

**Section B "Yanks at War"**  
**France 1917**  
**Base Hospitals**

**"First to the Front"**  
**Base Hospitals 2 & 4**

**Frame II. France 1917**

- 1-4 Base Hospitals "First to the Front"
- 5-8 ARC Direct Support
- 9-12 ARC Military Hospitals
- 13-16 Lansing sisters/"Deux Drapeaux"

**Frame III. France 1917-1919**

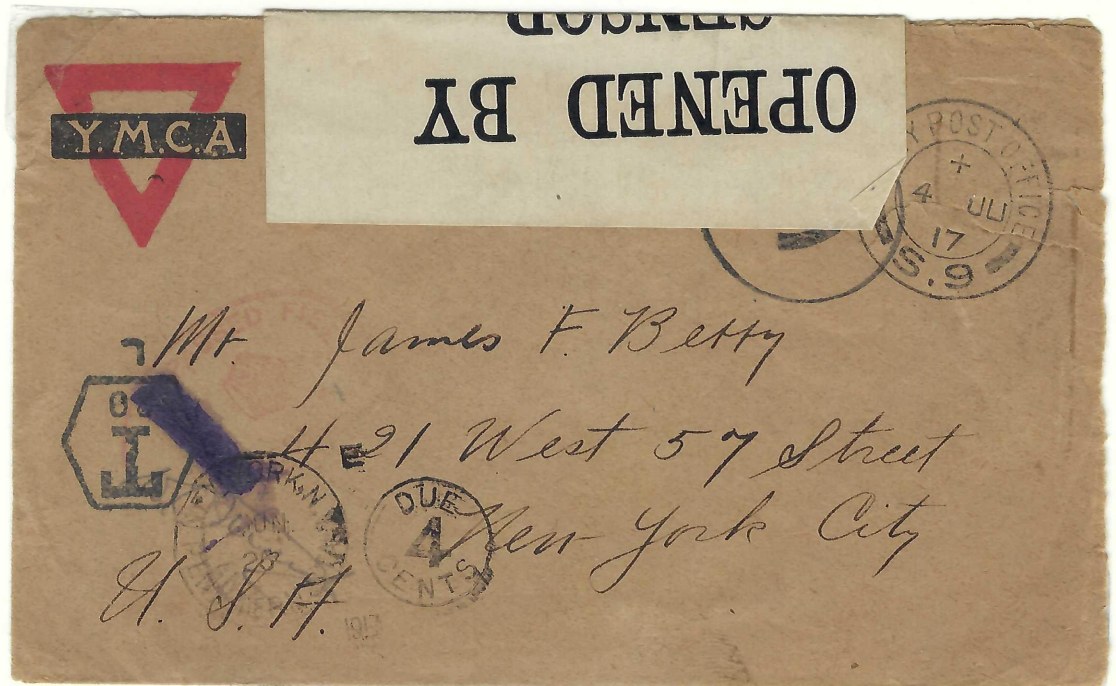
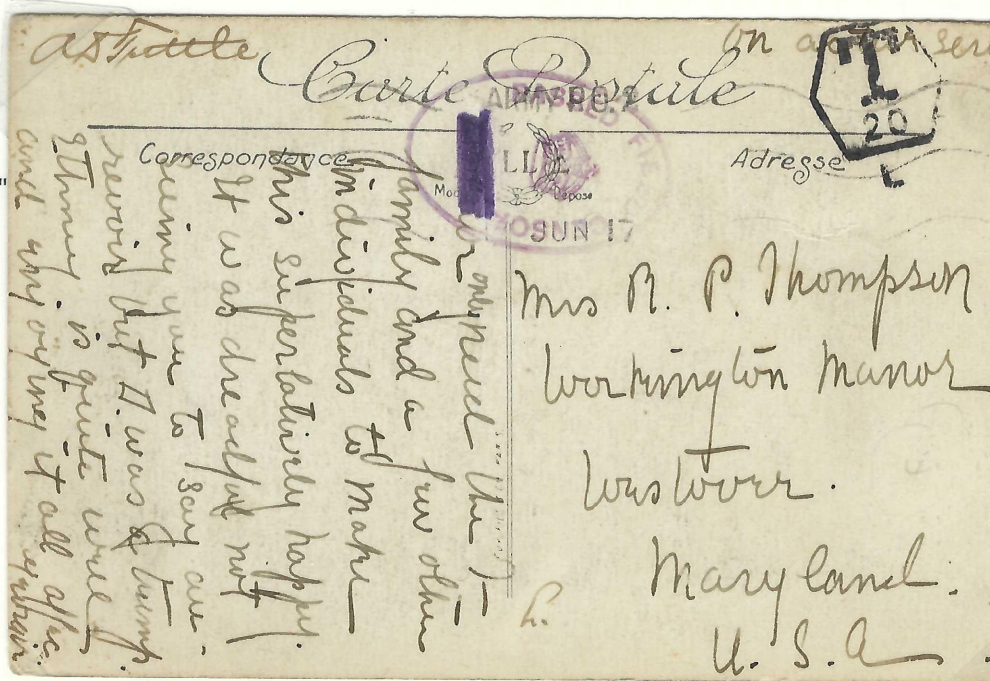
- 1-7 ARC Paris
- 8-12 Support for the People
- 13-15 ARC France
- 16 Society of Friends

**Frame IV. Abroad 1917-1919**

- 1-4 Xmas 1918
- 5-8 ARC England
- 9-10 Mission to Russia
- 11 USS Gen. O'Reilly
- 12 Occupation of Germany
- 13-16 post armistice France

**Frame V. Italy 1917-1919**

- 1-2 ARC support prior to entry
- 3-7 ARC locations
- 8 Franchigia Postale
- 9-12 Propaganda Postcard
- 13-15 Ambulance
- 16 "Finito"



Both with British  
 Field Post/censor.  
 Free franking  
 not granted until  
 October 19, 1917

