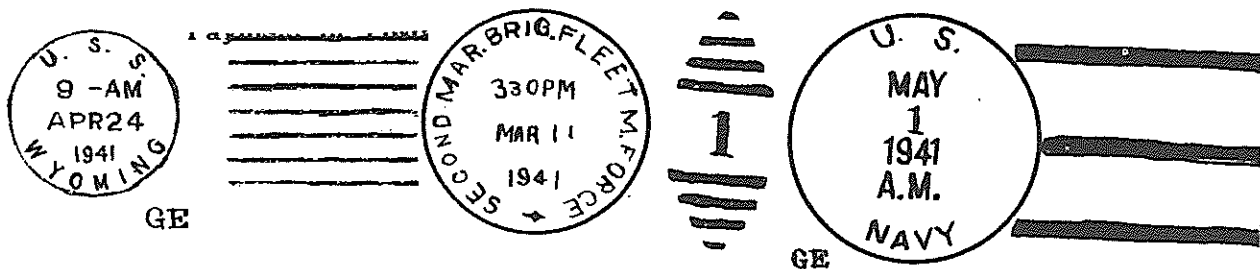
Group C -

Civilian postmarks used in the United States: (a) On mail of the armed forces; (b) Civilian mail with postmarks with a war-time significance.



Group D -

Postmarks indicating shore post offices in the United States and peace-time post offices abroad (See p. 1)



Group E -

Ship or Naval postmarks. (See p. 1)

Franks

Franks are markings (such as Free, Soldiers Mail, Penalty for...) indicating that the letter was entitled to be sent without payment (or prepayment) of postage.

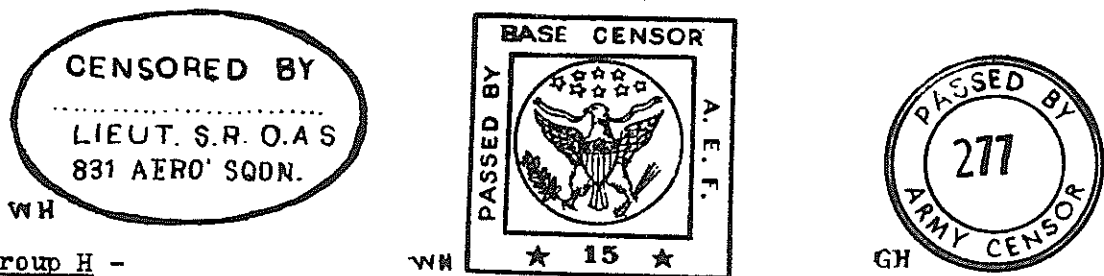
Group F -

Franks on personal mail of soldiers, sailors, &c., such as SOLDIER'S MAIL, SAILOR'S MAIL, FRANKED, FREE, &c.

Group G -

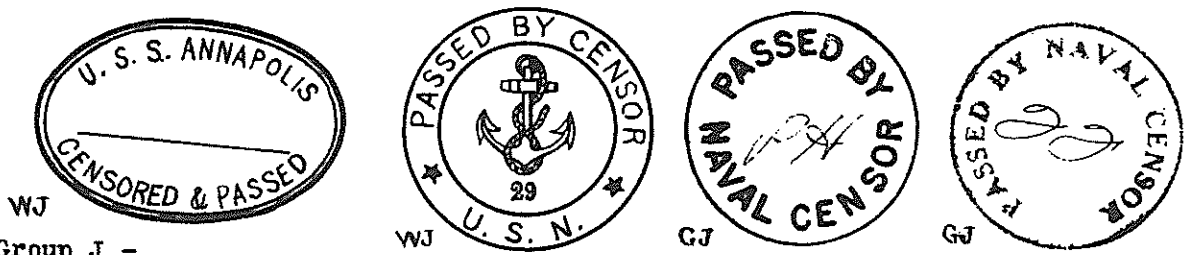
Government Franks applied on official mail, such as Penalty for Private Use, Official Business, &c.

Censor Marks



Group H -

Censor marks applied Overseas by either U.S. military censors or by censors of other countries handling mail of American armed forces.



Group J -

Naval Censor Marks used (1) on Naval vessels or (2) at shore stations . but with NAVAL CENSOR, &c.

Group K -

Censor marks applied in the United States and possessions on mail of all classes (civilian as well as that of the armed forces.)

