

## Back Issue of Military Postal History Society 'Bulletin': (War Cover Philatelist Mar 1941)

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**

*American Forces in Newfoundland*

*Postmark A42, 43, 46, 47*

*Russo-Finnish War of 1939-40*

*Meister's (German) Feldpost Marks*

*British Army and Navy Postmarks (WW I)*

*British Covers, Markings on (WWII)*

*Earliest British Military Postmark 1799*

*American Forces in Newfoundland (WW I)*

*Russo-Finnish War of 1939-40*

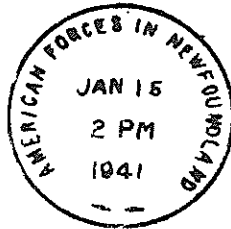
# THE WAR COVER PHILATELIST

An Occasional Publication

Edited and Published  
by

DELF NORONA  
MOUNDSVILLE, W. VA.

Subscription Price: One Dollar



Vol. 4

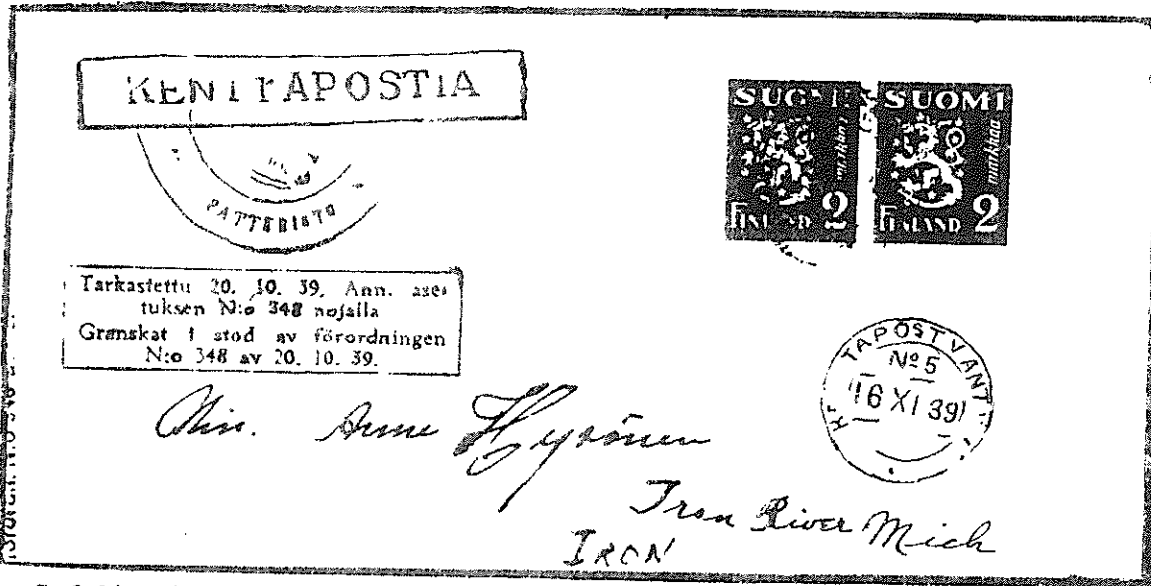
March, 1941

Whole No. 17

## COVER-OF-THE-MONTH

\*\*\*\*\*

Covers of the Russo-Finnish War of 1939-40 are scarce. Just this month last year that war came to a close. (The Soviets invaded Finland Nov. 30, 1939, and the treaty of peace was signed Mar. 12, 1940, and ratified March 15th and 20th, respectively, by the Finns and Soviets.)

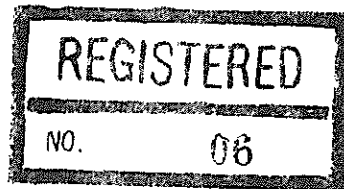


Soldier's letters are choice items. One of these, from the collection of our Vice-President, Eugene Carey, is shown. Written by a Finnish soldier just before outbreak of fighting, it is postmarked KENTTAPOSTIVANTTOORI No. 5 (Field Post Office No. 5) NOV 16 1939, and stamped in the upper left corner KENTTAPOSTIA (Field Mail) and PATERISTO (battery.) A censor handstamp is shown under it. A part of the censor's label to reseal the letter is only partly visible at the left.

## AMERICAN FORCES IN NEWFOUNDLAND

\*\*\*\*\*

Regular postmarks and registered markings are shown at the top of this page. your Editor, willazine. This registered marking was applied on the registered. Be on say items from other established in Brit-



A short account, by appear in STAMPS registered marking shown sixth letter to be the alert for first-American bases established in British possessions.

To get covers with American Forces in Newfoundland postmarks, write Postmaster, Amer. Forces in Newfoundland, C/o Postmaster, New York, N.Y.