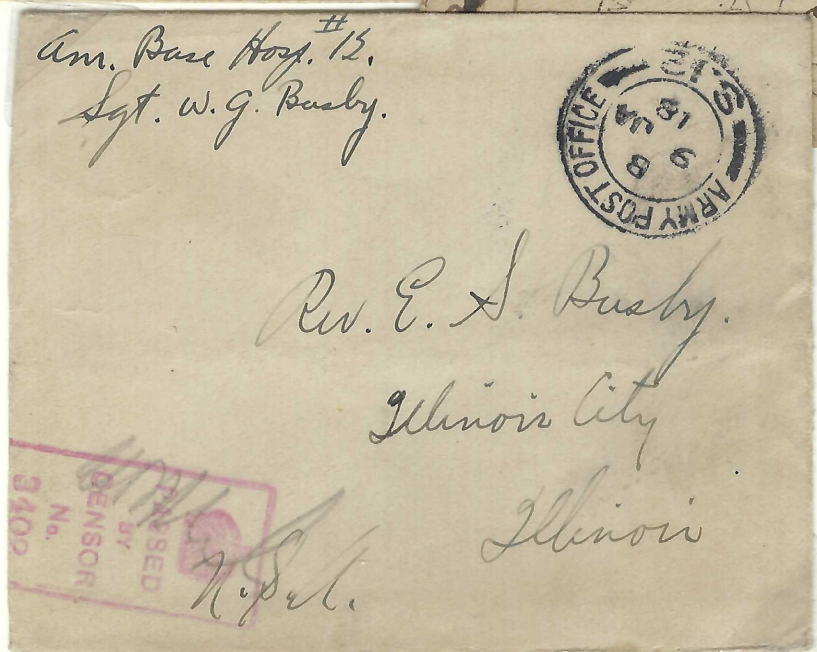
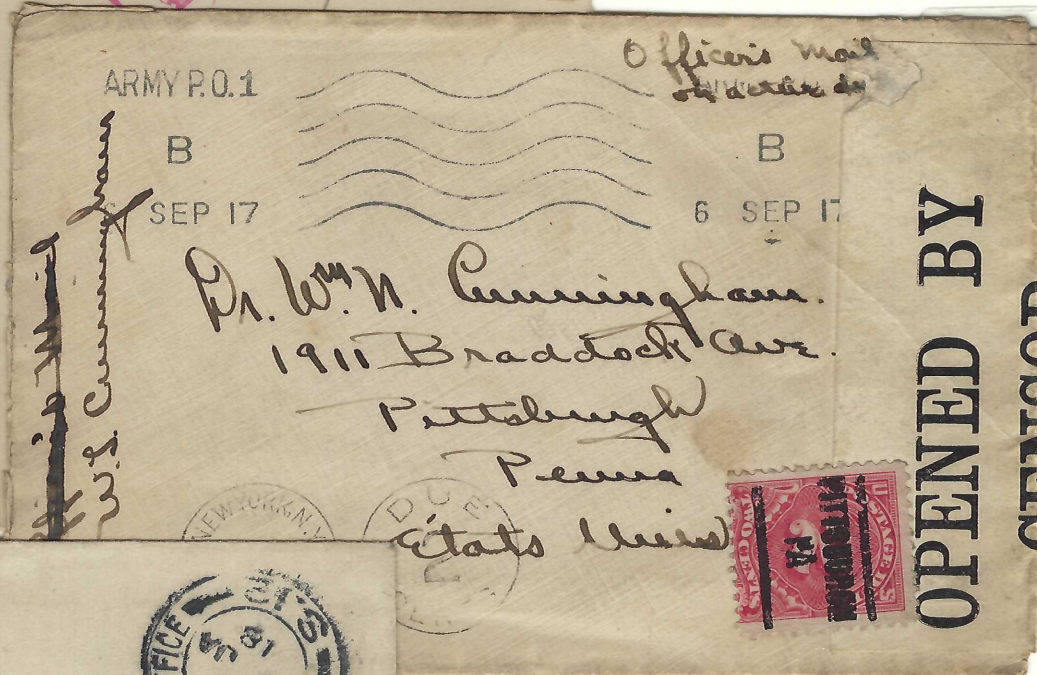
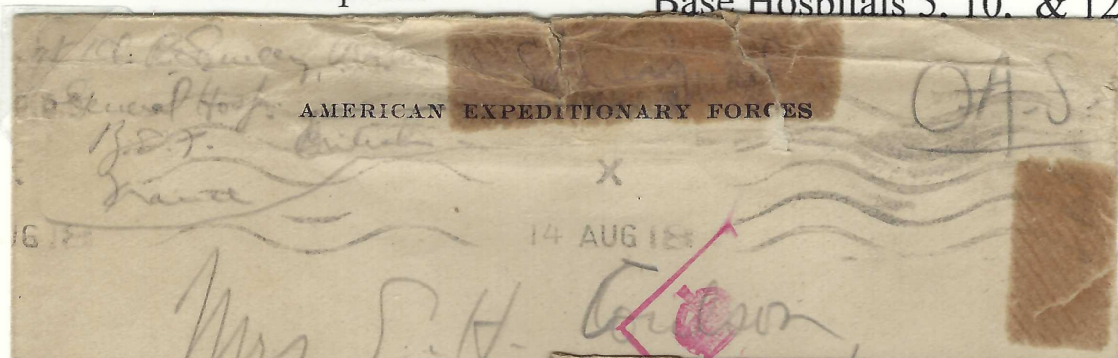
The AEF "Base Hospital"(BH) was designed in late 1915 by then Surgeon General Gorgas in collaboration with Drs. George Crile (BH4) and Harvey Cushing (BH5). The hospitals existence was the work of the ARC. First, the ARC organized public fund raising,(hospital's number was based on when the \$50,000 goal was reached). Second, ARC recruited and vetted the nurses.

Post card Base Hospital 4(Lakeside) was in Rouen collocated with BEF Hospital 9.  
 YMCA envelope Base Hospital 2(Presbetyrian) in Etretat collocated BEF Hospital 1.  
 Both are rare very early AEF mail.



Yanks at War  
 "First to the Front"  
 ARC Base Hospitals

Base Hospitals 5, 10, & 12



Each Base Hospital originated at a major US medical facilities. Six BH units were mobilized within the first month to meet urgent British army medical needs.

Upper: BH 5 (Harvard) marked "OAS" (On Active Service), equivalent of "Soldiers Mail").

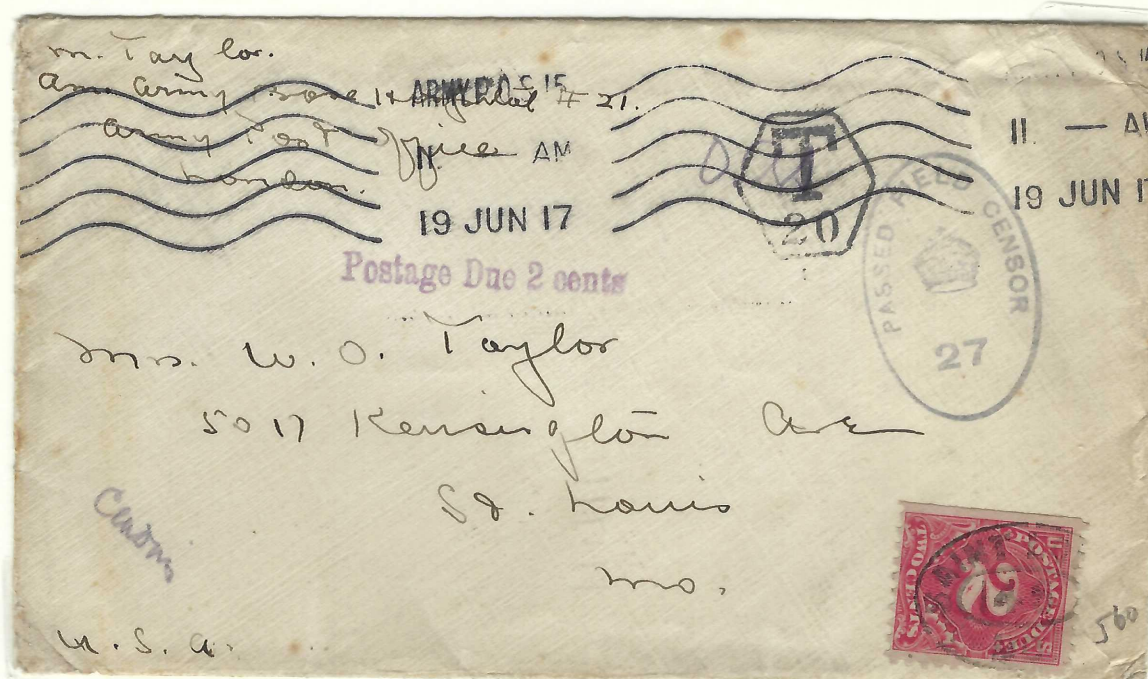
Mid: BH10 (Penn) at Le Treport with British "ARMY PO 1 B 6 SEP 17".

Lower: BH12 (Northwestern) at Camiers posted 9 JUN 18 with APO S,12(La Harve) cancel.

