Prexie Era Postal History Treasures

The first group of Presidential Series stamps appeared in 1938. The final intentionally issued variety of the set — the dry-printed \$1 Woodrow Wilson stamp — arrived in 1955, after the United States Post Office Department had begun to replace the 1938 issue with stamps of the 1954 Liberty Series. The last Liberty Series design — the bicolor 11¢ Statue of Liberty stamp of 1961 — completed the transition to the successor set of stamps, thus nominally marking the end of the Prexie Era. That 1938–1961 era embraces not only ordinary stamps but also contemporaneous issues of commemorative, air mail, and special service stamps and postal stationery. In aggregate those represent the postal emblems of "the greatest generation" and its mail. With the exception of Special Delivery stamps and postal cards, they remain valid for the payment of postage today.

Air Mail Special Delivery to England via Imperial Airways

Date:

8 August 1939

Origin:

New York City

Destination:

London, England

Franking:

two 30¢ Winged Globe air mail and four 5¢ James Monroe Presidential Series

sheet stamps, double 30¢ per half ounce air mail postage to Europe plus 20¢

international special delivery fee

Transport:

Imperial Airways flying boat Caribou inaugural return flight departed New York

10 August, arrived Poole/Southampton, England, 11 August, delivered London 11

August, three days transit

Imperial Airways (became British Overseas Airways 1 April 1940) trans-Atlantic service between Southampton and New York via Foynes, Ireland; Botwood, Newfoundland; and Montreal, Canada, lasted from May 1939 to October 1940, omitting the 1939-1940 winter season. Four Short S30 flying boats that flew that route — *Caribou*, *Cabot*, *Clare* and *Clyde* — were commandeered for Royal Air Force service elsewhere. All were lost during the war.

International Surface Post/Postal Card to Germany/Poland

Date:

3 November 1939

Origin:

Boston, Massachusetts

Destination:

Kattowitz, Germany (occupied and annexed Katowice, Poland)

Franking:

one 2¢ John Adams Presidential series sheet stamp on 1¢ Benjamin Franklin

postal card, international surface post- and postal card postage

Transport:

surface land and sea

Censorship:

Great Britain (special P-prefix tombstone censor mark indicates special

examination by or for British intelligence) and Germany







Geliebtes goldenes Libresterlein'
Hoffentliel erreiclen tris meine
Feilen ich denke Tag in Fackt
an till und vinselte nur das
vir uns bald gesmid Wiedersehr
Von britel Lottel in Fritz habe
ich gute Taibrichten Bleibe
gentied in stark wir sehen uns
bestimmt wieder
Keine to tuhl ubvester Edits

Special Delivery from Midway Island

Date:

22 February 1940

Origin:

Midway Island, no post office there this early

Destination:

Los Angeles, California

Franking:

one 30¢ Winged Globe stamp paid the unpublished air mail postage rate from

Midway Island to the United States; a pair of 5¢ James Monroe sheet stamps paid

the special delivery fee

Transport:

Pan American Airways *China Clipper* pilot's pouch courtesy transport to Hawaii, entered the mail and canceled there, arrived San Francisco 29 February, domestic

flight to Los Angeles

No indication of special delivery service in Los Angeles. When the fastest available delivery was by the regular carrier, no fee was claimed by the delivery office

To Leith Harbor Whaling Station, South Georgia Island

Date:

10 March 1940

Origin:

Madison, Wisconsin

Destination:

South Georgia Island, South Atlantic Ocean

Franking:

one 2¢ John Greenleaf Whittier and three 1¢ Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

stamps paid single international surface letter postage

Transport:

surface land and sea, transited Montevideo, Uruguay, 4 April, transited Port

Stanley, Falkland Islands, 6 May

When this letter was sent, South Georgia, more than 800 miles southeast of the Falkland Islands, was one of the most remote and inhospitable inhabited islands in the world, serving the whaling industry. (Today South Georgia has no permanent population.) Claimed for Great Britain by Captain James Cook in 1775, it has been a waystation for Antarctic explorers. Ernest Shackleton died at South Georgia in 1922; his mortal remains are buried there.









Postal Reply Card from Lodsch, Germany (Łódź, Poland)

Date:

9 May 1940

Origin:

Lodsch, Germany (occupied and annexed Łódź, Poland)

Destination:

Easton, Pennsylvania

Franking:

one 2¢ John Adams Presidential series sheet stamp on 1¢ Martha Washington

postal reply card paid international postal reply card postage rate

Transport:

surface land and sea

Censorship:

Germany

Wake Island Air Mail to Guam

Date:

21 July 1940

Origin:

Wake Island, no post office

Destination:

Guam

Franking:

one 10¢ John Tyler Presidential series sheet stamp paid unpublished air mail

postage rate from Wake Island to Guam

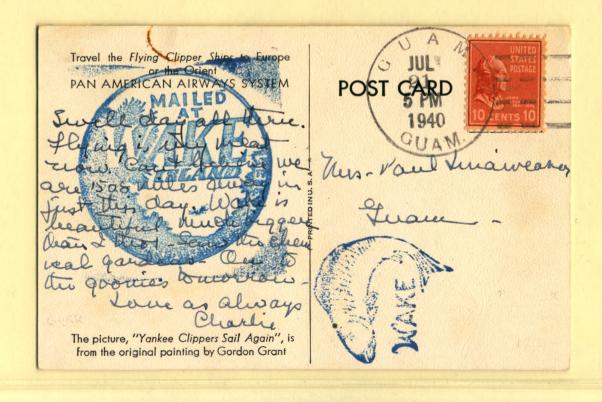
Transport:

Pan American Airways California Clipper pilot's pouch courtesy departed Wake

Island and arrived Guam 21 July, entered the mail and canceled at Guam

Only reported example of this rate usage





Kochany Bracie. Puroja proeztowkę nemo todi.
otrzymatem. Jestem zadowolony żesz czytat moje
proeztowki er pisatem do mojej żong. Dlaciego nie
nierobiere żebym mogł ciem predzej bycz wwas z
Jak długo będziecie batamuciez to będzie
zapużno. Ya szansy pojechacz do ojea. Machel
jest w Rosji w głąb i pisie, że jest zadowobony.
Mama, thrab, Ewa, lesza, Jankusz, Mania, Salek,
Tola, i dwecko wszysog są zdrowi i są w towiezu
tak samo jak my Kiedys w Ptocku. Postaraj się
postacz cos Im. Twoj Brat Bernard.
do zobacienia się w Ciebie.



Return to Sender, Service Suspended to Occupied France

Date:

13 May 1941

Origin:

San Francisco, California

Destination:

Paris, France

Franking:

a 5¢ James Monroe sheet stamp paid single international surface letter postage surface land and sea; marked for return in France and New York, returned from

Transport: surfac

New York 17 September

Censorship:

None in evidence

Contents from the University of California Medical School included a lengthy list of books about chemical warfare.

Letter to U.S. Navy Man at Shanghai, Forwarded to Philippines

Date:

25 April 1941

Origin:

Sacramento, California

Destination:

U.S. Navy Asiatic Fleet, Shanghai, China, forwarded to Cavite, Philippine Islands

Franking:

five 1¢ George Washington Presidential series sheet stamps paid the single

international surface letter postage rate

Transport:

surface land and sea, forwarded 26 May from a U.S. Navy Asiatic Fleet ship at

Shanghai, China, to the U.S. Navy base at Cavite, Philippines

If originally addressed to the Philippine Islands, then a United States Possession, only domestic postage would have been required.









Calling attention to: Pharmacological items of potential interest to clinicians.

