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## *Postal History Place:*

**From the Stamp Specialist Gray Book, 1943, Pt. 4**

# **A Sheaf of War Covers**

**From the Collection of The Reverend William H. Tower  
Vice-President of the War Cover Club**

*As noted in part 1, from time to time the author refers to covers whose images were not included in the article. In addition, it was difficult to find similar images to those pictured or referred to in the text. JFD.*

Southeastern Europe has long been regarded as a tinder-box where trouble might blaze up and spread. Back in 1912 and 1913 it was helping to establish and confirm that reputation when Bulgaria, Montenegro, and Greece united in the Balkan War against Turkey on the excuse that Macedonia was suffering under her misrule. Our pages show covers of 1912 and 1913, the first of which is a Bulgarian card with a solid red circular imprint, her "War Tax"



*Bulgaria 1912 postal card with red War Tax overprint. Reverse has a photograph of Prince Boris. He later became Tsar Boris III of Bulgaria, and died in 1943 under mysterious circumstances following a visit to Hitler in Germany.*

*A 1913 censored cover sent by a soldier in Bulgaria's 45th Infantry Regiment.*



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stamp. This is followed by a cover reversed so as to show the backstamps—a circular blue censor mark and a regular postal marking of the 27th of April—just a month before peace was made. The first Balkan War, for there were two, was of short duration and ended in a complete victory over Turkey and the partition of conquered territory, Bulgaria getting the lion's share. Scarcely had it come to an end with the treaty of peace, signed in London on the 30th of May, when dissension arose over the distribution of the territory, and Bulgaria desiring even more began hostilities against Serbia and Greece. This conflict is represented on the next page by a cover sent from Lozengrad to Cairo with a very distinctive censor mark, a solid black circle with lettering standing out in white. Her avaricious venture brought her nothing, for by the 31st of July—surrounded by her enemies, who by then included Roumania and Turkey—she was obliged to sue for peace. Italy now comes to the front in



The distinctive feature of this Balkan War cover, 1912-1913, is its large black Censor Mark. The state of Macedonia under Ottoman rule was the excuse of Bulgaria, Serbia, and Greece for declaring war against Turkey. The Turks were badly beaten in three months, and the Treaty of Peace was signed in London, May 30, 1913. See also, p. 56.

her desire to build up an Empire reaching into Africa, and embarking on her Ethiopian War beginning in 1934. Even the small detail of army correspondence received her careful attention, for we see an attractive card already printed up, "Cartolina Postale Per Le Forze Armate." Our page shows a used copy franked with stamps of the African colony, Eritrea, and showing the postmark





1913 Bulgaria Occupation of Turkey: 1913 view card of Turkish Sultan's palace with insets of prominent personages in the war to Antwerp, Belgium with May 31 arrival circular datestamp upper left, franked with Turkey 1911 5st tied by Andrinople "1" Mar 13 Turkish bilingual circular datestamp and another 5st tied by Odrin May 9 circular datestamp, manuscript dateline "22/5/13"—i.e. May 9 in old dating. March 13 was the date the Bulgarians occupied Andrinople and the upper right stamp was affixed and cancelled, apparently as a favor to the sender. The second 5st was added to make the correct external postcard rate and the card was mailed to Belgium.

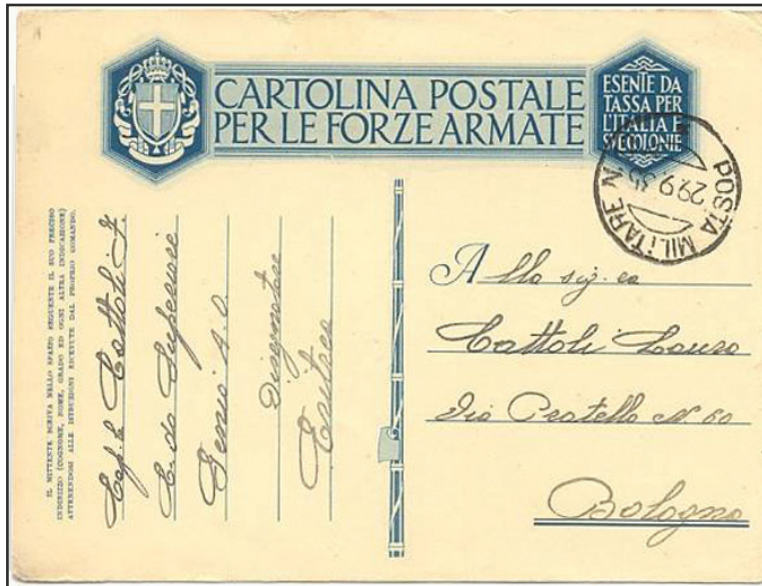




This is a special card such as was provided by Italy for the use of its armed forces in Ethiopia in 1934-1936. It is franked with stamps of the Italian colony of Eritrea. The war resulted in the absorption of the country into the Italian domain; the flight of Haile Selassie to Palestine on a British cruiser; and the proclamation of Il Duce as Emperor over Ethiopia. See also, page 58.

of Italy's "Military Post." This is followed on the next page by a cover whose manuscript marking advises, "Zone deprived of stamps," while on the other corner of the card there is a 50 centesimi Postage Due Stamp. It is also stamped with the mark of the "Military Post" zone "E," and the postal marking, "CAVASO del TOMBA, TREVISO." The war lasted about two years and resulted in the absorption of Ethiopia into the Italian domain and the flight of Haile Selassie to Palestine in a British cruiser. King Emanuel III of Italy was then proclaimed Emperor over Ethiopia by Mussolini, the Italian Duce.

The revolution in Spain against the Republican government started in July, 1936, and philatelically was productive of a large number and variety of stamps and covers, the majority of which are of doubtful status. Out of this large number we turn to but three or four. One, of more than average interest, is addressed to the "Secretary of the Young Peoples Societies of the Republican Leftists." It is franked with pre-revolutionary stamps, which were still in use, and also bears a social relief—"Asistencia Social"—stamp of the nature of a semi-postal, although it is not cataloged. Another cover shows a small blue War Tax stamp with its "Impuesta De Guerra, 2 centimos"; while two others are franked with stamps of the revolutionary period, one of them having "Viva Espana," both in manuscript and handstamped. These give a slight inkling of the doings and the spirit of the people.

