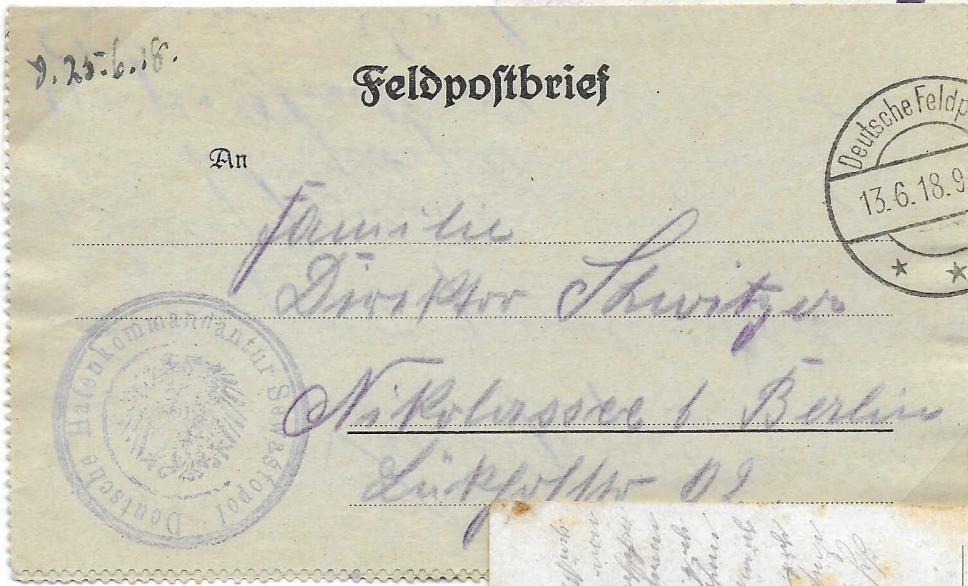


The occupation of the Crimea meant that the German Navy could assume full control of the Black Sea. Upper postcard from S.M.S. Goeben at Sevastopol is an example of sailor's mail. Other items show cachet of "German Naval Unit/Crimea" in two different colors.



With its command of the Black Sea, Sevastopol became a center for German military activity in the Crimea. Examples above show three different cachets used in the city.

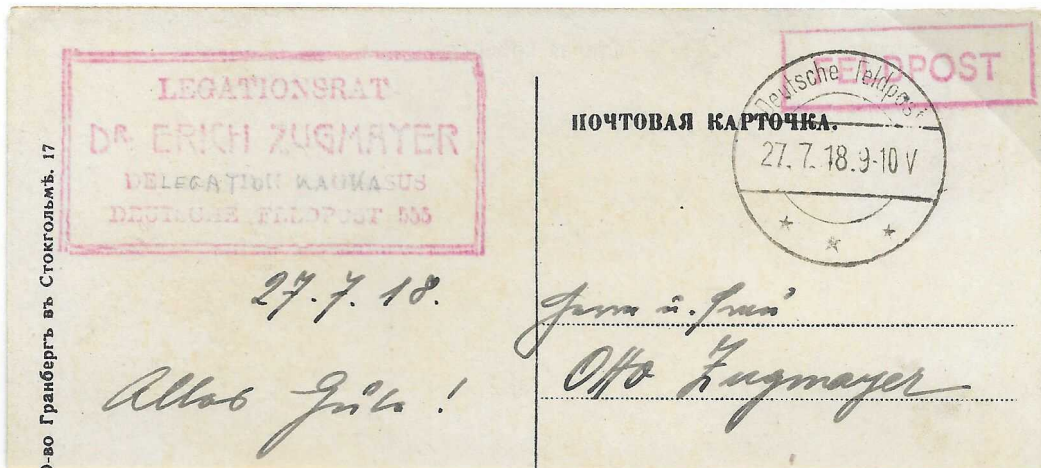


At the opposite end of the Crimea from Sevastopol is the harbor of Kerch, which guards the entrance to the Sea of Azov. This port was also occupied, partly to insure that Russian naval vessels did not interfere with German activities in the area. Unit cachets identify "Kertsch" and read "Imperial German Harbor Office" and "Imperial German Headquarters."

GEORGIA

Based on the Brest Litovsk Treaty, the Soviet government agreed to withdraw its forces from all non-Russian territories, including Transcaucasia. By 15 April 1918, Turkish forces with German advisors captured Batum, Georgia, and on 12 June German forces captured Tiflis, the capital, where they remained in control until the end of the war.

Poti



The German fieldpost accompanied the troops into Transcaucasia where it set up military postal stations in Georgia. The above examples show mail of the "German Delegation in the Caucasus," sent through FPO 555 in Poti on the Black Sea coast. The lower example is reportedly the only registered cover known from this location.

