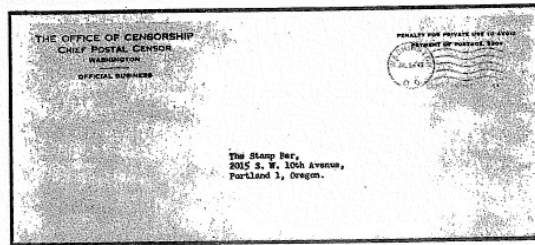
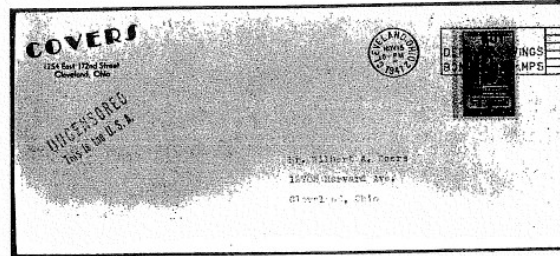


Civil Censorship in the United States During World War II

by Wilford N. Broderick and Dann Mayo

Civil Censorship in the United States

During World War II



by

Wilfred N. Broderick and Dann Mayo

*Published by
Civil Censorship Study Group
and
War Cover Club*

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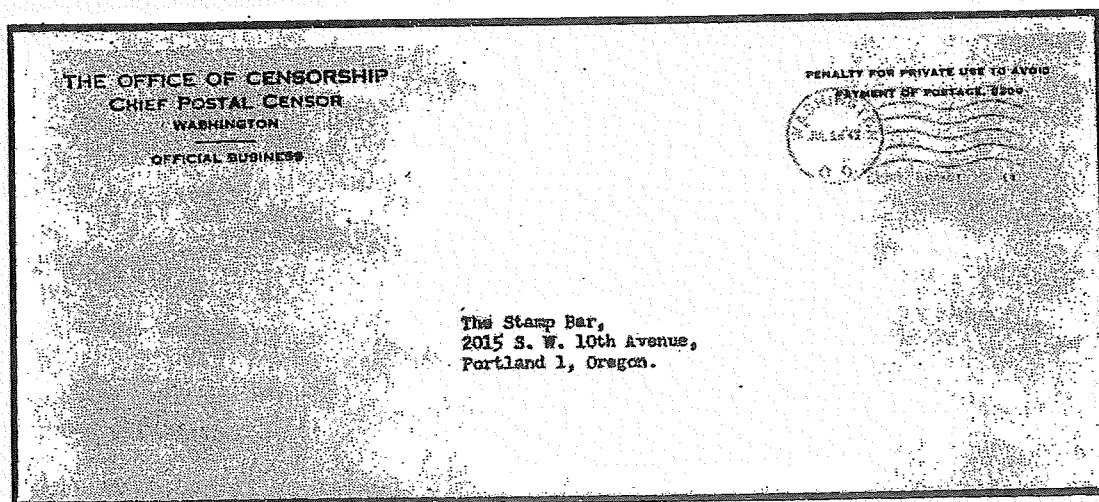
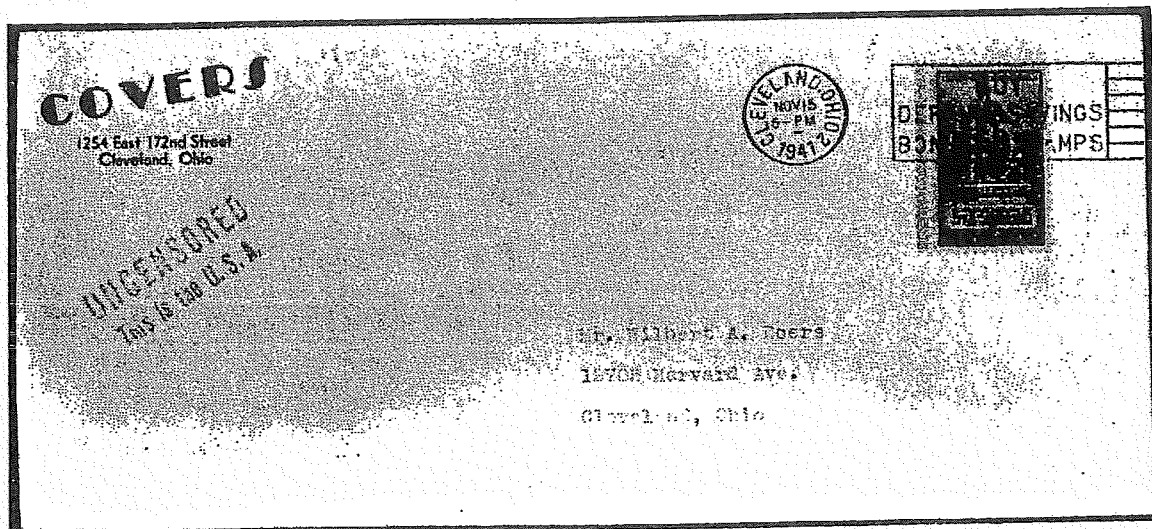
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UPDATES

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WAR COVER CLUB

The War Cover Club is active in the study of military cancellations, censored covers, prisoner-of-war covers, and other military postal history items, both American and foreign.

Organized in 1937, the War Cover Club initially concentrated its studies on World War I material, and the club developed a listing of World War I APO markings and a list of different types of cancellations. An early publication, The War Cover Philatelist, also provided articles on the American Civil War, Spanish-American War, USMC Expeditionary Forces, Boer War, and early war covers of World War II. A subsequent journal, The War Cover Club Bulletin, made its debut during World War II. Recent publications by the War Cover Club include Locations and Assignments: USN/USMC Mobile Land Forces and their Post Offices, World War II and Later, and Geographic Locations of U.S. APOs, 1941-1978. The club also provides a mail auction with its Bulletin.

Additional information and a sample copy of The War Cover Club Bulletin may be obtained by sending one dollar to L.E. Kieffer, secretary-treasurer, P.O. Box 173, Jamestown, NJ 08831.

CIVIL CENSORSHIP STUDY GROUP

Founded in the United Kingdom in 1973, the Civil Censorship Study Group is concerned with the censorship of civil mails in all countries at all times, and with the related areas of wartime press censorship, POW censorship, and censorship under the guise of export or currency controls.

The CCSG publishes a bi-monthly journal, the Civil Censorship Study Group Bulletin, which is accompanied by a mail auction of censored covers. During the past two years, the group has published Section I, African Colonies and Occupied Territories, of the Catalog of British Empire Civil Censorship Devices, World War II, and Free French Censorship in the Levant.

The CCSG encourages membership by anyone with an interest in civil censorship, novice or specialist, general or single-country collector. Membership information and a sample copy of the Bulletin may be obtained for US\$1 or local equivalent from A.R. Torrance, Rozel Cottage, Back Road, Dollar FK14 7EA, Scotland, or from Dann Mayo, 5443 Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64110, U.S.A.

FOREWORD

This volume is the result of over a decade of collecting and research, and a compromise between publishing only a catalog of World War II U.S. civil censorship devices, on the one hand, any publishing an exhaustive study of the U.S. civil censorship system, on the other. We hope that the production of the material which follows, with instructions on where to find the mother lode of official documents, will encourage others to join in the research in this area.

For those wishing more detail on the history of the censorship system than we provide in the following pages, we recommend consultation of A History of the Office of Censorship (hereinafter referred to as the History), which is available from the National Archives. Volumes V and VI are wholly concerned with postal censorship, though important information on this subject is also contained in vols. I and II. For the fanatic with the time and inclination to plow through mountains of government documents, there are the following files in the Federal Records of World War II (also housed in the National Archives): The Office of Censorship (Article 484); The Director of Censorship (Article 485); and The Postal Division (Article 490). Article 484 takes up 977 feet of file space, the most useful part of which, according to the archivist, occupies "only" 270 feet.

The historical data in this volume are almost all taken from official documents. However, the catalog section has been compiled from devices found on postally used covers. In fact, the History is almost completely devoid of information concerning censor devices.

This book owes its existence to a large number of people, beside the authors and the compilers of the official records, who have contributed both information and inspiration over the years. At the root of the whole process was the late Sterling Taylor, who got Broderick started in collecting censored covers over a decade ago, and kept him going with literature, covers, and a great deal of useful advice. The late Kevin Rogan channeled Broderick's attention toward the problem of mapping out the U.S. censorship system, so that it would be possible to determine the place of censorship by looking at a cover. Lincoln Kieffer and Bea Kumasaka have both had long-standing and significant associations with this project, Lincoln having provided timely letters containing information which opened up new aspects of the study, plus covers confirming many of the deductions that had been made, while Bea patiently listened to all 497 theories developed by Broderick at all times of the night and day over the past ten years without once harming him or his covers. Many other collectors have contributed to this book, and we regret that we cannot name them all here. We would, however, like to thank all of those who have helped, with special thanks to Roger Albanese, Fred Arndt, Bruce Burwell, Everett Erle, Myron Fox, Marvin Garfinkel, Myron Hill, David Howell, Algot Johnson, Rex Jones, Jerry Korteling, Harry Metzler, John O'Neil, Bob Saunders, Tony Shepherd, Theo Van Dam, Paul Van Reyden, Gary B. Weiss, and Derek Whitmarsh.

We certainly make no claim to perfection or completeness in the information which follows. As we indicated above, we have made a conscious decision to publish a work in progress. Consequently, we expect and will welcome additions and corrections to the information presented here.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
HISTORICAL REPORTS ON WAR ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP—SERIES 1
WASHINGTON, D. C.

A REPORT ON
THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP

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UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON - 1945

INTRODUCTION

Any approach to censorship in a democratic country is fraught with serious difficulties and grave risks. It is not too much to say that no operation connected with war merits more careful planning or more thoughtful administration.

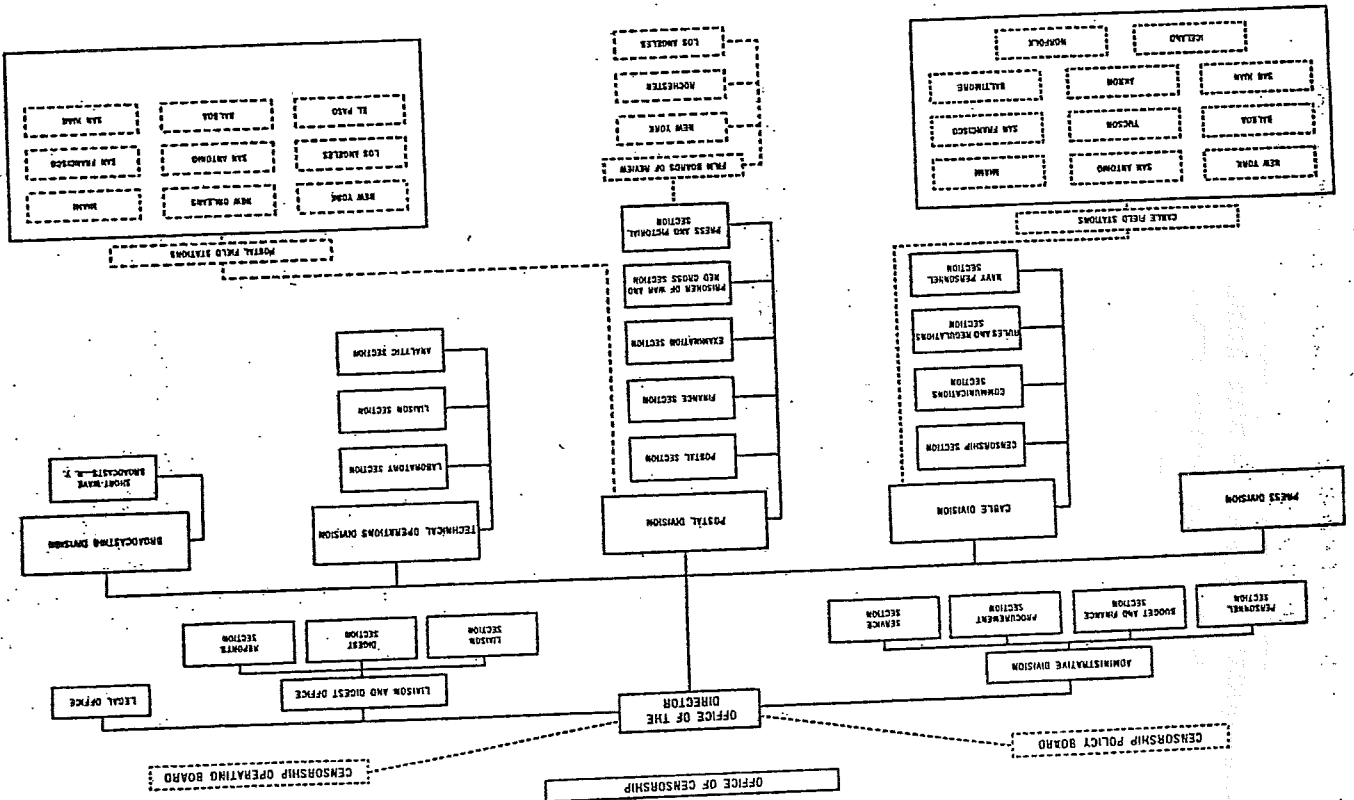
The word itself arouses instant resentment, distrust and fear among free men. Everything the censor does is contrary to the fundamentals of liberty. He invades privacy ruthlessly, delays and mutilates the mails and cables, and lays restrictions on public expression in the press. All of this he can continue to do only so long as an always-skeptical public is convinced that such extraordinary measures are essential to national survival. The censor's house is built on sand, no matter what statutes may be enacted, or what the courts may declare.

Having in mind the normal tendency of censorship to feed on itself, erecting higher and higher bureaucratic barriers as the consciousness of great authority ripens, the old Romans decreed that no censor could hold office for a longer period than a year and a half. In our own country it should be understood that no one who does not dislike censorship should ever be permitted to exercise censorship. All planning for censorship should rest firmly on a determination to apply restraints in such a way as to preserve, rather than to destroy, free institutions and individual liberties.

The first and last principle to be remembered, then, is that censorship should come into being solely as an instrument of war. It must charge itself only with contributing to the success of armed combat. To the extent its operations are permitted to wander into other pathways, to the extent it concerns itself with the enforcement of peacetime statutes or the policing of political and personal foibles,—to that exact extent does it weaken its service to the nation's armed men on the field of battle.

Censorship's work may be said to divide itself into two separate tasks. The first is to deprive the enemy of information and of tangibles, such as funds and commodities which he can use against our armies and our navies. The second is to collect intelligence of many kinds which can be used against the enemy. No censorship can fail to go dangerously afield unless it holds rigidly and resolutely to these basic purposes.

Both in the stages of preparation and the later stages of execution any censorship based on these essentials is certain to entail counter attack, open and by stealth, from some within and some outside of the government. There are those who believe sincerely, but without counting the ultimate cost, that the censor should operate according to a broader totalitarian philosophy; that he should conceal governmental blunders and delinquencies; that he should make fishing expeditions into private affairs having no possible connection with the war; that he should withhold from the Ameri-



can people, for policy reasons, information known to be available to the enemy; in short, that he should commit in the name of security all of the errors which have helped often enough heretofore to discredit censorship, to divorce their procedures completely from the dictates of common sense, and in the end to weaken greatly their effectiveness.

Unless and until the day comes when the form of our government is to be altered materially, it will not be wise or expedient even in time of national peril to undertake thus to reduce American citizens to a state of intellectual slavery. The task of prosecuting the war would be hindered, rather than helped, by any such attempt.

Censorship of press and radio deserves special mention, for it is precisely here that the entire operation faces its greatest danger of fatal error and consequent disruption. No more delicate or explosive an undertaking could be imagined. Within this area the censor must tread circumspectly, indeed, amid the apprehensions and suspicions of a publishing industry which guards almost fanatically its hard-won freedom from government domination, and a broadcasting industry which yearns mightily to attain similar liberties. This censorship ought to be voluntary, as a matter of principle, in a free country; and as a matter of practicality, experience has shown that a voluntary censorship, with all its undeniable weaknesses, can be fully as effective as such compulsory systems as those of Britain and Canada, where many flagrant violations have gone unpunished because public sentiment would not support punishment.

In this general field,—and let it be repeated that it is here that all censorship is most likely to make or destroy itself,—there is only one reasonable rule. Censorship of the dissemination of public information must hold unceasingly, day in and day out, to the single purpose of keeping dangerous information from the enemy. Editorial opinions and criticisms never can be brought under government restraint, and ought not to be, so long as our present form of government endures; and any censorial excursion into that realm would most certainly destroy the respect and confidence of the censored and lead to collapse of the entire structure.

BYRON PRICE, *Director*

NOVEMBER 15, 1945.

Long before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the military services had been planning for wartime censorship of international communications. The Army undertook to develop a program for censoring mails entering and leaving the United States, and the Navy arranged for censorship of cable, radiotelegraph, and radiotelephone circuits.

On September 2, 1939, upon the President's declaration of a state of national emergency, Commander (later Captain) H. K. Fenn, USN, was assigned to give his full attention to planning for cable censorship. This officer, who later became Chief Cable Censor in the Office of Censorship, established the practice of bringing into active service selected Naval Reserve officers, so that they might be schooled, in advance, in the principles and operations of censorship. By December, 1941, some 400 officers had passed through the training course. A few already had been assigned to the Naval Districts to begin recruiting censorship staffs of their own, mainly reserve officers and enlisted men, with a few civilians. They established suitable quarters for censorship stations, made advance arrangements for furniture and supplies, perfected agreements with the communications companies, and in several instances even began actual monitoring, on a trial basis, of cable, radiotelegraph, and radiotelephone traffic. So complete were these arrangements that cable censorship went into action within an hour after the Pearl Harbor bombing.

The Army moved more slowly. Late in 1940, it was decided that special attention should be given to censorship by Military Intelligence, and Major (later Brigadier General) W. Preston Corderman, USA, was detailed to investigate. He brought in as his assistant a reserve officer, Captain (later Colonel) Gilbert C. Jacobus, who in January, 1941, was dispatched to Bermuda to make a study of British Censorship operations there.

Later, with the rank of Colonel, Corderman served for a year as the first Chief Postal Censor in the Office of Censorship. Captain Jacobus became his deputy during the early days and subsequently was the Army's chief censor in the European theater. To these two, principally, fell the enormous task of recruiting and organizing a civilian personnel of more than 10,000 in the Postal Division of the Office of Censorship, providing quarters and equipment, and formulating the regulations for examination of mail.

Upon the President's approval of a general wartime censorship program in June, 1941, Major Corderman greatly expanded the Army's censorship planning. On August 6 he opened a censorship school attended by 19 reserve officers, who then were assigned to the Corps Area Headquarters to begin recruiting and to make detailed plans. These officers barely had been able to begin by making contact with the local postmasters when war was declared. Unlike the Navy, the Army did not then or later assign enlisted men to Censorship.

The War Department took no formal action in respect to censorship on December 7, but the next day the Secretary of War ordered each Corps Area commander to inaugurate censorship of telephone and telegraph wires crossing the borders. The order made no mention of postal censorship, since that part of the program still was awaiting developments. Also on December 8, the President, in consultation with members of a Censorship Committee, designated the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, J. Edgar Hoover, to take temporary charge of all phases of censorship. On the same day, Mr. Hoover called a conference of the agencies most concerned.

Out of that and subsequent discussions emerged, by gradual growth, the structure which was to become the Office of Censorship. It was decided, for the time being, that censorship of the mails, as well as of telegraph and land telephone lines, should be a responsibility of the War Department. During the night of December 11-12 orders were forwarded from the Secretary of War to every Corps Area headquarters to begin postal censorship within 48 hours. The order was fulfilled nominally. All the postal censorship stations which had been planned were opening letters by midnight of December 13. But it was only a token censorship; the initial operations consisted simply of two or three Army officers sitting around tables in Post Office buildings and slitting open a few letters at random.

Meanwhile Congress passed the First War Powers Act, Section 803 of which authorized censorship in the following terms:

"Whenever, during the present war, the President shall deem that the public safety demands it, he may cause to be censored, under such rules and regulations as he may from time to time establish, communications by mail, cable, radio, or other means of transmission passing between the United States and any foreign country. Any person who, willfully, evades or attempts to evade, the submission of any such communications to such censorship or, willfully, uses or attempts to use, any code or other device for the purpose of concealing from such censorship the intended meaning of such communication shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than \$10,000, or, if a natural person, imprisoned for not more than ten years, or both; and the officer, director or agent of any corporation who knowingly participates in such violation shall be punished by like fine, imprisonment, or both, and any property, funds, securities, papers, or other articles or documents, or any vessel, together with her tackle, apparel, furniture and equipment, concerned in such violation, shall be forfeited to the United States."

To be Director of Censorship the President immediately appointed Byron Price, a newspaperman of life-long experience who had served for more than twenty years in Washington and subsequently was Executive News Editor and Acting General Manager of the Associated Press. By virtue of his professional background, he had a wide acquaintance among Washington officials,

Washington correspondents, and newspaper publishers and editors throughout the country. In announcing the appointment the President issued the following statement outlining the bases of Censorship:

"All Americans abhor censorship, just as they abhor war. But the experience of this and of all other nations has demonstrated that some degree of censorship is essential in war time, and we are at war.

"It is necessary to the national security that military information which might be of aid to the enemy be scrupulously withheld at the source.

"It is necessary that a watch be set upon our borders, so that no such information may reach the enemy, inadvertently or otherwise, through the medium of the mails, radio or cable transmission, or by any other means.

"It is necessary that prohibitions against the domestic publication of some types of information, contained in long-existing statutes, be rigidly enforced.

"Finally, the Government has called upon a patriotic press and radio to abstain voluntarily from the dissemination of detailed information of certain kinds, such as reports of the movement of vessels and troops. The response has indicated a universal desire to cooperate.

"In order that all of these parallel and requisite undertakings may be coordinated and carried forward in accordance with a single uniform policy, I have appointed Byron Price, Executive News Editor of the Associated Press, to be Director of Censorship, responsible directly to the President. He has been granted a leave of absence by the Associated Press, and will take over the post assigned him within the coming week, or sooner."

The President also signed an Executive Order creating the Office of Censorship. It went to the unaccustomed length of conferring upon the Director the power to censor international communications in "his absolute discretion." It created also a Censorship Policy Board and a Censorship Operating Board; the former consisted of several cabinet members and agency heads under the chairmanship of the Postmaster General, and the latter was to be appointed by the Director to coordinate the censorship interests of various Government departments.

One other step remained to make the charter of the Office of Censorship complete. Added to the presidential statement of December 16, which outlined general principles, and the Executive Order of December 19, which established authority over international communications, was an instruction by the President to the Director to supervise voluntary censorship of press and broadcasting.

The Director, in establishing his headquarters in a single room with a borrowed clerical staff, gave precedence to the problems of domestic voluntary censorship for a number of reasons. Nothing had been done in this field, whereas postal and cable censorship

already were under way and were in competent hands. The machinery for making decisions regarding press and broadcasting had to be created from the ground up. Requests for guidance were coming in day and night from many quarters, and snap judgments had to be made in many instances long before there was an opportunity to recruit personnel or formulate general principles. On January 15, 1942, preparations had reached a point where Codes of Wartime Practices were issued to the press and radio. The Codes listed items of information which the country's editors and broadcasters were asked not to disseminate because of the danger to national security.

The first formal regulations for cable and postal censorship were also completed during the first months of the new year, in long discussions with the Department of Justice, the Treasury Department and others. Regulations regarding technical data were approved by the President on March 13, 1942, the general Postal regulations on April 13, 1942, the general Cable and Radio regulations, the Radiotelephone regulations and the Rules for Operating Companies, which were instructions to the telecommunication companies, on February 19, 1942. These regulations dealt with the technical side of censorship of international communications. They were all made public and were accepted generally by the mail and cable users.

On January 30, 1943, the Cable and Radio, Radiotelephone and Postal regulations were revised on the basis of Censorship's experience and combined into one set of U. S. Censorship Regulations. They provided that "all communications may be condemned, suppressed, delayed, or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the censor without notice," which was in accord with the Executive Order conferring upon the Director the power to censor international communications in "his absolute discretion." General Regulation Seven listed subjects to which no reference, either open or hidden, should be made in international communications unless officially disclosed by appropriate governmental authority. This regulation closely paralleled the press and radio codes, and covered such items as ship, plane and troop movements, military operations, the location and description of fortifications and defenses, certain war production elements, the weather, movements of the President, etc. Other specific regulations prohibited the use of codes and ciphers, unless authorized, secret inks and other secret writings. The sending of mail to an enemy national was also prohibited except under certain conditions. Provisions were set forth for the censorship of film, prints and plates, scientific, technical or professional data, printed matter leaving the country and philatelic material. The regulations required postal, cable, and radio users to address and sign their messages so that both parties could be identified. Although the regulations stated that postal communications should be written in English if possible, there was no language restriction. Cable and radio messages, however, had to be in English, French, Portuguese or Spanish. The regulations listed nine commercial codes which could be used in cable and radio messages.