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 THE WAR COVER CLUB

\*\*\*\*\*

New members:

- 51 M.W.White, 15 Sherburne Ave., Worcester, Mass. (General)  
 52 Wm.O. Case, 56 Prospect St., Hartford, Conn. (General)  
 53 J.W.Taylor, 4764 Oak Terrace, Merchantville, N.J. (British)  
 54 Geo.M.Wedell, D.D.S., Shreve, Ohio (A.E.F.)  
 55 Mrs. Martha S. Hunichen, 507 N. Market St. Frederick, Md. (AEF.)  
 56 Capt. Ian C. Morgan, 5477 Earnscliffe Ave., N.D.G., Montreal,  
 Canada (Bermuda, Canada, British F.P.C.'s)

- o -

The Club's Annual Convention will be held at Cleveland, Ohio. President Sanford (also prexy of "G-P") writes -

"As President of the Garfield Perry Stamp Club, I extend a most cordial invitation to each and every member of the War Cover Club to attend the 51st Anniversary of "G-P." The meeting will be held at the Hollenden Hotel, at Cleveland, Ohio, March 28, 29, and 30. Several War Cover Club members have already signified their intention to be present, and I hope you will consider this as an individual invitation. An informal banquet will be held Saturday, March 29, at 6:30, and a special table reserved for War Cover Club members. The business meeting of the War Cover Club will be held Sunday at 10:30 a.m., and your presence is requested.

HENNEN M. SANFORD, President."

Each member is also invited to bring 30 or 40 pages from his collection for open forum exhibit and discussion. About 40 frames of war covers will be on public display. If you cannot attend, a message with your suggestions for improving the club's activities will be welcomed.

The Bulletin edited by Geo. C. Hahn, 835 Williamson Bldg., Cleveland, Ohio, is going strong. Mr. Hahn has decided to fix the subscription rate at 50c for Club members (\$1.00 to non-members.) This takes a load off your Editor, for space in the War Cover Philatelist is limited.

A special issue of STAMPS will be devoted to the War Cover Club. This will probably be the March 29th issue.

The eagerly-awaited handbook by President Sanford, The Mail of the A.E.F. has now appeared. It was published soon after our December issue; so practically all readers have heard about it by this time. With this limited space for review, we summarize by saying this is a MUST publication for A.E.F. cover collectors. The postal history of the AEF from a philatelic standpoint is compressed into an attractively illustrated 56-page handbook, and contains much material not yet published in the War Cover Philatelist. Order from Colonel Ralph A. Kimble, Editor, American Philatelist, 8118 Dante Ave Chicago, Ill. Price One Dollar; 20% discount to A.P.S. members. For your convenience an order blank is enclosed.

A philatelic committee has just been organized and officially identified with the British War Relief Society. All expenses of operation are borne by the sponsors--men of the highest standing in philately, and your entire contribution goes to the fund without deduction for costs.

We take it for granted that every reader of the W.C.P. is sympathetic and will want to help. Send your check to Theodore E. Steinway, Treasurer, 551 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. .

BRITISH WORLD WAR I POSTMARKS

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(Continued from page 30, September, 1940, issue)

TYPE 6c - ARMY BASE POST OFFICE

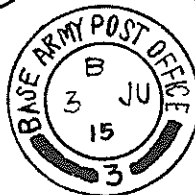
Maltese Cross at bottom



TYPE 6d -ADVANCE BASE POST OFFICE

Maltese Cross at bottom

TYPE 6e - BASE ARMY POST OFFICE



- 1 Havre
- 2 Rouen
- 3 Boulogne
- 4 Calais
- W Adriatic Mission, 1916
- X Salonica. Dardanelles
- Y Mudros. H.M.T. Arcadian, then Arragon,
- Z Alexandria (then on island.)

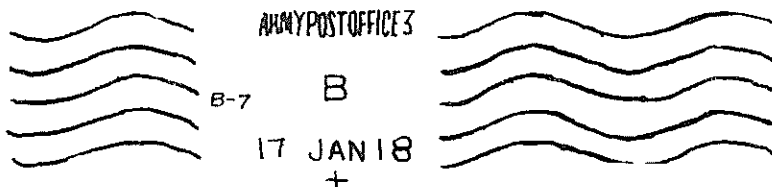
TYPE 6f - BASE ARMY POST OFFICE Z.

As 6e, but Z after OFFICE, R.L.O. below, T under date.  
R.L.O.Z.T. Dardanelles?

TYPE 6g - As 6, but ARMY LETTER OFFICE above, LONDON below.

TYPE 6j - As 6g but D.A.L.O. above, LONDON below.

D.A.L.O.-Base Office, Australian N.Z. & Canadian forces.