GEORGIA

Poti
Batum

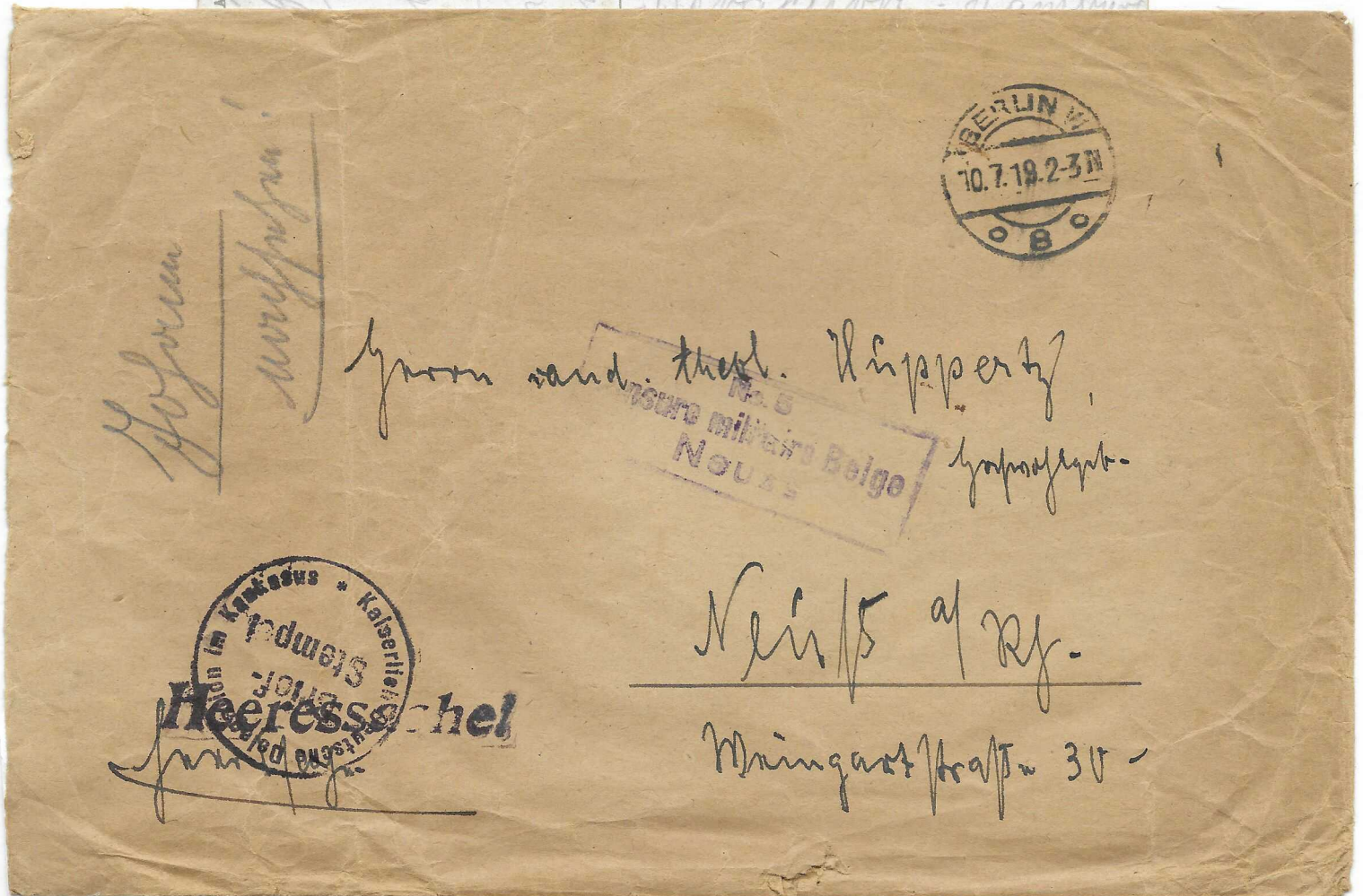
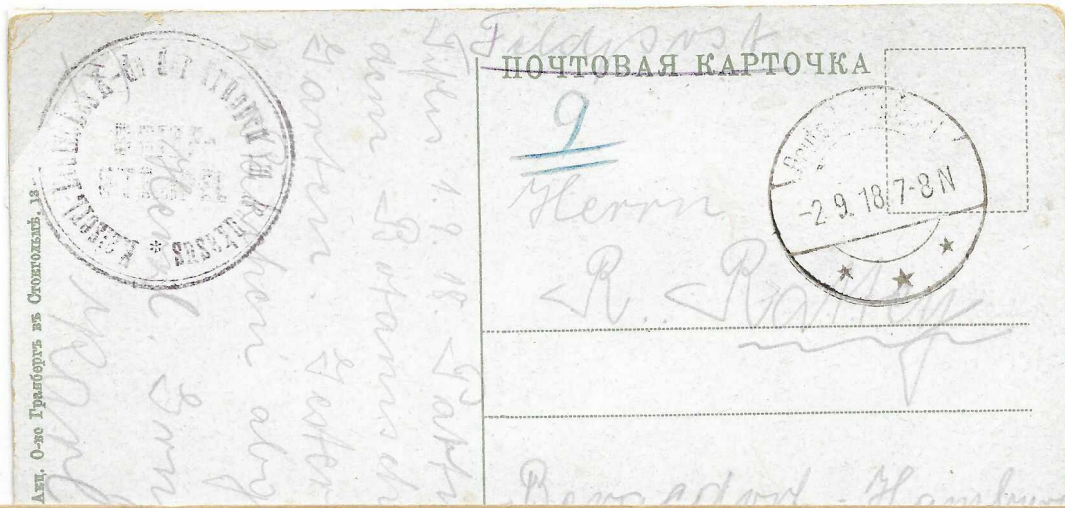
Fieldpost cover without postal markings but has a unit cachet inscribed "Imperial German HQ Poti" in German and Georgian. (This is the only recorded example of this marking). Briefstempel at upper right is lightly struck but refers to the "Harbor Unit of the Chief of the Transportation Detachment/Caucasus."