During the first weeks of the war, discussions were undertaken with British and Canadian Censorships. Mr. E. S. (later Sir Edwin) Herbert, Director General of British Imperial Censorship, arrived in Washington and had several long conferences with the Director of U. S. Censorship. The British had been operating Censorship for two years at many points around the globe, including Bermuda, Trinidad and Jamaica. It was now proposed to correlate the British, American and Canadian efforts, and on January 21 a tripartite agreement was signed with the blessings of the State Department, which had been represented throughout the discussions. In general, it was agreed that there should be a complete exchange of information among the three Censorships, and that insofar as possible the work would be divided to avoid duplication. It was stipulated further that a central clearing house of information be established within the headquarters of the Office of Censorship.

Out of the tripartite agreement between the American, British and Canadian Censorships was born the Division of Reports, having nothing to do with actual censoring, but ascertaining the needs of the various Government agencies for intercepted war information, and acting as the distributing agency. This naturally was an operation requiring secrecy and security. It was adopted as a fundamental consideration that no information would be distributed—or, indeed, collected or excised from communications—unless it related to the war. "What does not concern the war does not concern Censorship" had been a motto of the British, and it was adopted also as the governing policy of the Office of Censorship. Upon the form used for distributing information to federal agencies was printed the following notice:

"The attached information was taken from private communications, and its extremely confidential character must be preserved. The information must be confided only to those officials whose knowledge of it is necessary to the prosecution of the war. In no case should it be widely distributed, or copies made, or the information used in legal proceedings or in any other public way without express consent of the Director of Censorship."

While the Office of the Director was engaged with other matters, Cable and Postal Censorships went ahead steadily with their appointed tasks. Only occasional problems were referred to the Office of the Director. One such problem was the very large accumulation of mail at San Francisco. Much of this had been on the way westward across the Pacific when war broke out and shipping was forced to run for shelter. Neither space nor personnel to handle the load being available at San Francisco, it was decided finally to transfer most of it to the Canadian station at Vancouver. The first cable message which was referred to the Director's Office for decision came from a labor leader in Hawaii, and was addressed to his union headquarters in Washington. The

labor leader was complaining of infringement of civil rights under military rule in Hawaii. The Director instructed that the message be passed, on the ground that American citizens should not be deprived of the right of protest, even in wartime.

On January 5, headquarters was moved to the Apex (Federal Trade Commission) Building at Sixth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., which remained the home of Censorship throughout the war. By February 15, six divisions—Postal, Cable, Press, Broadcasting, Reports and Administrative—were all swinging into operation. The overall personnel had increased to more than 5,000 of which 3,100 were in the Postal Division and stations, and 1,819 in the Cable Division and stations, and the total continued to grow until the peak of 14,462 was reached in February, 1943.

On March 15, 1942, the Army and Navy personnel was formally transferred to the Office of Censorship from the War and Navy Departments, respectively. The personnel involved had been working completely under the authority of the Director of Censorship, but the actual administration had been carried by the older departments, because Censorship was not yet sufficiently staffed in its Administrative Division to take care of the necessary housekeeping. On May 23, sufficient space had become available in the Apex Building so that quarters of the Cable and Postal Divisions at Arlington were relinquished and the entire agency was housed for the first time under one roof.

United States Censorship, once organized, became part of an Allied network that blockaded Axis countries from a communications standpoint. Several Latin American countries set up effective censorship in accordance with Pan American agreements for the defense of the Western Hemisphere, and the Office of Censorship sent liaison representatives to those organizations. It also exchanged liaison officers with British Imperial and Canadian Censorships and sent a representative to Services des Controles Techniques, the French censorship, first at Algiers and then at Paris after the liberation of France.

The Allied censorships exchanged information about censorship techniques and also in the interest of the mutual war effort, gave one another pertinent information intercepted in communications.

As the combat responsibilities of the Army increased, the Secretary of War decided that Army officers serving in civilian agencies should be withdrawn. Accordingly, during the last months of 1942, all but a half dozen of the 150 officers who held key positions in Postal Censorship had to be replaced. One of those whose services were relinquished by the War Department was the Chief Postal Censor, Colonel Corderman. He was replaced by Lieutenant Colonel (later Colonel) Norman V. Carlson, formerly District Postal Censor in San Francisco, as Chief Postal Censor for the remainder of the war.

The first Assistant Director in charge of the Press Division was John H. Sorrells of New York, who obtained leave of absence as Executive News Editor of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers. He was a thoroughly experienced newspaperman who had been man-

aging editor of several dailies. On July 1, 1942, he was named Deputy Director and second in command of the entire Office of Censorship. On his promotion, he was succeeded as Assistant Director in charge of the Press Division by Nat R. Howard, who had been in Censorship almost from the beginning and was on leave as editor of the Cleveland News. Mr. Sorrells returned to his newspaper work on January 1, 1943, and Mr. Howard on July 5, 1943. Jack H. Lockhart, managing editor of the Memphis Commercial Appeal, who likewise had joined the Office of Censorship in its first weeks, took charge of the Press Division. He served in that capacity until May 1, 1945, when he also returned to newspaper work and was replaced by Theodore F. Koop. Mr. Koop, formerly a newspaper man and more recently on the staff of the National Geographic Magazine, had been Assistant to the Director from the outset. In that capacity he had been on active duty as a lieutenant in the Naval Reserve, but he went on inactive duty when he succeeded Mr. Lockhart. Lieutenant Commander Gordon E. Brown, USNR, who had served in the New York Cable Station and later in the Director's Office in Washington, became Assistant to the Director.

J. Harold Ryan of Toledo, Ohio, was the first Assistant Director in charge of the Broadcasting Division. He was vice-president and general manager of the Fort Industries, which operated six radio stations in the South and Middle West. When Mr. Ryan left Censorship on April 15, 1944, John E. Fetzer, of Kalamazoo, Michigan, who owned several radio stations in the Middle West, became the chief of the Broadcasting Division.

The administrative affairs of the Office were organized by James F. King, who came to Censorship as Executive Officer on January 1, 1942, from the Department of Labor. When he resigned on August 31, 1942, the Administrative Division was put under the immediate supervision of Mr. Sorrells, and later it was made a responsibility of Lieutenant Koop.

The Chief Postal and Cable Censors had full administrative control of their district stations, but the Administrative Division acted as an independent check on the legality and proper form of actions taken. The Administrative Division dealt with the Bureau of the Budget, the General Accounting Office, and the Civil Service Commission, and its job was to make certain that the programs being carried out by the operating divisions were in accord with the laws and regulations of those agencies.

Desiring to make certain that the Postal and Cable stations were operating along sensible and economical lines, the Director decided to bring into the organization a practical business man, personally responsible to him, who would visit all the stations from time to time and determine to his satisfaction that public funds were not being spent needlessly. He would not be in any sense an "efficiency expert" who would check on minor details, but rather would have a broad outlook, and his reactions would be those of a taxpayer. On March 9, 1943, Robert L. McKeever, a prominent Washington real estate man, was selected for this position as Special Representative of the Director. Mr. Mc-

Keever's visits to the stations resulted in immediate and long-range economies as he found instances where space and equipment could be utilized to better advantage and personnel could be reduced. On July 20, 1943, Mr. McKeever became head of the Administrative Division, in order that Lieutenant Koop could set up a new Liaison Office in the Office of the Director.

Administrative controls were gradually extended and work standards and formulae for determining personnel and fund requirements were developed, together with work load reporting. As a result, the determination of position became more accurate and personnel reductions in some areas were made possible. On February 23, 1944, the Director appointed a Management Policy Committee to survey the activities of the Agency. The headquarters committee established similar committees in each station. It sponsored numerous studies in headquarters and in the field, issued management policy communications to all District Censors and prepared quarterly reports to the Civil Service Commission.

During the initial months of its operation, the Office of Censorship was financed by a \$7,500,000 allocation from the Emergency Fund for the President. The Congressional appropriations for the following fiscal years of 1943-44-45-46 were, respectively, \$26,500,000, \$29,600,000 (including a deficiency appropriation of \$1,800,000 for overtime), \$29,700,000 and \$13,000,000. The Office, during its existence, actually spent an estimated \$16,484,531 less than the total appropriations, but half of this saving represents funds withdrawn by Congress after the Office ceased its censoring operations and began liquidating in August, 1945.

Only two major changes in the divisional framework of the Office occurred during its existence. In 1943, it became apparent that Censorship would have increased responsibilities in the field of counter-espionage as its work progressed, and the Technical Operations Division was created in August, 1943, to devote its entire attention to the subject. It operated with a small staff in Washington under the charge of Lieutenant Colonel (later Colonel) Harold R. Shaw, an Army reserve officer who had organized and directed the Postal Censorship Station in Hawaii. The division coordinated the work of the Censorship laboratories in combating the use of secret inks, and it also furthered censorship technique for detecting codes and ciphers. The Technical Operations Division established even closer liaison with the intelligence agencies of the Government, and the Allied Censorship attack on espionage was strengthened by inter-Allied conferences.

Censorship liaison with other Government agencies first was conducted by the Division of Reports, and liaison with other Censorships to a large extent by the Cable and Postal Divisions. The Division of Reports was originally headed by A. D. Burford, who withdrew on September 15, 1942, to return to his former duties with the Bureau of Internal Revenue. He was succeeded, as Assistant Director in charge of the Division, by Harold Keats, a retired lawyer and businessman who had joined the Postal Division some months before.

As the Office of Censorship developed, its liaison activities assumed increasing importance, and in July, 1943, they were taken into the Office of the Director because experience showed these activities could be most effectively conducted under the Directors immediate supervision and thereby on the highest level. The task of distributing intercepted information to Government agencies and other Censorships was closely linked with the liaison function, and on January 1, 1944, after Mr. Keats had resigned, the Division of Reports was abolished and its allocation work was also taken into the Director's Office.

Through its liaison with other Government agencies, Censorship could determine what sort of intercepted information the agencies required in furthering the war effort. A list of various topics of interest to the agencies was adopted as a guide for the censors, and the names of the agencies legitimately interested in each topic were set down opposite the item. A watch list was also established so that communications flowing through the Censorship stations could be checked against it. Among the names on the list were those contained in the Proclaimed List of Certain Blocked Nationals, the Government's official blacklist. In all its reporting activities, however, Censorship held to the view that it was not an investigative agency. It would deliver the raw materials to the intelligence agencies and others which had a legitimate war interest, but would not undertake to do intelligence work itself.

The Office of Censorship was aware of the possible dangers of placing in the hands of Government agencies economic information about legitimate American business. It took pains to indoctrinate the censors and those charged with distributing intercepted information with the basic principle that only material having a direct bearing on the war should be reported. As the Government's economic warfare program gained strength, there was less need of such information, and Censorship's reporting practices were adjusted accordingly.

These dangers, however, became particularly great in regard to the development of post-war industry, as American business men communicated abroad their post-war plans. The Director therefore approached both British Imperial and Canadian Censorships with a proposal to prevent by tripartite agreement the reporting of post-war plans of businesses in the United Nations or neutral nations where no enemy interest was involved. This agreement was signed on April 27, 1944, and the Director insisted that it be followed closely by every employee of the Office of Censorship.

Because of the exotic nature of its responsibilities, amid democratic surroundings, and the lack of experience and precedents, Censorship had to make many difficult policy decisions. The range of its interests was exceedingly wide. They embraced such normally unrelated subjects as the development of a new secret ink in Latin America, the morale of the German people under bombing and the publication of advertising relating to radar.

had a public relations department. On the rare occasions when it was necessary to issue public announcements, these announcements were mimeographed and given out directly from the Office of the Director.

The First War Powers Act carried no specific authority for censorship of communications with the United States Territories, but the omission appears to have been a mere oversight. In ordering the inauguration of censorship on military grounds on December 7, 1941, in advance of Congressional action, the President said specifically that communications with the Territories also were to be censored. Subsequently, the omission of statutory authority caused apprehension both in Censorship and in the Department of Justice, and during 1942 an amendment to cover the gap was passed without objection by both Senate and House. While the amendment was awaiting consideration in conference, Governor Ernest Gruening of Alaska appeared at a specially called meeting of the Senate Judiciary Committee to protest.

He argued that the censorship of Alaskan mail at Seattle was illegal and unnecessary, and that as a result information having nothing to do with the war was being taken from private communications and distributed to Government agencies. After the session, several Senators made public statements in support of Governor Gruening. On December 9, 1942, the Director was called before the committee. He explained that the censorship was being performed as a matter of military necessity under the President's constitutional powers as Commander-in-Chief. On December 14 the Attorney General and representatives of Military Intelligence, Naval Intelligence and the Federal Bureau of Investigation went before the committee. The Attorney General upheld the legality of the operation under the evidence of the benefits to national security. Meantime, the amendment regarding Territorial communications had been recalled from conference by the Senate and was again before the committee. The session of Congress, however, was in its dying days and although the public criticism died suddenly, no further legislative action was taken.

The problems involved in disseminating intercepted information again came to the attention of Congress in 1944. Miss Vivien Kellems, a Connecticut manufacturer, complained that excerpts from personal correspondence between her and Count Frederick von Zedlitz, a German then living in Argentina, had been quoted in a radio broadcast by Drew Pearson, Washington columnist, and later, on March 31, were read in the House of Representatives by Representative John M. Coffey. The Senate Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads opened an investigation of Censorship with particular reference to the use and unauthorized disclosure of information obtained through censorship. Senator McKellar, the chairman, and Senator Reed, a Committee member, expressed the opinion that the leak had not occurred in the Office of Censorship but in some Government agency to which intercepts had been sent.

The Director of Censorship had begun an investigation of his own as soon as the disclosures were made and was the first witness

Some of Censorship's problems were considered by the Policy and Operating Boards which had been provided in the Executive Order creating the Office of Censorship. It was not necessary to convene them often, but they were helpful in occasional consultations. The Director, for instance, discussed with the Policy Board in November, 1943, some of the problems of censorship expected to arise during the latter stages of the war, particularly during the interim between the defeat of Germany and the defeat of Japan. A sub-committee of the Operating Board helped develop a plan under which Censorship Boards of Review were set up to censor motion picture films leaving and entering the country. One was established in New York City, to censor motion picture newsreels, one in Hollywood, to censor feature motion pictures, and a third in Rochester, N. Y., to handle amateur still and motion pictures.

In its relations with other Government agencies it was the studied policy of Censorship to remove causes of friction, whenever possible, before the friction actually developed. It was the further policy, in cases of misunderstanding, to handle the situation by the most direct means, namely, by personal consultation between the Director and the head of whatever other agency might be involved. In conformity with this general purpose, the Director inaugurated a practice of making written agreements with other agencies to deal with twilight zones of authority where a trouble might appear at some future time. Such agreements were made, for instance, with Army and Navy Public Relations, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Office of War Information, and others. The existence of the Operating Board helped greatly in this direction; it insured that in each interested agency there would be at least one person who had some conception of the problems and objectives of Censorship and who felt some obligation to approach these problems sympathetically.

Upon the creation of the Office of War Information, in June, 1942, it became apparent immediately that a twilight zone had been established in the field of official propaganda broadcasts, which were sent out by short wave radio. The OWI was empowered by the President to fix the policy of these broadcasts and, actually, control them. What were the proper functions of Censorship, under its own authorization to censor all outgoing communications? Also to be settled was the question of the relations of OWI and Censorship to the domestic press and radio. An agreement covering these points was signed by the Directors of the two agencies on November 15, 1942. Its substance was that outgoing OWI broadcasts would be censored for security only, and not for policy, and that in the domestic field, OWI would exercise an affirmative function only, and in no case would ask newspapers or broadcasters to withhold anything from distribution. A parallel agreement was negotiated later with the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs.

Censorship's public relations policies were shaped upon the thesis that it never would be possible, actually, to popularize censorship in a free country. To that end, the Agency at no time

ness before a subcommittee headed by Senator McKellar on May 23, 1944. He described the method by which intercepts were prepared and distributed and outlined the steps taken to preserve security. He expressed the belief that the Zedlitz-Kellems matter had come by way of some other Government agency, from censorship intercepts, and pointed out that Zedlitz' name was placed on the British Statutory List in February, 1942, and subsequently on the U. S. Proclaimed List. The Director recommended enactment of a statute to protect the secrecy of censorship information and formulae. A bill along these lines was later introduced in Congress, but it was never reported out of committee.

On June 10 the subcommittee called representatives of the State Department who testified they had no knowledge of any leakage of censorship information. One of the representatives was asked to produce the Department's copies of the Zedlitz-Kellems intercepts. He refused to do so without Censorship's permission. The Director was then asked to produce the originals, but he insisted on being subpoenaed, contending that the submissions contained (a) more material than had been made public, and (b) secret censorship markings. Accordingly, the subpoena was served, and the intercepts were shown to the committee in executive session.

On December 4, Miss Kellems testified at her own request. She described her acquaintance with Zedlitz and offered to state in executive session how she believed the excerpts from her correspondence with Zedlitz reached Messrs. Pearson and Coffee. She declined to give the information in public, however, and the subcommittee made no further investigation and submitted no report. The greatest challenge to Censorship's capacity for keeping the vital information from the enemy undoubtedly came during the weeks preceding the invasion of France. The Nazis knew from elementary observation that the British Isles were to be the springboard of the assault. The crucial questions were where and when and how it would strike the continent.

As early as January, 1944, some six months before the invasion, the Director discussed with the Joint Chiefs of Staff and British and Canadian Censorships special precautionary steps to be taken against alerting the enemy for the attack. On January 19, he sent a note to editors and broadcasters earnestly requesting them to keep in mind the Code provisions bearing on the situation and to take extra precautions regarding information from abroad which might tip off the enemy. Copies of the note also went to all Division Heads and District Censors, with the added admonition that every member of the staff be constantly on the alert and every executive give thought to the formulation and execution of whatever special precautions he might find applicable to his particular field of activity.

More specific steps were taken in April after a conference with British Imperial Censorship officials. The Office of Censorship adopted for the emergency period a general overall policy of placing greater emphasis on security considerations and less on the collection of economic, morale and similar information. The

percentage of incoming mail examined was decreased, and the percentage of outgoing mail examined increased, while outgoing telecommunications were censored more rigidly with emphasis on breaking up possible plain-language codes.

Shortly thereafter the Director discussed further restrictions with Joint Security Control, such as an arbitrary ten-day delay at the source of mail from Allied military personnel in the United Kingdom to the Western Hemisphere. He conferred with the Treasury Department to urge that Customs do everything in its power, including intensified cooperation with Travellers' Censorship, to attain the desired result, and the War Shipping Administrator was asked to remind merchant seamen entering or leaving United States ports of the penalties for carrying uncensored papers into or out of the country.

Meanwhile, the Director issued a statement reminding the public of what it could do to help protect military security at that decisive stage, and suggesting that the public remember the heavy penalties prescribed by Congress for carrying or sending a letter or message into or out of the country without submitting it to Censorship.

On June 6 General Eisenhower's forces swarmed onto the Normandy beaches, and as the invasion progressed with gratifying success, it became evident that the enemy had been kept in the dark on the time and place of attack. In less than a month after D-Day the Office of Censorship, with the concurrence of Joint Security Control, began relaxing the special precautions.

Even before Censorship set up the special D-Day precautions it had started planning for the adjustments that would be necessary after the defeat of Germany. British, Canadian and United States Censorships began discussing the subject in June, 1943, and it appeared that the ideal situation, if it could be attained, would be to impose a universal communications blockade against Japan, thus making it possible to abandon virtually all other censorship once Germany was out of the war. At the Director's suggestion, the Secretary of State explored internationally the possibilities of such a blockade, but the replies from some nations indicated that there was no hope for the plan's success.

In October, 1943, the Director asked the heads of the 28 Government agencies, which were receiving intercepted material from Censorship, what categories of information could be dispensed with upon termination of hostilities with Germany as Censorship turned its full attention to the continuing war against Japan. Their replies gave the Director a preliminary pattern of post-V-E-Day requirements, and on November 20, 1943, he discussed the whole matter with the Censorship Policy Board, as previously mentioned. An outline of projected Censorship developments resulted from that discussion and was the basis of more planning in ensuing months as the Office of Censorship gave more thought to the future.

The consistent success of the Allied push across France after the Normandy invasion impelled the Director to call a conference of District Censors and Division Heads in Washington in the

An example of the relaxations permitted by the end of the European war concerned communications regarding shipping. While German U-boats were roaming the Atlantic, information about all ship movements naturally had to be stringently limited. But soon after V-E Day the U. S. Navy declared the Atlantic free of hostile shipping. This meant that the Atlantic, and adjacent waters like the Mediterranean and Baltic Seas and the Gulf of Mexico, became a non-combat area. Most of the Pacific, of course, remained a combat area, but the distinction between combat and non-combat waters enabled Censorship to lift all restrictions on merchant ship movements that were entirely within the non-combat area.

This and other censorship modifications after V-E Day, such as removal of the ban against registered (code) cable addresses in certain communication channels, were in accord with Censorship's desire to help in the speedy resumption of legitimate world trade. The end of German resistance also prompted swift and drastic revisions of the two Codes which were the backbone of voluntary censorship of the domestic press and radio. On V-E Day, only a few hours after the President had made his proclamation, the Director issued notes to editors and broadcasters which amended the Press and Broadcasting Codes by eliminating some sections. Later in May an entirely new Code, which merged the Press and Broadcasting Codes, was distributed. The censorship of motion pictures, including newsreels, was put on a voluntary basis on June 9, and the Boards of Review were disbanded.

The execution of the X-Plan brought about substantial reductions in Censorship personnel. In the some three months between the German and Japanese defeats, the total force dropped more than a third, from some 9,500 to 6,000 civilian and military positions.

Even before V-E Day, the Office of Censorship had been planning its eventual liquidation at the close of the war. When it was decided to close the Chicago Postal Station, in the fall of 1944, the Administrative Division compiled a booklet entitled "General Instructions for the Closing of Field Stations." An Administrative Officer in Charge of Closing Operations was also appointed. Using the X-Plan and the Closing Instructions as a guide, the Administrative Division drafted a plan in four parts, covering (1) things to be done at once, (2) things to be undertaken on V-J Day and completed not later than V-J plus three days, (3) a description of personnel requirements and duties during liquidation, and (4) a revised edition of the Instructions for Closing. This plan became the V-J Book, and was issued to the stations in the field and the divisions in Washington in July.

The Director had already recommended to the President that on V-J Day the Office of Censorship cease its censoring activities, when, at 7 p.m. on August 14, the White House announced the Japanese acceptance of Allied surrender terms. But there were indications that V-J Day would not be formally proclaimed at once because of the time required to arrange the signing of the surrender terms. It was obviously unnecessary, how-

summer of 1944. Out of that meeting came a detailed plan of operations realignment. It was called the X-Plan, and was to go into effect on X-Day—the day on which (a) an armistice with Germany was signed, or (b) the occupation of Germany became substantially complete, whichever occurred first. It gave every Censorship executive a definite basis for preparing to make the necessary operational and personnel reductions after Germany's defeat and was founded on the reasoning that Censorship not only could but should eliminate, as soon as possible, all restrictions on international communications which no longer served a positive security purpose.

As the Allied military situation continued to improve in the fall of 1944, the decision was made to close the Chicago Postal Station at the end of the year, for whatever necessary work it was doing could be absorbed by other stations. Changing conditions also had diminished the value of territorial cable and mail censorship in some areas, and by agreement with the Military, the censorship of telecommunications between Alaska and the United States was taken over by the Army Signal Corps, and in December the Seattle Cable Station ceased all its censoring activities and closed completely within a few weeks. In January, also by agreement with the Military, the Seattle Postal Station likewise stopped censoring, with mail from the Alaskan Peninsula and the Aleutian Islands being routed to the San Francisco Station for examination.

Conditions in the Caribbean Area also had changed sufficiently to permit the Office of Censorship to withdraw completely from the censorship of territorial communications between Puerto Rico and the United States, with the exception of radio and radio-telephone communications, which, by their very character of interceptibility, had to continue to be censored.

A Presidential proclamation in 1944 terminated martial law in the Territory of Hawaii, and an Executive Order gave the Commanding General there authority to regulate the transmission of information between the military area and points outside of the area, and between the islands within the military area. The Director, therefore, proposed that the Commanding General assume active censorship of all communications, and that the Office of Censorship withdraw from all censorship between Hawaii and the continental United States and its possessions. On April 1, 1945, this was done, and the Office of Censorship transferred to the Commanding General the cable and postal stations in Hawaii.