- 1. Chemical warfare: J. B. Swim, San Francisco City Toxicologist, notes sudden appearance of new volumes: Medical Manual of Chemical Warfare, (reprinted by British permission, Brooklyn, 1941), rehash of information available 20 years ago with reprint of An Atlas of Gas Poisoning (Med. Res. Comm., London, 1918). Detection and Identification of War Gases (Ministry of Home Security, 1st American edition, New York, 1940); M. Sartori's The War Gases (Translated from 2nd Italian ed. by L. W. Marrison, New York, 1939); J. E. Zanetti's Fire from the Air (Columbia Press, New York, 1941); and best of all, C. Wachtel's Chemical Warfare (Brooklyn, 1941). Wachtel was pharmacologist under F. Haber in development of chemical warfare at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute, Berlin, during the last war. His volume is a stimulating and provocative challenge to the scientific genius of democracies at war. It covers the field from standards to psychology. For further material one may consult Reports of Chemical Warfare Medical Committee of Great Britain (London, 1918); M. C. Winternitz, Pathology of War Gas Poisoning (Yale Press, 1920); F. P. Underhill's The Lethal War Gases (Yale Press, 1920); A. A. Fries and C. J. West, Chemical Warfare (New York, 1921; a propaganda item); E. B. Veddar's Medical Aspects of Chemical Warfare (Baltimore, 1925; comprehensive, clear and reliable); H. L. Gilchrist and P. B. Matz, Residual Effects of Warfare Gases (Washington, 1933); F. Flury's Schadliche Gase (Berlin, 1931); A. M. Prentiss' Chemicals in War (New York, 1937; well organized and with full bibliography); U. S. War Dept., Chemical Warfare Service Field Manual (Washington, 1938).
- 2. War medicine: First report of Blood Transfusion Association, from August 1940 to January 1941, has been prepared by C. D. Drew and associates and may be obtained from Association headquarters, 2 East 103rd St., New York; excellent bibliography. For ideas on Organization, Strategy and Tactics of the Army Medical Services in War, consult T. B. Nicholls' volume of same title (2nd ed., London, 1940).
- 3. Healing of wounds: J. S. Young et al (J. Path. & Bact., 52:225, 1941) find rate of closure proportional to area of wound, and that secondary wounds heal faster than primary. J. Trueta of Barcelona has published Treatment of War Wounds and Fractures with Special Reference to the Closed Method as Used in the War in Spain (New York, 1940). A. O. Whipple (Ann. Surg., 112:481, 1940), A. H. Hunt (Brit. J. Surg., 28:436, 1941) and J. H. Crandon et al (N. Eng. J. Med., 223:353, 1940) recommend high ascorbic acid diet before and after surgery to promote collagen secretion and wound healing. If evidence of low ascorbic acid level give at least 100 mgm. daily.
- 4. Odds and ends: R. A. McCance and W. F. Young (J. Physiol., 99:265, 1941) find kidney of new-born infant a relatively ineffective organ, yielding hypotonic urines with low urea, sodium, potassium, and chloride clearances. Recommend high fluid intake, control of protein, and great caution in administration of physiological salt solution. I. M. Felsher and K. K. Jones (J. Invest. Dermatol., 4:135, 1941) recommend 15 per cent sodium hexametaphosphate in talc as dentifrice to remove or prevent "bismuth line" and gingivitis during bismuth therapy. How about effect on lead line? T. H. Li (Chinese J. Physiol., 16:9, 1941) shows no alteration in neuromuscular transmission and no diminution of acetyl choline content of nerve trunks in rats on choline deficient diet for 5 months. Interesting reports on effects of calcium and magnesium deficiencies by M. Kleiber and associates (J. Nutr., 19:517, 1940; 21:363, 1941).

Last Complete Flight of California Clipper before Pearl Harbor

Date:

3 November 1941

Origin:

New York City

Destination:

Sydney, Australia

Franking:

one \$1 Woodrow Wilson and a pair of 20¢ James A. Garfield Presidential series

stamps paid double letter air mail postage to Australia

Transport:

all-air, domestic transcontinental flight to San Francisco, Pan American Airways *California Clipper* Foreign Air Mail route No. 19 flight departed San Francisco 17 November, arrived Auckland, New Zealand, 25 November, Tasman Empire Airways Limited flight departed Auckland and arrived Sydney 26 November

Censorship:

Australia

Flying boat NC 16802 *California Clipper* returned to San Francisco 1 December. There she was renamed *Pacific Clipper*. Departing San Francisco 4 December, she was en route from Hawaii to New Caledonia when Japanese forces bombed Pearl Harbor and other U.S. Pacific Ocean military bases. To avoid capture, she flew westward across Australia, Asia, Africa, South America, and the Caribbean Sea to New York City, arriving safely on 6 January 1942.





Midway Island Christmas Card

Date:

6 December 1941

Origin:

Midway Island, Sixth Defense Battalion, Fleet Marine Force

Destination:

Los Angeles, California

Franking:

3¢ Torch, National Defense series stamp, domestic surface rate

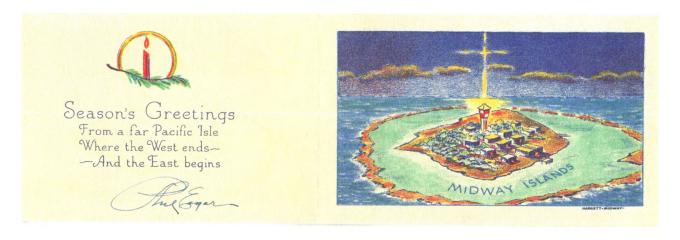
Transport:

Navy ship USS Regulus departed Midway 6 December, arrived Pearl Harbor,

Hawaii, 14 December, onward by surface transport to California

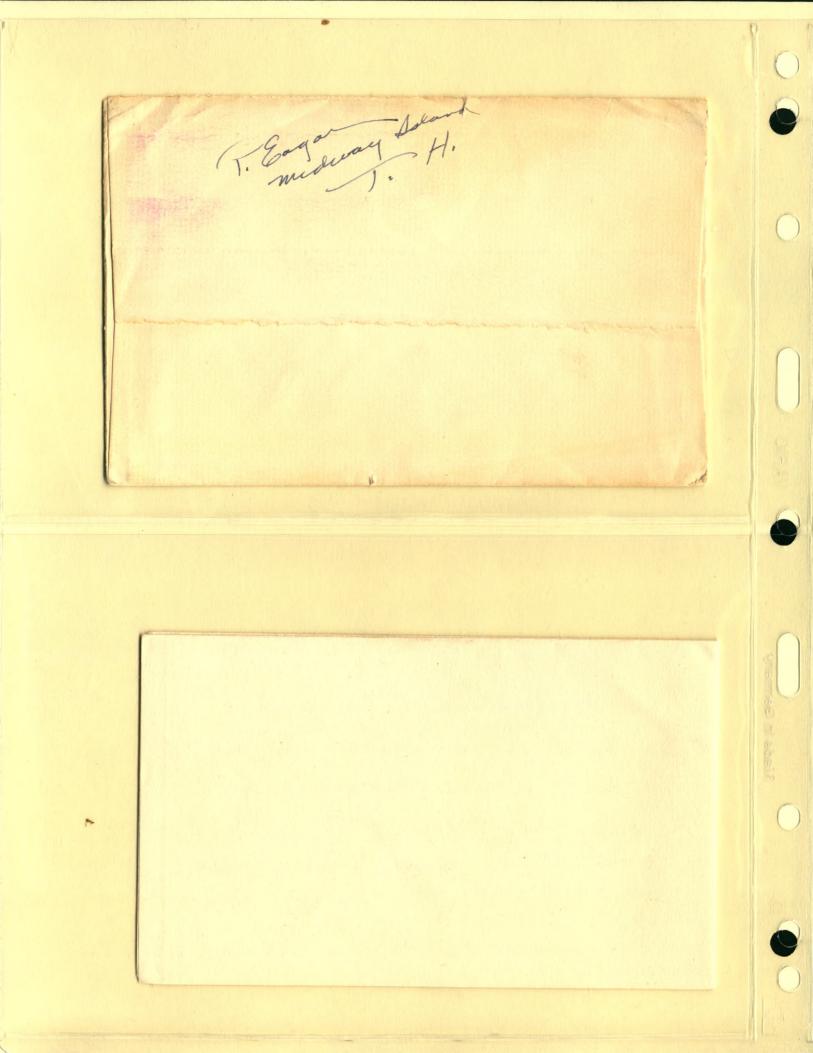
One day later, Japanese forces attacked American military installations and ships at Pearl Harbor, Midway Island, Wake Island, and the Philippine Islands, plunging the United States into World War II

Inside the card:









Sunday Special Delivery Fee Collected from Recipient

Date:

21 February 1941

Origin:

Honolulu, Hawaii

Destination:

Denver, Colorado

Franking:

four 5ϕ James Monroe Presidential Series sheet stamps paid single air mail letter

postage from Hawaii to the United States, T.H. (Territory of Hawaii) perfins

Transport:

all-air, Naval Air Transport Service flying boat from Hawaii to San Francisco, domestic flight to Denver, arrived Sunday, 1 March, marked "Fee claimed at Denver, Colo." for special delivery service evidently requested and paid for by

recipient on a day that ordinary carrier service was unavailable

Censorship:

Information Control Branch of U.S. Army Intelligence, Honolulu

TERRITORY OF HAWAII
EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HONOLULU

VIA CLIPPER AIR MAIL





First National Bank of Denver

Denver, Colorado

Fee claimed at Denver, Colo.