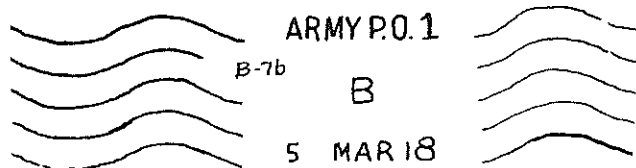


TYPE 7 - (Machine cancel) Index + under alternate blocks of lettering.

- 1 Havre
- 2 Rouen
- 3 Boulogne

TYPE 7a - Same as Type 7, but without lines

- 1 Havre
- 2 Rouen
- 3 Boulogne



TYPE 7b - As illustrated. Index-letter in center

- 1 Havre
- 2 Rouen
- 3 Boulogne (Bonn 1919)
- 4 Calais

TYPES 7 and 7b (combined alternately)

- 2 Rouen

TYPE 7c - As 7, but ARMY P.O. S.15 with hour, in center.

- S-15

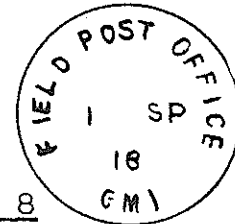
TYPE 7d - As 7c, but A.P.O.S.12 &c + alternately below -

- S12 Harfleur
- S15
- S17 Etaples, Rein-  
forcement Camp
- S40 Cologne, 1919
- S60 Trouville ?

TYPE 8 - FIELD POST OFFICE

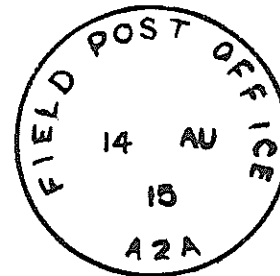
Circle 28-30 mm.

1 France	H20T Palestine
51,104	H21 Palestine
116	HM Egypt
120,155 Egypt.France	M1 Egypt
160	MDT1
179-181 Salonica	MX1 Salonica,D31
Egypt,Palestine	R10 10 Div.Rail-
228 Salonica	head,Salonica,
AH16 Salonica 16	Bulgaria
Corps H.Q.	RX179 Salonica
C	S51
C13 Palestine?Syria	S66,S97 France
CD3 Egypt, D60	SAI S.Afr.Inf.
DC4, DM2 Egypt	Egypt (Libya)
2DY,3DY,4DY Egypt	SDY
F1,F2 Lower Egypt	SML
GIB Gibraltar	SX2,SX3 Salonica
GM G.H.Q.,M.E.F.	SZ1 Gallipoli
GM1, GM2, G.H.Q.MEF	SZ7,SZ8,SZ9,SZ10
GZ G.H.Q., M.E.F.	SZ11,SZ15,SZ19
Gallipoli	SZ20,SZ35,SZ48
H15	SZ53,SZ55,SZ57
H16 Salonica	SZ58,SZ59,SZ61
H20 Egypt	SZ62 - Probably in

Type 8

area of E.E.F; higher numbers in Palestine and Syria  
 T22 22d Div.Train Salonica  
 TC  
 TC4 4th Cavalry Div-  
 is.Train, France  
 TW Libya;Western Frontier Force Train, E.E.F.  
 2TT 2nd Mounted Div-  
 isional Train,Egypt  
 W1,W2, Egypt, West. Frontier Force  
 X179,X181 Salonica  
 7Y  
 22Y Palestine

TYPE 8a - As Type 8 but with F.P.O. only  
 18 F.P.O. Egypt (1921)  
 400 Constantinople (1920)  
 T60  
 XT60 60th Divisional Train,  
 Salonica

Type 8b

TYPE 8b - FIELD POST OFFICE, 35 mm. circle  
 A Salonica  
 A2, A2A, France 2nd Army H.Q.  
 A+2  
 AD1 France. 1st Army Distrib. Center  
 31

Type 9

TYPE 9 - FIELD POST OFFICE in double circle.  
 This varies, especially in the size and shape of the figures

1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10	34,35,36,37,38	72,73 France
11,12,13,14,15,16,17	39 Dardanelles	74,75,76,77,78
18,19	40 Gallipoli	79 Egypt
20 Italy	41,42,43,44,45,46,	80,81,82 Salonica
21	47,48	83
22 Italy	49 Army of Occupa-	84 Salonica. Mace-
23,24,25,26,27,28	tion, Germany	donia
29 Dardanelles,	50,51,52,53,54,55	85
Palestine	56,57,58,59,60,61	86 Salonica
30 Dardanelles,	62,63,64	87
Salonica	65 Salonica	88 Dardanelles
31 Gallipoli,Salon-	66	89
ica. Serb.Retreat	67 Salonica	90
32,33 Dardanelles	68,69,70,71	

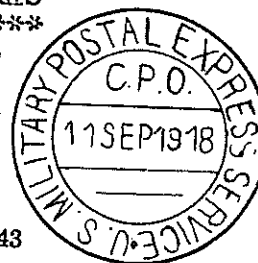
(To be continued)



A-42

A.E.F. TYPE A-42 and A-43 POSTMARKS  
\*\*\*\*\*

These are variations of Type A-41. With A-42 the letters are smaller and circles closer together. With A-43 the letters are larger and circles are larger than A-41, and there is a dash at the bottom of the circle instead of the usual star.