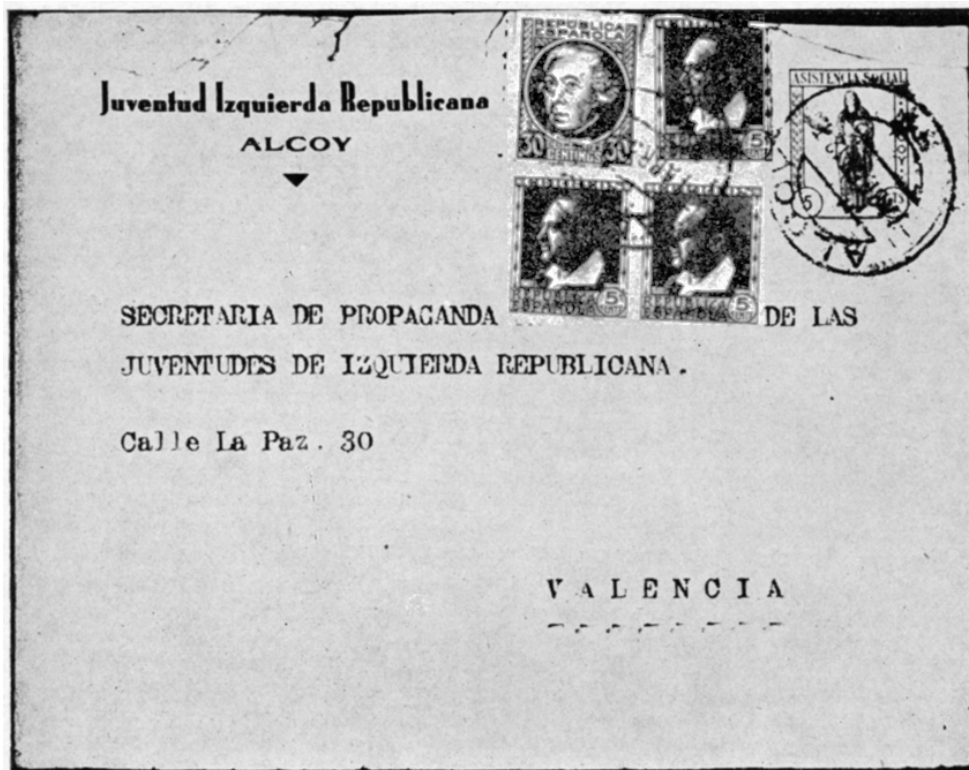


Above, a May 29, 1935 usage of the Italian Military "Forze Armate" card, from Eritrea to Bologna.

Below, another card, this one with the Forze Armate imprint mostly covered over by Italian Eritrea stamps, sent via airmail to Rome.



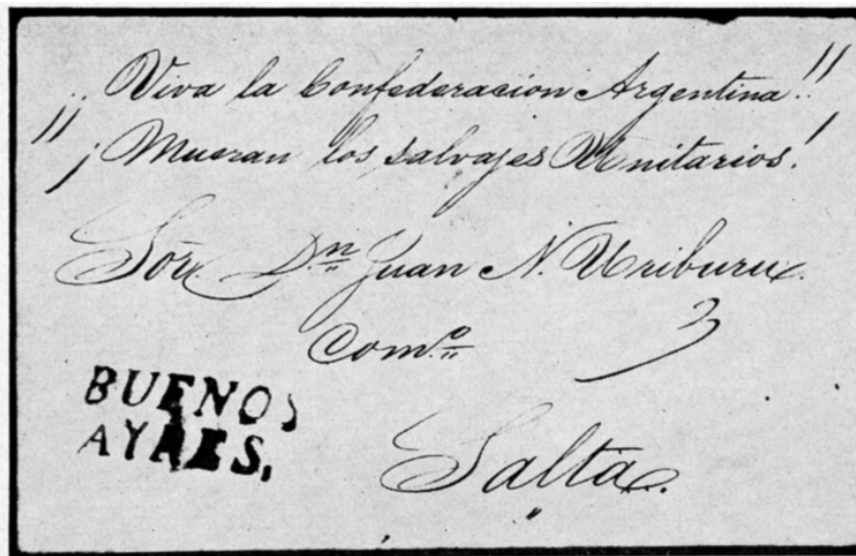




The Revolution in Spain started in July 1936. April 1937, Gen. Franco set up a one party state, dissolving both the Fascist and the Carlist organizations. This cover is addressed to the "Secretary of Propaganda of the Young Peoples Societies of the Republican Leftists, at Valencia." (This cover is not mentioned in the text)

The Latin temperament is very volatile, which probably accounts, in part, for the many revolutions among Latin peoples. This still holds true with our neighbors to the south, in Central and South America. While such revolutions have been numerous, their covers are more or less a rarity, up here, the possession of some of them being a great surprise to specialists in the country represented. "Long live the Argentine Confederation. Let the Unitarian Savages die," is the manuscript inscription in two lines across the top of one cover dated "1842." The name "Unitarians," which with us designates a religious denomination, in this case belongs to a political party, and the savage cry against them is typical of the practice of Juan Manuel Rosas who, as Dictator Despot and Tyrant, ruled over the Confederation. He was a Federalist and believed in putting to death all who opposed him. Following this by some twenty years is a cover with a rather crude stamp, printed on green paper, to be used during the "Operations against Paraguay." It was evidently sent by a soldier in the Brazilian army which, united with Uruguay and Argentina, was opposing the attempted invasion of southern Brazil by Paraguay. This invasion ended most disastrously for Paraguay for, at the end of the five years war, she had lost all but a scant twenty per cent of her population, only some two hundred and fifty thousand remaining. The next page has its cover of re-





Revolutions in South America have not received much of our attention. They were apt to be hot and fierce, though short lived. This cover is inscribed across the top, "Long Live the Argentine Confederation. Let the Unitarian Savages Die," the Unitarian Savages being a political party that was put down by Juan Manuel Rosa, dictator, tyrant and despot, in 1842. His policy was to put to death all who opposed him.

cent date, 1941, from "Ecuador, Country of the Amazon Region." For more than a century, Ecuador and Peru had been warring over their frontier, and Ecuador felt that she should have assistance against aggression, such as had been given to others, and her appeal appears in the handstamping on this cover, addressed to New York, "America cannot consider indifferently the unjust aggression of which Ecuador has been a victim."\* The last of these covers is one sent from Belgium to Pelotas, Brazil, in 1930. Reaching there in the midst of a revolutionary uprising, it was examined and sealed with a label reading, "Censored by the Committee of the Revolutionary Government of Pelotas," which is a section or province of Brazil.

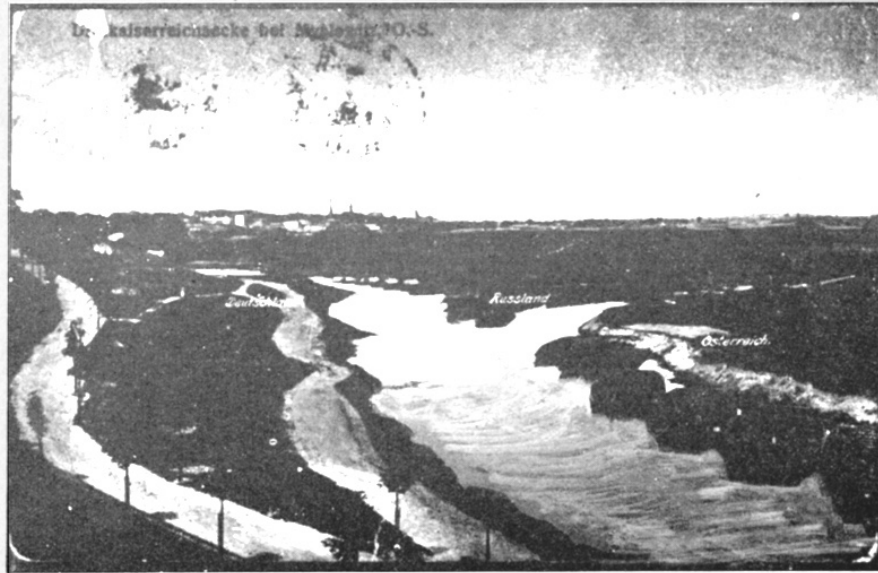
To paraphrase the words of the Immortal Lincoln, We are now engaged in a great global war testing whether our Democracy, or anything in decent living that we hold dear and precious, can continue to endure. The peril is great but Rightness must prevail, and we are slowly forcing our way up the hill-sides from whose summits we shall again see the sun of life and freedom in all his glory. The present stage of the conflict is but a greatly intensified continuation of what, twenty years ago, we mistakenly called a *World War*. That and our present *global war* have merged into one and the same, so that their philatelic story might fairly be told through a few picked covers that present conditions and activities common to both. Unfortunately for our present treatment, but otherwise in all likelihood wisely, we are restricted by government wish and instruction from dealing with the more interesting and important items from recent and present day activities, lest perchance in so doing we should give valuable information to the enemy. We therefore draw the line short of the beginning of the present conflict, with the expectation that at its

\* See page 61.