RELEASED A

00



- 10 mg - 1

To a Canadian Airman Killed on a Mission over Hamburg

Date:

10 February 1942

Origin:

East Orange, New Jersey

Destination:

Royal Canadian Air Force in England

Franking:

one 2¢ Antiaircraft Gun and two 3¢ Liberty Torch National Defense series stamps

paid single letter international surface postage

Transport:

surface land and sea, routed 22 June to Directory Service, "It is deeply regretted that the addressee is reported missing on war service." label on back, marked in red manuscript "'M' ch 24-4-42,' stamped "REPORTED MISSING" and boxed

"RETURN TO SENDER," transited Ottawa, Canada, 24 July

Flight Sergeant Frank Douglas Barbour was co-pilot on an 8 April 1942 Vickers Wellington III twin-engine bomber night mission over Hamburg, Germany. At about 1 a.m. 9 April both engines caught fire. The crew bailed out, all but one reaching the ground safely and being captured. Barbour died in captivity 14 April.

Rare San Francisco Information Control Branch Censorship

Date:

19 April 1942

Origin:
Destination:

San Diego, California

Desimation

Shiu Hing, China

Franking:

one 3¢ Thomas Jefferson Presidential series sheet stamp and a pair of 1¢ Statue of

Liberty National Defense series stamps paid single letter international surface

postage

Transport:

surface land and sea, but surface transport to China had been suspended; only air

mail was possible at that time

Censorship:

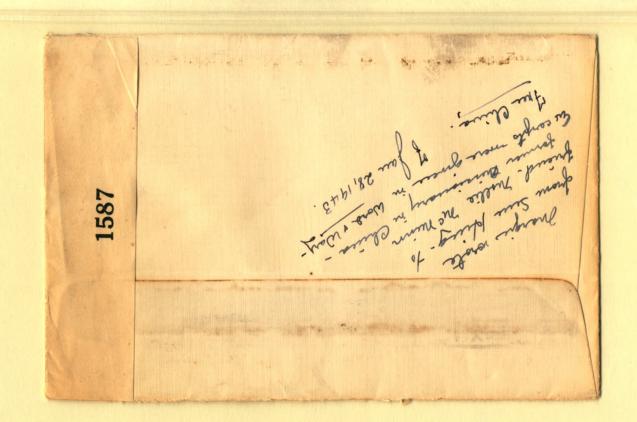
Information Control Branch of U.S. Army Intelligence, San Francisco

Margie Shumate, the addressee, was a Southern Baptist Convention missionary in China from 1915 to 1944. She sent harrowing reports of Japanese bombing attacks on Shiu Hing.

According to civil censorship authority Dann Mayo, fewer than five covers with the San Francisco I.C.B. marking have been reported.









British Intelligence Intercepted Gunnar Myrdal's Letter

Date:

8 July 1942

Origin: Destination: Princeton, New Jersey Stockholm, Sweden

Franking:

five 6¢ Twin-Engine Transport sheet stamps paid single letter trans-Atlantic air

mail postage to Europe

Transport:

all-air. Pan American Airways Clipper flying boat New York to Lisbon,

KLM/BOAC to Great Britain, AB Aerotransport (Swedish) flight to Stockholm

Censorship:

New York and London (special P-prefix tombstone censor mark indicates special examination by or for British intelligence; three-sided seal indicates close study of

the envelope interior for microdots or secret writing or both)

Nobel laureate Gunnar Myrdal, the sender, wrote *An American Dilemma: The Negro Problem and Modern Democracy* (published 1944), which became a major influence on U.S. Supreme Court desegregation rulings. Although Myrdal was an outspoken anti-fascist and socialist, his letter to a colleague became ensnared in a July 1942 British intelligence investigation of Swedish ties to Nazi Germany. (The Swedish naval attaché in London, Count Johan G. Oxenstierna, was a German spy.) Besides that cause of delay, AB Aerotransport had suspended flights after a German fighter attacked its 22 June flight from England, and did not resume service (flying at night) until mid-August.

Unreliable Wartime Air Mail to New Zealand

Date:

4 December 1942

Origin:

Los Angeles, California

Destination:

Auckland, New Zealand

Franking:

one 50¢ Twin-Engine Transport stamp and one 20¢ James A. Garfield

Presidential paid 50¢ single air mail postage to New Zealand, 15¢ registry and 5¢

return receipt fees

Transport:

air and surface, land and sea, transited San Francisco 6 December, arrived

Auckland 8 January

Censorship:

San Francisco

Foreign Air Mail Route No. 19 to New Zealand was suspended 7 December 1941 and did not resume service until 1946, but no formal suspension of air mail service to New Zealand was ever announced. During the war both the Army Air Transport Command and the Naval Air Transport Service rerouted South Pacific direct service from Hawaii to Australia, with a spur to New Zealand. Capacity to accept civilian mail was scant until mid-1944. The default route became air from New York to the Canal Zone and onward by ship, but this cover evidently went air to Hawaii and onward by ship.









Postage Free Military Privilege with Special Delivery Service

Date:

20 December 1942

Origin:

APO 43 San Francisco (New Caledonia)

Destination:

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Franking:

Free military privilege surface letter with 10¢ Special Delivery stamp for that

service fee

Transport:

surface sea and land, arrived Philadelphia 27 January 1943

Censorship:

U.S. Army examiner

Free military mail with special delivery service is unusual and seldom seen.

Shortwave Radio Broadcast Report about U.S. Prisoner of War

Date:

24 April 1943

Origin:

Moscow, Idaho

Destination:

Eatonville, Washington

Franking:

1¢ Benjamin Franklin postal card, domestic surface rate

Transport:

surface land

Censorship:

Germany censored the shortwave radio transmission

Staff Sergeant Robert J. Turner was captured in Tunisia during a 24 January 1943 bombing mission against Axis forces in North Africa. He was repatriated at the end of the war. The message reads:

Moscow, Ida, April 22nd 1943

Mrs. W H Turner Rt 1 Box 53

Eatonville, Wn.

Dear Madam: Tonite at 8:13 the name of Sergeant Robert J. Turner service no. 39381163 was read over the german short wave station as an aviator in german hands. No other message was given only his name, rank, service number and home address. I hope this reaches you and brings you a little comfort. Sincerely

Mrs. M. E. MacDonald University Sta. Moscow, Ida. P.F.C. Joseph M. Matrianer 33313257

G. 197 103 rd on 1 4 100 Hy3 M. S. Army

San Francisco, Calof.

Mr. 4 Mrs. S. Natzianer

PASSED BY

U (19187) S

Philadelphia

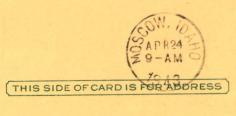
Pennsylvania

M. S. G.

H. H. H. G. P.

Pennsylvania

M. S. G.





Rt. 1 Box 5 3 actonvelle, wash.



mos cow, oda, april 22 nd, 1943

ms. vv H Gurner

Rt I Bey 5 3

Catomille, w. Dear modard, Londite at

8:15 the name of Sergeant Robert J. Surner

cervice nv. 3 9 38 116 3 was read over the german

rent wave station as an aviolor in german

hands, no other message was given oney his

name, rank, service number and home

name, rank, service number and brings

address. I hope this review you and brings

you a little comfort. Investey

you a little comfort. Investey

you a little comfort. Investey

mrs. m. E. Mac Donald

minerity Sta.,

Soldier Artist's Free Mail Stamp Indicium

Date:

23 June 1943

Origin:

APO 528 and APO 530 New York (Algiers, Algeria, and Souk el Arba, Tunisia)

Destination:

Pendleton, Oregon, forwarded to Cove, Oregon

Franking:

free military privilege letter

Transport:

surface land and sea, transited Pendleton 27 July, arrived Cove 28 July

Censorship:

U.S. Army examiner

Clever stamp-like indicium served as free frank.

Air Mail to American Missionary Repatriates aboard MS Gripsholm

Date:

2 October 1943

Origin:

Oberlin, Ohio

Destination:

MS Gripsholm at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Franking:

10¢ and 30¢ Twin-Engine Transport stamps paid single air mail letter postage to

Brazil

Transport:

domestic air carrier to Miami, Pan American Airways Foreign Air Mail route No.