TYPE A-42 -

AP0 702 (Paris)  
Early 28 AVR 1919  
Late 17 JUL 1919

One intermediate date.

TYPE A-43 -

AP0 702 (Paris)  
Early 20 FEV 1919  
AP0 731A (Colombey-les-Belles)  
Early 13 SEP 1918  
Late 27 MAI 1919

Only specimen seen.

Many intermediate dates.

AP0 CPO (902) (Bourges, Central P.O.)

Early 11 SEP 1918  
Late 30 DEC 1918

Several intermediate dates.

In black, pink, and purple. A specimen is known 11 DEC 1922, in error for 1918.

- o -

A.E.F. TYPE A-46 POSTMARK  
\*\*\*\*\*

This type of postmark, of French manufacture, contains numerals for the months. The numerals are frequently indistinct, and inasmuch as the month and date slugs were frequently transposed it is impossible at times to tell, for instance, whether 6 8 18 represents JUN 8 or 6 AUG. The year slugs, 18 or 19 are also often smeared and it is difficult to tell if a cover was used in 1918 or 1919. Items are recorded only when the date is ascertainable beyond doubt.



A-46

Items starred (\*) have not been seen by the Editor.

In referring to the number of intermediate dates seen, 'several' means 3 to 6, and 'many' means over 6 copies seen.

Earliest known use: 8 27 18 (AP0 714)

Latest known use: -3 16 19 (AP0 729)

The entire central portion of the postmark is sometimes twisted. Note illustration of AP0 729. A star frequently appears over the date, as shown in the illustrations; these are indicated in the check-lists by a star - \*.

AP0 701 (St.Nazaire)  
Early -9 8 18 (Sep)  
Late -1 7 19 (Jan)

Many intermediate dates.

AP0 702 (Paris)  
Early 29 -8 18  
Late 10 12 \* 18 (Oct) (12 inverted)

Many intermediate dates.

AP0 704 (le Valdahon)  
Early \* 28 -8 18  
Late \* 4 -10 18 (Oct)

Several intermediate dates.

-----			
APO 706 (Chaumont)			
<u>Early</u>	8	29 18	(M.Hunt) Only specimens reported.
<u>Late</u>	10	25 18	* (M.Hunt)
APO 707 (Mailly)			
<u>Early</u> *	9-	28 18	(M.Hunt) Only specimens seen.
<u>Late</u> *	10	9 18	(Oct.)
APO 708 (Nevers)			
<u>Early</u> *	9-	8 18	(Sep.) Several intermediate dates.
<u>Late</u>	21	-11 18	
APO 709 (26th Division)			
<u>Early</u> *	30	-8 18	(Aug.) Several intermediate dates.
<u>Late</u> *	12	-14 18	(Dec.)
APO 710 (2nd Division)			
<u>Early</u> *	9	20 18	(Sep.) Many intermediate dates.
<u>Late</u> *	2	25	(Feb.1919)
APO 711 (Coetquidan, Morbihan)			
<u>Early</u> *	10	23 18	(Oct.) Many intermediate dates.
<u>Late</u>	2	-3 19	
APO 712 (Is-sur-Tille, Cote d'Or)			
<u>Early</u> *	9-	26 18	Only specimen seen.
APO 713 (Gievres)			
<u>Early</u>	01-	12 81	Only specimen seen. Note inverted slugs.
APO 714 (Langres)			
<u>Early</u> *	8	27 18	Many intermediate dates.
<u>Late</u>	5	20	(May,1919)
APO 715 (42nd Division)			
<u>Early</u> *	3	-9 18	(Sep.) <sup>29-10</sup> Many intermediate dates.
<u>Late</u>	-7	-7	(1919) <sup>18</sup>
A specimen is known with over-size day slug, as illustrated.			
APO 716 (Brest)			
<u>Early</u> *	9	9 18	Many intermediate dates.
<u>Late</u>	6	17 19	* (M.Hunt)
APO 717 (Tours)			
<u>Early</u> *	8-	29 18	(J.Klinger) Many intermediate dates.
<u>Late</u>	6	-5 19	
APO 718 (Saumur)			
APO 719 (Haussimont)			
<u>Early</u> *	19	-9 18	Several intermediate dates.
<u>Late</u>	2	18	(1919)
APO 722 (la Courtine)			
<u>Early</u> *	29	-8 18	Many intermediate dates.
<u>Late</u>	30	-11 8	
APO 723 (Clermont-Ferrand)			
<u>Early</u> *	-9	28 18	(J.M.Perkins) Only specimens seen.
<u>Late</u> *	28	-9 18	(M.Hunt)
APO 724 (Issodun)			
<u>Early</u> *	18	-9 18	Many intermediate dates.
<u>Late</u> *	13	-12 18	
APO 725 (St. Maixent)			
<u>Early</u> *	-9	15 18	Many intermediate dates.
<u>Late</u> *	1	23	(1919)