Meanwhile, Censorship's planning for adjustments after Germany's defeat was carried forward, and on May 1 a revised X-Plan was sent to all the district stations. Seven days later the fall of Germany was officially announced, and the plan went into immediate execution.

A revised set of U. S. Censorship Regulations, devised to retain only those restrictions that were necessary to continue the war against Japan, already had been sent to the Budget Bureau for final clearance prior to approval by the President. It embodied, for the information of the public, the relaxations for which the X-Plan provided changes in Censorship's operations.

ever, for censorship to continue through that period, in the light of the complete Allied mastery of the general military situation. Accordingly, on the afternoon of August 15, 1945, the President signed the following directive to the Director of Censorship:

"In accordance with the recommendation submitted by him on June 27, 1945, the Director of Censorship shall on August 15, 1945:

"1. Declare voluntary censorship of the domestic press and radio at an end.

"2. Direct that the Office of Censorship cease at once the censorship of all international communications.

"3. Give 30 days notice to all employees of the Office of Censorship, except for a small group needed for liquidating the Agency."

So Censorship immediately went out of business.

The Director's order to cease censoring was on its way by teletype to the stations within a few minutes, while the great news services were informing the country's editors and broadcasters that voluntary censorship was no more.

Censorship's demobilization proceeded on schedule according to the V-J Book during the weeks following the end of censoring. The middle of September about 95 per cent of the staff left the Office of Censorship.

Shortly after the demobilization began the Director accepted a temporary assignment as the President's personal representative to make a study of the relations between the American occupation forces in Germany and the German people. The Director appointed Assistant Director Koop as Deputy Director to act in his absence.

In September a program for disposing of all condemned mail was completed in accordance with a schedule which determined what items should be released, returned to sender or destroyed. A bill providing for the disposition of condemned parcel post and printed matter had been passed by Congress and approved by the President on December 22, 1944, and pursuant to it, contents of parcel post packages that were of use to the War Department were purchased by the War Department, while bound books were given to the Library of Congress and other prints were destroyed.

Censorship records having future reference value were sent to the National Archives. The filing of intercepts in Censorship's possession, however, was handled in a special manner. The Director felt that information taken from messages by wartime censorship should not be generally available for peacetime use. With Presidential approval, all but one copy of the intercepts were destroyed. The single copy was placed in a special Archives file, which would be opened only by order of the President.

On September 28 the President signed an Executive Order which formally abolished the Office of Censorship as of November 15, 1945.

Postal Censorship was a mass operation, physically the greatest task of the Office. With well over a million letters a day passing through its stations, the Postal Division at its peak required more than 10,000 employees. They were the policemen of the international sea and air mail channels.

The President's approval of a general censorship blueprint in June, 1941 was the signal for the War Department to establish a Censorship Branch in its Military Intelligence Division and to prepare actively to supervise Postal Censorship in event of war. Virtually no new planning had been done in that field since World War I, when Postal Censorship was operated by the Post Office Department under the control of a Censorship Board representing five federal agencies.

Major Corderman, who headed the Censorship Branch, promptly started a training school for reserve officers. At its completion these men were assigned to various Corps Area headquarters to select office space, obtain data on mail routes and volumes, and organize censorship stations on paper. Some were sent to British and Canadian censorship stations to acquire technical information and report on procedures.

Original plans called for Postal Censorship to include supervision of telephone and telegraph lines across the Mexican and Canadian borders. This project eventually was transferred to the Cable Division, but on December 8, as previously stated, the Secretary of War ordered censorship of these circuits under Major Corderman's direction, and during the night of December 11-12 the War Department called on Corps Areas to begin Postal Censorship within 48 hours. Since the embryo stations had been anticipating this notification, they were able to begin work at once.

Recruiting of civilian personnel had scarcely been started and had to be stepped up a hundredfold. From a wide range of applicants the Civil Service Commission provided housewives, school teachers, retired business men—anyone with good general intelligence or some specialized knowledge who could be entrusted to act on his own judgment, plus general regulations and consultation with supervisors. It was particularly important to obtain translators in some 100 principal languages, for it would have been impractical to require that all letters be written in English.

It was upon the examiner, the man or woman who actually read the mail, that fell, of course, the heavy responsibility of detecting information that should not be permitted to go through and information that should be reported to the Government in furtherance of the war effort. Each examiner not only had to be intimately familiar with Censorship Regulations and Censorship practices affecting his work, but also had to sustain a minute-to-minute alertness against open or hidden breaches of security in the mail he was censoring. Examples of such breaches are discussed in the last chapter. Training of the examiners to qualify them for their important job was standardized to the limits of efficiency, and the usual procedure was to give each recruit a

week's basic training in the station, followed by two weeks of intensive work at special tables before they were assigned to posts on the examination floor. Examiners who were to handle specialized material, such as business or financial mail, required additional training and courses were set up in the various specialties. But the most effective training was found to be on the job, by the supervisors and consultants in special fields, who observed the examiner's work and were available to answer their questions. Moreover, applicants from the outset had to be investigated carefully to make certain of their loyalty to the United States. By the time they had finished a few days of concentrated training, however, enough had been given this character clearance to place the stations on more than a skeleton basis. Most of the censors, of course, were women, who traditionally have been preferred for the job.

When the War Department decided to recall most of its officers from Censorship, a search was undertaken for high-caliber executives from private business to become District Postal Censors and to fill headquarters' administrative positions. A group of nearly 100 was recruited and given a month's training in the New York station, after which they were assigned to positions throughout the organization. Later another group of junior executives was put through a similar course at New Orleans.

At the peak of operations the Office of Censorship had District Postal Stations in New York, Miami, New Orleans, San Antonio, El Paso, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle and Chicago, as well as overseas stations in San-Juan, Puerto Rico; Balboa, Canal Zone, and Honolulu, Hawaii.

Most of the mail passing through the stations in the continental United States of course originated in or was ultimately destined for points in the continental United States and was called U. S. terminal mail. The New York Station examined some mail between Latin America and the United States, and was the gateway for mail with the European neutrals. The Miami Station processed South American air mail and was also responsible for all mail to and from the Caribbean area. New Orleans handled the bulk of the sea mail to and from South America, for during the German submarine menace in the Atlantic these mails were carried in and out of New Orleans rather than New York. San Antonio handled Mexican mail and Central American air mail. Sub-stations along the Mexican Border examined documents carried by trans-border travelers, and the El Paso and Los Angeles District Stations concentrated on mails to and from Mexico. At San Francisco mails with Pacific points were examined, and most of the work at Seattle concerned mails with Alaska. The Chicago Station devoted most of its examination to Canadian mails, as well as printed matter originating in that area.

The overseas stations processed much mail which transited those points on the way from one foreign country to another. Under the British navicert system, ships plying between Latin America and neutral Europe were required to call at Allied control points for examination of the mail they carried, and the New

York Station received some of this mail, while most of the rest of it was handled at the British Censorship Station in Trinidad. The San Juan Station of U. S. Censorship examined trans-Atlantic air mails, which were made available by agreement with the carrier. San Juan also received some mail which was terminal to Puerto Rico. The Balboa Station, and a station at Cristobal, C. Z., which operated under it, read much mail between South American countries, Balboa handling mostly air mails and Cristobal mostly sea mails. The Honolulu Station examined mail in and out of the Hawaiian Islands, with the San Francisco Station also examining some of the mails between Hawaii and the continental United States.

The great mass of the mail was censored in the stations, only a relative trickle of it being examined in the Postal Division at headquarters, which handled items that were referred because they presented special problems. By a review of censoring actions taken in the field, however, the Postal Division kept in touch with what the stations were doing, and of course basic censoring treatment was in accordance with instructions from Washington.

Postal Censorship normally did not examine letters passing through the Army and Fleet Post Offices; in other words, mail to and from members of the United States armed forces. This was handled by Army and Navy censors, who occasionally asked for assistance from the Office of Censorship to clear away any unusual accumulation. The Postal Censorship stations, however, had their hands full reading the personal, business, and financial mail entering and leaving the United States, as well as correspondence to and from enemy and American prisoners of war, and mail in other international channels which was interceptible at San Juan, Balboa, or Honolulu.

The question often has been asked whether the Office of Censorship read every letter which passed through its stations. The answer is that no large censorship ever has been physically able to do a 100 per cent job of postal examination. The percentages necessarily were an Office secret, but they were based on the types of mail and the countries of origin or destination.

All envelopes, before being opened, were checked against a watch list to determine whether any suspicion was attached to the names of sender or recipient. Enemy agents naturally changed the return name and address with virtually every communication, but peculiarities of handwriting, composition or stationery frequently enabled the sorters to pick out their letters.

In general, the postal censors found an extremely small percentage of material to delete from the letters they read. If the excisions would be too great, they often returned the entire letter to the sender with a statement as to the reason it could not go forward. This practice helped educate the public and provided greater security in the long run.

The small amount of military mail examined by Postal Censorship contained a higher percentage of unmailable information than that from private citizens. The obvious reason, of course, was that soldiers and sailors had access to more material of

interest to the enemy. A campaign was conducted among merchant seaman to insure greater security in their correspondence—a necessity to protect their own lives as well as the safety of their ships.

Mail ordinarily was not delayed by Censorship for more than 24 hours. The public, which in general accepted the necessity for censorship with good grace, sometimes was irked by the slowness of communications, but it should be pointed out that in wartime transportation is disrupted and, leaving Censorship entirely aside, mail does not move with its customary speed.

One regulation which was in effect until the defeat of Germany and which caused irritation in business circles, because its need was not understood, prohibited the transmission by mail of confidential copies of cablegrams to most countries. Had these copies been permitted, the surveillance exercised by Cable Censorship would have been cancelled, for there was no way to make certain that the same deletions were made in the mailed copies as were made in the original cablegrams.

For obvious security reasons Postal Censorship also forbade the use of codes or ciphers, secret inks, and other secret writings. Because the discovery of enemy espionage activities was a primary aim of all censorship, the Postal stations maintained laboratories in which letters were tested for secret inks as well as being examined for visual content. Search also was made for "open codes"—prearranged, apparently innocuous words or phrases which conveyed hidden meanings. To prevent the transmission of secret information, the postal censors also had to stop such things as international chess games, for the symbols might or might not be entirely innocent. In all this work the stations received direction and counsel from the Technical Operations Division, which is discussed in the preceding chapter.

Special handling was required for two types of mail—registered and diplomatic. To safeguard the former in accordance with standard postal procedures, the censors in the registered mail section were bonded and each letter was checked in and out on special postal forms. The communications of accredited diplomats, as well as official mail of the Government, were not opened. This so-called "privileged" mail was the only correspondence not subject to censorship.

Of the utmost importance to economic warfare were the activities of the business and finance censors who studied the vast amount of commercial and banking mail passing through international postal channels. Long before the attack on Pearl Harbor, the President had issued Executive Order No. 8389 which prohibited a wide variety of financial and property transactions with designated countries or their nationals. The Government also had instituted the Proclaimed List of Certain Blocked Nationals. Censorship proved a major method of making these restrictions effective and of denying the enemy a vast amount of money, goods, and economic information. It also reported to the appropriate Government agencies information about the use, transfer or acquisition of assets of the enemy or benefiting

the enemy. Within a short time after censorship was invoked business and finance tables, manned by individuals who had experience in trade and banking, were handling business and financial mail in the stations.

Postal censorship joined in the blockade of German-dominated Europe by detecting transactions which might result in the Nazis obtaining vitally-needed commodities. Information of this nature was rushed to London for use by the Joint Blockade Control Committee, which directed the policing of the Atlantic and adjacent seas. A special group of examiners was set up to study communications pertaining to enemy smuggling of diamonds, both gem and industrial stones.

To block dealings in postage stamps in which the Axis or its nationals had an interest, Postal Censorship established a philatelic control unit. Since complete suppression of the international stamp traffic would have brought financial ruin to a large number of innocent, loyal American dealers, a plan was worked out with the Treasury and other Government departments for the control of stamp shipments into and out of the country. A committee of prominent philatelists assisted, and a program was developed whereby no shipment of postage stamps could be made from the United States to any country except Canada without an Office of Censorship permit.

A permit system also was established early in the war for the export of technical data. In cooperation with the Board of Economic Warfare (predecessor of the Foreign Economic Administration), this material was examined and, if not objectionable, was given a license for export. In the case of technical magazines, a system was evolved whereby one copy was approved and additional copies were wrapped by the publisher's specially designated employees.

In order to prevent the inclusion of secret messages in copies of newspapers or magazines, Postal Censorship required that all printed matter addressed to persons in neutral European countries be mailed directly by the publisher rather than by an individual, as long as the war against Germany was in progress.

Allied with censorship of publications leaving the country was the examination of film moving into or out of the United States. As previously stated, Boards of Review were established at New York, Hollywood and Rochester, New York. They censored for propaganda content as well as for restricted military information, because of the tremendous propaganda power of the motion picture medium.

Although general communication with enemy territory was prohibited, the Director of Censorship, with the President's approval, authorized two types of correspondence which could be sent without individual licenses. Under the first, the Red Cross was permitted to transmit purely personal messages of not more than 25 words between relatives in the United States and an enemy country. More than two million such messages passed through Censorship. Under the second, the rules of the Geneva Convention were followed to authorize correspondence with prisoners of war.

These channels ending behind the enemy lines were potentially perilous to security, and special care had to be given to the examination of all the communications. The number of German and Italian prisoners held in the United States, plus the American prisoners in Germany and Japan, became so large that censorship of this mail developed into one of the Postal Division's major functions.

Because it was necessary to centralize records of all prisoners, censorship of all prisoner of war mail was concentrated in the New York station. The Provost Marshal General of the War Department, who supervised prisoner of war camps, cooperated in establishing regulations for the handling of this correspondence, and the State, Navy and Post Office Departments, the Foreign Economic Administration, and the Red Cross also were consulted frequently.

The Office of Censorship later granted licenses for communication, under certain restrictions, between the Vatican in Italy and the Apostolic Delegation in Washington, for the Catholic Church was able to reach some destinations which were inaccessible to the Red Cross. Other plans were worked out for correspondence with Belgium and the Netherlands, when they were enemy-occupied, and with Switzerland, when it could be reached only through enemy-occupied territory, but in every case extra precautions were taken to prevent disclosures of dangerous information, and in general the Office of Censorship used its licensing authority sparingly.

Besides policing postal channels, Postal Censorship worked with the Customs Service in checking travelers entering or leaving the United States. Letters, papers, and other documents carried by these persons were picked up by the Customs officials and handed over to censors stationed nearby. Rapid handling was necessary in order not to delay the travelers. To speed up the operation, travelers were encouraged to have their documents pre-censored, by submitting them to Censorship in advance of leaving the country. Arrangements were made with the State Department and the airline companies to include information on pre-censorship facilities in instructions issued to prospective travelers. Censorship also publicized the facilities in newspaper stories released by the district stations, and placards were posted in hotels, postoffices, waiting rooms, etc.

The overall operations of Postal Censorship, extensive as they were, were kept adjusted to changing needs as Allied military successes removed some channels of communication from the dangerous category. One example of this was in regard to the blockade of Germany. When the Allies had overrun France and pushed further northward in Italy, the Nazis naturally found themselves physically cut off from various geographical points through which they might try to penetrate the blockade. Obviously Censorship could then devote less effort to its blockade work. And when Germany was defeated, Postal Censorship, like the rest of the Office of Censorship, realigned its operations, according to the previously discussed X-Plan, and turned its full

attention to the war in the Pacific. On the afternoon of August 15, 1945, Postal Censorship joined the other divisions in terminating all censoring, and whatever unexamined mails were then in the stations or at headquarters were returned unopened to the postoffice.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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U. S. POSTAL
CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS

POSTAL CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS

REGULATION 1—DEFINITIONS

As used in Regulations 2 to 9, inclusive,

(a) The term "enemy national" shall mean:

(1) The government of any country against which the United States has declared war (Germany, Italy, and Japan) and the Governments of Bulgaria, Hungary, and Rumania, and any agent, instrumentality, or representative of the foregoing Governments, or other person acting therefor, wherever situated (including the accredited representatives of other governments to the extent, and only to the extent, that they are actually representing the interests of the Governments of Germany, Italy, and Japan and Bulgaria, Hungary, and Rumania), and

(2) The government of any other blocked country having its seat within enemy territory, and any agent, instrumentality, or representative thereof, or other person acting therefor, actually situated within enemy territory (a blocked country is one to which the provisions of the Freezing Order—Executive Order No. 8389, as amended—have been extended), and

(3) The government of any country which has declared war against the United States.

(4) Any individual within enemy territory and any partnership, association, corporation, or other organization to the extent that it is actually situated within enemy territory; and

(5) Any person whose name appears on The Proclaimed List of Certain Blocked Nationals, as revised and supplemented, and any other person acting therefor.

(b) The term "enemy territory" shall mean:

(1) The territory of Germany, Italy, and Japan; and

(2) The territory controlled or occupied by the military, naval, or police forces or other authority of Germany, Italy, or Japan.

(c) The term "communication" shall mean:

Any letter or other writing, book, map, plan, or other paper, picture, sound recording, or other reproduction.

REGULATION 2—MAIL TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES

The sending or transmitting out of the United States, including its Territories and possessions, in the ordinary course of the mail of any

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(b) Time of departure or arrival of any ship more specific than 1 week's time. Approximate dates such as "next week," "soon," "about the first of next month," etc., are permissible.

(c) Any abnormal assembly or movement of shipping in a particular locality.

(d) Movements of particularly large or important vessels.

(e) Nature of cargo, except in necessary official shipping documents.

(2) Weather conditions and meteorological data, other than local as it appears in the press.

(3) Any data whatever concerning military or naval communications or intelligence methods or results.

(4) Propaganda which is to the detriment of the war efforts of the United States or other United Nations.

(b) The following matters are prohibited in communications to foreign countries, unless the information has been officially released or the export thereof licensed, where required, by the proper government agency:

(1) The location, identity, description, test, performance, production, movement, or prospective movement of defensive or offensive weapons, installations, supplies, reserves, materials, or equipment of military or naval nature of the United States or other United Nations.

(2) The location, description, production, reserves, capacity, or specific output of existing or proposed private or Government-owned or controlled plants, yards, docks, dams, structures, experimental or other facilities, or contracts, plans, and rates of industrial activity in connection therewith. This extends to any process, synthesis, or operation in the production, manufacture, or reconstruction, or use, of any article the export of which is prohibited or limited by the Government.

(3) The military, naval, or diplomatic plans of the United States or other United Nations, or the official plans of any official thereof.

(4) The employment of any naval, military, or civil defense unit of the United States or other United Nations.

(5) Reports on production and conditions in the mining, lumbering, fishing, livestock, and farming industries, and shortages or surpluses in connection therewith.

(6) The effect of enemy operations, or casualties to personnel, or damage to property, suffered by the United States or other United Nations.

(7) The fact or effect of our military or naval operations against the enemy.

(8) The number, description, location, or identity of prisoners of war.

(9) Any sketch, photograph, drawing, blueprint, map, or chart of which the denominator of its representative fraction is less than 500,000, disclosing any information prohibited by this Regulation.

communication is hereby permitted provided that both of the following conditions are satisfied:

(a) Such communication complies with all the provisions of Regulations 3 and 4.

(b) Such communication, if addressed to, or intended for, or to be delivered, directly or indirectly to an enemy national, complies with all the provisions of Regulations 5 and 7.

Nothing contained in this Regulation shall be deemed to limit the authority of the Director of Censorship to cause to be censored in his absolute discretion, any communication by mail passing between the United States and any foreign country.

REGULATION 3—RULES GOVERNING MAIL TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES

All mail directed to foreign countries shall comply with the following rules:

(a) The full name and complete address of the sender must be shown both on the outside of the envelope and in the letter itself.

(b) Communications will be written in English, if possible. If English is not used, the name of the language will be written in English on the face of the envelope.

(c) Codes, unless authorized, ciphers, secret inks, and other secret writings will not be used in international mail.

(d) No person, except as stated in (e) below, shall act as an intermediary or agent for the receipt and transmission of mail on behalf of persons in foreign countries.

(e) Any member of the United States Armed Forces corresponding with a person in a foreign country, other than another member of such Forces, shall not give, either in the letter or on the envelope, the name of his post, camp, or station. He will give the name and address of a friend or relative in the United States to whom a reply can be sent for forwarding.

(f) Any communication to a foreign country which includes technical or scientific data requires a license from the Board of Economic Warfare. Application should be made to the Technical Data Division, Office of Export Control, Board of Economic Warfare, Washington, D. C.

REGULATION 4—MATTERS PROHIBITED IN MAIL TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES

(a) The following matters are prohibited in all communications to foreign countries:

(1) Information regarding United States, other United Nations, or neutral vessels if it reveals:

(a) Details of convoys, their assembly ports, anchorages, or methods of routing;

(10) Any other matter, the dissemination of which might directly or indirectly bring aid or comfort to the enemy, or which might interfere with the national effort of, or disparage the foreign relations of, the United States or other United Nations.

REGULATION 5—MAIL TO ENEMY NATIONALS

The sending of any communication to an enemy national requires a license from the Office of Censorship, except as provided in Regulation 7 and in paragraphs (a) and (b) below:

(a) The American Red Cross has been authorized to transmit, after censorship, short messages of a personal nature to residents in enemy territory. Letters, documents, and messages of a business nature cannot be sent by this means. Application should be made to any one of the local Red Cross chapters, where full instructions can be obtained. No other organization or individual, unless duly authorized, will transmit communications to enemy territory.

(b) Communications which relate to, or are a part of, a commercial or financial transaction authorized by Treasury Department license may be sent to enemy nationals provided that the communication is in compliance with the terms and conditions of the license relating to it. In such cases the original Treasury Department license, a duplicate original, or photostatic copy thereof, should be enclosed with each such communication, and the communication posted in the usual manner. (Among communications to enemy nationals requiring a Treasury Department license are notices of stockholders' meetings, proxies, powers of attorney, authorizations to transfer funds, patent applications, trade-mark and copyright registrations, financial statements, accounts of sale, and any instructions which are an integral part of a business, financial, trade, or commercial transaction.)

Communications of a general business nature, as a rule, will not be licensed. In special cases, however, where it appears that the communication would be of advantage to the United States, or the application is made by a governmental agency, a license permitting such communications may be granted. In such cases, application should be made to the Office of Censorship, Washington, D. C. The application may be made in letter form and a separate application should be made for each license.

REGULATION 6—FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR AMERICAN NATIONALS IN ENEMY TERRITORY

The Department of State has made arrangements for financial assistance to American nationals in enemy territory. Persons desiring information concerning the means of making funds available to such American nationals should apply to the Special Division, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

REGULATION 7—MAIL TO PRISONERS OF WAR AND INTERNEES

Mail may be sent to prisoners of war and internees confined in the United States, in enemy countries, and in other foreign countries. All such communications should be addressed to the person concerned at the address furnished by the confinee, or by the Government or other agency authorized to furnish such information. No postage will be required unless such communications are sent by air, registered or insured mail, in which case postage must be fully prepaid. The communications should be deposited in the mails in the usual manner. (All such communications will be strictly censored.)

REGULATION 8—FILMS

(a) Film, prints, and plates will not be exported or imported unless they have been examined and approved by designated authority. After approval, material of this type may be mailed in the usual manner.

(b) Exposed and undeveloped film received in the mail will be developed at the expense of the correspondent in the United States, prior to release.

(c) Importation of unexposed film, except from Canada, is prohibited unless authority is procured in advance from the Office of Censorship.

(d) The exportation of unexposed film, except to Canada, is prohibited unless a license is secured in advance from the Board of Economic Warfare.

REGULATION 9—NON-WAIVER OF LICENSES REQUIRED BY OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Nothing in Regulations 1 to 8, inclusive, shall be interpreted as constituting a waiver of the regulations of other Government agencies with respect to license requirements.

BYRON PRICE, *Director.*

APRIL 13, 1942.

THE WHITE HOUSE,
April 15, 1942.

Approved:

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

Edition of January 30, 1943

These regulations supersede U. S. Cable and Radio Censorship Regulations and U. S. Radiotelephone Censorship Regulations of February 19, 1942, and U. S. Postal Censorship Regulations of March 13, 1942, and April 13, 1942, all of which are hereby revoked.

Issued under the authority vested in the Director of Censorship pursuant to section 3 (c) of the Trading with the Enemy Act of October 6, 1917 (40 Stat. 412), as amended; section 303 of the First War Powers Act of December 18, 1941 (55 Stat. 838); Executive Order 8985 (6 F. R. 6625); Treasury Decision 50536 (6 F. R. 6507).