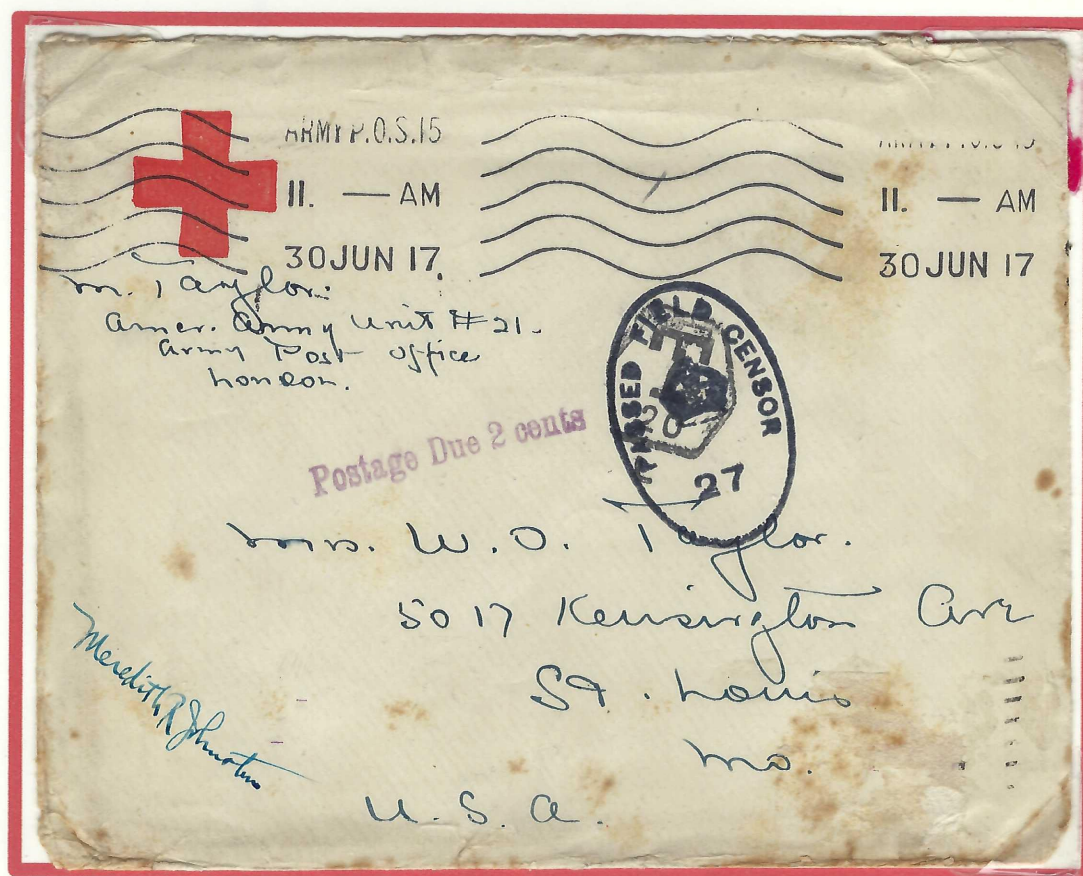


Yanks at War  
 "First to the Front"  
 ARC Base Hospitals

BH 21 Training in UK



First Use Red Cross Stationery AEF



Base Hospital 21 (Washington University) sailed with BH 10. They disembarked in Liverpool and had a brief interval of training in England.



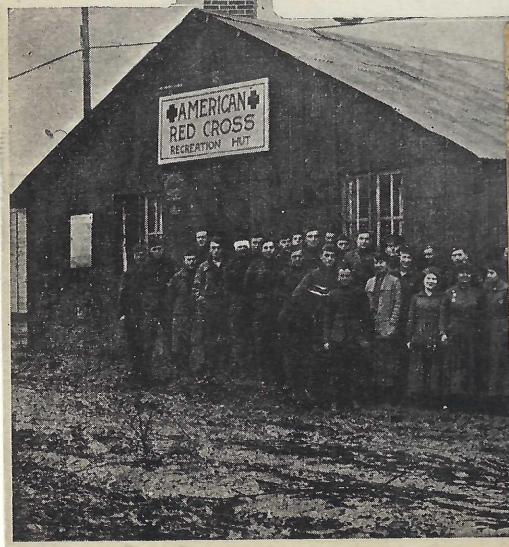
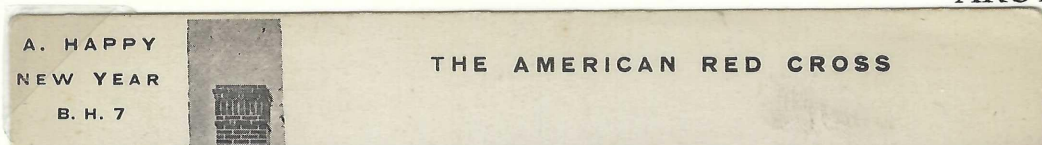
Yanks at War  
 "First to the Front"  
 ARC Base Hospitals

BH 21 + British GH 12

Supplementary  
 marking "NOT"  
 BH 21 British  
 GH 12"  
 collocated  
 BEF/AEF  
 hospitals



ARC Activities Base Hospitals

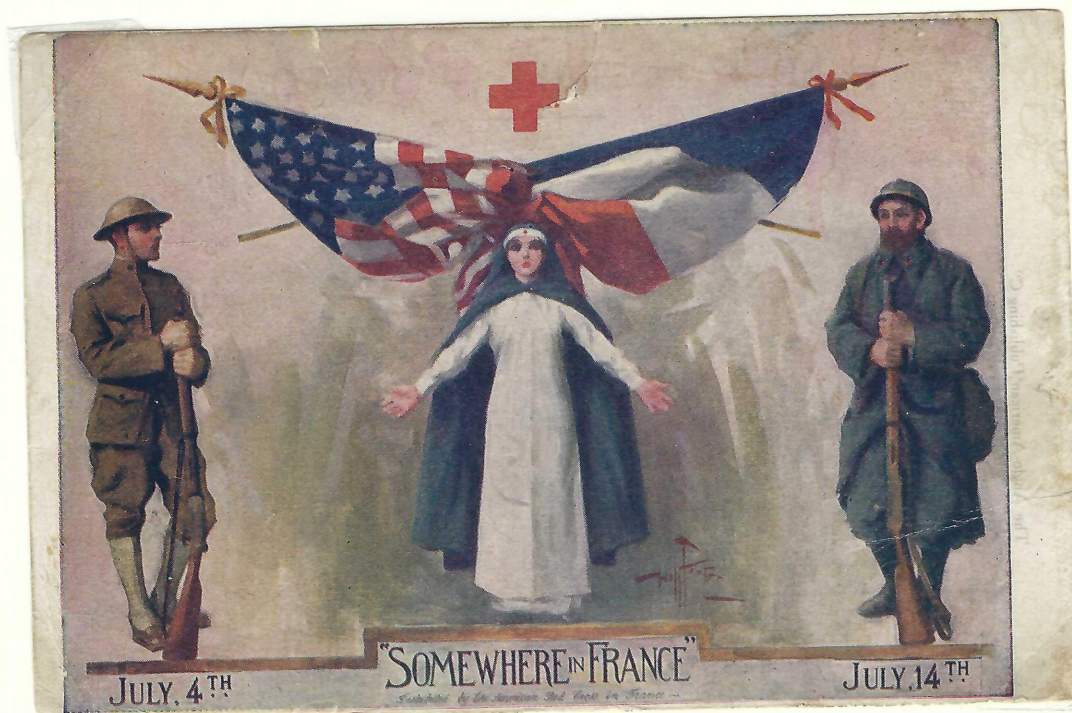


Lower post cards "ARC Recreation Hut BH7" and Red Cross flag raising BH 17 illustrate ARC functions and standing at the base hospitals..



Yanks at War  
ARC Reaches France

ARC Postcards: its Mission to France



The upper card produced by the ARC Boston Chapter in 1917. Lower post card an iconic image with "published by ARC in France" just below the censor's favorite "Somewhere in France".



Yanks at War  
ARC Reaches France

ARC Controls Volunteer Relief

AMERICAN  
RED CROSS  
WOMEN'S WAR RELIEF CORPS

IN FRANCE

5, RUE FRANÇOIS-1<sup>ER</sup>

PARIS (VIII<sup>E</sup>)

41

M. Charles Carroll of Carrollt

7, rue Monsieur,

PARIS.