Место
для
марки.

Fieldpost card datelined Batum, on 16 July 1918. It was properly postmarked at the main German Military Mission P.O. located in Constantinople four days later, and then forwarded to the addressee in Berlin.

Following the armistice between Russia and the Central Powers, Turkish forces with their German advisors cleared eastern Anatolia of Russian troops and advanced to Batum, the principal Georgian port on the Black Sea, on 15 April 1918. Unlike that from elsewhere in the former Russian Empire, mail from the soldiers in Batum was handled by the post office of the German Military Mission in Turkey.



Additional examples of fieldpost cards datelined Tiflis and used from Georgia. Unit cachets read "Imperial German Delegation in Caucasus" and "Imperial German Headquarters of the Troops in Caucasus." Any identifiable mail from this theater is extremely scarce and sought after by specialists.

* 130 *



Nu

an die Feldpostverwaltung der militär. Poststelle.



325/18



ПОЧТОВАЯ КАРТОЧКА



Место для марки.

Frau Martha Otto

Bei 4. J. 1918 Feldpostkarte

Meine Lieber!
Liedchen sind immer noch im
walden Kreispostamt und sind
selbst die Tage noch unklar,
mit walden sie ebenfalls.
Stamps lassen mich im Kopf
tra mich sehr, daß die von
Alles nicht von 1918. Gern
mir sind ja sehr sehr jeder
mit Briefen und dem Gern
verbalen, die Kreispostamt
haben gebracht. Ich kann genau
da auch 20-24 mit ihnen mir
zusammen sind sie auch
fallen in die Zeit. Ich kann
prüfen. Sehr sehr ich sehr

Акц. О-во Гранбергъ въ Стокгольмъ. 29

ПОЧТОВАЯ КАРТОЧКА



адрес.

Тифлисскай п.-т. о.

Familie Lorenz Segerlein
Magdeburgerstr.
Lehrerbildung
Lehrer-Unterrichtszentrum

Tiflis. Pont Nicolas.

Cover with cachet of the "German Delegation in the Caucasus, Financial Administration" and captured Russian postcard with marking of the "Imperial German Troop Headquarters in Georgia." Below is a picture postcard of Tiflis sent by a member of the Bavarian Reserve Infantry Battalion. These were sent from Tiflis through the fieldpost system in mid-1918.