U. S. CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS

1. SCOPE OF REGULATIONS

These regulations pertain to all communications passing between the United States, its territories or possessions, and any foreign country, or which may be carried by any vessel or other means of transportation touching at any port, place, possession, or territory of the United States and bound to or from any foreign country.

2. DEFINITIONS

As used in these regulations,

(a) The term "communication" shall include any letter or other writing, book, map, plan, or other paper, picture, sound recording or other reproduction, telegram, cablegram, wireless message, telephone conversation either by landlines or radiotelephone circuits, or any message transmitted by any signaling device, carrier pigeon, by word of mouth, or by any other means.

(b) The term "enemy territory" shall include the territory of and the territory occupied or controlled by any nation with which the United States is or may hereafter be at war.

(c) The term "enemy national" shall mean—

(1) The government of any country with which the United States is or may hereafter be at war, and any agent, instrumentality, or representative of such government, or other person acting therefor, wherever situated;

(2) The government of any other country having its seat within enemy territory to which the provisions of Executive Order No. 8369, as amended, have been extended, and any agent, instrumentality, or representative thereof, or other person acting therefor, actually situated within enemy territory;

(3) Any individual within enemy territory, or any partnership, association, corporation, or other organization, to the extent that it is actually situated within enemy territory;

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(4) Any person whose name appears on the Proclaimed List of Certain Blocked Nationals, as revised and supplemented, promulgated pursuant to the President's Proclamation of July 11, 1941, and any other person acting therefor.

3. SUBMITTING COMMUNICATIONS TO CENSORSHIP

(a) Whoever takes or sends out of, or brings into, or attempts to take or send out of, or bring into the United States any communication, except in the regular course of the mail or through a communications company whose traffic normally passes through censorship or a communication examined and passed by the Bureau of Customs, shall submit such communication to the Director of Censorship, Washington, D. C., prior to transmission, or prior to the disclosure of the contents of such communication or any part thereof.

(b) Whoever either for himself or on behalf of another receives a communication, except an unaddressed regularly scheduled radio broadcast communication intended for reception by the general public or through a communications company whose traffic normally passes through censorship or a communication examined and passed by the Bureau of Customs or a communication received in the regular course of the mail, shall immediately submit such communication and all information relative thereto to the Director of Censorship, Washington, D. C., and shall not disclose the contents or any part thereof until authorized by him.

(c) The master of any vessel entering the territorial waters of, or any port, place, possession, or territory of the United States and having on board, carrying, conveying, or otherwise transporting upon such vessel any communication, whether in a foreign postal service or otherwise, except communications in International Postal Service destined to enter United States Postal Service or communications examined and passed by the United States Bureau of Customs, shall immediately submit such communication to Censorship by delivering the same to the nearest United States Postmaster or to the Censorship officer boarding such vessel.

(d) Any person upon any vessel entering the territorial waters of, or any port, place, possession, or territory of the United States and having in his possession or custody any communication, except a communication examined and passed by United States Bureau of Customs, shall immediately submit such communication to Censorship by delivering the same to the nearest United States Postmaster, or to the Censorship officer boarding said vessel.

4. DISCRETION OF CENSOR

All communications shall be sent, filed or transmitted at the sender's risk and may be condemned, suppressed, delayed, or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the censor without notice.

5. COMMUNICATION WITH ENEMY TERRITORY OR ENEMY NATIONALS

No communication shall be sent or transmitted to enemy territory or to any enemy national except as specifically provided in these regulations, or as otherwise authorized by the Office of Censorship.

6. COMMUNICATIONS TO MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

Communications to members of the United States Armed Forces located outside the United States, in addition to complying with these regulations, must bear the address officially designated by the military or Naval authorities.

7. SUBJECTS PROHIBITED

No reference, either open or hidden, shall be made to any of the following subjects in any communication unless officially disclosed by appropriate governmental authority:

(a) Troops.—The general character and movements of United States Army, Navy, or Marine Corps units, within or without continental United States—their location, identity, or exact composition, equipment, or strength; destination, routes, and schedules; assembly for embarkation, prospective embarkation, or actual embarkation; similar information regarding the troops of United Nations. Possible future military operations should not be revealed by identifying an individual known for a specialized activity.

NOTE.—Names or numbers of troop units except unit designations of training camps within continental United States may be used only when required by the Military or Naval authorities for address purposes.

(b) Ships and Shipping.—Information regarding Naval or merchant vessels of the United States, other United Nations, or neutral nations, if it discloses—

(1) Identity, location, description, movement, or prospective movement, including assembly ports, anchorages, and methods of routing of convoys or transports;

(2) Time of departure or arrival of any ship more specific than one week's time; but approximate dates such as "next week", "soon", etc., are permissible;

(3) The identity or location of enemy naval or merchant vessels;

(4) Existence of mine fields or other harbor defenses, secret orders or other secret instructions regarding lights, buoys, and other guides to navigators;

(5) Number, size, character, and location of ships in construction, or advance information as to the date of launchings or commissionings; the physical setup or technical details of shipyards.

Communications pertaining to the shipment of material or movements of surface vessels must be so worded as not to associate any two of the following elements unless the communication is sent by secure channels approved by Censorship: (1) Name of the vessel; (2) nature of the cargo; (3) name of port of arrival or departure.

Information about the sinking or damaging of United States war or merchant vessels unless officially disclosed by appropriate authority. Information about the identity, location, sinking or damaging of Naval or merchant vessels of other nations, friendly or otherwise, unless disclosed by appropriate authority or made public outside continental United States and the origin stated.

(c) Military Operations.—The fact or effort of military or naval operations by the United States or the United Nations, until officially disclosed.

The fact or effect of enemy operations against the United States or the United Nations, including casualties and material damage, until officially disclosed.

Warnings or reports of impending air raids on continental United States, and the fact or effect of such attacks until the raid is ended, and the all-clear has sounded; estimates of number of planes involved, their routes, defense measures, number of bombs dropped; damage to fortifications, docks, railroads, ships, airfields, public utilities, industrial plants engaged in war work, and all other military objectives.

(d) Planes.—The disposition, movements, missions, new characteristics, or strength of military air units of the United States or the United Nations; activities of commercial airlines and private pilots for the military services; activities, operations, and installations of the Air Forces Ferry Command of the United States or other United Nations; information about performance, construction, and armament of new or current military aircraft or related items of equipment; messages pertaining to international operations of commercial airlines unless sent by secure channels approved by Censorship.

(c) Fortifications and Defenses.—The location, description, and strength of forts and other fortifications, bases, and other installations of the United States or the United Nations; the location, nature and number of coast-defense emplacements, anti-aircraft guns, bomb shelters, and other defense installations; location of camouflaged objects; the identity, performance, movement or prospective movement of defensive or offensive weapons, supplies, material, or equipment of the United States or the United Nations.

(f) Production.—Specific information from which the enemy could estimate the extent, tempo, progress, or location of our production for war, such as—

- (1) Information which saboteurs could use to gain access to or damage war production plants;
 - (2) Contracts for the manufacture of war materials or for construction of bases, docks, depots, and yards; cost and nature of production involved in such contracts;
 - (3) Location, description, production, capacity, schedules, delivery dates, or specific output of war production plants or industries;
 - (4) Statistical information disclosing the amounts of strategic or critical materials produced, imported, or in reserve;
 - (5) Information about damage to production plants by sabotage or enemy action; information about new or secret military designs, formulas, experiments, manufacturing processes or factory designs;
 - (6) Information about production; amounts, dates, and method of delivery, destination or routes of lend-lease war material;
 - (7) Detailed reports of production and conditions in the mining, lumbering, fishing, livestock, and farming and other key American industries, and shortages or surpluses in connection therewith;
 - (8) Nation-wide or other round-ups of current war production or war contract procurement data.
 - (g) Weather.—Current weather conditions, weather forecasts, and all other current meteorological data.
- Descriptions of past local weather conditions, obtainable from public observation or newspaper publication, may be transmitted at the discretion of the censor.

- (h) General.—(1) Any data concerning military or naval communications or intelligence methods or results;
- (2) Rumors which might render aid and comfort to the enemy;
- (3) Information disclosing the new location of national archives, or of public or private art treasures;
- (4) Names of persons arrested, questioned, or interned as enemy aliens; names of persons moved to resettlement centers; location and description of places of internment and resettlement;
- (5) Premature disclosure of diplomatic negotiations or conversations;

(6) Information about the movements of the President of the United States or officials or agents of the United States or the United Nations, including high ranking Army or Naval officers and staff and diplomatic missions;

(7) The number, description, location, or identity of prisoners of war;

(8) Propaganda detrimental to the war efforts of the United States or the United Nations, except official enemy communiques and claims;

(9) Information concerning the planning or effecting of any inter-governmental loans or financial or economic transactions or agreements between or among neutral and United Nations;

(10) Any sketch, photo, drawing, blueprint, map, or chart, of which the denominator of the representative fraction is less than 500,000, disclosing information prohibited by these regulations;

(11) Any other matter whose dissemination might directly or indirectly bring aid and comfort to the enemy, or interfere with the war effort, or disparage the foreign relations of the United States or the United Nations.

POSTAL CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS

In addition to the foregoing General Regulations, the following regulations apply in particular to those communications carried in the mails.

1. MAIL REQUIREMENTS

All mail directed to foreign countries shall comply with the following requirements:

- (a) The full name and complete address of the sender must be shown both on the outside of the envelope and in the letter itself;
- (b) Communications will be written in English, if possible. If English is not used, the name of the language used should be written in English on the face of the envelope.

2. CODES AND SECRET INKS

The use of codes or ciphers, unless authorized, secret inks, and other secret writings is prohibited.

3. MAIL TO ENEMY NATIONALS

The sending of any communication by mail to an enemy national, directly or indirectly, requires an individual license from the Office of Censorship, except as provided in (a), (b), and (c) below:

- (a) The American Red Cross has been authorized to transmit, after censorship, short messages of a personal nature to residents in

enemy territory. Letters, documents, and messages of a business nature cannot be sent by this means. Application should be made to any Red Cross chapter.

(b) If not otherwise objectionable to Censorship, and if authorized by a Treasury Department License, communications which relate to, or are a part of a commercial or financial transaction may be sent to persons or firms on The Proclaimed List of Certain Blocked Nationals without further authority from the Office of Censorship, provided that the communication is in compliance with the terms and conditions of the Treasury license. In such case the original Treasury Department license, a duplicate original, or photostatic copy should be enclosed with each communication and the communication related in the usual manner. In cases where a communication relating to a transaction with anyone in enemy territory has been authorized by a Treasury Department license, such communication must be submitted, properly addressed and bearing the required postage, to the Chief Postal Censor, Washington, D. C., for censorship action, together with the Treasury license, a duplicate original or photostatic copy.

(c) Mail may be sent to prisoners of war, internees, and detainees confined in the United States, in enemy countries, and in other foreign countries. Such communications should be addressed to the person concerned at the address furnished by such person or by the Government or other agency authorized to furnish the information. No postage is required unless the communications are sent by air, registered, or insured mail.

NOTE.—Licenses to send other communications by mail to enemy nationals will not be granted by the Office of Censorship except at the request of a Government agency, or where the communication would be of special advantage to the United States.

4. POSTAL CONFIRMATIONS OF CABLEGRAMS, ETC.

Postal confirmations of cable, landwire, radio, or radiotelephone messages will not be permitted in mails, except between the continental United States and Canada. Correspondents may refer to electrically transmitted messages by name, date, or number and may mention generally the subject matter if they do not use abbreviated or cryptic language or code.

5. FILMS, PRINTS, AND PLATES

(a) Films, prints, and photographic plates will not be exported or imported unless they have been examined and approved by the Office of Censorship, except to and from Canada. After approval, material of this type may be mailed in the usual manner.

(b) Incoming exposed and undeveloped film, except from Canada, will be developed at the expense of the correspondent in the United States prior to release.

(c) Importation of unexposed film, except from Canada, United States territories and possessions, and from members of the United

¹ Application for a license to communicate as provided in 3b, above, may be made at the Federal Reserve Bank in the applicant's district.

States Armed Forces or other persons sending mail through military Post Offices, is prohibited unless authority is granted by the Office of Censorship.

(d) Exportation of unexposed film, except to Canada and to members of the United States armed forces or other persons receiving mail through military Post Offices, is prohibited unless a license is obtained in advance from the Board of Economic Warfare.

6. SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL, OR PROFESSIONAL DATA

(a) Publications devoted in whole or in part to scientific, technical, or professional data containing information whose transmission to foreign countries might be inimical to the interests of the United States must be licensed prior to export, except to Canada.

(b) Applications for licenses shall be made to the Technical Data License Division, Office of Exports, Board of Economic Warfare, on forms provided by that Agency, Washington, or New York City office. A separate application must be made for each license, and a separate license will be required for each issue of each publication.

(c) On receipt of each application the Technical Data License Division will review the proofs or copies of the publication submitted, for objectionable subject matter. On final approval of the material, the Technical Data License Division will recommend to the Office of Censorship that a license be granted.

(d) The license from the Office of Censorship will authorize the publisher to export the particular issue of the publication, including the non-technical as well as the technical material, the foreign countries specified therein. The license will not be transferable, will be subject to revocation without notice, and will be granted on the express condition that each copy of the publication mailed thereunder corresponds in every respect to the copy submitted to and approved by the Technical Data License Division, and that the wrapping of all copies for export will be under the supervision of employees specifically designated by the publisher for this purpose.

7. PRINTED MATTER

The sending to neutral countries in Europe of other printed matter such as books, booklets, pamphlets, magazines, circulars, catalogues, newsletters, newspapers, and advertising material, either printed, mimeographed or otherwise mechanically reproduced, and clippings therefrom, will not be permitted unless sent by the publisher, a publications distributing agency, or the organization or firm for which the material is published.

8. POSTAGE STAMPS

Postage stamps, either cancelled or uncanceled, will not be permitted as an enclosure in mail to points outside of the United States, other than mail addressed to the United States armed forces, through the Army Post Offices, Naval or other service mails, except by license or permit granted by the Office of Censorship.

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTES ON THE POSTAL CENSORSHIP SYSTEM

The brief history and regulations just presented provide very little information on the postal censorship field stations which were, after all, the sources of what we collect today. The following notes, taken mainly from vols. IV and V of the History, are designed to give some rough ideas of the nature, scale and scope of the business of mail censorship as carried out in the various stations.

Treatment of Mail in the Postal Censorship Stations

Variations in organization and operations occurred from station to station and within stations from time to time. However, there were basic operational similarities generated by the facts that all stations dealt with essentially the same functions -- the inspection of international mail, gathering and transmission of information significant to the war effort, and the disposition of the processed mail -- and that there was periodic pressure from above to conform to the organizational chart.

Mail came into the censorship stations in the Continental United States mainly from the post office, but also from customs and, occasionally from the military. In the territories, mail would also be picked up from the international carriers. Upon receiving the mail, censorship personnel would divide it up into registered, ordinary, newsprint, and parcel post, ordinary mail being further sorted into business and personal mail in most stations. Between sorting and examination, the mail was checked against various lists of people of interest to the government (an operation that came to be known as flexing, as the lists were maintained in flex-o-line holders for easy updating) to insure that the mail with the greatest potential for interesting information got the greatest attention upon examination.

Targets for examination were set for the various classes of mail: registered, transit, and air 100%; outgoing surface letters 50%; incomins surface 25%. Exact compliance with these targets appears to have been rare, some stations consistently overachieving while others underachieved in some areas more or less regularly, and all experienced the occasional inundation which required the release of large quantities of mail uncensored so as to meet the other target that had been set for them -- that except for mail of exceptional interest, or in emergencies, airmail should be delayed for a maximum of 24 hours, and surface mail 96.

After being checked against the flex list, the mail was distributed to the examination tables, with no effort to keep track of individual items unless they were registered. Stations had separate sections for business, personal, press and pictorial, and parcel post mail, respectively, and larger stations had even finer distinctions. At the examination tables, the examiners would, each operating independently of the other, open and read the mail and prepare submission slips (information slips for items of lesser importance) for each bit of information that was of interest (as defined by requesting agencies, the office of the Chief Postal Censor, or themselves). If a letter were found to contain objectionable matter, the censor had the options of (a) excising (but not obliterating) the offensive passage if this could be done without destroying the sense of the letter, or (b), in the case of letters originating in the United States where the mistake was innocent and likely to be repeated unless the writer were educated, returning the letter with an instructional form, or (c) of condemning the entire communication, which meant holding it until the

end of the war (or, thanks to a Act of Congress in 1945 allowing the destruction of condemned printed matter, until it could be burned). Of course, what was objectionable and what should be done with it involved judgement calls more or less informed by the regulations and influenced by the examiner's tendencies toward paranoia. The San Antonio station history reports with all seriousness that it was felt necessary to condemn a picture post card (the picture apparently not being of any significance) with no message on it, for security reasons, though the censors had no more idea of the meaning of this non-message than did the addressee, who eventually got the card at the end of the war.

Mail which was suspected of containing codes or secret inks was sent to the local laboratory unit or to the office of the Chief Postal Censor in Washington for further examination. It appears that by 1943 the stations had received ink, code and cipher specialists but that items that these specialists felt uncomfortable with still had to go to Washington.

Following examination of the mail, the censors stored the condemned material (much of which was printed matter) and returned the rest of the mail to the persons from whom they had obtained it. The mail that had been sent to Washington is reported to have been returned to the sending station for replacement in the mails, though the allocation of certain field station numbers to Washington suggests that this may not have been the practice throughout the war.

The military success of the allies caused significant changes in postal censorship. The beginning of the end of censorship came with the surrender of Germany, May 8, 1945 being declared "X-day" for purposes of the X-day Plan. The plan, which most of the stations merely note that they followed, called for the following schedule of winding down of censorship operations:

- X-day Cessation of censorship of mail from/to allied POWs in Europe; notice of cancellation of licenses for the export of technical data; treatment of communications under special message schemes (e.g., Red Cross, Vatican schemes for sending short messages to persons in occupied areas, which had been handled by special censorship units during most of the war) as regular mail.
- X + 36 Closing of boards of (film) review at Hollywood & New York; cessation of censorship of press and pictorial material; except for persons on watch lists, cessation of censorship of parcel post; decrease of international POW censorship to 50% for German and 25% for Italian POW mail (except for persons on watch lists).
- X + 60 Reduction of censorship of incoming mail to 100% of mail to/from people on watch lists + 10% of other mail, and reduction of outgoing mail censorship to mail to/from persons on watch lists + 60% of other mail.
- X + 90 Reduction of censorship of incoming mail to 100% of mail to/from people on watch lists + spotcheck of other mail, and reduction of outgoing mail censorship to mail to/from persons on watch lists + 40% of other mail, and reduction of transit mail censorship to 25% of letters available for censorship.

Plans were also drawn for X + 120 days, but these were never implemented, as the censorship of mails under the Office of Censorship was ordered halted on the afternoon of August 15, 1945.

Postal Censorship Stations and Substations

While the stations tended to work along more or less the same lines, the

amount and nature of mail handled varied widely from station to station and, for some stations, from time to time. The various station histories in the History are notable for their lack of uniformity in what they chose to report, omitting much that would have been of interest to the collector, and making comparison difficult.

Comparison of the relative scarcity of material from a given station is of course a matter of key importance to the collector. The logical basis for comparison would be the volume of mail examined. Unfortunately, the figures provided in the station histories are neither uniform nor complete. Some are reported on the basis of average daily examinations, some as total examinations for a given six-month period, and yet others as the total for a given week or month. It appears that some figures may have excluded prints and parcels, while others definitely included them. The figures given below are average weekly examinations (i.e., the item was actually opened and read or examined) of letters, prints and parcels (to the extent that data are presented for all types of mail). Conversions to weeks from other time units assume a 4.3 week month and a six day week. (The six day week appears to have been that worked in most stations for most of the war. Some note a 44-hour week, and some a seven day week, for parts of the war.) Stations providing no data in their histories are omitted.

	Average Weekly Volume of Mail Examined						
	1942		1943		1944		1945
	1st half	2nd half	1st half	2nd half	1st half	2nd half	
New York	785,042						
Miami	186,538		238,462		178,846		121,154
New Orleans	32,082	230,800		86,679			
San Antonio			161,234		107,692		
Laredo	2,384		22,274				
Brownsville			5,939			5,524	
El Paso					96,600	45,462	
San Francisco			103,693	103,154			
Chicago		157,000			161,500	38,598	43,632
San Juan	24,000		20,652	23,856	17,003	16,635	23,572
Balboa		31,800					

Another basis for rough comparison of the stations' volumes of censorship is their personnel strengths. The roughness of this comparison is due to two factors. First examiners had different levels of productivity; and stations had different levels of average examinations/examiner/time unit which varied over time. While the average output per examiner for the war was about 60 items per day, the range of averages reported by the various stations goes from the low 40s to the high 70s. Second, the ratio of examiners to total personnel varied widely, again between stations and for some stations over time, from about 40% to about 80% of total personnel. (As a general rule, the percentage of examiners in the stations went up as the war progressed.) The figures given below are for total postal censorship personnel in the station, except that where two figures are given, separated by a "/", the first is total personnel and the second is examiners. The figures for Early-Mid 1942 are all early '42 -- usually March -- except for Laredo. (Other Mid-'42 figures -- usually June 30 -- are: New Orleans, 226; El Paso, 222; and Chicago, 234.) Figures for Early-Mid 1943 are for Mid-'43 -- usually June 30 -- except for Brownsville. While the Honolulu station of the Office of Censorship was closed prior to February 28, 1945, censorship was still carried out in Honolulu under the authority of the military governor of the Territory.

Postal Censorship Station Personnel Strengths

	1942		1943		1944	1945
	Early/Mid	Late	Early/Mid	Late	31 Aug.	28 Feb.
New York-POW	? /182				1613	1475
New York-Other	3815/3001		4550		2913	2628
Miami		1858	1787	1277	1177	1071
New Orleans	205/125	560/385				
San Antonio	289	1103	953		} 823	} 677
Laredo	60	102				
Brownsville			21		} 293	} 259
El Paso	125	250	398	371		
Nogales			99			
Los Angeles		228			293	262
San Francisco		756/439	675/419	624/397	598	522
Seattle		494	337	265	218	Closed
Chicago	107		229/132	240/108	220	Closed
San Juan		308/122		300/200	296	276
Charlotte Amalie	6	Closed				
Balboa		234			} 341	} 330
Cristobal		86				
David, R.P.						
Honolulu		380	311		293	

Further data relevant to the various stations contained in the History are set forth below. Except as noted, all stations ceased examining mail on August 15, 1945.

New York. Began operations on December 12, 1941, with 5,000 pieces of mail examined during the first week. Added the POW unit (from Chicago, probably on September 10, 1942, though September 15 is also mentioned). Philatelic unit established on November 23, 1942. (Press release of October 2, 1942 indicated the formation of a philatelic control unit and stated that the export of postage stamps without a permit would be forbidden from October 15, 1942.) Prior to the war, 75% of the U.S.-international mails went through New York. This percentage decreased somewhat during the war, with mail being diverted mainly to Miami and New Orleans, but the volume of mail through New York continued to be tremendous.

Miami. Except for a token effort on December 12, 1941, this station began censoring mail on December 15. The bulk of the mail through Miami was air mail to and from Latin America.

New Orleans. Began as a substation of Miami on December 19, 1941, and was raised to the status of a full station on February 24, 1942, when it became apparent that U-boat activity in the Atlantic would make diversion of shipping to New Orleans necessary.

San Antonio. Began token censorship on December 11, 1941, with serious efforts commencing December 16. San Antonio was a major examination point for air mails from Central America.

Laredo. Opened, as a substation of San Antonio, on April 20, 1942. The only first class mail handled on a regular basis at Laredo was that to/from the immediate vicinity of this substation. Laredo was the major transit point for parcel post and printed matter to/from Central America.

Brownsville. Opened, as a substation of San Antonio, on November 11, 1942. Though Brownsville was a major point for air mail entering from Central America, its station history makes it clear that the only mail regularly censored at Brownsville was that to/from the immediate vicinity. (An attempt to secure

transiting air mail from the post office in 1944 apparently fouled up the mail flow and drew a reprimand from the Chief Postal Censor.)

El Paso. Began, as a substation of San Antonio, on March 15, 1942, but was elevated to full station status, with Nogales as a substation, on January 1, 1943.

Douglas, Arizona. This station is referred to in the El Paso Station history merely as a Travelers Censorship substation -- i.e., its examiners were supposedly concerned with documents, letters, etc. physically carried across the Mexican border outside of the mails by private persons. However, it appears that at least some mail to/from Douglas itself was examined by personnel of the Douglas substation.