*Pneumatique*



"Pneumatique"  
special  
40 centime rate  
for pneumatic  
tube delivery  
within Paris.  
Uncensored.

AMERICAN  
RED CROSS  
WOMEN'S WAR RELIEF CORPS  
IN FRANCE

7, RUE FRANÇOIS I<sup>ER</sup>  
PARIS (VIII<sup>E</sup>)



Mrs. Anchincloss,

Hotel du Faisan,

T O U R S .

(Indre et Loire)

General Pershing ordered the ARC to take control of all volunteer relief. "Red Cross" added to make it "ARC" on Women's War Relief Corps return address envelopes; both mailed in mid 1917.



Yanks at War  
ARC Reaches France

ARC Ambulance Volunteers 1917

ARC Volunteer  
ambulance SSU  
62 mailed 19.7.17  
thru French  
military post 10 c  
card rate.



ARC Volunteer  
ambulance SSU 21  
mailed 2.10.17  
"TRESOR ET POSTES  
81". Foreign letter  
rate 25 centimes.  
Censor tape and  
stamp.

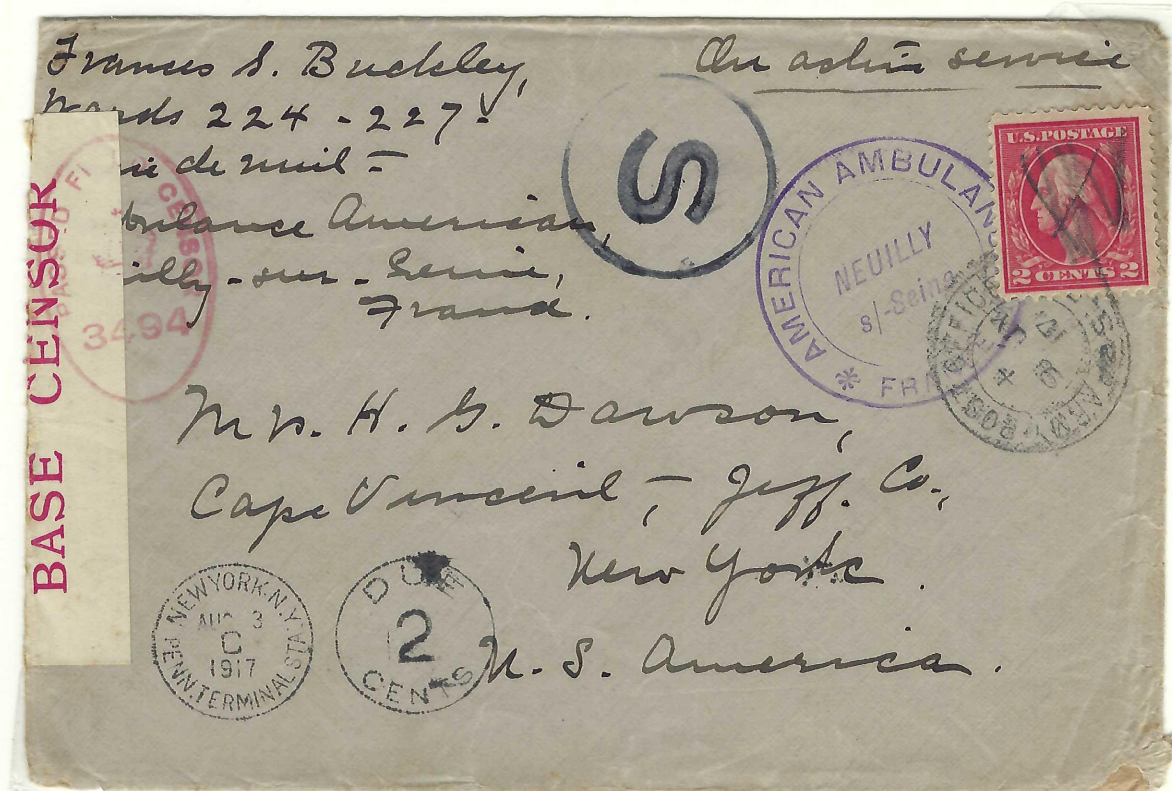
Initially the US Army had directed that all volunteer ambulance units be militarized and serve within the AEF. The French wanted these units, the "SSU", to remain attached to the French forces. The transition occurred late in the Fall and the unit continued to serve with the French Both have "ARC" unit handstamps.



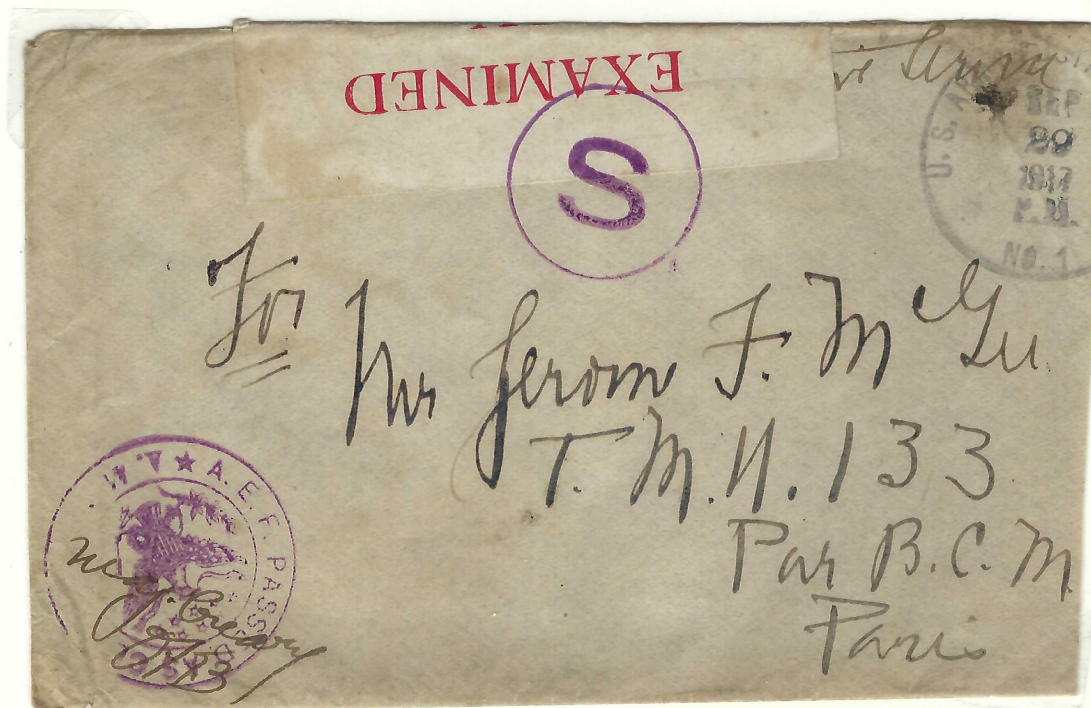
Yanks at War  
 ARC Reaches France  
 Early ARC Support = Early Mail

### American Ambulance Nurse Mail

Mailed thru  
 British FPO  
 9 JY 17 with  
 censor "S", tape,  
 and stamp.  
 Prior to free  
 franking.