THE SOUTHEASTERN FRONT

SERBIA

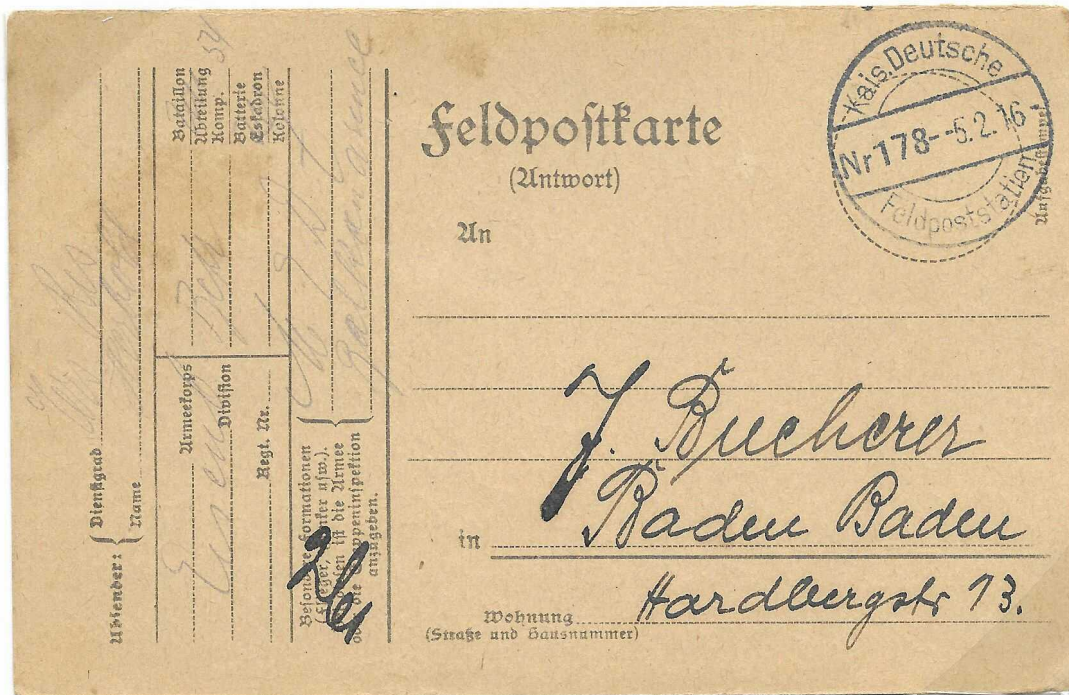
World War I was triggered when the heir to the Austrian throne was assassinated in Sarajevo, Bosnia by a Serb terrorist on 28 June 1914. Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia a month later, but its first invasion was abortive as Russia invaded Galicia and forced the Austrians to divert troops to that front. However, once the Russian threat was countered, a second invasion of Serbia was undertaken with the support of German and Bulgarian forces. This was quickly successful and the capital, Belgrade, was captured on 6 October 1915.

Belgrade



Picture postcard of Semendria (Smederevo), a town just across the Danube from Hungary, sent through FPO 180. Cover sent from the Imperial German Consulate in Belgrade via FPO 25.

SERBIA



Some military mail can be identified by unit cachets and/or location given in the dateline. The fieldpost cards shown above have generic (without specific locations) datelines reading "Macedonia" and "Balkan Army" which, based on the dates and FPO numbers, were in Serbia at the time they were written.

SERBIA

Nish
Prilep

Feldpostkarte
(Antwort)

An

in J. Bucherer
Paden Paden
Landstrasse 13

Wohnung
(Straße und Hausnummer)

Regiment: 54. bis. Inf.
Division: 1. Div. 1. Arm.
Batterie: 1. B.
Kompanie: 1. K.

Poststation: 178-25.2.16-

Empfänger: Die Frau
Name: Mrs. Bucherer

Beim Besonderen (Offizier, Unteroffizier, etc.)
Set diesen in die Adresse
oder die Truppenbezeichnung
angeben.

Beim Besonderen (Offizier, Unteroffizier, etc.)
Set diesen in die Adresse
oder die Truppenbezeichnung
angeben.

Beim Besonderen (Offizier, Unteroffizier, etc.)
Set diesen in die Adresse
oder die Truppenbezeichnung
angeben.

Feldpostkarte

Königreich Preussen Eisenbahn
Briefstempel
1. Arm.

Poststation: 176-57.16-

Empfänger: Jakob Bucher
Name: Meischa
1. Div. 1. Arm.

Beim Besonderen (Offizier, Unteroffizier, etc.)
Set diesen in die Adresse
oder die Truppenbezeichnung
angeben.

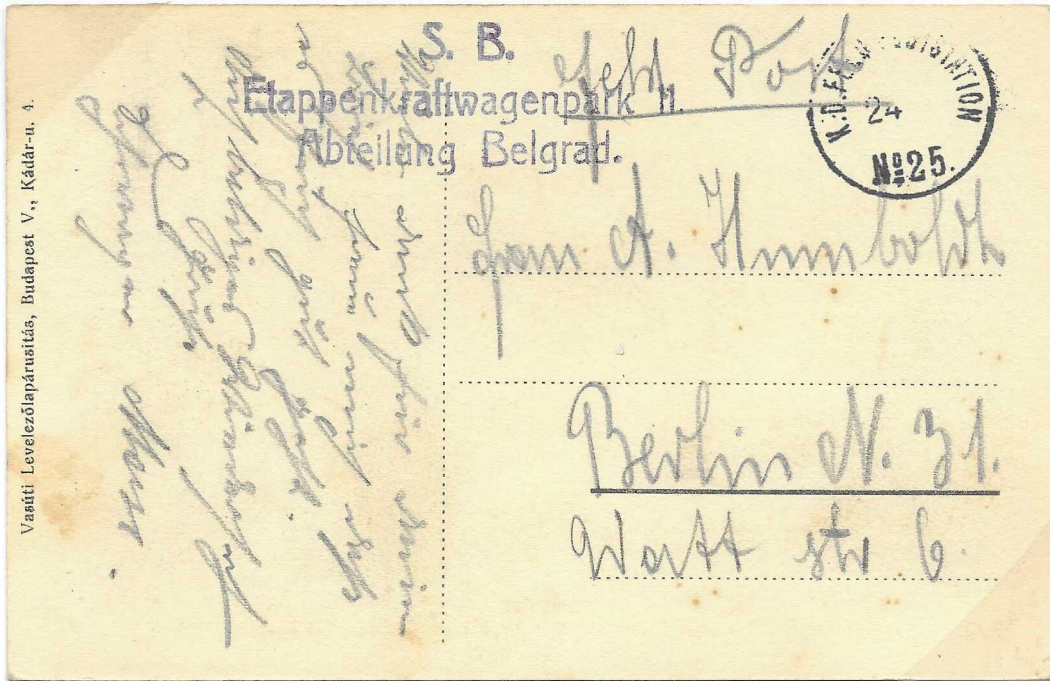
Beim Besonderen (Offizier, Unteroffizier, etc.)
Set diesen in die Adresse
oder die Truppenbezeichnung
angeben.