San Francisco. Opened on December 13, 1941 and had its first full day on December 15 (with 80 employees). San Francisco was concerned to a large extent with air mail to Hawaii (surface mail being viewed as generally unproductive, and most of the incoming airmail from Hawaii being handled in Honolulu), and with international mail to/from the Pacific.

Los Angeles. Opened as a substation of San Francisco, but was elevated to a full station in May, 1942. Los Angeles appears to have handled mainly mail coming in from western Mexico and the West Coast of Latin America.

Seattle. Opened as a substation of San Francisco on December 12, 1941, but was elevated to full station status in mid-1942. Seattle was the gateway for mails from Alaska and western Canada, and also for some mail sent via Siberia. Seattle's operations peaked in August, 1942, when the military situation in the Aleutians made censorship of the Alaskan mails especially important. The cessation of examination of Canadian and Alaskan mails on January 5, 1944 eliminated 75% of this station's work, and the station closed by early 1945.

Chicago. This station appears to have gotten a late start, the period December 9, 1941-January 9, 1942 being described as one of training and organization. The first mail was opened on February 2, 1942. Chicago was originally supposed to handle local international mail and to spot-check U.S.-Canadian mail. In early March, 1942, a unit was set up in Chicago to examine all POW mail. The POW unit was transferred to New York in September, 1942, following which Chicago was concerned mainly with local terminal mails and mail to and from Canada. The station was closed on December 20, 1944.

San Juan, P.R. Opened on December 13, 1941, San Juan handled the bulk of the South Atlantic Clipper mail (except that for Great Britain, which was examined at Trinidad), which was almost the exclusive source of the mail handled at this station. Due to the sporadic flow of mail, this station was idle, sometimes for as long as a week at a time. Due to the high quality of the mail from a censorship standpoint, however, it was felt that it was justifiable to employ a larger than average number of people than would have been employed in some other station with the same volume of mail, so that 100% coverage could be achieved (or at least approached) when the planes did land.

Charlotte Amalie, V.I. Opened as a substation of San Juan on February 12, 1942 with an army officer and 5 civilians, apparently in anticipation of a shift in mail routes that would bring international mails through this station. In fact, the changes appear to have taken away the little mail that this station had, and it closed on August 31, 1942.

Balboa, C.Z. Opened 12 or 13 December, 1941. Balboa was principally concerned with transit air mail, handling almost all of the air mail between the West Coast of South and Central America and the U.S. (except mail on planes bound for Miami, which was examined in Miami), plus some of the South Atlantic Clipper mail.

Cristobal, C.Z. Opened as a substation of Balboa on January 5, 1942.

Cristobal handled almost 100% of the surface mail which transited the Canal Zone, plus its own local terminal mail plus, when it was felt it had the capacity, mail intercepted and turned over to it by the Panamanian post office at Colon.

David, Panama. Information on this substation of Balboa is almost non-existent in the History. Col. Cordeman's history of the first year of the postal censorship system indicates that it was set up to examine communications between Panama and Cost Rica which were avoiding the censorship stations in the Canal Zone. The Balboa station history indicates that it was set up in June, 1942.

Honolulu. Opened December 13, 1941, with 2 officers and 43 civilian volunteers. The military governor of Hawaii requested, and got, 100% examination of all outgoing mail. Most of this was done at Honolulu, with a little being sent on to San Francisco.

On April 1, 1945, the responsibility for censorship of civil mails in Hawaii was transferred from the Office of Censorship to the Territory of Hawaii Military Administration (THMA). It was provided that existing stocks of civil censorship forms could be used up by the THMA censors so long as the "OC" designation was removed and a THMA designation added. Existing stocks of the acetate resealing tapes were also to be used up, in conjunction with a new handstamp, THMA # (with numbers 1-600 being ordered). The station history indicates that it was provided that, should the new handstamps not be available by April 1, the old number handstamps were to be used with a manuscript THMA added alongside. We have never seen an example of this manuscript provisional.

Pago Pago, Samoa. The History makes it clear that censorship of civil mails to and from American Samoa was never the responsibility of the Office of Censorship, but was carried out by the Army. However, as a special handstamp was designed for use on civil mails from this territory (military mail receiving the standard Army or Navy censor devices), it is illustrated in the catalog.

Washington, D.C. Examination of mail was largely confined to that transferred in from the field stations, and mail from U.S. State Department diplomatic bags. The Examination Section of the Office of the Chief Postal Censor employed 3 examiners in mid-1942, and 21 at the end of 1943.

Travelers' Censorship and Merchant Marine Mail

Travelers' Censorship (TC), as the name implies, was concerned with communications carried on the persons or in the luggage of international travelers. Merchant Marine mail consisted of all letters from merchant seamen and military armed guards on merchant vessels which were brought into the U.S. or its possessions from foreign waters, and mail to such persons sent from correspondents in the U.S. and its possessions. As the authority of the Office of Censorship extended to all communications entering or leaving the territory of the United States, it had jurisdiction over these documents as well as over those moving through the normal mail channels.

Prior to 1943, due to a lack of personnel, the Office of Censorship delegated its authority to inspect these types of communication to the Customs Bureau of the Department of the Treasury. In fact, Customs had, by virtue of the Trading with the Enemy Act of 1917, authority to "license" tangible communications carried outside of the regular course of the mails, and when the Office of Censorship began to take the TC function on itself, this overlapping of jurisdictions led to some conflicts with Customs. While for the most part there appears to have been good relations, a few of the station histories refer to the refusal by Customs personnel to deliver material to the TC Unit for examination.

The History indicates that in early 1943, TC units -- under the direct

control of the District Postal Censor -- began operating at all major crossings on the U.S.-Mexican border, and at all major ports. The station histories make it clear that this did not happen all at once, some units not being established until late in 1943. In addition to the cities with postal censorship stations/substations, the following cities were reported to have had TC units established in them (controlling DPC shown in parentheses):

Baltimore, MD (New York)	Pensacola, FL (New Orleans)
Boston, MA (New York)	Pesque Isle, ME (New York)
Calexico, CA (Los Angeles)	Philadelphia, PA (New York)
Del Rio, TX (San Antonio)	Port Everglades, FL (Miami)
Douglas, AZ (El Paso)	Portland, OR (Seattle)
Eagle Pass, TX (San Antonio)	Presidio, TX (El Paso)
Fort Worth, TX (San Antonio)	Roma, TX (San Antonio)
Galveston, TX (San Antonio)	San Diego, CA (Los Angeles)
Hidalgo, TX (San Antonio)	San Pedro, CA (Los Angeles)
Houston, TX (San Antonio)	San Ysidro, CA (Los Angeles)
Mobile, AL (New Orleans)	Tecate, CA (Los Angeles)
Naco, AZ (El Paso)	Washington, DC (New York)
Newport News, VA (New York)	West Palm Beach, FL (Miami)
Norfolk, VA (New York)	

It is clear that, for the Customs officials, Merchant Marine and travelers' communications were essentially similar problems. It is less clear whether these two types of communications received identical treatment from censorship authorities -- i.e., whether the TC units had responsibility for Merchant Marine mails. The New York station history mentions an Armed Guard Section in its Examination Department which would have been separate from the TC units. However, we record Merchant Marine mail apparently censored in Newport News and/or Norfolk bearing examiner numbers from the 21000 series (which was not generally assigned in the New York station's Examination Department, so far as we can tell). Similarly, the New Orleans station history reports on ships' crews' mail under the heading of "Service Mail Section" in 1943, but in 1944 it is included in the report on Traveler's Censorship. We suspect that the TC units may have, more or less regularly, examined some Merchant Marine mail, but that when this mail exceeded the capabilities of the TC unit, it was sent on to the postal censors. (As for postal material being referred to TC examiners, this appears to have happened in Douglas, AZ, and the New Orleans station history indicates that this was done regularly in Pensacola, FL, as a means of keeping the lone TC examiner busy for the better part of 1943 during which this TC unit was in existence.)

The volume of material processed by the TC units was apparently not insignificant. For example, while the postal censors in Miami examined about 9.3 million letters during 1944, the Miami TC unit processed about 4.1 million items. This does not, however, mean that this material -- either travelers' or Merchant Marine communications -- is only half as hard to find today. In fact, the survival rate for this sort of material appears to have been very low so that, in general, material with a Customs/TC connection is quite scarce and desirable.

INTRODUCTION TO THE CATALOG

The one area that is largely ignored in the History is a detailed treatment of the censorship devices that were used by the examiners. (This information is probably lurking in the 1,000+ feet of files in the National Archives. In fact, one bit of information that each station was supposed to report in closing down was the name of the person who used each of its examiner numbers.) References to the devices in the History are few and far between. According to the official records:

1. An initial quantity of 80 million Examiner's labels, covering some 15,000 numbers, was ordered from the Government Printing Office, along with a number of forms modelled on those then in use by the British censorship authorities.
2. At least some of these first paper labels were delivered without gum, which caused problems.
3. These paper labels were declared unsatisfactory because: they could be steamed off; they came in one length only; and they required that the examiner write in parts of the address, etc. which the paper label covered up, causing a great loss of examiner time.
4. As early as February, 1942, experiments began in Miami and New York with a gummed cellophane printed label which came on a roll and which, consequently, could be cut to the desired length.
5. While this cellophane label was a great improvement over the paper labels, the first version had the numbers printed on the label. This feature caused supply problems in that relatively small quantities on many different numbers had to be stocked.
6. In late-1943 (the Chicago station history says October, but we have recorded examples from there is September), a cellophane tape without numbers was introduced, along with number handstamps designed to be used with it.
7. Early in the war, various non-standard handstamps and tapes were used in the field stations.
8. Handstamps indicating that the communication had been referred to the censor by Customs or Navy authorities were made up to account for the censorship of mail to/from merchant seamen and members of military gun crews on merchant ships. (Since these bore a return address and an address both in the U.S., this mail appeared on its face not liable for censorship. However, when the letter was actually to or from a ship that had been out of the U.S., censorship authorities viewed it as an international communication.)
9. Various unsuccessful and subtle methods were attempted for marking privileged mail so as to indicate that it should not be censored. The method that finally worked involved what we have designated handstamp B 1.6.

The listings that follow, or about 99% of them, are based on personal observations. The allocation of censorship devices to the various stations was no great problem, once the number system was cracked, in the cases of those devices incorporating numbers. Allocation of devices not incorporating numbers involved more or less tenuous guesswork, based on the knowledge of mail routes, backstamps on registered mail, and similarities of design and color to those of devices that had already been identified to a particular station. While there are undoubtedly some errors of allocation, we have a very high degree of

confidence in the overall accuracy of our identifications.

Abbreviations

The following color abbreviations are used:

Bk	Black	Ro	Rose
Bl	Blue	Ro-R	Rose Red
Bl-g	Blue Green	R-v	Red-violet
G	Green	U	Ultramarine
Lt Bl	Light Blue	V	Violet
P	Pink	W	White
R	Red	Y	Yellow

Valuation

The valuations in this catalog are expressed in terms of points, the current value of one point being figured at U.S. \$.10. The valuation is what we figure would be a reasonable retail price for a clear, complete example of the device on the face (except those devices which are supposed to appear on the reverse, and tapes, which will usually go around an edge of the cover) of a sound standard letter size cover.

To an extent, points reflect scarcity, but not completely. They also express eye-appeal. Thus the handstamps which are generally found on the backs of covers, and the tapes, tend to be graded down a little, and those handstamps which normally are struck on the face of a cover tend to be graded up a little, relative to the number of points that they would receive solely on the basis of scarcity. The valuation range goes from 2 points for the most common of the New York tapes to 250 points for a cover with a Charlotte Amalie tape.

EXAMINER NUMBERS

During the war, each examiner was assigned a number, which was not to be re-assigned to anyone else. Early in the war, various stations used provisional numbers. However, at least by February, 1942 the Office of Censorship began to allocate blocks of numbers to the stations in a systematic fashion. It appears that two series of numbers were allocated, the second replacing the first in late 1943.

Over the years, Broderick made assignments of the censor numbers to the stations based on his examination of about 25,000 covers, and his findings are set out below. Then, in 1979, Harry Metzler came across General Orders 4, 24, and 56 in the National Archives. The information from these G.O.'s and the small amount of information contained in the History is also produced below.

Official Allocations of Examiner Numbers

Numbers	General Order 4. Dec. 19, 1941	General Order 24. Feb. 2, 1942	General Order 56. May 1, 1942
101 - 1000			Chicago (POW)
1001 - 1460	New York	New York	New York
1461 - 1740	San Francisco	San Francisco	San Francisco
1741 - 1949	Miami	Miami	Miami
1950 - 2020	New Orleans	New Orleans	New Orleans
2021 - 2260	San Antonio	San Antonio	San Antonio
2261 - 2300	San Antonio	San Antonio	El Paso
2301 - 2580	Canal Zone	Los Angeles	Los Angeles
2581 - 2820	Honolulu	Honolulu	Honolulu
2821 - 2960	Puerto Rico	Puerto Rico	Puerto Rico
2961 - 2963	Press Div., Offc/Cens'h'p	Press Div., Offc/Cens'h'p	Press Div. Offc/Cens'h'p
2964 - 3000	Chief Postal Censor	Chief Postal Censor	Chief Postal Censor
3001 - 3300	Chicago	Chicago	Chicago
3301 - 3500		New Orleans	New Orleans
3501 - 3800		Seattle	Seattle
3801 - 5000		Miami	Miami
5001 - 10000		New York	New York
10001 - 12000		San Francisco	San Francisco
12001 - 12750		San Antonio	San Antonio
12751 - 12800		San Antonio	Laredo
12801 - 13000		San Antonio	El Paso
13001 - 13800		Canal Zone	Canal Zone
13801 - 14000		Seattle	Seattle
14001 - 14189		Puerto Rico*	Puerto Rico
14190 - 14300			Charlotte Amalie
15001 - 15100			New York Cable Censor

*In General Order 24, Puerto Rico's allocation went to 14200.

Observed Occurrence of Examiner Numbers^a

Series 1 ^b		Series 2 ^{c,f}	
		4 - 49	Washington, D.C.
New York (POW)	117 - 352		
New York	432 - 481		
New York (POW)	533 - 738		
New York	1006 - 1104		
New York (POW)	1120 - 1150	1112 - 1150	New York (POW)
New York	1286		
San Francisco	1422 - 1719		
Miami	1732 - 1945		
New Orleans	1955 - 2019		
San Antonio	2024 - 2260		
		2112 - 2118	Washington, D.C.
El Paso	2262 - 2295		
Nogales	2296		
Los Angeles	2302 - 2566		
		2408 - 2518	Washington, D.C.
Honolulu	2581 - 2820		
San Juan	2821 - 2929		
		2926	Washington, D.C.
Washington, D.C.	2965 - 3000 ^d		
Chicago	3002 - 3211		
		3268 - 3384	Washington, D.C.
New Orleans	3301 - 3494		
Seattle	3501 - 3797		
Miami	3804 - 4995		
New York	5000 - 8900		
		5032 - 8458	New York
New York (Philatelic)	9800 - 9849		
San Francisco	10012 - 10435		
		10607 - 11846	New York (POW)
Honolulu	11066 - 11080		
El Paso	11105 - 11247		
San Antonio	12000 - 12638		
		12057 - 12994	New York (POW)
Brownsville	12655 - 12692		
Laredo	12701 - 12800		
El Paso	12806 - 12997		
Balboa	13008 - 13243		
Cristobal	13503 - 13580		
Seattle	13802 - 13949		
San Juan	14025 - 14053		
Charlotte Amalie	14208		
New Orleans	14303 - 14431		
Miami	14452 - 14782		
		20002 - 20026	New York (Philat.) ^e
		21201 - 21408	Newport News (TC)
		30010 - 31372	Miami
		36001 - 36527	San Antonio
		39016	Brownsville
		40003 - 40050	Laredo
		50004 - 50430	New Orleans

53011 - 53190	Chicago
55123 - 55301	Los Angeles
56027	Los Angeles (TC) ^e
58002 - 58247	Balboa
59009 - 59049	Cristobal
61014 - 61531	San Francisco
63006	San Francisco (TC) ^e
64027 - 64261	San Juan
66033 - 66197	Seattle
68002 - 68179	El Paso
69007 - 69020	Nogales
70020	Douglas
71015 - 71269	Honolulu
72003 - 72004	Honolulu (TC) ^e
75014 - 75060	David, R.P.

Notes

^aNumbers shown are the lowest and highest seen in a series. Not all of the numbers in between have been seen, for most series.

^bSeries 1 numbers were used for all devices except those listed for series 2.

^cSeries 2 numbers were used with handstamps B 1.6 and S 4.4, and with cellophane tapes T 2, T 3, and T 7.

^dThese numbers are from the official records, and do not represent the observed range for this series.

^eThe TC numbers appear to have been used by customs and/or censorship personnel on letters carried outside of (or at least prior to their entry into) the mails. These are usually letters of merchant seamen and military gun crews on merchant vessels. The Newport News series may in fact be parts of two series, involving Newport News and Norfolk.

^fAccording to the History, certain exceptions were created to the general allocation scheme of second series numbers. The following numbers were transferred from the field stations to the Office of the Chief Postal Censor, so that the fact that mail was being examined in Washington could be disguised: 8480-8484, 8486-8490, 21913, 31391-31400, 35789, 40100-40110, 49065, 50020-50026, 50170-50172, 52874, 54999, 56685, 60841, 63580, 65929, 67654, 70197, 73821. Further, following the transfer of the Honolulu station to the THMA in April, 1945, the following numbers were reassigned to the Office of the Chief Postal Censor: 71009, 71065, 71097, 71177, 71206, 71243, 71290, 71299, 72031, 72033, 72035-72038, 72040-72041, 72043-72044, 72046-72047, 72049.

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
S 1.1.1 ^a	-	R-v	Feb 43-Feb 44	New York	10
S 1.1.2	-	R-v; Bk; P	Jul 40-Oct 46	San Francisco	25
S 1.1.3	-	R-v; P	Jul 44-Sep 44	New York	75
S 2.1.1	-	P	Jan 42-Jun 42	Los Angeles	20
S 2.1.2	-	P	Mar 42-May 42	Los Angeles	25
S 2.1.3	-	G; Bl-g	Mar 42-Jun 42	Seattle	60
S 2.1.4	-	Bk	Feb 42-May 42	San Francisco	60
S 2.1.5	-	R-v	Mar 42-May 42	San Francisco	60

^aExecutive order No. 8389, issued long before the entry of the U.S. into the war, prohibited a wide variety of financial and property transactions with certain countries and their citizens. As this was an excuse for opening mail, these devices are included here even though their use antedated and survived the existence of the Office of Censorship. It would appear that the surveillance function required to enforce this order was carried out by Postal Censorship authorities after the establishment of the Office of Censorship.

~~SUPPOSED TO CONTAIN MATTER
SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF
EXECUTIVE ORDER 8389 AS AMENDED~~

S 1.1.1

SUPPOSED TO CONTAIN MATTER
SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF
EXECUTIVE ORDER 8389 AS AMENDED

S 1.1.2

~~IS SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF
EXECUTIVE ORDER 8389 AS AMENDED~~

S 1.1.3

RELEASED BY AUTHORITY OF
THE DISTRICT POSTAL CENSOR

S 2.1.1

RELEASED BY AUTHORITY OF
THE DISTRICT POSTAL CENSOR

S 2.1.2

RELEASED BY AUTHORITY OF
The District Postal Censor

S 2.1.3

RELEASED By Authority of the
District Postal Censor

S 2.1.4

RELEASED BY AUTHORITY OF

~~THE DISTRICT POSTAL CENSOR~~

S 2.1.5

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
S 2.2	-	R-v	Dec 41-Mar 42	San Antonio	20
S 2.3	-	R-v	Jan 42-Mar 42	San Antonio	25
S 2.4	-	R-v	Mar 42	San Antonio	25
S 2.5	-	R-v	Dec 41	San Antonio	30
S 2.6 ^a	3-239	Bk	Dec 41-Mar 42	Honolulu	30
S 2.7.1	-	Bk	Aug 42-Aug 43	Balboa	100
S 2.7.2 ^b	-	Bk	Dec 42-May 43	Balboa	50
S 2.7.3	-	Bk	May 42-Nov 42	Balboa	50
S 2.7.4	-	Bk	Nov 42	Balboa	150
S 2.8	-	Bk	42-Feb 42	San Antonio	100

^aThe numbers in S 2.6 are provisional, and do not fit the system-wide number schemes. They occur in various positions relative to the rest of the text, and appear to have been applied separately.

This handstamp is found used alone and also tying cellophane and plain brown paper tapes to cover.

It has been suggested that "I.C.B." stands for Information Control Bureau, Island Censor Bureau, or Interisland Censor Bureau, but these are all unverified speculations.

^bS 2.7.2 appears to be a Balboa device, but it could be from Cristobal.

RELEASED BY POST OFFICE INSPECTOR
ON AUTHORITY OF CENSORSHIP OFFICER

S 2.2

RELEASED BY
ON AUTHORITY OF CENSORSHIP OFFICER

S 2.3

RELEASED BY
ON AUTHORITY OF CENSOR

S 2.4

RELEASED BY P.O. INSPECTOR
ENGAGED ON CENSORSHIP.

S 2.5

RELEASED BY I.C.B. 80

S 2.6

RELEASED BY CENSOR

S 2.7.1

RELEASED BY CENSOR

S 2.7.2

RELEASED BY CENSOR

S 2.7.3

RELEASED BY CENSOR

S 2.7.4

*better strike in Berlin Hindenburg
aircraft.*

RELEASED BY CENSOR

S 2.8

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
S 3.1.1	6533-7180	Bk; P	Jun 42	New York	20
S 3.1.2	7409	B1	Aug 42-Nov 42	New York	50
S 3.1.3	5343-7227	B1; Bk; R	Mar 42-Sep 42	New York	20
S 3.1.4	6177-7449	Lt B1	Jul 42-Dec 42	New York	50
S 4.1.1	-	R	Apr 42-Jun 42	New Orleans	30
S 4.1.2	-	Bk; P; R-v	Jan 42-Apr 42	New Orleans	20
S 4.1.3	-	R-br; R-v	May 42	New Orleans	25
S 4.1.4	-	R-br	Jun 42	New Orleans	50
S 4.1.5	-	R-br	Apr 42	New Orleans	25
S 4.1.6	-	V	Apr	New Orleans	50
S 4.1.7 ^a	-	Lt B1	Jul 42	New York	100

^a Attribution to New York is tentative, based on a single cover from Iceland to Leominster, MA. While the text suggests New Orleans (and it is not impossible that changes in shipping routes to avoid U-boat activity would have sent this cover through that port), the light blue ink suggests New York.

~~EXAMINED BY~~
~~677~~

S 3.1.1

EXAMINED BY 7405

S 3.1.2

EXAMINED BY
7227

S 3.1.3

EXAMINED BY

6177

S 3.1.4

37+5
26 X 5

PASSED BY
CENSOR

S 4.1.1

PASSED BY
CENSOR

S 4.1.2

PASSED BY
CENSOR

S 4.1.3

PASSED BY
CENSOR

S 4.1.4

PASSED BY CENSOR

S 4.1.5

PASSED BY CENSOR

S 4.1.6

PASSED BY CENSOR

S 4.1.7

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
S 4.2.1 ^a	1955-2001, 3301-3380	Bk; R	Jan 42-Jun 42	New Orleans	20
S 4.2.2 ^b	1757-1769	R-v		Miami	200
S 4.3	-	R-v	Feb 42-May 42	Chicago	35
S 4.4	2112-2118	Bk	May 44-Aug 44	Washington, D.C.	125
S 5.1 ^c	52- 54 ^d 13007-13103 13507-13523	Bk	Dec 41-Apr 42	Balboa Cristobal	25 50
S 5.2 ^c	13046-13181	Bk	Jul 42-Sep 42	Balboa	75
S 5.3 ^c	35, 47, 54 ^d 13027-13106	Bk	Dec 41-Apr 42	Balboa	75

^{a-e} Found stamped on paper and used as resealing labels. Colors of papers recorded: a, brown, pink, blue-green, orange, and white (sometimes cut apart, sometimes rouletted); b, brown; c, yellow, white.

^f These are provisional numbers which do not fit the system-wide number schemes.