*Diplomatic correspondence sent from Ecuador during the 1941 War to Peru, via the Argentine Consulate. It is backstamped in Peru, with a boxed duplex that reads in Spanish and English "Visit Peru, the Land of the Incas."*

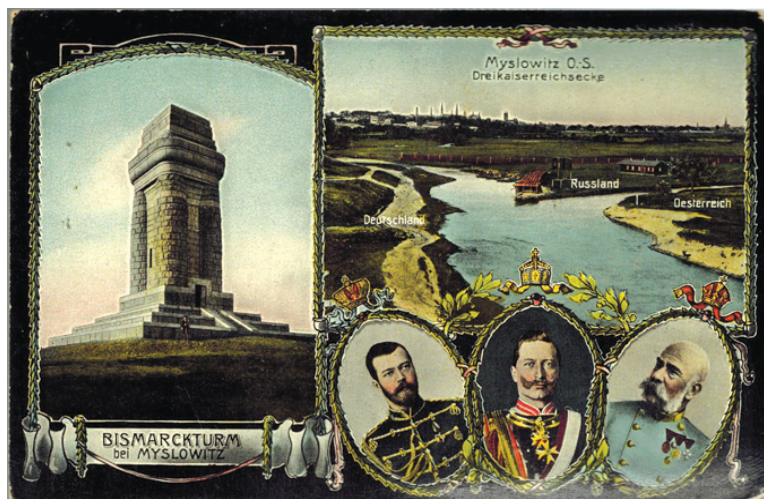




**A card with stamps and postmarks of Austria, Russia, and Germany. This is the reverse showing where the three countries come together. The upper right is Austria; the lower right with the barges is Russia; and the left side is Germany. See also p. 63.**

victorious close we may then be able to deal with it as it deserves, and to complete the story here interrupted. For the present, then, we shall deal briefly and imperfectly with what we once hoped would prove to be the closing chapter of man's inhumanity to man with its warlike greed and brutality. A fitting introduction to our World War One covers is this card that is so suggestive of what was soon to follow. On its face we see stamps and postmarks of three countries—Austria, Russia, and Germany—the stamp that almost thrusts itself at us being the one that shows a portrait of the war lord, Bismarck, while above and below him are the words, "No Foot Width of German Soil Shall Be Lost." The reverse of the card pictures a spot that we might call the "Three Corners," for there Austria, Russia, and Germany meet, each facing the others, with only the rivers flowing between, and separating them. A veritable brewing pot for troubles and war! Thus closely together do nations lie in Europe, and so conflicting are their interests, that war once started may quickly spread and involve others. And so it was! June 28, 1914, Archduke Francis of Austria and his wife were assassinated in Sarajevo, Bosnia, by a Serb student; July 28, Austria declared war on Serbia; August 2, Germany invaded France and Russia invaded Germany; August 7, German troops entered Liege, Belgium; August 16, British troops landed in France; August 23, Japan declared war against Germany; August 25, Austria declared war against Japan; February 3, 1917, the United States, after all her attempt to remain sympathetically neutral, declared war against Germany in the face of unrestricted U-boat warfare! Out of all this we pick a cover, addressed in pencil, with the postmark of the French "29th Division of Infantry, 26 Aug. '14." This division had been called for peace-time mobilization and was the first to go into action when Alsace-Lorraine was invaded. It was quickly decimated by the Germans so it is not





A card very similar to that described on page 62. The front includes the same “Three Corners” scene in Myslowitz, Germany, where the borders of the three empires met at the time. The back has stamps and 1911 cancellations of Austria and Russia. I could not identify the German stamp, but it has the “No Foot Width...” message described in the text. JFD.



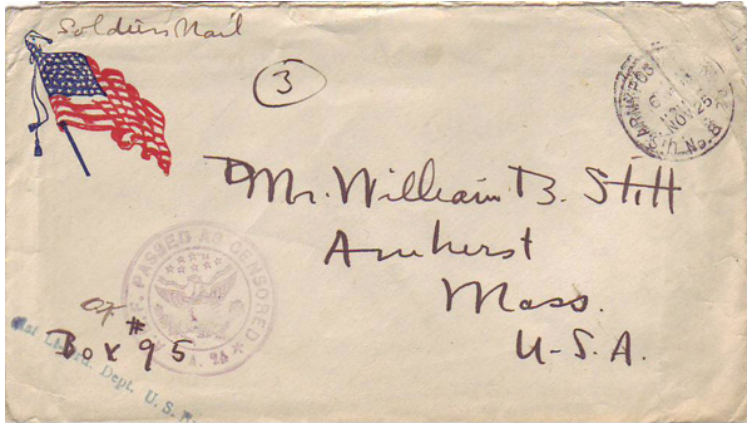
The postmark on this cover is that of the "French 29th Division of Infantry," which had been called into peace-time mobilization and so was the first to go into action against the Germans when Alsace-Lorraine was invaded. The Division was quickly decimated, and the cover is consequently rare.

strange that few such covers from them are to be found. It forms a tragic paragraph from a long, frightful record! The indomitable spirit with which all Britain stood by her Ally is well shown by the two Canadian cards on another page. They both show the Bull-dog standing defiantly upon the Union Jack, while the lower card has in addition the four flags of France, Russia, Belgium and Serbia. America's participation in the war is indicated by covers from various army camps over the country, such as a Fort Sill Branch at Lawton, Oklahoma, and Fort Bliss, Texas, both covers having the Stars and Stripes in colors on their upper corner.\* Another page shows correspondence cards from the American army and navy, one of them being a soldier's letter from the "American Expeditionary Forces," and another showing the postmark of the American "Squadron 2 Patrol Force." Belgium is represented by a cover from "M. Lapeauz, III," of the Belgian army, and postmarked, "Postes Militaire Belgione." We then turn to a cover from the "Sanitary Division of the French Army in the Orient," that is hand-stamped "Ouvert Par Autorite Militaire," and has the circular Censor mark, "Armee D'Orient," showing the Turkish Star and Crescent. Egypt is represented by a cover franked in Syria with a block of four "E. E. F." (Egyptian Expeditionary Force) stamps, and showing the registry label in blue of the "A. P. O." A very unusual cover is postmarked "Papeete, Tahiti," and has in place of a franking stamp the framed handstamp, "Troupes Mobilisees De Tahiti," which was in use only a few hours, and which is consequently one of the scarcest of the World War marks. We are often warned today how we talk lest we pass on useful information to the enemy. We find the same warning on a cover from Naples, Italy, the reverse of which shows a very attractive

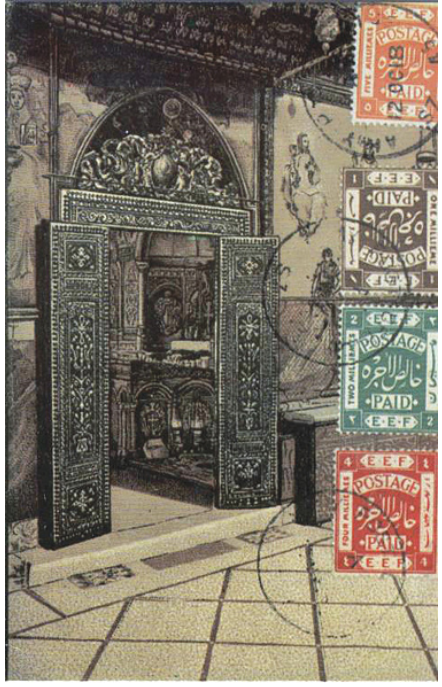
\* See page 65.