Beim Besonderen (Offizier, Unteroffizier, etc.)
Set diesen in die Adresse
oder die Truppenbezeichnung
angeben.

Cards shown above have specific locations included in the datelines, both from towns that were included in the area of southeast Serbia annexed by the Bulgarians.

SERBIA

Belgrade
Kragujevac

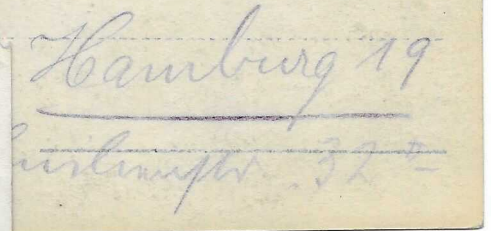
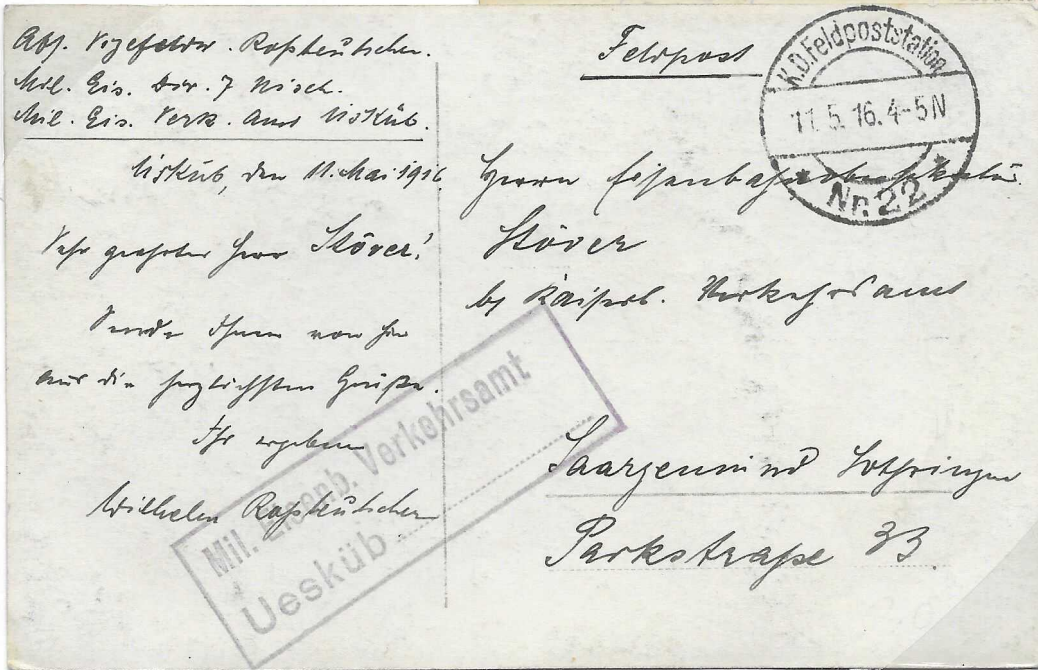
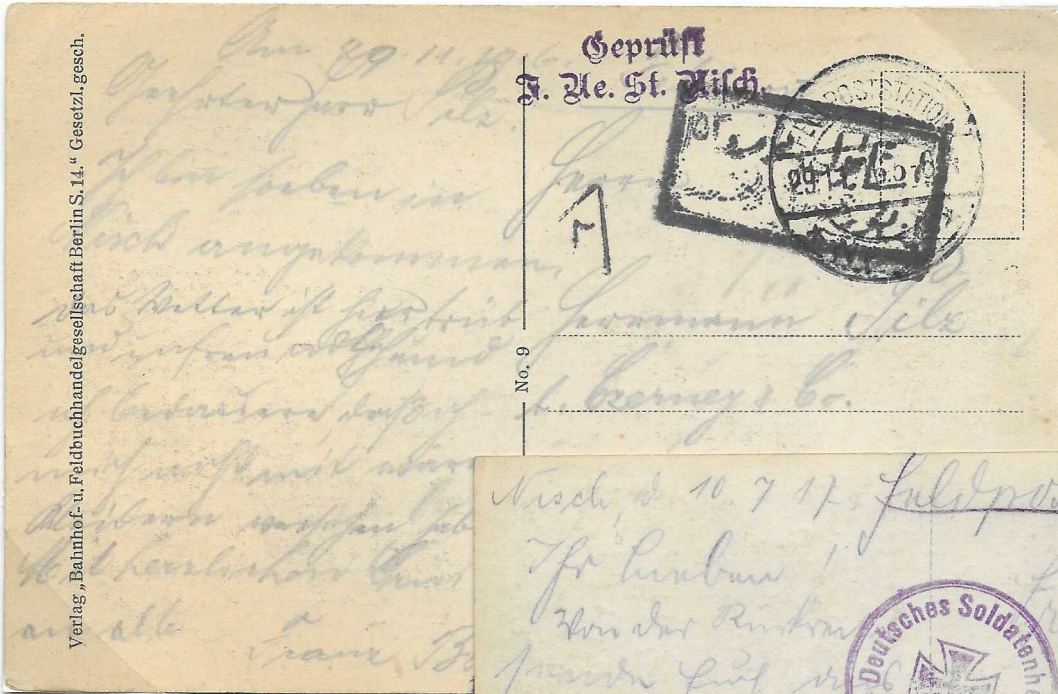