6-10 New York to Rio de Janeiro

Censorship:

Special Prisoner of War examiners at New York, first on dispatch to Brazil.

second as traveler's censorship upon arrival at New York

For more than 25 years Reverend Herbert F. Thomson and his wife Eleanor Logan Thomson had been Presbyterian missionaries and relief workers in and near Canton, China. They were interned by Japan in February 1943 and repatriated to the United States on the Swedish liner MS *Gripsholm*. This cover was posted before the repatriates arrived at Portuguese India on 21 October aboard the Japanese ship *Teia Maru* for exchange with Japanese repatriates brought from America on the *Gripsholm*, and was held at the United States embassy in Brazil until the *Gripsholm* arrived on 15 November en route to New York, arriving on 1 December.









Concessionary Military Forwarded to Colombia as Civil Air Mail

Date:

22 May 1944

Origin:

APO 211 and APO 487 New York (Chenkung, Yunnan, China, and Dinjan, India)

Destination:

Concord, Massachusetts, forwarded to Barranquilla, Colombia

Franking:

a 6¢ Monoplane stamped envelope paid single letter air mail postage from a member of the armed forces overseas to the United States; the added single 4¢ James Madison Presidential Series sheet stamp and two 30¢ Twin-Engine Transport stamps combined with the envelope stamp to equal double letter air

mail postage to Colombia

Transport:

Cannonball or Fireball route air transport from Calcutta, India to Miami; domestic air route to Boston, surface to Concord, forwarded 2 June from Boston, domestic air route to Miami, Pan American Airways Foreign Air Mail route No. 5-9 to

Colombia arrived 13 June

Censorship:

Signed by the sender Lieutenant Robert Wesselhoeft as unauthorized but tolerated officer's self-censorship; New York Office of Censorship civil examiner after

forwarding

The respective locations of the sender's APO address in China and the dispatch APO cancellation address in India represented the flight range of the Third Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron as it mapped the China-Burma-India Theater of Operations between which these aviators flew missions "over the Hump" of the Himalaya Mountains. The explanation for the discrepancy between half-ounce concessionary postage and full-ounce forwarding postage is that the Army Postal Service and the U.S. Post Office Department informally agreed not to rate shortpaid military mail for collection of postage due, but kept the agreement confidential to forestall abuse, a privilege not accorded to civilian senders or, in this instance, the civilian forwarder.

Soldier Artist's Decorated Envelope Front and Back

Date:

16 June 1944

Origin:

APO 696 New York and APO 887 New York (Sunninghill and London, England)

Destination:

Hollywood, California

Franking:

6¢ Monoplane stamped envelope paid single letter air mail postage from a

member of the armed forces overseas to the United States

Transport:

Air Transport Command military or contract air route from Britain to New York

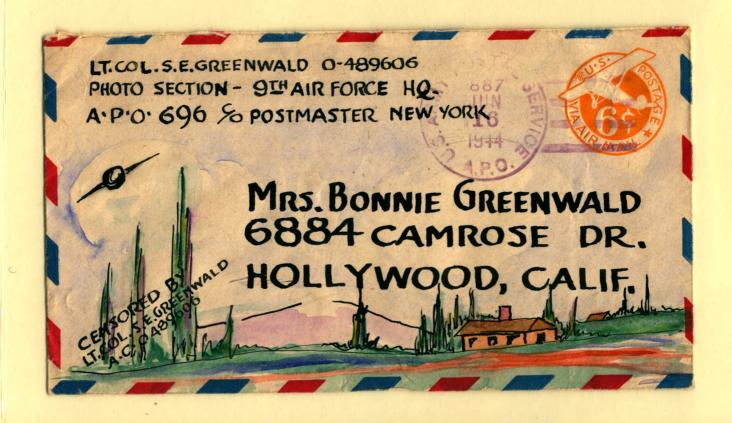
or Washington; domestic transcontinental air route to Los Angeles

Censorship:

Signed by the sender Lieutenant Colonel S. E. Greenwald as unauthorized but

tolerated officer's self-censorship









Soldier Artist's Decorated Envelope

Date:

10 January 1945

Origin:

APO 503 San Francisco (Oro Bay, Australian New Guinea)

Destination:

Fort George Meade, Maryland

Franking:

6¢ Monoplane stamped envelope paid single letter air mail postage from a

member of the armed forces overseas to the United States

Transport:

Air Transport Command military from New Guinea via Hawaii to San Francisco,

domestic air route to Washington, surface to Fort Meade, arrived 20 January

Censorship:

Signed by the sender Lieutenant Colonel Lloyd E. Legg as unauthorized but

tolerated officer's self-censorship

"Life in New Guinea isn't too bad except for insects of all kinds. There are at least eight species on my desk right now. And of course snakes, sand fleas, heat, humidity and rain that would put Oregon to shame. Fortunately it rains almost only at night and the average is $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches 24 hours. One night we had 6 inches. That's water. The food isn't too hot, get eggs once in two weeks otherwise egg powder. God, it's awful stuff. However, we supplement our mess with native vegetables and fruits by trading with the natives. Get 150 to 200 lbs of fish by blowing a couple of TNT blocks in the ocean. I am operating a civilian maritime replacement pool while waiting to go home in either Feb or March. That's 37 months overseas. I want to go home. . . . P.S. Envelope is picture of our living tents."

Soldier Artist's Decorated Envelope

Date:

15 March 1945

Origin:

APO 246 San Francisco (Guam, Mariana Islands)

Destination:

Los Angeles, California

Franking:

6¢ Twin-Engine Transport stamp paid single letter air mail postage from a

member of the armed forces overseas to the United States

Transport:

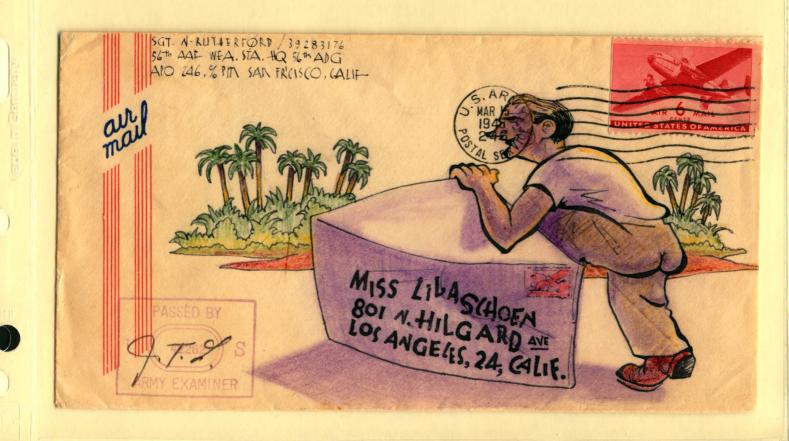
Air Transport Command military from Guam via Kwajalein and Hawaii to San

Francisco, domestic air route to Los Angeles

Censorship:

U.S. Army examiner









Fourth Class 17¢ Special Delivery Fee

Date:

2 January 1945

Origin:

Chicago, Illinois

Destination:

Newcomerstown, Ohio

Franking:

one 15¢ James Buchanan Presidential series stamp paid fourth class postage for a

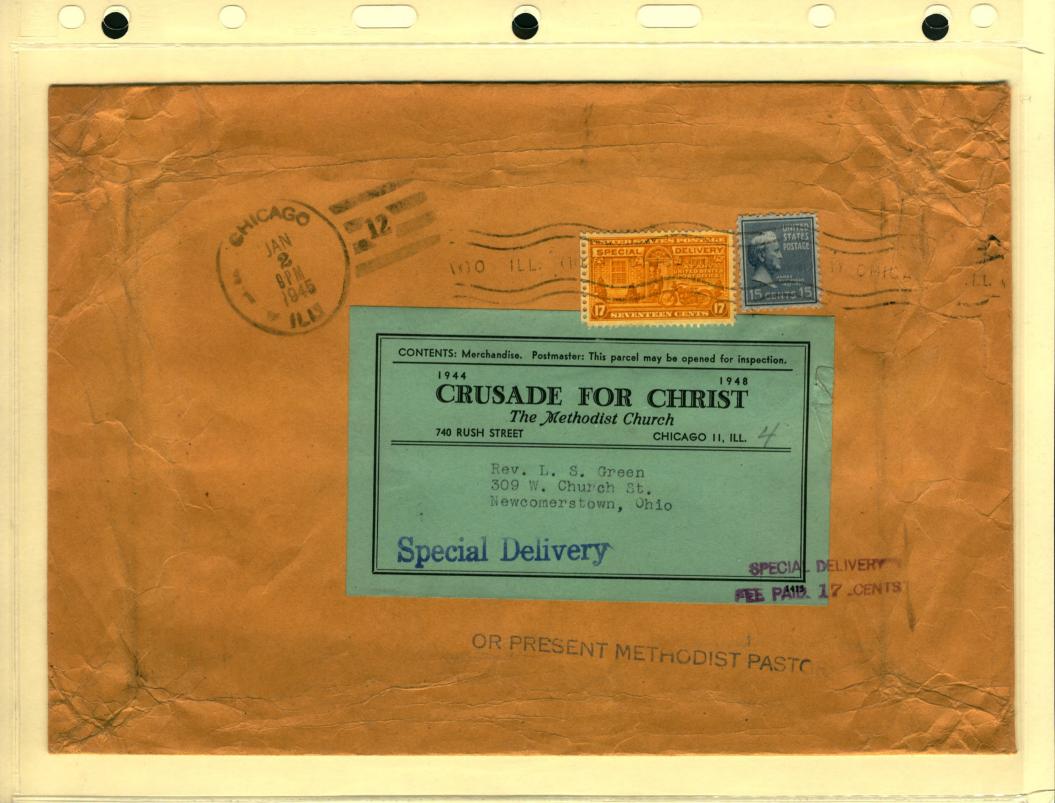
parcel to Zone 4 that weighed between one and two pounds, and a 17¢ Special Delivery stamp paid the fee for a non-first-class mailpiece that weighed less than

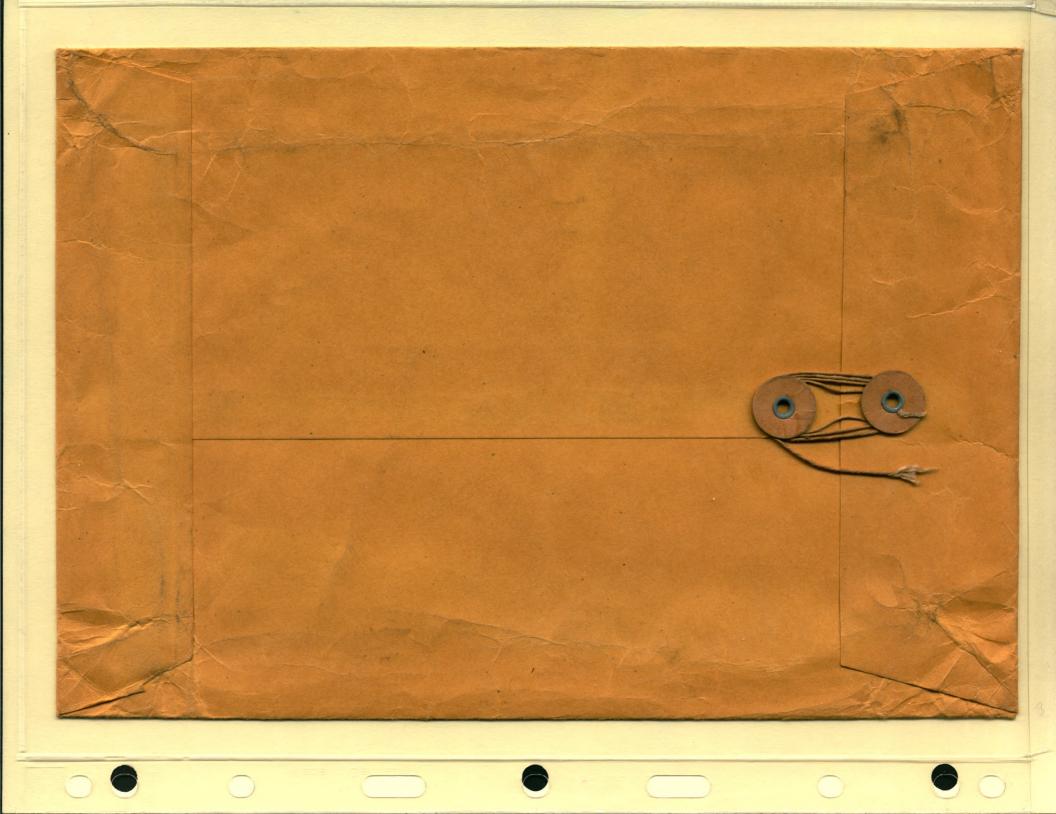
two pounds

Transport:

surface

Uses of the 17¢ Special Delivery stamp to pay for its intended fee for service are rare.





French Navy RF Overprint on United States Air Mail stamp

Date:

15 July 1944

Origin:

French cruiser Duguay Trouin at Oran, Algeria

Destination:

Wellesley, Massachusetts

Franking:

6¢ Twin-Engine Transport sheet stamp overprinted RF for the exclusive use of

active duty members of the Free French Navy in North Africa and the

Mediterranean, single letter military concessionary air mail rate to the United

States or Canada

Transport:

Air Transport Command or Naval Air Transport Service contract trans-Atlantic

Flight via Dakar, Senegal, to New York, domestic air carrier to Boston, surface

transport to Wellesley

Censorship: Free French military examiner at Casablanca, Morocco

On March 13, 1944, the U.S. Navy Department issued a directive concerning mail to the United States and Canada posted by French naval personnel at fleet post offices in Mediterranean and North African ports and at sea:

Where no French postage is available, and cancellation is made by a French post office, U.S. Postage stamps may be used with the letters "R.F." overprinted thereon in accordance with the International Postal Convention Agreement. French postage affixed must be cancelled by a French postmark and U.S. Postage by a U.S. or U.S. Navy postmark, unless such U.S. Postage has been over-printed as described above.

Manhattan Project Mail from Richland, Washington

Date:

27 January 1945

Origin:

Richland, Washington

Destination:

APO 882 New York (Karachi, India)

Franking:

four 3¢ Win the War stamps paid double letter concessionary air mail postage

from the United States to a member of the United States armed forces on active

duty overseas

Transport:

domestic transcontinental air route to Miami, Cannonball or Fireball route Air

Transport Command military or contract flight to Karachi, arrived 7 February

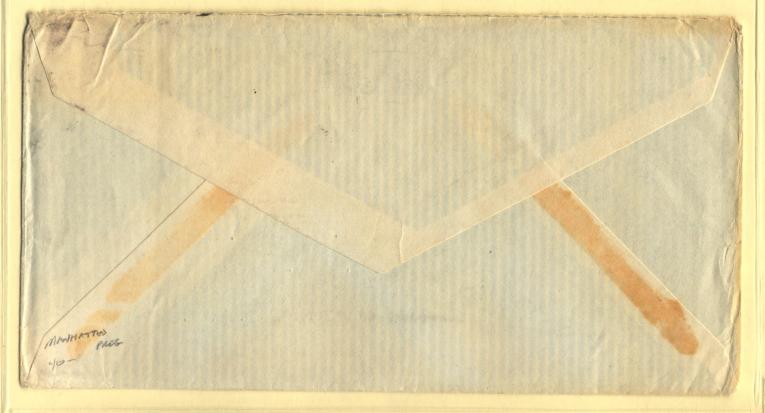
Censorship: Secret examination by Manhattan Project Army censor, unmarked

The sender Carol Athene Wentz Doriss was employed by E. I. Du Pont de Nemours & Company at Hanford Engineer Works in Washington State, the secret location where uranium was transmuted into fissionable plutonium for atomic bombs, including the one that demolished Nagasaki on 9 August 1945. Richland was a closed residential city for Hanford workers. The addressee, Clinton Doriss, was her husband, serving in the Army Air Corps in India.









Manhattan Project Mail from Los Alamos, New Mexico

Date:

8 February 1945

Origin:

Williamsport, Pennsylvania

Destination:

P.O. Box 1663, Santa Fe, New Mexico (secret mail drop for Los Alamos National

Laboratory)

Franking:

one 3¢ Win the War stamp paid single domestic surface letter postage

Transport:

surface

Censorship:

Manhattan Project U.S. Army examiner

The addressee, Staff Sergeant William Cody, was a member of the Special Engineer Detachment of the U.S. Army, performing scientific and engineering services in connection with design, construction, and testing of atomic bombs. The P.O. Box 1663 Santa Fe address originally served all Los Alamos staff and resident families, but P.O. Box 180 was later assigned to the S.E.D. military staff.