Delayed Mail Markings (Groups L and M)

By Delayed Mail markings is meant markings which indicate a delay or failure in transmission of mail, such as Forward, Deceased, Missent, &c.

Some items of a miscellaneous nature (such as Received, Advise Correspondent, &c.) are included as a matter of convenience in these groups.

Group L -

Delayed Mail Markings of the armed services used both in the United States and overseas.

Group M -

Delayed Mail markings, Civilian only, directly pertaining to a war.

Group N -

Air mail, Special Delivery, and other markings indicating a speeding up of mail service.

Group O -

Obliterations (Cancellations), sometimes called "dumb" markings, used to cancel a postage stamp. When an Obliteration is used instead of a regular postmark it is classified in the appropriate A to E group.

Group P -

Handstamped return addresses.

Group Q -

Naval registered postal markings.

Group R -

Registered postal markings on mail of the armed forces. Also Rate - postage rate.

Group S -

Slogans, either combined with meters, or struck separately, having some war-time significance.

Group Z -

Miscellaneous and indefinite items which cannot be placed in other groups.

TYPE CLASSIFICATIONS

Various Groups of postal markings are sub-divided into Types, the Type being given a numeral designation.

Types are arranged either by the physical appearance of the marking, by rubber-handstamps, metal-handstamps, machine cancels, or by the inscriptions in the postal markings, whichever method is the most convenient in designating types of a given Group.

Suitable descriptive notes accompany various type charts to enable the war cover collector to understand and apply this classification system to the particular postal markings in which he is interested.

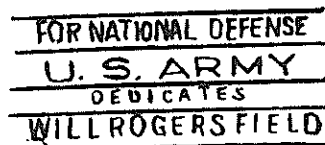
- 0 -

(Postal markings illustrated on pages 2 and 3 are World War (W-) or Global War (G-) items.)

U.S. MILITARY POSTAL STATIONS AND BRANCHES (INCLUDING MARINE CORPS, NAVAL SHORE AND "INDEFINITE" STATIONS AND BRANCHES) MAY 1, 1941, TO DEC 16, 1941
(Continued from June, 1941, issue)

Abbreviations: Br.-Branch; C.-Contract; Chgd.-Changed; Disc.-Discontinued Eff.-Effective; Est.-Established; Sta.-Station.

NOTE: This is not a check-list of postmarks but is a list of postal stations and branches established to serve personnel of the armed forces. Mail is not postmarked at may--particularly at "Contract"-- stations and branches. As it is impossible now to prepare a satisfactory check-list of known uses of postmarks, this is offered as a guide and the foundation upon which such a check-list may ultimately be prepared.



1941

- May 1 Est. Naval Mine Warfare School and Experimental Mine Sweeping Group Sta. Yorktown, Va. Eff. May 21 (See Illustr. See P. Bull May 22.)
- " 2 Est. Naval Reserve Radio and Signal School Sta. Los Angeles, Cal. Eff. May 26. (Name later chgd. to Naval Training School, see P. Bull Nov. 7)
- " 2 Est. Section Base 3 Sta. Charleston, S.C. Eff. May 6
- " 5 Est. Camp Polk Br. Leesville, La. Eff. Jun. 1
- " 7 Est. Air Base, C. Br. Oklahoma City, Okla. Eff. May 19
- " 9 Est. Air Base C. Br. Charlotte, N.C. Eff. May 16
- " 12 Disc. Submarine Division Light Br. N.Y. Eff. Apr. 1, 1939
- " 13 Est. Patrol Squadron 101 Br. N.Y. Eff. May 15
- " 13 Est. Submarine Base St. Thomas Br. Charlotte Amalie, Virgin Islands. Eff. June 2
- " 15 Est. Camp McQuaide C. Sta. Watsonville, Cal. Eff. June 1
- " 19 Est. Lawson General Hospital C. Br. Atlanta, Ga. Eff. June 1
- " 19 Est. Naval Air Br. Corpus Christi, Tex. Eff. Jul 1
- " 20 Est. Patrol Wing Two and Attached Squadrons, Br. N.Y. Eff. May 23
- " 20 Est. First Marines, First Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force, Br. N.Y. Eff. Jun 2
- " 20 Est. Fifth Marines, First Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force, Br. N.Y. Eff. Jun 2
- " 20 Est. Seventh Marines, First Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force, Br. N.Y. Eff. Jun 2
- " 22 Designation on M.O.B. stamp will read "Yorktown, Naval Mine Warfare School Sta. Yorktown, Va." (See May 1 P. Bull.)
- " 22 Est. Section Base One, Inshore Patrol Sta. Jacksonville, Fla. Eff. Jun 9
- " 22 Est. Portland Air Base C. Br. Portland, Oreg. Eff. Jun 1
- " 22 Chgd. Scouting Force U.S. Fleet Br. N.Y. chgd. to Scouting Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet Br. N.Y. Eff. Feb. 1
- " 22 Est. Camp Elliott Br. San Diego, Cal. Eff. Jun 1
- " 23 Est. Naval Air Station, Floyd Bennett Field Sta. Brooklyn, N.Y. Eff. Jun 1
- " 26 Est. Eglin Field C. Br. Crestview, Fla. Eff. Jun 9
- " 26 Chgd. Fleet Marine Force Station Sta. Charlotte Amalie, V.I. chgd. to Fleet Marine Force Station Br. Charlotte Amalie, V.I. (Later chgd. to U.S. Marine Corps, Bourne Field, St. Thomas, (Br.) See P. Bull Dec. 12)
- " 27 Est. Marine Barracks New River Br. New Bern, N.C. Eff. May 22
- " 28 Chgd. Air Base C. Br. Oklahoma City, Okla. chgd. to Will Rogers Field C. Br. Oklahoma City, Okla. Eff. Jun 2 (See Illustr.)
- " 29 Est. Carlstrom Field C. Br. Arcadia, Fla. Eff. Jun 16