Cachets from German units in Serbia are quite uncommon, even from Belgrade and especially from other towns.

SERBIA

Nish
Uskub

Verlag „Bahnhof- u. Feldbuchhandels-Gesellschaft Berlin S. 14.“ Gesetzl.-gesch.



For administrative purposes, occupied Serbia was divided roughly in half on a Northeast to Southwest diagonal line, with the Austrians having the western portion and the Bulgarians the eastern. Thus, the Germans were not directly involved in running the territory. This explains why German unit cachets from Serbia are so elusive.

ROMANIA

Induced by Allied promises of Hungarian territory, Romania declared war on the Central Powers on 27 August 1916. After brief successes in Transylvania, the Romanians are driven out by Austro-Hungarian and German troops, who then did a reverse invasion, capturing Bucharest, the capital of Romania, on 6 December 1916. In the meantime, their Bulgarian allies invaded the Dobrudja and occupied Constanta, the main Black Sea port. A cease fire was agreed on 6 December 1917, and Romania eventually signed the Treaty of Bucharest on 7 May 1918.

Militärverwaltung in Rumänien. – Wirtschaftsstab. Finanz-Abteilung.

An

Worth. N. 715.



Heeren

Ludwig Birschfeld & Co.



Heeresfache

Nr.

UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE.

ROMANIA.
Carta Postala.

3943 Eclairage, Galerie de Cadourci, Ad. Maier & D. Stern, Bucuresti, Str. Lipscani No. 2.

Chargé de la poste

Le 28 Juin.

seul pour
 ne hezinger
 Glinka
 besten Gips
 N. Meier



Telepostkarte
 An Herrn
 Hermann
 Berlin-Charlottenburg
 Berliner Str. 59
 22.6.17.6-7N
 a



The German fieldpost accompanied the troops into Romania and set up military postal stations in key locations. Above examples show corner card and/or cachets of the "Military Government in Romania," one from the Economics Staff and one from the Electro-Technical Group.

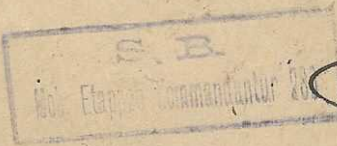
ROMANIA

F. Nantow
Oberkommando des Besatzungsheeres in Rumänien
MOB. ETAPPEN-KOMMANDANTUR 286.
KASSE des WIRTSCHAFTSSTABES



Feldpostbrief.

Firma
Professor F. Höller,



Stettin
Firmenstr. 72. III.