Manhattan Project Mail to Los Alamos, New Mexico

Date:

18 April 1945

Origin:

P.O. Box 1663, Santa Fe, New Mexico (secret mail drop for Los Alamos National

Laboratory)

Destination:

Ridgefield, Connecticut

Franking:

one 8¢ Twin-Engine Transport stamp paid the single domestic air mail letter rate

Transport:

transcontinental air route with surface connections at origin and destination

Censorship:

Secret examination by Manhattan Project Army censor, unmarked

The sender Eleanor Ewing was a civilian mathematician who solved equations crucial to the development of atomic bombs. While there she dated and eventually married theoretical physicist Richard Ehrlich (1923–2001). They wed at Los Alamos on 7 July 1945, nine days before the successful test detonation of the first atomic at Alamogordo. (It must have been embarrassing that she misspelled her future mother-in-law's surname on this envelope.) Eleanor Ewing Ehrlich (1918–2011) was among the very few women engaged in World War II military work who received equal pay with men for equal work. After the war she performed mathematical calculations for physicist Edward Teller to develop the hydrogen bomb.

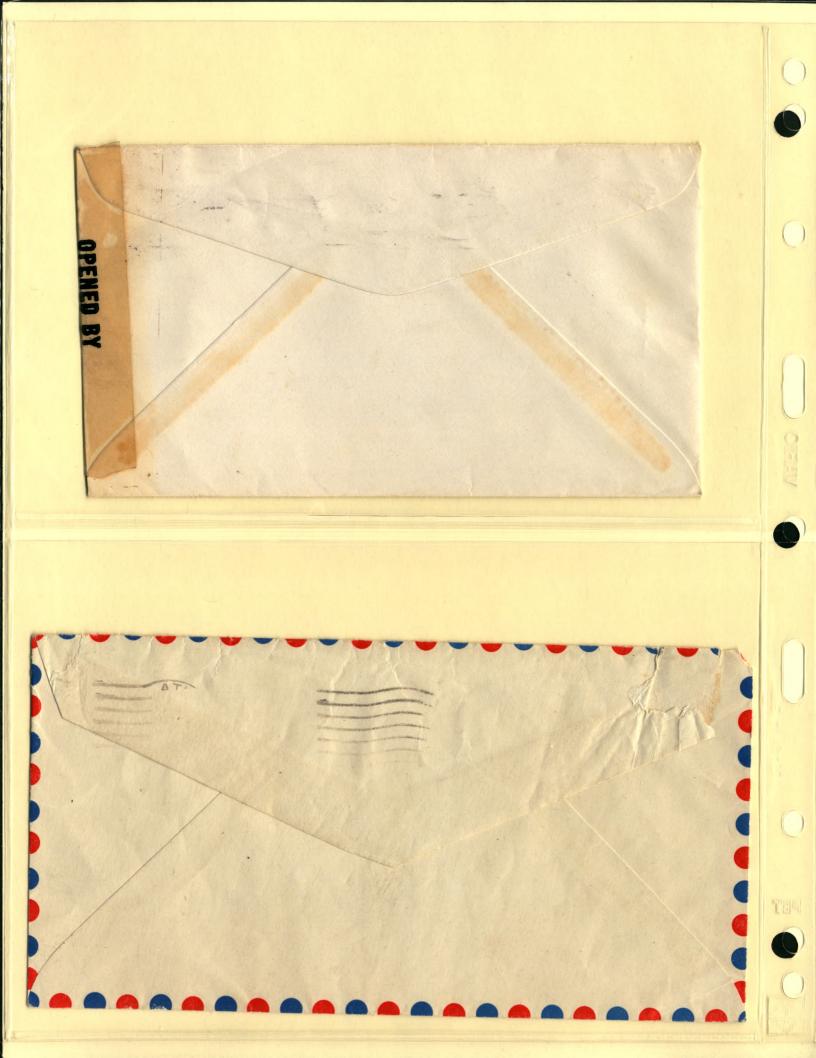
Mrs. William Cady
617 threen Street
resiliamaport, 11, Pa. FEB 8 D. 10-AM 20
1945

S/Sgt. William Cady 33494369

P. O. Box 1663

Santa Fa New Mexico





U.S. Army Air Mail from Okinawa to England

Date:

10 June 1945

Origin:

APO 331 San Francisco (Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, Japan)

Destination:

Toddington, Middlesex, England

Franking:

five 6¢ Twin-Engine Transport booklet stamps (including one pane of three) paid

single letter air mail postage to Europe

Transport:

Naval Air Transport Service or Air Transport Command, either military or contract flights, or a combination of them, over trans-Pacific routes to San

Francisco, transcontinental flight from San Francisco to New York, trans-Atlantic

Naval Air Transport Service or Air Transport Command, either military or

contract, trans-Atlantic flight to Prestwick, Scotland, domestic British transport to

destination

Censorship:

not evident

A quirk of the Army Postal System was that letters to foreign countries required rates from the United States, in this instance 30¢ per half ounce for air mail transport, rather than the 70¢ per half ounce rate that would have been required for a civilian letter traveling that distance.

U.S. Navy Registered Air Mail from Okinawa to New York

Date:

29 April 1945

Origin:

Navy 13871 Branch New York (Buckner Bay Naval Station, Okinawa, Ryukyu

Islands, Japan)

Destination:

Buffalo, New York

Franking:

6¢ Twin-Engine Transport stamp paid single letter air mail postage from a member of the armed forces overseas to the United States and 20¢ James A.

Garfield Presidential Series stamp paid the registry fee

Transport:

Naval Air Transport Service or Air Transport Command, either military or

contract flights, or a combination of them, over trans-Pacific routes to San

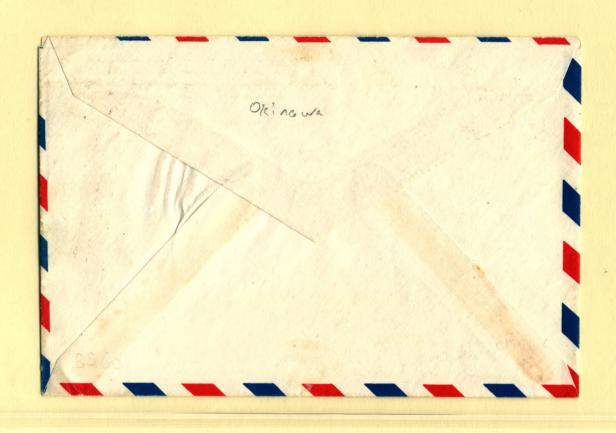
Francisco, domestic transcontinental flight from San Francisco to New York City and connecting flight to Buffalo 5 May

Censorship:

U.S. Navy examiner









Atomic Bomb Aerial Warning Leaflet

Date:

27-28 July 1945

Origin:

Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands, United States Army Strategic Air Command

Destination:

cities in Japan

Franking:

none, air-dropped on target cities in advance of atomic bomb missions

Transport:

B-29 Superfortress heavy bomber

This aerial propaganda leaflet was a product of the Psychological Warfare Branch, United States Forces, Pacific Area, headquartered at Guam. It is colloquially called a "LeMay" leaflet, named for General Curtis E. LeMay, chief of the Strategic Air Command, who ordered warning leaflet air drops in advance of bombing missions despite objections that the leaflet deliveries put aircraft and crews at risk for no military gain.

Translation of the text side:

ATTENTION JAPANESE PEOPLE.

Read this carefully as it may save your life or the life of a relative or a friend. In the next few days, four or more of the cities named on the reverse side of this leaflet will be destroyed by American bombs. These cities contain military installations and workshops or factories, which produce military goods. We are determined to destroy all of the tools of the military clique that they are using to prolong this useless war. Unfortunately, bombs have no eyes. So, in accordance with America's well-known humanitarian policies, the American Air Force, which does not wish to injure innocent people, now gives you warning to evacuate the cities named and save your lives.

America is not fighting the Japanese people but is fighting the military clique, which has enslaved the Japanese people. The peace, which America will bring, will free the people from the oppression of the Japanese military clique, mean the emergence of a new, and better Japan.

You can restore peace by demanding new and better leaders who will end the War. We cannot promise that only these cities will be among those attacked, but at least four will be, so heed this warning and evacuate these cities immediately.