Intratheater Mail Early APO #1



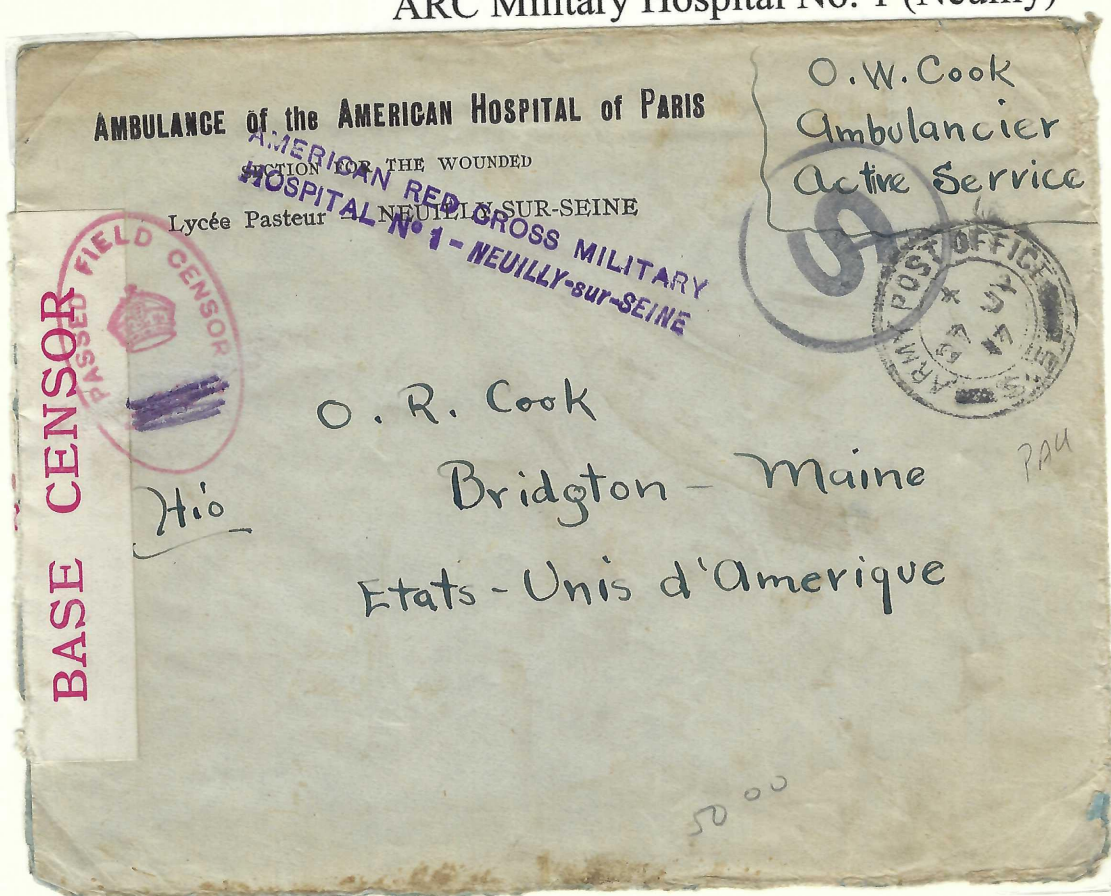
Mail to ARC  
 volunteer in French  
 service thru US Army  
 Postal Service APO  
 #1. Both US and  
 British censors Sep 20  
 1917. Free Franking

ARC provides examples of early AEF mail.



Yanks at War  
ARC Military Hospitals

ARC Military Hospital No. 1 (Neuilly)



Volunteer  
"Ambulancier"  
thru British FPO  
remarkably  
passed post free

Post free  
domestic card  
from French  
"Infirmier"  
(Corpsman)

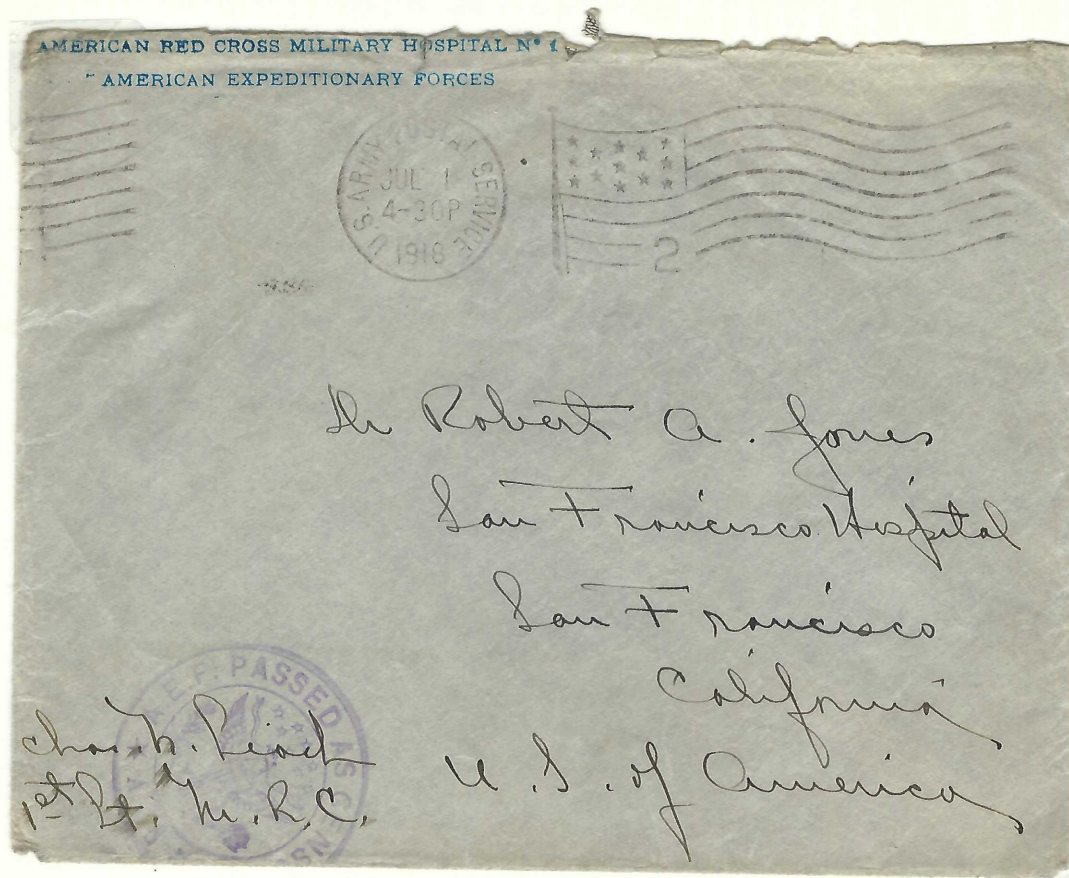


The American Ambulance at Neuilly became ARC Military Hospital No. 1. ARC military hospitals were first, hospitals equipped and supplied by the ARC rather than the AEF and second, served soldiers primarily the AEF. Two line and circular "ARC Military Hospital No1 Neuilly sur Seine" unit handstamp.