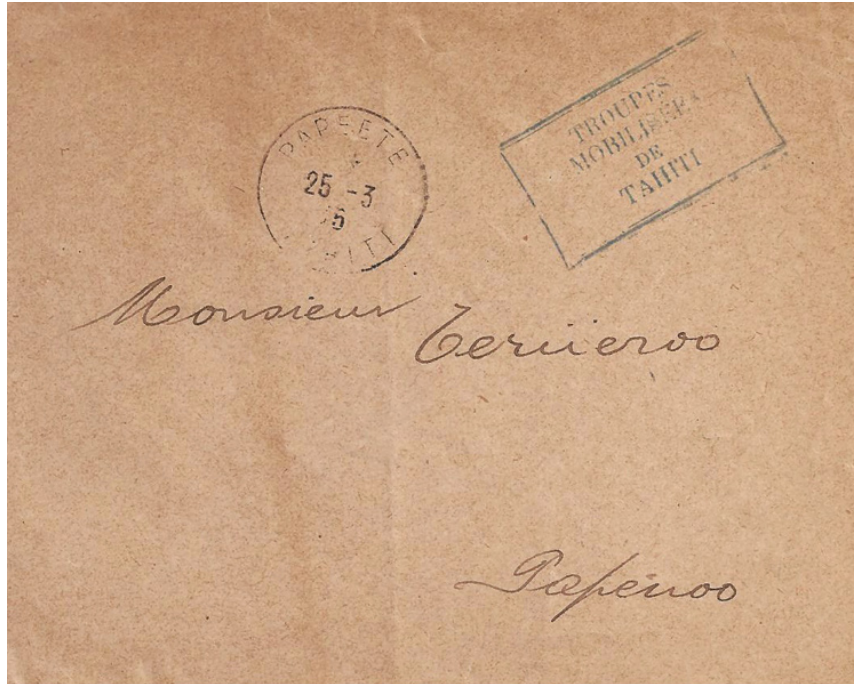
Top, 25 Nov 1917 World War I AEF APO #8 YMCA censored Patriotic cover. Bottom, 1916 postcard from Belgium to Holland, then forwarded with Netherlands 5c value and label to Belgian soldier "Armie Belge-en Campaign" with "Postes Militaire Belgique" postmark. At the time, Belgium was German occupied. [The author states "...Belgione" which is incorrect. JFD.]



A souvenir post card picturing the doorway to St. Jacob's Church in Jerusalem with Egyptian Expeditionary Force stamps canceled October 12, 1918







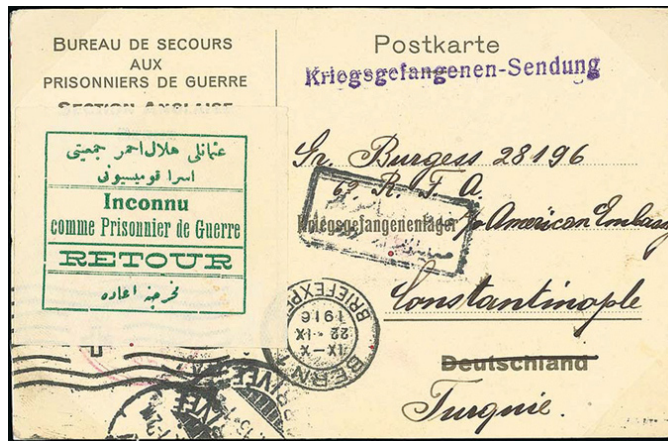
*Although, page 65, the author states this “Troupes Mobilisees de Tahiti” boxed handstamp was in use for only a few hours, that is not the case. The photo in the original article shows a January 5, 1915 Papeete postmark; this cover has a March 25, 1915 postmark.*

young woman with her finger up to her lips, who is supposed to be emphatically enjoining, “Tacate,” Be still. “Your silence will help to victory”! A number of covers are from “Prisoners of War,” while others are stamped, “RETURNED,” or “Inconnu,” telling their sad story of capture or death. An unusual piece of mail is a cover of the “British Legation in Copenhagen, Denmark,” which is handstamped, “Part of a Mail captured by the Germans.” It was held by them for more than two years and then finally turned over and delivered. It has a sticker running over the top explaining the opening of the letter by the German Military Authority under the then existing war conditions. A more cheerful note is struck as we turn the page and see a soldier’s very ornate Christmas Card which displays the embroidered flags of the United States and France with a pansy design between them, and beneath, also embroidered in silk, the words, “Best Christmas Wishes.” The envelope in which it was sent is postmarked, “Bordeaux Dec 15, 1918,” and is franked in manuscript, “U. S. Naval Force, Europe.” From the appearance of the cover the postage stamp must have fallen off when it was cancelled. This expression of goodwill may well be followed by a group of covers telling so strongly of human kindness and service that we must at least give the names of a few. These covers of Good Samaritan organizations include the Red Cross, Salvation Army (Why has there never been erected a memorial to the Salvation Lassie with her Basket of Doughnuts, beloved by every soldier?) Knights of Columbus, Y. M. C. A., English Church Army, South African Soldiers Institute, Lutheran Brotherhood, American Hospital in France with its ambulance ser-

\* See pages 67-69.

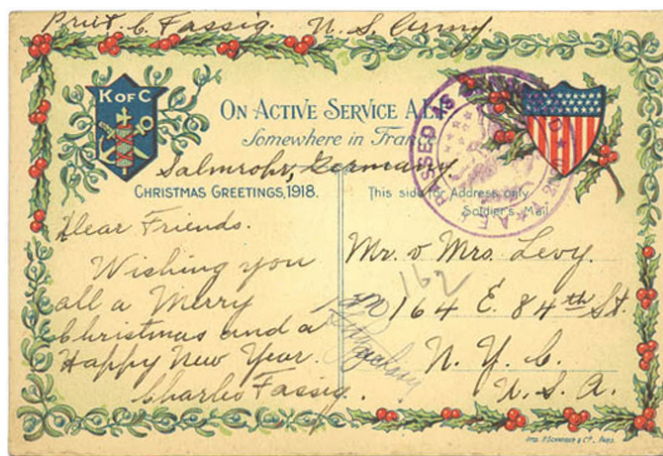


A 1918 A.E.F. Killed in Action cover. In World War I mail to AEF members that were either Killed or Missing in Action was held until after the war. This cover was sent from Marshfield, Wisc. to a Private in the 38th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Division and was not returned until 1919.