-----  
 APO 726 (Blois)

Early 9 30 18 (W.Montgomery) One intermediate date.  
Late \* -10 23 18

APO 727 (41st Division)

Early \* -8 28 18 (H.Artist and E.Carey)  
Late \* -9 12 18 Several intermediate dates.

APO 729 (1st Division)

Early \* 5 -9 18 (Sep.)  
Late \* -8 16 19  
 Many intermediate dates. Note that date  
 slugs are twisted.



APO 730 (Chatillon-sur-Seine)

Early \* 9- 2 18 (G.Wedell) Several  
Late \* 9- 5 18 other dates.

APO 734 (32nd Division)

Early \* -9 4 18 (Sep.)  
Late \* 1 -10 19 (Jan.) Many intermediate dates.

APO 735 (1a Rochelle)

Early \* 1 -9 18 (Sep.) Two intermediate dates.  
Late \* 16 -11 18

APO 738 (Chateaux)

Early \* 9- 2 18  
Late 11- 13 18 Many intermediate dates.

APO 739 (77th Division)

Early \* 9- 25 18 (J.M.Hale) Several intermediate dates.  
Late \* 11- 81 (Nov.18) M.Hunt

APO 740 (3rd Division)

Early \* 9- 14 18 Only specimen seen.

APO 741 (Mehun)

Early \* 13 -9 18  
Late \* 26 -10 18 (V.A.Norman) One intermediate date.

APO 742 (82nd Division)

Early \* 9- 6 18 (M.Hunt) Two intermediate dates.  
Late \* 10 -10 18

APO 743 (35th Division)

Early 9 15 18 (J.Buckner) Only specimens seen.  
Late \* 10 21 18 (H.Artist)

APO 744 (28th Division)

Early \* 8- 31 18  
Late \* 10 22 18 Many intermediate dates.

APO 745 (5th Division)

Early \* 12 ? 18  
Late \* 12 ? 18 (M.Hunt) Only specimens seen.

APO 746 (4th Division)

Early \* 9- 10 18  
Late \* 1- 30 19 (J.M.Perkins) Several intermediate dates.  
 See Type A-47.

APO 747 (Sercy - later Commercy)

Early \* -9 1 18  
Late \* 9- 23 18 One other date seen .

APO 748 (27th Division)

Early \* 24 -12 18 (M.Hunt) One other date seen.  
Late 26 -12 18



APO 750 (33rd Division)  
Early 11- 4 18 (Nov.) Many intermediate dates.  
Late 12 24 18 (H.Artist)

APO 752 (Marseilles)  
Early (blank) Only specimen seen.

APO 754 (3rd Army Corps)  
Early \* -9 26 18 Many intermediate dates.  
Late \* 2 24 9 (1919) Magenta 9/26/18 to 9/28/18;  
 Purple 10/1/18 to 10/24/18; Black from 11/8/18

APO 755 (78th Division)  
Early \* 31 -8 18 Several intermediate dates.  
Late 1 19

APO 756 (80th Division)  
Early \* 10 19 18 Two intermediate dates.  
Late \* 10 24 18

APO 757 (Nogent-en-Bassigny)  
Early \* 9 2 18 Only specimens seen.  
Late \* 9 3 18 Magenta 9/2/18; Blue 9/3/18

APO 758 (Liffol-le-Grand)  
Early \* 10 19 18 Only specimen seen.

APO 761 (89th Division)  
Early \* -9 3 18 Two intermediate dates.  
Late \* -9 10 18

APO 762 (Le Mans, 83rd Division Depot)  
Early \* 11- 22 18 Many intermediate dates.  
Late \* -4 26 19 Purple used 2/4/19

APO 763 (37th Division)  
Early \* -9 -1 18 (Sep.) Many intermediate dates.  
Late \* 2 26 19 (H.Sanford)

- o -

## A.E.F. TYPE A-47 POSTMARK

\*\*\*\*\*

Similar to Type A-46, but with  
 P.E.S. instead of MPES. This  
 type used at APO 746 is the re-  
 gular Type A-46 postmark from  
 which the M was removed, possibly  
 accidentally.