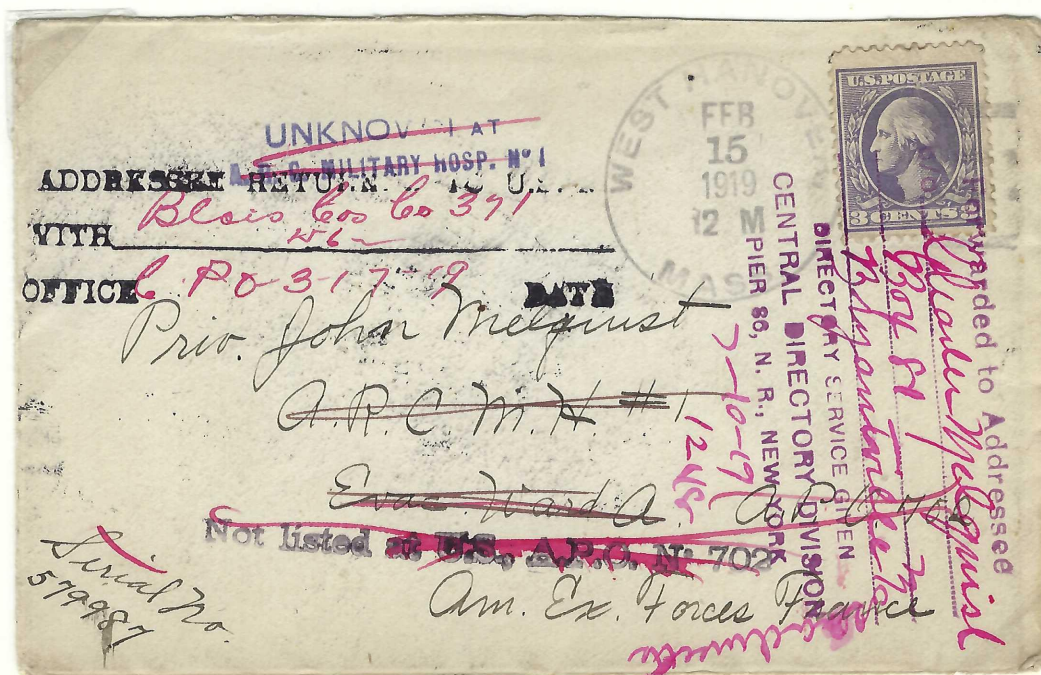


Yanks at War  
ARC Military Hospitals

ARC Military Hospital No. 1 Stationery



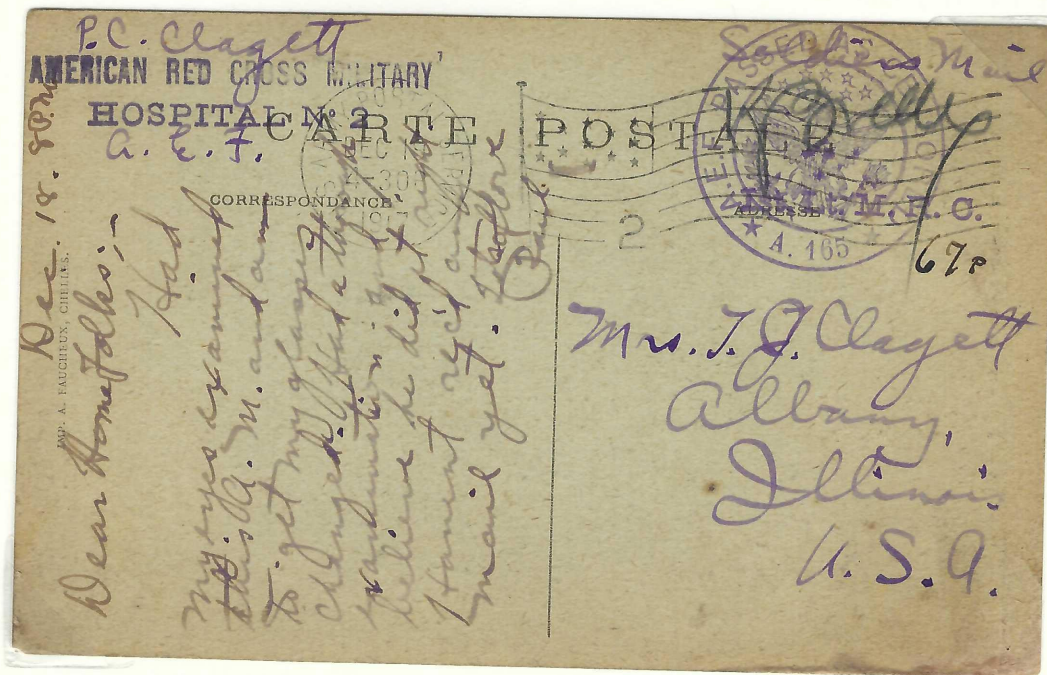
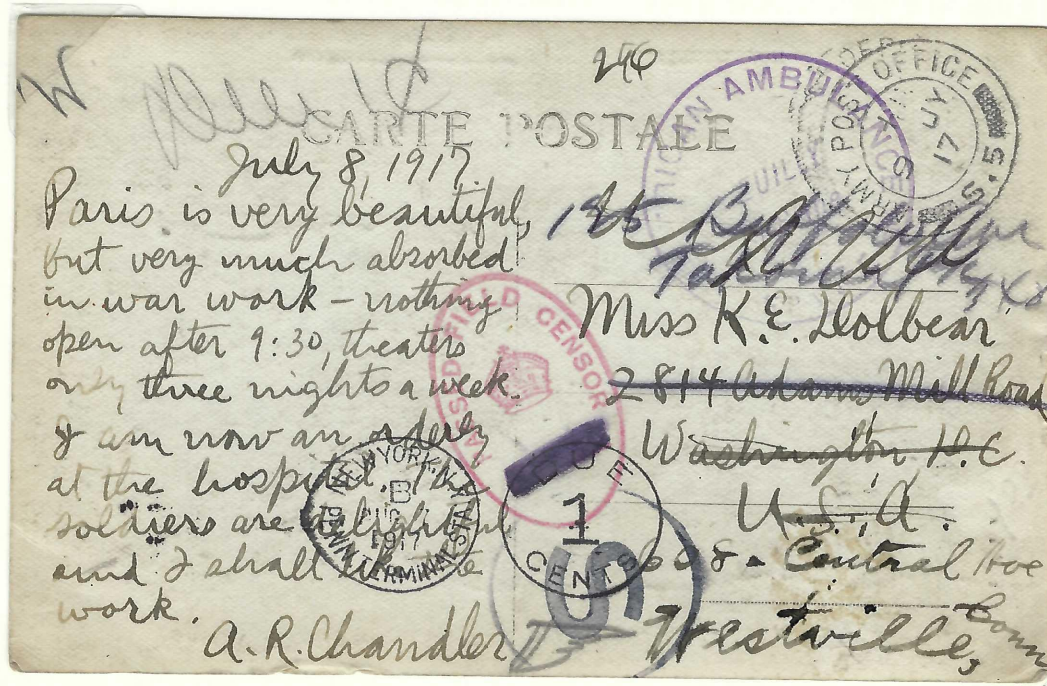
Incoming to "ARC MH #1" with Ancillary Marking





Yanks at War  
ARC Military Hospitals

ARC Military Hospital No. 2 (Juilly)

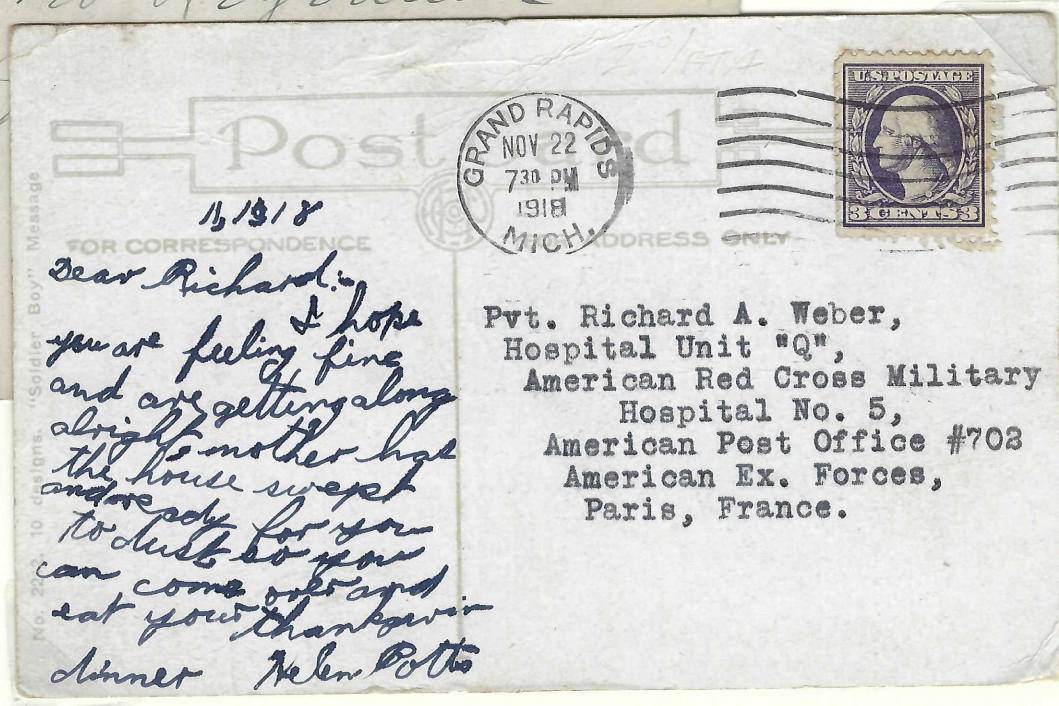


Two cards from ARC unit in Juilly. Upper with circular "American Ambulance Juilly" and lower two line "ARC Military Hospital No 2" unit handstamps.