PASSED BY EXAMINER

No. 1985

S 4.2.1

PASSED BY
U. S. CENSOR

S 4.3

1269 PASSED BY EXAMINER

S 4.2.2

PASSED BY CENSOR

2118

S 4.4

Abierta por Censura
Defensa Continental
No. 13103

S 5.1

Abierta por la Censura
Defensa Continental
No. 13149

S 5.2

Abierta por Censura
No. 13149
Defensa Continental

S 5.3

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
S 6.1.1	-	Bk	a	New Orleans	150
S 6.1.2	-	Bk	Sep 45	San Francisco	150
S 6.1.3	-	Bk	a	New York	100
S 6.1.4	-	Bk	Jun 45-Sep 45	New York	100
S 6.1.5	-	Bk	a	Miami	150
S 6.1.6	-	Bk	a	New York	100

^a Dates of use are difficult to determine without backstamps indicating the date of remailing, since there is no way to know how long a particular item was held.

THIS ARTICLE
HAS BEEN HELD
BY THE OFFICE
OF CENSORSHIP

S 6.1.1

THIS ARTICLE HAS BEEN HELD
BY THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP

S 6.1.2

THIS ARTICLE HAS BEEN HELD
BY THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP

S 6.1.3

THIS ARTICLE HAS BEEN HELD
BY THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP

S 6.1.4

THIS ARTICLE HAS BEEN HELD BY THE
OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP

S 6.1.5

THIS ARTICLE HAS BEEN HELD
BY THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP

S 6.1.6

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
S 7.1.1 ^a	-	Bk	Dec 43	San Francisco (TC)	50
S 7.1.2	-	Bk	Apr 44-Dec 44	San Francisco	50
S 7.1.3	-	Bk	_____ 45	San Francisco	50
S 7.1.4	-	Bk	Aug 44	San Francisco (TC)	50
S 7.2.1	-	R-v	Jun 43-Mar 45	New York	50
S 7.2.2	-	Bk	Jan 44	San Francisco	50
S 7.2.3	-	Bk	Jun 43	New York	50
S 7.2.4	-	Bk	Mar 43	New York	50
S 7.2.5	-	Bk	Aug 44-Jun 45	San Francisco	60
S 7.3.1	-	Bk		San Francisco	50
S 7.3.2	-	Bk	Jul 43-Dec 43	San Francisco	50

^aThe S 7 devices are nearly always found on the backs of merchant marine and armed guard covers. These covers were brought into the U.S. outside of the mails, and posted on arrival in the U.S. port. These handstamps were used to explain what would otherwise have been an unauthorized inspection by the censorship authorities, whose jurisdiction did not extend to internal United States mail.

Censorship numbers found used with the tapes on these covers are usually from the main series of the station, but in a few cases examples from the separate travelers censorship series have been noted (TC designation above).

THIS COMMUNICATION
REFERRED TO DISTRICT POSTAL
CENSOR BY U. S. CUSTOMS

S 7.1.1

THIS COMMUNICATION
REFERRED TO DISTRICT POSTAL
CENSOR BY U. S. CUSTOMS

S 7.1.2

THIS COMMUNICATION
REFERRED TO DISTRICT POSTAL
CENSOR BY U. S. CUSTOMS

S 7.1.3

THIS COMMUNICATION
REFERRED TO DISTRICT POSTAL
CENSOR BY U. S. CUSTOMS

S 7.1.4

THIS COMMUNICATION
REFERRED TO DISTRICT POSTAL
CENSOR BY U. S. NAVAL
AUTHORITIES

S 7.2.1

THIS COMMUNICATION
REFERRED TO DISTRICT
CENSOR BY U. S. NAVAL
AUTHORITIES

S 7.2.2

THIS COMMUNICATION
REFERRED TO DISTRICT POSTAL
CENSOR BY U. S. NAVAL
AUTHORITIES

S 7.2.3

THIS COMMUNICATION
REFERRED TO DISTRICT POSTAL
CENSOR BY U. S. NAVAL
AUTHORITIES

S 7.2.4

THIS COMMUNICATION
REFERRED TO DISTRICT POSTAL
CENSOR BY U. S. NAVAL
AUTHORITIES

S 7.2.5

THIS COMMUNICATION
REFERRED TO DISTRICT POSTAL
CENSOR BY U. S. MILITARY
AUTHORITIES

S 7.3.1

THIS COMMUNICATION
REFERRED TO DISTRICT POSTAL
CENSOR BY U. S. MILITARY
AUTHORITIES

S 7.3.2

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
S 8.1	-	Bk	Nov 42	Washington, D.C.	200
S 9.1	-	R-v	Mar 42	Miami	200
S10.1 ^a	13018-13110	Bk	Mar 42-Apr 42	Balboa	150
S11.1	13521	Bk	Oct 42	Cristobal	150
S12.1.1	-	R-v	Jul 44	Nogales Douglas	150 150
S12.1.2	-	Bk		Los Angeles (TC)	200
S12.1.3	-	Bk	May 44	Newport News (TC)	200
S12.1.4	-	Bk		New York	100
S12.1.5	-	Bk		New York	100
S12.1.6	-	Bk	Oct 44-Apr 45	New York	100
S12.1.7	-	Bk-grn	Sep 44	Seattle	200

^a Found stamped on white or yellow paper and used as a resealing label. See also B 2.1.

HELD BY U. S. CENSOR

S 8.1

**RETURN TO SENDER
BY
UNITED STATES CENSOR**

S 9.1

**OPENED BY
C. Z. EXAMINER
No. 13018**

S 10.1

**PASADO POR LA CENSURA
#13521**

S 11.1

RECEIVED FROM CUSTOMS RECEIVED FROM CUSTOMS

S 12.1.1

S 12.1.2

RECEIVED FROM CUSTOMS

S 12.1.3

RECEIVED FROM CUSTOMS

S 12.1.4

RECEIVED FROM CUSTOMS

S 12.5

RECEIVED FROM CUSTOMS

S 12.6

RECEIVED FROM CUSTOMS

S 12.7

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
B 1.1	45S, 48-71 ^a 2092 12006-12057	R-v, P	Jan 42-Apr 42	San Antonio	30
B 1.2	12027-12113	R-v	Apr 42-May 42	San Antonio	75
B 1.3	2262-2295 12806-12841	R	Mar 42-Apr 42	El Paso	50
B 1.4 ^b	12059	R-v	42	San Antonio	125
B 1.5	C3-C64 ^c 2831-2929	Bk, B1	Dec 41-Jan 42	San Juan	30
B 1.6	2408-2518 2926 3268-3384	Bk, P, R-v	Jan 44-Jun 45	Washington, D.C.	25

^aThese numbers are provisional, and do not fit the system-wide number scheme.

^bThe outer dimensions of B 1.4 are nearly the same as those of B 1.1, but the placement of EXAMINER relative to PASSED BY is slightly different for the two devices. While our example of B 1.4 is not as fully struck as we would like there is no trace of an oval around the number.

^cThe C numbers are provisional, and do not fit the system-wide number scheme.

PASSED BY
US (12039) SA
EXAMINER

B 1.1

PASSED BY
US 17027 SA
EXAMINER

B 1.2

PASSED BY
U.S. 2262 4-SA
EXAMINER

B 1.3

PASSED BY
U 1205a SA
12070
EXAMINER

B 1.4

PASSED BY CENSOR
No. 2875

B 1.5

PASSED BY
3384
U. S. CENSOR

B 1.6

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
B 2.1	2, 3, 10, 500 ^a 13035, 13503	Bk	Dec 41-Mar 42	Balboa Cristobal	125 125
B 3.1 ^b	13516-13561	Bk	Mar 42-Jun 42	Cristobal	50
B 4.1 ^b	13521-13563	Bk	Feb 42-Oct 42	Cristobal	50

^a These numbers are provisional and do not fit the system-wide numbering schemes

^b Found stamped on yellow or white paper and used as a resealing label.

OPENED BY
C. Z. EXAMINER
No. 2 D.M.Y.

B 2.1

RELEASED BY
CENSOR # 1357

B 3.1

ABIERTA POR LA
CENSURA # 13592

B 4.1

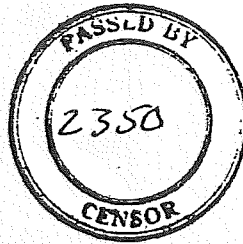
TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
C 1.1.1 ^a	1422 3513-3533	G	Dec 41-May 42	Seattle	200
C 1.1.2	2317-2350	P	Feb 42-Apr 42	Los Angeles	200
C 1.1.3	1489-1657	Bk, Dk Bl, P, U	Dec 41-Mar 42	San Francisco	15
C 1.2	-	R-v	Jan 42-Feb 42	New York	200
C 1.3 ^b	1601-1644	P	Jan 42-Mar 42	Los Angeles	15
C 1.4	-	Bl-g	___ 43-Aug 44	Pago Pago	75
C 1.5	-	Bk, R, R-v	Mar 42-Apr 42	Miami	10
C 2.1	-	M	Feb 42-Jul 42	Balboa	100
C 2.2	-	M	Sep 42	Balboa	100

^a C 1.1.1, # 1422, was used when Seattle was a sub-station of San Francisco.

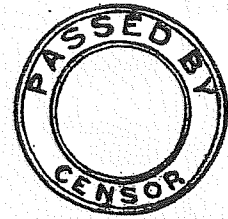
^b C 1.3 was used when Los Angeles was a sub-station of San Francisco. The meaning of "BIC" in this handstamp is unknown.



C 1.1.1



C 1.1.2



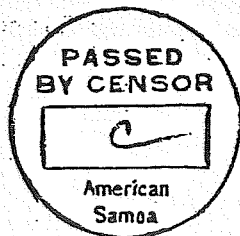
C 1.1.3



C 1.2



C 1.3



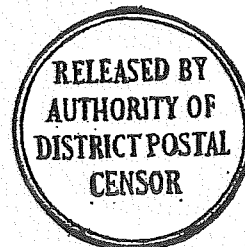
C 1.4



C 1.5



C 2.1

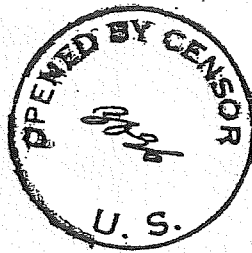


C 2.2

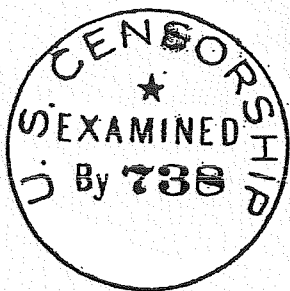
TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
C 3.1	3092	R-v	May 42	Chicago	200
C 4.1 ^a	152-738	R-v		New York (POW)	50
C 4.2	3087-3211 53119	R-v	Mar 42-Jul 44	Chicago	100
C 4.3.1 ^b	5196-8330 9801-9842 20002-20026 21408	Bk, R-v	Jan 43-Apr 45	New York New York (TC)	10 100
C 4.3.2 ^b	6478-7713 21404	Bk, G, R-v	Nov 42-Feb 45	New York New York (TC)	10 100
C 5.1	1981-2019 3332-3422 14305-14420	R, R-v	Jun 42-Jun 43	New Orleans	25
C 5.2	14419 50132-50326	R-v	May 44	New Orleans	100
C 5.3	50054-50418	Bk	Oct 44-Mar 45	New Orleans	75

^aReliable dates for C 4.1 are difficult to establish due to the uneven handling of POW mail.

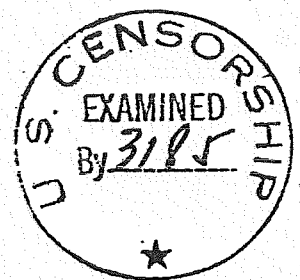
^bC 4.3.1 and 4.3.2 differ in that the former has dots, and the latter has dashes, after "By". The dashes in C 4.3.2 sometimes appear as a solid line.



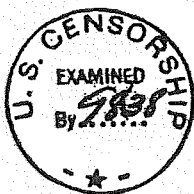
C 3.1



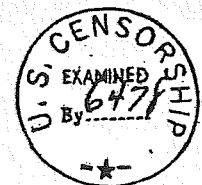
C 4.1



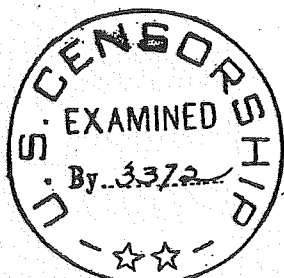
C 4.2



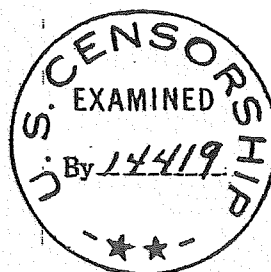
C 4.3.1



C 4.3.2



C 5.1



C 5.2

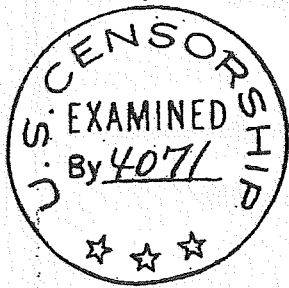


C 5.3

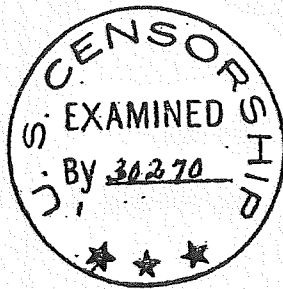
TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
C 6.1.1 ^a	1854, 3925 4071-4795 30025	R-v	Apr 43-Nov 43	Miami	20
C 6.1.2	3994-4886 14455-14639 30263-30796 31223-31234	Bk, R-v	Jan 43-Jun 45	Miami	15
C 6.2.1 ^a	1755, 14569	R-v	Jan 43-Jun 43	Miami	50
C 6.2.2	3854, 30022	R-v	Sep 43-Feb 45	Miami	50
C 6.3.1	30301-30302	Bk	Dec 43-Jan 45	Miami	15
C 6.3.2	4194	R-v		Miami	100
C 6.4 ^b	58204	Bk	May 45	Balboa	150
C 7.1	13149	Bk		Balboa	150

^aHandstamps in the C 6.1 group have flat O's, while those in the C 6.2 have round O's. C 6.1.1 and 6.2.1 have hollow stars, while 6.1.2 and 6.2.2 have solid stars.

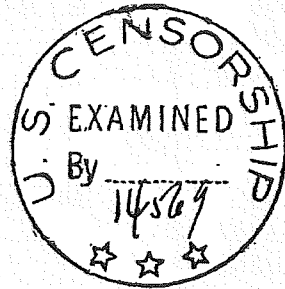
^bThe three stars at the foot of C 6.4 would indicate Miami, but the number is definitely from the Balboa series.



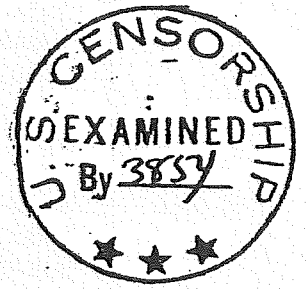
C 6.1.1



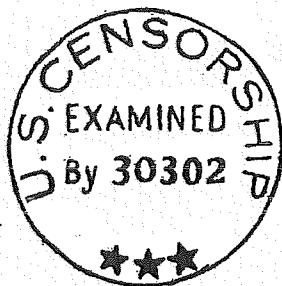
C 6.1.2



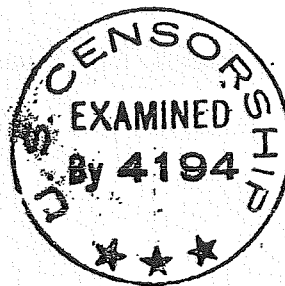
C 6.2.1



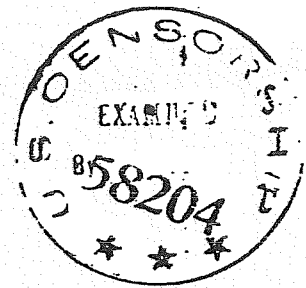
C 6.2.2



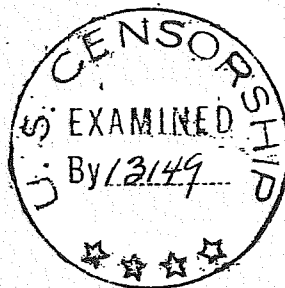
C 6.3.1



C 6.3.2



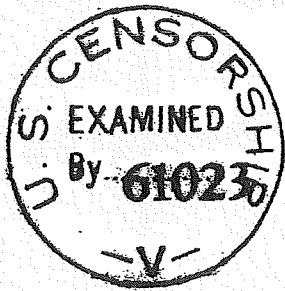
C 6.4



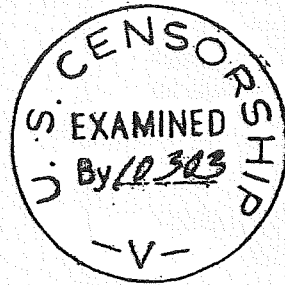
C 7.1

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
C 8.1.1 ^a	1554-1670 10040-10435 61023-61398	Bk, R, R-v	Dec 42-Apr 45	San Francisco	30
C 8.1.2 ^a	10303	V	Feb 43	San Francisco	75
C 9.1	3539-3790 13835-13930 66073-66168	Bk, Bl-g, G	Jun 42-Aug 44	Seattle	40
C 9.2	12655-12692	R-v	Apr 43-Nov 43	Brownsville	150

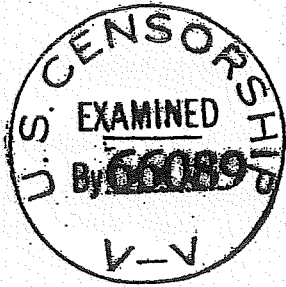
^aC 8.1.1 has dots after "By", while C 8.1.2 has dashes.



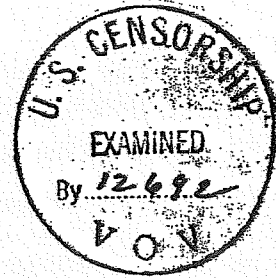
C 8.1.1



C 8.1.2



C 9.1



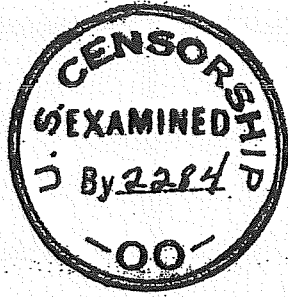
C 9.2

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
C10.1.1 ^a	2265-2293 11110-11147 12821-12967 68026-68179	R, R-v, Ro-r	Jun 42-May 45	El Paso	15
C10.1.2	2296 11208-11247 12817 68062-68117 69019	R	Jan 44-May 45	El Paso Nogales	30 75
C10.2.1 ^b	68136-68176	Ro-r	Feb 45-Mar 45	El Paso	75
C10.2.2 ^c	68002-68149	Ro-r	Mar 45	El Paso	150
C10.2.3	2293, 12937	Ro-r	Oct 42-Nov 43	El Paso	125
C10.3	13527 59019-59040	Bk	Jun 42-Feb 45	Cristobal	175

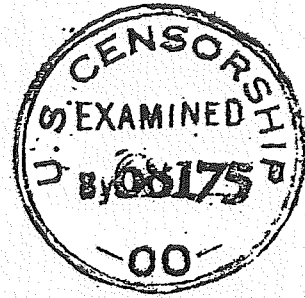
^aC 10.1.1 has round Os at the bottom, while C 10.1.2 has tall Os. Note also the relative placements of EXAMINED By in these two devices.

^bC 10.2.1 is 35mm in diameter, while C 10.2.2 and 10.2.3 are nearly 37mm.

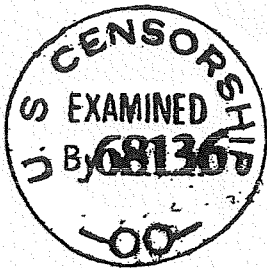
^cC 10.2.2 has larger, thinner Os at the foot than does C 10.2.3. Note also the different points of intersection of CENSORSHIP for a line extended upward from the I of EXAMINED.



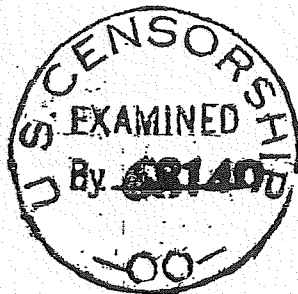
C10.1.1



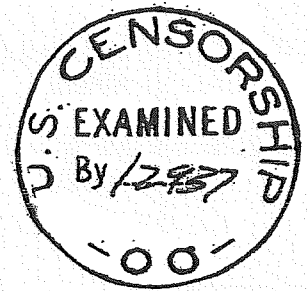
C10.1.2



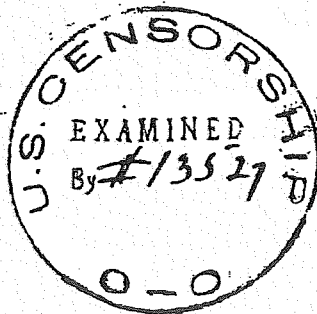
C10.2.1



C10.2.2



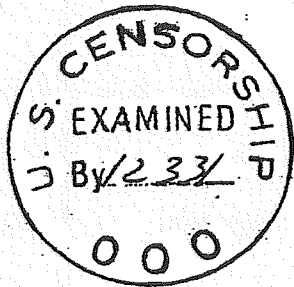
C10.2.3



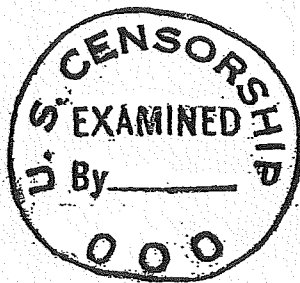
C10.3

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
C11.1.1	2041-2208 12017-12630 36187-36402	Bk, P, R-v	Jul 42-Jul 45	San Antonio	20
C11.1.2 ^a	2137-2260 12128-12564 36126-36137	R-v	Oct 42-Feb 45	San Antonio	15
C11.2	12069-12531 36003-36429	Bk, P, R-v	Dec 42-Jun 44	San Antonio	30
C11.3	36075-36414	Bk, R-v	Nov 43-Feb 44	San Antonio	60
C12.1	12755-12800	Bk	Oct 42	Laredo	200
C12.2	12705-12784 40022	R-v	Dec 42-May 43	Laredo	150
C12.3	12701-12745 40022	R-v	— 43	Laredo	175

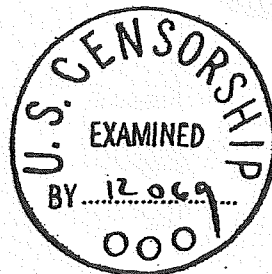
^aThe flat bottom on C 11.1.2 appears to be constant.



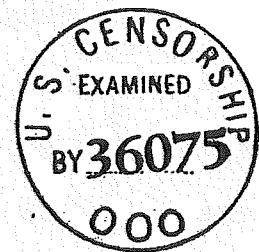
C 11.1.1



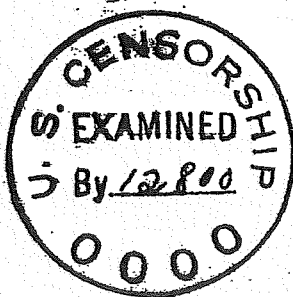
C 11.1.2



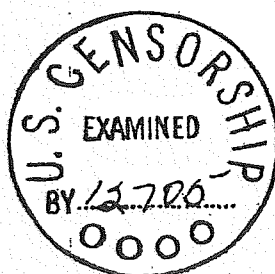
C 11.2



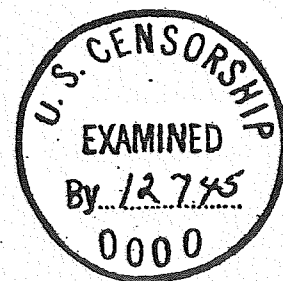
C 11.3



C 12.1



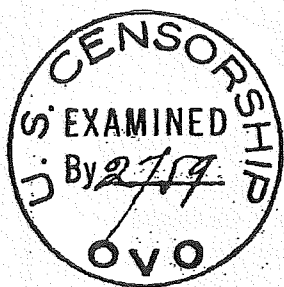
C 12.2



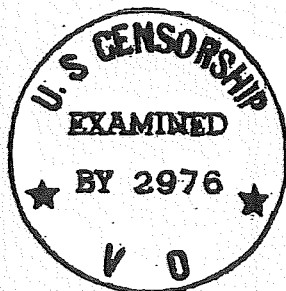
C 12.3

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
C13.1	2588-2798 11066-11075 71056-71119 72003	Bk, P	Jul 42-Dec 43	Honolulu & Honolulu (TC)	10 100
C14.1	2976	Ro-r	Sep 43	Washington, D.C.	250
C14.2	2296	R-v	Jul 44	Nogales	175
C14.3	2354	P	Dec 44	Los Angeles	200

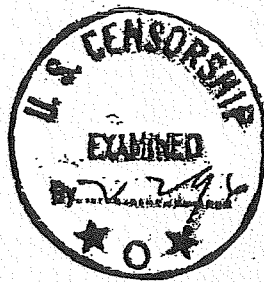
See also handstamp M 7.1.