1941

- Jun 3 Disc. Detachment B, First Defense Battalion Fleet Marine Force Br. N.Y. Eff. May 1
- " 5 Chgd. Air Corps Br. San Angelo, Tex. chgd. to Goodfellow Field Br. (See P. Bull Jan 8)
- " 8 Est. Midway Detachment, Third Defense Battalion, Fleet Marine Force Br. Honolulu, Hawaii. Eff. Nov 1, 1940
- " 11 Est. Key Field Br. Meridian, Miss. Eff. Jul 1
- " 11 Est. Veterans' Administration C. Br. Murfreesboro, Tenn. Eff. Jul 1
- " 11 Disc. Submarine Division 44 Br. N.Y. Eff. Jun 1 (See Post Bull Feb 17)
- " 12 Disc. VT Squadron 2 Br. N.Y. Eff. Jul 9
- " 13 Est. Pendleton Air Base C. Br. Pendleton, Oreg. Eff. Jul 1 (See PB Aug 12)
- " 17 Est. Mather Field Br. (C.) Sacramento, Cal. Eff. Jul 1
- " 17 Est. Naval Air Station Br. Honolulu, Hawaii. Eff. Aug 1
- " 17 Est. American Base Forces APO No. 809 C. Br. N.Y. Eff. Jun 18
- " 17 Disc. U.S. Naval Air C. Sta. Kodiak, Alaska. Eff. Jul 31 (See P. B. Jun 24)
- " 17 Chgd. U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Br. Miami, Fla. chgd. to U.S. Naval Operating Base, Cuba, Br. Miami, Fla. Eff. Apr. 1
- " 18 Est. Air Corps Gunnery School C. Br. Las Vegas, Nev. Eff. Jul 1
- " 18 Est. Fort Bragg Br. Fayetteville, N.C. Eff. Jul 1
- " 18 Est. Sunset Field C. Br. Spokane, Wash. Eff. Jul 1 (Later chgd. to Geiger Field C. Br. Eff. Oct. 1. See P. Bull Sep. 17)
- " 20 Est. Destroyer Base Br. San Diego, Cal. Eff. Jul 1
- " 20 Disc. Naval Air Sta. Pearl Harbor Br. Honolulu, Hawaii. Eff. Jul 31
- " 24 Est. Fort George G. Meade Br. Washington, D.C. Eff. Jul 1 (See PB Dec 24)
- " 24 Est. New Orleans Air Base Br. New Orleans, La. Eff. Aug 1
- " 24 Est. Naval Armory Sta. Detroit, Mich. Eff. Jul 7
- " 24 Est. Naval Air Station, Kodiak, Alaska, Br. Seattle, Wash. Eff. Aug 1
- " 24 Chgd. Marine Detachment, Bermuda, Br. N.Y. chgd. to Naval Operating Base, Bermuda, Br. N.Y. Eff. Jul 14
- " 27 Est. Luke Field C. Br. Phoenix, Ariz. Eff. Jul 16
- " 27 Est. Army Pilot School C. Br. Albany, Ga. Eff. Jul 16 (See P. B. Aug. 12)
- Jul 1 Est. Camp Malakole C. Br. Honolulu, Hawaii Eff. Jul 16
- " 1 Est. Station No. 1 C. Key West, Fla. Eff. Jul 16
- " 1 Disc. VT Squadron Three Br. N.Y. Eff. Jul 24
- " 8 Est. Salinas Military C. Br. Salinas, Cal. Eff. Jul 21