A-47



APO 746 (4th Division)  
Early \* 2 -4 19 Several intermediate dates.  
Late \* 2 22 9 (1919)

APO 909 (Beune)  
Early \* -4 -9 19 (Apr.)(J.M.Perkins) Many intermediate  
Late \* -5 28 19 (H.Artist) dates.

- o -

WANTED: War covers of all wars, particularly U.S. World War,  
 Spanish-American War, Civil War. I am not a dealer,  
 but I frequently get duplicate material which is for  
 sale or exchange. I offer for the beginner: 8 diff.  
 U.S. World War covers for \$1.00; 10 diff. World War  
 ( 11 countries) for \$1.00; 20 diff. for \$2.50.  
 DOLF MORONA, 315 7th St., Moundsville, W.Va.

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 MEISTER'S (GERMAN) FELDPOST MARKS (1914-18)

\*\*\*\*\*

Translated and summarized by Milton B. Hunt.

A fairly comprehensive and simple method of classifying and cataloging the Field Post marks of the German Army during the World War is found in Meister's book Die Deutsche Feldpost-stemple published in 1920.

Meister's method is to divide all field postmarks into 16 types according to their design, such as ring, double ring, &c. These designs are illustrated on the next page, and a popular translation is given of the descriptive designations. A few minor additional varieties have been seen. With these base classifications he then proceeds to catalog according to the descriptive material in the postmark, such as Infantry Division, Army Corps, Field Post Station No. -. Further differences by sub-stations showing a star, two stars, letters a, b, c, etc., make for ready cataloging. Dates of use are given for most stations. A value in marks is also given.

In accordance with these differences there are 2,492 listings enumerated, divided as follows: Grosses Hauptquartiers (Grand Headquarters) 1-11, Oberkommando der Armeen (Staff Commander) with the name of the officer 12-27; Oberkommando der Armee Abteilungen (Commander of Army of Supply) 28-64; Armee Korps (Army Corp), I to XXI, 77-163; Reserve Korps, (Reserve Corps) I to XXXI, 164-268; Landwehr Korps (Home Guards) 269-273; Marine Korps (Marine Corps) 274-275; Infantry Divisions 276-646; Reserve Divisions 647-838; Erstatz Divisions (Replacement Divisions) 839-860; Landwehr Divisions 861-929; Kavallerie Divisionen (Cavalry Divisions) 930-968; Marine Division, 969-974; Etappen Inspektionen (Billeting officers) 975-980; Feldpost-Amter, Feldpost-Expeditionen, Feldpost-Stationen, 982-2465; Deutsches Militar-Missionen Turkei, 2466-2492.

In the upper half of the postmark are found a great variety of variations, Feldpostamt, Feldpostexpeditionen, Feldpoststationen, Deutsche Feldpost, Kaiser Deutsche Feldpost. All of these are seen abbreviated. The field post stations run from 1 to 559 with few omissions. In Feb. 1917, the military descriptive material was removed from the postmark and a field post station number assigned to the units. These numbers run from 650 to 3113 with many omissions in the high numbers. One seldom finds these numbers in the postmark but may find the station number in the "Briefstemple" (letter stamp) or in the sender's address.

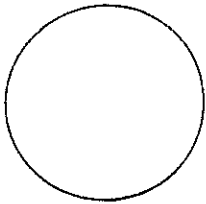
An additional list is given of the Deutsche Militar Missionen in Turkei in which the name of the place is added or the number of the Army Corps (AOK). Covers with these marks should be highly prized.

There was no country engaged in the World War which had so many varieties of picture post cards, both patriotic and comic. An interesting collection of this material may be made although from a philatelic angle it is difficult to display both sides and one must chose between display of postmarks or pictures.

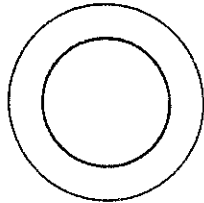
Most of the mail has a rubber stamp "Brief Stemple" showing the unit of the sender. These are varied in design and often indicate as small a unit as a battery.

There are a few additional marks "Geprüft" (censored) or a mark translated as "delayed because of military exigency."

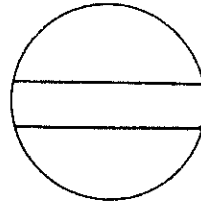
It would be indeed difficult to make a collection of each of the 2,500 or more types, but an interesting collection can be made of one each of the 16 types of postmarks and each of the varieties of military groups recorded.