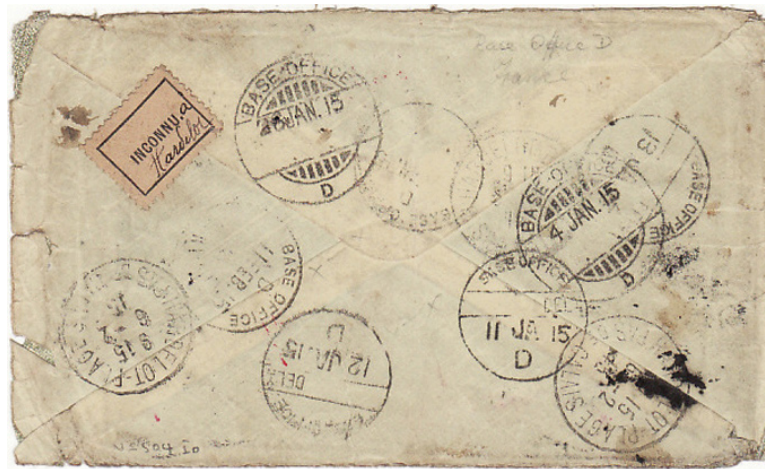


A 1916 POW cover from Berne to Constantinople (care of the U.S. Embassy) returned with green printed "Inconnu/ comme Prisonnier de Guerre/RETOUR" label.

A Knights of Columbus AEF Christmas Greeting card "Somewhere in France".







A much-travelled cover with a wealth of postal markings applied in a failed attempt to find the addressee. It originated in Great Britain November 17, 1914, addressed to the Hotel Pais Boulogne. It shows a hexagonal T / 30 postage due handstamp in black (top center) alongside French 20c and 10c Postage Dues tied by a Calais [18 Nov] circular date stamp (and at some point deleted in red ink). Manuscript notations include a British P.O., Shifted to Hardelot, British Red Cross Unit No 2 & Lahore Hospital. There also is a large circular British red Cross & Order of St. Johns / 30 Dec 1914 / Base P.O. handstamp in red, with on the reverse various types of Base Office D datestamps between January 4-26, 1915 applied as they were trying to locate the addressee. Eventually the cover was sent back to the U.K., then returned to France with on the reverse an "Inconnu / a' Hardelot" label (upper left) and on the face a London 19 Jan 15 datestamp, with the remains of an additional redirection label (in the center) applied. Also on the reverse is a Base Office / D [26 Jan] transit datestamp and Hardelot / Calais [6 Feb] arrival datestamp.



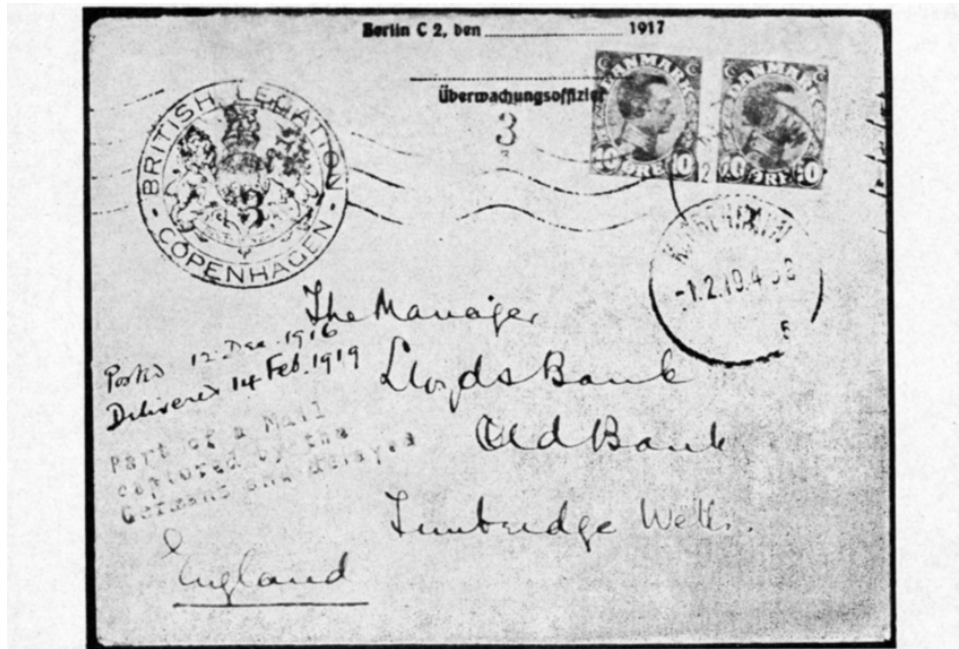


A 1916 Christmas postcard from Denmark to England, captured and delayed, to a passenger on the SS Gerda with a double line purple handstamp "Part of Mail Captured/by Germans and Delayed", received in Great Britain in February 1917 after being forwarded.



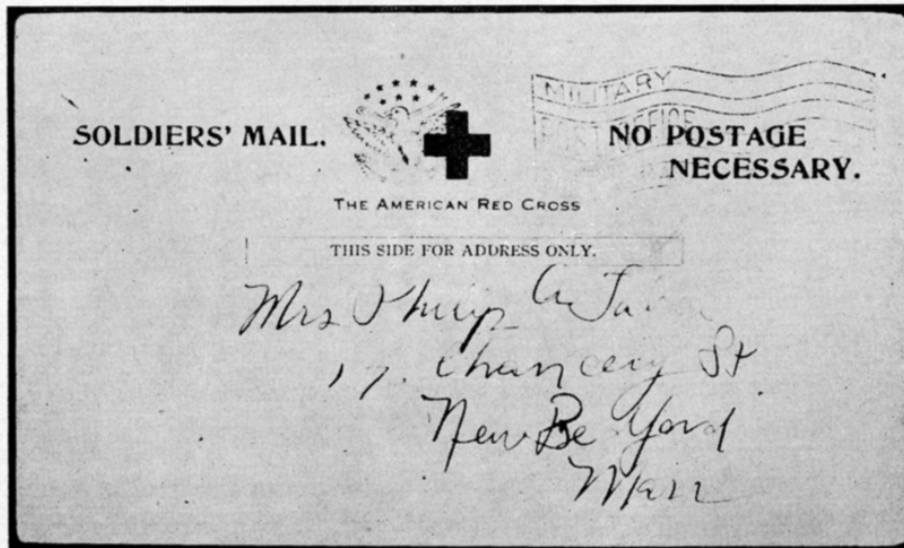
A 1916 cover from the U.S. to Switzerland, forwarded to Belgium, censored by the French and returned by the Germans because it was written in a "forbidden language" (per the handstamp on the reverse).





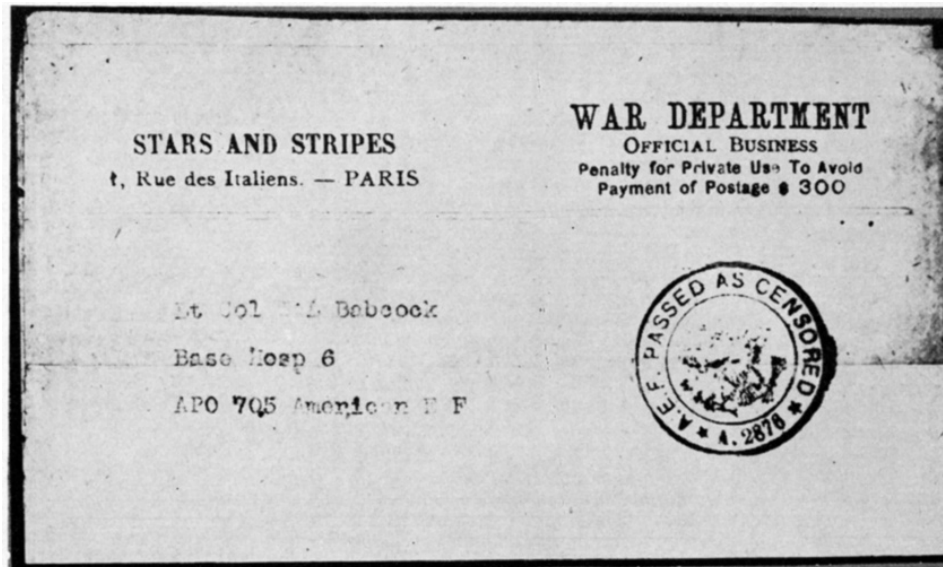
"Part of a Mail Captured by the Germans and Delayed," for two years or more. The Postmark of the British Legation at Copenhagen is on the face of the cover, while the legation seal is impressed on the flap.