Yanks at War  
ARC Military Hospitals

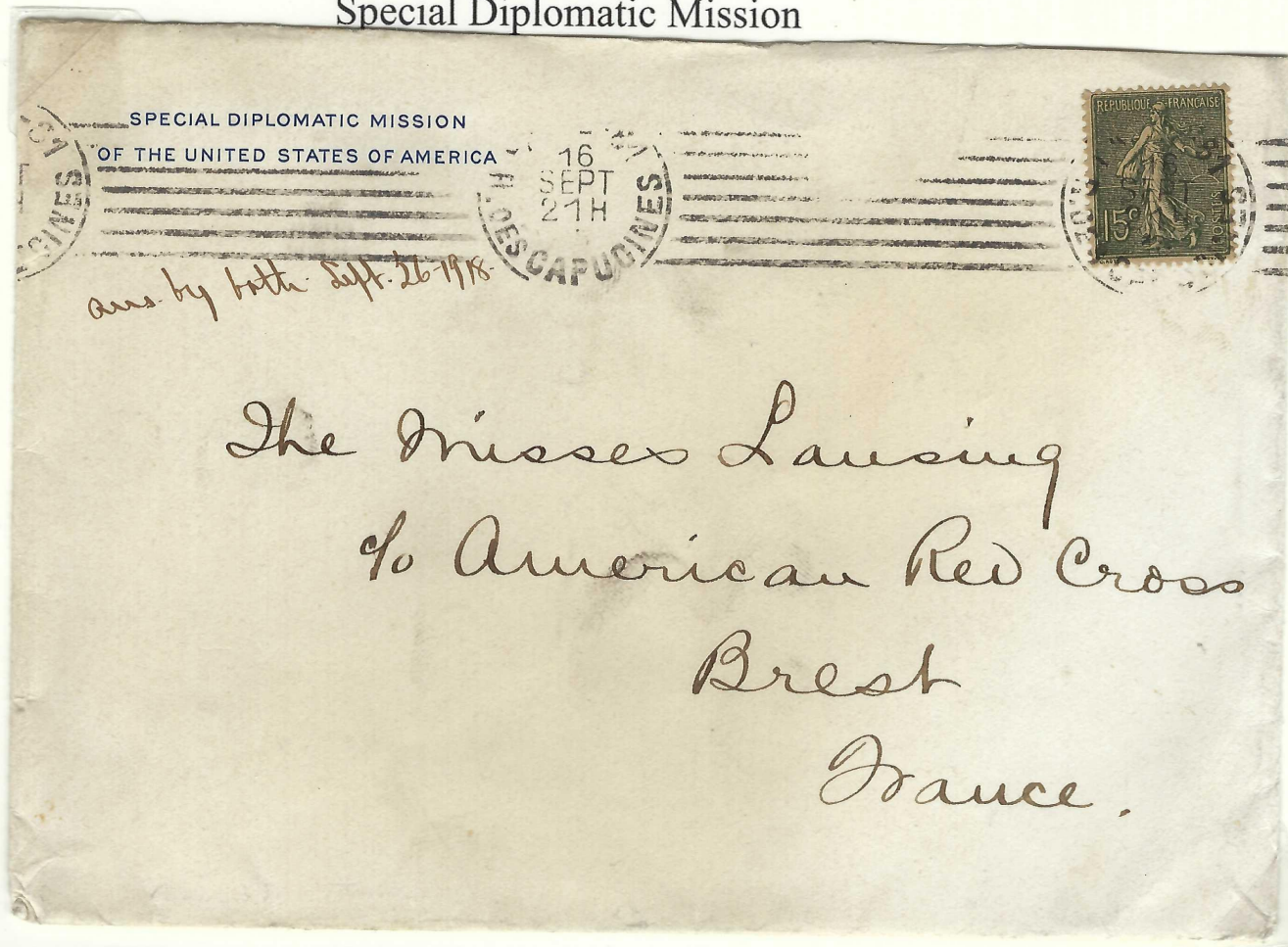
ARC Military Hospitals 3, 5, & 6





Yanks at War  
Lansing Sisters and "Two Flags"

Special Diplomatic Mission



Intratheater Mail to US Embassy



ARC volunteers Emma and Katherine Lansing. Their brother was Secretary of State Robert Lansing. Their mail accordingly has unique features.



Yanks at War  
Lansing Sisters and "Two Flags"

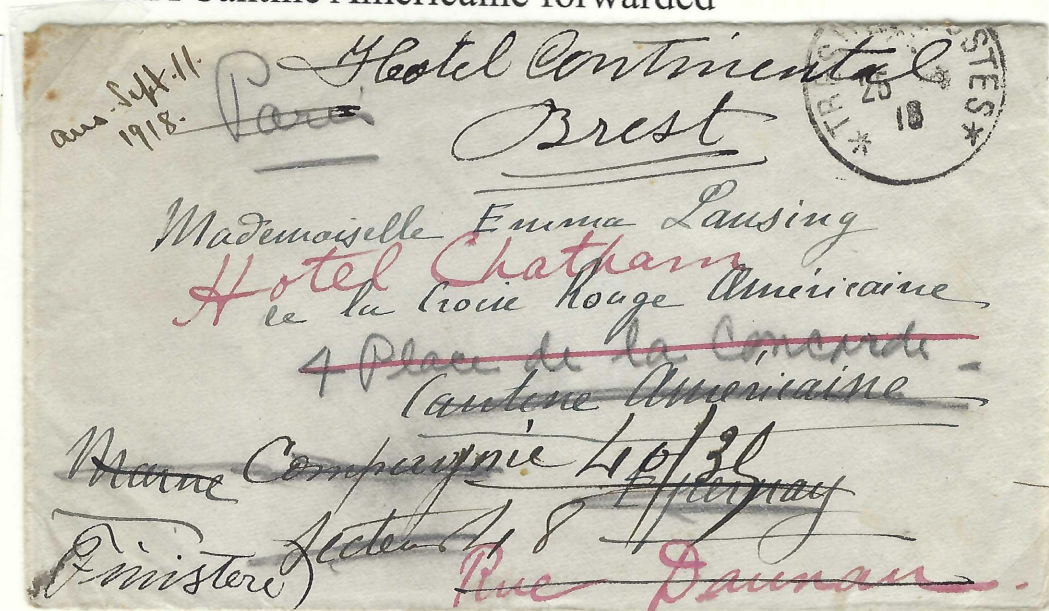
Pouch Mail



CRA Cantine Americaine forwarded



State Department Seal



Forwarded envelope reflects the multiple ARC Canteen locations where the sisters served including "Compagnie Secteur" and ARC HQ "4 Place de la Concorde" sent via French field post "TRESOR ET POSTES".