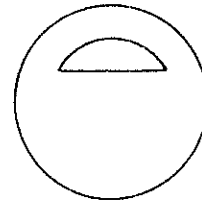
Type 1-R  
Ring Type



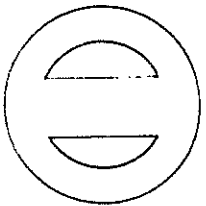
Type 2-DR  
Double ring type



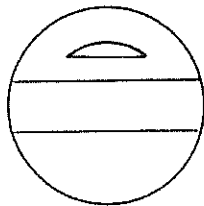
Type 3-L  
Even bar type



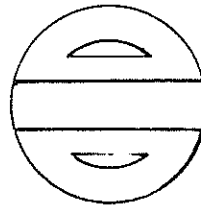
Type 4-S  
Bow type



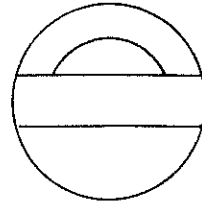
Type 5-DS  
Double bow type



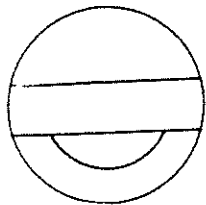
Type 6-SL  
Bow bar type



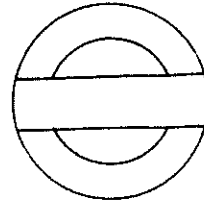
Type 7-DSL  
Double bow bar type



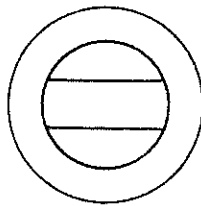
Type 8-OB  
Over bridge type



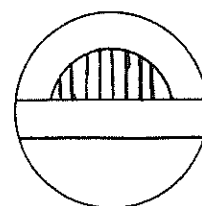
Type 9-UE  
Under bridge type



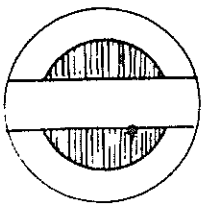
Type 10-DB  
Double bridge type



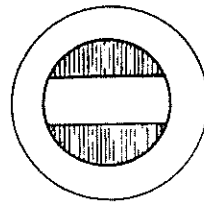
Type 11-LRD  
Double ring Bavarian bridge bar type



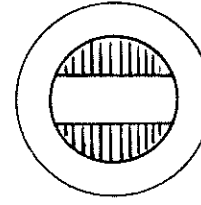
Type 12-BOB  
Wide hatching (8)



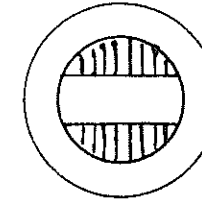
Type 13-WDE  
Wurtemberg  
close hatching  
Double Bridge (23)



Type 14-WLDR  
Wurtemberg  
close hatching  
Double ring  
bar (26)



Type 15-WILDR  
Same as 14  
with  
Narrow hatching (11)



Type 16-BLDR  
Same as 14  
with  
Wide hatching (8)

MARKINGS ON BRITISH COVERS OF THE PRESENT WAR

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(By C. D. Brenner, 5 Montrose Rd., Berkeley, Calif.)

A discussion of almost any category of current war covers must of necessity offer information that is incomplete and often tentative in character. These qualifications apply to the following observations on British war cover markings. They constitute merely a preliminary approach to the subject which, it is hoped, may be amplified and corrected as more information becomes available.

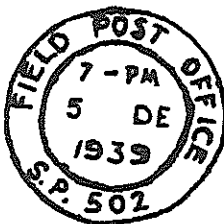
In the December, 1940, issue of the W.C.P. Colonel Crouch described the double circle type of cancellation used on the majority of the covers from the B.E.F. in France. Though the returned forces ceased to use this type of cancel stamp, it continued to serve some of the other forces that had been employing it, particularly the Canadian troops. Whether it is still being used by them is not known. Canadian military markings deserve separate consideration. After a period of a few months in which mail of the Home Forces was handled thru the civil post offices, new army post offices were established in the autumn of 1940. Since October of that year at

ARMY  
POSTOFFICE  
C No. 5  
10 NOV 40

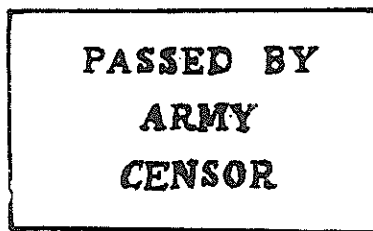
A1



A2



A3



A4

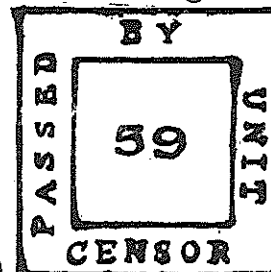
least, these have been using a machine cancellation, Fig. A1, which seems to be identical with the Type 4 illustrated in Col. Crouch's article. This type had had some use in France, but Col. Crouch had not noted its use in England at the time he wrote his article.

Covers bearing the above-mentioned machine cancellation also generally show a triangular censor stamp, Fig. A-2. There are two types of this stamp, the second being identical with the one illustrated except that it is slightly smaller. The large triangles seem to carry numbers in the two thousands, the smaller in the three thousands. The reason for this distinction is not known. When army mail is opened it is resealed with a special label designated as Army Form 3424 and reading OPENED BY CENSOR in black seriffed letters.