In the fifth edition (1974) of the *American Air Mail Catalog*, Volume One, the Aerial Propaganda Leaflets chapter lists this one as No. 150 J 1 Bomb Warning.



下に はるんく す樹 るれないすつお らで人人ちは全か部品 施部 ん助命 さ書豫爆都がてこかて戰人ばた小ア張りア避す達道る眼部也がをこ設若數でけをあ いいめ撃市少もの て争でも方のメリまメ難かを主かが破るこ製のをく日下た助な て注しのく爆裏 平をすっをはり込せりしら傷義分お壊鳥の造都米はのさけけた日 あ意ま内と撃に 和止 と解た力ん人力て裏つのりりしに勝す市空若内いれよは本 るしす心もさ書をめながのであの下にけてままま使目ろに軍干に ばう自國 都で ずこれい 仮る いす軍者のな敵さ書た人せせすふの工ははの裏 こと分民 市お 全のるて 復様 新る部へるたはいいくりんんけ無な場軍爆都面 のはやに かき 部裏かあ しな 日事のて軍すあ ては力御かれ器いが事撃市の ビ思親告 若にもる た新 本で壓み部をな ああは承らどを戦あ施しに都 ラひ兄ぐ く書知都 ら指 がす迫るこ戦た るり罪知じも米争り設まあ市 をまめ 游す 難か はいれ市 ど導 出さか平七争方 都まののこ爆空をまやするの よせ友 しら 若てまで う者 來うら和敵にで 市せな様に彈軍長す軍 軍内 くん違 て裏 干あせな でを 上すあとで引は かんいに落には引軍需 事全 讀かの

Soldier to Soldier on the Date Japan Agreed to Surrender

Date:

14 August 1945

Origin:

APO 331 San Francisco (Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, Japan)

Destination:

APO 312 New York (Regensburg, Germany), forwarded to APO 129 New York (Compiègne, France), "NO RECORD" there, forwarded to APO 887 (Paris General Headquarters Military Railway Service) for directory service, marked "RETURNING TO UNITED STATES" 27 September, forwarded to Columbus,

Ohio, for delivery

Franking:

a pair of 3¢ Iwo Jima commemorative stamps paid the military single letter

concessionary air mail rate from one overseas U.S. address to another

Transport:

Naval Air Transport Service or Air Transport Command, either military or contract flights, or a combination of them, over trans-Atlantic and trans-Pacific routes, connected by a domestic transcontinental flight from San Francisco to New York, forwarded from Europe by another trans-Atlantic military or contract

flight, and a domestic flight from New York to Columbus, Ohio.

Censorship:

U.S. Army examiner

The Japanese government accepted the Allies' Potsdam Declaration demand for unconditional surrender on 14 August 1945, the date this letter was posted at Okinawa, ending all World War II combat operations. Having traversed two oceans, the entire North American continent and half of Europe before its forwarding odyssey began, this cover eventually traveled about 17,000 miles from posting to delivery.

Japan's Formal Surrender 2 September 1945 Ended the War

Date:

2 September 1945

Origin:

USS Missouri at Tokyo Bay, Japan

Destination:

Waldo, Wisconsin

Franking:

6¢ Monoplane stamped envelope paid single letter air mail postage from an

active-duty member of the U.S. armed forces overseas to a U.S. address

Transport:

trans-Pacific route by Naval Air Transport Service or Air Transport Command

military or contract flight, or a combination of them, to San Francisco, domestic

flight to Chicago, surface from Chicago to destination

Censorship:

U.S. Navy examiner

On 2 September 1945 Japanese leaders signed the instrument of surrender on the deck of the battleship USS *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay. The sender of this cover, Lieutenant (Junior Grade) John C. Richards, was a staff officer of U.S. Navy Battleship Division Four Command.

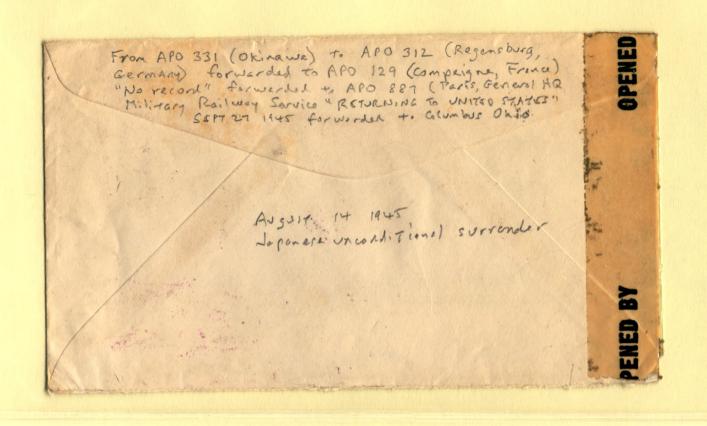


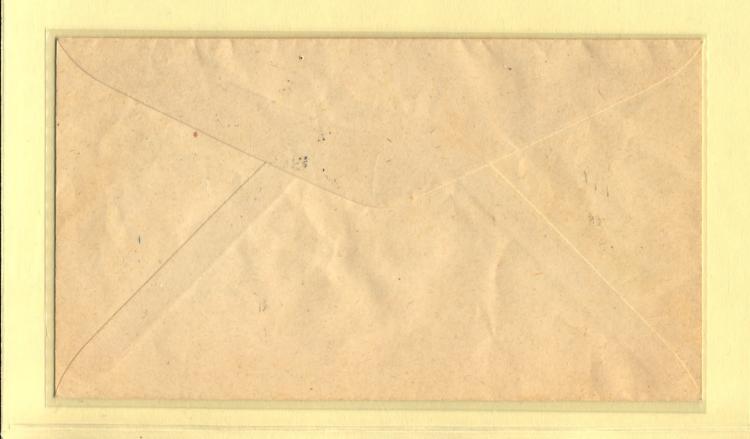
LT. (Ja) John C. Richards USNR COMBATDIV 4- STAFF. SAN FRANCISCO, CAlifornia





DRAW MRS. C.B. RICHARDS WALLO, Wisconsin





1945 Air Mail from Puerto Rico to New Zealand

Date:

5 January 1945

Origin: Destination: Mayaguez, Puerto Rico Whanganui, New Zealand

Franking:

3¢ Win the War, 20¢, 50¢, and 10¢ Twin-Engine Transport stamps overpaid the 60¢ per half ounce air mail rate (10¢ to the United States mainland, 50¢ from the

United States to New Zealand)

Transport:

Probable Wartime Route: Pan American Airways FAM 5-9 to Canal Zone; surface ship to New Zealand, domestic New Zealand transport to destination

Foreign Air Mail Route No. 19 to New Zealand was suspended 7 December 1941 and did not resume service until 1946, but no formal suspension of air mail service to New Zealand was ever announced, and the prewar air mail rates and routes were the ones presumed by postal clerks. During the war both the Army Air Transport Command and the Naval Air Transport Service rerouted South Pacific direct service from Hawaii to Australia, with a spur to New Zealand. Capacity to accept civilian mail was scant until mid-1944 and irregular until 1946. The default route became air to the Canal Zone and onward by ship. It is difficult to explain the odd overpayment on this cover, but here is a possibility. On the very date that this letter was posted, the *Postal Bulletin* announced forthcoming reductions in certain air mail rates, ordered 4 January to become effective 15 January, that affected service between the United States and Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Hawaii. The rate from Puerto Rico to Hawaii was slated to become 23¢ per half ounce, the exact amount of overpayment. Perhaps the sender or the postal clerk, either out of confusion or hopeful calculation, expected that adding the forthcoming Hawaii rate would direct the letter to New Zealand by all-air transport via Hawaii. It's possible that actually was the routing for the cover. Reason for the "MISSENT TO MAYAGUEZ, P.R." auxiliary mark is another mystery that defies confident explanation.

1946 Restoration of Pan American FAM 19 Service to New Zealand

Date:

29 May 1946

Origin: Destination: Los Angeles, California Matamata, New Zealand

Franking:

50¢ Twin-Engine Transport stamp paid single air mail letter postage

Transport:

Pan American Airways Foreign Air Mail Route No. 19, Los Angeles to Auckland,

domestic New Zealand transport to destination

Pan American Airways Foreign Air Mail route No. 19 from San Francisco and Los Angeles to New Zealand via Hawaii, Canton Island, New Caledonia, and Fiji was suspended 7 December 1941. The service was restored 1 June 1946, but with no public announcement. The first flight of restored postwar civil air transport to New Zealand carried this cover.