vice, Nurses Mail, and the Army Dental Corps: to these one and all we give our silent tribute of respect and appreciation! Quite different, but in the same spirit, is a fine wrapper that carried through the mail a copy of the "Stars and Stripes," the paper published for those in service. Where the postage stamp usually shows, it is franked, "WAR DEPARTMENT, Official Business," while



A card provided by the American Red Cross for the use of soldiers writing home. In addition to the red cross it shows the American Eagle as part of the Military cancellation.





The "Stars and Stripes" was the paper published for the benefit of the United States Expeditionary Forces during the First World War. This wrapper is so clear as to speak for itself. It is to be noted however that it is addressed to "Lt. Col. Babcock at Base Hospital 6, APO 705 American E. F." It raises the question whether he had been wounded and was being cared for there. (See also page 72.)

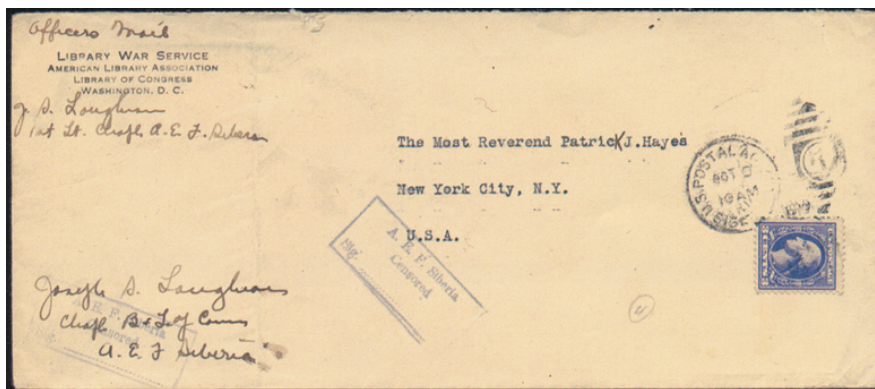
it also carries the "A. E. F. Passed as Censored, A.2878" mark, and on the other upper corner, "STARS AND STRIPES, 1, Rue des Italiens—PARIS."

As we come near the end of the actual war period, we see on our pages several of the less common covers such as those from northern Russia and Siberia where, even after the Armistice, fighting continued and resolved itself into a campaign virtually against the Bolsheviks. Here is such a cover, inscribed, "From Stephen S. Walsh, Co. B (blurred) Inf. A. E. F. Northern Russia, Archangel," and addressed to the writer's wife in Detroit, Michigan. After being examined by "27," it went its way and was safely delivered. The following cover shows the initials, "A. N. R. E. F." (American Northern Russia Expeditionary Force) and also, on its lower left corner, "O. K. Censored Lieut. F. W. Cuff, 33d Inf." A cover from Siberia has the Y. M. C. A. corner card, and is inscribed across the top, "Soldiers Mail, E. B. Buckley, Jr. Private—Infantry, A. E. F. Siberia." It went stampless and was censored by "Roy C. Fox, 1st Lieut. Cavl." The postmark is that of the "U. S. Postal Agency, Siberia, Oct. 22, 1911," shortly before the war closed, although, as stated, the Americans continued operations in Siberia for some little while.

The Americans were also among the Forces of Occupation in German territory after the cessation of hostilities. Turning the page, we see a cover with its manuscript corner card, "Co. W. F. Bates, 8th Infantry, Coblenz, Germany." It is franked with U. S. stamps and was sent Registered with Return Receipt Requested. The backstamp reads, "Postal Express Service, A. P. O., 18 Sept. 1922."

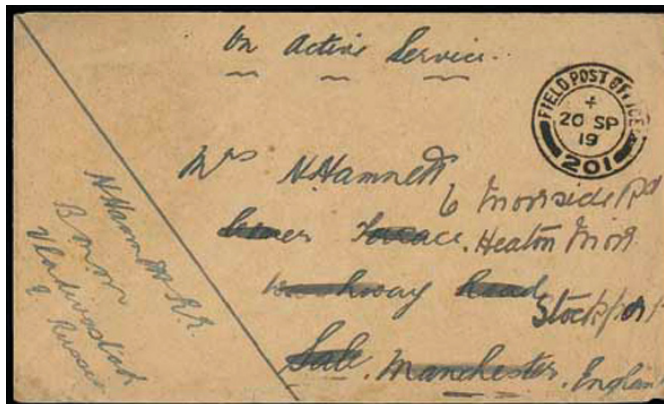


1918 "Soldiers Mail" cover with Stars and Stripes imprint used from APO 902, with Censor handstamp lower left and U.S. Postal Express datestamp upper right.



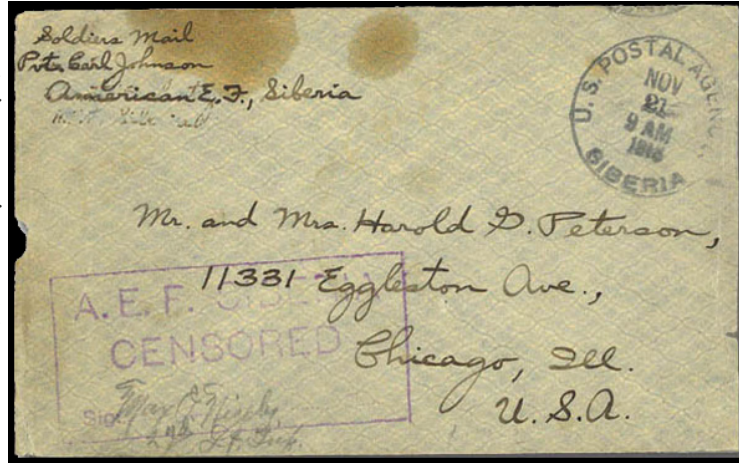
Cover from an American Chaplain in the A.E.F. in Siberia to New York City to the future Cardinal Hayes, who was appointed Archbishop of New York in March 1919, and had just prior to that been Vicar Apostolic of the U.S. Military. The stamp, Sc. 530, is tied by a "U.S. Postal Agency Siberia Oct. 9, 1910 10AM" duplex cancel, the cover also with two "A.E.F. Siberia Censored" handstamps.

"On Active Service" envelope endorsed from soldier at "Vladivostok, E. Russia" to Manchester, England, with Allied Expeditionary Force in Siberia Field Post Office 201 double-ring Sept. 20, 1919 c.d.s., redirected to Stockport.