Military mail from Singapore bears the F.P.O. cancel stamps S.P. 501 or S.P. 502, Fig. A-3. S.P. is thought to stand for "stationary post office." Such mail also bears a rectangular censor stamp PASSED BY ARMY CENSOR, Fig. A-4. (A similar stamp, in which NAVAL is substituted for ARMY, is known.)

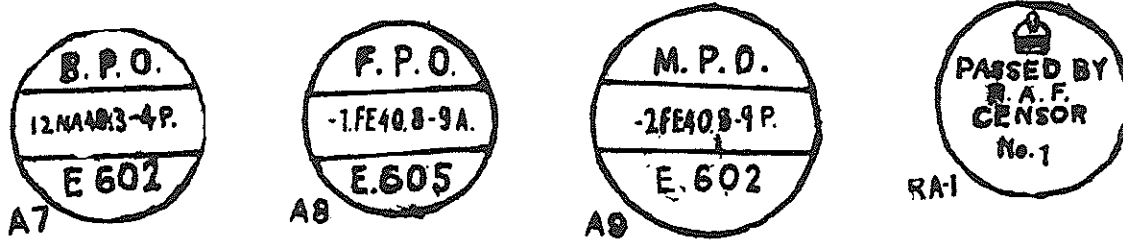
The unit censor stamp, Fig. A-5, with various unit numbers, is found on most of the military covers from Egypt. Such covers usually have also the chief field censor stamp, Fig. A-6. There has more recently come into use a similar stamp reading Deputy Chief Field Censor. All

A6



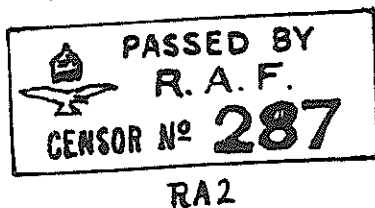
A5

these Egyptian covers have one, and often two, of the three



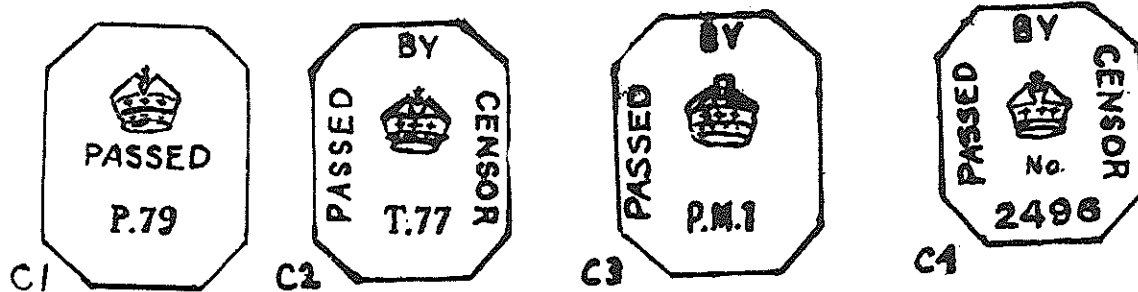
postmarks, Figs. A-7, A-8, and A-9. F.P.O. E605 and E606 are in Egypt, as are M.P.O. E602 and E603.

Mail from both the British and Colonial air forces, until recently, at least, all bore the circular censor stamp, RA-1, with appropriate changes for the Colonial forces made in the initials in the second line. The complete list of numbers used by the R.A.F. in France has not been determined. Nos. 102 to 117 seem to have been used there. It is probably that the numbers began at 100, since numbers below that figure have all been noted in Africa or Asia. The following numbers of this type of stamp have been in use at the following places: 25, Abu Suwer, Egypt; 58, Habbaniya, Iraq; 78 and 86, Singapore; and 87, Hongkong. This is only a partial list.



Recently a new, rectangular, type of censor stamp, Fig. RA-2, has been put into use at some R.A.F. centers outside of England. Number 287 has been employed at Habbaniya, Iraq.

Figures C-1, C-2, C-3, and C-4 present some of the varieties of censor



stamp commonly found on civilian mail passed by the British censor. A very similar stamp was used in World War I. Have the letters accompanying the numbers on these stamps any significance? On some of these stamps part of the inscription Passed by Censor is missing, giving rise to the conjecture that it may have been removed owing to wear after much use.

THE EARLIEST (1799) BRITISH MILITARY POSTMARK

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From an interesting article by Colonel Guy R. Crouch in the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain Year Book for 1940, the earliest known postmark of the British Army was used in 1799, in connection with an expedition to North Holland sent to create a diversion in the war against Napoleon. A rough tracing of this postmark is illustrated.