- " 8 Est. Boise Air Base C. Br. Boise, Idaho. Eff. Jul 21 (See P. B. Aug. 12)
- " 9 Est. Air Base C. Br. Tucson, Ariz. Eff. Aug. 1
- " 9 Est. Replacement Center Br. Junction City, Kansas Eff. Aug. 1
- " 10 Est. Fort Dupont C. Br. Delaware City, Dela. Eff. Jul 16
- " 10 Est. Augusta Air Base C. Br. Augusta, Ga. Eff. Aug 1
- " 10 Est. Wheeler Field Br. Honolulu, Hawaii. Eff. Aug 7
- " 15 Est. Air Corps Training Field C. Br. Taft, Cal. Eff. Aug 1 (Later chgd. to Gardner Field Br. See P. Bull Aug. 12)
- " 15 Est. Cabaniss Field C. Br. Corpus Christi, Tex. Eff. Aug. 1
- " 15 Est. Cuddihy Field C. Br. Corpus Christi, Tex. Eff. Aug. 1
- " 15 Est. Rodd Field C. Br. Corpus Christi, Tex. Eff. Aug 1
- " 18 Est. Cochran Field C. Br. Macon, Ga. Eff. Aug 1
- " 18 Est. American Base Forces APO No. 801-B, C. Br. N.Y. Eff. Jul 21
- " 18 Est. American Base Forces APO No. 801-C, C. Br. N.Y. Eff. Jul 21
- " 22 Est. Biloxi Air Corps Technical School Sta. Biloxi, Miss. Eff. Aug 15. (Later chgd. to Keesler Field Sta. See P. Bull Aug. 12)
- " 24 Est. Annette Island Landing Field C. Br. Ketchikan, Alaska Eff. Aug 18
- " 24 Est. Everett Air Base C. Br. Everett, Wash. Eff. Aug 11 (Later chgd. to Paine Field C. Br. See P. Bull Aug. 12)
- " 24 Est. Barnes General Hospital C. Sta. Vancouver, Wash. Eff. Aug. 11
- " 29 Est. Air Corps Basic Flying School C. Br. Makersfield, Cal. Eff. Aug 16
- " 30 Est. Base Air Detachment Two, Naval Air Station Br. San Diego, Cal. Eff. Aug 11
- " 31 Est. Fresno Air Base C. Br. Fresno, Cal. Eff. Aug 16

1941

- Jul 31 Est. Naval Hospital Br. Jacksonville, Fla. Eff. Aug 15
- " 31 Est. First Separate Marine Battalion, Navy Yard, Cavite, P.I. Br. Honolulu Hawaii. Eff Aug 25
- " 31 Est. First Marine Brigade (Provisional) Br. N.Y. Eff. Jul 14
- Aug 5 Est. U.S. Naval Reserve Aviation Base Br. Dallas, Tex. Eff. Aug. 25
- " 6 Disc. Submarine Division 7 Br. N.Y. Eff. Jun 7
- " 7 Disc. Marine Barracks, Cavite, P.I. Br. Honolulu, Hawaii Eff. Jun 10
- " 11 Est. Amer. Base Forces APO No. 805 C.Br. N.Y. Eff. Jul 26
- " 11 Est. Amer. Base Forces APO No. 807 C.Br. N.Y. (Brit. Guiana) Eff. Jul 9
- " 12 Est. Fort Barry C.Br. Sausalito, Cal. Eff. Aug 16
- " 12 Est. Sheppard Field Br. Wichita Falls, Tex. Eff. Oct 7
- " 12 Following branches redesignated, eff. Sep 1 -