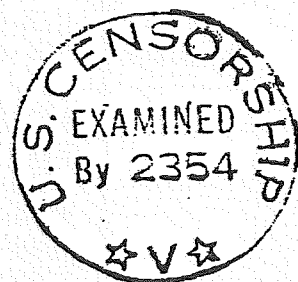
C 13.1



C 14.1



C 14.2



C 14.3

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
L 1.1 ^a	2019	-	Dec 42	New Orleans	100
L 1.2.1 ^b	C.5-C.64	-	Dec 41	San Juan	150
L 1.2.2 ^c	544-699	-	Dec 41-Jan 42	New York	150
L 1.3 ^d	131-352	-	Jul 42-Aug 43	New York (POW)	30
	1571			San Francisco	15
	1732-2809			Miami	5
	3031-3190			New Orleans	5
	3349-4802			San Antonio	5
	12057-12139			El Paso	5
	13814-13948			Los Angeles	10
	14208			Honolulu	5
	14329-14485			Chicago	15
				Seattle	5
			Charlotte Amalie	250	

^aAll L devices are printed in black ink on white paper. FOR TAPES CONSISTING OF A HANDSTAMP ON PAPER, SEE THE APPROPRIATE HANDSTAMP SECTION.

^b

The "C" numbers on L 1.2.1 are provisional and do not fit the system-wide number schemes. There are Canadian tapes similar in appearance to this device. Note the diamond shape period on L 1.2.1.

^cThe numbers on L 1.2.2 are provisional and do not fit the system-wide number schemes.

^dThe numbers listed for L 1.3 (and for other paper and cellophane tapes used at more than one station) are NOT broken down by station. Consult the number lists at the front of the catalog.

EXAMINED BY

2019

L 1.1

EXAMINED BY

C. 64

L 1.2.1

EXAMINED BY

E *bbj*

L 1.2.2

EXAMINED BY

U. S. A. 13916

L 1.3

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
L 1.4.1	14511-14568	-	Apr 42-Apr 43	Miami	30
L 1.4.2	432-481	-	Oct 42-Oct 43	New Orleans	3
	1779-1882			Seattle	3
	2145-2202			Laredo	10
	2811			Honolulu	3
	3421-3597 ^a			San Antonio	3
	3876-4971 ^a			New York	3
	5509-8125			Miami	3
	9819-9836			San Francisco	10
	10094				
	12125-12763 ^a				
	14454-14663 ^a				
L 1.4.3 ^b	5078-6952	-	Dec 41-Jan 43	New York	5
L 1.4.4	1076-1085	-	Jan 42-Jul 43	New York	10
	1286			San Francisco	3
	1464-2885			Miami	3
	3126			New Orleans	3
	3320-3797			San Antonio	3
	3804-4980 ^a			El Paso	3
	6944			Los Angeles	3
	12099-12102			Honolulu	3
	12831-12950			San Juan	3
	13018			Chicago	10
	14303-14367 ^a			Seattle	3
	14452-14618 ^a			Balboa	20
L 1.5.1 ^c	1499	-	Mar 42-Nov 43	San Francisco	10
	1757-2990			Miami	2
	3332-3379			New Orleans	2
	3501-8355			San Antonio	2
	10037-10326			Laredo	10
	12002-12966			El Paso	2
	13008-13116			Los Angeles	2
	13509-13549			Honolulu	2
	13802-13900			San Juan	2
				Washington, D.C.	15
				Seattle	2
				New York	2
				Balboa	15
				Cristobal	15
L 1.5.2	1006-1104	-	Apr 42-Sep 43	New York	30
	3002-3083			Chicago	30
L 1.5.3	13928	-	Aug 42	Seattle	150

^aOccasionally found with additional manuscript censor numbers, and occasionally with numbers such as 188-3, 1545-1, the meaning of which is not known.

^bOccasionally found with additional manuscript censor numbers.

^cType 2 numerals are worth double the value shown above. Printed number occasionally trimmed off and manuscript number added.

EXAMINED BY
14549

L 1.4.1

EXAMINED BY
6055

L 1.4.2

EXAMINED BY

5244

L 1.4.3

EXAMINED BY

3321

L 1.4.4

ENENENE

L 1.4.

4955 44 21

1 2 3 4

EXAMINED BY

12534

L 1.5.1

123456789 TYPE 1

123456789 TYPE 2

EXAMINED BY

3002

L 1.5.2

EXAMINED BY

13928

L 1.5.3

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
L 2.1	13010-13260 13580	-	Aug 42-Apr 43	Balboa Cristobal	50 100
L 2.2	13181-13213	-	Feb 43-Apr 43	Balboa	150
L 3.1	3012	-	Apr 42	Chicago	250

**ABIERTA POR CENSURA
DEFENSA CONTINENTAL**

E. U. A. 13222

L 2.1

**ABIERTA POR CENSURA
DEFENSA CONTINENTAL**

No. 13181

L 2.2

**OPENED BY
EXAMINER NO. 30 12**

L 3.1

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
T 1 ^a	215-256, 348	-	Nov 42-Jun 44	New York (POW)	25
	538			San Francisco	2
	719			Miami	2
	1120-1150			New Orleans	2
	1553-1595			San Antonio	2
	1745-3119			El Paso	2
	3302-8900			Los Angeles	3
	9800-9849			Honolulu	2
	10012-10397			San Juan	5
	11105-11244			Washington, D.C.	30
	12002-12997			Chicago	5
	13023-13094			Seattle	2
	13545-13548			New York	2
	13806-13949			New York (Phil.)	2
	14025			Laredo	5
14311-14782	Balboa	5			
	Cristobal	10			
T 2 ^b					
T 3 ^b					
T 4 ^c	106-289	-	Apr 45-Jul 45	Honolulu	25
T 5 ^c	113-196	-	Jul 45-Aug 45	Honolulu	40
T 6 ^a	13109-13243	-	Mar 43-Mar 44	Balboa	30
	13541			Cristobal	50
T 7 ^b					

^aT 1 and T 6 have printed text and printed numbers, while the other cellophane tapes have printed text and handstamped numbers. T 1 comes in two varieties, with 5mm and 6mm, respectively, between EXAMINED and BY.

^bSee charts on following pages.

^cThe numbers in T 4 and T 5 are military numbers and do not fit the system-wide numbering schemes. THMA stands for Territory of Hawaii Military Administration. In May, 1945 the Honolulu censor station was transferred to local military control.

ED BY

EXAMINED

EXAMINED BY

E

10

12180

68179

T 1

T 2

EXAMINED BY

EXAMINED BY

E

11187
U.S. CENSOR

THMA CENSOR 116

T 3

T 4

OPENED BY

THMA CENSOR 136
U. S. ARMY EXAMINER

T 5

ABIERTA POR CENSURA
DEFENSA CONTINENTAL

N O. 13149

T 6

AZ 1A
OI AL
N

ABIERTA POR CENSURA
DEFENSA CONTINENTAL

58149

T 7

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
T 2 ^a	4 / 72004	See below	Sep 43-Aug 45	See below	
T 2.0.1	4-49	Bk	Nov 43-Mar 45	Washington, D.C.	20
T 2.1.1	1112-1150	Bk	Jul 44-Apr 45	New York	25
T 2.5.1	5032-5999	Bk	Dec 43-Jul 45	New York	2
T 2.5.2	5295-5938		Oct 44-Jun 45	New York	10
T 2.5.3	5107	Bk	Jul 44-Oct 44	New York	10
T 2.5.4	5074-5287	Bk	Jul 44-Dec 44	New York	30
T 2.5.5	5178	Bk	Apr 45	New York	20
T 2.6.1	6023-6998	Bk	Dec 43-Jun 45	New York	2
T 2.6.2	6262-6804	Bk	Mar 44-Nov 44	New York	10
T 2.6.3	6006-6609	Bk	May 44-Feb 45	New York	10
T 2.6.6	6032	Bk		New York	30
T 2.7.1	7008-7999	Bk	Nov 43-Jun 45	New York	2
T 2.7.2	7363	Bk	Jun 44-Sep 44	New York	10
T 2.7.3	7262	Bk		New York	10
T 2.8.1	8000-8458	Bk	Nov 43-Apr 45	New York	2
T 2.8.2	8243	Bk	Jul 45	New York	10
T 2.20.1	20002-20024	Bk	Jan 44-May 45	New York (Phil.)	5
T 2.21.1	21201-21404	Bk	Jan 44-Apr 45	Newport News	100
T 2.30.2	30010-30999	Bk	Oct 43-Jul 45	Miami	2
T 2.31.2	31000-31199	Bk	Jun 44-Jun 45	Miami	3
T 2.31.7	31221-31372	Bk	Jan 45-Jul 45	Miami	5
T 2.36.1	36001-36527	Bk	Oct 43-Aug 45	San Antonio	3
T 2.39.1	39016	Bk	Dec 44	Brownsville	100
T 2.40.1	40003-40032	Bk	Apr 44-Jul 45	Laredo	30
T 2.50.1 ^b	50004-50390	R-v	Mar 44-Jul 45	New Orleans	10
T 2.50.2 ^b	50088-50430	R-v	Feb 44-May 45	New Orleans	20
T 2.53.1	53011-53153	R-v	Sep 43-Jul 44	Chicago	20

^a The printed portion of T 2 comes in many varieties, e.g., EXAMINED 30, 33, 35.5 and 36.6mm. We do not catalog these varieties here. Rather, cataloging is by the handstamp number used with the tape. The catalog number identifies the type of device (T 2), the number (by thousands, 0 - 72), and the style of the numerals (1 - 7).

^b Covers with T 2.50.1 and T 2.50.2 frequently have an additional number (1 - 6) handstamped on the face of the cover.

EXAMINED BY

E

T 2

	.1	.2	.3	.4	.5	.6	.7
.0	25						
.1	1112						
.5	5923	5370	5107	5074	5777		
.6	6948	6262	6008			6037	
.7	7900	7363	7262				
.8	8376	8248					
.20	20021						
.21	21201						
.30		30058					
.31		31054					31258
.36	36442						
.39	39016						
.40	40024						
.50	50092	50430					
.53	53106						

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
T 2.55.1	55123-55301	Bk	Feb 44-Jul 45	Los Angeles	20
T 2.55.2	55160	Bk	Sep 44	Los Angeles	30
T 2.56.1	56027	Bk		Los Angeles (TC)	100
T 2.58.1	58002-58025	Bk	Jan 44-Jun 44	Balboa	30
T 2.59.2	59049	Bk	Apr 44	Cristobal	50
T 2.61.1	61014-61531	Bk	Jan 44-Jul 45	San Francisco	10
T 2.63.1	63004-63006	Bk	Dec 43-Aug 44	San Francisco (TC)	100
T 2.64.1	64027-64260	Bk	Mar 44-May 45	San Juan	20
T 2.66.1	66003-66197	Bk	Oct 43-Dec 44	Seattle	15
T 2.68.1	68002-68179	Bk	May 44-Jul 45	El Paso	15
T 2.69.1	69007-69018	Bk	Sep 44-Jul 45	Nogales	100
T 2.70.1	70020	Bk	Apr 45	Douglas	100
T 2.71.1	71015-71269	Bk	Dec 43-Mar 45	Honolulu	15
T 2.72.1	72004	Bk	Feb 45	Honolulu (TC)	100

EXAMINED BY

E

T 2

.1
55 **53301** **55160**

.56 **56027**

.58 **58002**

.59 **59049**

.61 **61439**

.63 **63004**

.64 **64109**

.66 **66152**

.68 **68179**

.69 **69007**

.70 **70020**

.71 **71269**

.72 **72004**

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
T 3.1.1 ^a	10607-11846	Bk, P, R-v	Feb 44-Jun 45	New York (POW)	25
T 3.1.2	11023 12057-12372	Bk	Apr 44-Jan 45	New York (POW)	40
T 3.1.3	12674-12994	Bk	Jan 45-Apr 45	New York (POW)	75
T 7.58.1	58016-58247	Bk	Mar 44-Aug 45	Balboa	20
T 7.58.2	58128	Bk	Apr 45	Balboa	25
T 7.59.2	59009-59042	Bk	Apr 44-Jun 45	Cristobal	40
T 7.75.8	75014-75060	Bk	Aug 44-Feb 45	David, R.P.	150

^aHandstamps of the T 3 group often occur without tape on POW stationery.

EXAMINED BY

E

11187
U.S. CENSOR

T 3.1.1

12262
U.S. CENSOR

T 3.1.2

12,674
U. S. CENSOR

T 3.1.3

A
L

ABIERTA POR CENSURA
DEFENSA CONTINENTAL

T 7

58149

T 7.58.1

58128

T 7.58.2

59040

T 7.59.2

75014

T 7.75.8

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
F 2.1 ^a		Bk/Y	Mar. 42-Jul 43	New York	75
				San Antonio	100
F 2.2		Bk/Y	Nov 43-Feb 45	New York	80
				Honolulu	125

^aThe color notation for Forms is ink/paper, so that Bk/Y = black ink on yellow paper. Points shown are for the form accompanied by its enclosing cover. Loose forms, without cover, are valued at 1/3 - 2/3 of the points shown, depending upon the scarcity of the form.

Mar. 20, 1946

This cover was
open when it reached
the censor.

NC Form No. 2
December 12, 1941

16-25433-1 GPO

5901

5475

F 2.1

Form OC-2 (Rev.)
(June 1942)

This cover was
open when it reached
the censor.

1113
(Examiner's number)

12961
(Supervisor's number)

16-29102-1 GPO

F 2.2

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
F 3.1		Bk/Lt-bl-grn	Dec 41	New Orleans	200
F 3.2		Bk/Lt-bl		New York (Phil.)	200

The enclosure mentioned in this correspondence—

no enclosures within

was found to be missing when the letter was opened by the censor.

NC Form No. 3
December 12, 1941

16-25421-1 GPO

F 3.1

~~No~~
The enclosure mentioned in this correspondence—

EXCEPT STAMP

was found to be missing when the letter was opened by the censor.

Form OC-3
April 1942

16-25421-2 GPO

20017

20012

F 3.2

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
F 4.1		Bk/G	Feb 42	New York Honolulu	125 150
F 4.2		Bk/G	Aug 43	New York (Phil.)	150
F 4.3		Bk/G	Jul 43-Apr 44	New York San Antonio	150 175
F 4.4		?/W		Miami	150
F 4.5		V/W	Apr 45	Laredo	200

The United States censor
is not responsible for the mutilation of this letter.

The United States censor
is not responsible for the mutilation of this letter. STAMP ON COVER

NC Form No. 4
December 12, 1941

16-25421-1 GPO

Form OC-4
April 1942

16-25421-2 GPO

5415 9847

9809

F 4.1

F 4.2

Form OC-4 (Rev.)
(June 1942)

The United States censor is
not responsible for the mutilation of this letter.

The United States censor is not
responsible for the mutilation of
this letter.

5738

(Examiner's number)

6686

(Supervisor's number)

16-20101-1 GPO

Cumplenos informarle que la
mutilacion de esta carta no fue
causada por la censura de los
Estados Unidos.

30214
OC-4

30580

F 4.3

F 4.4

The United States censor
El censor de los EE. UU.
is not responsible for the
no es responsable por la mutilacion
mutilation of this ^{COVER} letter
de esta carta.

OC-4-Sp.

40022

40006

F 4.5

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
F 4-X-28		Bk/W	Jul 42	San Antonio	200

POSTAL CONFIRMATIONS OF
CABLE, LANDLINE, RADIO
OR RADIO TELEPHONE
MESSAGES ARE PROHIBITED

BY

12075

CENSORSHIP

Form No. 4-X-28

✓097

F 4-X-28

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
F 12.1		Bk/W	Mar 42-May 44	New York San Francisco	100 125
F 12.2		Bk/W	May 42-Jul 42	New York	125
F 12.3		Bk/W	Feb 42-Aug 42	New York	150
F 12.4		Bk/W	Apr 43	New York	150

March 9, 1942

This communication returned to sender because it is addressed to an enemy or enemy-occupied country. Personal messages of not more than 25 words may be sent through the American Red Cross. Information may be obtained from the nearest Red Cross office.

EX.# 5718 DAC 5070

Form NC-12

F 12.1

THIS COMMUNICATION RETURNED TO SENDER BECAUSE IT IS ADDRESSED TO AN ENEMY OR ENEMY-OCCUPIED COUNTRY. PERSONAL MESSAGES OF NOT MORE THAN 25 WORDS MAY BE SENT THROUGH THE AMERICAN RED CROSS. INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE NEAREST RED CROSS OFFICE.

FORM OC-12

2588

GPO 16-27078-1

6091

F 12.3

This communication returned to sender because it is addressed to an enemy or enemy-occupied country. Personal messages of not more than 25 words may be sent through the American Red Cross. Information may be obtained from the nearest Red Cross office.

Form OC-12

5194

F 12.2

THIS communication is returned to sender because it contains a message which appears to be intended for a person in enemy or enemy-occupied country. Personal messages of not more than 25 words may be sent through the American Red Cross. Information may be obtained from the nearest Red Cross office.

OC-12 (Rev. 9-1-42)

16-80849-1 GPO

6993

5153

F 12.4

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
F 13.2			Sep 42	New Orleans	200
F 13.3			Jan 44	Honolulu	200
F 13.4			Jun 43	San Francisco	200
F 14.2			Jan 43	San Antonio	200

THIS COMMUNICATION IS RETURNED TO SENDER BECAUSE IT MENTIONS:

- DEFENSE MATTERS.
- SHIPPING.
- WEATHER CONDITIONS.
- LOCATION OF U. S. FORCES.

FORM OC-13

The statements regarding meat are not allowed by the Census 1983

F 13.2

This communication is returned to sender because it mentions

- Defense Matters
- Shipping
- Weather Conditions
- Location of U.S. Forces

PUZZLE LETTERS ARE NOT PERMITTED IN THE

CC-13
10050

10076

F 13.4

Cable

The enclosure in this communication has been extracted as its transmission is not permitted.

CC-14

12630

122 #1

F 14.2

Form OC-13
(Rev. June 1942)

THIS COMMUNICATION IS RETURNED TO SENDER BECAUSE IT MENTIONS:

- DEFENSE MATTERS.
- SHIPPING.
- WEATHER CONDITIONS.
- LOCATION OF U. S. FORCES.

PRINTED OR MICROGRAPHED MATTER
OBJECTIONABLE IN MAIL DESTINED FOR
ENEMY TERRITORY

11029
(Supervisor's No.)

11080
(Examiner's No.)

16-27082-2 GPO

111-6

F 13.3

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
F 15.1		G/W	Apr 42-May 45	New York New Orleans Miami San Juan Seattle San Francisco Los Angeles	20 25 25 25 50 50 50
F 15.2		G/W	Feb 42-Aug 44	Chicago New York Chicago	60 60 80
F 18.2			Jun 43	New York	200
F 42.2			Apr 43	New York	200

Form OC-15

RETURNED
TO SENDER
BY CENSOR

RETURNED
TO SENDER
BY CENSOR

F 15.1

F 15.2

This communication is returned to sender because the addressee is on the Proclaimed List of Certain Blocked Nationals. A license from the Treasury Department is required for business transactions with persons on this list.

9833

OC-18

9805

F 18.2

FORM OC-42

THIS COMMUNICATION IS RETURNED TO SENDER BECAUSE POSTAL CONFIRMATIONS OF CABLE, LANDWIRE, RADIO, OR RADIO-TELEPHONE MESSAGES ARE PROHIBITED BY CENSORSHIP.

8045
EXAMINER'S NO.

6181
SUPERVISOR'S NO.

(600)

F 42.2

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
F 60.2 ^a		Bk/W	Apr 43	New Orleans	200
F 64.2		Bk/W	Feb 43	New York	200
F 66.2				New York	200

^a "OMIT ACTUAL LOCATION ABROAD" is added by handstamp, in R-v.

The address or ~~return address~~ on or in this letter shows the location of a military unit outside the limits of continental United States. Unless the correct form of address or ~~return address~~ is used your ~~answering~~ letter will be delayed or not delivered.

Use this form of address:

PVT. RAY TERNOFF
RANK NAME ARMY SERIAL NUMBER

~~59th Bomb Squadron~~

A.P.O. NO. FILL IN CORRECT A.P.O. NO.

C/O Postmaster NEW ORLEANS, - A.

(insert the proper U.S. forwarding P.O.)

~~Inquire at your local Post Office.~~

F 60.2

3375-

OMIT ACTUAL LOCATION ABROAD

3369
14407
(926)

FTC LL1789

Postage stamps may be sent to points outside of the United States only upon permit issued by the Office of Censorship. Applications for permits should be made to the Philatelic Control Unit, U. S. Postal Censorship, 244 Seventh Avenue, New York, New York.

F 64.2

#9815

9827

Form OC-66 (Rev.)

This communication is returned to sender because it is directly or indirectly intended for

- (1) ~~a person or firm on the Proclaimed List of Certain Blocked Nationals; or~~
- (2) a person or firm in enemy or enemy-occupied territory.

A license from the Treasury Department is required for transactions involving trade or communication with enemy nationals and for the sending of communications of a financial or commercial nature directly or indirectly to enemy nationals. Further information may be obtained from the nearest Federal Reserve Bank.

F 66.2

8376

5768
5066
S-962

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
F 542.2			Jun 44	San Antonio	175
F 542.3			May 44	Laredo New York	200 200
F 552.2		Bk/W		New York	200

OC-542

An ~~Extraction~~ ^{Excision} has been made because postal confirmations of cable, landwire, radio or radiotelephone messages are prohibited by Censorship.

An ~~Extraction~~ ^{Excision} has been made because postal confirmations of cable, landwire, radio or radiotelephone messages are prohibited by Censorship.

Please notify your correspondents in foreign countries, except Canada and the United Kingdom, that transmission of such confirmations is prohibited in mail to the United States and its possessions.

Please notify your correspondents in foreign countries, except Canada and the United Kingdom, that transmission of such confirmations is prohibited in mail to the United States and its possessions.

OC-542 361

36234

7252

8444

F 542.2

F 542.3

The Sender of this communication is:
Addressee

- On the Proclaimed List of Certain Blocked Nationals.
- In enemy or enemy-occupied territory.
- Being used as an intermediary for the transmission of a message to either of the above.
- An enemy national in other than enemy territory.

--ooOoo--

- Communications of a personal nature to persons on the Proclaimed List, or to an enemy national in other than enemy territory, are prohibited unless licensed by the Office of Censorship. Application for such license may be made at the Office of Censorship, Washington, D. C.
- Personal messages of not over 25 words destined for enemy territory may be sent through the American Red Cross. Consult local Red Cross Chapter for information.
- Communications of a commercial or financial nature addressed to persons on the Proclaimed List, or to anyone in enemy or enemy-occupied territory, or to an enemy national situated anywhere require a Treasury Department License. Apply to the Federal Reserve Bank in your district for this license.

Form 552

6210 - 8165

F 552.2

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
F 573.2		Bk/W	Sep 42	New York	200
F 1673.2		Bk/W	Jun 43	New York (POW)	200

This ^{package} ~~publication~~ is returned to sender
because it requires:

— a license from the United States Commissioner
of Patents, Washington, D.C.

— an Export Control License.

a ^{PUBLICATION} ~~Technical Data~~ License.

The latter two licenses may be obtained by
applying to the Office of Exports, Board of
Economic Warfare, Washington, D.C.

Form 573

F 573.2

This communication is returned
because it appears to be correspon-
dence to a prisoner of war, from a
person unknown to him, which is
prohibited.

117 Form 1673

F 1673.2

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
F IS-5			Nov 42	Miami	200
F Un-1 ^a			Jan 43	New York	200

^a Forms without identifying numbers will be designated "Un-#".

The confirmation of -

- cable message
- landwire message
- radio message
- radio-telephone call

contained in this communication has been extracted or excised because its transmission through the mails is prohibited by Censorship.

4553

IS-5

F IS-5

The enclosed communication is being returned to you because the addressee has not been officially listed as a Prisoner of War. Until the addressee has been officially designated as a Prisoner of War by the appropriate military or naval authority, correspondence with addressee through Prisoner of War channels is not possible.

Immediately upon receipt of official information from the enemy power holding him prisoner, the Information Branch Aliens Division, Provost Marshal General's Office, Washington, D. C., will inform the next of kin of the correct mailing address.