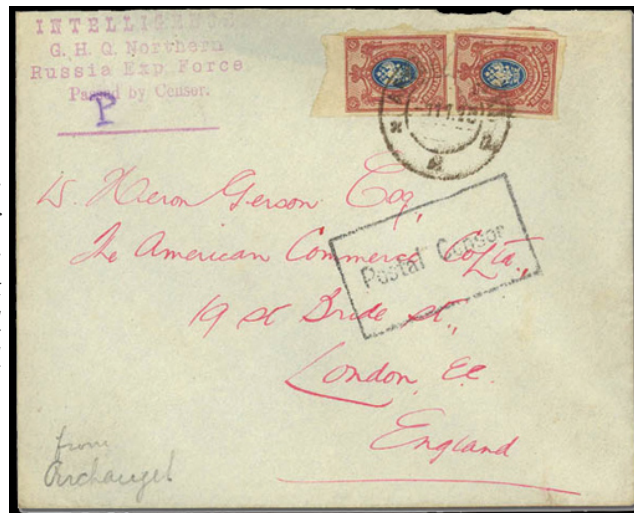




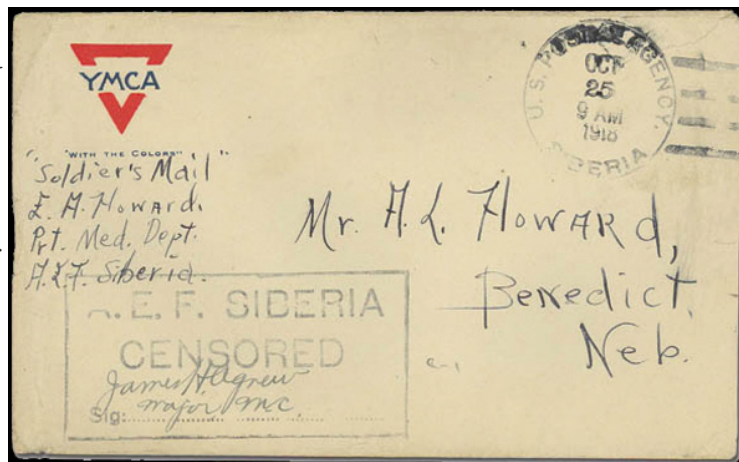
U.S. AEF in Siberia cover with 1918 U.S. Postal Agency Siberia rubber handstamp and A.E.F. Siberia Censored purple boxed handstamp.



U.S. AEF WWI in Northern Russia 1918 cover to England with Intelligence handstamp sent through Russian postal system, also with boxed "Postal Censor".

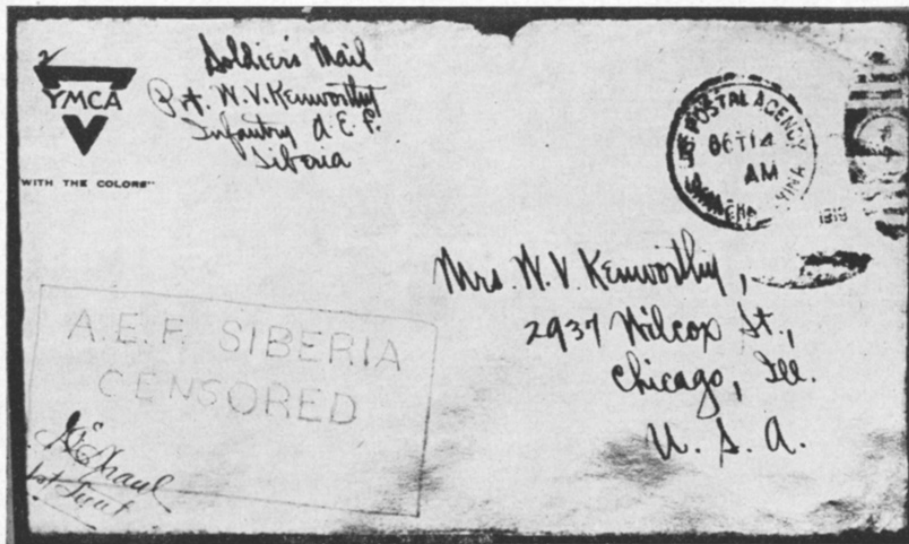


U.S. AEF WWI YMCA envelope with Oct. 25 1918 U.S. Postal Agency Siberia rubber handstamp, with boxed A.E.F. Siberia Censored handstamp.





Among the Expeditionary Force sent into Northern Russia in the World War were 5100 Americans. This cover was sent by an American soldier, from Archangel, which was one of the main sectors of this campaign which resolved itself into one virtually against the Bolshevicks. The manuscript corner card gives the name and address of the sender who was obviously writing to his wife at home in Detroit.



The American Expeditionary Force was still fighting in Siberia after the Armistice. This cover was sent from there by "Private W. V. Kenworthy, Infantry, A. E. F. Siberia." It is properly censored, and shows the Shanghai postmark as it headed across the Pacific.

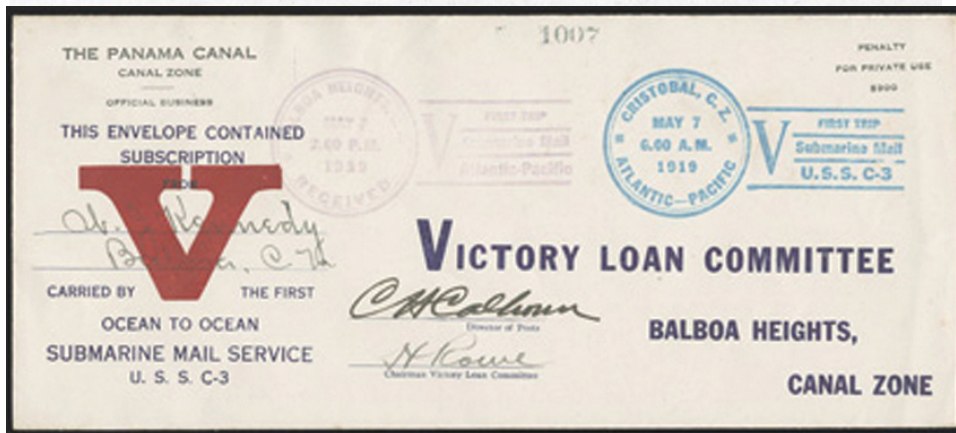
The war was not fought with bullets and shells, alone. Back of them were dollars and cents, pounds, shillings and pence, lots and lots of them, freely given or raised by taxation. In our present urge to "Buy Bonds," it is but fitting to take a glance at, at least, two pages showing this. One of them shows Registered covers from St. Helena and St. Lucia. The one from St. Helena is franked with a fine block of four stamps overprinted, "War Tax One Penny," while





This cover was sent by Colonel Bates of the 8th U. S. Infantry, then located at Coblenz, after the World War was over. It is backstamped "Postal Express Service. A. P. 18 Sept. 1922." and went by Registered Mail, "Return Receipt Requested." It is, naturally, a late cover of that War period.

the one from St. Lucia is franked with 1d., 2d., and 2½d., stamps, the 1d. being overprinted, "War Tax." The other page shows a legal size cover whose most conspicuous feature is a large red "V" and the statement, "This envelope Contained Subscription from John H. Pooll, Cristobal 64, Carried by the First Ocean to Ocean Submarine Mail Service U. S. S. C-3." It is ad-



The striking thing about this cover is the large red "V" combined with the inscription, "This Envelope Contained Subscription Carried By The First Ocean To Ocean Submarine Mail Service U. S. S. C-3." It is postmarked "May 7, 1919 6.00 A. M." at one end of the Panama Canal, and "2 P. M." the same date, at the other end of the Canal. Whether by oversight or sarcasm, the righthand postmark shows two small swastikas used to fill in gaps in the printing. (To the left and right of 6:00 A.M. It also is in the receiving postmark, though barely visible.)

dressed to "Victory Loan Committee, Balboa Heights, Canal Zone," and has two postmarks—"Cristobal, C. Z. May 7, 6.00 A. M. 1919, Atlantic-Pacific," and "Balboa Heights May 7, 2 P. M. 1919 Received." By some strange mischance, (or was it intentional sarcasm?) one of the marks has two small swastikas to fill in gaps.