Feldpost



Herrn Dr. J. A. Bondy

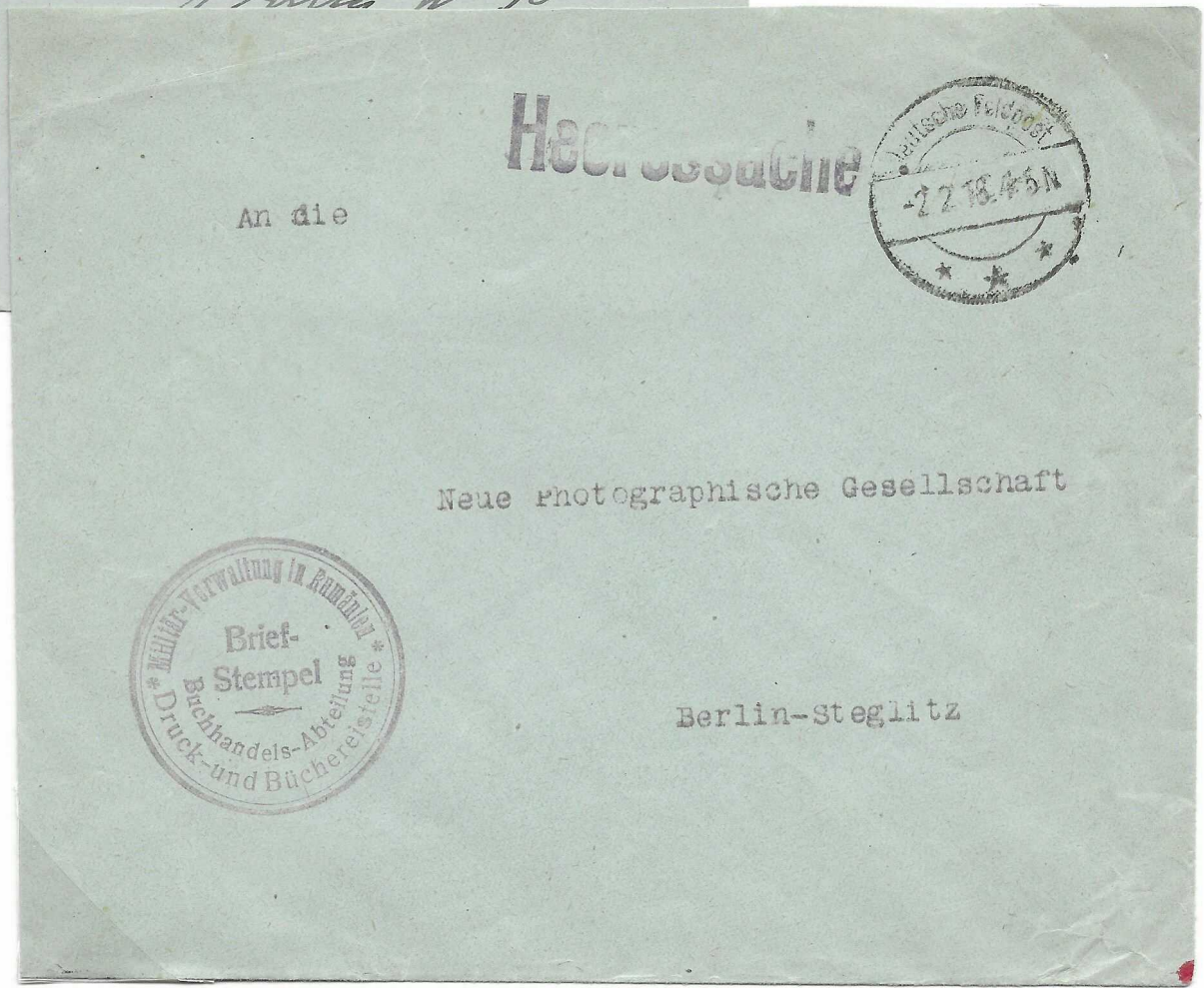
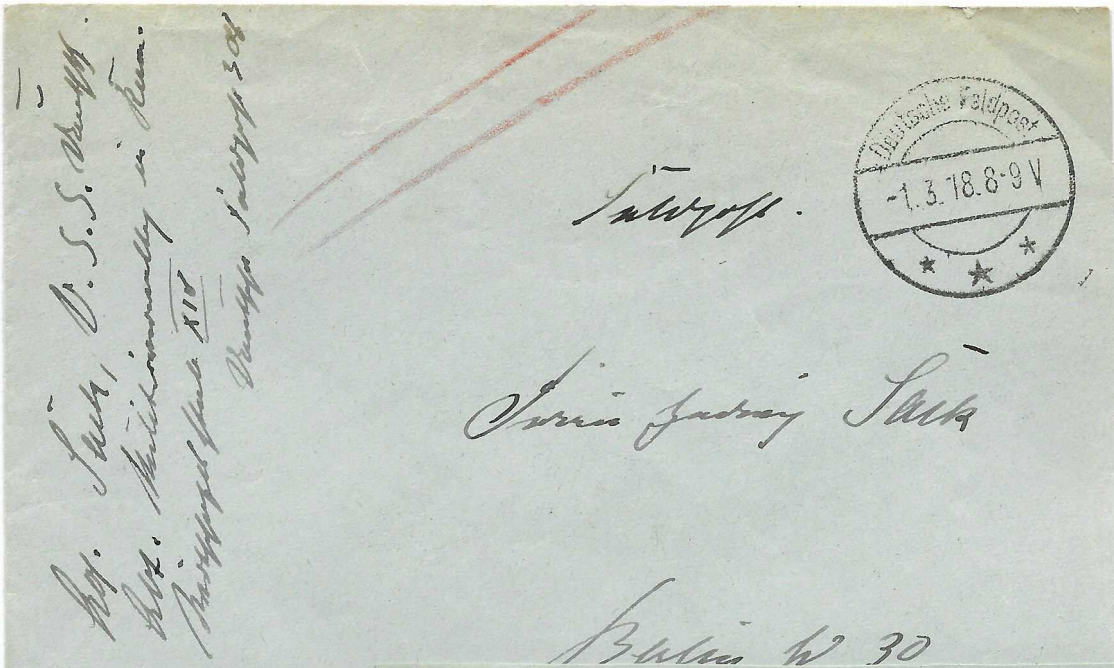
Berlin W. 9.