F Un-1

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
M 1.1 ^a	-	Bk/V	Feb 44	New York	10
M 1.2	-	Bk/V	Oct 44-Dec 44	New York	10
M 1.3	-	Bk/V	Nov 43-Nov 44	New York	10
M 1.4	-	Bk/V	Aug 43-Jun 45	New York	10
M 1.5	-	Bk/V	Sep 44-Apr 45	New York	10
M 1.6	-	Bk/V	Apr 44-Aug 44	New York	10
M 1.7	-	Bk/V	Mar 44-Apr 45	New York	10
M 1.8	-	Bk/V	Nov 43-Nov 44	New York	10
M 1.9	-	Bk/V		New York	10
M 1.10	-	Bk/V	Mar 44	New York	10
M 2.1 ^a	-	Bk/V	Oct 43	New York	15
M 2.2	-	Bk/V	Sep 43	New York	15
M 2.3	-	V/V	Sep 43	New York	15
M 2.4	-	Bk/V	Oct 43	New York	15
M 3.1 ^a	-	Bk	Dec 43-Apr 45	Washington, D.C.	10
M 3.2	-	Bk		Washington, D.C.	10

^a Devices in the M 1 through M 4 groups are generally found on the reverse of covers from or to foreign governmental agencies, red crosses, semi-official commercial agencies, and foreign and U.S. diplomatic personnel. They are almost certainly related to the issue of whether the mail on which they appear was privileged. It would appear that the M 3 devices, and the dots in the M 1 devices constituted a question -- Is this privileged? -- and that the bars in the M 1 group indicated a negative response, since covers bearing both a bar and dot were invariably opened, while those with dots only were not (most of these latter receiving the B 1.6 Handstamp).

The color notation used here is Dot (or date, or XX)/Bar.



M 1.1



M 1.2



M 1.3



M 1.4



M 1.5



M 1.6



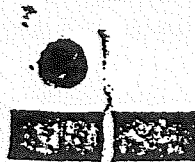
M 1.7



M 1.8



M 1.9



M 1.10



M 2.1



M 2.2



M 2.3



M 2.4



M 3.1



M 3.2

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
M 4.1 ^a	-	Bk	Aug 44	New York	15
M 4.2 ^b	-	V	Dec 43-May 45	Washington, D.C. New York Washington, D.C.	15 15 15
M 5.1 ^c	-	R-v	Mar 42	San Antonio	200
M 6.1 ^d	-		Dec 44	San Francisco	
M 7.1 ^e	-	V		? (POW)	

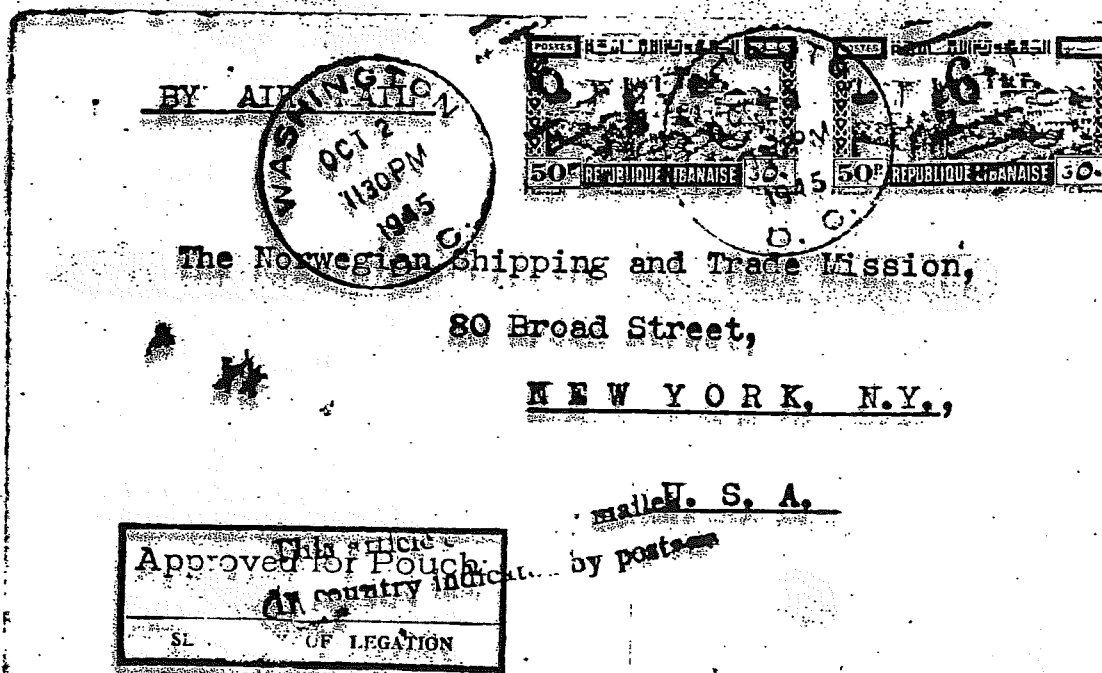
^aThe M 4 devices appear to have been used only on registered mail.

^bThe cover shown below bears what appears to be an M 4.2, in black. This cannot indicate censorship, as censorship ceased in August, 1945. Those examples of M 4.2 which we are fairly certain indicate censorship are found in the lower right corner (viewed from the back) of the back of the cover, usually accompanied by a B 1.6 on the front.

^cM 5.1 appears to be S 2.2 plus a post office handstamp, both struck on a brown paper tape and applied, like F 15s, over the address on the cover.

^dOnly one example of M 6.1 has been reported. Its purpose is unknown to us.

^eThis could be a camp marking or an Office of Censorship device. If the latter, we would value it at 200 points



XX



M 4.1

M 4.2

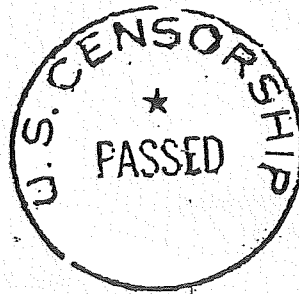


BY
AUTHORITY OF CENSOR

M 5.1

D.P.C.
S.F.

M 6.1



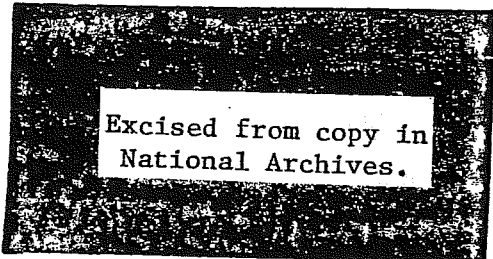
M 7.1

APPENDIX

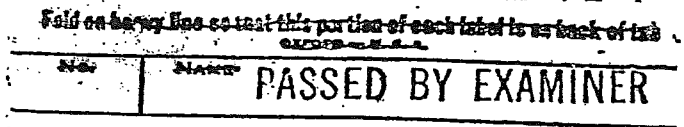
Censorship Devices Illustrated in the History

The illustrations reproduced here are somewhat smaller than they appear in the History. Except for th two notes on excisions on this page, all text is from the History.

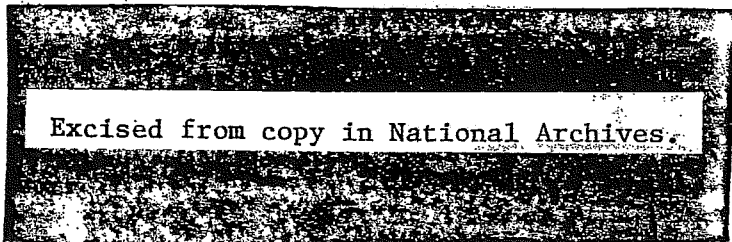
IMPROVISED LABELS.



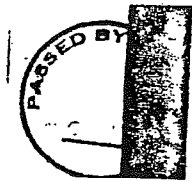
NEW ORLEANS - December 1941 until
Receipt of standard
labels.



MIAMI - Beginning until December 22, 1941.

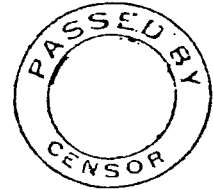


MIAMI - from December 22, 1941 until
January 20, 1942.



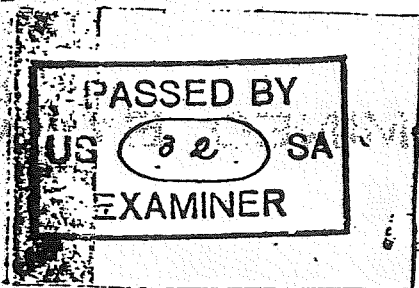
SEATTLE - beginning until receipt of
standard labels.

RELEASED By Authority of the
District Postal Censor.



SAN FRANCISCO - Beginning until receipt
of standard labels

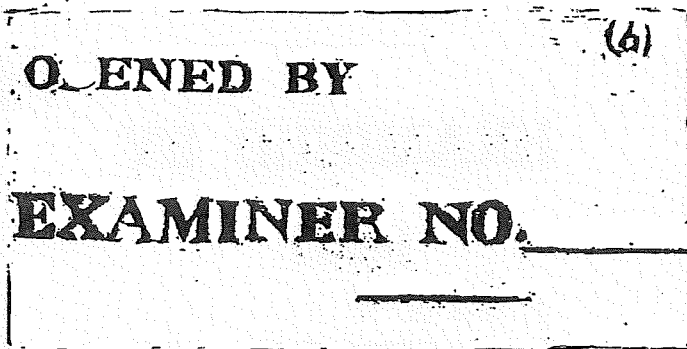
SAN FRANCISCO - Beginning until receipt
of standard labels -



SAN ANTONIO - Beginning until receipt of standard labels.

OPENED BY
EXAMINER NO. _____

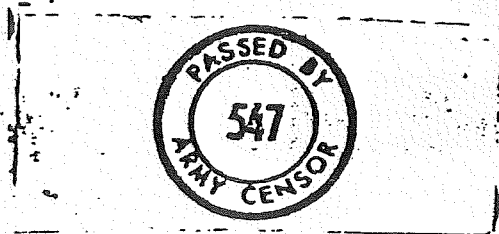
CHICAGO - Beginning until receipt of standard labels.



Chicago - Beginning until receipt of Standard labels.

RELEASED BY I.C.B. 59

HONOLULU - Beginning until receipt of standard labels - used on civil mail



HONOLULU - Used on military mail.

12/11/41

EXAMINED
BY CENSOR NO.

5/41

12/13/41

EXAMINED BY

E

2 1/4 x 3 1/2

12/12/41

EXAMINED BY

E

2 x 3 3/4

1/4

EXAMINED BY

6267

7 3/4 x 4

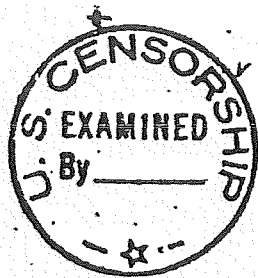
1/12/42

EXAMINED BY

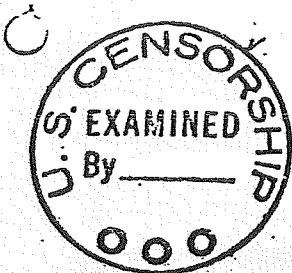
E

1 3/4 x 4
SUBSTITUTE NO. 2000000

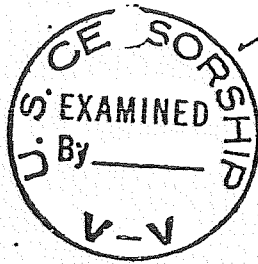
NEW YORK - from December 12, 1941, until receipt of standard labels, February 1, 1942. Last sample used whenever supply of labels with numbers printed there on was exhausted.



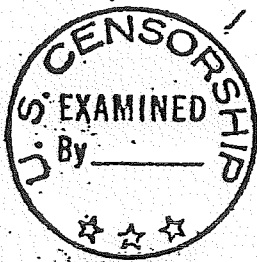
NEW YORK



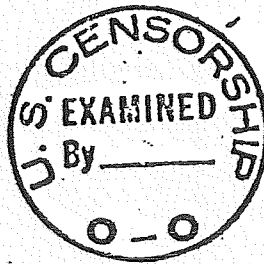
SAN ANTONIO



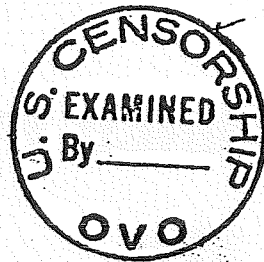
SEATTLE



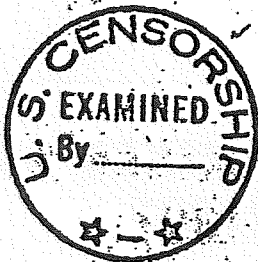
MIAMI



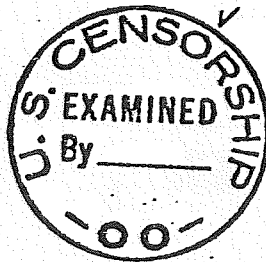
CRISTOBAL



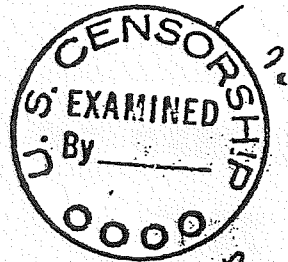
HONOLULU



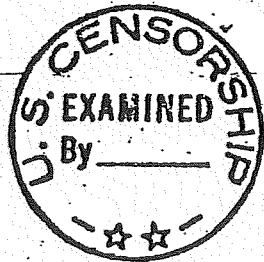
SAN JUAN



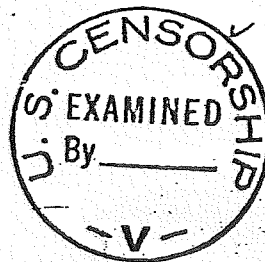
EL PASO



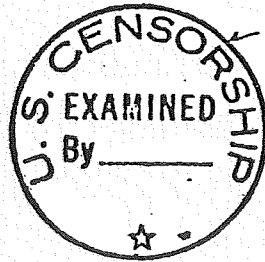
MANILA *Manila*



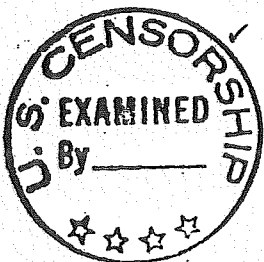
NEW ORLEANS



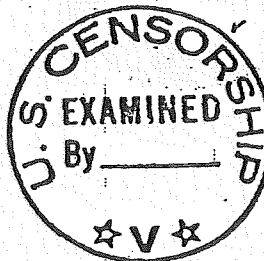
SAN FRANCISCO



CHICAGO



BALBOA



LOS ANGELES

STANDARD LABELS.

EXAMINED BY

2998

EXAMINED BY

13510

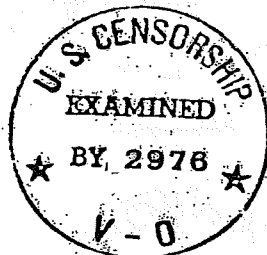
EXAMINED BY

2991

EX

EXAMINED BY

31397



Update I to Civil Censorship In the United States During World War II

by Dann Mayo & Bill Broderick*

As we hoped and expected, the publication of our book on US civil censorship during World War II has led a number of collectors to report new information. (Happily —gleefully from our perspective— we've also been adding to our own collections as well.) We would like to thank Alan J. Brown, Collyer Church, Dave Conford, Myron Fox, Gene Garrett, Alfred Klages, Harry Metzler, Harry Schwalm and F. Yank for information appearing below. We would encourage other members who have new devices or numbers/dates/etc. that expand the ranges shown in the book to get in touch with us.

We have not treated the customs handstamps (of the types dealt with by Collyer Church in CCSG Bulletin Vol. VIII, No. 6) in this update. From the examples that we have seen, and those reported by Collyer, it appears pretty certain that these items do deserve to be treated as censor handstamps as the customs officials, when they applied them to covers that they had opened for inspection were carrying out a censorship function under authority delegated by the Office of Censorship. We will present information on these types of devices in a future update.

The following represent corrections of or additions to information for devices already reported in our book.

<u>Device</u>	<u>New Data</u>
S 2.1.1	Color should be V, not P
S 2.1.2	Color should be V, not P
S 2.7.4	Jun 42 - Mar 43
S 3.1.1	#s 5967-7180; Apr 42 - Jul 42
S 4.2.2	#s 1757 - 1801; Jan 42
S 6.1.3	Jun 45
S 7.2.3	Mar 43 - Jun 43
S 7.2.5	Add color, R-v
B 1.1	#s as before plus 2092-2115
B 2.1	#s as before plus 13007-13035
C 1.4	Add color, B1; Sep 42 - Aug 44
C 2.2	Aug 42 - Sep 42
C 3.1	Jan 42 - May 42
C 4.1	#s 152-848
C 4.3.2	#s 6021-8271, 21404
C 5.1	Renumber as C 5.1.1; #s as before plus 3332-3478; Jun 42 - Nov 42
C 5.3	Renumber as C 5.3.1

*
© 1981, Wilfrid N. Broderick

- C 6.1.1 #s as before plus 3925-3928; Jan 43 - Nov 43
- C 8.1.1 #s as before plus 1473-1670
- C 8.1.2 #s 2636-2664, 10303; Feb 43 - Sep 43
- C 9.1 #s as before plus 66013-66168
- C 10.1.1 #s as before plus 12821-12971, 12992^d; (Note ^d #12992 was used at Naco, Arizona (TC).); Naco (TC) 250 pts.
- C 10.1.2 #s as before plus 68062-68175
- C 10.2.1 #s 68047-68176
- C 10.2.3 #s 2293, 12808-12937; Jun 42 - Nov 43
- C 11.1.1 #s as before plus 2041-2260
- C 11.2 Add color, B1; Dec 42 - Jan 45
- C 13.1 #s as before plus 71056-71215, 72003-72020; Jul 42- Oct 4
- C 14.1 Renumber as C 14.1.1
- C 14.2 #s 2296, 11215, 12846-12980; Mar 43- Jul 44
- * L 1.3 Add note ^e: L 1.3 has been reported with two spacings between the lines of type: 16mm and 18mm.
- L 1.4.2 #s as before plus 13190; Balboa 75 pts.
- L 1.4.4 #s as before plus 3126-3202
- T 2.6.2 #s 6262-6857
- T 2.21.1 Change "Stations" to New York (TC); Add Note ^c: Covers in this number series have been noted postmarked at Newport News, Norfolk, and Philadelphia, respectively. All of these are TC substations of New York. It is probable that certain numbers in this series were allocated to each of these substations.
- T 2.72.1 #s 72004-72006; Jun 42 - Feb 45
- T 3.1.1 #s 10607-12000
- T 7.75.8 Add #75027 in V, Mar 45
- F 2.1 Add Honolulu, 125 pts.
- F 4.3 Add New Orleans, 175 pts.
- F 12.2 Feb 42 - Jul 42; Add Chicago, 200 pts.
- F 13.2 Bk/yel; Aug 42 - Sep 42; Add Chicago, 200 pts.
- F 14.2 Add Seattle, 200 pts.
- M 6.1 200 pts.

Before listing the new devices, a few words may be in order about use of the book thusfar. First, it should be noted that, where there are multiple number series and multiple stations for a device, you cannot read across from the number column to the station column and come up with the right result (in most cases). It is necessary

to refer back to the number series pages (31-33) to find out which station is identified by what number. We regret the confusion that this has caused for some people. Second, with regard to pricing, it would appear that the better (say 175 points & above) material may be underpriced by our system, while the middle-graded material (say 50 + 25 points, especially) may be overpriced at 10¢ per point. As a group, Canal Zone material appears to be underpriced. Nonetheless, we use the same point scale for the new devices below.

NEW DEVICES

TYPE	NUMBERS	COLORS	DATES	STATIONS	PTS.
S 2.7.5	-	Bk	Nov 42	Cristobal	150
S 7.2.6	-	Bk	Sep 44	New York (TC) ^b	60
^b Recorded on cover postmarked Philadelphia.					
S 9.2	-	R-v	Feb 42	Chicago	250
S 9.3	-		Apr 42	New York	200
S12.1.8	-	R-v	Nov 44	New Orleans (TC)	200
S12.1.9	-	R-v	Nov 44	New Orleans (TC)	200
S12.1.10	-	Bk	Jun 44	New York	150
B 2.2	13506	Bk		Cristobal	200
C 1.1.4	-	Bk	Dec 41	San Francisco	500
C 5.1.2	3319	V	Mar 43	New Orleans	75
C 5.3.2	3401,14323	Bk, R-v	Mar 42	New Orleans	200
C 5.4	2832	B1	Jul 42	San Juan	200
C11.4	36265	Bk	___ 45	San Antonio	125
C14.1.2	8490	Bk	Aug 43	Washington, D.C.	250
C14.3.2	56042-56046	Bk	Dec 44-May 45	Los Angeles (TC) ^a	250
^a #56042 noted on cover postmarked San Diego; 56046 on cover postmarked Calexico.					
L 2.3	13109	-		Balboa	200
L 2.4	13121	-	Nov 42	Balboa	200
T 2.52.1	52003-52006	Bk, R-v	Mar 44-Nov 44	New Orleans (TC)	100
F 4.6	-	Bk/Grey-grn	Feb 43	Miami	175
F13.1			Apr 42	New York	200
F CPCH-88	-		Jul 42	Chicago	250
F Ho-2	-	Bk/Grey	Jun 43	Honolulu	250
F M-70	-		Dec 43	San Francisco	250
M 8.1 ^f	-	Bk	Jan 45	New Orleans	200

^fOnly one example of M 8.1 has been reported. Its purpose is unknown to us.

RELEASED BY CENSOR

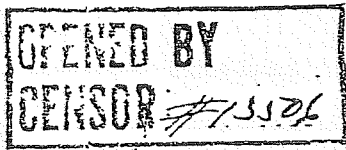
S 2.7.5

As S 7.2.4 but 35x10mm & the T of TO is over the S of AUTHORITIES

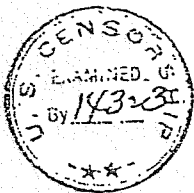
S 7.2.6

RECEIVED FROM CUSTOMS

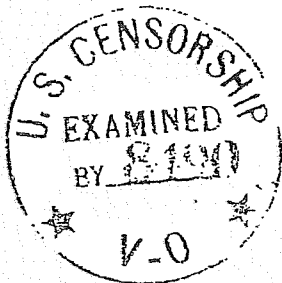
SI2.1.8



B 2.2



C 5.3.2

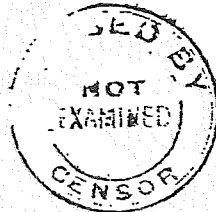


C14.1.2

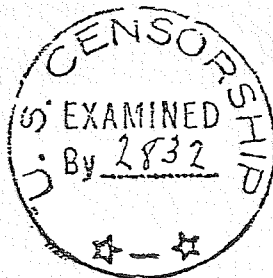
S 9.2

RECEIVED FROM CUSTOMS

SI2.1.9



C 1.1.4



C. 5.4



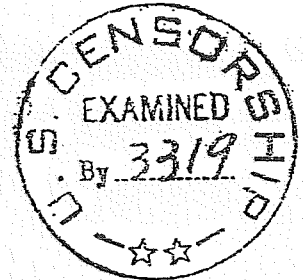
C14.3.2

RETURN TO SENDER. NOT PASSED BY CENSOR.

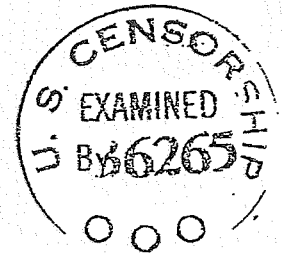
S 9.3

RECEIVED FROM CUSTOMS

SI2.1.10



C 5.1.2



C11.4

ABIERTA POR CENSURA

ABIERTA POR CENSURA

DEFENSA CONTINENTAL

DEFENSA CONTINENTAL

No. 13109

No. 13121

L 2.3

L 2.4

The United States censor is not responsible for the mutilation of this letter

This communication is returned to sender because it mentions

- ~~Defense Matters~~
- ~~Shipping~~
- ~~Weather Conditions~~
- ~~Location of U.S. Forces~~

prohibited by this Department

1718
NC Form No. 4

4286

Form NC-13

5017

F 4.6

F 13.1

This communication is returned to sender because the addressee has not been officially listed as a Prisoner of War. Immediately upon receipt of official information from the enemy war holding prisoners, the Information Branch, Plans Division, Provost Marshal General's Office, Washington, D. C., informs the next of kin of the correct mailing address. No attempt should be made to correspond with anyone through prisoner war correspondence channels until that person has been officially designated as a prisoner of war by the appropriate Military or Naval authority.

This envelope contained no enclosure when it reached the censor.

HO-2

2636

CPCH No. 88 Rev. 207

180

F CPCH 88

F HO-2

US WW II Censorship Devices: Correction

There was an error on Vol. 9, page 44 of the Bulletin. The device labeled S 9.3 is in fact S 9.2. S 9.3 appears below:

Return to Sender

BY CENSOR