As an aftermath to the "War to end Wars," efforts were made to prevent its ever recurring, and here on our pages are covers with the seal of the League of Nations meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, and from the Disarmament Conference. Both of these attempts proved abortive, due to the frailties and uncertainties of human nature. The Disarmament Conference, held in Geneva in 1932, has proved especially to have been more of a hindrance than a help, as its actual result was to weaken the peace-loving powers, while the others took advantage of the situation to secretly strengthen themselves. This Conference is represented by a fine cover postmarked, "Geneve Conference, Conference du Desarmement, 24 IX 32 10." It is franked with three Swiss air-mail stamps issued in honor of the Conference, and has other postal markings. It stands as a monument to the failure of peaceful means to abolish war! Witness the two



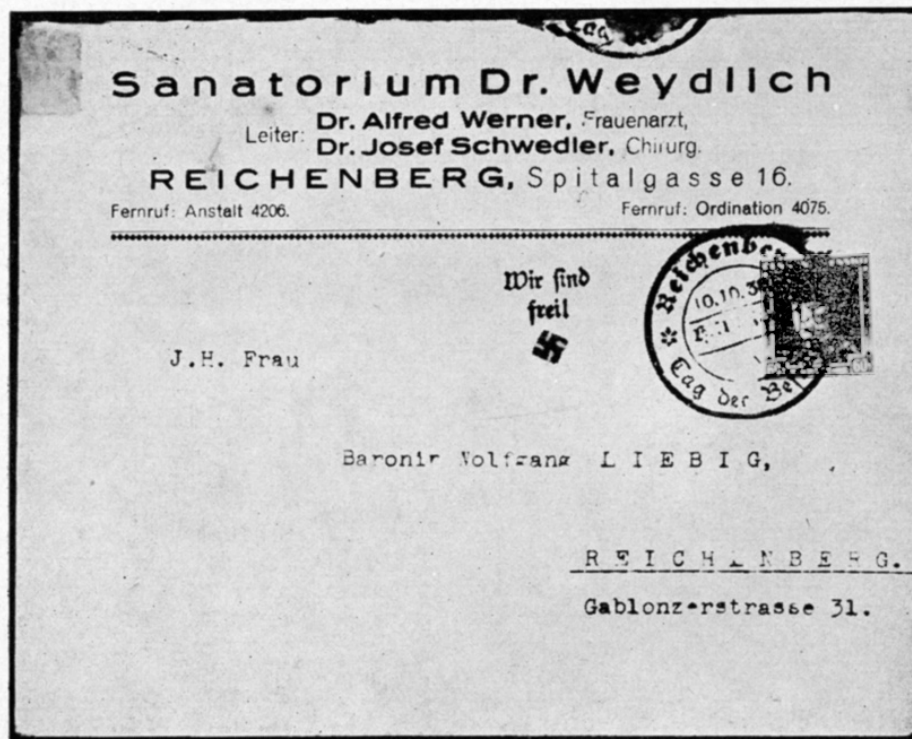
After the "War to end Wars," a serious attempt was made to prevent further warfare between nations by disarmament. We all know how futile it was! The peace-loving nations weakened themselves, accordingly, while the others took advantage of the situation to secretly strengthen themselves. This attractive cover might well be considered a monument to good intentions and hopes slain by treachery. In addition to the customary markings it has special postmarks of the "General Conference of Disarmament," and three air mail stamps specially issued in honor of the gathering.

*The full 1932 Disarmament set consisted of Scott 210-215 and C18-C20. The cover bears C18 and C19, shown at right is the 90 centimes, Sc. C20.*





following covers which are typical, in a small way, of what followed! October 10, 1938, Hitler's forces entered and took over the Sudetenland. No mail was sent abroad for several weeks, and when it was permitted it bore the regular German stamps, later superseded by surcharged local stamps or stamps of the new states of divided Czecho-Slovakia. We show a cover mailed to Baroness Liebig by her Doctor, with his bill for medical attention necessitated by the strained conditions, on the very day of the taking over. As there were no German stamps available, this Czech stamp with a portrait of the patriot Stefanik, was cancelled "Reichenberg. The day of release." Above the small swastika is the legend, "We are free." (From what?) As a matter of interest the cover was sent to a collecting friend in the United States, who gave it to its present owner knowing that his collection was willed to the Library of Princeton University.



On the day the Germans entered and took over the Sudetenland, in 1938, the Baroness Liebig received this cover with bill from her Doctor—her illness having been caused by the strain of German aggression. It is postmarked, Reichenberg; Day of deliverance. Above the swastika is, We are free! They might have asked, From What?

The second cover carries a bit of sarcastic sentimentality! It is a card furnished by the Germans for the use of inhabitants of occupied France in writing to their friends and relatives in unoccupied France. Only limited information was provided for and allowed to be given. Its message says in substance, "We are in good health. Michael is a prisoner. No news for a long time. Friquet works at Chaumont in the High School. Chaumont is



*A propaganda post card (We thank our Führer) and cancel (Reichenberg December 4, 1938, in Free Sudetenland [by] choice and declaration)*



Après avoir complété cette carte strictement réservée à la correspondance d'ordre familial, biffer les indications inutiles. — Ne rien écrire en dehors des lignes.  
**ATTENTION.** — Toute carte dont le libellé ne sera pas uniquement d'ordre familial ne sera pas acheminée et sera probablement détruite.

le 104

Tous ici tout en bonne santé fatigué.  
 Michel légèrement, gravement malade, blessé.  
 est prisonnier. No 219-462  
 d'été long temps sans nouvelles.  
 de toi heureux au sein La famille de Mamey Eprouve va bien.  
 besoin de provisions d'argent.

nouvelles, bagages. est de retour à  
 Friguet travaille à Chaumont va entrer  
 à l'école de Lycée a été reçu

Ecrit à ta mère avant d'aller à l'école  
 Doute n° 219-462 aller voir au Sud de Préalpes en Italie.  
 Me habille avec Michel en Italie. Chaumont aura tout qu'il y a!  
 Affectueuses pensées. Baisers.

Signature.  
 Pauline Michel

This picture shows the reverse of a card provided by the Germans for the use of the inhabitants of occupied France in writing to their relatives and friends in unoccupied France. The last line included by the Germans is truly touching; "Affectueuses pensées. Baisers." (Affectionate thoughts. Kisses.)

not as nice as Algiers." (Interesting that the Germans passed that last!) And at the bottom is printed, "Affectueuses pensées. Baisers." Loving thoughts. Kisses.)!!

The structure we had thought we were building proved a great disappointment. "The rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell; and great was the fall of it." The renewed strife that followed has been the most barbarous, treacherous and threatening that the world has ever known. And the end is not yet! The way is hard, and the road is stony and uphill. It will take, under God, all that we have, and more, to win out, but our aim is high, our will is strong, and with unyielding determination we are certain to come out into a complete and glorious triumph!