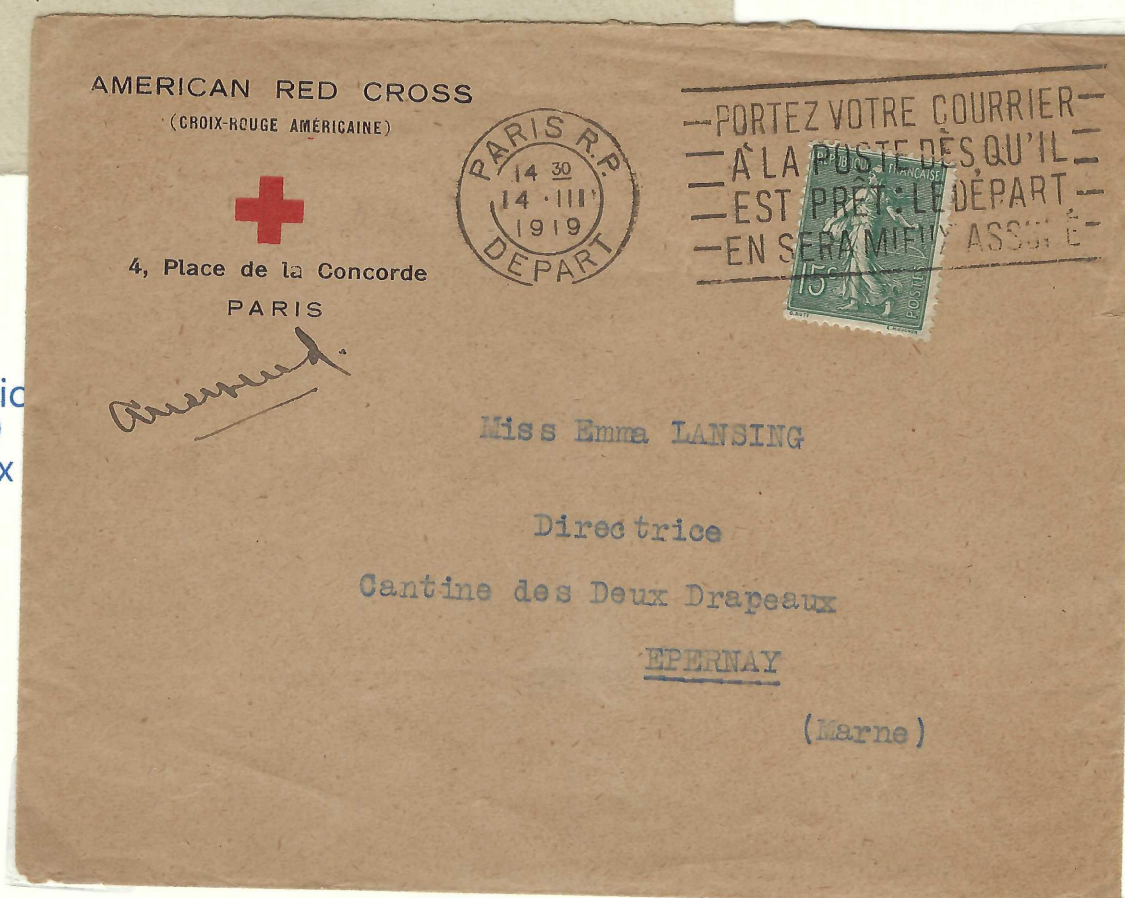


Yanks at War  
 Lansing Sisters and "Two Flags"  
 ARC Support French "Poilu" Cantine des Deux Drapeaux Cards



"Official Mail" free  
 franking APO 702  
 AEF censor 1848 to  
 "ARC Canteen"

Mail from Paris ARC  
 Hq with 15c domestic  
 letter rate 14.III.1919  
 to "Cantine des Deux  
 Drapeaux". Mail via  
 AEF was censored  
 until July 1919.



ARC mail to Miss Lansing at the canteen in Epernay.  
 Both sisters received the Croix de Guerre for their service.

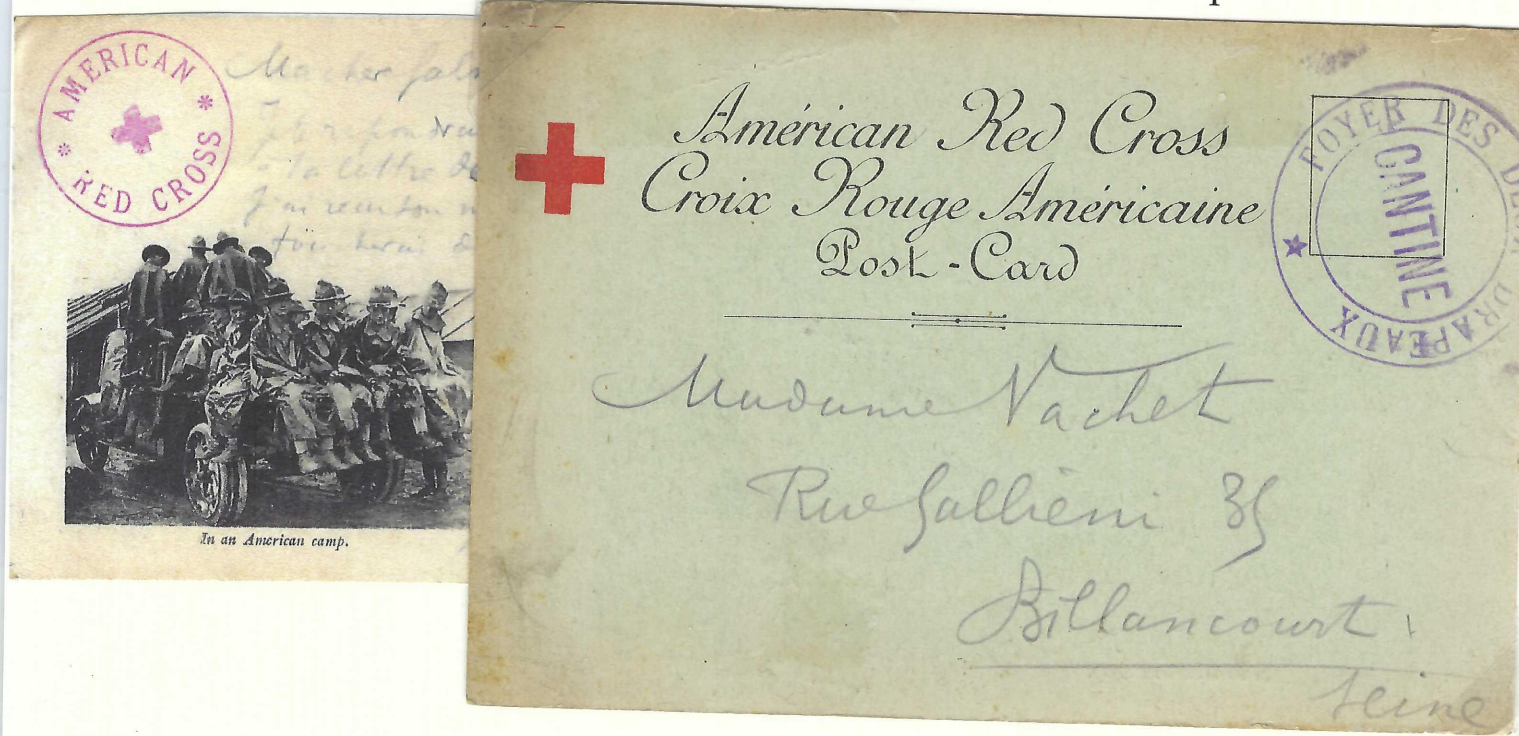


Yanks at War  
Lansing Sisters and "Two Flags"  
ARC Support French "Poilu"

Postcard "Cantine des Deux Drapeau CRA"



ARC/CRA Postcard "Foyer des Deux Drapeaux"



Post cards of the series "Cantine des Deux Drapeaux" (Canteen of the Two Flags). These were available free to the French troops. "Poilu" is equivalent to US "G.I."