<u>Location</u>	<u>Old Designation</u>	<u>See P. Bull</u>	<u>New Designation</u>
Albany, Ga.	Army Pilot School C.Br.	Jun 27	Turner Field C.Br.
Biloxi, Miss.	Biloxi Air Corps Technical School Br.	Jul 22	Keesler Field Stational School Br.
Boise, Idaho	Boise Air Base C.Br.	Jul 8	Gowen Field C.Br.
Everett, Wash.	Everett Air Base C.Br.	Jul 24	Paine Field C.Br.
Taft, Cal.	Air Corps Training Field C.Br.	Jul 15	Gardner Field C.Br.
Orlando, Fla.	Air Base Br.	Nov. 13, 1940	Orlando Air Base Br.
Pendleton, Oreg.	Pendleton Air Base C.Br.	Jun 13	Pendleton Field C.Br.
Tallahassee, Fla.	Mabry Air Base Br.	Jan 14	Dale Mabry Field C.Br.
Selma, Ala.	Air Corps Br.	Jan 14	Craig Field Br.
- " 14 Est. Morrison Field C.Br. West Palm Beach, Fla. Eff. Aug 25
- " 15 Est. Submarine Division 72 Br. N.Y. Eff. Aug. 26
- " 15 Re-est. Submarine Division 11 Br. N.Y. Eff. Sep. 3
- " 15 Chgd. Submarine Division 11 Br. N.Y. chgd. to Submarine Div. 53. Eff. Jun 1
- " 18 Est. Fort Lawton C.Br. Seattle, Wash. Eff. Sep 1
- " 22 Est. Fort Cronkhite C.Br. Sausalito, Cal. Eff. Aug. 18
- " 22 Est. Air Base C.Br. Baton Rouge, La. Eff. Sep 8
- " 22 Est. William Beaumont General Hospital C.Br. El Paso, Tex. Eff. Sep. 8
- " 26 Est. Hospital C.Sta. San Antonio, Tex. Eff. Sep 15
- Sep 3 Est. Tyndall Field C.Br. Panama City, Fla. Eff. Sep 15
- " 3 Est. Air Base C.Sta. Bangor, Me. Eff. Sep 15
- " 3 Est. Embarkation C.Sta. Brooklyn, N.Y. Eff. Sep 15
- " 3 Est. Air Corps Br. Victoria, Tex. Eff. Sep 8
- " 9 Est. Baer Field C.Br. Fort Wayne, Ind. Eff. Sep. 22
- " 10 Est. Naval Mobile Base Hospital No. 2 Br. N.Y. Eff. Oct 4
- " 16 Est. Recruit Depot, Marine Barracks Sta. Parris Island, S.C. Eff. Oct 4
- " 17 Est. Naval Reserve Aviation Base Br. Atlanta, Ga. Eff. Oct. 8
- " 17 Est. Section Base, Bishop's Point, Oahu, Br. Honolulu, Hawaii Eff. Oct. 8
- " 17 Chgd. Sunset Field C.Br. Spokane, Wash. chgd to Geiger Field Br. Eff. Oct. 1 (See P. Bull Jun 18)
- " 17 Chgd. Submarine Detachment, Pearl Harbor Br. Honolulu, Hawaii, chgd. to Submarine Base and Detachment, Pearl Harbor Br. Eff. Oct 20
- " 17 Chgd. First Marine Aircraft Group, Fleet Marine Force, Br. N.Y. chgd. to Marine Aircraft Group 11, First Marine Aircraft Wing, Fleet Marine Force, Br. N.Y. Eff. Aug 1
- " 22 Est. Fort Andrews C.Br. Boston, Mass. Eff. Oct 6
- " 22 Est. Fort Standish C.Sta. Boston, Mass. Eff. Oct 6
- " 22 Est. Fort Strong C.Sta. Boston, Mass. Eff. Oct 6
- " 22 Est. Fort Warren C.Sta. Boston, Mass. Eff. Oct 6
- " 23 Est. Dothan Flying School C.Br. Dothan, Ala. Eff. Oct 1 (Chgd. to Napier Field Apr 1, 1942. See P. Bull Mar 10, 1942)
- " 24 Est. Air Base C.Br. Sebring, Fla. Eff. Oct 6
- " 26 Est. Submarine Division 32 Br. N.Y. Eff. Sep 1
- " 30 Disc. U.S. Receiving Ship Br. Brooklyn, N.Y. Eff. Aug 22