Vofshane 18.

Leutnant DAMMERT
Stab der Militärverwaltung in Rumänien
PRESSE-ABTEILUNG
DEUTSCHE FELDPPOST 503

Examples of generic cachets (no locations specified) of various administrative organizations in the military government of Romania, including "Cashier's Office of the Economics Staff" and "Press Group."

ROMANIA



Covers with unit cachets for a group involved in the "Protection of Assets" and the "Printing & Book Office."

„BUKARESTER TAGBLATT“ und „GAZETA BUCUREȘTILOR“
„RUMÄNIEN IN WORT UND BILD“ und „SĂPTĂMÂNA ILUSTRATĂ“

BUKAREST — Str. Sărindar 9—11

Heimische
FELDPOST!

An den

Dammert-Verlag



Lipne Faista

CARTA POSTALA

Militärverwaltung in Rumänien
Verwaltungsstab
Stelle für Reichsdeutsche
J. No. _____

Feldpoststation 308



*Ad.
Krieger
Berlin-Friedenau
Karnauerstr. 1*

Handwritten letter on a postcard:
Herrn Hauptmann
Carl Fritze
Berlin F. 52
Königsplatz 10^{II} a.
Als immer grüßend
wilde herzlich, sehr warmen
Empfänge in dem kommenden
Sommer nicht vergessen kommt
auf diesen, immer alle
Herzliche Grüße
von
Euer
Hauptmann
Friedrich
Königsplatz 10^{II} a.
Berlin F. 52



Fieldpost cards and cover that were sent from units stationed in Bucharest, two from soldiers that used FPO 308.

ATTEST

ROLF HASPEL

Verbandsprüfer

des Bundes der philatelistischen Prüfer e.V. im BDPH und APHV

D-O-4401 Thalheim-Bitterfeld, Wolfener Str. 1

Nr. 05/2000

Datum 10.1.2000

Deutsche Delegation Kaukasus

Eingeschriebene Heeressache mit dem Stempel Deutsche Feldpost 555 und entsprechendem R-Zettel mit der Nr.157 nach Berlin mit rückseitigem Lacksiegel (nicht lesbar). Der rückseitige Ankunftsstempel Berlin trägt das Datum 17.8.1918.

Die Feldpoststation 555 war auf dem Kaukasus und der Heeresgruppe Mackensen zugehörig. Belege dieser Feldpoststation sind sehr selten.

Alle Stempel sind klar und deutlich. Der Umschlag ist in einem sehr guten Zustand.

Der Beleg ist echt und ohne mein Signum.

Rolf Haspel

Rolf Haspel

OT Thalheim, Wolfener Str. 2, 06766 Bitterfeld-Wolfen

BEFUND15/2009

Deutsche Feldpost 1914/19-Kaukasus

Feldpostkarte aus Tiflis, geschrieben 5. Juni 1918, nach Berlin mit Truppenstempel "Kaiserlich Deutsches Truppenkommando in Georgien" (innen Zarenadler).

Die Karte wurde im Schwarzmeerhafen Konstanz/Rumänien der Feldpost übergeben und mit dem aptierten Stempel der DFP 258 vom 17.6.18 versehen.

Die rückseitig abgebildete Karte aus dem Kaukasus **ist echt.**

Die Schrift ist teilweise etwas verblaßt aber noch lesbar. Die Karte ist ohne mein Signum.

Prüfgebiet: DR Feld- u. Marineschiffpost 1914/19, Feldpost China und DSWA,

Militärmission Türkei 1914/19 Kriegsgefangenenpost Japan 1914/20

21.6.2009