Inter-Island Air Mail from the Virgin Islands to Puerto Rico

Date:

19 November 1945

Origin:

King's Hill, Saint Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands

Destination:

San Juan, Puerto Rico

Franking:

one 8¢ Twin-Engine Transport stamp paid the one-ounce rate between the Virgin

Islands and Puerto Rico

Transport:

Pan American Airways flight

Reduced rates for these islands became effective 15 January 1945. The 8¢ per ounce inter-island rate should not be confused with the 8¢ per half ounce rate between the Virgin Islands or Puerto Rico and the United States.

Postwar Restored Mail Service to the Netherlands East Indies

Date:

13 December 1945 (eighth day of restored air-only service)

Origin:

Rye, New York

Destination:

Bandoeng, Netherlands East Indies

Franking:

20¢ and 50¢ Twin-Engine Transport stamps paid the single air mail letter rate to

the Netherlands East Indies

Transport:

KLM from New York to Holland and from Holland to the Dutch East Indies

All United States mail service to the Dutch East Indies was suspended 17 June 1942, following the Japanese conquest and occupation of colony. After the Japanese surrender in September 1945, insurgent Republican forces pressed for independence of Indonesia, preventing the resumption of Dutch colonial governance throughout much of the country. When postal communication from the United States was restored on 5 December 1945, it was **limited to air mail service** (the only postwar mail restoration with that restriction; many began with limited surface service and no air service) at the 70¢ per half ounce rate, restricted to post cards and letters weighing a maximum of one ounce. Registry and special delivery services were not available, nor was surface mail of any class or content. To facilitate communication with its counterinsurgency forces, the Dutch had quickly restored KLM air mail service between Holland and the Dutch East Indies. The restored U.S. route to the Indies went via Holland and KLM, not by the Pan American Airways trans-Africa route that served all other Far East air mail destinations until 1947.

M.H.Hoffmann Clifton Hill, King's Hill P.O. St.Croix, V.I.



VIA AIR MAIL COBRED RESE

Mr. Albert S. Schwarting

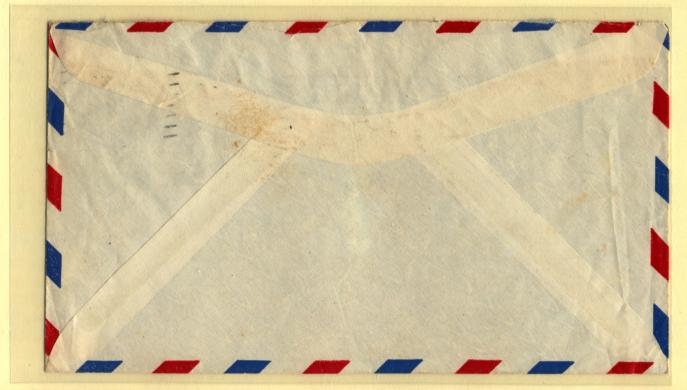
Box 1446

San Juan 7, Puerto Rico

PAR * AVION







Air Mail from the First UNRRA Trans-Pacific Flight to China

Date:

13 March 1946

Origin:

Portland, Oregon

Destination:

Tsingtao, Shantung, China

Franking:

10¢, 30¢, and 50¢ Twin-Engine Transport stamps paid 70¢ single air mail letter

postage and 20¢ registry fee

Transport:

domestic carrier to San Francisco 13 March, Pan American Airways Lockheed Constellation Clipper special trans-Pacific charter flight from San Francisco via Honolulu, Midway Island, Guam, and Tokyo to Shanghai for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, departed 24 March, arrived Shanghai 27

March, delivered Tsingtao 4 April

Date:

13 March 1946

Origin:

Newark, New Jersey

Destination:

Shanghai, China

Franking:

20¢ Twin-Engine Transport stamp and 50¢ William Howard Taft stamp paid

single air mail letter postage

Transport:

domestic trans-continental flight to San Francisco, Pan American Airways Lockheed Constellation Clipper special trans-Pacific charter flight from San Francisco via Honolulu, Midway Island, Guam, and Tokyo to Shanghai for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, departed 24 March,

arrived Shanghai 27 March, delivered 1 April

From December 1941 to mid-1947, air mail to China was routed by trans-Atlantic flights, via Miami until April or May 1946, then via New York. But limited quantities of mail were carried on Pan American Airways flights across the Pacific to China chartered by the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. The San Francisco postmark on the registered philatelic cover verifies the Pacific route; the route can be inferred from the rapid transit time of the commercial cover as well as the roughly congruent posting and delivery dates on both covers.









Sender's Statement and Certificate of Bulk Mailing

Date:

5 November 1948

Origin:

Akron, Ohio

Franking:

one 13¢ Millard Fillmore and two 15¢ James Buchanan Presidential series stamps

paid the 43¢ certificate of mailing fee calculated according to the schedule on the

form (10¢ + 15¢ + 6x3¢)

The applicable *Postal Laws and Regulations* are bereft of guidance concerning certificate of bulk mailing fees, nor is any reference to them discernable in a contemporaneous or earlier *Postal Bulletin*, but the existence of a dedicated printed form (besides this one, others have been recorded used in 1945 and 1957) suggests that the practice was in effect and known to bulk mail acceptance clerks and permit holders alike.

Bulk third-class mail required the sender to possess a permit, which cost \$10 for one calendar year, and a rate per pound (thus "bulk rate") with a minimum of 1¢ per piece payable in cash if sent without postage affixed to the individual pieces, as in the instance of the mailing recorded on this form, or by affixing precanceled stamps, or by enclosing in precanceled stamped envelopes, or by bearing metered postage.

Form 3606

SENDER'S STATEMENT AND CERTIFI-CATE OF BULK MAILING

This statement to be prepared in ink in duplicate by mailer. Original to be returned with postage stamps affixed covering fee, after being certified to.

P	OS	TM	[AS	STE	R,	

	kr	n,	01	ni	O	
--	----	----	----	----	---	--

There are presented herewith 6867 identica		
postage. Number of pieces to the pound paid \$68.67 Fee paid 43¢ by Olson Radio Whse. Inc	Total number of pounds	Total postage Inst. Co Cleveland
by Olson Radio Whse. Inc	Per A Perjer	Ohio
	- toget	

It is hereby certified that the above-described mailing has been received and number of pieces and postage verified.

FEE FOR CERTIFICATE

1 to 200 pieces	10	cents
	15	cents
201 to 1,000 pieces	10	cents
Each additional 1,000 pieces or fraction thereof	3	cents

If the time consumed in making the count and issuing the certificate is longer than 30 minutes, the fees charged shall be based on the actual time consumed at the rate of \$1.25 per hour. Additional certificates, 5 cents each.

C.B. Will

Postmaster.

Per _

16-51114-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

SENDER'S STATEMENT AND CERTIFIC CATE OF BULK MAILING This statement to be prepared in ink in duplicate by mailer. Original to be returned with postage stamps affixed covering ice, after being certified to. Akron, Ohio

Registered Air Mail to Yugoslavia

Date:

27 October 1947

Origin:
Destination:

San Francisco, California Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Franking:

one 15¢ Twin-Engine Transport stamp paid single letter air mail postage and one

20¢ James A. Garfield Presidential Series stamp paid the registry fee

Transport:

domestic carrier trans-continental flight to New York City 28 October, trans-

Atlantic and trans-Europe by first available carrier, arrived Belgrade 9 November

On 1 November 1946, international air mail rates were greatly reduced and simplified, with a rate of 15¢ per half ounce to Europe.

Registered Air Mail to Nepal

Date:

5 February 1957

Origin:

Washington, D.C. Pentagon Branch post office

Destination:

Jore Ganesh, Nepal

Franking:

one 20¢ Monticello Liberty Series stamp and two 30¢ Theodore Roosevelt stamps

paid 25¢ single air mail letter postage to Asia and 55¢ registry fee

Transport:

all-air to destination, domestic trans-continental carrier to the Pacific Coast and fastest available trans-Pacific route and carrier to India, Indian Embassy post office at Nepal 13 February, Nepal arrival postmark, docketed 14th February

Very early air mail to Nepal, which did not become a member of the Universal Postal Union until 11 October 1956 and had no paved airport at Kathmandu until 1957.

From Bathorich

1287-35th are

San Francisco California.

VIA AIR MAIL

WIA AIR MAIL

Signification of the second of the second





